



**PRESIDENCY OF CEPOL GOVERNING BOARD
HANDOVER PROTOCOL FROM GREECE TO ITALY
17th June 2014, Rome, Italy**

I. The logo of the Hellenic Presidency of the Council of the EU

Greece took over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the first half of 2014, before handing over reins to Italy on 1 July 2014. It is the fifth time that Greece has held the Presidency since its accession to the European Communities in 1981.

The Greek Presidency logo is austere and concise, extending a note of realistic optimism. It depicts a sailboat in full sail, formed by the initials of the European Union. It aspires to unite common European values and Greece's unique identity, the beginning of the continent's union and its future course, the solid principles that formed the Greek past with common aspirations for the future.

The **sailboat** is at the forefront of the logo's narrative power: a symbol of exploration and transition, but also of communication and unity. As such, it aspires to relay our decision to sail together towards a common future overcoming hardships and storms.

The **journey** is the symbolic essence of the logo's narration: a shared course of democracy and participation, a common quest for prosperity through growth and employment, a vessel of mobility and security for the future. These ideals forged Greece's past and are now the common inspiration that leads its course. This has been the Greek Presidency's message to Europe and to the world: **"Europe is our common quest and united we safely sail further"**.

II. Main principles – objectives of the Hellenic Presidency of the Council of the EU

The three main principles which guided the work of the Presidency can be summarised as follows:

1. **Human Mobility:** The second half of the Stockholm Programme remains the guiding frame for reference for the operational and political agenda of the EU in the JHA field. Efforts to monitor full implementation of rules on free movement will continue in order to establish an open and secure European area serving its citizens. In particular, Greece pursued an EU global approach to migration and a common European Asylum System, based on sharing of responsibilities and solidarity among the Member – States. Setting the framework for the next multiannual JHA program covering topical issues related to migration, security and justice were also key priorities of the Presidency.

Reflecting this fact, a CEPOL Presidency Seminar with the topic “Markets related to Illegal Immigration detecting/tackling/repatriating”, took place during the period 2-4 of June. This activity has brought together representatives from 16 EU Member – States, Switzerland, Georgia, important EU Agencies (EUROPOL, EUROJUST, FRONTEX) and other organizations (International Organisation for Migration – IOM, Panteion University of Athens).

2. **Stimulating Growth and Jobs in the context of the recently adopted Compact:** Job creating growth is a cross – cutting policy issue that is reflected in the agenda of all Council’s configurations. In this context, the Greek efforts have focused on:

a. Promoting the goals of the integrated Maritime Policy in accordance with the Limassol Declaration.

b. Enhancing the competitiveness of the EU businesses, including SMEs.

c. Forging common European policies in energy matters with special emphasis on energy efficient and increased use of renewable energy sources.

d. Increasing the attractiveness of Europe as a touristic destination.

3. **EU’s Enlargement:** Enlargement remains a key policy, which serves the strategic interests of the European Union and reinforces peace, stability and democracy in Europe. The Hellenic Presidency has pursued the enlargement agenda ensuring a coherent implementation of the renewed consensus on enlargement, as defined by the

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December 2006 European Council and all other relevant EC and Council Conclusions. The EU must remain open towards those countries, which fulfill the criteria and are ready and willing to share its values. Particular attention was given to the European perspective of the Western Balkans.

III. Hellenic Presidency of CEPOL's Governing Board

A. General approach of the Hellenic CEPOL GB Presidency

On the 1st of January 2014, in accordance with the relevant provisions of Council Decision 2005/681/JHA, the chairmanship of the Governing Board of CEPOL has once again changed hands in a challenging time that coincides with important changes affecting CEPOL's immediate future. This time, it was the Hellenic Republic chance, after the significant results achieved by the Lithuanian Presidency, to steer the CEPOL Ship through the various rough seas and see it to safe harbors.

The main aim of the Hellenic Presidency, in an effort to unite all individual voices towards succeeding CEPOL's main goals and aspirations, was to underline, in and out of the European context, the pivotal role that CEPOL is currently holding in Police Training and Education but even more importantly, the role that CEPOL has yet to play in the Law Enforcement training community. This role has been challenged on the one hand, by the European Commission's initiative to merge CEPOL with EUROPOL and on the other, CEPOL's relocation process and the safeguarding of its smooth operation during this crucial period.

In order to guarantee that all necessary measures and decisions are in place and all relevant risks are recognised and addressed, the 31st Governing Board, which took place during the period 19-21 May 2014 in Zappeion – Athens, was finally extended by half a day, thus allowing enough time for relevant discussions.

