

Media



Coppola: "Organised crime satisfies a demand" EUPM produces TV show on organised crime

The EU Police Mission and BiH law enforcement agencies will in April launch a joint campaign to raise awareness about organised crime

As an introduction to the campaign, EUPM invited the main actors in the fight against organised crime to participate in one of the most popular talk shows in BiH - Zabranjeni Forum ('Forbidden' Forum), famous for its moderator's tough questions.

How serious is organised crime in BiH? What impact does it have on citizens' everyday lives? How can BiH improve the fight against organised criminals? These were the topics discussed on 6 March 2008.

Guest speakers of the show were: Brigadier General Vincenzo Coppola, Head of the EU Police Mission, Uros Pena, RS Police Director, Zlatko Miletic, Director of the FBiH Police Administration, Mirko Lujic, SIPA Director, Drew Engel, Head of the Department for Organised Crime, Economic Crime and Corruption in the BiH Prosecution and Branko Peric, President of the BiH High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council.

The discussion during the two-hour programme was vivid and controversial. While all participants agreed that the fight against organised crime was not efficiently fought in BiH, opinions varied on who was to blame and what needs to be done in order to rectify the situation.

"How can organised crime be fought more efficiently?" - was the opening question of the moderator.

The Head of the EU Police Mission emphasised the urgent need for a better coordination between the 16 police bodies operating in the country and for an enhanced cooperation between police and prosecutors.

"At the moment, cooperation amongst police agencies depends on individual good will," he explained. "Coordination must be an obligation, not an option."

Coppola further emphasised that prosecution and police must understand that they

"We had to wait for four hours until we got the prosecutor's approval to conduct an operation against a car theft network. It almost jeopardised the whole operation. This is intolerable."



Editorial

Fighting international crime and corruption and prosecuting war crimes is a matter of practical cooperation between trusting partners and is one of the main focal points in our work here. Improving the effectiveness of the judiciary, the public prosecutor and the police in this country also serves its integration into Euro-Atlantic institutions.



For the Netherlands the Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council (HJPC) have been key partners in this endeavour. We have supported the Court in a variety of ways, financially and by supporting the secondment of three international judges, two of them Dutchmen. Through membership in the Transition Council we are closely associated with the transition process of the Court. We are prepared to donate 3.9 million Euros for the construction of the much needed high-security state prison. We have recently supported HJPC through the digitalising of the court management system. We also support the State Prosecutors Office, through sponsorship of investigators in the Srebrenica office, for instance. But also our long-standing financial support to the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) serves the goal of obtaining justice for the victims of genocide and their families.

Our priorities for the immediate future include support to combating corruption. Last year we already sponsored the participation of a Dutch expert on police corruption, Professor Fijnhaut, to the EUPM conference on police integrity and we are presently exploring options for institutional support in this field. The Embassy is also preparing itself for its role in implementing our Foreign Ministry's Code of Conduct on Bribery Abroad, which foresees close cooperation with the private sector.

The Netherlands continues to contribute substantially to EUPM, to which it currently sends nine officers. As one of the few

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are one team, one system, and therefore needed to work together more closely, exchanging information on a daily basis: "I do recognise that prosecutors' offices have a huge number of cases to deal with and often face a shortage of staff, but if they established a closer dialogue with their colleagues in the police they could get a clearer picture of the priorities and work more efficiently."

Zlatko Miletic, the Director of the Federation Police Administration, gave a first-hand experience on the slowness of the prosecutor's office: "We had to wait for four hours until we got the prosecutor's approval to conduct an operation against a car theft network. It almost jeopardised the whole operation. This is intolerable."

Another example was the investigation into the murder of former FBiH Deputy Minister of Interior Jozo Leutar in 1999: "For a year and a half I have been waiting for an order to restart investigations," complained Miletic.

Uros Pena, the Director of the RS police, confirmed that also in the RS the prosecutors are overloaded with work, explaining that his agency submits an average of 13,000 criminal reports each year.

