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**European Union
and
United States of America**

Agreement on mutual legal assistance between the European Union and the United States of America (with Explanatory Note). Washington, 25 June 2003

Entry into force: *1 February 2010, in accordance with article 18*

Authentic texts: *Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Swedish*

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Only the authentic English and French texts of the Agreement and the Explanatory Note are published herein. The other authentic texts of the Agreement and the Explanatory Note are not published herein, in accordance with article 12 (2) of the General Assembly Regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, as amended, and the publication practice of the Secretariat.

**Union européenne
et
États-Unis d'Amérique**

Accord entre l'Union européenne et les États-Unis d'Amérique en matière d'entraide judiciaire (avec note explicative). Washington, 25 juin 2003

Entrée en vigueur : *1^{er} février 2010, conformément à l'article 18*

Textes authentiques : *danois, néerlandais, anglais, finnois, français, allemand, grec, italien, portugais, espagnol et suédois*

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Seuls les textes authentiques anglais et français de l'Accord et de la note explicative sont publiés ici. Les autres textes authentiques de l'Accord et de la note explicative ne sont pas publiés ici, conformément au paragraphe 2 de l'article 12 du règlement de l'Assemblée générale destiné à mettre en application de l'Article 102 de la Charte des Nations Unies, tel qu'amendé, et à la pratique dans le domaine des publications du Secrétariat.

[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

AGREEMENT
ON MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CONTENTS

Preamble

Article 1	Object and Purpose
Article 2	Definitions
Article 3	Scope of application of this Agreement in relation to bilateral mutual legal assistance treaties with Member States and in the absence thereof
Article 4	Identification of bank information
Article 5	Joint investigative teams
Article 6	Video conferencing
Article 7	Expedited transmission of requests
Article 8	Mutual legal assistance to administrative authorities

Article 9	Limitations on use to protect personal and other data
Article 10	Requesting State's request for confidentiality
Article 11	Consultations
Article 12	Temporal Application
Article 13	Non-derogation
Article 14	Future bilateral mutual legal assistance treaties with Member States
Article 15	Designations and notifications
Article 16	Territorial application
Article 17	Review
Article 18	Entry into force and termination

Explanatory Note

THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

DESIRING further to facilitate cooperation between the European Union Member States and the United States of America,

DESIRING to combat crime in a more effective way as a means of protecting their respective democratic societies and common values,

HAVING DUE REGARD for rights of individuals and the rule of law,

MINDFUL of the guarantees under their respective legal systems which provide an accused person with the right to a fair trial, including the right to adjudication by an impartial tribunal established pursuant to law,

DESIRING to conclude an Agreement relating to mutual legal assistance in criminal matters,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

Object and Purpose

The Contracting Parties undertake, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, to provide for enhancements to cooperation and mutual legal assistance.