Dear Friends,

Welcome to a further edition of our newsletter. It has been an eventful summer at EUPOL COPPS. During the last two months, I have been working to further strengthen our ties with our local and international counterparts and to promote EU’s priorities as much as security and justice sectors’ reforms are concerned.

I have been working closely with the PA’s justice sectors institutions and with all the other members of the justice sector working group to follow closely the reforms which are underway.
As a follow up to the Palestinian Civil Police Conference: Shaping the future of Palestinian Police Women, our Mission continued to pave the way towards the establishment of the Palestinian Police Women Network.

In the coming months, EUPOL COPPS will conceptualise its future strategy to tackle the challenges and to better advance the priorities of the rule of law and security sectors in Palestine.

Kind regards,

Nataliya Apostolova
Head of Mission
EUPOL COPPS
The Community Policing Team within the Police Advisory Section here at EUPOL COPPS is composed of two very experienced colleagues, hailing from Italy and Canada respectively. Pietro Tripodi, Sostituto Commissario della Polizia di Stato holds the post of Community Policing Senior Advisor, and joined EUPOL COPPS in November 2021; whilst Sergeant Brian Lowe, Halton Regional Police Service is our Community Policing Advisor and joined the Mission in October 2021.

Whilst Pietro and Brian have had very diverse careers, the evident silver thread is their years of experience (over 70 years between them) in their respective Police forces, which in turn has enabled them to not only form an excellent team, but to establish a strong and fruitful working relationship with our local counterparts, as they successfully execute their mandate within the Mission.

The Community Policing Team sat down with the PPIO Team and shared their
experience within EUPOL COPPS.

Tell us a little about yourself (nationality, professional background and experience and expertise)

Pietro: I’m a Police Officer serving in the Italian State Police for the last 36 years. During my career I have held various roles, such as armed response patrol crew and supervisor, as part of United Nation Police in Kosovo and as part of the European External Action Service as a duty officer within the Situation Room and at the Military Staff Watch Keeping Capability.

Brian: I am seconded by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to this Mission. I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology, and have 35 years of policing experience and have been involved in community patrol, investigations, SWAT, Explosive Disposal, Ground Search and Rescue and Marine Patrol. My skill set includes planning, training, and operations of the various functions I have worked within.

Explain your portfolio here at EUPOL COPPS

Pietro: Within the Mission I hold the post of Senior Police Advisor for the Community Oriented Police. In a nutshell the duties and responsibilities revolve around advising our counterparts within the Palestinian Civilian Police the best way to close the gap between the Police and society as a whole. Not an easy task given our area of operation and its challenges, but we are fortunate to enjoy an excellent working relationship with our counterparts, both centrally and throughout the districts, which in turn enables us to execute our mandate strategically and in partnership with the PCP.

Brian: I am a Community Policing Advisor, and my role is to provide my PCP counterparts with strategic advice on Community Policing operations and training. As Pietro has mentioned, our working relationship with our local counterparts is a very fruitful one, and this thanks to our joint efforts in establishing a solid ground for our partnership, which goes from strength to strength.

What do you enjoy most about forming part of EUPOL COPPS, and about
working in the Region?

Pietro: Forming part of EUPOLCOPPS is a truly rewarding experience: The Mission is formed of colleagues from all around EU as well as from Contributing Countries. That creates a very unique “melting pot” in term of fields of expertise and personal experience. Within the EUPOLCOPPS Police Advisory Section I have the pleasure to lead a Community Policing team in which Brian, my Canadian colleague and friend, and I ensure that our duties and responsibilities meet the requirements of our direct counterparts, and that we are able to positively contribute to the Community Policing portfolio within the PCP. The clear perception of everyday efforts by all Mission members in order to “make a difference” in working with our respective counterparts is what makes me proud to work in the Region.

Brian: aside from our operational activities coming to fruition, what I value is the unique opportunity to meet and work with so many colleagues and local citizens from a wide variety of operational, national and cultural backgrounds.

What are the challenges you face, and how, in your view, may they be overcome?

Pietro: It is evident that EUPOLCOPPS operates in quite a delicate and unique right in the middle of the longest standing conflict in history. That places on our shoulders the added responsibility to understand the present situation and to do our utmost to collaborate closely with our local and international counterparts, drawing from our personal experience and expertise, thus exchanging best practices and solid policing values, the ultimate goal being the building of a modern Police Force enjoying the full trust of the society.

Brian: Changing mindset in regard to adapting more community policing approaches versus the traditional reactive “catching bad guys” approach. While old school reaction to calls from the public still forms a significant percentage of police work, getting ahead of issues in response to community input and tackling problems in a collaborate multi-stakeholder approach is an effective tool when added to the police “tool kit”.

