

Research Review

Police University College, Finland

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Editorial: New research guidelines for the Police University College

The Police University College published its [new research guidelines](#) in the autumn of 2014. They set out the vision for the future of the College's research activities and practical means for achieving it.

The objective of these policies is that, in the future, "The Police University College is a top-grade producer of research data in the policing and security fields, and a valued member of the international university and research community. Its data and expertise are utilized diversely in the development of the security of society."

Achieving the main objective requires a multifaceted development of both the structures and content of research activities in accordance with the sub-objectives of the research policies:

- Long-term research programme work emphasizes the statutory basic tasks and established content profile of research. Separately highlighted are the multidisciplinary of research, anticipation of the operating environment, and research into core policing activities.
- Professional project activities are related to the development of project competence and a project-style way of working within the police organization. In addition, the acquisition of research funding and the pursuit of a more substantial role within consortiums are emphasized.
- Impactful cooperation refers not only to scientific cooperation, but also to development-focused cooperation with universities of applied sciences and the administration. Additionally, there is an effort to make the relationship between research activities and thesis work more closely.
- Diverse information production is related to publishing and research communications. The goal is to increase the number of articles published by the teachers. Easy-to-utilize compilations (Critical Reviews) are prepared of international police research. New channels are developed for project and publication communications.

In addition to the policies described above, the research activities of the Police University College will in the future also be affected – at least indirectly – by some other strategies recently published or currently being prepared. The importance of research data has been emphasized in, for example, the European Agenda on Security (2015), the Strategy of the Finnish Police (2015) and the Main Strategy of the Police University College (2015). A national strategy for internal security is currently being prepared.

In the future, the Police University College faces an important challenge: how to retain the scientific profile of the research while simultaneously developing applied and pragmatic research and development activities? In EU projects, for instance, the same consortium may include research and different disciplines and technical testing carried out by end users. In the best-case scenario, both research scientists and other actors will benefit from the cooperation.



*Dr Vesa Muttillainen
Director of Research*

Project news:

Unity

The Police University College will participate in a three-year community policing project (2015–2018) funded by the EU's Horizon 2020 Secure Societies programme. The project consortium comprises 14 partners. The consortium is headed by the West Yorkshire Police (UK).

The starting point of the Unity project is a community-and-citizen-centric approach to community policing. The project aims for a community policing model that can be scaled according to national, regional and local needs. It also develops and tests the technical means for cooperation and communication between the citizens and the police. The desired result is more effective and impactful community policing.

The project examines the societal, cultural, judicial and ethical grounds of community policing. It also develops and tests a communications platform – a police mobile application and a citizen's mobile application and a Web portal – to make communications between the citizens and the police easier, quicker and more robust.

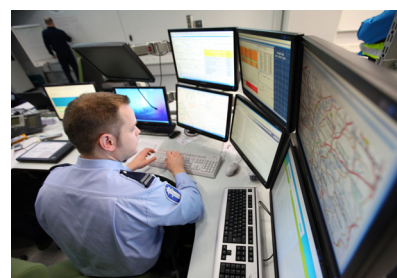
More information: Olavi Kujanpää, Superintendent

NEXt generation Emergency Services (NEXES)

The Police University College will participate in the EU-funded NEXES project that focuses on next-generation emergency centre and rescue services, while also taking special groups into consideration. The project concentrates on the specification of operational and functional requirements, data management and software architecture, and data interfaces for next-generation emergency centre and rescue services. It will build the framework for including multimedia content – such as voice, text, photographic and video materials, and other helpful information (e.g. the caller's personal, location and health information) – enabled by IP-based communications technology into next-generation emergency centre and rescue systems.

NEXES received funding from the EU's Horizon 2020 Secure societies programme. The project is coordinated by Rinicom Ltd (UK), and the consortium comprises 17 partners from ten different EU Member States. The partners include authorities, technology companies, representatives of special groups, an association of first-response doctors, and a provider of emergency centre services. The project will be carried out in 2015–2018. To a certain extent, it continues to address the same themes as the Isar+ and Soteria projects, funded by the EU's Seventh Framework Program and participated by the Police University College.

