

NEWSLETTER

Covering May 2026

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Workshop on HELP4U Platform to Strengthen Child Protection

On 14–15 May 2026, the Cyber Crime Investigations Directorate, Albanian State Police, supported by SCPA Programme and in cooperation with EUROPOL, organized the workshop on ‘HELP4U Platform’ in ASP HQ, in the framework of the EMPACT OAP 2026–27 initiative on combating the fastest-growing crimes in the online sphere.

The workshop brought together representatives from law enforcement authorities, hotlines, helplines, child protection organizations, experts, project partners from Albania, School Security Officers, Social Workers, Psychologists and Community Policing Officers working with youth in schools and EUROPOL and CENTRIC experts.

During the two-day event, participants discussed the development and future implementation of the HELP4U platform, aimed at providing personalized support and information to victims of online harm.

The agenda included presentations on the project vision, platform demonstration, discussions on project workstreams, and interaction focused on strengthening cooperation and improving child protection mechanisms in

the digital environment.

The workshop also served as an opportunity for networking, exchange of expertise, and strengthening partnerships between institutions and organizations working to protect children from online risks and exploitation.



MAIN ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ Workshop on HELP4U Platform to Strengthen Child Protection
- ◆ SCPA Programme Management Team Leader meets the ASP Director General
- ◆ Grants Scheme activities –support to fight against Domestic Violence
- ◆ Grants Scheme activities on youth safety and road safety
- ◆ Training of the General Patrol Officers and Command and Control Room Staff on Community Policing Implementation – Shkoder Local Police Directorate
- ◆ Activities supported by the Grants Scheme for the Strengthening of CRMs
- ◆ CPOs Youth Educators Continue Aware-



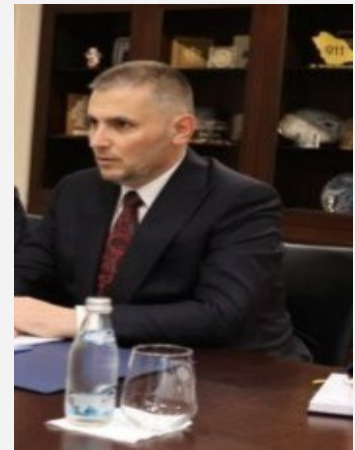
SCPA Programme Management Team Leader meets the ASP Director General

On 14 May 2026, Mr. Ansi Shundi, Team Leader of the of the Management Team of Strengthening Community Policing (SCPA) Programme met with the Director General of the State Police, Executive Leader Skender Hita.

During the meeting, Director General Mr. Hita appreciated the cooperation with SCPA as well as the support provided to the Public Order Police, Traffic Police, and the Security Academy.

He emphasized that a barrier-free partnership built on mutual trust has produced results in areas with a high public impact, such as Community Policing.

Meanwhile, Mr. Shundi highlighted the full commitment of the Management Team to further support the State Police on its path towards modernization and the fulfilment of European standards in order to respond to contemporary security challenges.



Grants Scheme activities –support to fight against Domestic Violence



During May 2026, several information and awareness-raising activities were carried out within the framework of the SCPA Programme – Strengthening Community Policing in Albania, focusing on violence prevention and the promotion of healthy relationships:

4 May 2026, Tirana – At “Asim Vokshi” high school, the IZHS Centre organized a session on violence prevention and the importance of early reporting.

The discussions addressed domestic violence, bullying, digital violence, and online safety. This activity was carried out within the framework of the project “Decision-Making that Protects – Strengthening the Police Response and Professional Standards in Addressing Domestic and Gender-Based Violence”, part of the SCPA Programme Grant Scheme.

14 May 2026, Elbasan – The organi-

sation “Tjetër Vizion” presented the “Report Now” platform at the “Vasil Kamami” secondary school. First-year students expressed interest in using the application as a safe tool for reporting violence, bullying, and discrimination.

22 May 2026, Institutional meeting – “Edlira Haxhiymeri Shelter” Centre (SEH) and Tirana Municipality held a meeting with the ETN and local institutions on the management of domestic violence cases, presenting the innovations introduced by Law No. 11/2026.

Participants discussed the new provisions of Law No. 11/2026 “On the Prevention of and Protection from Violence against Women and Domestic Violence”, including the prohibition of mediation, the obligation to report, and new forms of violence against women and girls, such as

digital violence and harassment in public spaces.

