

TEMPLATE POLICY PAGE

Category:	Public Perception of Safety
Country:	Cyprus
Year:	/

Main policy page:	<p>The Cyprus Police has adopted the Community Policing Program, which has been in effect since 2003. The program aims at instilling feelings of safety and security amongst the population. Neighborhood Police Officers cooperate closely and have direct contact with community members, proceed to immediate intervention in cases of criminal activities, help solve various problems and show personal interest in the well-being of the citizens in their area they are assigned. The overall goal, is to achieve the highest possible sense of safety and security among the community.</p> <p>The Cyprus Police, seeing the success / efficiency of the program, has decided to expand the whole program in other areas of the island. In addition to the vehicle patrols and patrols on foot, the Neighborhood Police Officers now patrol by bicycle as well, in busy seafront areas where there are a lot of tourists and businesses that cater to them, especially in the summer. The patrols can particularly target specific high risk areas, but are also conducted on a routine basis. During patrols, officers are given instructions to encourage positive cooperation with the law abiding public, as well as to enforce the law whenever needed.</p> <p>The Police continuously strives to improve their procedures and the services it offers to the public. The public perception of safety, is one of the main goals of the Strategic Planning of the Cyprus Police. This goal includes issues such as the time needed for the police to arrive at a crime scene, the punctuality in terms of informing the victims about their case, through written / verbal communication, speedier investigation and completion of the criminal cases and filing them before the court and so on.</p>
Relevant legislation:	<p>Cyprus Constitution</p> <p>Police Law N.73(I)/2004</p>
Trends:	<p>A survey carried out for the Police in 2007, showed that 42% of the sample considered crime as a third major problem in society and 11% of the sample, did not feel safe.</p> <p>Another survey that was carried out for the Police in 2009, showed a percentage of 35% of the sample, who considered crime as a third major problem in society and 19% of the same sample, did not feel safe.</p> <p>Yet another survey for the Police, in 2011, showed that 20% of the</p>

	<p>sample did not feel safe (41% of whom felt unsafe because of burglaries / thefts in the area).</p> <p>In another survey, conducted for the Police, in 2015, the percentage of the people who did not feel safe dropped to 13%.</p> <p>In 2009, the Autumn Eurobarometer showed that 36% of the Cyprus population was concerned about crime.</p> <p>The Special Eurobarometer in 2011, showed that the most important challenge for Cypriots was Illegal Immigration (55%), while the second most important challenge for them was the Economic Crisis (54%).</p> <p>The survey of 2019, showed that 55% of the sample felt safe enough, 23% felt very safe and only 6% of them did not feel safe at all.</p>
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<p>Contacts:</p>	<p>National organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Communities • Municipalities • Ministry of Education
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