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# RESEARCH METHODOLOGY APPLIED TO TEACHING IN THE SPANISH GUARDIA CIVIL



By

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## Abstract

*The main objective of this document is to explain what the Spanish Guardia Civil is doing in the field of research within an educational context. At present the Spanish Guardia Civil is developing research programs through the SPANISH NATIONAL SECURITY RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATION UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE (IUISI). In this paper, the scientific approach to research in the academic context is outlined. An analysis of the thematic areas studied and archived since 1982 is explained and the areas of interest to the Guardia Civil for future research are indicated. The reader will learn the phases necessary for framing a research project within the Guardia Civil's lines of investigation and for successfully completing and submitting a 'Directed Academic Paper'.*

**Key Words:** Guardia Civil, IUISI-Spanish National Security Research and Investigation University Institute, Research Methodology.

The aim of this document is to present in an international context the research activities that the Guardia Civil is developing in the educational realm.

In the current academic programme for higher level students in the Guardia Civil (Orden Ministerial Decree dated 15 February 1996), a student must obtain 10 credits (100 academic hours) for their research project, during the fourth and fifth year enabling them to pass the five year curriculum. The research project, also known as the Academic Directed Paper ('Trabajo Académico Dirigido' or 'TAD', in Spanish) follows a scientific methodology that has been modified over the years in order to conform to the current requirements of any and all Spanish universities at which this kind of investigation is performed.

The Officers Academy of the Guardia Civil (AOGC for its abbreviation in Spanish), where the upper level studies take place, has historically wanted its students to accomplish an investigative paper of this type before they left the Academy with the rank of lieutenant in the Guardia Civil. Since 1982 all such final projects have been archived and are now available through a database.

The Guardia Civil<sup>2</sup> has demonstrated that it has a special interest in promoting 'programmes of investigation' within teaching and research centres. In order to develop these investigation programmes, the Spanish Ministry of the Interior has sought to form partnerships and alliances amongst different educational and research institutions, both civil and military, within Spain and abroad. As a result of these efforts, an agreement was signed on October 17, 2002, between the Ministry of the Interior (in the area of the Guardia Civil) and the National University of Distance Education (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia-

UNED) in order to create the IUISI ('Instituto Universitario de Investigación sobre Seguridad Interior' or University Research Institute for Internal Security).<sup>3</sup>

In 2008 the IUISI published a book entitled 'Research Methodology Applied to Teaching and Decision-Making in the Guardia Civil'.<sup>4</sup> One part of the book is dedicated to analyzing the bases of investigation in an Internal Security context; and the other part serves as a step by step guide to conducting the research projects in accordance with all the teaching regulations in the Guardia Civil, which include the criteria established in the European Space of Superior Education and the Bologna accords.



Proposed below are some of the driving notions in education research generally, presented here as examples and as philosophic principles. Those will illustrate the manner in which to conduct research in the educational field of the Guardia Civil:



- From an empirical and analytic approach or perspective - Establishing cause and effect relationships with the objective of explaining, predicting, and managing the phenomena that occur as part of the formative curriculum in the Guardia Civil, bearing in mind the lines of investigation proposed by the AOGC.
- From an interpretative and systemic approach or perspective -Comprehending meanings, specifically of the phenomena that take place in the intervention between educational and operative contexts, with the objective being to discover how it is that people perceive, process, attribute, interact, and modify the proceedings in which they are involved.
- From an investigation-action approach or perspective - Evaluating the implementation of best practices and searching for solutions, with the goal of resolving problems while avoiding overgeneralization, and improving the implementation in every context and situation.

Investigation in the field of internal security is multi-methodological in its approach. Studies of this type are necessarily complex because of their multi-discipline nature; they are particularly so in this field due to the peculiar relationship between the researcher and the objects or procedures under investigation.

We arrive at the analysis of complex processes when we consider the concept of public safety in both internal and external contexts. There is citizen safety to consider, to be sure. However, the personnel element itself moves to the forefront as the Guardia Civil becomes a fundamental protagonist in the construction of its own security.

This concept of internal security entails a profound transformation of the Guardia Civil by the corps of police responsible for the change. The transformation is reflected in their objectives, structures, ways of intervention, professional credentials of their personnel and, specifically, in the management of the service organizations, in terms of quality and efficiency.

With any of the three approaches, information-gathering is vital. Consulting sources is basic and non-negotiable in starting any type of investigation.

The consultation and review of previous papers in general and the use of previous works and studies is vital to focus the problem the student is going to study. In order to begin and delimitate our work, and to prevent the dissemination of previously acquired knowledge, a consultation of previous bibliographies is recommended. Our goal is to establish synergies and, above all, to present new ideas at the end of the work.

Towards this goal, it should be known that from 1982 to 2009 there have been 1258 finished investigation works in the AOGC. These works have been grouped and classified into 28 different subject areas to make them most accessible from the database of the CEPOL 'e-library' (the former eDoc in CEPOL). From a simple analysis we can observe the following information:

<sup>1</sup> Guardia Civil collaborator in the fields of research and investigation. Spanish National Security Research and Investigation University Institute (IUISI). This educational branch belongs to the national distance learning university of Spain (UNED).

<sup>2</sup> [www.guardiacivil.org](http://www.guardiacivil.org).

## ANALYSIS OF THE DATA

As we can observe, in the time period between 1982 and 2009 the most studied area was 'Terrorism and Subversion', whereas the least treated area was 'Recruitment'. Thirty-eight percent of the research projects presented were in the top three areas of 'Terrorism and Subversion', 'Management/Organisation', and 'Investigation Methods', whereas the categories of 'Corruption', 'Victimisation' and 'Recruitment' combined represent only 0.64 % of the total.

It is of interest to remark that, for example, the area concerning 'Illegal Immigration and Border Control' has only evoked an interest of 2.2 % in the researches, notwithstanding the fact that this topic has acquired significant interest in recent years. Similar discrepancies between current interest and the level of actual research being conducted is seen as well with the areas of 'Community Policing', 'Forensics/Evidence', 'Organized Crime' and 'Juvenile Crime'.

At the time of this writing the investigation team is studying the relationships that exist between the increasing interest of certain thematic areas with the events occurring in real life—internally or externally—at the Guardia Civil. The studies that are being developed within the context of CEPOL in the field of methodology and teaching will no doubt soon be reflected in the research activity at the AOGC as well.

Hereafter we present the phases of the elaboration of the investigational works and the 'lines of investigation' established by the Direction of the AOGC and the IUISI.

### Phases of the elaboration of the investigative work

The student must pass through certain 'phases' in the elaboration of the research project, also known at the formative level as the Academic Directed Work ('Trabajo Académico Dirigido' or 'TAD', in Spanish). These phases should be understood in detail, as a time sequence is implied and concrete tasks must be executed. During the two last years of the training the following phases are realized:

CEPOL thematic area	Number of Investigative Works at the AOGC	%
Terrorism, Subversion	194	15.42%
Management / Organization	147	11.69%
Investigation Methods / Actuation	142	11.29%
Research	106	8.43%
Judicial / Penal Matters	105	8.35%
Police Cooperation	82	6.52%
Strategies of Policing	53	4.21%
Police Ethics, Rights and Duties	47	3.74%
Crime Prevention	46	3.66%
Drug Issues, Smuggling	45	3.58%
Forensics / Evidence	45	3.58%
Education / Training	35	2.78%
Organized Crime	34	2.70%
Police Science	30	2.38%
Illegal Immigration, Border Control	28	2.23%
Community Policing	23	1.83%
Abuse of Children and Women	18	1.43%
Public Order	18	1.43%
Juvenile Crime	12	0.95%
Police Leadership	11	0.87%
Criminal Justice Cooperation	9	0.72%
Police-Public relations	7	0.56%
Human Trafficking	5	0.40%
Police Corruption	4	0.32%
Police-Minorities Relations	4	0.32%
Corruption	3	0.24%
Victimisation	3	0.24%
Recruitment	2	0.16%
Total	1258	100.00 %

PHASE 1: Knowledge is gained in: (1) research methodology; (2) oral expression techniques; and (3) the preparation, realization and delivery of the research project.

PHASE 2: Proposal for research project (TAD) is presented; partial grade for the course.

