



## Swedish Presidency of the European Union, Autumn 2009

On 1 July 2009, Sweden will succeed the Czech Republic as the President country of the EU. Today the EU consists of almost twice as many Member States as when Sweden last had the presidency in 2001. This will make great demands on Sweden and its government agencies.

The EU has adopted a five-year action plan in the field of justice and home affairs, which includes police cooperation. During the Swedish presidency, a new programme will be negotiated. It is very important that the police tasks are emphasised and that measures for improving the combating of crime in Europe are included in the programme.

It is a great challenge for Sweden and the Police Service to carry out the presidency during a period marked by changes in the EU. At the same time, it provides a unique opportunity for the Swedish Police to set its stamp on the continuing international police cooperation within the EU. The Division for International Coordination (ISAM) has a coordinating role for the participation of the Swedish Police in the presidency.



Did you know that

**The Swedish Police** will lead the police cooperation in the EU during the Swedish presidency



**Rikspolisstyrelsen**

Swedish National Police Board  
Division for International Coordination  
Box 122 56  
102 26 Stockholm  
Telephone: 08-401 90 00  
E-mail: [isam@rps.police.se](mailto:isam@rps.police.se)  
[www.polisen.se/rikspolisstyrelsen](http://www.polisen.se/rikspolisstyrelsen)

## Global Security and Safety

International coordination of police work



SWEDISH NATIONAL POLICE BOARD  
Division for International Coordination

## International Police Coordination

An increasingly globalised world and increased cross-border crime has significantly affected the work of the Police. An increased international police cooperation is essential in order to effectively combat crime and increase security in Sweden and the world at large.

### The Division for International Coordination (ISAM)

The Division for International Coordination is a unit within the Swedish National Police Board responsible for coordinating all strategic international work of the Police.

#### ISAM has three fields of activity:

- Foreign policy supervision and advice. We provide support for the leadership of the National Police Board in foreign questions. We also plan and contribute to the international activities of the National Police Board and the County Police Authorities.
- International strategic police cooperation. ISAM participates in and coordinates the activities of those working groups within the European Union (EU) which affect the work of the Police. We prepare and coordinate strategic cooperation outside EU which is not of an operative character.
- International development cooperation. We carry out projects and programmes financed by Sida and the EU to support developing countries in the task of building democratic and effective police activities.



## International Strategic Police Cooperation

The EU builds on values such as respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality and the principle of rule of law and human rights. The EU also aims to develop the Union as a region in which freedom, security and justice are guaranteed. A close cooperation between the Member States is sought:

- to combat cross-border criminality
- to create uniform standards for a humane European asylum and immigration policy
- to improve cooperation in the field of civil law

The work of the Police is influenced mainly by the EU's cooperation in the field of police work and criminal law. Cooperation within the EU has now a much greater effect on the daily police work in Sweden than it had before. EU activity in this sphere can create better conditions for the Police organisations of the Member States to combat an increasingly diversified and organised cross-border criminality.

ISAM works on the preparation, negotiation and execution of the proposals discussed within the EU and which concern the Police Services. It is important that international agreements are introduced and carried out in the best possible way within the Swedish Police.

### The planning of the work within the EU

Under the EU's Council of Ministers, there are approximately 20 council working groups that deal with subjects which influence police activities. The council working groups seek to combat certain types of criminality, to develop new and more effective working methods or to promote a better exchange of information between the Police organisations of the Member States. In close cooperation with the Swedish Government Offices, ISAM is preparing the background material on which the Swedish standpoints in the council work will be based.

### EU's financing programmes

EU's financing programmes aims at strengthening the practical cooperation between the agencies and organisations in the Member States. ISAM is responsible for promoting a better utilisation of these programmes. The aim is to use EU financing to develop police working methods and to carry out development and operational projects and thus achieve more effective crime prevention and investigation.

#### Did you know that

**The Swedish Police** takes part on a daily basis in developing police cooperation within the EU through negotiations within the EU institutions

## International Development Cooperation - The Swedish Police in the service of democracy

#### Vision:

The international development cooperation of the Swedish Police shall contribute to greater global human security by promoting the development of states governed by law, democratic values, human rights and equality

To create the conditions for democracy, development and eradication of poverty, support is required in many countries to build up, reform and make more efficient the agencies which administer justice. The Swedish Police contribute to Security Sector Reforms (SSR) to increase the ability of the cooperating countries to meet the whole range of legal and security challenges in a manner which conforms to democratic standards, good governance and the principles of rule of law.

The contribution of the National Police Board to the international development work has as its overall target to contribute to the development of a democratic police in the cooperating countries. This means that the police shall:

- respect and protect human rights
- be responsible before the law
- be accountable for their actions
- give the highest priority to the needs of the citizens

ISAM is responsible for developing projects and strengthening the working methods of the Police within the field of international development cooperation. The projects are quality assured through follow-up and evaluation processes. The projects are carried out to a great extent by the County Police Authorities. In this way, the participation of the whole Police organisation in the international development work increases. The activities are financed externally by Sida or through EU's financing programmes.

The development efforts are designed according to the special requirements of the cooperating country. The National Police Board undertakes primarily activities within those fields where the Swedish Police has a long and documented good experience. This concerns for example police training, respect for human rights, crime scene investigations, intelligence-led policing, leadership and organisational questions. A common feature of all these efforts is that they aim to promote a democratic Police Service and their ability to work in a legal and effective manner.

#### Did you know that

**The Swedish Police** has been active in Latin America for 16 years. **The Swedish Police** supports the development of modern forensic science in **Serbia** and **Montenegro**