"If we add the number of reports from other police agencies, from various companies and all the private complaints, then we can rightly say that prosecutors do not have sufficient time to focus on the most serious crime cases," said Pena

To solve that problem, Branko Peric, the President of the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council (HJPC) highlighted the need for justice reform, i.e. that criminal legislation be amended to allow prosecutors to focus only on major crime cases. He suggested that minor offences, such as small forest theft, animal smuggling, tax evasion below 50,000 KM, small bribes or light body injuries, which represent 10 percent of all the cases landing on prosecutors' desks, could be transferred to a different judicial institution yet to be established.

The discussion then went into another direction when the moderator asked the question if criminals became untouchable in BiH.

All participants agreed that the answer was no. The arrests of Muhamed Ali Gasi and others recently proved that criminals can be put behind bars. And will stay behind bars.

"The success of this operation lies in the fact that we cooperated with the prosecution, with SIPA and with the Sarajevo Canton police on a daily basis," said Miletic. "This is a clear sign that with close coordination, full trust in each other and supreme confidentiality throughout the investigation, major criminals can be brought to justice."

If this was the case, the moderator then wondered as to why the series of murders in Pale were so difficult to resolve...

RS Police Director Pena bluntly accused the prosecutor's office by saying that the prosecutors have been so slow that crucial witnesses managed to leave the country and some of the evidence collected by the RS police can no longer be used.

And with regard to the most recent explosion in Pale, the Director of the RS police pointed out that police have gathered good evidence and are about to complete the case.

"Again, I have seen reluctance from the prosecution to initiate closer cooperation with police," he regretted. "I personally had to insist that we met and review the case thoroughly together."

The role of the citizens vis-à-vis the police

Amarildo Gutic, the Editor in Chief of *Nerijesen Slucaj*, a television programme on unsolved crime cases, did not believe that citizens regard criminals as untouchable idols and therefore do not cooperate with the police or the media.

He highlighted the fact that out of 56 murder cases presented in his programme, five have been resolved thanks to citizens' calls. Other crime cases, such as robberies, were solved thanks to citizens' understanding that they can make a difference.

"I believe that citizens have started to realise that they are losing money because of organised crime," Gutic said. "They understand that organised crime has an impact on their well-being and their country's stability."

"But," said Gutic, "we should also look at the responsibility of the state. Politicians must provide more support to the police. I have seen police investigators who do not have cars or

money for the fuel, not to mention their low salaries. How can we then expect them to fight organised crime efficiently?"

Lack of political support

"The government needs to provide us with enough resources and strategic guidance," added Director Pena. "They need to listen to citizens' requests and develop strategies so that police officers can serve citizens in the best possible way."

In his response, Vjekoslav Vukovic, the Deputy Minister of Security, pointed out that there was a lack of adequate prevention and sanction mechanisms in the country.

"Our ministry recognises the problem of organised crime and has suggested a series of measures to combat it," explained Vukovic. "One of the greatest successes is the implementation of an action plan with regard to car theft, as we have joined the Interpol database that allows us to track down criminals much more easily."

Money laundering and confiscation of illegally gained property

Brigadier General Coppola commented that one of the most efficient ways to fight organised crime was to confiscate criminals' illegally gained property.

"Criminals are more afraid to lose their wealth than to go to jail," said Coppola. "In BiH politicians have failed to put in place the appropriate laws and mechanisms in order to deal with illegally gained property."

And Peric added that currently illegally gained property can only be confiscated, but there is not mechanism to further deal with that property and reinvest it into the country.

Last year the BiH state lost 66 million KM to money laundering. There is hence an urgent need for a law that would allow making up for such damage to the state's budget.

At the end of the show all participants agreed that besides institutional and legal improvements, citizens' also have a crucial role to play in the fight against organised crime.