PHASE 3: Revisions to the proposal are made and authorization for the project is obtained; selection of a Director for the TAD.

PHASE 4: Elaboration of the TAD (the research and writing thereof); follow-up with the Director; control, orientation and evaluation.

PHASE 5: Submission of: (1) the TAD, (2) index cards, (3) authorization and (4) list of proposed experts for the committee.

PHASE 6: Multimedia presentation; evaluation of the TAD and of the course.

## AREAS OF INVESTIGATION FOR THE RESEARCH PROJECTS

The proposals of the TADs (projects of investigation) should be of interest to the Guardia Civil, and they should fit within one of the following areas as proposed by the AOGC:

- 'Society, the Guardia Civil, the Police Corps in the present day': analysis of the social phenomena in which the Guardia Civil has been affected; public image of the police corps, communication, etc.
- 'Organization of the Guardia Civil': internal problems; deployment; personnel; disciplinary regulation; training, etc.
- 'Missions of the Guardia Civil': assessment of citizen security; application of new technologies; current problems; the future; judicial police; financial issues; borders, etc.

Additionally, the IUSI, following the suggestions of the General Direction of the Guardia Civil, proposes some more lines of investigation at a more general level:

- 'Application of innovative technologies in the different fields of the community policing'.
- 'Quality management in the Guardia Civil'.
- 'Prevention of labour risks'.
- 'The phenomenon of immigration in Spain'.
- 'Other fields/areas in public security'.

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<sup>3</sup> [www.iusi.es](http://www.iusi.es).

<sup>4</sup> García Palomero, I., y Moure Colón, F., (2008): Metodología de la investigación aplicada a la enseñanza y la toma de decisiones en la Guardia Civil, las Fuerzas Armadas y otras Fuerzas de Seguridad del Estado. Madrid: IUSI.



# LASSO: LINKAGE ANALYSIS OF SERIOUS SEXUAL OFFENCES

## A DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR CRIME ANALYSTS AND INVESTIGATORS



By

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### Abstract

One of the first and most important considerations when investigating a serious sexual offence is to see if the offence can be linked to others. If a link can be established then there is a very considerable dividend in terms of new evidence and lines of enquiry to be followed. It also raises what is already a serious incident to a higher level of significance with a corresponding increase in the resources allotted to investigation of the series of crimes. Computerised decision support systems which employ techniques from Artificial Intelligence are widely used in business and finance to assist practitioners in arriving at justifiable conclusions. In principle this is no different from the activities of a crime analyst or investigator in finding likely matches for a current crime in the overall set of crimes.

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### Aims of the Study

The aim of the study is to develop a computerised decision support system that can be used by crime analysts and investigators to suggest links between stranger rapes. It is intended that the characteristics of the crime under investigation can be entered into an easy to use computer interface and that the system will then be able to search its database of existing crimes and display a number of offences that have strong similarities.

The desirability of developing computer-based tools for linkage analysis has been recognised by the leading researcher into linking serious sexual offences:

*“The ultimate goal is to create a computer-based screening system that will allow routine and systematic comparison of serious offences on a national basis, selecting cases on the basis of their behavioural similarity that are appropriate for more detailed attention by detectives or crime analyst”*

Grubin (2000)

This viewpoint is acknowledged throughout the literature and it is recognised that the construction of a linkage tool is the necessary condition to progress this undertaking.

*“The development and test of theories and implementation of findings into computer-based, decision-support systems ... has to be the proper basis for any professional derivation of inferences about offenders.”*

Canter (2000)

It is interesting that here Canter widens the scope of computerised systems to include the possibility of inferring offender characteristics, the process known more widely as ‘offender profiling’ and the subject of a great deal of crime literature and Hollywood output.



Currently there are two computer systems that dominate the area of crime linkage: ViCAP – the Violent Crime Apprehension Program and ViCLAS, Violent Crime Linkage System. ViCAP is the creation of the FBI at Quantico and has been in existence in differing forms since 1985. ViCLAS was developed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in the early 1990's as an extension to the earlier system; The RCMP license ViCLAS, for a fee, and maintain control over it ; it is used in many EU jurisdictions : Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherland and the United Kingdom. ViCLAS is also used in Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland and some states in the US.

Both these systems were developed primarily by practitioners, psychologists and criminologists and are essentially repositories of data which depend very much on the skill, training and experience of the user. The influence of Computer Scientists has been slight and there has been no involvement by researchers in A.I or Decision Support. As a result none of the advances that have been made in these areas are incorporated in either system and they remain essentially unchanged in the last 20 – 25 years.

There is a notable disparity between the amount of effort that police agencies invest in gathering and recording information that relates to these serious offences and the amount which has been expended on developing the computer systems onto which it is entered. ViCAP and ViCLAS are passive; the work spent in filling the database is not reciprocated by any corresponding functionality in the system. An effective crime linkage decision support system should and can assist the user in investigating the crime by using effective computer science technology to recommend answers to the questions : 'Which crimes are similar to this?' , ' How strong is the similarity?' and 'What are the factors that are most similar and most dissimilar between this set of crimes'.

## Methodology

Fuzzy set theory (Zadeh 1965) is a well established approach in the field of Artificial Intelligence that can deal with imprecise or vague concepts such as 'young', 'old', 'tall', 'short' etc. These descriptions are defined as 'fuzzy sets', i.e. they are not specifications which have a yes or no answer. So a suspect described as 1.80m in height does not have to be either 'tall' or 'short' but can be accorded a degree of both qualities; in this case he could be 0.9 tall and

0.1 short. Or a person 35 years old could be 0.3 'young', 0.6 'middle-aged' and 0.1 'old'. This type of characterisation sits well with our own perceptions of what are known as linguistic variables in fuzzy set theory and give a richer picture of what we seek to describe. Most of all they allot meaningful numbers to the types of descriptions which we deal with in defining crimes.

The result is that a common description of a crime such as: "*A very violent attack on a middle-aged woman by a young man*" can be represented by a number of co-ordinates so that the degree of violence, middle-age and youth can be compared with other crimes. Consequently crimes and criminals can be described in highly descriptive terms and procedures to discover what the most significant differentiating features are, using mathematically and logically sound methods, can be undertaken. We have been fortunate in being successful in obtaining data on 545 serious sexual offences from the Serious Crimes Analysis Section of the U.K National Police Improvement Agency. We have excluded those offences that do not relate to serial rapes, by which we mean a set of rapes committed by a single individual, resulting in a much narrower dataset (n =110, development set n =83, test = 27) .

As a starting point we have adopted the dimensions identified as significant in the research undertaken by Grubin et al (2000) in linking serious sexual offences through behaviour: Sex, Control and Escape. Sex comprises 13 variables relating to the sexual assault; Control has 20 variables that define the controlling actions that the offender uses to subdue the victim and Escape ( 11 variables ) includes those actions that the attacker adopts to ensure that he leaves a minimum of evidence at the scene , e.g. binding and blindfolding.

## Results

The consequences of assigning a single set of numbers to a crime are far reaching. A great number of techniques can be employed to represent similarity between crimes and also to look for clusters of crimes. The fuzzy c-means algorithm ( Bezdek 1981 ) looks for clusters in data and allows the user to specify the number of input dimensions and output. Table 1 shows the results where the three input dimensions of 'Sex', 'Control' and 'Escape have been input and three clusters specified. The double lines indicate series boundaries, i.e. crimes committed by

the same offender, so it can be seen that three of the four crimes in the first series belong entirely in cluster 'C' while both crimes in the last series have very high memberships of cluster 'B'

Overall 88% of crimes were assigned to a cluster with > 80% degree of membership and 15 of the 28 series were assigned to a single cluster at 80% membership or more.

This demonstrates a far greater degree of consistency within series than the Grubin study which is the only comparable research in this area.

