



Brussels, june 2023

Resolution: Defend the Defenders

As EU.Pol we stand for the safety and well-being of the European police officers. Due to this standpoint, we have prioritized all our actions to be in line with the well-being of our police officers. We condemn all actions that jeopardize the well-being and safety of our police officers. We know that within Europe there is a great difference in how national authorities prioritize and protect the well-being of our police officers.

This gap is unacceptable for EU.Pol and it is time to close this gap. It is crucial to ensure that police officers are safe and well, in order to be able to ensure the safety Europe. If the police cannot do it's job safely, you can not do your job safely either.

Violence against the police

Unfortunately, police officers are more and more confronted with violence. As EU.Pol we do not accept that violence against the police becomes a normality.

So, we ask the Members of the European Parliament to take actions.

We recommend the Members of the EU to urge National Governments to take appropriate steps to provide support to police officers in the event of violence against them.

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This includes these minimum standards:

1. Notification and registration: The police employer must be notified immediately of the accident. The accident must be recorded, so that there is documentation and prove of the incident and details.
2. Medical care: The police employer must ensure that the employee receives appropriate medical care, such as first physical and mental aid and medical treatment if necessary.
3. Work interruption: The Police employer must ensure that the employee has sufficient time to recover from the mental and/or physical injury, including any work interruptions and/or sick leave.
4. Compensation and insurance: police employers are required to compensate employees for costs related to a work accident/incident, such as medical expenses and lost wages. Police employers must also cover the police officer's insurance.
5. Investigation: The police employer must investigate the incident to determine what happened and to prevent it from happening again. This may include an investigation into work safety and any risks involved.

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6. Safe work environment: A safe work environment refers to a workplace in which employers take reasonable steps to ensure the physical and psychological well-being of police officers. The police employer must take measures to prevent accidents, injuries, illnesses and incidents of violence, harassment, and mobbing. A safe work environment is one where employees can perform their duties without experiencing harm, stress or unnecessary risks to their health or safety. This can include providing proper training, protective equipment, safety protocols, as well as addressing issues of workplace culture and communication to prevent psychological harm.

Well-being of police officers

To close the aforementioned gap, we ask the members of the EU to direct national governments to implement the following basic standards:

1. Ensure that police officers have a safe working environment with the necessary support, protection and safety measures.
2. Ensure that police officers receive regular health checks and access to necessary training facilities and programs to maintain good physical and mental health.
3. Provide adequate support, processes and counseling for physical and psychological issues that may arise from the demanding nature of police work.

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4. Maintain necessary standards and requirements for working conditions, such as quality of equipment, work hours, rest and break times and workload.
5. Provide access to training, education, and development programs to improve skills and advance careers. Enhance professional police behavior.
6. Promote work-life balance through flexible working hours, leave arrangements, and other measures.
7. Foster a safe and supportive working environment that encourages communication and promotes mental health.
8. Restore respect for the police officers and appreciate them for being in the frontline for us all.

It is essential that we maintain these standards to ensure the health and well-being of our police officers. Additionally, we recommend implementing specific training and programs to promote well-being, such as stress management, conflict resolution, and communication skills.

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