

AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE EUROPEAN POLICE OFFICE
AND
THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

The European Police Office (referred to as “Europol”)
and the Republic of Turkey,

Hereinafter individually referred to as a “Party” and together referred to as the
“Parties”,

Considering that it is within their common interest to enhance their cooperation in
the area of law enforcement,

Considering that nothing in this agreement shall prejudice or otherwise affect or
impact upon the provisions of any Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty, working law
enforcement relationship, or any other agreement or arrangement for the
exchange of information between the Republic of Turkey and any Member State
of the European Union,

Considering that the Council of the European Union has authorised Europol to
conclude a cooperation agreement with the Republic of Turkey on 27 March
2000¹,

have agreed as follows:

¹ OJ 2000/C106/01

Article 1
Purpose

The purpose of this Agreement is to enhance the cooperation of the Member States of the European Union, acting through Europol, and the Republic of Turkey in preventing, detecting, suppressing, and investigating serious forms of international crime within the respective competence of each Party, according to their constitutional acts, in particular through the exchange of strategic and technical information, as mentioned in Article 3. This Agreement does not authorise the transmission of data related to an identified individual or identifiable individuals.

Article 2
Framework of cooperation

The Parties shall cooperate in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement provided that Europol acts within its legal framework and the Republic of Turkey observes its national legislation and international obligations.

Article 3
Exchange of expertise

In order to realise the purpose laid down in Article 1 of this Agreement the Parties shall cooperate in the following ways:

1. Exchange of strategic and technical information of mutual interest;
2. Exchange of law enforcement experience including the organisation of scientific and practice-oriented conferences, internships, consultations and seminars;
3. Exchange of legislation, manuals, technical literature and other law enforcement materials; and
4. Training.

Article 4
Competent authorities

1. For the purposes of cooperation in accordance with the present Agreement the Republic of Turkey will determine its competent authorities responsible for implementation of this Agreement, including the point of contact through which these competent authorities should have contact with Europol. These bodies are listed in Annex 1 to this Agreement.
2. The Republic of Turkey will notify Europol of any changes to the list of the competent authorities listed in Annex 1 to this Agreement within 30 days after the date of making such changes.
3. The point of contact designated by the Republic of Turkey and Europol shall consult each other regularly on policy issues and matters of common interest for the purpose of realising their objectives and coordinating their respective activities.
4. When appropriate, consultation shall be arranged at the required level between representatives of the law enforcement authorities of the Republic of Turkey and Europol responsible for the areas of criminality to which the agreement applies, to agree upon the most effective way in which to organise their particular activities.

Article 5
Request for assistance

1. Cooperation within the framework of this Agreement will be carried out on the basis of requests for assistance, or on the initiative of one of the Parties, if this Party presumes that such assistance is of interest to the other Party.
2. A request for assistance will be provided in writing. If any doubts emerge related to the authenticity or the contents of the request, an additional confirmation may be requested.

Article 6
Execution of requests

1. The requested Party shall take all necessary measures to ensure a prompt and complete execution of the request. The requesting Party shall be immediately notified about any circumstances that may hamper the execution of the request or considerably delay its execution.
2. The requested Party shall have the right to ask for any further data it considers necessary to duly execute the request.
3. At the request of the Party requesting assistance, the requested Party shall take all necessary measures to ensure confidentiality of the fact that the request was made, the contents of the request and any annexed documents, as well as the fact that it has provided assistance.

The requested Party shall inform the requesting Party if it is not possible to execute the request while preserving its confidentiality. The requesting Party shall decide whether it is acceptable to execute the request under these conditions.

4. The requested Party shall inform the requesting Party of the results of the execution of the request at its earliest convenience.

Article 7
Confidentiality

1. Each Party shall take the measures necessary to protect the information received from the other Party, which are equivalent to those applied by the submitting Party to ensure its confidentiality. The correlation of such protection measures shall be determined by mutual consent between the Parties.

The measures for the protection of information may be changed by the receiving Party upon request of the Party which submitted the information, or with its written consent, with due regard to the applicable regulations on confidentiality of the receiving Party.

2. The Party providing the information may stipulate conditions on its further use. Such conditions on the usage of information may only be eliminated with the written consent of the providing Party.
3. Information received in accordance with the present Agreement shall not be used without the consent of the providing Party for purposes other than those for which it was provided.

Article 8

Participation in meetings

Representatives of the Parties can hold working meetings and consultations to examine ways of strengthening and enhancing the efficiency of the cooperation based on the present Agreement.

Article 9

Expenses

The Parties shall bear their own expenses which arise in the course of implementation of the present Agreement, unless otherwise agreed on a case-by-case basis.

Article 10

Settlement of disputes

All disputes which may emerge in connection with the interpretation or application of the present Agreement shall be settled by means of consultations and negotiations between representatives of the Parties.

Article 11

Amendments to and termination of the Agreement

This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent between the Republic of Turkey and Europol. Europol may only give its consent to amendments after the unanimous approval of such amendments by the Council of the European Union.

Article 12
Entry into force

The present Agreement shall enter into force on the following day of the receipt of the last notification by which the Parties inform each other that their respective legal requirements for its entry into force have been completed.

Done at Ankara this eighteenth day of May, two thousand and four, in duplicate, in the Turkish and English language, each text being equally authentic.

**For the Government of the
Republic of Turkey**

For Europol

Gökhan Aydiner
Director General, Turkish National Police

Jürgen Storbeck
Director



Annex 1

Competent authorities of the Republic of Turkey responsible for implementation of the Cooperation Agreement between the Republic of Turkey and Europol, including the central contact point

(as mentioned in Article 4 of the Agreement)

The central contact point: Interpol Department at the Director General for Security of the Ministry of Interior.

Competent authorities: Directorate-General for Security;
Gendarmerie General Command;
Coast Guard Command;
Under secretariat for Customs.
