As a challenging year comes to a close, we wish you and your family health, happiness and success in 2022, and thank you for your cooperation.

From Nataliya Apostolova, Head of Mission, and all the team at EUPOL COPPS.
Dear friends,

Since the beginning of December, I have been working closely with our Palestinian partners as well as with our main international interlocutors to advance police reform and the strengthening of the rule of law in Palestine.

On 10th December we marked human rights day, more than seven decades after the signature of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, the European Union is committed to build a world free from human rights violation. In that sense, EUPOL COPPS upholds the best human rights international and European standards in support of the police and justice sector reforms in Palestine.

I believe that rule of law combined with human rights mainstreaming is key to create sound trust relationships between security forces, the magistracy and the people of Palestine. Such vision is reflected in the good cooperation between our Mission, the Palestinian government and the Palestinian Civil Police.

During my last meeting with Prime Minister Shtayyeh earlier this month we both agree on the need to create stronger ties between Palestinian Civil Police and civil society.

The same vision is shared by the Chief of Palestinian Civil Police, Major General Yousif Helo, who is a fundamental partner of EUPOL COPPS. Building on a long and vigorous partnership, the Major General and I decided to further develop and increase the power of our cooperation in 2022. Among the main objectives, that cooperation will focus on human rights promotion, the
strengthening of the accountability mechanisms, the building of robust police-
population trust relationships, and finally on gender mainstreaming via the
creation of an ad hoc women police network.

In achieving those objective, Palestinian Civil Police and EUPOL COPPS will
leverage the existing synergies with other international partners. I am confident
that the esprit de corps bonding all the members of the EU family with partners
from all over the world will secure stronger partnerships and a more energetic
joint effort in the security sector reform for the year to come.

Since COVID 19 hit Palestine in March 2020, both professional and social life
of all of us have been deeply impacted and our routines has dramatically
changed. Nevertheless, if we think about this last year, the obstacles we faced
have been largely outweighed by the outcomes of our activities and by the
fruitful cooperation between our Palestinian counterparts and the police and
rule of law experts of EUPOL COPPS.

If we were able to build strong activities during the worst phases of COVID 19, I
am confident that 2022 will bring about a positive impact on our work and more
generally on the Palestinian security and justice sectors.

I wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and New Year, and first
and foremost hope that you stay safe and healthy.

Kind regards,

Nataliya Apostolova
On 20 December, Chief of Palestinian Civil Police Major General Yousif Helo paid a visit to EUPOL COPPS HQ in Ramallah where he met with the Head of Mission Nataliya Apostolova.
During the meeting, both sides updated each other on their ongoing activities and agreed to work towards the strengthening of the already excellent ties that exist between the EUPOL COPPS and the PCP. Furthermore, the start of 2022 will bring with it a string of activities in which EUPOL COPPS and the PCP will jointly engage.

👉 https://eupolcopps.eu/single-news/724/en

EUPOL COPPS participated in the Justice Sector Working Group Technical Meeting
EUPOL COPPS participated in the Justice Sector Working Group Technical Meeting on 15 December 2021, represented by the Head of the Rule of Law Section along with two Mission advisers.

The technical meeting was chaired by the Ministry of Justice and co-chaired by EUREP, where the Ministry of Justice presented the priorities of the Justice Sector Institutions for 2022. Several common topics and themes were raised and discussed, revolving around legislation, human rights & gender, access to justice, capacity building of the justice sector staff, infrastructure & IT, enhancement of cooperation between civil society and justice sector institutions and cooperation with the security sector.

👉 https://eupolcopps.eu/single-news/723/en

Ministry of Justice launches electronic encyclopedia on International Law
Supported by EUPOL COPPS Mission, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) launched an electronic encyclopedia to provide the public, officials, researchers and human rights specialists free access to an online database about legal information related to the state of Palestine.

Nataliya Apostolova, Head of EUPOL COPPS Mission, said in her speech that other Palestinian institutions should follow suit to better serve the Palestinian public.

Palestinian judges are now equipped with the know-how on cybercrime cases to be prepared to deal with cybercrime and electronic evidence.

Twenty-two Palestinian judges attended the one-day training on cybercrime, delivered by expert Jasmin Jarad and organized by EUPOL COPPS’ Courts

EUPOL COPPS and EUREP joined forces during a working lunch held with the Female Network for Leadership.

The scope of the lunch was to discuss further steps in order to promote female lawyers in leadership positions, as well as the promotion of workshops and other capacity building initiatives to meet this aim.

EUPOL COPPS has long supported the Palestinian Bar Association (PBA). The idea of a network project for female lawyers was first introduced in June 2019 during a leadership training after a study visit to Copenhagen. The aim of empowering female lawyers in their profession, as well as increasing their representation both in Court as well as on the board of the PBA remains high on the agenda.
Palestinian police succeeds in making mobile phone to function as Radio handsets

The Palestinian Civil Police (PCP), with the support of EUPOL COPPS, have succeeded in developing a new mobile application that enables the mobile phone to function as mobile radio handsets, a much needed device for the day-to-day work of the police.
“Technology has become a major source of expenditure and innovation in law enforcement and is assumed to hold great potential for enhancing police work,” said Colonel Suleiman Al-Khatib, head of the ICT Administration.


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