



European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo

MANDATE

The European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX Kosovo) was launched in 2008 as the largest civilian Mission under the Common Security and Defence Policy of the European Union.

EULEX supports selected Kosovo rule of law institutions on their path towards increased effectiveness, sustainability, multi-ethnicity and accountability, free from political interference and in full compliance with international human rights standards and best European practices, through monitoring, mentoring, and advising activities, and has limited executive functions.



DURATION OF CURRENT MANDATE

15 June 2025 - 14 June 2027



LEGAL BASIS

Council Decision (CFSP) 2025/1161

Council Joint Action 2008/124/CFSP of February 2008

UN Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)



HEAD OF MISSION

Antero Lopes (Portugal)



LOCATION

Mission HQ and EULEX Compound Pristina

EULEX Centre Mitrovica, Mitrovica South



EULEX OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT'S COMPONENTS

EULEX assesses the adherence of selected Kosovo institutions to the rule of law and human rights obligations - with a clear commitment against any form of human rights abuse or discrimination - through its operations components:



JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONS

CASE MONITORING UNIT

The EULEX Case Monitoring Unit assesses the functioning of the Kosovo justice system in terms of procedural, legal and human rights compliance. EULEX monitoring covers selected cases throughout entire chain of the criminal justice system, i.e. on police, prosecutorial and judicial level, as well as aspects of the civil justice system.

CORRECTIONAL UNIT

Through monitoring, mentoring and advising, the EULEX Correctional Unit supports the Kosovo Correctional Service (KCS) in consolidating a professional management team and helping build up capacities in providing equal treatment, and countering undue interference and preferential treatment of prisoners. EULEX also assists the Kosovo Probation Service (KPS) in developing a structured approach to probationers' rehabilitation focusing on prevention of re-offending.

FORENSIC MEDICINE TEAM

Offering expertise in the identification of graves and exhumation and identification of missing persons, EULEX forensic experts work with the Institute of Forensic Medicine (IFM) and other institutions, to shed light on the fate of missing persons related to the Kosovo conflict, regardless of the circumstances of their disappearance, their ethnic, religious or national origin, or any other characteristics.



POLICE INFORMATION AND OPERATIONS

FORMED POLICE UNIT

EULEX is Kosovo's second security responder, as part of a three-tiered security responder mechanism, where Kosovo Police is the first and KFOR is the third. EULEX's Formed Police Unit (FPU) patrols, monitors and engages with communities, remaining ready to protect, if requested and if necessary, the right to security, to life, and to property of all communities, to contribute to the maintenance and promotion of public order and security in cases of civil disturbance. FPU's operational capacity can be reinforced through the temporary deployment of the Reserve Formed Police Unit comprised of assets provided by the European Gendarmerie Force.



POLICE ADVISORS UNIT

EULEX advises the Regional Directorate of Police in Mitrovica North and the four police stations under its command on number of issues related to the provision of policing services, including community-oriented policing, and working in a multi-ethnic environment.



INTERNATIONAL POLICE COOPERATION

EULEX facilitates the exchange of police information between the Kosovo Police and Interpol, Europol or the Serbian Ministry of Interior.

EULEX assists the Kosovo Specialist Chambers and Specialist Prosecutor's Office with logistic and operational support, in line with relevant Kosovo legislation.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER MAINSTREAMING

EULEX is committed to the implementation of:

A human rights-based approach and human rights due diligence in the execution of its mandate.

The Women, Peace and Security Agenda - an essential tool in ensuring that the rights, agency and protection of women and girls are observed and always upheld.

MISSION ACHIEVEMENTS

From June 2018 to 14 June 2026, EULEX Case Monitoring Unit's justice monitors attended: **3,062** court sessions in **466** active criminal and civil cases including high-profile cases, war crimes cases, gender-based violence cases, corruption cases, and cases previously dealt with by EULEX. This monitoring results in reports with findings and recommendations for the Kosovo authorities aimed at improving the justice system.

From June 2018 to 14 June 2026, EULEX Correctional Unit:

- Conducted over **1,380** field visits to various correctional facilities and to the regional probation offices and had hundreds of meetings with KCS and KPS staff to support the management in addressing strategic issues.
- Conducted **267** interviews with high-profile prisoners, mainly belonging to non-majority communities.
- Supported training sessions, workshops and working groups for over **1,200** participants.

From 15 June 2018 to 14 June 2026, EULEX Forensic Medicine Team actively supported its IFM counterparts in **374** field operations, including **81** exhumations.

EULEX experts also continued supporting the IFM in conducting examinations of newly recovered remains, as well as in the review process of several hundred remains held at the IFM morgue.

Overall, the Mission assisted the IFM in submitting **428** samples for DNA analysis and in handing over remains to the families of **134** victims who have been identified.

From June 2018 to 14 June 2026, EULEX facilitated the following exchange of police information:

- **2,048** between the Kosovo Police and Europol.
- **4,320** between the Kosovo Police and the Serbian Ministry of Interior, in line with the protocol on police cooperation between the two entities.
- **17,725** between the Kosovo Police's International Law Enforcement Cooperation Unit under the umbrella of the Interpol Liaison Office within UNMIK and the National Central Bureaus of Interpol.



Total number of Mission Members: ≈ 400 local and international staff

EULEX is supported by



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