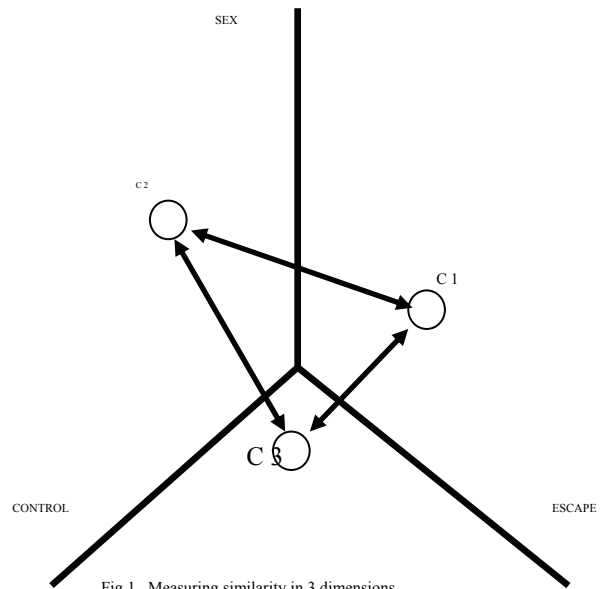


Fig 1. Measuring similarity in 3 dimensions

In Table 2 we've described the average distance between crimes as the value 'close' and then measured the degree of closeness between each crime in the dataset. The first three series are shown comprising fourteen crimes of length five, three and six offences; degrees of closeness greater than 0.6 are in bold.

There is a strong degree of closeness (> 0.6) between four crimes in the series 1 to 5 and all of the crimes in the second series, 6 to 8. The associations in the third series are less successful, but useful associations do exist. For instance crime 12 only has only two strong links but they are both with crime in the same series, 11 and 14. The result is to develop a structured search strategy for analysts and investigators from one crime to those other crimes that are likely be linked to it.

	A	B	C
c28	0.00	0.00	<b>1.00</b>
c29	0.00	0.00	<b>1.00</b>
c30	0.00	0.00	<b>1.00</b>
c31	0.00	0.39	0.60
c32	0.04	0.01	<b>0.95</b>
c33	0.00	0.00	<b>1.00</b>
c34	0.45	0.01	0.54
c35	0.00	0.00	<b>1.00</b>
c36	0.00	<b>1.00</b>	0.00
c37	0.00	<b>0.99</b>	0.01
c38	0.02	<b>0.98</b>	0.00
c39	0.03	<b>0.97</b>	0.01

**Conclusion**

The need for a computerised decision support system to assist in linking serious crimes has been identified and the current systems in use shown to be inadequate. Established techniques from Artificial Intelligence, in particular fuzzy set theory, can be applied to crime linkage and have been shown to produce promising results. This could be further developed to set the area on a sound theoretical base and introduce the possibility of profiling offenders by discovering similar offender characteristics in linked crimes.

table 1. crime membership 3 clusters

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	1.00	<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.75</b>	0.45	<b>0.80</b>	<b>0.69</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.76</b>	<b>0.81</b>	0.13	0.26	0.51	0.47
2	<b>0.87</b>	1.00	<b>0.76</b>	0.35	<b>0.79</b>	<b>0.73</b>	<b>0.86</b>	<b>0.64</b>	<b>0.79</b>	<b>0.78</b>	0.12	0.23	0.48	0.41
3	<b>0.75</b>	<b>0.76</b>	1.00	0.45	<b>0.64</b>	0.58	<b>0.76</b>	0.41	<b>0.97</b>	<b>0.71</b>	0.33	0.44	0.45	<b>0.59</b>
4	0.45	0.35	0.45	1.00	0.32	0.19	0.31	0.08	0.43	0.39	0.21	0.35	0.41	<b>0.60</b>
5	<b>0.80</b>	<b>0.79</b>	<b>0.64</b>	0.32	1.00	<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.85</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>0.89</b>	0.11	0.23	0.32	0.41
6	<b>0.69</b>	<b>0.73</b>	0.58	0.19	<b>0.87</b>	1.00	<b>0.82</b>	<b>0.69</b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>0.80</b>	0.08	0.19	0.22	0.33
7	<b>0.80</b>	<b>0.86</b>	<b>0.76</b>	0.31	<b>0.85</b>	<b>0.82</b>	1.00	<b>0.61</b>	<b>0.79</b>	<b>0.85</b>	0.19	0.30	0.35	0.45
8	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.64</b>	0.41	0.08	<b>0.68</b>	<b>0.69</b>	<b>0.61</b>	1.00	0.43	0.57	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.10
9	<b>0.76</b>	<b>0.79</b>	<b>0.97</b>	0.43	<b>0.67</b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>0.79</b>	0.43	1.00	<b>0.74</b>	0.32	0.43	0.44	0.58
10	<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>0.71</b>	0.39	<b>0.89</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>0.85</b>	0.57	<b>0.74</b>	1.00	0.21	0.34	0.32	0.52
11	0.13	0.12	0.33	0.21	0.11	0.08	0.19	0.00	0.32	0.21	1.00	<b>0.84</b>	0.00	0.58
12	0.26	0.23	0.44	0.35	0.23	0.19	0.30	0.00	0.43	0.34	<b>0.84</b>	1.00	0.00	<b>0.73</b>
13	0.51	0.48	0.45	0.41	0.32	0.22	0.35	0.29	0.44	0.32	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.21
14	0.47	0.41	<b>0.59</b>	<b>0.60</b>	0.41	0.33	0.45	0.10	0.58	0.52	0.58	<b>0.73</b>	0.21	1.00

table 2. Degree of 'closeness' between crimes

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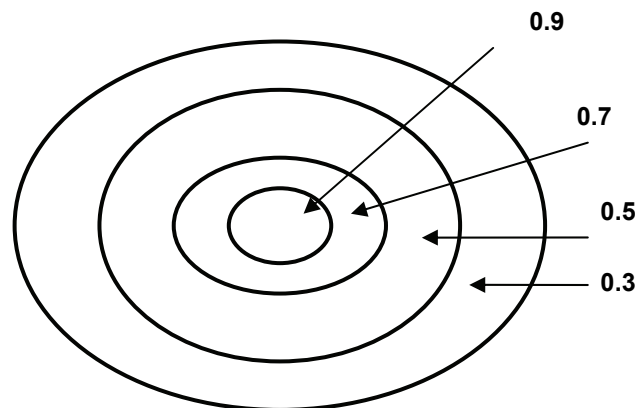


Fig 2 Closeness to the index crime

## A BRAVE POLICE FORCE DESERVES COURAGEOUS SCIENTISTS

AFTER-DINNER ADDRESS AT CEPOL POLICE RESEARCH AND  
SCIENCE CONFERENCE 2009

**BERNARD WELTEN**, CHIEF CONSTABLE OF THE  
DUTCH POLICE FORCE AMSTERDAM-AMSTELLAND



The title of this conference is 'Future policing in Europe: A shared agenda for research' and I am pleased that the organizers of this conference think I am able to say something meaningful about this subject. Whether or not this will be the case is of course for you to judge after my speech, but there can be no doubt that I find the subject of crucial importance for future policing.

### **Science and policing in a fast changing world**

Science and policing used to be far apart. Policing was (and of course to a great extent still is) primarily about crime fighting and safer neighbourhoods and science is about theoretically explaining things we do not understand yet. Policing used to be only mildly interesting from a scientists' perspective: the police had some well defined tasks (primarily upholding the law) in a relative stable world. However, technological en societal change has accelerated considerably in the second half of the twentieth century and does not seem to slow down; now or in the foreseeable future. If we compare the concerns and operations of police forces today with only ten years ago, a totally new world of policing has emerged. The programme of this conference is a good indication, with issues like fundamental shifts in the function and organisation of policing, policing cyberspace, radicalisation, techno-policing, knowledge led policing, private policing and dealing with diversity.

These issues have in common that adequately dealing with them presupposes understanding technological en societal change. At the same time a police force is not research institution and there is an urgent need to act in face of current societal problems. Thus an intimate relation with science is necessary for problem solving in a fast changing world. We need to be aware of what is happening around us and we need to be innovative while at the same time the pressure tot come up with concrete results is rising. And – perhaps most importantly – we need to organize critical reflection on our ideas and operations to prevent us from taking a wrong turn and sticking to it to long. In an information and network society a police force can not wait for directions of others about what to do, we are supposed to know ourselves what is needed to reach the objectives that are expected from us.

