



NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION



IPA Norway Celebrates 70 Years and Re-Elects President

During the last weekend of April, IPA Section Norway hosted its national congress, marking the significant occasion of the section's 70th anniversary. As part of the congress proceedings, elections were held, and delegates renewed their trust in Jan Tore Hagnes by electing him for another three-year term as President.

Read more on page 10.



SPOTLIGHT ON INCLUSION : #SHEisIPA FEATURE



Following the success of the second 'Embracing an Inclusive Vision for the Future 2' #SHEisIPA Seminar, held at IBZ Gimborn from 13–15 May 2025, we are excited to announce a special series in our upcoming newsletter issues.

These feature pages will highlight key moments from the seminar, showcase participant reflections, and share insightful articles on advancing diversity, inclusion, and equality within policing communities worldwide.

See page 6.



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IPA Netherlands Lowlands Training Edition 2025

INTRODUCTION FROM LEGAL ADVISOR MICHAEL BOOLSEN



MICHAEL BOOLSEN

Legal Advisor

Legal Advisor. Why, What and Who?

Following the World Congress in Barcelona in 2023 and the IEC's recognition of the IEB's wish to take a legal advisor on board, I was chosen for this position. However, at least some of you may wonder why there is a need for a legal advisor, and what does such a person do.

Why?

It is a common notion that society is becoming more and more complicated and that handling this complexity requires the aid of persons with a broad variety of education, inter alia lawyers. I think that many of you will recognise this picture from your daily work. As IPA is an integral part of society, this development naturally and inevitably also influences the work of IPA.

Recognising this is not something new; past IEB's have also considered the possibility of making use of the services of a legal advisor.

But why exactly a legal advisor? Well, admitted, persons with a different education might also be in scope for this advisory role. However, many of the questions that arise are of a legal nature or have a clearly legal bearing. Politics is of course the prerogative of the IEB (and naturally the IEC). Yet, at the same time politics is inevitably intertwined with law, thus requiring legal advice.

In my capacity of legal advisor, you would probably consider me biased when judging whether the role of the legal advisor makes sense or not. Yet, in my capacity of president of Section Denmark I allow myself to consider it very wise to have asked the services of a legal advisor.

What?

There are of course the obvious questions regarding interpretation of legal framework of the IPA. This is at the core of the business of the legal advisor.

The package, though, is larger than that. As an example, I could refer to the question of the IPO and how we handle this organisation. Questions considered have been many. Should we take legal action against the IPO for infringement of our intellectual property rights? Should we oblige our members to distance themselves from IPO, as we consider this organisation to – at least in some respects – acting entirely contrary to the objectives of the IPA? Should we clearly distance the IPA from the IPO?

IPO is of course not the only question arising. Sadly, some sections have ended up in serious quarrels, which have been based on different interpretations of IPA rules.

INTRODUCTION FROM LEGAL ADVISOR MICHAEL BOOLSEN

In such matters the IEB have been advising the parties, and my task has been to advise the IEB.

As you can see from the above, law and politics are intertwined, and reaching the politically right decision often is combined with legal advice.

We all want an IPA, which stands on a safe and strong basis when making decisions, be it the IEB or the IEC. In my opinion, the legal advisor can assist the decision process by giving advice on what is legally feasible and coherent with especially international regulations.

Who

I have been the president of Section Denmark since 2007 and have participated in all world congresses since 2007. As a matter of fact, I still remember how proud my son, who today is 30 years old, was at the age of 12 when his father was elected president.

I am a lawyer, and I have been serving with Danish Police for 37 years as a prosecutor, police counsel and many other interesting functions. Today I am the commissioner of police of the Faroe Islands, those tiny 18 islands in the North Atlantic, which form a part of the Kingdom of Denmark. Police in the Faroes form a part of Danish Police, and the Faroe Islands Police are thus a region within IPA Section Denmark.

My aim as president of Section Denmark has always been to secure that the organisation is attractive to all serving or having served within Danish Police inter alia by upholding Arthur Troop's basic vision of friendship among employees of the police across borders and political differences.

I hope I have lifted at least part of the veil that you may have found covering the role of the legal advisor. Let me end by saying that I believe in a bright future of the IPA based on friendship and mutual understanding and this is the basis for my work as a legal advisor.

Michael Boolsen

Michael Boolsen
Legal Advisor

AMENDMENTS TO IPA DOCUMENTS

The International Executive Board (IEB) remains committed to continuously improving the processes and procedures within the IPA.

As part of the preparations for a comprehensive review of the IPA International Statutes and Rules, the IEB warmly invites all National Sections to submit their proposals for amendments.