More information: Terhi Kankaanranta, Senior Researcher and Kari Pylväs, Researcher
<http://nexes.eu/>



Project news:

The “Further support to public safety education in Kosovo” Twinning project

The EU’s Twinning project led by the Police University College develops the education and research of the Kosovo Academy for Public Safety (KAPS). The Sisekaitseakadeemia (Estonian Academy of Security Sciences, EASS), Criminal Sanctions Agency (RISE) and the JAMK University of Applied Sciences (JAMK) are also included in the cooperation. The three-year project will begin in the autumn of 2015. It continues the Twinning project in Kosovo led by the Police University College that ended in spring 2014.

The overall objective of this project is to strengthen the rule of law through improving the education of public safety agents. More in detail, the purpose of the project is to provide high quality public safety and security education, research, and development in Kosovo. The project will improve the capacity of the law enforcement institution in Kosovo by making the training meet the work life needs of the developing society of Kosovo.

Twinning is EU-funded expert assistance to public administration authorities. In Twinning projects, the public administration authorities of the Member States assist in the development of the administration and legislation in applicant countries and neighbouring countries.

More information: Peter Sund, Superintendent and Vesa Muttilainen, Director of Research

Immigration, security and strategic foresight (MaMuSec)

The overall objective of the project is to promote internal safety and security across society and, on the other hand, to prevent crises and trends that jeopardize the peacefulness of society. This study is designed to give the Finnish Government a concise review of the expertise and understanding of immigration authorities and security authorities (fire and rescue services, Police, Defence Forces, Border Guard, and Customs) regarding multiculturalism as well as their preparedness for dealing with factors that may jeopardize security and peacefulness in society. Secondly, the project will pool together the latest scientific data on legal and illegal immigration. Thirdly, the project will examine the outcomes of some of the most important measures and projects aimed at promoting the integration of immigrants as well as safety and security, and preventing social exclusion.

The project is, therefore, a joint venture of multiple authorities (Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Defence, and the Prime Minister’s Office), which compares and pools together the knowledge and expertise of authorities responsible for internal security and immigration issues.

More information: Kari Laitinen, Senior Researcher

Project news:

The use of learning simulations in security sector training organizations supervised by the Ministry of the Interior (SIMU)

Simulations appear to play a central role in the vocational education in security sector. This research project evaluates the use of simulations in basic degree training of Police University College, The Border and Coast Guard Academy, Crisis Management Centre Finland and The Emergency Services College until February 2016.

The aim of the research project is to establish a common, pedagogically grounded view of the use of simulations as a teaching method. Also, a common language and a basis for co-operation inside and amongst the training organizations will be created.

The research project tries to ascertain what kinds of simulations are used, in which phases of basic degree studies the simulation exercises are carried out, and what kind of best practices emerge in the existing simulation exercises.

Research data is obtained by observation, interviews and a survey.

Further information: Joanna Kalalahti, Researcher

Some other projects that have commenced

- Entering domestic violence as a suspected crime during domestic calls by the police: The purpose of the study is to determine why a domestic violence offence is reported in only about one in five cases of police officers responding to a call classified as a domestic violence call.
- Hate crimes 2014–2015: This annual study analyses hate crimes reported to the police. Their motive is often prejudice against the victim's ethnic background.
- TAKO: The first sub-project of the study, "State of financial crime investigation 2015", will repeat the 2011 survey targeted at the financial crime investigators of the police. The second sub-project examines corruption crime in 2011–2014 reported to the police.

Research results:

Evaluation of the effectiveness of the police recruit training program

The effectiveness of the police recruit training program was now evaluated for the third time. The study included police officers who had graduated from the Police University College in the years 2012 and 2013. The study evaluated the basic police work skills that the students had obtained and how well they had found employment. The attitudes and motivation of the new graduates were also studied with regard to their profession.

The newly graduated police officers were satisfied with the contents of police training. The graduated police officers placed the highest value on the practical experience that they received at the Police University College during training exercises and in police departments during their job placement periods.

The newly graduated police officers who participated in the survey were employed at a slower rate than the respondents of the previous survey who had graduated in 2009–2011. They are, however, extremely committed to their profession.

Publication online:

[Matti Vuorensyrjä: Poliisin perustutkintokoulutuksen vaikuttavuusarviointi 2015](#)
Police University College Reports 114. Tampere 2015. (with English summary)

Final report of the Organized Crime Portfolio (OCP) project

Annually, organized crime moves EUR 110 billions of money within the European Union's area. Money is most commonly obtained from illegal drug trafficking, but other profitable means include fraud and property crime. In Finland, organized crime is typically connected to money laundering and drug and property crimes perpetrated by motorcycle gangs.


