



European Confederation of Police

Jonne Rinne
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EURO COP – 59a Rue Principale L-5480 Wormeldange - Luxembourg

www.eurocop.org

Draft Minute Excom Meeting 8th March 2023 - Helsinki

In attendance

Jonne Rinne – President
Unn Alma Skatvold – Vice President
Nigel Dennis – Head of Office
Mark Marshallsay – Treasurer
Georgios Stamatakis
Kirsteen Brown – Note Taker

Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Angels Bosch.

Minutes of previous meeting 8th November 2022 meeting and matters arising

Actions from previous meeting were completed and the minutes were approved by all attendees.

President's Overview

JR welcomed everyone to Finland, his first ExCom meeting as the new President of EuroCOP.

He gave a power point presentation highlighting the global risks ranked in severity over the short & long term of 2 years & 10 years from the world economic forum global risk report of 2023, he alluded to climate change, cost of living crisis, and migration.

He spoke of the current Action Plan and the need to look forward to the creation of the new one from 2024 to enhance the profile of EuroCOP but not reinventing the wheel .

He stated that as the new President he believes there are 3 big topics; Post War situation in Europe, The Violence Against Police Officers and Climate change - large scale involuntary migration (highlighting 2014/2015) and the criminality that comes with this, he alluded to the fact that although the police don't make the decisions they are always blamed for enforcing them.

JR showed a short video of some examples of violence against the police and although it has been requested a number of times there has been very little interaction from M.O. to enhance the film.

JR finished off his report by highlighting the main aims moving forward:-



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Lobbying Office – eyes and ears EU decision making
Media Office – M.O. more involvement make our active operations transparent
Develop new action plan 2024 – not reinventing the wheel
Matching EuroCOP's aspirations to its operations & finance capacity and capability
Be Bigger/grow bigger

ACTIONS;

UAS - To invite the Police director of Norway to attend the Autumn 2023 meeting in Torremolinos to speak on the topic of violence against police officers and the Nordic model.

JR – To make an approach to the German Police Trade Union (GDP) President at a meeting they are both attending in March and to extend an invitation to attend the EuroCOP Committee meeting in November.

ND- To follow up with a formal invitation as our guest in the event the invitation is well received .

ND - To make contact with ETUC Presidency after the elections in May to attend our Committee meeting in November 2023.

GS – To share the video of the violence in Greece at the borders, from his previous presentation.

Moving forward Roles & Responsibilities;

UAS - Requested that the ExCom look to try to achieve more online meetings between the set meetings, it was understood and appreciated by all those present that individual commitments and responsibilities to their roles in their organisations took primacy.

Moving forward more on line meetings once the new lobby company is in place will be necessary.

A full and comprehensive discussion on the roles & responsibilities also of the expectations and capacity of each member of the ExCom took place.

ACTION;

ND To continue as the Excom member with the primary responsibility of EuroCOPs link and representative with the ETUC & ETUF.

ND – To bring forward a potential solution/ plan for on line meetings throughout the year.



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Eurotran Submission (Documentation provided prior to meeting)

Margareta Przybyla(MP) & Dan Wolff (DW) gave a full and detailed presentation on their proposal to EuroCOP in relation to their Public Affairs Services. **UAS & ND** gave an insight on how and why EuroCOP do what they do on behalf of our member organisations, highlighting that EuroCOP need to pick their battles, and their primary focus as being a collective of Police Trade Union and Police Staff Associations and they don't always come from EU members states

Both **MP & DW** gave examples of events that are directly involving police officers

The ExCom discussed the proposal and the associated costs. The decision of the Excom was made to engage Eurotran as it met the specification of what EuroCOP are seeking in a lobbying company and the budget constraints set by MO in Porto to the Excom 2020.

ACTION

ND To write to accept the proposal from Eurotran, confirming a start date of 1 April 2023, subject to a contract break clause at 12 months and the proposed workshop would take place at the committee meeting in Torremolinos in November 2023.

Social Media and Digital Engagement submissions; Martis Media / Stark events

(Documentation provided prior to the meeting)

The Excom having had the opportunity to scrutinise the submissions from Martis Media and Stark Events that had been provided prior to the meeting both from a price point and the services offered from both tenders.

The Excom came to the following decision after discussing both tender proposals .

Stark Events proposal has been accepted and a request of a start date of 1 April 2023.

ACTION

ND to write to both Martis Media and Stark Events informing them of their decision.

Arrangements, for Committee Meeting Belfast April 2023/ ExCom Elections

ND spoke of the current vacancies on the ExCom, due to the retirement of David Hamilton from the Police Service. Therefore a space on the ExCom from the Northern Region is available The SPF have indicated they will be nominating a candidate for this vacancy,



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however **ND** will write to all other MO in the Northern region to see if they wish put forward a candidate for this vacancy.

A vacancy existed for the Southern region on the Excom and one nomination from CCOO Roberto Garcie has been appropriately presented and has been received by the cut off date for nominations of the 15th February 2023.

