

## Human Rights and Gender

Promotion of human rights is a key objective of the EU. Among other initiatives, EUPOL COPPS brings those PCP officers responsible for the investigation of citizens' complaints together with civil society, in particular with the Palestinian Independent Commission for Human Rights (ICHR), to improve scrutiny of police conduct. The Mission is also developing human rights training packages for both new recruits and serving police officers.

EUPOL COPPS works with its Palestinian counterparts on the promotion of gender awareness among Palestinian institutions. This includes the strengthening of the PCP's Family Protection Units throughout the West Bank. The Mission also aims at improving the way that the criminal justice system deals with juveniles who come into contact with law enforcement and justice institutions.

## Public Prosecution-PCP Cooperation Project

Under an initiative promoted by EUPOL COPPS, in August 2010 the Chief of Police and the Attorney General signed a Memorandum of Understanding to improve cooperation, especially in the field of criminal investigation. Mechanisms to coordinate more openly and effectively have been established at the district level, and agreement has been reached on how to increase the amount of investigative work carried out by police, and how to collect evidence at the crime scene.

## Penal Code

By providing comments, recommendations and expertise, the Mission assisted the Ministry of Justice to conduct a thorough review of the Palestinian Penal Code (the provisions of which date back to the 1960s). The Ministry of Justice is drafting a new, modern law, which is fully compliant with human rights standards.



## Basic Facts and Figures

Theatre:	occupied Palestinian territory (oPt)
Headquarters:	Ramallah, West Bank
Starting date:	1 January 2006
Head of Mission:	Commissioner Henrik Malmquist
Mission strength:	53 international staff and 36 national staff
Mission budget:	€ 8.250.000 (1 January – 31 December 2011)
Contributing States:	EU Member States and third party non-EU States



## COUNCIL JOINT ACTION 2005/797/CFSP of 14 November 2005 on the EU Police Mission for the Palestinian Territories:

"The follow-on to the EU Coordinating Office for Palestinian Police Support is an expression of the EU's continued readiness to support the Palestinian Authority in complying with its Roadmap obligations, in particular with regard to 'security' and 'institution-building', including the process of consolidating the Palestinian security organizations into three services reporting to an empowered Palestinian Minister of Interior. Furthermore, the support of the EU to the Palestinian Civil Police aims at increasing the 'safety and security' of the Palestinian population and at serving the domestic agenda of the Palestinian Authority in reinforcing the rule of law".



## Mission achievements

### Palestinian Civil Police

Out of all the Palestinian Security Forces, EUPOL COPPS works exclusively with the Palestinian Civil Police (PCP), which comprises approximately 7,800 officers in the West Bank.

The Mission provides continuous support to the PCP through several funding and coordination mechanisms. Additionally, the Mission is increasingly emphasizing national ownership of all PCP activities by supporting its attempts to lead organizational development processes.

### Programme Steering Committee

EUPOL COPPS has supported the creation of the Programme Steering Committee (PSC) to enable the PCP and the Ministry of Interior to improve the coordination of project-based assistance in accordance with the objectives formulated in the relevant strategic plans. The Mission continues to provide the PSC with technical advice and administrative support through the PCP/EUPOL COPPS co-location office.

### Small Projects Scheme

Besides extensive coordination activities between project donors and implementing organizations, the Mission supports the PCP and the criminal justice institutions with a Small Project Scheme to address their immediate needs and to kick-start larger projects to be funded by donors..

### Infrastructure, Training and Equipment

Through the Programme Fund implemented by UNOPS, the Mission has supported and continues to support a wide variety of activities such as the rehabilitation of the Ramallah prison, the construction of the Nablus multi-functional hall, the building and refurbishment of police stations, the purchase of equipment and furniture for the new PCP Headquarters, and construction activities at the Jericho Police Training School. The Mission is also involved in many coordination activities related to bilateral projects, such as the construction of police stations, the Jericho prison, and three logistics and maintenance compounds (located in Ramallah, Nablus and Bethlehem).



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# EUPOL COPPS

## Supporting Palestinian Rule of Law



## ★ Mission's Mandate

EUPOL COPPS is a European Union Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) mission based in the West Bank. It is part of the wider efforts of the European Union in support of comprehensive peace with Israel and a two-State solution. The Mission assists the Palestinian Authority in building the institutions of the future State of Palestine in the areas of policing and criminal justice. Through its support the EU aims to increase the safety and security of the Palestinian population and to serve the domestic agenda of the Palestinian Authority in reinforcing the rule of law.

One of the main goals of EUPOL COPPS, in partnership with its Palestinian counterparts, is to ensure that the Palestinian Civil Police has sufficient capacity to sustain a police organisation, which is efficient, transparent and accountable. The aim is that it becomes an organization which operates within a sound legal framework, in accordance with international standards, and is able to effectively manage its resources.

EUPOL COPPS promotes “civilian police primacy”, meaning that the civilian police should be the organization in ultimate charge of policing, and that civilian control of security forces should be guaranteed. The objective is to make the Palestinian Civil Police a competent security force of the future Palestinian State, based on the principles of democratic policing, neutrality, and service towards the community.

