NZP, n.d. [c]

peacekeeping

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Leader of the first Timor-Leste NZ Police Contingent, Grant O'Fee donates a soccer ball to a group of children.

Map of Timor Leste

New Zealand police officers were deployed to East Timor in 1999, in response to the region's request for assistance following a series of violent incidents.

The deployment of NZPOL follows years of conflict and is intended to provide vital support to the local police force (PNTL) in the capital Dili.

Nine months later, however, a serious rift developed between the NZPOL and the PNTL. The NZPOL were deployed to East Timor to support the UN's efforts to stabilize the region.

The NZ police contingent is currently working with the UN's International Security Force (ISF) in the area of Becon, east of Dili to restore order to the country.

General tasks

After the April 2006 riots, New Zealand police joined the International Assistance Force (IAF), which contains members from the Royal Malaysian Police, Australian Federal Police, Australian Defence Force, NZ Defence Force and Portugal's paramilitary police to undertake the following tasks:

- crime prevention and community safety
- investigations and operations
- training and development
- administration, oversight and strategy including financial, human resource and logistics and asset management.

Timeline

- 1999 - NZ Police joins the United Nations Transitional Authority in East Timor (UNTAET) to help prepare Timor for independence.
- 2001 - NZ Police withdraw from East Timor after the UNTAET operation comes to an end.
- May 2002 - East Timor becomes an independent nation under President Xanana Gusmao. It is re-named Timor Leste.
- 2005 - The UN reduces numbers in the region.
- 2006 - NZ Police are deployed to Timor Leste following riots in the capital of Dili.

Related sites

- Current peacekeeping operations - United Nations
- Timor-Leste - Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Timor Leste - New Zealand Defence Force

https://www.police.govt.nz/