### Violence against the Police (and other representatives of the State)

**Calum Steele** 

**General Secretary – Scottish Police Federation** 

**General Secretary – ICPRA** 

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – EuroCOP** 



Gimborn, Germany

November 2017

# Violence against police officers is an occupational hazard?





### Alcohol

**Ideology – protest** 

**Ideology – terrorism** 

Despair

**Mental illness** 

Many more...



# Violence against the police is increasing!



#### Northern Ireland (Sectarianism)





#### London (Tuition Fees)





#### Belgrade (Far Right)





#### Mexico (Anti "WALL")





#### Bangkok 2014 (Anti Government)



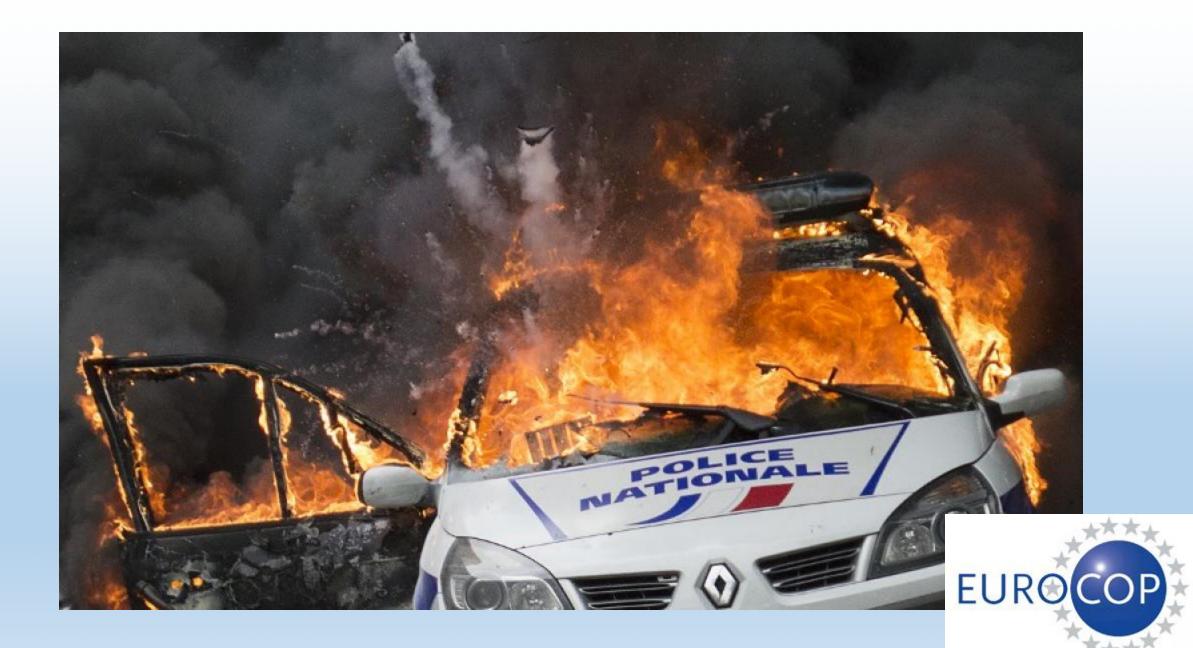


#### Paris (anti Far Right)















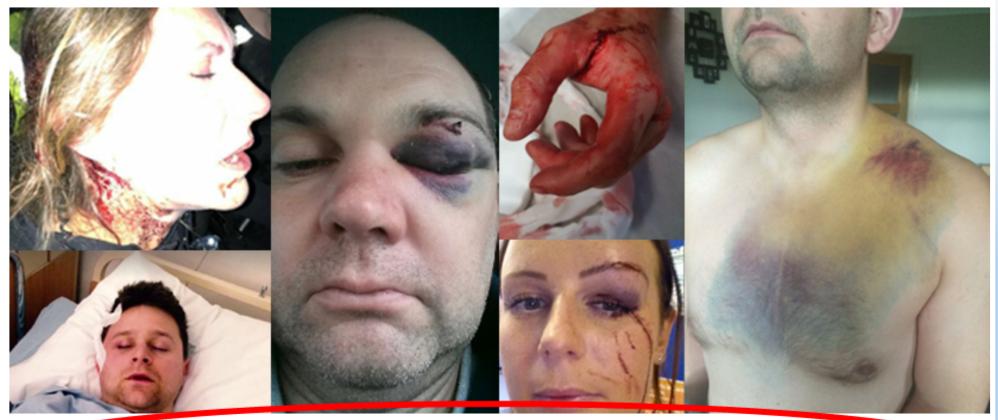




# Anyone who assaults a police officer should be imprisoned?



### Assaults: Protect the Protectors



EUROCOP

Assaulte on police officers are sadly commonplace. Our latest <u>welfare survey data</u> suggests there were more than two million unarmed physical assaults on officers over 12 months, and a further 302,842 assaults using a deadly weapon during the same period. These figure estimate that **an assault on a police officer happens every four minutes**.

