

Description of the AGIS framework programme presented by the European Union

AGIS - Named after a king of ancient Sparta, AGIS is a framework programme to help police, the judiciary and professionals from the EU member states and candidate countries co-operate in criminal matters and in the fight against crime

By the incentive of the European commission, in conformity with the agreement of the European Union (notably at the articles 30, 31 and 34), **the European Union Council has adopted the 22nd July 2002, a framework programme concerning police, customs and judicial co-operation in criminal matters, called AGIS.**

The treaty of the European Union has the objective of offering to all citizens a new grade of protection in a freedom, safe and justice space, elaborating a common action between the Member States in the domain of police and judicial co-operation in criminal matter, **to achieve a real European space of justice.**

Furthermore, the article 12 of the European Union Council's framework decision of the 15th Mars 2001, regarding the victims' state in the criminal proceedings, provides cooperation between the Member States in order **to favour a more effective protection for victims of criminal proceedings.**

The framework programme AGIS has its goal in promoting the police, dougner and judicial co-operation in criminal matter and support practitioners' efforts in order to contribute at the development of the European policy in this domain.

Furthermore it also promote and strengthen networking, mutual co-operation on general subject of common interest to the Member States, the exchange and dissemination of information, experience and best practices, local and regional co-operation and the improvement and adaptation of training and technical and scientific research. Finally, to encourage Member States to step up co-operation with acceding and candidate countries, other third countries and appropriate regional and international organizations.

It seemed important to get the most from the programme's advantages in the operative field, in particular for repressive services, to support the co-operation between repressive services of Member States and to let them better familiarize with the work method and constraints of homologating themselves with other Member States.

Furthermore, this programme could allow financing projects intended to improve professionals' competences of practitioners, in order to intensify co-operation between different authorities and organisms participating at the prevention and repression of transborder criminality and the worst forms of criminality, and to develop the protection of victims' rights and the offences prevention.

It is on this frame that the Child's Voice send in the 15th December 2004 next to the European Commission, a draft of project titled **« The situation analysis of the good practices in the field of the hearing of child victims of maltreatment in order to establish a European cooperation between the police and the legal system »**. **This programme has been accepted in July 2005 and it started the 22nd December 2005.**