The Governing Board members had the possibility to be informed for all the implications that the relocation might have, thus empowering them to strengthen CEPOL with effective guidance and decisions. The meeting itself, under the guidance of its Chair and the Hellenic Presidency Team, managed to address in a timely yet effective manner all the issues included in the extensive Agenda.



B. Priorities of the Hellenic CEPOL GB Presidency

As regards to the priorities of the Hellenic Presidency of CEPOL Governing Board, these have been drawn according to the priorities set by the Hellenic Presidency of the Council of the E.U. (mentioned in Chapter II of this document) and always within the Trio Programme, the Stockholm Programme and CEPOL's Strategy. The most important of them were the following:

1. **Exchange Programme:** The continuation of the implementation of this programme, while making it sustainable, oriented and cost-efficient. Possible financial support should be sought from 2015 on, in order to strengthen its learning impact.

Result: The implementation of the Exchange Programme was once again guaranteed, achieving remarkable results so far and involving for the first time all the EU Member – States as well as an important number of Countries related to the EU.

The European Police Exchange Programme has also been extended for the second time to partners in the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) area and the Candidate / potential Candidate countries in the Western Balkans as well as Turkey (ENP/WB segment).

2. **European Law Enforcement Training Scheme:** CEPOL's participation in a decisive role, in the "European Law Enforcement Training Scheme".

Result: In the Post – Stockholm environment, CEPOL's coordinating involvement has been pursued on the field of the LETS, at all relevant political and discussion levels.

3. **CEPOL's target group:** Examination of the needs for the enlargement of the target - group of participants in CEPOL's educational activities, while deepening the analysis of the training needs.

Result: CEPOL's remit, including its target – group, will be reconsidered with the modification of the CEPOL Founding Decision of the Council (681/2005), following its relocation, in order to adapt to the educational needs, as they will be determined based on the development of the European Law Enforcement Training Scheme.

4. **External Relations:** Further development of cooperation with E.U. Candidate Countries, Balkan Countries, Neighborhood Policy Countries and countries such as Russia, China, etc. Initiation of communication for the possibility of cooperation with the Law enforcement training institutes in the USA.

Result: Further discussions took place with training institutions from various countries like Armenia. CEPOL has also been active, in close cooperation with the



Hellenic Presidency, towards signing a cooperation agreement with an organization from the United States of America, primary on Law enforcement training. At first discussions took place identifying possible cooperation with the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA), seated in Budapest, Hungary, but finally during the 31st GB the voting members gave head to the Director of CEPOL in order to start negotiations with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC).

5. Development of CEPOL's e-net: Further promotion and development of CEPOL's e-net, utilizing the evolution of Internet Learning.

Result: Greece actively supported the implementation of CEPOL's webinars both with a large number of participants (first among MS) and by implementing a series of webinars in cooperation with CEPOL Secretariat (most from all MS). On a further note, the Decision laying Down the Administrative Rules, Commitments and Guidelines for CEPOL's Webinars was adopted in connection with an updated Decision on the administration of the e-Net which is about to be put in a Written Procedure, thus guaranteeing an up-to-date environment for CEPOL's distance learning products.

6. Common Curricula – Research and Science: Continuation of the integration of existing CEPOL Common Curricula Programs into the MS Police Colleges' Training Programmes and identification of the way forward; Further development and integration of the Police Research and Science in Law enforcement education.

Result: Support was provided regarding the Common Curricula and the development of the Research and Science as well as the promotion of e-Journals. A dialogue has been initiated regarding the way forward for the use of the Common Curricula.

7. Enhancing the connection among CEPOL's educational product services, aiming at an optimal overall educational outcome.

Result: Efforts have been devoted in order to reinforce the connection among CEPOL's educational products and a dialogue has opened towards this direction.

8. Further improvement of procurement procedures and funding of the educational activities of CEPOL (Grant Agreement Process).

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Result: The process for the Framework Partnership Agreements was concluded successfully. The provision for a possible examination regarding a central process for organizing CEPOL activities for 2015 was included in CEPOL's Programme.

9. Facilitation of the daily work of the network and CEPOL Secretariat: The Hellenic Presidency of CEPOL Governing Board, focused on facilitating the daily work of the network and CEPOL Secretariat. Therefore, amendments to important GB Decisions have been discussed in all relevant fora and brought forward for adoption.

