NETHERLANDS

The Netherlands (Dutch: Nederland) the main constituent country of the Kingdom of the Netherlands is a member of the European Union since 1 January 1958. It is in Western Europe bordered by Germany to the east, Belgium to the south, and the North Sea to the northwest, sharing maritime borders with Belgium, the United Kingdom, and Germany.

CAPITAL
Amsterdam

POPULATION
16.5 million

AREA
41,526 km²

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Dutch Police

The Dutch police organisation is made up of 25 regional forces, together with the Netherlands Police Agency (KLPD), which operates at the national level. Each regional police force is in turn divided into a number of districts or divisions. Authority over the police is shared between two Ministers (the Minister of the Interior and the Minister of Justice), on the one hand, and the provincial and municipal authorities on the other. The Minister of the Interior is responsible for arms length management of the regional police forces and for direct management of the KLPD. Where this involves the enforcement of criminal law, the Minister takes decisions jointly with the Minister of Justice. In municipalities, the competent authority for maintaining public order

CONTACT DETAILS

WEBSITE:
Dutch Police
Dutch Police Twitter
Dutch Police Facebook
Dutch Police YouTube

TELEPHONE
0900-8844
or providing assistance in emergencies is the mayor. At provincial level, this is the Queens Commissioner. The main functions of the police are to maintain public order and security, provide assistance to those who need it, enforce criminal law, and perform policing duties for the judicial authorities.

Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment's Information and Investigation Service (VROM-IOD)

The special investigation services perform the following tasks:

- maintaining the legal order in policy areas falling under a specific minister;
- maintaining the legal order, on request, in policy areas falling under a different minister;
- investigating criminal acts that come to light during performance of the first two tasks. The public prosecutor may also request that a special investigative service investigate other criminal acts.

Public Prosecution Service (Openbaar Ministerie)

The Public Prosecution Service is responsible for investigating and prosecuting criminal offences, and is the only body that may bring suspects before the criminal courts. The Service works closely with the police and other investigative services. Each investigation is led by a public prosecutor, as its representative. Not only does the Service have final responsibility for investigations, it also monitors the proper execution of court judgments. Like judges, public prosecutors are members of the judiciary.

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Special Investigation Services (Bijzondere Opsporingsdiensten)

There are a number of special investigation
services in the Netherlands, with specific responsibilities. These include:

- General Inspection Services Investigation Department (AID-DO);
- Fiscal Information and Investigation Service and Economic Investigation Service (FIOD-ECD);
- Social Security Information and Investigation Service (SIOD).

The Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (Koninklijke Marechaussee)

The Royal Netherlands Marechaussee falls under the Minister of Justice (civil and military law enforcement duties), the Minister of the Interior (public order duties), and the Minister of Defence (specific military duties). The tasks of the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee include:

- carrying out policing and security duties at Schiphol and other airports;
- providing assistance to the civil police forces in maintaining public order and enforcing criminal law, including assistance in combating cross-border crime;
- enforcing immigration legislation at the external borders of the Schengen area and carrying out mobile surveillance within the Netherlands;
- assisting with the reception of asylum-seekers and the deportation of undesirable aliens and asylum-seekers who have been turned down;
- guarding (the premises of) members of the Royal Family and the prime minister;
- carrying out policing duties for the Dutch
armed forces, for foreign military personnel stationed in the Netherlands, and for international military headquarters;

- carrying out policing duties at sites under the control of the Ministry of Defence.