

A MESSAGE FROM THE
DEPUTY HEAD OF MISSION

Meet our family!

EUPOL COPPS has been present in Palestine since 2006. In these 13 years, we have been working committedly to fulfil our mandate and to accomplish our mission. In this context we form part of the wider EU effort to support Palestinian state building in the context of working towards a comprehensive peace-agreement based on a two-state solution.

The EU Family in the region includes the Office of the European Union Representative in Jerusalem, the European Union Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process, the EU Delegation in Tel Aviv, and ECHO, the EU's Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations organisation. This is one arm of our family.

The other arm encompasses ten EU Mission in the Middle East, Africa and Europe, including our sister mission in Gaza, EUBAM Rafah. These Missions, including EUPOL COPPS, are referred to as EU 'Common Security and Defence Policy' missions and employ more than 2,500 women and men.

EUPOL COPPS

EU Coordinating Office for Palestinian Police Support

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New Mandate and new Headquarters



EUPOL COPPS, the European Union Police and Rule of Law Mission for the Palestinian Territories, has had its mandate extended from 1 July 2018

until 30 June 2019 by the Council of the European Union. Before the extension, the Mission inaugurated its new Headquarters in Ramallah. ➔



View over the central parts of Ramallah from the roof top of the Abraj office building, where the EUPOL COPPS Mission is now based.

The Mission has moved into the 3rd and 4th floors of the landmark Abraj Building in Ramallah. In addition to the Mission, the building hosts a number of other international entities including the Jordanian Embassy, the Japanese and Polish Representation Offices, UNDP and UNSCO and the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process.

One Mission, one team

“After almost 13 years in our previous locations, our Mission Members welcome the new and more modern surroundings. However, the single most important advantage for us, has been the reconsolidation of our two operational sections – the Police Advisory Section and the Rule of Law Section. Before, they were located apart, in two different buildings. This made our day-to-day coordination time consuming and cumbersome. In our new headquarters, the entire Mission team is located in one office. This has given us a much more cohesive team, higher productivity and a stronger team spirit”, explains Head of the Rule of Law Section, Giovanni Galzignato.

The facilities support the mandate

“Another advantage is the number of meeting rooms. A considerable part of our work is delivered through workshops, training sessions, conferences and meetings. Our new Headquarters has six well equipped meeting rooms, which makes it easier to accommodate simultaneous meetings and trainings. The six meeting rooms are named after Palestinian cities. Ramallah seats up to 48 people whereas the others seat between 6 and 12 people”, says Giovanni Galzignato.

The Abraj [*Ab’rach*] office building is owned by a Palestinian private shareholding company. Construction began in 2010 and was completed by December 2013. The mission occupies a total of 2,320 from the building’s 16,000 square meters. The building has 16 floors above ground level and five base-ment floors reserved for parking and storage. On the ground floor, there are three restaurants.



Dr. Katja Dominik (Germany) is replacing Bo Holse as Deputy Head of Mission. She joins the mission from her recent position as Head of the Executive Division in the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo.

Katja Dominik appointed new Deputy Head of Mission

Dr. Katja Dominik was appointed as Deputy Head and Chief of Staff of EUPOL COPPS and commenced her duties in Ramallah on 21 July 2018.

Ms Dominik joins the Mission from her recent position as Head of the Executive Division of EULEX

Kosovo, the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo. Previously she has served as International Judge in the same mission, where she tried cases of war crimes, organised crime and corruption. In her first interview for the Mission, Katja Dominik reflects on her new position.

What is your role as Deputy Head of Mission?

An essential task is to support the Head of Mission in his strategic decisions and to keep away from him, all the details which might distract him from the important issues. I also serve as the Mission's Chief of Staff. In this capacity, I wish to be the role model and partner who motivates our team to be as committed and dedicated as possible.

What do you believe are the expectations to you, as Chief of Staff?

Fairness, correctness and leadership.

Why did you apply for this position?

