

Dear IFPO Europe members, fellow CPO's, CPOI's and CSSM's

As the year 2012 is rapidly coming to its end, although I genuinely hope not to the full extend of the Mayan Calendar at the 21st of December. We are uniform in our thoughts and desires and thus tend to look back at what has happened and subsequently look forward to our future in 2013. Be it professionally or privately, some of us have experienced remarkable achievements, starting up businesses and projects, as others may have met with hard times, loosing family, friends or jobs.

However personal things may have been, we've managed to stay "on track" and "maintain our bearing" something many have not been able to achieve.

For that I salute you and hope we'll meet next year.

As for "The World around us" things seem to take a turn for the worse, the general view on soccer is obscured by our thoughts reflecting the death of a linesman, an act of useless and utter shameful violence. But there's more, the violence towards, Senior Citizens, minorities in our Society, the verbal, sometimes even physical outrage towards Relief-Workers and Police are only some of the things that spring to mind.

We, in the Security-Business, are sometimes just as much on the receiving end of all of this and are just as "helpless" for there's NO justification in "Eye for an eye"

As we focus our attention towards people of our own age, for a variety of reasons, we are now increasingly confronted with the badgering and bullying of our youths, by our youths, in our society, resulting in the recent suicides of two youngsters.

There are however also achievements in a positive sense, reflecting the efforts of so many towards so few, resolving "the Marianne Vaatstra dossier" being one of them.

The tolerant society stands abreast the loss of tolerance by minorities, towards our culture and heritage, the rise of separatism and change of cultural values, many things of sometimes little to no effect, can eventually grow out of proportion to a reason for clashes among people and groups. This is the field of expertise we work in, just as much as it is "the field we work"

With this in mind, I would like to take the opportunity, both on behalf of my fellow Board members of IFPO Europe and myself,to wish You ALL, your Families, Friends and Loved Ones, all the best, a merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and most of all safe and secure 2013.

Ik wens U allen, mede namens mijn collega bestuursleden een vrolijk Kerstfeest en een voorspoedig en gelukkig 2013.

Ich wünsche Ihnen allen, auch im Namen meiner Vorstandkollegen ein frohes Weihnachtsfest und ein glückliches und erfolgreiches 2013.

Je vous souhaite, au nom de mes collègues membres du conseil un joyeux Noel et une bonne et heureuse 2013.

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