Pietro and Brian, thank you! The PPIO Team is very pleased to support your
endeavours. Given that your portfolio is very closely linked to ours in terms of public perception and trust in the local Authorities, we look forward to our continued partnership on our projects. Keep up the good work and the excellent teamwork!

Joined by our International Partners, EUPOL COPPS CP and PPIO Teams led a joint outreach mission to Tubas and Aqqaba
Joined by our International Partners, EUPOL COPPS Community Policing and PPIO teams led a joint outreach mission to Tubas district and nearby Aqqaba village, to continue to strengthen our fruitful working relationship with our PCP counterparts in all districts.

The mission met with the District Police and Civilian Authorities, as well as with the Commander and Crew of the Mobile Police Station, a very useful tool in the execution of the day – to – day mandate of the PCP, and which will be further upgraded in the coming months though a EUPOL COPPS project.'

👉 https://eupolcopps.eu/single-news/749/en

EUPOL COPPS holds Certificate Awards Ceremony for Palestinian Counterparts
EUPOL COPPS held a Certificate Awards Ceremony for the legal staff of the Council of Ministers (CoM), Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and other line ministries, on the completion of two trainings organized by the Mission in March and May 2022.

The first training, held in March, focused on leadership and strategic planning and was delivered by a planning expert from Birzeit University, Dr. Samir Baidoun. The main objective of the training was to develop and enhance the capacities of the participants on strategic leadership and management. The training also aimed to show the linkage between the sector strategic objectives, the National Development Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals, including the importance of monitoring and evaluation.

The second training was on legal consultation and analyzing legal texts, was held in May 2022 and its main objective was to raise the capacities of the legal staff of the MoJ and the CoM in analyzing and interpreting legal texts and in understanding the
preparatory steps and methodology for drafting different types of legal opinions and advice. Dr Mohamad Alquaisi from Birzeit University conducted the training.

The ceremony was attended by Ms. Katja Dominik, the Deputy Head of Mission, Mr Rami Husseini, the Head of the Legal Department at the CoM and Mr. Mamoun Mahamied, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Legal Affairs at the MoJ.

Training is a very useful tool for improving key functions within the Council of Ministers and the MoJ which the Mission is, as always, ready to support in order to strengthen the MoJ’s leading role as a policy maker in the development of the justice sector.

EUPOL COPPS Police Adviser for the Family and Juvenile Protection Department (FJPD) executed for the first time “On the Job” – Field Visits with a FJPD in Bethlehem, Ramallah and Tulkarm. The aim of those special field visits are to understand the daily tasks and activities of the FJPD Officers by accompanying them during a shift.

The two sides exchanged views on how best to tackle domestic violence.

EUPOL COPPS Planning and Police Advisor attended a Partnership Programme workshop on strengthening relationship between Police and community, together with Research and Planning Development Administration (RPDA) from Palestinian Civil Police (PCP) and Palestine Technical University, Kadoorie in Tulkarem. The workshop ended with developing a Partnership Programme. Participants paid a visit to University Director Prof. Dr. Nouraldin ABUALROB who explained that Kadoorie is ready for any partnership programme with PCP.
EUPOL COPPS Police Adviser for the Family and Juvenile Protection Department completed the FJPD - Field visits to Jenin

https://eupolcopps.eu/single-news/745/en
The EUPOL COPPS Police Adviser for the Family and Juvenile Protection Department (FJPD) finally completed the FJPD - Field Visits on the 18th of August in Jenin to identify the most urgent needs and to discuss future collaboration between the FJPDs and EUPOL COPPS, as well as assistance and support opportunities. In a real open and constructive conversation EUPOL COPPS and the FJPD Jenin continue their unwavering and supportive collaboration.


**EUPOL COPPS support capacity building on Witness Protection for the PACC**
EUPOL COPPS and Palestinian Anticorruption Commission (PACC) held a ceremony to hand out certificate of attendance to all the participants to the training on ‘Witness Protection’ carried out by a consultant company.

In June 2022, EUPOL COPPS provided PACC capacity building training for the Witness Protection Unit on budget planning and reporting, which was requested by PACC.

Since the establishment of this key unit, EUPOL COPPS has provided legal advice on legislative amendments and drafting, specialized training on witness protection, developing standard operating procedure (SoP) and conducting a study visit to Spain on witness protection and Gender.

Witness protection is a key tool in criminal justice proceedings that can help States to bring criminals to justice, especially in cases of organized crime, corruption and terrorism.