### **Science and policing: history and current state of affairs**

As a police officer I first learned to appreciate the value of science as a consequence of my relations with the Technical University in Delft. This resulted in hiring a for the police force atypical group of people who still play an important role today in our force with regard to technological development and intelligence led policing. Today, a lot of strange characters are contributing to security in the Amsterdam-Amstelland police force, and (senior) officers regard it as necessary and normal to constantly educate themselves in connection with various universities. Luckily, the love of the police for science was not a one-way street. Science and scientists also discovered policing as a subject worthwhile of attention. Police science has developed into a mature field with a growing number of students and valuable publications. And the Dutch police – the combined 25 Dutch police forces – has truly become a 'thinking organization' with a common vision (with the title *The police in evolution*) and a shared strategy agenda containing the main themes for policing for the years to come. The relation between science and the police is also very visible at the level of

the different police forces. As an illustration I will explain the way we organised this in the Amsterdam-Amstelland police force.

### Science in the Amsterdam-Amstelland police force

On a strategic level we constructed a 'think tank' with direct function relation to the top of the organisation. We named the think tank the Agora, referring to the place where in the Greek city states matters of public importance were discussed freely and critically. The Agora is explicitly meant to be a critical forum and is supposed to contradict especially the Chief Commissioner whenever necessary. As you will understand, I will deny that contradicting me is ever necessary, but I advise every Chief Commissioner to organize his or her own independent countervailing power. At the Agora different insights and actors come together, starting of course with relevant research outside or within the police force. The themes of the strategic agenda of the Dutch police play a prominent role in structuring and further developing knowledge at the Agora. Also, there is an intimate relation with the Bureau of Management Information and Research of our police force: data are used to make our strategic (and operational) decisions information based, research is done to ensure that it is also knowledge based. The Agora is also the linking pin to the scientific community and more specific to our 'joint ventures' with Universities.

### Three chairs and related research

**First**, we participate in a chair at the University of Leuven under the title *Knowledge discovery from databases Amsterdam-Amstelland police force*. As the title suggests, this is about advanced data mining technology in order to utilise our data more effectively. Police forces have in general an enormous amount of potentially very interesting data which are only used when needed to conduct our primary task. However, these data are hardly used to understand the phenomena we are dealing with, while – as I said earlier – understanding the world and the consequences for police strategy and operations is crucial.

**Second**, together with the city of Amsterdam we participate in a chair of the Free University of Amsterdam under the title *Security and Citizenship*. The fact that we cooperate with the city of Amsterdam

in this chair is very important. As you can imagine, both the city and the police force share the ambition of making the city a safer place to live in, but their organisational logic can be different. Both parties agreed that by funding this chair they want to be confronted with insights that might not be very welcome from an organisation perspective, but that do contribute to the increase of social security.

### Example of valuable research

To give an example. In coming up with priorities there is of course close cooperation between the police force and the administration. Data play an important role in this, and there is a combined committee where the data are analysed as to facilitate the setting of priorities. We had the intuition that the analysis of the data led to looking towards the future in the rear mirror: using data about what has happened to set future priorities. The research group Security and Citizenship was asked to look at what was – as it were – behind the data: which mechanisms are at work? They came up with the idea not to analyse crime figures but to research crime inducing factors. This led to a map of Amsterdam showing where to expect a future rise of crime and which factors might be responsible for that in different areas. Depending on which factors were important with regard to which issues and areas, recommendations for the strategy and operations of both the police force and the administration could be made. Because the chair – although financed by the city and the police force – is independent the results (some of which were not opportune to either the police or the city) could be made public and got a lot of attention in the media. This makes it harder to ignore the results, also the results that might contradict current policy. Science can function as a necessary – although not always welcome – impulse for critical reflection.

**Third**, in collaboration with the Dutch police academy we are now working on organizing a third chair with the assignment to determine what the necessary and sufficient conditions are for research to have an impact on day to day policing. We believe this necessitates the development of a specific methodology, a specific way of doing research. Although we have no doubts about the value of scientific research a lot of research has no impact on policing, even in some cases where it is evident



that it should have consequences for our operations. The aim of this third chair is to further strengthen productive relations between science and policing, especially with regard to concrete police operations.

### **Blind spots and science: Juxta**

Apart from these structural relations with science it is sometimes necessary to come up with derailing initiatives that make critical reflection unavoidable. One of these initiatives was mend to strengthen the countervailing power of the aforementioned Agora. We called it Juxta – derived from the word juxtaposition – and one of the participants has given a poster session on this conference today. What we did is we invited twelve young and bright academics to come and work for us for eighteen months to show us our blind spots. We selected them out of approximately three hundred candidates on the basis of a critical essay on the aforementioned vision document *The police in evolution*. We selected people with for the police unusual backgrounds, so no one had studied law, criminology or administrative science. Instead they were specialized in anthropology, media, philosophy, artificial intelligence, Arabic language and culture, experimental psychology, or art.

They had a very intensive introduction programme within the police force, they were confronted with all aspects of our organisation and work. They joined officers on the beat, participated in investigations, talked to all sections of the organisation on all levels. We gave them the explicit assignment to contradict and surprise us, to show us where we were wrong, and to annoy us. And, they lived up to their promise! The sessions with the Juxta's – as we lovingly called them – were always intense and I constantly had to fight the urge to defend myself. It led to new perspectives and in the end also to twelve thought provoking end products.

Their influence was not limited to the top of the organisation. We made sure that everybody in the force knew what Juxta was about, and people in the force were very interested in the concept and of course in the insights of the Juxta's. Various Juxta's had considerable influence on diverse issues as neighbourhood policing, integrity policy or the use of specific information in dealing with victims. They opened up a hotline every officer in the force could phone when he or she had a 'wicked problem', a lot of people called and where without exception im-

pressed by the contribution of the Juxta's. It further strengthened the idea that science and police work are a happy marriage and that it pays to let outsiders take a look in your organisation. But most importantly, to quote Oliver Wendell Holmes, "a mind, once stretched by a new idea, never returns to its original dimensions". Although we did not intend to recruit people for more than their project, more than half of the Juxta's currently work in our police force on regular positions.

And although Juxta was a one-time project, the – what could be called – spirit of Juxta has not disappeared. Research and critical reflection has proliferated in the force, for example with regard to the aforementioned strategic themes. Explorations on these themes are done by teams made up from diverse people within the force who seek explicit interaction with 'outsiders' from the scientific community or elsewhere.

### **What have we learned?**

What have we learned from Juxta? That we do have blind spots, that indeed it is important to focus on future oriented police themes and that even if you do so, you still run the risk of lagging behind. We also learned how important it is to bring in new and diverse perspectives, and that important issues are mostly complex issues, and that you need to combine research with 'learning by doing'. But perhaps most importantly, we learned how fruitful it is when people dare to speak up, when they tell you how it is because they have thought about it, read about it, and studied it intensively. On some sensitive subjects the Juxta's ran into a lot of opposition, but they stayed loyal to their intention to show it how it is from the perspective of an outsider and scientist. Sometimes this called for considerable commitment and courage, but in the end none of them regretted the investment.

### **An urgent appeal**

This brings me an appeal I would like to make to police officers and scientists. As should be clear from my expose, science is of crucial importance for current and future policing and senior and chief police officers are advised to facilitate the strengthening of the relation with science in every way they can. Be brave, and do not worry the truth will hurt you. For the relation to be productive, however, scientist should also be willing to stand for what they believe. In a world of all important images and

fast changing hypes scientist should be willing to defend forcefully the outcomes of their research, both within the police force but also in the public debate. Of course I am aware that in post modern times the scientific truth has become illusive, and that scientist have the disposition to question the validity of their own findings, that most of the time they are very hesitant to issue policy recommendations. The problem is however, if they do not do it, who will? And I am of the opinion that, although the scientific truth has become illusive, nonsense is still nonsense. If you are in science and run into nonsensical policies: please take a stand and speak up! A brave police deserves courageous scientists.



