Dear friends,

Welcome to a further edition of our newsletter as we commence our newly renewed mandate.

It has been an eventful few months here at EUPOL COPPS. During the second trimester of 2022, I have been working to further strengthen our cooperation with the Palestinian Authority. In that regard, our Mission can count on the
proactive support of the Office of Prime Minister to achieve our common goals in the security sector and justice reform.

On 17th and 18th May, I participated in the Palestinian Civil Police Conference: Shaping the future of Palestinian Police Women. The conference, a first of its kind and a milestone in celebrating female police officers, was the result of a joint effort of the PCP and of EUPOL COPPS, and was realized thanks to the generous support of Luxembourg and Finland. It perfectly showcased both the great cooperation between our institutions and the unity of the EU and the Palestinian Authority in promoting a gender sensitive and gender responsive security sector.

On that occasion, I personally reaffirmed my full commitment towards promoting a Palestinian security sector wherein women and men enjoy equal opportunities, and a Palestinian society wherein boys and girls who dream to become police officers do not have to face obstacles, negative prejudices and discrimination. In that direction, EUPOL COPPS continues to support the establishment of a women's police network and the female lawyers' network to help strengthen the voice and rights of Palestinian women. Furthermore, this year, CPCC turns 15 and whilst still young in terms of age, has already achieved considerable and tangible results throughout the globe, through the deployed Missions in the most vulnerable parts of the world. On 24th May, I attended the 15th Anniversary high level conference of the Civilian Planning Conduct Capability (CPCC), hosted by the HR/VP Joseph Borrell, wherein I had the opportunity to present to the audience the successes and challenges of EUPOL COPPS.

On 28th June, the Minister of Interior Ziad Hab al-Reeh and I hosted the closing ceremony of a series of trainings, attended by 120 participants from the Palestinian security sector, which covered topics such as human rights, law drafting, policy making and international negotiation.

In the coming months, EUPOL COPPS will continue to intensify its close cooperation with Palestinian and international partners to achieve an effective implementation of the security and justice sectors strategic plans as well as to successfully prepare for the strategic plans for the future.
As many of us will soon celebrate the feast of the sacrifice, I already wish you and your families Eid Adha Mubarak.

Kind regards,

Nataliya Apostolova
Head of Mission
EUPOL COPPS
‘...missions are a unique instrument to address specific sectors in the crisis and conflict situations. What unites all these missions is the same broader objective to generate stability through concrete, pragmatic solutions in selected fields and help peace and stability.’ – EUPOL COPPS Head of Mission Nataliya Apostolova on the occasion of EUPOL COPPS’ commemoration of the 15th Anniversary of CPCC, held on the 31 May in Ramallah. Aside from celebrating 15 years of CPCC, Head of Mission reflected upon the achievements of the current mandate, notably but not limited to the recent hosting of the first PCP Women’s Conference last month; whilst enthusiastically looking ahead to the Mission’s new mandate, which will commence
on the 1 July, continuing on our journey side by side with our Palestinian counterparts and international partners.

https://eupolcopps.eu/single-news/735/en

The Head of Mission of EUPOL COPPS, Nataliya Apostolova, attended the 15th Anniversary celebrations of the Civilian Planning Conduct Capability (CPCC) in Brussels
On 24 May, The Head of Mission of EUPOL COPPS, Nataliya Apostolova, attended the 15th Anniversary celebrations of the Civilian Planning Conduct Capability (CPCC), which is the HQ for all EU civilian missions. The highlight of the celebrations was a high level conference, in the premises of the European Parliament in Brussels, hosted by the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Union and Vice President of the European Commission, Josep Borrell. Described by the HR/VP as ‘a potent EU instrument to address crisis situations around the world’, the focus of the conference was on a single pressing objective: to ‘shape civilian CSDP for the future’, in line with the goals set out in the Strategic Compass, the guiding document for the future security and defence of Europe.

Praising the work of the CSDP Missions and highlighting the vital importance of the human factor in ensuring that the Missions are essential in contributing towards the peace and stability of their respective area of operations, HR/VP Borrell highlighted that each Mission is ‘making a valuable contribution to the EU ‘integrated approach’ and our reputation as a global security actor.’

• The CPCC was established in 2007 as the operational headquarters for all EU civilian CSDP missions and was transferred to the European External Action Service (EEAS) in 2010.

• Under the authority of the Civilian Operation Commander Francisco Esteban Perez, the CCPC provides critical support to the planning and implementation of the 11 CSDP missions working on 3 continents, with a total of around 2000 women and men working side by side with their host-state counterparts.

• EUCAP Sahel Mali, EUCAP Sahel Niger, EUAM RCA, EUCAP Somalia, EUPOL COPPS (Palestine), EUBAM Rafah (Palestine), EUAM Iraq, European Union Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM), EUAM Ukraine, EUBAM Libya and EULEX Kosovo, European Union Rule of Law Mission. In addition, the EU operates a Regional Advisory and Coordination Cell (RACC) for the Sahel.

