

## **Justice Committee**

### **Correspondence from the Chair of the House of Commons European Scrutiny Committee to the Convener in relation to European Commission Proposals for a Council Regulation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) and on the European Agency for Criminal Justice Co-operation (Eurojust)**

I am writing following the Presiding Officer's letter to Mr Speaker of 6 September relating to the EPPO proposal, and your letter to me of 5 September on the subject of Eurojust.

I enclose a copy of a letter sent today in response to the Presiding Officer (at annexe) in relation to the EPPO and a copy of my Committee's Report. My Committee was grateful for your Committee's report and, as you will see, shares your concerns about this proposal's compliance with the principle of subsidiarity. We have cited your Committee's report in the draft Reasoned Opinion which we hope will be debated in the House after the conference recess. We are aware that this is the first time that the Scottish Parliament has passed such a motion, and also of the considerable time constraints faced when considering these proposals, so are particularly grateful for your Committee's timely consideration of these important matters. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your Committee's comments on the Eurojust proposal.

William Cash MP  
Chairman, European Scrutiny Committee, House of Commons  
20 September 2013

**Correspondence from the Chair of the House of Commons European Scrutiny Committee to the Presiding Officer in relation to the European Commission Proposal for a Council Regulation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO)**

I am writing following your letter to Mr Speaker of 6 September (to which I believe he has already responded). The letter notified us that the Scottish Parliament had agreed a motion that the above proposal does not comply with the principle of subsidiarity. I gather that this is the first time that the Scottish Parliament has passed such a motion.

I enclose a copy of the European Scrutiny Committee's Fifteenth Report of this Session, which was published earlier this week. The Committee has recommended that the House of Commons issue a Reasoned Opinion in relation to the EPPO proposal, and has cited the Scottish Parliament's motion in paragraph 15 of that Reasoned Opinion (see page 36 of the Committee's Report). The conclusion and recommendation of the Scottish Parliament Justice Committee's Report are appended to the draft Reasoned Opinion, along with a link to the full text of the Report. We hope that time will be made available on the floor of the House in October for a debate on the Reasoned Opinion.

William Cash MP  
Chair, European Scrutiny Committee, House of Commons  
20 September 2013