

LOOK BACK AT 2021

Read what has been going on in Polamk's International Relations and Project Services team during 2021!



Police University College's Director **Kimmo Himberg** presenting his thoughts on future policing in CEPOL Future Leaders course. Dr. Kimmo Himberg retired at the end of 2021, and international relations and project services team wants to thank him for all his efforts in international projects and activities and wishes him happy retirement.

Photo by Sofia Lähde.



Texts by the International Relations and Project Services team:

Project Officer **Johanna Argillander** and Research Assistant **Camilla Kattelus** (upper row)

Project Officer **Suvi-Tuuli Ames**, Superintendent **Pasi Kempainen**, and Senior Planning Officer **Antti Talvitie** (lower row)

Trainee **Sofia Lähde** (missing from the picture)

Year 2021 – Another year dominated by COVID-19

It goes without saying that COVID-19 continued to impact our work in the international relations and project services team in 2021. Avoiding contacts, facing travel restrictions, following detailed precautionary measures to minimize the risk of getting infected started to be business as usual. We have also learned more about the benefits of IT when organising meetings, teleworking, and even getting together for coffee breaks online.

The Police University College (Polamk) international relations team has been working with project services staff over the past few years and we re-organised our structure in the beginning of the year 2021 a bit. Now this newsletter is produced by the International Relations and Project Services team. Joining forces serves our common goals and views towards future, as many of our tasks are closely related to international settings, be it networking or funding opportunities.

You will find some snapshots and highlights of our daily business from this annual newsletter; law enforcement training, international projects, and civilian crisis management. What is more, for the first time, we were involved in supporting the organising of a high-level UN course here at Polamk.

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and please feel free to contact us to learn more about Polamk's International and Project Services work and staff. Please find our contact information below.

CEPOL Activities during the Exceptional Times – Up and Down, and in the Air Again

The year 2021 was full of ups and downs due to the pandemic. Even though some European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) meetings were able to be held in person, for example the CEPOL Management Board (MB) meetings were held online in May and November. In autumn, travel arrangements were already complete for the MB meeting in

Bled before it was announced that the meeting had to be transferred into an online session due to the worsening COVID-19 situation in Slovenia. Director Kimmo Himberg and Superintendent Pasi Kempainen took part in the meetings in November and in May. Next year, there will be a new voting member from Finland in the MB as Director Himberg retired at the end of the year 2021.

During the year, the CEPOL National Unit (CNU) and National LEEd Manager (NLM) meetings were attended online by the international relations team. In October, Superintendent Kempainen and Research Assistant Camilla Kattelus travelled to Budapest to meet colleagues across Europe in person during CEPOL's "super week" of meetings. Kattelus took part in the NLM meeting on Monday and Tuesday and Kempainen in the CNU meeting on Tuesday and Wednesday. The meetings provided a good environment for discussions about the current updates in CEPOL and for ideas on how to develop CEPOL's online learning platform, LEEd.



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CEPOL Expert Group on Enhancement of cooperation between Member States and Framework Partners gathered together a few times during 2021 to create new solutions on how to engage the Framework Partners in CEPOL's activities. Superintendent Kemppainen has been part of the expert group since the beginning. The group presented results to the MB in November, and will continue its work in 2022.

Besides different CEPOL meetings, Kattelus also participated in CEPOL's Activity Manager course (Step 1) in September in Budapest. The course was CEPOL's first onsite course since the pandemic began, and the atmosphere among the participants was full of energy and happiness. The course gave insights and ideas on how to organise CEPOL courses from an administrative point of view.

After hours and hours of preparative work and meetings with our consortium partner Austrian Federal Police Academy, it was finally time for the CEPOL's EU Law enforcement leadership development - Future Leaders, Module 1 to be held in Tampere.



James Luckhurst, Jarmo Puustinen and Kurt Eyre were the coaches of the CEPOL Future Leaders course. Photo by Camilla Kattelus.

As the pandemic situation had improved in Finland by October, the participants were able to come to Tampere to learn different aspects and point of views of future leadership. Our team handled the administrative and practical arrangements of the course and Superintendent Jarmo Puustinen from

the Finnish Ministry of the Interior lead the course as the Activity Manager.

Please read more about the course in our newsletter published on Polamk's website. You can find it [here](#).

Police University College's grant application in consortium with the Austrian Federal Police Academy for the same course was successful, and therefore the course will be implemented (if the COVID-19 situation allows) again in late spring 2022.

EU Twinning Project Continued in Albania

As the first half of the year was full of online lectures and meetings, the board members of Security Academy were pleased to finally have face-to-face gatherings with the project partners in the autumn. The final two months of the year proved to be the busiest with up to seven short-term experts visiting the Security Academy in the same week.

One of the highlights of the project in 2021 was the study visit in November. Ten staff members of Security Academy visited Finland for a week to learn how Polamk operates. The guests also visited project partner JAMK's facilities in Jyväskylä, and they met representatives from the Ministry of the Interior, the National Police Board and National Bureau of Investigation in Helsinki. Study visits are a great way to build trust, enhance cooperation and most importantly learn from one another.

