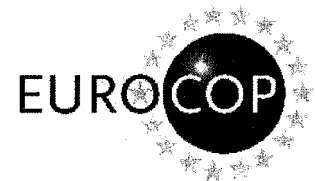




**RESOLUTION OF THE EURO COP COMMITTEE
STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST THE POLICE**

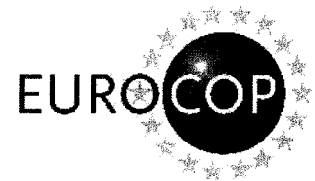
The Police Unions and Staff Organisations gathered in the European Confederation of Police

- stand by their commitment to the police as a part of society with the role of preserving law and order and protecting the rights of citizens in a democratic state governed by the rule of law.
- firmly reject the idea that violence is just a job risk that police officers and their relatives have to accept.
- insist that violence against police officers is not only an unacceptable violation of the personal integrity of a human being but beyond that also constitutes a deliberate attack on society and the democratic principle of the rule of law.
- note with serious concern that violence against police officers and their relatives continues to rise year after year. On a daily basis our colleagues fall victim to brutal attacks on their life and personal integrity.
- note that increasing social tensions throughout Europe more and more often result in violent outbreaks that have to be confronted by the police as the guardian of public order in order to protect the rights and goods of citizens.
- note an effective deterioration of the level of protection of police officers against attacks that is caused by diminishing budgets for adequate staff levels, training and equipment of police services.
- warn against a rising frustration among many police officers that want to serve society but in their daily life have to experience hatred, violence and disrespect for their work.
- are concerned in view of a lack of sensitivity among political decision makers and society that shows in a lack of debate about the causes of violence and possible remedies as well as partially in a deliberate toleration of violence as a means of solving political and social disputes.
- refer to the lack of appreciation of the conclusions and recommendations that the European Confederation of Police has gathered as early as 2003 in order to prevent violence against police officers.



... in the name of police officers and their relatives urgently call upon decision makers

- **in national, regional and local governments and parliamentary assemblies in Europe**
 - **in the institutions of the European Union**
 - **in the institutions of the Council of Europe**
1. To actively promote a broad debate on all levels of society about the causes of violent behaviour and possible strategies to prevent violence in order to reinforce a clear and unambiguous commitment throughout society that violence is not an acceptable form of behaviour.
 2. to actively and systematically work towards a reduction of violent behaviour in general but especially against police officers
 3. to actively and systematically work towards improved protection of police officers against violent behaviour.
 4. to ensure that already the determination of staff levels and equipment of police services takes into account the need to provide the best possible protection against attacks.
 5. to ensure that an active and systematic approach to health and safety at work as contained in Directive EC 89/391 is integrated into police work on all levels of hierarchy.
 6. to ensure that the promotion of risk awareness becomes an integral part of police training
 7. to ensure that in planning and execution of especially large scale police operations, provides for decision making procedures and communication structures that ensure a swift reaction towards developing risks.
 8. to ensure that victimized police officers receive legal, financial and psychological support with the goal of keeping them in service and to prevent economic and social decline as a consequence of an injury. Police officers should under no circumstances have to resort to claiming compensation from a violent perpetrator through private law.
 9. to ensure that protection of police officers and their relatives through criminal law is comprehensive, that sanctions are delivered quickly and clearly reflect the additional wrong that shows in an attack upon a representative of a democratic institution.



10. to ensure that violent acts against police officers are systematically recorded and analysed independent of their consequences in order to improve the protection of police officers.

adopted by the 2010 Spring EuroCOP Committee,
Krakow, Poland, 10 May 2010

The President