To assault a police officer, prison oncer, or other emergency cervice worker is to attack ouclety itself and should never be accepted as 'part of the job'. Together with our partners, the <u>British Transport Police Federation</u> and <u>Prison Officers' Association</u>, we are campaigning

To assault a police officer, prison officer, or other emergency service worker is to attack society itself and should never be accepted as 'part of the job'. Together with our partners, the <u>British Transport Police Federation</u> and <u>Prison Officers' Association</u>, we are campaigning for:

- a change in legislation
- tougher sentences
- better training and access to equipment
- more accurate data on police assaults
- improved welfare support.

#### What is the Police Federation doing?

We are working with MPs to press for a change in legislation, leading to tougher sentences for those who assault police officers and other emergency service workers. A review of sentencing for those convicted of assaulting police officers is also being called for - all too often sentences being passed do not adequately reflect the seriousness of the offence.



#### **FBI: UCR**

#### f Sear

#### Home • LEOKA • 2016 • Officers Assaulted



#### **Criminal Justice Information Services Division**

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#### **Officers Assaulted**

#### Download Printable Document

The following information concerns duly sworn city, university and college, county, state, and tribal law enforcement officers who were assaulted in the line of duty in 2016 and who met certain other criteria.

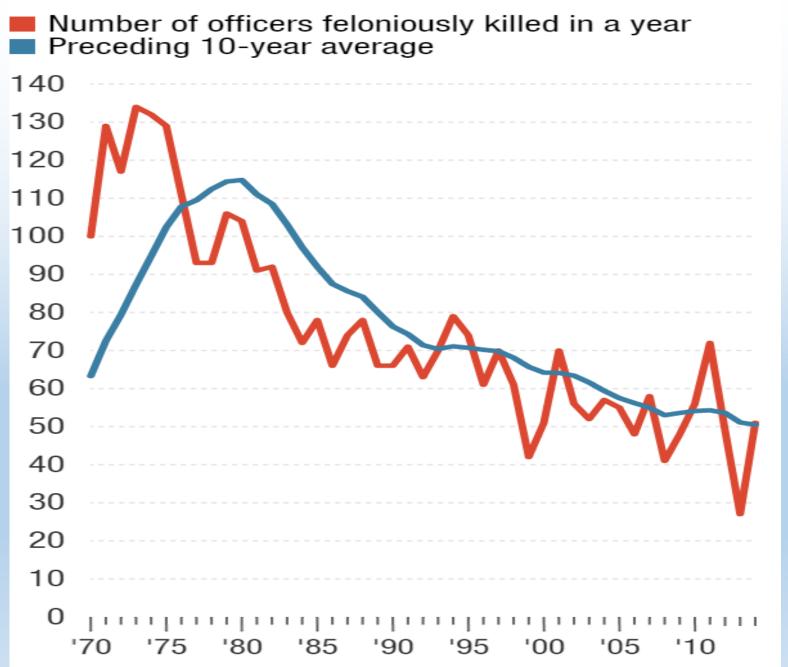
#### Overview

In 2016, the FBI collected assault data from 12,421 law enforcement agencies that employed 586,446 officers. These officers provided service to more than 268.2 million persons, or 83.0 percent of the nation's population. (See Table 70.)

- Law enforcement agencies reported that 57,180 officers were assaulted while performing their duties in 2016. (See Table 70.)
- The rate of officer assaults in 2016 was 9.8 per 100 sworn officers. (See Table 70.)

Resources	Data Tables		
<ul> <li>Methodology</li> <li>Criteria</li> <li>Detailed Assault Data</li> </ul>	Roll over table numbers for table titles. Law Enforcement Officers		
Figures and Maps	Assaulted ▶ Table 70		
<ul> <li>Figure 1</li> <li>Figure 4</li> <li>Map</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Table 71</li> <li>Table 72</li> <li>Table 73</li> <li>Table 74</li> <li>Table 75</li> </ul>		