"There would not be any organised crime if there was not a market for this," said Coppola. "There will always be criminals, but it is up to all of us to say 'no' and thus reduce the market for their operations. Citizens have to cooperate better with their police and police and prosecution have an obligation to respond efficiently." ■

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Police bust car mafia

The Livno police found a stolen vehicle and numerous car parts belonging to at least seven luxurious Volkswagen models on 3 February. Six persons were arrested, one of which confessed the crime and was put in custody for a month.

Two days later, findings made within the framework of the Livno operation led to the dismantlement of another car theft network in the Central Bosnia Canton. Raids in three car repair shops and car waste disposals in Vitez and Travnik resulted in the arrest of four and the seizure of documents and car parts. Meanwhile, police arrested two persons suspected of car theft in Zenica.

And this is not the end as police believe that this car theft network spreads through the Livno and Central Bosnia cantons to Banja Luka and other areas in the Republika Srpska.

"Since the criminals did a fantastic job in erasing chassis numbers and cutting out engine numbers, we will need some time to

process evidence," said Husein Bukvic, the Chief of the Crime Department of the Livno police. "With this regard, our success will strongly depend on the assistance of the FBiH Ministry of Interior."

Fortunately, some traces that will help identify the cars were discovered: "Special Support Unit members abseiled down to an abandoned stone-pit to retrieve the pieces of some engine numbers," Bukvic explained.

Since police caught the suspects before they started dismantling the last car, it will be returned to its owner in Maglaj: "Since the car was stolen on 18 February the criminals simply had no time to dismantle it. We have already notified our colleagues from the Zenica police."

According to the information that is available so far, the suspects started their car mafia 'business' around the beginning of this year.

"However, police have reasons to believe that this started before," Bukvic went on. "Some new pieces of the puzzle were recently put into place. These will require a broad-

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embassies in Sarajevo the Netherlands Embassy, in the person of Mr. Jan-Willem Wieman, has its own police liaison officer whose assignment it is to improve relations and promote cooperation between judicial and police authorities with a focus on trans-border crime. This requires close contacts with SIPA, the Border Police and Interpol, as well as with the chief advisers and field officers of EUPM who are present at almost every level (state, entity, canton).

The recent demonstrations as a response to incidents of juvenile delinquency illustrate that the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina are concerned about trends in criminal behaviour, while the Dutch-sponsored public opinion study The Silent Majority Speaks shows great public concern about corruption. The citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina should know that we in the Netherlands are eager to help them to counteract these trends. ■

**By Karel Vosskuehler,
Ambassador of the Kingdom of the
Netherlands to Bosnia and Herzegovina**

er criminal analysis and that is all I can say at this point in time."

The operation in Travnik and Vitez revealed more details about the organised chain of car smugglers. Edin Vranj, Chief of the Anti-Organised Crime Department of the Federation Police Administration, said that certain documents which can be linked to car thefts were found. "We found blank documents that can be used for stealing and forging vehicle papers. We have also found certain tools that can be used to steal cars."

Six persons were arrested and handed over to the Cantonal Prosecutor in Livno, which is in charge of the investigation.

Police believe that this additional blow to the car smuggling 'business' will significantly weaken its power.

"This is not the end," Vranj warns. ■

Internal Affairs

Irish minister of defence visits EUPM



Within the framework of a three-day visit to Irish troops in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Irish Defence Minister William O'Dea met with Brigadier General Coppola and some Irish members of EUPM on 5 March.

The Head of Mission briefed him about the latest developments in the police sector of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the way ahead in the next two years of the

mission's mandate.

"Minister O'Dea has great interest in the Balkans," says Patrick Leahy, the Chief of EUPM's Irish contingent.

More than 40 Irish personnel are stationed in Bosnia as staff officers or as part of the military police and weapons-verification teams. ■

EUPM is a crucial ally in the fight against

Bosnia and Herzegovina has been plagued by organised crime, corruption, and economic crimes for some time. The nature and breadth of the problem have been extensive. It is estimated that much of the economy of this country operates in the sphere of the so-called 'grey economy'.¹

This is particularly evident in the fuel oil industry. According to EU-CAFAO, 30 percent of declared revenues - representing an amount of 160,000,000 KM - are being essentially looted from governmental coffers as a result of failure to collect taxes and customs duties².

