



SPCP 2012-16 Swiss Regional Police Cooperation Programme

October – December 2016

Issue #13

MEETINGS

Serious and Organised Crime Threat Assessment (SOCTA): Joint SOCTA launch

8 November 2016 | Pristina, Kosovo

14 November 2016 | Belgrade, Serbia

Both events gathered representatives from ministries of interior, civil society organisations, international organisations, and regional partners active in the field of rule of law reform. These events mark the finalization of a strategic document, an achievement that is built on enhanced knowledge and skills in analytical and intelligence gathering techniques that are in line with Europol standards.

The OSCE Mission in Kosovo facilitated the launch event of the joint SOCTA drafted by the Kosovo Police and the Albanian State Police on the 8th November 2016 in Pristina, Kosovo.



Launch of Joint SOCTA in Pristina

This was followed by the OSCE Mission to Serbia launch event of the joint Macedonia – Montenegro – Serbia SOCTA on the 14th November 2016 in Belgrade, Serbia.



Launch of Joint SOCTA in Belgrade

The OSCE Mission to Serbia – Meeting on Joint SOCTA and regional cooperation

5 December 2016 | Ljubljana, Slovenia

The meeting gathered representatives of criminal analytic services from Austria, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Romania, Slovenia and representatives of the PCC SEE Secretariat, and the OSCE Field Offices of Macedonia, Albania, and Serbia.

Analysts from Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia presented their joint SOCTA. The possibility of utilising existing mechanisms of operational police cooperation to further strengthen capacities in fighting serious and organized crime, such as the PCC SEE, were also explored. Attendees expressed their support to proactively identify opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and skills share to contribute towards enhancing operational cooperation both bilaterally and within broader regional and international initiatives.



PCC SEE – Meeting of the Counter Terrorism Network **11 November 2016 | Tirana, Albania**

This joint meeting brought together all three Counter Terrorism regional networks, the PCC SEE Counter Terrorism Network, the Group of National Focal Points for Countering Violent Extremism Leading to Terrorism and Foreign Terrorist Fighters in Southeast Europe, and the Counter-Terrorism Initiative chaired by Slovenia. The meeting provided representatives with an update on each of the networks activities to date and their progress towards the EU Western Balkan Counter-Terrorism Initiative (WBCTi) integrated Plan of Action 2015-2017 (iPA).

Representatives of the PCC SEE Counter Terrorism Network also engaged in a separate closed session to draft the operational plan of the PCC SEE Regional Intelligence project.

PCC SEE - 5th Meeting of the Surveillance Expert Network for Southeast Europe (SENSEE) **22 - 25 November 2016 | Ljubljana, Slovenia**

Representatives discussed various case studies in surveillance. The meeting also presented technical aspects related to surveillance activities, including latest technological developments in audio and video surveillance equipment. A representative of Europol presented the developments of the Europol Tracking Solutions, which has the potential to greatly support the surveillance activities of Contracting Parties.

PCC SEE 16th Committee of Ministers (CoM) **15 December 2016 | Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia**

The Ministers of Home Affairs, and representatives from the Contracting Parties, committed to begin official negotiations on the Automated Exchange of Data. Once signed, this EU Prüm inspired framework will bring a new dimension to the fight against serious and organised crime.

The strategic outlook for the PCC SEE implementation process, which foresees efforts invested in 5 PCC SEE core clusters – data protection, information exchange, operational cooperation, countering terrorism, and automated exchange of data – was discussed and welcomed. Several Contracting Partners are committed to co-driving the development of clusters, dedicating topical experts to support the future process.

The CoM also endorsed the Work Programme of the Incoming PCC SEE Trio Chairmanship of Romania, Serbia and Slovenia for the period of January 2017 – June 2018, which embeds the PCC SEE core clusters.



16th PCC SEE Committee of Ministers

BK – SEPCA Strategy Board and SEPCA General Assembly **23 - 24 November 2016 | Sofia, Bulgaria**

In cooperation with the PCC SEE-Secretariat, both forums were attended by representatives of national Police Organisations and members of the Southeast Europe Police Chiefs Association (SEPCA), and included senior representatives from PCC SEE, Europol, INTERPOL, OSCE, DCAF, Southeast Europe Law Enforcement Centre (SELEC), and the Migration Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative (MARRI). Emphasis was placed on information exchange to address the challenges of Terrorism and Radicalization in the region and joint measures with respect to the migration crisis in the Southeast Europe countries.



It was during the SEPCA General Assembly that the handing over ceremony of SEPCA rotating presidency took place. The Director of the National Police of Bulgaria officially handed over SEPCA's flag and symbols to the Deputy Director of Police of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

BK – 4th Head of ILECU Meeting
20 – 21 December 2016 | Vienna, Austria

This meeting provided the opportunity for the Heads of ILECU to discuss current and future challenges and strategies for the further development of ILECU. Representatives expressed a continued commitment to a coordinated operational approach and an agreement to update the ILECU Manual was secured. Heads of ILECU were also introduced to the Joint Operational Office and a presentation of its achievements to date.

TRAININGS

IOM – Training in Humanitarian Border Management techniques
October – December 2016

Including participants from Kosovo, Montenegro, Macedonia, Albania and Serbia, these trainings consisted of theoretical and practical components with a particular focus on techniques used to assist vulnerable migrant groups, including LGBTI, unaccompanied minors, the elderly, and migrants with disabilities.

OSCE Missions in Kosovo – Presentation on analytical tools
12 - 13 October | The Hague, Netherlands

Europol's Strategic Analysis team hosted representatives of the Kosovo Police and Albanian State Police to provide an overview of the analytical tools used by the agency and highlight the benefits of a universal approach to analytical techniques and tools. Specific software training is scheduled for early 2017.

.BK – SEPCA Management Information System (MIS): Training in Data Collection

7 - 8 December 2016 | Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

With its aim to refine the MIS reporting methodology, this specialized training brought together national security analysts and National Coordinators of SEPCA member countries. SEPCA member countries continue to be afforded support by Europol in the areas of analytical expertise, with the next important step of the SEPCA strategy consisting of the preparation of the MIS-Report 2017.



MIS training in Sarajevo

NEWS

SPCP 'Story of Change' Documentary

The collection of footage of project activities and interviews with beneficiaries is now complete and the process of editing will commence in the first ¼ of 2017.

This footage will be presented in a multimedia platform, combining image, text, audio and video, which will highlight the achievements of the SPCP from the perspective of beneficiaries and Implementing Partners.