



Police officers under pressure due to inflation

Why is the inflation so high

The war in Ukraine, the exploding energy costs and the current geopolitical situation have an enormous impact on the high inflation.

The war in Ukraine seems to be become a long and dispendious matter, and this is worrying a lot of enterprises and countries throughout Europe.

The exponential rise in energy costs is pushing inflation enormously, everyone agrees on that. And it's not just the sharp rise in gas prices, also the oil and electricity prices are influencing this high inflation. The result affects every household: tremendous energy bills.

Higher energy prices have a negative impact on the cultivation of food products and the rise of transport costs for everything that must be transported. These higher costs are what the consumer, so all of us, at the end has to pay.

Impact of Covid

However, with Covid the inflation has begun even earlier. Due to the strong recovery of the economies after the recession of 2020, the demand for goods and services increased at a fast pace. The supply could not keep up with this high demand for various reasons, with all the negative consequences that this entails.

Economists agree that once the major shocks are over, inflation will indeed decrease, but it is questionable whether it will move towards the desired level of 2%, or whether it will remain higher.

Impact on the police officers

Police officers suffer from the inflation. They usually are on the lower scale of income and therefore the high prices for gas, energy and food products impact their buying power. They are also victims due to this high inflation and it's becoming more and more common that police officers are unable or hardly able to keep their heads above water.

Police officers are facing challenging times. They should be prepared for possible negative consequences to our democratic systems in Europe. The number of protests and demonstrations by disgruntled citizens is expected to increase because of the critical economic situation. The people might put their anger on the streets and voice their dissatisfaction during protests. Crime rate might go up, businesses might have to declare bankruptcy, cyber-crime will increase, and so forth. And in the end, it is always the police officers who must deal with everything. We must prevent violence against the police from increasing even more as a result of these events.

Therefore, the governments are expecting that the police officers manage these protests and endure the potentially dangerous situations. This is what our colleagues will do with their constant and incredible professionalism and dedication to their job. However, they are police officers and not missionaries.

EU.Pol draws attention to these worrying developments within the EU Parliament. EU.Pol is supporting its affiliated police unions within the discussions with their governments at national level and call for appropriate action to limit the negative impact of the current high inflation on police officers.