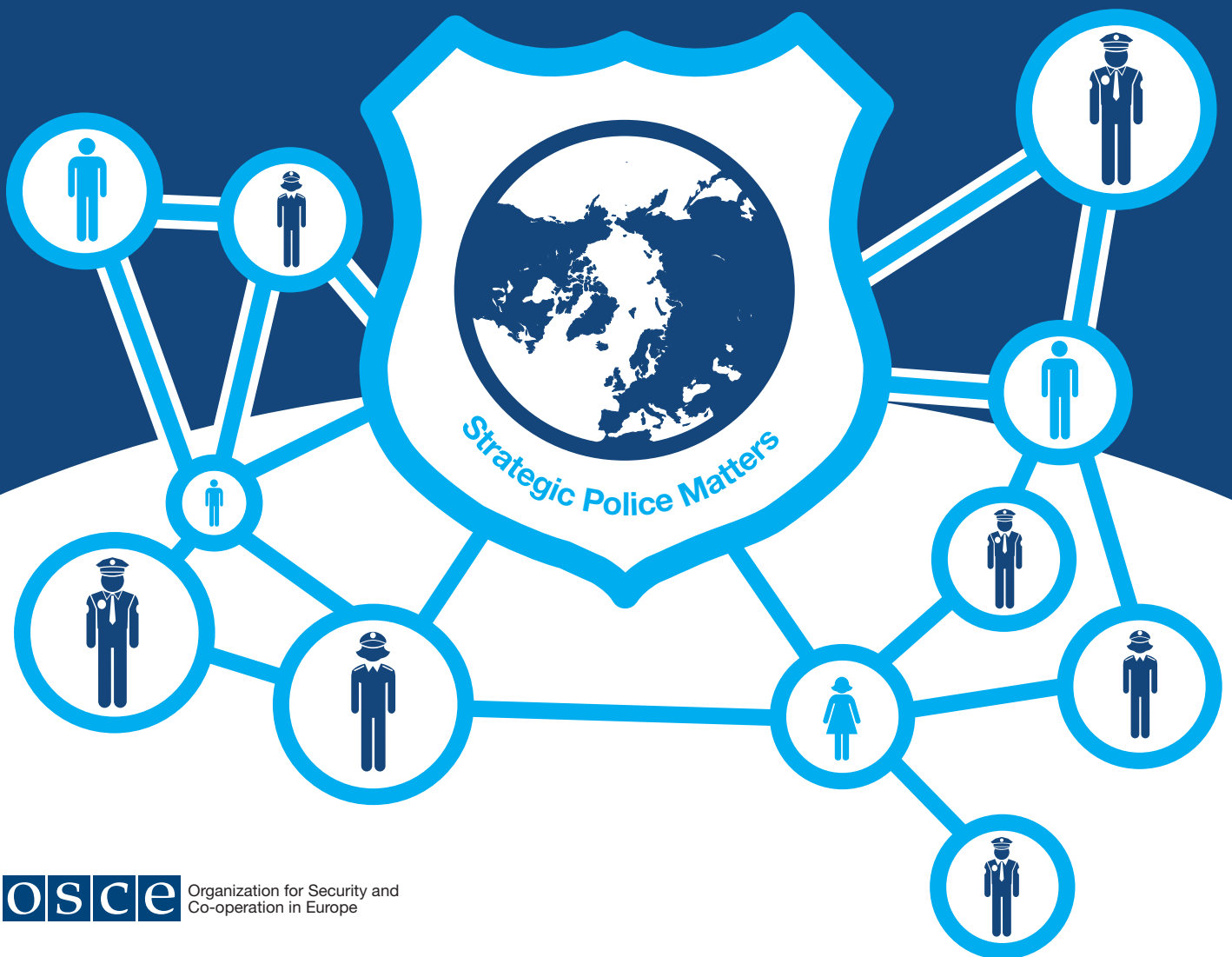


# Transnational Threats Department Strategic Police Matters Unit



# Building the capacity of police services

The OSCE promotes professional, democratic police services that are trusted by citizens and able to effectively address transnational threats to security and stability, such as those that emanate from terrorism and organized crime. Police-related activities are integral parts of the OSCE's efforts in conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation.

## Strategic Police Matters Unit

The Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU) is the focal point for the OSCE's police-related work. As a part of the OSCE Transnational Threats Department (TNTD), the SPMU supports the activities of the Secretary General, the OSCE Chairmanship, the TNTD Director, participating States and field operations in:

- Promoting police development and reform within the principles of democratic policing;
- Countering organized crime, terrorism, trafficking in illicit drugs, trafficking in human beings, and cybercrime.

## Police Development and Reform

Developing professional skills and sharing best practices are among the key elements of the OSCE's police-related activities. The SPMU works to:

- Promote and endorse community policing and police-public partnerships;
- Uphold and encourage a holistic approach to criminal justice system reform;
- Elevate co-operation and the exchange of best practices;
- Facilitate and support training initiatives for building skills and competencies;
- Promote the protection of victims of crime and vulnerable persons.