Such crime and corruption have penetrated and become entrenched in governmental offices, law enforcement institutions, corporate structures, political offices, NGOs and elsewhere. Perpetrators include a range of people from many walks of life in Bosnia and Herzegovina, from former members of the BiH Presidency to ordinary citizens.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is to a great extent being held hostage by organised crime and corrupt forces, and those who have chosen to ignore, rather than address these issues. Successfully investigating and prosecuting organised crime groups, as well as those engaged in corrupt practices and economic crimes affecting the economy of BiH, is one of the principal conditions that must be met before Bosnia and Herzegovina can fully integrate with the rest of Europe.

For these and other reasons, solutions with full commitment from everyone in BiH, regardless of political self-interest, are critical.

The Special Department for Organised Crime (SDOC)

The Special Department for Organised Crime, Economic Crimes and Corruption of the Prosecutor's Office of Bosnia and Herzegovina (SDOC) was established in 2003 by the former High Representative Paddy Ashdown to investigate and prosecute cases in the newly created Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

More specifically, the SDOC was created to investigate and prosecute *serious* cases involving organised crime and corruption, as well as *complex* economic



crimes cases which affect the territory and economy of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Initially, international prosecutors were appointed to this department because it was believed that BiH nationals could not prosecute the aforementioned types of cases due to various pressures (political, ethnic, social, and otherwise). The original strategy underlying SDOC's creation was to have international prosecutors take the lead, and have national prosecutors brought in to first co-prosecute and eventually lead their own investigations and prosecutions. This strategy was also designed to bring in national legal officers and administrative staff to support these prosecutions as part of our sustainability strategy.

In a nutshell, the original over-arching goals to the entire strategy were: to support and promote the rule of law within the BiH justice system; to build capacity among BiH nationals so that they could investigate and prosecute such cases on their own, and to help build part of a workable and sustainable justice system while observing and complying with applicable human rights instruments. Though there have been some changes here and there, the goals remain largely the same as originally stated.

The additions of the national prosecutors and staff as part of the initial strategy have come along nicely since 2003, and Bosnian-led investigations and prosecutions are now forging boldly ahead.

EUPM's assistance

To accomplish our goals, we have needed capable, energetic, and willing national and international partners, including BiH law enforcement agencies, the ITA, and Federation and RS authorities, and international organisations.

EUPM's assistance in fighting organised crime and corruption has been absolutely essential. Without such enthusiastic and professional efforts, national law enforcement agencies are likely to have relied on older and somewhat outdated methodologies and philosophies and SDOC itself would not have been as effective as it has been to date.

Here are some of the most inspiring examples of EUPM assistance:

● Provision of Technical Advice

In 2006 and 2007 EUPM sponsored forums in which law enforcement agencies learned new techniques which enabled them to do their jobs more efficiently.

● Offering of day to day Operational Advice

EUPM is on the streets every day and in the offices of national law enforcement agencies, schooling them on how to follow up on requests for information, and how to investigate more effectively and thoroughly.

¹ See Transparency International 2004 Corruption Perception Study; see also, the OHR 2006 Organized Crime Report from the Rule of Law Dept.

² EU-CAFAO statistics cited in the OHR 2006 Organized Crime Report from the Rule of Law Department.

organised crime

● Assisting in Supervision and Guidance on Undercover, Search and Arrest Operations

On more than one occasion EUPM has stepped in to encourage planned operations be carried out despite attempts to stall them due to minor problems. EUPM has also ensured that searches were properly carried out and that arrests were made in compliance with Bosnian laws, Constitutional guarantees, and international agreements and instruments, such as the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR). EUPM has additionally assisted SDOC in carefully planning several operations. They have pointed out logistical problems, offered solutions to overcome those problems, and done follow-up reports and 'post-mortem' reviews so that all know what has or has not worked and what could work for the next time.