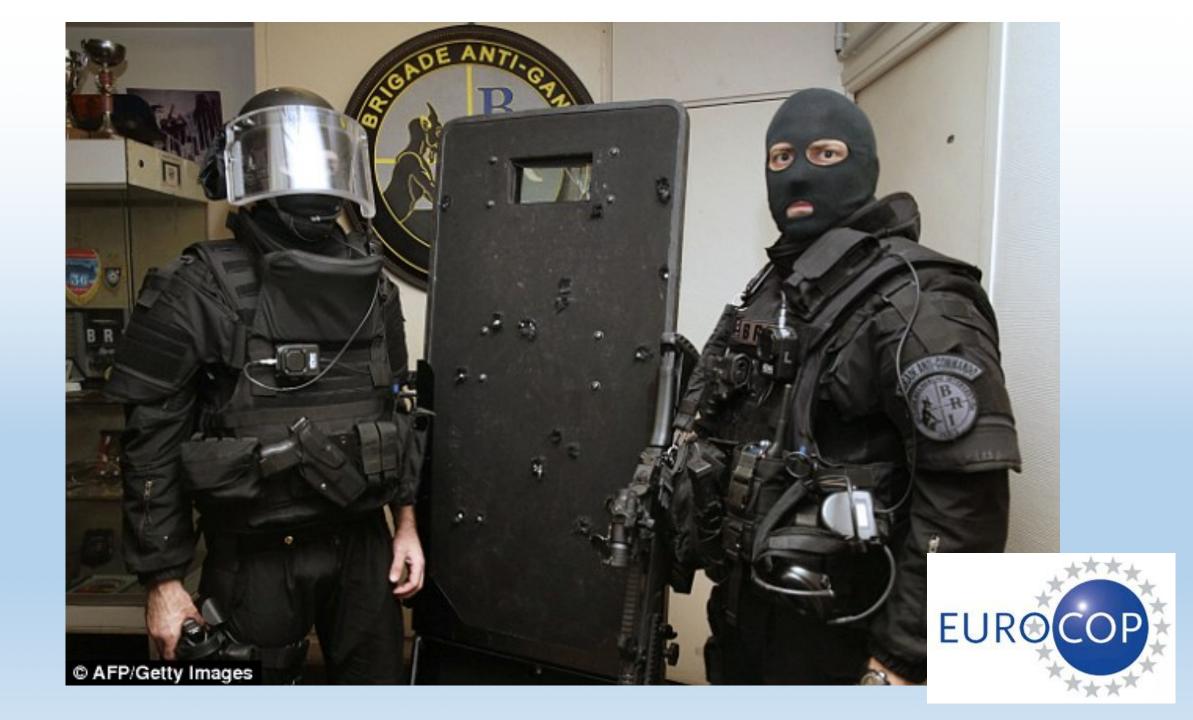
#### **Police Officers Killed in the Line of Duty**







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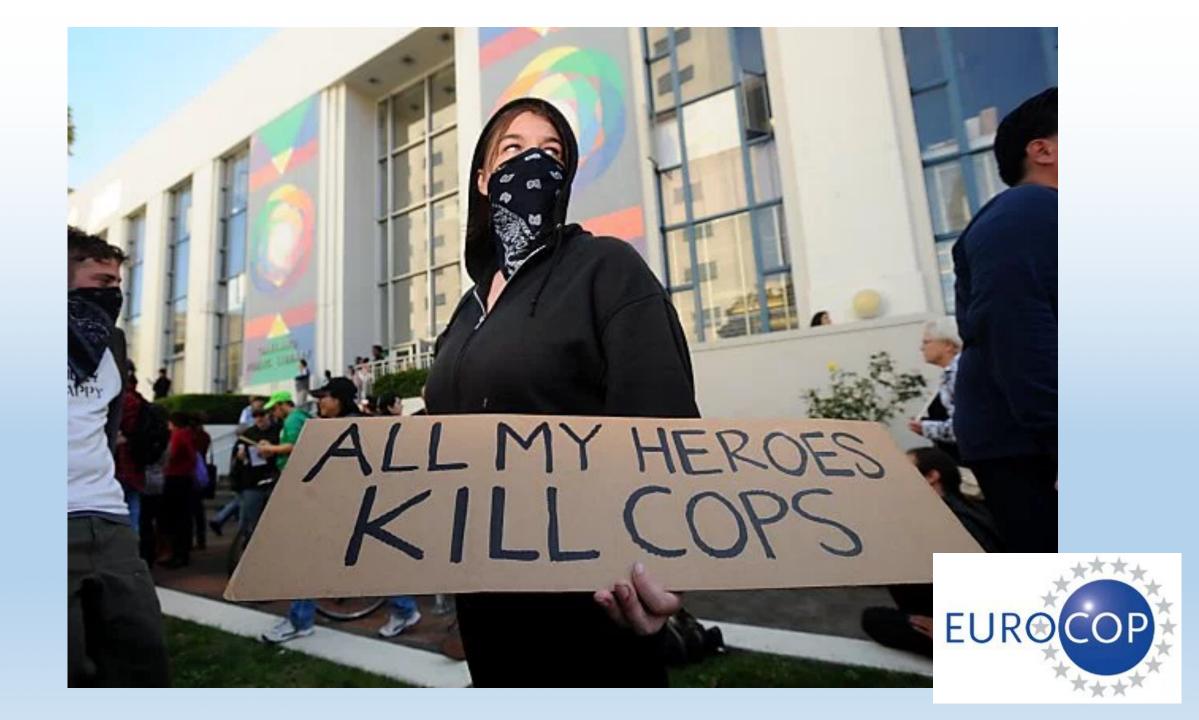


" Police officers kill **more** Americans than terrorism, yet we've been asked to sacrifice our most sacred rights for fear of falling victim to it. "

-Edward Snowden -















### BLUE LIVES

MATTER



### **Effects**

- More than just the officer
- **Permanent Injury**
- **Psychological**
- Resentment
- **End of Career**



### **Police Responses**

- Support?
- Welfare?
- Learning?
- Training
- **Equipment?**
- Blame?



# **Political Responses**

**Anger & Outrage** 

Blame

**Photo Opportunities** 

**Tough Talking** 

**New Laws** 

**Tougher Sentences** 



## **Police Unions**

### **Reactive or Proactive**

**Member expectations** 

**Evidence** 

Wider factors

**Evidence** 



# Violence against police officers <u>is</u> an occupational hazard



### **Questions?**

