Mission Statement

Proxima, in line with the objectives of the Ohrid Framework Agreement, in strong partnership with the relevant authorities, and within a broader Rule of Law perspective shall, in full co-ordination and complementarity with community institution building as well as OSCE and bilateral programmes, support, including through monitoring, mentoring and advising as appropriate:

- The consolidation of law and order, including the fight against organized crime, focusing on the sensitive areas,
- The practical implementation of the comprehensive reform of the Ministry of Internal affairs (MoI), including the police,
- The operational transition, and the creation of a border police, as a part of the wider EU effort to promote integrated border management,
- The local police in building confidence within population,
- Enhanced co-operation with neighboring states in the field of policing.

Proxima’s mandate

Proxima is part of the European Union’s overall commitment in assisting the efforts of the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) to move closer towards EU integration. The Proxima mission will, in partnership with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and other relevant authorities, contribute towards the police reforms required within the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 2001.

Proxima police experts will monitor, mentor and advise the country’s police thus helping to fight organised crime as well as promoting European standards of policing. This will be achieved by working alongside host country police colleagues in full partnership.

The Mission was launched on December 15th and is expected to last 1 year.

Local Ownership

Proxima will be a unique tailor made mission that will fully support the host country police, both at the central, regional, sub-regional and police station level. Through monitoring, mentoring and advising the local police, Proxima will increase the level of proficiency and thus support the development of an efficient and professional police service and
promote European standards of policing. Proxima personnel will be co-located with the police officers to fully share international policing expertise that this mission will bring.

Mission strength

When at full strength, around 200 international personnel will make up the Proxima mission. This will comprise of uniformed international Police officers and civilian internationals. Additionally Proxima will employ a number host country staff in support functions.

Security of Proxima

The host country will, through its own capabilities assume full responsibility for the security of Proxima personnel. To cover exceptional situations, Proxima will, however be equipped with a small armed protection element of around 30 police officers. The possible use of the Proxima Protection Element (PPE) will be coordinated after close consultations with the EUSR and the MoI.

Invited States

The mission will be comprised of contingents from:

- The 15 EU Member States
- The 10 Accessing States: Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Slovakia, Malta and Cyprus
- The three Candidate Countries: Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey
- Non-EU European NATO members: Norway and Iceland
- Potential partners: Canada, Russia and Ukraine
- Switzerland and the United States