



EUPOL COPPS Newsletter - August 2020

Dear friends,

This will be my second to last newsletter, because my time as Head of EUPOL COPPS will come to an end on 30 September. In the past few weeks I was very kindly received by a number of the Mission's senior Palestinian partners, including the Prime Minister, and given the opportunity to say goodbye. It was a great honour to reflect together on our joint achievements. I will however save my leaving comments for my final newsletter in a month's time.



In the place of goodbyes, I would instead like in this message to say hello to the Mission's new Head of the Police Advisory Section, Pasi Aho. Pasi is a very experienced senior police officer from the west of Finland, and I'm sure that his

presence in the Mission will strengthen our capacity to deliver advice, mentoring and training for our Palestinian interlocutors. For those interested in finding out more about Pasi and what he sets out to achieve, I recommend his interview, featured in this newsletter.

On the subject of interviews, I also was recently interviewed by the Wafa news agency, where I was asked to speak about my past three years in the Holy Land. A link to the interview is provided in the newsletter.

Amid the comings and goings, work goes on as usual. I was glad to hear that the Palestinian Ministry of Justice has launched a new certificate this week for people who need to prove that they do not have a criminal record. This certificate is essentially impossible to forge, and was produced with our support. We also continue to support our counterparts with advice and training, for example in the area of fair trials and cybercrime, which you can find out more about below.

I hope you and your loved ones stay safe and healthy.

Kind regards,

Kauko

Kauko Aaltomaa
Head of Mission
EUPOL COPPS

"Human rights, rule of law are basic in the training of the civil police"



Kauko Aaltomaa, the Head of EUPOL COPPS, will soon return to his post in Finland as Director-General of Police in the Finnish Ministry of Interior. Recently, he met with a journalist from Wafa news agency.

Find out what he had to say about the three years he spent in the Holy Land, policing and rule of law reform as well as human rights.

<https://bit.ly/3iD3CVm>

VIDEO: "This is a debt we will not forget"



Major General Hazem Attallah, the Chief of the Palestinian Civil Police, says that the Covid-19 pandemic has created 'unprecedented' pressures on the police service.

Nonetheless, they are facing up to the challenge, also with assistance provided by the international community.

Find out what he has to say about the situation:

🔗 <https://bit.ly/2EcT8O9>

**“We need to be very creative and flexible –
now more than ever”**



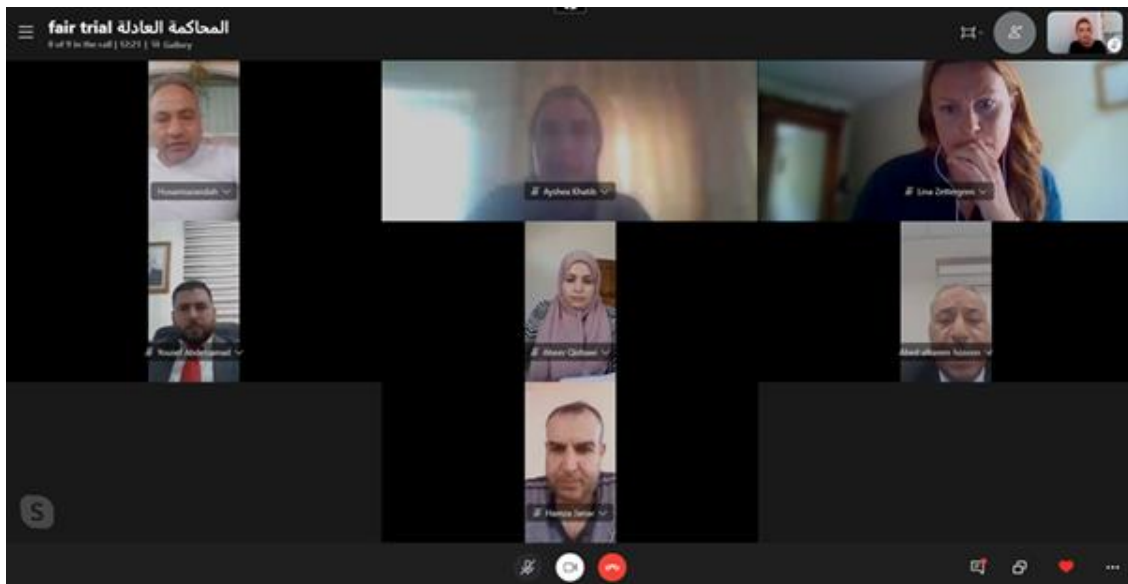
Pasi Aho, from Finland, started his job as the new head of EUPOL COPPS' Police Advisory Section on 1 August with two weeks of quarantine.

This hasn't dampened his enthusiasm though! Find out what he thinks about moving to the Middle East, as well as his plans for how to support the Palestinian Civil Police in the middle of the Covid-19 crisis:

More:

<https://eupolcopps.eu/en/node/5723>

Strengthening the right to a fair trial



“A fair trial is a fundamental right – if you have been accused of a crime, there are a number of things public institutions should do to ensure that your rights are not being violated,” says Lina Zettergren, EUPOL COPPS Senior Criminal Justice Expert.

“Together with our Palestinian partners, we developed a set of 72 recommendations to strengthen the right to a fair trial, and we are delighted that progress is being

made to implement these proposals. We are ready to provide our full support for this process”.

More:

<https://eupolcoppes.eu/en/node/5721>

“With cybercrime, the perpetrator can be anywhere”



Dr Alessandro Buono, from the Italian State Police, is our Cybercrime Expert. In this role, he supports his counterparts in the Palestinian Civil Police to enhance their capacity to fight online crime.

“The main problem with cybercrime is that the perpetrator can be anywhere in the

world, and this makes it difficult to identify them. This is why it's really important to work on prevention – for example raising awareness of the risks”.

Cybercrime risks have only increased with the Covid-19 pandemic.

More:

 <https://eupolcopps.eu/en/node/5717>



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