



PRESS STATEMENT

European Confederation of Police

Responsible: Jan Velleman

☎ +352/43 49 61-22 📠 +352/43 49 61-33

✉ jv@eurocop-police.org

📱 mobile: +49 174 20 29 033

EURO COP – 617, rue de Neudorf – L-2220 Luxembourg

Luxembourg, 3 June 2009

Justice and Home Affairs Council must take action to prevent deterioration of policing standards in the EU

EuroCOP calls for EU Stability pact for police

EuroCOP President: EU must not lose sight of the Copenhagen Criteria in the financial crisis

Ahead of today's meeting of EU Justice and Home Affairs ministers in Luxembourg the EuroCOP Executive Committee has reiterated its call for a stability pact for police. "In the wake of the financial crisis the EU must not lose sight of the Copenhagen Criteria for democratic governance," said EuroCOP President Heinz Kiefer.

"We are extremely concerned that the harsh cuts into police budgets in a number of Member States, especially Latvia and Lithuania, will result in a deterioration of policing standards in the EU."

The Executive Committee position calls for a stability pact for the common area of freedom security and justice that must ensure that Member States live up to common minimum standards with regards to law enforcement quality and capacities.

Mr. Kiefer: "If governments think they can solve their budgetary issues by harsh cuts into police resources they will just exchange the reign of unchecked financial capitalism against that of an unchecked mafia. This is the fundamental issue that our proposal for a stability pact addresses. Police Services that are already underfinanced today must not be allowed to be further reduced. This will not only be detrimental for public security in the Member State concerned, but ultimately all Member States will have to deal with the consequences."

The full text of the Executive Committee resolution is available at: www.eurocop-police.org

The European Confederation of Police, EuroCOP, is the umbrella organisation of 35 national Police Unions and Staff Organisations from 26 European States. It represents the interests of over 500.000 police officers in Europe. www.eurocop-police.org