The civil volunteer security organisation as an innovative actor in the law enforcement

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Several approaches and definitions
Safety
Security
Loss prevention
Complexity of security
New challenges
The development of security

- Traditional „peace keepers”
- 1829: Metropolitan Police, Sir Robert Peel
- Most major cities in the world especially Anglo-Saxon countries followed this lead.
- Public Security, once the responsibility of local residents, has moved on to professional policing over the last two centuries. (James Albrecht, Police Reserves and Volunteers: Enhancing Organizational Effectiveness and Public Trust, 2017)
- Police: a body of people patrolling public spaces in blue uniforms, with a broad mandate of crime control, order maintenance, and some negotiable social service function. (Reiner, 2010)
Police and policing

- Police is a relatively modern concept, while policing is an old one. (Johnston, 1992)

- State-sanctioned police agency today is only one example of policing (Colin Rogers, 2017)

- Policing: outcome of constellation of actors, agencies and processes both within and beyond the police organisation (Crawford, 2014)

- New policing forces emerged from the task, not funded originally with this purpose: „new policing forces”

- „Non-police organisations“ or „hybrid police organisations“ create a „pluralist model of modern policing“ (Sotlar)
Complementary Law Enforcement

Civil crime prevention, volunteers

Private security

Local policing

State law enforcement

Police
Public security: „collective product”

- State level organisations
- Local level organisations
- Volunteer Civil Guard
- Private Security
Classification of volunteers

• **Level 1**—police agency volunteer, unarmed, no law enforcement authority; minimal or no police training; assist the agency with administrative duties;

• **Level 2**—community patrol, unarmed, no law enforcement authority; some documented training; perform patrol activities, “eyes and ears”

• **Level 3**—police patrol, unarmed, some type of law enforcement function or authority; documented training; patrol activities, “eyes and ears”

• **Level 4**—sworn volunteers (armed), most law enforcement powers; amount of documented training; can provide, a law enf. function, but their law enforcement authority or functions may be limited.

• **Level 5**—sworn volunteers (armed), all law enf. powers; uniformed/non-unif.; serve in a capacity equal to that of a full-time officer; not limited authority; follow the same regulations and training as full-time law enf. personnel.

(Wolf, Albrecht and Dobrin, 2015)
Civil volunteer security organisation Hungary

- POLGÁRŐRSÉG: Hungarian speciality, established: 1991
- Voluntary, unpaid work
- 60,000 members, citizens
- 2,000 associations
- Supporting the efforts of the professional bodies, with strictly limited liabilities, strengthen the subjective sense of security and crime prevention activity
- Important strategic partner of the police
Polgárőrség - Hungary

Requirements for the membership:
✓ age of 18
✓ no criminal record,
✓ 10 hours training course, pass the exam

Three level structure of Polgárőrség:
Local, - county- and national civil volunteer associations, Chief Board.

Survey results (2015):
- online questionnaire
- 29 questions
- 627 responders
-The main goal of the survey was to map: awareness, role, importance and trust.
All village should have a polgárőr association?

- **88%**: igen
- **12%**: nem
In your opinion without Polgárőrség the Hungarian Police would be less effective?
Public judgement of Polgárőrség

-90% have seen Polgárőr on duty;
-87%: Polgárőrség is an important actor in local security;
-88% all villages should have a civil security organisation;
-47% agree, 28% strongly agree, that without Polgárőrség the Police would be less effective;
-90%: trust in the Polgárőrség;

Improving the organisation:
-91% involve more young citizens, 88% more training
New York: Auxiliary police (1960)

- NYPD Auxiliary Police Officers (APO) support uniformed police officers, patrol duties, not armed
- 16 week/ 48 hour basic training
- 4500 active APO
- 144 hour
- “eyes and ears” of the NYPD

The Mission of the APO:
1. To assist the NYPD in crime prevention;
2. To help bridge the gap between the NYPD and the community
3. To assist the NYPD in the event of an emergency or natural disaster
New York: Auxiliary police

Requirements for new APO:

• Age: 17-63
• Residence or work place in New York City
• Be in good health condition
• Able to read and write English
• No criminal record
• A United States Citizen or a permanent resident
• Be of good character for the task
Los Angeles Reserve Police

• Fulfill many of the roles handled by time sworn police officers
• Effective spokespersons in their neighborhoods
• Same training as fulltime officers
• Work alongside them in every aspect of Department operations
• 950 active reserve officers
• All members are accredited by the California Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST).
**LARP categories**

**Level III Reserve Officers:**
- uniformed Police Officers;
- qualified to carry a firearm at 21 years of age;
- perform various administrative functions;
- assigned duties at the front desk, with detectives, and in community relations.

**Level I and II Reserve Officers:**
- perform the same functions as regular, full-time police officers;
- armed & uniformed peace officers, work in police vehicles along with full-time police officers;
- receive additional training (250 hours/340 hours of professional classroom instruction).
England and Wales

- 14,860 volunteer police officers in 43 police forces
- Provide general policing support and specialist expertise
- Same powers of arrest (only a few exceptions), same duties as full-time police officers, same uniform and carry the same equipment
- Work alongside their full-time colleagues in all areas
- Regular training, twice-yearly fitness test
- All cost is paid by a local and central government
- Volunteer officers receive reimbursement of any expenses
Conclusions

- Growth of volunteer security organisations
- Tradition of voluntary work

Why is the implementation of volunteers is an innovative solution? Because:

1. Relieve the Police,
2. Cost effective,
3. Building trust,
4. Fill the gaps.
Thank you for your kind attention!

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