



European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan

ماموریت پولیس اتحادیه اروپا در افغانستان

PRESS RELEASE

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EUPOL Afghanistan Supports Afghan Police

European countries celebrate the 9th of May as Europe Day, a celebration of peace and unity. The European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan marks Europe Day 2010 by highlighting its achievements.

EUPOL Afghanistan launched the Afghan Uniform (Civilian) Police project in March. The project aims to support the Ministry of Interior (MoI) to develop all the aspects of the uniform police - its organization, mandate, training, education and logistical matters. As part of this project, EUPOL Afghanistan will introduce a Civilian orientated policing approach in Afghanistan. By introducing this new way of policing the MoI will be able to build a more effective way of policing and also improve people's trust in the police. The new approach will be based on the concept of intelligence-led policing.

EUPOL Afghanistan supports Afghan National Police to review, restructure and refurbish the Anti Crime Police Pillar. The Note of Understanding to formalise this work was signed by the MoI and EUPOL Head of Mission on 5th November 2009. EUPOL will use its member's civilian police expertise to help the Afghan National Police to create *clear command, control and communication structures* and to establish a strong and efficient *Criminal Investigation Department*. In addition, a *professional Forensic pillar* will be implemented to move from a *confession based* to an *evidence based system*.

EUPOL Afghanistan also has a significant support role in improving the investigation and trial of cases against corrupt police officers. In February 2010 a specialized Military Anti-Corruption Prosecution Unit was formally established, based on a Letter of Agreement between the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General Military and EUPOL. Since February the Unit has become increasingly operational. These developments complement the roll out of the Anti-Corruption program of the Afghan Ministry of Interior which is also strongly supported by EUPOL.

Progress has also been made regarding Gender and Human Rights. EUPOL Afghanistan is supporting the setting up of victim-friendly investigation rooms for juvenile offenders and for the investigations of violence against women and children. One of EUPOL projects is supporting female police officers by providing a telephone helpline within the MoI for female officers who have been victims of harassment. Furthermore, EUPOL has been actively setting up a Department of Human Rights and Gender at the Kabul Police Academy. The department ensures that modules focusing human rights and gender issues will be taught at the academy.

EUPOL Afghanistan

The European Union launched the EU Police Mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL Afghanistan) in June 2007. Through policing and the wider field of Rule of Law, the EUPOL mandate is to contribute to the establishment of sustainable and effective policing arrangements in all parts of Afghanistan. By this the EUPOL mission in Afghanistan works towards police reform and an Afghan police service, in local ownership.

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