● Reporting Wrongful or Insufficient Performance

EUPM has reported negatively on national law enforcement officers who have not been doing their jobs-showing them that there are consequences for wrongful behavior. Such reporting has led to a marked improvement and stimulated a new sense of pride in a job well done.

● Assisting in the Reviewing of Evidence

EUPM has helped assess the value and relevance of thousands of pieces of evidence. Insofar as much of SDOC's work involves thousands of pages of documents, such assistance has been absolutely essential.

● Providing assistance in the area of Witness Protection

EUPM has been extremely sensitive about this area, advising law enforcement

agencies about how to best protect persons' identities and safety. Their assessments have also helped us with national and other authorities in securing such protection and other assistance.

The fight against organised crime and corruption will be a long one. The Prosecutor's Office of BiH will not win that battle alone. We will need the continued cooperative efforts of our allies, such as EUPM, in order to keep putting the bad guys behind bars and out of business.

While there are and will be no 'magic bullet' solutions to all the problems prosecutors and law enforcement agencies face, the past assistance and future efforts of cooperative partners such as EUPM have been and will continue to be essential in moving forward our fight against organised crime and corruption. ■

In Focus

Police and prosecutors to harmonise procedures

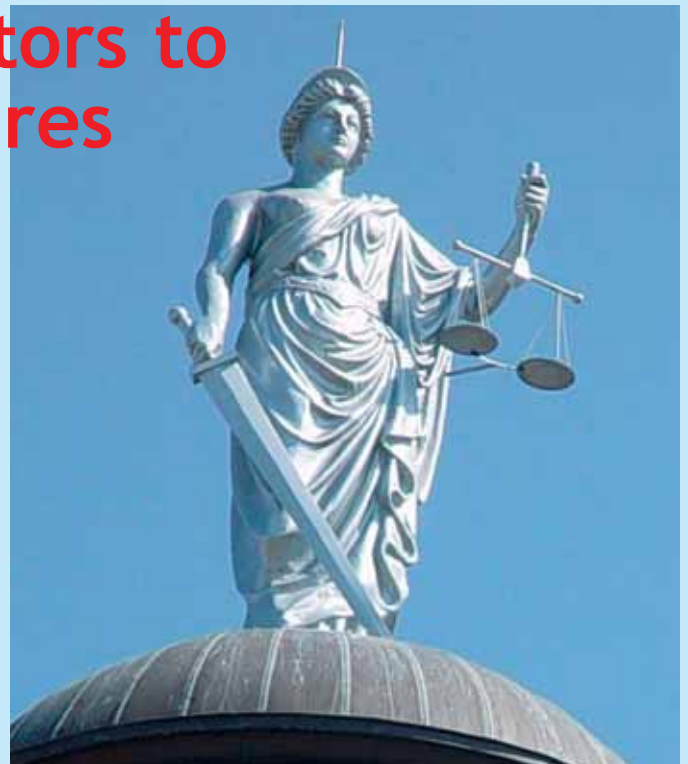
Suspect examination records, minutes of arrest operations and requests for special investigative measures. These are only three of the 25 formal documents police use in their investigative procedures. The document templates differ throughout the country and so does the quality of the information and evidence provided. As a result some cases do not hold up in front of the court.

Within the scope of its continuous efforts to improve the cooperation between police and prosecutors in the fight against organised crime, the EU Police Mission hosted a working group to harmonise these procedures from 25 to 27 February in Blagaj, near Mostar.

"The assignment was two-fold: to analyse every step in the criminal investigation process and look into the formal documents used throughout that process on the one hand; and to find out how these documents could be standardised and harmonised throughout the whole country to make investigations more efficient on the other," explains Valerie Wahl, Head of EUPM's Criminal Justice Unit.