EUPOL COPPS also supports the development of a sustainable criminal justice sector, which complies with international human rights standards. The Mission aims to assist the Palestinian Authority in developing and consolidating the criminal justice system, in building professional capacity within the judicial institutions, enacting modern legislation, and facilitating reform to ensure their enhanced performance.

As a priority, EUPOL COPPS mainstreams human rights, democratization and gender throughout all its activities.



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## ★ The EU, EUPOL COPPS and the Middle East

The European Union is an active player in the Middle East Peace Process, supporting efforts to resolve the conflict and contributing also as a member of the Middle East Quartet (US, EU, Russia and UN).

The EU has been working with the Palestinian Authority to build up the institutions of a future democratic, independent and viable Palestinian State living side by side with Israel and its neighbours.

The European Commission is the biggest international donor of financial assistance to the Palestinians. EUPOL COPPS works in close cooperation with the Office of the European Union Representative (EUREP) in Jerusalem, EU Member States and other international actors in the region.



## ★ Mission Structure

EUPOL COPPS has two main pillars: a Police Advisory Section and a Rule of Law Section. The Mission also coordinates and facilitates external donor assistance to the Palestinian Civil Police (PCP). The Police Advisory Section is comprised of experienced police officers from EU Member States and non-EU contributing countries, such as Canada and Norway.

They provide modern policing expertise to their colleagues in the PCP in several domains (Criminal Investigation, Uniformed Police, Support and Oversight). Field police advisors also work with their PCP counterparts in different police districts throughout the West Bank to ensure that capacity-building efforts reach all Palestinian police officers.

In the Rule of Law Section, European and Palestinian legal professionals, including prosecutors, judges, prison experts, human rights specialists and lawyers, work together to provide technical legal advice to the different

justice institutions. In this regard, EUPOL COPPS' main Palestinian partners are the Ministry of Justice, the Courts, the Prosecution, the Palestinian Bar Association and the Penitentiary Service.

Based on the principle of Palestinian ownership, EUPOL COPPS provides advice and assistance across the board: at strategic level with the Ministries of Interior and Justice to facilitate longer-term institutional reform; at central management level with the PCP and criminal justice institutions; and at operational level to address immediate, everyday needs and improve actual performance.

Within EUPOL COPPS, multidisciplinary teams of mixed police, project management and legal background, provide professional advice by working closely with their Palestinian partners, often by means of co-location. All Mission activities are carried out with the aim of being sustainable in the long-term.

The Mission works in the following thematic areas:

### **Criminal Investigation Department (CID)**

EUPOL COPPS provides technical advice in relation to a full range of CID-related issues, from actions at the crime scene, investigation of crimes, restructuring of CID units, capacity-building for investigative staff, to police and prosecutor co-operation.

### **Uniformed Police**

EUPOL COPPS works on the full range of uniformed police (i.e. “blue police”) activities, including community-oriented policing, traffic, patrolling, Special Police Force (anti-riot and crowd-control units) and also gives advice to enhance sustainable capacity-building, such as on police station infrastructure.

### **Support**

EUPOL COPPS contributes to improving PCP infrastructure and capacity building on IT, data, radio communication, administration, logistics, finance and training. The Mission also advises the PCP on a comprehensive Police Training curriculum and the design of the PCP Training School in Jericho.

### **Oversight**

EUPOL COPPS provides technical advice on the full range of PCP's internal oversight and accountability mechanisms, so that complaints raised by the public against the police are properly investigated. In this field, the Mission works with the Inspectorate General (internal audit), the Internal Affairs/Disciplinary Unit, the Bureau of Grievances and Human Rights, the Human Resources Department, and the Public Relations and Media Department.

### **Public Prosecution**

By working closely with the Attorney General's Office (AGO), the Mission is helping to promote effective cooperation between the PCP and the Public Prosecution, particularly regarding the investigation of criminal offences. It is also helping the AGO to develop the skills of prosecutors to combat economic crime and corruption.

### **Judiciary**

Together with other international actors, the Mission works with the High Judicial Council, which is responsible for the Palestinian judiciary and courts, to provide technical advice on training programmes for Palestinian judges. The Mission also provides advice on case-management mechanisms to expedite the administration of justice and to promote access to justice for Palestinians through the “Court Information Point” project.

### **Ministry of Justice**

The Ministry of Justice is supported by EUPOL COPPS advisors in various ways, including advice on draft legislation, the development of action plans and other strategic documents, and the promotion of professional development of the Ministry's staff through planning of training programmes and technical training.

### **Penitentiary Service**

EUPOL COPPS supports the PCP's penitentiary service -the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Centres- by giving strategic guidance to help develop the service, by providing expertise to improve the penitentiary service's working methods in locations such as the Jericho prison, and by offering project support to help the service meet its immediate needs, such as improving the detention conditions within prisons and police cells in the West Bank.

### **Defence Counsel**

The Mission gives assistance to the Palestinian Bar Association with the aim of promoting fair and proper trials. The Mission is also helping with the creation of a functional state-appointed defence system, by improved access by defence counsel to court decisions and case files, by assisting in the establishment of a continuous training programme for practicing defence lawyers, and by delivering specialized and continuous training.