

**DRAFT VERSION TO BE PRESENTED BY BELGIUM AT THE CONFERENCE
IN BERLIN ON 26-28 OCTOBER 2011**

GUIDELINES OF THE EUROPEAN NETWORK OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
REVIEWERS (ENNIR)

These Guidelines were adopted by the following members:

COUNTRY	PARLIAMENT/COMMITTEE/REVIEW BODY	DATE
Austria		
Belgium	1. The Belgian Senate 2. The Standing Intelligence Agencies Review Committee	
Bulgaria		
Cyprus		
Czech Republic		
Denmark		
Estonia		
Finland		
France		
Germany		
Greece		
Hungary		
Ireland		
Italy		
Latvia		
Lithuania		
Luxemburg		
Malta		
Netherlands		
Poland		
Portugal		
Romania		
Slovakia		
Slovenia		
Spain		
Sweden		
United Kingdom		

These Guidelines were adopted by the following observers:

COUNTRY	PARLIAMENT/COMMITTEE/REVIEW BODY	DATE
Norway		
Switzerland		

PREAMBLE

DRAFT VERSION TO BE PRESENTED BY BELGIUM AT THE CONFERENCE IN BERLIN ON 26-28 OCTOBER 2011

During a meeting organized in Oslo (Norway) in 2008 by the Norwegian Parliamentary Intelligence Oversight Committee and Human Rights Centre and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), the Belgian delegation launched the initiative of setting up a European Network of National Intelligence Reviewers.

The idea was taken up by the UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, Martin Scheinin. In his final report of 4 February 2009 on 'The role of intelligence agencies and their oversight in the fight against terrorism', he expressed his interest as follows : *"The Special Rapporteur supports the idea, developed by the Belgian Standing Committee I, of setting up a permanent knowledge-sharing platform for (parliamentary) review bodies of intelligence services, where best practices on legislation, jurisprudence and general developments in the field can be shared, thereby supporting the professionalization of the review bodies of Member States."*

At the 5th Conference of the Parliamentary Committees for the Oversight of Intelligence and Security Services of the European Member States which was held in Tallinn (Estonia) on 25-26 May 2009, Belgium detailed the initiative.

On 1 October 2010, the participants to the 6th Conference of the Parliamentary Committees for the Oversight of Intelligence and Security Services of the European Member States agreed on the 'Declaration of Brussels', whereby they supported the proposal set out by the Belgian delegation.

On 3-5 April 2011, the ENNIR project was on the agenda of the Conference of the Speakers of the Parliaments of the European Union which was held in Brussels. The Speakers discussed the implementation of the Declaration of Brussels and agreed on the importance for the national parliaments to be able to monitor activities of the security and intelligence services with a view to the protection of basic freedoms and rights. They recognized the need for and the utility of a more intensive exchange of non-confidential information. In this context, the Speakers supported the creation of the ENNIR and agreed in principle to the proposed funding system, with the costs being shared by the participating member states.

At the 7th Conference of the Parliamentary Committees for the Oversight of Intelligence and Security Services of the European Member States which was held in Berlin (Germany) on 26-28 October 2011, these Guidelines were presented by the Belgian delegation.

I. MISSION STATEMENT

Article 1

1. ENNIR is a knowledge-sharing platform implemented throughout a website for and by national intelligence reviewers being parliamentary committees for the oversight of intelligence and security services of the European Member States and/or review bodies of these countries, whose main activity is the oversight of intelligence and security services.
2. The primary goal of ENNIR is to improve democratic oversight of the functioning

**DRAFT VERSION TO BE PRESENTED BY BELGIUM AT THE CONFERENCE
IN BERLIN ON 26-28 OCTOBER 2011**

of the intelligence and security services through an exchange of best practices, expertise and documentary information such as annual reports, research reports, legislation, case law, announcement of conferences, etc.

3. ENNIR aims at representing an added value for the parliamentary committees or review bodies which invariably strive for increased professionalism in the performance of their roles.
4. ENNIR does not serve as an instrument for defending collective interests, nor entail joint review projects or the exchange of operational or classified information.
5. Expertise, neutrality and objectivity are key values.
6. ENNIR members confirm their belief in the intelligence and security services to protect as efficiently as possible the national population and the democratic institutions and at the same time the fundamental rights and liberties as guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights.

II. COMPOSITION OF THE ENNIR

Article 2

Members

1. The Speaker(s) of the national parliament(s) of the European Union Member States shall designate the parliamentary committee(s) and/or the review bodies of their respective countries entitled to be member of ENNIR.

Observers

1. The Speaker(s) of the national parliament(s) of the European countries that are not members of the European Union and that hold observer status in the Conference of the Parliamentary Committees for the Oversight of Intelligence and Security Services of the European Member States shall designate parliamentary committees and/or review bodies of their respective countries as observer.
2. The observers shall have the same rights and obligations as the members except for the assessment of the functioning of the website made by the Conference of the Parliamentary Committees for the Oversight of Intelligence and Security Services of the European Member States.