

CLOSING CERIMONY OF THE PROJECT
"EUROPEAN UNION POLICE SERVICES TRAINING"
(EUPST 2011-2013)



FIEP ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SUPERIOR COUNCIL
OF DIRECTORS / GENERAL COMMADERS



This morning, at the Center of Excellence for the Stability Police Units of the Carabinieri (CoESPU), at the presence of General Commander of the Carabinieri Leonardo Gallitelli, components of the European External Action Service (EEAS), members of the CIVCOM, as well as representatives of the EU and of the International Organizations of the EU and of 45 Police Forces, was held the closing ceremony of the project "*European Union Police Services Training 2011 - 2013*" (EUPST 2011-2013), with the graduation of the participants to the 7th training session, just ended.

The project EUPST 2011-2013 was born at the end of 2010, when a multinational Consortium composed made up of the European Police College (CEPOL), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France, the French National Gendarmerie, the Spanish Civil Guard, the Romanian Gendarmerie, the Marechaussee of the Netherlands and the Carabinieri - who took over the leadership - applied for a call for proposal of the European Commission related to the training in a period of three years of 2400 officers of police forces from EU countries (60% - 1440 units), the African Union (20% - 480 units) and Extra contributors to the EU Common Security and Defence Policy (20% - 480 units) in at least 6 training sessions (2 in Africa and the other in Europe).

The purpose for which the European Commission has released the call for proposal was to allow representatives of various police forces to compare operational procedures, to find out and then try on the field - through complex practical simulations – the best practices to be brought back (with a cascade training system) in each country of origin, or to be used in the case of humanitarian interventions or peace support in favor of local institutions in international civilian crisis management. A very challenging project due to the simultaneous activation of multiple "police abilities" - those associated with the traditional "strong police", the investigative / technical / forensic ones, those related to the protection of human rights and the fight against toxic waste trafficking - performed, however, in a potentially destabilized environmental context.

During these three years, fully respecting the goals of the call for proposals, were held 7 training sessions (5 in Europe and 2 in Africa) for 2510 operators from 50 countries about the management of the headquarters of a international police mission, public order, the investigations

on the local organized crime also involved into human trafficking and illegal toxic waste trafficking, forensic investigation, activities of the special intervention units, protective services and Explosive Ordnance Disposal, and finally notions on respect of human rights, gender equality and protection of vulnerable groups (especially women, children and refugees).

Afterwards, in the afternoon, will be held the annual meeting of the Superior Council of Managers / General Commanders of the Association of Euro-Mediterranean Gendarmerie and Police Forces with military status (FIEP - an acronym derived from the initials of the four founding countries: France, Italy, Spain and Portugal), which this year takes on a special connotation for the events that characterize it: in 2014, in fact, occurs the 20th anniversary of FIEP, while the Carabinieri and the Marechaussee celebrate their 200th anniversary.

The delegations, received by the General Commander of the Carabinieri Leonardo Gallitelli, will outline a report of the activities carried out during the last year and will identify the topics to be explored during the technical meetings scheduled for 2015.

The handover ceremony of the annual presidency will take place, symbolized by the passage of the "hammer" from the Commander in charge to his successor, the General Director of the French National Gendarmerie.

The FIEP is an association open to the Police Forces and the Gendarmerie European and Mediterranean with Military Order, with the aim of reinforcing arrangements and relationships, to promote an innovative and active reflection on the forms of cooperation between the participating institutions and to evaluate the models of the existing organization.

The association aims also to facilitate, in accordance with international agreements and national laws, the exchange of information and experiences for the progress and development in the areas of: New Technologies and Logistics, Organization of the Service, European Affairs and Resources human.

The full achievement of the objectives set in the project EUPST 2011-2013 and the established collaboration between the Police Forces of FIEP highlight the more and more important role that the Carabinieri Corps has gradually earned on the international scene. The constitution, in Vicenza, of the NATO Centres of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU and SP COE) and of the European Gendarmerie Force - involving the same partners of FIEP and EUPST - confirms the leading role of the Carabinieri Corps in the multinational scenery.

Further information can be found on the website: www.eupst.eu and on twitter #EUPST_2011-2013.