## REPORT ON THE 2009 CEPOL RESEARCH AND SCIENCE CONFERENCE BADHOEVEDORP, THE NETHERLANDS, 18-20 NOVEMBER 2009

By

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ACADEMY OF THE NETHERLANDS & VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTER-  
DAM**



The European Police College organized its seventh annual Police Research and Science Conference on 18-20 November 2009 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The conference was organized by the Police Academy of The Netherlands in close co-operation with Austria, Germany and CEPOL's Research and Science Working Group. The title of the conference was 'Future Policing in Europe: A Shared Agenda for Research'. Around 75 police researchers, trainers, practitioners and policy-makers discussed several dimensions concerning the challenges faced by police forces across Europe.

The challenges include several dimensions. A first dimension concerns organizational issues, such as technological innovation, risk-management, diversity in and around police forces, multi-disciplinary co-operation with other partners, intelligence-led policing, and selection and recruitment. Another important strand concerns the challenges in crime and disorder, such as cyber-crime, radicalization, and external security deficits. Finally, the conference dealt with the European dimension of policing, police training and police research.

The topic 'Future Policing in Europe' was approached from an academic as well as a practical angle. Under the guidance of several moderators, the conference activity worked with several modes of presentation and interaction, including plenary speeches, mini-seminars, poster sessions and a panel discussion. This mix of conference modes aimed at involving all participants to a maximum extent and at alternating their role of speaker, listener and debater. The conference organizers made an effort to invite a balanced representation of male and female speakers, mature and promising new researchers, and attendees from several European Member States.

The objectives of the conference activity included: 1) providing support to police by research, science and an academic approach; 2) exploring expectations and possibilities for comparative research efforts in a European perspective; 3) strengthening the networking processes between police science and police practice; 4) consolidating the integration of research and police education; and 5) encouraging the exchange of knowledge between the security field and police research. The final objective was to reflect on the consequences of innovation and policing reforms.

**18 November 2009, first day of the conference**

The conference was opened by the Chief Constable and Chairman of the Executive Board of the Police Academy of The Netherlands, Mr Ad van Baal. His opening speech was followed by a lecture by Prof. Dr. Pieter Tops, Member of the Executive Board of the Police Academy of The Netherlands and Professor of Public Administration of the University of Tilburg, The Netherlands, who provided an expose about the importance of informal and tacit knowledge for the further development of police organizations, and the role of knowledge and research in the professionalization of police officers. The training and research agenda may also present police forces throughout Europe with strategic issues, such as the emergence of a reflective and intelligent work force, which may present new management challenges for politicians. Other challenges that present themselves when a police forces becomes more knowledgeable, include matters of authority, flexibility and image.

The session, which was chaired by the Chairman of the CEPOL Research and Science Working Group, Dr Janos Fehervary from the Federal Ministry of the Interior and the *Sicherheitsakademie* in Vienna (Austria) was then proceeded by Dr Peter Neyroud, Chief Constable and Chief Executive of the National Policing Improvement Agency of the United Kingdom. He presented a plenary lecture entitled 'Shifts in Policing, Police Profession and Police Organization', in which he elaborated on topics such as the economic pressures on policing resulting from budget cuts in public expenditure, the rising costs and declining tax revenues. He also paid attention to the changes in the performance management in policing and the role of science in policing. Furthermore, Mr Neyroud analyzed the composition of the police work force, the role of the detective, the rise of nationalization and localism, as well as internationalization. All these trends harbour significant challenges for police forces throughout Europe.

After the general overture, the conference entered into more detail. Several plenary speakers were requested by the conference organizers to focus on particular issues, relating both the organizational as well as contextual aspects in the development of policing. First, Dr Tatiana Tropina from the Cybercrime Research Institute in Cologne (Germany) dealt with cyber-policing as a current and future challenge for law enforcement. She mentioned several threats which emanate from cyber-crime, including the migration of traditional crime (such as child pornography and money laundering) to the Internet. Resulting from this threat is the necessity to organize cross-border law enforcement co-operation. Self-evident as this co-operation may be, however, there are several challenges to cope with, such as the different procedural rights for suspects and victims, as well as the lack of proper facilities to tackle cyber-crime within a number of law enforcement systems. Dr Tropina gave an overview of initiatives in this field, such as CIRCAMP and the creation of the European Cyber Crime Platform by Europol, as well as training programmes.

After lunch, Professor Sirpa Virta from the University of Tampere (Finland) spoke about the theme 'Preventing Radicalization' and brought about several avenues for new research relevant for police forces throughout Europe. She elaborated on the EU Home Affairs and Security Strategies, from which new challenges have evolved in this particular field. Themes she listed were radicalization as a phenomenon and police training through the EU ISEC programme. Professor Virta maintained joint multi-disciplinary research projects are needed, and moreover, to tackle radicalization properly one may need to reach beyond conventional crime prevention. One of the pressing questions she put forward is the extent to which police officers are equipped to recognize the early signals of radicalization and extremism.

The final plenary lecture on the first day of the conference was presented by Prof. Dr. Gorazd Meško, Dean of the Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security of the University of Maribor (Slovenia). For him, the conceptual challenges the police is currently confronted with include the emergence of contemporary social control, including the citizens as a policing resource and institutionalized informal control. Professor Meško spoke at length about the issues arising in the context of 'multi-lateral' policing, which includes co-operation between public police officers and private security employees. Research issues evolving concern for instance patterns of conflict, competition, co-operation and partnership. The speaker believed the challenges for further research lie – amongst others - in a comparative study in Europe and the public opinion about plural security providers. After a well-spent day, the conference participants met for dinner to consolidate their European network.



## Second day

The programme of 19 November 2009 provided in two more plenary lectures, followed by simultaneous interactive mini-seminars about developing trends and poster sessions presented on newly emerging topics. In a morning session moderated by Professor Joachim Kersten from the German Police University in Münster, Germany, the first plenary lecture was presented by Professor Tom Vanderbeken of Ghent University (Belgium), who spoke about the anticipation of future (in-) securities and the role of risk assessment. A new challenge for police forces nowadays is to police the risk society, which is based on an increased exploitation of knowledge and intelligence. Police forces nowadays have to think ahead and have to rank the likelihood and potential seriousness of risk events. Professor Vanderbeken explained in detail the difference between threat analyses, vulnerability studies, harm assessments and risk analyses, and concluded that scenarios studies can be useful tools to assess and anticipate developments and to take a reflexive attitude towards multiple futures.

After the coffee break, Dr Sabine Vogt from the German Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) in Wiesbaden, Germany, offered the conference participants a look into the innovatory power of European police forces. Early detection and diagnosis of the shifts and challenges lie at the heart of the reflective potential of police agencies. Geographical and strategic early detection can reveal a connection between different phenomena and prepare the police force to make steps in terms of setting objectives, planning strategies and prioritizing policies and instruments. Dr Vogt explained how the pieces of the puzzle evolving from an environmental analysis can be put together in a process model, called STEP. She introduced the BKA scenario technique, which is worked out in the form of workshops based on real cases, such as delinquency which is related to the capital markets. A similar scenario technique was applied in the context of the UN / EU peace keeping missions.

After the discussion, the conference participants separated in groups and went to an array of five different interactive mini-seminars about developing trends. The themes of these mini-seminars were 'techno-policing' (by Dr Renato Raggi from the Carabinieri Officers College in Vicenza, Italy); 'policing diversity' (by Professor Sirpa Virta, University of Tampere, Finland); 'knowledge-led policing' (by Professor Joachim Kersten from the Ger-

man Police University in Münster, Germany); 'Recruitment, education and careers in European police forces' (by Professor Tore Björge, Norwegian Police University College, Oslo, Norway); and 'private policing' (by Professor Raimundas Kalesnykas, Dean of the Law Faculty of the International School of Law and Business, Vilnius, Lithuania). The method of the mini-seminars allowed conference participants to select two themes, which meant that in a smaller setting, they felt more encouraged to intervene and raise questions.

After lunch, a variety of themes was presented by 'junior' researchers who are involved in a post-doctoral or professional research project. These poster sessions were performed by Anne van Ewijk of the Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, Spain ('diversity in police organizations'); Martijn Schippers of the Dutch Police Region Amsterdam-Amstelland ('intelligence-led policing'); Maren Eline Kleiven of the Police University College Oslo, Norway ('police reform missions'); and Gregor Wewer of Europol ('governing police co-operation in the EU'). The latter sessions were mainly meant to initiate and strengthen particular thematic research networks throughout the European Union.