25 May 2026, Tirana – At “Kosova” 9-year school, IZHS conducted another awareness-raising session on forms of violence and reporting mechanisms, encouraging reflection on timely response.

26 May 2026, Tirana – Students of “Abdulla Keta” high school participated in an interactive session on community policing, healthy relationships, and digital safety, reflecting on their role in creating a supportive community.

This activity was carried out within the framework of the project “Decision-Making that Protects – Strengthening the Police Response and Professional Standards in Addressing Domestic and Gender-Based Violence”, part of the SCPA Programme Grant Scheme.

Grants Scheme activities on youth safety and road safety



During May 2026, a series of activities were held in Kukës, Tropoja, Fier, Elbasan, Maliq, and Tirana, focusing on enhancing youth safety, road safety, preventing bullying and digital violence, and strengthening cooperation between schools, families, police, and the community.

May 10, 2026 – Kukës The Youth Progress Center (QPR) organized an information session at “Qazim Shehu” school in Shtiqën.

Students and teachers engaged in interactive activities on bullying, digital safety, and early reporting of problematic cases.

The activities “Debate Line” and “Privacy Circle” helped young people understand online behaviors and data security boundaries.

May 12, 2026 – Maliq The association “Unë Gruaja” held an awareness activity at “Skënderbeu” high school on cybersecurity and digital violence. Students, teaching staff, and local police discussed online bullying, personal data protection, and the importance of reporting.

May 19, 2026 – Tirana The association “Unë Gruaja” organized an informative meeting with first-year students of the Faculty of Natural and Human Sciences.

Discussions focused on digital violence, its psychological and social con-

sequences, as well as legal and protective services available to victims.

May 2026 – Tropoja -The association “Alpin” organized a workshop with the Tropoja Police and Administrative Units. Discussions centered on school and cyberbullying, road safety, and inter-institutional cooperation for youth protection.

May 2026 – Fier. The center “New Era”, in cooperation with local institutions, held an informative activity at “Dertliu” school.

Young people were made aware of conflicts with the law, prevention of negative phenomena, and the role of institutions in supporting the community.

May 2026 – Tirana The association “Veteran Athletes of Albania” carried out sports and awareness activities in “Osman Myderizi” and “Kristaq Rama” schools.

Around 120 students participated in sessions on violence prevention, peaceful conflict management, online safety, and the role of the State Police in youth protection.

From May 4, 2026 – Tirana The Road Safety Board (KRS) held a series of five training sessions with seniors at “Myslym Keta” High School.

The goal was to raise youth awareness about road risks, behavior norms, and compliance with traffic rules.

Students learned about the main causes of accidents: speed, alcohol use, lack of experience, and not wearing seatbelts.

Legal penalties for driving without a license and the consequences of irresponsible behavior were addressed.

A central theme was seatbelt use, illustrated with concrete examples and demonstrations of the law of inertia.

Through a seatbelt simulator, students experienced a 360° vehicle rollover and saw firsthand how the belt keeps the body fixed, significantly reducing injury risk.

May 22, 2026 – Tirana . An awareness activity was held at Mother Teresa Square. KRS organized another educational event in cooperation with the SCPA Program, supported by the Grants Scheme.

Participants experienced practical and interactive demonstrations, such as the rollover simulator and activity track.

Each element was designed to help young people understand the consequences of unsafe behavior before facing them in reality.

These initiatives highlight KRS’s commitment to educating the new generation on the importance of responsible behavior on the road and respect for traffic rules

Training of the General Patrol Officers and Command and Control Room Staff on Community Policing Implementation – Shkodra Local Police Directorate



Between **05-07 May, 13-15 May and 20-22 May 2026**, three successive groups—comprising General Patrol Officers and Command and Control Room staff of the Shkodra Local Police Directorate—participated in a structured training program.