Even though many believe that it is just a formality, this is a very important issue for law enforcement agencies throughout BiH, since these forms are crucial for court proceedings.

"We went through every single form and made suggestions and amendments based on our professional experience in this domain," says Edin Vranj, Head of the Anti-Organised Crime Department of the Federation Ministry of Interior and



Chairman of the Working Group.

"We are confident that police officers' work will be made easier once they receive detailed instructions on every single form used, which is the ultimate objective of our work," Vranj points out.

After in-depth consultations with the respective police and judicial institutions, the group is to meet again in late March to finalise its work. ■

"Integrated border management is our biggest challenge"

Their team consists of only five people and they all sit in one big office at the Sarajevo International Airport. The atmosphere in EUPM's so-called 'airport team' is relaxed and friendly. This helps them deal with their huge responsibility: advising their border police counterparts at the Sarajevo airport on the one hand, and supervise security at all airports around the country.

"This is the best team I have ever worked for," says Language Assistant Vladimir Simanic and smiles. "And the most productive as well."

Team Leader James White reacts to Vladimir's appraisal by emphasising that his advisers would not be able to do their work without the precious assistance of their national colleagues: "We call Vlado our 'memory stick'. He has a huge knowledge of everything that happened in the mission before we arrived."

James left his home country of Canada to join the EU Police Mission a bit more than a year ago, in early December 2007. Besides his great sense of humour, his almost 35 years of police experience and 12 years as a university teacher helped him fit into the team in no time.

"The well-being of our team is my top priority," he says proudly. "We never forgot to have fun and exchange our opinions freely. We often listen to music. If everybody feels relaxed and well we get a great job done at the end of the day."

Jim's colleague, Border Police Adviser Hubertus Vankan, started his career in 1970 at a local police station in the Netherlands. In the last 16 years he has been working at the Maastricht Airport. His extensive experience in national civilian aviation security programmes and emergency planning is an important asset for the Field Office.

Border Police Adviser Abraham Chioua Lekhli is the youngest of the team's three international advisers. A Belgian police officer with 14 years experience, he used to work with the emigration service of the Federal Belgian Police at the Brussels International Airport.

"My older colleagues have lots of experience in the field, and my contribution to the team is of a more theoretical nature," he explains.

"I think it is nice to have the combination of old experience and young dynamism," he continues, smiling at his colleagues.



Photo: Predrag Krstovic

■ From left to right - James White, Zana Vidacic, Vladimir Simanic, Abraham Chioua Lekhli and Hubertus Vankan

"Together, we can find a solution to any problem"

"Our area of responsibility is quite large," says Abraham. "Besides regular police investigations, we deal with emigration issues, airport security at the national level, customs and intelligence."

The team's main strength is that they have all the expertise needed to deal with these issues 'in house'. They are completely autonomous.

"Huub is an expert in airport security, James is very strong with regard to communications at the national level and I have a good intelligence background," says Abraham. "Together we can find a solution to any problem."

And, indeed, they have already achieved a lot together. They managed to convince

their counterparts to sign the National Civil Aviation Security Programme, for instance, and they are monitoring this very closely.

"We are updating the contingency and emergency plans in that programme, which means we are very busy," Huub points out.

The team agrees that their biggest challenge was to convince their counterparts that they are here to help and support them - not to give orders.

Asked about their counterparts' biggest challenges, all three advisers agreed on integrated border management.

"Police Reform is also putting brakes on everything," James says. "Police members need to work together in order to create mutual trust. We have a synergy here in this office and we hope one day it will extend to our counterparts." ■

EU Affairs

BiH Prosecutor's office: Barasin stands in for Jurcevic

Milorad Barasin took over as Acting Chief Prosecutor at the BiH Prosecutor's Office on 3 March.

He was appointed by the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council (HJPC) because Marinko Jurcevic will be on sick leave for an unknown period of time.