I have been serving in the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo for more than six years and felt it was time for me to move on. When the position as Deputy Head of EUPOL COPPS was advertised, I was convinced that this could be an opportunity as well as a good challenge for me. I wanted to continue working in the context of EU Missions, which I really like, but in a completely different environment.

What are the most important dynamics affecting the Mission's work right now?

On one hand, the uncertainty of the political environment in which the Mission will have to operate in the future. On the other, the challenge of the Mission running in its thirteenth year. This may make it difficult for some of us to resist moments of fatigue and to maintain an open mind, to allow creative ideas to flourish. Nonetheless, I am confident that with the mix of experienced and new staff members, we will manage to navigate through these challenges.

What would you consider to be the most significant aspects of the Missions work?

Keeping the trustworthy relationship with our counterparts and maintaining the Mission's significant and well-regarded position among the international and national actors. I also believe that it is essential, not only to ensure the implementation of our Mandate, but indeed to make our results and achievements visible.

What do you like about working here?

My colleagues! I would like to thank them all from the bottom of my heart, for the warmest welcome and all the support that has been given to me during my first, exciting weeks in EUPOL COPPS.

What would you like to change in the Mission?

I don't believe in change only because I am a newcomer. But if I could further the cooperation between our sections and between international and local staff in the areas where there is room for improvement, I would be more than happy. In the end we are **one** mission and **one** team.

New updated edition of the Mission's Factsheet

All you need to know, in two pages

The updated edition of our Factsheet provides facts and figures about the Mission, its background, its Mandate and how it is implemented.

It also provides short updates on selected areas, where there has been significant progress and achievements. These include developments within the Palestinian Civil Police and its Family Protection Unit, the Ministry of Interior and Public Prosecution-Police Cooperation.

Developments within Legislative drafting and support to the legislative process, Anti-corruption and Human Rights and Gender can also be found in the new publication, available [here](#).





Planning and Reporting staff (from left): Johan Bach, Virginia Santoro, Phil Drake, Reem Wahdan, Omar Qourah and Ayshea Khatib.
Not pictured: Michela Perathoner, Nadine Habash and Sa'ed Zain.

New unit will deliver...

More coherent planning and reporting

Following a feasibility study that was carried out in the spring, a new unit has been created in the Mission. Becoming operational on 1 July 2018, the Planning and Reporting Unit amalgamates the previous Planning and Evaluation Department and the Mission's Reporting Office.

The new unit will lead the development of the Mission's planning and reporting processes such as drafting the Mission's annual operational assessment, revising its Operations Plan and coordinating its input to the annual external strategic review. On the reporting side, the unit will manage and ensure the quality of the Mission's reporting, including the Mission Implementation Plan, and coordinate the timely delivery of all periodic and ad-hoc reporting.

Managing stakeholder relationships

Another responsibility of the new unit will be the development of

the Mission's strategic stakeholder relationships in Palestine through engagement in the appropriate donor coordination mechanisms. The unit will also provide programme management capacity and support to the Police Advisory and Rule of Law Sections for the implementation and management of their Quick Impact Projects as well as driving internal competence development in areas of planning and project cycle management.

Some processes lacked clarity

"The role of the previous Planning and Evaluation Department was to support the implementation of the Mission's Mandate by monitoring and evaluating the work undertaken by the operational sections. However, this department was not aligned with the Mission's Reporting Office. As a result a significant number of processes lacked clarity and coordination", explains the Head of the new Planning and Reporting Unit, Phil Drake.

Better coherence between planning and reporting

"Following the internal review, it became clear that the Mission needed to provide better support to the operational sections to ensure that their activities could be planned, implemented, monitored and reported in a more consistent way. We also needed to simplify and improve the overall coherence of the Mission's planning and reporting structures in line with other EU Missions. Thus the Planning and Reporting Unit (PRU) was born", concludes Phil Drake.

Amalgamated Staff

The new Planning and Reporting Unit has been created by amalgamating staff from the previous Planning and Evaluation Department and Reporting Office, joined by a team of interpreters previously attached to the Planning and Evaluation Department. It is headed by Phil Drake, a United Kingdom secondeé.