
Note from the editors

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This winter 2016 edition of the bulletin comes shortly after the CEPOL 2016 Research and Science Conference in Budapest, which was focused on global trends in law enforcement training and education. For this edition, we have picked some papers that focused on global law enforcement issues — crime solvability, community policing, stress management and leadership. The other articles address national security versus privacy in the European Union's Member States, police relations with football supporters in Denmark, police decision-making at major events in Portugal, police part-time leadership in Baden-Württemberg (Germany) and forensics research in Greece (on approaching distance shooting and the type of discharged firearm). There will be a special edition bulletin in 2017, along with other papers on training and education that were presented at the conference.

The 2016 Budapest conference was, like the 2015 Lisbon conference before it, a major international police conference, with speakers from across the world alongside European police leaders, practitioners and academics. The conference emphasised the important role that European police science can and does play in the development of policing across the globe. Moreover, the presentations by the Director-Generals of Interpol and Europol, which will feature in full in the special edition, highlighted that the most significant current and future challenges for policing — terrorism, people trafficking and cyber-crimes — are challenges that require international collaboration and international research.

The CEPOL conferences have become an increasingly important meeting place for ideas and an event which brings practice and academia together. The growth and development of the conference since the early days of a much smaller group meeting in an airport hotel is an important sign of the wider developments in international networks to link police practitioners, researchers and policymakers. A number of these are worth highlighting:

- The Society of Evidence-Based Policing (SEBP): This started in the UK and has now spread to the USA, Canada and Australasia. The society is a free membership organisation, with each branch run by a mixture of practitioners and academics (<http://www.sebp.police.uk/home>). There is an opportunity to extend it into Europe either with a European SEBP or nationally-based SEBPs.
- The Campbell Collaboration on Crime and Justice: The Campbell Collaboration is a network of academics and practitioners focused on building knowledge and better practice through systematic reviews of evidence. The Campbell Library (<https://www.campbellcollaboration.org>) now has more than 25 systematic reviews on police strategies (for example, hotspots policing, restorative justice, problem-solving and forensics) and 'plain language summaries' (which are being translated into a range of languages) of the full reviews.
- Policing networks in the major international criminology societies: The European Society of Criminology Policing Network, the British Society of Criminology Policing Network and the American Society of Criminology — Division of Policing have all been created within the last decade as networks to bring academic researchers in policing and practitioners involved in research together.
- As the Budapest conference highlighted, police education and training in Europe has been changing rapidly over the last decade. More police officers are completing postgraduate and even doctoral studies and, thereby, producing more practice-based research. Not enough of this is published to the international policing community. The bulletin provides one such opportunity and the networks above provide a further means of sharing. Particularly where the problems police are faced with are transnational or international, there is a professional duty on all of us involved in police practice and police research to share and contribute to our global knowledge about better policing.