Barasin was born in Srbac in 1961. In March last year he was appointed Prosecutor at the BiH Prosecutor's Office and since November 2007 he has been Deputy Chief Prosecutor at the BiH Prosecutor's Office. ■

■ Milorad Barasin



Photo: Dženit Avaz

Confiscation of illegally gained property is crucial to fight crime

Crime and corruption are an international problem and it cannot be fought efficiently without international cooperation. This was one of the main conclusions of a two-day conference which was held in Banja Luka on 3 and 4 March.

Hosted by the RS Ministry of Interior and supported by the European Commission's Technical Information Exchange Instrument (TAIEX), the conference gathered some 30 representatives of relevant national and international institutions. Its aim was to establish close cooperation in the fight against crime and corruption.

Money laundering is one of the biggest problems in countries that are in transition, and all countries wishing to join the European Union have to eradicate that problem, European experts warned.

International experts pointed out that the confiscation of illegally gained property is the most concrete way to fight crime. "Without property and



money criminals are deprived of power," said Dr. Maurizio Varanese, a senior police official from the Italian Anti-Racketeering Commission.

A law on the confiscation and verification of the origin of illegally gained pro-

perty is currently in the making.

"This law is extremely important, as it will weaken criminal groups or individuals involved in corruption and allow to return confiscated property to the state," Varanese concluded. ■

EU Affairs

Head of Mission briefs CIVCOM

EUPM Head of Mission Brigadier General Vincenzo Coppola briefed the Committee for the Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CIVCOM) on 25 February in Brussels.

He outlined the latest developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in particular police reform, EUPM's planning and benchmarks for the coming 18 months and some aspects of the transition to EUPM III.

The Head of Mission also drew the Committee's attention to recent achievements in the fight against organised crime, such as the arrest of Muhamed Ali Gasi and his gang, and explained that the mission is now stepping up efforts with regard to another criminal group in Pale.

CIVCOM was created in May 2000 to provide information, make recommendations and give its opinion to the Political and Security Committee (PSC) on civilian aspects of crisis management.

The PSC is responsible for all Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) issues, including the European and Security Defence Policy (ESDP). Under the Council's authority, the PSC is responsible for political monitoring and the strategic management of crisis management operations. ■

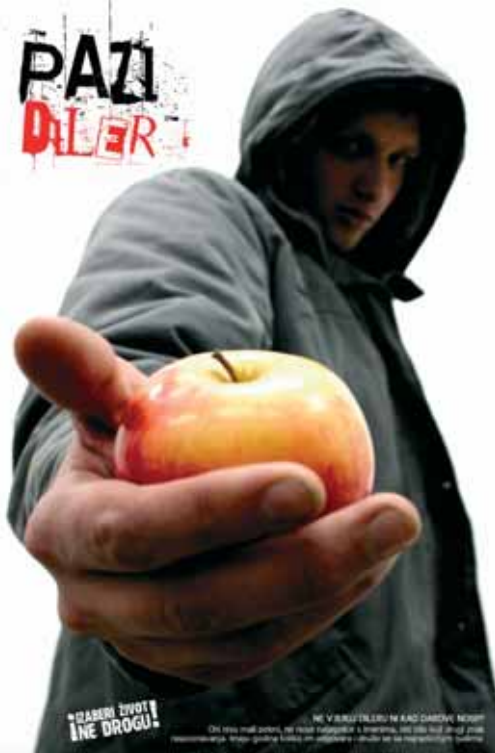


Lunch with journalists

On 26 February the EU Police Mission organised a press lunch with the Head of Mission and 16 journalists from leading news agencies such as REUTERS, AFP, AP, BBC and international print media.

They showed great interest in the mission's activities against the backdrop of Olli Rehn's announcement of a possible signing of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) with BiH in mid-April.

Choose Life, not Drugs campaign lives on...



Colourful posters with smiling people offering lollypops and apples and warning: "Don't trust your dealer, even when they bring you a gift". Scary video clips showing human brains being burned on cocaine.

