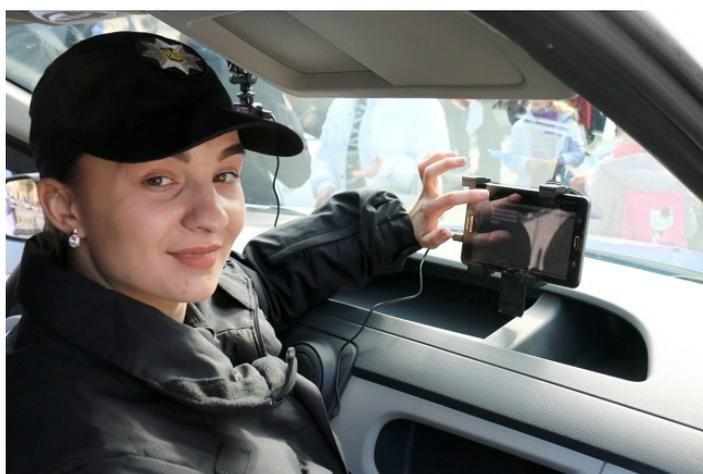




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October 2016



**EUAM donates tablets, dash cameras and software to Lviv, Kharkiv and Kyiv regional police**

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**EUAM uses round-table to prioritise court security in Ukraine**

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## **EUAM becomes first international body to implement practice of human rights training for Ukraine's Security Service**

*EUAM will conduct similar programmes for the SSU in different parts of Ukraine.*

*Eventually the training programme will be conducted by the SSU alone after a*

*follow-up survey and possible adjustments are carried out.*

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The European Union Advisory Mission Ukraine has completed a set of ground-breaking human-rights training sessions for staff of the Security Service of Ukraine in Lviv, in the first of a series of regional training events envisaged by the Mission.

A total of 26 SSU staff from the Lviv regional department – as well as the regional departments of Volyn, Zakarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Chernyvtsey, Rivne – participated in this week's training. Similar human-rights training programmes are already being planned for Kharkiv and Odesa. The human-rights training is just part of EUAM's recent support to the SSU. The Mission has also contributed to the drafting of Ukraine's Concept on SSU Reform.

Ukraine currently faces threats to its state security and territorial integrity, which are unprecedented in the country's independent existence. At a time in which the institutions entrusted with the security of Ukraine's citizens are facing multiple challenges, it has become all the more important to ensure that SSU staff are able to conduct pre-trial investigations and security intelligence activities in accordance with human-rights standards.

“

Respect for human rights in intelligence gathering and investigations carried out by the Security Service is a key element for fruitful international cooperation with European security and intelligence agencies. We expect the SSU to be a trusted partner in information exchange based on respect of human rights and private information protection,"- said the Head of EUAM Kęstutis Lančinskas.

“

Human Rights is a cornerstone of every security service. It is our task to ensure national security, and protect national

interests in the most critical areas. The implementation of this task requires the Security Service to take a series of special measures, most of which might involve a temporary restriction of human rights in cases specified by the law. And in these cases it is particularly important not to violate people's fundamental human rights," said the Head of SSU Lviv regional department, Victor Andreichuk.



## Human Rights, Gender and Police Work – Interview with EUAM’s Sari Rautarinta and Oleksandra Zub

*Over summer 2016 and continuing until the end of the year, EUAM has been carrying out a major training programme in community policing for Ukrainian police officers. When fully completed, the training course will*



have taken place in all of Ukraine's major urban centres. The training sessions are two weeks long and as part of the programme, Sari Rautarinta and Oleksandra Zub have been delivering half-day sessions on Human Rights and Gender.

### ***What role do human rights play in police work?***

**Sari:** Protection of human rights is the foundation of all police work. It is the most basic task of a police officer. A police officer who abuses human rights is a bad police officer. We start our training session by asking the groups to tell us which human rights they cherish the most. You get the responses you would expect from any group of people, for example, the right to life, the right to freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, etc.

Then we ask them which rights are absolute. Almost always, a majority response is the right to life. But the thing is that every serving policing police officer, i.e. everyone in that training room has the right to take a human life in extreme situations in accordance with national and international laws. This is a serious responsibility. And because society has entrusted police officers with this power, an awareness of human rights is absolutely fundamental.

### ***Are there absolute rights?***

**Sari:** There are two. The right to be free of torture, degrading and inhuman treatment and the absolute abolition of slavery. These are inviolable under all circumstances. All other rights can be limited under circumstances laid out by the law.

**Oleksandra:** The basic element of the course is an explanation of human rights legislation in Ukraine. This leads to some interesting discussions about what is allowed and what isn't. If you have a citizen who



**Sari RAUTARINTA**  
*Human Rights and  
Gender Adviser/Trainer*



**Oleksandra ZUB**  
*Human Rights Training  
Officer*

attacks you, for example, how much force is allowed to restrain them? What is the difference between restraining a member of the society and torture?

### ***What has been the response of participants?***

**Sari:** Many of the police officers have said that they would like to have a greater awareness of human rights standards to help them do their job properly. My favourite feedback was from an experienced officer who said: “You made us want to be better police officers”.

International advisers have a reputation for coming and giving very theoretical presentations, but I’m not just a ‘flower hat lady’, I’m a police officer with over 20 years’ experience and a Master’s degree in International Human Rights Law. The participants respond well to that, because I talk to them in their terms.

**Oleksandra:** I think the fact that Sari is an experienced female police officer also brings a useful gender perspective. Around a quarter of patrol police officers are now women and talking through challenges using a gender perspective is helpful for both male and female police officers.

[Read the full interview](#)

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## **Activities on the horizon**

- **8-12 November:** Workshop on Integrating human rights in policing assemblies in Ukraine”  
Kharkiv
- **7-18 November:** Forensic Training to Improve Performance of Crime Scene Investigation Teams - Lviv (7-11 Nov), Kyiv (14-18 Nov)
- **7-17 November:** Good Governance course on dialogue policing - Kharkiv, Lviv
- **14-18 November:** Community Policing, as well as Human Rights and Gender training - Zhytomyr, Chernivtsi, Kherson



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