



# Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network

## Exchange of Experts Programme

### What is it?

The Exchange of Experts (EoE) programme involves connecting experts across borders to broaden their operational knowledge and skills through practical experiences in the field. The exchanges offer insight into the work of civil protection organisations and experts across Europe and beyond. Improving mutual understanding between teams working in different and challenging conditions reinforces civil protection knowledge at home.

### Who can participate?

Civil protection experts and organisations from UCPM participating states or eligible third countries.

Civil protection experts can apply to go on an exchange with the consent of their National Training Coordinator. Civil protection organisations host experts and share their expertise.

### Benefits for experts

Participating in an exchange provides civil protection experts with valuable experiences and deeper knowledge, strengthening teams and their services.

### Exchanges 2010 - 2021



**2,122**

Total number of experts



**242**

Exchanges



**48**

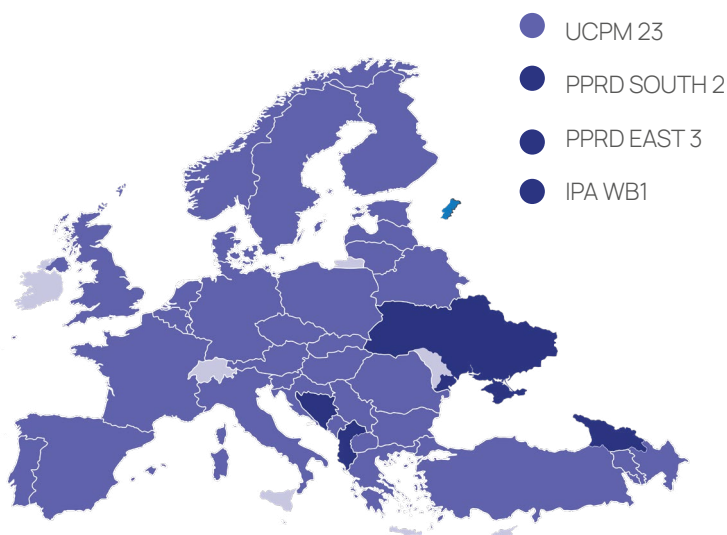
Countries involved

## Where can it take you?

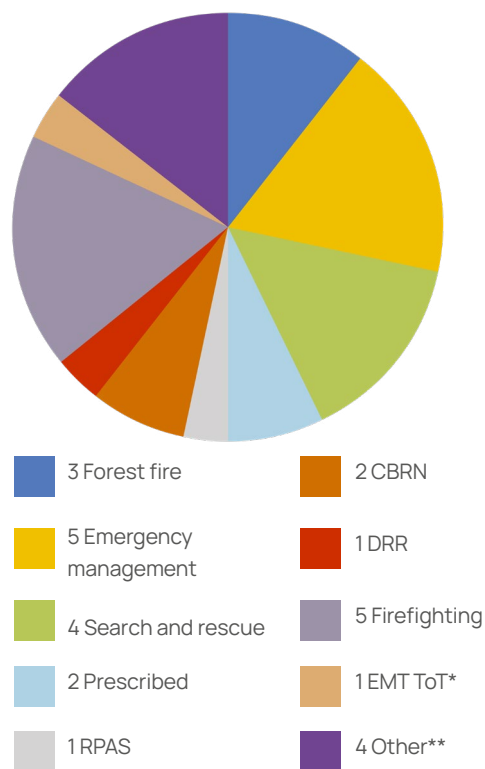
Civil protection organisations host exchanges in the European Union, Western Balkans, Southern and Eastern Neighbourhood countries.

If applicants are unable to travel for an exchange, there are online options available.

## EoE attending states 2018-2020



## Exchanges 2018 - 2020



\* Long-term exchange  
 \*\*K9 units, LPG fuelled cars, Flood management, Fire safety, Engineering

## Previous exchanges

### High altitude search and rescue in cold conditions, Finland

As part of an exchange focusing on high altitude search and rescue, a Finnish rescue team travelled to the Savoie region in France to gain practical knowledge and advice on working in cold conditions. With many years of experience in working at high altitudes, the Savoie Fire and Rescue Services were able to share their skills and expertise.

### Canine search and rescue, Hungary

In Budapest, experts learnt about how dogs can save lives when disasters such as earthquakes and avalanches

strike at a canine search and rescue exchange. A handler from the German Red Cross demonstrated how he and his dog implement good practices during search and rescue operations.

### Preparing for forest fires, Norway

The Skien Fire Service in Norway invited a team of expert firefighters from Catalonia, Spain, to share their expertise in managing forest fires. The exchange focused on prescribed burning – a technique used to help prevent forest fires from quickly spreading over large areas. The experience equipped the firefighters with useful tools to prepare for and respond to forest fires effectively, reducing the damage they can cause.

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