

Presidency Conference CEPOL

March 14, 15 & 16 2016

During this first half of 2016, the Netherlands holds the presidency in the Council of the European Union for the twelfth time. The Dutch Police Academy is therefore also holding the presidency of the European Police College, or CEPOL. The agency provides training and learning opportunities for law enforcement officers in areas that are vital to the security of the European Union and its citizens.

European collaboration in the field of financial investigation

Criminals are often able to disappear across borders, along with their money. This makes collaboration between European police forces vital. This edition of the regular conference of CEPOL, the European Police College, will focus on financial investigation.

Follow the money

Money really is what makes the world go round and, as such, financial investigation is a highly effective tool in the fight against cross-border crime. It has also been found that confiscating the proceeds of crime is a more effective way of dismantling criminal organizations than simply prosecuting individuals. And in terrorist circles, where people are dispensable but money is not, this is even more true. Take away their funding and you will hurt these organizations just as effectively as by punishing the people behind them. And moreover, the money also often leads us to those responsible, killing two birds with one stone.

International training and sharing knowledge

CEPOL plays an important role in this, as the European Police Academy by providing training. By sharing training and knowledge at the international level, we can improve the quality of investigation. And investment in training can actually pay for itself because we can recover even more money from criminals, and intervene to prevent terrorist acts or dismantle the underground banking networks that are associated with illegal migration. We need to heighten awareness and improve accessibility for all police officers - not only the specialists - by showing them the procedures and how international cooperation is achievable.

The results and recommendations of this conference will be taken forward to the next conferences on the theme of financial investigation during the Netherlands presidency of the EU. They will also serve as input for the CEPOL training programme.