

MOPED MEETS "mopo miitit"

NVF webinar Improving Road Safety for Young Drivers 8.3.2023

Tuomo Katajisto

Chief superintendent

National Police Board





General features of moped meets

- In major cities
- Friday- or saturday nights from May to October
- 50-1000 participants
- Not just mopeds, also cars and motorbikes
- Traffic jamming
- Compromising driving behaviour
- Collisions
- Disturbing noise
- Only 2 deaths in five years, less than 30 injured, last year 7 injured





The aim of the police

- to intervene in advance in dangerous, disruptive and generally unlawful activities
- to address the negative and reprehensible dangerous individual acts detected as efficiently and effectively as possible
- to prevent disadvantages caused by the meet
- to maintain the flow of traffic, public order and safety and to prevent crimes



The means of the police

- Advance intelligence activities
- Encouraging organizers to make a public event announcement to the police (The Turku model) as required by the Assembly act
- Effective intervention in mopeds and other vehicles in the afternoon before the meet.
- Settling along the routes used by the participants
- Documentation by using UAV and patrol vehicle cameras
- Sufficient resources and suitable equipment to catch the worst offenders
- Use of media to expand the impact of traffic enforcement



Challenges

- The attitude towards the police has become more violent (at least in some cities)
- Police resources, specially if needed on short notice
- Means to direct the convoy to a less harmfull route
- Establishing announcement prosedure among organizers
- Preventing the action from getting out of hands
- Best practices still under development



Wishes toward participants and other parties

- Organizers to obey assembly act
- Participants to comply with traffic rules
- Parents to offer boundaries, interest and love to their children
- Municipal youth services to provide information, support and good practices for young people
- Road administrators to provide transferable traffic control devices
- Other road users to be patient



Questions?

tuomo.katajisto@poliisi.fi

