



EUROPEAN POLICE CONGRESS

PARTNER NATION
ITALY

Programme

Balancing Protection and Law Enforcement – Future Policing Solutions

6 – 7
MAY
2026

 CityCube Berlin

Balancing Protection and Law Enforcement – Future Policing Solutions

Protecting the population and consistent law enforcement must be reconciled with the current social polarisation and hybrid threat situation. Above all else is the need to ensure long-term security.

Following the focus on the armed forces, the police are also facing questions that require new answers: securing public spaces, cross-border organised crime, cybercrime, AI-supported disinformation campaigns and maintaining everyday police enforcement services. All of this becomes a challenge in dynamic crisis situations, when the legal situation is unclear and when there are technological developments on the perpetrator side.

Political radicalisation, social tensions and a growing loss of trust in state institutions are also expressions of profound social and cultural upheavals. These developments have a direct impact on the work of the police – both operationally and in terms of strategic orientation. The police need political commitment and tactical capabilities to remain effective.

A key topic at the 2026 congress will be ensuring security in public spaces: railway stations, schools, large events – everyday places are scenes of potential danger. Prevention and repression go hand in hand here: from video surveillance and digital early warning systems to community policing; from structural measures to international cooperation on cross-border crime. Although security and protection begin with education, they continue with a view to consistent law enforcement.

In 2026, European asylum policy faces the challenge of reconciling security and humanity. In view of increasing migration flows and geopolitical tensions, the need for a common European strategy to manage and limit irregular migration is becoming ever more urgent.

The debate oscillates between security interests and ethical principles. It shows how complex and multifaceted the design of a sustainable asylum policy is – and how important it is to preserve European values such as solidarity, the rule of law and humanity, even in difficult times.

Last but not least, critical infrastructures – from energy supply and healthcare to transport and communications – must be better protected. However, they are increasingly becoming the target of cyber and drone attacks, which not only cause economic damage but also jeopardise public safety.

A holistic understanding of security is needed to ensure the resilience of state structures and thus also the population's confidence in their effectiveness, but also to do justice to the police officers themselves.

Let us use the European Police Congress to think beyond borders, learn from each other and shape the police force of the future together – with courage, responsibility and a clear focus on the security and trust of our society.

Wednesday, 6 May 2026

07:15	Opening of the exhibition/registration - Please note: increased security measures apply!
08:30	Welcome Dr Eva-Charlotte Proll , Editor-in-Chief Behörden Spiegel Dieter Wehe , Inspector General of the North Rhine-Westphalia police force (ret.)
08:35	Musical opening of the congress by the Berlin Police Combo
08:45	Keynote Alexander Dobrindt* , Federal Minister of the Interior, Germany
09:15	Guest speech by the partner country Matteo Piantedosi* , Minister of the Interior of the Republic of Italy
09:45	Partner contribution N.N. , N.N.
10:05	Speech Bruna Szego* , Chair, Anti-Money Laundering Authority
10:20	Speech Vittorio Pisani* , Director General of Public Security, Italy
10:35	Coffee break & networking
11:00	Panels I
12:30	Lunch break & networking
13:30	Debate Security in public spaces Input: Alexander Dinger , Journalist and author, Die WELT Keynote: Thomas Kufen , Mayor of Essen Chair: Jochen Kopelke , Federal Chairperson, GdP Omid Nouripur , Member of the German Parliament, Vice-President of the Bundestag, Alliance 90/The Greens Antina Kracht* , CFO, DB Security Ralf Großmann , Pool attendant, expert in swimming pool management and safety culture Gwendolin von der Osten* , Chief of Police, Hanover Kathrin Schuol* , Chief of Police, Lüneburg Philipp Woldin , Journalist and author, Die WELT N.N.* , Representative Italy
14:45	Partner contribution N.N.* , N.N.
15:00	Demonstration Federal Police Mounted Unit
15:25	Coffee break & networking
16:00	Panels II
17:30	Change of room
17:45	Debate Migration between security and humanity Keynote speaker: Julia Ruhs , freelance editor, Bayerischer Rundfunk Chair: Rainer Wendt , Federal Chairman, DPolG Lena Düpont , MEP, European Parliament Julia Ruhs , freelance editor, Bayerischer Rundfunk Dr Lars Gerdes , Deputy Executive Director, Frontex Hans-Georg Engelke* , Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry of the Interior Karl Kopp , Managing Director, Pro Asyl N.N.* , Representative of Italy
19:00	Closing of the event & networking

AI in policing

09:00 – 16:00

Side event

Drones: Threat situation and organisational and legal risk prevention

10:00 – 13:00

Side event

Chairman & Moderation:

Dieter Wehe, Inspector General of the Police North Rhine-Westphalia (ret.)

Thursday, 7 May 2026

07:45	Opening of the exhibition/registration - Please note: increased security measures apply!
09:00	Panels III
10:30	Coffee break & networking
11:00	The cyber power failure Sönke Marahrens, Head of Department at the Bundeswehr, Digitalisation Centre and Cyber and Information Space Capability Development, German Armed Forces
11:30	Debate Threats and disruption to KRITIS caused by cyber-attacks and their defense Chair: Dirk Peglow* , Federal Chairman, BDK N.N.*, BKA Dr Timo Hauschild, Head of Cyber Security for Critical Infrastructures, BSI Cyril Gout*, Acting Director, INTERPOL Juliane Krömke, Corporate Security Expert, Security – SCY, BER Airport N.N.*, Representative for Italy
12:30	Partner contribution N.N.*, N.N.
12:45	Lunch break & networking
13:45	Round table of interior ministers and senators Chair: Dr Eva-Charlotte Proll , Editor-in-Chief, Behörden Spiegel Joachim Herrmann, Minister of the Interior, Sport and Integration, Bavaria Thomas Strobl, Minister of the Interior, Digitalisation and Municipalities, Baden-Württemberg Daniela Behrens, Minister of the Interior, Sport and Digitalisation, Niedersachsen Prof Dr Roman Poseck, Minister of the Interior, Security and Homeland Protection, Hessen Georg Maier, Minister of the Interior, Local Government and Regional Development, Thuringia
14:45	Police Future Prize Award Ceremony Jürgen Hohnen, Former State Secretary, Ministry of the Interior and Local Government, Brandenburg
15:10	Room change
15:20	Panels IV
16:50	End

The role of the police in civil-military cooperation

09:00 – 15:30
Side event

Financial investigations – Money laundering – Organised crime

10:00 – 12:00
Side event

BOS-Strategy forum

9:00 – 15:30
Side event

Secunet

9:00 – 16:00
Side event

Chairman & Moderation:

Dieter Wehe, Inspector General of the Police North Rhine-Westphalia (ret.)





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