



# EU Police Mission in Afghanistan

## FACTSHEET

December 2016

### MISSION BACKGROUND

EUPOL Afghanistan (European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan) is a civilian Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) mission. It has since its establishment in 2007 supported the Afghan Government in building a civilian police service that operates within an improved rule of law framework and in respect of human rights. The Mission is part of the EU's long-term commitment and contributes to the EU's overall political and strategic objectives in Afghanistan. EUPOL Afghanistan's support has been delivered by its police experts from EU Member States, mainly through advising the Afghan Ministry of Interior Affairs at the strategic level. EUPOL has carried out its tasks in a joint effort with the Afghan government and in close cooperation with a number of local and international partners.

### MANDATE

The Mission focused on institutional reform of the Ministry of Interior (MoI) and on the professionalisation of the Afghan National Police (ANP), including the development of local training capacity and institutions. In addition, it supported the improved interaction among Afghan law enforcement and criminal justice actors such as cooperation between police officers and prosecutors in criminal investigations. Human rights and gender, as well as aspects related to enhancing accountability and transparency have been mainstreamed across all Mission activities. EUPOL Afghanistan ensured that the needs, abilities and skills of the local authorities guided the reform process in its work.

Two lines of operation:

#### 1) Institutional reform of the Ministry of Interior (MoI)

EUPOL has advanced the Ministry of Interior's institutional capacity building, including its ability to coordinate international support through improved long-term planning, management and leadership, policy implementation and accountability. This included advising selected key counterparts at the strategic level.

#### 2) Professionalisation of the Afghan National Police (ANP)

EUPOL has promoted the professionalisation and efficiency of the ANP as a civilian police service. Particular attention has been given to professional standards, community policing, criminal investigation capacities, intelligence-led policing, female police officers, management of training institutions and the fight against corruption.

### MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS (2007–2016)

- **MoI reform:** capacity building of senior MoI leadership. Support for the development of key MoI policies and strategies including the National Police Strategy. Oversight and monitoring structures within the MoI established (Inspector General's Office, General Directorate of Monitoring and Evaluation). Development of crisis management procedures.
  - **Professionalisation of the ANP:** Establishment of the Police Staff College and Crime Management College. Community policing concept widely recognised. Intelligence-led policing concept adopted. Advancement of female policing. Increased awareness of the importance of human rights (ANP Code of Conduct).
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- **Strengthening the rule of law:** Increased police-prosecutor cooperation and establishment of the Office of the Police Ombudsman. Harmonising national laws with international rule of law and human rights standards.

## CONTINUED EU SUPPORT FOR THE AFGHAN POLICE BEYOND 2016

In December 2014, the member states of the European Union decided to terminate the mandate of EUPOL come December 31, 2016. EUPOL prepared a comprehensive plan for phasing out its activities by the end of 2016 – chief among these has been sustainable transition to our Afghan partners. The European Union has a long-term commitment to Afghanistan and its people.

The EU will continue to support the professionalisation of the Afghan police and the application of the rule of law, as part of a broader international effort beyond 2016. The support entails funding from the EU Commission and bilaterally from EU Member States.

### MISSION FACTS AND FIGURES

**Theatre:** Afghanistan

**Headquarters:** Kabul

**Starting Date:** June 2007

**End Date:** 31 December 2016

**Head of Mission:** Pia Stjernvall (Finland)

**Mission strength:** 112 international staff and 122 local staff (Nov. 2016)

**Contributing Member States:** 21 EU Member States

**Mission Budget for 2016:** 43,7 Million Euro



*The **Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)** enables the Union to take a leading role in peace-keeping operations, conflict prevention and in the strengthening of the international security. It is an integral part of the EU's comprehensive approach towards crisis management, drawing on civilian and military assets. Since 2003 the EU has launched some 30 peace missions and operations contributing to stabilisation and security in Europe and beyond.*

*Based in Brussels, the **Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC)** is the permanent structure responsible for an autonomous operational conduct of civilian CSDP operations. Under the political control and strategic direction of the Political and Security Committee and the overall authority of the High Representative, the CPCC ensures the effective planning and conduct of civilian CSDP crisis management operations, as well as the proper implementation of all mission-related tasks.*

**More information and background documents** available on <http://www.eeas.europa.eu/csdp> and [eeas.europa.eu](http://www.eeas.europa.eu)