

“Prague Declaration”

European refugee- and asylum policy

At the EuroCOP Committee Meeting on 2nd and 3rd September in Prague, the delegates have intensively dealt with the current situation of refugees as well as migration movement and adopted this Prague Declaration.

Worldwide, one expects presently with almost 60 million people who are fleeing or living in escape-like conditions, including many families and parentless children. In the past few months, hundreds of thousands of people from all of Syria and North Africa, but also from countries of Southeast Europe, have made their way to reach countries of the European Union. Pictures of dead refugees are commonplace and oppress. It is and remains a key humanitarian challenge to all European countries to grant refugees a safe and decent shelter, even if only temporarily.

However, the current situation is mainly characterized by dreadful conditions. Thousands of refugees reach countries of the EU every day. The Police of the European nation-states has to deal with the situation, but often the colleagues are not well prepared and equipped adequately.

EuroCOP appeals to the Commission and the European nation-states to implement the existing contractual obligations and rules to ensure that the influx of refugees is better organized all over Europe. This allows a reduction of the tremendous daily strain for the colleagues of the police and the public administrations, at least partially.

EuroCOP continues to remind that the reduction of police staff for years throughout Europe was a wrong decision. The current situation shows that colleagues are heavily overloaded and there are far too few police employees to cope with the current challenges and to combat illegal migration, human trafficking and international crime.

EuroCOP appeals to the European Council to ensure towards the European nation-states to set up the police force so that they can do their job well. For that individual loads must be reduced. Policewomen and policemen must be well trained, better equipped and protected in dealing with refugees.

EuroCOP calls on the European Council, to combat illegal migration more intensively and the reasons for fleeing sustainable in the refugee countries.

Primarily it comes to the motto of the EU "united in diversity". In 2012, the EU has been recognized for its commitment to peace, reconciliation, democracy and human rights with the Nobel Peace Prize, as can be seen from the grounds of the Norwegian Nobel Committee at the award ceremony. This award is an obligation for the future.