

About the Mission

The Mission

EUPOL COPPS, established on 1 January 2006, is the European Union Police and Rule of Law Mission for the Palestinian Territory. Initially the Mission was established as a Police Mission comprising a Police Advisory Section. In 2008 a Rule of Law Section was added.

EUPOL COPPS (the EU Coordinating Office for Palestinian Police Support), mainly through these two sections, assists the Palestinian Authority in building its institutions, for a future Palestinian state, focused on security and justice sector reforms. This is effected under Palestinian ownership and in accordance with the best European and international standards. Ultimately the Mission's objective is to improve the safety and security of the Palestinian people.

The Mission forms part of the wider EU effort to support Palestinian state building, in the context of working towards a comprehensive peace, based on a two-State solution.

EUPOL COPPS is fully dedicated to the inclusion of human rights as well as a gender perspective and gender-mainstreaming standards in all of its activities, both within the Mission and while working with our Palestinian counterparts.

The tasks

- To support the Palestinian Civil Police reform and development;
- To strengthen and support the Criminal Justice System;
- To improve Prosecution–Police interaction;
- To coordinate and facilitate external donor assistance to the Palestinian Civil Police.

The background

The European Union has long been at the forefront of efforts for peace in the Middle East. Its priorities include further strengthening law and order, and in this context, EUPOL COPPS is an important element in the improvement of the safety and security in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

EUPOL COPPS builds on the work of the EU Coordination Office for Palestinian Police Support, established earlier within the office of the EU Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process. This initiative followed the expression by EU leaders in June 2004 of their readiness to support the Palestinian Authority in taking responsibility for law and order and, in particular, in improving its civil police and law enforcement capacity.

Facts and Figures

Theatre:	Occupied Palestinian Territory
Headquarters:	Ramallah, the West Bank
Starting date:	1 January 2006
Head of Mission:	Kauko Aaltomaa
Mission strength:	72 international staff and 35 national staff.
Mission budget:	EUR 12,43 million (1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020). Currently, all 28 EU

Contributing States:

Member States as well as
Canada, Norway and
Turkey can contribute to
the Mission.

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of Mission Dr. Katja Dominik**

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