

Pearls in Policing



Assignment 2018-2019

International Action Learning Group (IALG)

Policing within the Context of a Digitalized World

As our world becomes more digital, it is clear that police agencies will be required to respond to a new reality where traditional policies, strategies and tactics will require adaptation and adjustment. Police forces must learn to harness digital technology and understand the impact of digitization to transform the way that policing is delivered.

A rapidly changing digitalized world includes mass communication through the use of social media, crimes that transcend borders and online illegal businesses. It is a world where traditional crime and security problems have digital aspects that create increased complexity. It is a world where digital natives are tech savvy and digital literacy is an expectation. The dark web has emerged as a domain which isolates the police from access to emerging forms of crime.

The role of the police in a rapidly changing digital world is transforming, along with a new understanding of the meaning of legal order. Police agencies will be required to assess their capacity to engage appropriate leadership and ensure that they have the capacity to address the current and future challenges related to digitization. Sufficient and appropriate resources including human, technical and police intelligence are required to ensure an effective, timely, robust and reliable response.

Police services will be required to work with technology giants and companies to ensure that they are able to police effectively. In addition, police will be expected to assure the public that they can trust the ability of law enforcement to police the digital world.

In addition to any other areas the IALG may determine to be relevant, the following questions will guide you in your learning journey:

- What is the current and future role of the police in the digitalized world?
- Does an appropriate legal framework exist to support policing in a digitalized world?
- To what extent and under which conditions do we need to partner with others?
- Are police agencies and international police organizations able to engage in true collaboration with non-police partners?
- What are the implications of sharing information with non-police partners?
- What is the impact on the accountability mechanisms? As public agencies, police services must be accountable for their actions. Accountability mechanisms can include parliament/government oversight, specific legislation, audit functions, governance bodies and civilian oversight processes.
- What are the responsibilities, limits and conditions of private actors and the impact on policing?
- How do police services ensure that they can transfer all material in a digital format to the criminal justice system?

Consider how the police and the private sector interact in a way that:

- Ensures due process
- Enables the enforcement of the law
- Addresses problems that arise as a result of the conditions above
- Ensures economic sustainability

Provide recommendations that take into account the political, economic and operational realities of the regions represented in the IALG group, as well as other regions of the world not represented within your IALG.