



OFFICE ON MISSING PERSONS AND FORENSICS EULEX-KOSOVO

MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

The Medical Examiner's Office (MEO) at OMPF is responsible for conducting forensic autopsies and examinations of live victims or perpetrators in accordance with internal SOPs following European Standards and Council of Europe Recommendations¹.

The MEO is able to provide 24/7 service anywhere in Kosovo.

Currently, two EULEX Forensic Doctors and a Forensic Photographer work in the MEO, performing various forensic duties and conducting MMA with their local colleagues from the MoJ.

MEO has improved the forensic system in Kosovo by building local capacity and taking steps towards achieving sustainability.

Medical Examiners Office (main activities):

- Death Scene Investigation
- Forensic Autopsies
- Reviews of suspected Medical mal-practice
- Forensic Toxicology
- Forensic Histopathology
- Forensic Clinical Examination (Sexual Offences, Grievous Bodily Harm, etc.)
- Expert Witness Testimony and written Expert Opinions

Additionally, EULEX doctors are involved in the MMA of local counterparts in all aspects related to Forensic Medicine, including on-going efforts to establish a well-structured and coherent Specialization in Forensic Medicine. The aim of this is to ensure that Kosovo has the appropriate structures and mechanisms to develop more local specialized forensic medicine doctors.

¹ Recommendation (99) 3 on the Harmonization of Medico-Legal Autopsy Rules

Main MEO results from IOC till mid-May 2009:

Number of autopsies performed: 111

Number of Forensic Clinical Examinations: 32

Number of trials attended: 3

Number of death scenes attended / monitored: 25

Data analysis:

MEO is currently conducting studies and producing brief reports on trends on violent offences over the last five years in Kosovo. See the first report:

BRIEF QUANTITATIVE EXPLORATION: SEXUAL ASSAULTS IN KOSOVO