

Dear EuroCOP members,

I wanted to flag that Commissioner Avramopoulos responded to the question from MEP Juan Fernando López Aguilar on 'Training, equipment and resources for police forces in the EU to fight crime' (a question that EuroCOP suggested). In response to the questions, Commissioner Avramopoulos states that the Commission is well aware of the difficulties that police officers in the EU may face in their daily work and "is equally aware of, and greatly appreciates, the importance of their mission in order to guarantee an EU Area of Freedom, Security and Justice".

The Commissioner further mentions that the Union can adopt measures that bring added-value to the action of the Member States and refers to actions included in the European Agenda on Security as examples. He states that actions that can support national law enforcement authorities' efforts "feature prominently in the Agenda". These are (i) training, in particular through the European Police College (CEPOL), (ii) EU funding, in particular through the Internal Security Fund (ISF)-Police, and (iii) research projects focusing on (law enforcement) end users' needs, as important priorities over the next five years.

In response to the question on the impact of police budget cuts on EU internal security, Commissioner Avramopoulos states that the European Agenda on Security aims to develop, together with the European Parliament and the Council, a shared Internal Security Strategy for the next five years. He notes that by agreeing on common priorities, "financial resources can be used more efficiently and synergies can be developed and utilized to combat the most significant threats". However, the Agenda does not contain an assessment of the impact of national budget cuts on internal security.

You may want to share this response from the Commissioner with members. Especially the Commissioner's statement that the Commission greatly appreciates the importance of police officers in order to guarantee an EU Area of Freedom, Security and Justice may be worth highlighting.

Below you can read the whole answer:

EN

E-006053/2015

Answer given by Mr Avramopoulos
on behalf of the Commission
(15.7.2015)

The Commission is well aware of the difficulties that police officers in the EU may face in their daily work. It is equally aware of, and greatly appreciates, the importance of their mission in order to guarantee an EU Area of Freedom, Security and Justice.

While internal security is first and foremost the responsibility of the Member States, the Union can adopt measures that bring added-value to the action of the Member States. On 28 April 2015, the European Commission adopted the European Agenda on Security, setting out its vision as regards the actions needed at the EU level, to increase European Internal Security. Actions that can support national law enforcement authorities' efforts feature prominently in the Agenda. These are (i) training, in particular through the European Police College (CEPOL), (ii) EU funding, in particular through the Internal Security Fund (ISF)-Police, and (iii) research projects focussing on (law enforcement) end users' needs, as important priorities over the next five years.

The European Agenda on Security aims to develop, together with the European Parliament and the Council, a shared Internal Security Strategy for the next five years. By agreeing on common priorities, financial resources can be used more efficiently and synergies can be developed and

utilised to combat the most significant threats. However, the Agenda does not contain an assessment of the impact of national budget cuts on internal security.

With best regards
Anna Nellberg Dennis
President EuroCOP