Declaration
Recognising Private Security as a Cornerstone of Europe's Security and Preparedness

Brussels, 04 June 2025

Across Europe, 2 million private security officers protect citizens, secure major events, guard critical infrastructure, and support public services 24/7. These dedicated individuals are not just protectors; they are essential contributors to Europe's security, civil protection and crisis response systems.

A Sector Powering Innovation and Resilience

In today's rapidly evolving threat landscape, private security services are no longer limited to physical presence. The sector is embracing advanced technologies, such as AI, drones, integrated physical and cyber risk system, to enhance safety and support resilience across public and private domains. These capabilities form a vital line of defence against terrorism, organized crime, sabotage, espionage, and natural disasters.

Time to Elevate Private Security in Europe's Security Architecture

Despite its indispensable role, the private security sector often remains on the sidelines of EU security and crisis frameworks. CoESS believes this must change. Our industry is ready and eager to contribute meaningfully to the EU Internal Security Strategy and the EU Preparedness Union, within an all-hazards, whole-of-society approach.

We call on the European Institutions to take decisive steps toward recognition, integration, and action:

Our Call to Action

- **Put People First:** Partner with CoESS as EU Social Partner to strengthen workforce readiness in crises and elevate the appeal of careers in security.
- **Foster Security Innovation:** Work with us to craft smart industrial policies that encourage tech adoption, ensure regulatory alignment, and safeguard the continuity of essential services.
- **Boost Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs):** Involve private security in crisis reviews, joint trainings, and secure information-sharing mechanisms for faster, more coordinated responses.
- **Advance Emergency Preparedness:** Include our industry in shaping EU-wide emergency protocols and continuity plans for vital services.
- **Shape Smart Legal Frameworks:** Collaborate with CoESS on legislation securing public areas, transport hubs, and critical infrastructure, including counter-UAS.
- **Reform Public Procurement:** Modernise procurement rules to support high-quality employment, technological integration, resilience and preparedness in the private security sector.
- **Strengthen Protection of Critical Entities:** Promote the use of quality standards like EN 17483 as EU Directives (CER and NIS2) are implemented across Member States.