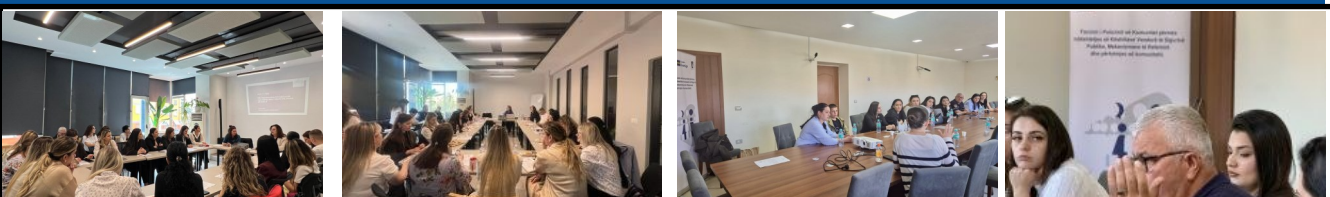
The training was organized and facilitated by the SCPA Program Management Team and conducted within the premises of Shkodra LPD

In total, **73 police employees** attended the sessions, ensuring broad participa-

tion across operational and command staff. During this training the trainees were introduced to both theoretical and practical exercises and group work by focusing on CP philosophy and implementation of its elements into the daily routine of ASP officers. In addition, they were presented with situations/practical exercises to be handled with and solved by them as they work in groups with the aim of providing measures to be taken proactively in order to implement the CP elements. Special attention was given to the the-

oretical and practical treatment of cases of **Domestic Violence**. In order to provide a comprehensive training module on CP SCPA cooperated with **Coordination Center for Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)**, whose experts provided interactive lecturing on Countering Violent Extremism. Best EU practices on CP philosophy implementation were shared with the ASP officers. At the end of such training the ASP officers are able to enhance their knowledge and capacities on implementation of CP.

Activities supported by the Grants Scheme for the Strengthening of CRMs



Within the framework of cooperation with the Directorate of Social Protection and Gender Equality Policies at the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, and with the support of the SCPA Programme, on 13 May 2026 the “Network Meeting of the Members of the Coordinated Referral Mechanism” was held in Fier for the municipalities of Fier, Lushnja, Divjaka, Patos, Roskovec and Malakasta. The meeting brought together representatives of institutions

responsible for addressing cases of violence, creating a space for familiarization with the legal amendments to Law No. 11/2026 “On the Prevention of and Protection from Violence against Women and Domestic Violence”, the exchange of good practices, and discussions on the role of community policing in supporting victims and survivors. Furthermore, on 5 May 2026, an CRM meeting was held in Malesi e Madhe Municipality to address the case of a

minor girl at risk. With the participation of local institutions and the organization “Woman to Woman”, within the framework of the SCPA Programme, technical and legal expertise was provided to ensure the protection of the child. Following the joint assessment of the case, the institutions agreed on the protective measures for the minor, including procedures for obtaining a Protection Order and ensuring suitable accommodation.

CPOs Youth Educators Continue Awareness Efforts in Schools



In implementation of the Cooperation Agreement between the Ministry of Education and Sports and the Ministry of Interior, as well as in accordance with the Order of the General Director of the State Police No. 1076, dated September 14, 2022, on the implementation of the "Youth Safety" Program in both public and private nine-year schools, Community Policing Officers for Education and Youth Work have continued their activities with dedication throughout May 2026

The primary objective of this program is to raise youth awareness on Road Safety and online security. As part of this initiative, CPOs (Community Policing Officers for education and work with youth) have worked closely with local coordinators from Local Education Offices (LEO), jointly developing a detailed monthly schedule to implement various topics in nine-year schools within their respective police zones.

In May 2026, special attention has been given to awareness youth aware-

ness on Road Safety and online security.

Additionally, other topics related to citizenship education have been addressed, based on the educational community's requests and the specific conditions of each zone.

Through the online activity monitoring platform, an increased engagement has been observed among CPOs operating in police commissariats in the cities of **Tirana, Berat, Kurbin, Fier, Lushnja, Durres, Shkodra, Lezha, Korca, Pogradec, Gjirokastra, Elbasan, Kukes, Vlora and Saranda.**

These units have displayed high work intensity, conducting numerous meetings and distributing awareness materials through social media and online forums.

In total, **349** materials and activities have been posted, which have been interactively viewed by **4580** users, demonstrating strong public interest.

Furthermore, **71** comments have been

registered on these posts, most of which were positive, supportive, and appreciative of the dedication shown by State Police specialists.

This indicates that the program is not only being successfully implemented but is also receiving strong community support and approval.

