



BELÜGYMINISZTERIUM

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **CEPOL officially inaugurates its new headquarters in Budapest**

Today, the European Police College (CEPOL) inaugurates its new headquarters. The European Union agency, dedicated to providing training and learning to law enforcement officers, is now located in Budapest, Hungary. The brand new facilities will offer CEPOL the opportunity to host training activities and events and to continue facilitating the sharing of knowledge and best practice in law enforcement EU wide.

The inauguration event, preceded by a reception for guests and dignitaries at the Hungarian Parliament, will take place at CEPOL's headquarters. The event's programme features opening speeches by Dr. Sándor Pintér, Hungarian Minister of the Interior, Mr. Luigi Soreca, Director for Internal Security at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Home Affairs, and Dr. Ferenc Bánfi, Director of CEPOL. A conference on the future of the European law enforcement training will follow.

Dr. Sandor Pintér, Minister of Interior of Hungary, welcomed the European Police College and its staff to Budapest. He also stated that *"if Europe wants to provide its citizens with the same level of security, law enforcement authorities must give the same response to a certain situation in each of the Member States"*.

Dr. Ferenc Bánfi, Director of CEPOL, commented: *"We are very grateful to the Hungarian government authorities for hosting us in this beautiful city. From Budapest, CEPOL shall continue to deliver its modest contribution to the message at the heart of the European Union: the construction of a common space of freedom, security and justice"*.

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#### **Note for editors:**

*The European Police College (CEPOL) is an EU agency dedicated to providing training and learning opportunities to law enforcement officers on issues vital to the security of the European Union and its citizens. Training covers issues ranging from leadership to law enforcement techniques and EU cooperation to economic crime. Activities are designed to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and best practice and to contribute to the development of a common European law enforcement culture.*

*In 2013 EU Member States were offered the opportunity to host CEPOL and following a lengthy consultation and application process, Budapest was selected - reflecting the need to ensure the capacity to deliver future strategic plans while offering best value for the taxpayer.*

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