After a long traffic jam into town, the conference participants first did a bit of Christmas shopping in the town centre. This was succeeded by a very pleasant dinner in a restaurant in Amsterdam. At the start of the dinner, Chief Constable Bernard Welten of the Dutch Police Force Amsterdam-Amstelland presented an enthusiastic and inspiring speech about the value of research for the development of policing and police organizations (see the previous article).

## Final day

The final day of the conference was moderated by Professor Monica den Boer of the Police Academy of The Netherlands and the VU University Amsterdam (the Netherlands), and focused entirely on the EU efforts in the field of European police co-operation, in particular police training and police research. Police Commissioner Michiel Holtackers, Chair of the Annual Programme Committee of CEPOL and Head of Staff International Relations at the Police Academy of the Netherlands, gave the first lecture about the Stockholm Programme on the further development of the EU Area of Freedom, Security and Justice. He regarded police training as essential for building the necessary trust between law enforcement forces throughout Europe. In this

regard, an international exchange programme and internships are deemed indispensable. Moreover, specific training challenges were mentioned by Mr Holtackers, including the training which is targeted at the protection of vulnerable groups, such as victims of crime; the focus on serious crime with a cross-border dimension; training aimed at improved usage of the existing instruments for police co-operation; combined training efforts with third countries; and (common) training methods.

The issues raised by Mr Holtackers received a deep reflection from relevant practitioners and policy makers in the form of a panel discussion: Mr Christian Jechoutchek (Assistant Director Corporate Governance of Europol), Professor Dr. Klaus Neidhardt (Head of the Training & Research Committee of CEPOL and President of the German Police University in Münster) and Ms. Kristien van Goey (Directorate General Enterprise and Industry of the European Commission). The panel discussion evoked several interventions from the conference participants.

The conference was concluded by Professor Didier Bigo from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris, France. He gave a flash demonstration of the legal and political events in the area of EU police co-operation during the past two decades. Professor Bigo observed a number of tensions arising from the Stockholm Programme, such as bringing the EU closer to its citizens through a reliable provision of security, and policing at a distance which is based on patterns of information-gathering and surveillance. He ended by advocating a European Union in which there is a balance between freedom of movement and security.

The conference participants departed with well-fed stomachs, and brains. The organizing countries The Netherlands, Austria and Germany as well as the Research and Science Working Group, were pleased with the active participation of police professionals, police trainers and police researchers from all over Europe, turning this event into a worthwhile annual gathering for the exchange of knowledge about police-relevant matters. CEPOL looks forward to seeing you all again at the 2010 CEPOL Research and Science Conference in Oslo!!

## THE CAMPBELL COLLABORATION AND EVIDENCE BASED POLICING – REPORT FROM THE NINTH COLLOQUIUM 2009



BY

**LEVIN WHELLER, SENIOR RESEARCH OFFICER, NATIONAL POLICING IMPROVEMENT AGENCY (UK)**

Given the variety of available research evidence about policing, it can often be difficult to make judgments about what interventions or policies are most effective. Police forces, government departments and public agencies need ways to identify the best available research evidence before making decisions about how to deploy finite resources. One approach to collating findings from disparate research papers is to undertake systematic reviews of available research evidence. The purpose of a systematic review is to sum up the best available research on a specific research or policy question by synthesizing the results of relevant studies meeting a specified standard (or level) of design and assessing the effects of different interventions.

The Campbell Collaboration (<http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/>) is an international body that produces systematic reviews on the effects of social interventions in a number of different areas, including crime and justice. The Campbell Crime and Justice Coordinating Group (CJCG) prepares and disseminates systematic reviews on reducing crime and delinquency and improving the quality of justice. The Crime and Justice Coordinating Group is coordinated by Charlotte Gill at the Jerry Lee Center of Criminology at the University of Pennsylvania.

The International Secretariat of the Collaboration is now located in Oslo and is hosted by the Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services. This office supports all aspects of Campbell's work, including the production of systematic reviews, internal and external communication, fundraising, and arrangements for the Annual Colloquium and

other events. Campbell is a truly international body, however, with members of its Steering Group drawn from a number of countries.

The Collaboration has to date completed 22 reviews summarising the best research evidence on various crime and justice issues ranging from the effects of specific interventions such as CCTV surveillance, street lighting and neighbourhood watch programmes on levels of crime, to studies of counter terrorism strategies, the effects of sentencing on reoffending, and the effects of mentoring interventions on juvenile delinquency.

Specific policing approaches have also been assessed in studies looking at the effectiveness of problem oriented policing (POP), hot spots policing, and the relative success of competing strategies for addressing street level drug markets. Many of these full reviews have also been condensed into 'user abstracts', which provide concise summaries of the key findings of each review. These abstracts represent a more user-friendly version of the reviews, which can themselves be rather technical and methodological in nature.

As well as publishing reviews of research evidence, the Campbell Collaboration organises events across the world to bring together academics, government researchers and practitioners. The Ninth Annual Campbell Colloquium was held in Oslo from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> of May 2009 and was themed "Better Evidence for a Better World". A number of sessions stressed the importance of evidence based interventions and of proper impact evaluations of social programmes.

Plenary speakers included the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jonas Gahr Støre, who talked about the increasing importance of evaluating interventions such as immunisation programmes. He argued that proof that interventions were successful helped build a culture of support for interventions. Richard Horton, Editor in Chief of the *Lancet* then asked why we do not always act on evidence, citing the example of climate change. He emphasised the importance of communication between research and practitioner communities, and the challenge of successfully explaining complex issues to the public.

Hans Rosling (Professor of Global Health, Karolinska Institute (KI), Sweden) delivered an entertaining and revealing presentation entitled 'Towards an

evidence-based world view'. Professor Rosling illustrated the importance of using evidence to challenge pre-existing perceptions, contesting, in particular, popular assumptions about the 'developed' and 'developing' world. The Gapminder Foundation ([www.gapminder.org](http://www.gapminder.org)) hosts a number of video presentations which challenge received wisdom about these issues. Howard White (Executive Director, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), Egypt) also stressed the importance of challenging theoretical assumptions and carefully assessing the impact of interventions to ensure resources are being spent wisely.

A highlight in the field of Crime and Justice was Dr. Jonathan Shepherd's (Director of the Violence and Society Research Group, School of Dentistry, University of Cardiff, UK) Jerry Lee Lecture examining the contributions of public health research to violence prevention. His presentation highlighted the findings of a number of studies undertaken in the UK. One RCT revealed the benefits of using toughened glasses to reduce injuries in pubs and bars, and evidence from another meta-analysis illustrated the effectiveness of brief alcohol misuse motivational interviews in helping modify future alcohol consumption.

Dr Shepard concluded that, compared with medical sciences, applied crime science is under-developed. University Police Schools and Offender Management Schools which integrate research, training and practice, should be at the foundation of criminal justice systems. Practitioner-academics are needed in crime and justice, as in the field of health, to drive evidence-based policies and interventions. Links to other papers from the conference in the area of Crime and Justice can be found here: [www.campbellcollaboration.org/Colloquium/colloquium\\_programme/Crime\\_and\\_Justice\\_Track.php](http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/Colloquium/colloquium_programme/Crime_and_Justice_Track.php)

The National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) is currently working with the Center for Evidence Based Crime Policy (CEBCP) at George Mason University to fund further work by the Campbell Collaboration. A systematic search for evaluative studies of non-curricular law enforcement strategies to prevent school crime and disorder (Policing schools) has just been commissioned, along with five new systematic reviews in the following areas:

- Effectiveness of GIS upon crime reduction
- Legitimacy in policing
- Stress Management Training and Development Programs for Police Officers and Recruits
- Crime displacement and diffusion of crime prevention benefits resulting from geographically focussed police initiatives
- Effect of interview and interrogation methods on investigative outcomes

The NPIA is also working on translating selected systematic reviews into 'What Works' guides aimed at police practitioners. The purpose of these guides is to provide an online resource that distils the key findings of the reviews, in addition to other robust research evidence, into a style and format suitable for a non-academic audience. The aim is to make the work of the research and academic community more easily accessible to police practitioners on a day to day basis.

