

# LOOK BACK AT 2019

February 2020



Police University College in August 2019 in Tampere, Finland.

The year 2019 was a busy one for the Police University College's (Polamk) international relations team. The annual calendar of the team was built around CEPOL activities, as Polamk's Director Kimmo Himberg holds CEPOL's Chairmanship until the end of June 2020.

Starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, the director of Police University College, Kimmo Himberg is the Chair of the Management Board. From the beginning of the year 2019, the CEPOL Chairmanship brought in much work to be prepared in the Management Board and CEPOL National Units' meetings.

Along with the Finnish EU Presidency, Finland also was offered the chance to organize not one, but two rather special CEPOL events: the Presidency Activity and the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CEPOL Management Board. These events meant brought with them some stressful and long days, but the results speak for themselves. More about these events and other CEPOL activities will be described later in this paper.

Besides multiple CEPOL activities, the international relations team participated in numerous meetings for international networks, participated in the EUPCST programme (page 2), and worked with Twinning projects (page 3), just to mention some highlights.

The year 2019 was full of bilateral international cooperation as well. Polamk signed several agreements with other countries' police and security education and training institutions. During these signature meetings, future cooperation plans were discussed. Many delegations visited Police University College, but Polamk representatives had also the pleasure to visit partner institutions abroad. More about the visits will be told at the bottom of this page.

In addition to these international events and meetings, Polamk's international relations team worked hard to improve cooperation in international matters on national level, especially in CEPOL issues. For this purpose, a new working group was created. In CEPOL-PTR working group (in Finnish, Poliisi, Tulli, Raja (Police, Customs, Border Guard)) representatives from each organisation meet a few times in a year in order to discuss current CEPOL related matters.

All in all, the year 2019 was successful although very busy for the international relations team. In 2020, Polamk continues the work as CEPOL's Chairmanship for another six months, implements the CEPOL Future Leaders course together with Austria, as well as begins working with the Twinning project in Albania (see page 3).



## Year in review: What was the international relations team working with in 2019? Read to find out!

## Visits in Polamk and abroad

Even though e-mail, video conferences and even traditional phone calls help us to keep in touch with our international partners, it is highly beneficial for cooperation to meet face-to-face as well from time to time.

In 2019, the international relations team welcomed delegations from Germany, Latvia, Afghanistan, Iceland, Kosovo, the Czech Republic, Scotland, Hungary and Estonia, just to name a few.

The visitors included researchers, heads of police educational institutes and even an ambassador.

The international relations team also had the pleasure to visit other police education and training institutions in Europe. For example, Polamk representatives received a warm welcome in Rhineland Palatinate Police University (Germany), the Saint-Petersburg University of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (Russia) and the National Academy of Internal Affairs (Ukraine).



Police University College was represented in an International Summit at Rhineland Palatinate Police University in June 2019, alongside Romania, Georgia, USA and Germany

Picture: Pasi Kemppainen

## 7<sup>th</sup> CEPOL Management Board Meeting in Tampere



Picture: Juuso Jonninen

7th Meeting of the CEPOL Management Board took place in Tampere in November 2019.

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Did you know that 111 Finnish law enforcement officers from the police, border guard, customs and prosecutor's office participated in CEPOL courses in 2019? In addition, 163 people watched CEPOL webinars, 11 people took part in online courses, and 544 used CEPOL's online learning modules in 2019.

## Historical CEPOL Presidency Activity, Future Leaders Module and EEODN course in Finland

In 2019, Finland had the pleasure to host three CEPOL activities. First of these activities, EU Law Enforcement Leadership - Future Leaders module 1, took place in Tampere in May.

The two modules of the course are designed to support the leadership skills of future leaders in law enforcement. The second module was organised in Austria in November.

would happen, if there were no police at all? The course was built around a scenario, where the course participants were invited to use their expertise to find alternative ways of ensuring the safety and security of the fictional country of City-Region, which had decided to dissolve its police due to lack of public trust in its police force.

- People were very active and participated eagerly to the task, Huotari commented to the City-Region News, a fictional newspaper, which was published during the course in the dedicated course platform in CEPOL's e-Net.

