The Police's Operating Environment in Finland

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1 Introduction

Background

• This presentation gives an overview of the **Police’s operating environment reviews** compiled by the Police University College.


• The report includes an **English summary** (8 pages): Muttilainen, V. & Potila, P. The operating environment of the police 2016 – key observations and intersecting themes.

• **Previous reports**: Muttilainen & Huotari 2014; Honkonen & Muttilainen 2012 (also with English summary).
1 Introduction

Finnish police organisation

**Ministry of the Interior**
Strategic management, targets, budgeting, law drafting and international affairs (covering police, rescue, border guard, immigration services)

**National Police Board**
Directs, supervises, plans and develops policing nationally

**Police Units**
National Bureau of Investigation, Police University College, Local Police Departments
Purpose and materials

- Research and expert information to be used for the planning and development of police operations, internal security and police training
- The latest review comprises nearly 30 articles (5-8 pages each); all in all about 80 articles between 2012-2016
- The authors represent the Police University College, other universities and research institutions, the police administration, other areas administration
- Articles are based on research and statistics, other source material and experts’ insights
- The articles are either directly or indirectly connected to policing
2 Content

Structure

I The framework for police operations
1 Challenges in public administration
2 International perspectives

II Police work and organization
3 Competence development
4 Development of training

III Policing
5 Surveillance and emergency response
6 Criminal investigation
7 Other areas of police operations

IV The police in society
8 Anticipation of security
9 Criminal phenomena
10 The police and citizens

Summary and reflection

- complex problems, security architecture, police reforms, the EU's internal security
- ethical leadership, intelligent-led policing, stress management, simulations, development work as thesis, learning through work
- use of force, public order, domestic violence, secret information acquisition, economic crime investigation, sexual crime investigation, traffic safety, licence services, tactical negotiation
- crime prevention model, campus safety, isolation of immigrants, hate crime, homicides, money laundering, mediation of criminal offences, citizen's assessments of the police

3 Results

Intersecting themes: an overview
3 Results

**Intersecting themes: external issues**

1 Complex operating environment

- World is simultaneously more open and more interdependent. The operating environment of the police will also become more transparent.

2 Global data networks

- People use more services that are provided online. An increasing number of criminal offenses are committed in a network. Policing goes online.

3 New trends of immigration

- Mass immigration is a sudden and extensive phenomenon. We must develop competence, operation and cooperation suitable for various situations.

4 Slimming resources

- Police resources will be sufficient to cover fewer operations. This requires a new kind of thinking when specifying police duties and forms of cooperation.
3 Results

**Intersecting themes: coping strategies**

4 The ethical foundation of police work

- The police operate in society as an ethical role model. The importance of the rule of law is emphasized in demanding and exceptional conditions.

5 New competence to be used by the organization

- Continuous changes in organizations, legislation and tools, require a new kind of ability to learn and adapt. Most recent graduates possess new competence.

6 Adaptability to complex problems

- The challenges of the surrounding society that require resilience have been described, for example, as difficult to resolve, scalable, complex and hybrid.

7 Information accumulated to be taken into use

- The police could use more scientific information in order to develop competence, expertise, operative measures and intelligence-led policing.
4 Theoretical viewpoint

Police research vs. analysis work

Figure 1. Conditions for cooperation between police research and analysis work
5 Final remarks

Evaluation and future plans

- The review gives rather comprehensive overview of the police's operational environment
- It does not only refer to the world outside the police, but also to the mutual relations of functions within the police organization
- Not everything can be anticipated and information is always at least partly uncertain
- Next report will be published in 2018, when Finnish police training reaches its 100-year anniversary
Some links and contact information

Police's operating environment reviews and crime statistics:

Police University College RDI
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http://www.polamk.fi/en/rdi/research/research_review

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