Crime scene investigation courses aim to enhance the capabilities of the police.



Building confidence between the police and the public is one of the priorities of the SPMU.

# Countering criminal threats

The SPMU supports participating States in their efforts to counter criminal activities, mainly through workshops, training and promoting cross-border co-operation.

## Organized crime

The SPMU actively supports the OSCE field operations, participating States and Partners for Co-operation in their activities to combat organized crime. In particular the SPMU aims to:

- Support the full implementation of key UN Conventions on criminal matters in close co-ordination with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC);
- Strengthen co-operation between law enforcement agencies and other public authorities as well as with NGOs and the private sector;
- Deliver specialized training in criminal investigations, including financial investigations, tracing and seizures of criminal proceeds;
- Reinforce legal instruments, institutional capacity and law enforcement competencies.

## Terrorism

The SPMU assists participating States in developing policing strategies, tactics and mechanisms to counter terrorism, among other things, by:

- Promoting measures for countering radicalization and violent extremism;
- Facilitating the sharing of information and best practices among law enforcement agencies responsible for preventing and investigating terrorism.

## Cybercrime

The SPMU works at national and regional levels with participating States and international partners to:

- Increase investigative capacity and foster the exchange of information with a special focus on hate crimes and the sexual exploitation of children;
- Promote the most effective ways to identify and investigate cybercrime.

## Illicit Drugs and Chemical Precursors

Working closely with the UNODC, the SPMU places special emphasis on:

- Facilitating cross-border co-operation;
- Assisting in developing effective national and regional anti-drug strategies;
- Advocating the implementation of UN Conventions and the International Narcotics Control Board and the Paris Pact Initiatives;
- Promoting and facilitating dialogue and interaction among competent national governmental structures and the private sector, for example health authorities, social services, the transport sector, and the chemical industry.

## Trafficking in Human Beings

The Unit works jointly with internal and external stakeholders to provide training and expert advice to all agencies likely to be involved in efforts against human trafficking. Key elements of the SPMU strategy in this field are to:

- Promote a victim-oriented approach in all counter-trafficking measures;
- Strive for a broader involvement of all public and private stakeholders;
- Promote and assist the outreach to vulnerable groups;
- Provide assistance to law enforcement agencies for strengthening their capacities to investigate and prosecute suspects and seize criminal proceeds.



The SPMU supports OSCE field operations in their work to strengthen the basic training of police.

# Guiding principles

## Strategic Framework for Police-Related Activities

According to the Strategic Framework adopted in 2012, which defines the Organization's goals and priorities of activities related to law enforcement, the OSCE shall assist authorities of participating States at their request to address threats posed by criminal activity, mainly by:

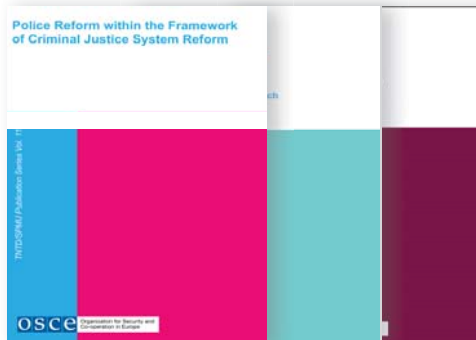
- Training law enforcement personnel;
- Institution- and capacity-building;
- Advising and assisting in the planning and implementation of police reform programmes;
- Facilitating information sharing and the exchange of best practices;
- Analysing and assessing lessons learned to develop guidance.

## Democratic Policing

The SPMU aims at providing a democratic vision of policing for the whole OSCE region and putting that vision to work.

Good policing, which serves the people, is central to preventing conflicts, preserving social stability during crises and supporting post-conflict rehabilitation.

Promoting the principles of democratic policing is the foundation of the OSCE's police-related activities. These principles emphasize the importance of the rule of law; respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including gender and minority issues; police-public partnerships; effective and accountable criminal justice systems; and enhanced co-operation among participating States and international and regional organizations.



## Publication of guidelines

Good policing practices from OSCE participating States have been shared in a number of publications issued by the SPMU. These publications are available on the OSCE Digital Library, POLIS at <http://polis.osce.org/spmuguidelines>

## Support to OSCE field operations

Many OSCE field operations run their own programmes on police development and reform. The SPMU supports police-related activities in the following field operations:

### South-Eastern Europe

Presence in Albania  
Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Mission in Kosovo  
Mission to Montenegro  
Mission to Serbia  
Mission to Skopje

### South Caucasus

Office in Yerevan

### Central Asia

Centre in Ashgabat  
Programme Office in Astana  
Centre in Bishkek  
Office in Tajikistan  
Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

### Eastern Europe

Mission to Moldova  
Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

## Follow OSCE



OSCE Secretariat  
Transnational Threats Department  
**Strategic Police Matters Unit**  
Wallnerstrasse 6  
1010 Vienna, Austria

E-mail: [spm@osce.org](mailto:spm@osce.org)  
[www.osce.org/secretariat/policing](http://www.osce.org/secretariat/policing)  
[polis.osce.org](http://polis.osce.org)