Later in the autumn, the Helsinki Police Department, CEPOL and Europol organised the meeting and conference of the European Explosive Ordnance Disposal Network (EEODN). This event gathered together European and international experts on explosives, discussing recent cases and exchanging ideas.

The event also included a training day in the military island of Santahamina. During the day, the participants had the chance to learn from each other in practical training scenarios, and to enjoy a military field lunch with traditional pea soup and pancakes in fresh air.

## What would happen, if there were no police at all?

In September, Polamk had the chance to try something entirely new. During the Finnish EU presidency, Finland designed and implemented

a CEPOL Presidency Activity. The activity manager Vesa Huotari designed a course, which forced the participants to think outside of the box: what



*Pictured above: The participants of the CEPOL Presidency Activity gathered in GLO Hotel Art in Helsinki. Pictured below: During the activity, the participants were divided into smaller working groups. Pictured is one of these groups, imagining the future of policing.*

## New cooperation agreements in 2019

Did you know that Polamk has cooperation agreements with nine partner institutions in eight countries? In 2019, five new or renewed agreements came into force.

*Kimmo Himberg signing a partnership agreement with Ovidiu Macovei, Principal of the Schengen Multifunctional Training Centre in Romania. Picture: Pasi Kempainen*



2019 was a busy year when it comes to cooperation agreements: in total, five cooperation agreements between Polamk and international cooperation partners were signed in the course of the year.

In January, Polamk and Rhineland Palatinate Police University renewed their cooperation agreement. About a month later in February, Polamk signed a new memorandum of understanding with the Scottish Institute for Police Research (SIPR), building on existing cooperation in the field of research.

Later in the year, an updated memorandum of understanding was also signed with the Kosovo Academy of Public Safety (KAPS), replacing an expired cooperation agreement from 2013. Furthermore, Polamk and the Saint-Petersburg University of the Ministry of Internal Affairs signed a cooperation protocol in September, re-establishing cooperation in the field of police education between Finland and Russia. In November, Polamk signed a memorandum of understanding with the Romanian Schengen Multinational Training Centre.



*Family Photo at the first Steering Committee meeting for the EUPCST project in the Netherlands in March 2019. Photo: Royal Netherlands Marechaussee*

## NEW PROJECT: EUPCST

Polamk is one of the partners in the European Union Civilian Services Training Programme, which began in March 2019

The aim of the EUPCST project, lead by the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee, is to provide training for people who are going to participate on EU civilian crisis management missions. The project partners are 23 police, civilian and

gendarmarie organisations. CMC Finland is also a partner in this project. Polamk contributes to the project by nominating police experts on courses and preparing an online module on the basic concepts of civilian crisis management.

## CEPOL MB Meeting in Tampere: Light to the Darkest Time of the Year

The CEPOL Management Board (MB) is an administrative structure, which consists of one representative from each of the EU Member States (apart from the UK and Denmark, which have opted out of the CEPOL regulation) and the EU Commission.

Its duties include, for example, of adopting CEPOL's annual work programme, budget and activity reports. The Director of the Police University College, Kimmo Himberg has been the Chair of the CEPOL MB since January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, his term continuing until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The CEPOL MB meets twice a year. The meetings are hosted by the country holding the EU Presidency. In November 2019, the Management Board met in Tampere, Finland.

Members of the Management Board arrived in Tampere on November 18<sup>th</sup>. As we all know, November may not be the very best time to visit Finland when it comes to weather. Luckily, the MB members were this time greeted by only the beautiful lights of Tampere City Centre, and not by heavy rain.

On November 19<sup>th</sup>, the MB meeting was officially opened in the beautiful Banquet Hall of the Tampere City Hall, as the National Police Commissioner Seppo Kolehmainen - a former member of the CEPOL MB - welcomed the MB in Finland.