The results above are from a joint study by seven EU countries. The Police University College was one of the participants. The research project, funded by the European Commission, began in 2012. The project was coordinated by the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, a university in Italy.

You can study the English research report "From Illegal Markets to Legitimate Businesses: the Portfolio of Organised Crime in Europe" online: <http://www.ocportfolio.eu/Materials-Reports.php>

More information: Jarmo Houtsonen, Senior Researcher

Corruption risk areas in Finland in the 2010s

This study, conducted by the Police University College, investigated those Finnish sectors and situations that are susceptible to corruption. Sectors and situations can either mean sectors of Finnish society, or indicate the nature of corrupt activities. Collectively, these are referred to as corruption risk areas. In this study, corruption is defined as the misuse of a position of responsibility for private gain. This definition includes bribery and other forms of corruption.



The empirical section of this study began by analyzing corruption risk areas on the basis of research-based information and statistical data. A close examination was performed of the characteristics of corruption in these risk areas in 15 theme-based interviews. The following areas were selected for closer analysis: public procurement, construction and urban planning, and political activities.

Publication online:

[Johanna Peurala & Vesa Muttilainen: Korruption riskikohteet 2010-luvun Suomessa.](#) Poliisiammattikorkeakoulun raportteja 115. Tampere 2015. (with English summary)

More information: Vesa Muttilainen, Director of Research

From surveying police vehicle damage towards improving driver education and training (KOLHU)

All available police vehicle damage forms from 2013 were analysed for the report in order to determine the most typical accidents that police vehicles are involved in. The goal was to find a pattern that would explain why this damage occurs and whether the information could be utilized in order to improve driver education in the Police University College. It turned out that the police vehicles mostly get damaged in low-stress situations. The most typical types of accidents involved reversing the vehicle or driving into a barrier.

Almost half of all accidents happened in car parks or garages. Meanwhile, 15 percent of all accidents happened in high-stress situations. Based on these findings, it would appear that the accidents mostly happen due to a lack of focus in low-stress situations. In conclusion, the answer to reducing the damages in the future could be in spreading an awareness of these most common types of accidents during driver education and training. The damage data should also be collected electronically so that it is easier to filter and monitor how the accident pattern changes over time.

Publication online:

[Suvi-Tuuli Mansikkamäki: Poliisin ajokoulutuksen jatkuva kehittäminen ja tieto poliisiajoneuvovaurioista](#)

Poliisiammattikorkeakoulun raportteja 116. Tampere 2015

More information: Suvi-Tuuli Mansikkamäki, Researcher

Some other publications

- Applying Resilience Promotion Training Among Special Forces Police Officers. Judith P. Andersen, Konstantinos Papazoglou, Mari Koskelainen, Markku Nyman, Harri Gustafsberg, Bengt B. Arnetz 2015. Article published: SAGE Open. - Published 12 June 2015. - DOI: 10.1177/2158244015590446
- Rahanpesun ja terrorismin rahoituksen kansallinen riskiarvio 2015. (Pirjo Jukarainen & Vesa Mutttilainen; Poliisiammattikorkeakoulun raportteja 117, Tampere 2015, with English summary: National risk assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing 2015.)
- Comparing trends in infanticides in 28 countries 1960–2009. Noora Ellonen, Juha Kääriäinen, Martti Lehti, Mikko Aaltonen 2015. Article published: Journal of Scandinavian Studies in Criminology and Crime Prevention. - Published online: 13 May 2015. - DOI:10.1080/14043858.2015.1038905
- Parents' perceptions of answering a survey on violence against children. Noora Ellonen, Monica Fagerlund 2015. Article published: Journal of Interpersonal Violence. - Published online before print June 18, 2015. - doi: 10.1177/0886260515591279
- Knowledge and Training Regarding the Link Between Trauma and Health : A National Survey of Finnish Police Officers. Judith P. Andersen, Konstantinos Papazoglou, Mari Koskelainen, Markku Nyman 2015. Article published: SAGE Open. - Published 8 April 2015 . - DOI:10.1177/2158244015580380



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