Reviews currently on the Campbell website may be a useful resource for your organisation in addressing common policing issues faced by forces all around the world. The Campbell Library (<http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/library.php>) enables free access to reviews on a number of important subjects.



## THE SCOTTISH INSTITUTE FOR POLICING RESEARCH (SIPR)



By

**NICK FYFE, PROF., DIRECTOR OF THE SCOTTISH INSTITUTE FOR POLICING RESEARCH, UK**

Established in 2007 and supported by investment from the Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland and the Scottish Funding Council, the Scottish Institute for Policing Research (SIPR) is a consortium of thirteen universities. Its key aims are:

- To undertake high quality, independent research of relevance to policing in Scotland;
- To engage in a range of knowledge exchange activities in order to strengthen the evidence base on which policing policy and practice are developed;
- To provide a single focus for policing research in Scotland in order to foster the development of national and international links with other researchers, policy makers and practitioners;
- To enhance policing research capacity in Scotland by developing the research infrastructure and enhancing research skills.

SIPR's activities are organised around three inter-disciplinary Research Networks which bring together researchers from over 15 different academic disciplines. The Police-Community Relations Network focuses

on the relationships between the police and different socio-economic and geographical communities and brings together researchers with backgrounds in sociology, criminology and political science. The Evidence & Investigation Network focuses on the role of the police in the recovery, interpretation and effective use of intelligence and evidence in the investigation of crime and draws on the expertise of researchers with backgrounds in areas like forensic science, computing and psychology. The Police Organisation Network focuses on issues of management, structure and leadership within the police and includes researchers with a management science and public administration background. The activities of the three networks are coordinated from an administrative hub based at the University of Dundee.

Within each of these networks, SIPR is directly supporting new policing research through investment in PhD studentships and post-doctoral researchers. These research projects, each of which has been developed in collaboration with police forces, cover a wide range of topics. These include issues relating to community policing strategies, the policing of racial and ethnic diversity and radicalization; obtaining best evidence from witnesses and the use of forensic science in volume crime investigations; and studies of resilience and well-being in Scottish police forces and the governance and accountability of police organisations. SIPR is also helping researchers secure research funding from external sources by facilitating access to police personnel and data held by police organisations.

Complementing investment in new research is the process of making sure that knowledge is exchanged between researchers, practitioners and the policy community. Indeed, for SIPR knowledge exchange is one of the most important roles it performs. This is partly achieved via its governance arrangement which involve chief police officers and senior academics meeting regularly at its Executive Committee and Board of Governance. In addition, SIPR supports a wide range of mechanisms to facilitate processes of knowledge exchange. This includes organising a regular programme of seminars and workshops attended by the police and researchers, holding an annual research conference and annual lecture, and maintaining a website which contains podcasts of conference and seminar

events, a briefing paper series for practitioners, and other research resources. In addition, SIPR works closely with the Scottish Police College in the delivery of a Continuous Professional Development programme for all members of the police service.

SIPR is also working to develop the knowledge, research and analytical skills of those who work in police organisations via the creation of a distance learning Graduate Programme in Policing. Beginning in Autumn 2010, this programme aims to make a substantial contribution to the professional development of policing in Scotland with initial modules covering theories and concepts of policing, leadership in police organisations, understanding and controlling crime, and police-community relations. SIPR also runs a Practitioner Fellowship programme which provides opportunities for police practitioners to work with academic researchers on the practical and policy applications of a policing topic, with the academic providing advice about relevant literature, research design and methodological issues.

At an international level, SIPR is also developing strong links with a wider community of police researchers and practitioners. This is important because in an era of globalisation it is important for Scotland to be able to access knowledge about policing created elsewhere in the world and to reap the benefits of comparative analysis. Three world-class policing scholars have been appointed as Visiting Professors to the research networks with the aim of creating opportunities for collaborative research. In addition, SIPR's international advisory committee has strong European representation (from the Norwegian Police University College, Dutch Police Academy and the Police Science programme at Ruhr University, Germany) and, in an initiative led by the Police Academy of the Netherlands, SIPR is a founding member of the 'The North Sea Collaboration for doing research on and with the police'. This brings together policing research institutes from Holland, Norway, Belgium, Sweden, Finland, England & Wales and Scotland with the aims of conducting comparative research and creating opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and people. A couple of comparative projects have already emerged from this collaboration: one on careers within police forces (coordinated by researchers at the Norwegian Police University College) and an-



other on community engagement and community policing (coordinated by SIPR and the University of Ghent). Individual members of SIPR are also playing important roles within wider networks of researchers and practitioners including the European Academy of Forensic Science, the European Society Working Group on Policing and the European chapter of the FBI National Academy of Associates.

In little under three years SIPR has established itself as a key part of the research and policing landscape in Scotland with strong links to other parts of the UK, Europe and beyond. Furthermore, as a model of collaboration between police practitioners and the academic research community it now attracts national and international attention. Crucial to its success is recognising that regular and sustained contacts between research 'providers' and research 'users' are vital determinants of policy impact. Researchers and practitioners must also share a mutual understanding of the relevance of each others interests and activities and have an understanding of the ways in which research can add value and offer insights to key issues of concern for police practitioners and policy makers. As police organisations across Europe increasingly face the challenge of having 'to do more with less', as a result of growing demands but limited resources, the partnership between universities and police forces embodied by SIPR provides a highly effective way of meeting the need for relevant research and for developing the skills of those who work in police organisations.

#### Further information

Further information about SIPR is available from its website ([www.sipr.ac.uk](http://www.sipr.ac.uk)) and we very much welcome inquiries from researchers and practitioners. These should be sent to its Director, Professor Nick Fyfe ([n.r.fyfe@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:n.r.fyfe@dundee.ac.uk)).



## CENTRE DE RECHERCHE DE LA GENDARMERIE NATIONALE (CRGN)



By

**Philippe SCRIBE**, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL, HEAD OF RESEARCH  
DEPARTMENT, CRGN, FRANCE

Located in Melun, 50km South-East of Paris, the Research Center of the Gendarmerie Nationale (CRGN) is connected with the Gendarmerie Nationale Officers College and headed by a director, who is a senior university professor.

The center was set up as a political initiative to provide major educational establishments, dedicated to the training of high military and civilian servants, including the funding of research facilities.

Benefiting from these 'think-tank'-potentials, the Gendarmerie Nationale Officers College deals with issues linked to homeland security and especially regarding the career of Gendarmes. The work undertaken at the center aims at including the cadets in each and every part of their academic studies.

The former documentation center of the Academy has been the touchstone of the Research center of the Gendarmerie Nationale (CRGN), hence at the origin of its creation in September 2008. It is now supervised by both military and civilian staff.

### Organization of the center

It has a permanent team composed of a senior university professor who is in charge of the general policy of the center and a network of several researchers. He is assisted by an administrator second in command who on the contrary has a military background and who is the direct link with the institution. A senior officer is heading the Research Department, whereas the Resource Department is headed by a civilian. In addition to the permanent staff, there are a few researchers who work part time. They are usually people with either an academic background or high qualifications, who are in charge of supplying for a reserve of researchers, coming from universities as well as the Gendarmerie. Through their Master's thesis the cadets are in close relation with the center.

As far as the research field is concerned, there are six main topics:

1. security and territories
2. security and environment
3. security and sciences
4. security and ethical code
5. security and law
6. security and history

All the researchers are listed in a database that is managed by the center, who then makes an inventory of the Master's thesis dealing with security that had been written by Gendarmes on duty or in retirement.

### Assignments

Based on resources that are in constant evolution, the CRGN aims at leading and coordinating research in terms of security.

Through the different contributions provided by the CRGN, the cadets are given guidance for their thesis on internal security – and can be supported by other Gendarmes who are either writing a thesis or a Ph.D. The center also works in tight relations with the Gendarmerie headquarters. The work undertaken by the cadets will serve as a think-tank to the high command and the topics must have been requested by the central administration. On the other hand, the Research Center can make suggestions in this matter.

The CRGN's mission is also to watch and pick up updated information dealing with security from the internet.

Overall, just like any other research center, the CRGN organizes seminars and symposiums and participates in several scientific activities in France or abroad to facilitate a general synergy with other centers and institutions.