The CEPOL Executive Director, Detlef Schröder in Tampere City Hall during the MB Meeting  
Picture: Juuso Jonninen

*As we all know, November may not be the very best time to visit Finland when it comes to weather. Luckily, the MB members were this time not greeted by heavy rain.*

In the evening of November 19<sup>th</sup>, the meeting guests had the chance to visit the Tampere 1918 exhibition, and enjoyed a delicious dinner hosted by the Director for Competitiveness of the City of Tampere, Anna-Kaisa Heinämäki in Museum Centre Vapriikki.

The meeting continued in the Tampere City Hall on November 20<sup>st</sup>. After lunch the guests began their journey back home, and the Finnish CEPOL team returned to Hervanta, tired but happy after the intensive meeting days.

The MB meetings are important events in the CEPOL calendar, since many significant decisions regarding CEPOL's strategy activities are adopted in the meetings. In the meeting in Tampere, for instance, the CEPOL work programme for 2020, including what courses CEPOL shall offer in the coming year, was adopted.

All in all, the Finnish CEPOL team found the event to be successful, both when it comes to organisation and practical details, as well as fruitful discussions during the meeting.

## CEPOL CNU Meetings in Budapest

During the Finnish EU-presidency, Superintendent Pasi Kemppainen was honored to chair the CEPOL National Unit (CNU) meeting in Budapest September 30<sup>th</sup> - October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.



Finnish delegation in a CNU Meeting in Budapest

First day on the agenda was CEPOL's new business model (i.e. how CEPOL and its members will organize trainings in future). Heads of the CNUs across Europe had an opportunity to have an influence to the content of new model proposal. Work took place in workshops. Pasi Kemppainen summarized the outcomes of the workshops in the meeting, where also CEPOL Executive Director Detlef Schröder was present.

- In order to reach commitment to the new model it was crucial to organize an opportunity to CNUs to discuss and deliver their thoughts to CEPOL Management and Management Board. It turned out that there is still work to do to reach an optimal solution, said Kemppainen. He also reported later on these results to the CEPOL Management Board meeting in Tampere November 2019.

Other topics in the meeting ranged from training needs analysis to updated CEPOL web-based learning system LEED (Law Enforcement Education platform), CEPOL 2020 trainings, Exchange Programme and other topical issues.

- CEPOL Presidency has been a great experience. It has given us a greater insight to CEPOL's work in the field of European Law Enforcement training, concluded Pasi Kemppainen.

## Winning Twinning

In 2020 Polamk will start implementing a Twinning project in Albania together with partners from Estonia and Finland.



Polamk Twinning team hard at work, finalizing the winning proposal.

Autumn 2019 was very busy for the international relations team. On top of the CEPOL Presidency Activity and Management Board meeting preparations, the team busy preparing a proposal for a Twinning project in Albania together with the rest of the Polamk Twinning team.

Intensive writing sessions, hundreds of e-mails and long days resulted in a successful proposal for Twinning project "Strengthening the Capacities and Efficiency of the Security Academy – Albania".

The aim of the project is to improve the education and training capacities, scientific research capabilities and the overall management of the Albanian Security Academy in delivering professional educational programmes for Albanian State Police and other Law Enforcement Agencies. The Finnish proposal to implement this project was written in consortium with the Estonian Academy of Security Sciences (EASS), JAMK University of Applied Sciences and HAUS International. Polamk is the lead partner in the consortium.

In October, the proposed Project Leader, Director Kimmo Himberg, and the proposed Resident Twinning Advisor (RTA), Senior Lecturer Tiina Koivuniemi travelled to Albania with the proposed component leaders from EASS and JAMK to present the proposal to the selection committee in person. It is safe to say that the presentation went well, since on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, Polamk received the information that the Finnish-Estonian proposal had been selected to implement the project. Needless to say, we were honored that we were selected as there was strong competing proposals for the project.

In 2020, the work will continue intensively. The RTA Tiina Koivuniemi moved to Tirana, Albania in mid-January, which marked the official beginning of the project. Tiina's job will be to work as a link between the Albanian Security Academy and the project consortium, and to support the implementation of the project on-site. In addition, a number of short term experts will travel to Albania in the following 27 months to complete various activities, which are designed to support the education, training and research in the Albanian Security Academy. And of course we are looking forward to having our Albanian colleagues visit Polamk during study visit.