

# The Institute for Science and Research Institut für Wissenschaft und Forschung (IWF)

Dept. II/5 - Security Academy (SIAK) of the Federal Ministry of the Interior



## THE INSTITUTE

Research projects that are of relevance for the Austrian Ministry of the Interior are promoted, coordinated and/or carried out by the institute. Main topics of interest are: security policing strategies, police science, criminal psychology and forensic psychiatry, forensic research, terrorism, as well as integration and migration related subjects.

The institute was founded in 2003 with a staff of three. Meanwhile, the team of the IWF consists of twelve members, coming from various scientific disciplines such as: political science, philosophy, psychology, biology, communication science and history.

Scientific cooperation with academic or applied national and international research centres is a main concern for the institute. The institute supports and promotes basic and advanced education for topics of criminal law, based on the general training program for police officers of the security academy (.SIAK). International research is supported within the framework of CEPOL and other related organisations. Additionally, the members of the institute refer at national and international meetings about their special fields of research. Services that are provided for Austrian police forces include:

### *Information management*

- The IWF screens scientific findings for their relevance and adapts them for police training and education;
- The IWF participates in CEPOL' s e-Library aiming to facilitate access to the pertinent literature for security related items.

### *Research coordination and implementation*

- The institute applies for national and international research projects, manages their progress and cooperates with national and international partners. The results of such studies can assist in the development of improvement strategies for public security.

An important focus for the IWF is the management of the .SIAK Library: This scientific library, located in the Traiskirchen Educational Centre, provides access for police and civilian officers to current literature on topics of security. The library is a member of the Austrian libraries network (Österreichischer Bibliothekenverbund). The collection contains modern literature on many fields of security policing with special emphasis on police science.

The institute distributes a newsletter, An electronic service that lists recent articles in various fields of criminology from selected journals. Copies of these articles can be ordered from the library, as a service to police and civilian officers of the ministry. It is published six times a year;

Several journals are edited/published by the institute. The .SIAK Journal is a quarterly scientific journal for police sciences (German/English), including a periodical on administrative science (Österreichische Verwaltungswissenschaftliche Blätter - ISSN 1813-3495). This journal attempts to integrate the results of diverse scientific disciplines with relevance to police work, thus trying to improve policy decisions and actions for public security. Important parameters and trends influencing public security in Austria and Europe are presented by specialists of the respective fields. The journal also offers an opportunity for scientists and practitioners to share their knowledge and to augment the interaction between theory and practice.

The Scientific Series covers monographies on contemporary problems of security policing (in english) and appears at irregular publishing intervals. In this series, selected papers of closely related topics from the .SIAK Journal are published together for an international audience. The aim is to promote the scientific exchange of opinions related to specific security problems. So far, the following topics have been selected:

- Müller T: Criminal Psychology in Crime Scene Analysis. BM.I/.SIAK/IWF, Wien, (2007) - ISBN: 9783950230307

- Farschid O, Grundmann J, Inan A, Feiler M: Islamic Extremism – Ideology and Modes of Dissemination. BM.I./SIAK/IWF, Wien, (2008) - ISBN: 9783950230314
- Beer S, G é mes A, Mindler U, Muigg M: Austria's Secret and Intelligence Services. BM.I./SIAK/IWF, Wien, (2009) - ISBN: 9783950230321

Quite recently, a book has also been published in this series, as this topic has continuously attracted attention and had to be covered in more detail than articles in a journal would permit:

- Janda A, Leitner N, Vogl M (eds.): Chechens in the European Union. BM.I & Österr. Integrationsfonds, Wien, (2008) - ISBN: 9783950251913

Publications of in-depth analyses of other general interest security issues are planned for the future. For further information, contact:

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