There will be an ExCom meeting at the PFNI offices on Tuesday 25 April at 2pm. Unfortunately **UAS** cannot attend the Committee meeting in Belfast so will be unable to chair the Committee Meeting

Action **ND** will replace her on this occasion.

A detailed discussion took place on the construction of the agenda for the Belfast Committee Meeting. Highlighting that group work with integrated discussions between MO is essential to make progress on the 2020 - 2024 Action plan and this then can be taken forward by the Excom but also the lobbying Company ,

ACTION

ND

- To write to Northern region stating that there is a current vacancy, a nomination from the SPF has been received but invites anyone else from the Northern region to submit nominations.
- To make contact with PFNI to provide a security brief prior to the meeting
- Set the meeting dates for the next spring/autumn meetings at conference
- To approach PFNI in relation to organising a visit to the Garden of Remembrance – potentially lay a wreath, subject to the approval of the relevant authority.

Housekeeping/ Amendments Statutes – Proposals

Since the creation of EuroCOP in 2002, the President & Treasurer received an annual fixed sum of money to assist with payments of mobile phones expenses & home internet charges along with home office costs for carrying out their elected role on EuroCOP's Excom

The accountant have requested that we make a record of the approval of this payment of xxxx per annum in the minutes

Change of Tittle of Head of Office to General Secretary

ND explained the rationale behind this proposal to change the position of the Head of Office title to General Secretary is in due in part to the evolving role that this position has now taken



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on but also to align this employed position to that of similar roles in European Trade Union Confederations. The discussion evolved as to how in the future this position will be recruited to and how to attract a suitable candidate.

ACTION

ExCom to recommend that this item become an agenda item in which the MO can have the opportunity to discuss and to vote on this matter to amend the statutes to reflect this potential change,

A paper on this proposal will be provided to **M.O** in advance of the meeting in Belfast

Agenda item for discussion in Belfast that EuroCOP can within its statutes have the possibility to have “on line” Committee Meetings in the event of being unable to hold in person Committee meetings either due to travel restrictions or Financial constraints . **MO** to be vote on this proposed change.

Treasurers - Financial Update

Mark Marshallsay (**MM**) started his report by speaking about the subscription fees to EuroCOP. **MM** stated that the majority of our member organisations have paid this year’s subscription fees apart from two, who **ND** has gently reminded of their obligations in this area.

The ExCom had a full discussion around one of the organisations that haven’t paid their fees. He went onto speak on the Investments, he said they are all up and running after many hurdles and obstacles. He also confirmed that EuroCOP have invested 125,000 Euro’s to begin with, and have already made more money in the first few weeks than all the interest last year, so that was great news. **ND** confirmed that this figure was reduced from the original agreed figure 150,000 Euro’s, this was due in part to manage business as usual at year end.

In terms of the Audit, Henry Bautista (**HB**) & **ND** attended the BTPF Offices last week and finally the internal audit for years 2020 & 2021 took place. **HB** has provided his report to the Excom in advance of the next committee meeting in Belfast.

The Financial Orders:

The audit highlighted that the new financial orders are not working for the fiscal benefit of EuroCOP. Although the principle behind the agreed recent changes were well principled , and had been done for the right reasons, the desired effect has not been achieved nor will they given the current state of EuroCOP finances.



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It was clear that because of these new financial orders, the income of EuroCOP has been severely affected, mainly due to the lower percentages that some organisations now pay, depending on their region, the desired effect of enticing bigger organisations into the fold has not yet worked out as had been hoped for, and we cannot sustain this any longer without severely impacting on EuroCOP's financial security and wellbeing.

MM is asking the ExCom to consider and support his recommendations;

1 - That all MO pay a membership fee based on the membership numbers they supply and to remove the percentage reduction based on the geographical location of the organisation

2 . A minimum Annual Fee of 2000 euros for membership

3 A maximum annual fee of 60,000 Euros irrespective of the size of the organisation and with maximum voting rights of 5 votes and 3 delegates at a Committee Meeting (5 Delegates at a Congress).

Detailed discussions took place around the declared numbers from MO, which Impacts on the financial income. Moving forward proof of membership along with the declaration form to future proof EuroCOP may be required

He said that although we have gained some new organisations, which is great news, they are small in numbers and do not go anywhere near covering the loss of income which in the Year of 2022 was xxxx euros on membership fees alone.

He finished by reminding everyone that his recommendation was to increase subscriptions next year by 25 cents to 1.59 per member per year , which still stands, but he fears that will not be enough to stop the use of our reserves. It was noted that the last increase in EuroCOP subscription fees was 2017.

Action

The ExCom fully supported and endorsed Marks recommendation to remove the percentages for payments, as it didn't work in the way it was anticipated and it had in fact had a detrimental financial effect on EuroCOP. This matter will now go forward to M.O for their approval or otherwise

ETUC/ETUF – Update



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ND gave an update on the ETUC to the ExCom especially concerning the press coverage surrounding the former General Secretary Luca Visentini (ETUC Audit report supplied to the EXCOM)

AOB

JR & UAS will ask Nordiska at their forthcoming meeting to sponsor the social dinner at the EuroCOP Committee meeting in November 2023.