

EN

E-003041/2026

Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(22.9.2026)

In its proposal for a new European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) Regulation¹, the Commission proposes establishing a Police Shared Data Space to make operational data exchange between national authorities faster and more efficient. It would let Member States open joint operational analysis cases (JOACs)²: secure collaborative environments where Member States, Europol and trusted partners would work simultaneously on the same data³, using Europol's analytical tools⁴. To ensure comprehensive and homogeneous exchange, the Commission will adopt implementing acts defining the Police Shared Data Space's functionalities and the modalities to ensure interoperability⁵. According to the Commission's proposal, each Member State may decide whether to open a JOAC⁶, fully respecting their prerogatives⁷.

Currently Member States are obliged to provide Europol with the information necessary for the Agency to fulfil its tasks⁸. The Commission's proposal aims at facilitating compliance with that obligation through mandatory data loaders⁹, which are automated technical means enabling the systematic, structured uploading of relevant information from national case management systems¹⁰. According to the Commission's proposal, competent authorities of the Member States may refrain from uploading data, including where sharing data would harm national security interests or an ongoing investigation¹¹.

The sovereignty of cloud infrastructure and services used in the future to deploy the Police Shared Data Space will be ensured in compliance with the requirements of the Cloud and Artificial Intelligence Development Act¹², which puts in place appropriate safeguards to protect highly critical public sector activities and systems deployed in the cloud.

¹ COM(2026) 580 final.

² Article 42(1) 'Police Shared Data Space establishment' and Article 43(1) 'Creation of a Joint Operational Analysis Case'.

³ Recital 53 and Article 45 'Use of a Joint Operational Analysis Case'.

⁴ Article 42(4) 'Police Shared Data Space establishment'.

⁵ Article 42(5) 'Police Shared Data Space establishment'.

⁶ Article 43(1) 'Creation of a Joint Operational Analysis Case' and Article 44(2) 'Europol proposal for the establishment of a Joint Operational Analysis Case'.

⁷ Article 4(2) of the Treaty on European Union (consolidated version [2016] OJ C202/13).

⁸ Regulation (EU) 2016/794, Article 7(6) 'Europol national units'; see also COM(2026) 580 final, Article 29(1) 'Provision of information by Member States'.

⁹ Article 38(3) 'Uploading data to Europol cross-checking service'.

¹⁰ Article 38(1) 'Uploading data to Europol cross-checking service' and recital 40.

¹¹ Article 38(2) 'Uploading data to Europol cross-checking service', referring to the grounds set out in Article 29(5) 'Provision of information by Member States'; see also SWD(2026) 580 final, p. 30.

¹² <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/proposal-cloud-and-ai-development-act-cada>.