

Session 6

Securitisation and the role of law enforcement, policymakers and other security sector actors

NHRI Academy

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DEMOCRATIC POLICING

“Progress towards **democratic policing** is made when there is a shift ‘from a control-oriented approach to a more service-oriented approach’, where the primary concern of law enforcement remains focused on proactive crime prevention.”

(OSCE Guidebook on Democratic Policing 2007)



OBJECTIVES OF DEMOCRATIC POLICING

The police are the most visible manifestation of government authority.

Their main duties are to:

- maintain public tranquillity and law and order;
- protect and respect the individual's fundamental rights and freedoms;
- prevent and combat crime; and to
- provide assistance and services to the public.

→ Police officers will enhance the legitimacy of the State if they demonstrate in their daily work that they are: responsive to public needs and expectations; and use the authority of the State in the people's interest.

OBJECTIVES OF DEMOCRATIC POLICING

Other basic principles of Democratic Policing

- Upholding the rule of law
- Police Ethics and Human Rights
- Police Accountability and Transparency
- Police organization and management issues

→ Rule of law

Police must operate in line with law and international standards.

Legislation and policies governing the police should be clear, precise, and accessible to the public.

→ Accountability & Transparency

Police is accountable to citizens. Their activities and behaviour must be open to scrutiny by oversight institutions.

Prerequisites for gaining public support are transparency in police operations and cultivating communication and mutual understanding with the public.

SECURITIZATION, HUMAN RIGHTS AND POLICING TRENDS

Expansion and regularization of (counter-terrorism) policing powers, e.g.

- administrative counter-terrorism measures
- data mining and profiling
- surveillance
- stop and search
- policing of assemblies

Risks of community policing and intelligence-led policing

Risks of new technology: predictive policing

ACTIONS TAKEN BY NHRIs TO ADDRESS HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

Case studies

Northern Ireland
on
Counterterrorism
policing, stop and
search

Netherlands
on
ethnic profiling

GROUP BRAINSTORMING EXERCISE

Instructions:

Based on experiences in your country/ region and related to your group's topic, discuss the following questions:

1. What work has your NHRI done on the human rights concerns related to securitization in these areas? Can you share any good practices?
2. What future actions could your NHRI take to address ongoing and emerging human rights issues in those areas?
3. What role does or could your NHRI play in oversight of law enforcement and other security sector actors?

Group 1

Public order
policing

Group 2

Investigation,
arrest and
detention

Group 3

Crime
prevention and
community
relations

Group 4

Border
management
and security

Group 5

Intelligence
services

Thank you for your attention!

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