• The missions’ mandates cover a wide range of security sector and rule of law activities, with the main objective of promoting stability and strengthening resilience in a fragile environment.
• The missions are mainly staffed by seconded personnel provided by EU Member States. Without this support, none of these missions would exist.

🔗 https://eupolcopps.eu/single-news/734/en

Palestinian Civil Police Women Conference: Shaping the future of Palestinian Police Women
On May 17th and 18th 2022, The Palestinian Civil Police Service (PCP), in partnership with the European Union Coordinating Office for Palestinian Police Support, (EUPOL COPPS), the countries of Luxemburg and Finland as well as the United Nations Women (UN Women), launched the first Palestinian Police Women Conference in Ramallah, bringing together over 200 women Palestinian police officers.

This historic two-day event marks the first step towards the establishment of a women police officers network in Palestine and will provide a forum to share their experiences in policing, raise awareness, and allow an opportunity to network as well as exchange best practices with Middle Eastern and European counterparts. In turn, these are the first steps towards a sustainable PCP women’s network.

☞ https://eupolcopps.eu/single-news/733/en

EUPOL COPPS lends more support to Palestinian female lawyers
EUPOL COPPS has taken an additional step in assisting Palestinian female lawyers. To this end, the Mission held a two-day retreat for a group of Female lawyers in Ramallah to discuss ways in which to promote female lawyers in leadership positions of the Palestinian Bar Association and to underline the main challenges they face in their endeavor to achieve that, keeping in mind that the election of the PBA is scheduled to take place next month, in May 2022.

During the retreat, a specialized lecturer, Mr. Fathi Marshood, explained to the attendees a plethora of tactics to help them achieve their goals. At the end of the activity, which was held last week, the participants agreed to launch a hashtag on social media to make female participation more visible and to encourage female candidates.

The Mission exerts strenuous efforts to empower female lawyers in their profession, as well as increasing their representation both in Court and in the board of the PBA. Whilst there is no female lawyer on the board of the PBA, more than 30% of the Palestinian lawyers are women, and the objective of electing a female lawyer to the board of the PBA remains of utmost importance.
The EUPOL COPPS Police Adviser for the Family and Juvenile Protection Department executing a number of field visits to all districts.

The EUPOL COPPS Police Adviser for the Family and Juvenile Protection Department (FJPD) is currently executing field visits in all eleven districts to identify the most urgent needs and to discuss future collaboration between the FJPDs and EUPOL COPPS, as well as assistance and support opportunities.
Forming part of the field visits is the EUPOL COPPS Gender Adviser. EUPOL COPPS continues in its unwavering support to the Palestinian people.

**EUPOL COPPS PPIO team met with the Director of Media and PR of the Palestinian Civil Police**

EUPOL COPPS PPIO Team met with Brigadier Abu Znait Abu Znait, Director of Media and PR of the Palestinian Civil Police, and his Team, at EUPOL COPPS HQ. The meeting focused on the current challenges faced in the media sector of the PCP and on projects and operational needs.
A number of paths were identified in which EUPOL COPPS PPIO Team is able to support the PCP in their media and PR mandate.

**EUPOL COPPS has started an EU-funded training program for the Palestinian Ministry of Interior**
EUPOL COPPS has started an EU-funded training program for the Ministry of Interior. The overarching objective is to strengthen the Ministry of Interior’s capacities as it is a priority in the EUPOL COPPS Mission Implementation Plan. The program includes law drafting, policy making and planning.

It remains a priority for the MoI to develop policies and draft legislation for the security sector, while taking into account the principles of international applying standards as human right and gender equality, and also overseeing the comprehensive consequences for the society and the governmental apparatus including sustainability.

**EUPOL COPPS launched a training course on legal consultation, analysis of legal texts and interpretation for 16 officials from the Ministry of Justice**
On 22 May 2022, EUPOL COPPS launched a training course on legal consultation, analysis of legal texts and interpretation for 16 officials from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and the Council of Ministers (CoM) over two weeks in Ramallah.

The objective of the training was to raise the capacities of the legal staff at the MoJ and CoM in analyzing and interpreting legal texts and in understanding the preparatory steps and the methodology for drafting legal opinions and legal advice.
EUPOL COPPS and the Female Lawyer Network for leadership held a meeting with Ms. Rawya Abu Zuhri, the first female lawyer recently elected to the PBA board. This is the first time that a woman is elected in a normal election cycle in the West Bank PBA council. Ms. Rawya Abu Zuhri is a strong advocate for female lawyers. The scope of the meeting was to discuss her important involvement in all activities related to the empowerment of female lawyers.
The Head of Mission of EUPOL COPPS, Natalia Apostolova held a meeting with the head of the Palestinian Bar Association (PBA) and pledged to exert more efforts to support female lawyers to enhance their visibility, roles and positions in the PBA council.

“The Mission stands ready to support on numerous levels, logistical, technical as well as through the potential interventions through the EU Representative Office, on women’s economic empowerment,” said Apostolova.
Gratitude was expressed to EUPOL COPPS for its support the Female Lawyers’ Network and welcomes the further advancement of female lawyers in the PBA and in the justice sector through joint efforts with the Mission.

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