On the 18th of August, with the aim to re-activate the National Committee on Legislation responsive to Gender, EUPOL COPPS hosted Ms. Hayat Bazzar, General Director of the Gender Unit, Council of Ministers, Mr Mustafa Habash, Director of Gender Integration and Development, Council of Ministers, Ms Rania Adwan, Director of the Gender Unit, Ministry of Justice and Ms. Ghada Ellyan, Director of Gender Integration and Development, Ministry of Women’s Affairs. The consultation was a successful first step in a renewed joint commitment on the institutionalization of gender in the Palestinian Ministries’ plans and policies, in which the scope and mandate of the committee will be further defined as a next course of action.

The Mission remains dedicated and will continue to support our Palestinian local counterparts by strengthening the public sector’s capacity for the promotion of gender equality.
EUPOL COPPS colleagues from the Police Advisory Section attended a 911 Emergency Response Centre
EUPOL COPPS colleagues from the Police Advisory Section attended a 911 Emergency Response Centre workshop, the scope of which is to explore the possibility of establishing a unified 911 emergency phone number for the whole Palestinian territories, manned by a single joint operation room.

The workshop was addressed by the Deputy Minister of Interior and from the other stakeholders in the project, which in turn is expected to be implemented towards mid-2023.


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**EUPOL COPPS Penitentiary Advisors facilitated a restart of the Prison Coordination Group**
EUPOL COPPS Penitentiary Advisors facilitated a restart of the Prison Coordination Group. The aim is to restart a formalized cooperation between the international agencies and implementers that undertake activities in the field of penitentiary and detention across the security sector in the Palestinian Territories. The meeting brought together colleagues from UNWOMEN, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), US States Security Coordinator for Israel and the Palestinian Authority (USSC), Defense for Children International (DCI) and the Independent Commission of Human Rights, (ICHR).

👉 https://eupolcopps.eu/single-news/741/en
EUPOL COPPS hosted representatives of the main Justice sector's institutions

On the 9th of August, in the frame of strengthening under local ownership the key functions of the justice sector institutions, the Mission hosted Honourable Judge Abdel Nasser Abu Samhadaneh, Head of the Technical Office of the Constitutional Court, Honourable Judge Ahed Tuqan Director of the Training and Planning Department of High Judicial Council and Honourable Judge Bilal Abu Hantash, Director of Palestine Judicial Institute, for a joint meeting.

During the meeting the representatives of the main justice sector’s institutions
exchanged views and discussed on enhancing the future cooperation in order to improve and spread constitutional culture among all the justice sector’s actors. The Mission is committed to support the initiatives related to justice and security sector reform as a prerequisite for sustainable development.

https://eupolcopps.eu/single-news/739/en

EUPOL COPPS in partnership with PCP hosted a workshop to support the establishment of Palestinian Civil Police Women's Network
On August 9th, 2022, EUPOL COPPS, in partnership with PCP hosted a workshop to support the establishment of Palestinian Civil Police Women’s Network, (PCPWN). The 27 women in attendance are the founding members of the Network. The workshop reached its intended objectives enhance the PCPWN’s understanding of how a Police Network functions, present an example of Terms of Reference, and an exercise to start developing their own Vision, Mission and Values for their Terms of Reference. A committee of eight founding members was established to accomplish the first draft of their Terms of Reference and refine their work plan. The Founding Members signed the founding document to establish the Network.

https://eupolcopps.eu/single-news/740/en
A Senior EUPOL COPPS Police adviser conducted this week a training for three senior Palestinian Police officers on how to develop a national police strategic plan. Ozkan Baran, the Mission’s Planning and Policy Police Adviser, introduced several different national police strategic plans which were already developed and implemented and bore fruit.

The training for the officers from Research and Planning Development Administration
and Department from Palestinian Civil Police (PCP) was followed by a discussion session focused on how the PCP may implement these experiences during the development period of PCP Strategic Plan 2022-2027. Strategic planning is the development of a general blueprint for the future. It is a process by which an organization's mission, goals, and objectives (means for achieving goals) are defined, implemented, evaluated, and updated on a continual basis.

https://eupolcopps.eu/single-news/738/en

Outreach to Qalqilya and Azzun: EUPOL COPPS Community Policing and PPIO Teams Continue Activities throughout the Districts
The EUPOL COPPS Community Policing and PPIO Teams continued their outreach to the local districts with a recent visit to Qalqilya and Azzun, where the team was received by the PCP District Commander as well as the PCP District Head of Media/PR and Community Policing, the Mayor of Azzun as well as the ‘Young Police Summer Camp’ in Qalqilya, and a Women’s Association in Azzun. Despite the many logistical challenges faced in this particular district, it is evident that the PCP in the area is dedicated to providing services to the local population, not least through the use of the Mobile Police Station, a very important asset in the execution of their functions. Building upon the excellent working relationship between EUPOL COPPS and the PCP, we reiterated our commitment to continue to support to the PCP in their endeavors to improve their service to the local population.
Our mailing address is:

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