A European Quality Assurance System for police education, a challenge for CEPOL?

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“Forget everything you learned at the police school, from now on you will learn what police work is all about...”
What’s this presentation about?

• The black box of police education needs more pedagogical insights and expertise
  – improve knowledge transfer

• More education and less police in the police education system

• Implement a quality assurance system in the European police education system
Need for pedagogical insights

• Little impact from police education on socialisation into police profession
• Learning on the job, learning from experience
• Education process = black box
• Insights in knowledge transfer?
More education less police

• Police education is an exclusive police matter
• No societal influence in police programs
• Police education is steered by corporate management logic
• Unchain police education institution from national mother organisation
  – Bring in EU to steer on police education (cf. Bologna process)
Focus on Quality
European accreditation agency

• Development accreditation criteria for police education programs
  – Based on guidelines ENQA
  – Police professionals with academic police scholars

• Providing a system of external evaluation
  – By a professional and recognized quality assurance organization
Proces of external evaluation and accreditation

1. Police institution applying for accreditation of police study program
2. Creation of self-evaluation report by program holders
3. Onsite visit of visitation (international) panel (consisting professional-academic scholar – pedagogical expertise)
4. Evaluation report of panel (does the program meet quality standards of police education)
5. Accreditation by accreditation bureau
Advantages of accreditation

• Quality criteria: police + academic standards
• Stimulation for investing in quality
• More accountability and transparency of police study programs
• Encouraging curriculum development and innovation
• Programs become more comparable – level and content is made clear
• Increasing mobility of students and staff
• Differences in quality between programs become clear
• Professionalization of police education (and police profession)
MORE STATUS FOR POLICE EDUCATION SYSTEM
- Hungary
- France
- Belgium
- ....
- Spain