



EUPOL COPPS Newsletter - March 2020

Dear friends,

Like everyone else, we are following the news about the spread of COVID-19 and thinking of all those who have been affected. Thankfully, we have had no suspected cases at EUPOL COPPS, but some colleagues have been put into preventative quarantine in line with requirements laid down by the Palestinian and Israeli authorities due to recent travel to affected areas, such as Bethlehem. Many of our staff are teleworking and many others have had to cancel travel plans to see family and friends.



We are trying to use this period as an opportunity to move ahead with and conceptualise long term strategy and planning questions that sometimes get put on a back burner when there are day to day priorities competing for

attention. Clearly however, COVID-19 is having a significant effect on our operations – all our training sessions, workshops and study visits for our Palestinian counterparts have been postponed and it's unclear when normal business will resume.

For our part, we are fully committed to doing our bit to help stop the spread of COVID-19. The safety of our staff and the communities they come into contact with is our top priority at this moment in time. To this end, we are fully cooperating with the instructions and recommendations of the relevant Palestinian and Israeli authorities.

Before the emergency measures to counter the spread of COVID-19 came into effect, we were working at full tilt. There are therefore a number of important activities from the past month highlighted in this newsletter, with a particular focus on our training sessions to support our Palestinian partners in the fight against organised crime and also our awareness raising efforts to promote gender equality in law enforcement and rule of law institutions.

We hope you enjoy this month's newsletter and most of all hope that you and your loved ones stay safe.

Kind regards,

Kauko

Kauko Aaltomaa
Head of Mission
EUPOL COPPS

International Women's Day 2020



“Law enforcement and rule of law institutions are the key bodies responsible for protecting the rights of citizens, half of which are women and girls,” said Kauko Aaltomaa, EUPOL COPPS Head of Mission in the run up to International Women's Day. “In order to protect the rights of all members of society, it is crucial that the agencies set up to protect and serve communities are more representative of society as a whole. Currently, only 5% of people working in Palestine’s 14 security institutions are women. While the number of women working in such structures has increased recently, more can be done to make them fully representative of the people they serve”.

Read our full statement here:

[👉 https://eupolcopps.eu/en/node/5654](https://eupolcopps.eu/en/node/5654)



Meet Daren Salhieh, Family Protection Chief Prosecutor for the Palestinian Public Prosecution. She joined the Public Prosecution in 2002 as the first female Assistant Prosecutor in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

For her, having more women prosecutors means that cases affecting women will be dealt with more effectively. Watch her story.

Strengthening the fight against organised crime

Organised crime undermines the foundations of a society and can corrupt all levels of a community. Criminal groups are becoming increasingly sophisticated, including by using technology to conduct operations and evade law enforcement.

In February 2020, EUPOL COPPS delivered two trainings on organised crime for Palestinian counterparts - one on cryptocurrencies and the other on the principles for developing a comprehensive and effective strategy for combatting organised crime.



[EUPOL COPPS advises Palestinian counterparts how to combat organised crime](#)

[EUPOL COPPS delivers training for Palestinian judges on cryptocurrencies and cybercrime](#)

Highlights - February 2020

[Mastering police tactics in Spain](#)





[Human rights training for
Palestinian prosecutors aimed at
improving prison inspections](#)

[EUPOL COPPS delivers training
to support improved drafting of
Palestinian legislation](#)



[EUPOL COPPS supports
Palestinians to institutionalise fair
trials](#)



Our mailing address is:

newsletter@eupolcops.eu

Do you wish to unsubscribe from this newsletter?

Please send us an e-mail with the subject line 'UNSUBSCRIBE'