

**A message from
the Federal Minister of the Interior Horst Seehofer
to the General Police Equipment Exhibition & Conference (GPEC)**

Public security is a precious good. Protecting it is of the utmost importance to the Federal Government.

For this, we have to provide our security authorities with the best possible resources and equipment. The federal and state police forces, the Federal Agency for Technical Relief, the fire services and all other relief organizations operating in the field of civil protection deserve to be provided with high-quality equipment and protective gear.

With its large number of exhibitors, the GPEC offers visitors an excellent overview of state-of-the-art technology and innovation. It also provides organizations with security tasks and manufacturers of police and specialized equipment with an excellent opportunity to share information and views with their international counterparts.

In the field of security, Germany is well-prepared by international standards. Our security authorities do a very successful job. Since 2000, the GPEC has contributed to this success.

This year's "GPEC digital", which was first held in 2019, is now a full part of the GPEC, and with good reason. The Internet generates a multitude of threats to freedom and security. Cyber attacks are increasingly dynamic, varied and professional. The security authorities' response is to strengthen information security. In this field, too, our aim is to provide better security and more information to citizens.

Our programme for the future has the title "Police 2020". The core of this programme is about modernizing police information systems and improving policing. Streamlined procedures will reduce the burden of administrative work and give police officers more time to concentrate on their core tasks. Also in this respect, the GPEC is an ideal platform to share information.

I am therefore more than happy to serve as patron of the 11th GPEC. I hope all participants make the most of this opportunity to have many interesting discussions and gain new insights into user-specific products. I wish your event all the best and every success.

Horst Seehofer

Federal Minister of the Interior, Building and Community