

Press release of 22 September 2021 on the event „Ceremonial tapping of the foundation stone“ and starting of the construction of a new modern police training center in Kutná Hora.

On September 22, 2021, on the occasion of the starting of construction of a modern police training center, top representatives of the Czech Police, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic, the Embassy of the Kingdom of Norway in Prague and representatives of the contractor met in the former military barracks in Kutná Hora to tap the foundation stone and present the implementation of an important project to the public. But there was a long way to today's ceremony.

The need for specialized police education in high-quality training and conference facilities arose several years ago due to the dynamically evolving security situation in the world. Of course, the security forces must respond flexibly and effectively to this unfavorable development, not only in the Czech Republic. Already in 2017, the management of the Czech Police and especially the management of the Police Education Department led a discussion on the location and character of such an object. The disused buildings of the former dilapidated barracks were ideal for the implementation of the plan. In 2018, preparatory phases were already underway, from usability studies, settlement of property relations to the investment plan. This was followed by the preparation of a project application for the reconstruction of buildings. However, due to the high financial demands, it was clear from the beginning that it is essential for the implementation of the project to secure its financing, which was achieved through the EEA and Norway grants.

The project application was approved on 17 July 2020. The total eligible costs of the project amount to CZK 99,297,918, of which the amount of the Norwegian funding is 72.25%, which is CZK 71,742,746. The remaining 27.75% will be paid from the state budget (i.e. CZK 27,555,172).

Mainly thanks to the Department of Financial Mechanisms and Structural Funds of the Ministry of the Interior as the intermediary of the „Home Affairs Program of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the period 2014 – 2021“, funds were obtained and construction can begin.

In the future, the building will serve as a training center for the Police of the Czech Republic. It will provide not only police officers, but also state administration entities and the public with the necessary conditions for the organization of didactic, training



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and international courses, conferences, exercises, training of police officers and police instructors and educational activities within lifelong learning, etc. Currently, it is a reconstruction of buildings that will be used for accommodation, training and as conference facilities. In addition to the buildings, there will also be a reconstruction of the entrance to the complex, modification of paved areas, reconstruction of fencing, utilities and landscaping. An interesting new construction in the compound will be a new outdoor multifunctional training polygon, the parameters of which should be comparable to the obstacle course used within NATO.

The construction part of the project is planned for the period from September 2021 to the end of 2022.

It is important to mention that the revitalization of the area is fully supported from the beginning by the management of Kutná Hora City.

Important guests who attended the ceremonial meeting and tapped the foundation stone:

- **H.E. Robert KVILE** - Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway in Prague
- **Ing. Vilibald KNOB** - Deputy Minister of the Interior for the Economics and Operations Section
- **Col. Ing. Michal Keřka** - Deputy Police President for Economics
- **RNDr. Ivo Ryšlavý** - Director of the Department of Financial Mechanisms of the Structural Funds of the Ministry of the Interior
- **Col. JUDr. David Fulka** - Director of the Police Education and Service Training Department of the Police of the Czech Republic
- **Ing. Milan Grohmann** - Deputy Director of Logistics Support Administration of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic
- **Ing. Josef Viktora** - Mayor of Kutná Hora City
- **Ing. Jaroslav Ševela** - executive director of the supply company

Note:

The modernization of the former barracks building is being implemented within the framework of **Predefined PDP 2 projects, Home Affairs Program, Program Area 20 - "International Police Cooperation and the Fight against Crime", which are funded by Norway grants** in programming period **2014-2021**. The final beneficiary of these projects is the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic, specifically the Police Education and Service Training Department.



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