10. Other topics: Special focus was given to the work completed by CEPOL's Working Groups, the initiation of CEPOL's Master Course, the revision of CEPOL's evaluation system, the planning of a future Police Leadership Course as well as CEPOL's planning and budgeting cycle.

IV. Chairing Network meetings

Further to the Governing Board meeting, as mentioned previously representatives of the Hellenic CEPOL Presidency Team chaired meetings of the National Contact Points, the e-Net Managers and the Research and Science Correspondents. More specifically:

1. 10th NCP meeting: The meeting took place during the period 8-10 April, in Bramshill and was chaired by the Hellenic Presidency. The NCP's were informed in detail for CEPOL's future relocation, the status quo of the offered training activities and its planning and budgeting cycle. In addition, they had the chance to discuss and propose amendments to the following fundamental GB Decisions: 30/2006, 08/2007, 29/2008, 33/2011, 18/2013.

Their proposals were brought to the Governing Board for discussion and adoption, thus empowering the network and its parts.

2. 6th e-Net Managers meeting: The meeting took place during the period 5-7 May 2014, in Bramshill and was chaired by the Hellenic Presidency. The e-Net managers were informed on the latest updated regarding CEPOL's e-Net and the LMS. On a further note, they had a unique opportunity to discuss in detail a possible amendment of Decision 29/2008GB "Concerning the administration of the e-net". Their

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useful proposals were taken on board and brought forward for adoption by the Governing Board Members in a Written Procedure.

3. **9th Research and Science Correspondents meeting:** The meeting took place during the period 22-23 May and was also chaired by the Hellenic Presidency. The Correspondents were informed in detail for the current Research and Science projects such as the new e-Journals page, the Survey on Scientific Police Journals in Europe – Implementation, the European Police Science and Research Bulletin and the CEPOL Lecturers, Teachers and Researchers Database.

V. Future Challenges:

The biggest challenge that CEPOL has to face for the period to come is its relocation. The change of CEPOL's seat from Bramshill to Budapest will affect all the levels of its core business and its own operation.

Part of this challenge is the management of issues deriving from the staff relocation as well as the stable continuation of CEPOL's workings regarding the support for the Work Programme, for the current and the year to come.

The support from all the Member States, the network as well as the forthcoming Presidency is necessary in order to secure CEPOL's present and to design its future on a stable basis that will allow CEPOL to continue offering its qualitative services regarding the European Law Enforcement Training.



Adopted Governing Board Decisions under the Hellenic Presidency:

01/2014/GB, CEPOL Financial Regulation

02/2014/GB, CEPOL Multi-annual Staff Policy Plan 2015-2017

03/2014/GB, on Approving the Meeting Calendar for the First Half of 2014

04/2014/GB, Appointing the Accounting Officer and Repealing Decision 24/2012/GB

05/2014/GB, Adopting the Estimate of Revenues and Expenditures for the Financial Year 2014 and Repealing Decision 30/2013/GB.

6/2014/GB, Adopting the Annual Report 2013

7/2014/GB, Establishing the Analysis and Assessment of the Authorising Officer's Annual Activity Report 2013

8/2014/GB, Delivering an Opinion on the Final Annual Accounts 2013

9/2014/GB, Concerning its Rules of Procedure, amending Decision 33/2011/GB of the Governing Board of the European Police College

10/2014/GB, Adopting the European Police College's Internal Control Standards and Amending Decision 8/2011/GB

11/2014/GB, Laying Down the Administrative Rules, Commitments and Guidelines for its Webinars

12/2014/GB, Adopting the Draft CEPOL Short-term strategy for 2015-2016

13/2014/GB, Adopting the Draft Work Programme 2015


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Pending issues to be fulfilled during the Hellenic Presidency or incoming Italian Presidency:

- Written procedures related to the amendment of CEPOL Decisions 30/2006, 8/2007, 29/2007.
- Written procedures related to: Working Arrangement with EIT, amending the mandate of the Working Group on Short-term strategy for 2015-2016, Headquarter Agreement, Revised version of the Master Programme, Research & Science Award, Working arrangements with Armenia and USA, Two Implementing Rules to Staff Regulations (teleworking and promotions), Common Curricula for adoption.

Done at Rome on the 17th June 2014

For the Hellenic Presidency



Vasilios Kontogiannis

Chair of the Governing Board

For the (incoming) Italian Presidency



Rossanna Farina

NCP of Italy



Director of CEPOL

Dr. Ferenc Banfi