

Apeldoorn, 26-05-2016

Governing Board Cepol

During this first half of 2016, the Netherlands holds the presidency of the Council of the European Union for the twelfth time. The Dutch Police Academy is therefore also holding the presidency of Cepol, the European Police College. The Governing Board gathered this week in Scheveningen, near The Hague in The Netherlands, for the biannual meeting. Main theme this Governing Board was the implementation of the new Regulation of CEPOL (enter into force on 1 July) and the consequences for the Agency and Member States.

The Governing Board was chaired by Frederike Everts, member of the Executive Board of the Police Academy. Participants were the directors of police and / or police academies from all EU Member States. There were delegations from the various agencies including the European Commission, the AEPD and Europol.



Safer Europe

Jannine van den Berg, Chief Constable of the Central Division of the National Police of the Netherlands, opened as Portfolio holder International Police Cooperation the Governing Board. "Within the European Union, we are currently facing many serious challenges. The growing numbers of migrants who fled their homes, hoping for a better life in the European Union, show us the privilege to live in this part of the world and show us the importance to cherish our values of freedom, security and justice. Other events, such as the recent terrorist attacks in Brussels and Paris show us however that these values should not be taken for granted and emphasize the need for enhanced cooperation between Member States to realise a 'safe and secure' European Union.

In order to enhance the safety within the EU, the law enforcement authorities of the Member States must be well trained and be informed of the key issues at stake! We can improve the quality of investigation by pooling our knowledge and skills at all levels.”

Activities CEPOL

Cepol stands for “Collège Européen de Police”, the European Police College. Cepol is an EU agency that provides training and learning opportunities to law enforcement officers on issues vital to the security of the European Union and its citizens. Annually Cepol organizes at least 100 courses, seminars and conferences. The activities are organized by and in the Member States by the national police Academics. In 2015, more than 3,000 police officers participated in this. In addition, Cepol offers an exchange program, online modules, webinars and common curricula.

New tasks

The new Regulation provides for some changes. The most striking change is the broadening of the target groups. Cepol will in future not only or primarily serve the police, but all law enforcement organizations. In addition, the target group of senior police officers will be widened. Cepol is now going to offer courses and training at all levels. Cepol will also play a role in the preparation by means of joint training on European missions in the framework of the CSDP (the EU Common Security and Defense Policy). For these new and updated tasks is a needs analysis required and necessary to develop a new suitable offer.