From 21 February to 10 March, more than a year after the end of the Choose Life, not Drugs campaign organised by BiH law enforcement agencies and the EU Police Mission, Sarajevo's Media Centre displayed twenty posters and two video clips produced by students of the Academy of Fine Arts.

These artistic and public information projects all won awards at a competition organised within the framework of EUPM's Choose Life, not Drugs campaign and under the high patronage of the BiH Presidency.

This is the fourth exhibition since the works of art were first introduced to the public in December 2006. ■



Newcomers

The mission gives a warm welcome to the following colleagues who have recently arrived as part of the Romanian and Swedish contingents.



ROMANIA



Laurentiu Budu, aged 43, joined EUPM as an **Adviser** to the **RS Ministry of Interior in Banja Luka**. Back in Romania he is the Chief of a Public Order Unit within the Transport Police Department of Galati County. He joined the police force in 1991, working within a range of departments such as public order, human resources and the harbour police. Laurentiu worked with UNMIK, in Kosovo, from 1999 to 2001, and with EUPM from 2003 to 2005. He is married, with two sons aged 9 and 17.



Ioan-Dorin Rus, a Lieutenant-Colonel with the Romanian police, recently joined EUPM as an **Adviser to SIPA's International Cooperation Team**. He started his career in 1993 and worked as an International Relations Officer with the Anti-Corruption General Directorate and as an Interpol Officer with the International Police Cooperation Centre/Interpol National Bureau at the Romanian Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform. Between 1999 and 2004 he participated in two UNMIK missions, both in the Gnjilane region (Kosovo), consecutively as a Field Officer, Field Training Officer, Border Police Officer and Head of a Human Trafficking Investigations Unit. Ioan-Dorin graduated in Chemistry Engineering in 1993 and in Law in 2003. He also has a

Master's degree in International Relations Law. He is married, with a six-year-old daughter. In his free time, he likes to play football, field tennis or basketball. He also loves reading.



Ovidiu Alexandru Tabara, 46, joined EUPM as a **Field Adviser at SIPA Mostar**. He started his career in 1989 as a Forensic Expert with the former Romanian Militia in the city of Cluj, a beautiful Transylvanian town. From 1990 to 2002 he worked with a Criminal Investigations Department. He was the Head of a Forensic Department from 2004 to 2005. Ovidiu participated in several international missions. He worked with the IPTF in Mostar and in the Doboja area from 1999 to 2000 and twice with UNMIK, in Kosovo, as a member of the Special Operations Unit (from 2002 to 2004 and from 2005 to 2007). He is happily married, with a 22-year-old daughter and a 16-year-old son. In his free time, he likes to paint.



SWEDEN



Robert Attlevik, a 46-year-old police officer with 19 years experience, recently joined **EUPM's Field Office in Bihac** as an **Adviser**. Before joining the police, he worked with a criminal care department in a prison. Throughout his career he worked as a field com-

mander in a large police area, as an investigator and detective in a regional narcotics unit and, last but not least, as an investigator in human trafficking with a regional border police unit. Robert worked with the United Nations in Cyprus in the early 1980s, with IPTF in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2000, with EUPM in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2004 and with the Swedish Consulate in Beirut in 2006. He is single, with two children: a 25-year-old son and a 29-year-old daughter. He already has two grandchildren, aged 4 and 6. In his free time, Robert likes to travel, work out and look after his friends and family.



Karl-Olof Kristoffersson is a Superintendent with 30 years experience. He joined **EUPM SIPA** as an **Adviser** in the field of **institutional development**. Back in Sweden he was working with a criminal intelligence unit at the regional level. Before that he was the head of community policing in two police districts in the region of Halland. Karl-Olof participated in a United Nations mission in Cyprus as a military police officer in the early 80s. He is married, with three children: a 22-year-old and 17-year-old twins. He describes himself as a 'golfomaniac', his one and only hobby being golf. ■



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