And of course, Police University College offered a unique cultural awareness experience to our study visitors by hosting a sauna evening by one of the big lakes in Tampere. Not everyone dared to swim in the chilly lake, but those who did will probably never forget it.

The project will continue until mid-2022 and we hope that most missions can be operated in person.

Please find more information about the project and the project partners in the project [website](#).

The Twinning project is funded by the European Union.

To Believe or not to Believe? That Is not the Question – EUPCST Online Course on Religious Aspects in Crisis Management Missions

Police University College is part of the European Union Police and Civilian Services Training (EUPCST) project funded by the European Union. Within the project, the international relations team and CMC Finland planned and produced an online course together about religious aspects in a civilian crisis management mission. The online activity "Concepts and communication between worldviews and belief systems" is targeted for those police and civilian experts who are going to be deployed or who are planning to deploy on civilian crisis management operations. The course will be published on European Security and Defence College's (ESDC) online learning platform, ILIAS, in the beginning of the year 2022.

The EUPCST project is funded by the European Union.



Pasi Kemppainen and Sari Rautarinta from CMC Finland filming online course materials for EUPCST. Photo by Camilla Kattelus.

Finnish Crisis Management Cooperation

Police University College has done cooperation with Finnish partners (CMC Finland, FINCENT, and Border and Coast Guard Academy) in crisis management for several years already. In 2021, this cooperation



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was formalised with a signing of an agreement. The agreement for the Finnish Centre of Expertise in Comprehensive Crisis Management was published during the Comprehensive Crisis Management Seminar in September. The centre of expertise aims at developing comprehensive crisis management as a concept and at increasing knowledge about it. The centre of expertise also enhances cooperation between stakeholders in the field.



Agreement for the Finnish Centre of Expertise in Comprehensive Crisis Management was signed in September. Photo by Camilla Kattelus.

Close Collaboration with CMC Finland

It was our pleasure to continue our close cooperation with CMC Finland in 2021. Besides the afore mentioned EUPCST online course and the Finnish Centre of Expertise in Comprehensive Crisis Management, Police University College cooperated with CMC Finland by offering facilities for courses organised by CMC Finland. Together, as usual, we also organized the selection event for police officers for the Basic Course on Civilian Crisis Management. Completion of the course is required for police officers (and others) in order to apply to become an expert in a civilian crisis management mission.

Next year, our cooperation will continue within United Nations (UN) framework. For example, in October 2022, we will support the organisation of UN Police Commander Course (UNPCC) that is one of the leadership courses of the year.

Leadership on a High Level: Module 2 of ESDC HLC

Police University College has the honour to organise European Security and Defence College's (ESDC) High Level Course Module 2 in the autumn of 2022. Topics in this ESDC flagship course concentrate on capabilities of civilians and military. Target group is senior experts from the EU Member States, candidate countries and EU institutions (military and civilians, including diplomats and police officers) who are either working in key positions or have a clear potential to achieve leadership posts, in particular in the fields of the common foreign and security policy (CFSP) and the common security and defence policy (CSDP).

Preparations towards implementation started in 2021 by organising working group chaired by Polamk and represented by members from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Police Board and CMC Finland.

Horizon Europe security research calls and other external funding

The first Horizon Europe security research calls took place in 2021, and Polamk was involved in four consortia. Evaluations started in December 2021, and the selection results will be published by mid-April 2022 at the latest. The European Research Executive Agency (REA) will sign grant agreements with the successful applicants in July 2022, and projects would start in the autumn of 2022. Please find more information on Horizon Europe [here](#).

In addition, Polamk commented on upcoming Horizon Europe and EU Home Affairs Fund programmes and calls.

During 2021, externally funded projects were actively implemented despite the pandemic. Our team participated in activities of the Building European Communities' Resilience and Social Capital (BuildERS) Horizon 2020 project by e.g. producing videos for educational use.

To keep up with Polamk's International Relations and Project Services team in 2022, follow our Superintendent Pasi Kemppainen (@KemppainenPasi_) and Senior Planning Officer Antti Talvitie (@TalvitieAntti_) on Twitter!

Project Management Training and Developing the Project Process

As part of the ongoing development of Police University College's project process, our team, together with the Ministry of the Interior, trained experts under the Ministry on managing international projects professionally. Polamk's Project Officers Suvi-Tuuli Ames and Johanna Argillander also gained their Certified Project Management Associate, IPMA Level D, certificates this year - a good start for making the existing knowledge visible. We also improved internal project management by participating in working groups.

8th Nordic Police Research Conference went online

Police University College organised the 8th Nordic Police Research Conference that was held online on 14-16 June 2021. The conference consisted of lectures, group work and poster presentations. The main part of the virtual Conference was dedicated to insightful discussions of current state of policing and its possible futures in the Nordic countries. Senior Researcher Vesa Huotari together with the supporting staff did an excellent job in managing the conference and we were happy to support the social activities of the conference. Our team member Argillander took part in the conference's social event where she acted as fortune teller Madame Johanna. Many participants visited Madame's corner and were eager to hear predictions of their future.