An overview of the CRGN's activities is available via its website :

[http:// www.gendarmerie.interieur.gouv.fr/crgn](http://www.gendarmerie.interieur.gouv.fr/crgn)

### Outlook

This center is still in development and has only been set up for research activities since September 2009. It is already working jointly with the European Police College - CEPOL and with other different European partners in terms of internal security matters and supplies for its own database as well. By the end of 2010 the best thesis written by the cadets during their scholarship will probably have been uploaded into CEPOL e-Library.



## OBITUARY IN MEMORIAM PROF. JEAN-PAUL BRODEUR (1944-2010)

It was with great sadness that we learnt that the well-known scholar of policing, our colleague and friend, **Jean-Paul Brodeur**, professor at the University of Montreal, Director of the International Centre for Comparative Criminology (CICC), died on Monday 26 April 2010.

Professor Brodeur published numerous books and articles on policing, sentencing and politically motivated deviance in French and English. He was also research director for several Canadian commissions of inquiry (federal and Québec provincial) and a distinguished scholar and teacher.

Of Canadian citizenship, Jean-Paul Brodeur had strong links with Europe, in particular with France for a long time. Nanterre was the place where he presented his philosophy-of-logic thesis on Spinoza. His thesis coordinator, Paul Ricoeur, was at that time a philosopher invited every quarter to universities on all continents of the world and Jean-Paul's manuscript, once finished, travelled around the globe for one year in search of the coordinator, before finding him... on the solid ground of Nanterre. This journey foretold what was to be Jean-Paul's intellectual contribution to the social sciences: brilliance without territorial, disciplinary or intellectual boundaries.

Soon after completing his thesis, Jean-Paul entered a course in criminology at the University of Montreal's School of Criminology. His work would make him focus on commissions d'enquête, investigatory bodies that are in charge of bringing light onto deviancies or faults of public institutions in North America, often about matters of criminal justice or the police. He wrote his first book based on these elements, *La délinquance de l'ordre*. He was then invited to conduct research by the most famous commission in the history of Canada, the Keable Commission, on the infiltration

of the Royal Gendarmerie of Canada by 'sovereigniste' groups. Recently, he came back to this experience, at the crossroads between politics and research, and this left a mark on his future research. Jean-Paul Brodeur indeed dedicated the majority of his works to policing, more exactly the fragmentation of police activities, separated between 'high policing' and 'low policing', or: between political policing and every day policing. The article that he publishes in 1983 in the *Social Problems* Journal, "**High Policing and Low Policing**", noticeably marked his entry into the international field. From there, he would not cease to work on this central issue: do the police, its activity empirically separated, require a unified theory? This project has remained his, tireless, from the collection of articles published in 2003 by *Presses de l'Université de Montréal*, on "Visages de la police" (its multi-faceted appearance for a single reality), the 2005 issue of the journal '*Criminologie*', dedicated to "the police in detached pieces", or his work that will be published in August 2010 by *Oxford University Press: The Policing Web*, for which he had just returned the corrected drafts. However, he evenly never lost sight of the practical challenges of police reform and improvement – a dimension of his work which is possibly best documented in becoming the editor of "How to Recognize Good Policing" in 1998, a volume that brought together research findings with practical experience in a comprehensive manner.

Jean-Paul Brodeur will thus have been all the way a philosopher of categories of thought and knowledge who will, certainly, have resolutely moved away from academic philosophy in order to observe the concrete existence of police, the State and its legal system, but who will incessantly interrogate his criminological objects with that kind of intelligence used in critical epistemology. All the force of the criminology he practiced came from thematic hybridisation and the concern to confront his knowledge with the real life of institutions; by either participating in selected committees (Canadian Commission on the establishment of sentences, then the Selected Commission on transgressions of the Canadian Army in Somalia), or empirical investigations, focusing on judicial investigations, that he had presented in a CESDIP seminar, in 2002.

Strong working relationship evolved over the years with the Groupe Européen de Recherche sur les Normativités (GERN) and the Centre de Recherches Sociologiques sur le Droit et les Institutions Pénales (CESPDIP), where he cooperated and became friends with well-known francophone criminologists like



Renée Zauberman, René Lévy, and Philippe Robert, who taught at the Université de Montréal on a regular basis. Jean-Paul Brodeur's oeuvre had also a major impact on a younger generation of French speaking police scholars like Benoît Dupont, Fabien Jobard or Christian Mouhanna. A particularly close cooperation developed with Dominique Monjardet, initially an industrial sociologist of profession. The association of the two researchers proved to be crucial when it came to setting up the *Institut des hautes études de la sécurité intérieure* (IHESI) and its first years of existence that, together with Jean-Marc Erbès, its first director, he wished to contribute to better intelligence and reform in policing. Later they co-published together a French version of selected key-texts of Anglo-Saxon sociology on policing

A distinguished scholar in his own right, Prof. Brodeur was also a crucial intermediary between the French, English and German speaking communities of police researchers and criminologists, and in this regard also a intermediary between North-America and European police scholarship. In 2007 he kindly followed the invitation by CEPOL to serve as a commentator and discussant for the report of the Project Group on a European Approach to Police Science (PGEAPS) that was presented at the Annual CEPOL Research and Science Conference in Münster, Germany. His professional observations of the project, underpinned by his impressive international experience and understanding of European matters, were highly appreciated by the conference participants. He also brought a highly interesting paper to the conference ("Trust and Expertise in Policing") that will be published in the forthcoming CEPOL Conferences 2006-2009 volume.

Friends and police scholars across the globe will lament the loss of a generous, intellectually inspiring and highly pleasant person and scholar. His works and his own ways of crossing intellectual borders however will continue to stimulate in-depth reflection on good-policing in Europe and elsewhere.

*This obituary has been adopted with permission from the original French version, published on the website of the 'Centre de Recherches Sociologiques sur le Droit et les Institutions Pénales' (CESDIP) and amended for the purposes of the Bulletin. The editorial team would like to thank Bogdan Teodorescu and Catherine Lamothe (CEPOL Secretariat) for their support in translating.*

## ESRIF Final Report

Final Report of European Security Research and Innovation Forum (ESRIF) was published in December 2009. ESRIF is a European strategy group in the civil security research domain established by a joint initiative of European Commission and 27 EU Member States. Its main task was to define the European Research and Innovation needs for 2030 time horizon and to develop mid and long term strategy for civil security research and innovations through public private dialogue.

For more information please visit official ESRIF's website: <http://www.esrif.eu/>



## Upcoming Conferences & Meetings

*The European Police Science and Research Bulletin will publicise announcements of events that are relevant for the development and advance of police research and police science from a European perspective. Please send all information in time to [research.bulletin@cepol.europa.eu](mailto:research.bulletin@cepol.europa.eu).*

### 10th Conference of the European Society of Criminology

**"Crime and Criminology:  
From individuals to organizations"**

7-11 September 2010

Liege, Belgium

[www.eurocrim2010.com](http://www.eurocrim2010.com)

### The SIPR Annual Conference 2010

**"Policing in an age of austerity"**

&

### The SPSA / SIPR Conference

**"New developments in forensic science"**

14th - 15th September 2010

West Park Conference Centre, Dundee; Scotland, UK

[www.sipr.ac.uk/events](http://www.sipr.ac.uk/events)

**25 Years without borders - Prospects for  
police cooperation and border control  
in the Schengen area today**

16 - 17 September 2010, Trier, Germany

[www.era.int](http://www.era.int)

### 2010 CEPOL

**Police Research and Science Conference  
"Practical research and research practice –  
Police Science into a new decade".**

Dates: 26-28 October 2010

Place: Oslo, Norway (restricted access)

Web: [www.cepol.europa.eu](http://www.cepol.europa.eu)

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### Contributions to the Bulletin

Readers of the Bulletin are kindly invited to make **submissions** and to share outcomes of recent research, information about research departments or calls for cooperations in research projects.

For a full list of required contributions and more information about the Bulletin please visit our **website** on: [www.cepola.europa.eu/index.php?id=science-research-bulletin](http://www.cepola.europa.eu/index.php?id=science-research-bulletin)

Potential contributors should download the important *Manuscript Submission Guidelines*, which should be kindly be observed.



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