To support a structured and inclusive review process, we kindly request that all amendment proposals be submitted to the International Administration Centre (IAC) no later than 30th June 2025.

Your contributions are essential in shaping the future of our Association.

#SHEisIPA



From 13-17 April 2025, the #SHEisIPA – Embracing an Inclusive Vision for the Future 2' seminar was held at IBZ Gimborn.

Throughout the next few issues of our newsletter, a feature will be dedicated to this important project that encourages diversity, inclusion and equality.

The first article is from Kianna Hermida from IPA Gibraltar who attended the seminar in Gimborn.

I recently had the privilege of representing the IPA Gibraltar section through attending an inspiring seminar organised by the SHEisIPA team of the International Police Association. The event, which gathered over 50 participants from 25 countries, was dedicated to encouraging more female officers to join the IPA, empowering women in leadership roles, addressing the inequalities faced by women in predominantly male environments, and exploring strategies to overcome these barriers.



The seminar featured a lineup of distinguished speakers who are leaders in their respective fields. Their stories of resilience and success served as powerful motivators, offering valuable insights into navigating the challenges of leadership.



During a series of conferences and workshops held at the IPA affiliated IBZ Gimborn Castle, I discovered practical strategies for empowering all officers, regardless of gender. One of the most rewarding aspects of the seminar was the opportunity to network with fellow participants. Sharing experiences and ideas with women from diverse law enforcement agencies enriched our collective knowledge and highlighted best practices.

We also had the privilege of visiting the Cologne Police Headquarters, where Silke PAUL, the president of IPA Cologne, shared her experiences in policing.

The SHEisIPA seminar was an incredible opportunity for which I am immensely grateful. It has equipped me with valuable knowledge and tools, and I am eager to share what I have learned with my colleagues.

Having the opportunity to represent the IPA Gibraltar section, the Royal Gibraltar Police and Gibraltar as a whole at this seminar was a truly remarkable experience.

Kianna Hermida
Section Gibraltar

#SHEisIPA



The second article in this feature is from Biljana Duvolic, President of IPA Montenegro

Karen Duckworth, IEB Professional Commission Project Lead - #SHEisIPA, organised a seminar for female police officers in Gimborn with her team.

This event was attended by members from 25 sections from all over the world, in the period from April 13 to 17, 2025.

The seminar was opened by the President of the IPA, Martin Hoffmann, and the Chairperson of the IEB Professional Commission, Diego Trolese, whose support is important for this topic.



During the three-day seminar, the participants of this event exchanged experiences in the field of gender equality, heard interesting life and professional stories of successful women leaders in the police, developed friendship and strengthened international cooperation of IPA members.

Networking of women in the police is important for their professional empowerment, exchange of experiences and joint action in strengthening the modern police service and the modern IPA.

During the seminar, a memorandum on cooperation was signed between the Association of Police Officers of Montenegro and the Association of Police Women of Moldova.

At this seminar, 100 years of women in the Polish police were marked and a presentation on women in the Polish police was shown.



The participants of the event visited the Cologne police, where they were shown a presentation about the work of a successful woman in the German police.

The seminar was evaluated as a successful and positive example of IPA's work in order to promote the principle of gender equality, the importance of women in the police and the importance of their networking and international cooperation.

President Biljana Duvolic
Section Montenegro

GREEN IPA PLANT A TREE EVENT



Between 19 April and 4 May 2025, IPA Sections across the globe came together in an inspiring show of unity and environmental responsibility as part of the “PLANT a TREE – GREEN IPA” initiative, organised by the Socio-Cultural Commission in collaboration with the Green IPA Project.

The event, held in celebration of Earth Day on 22 April, was designed to promote environmental awareness within local communities, schools, and colleges, while also strengthening the bonds between IPA members, their families, and friends through meaningful action.

The idea was simple yet impactful: for IPA members worldwide to plant at least one tree in their local area. Participation exceeded expectations, with activities carried out in over 20 IPA Sections, supported by governmental and non-governmental organisations alike. In true IPA spirit, many Sections went above and beyond—partnering with schools, local communities, and environmental groups to ensure the long-term sustainability of their tree-planting projects.

The official motto, “PLANT a TREE – GREEN IPA,” featured proudly across banners, t-shirts, badges, and other promotional items. These visible symbols of our shared mission helped amplify the initiative’s impact and message across communities and social media platforms.

This global event saw enthusiastic participation from hundreds of members and resulted in the planting of countless trees—contributing not only to greener landscapes but also to stronger community ties and increased environmental awareness.

We extend our sincere thanks to all participating Sections, as well as to the many volunteers and organisations that helped bring this initiative to life.

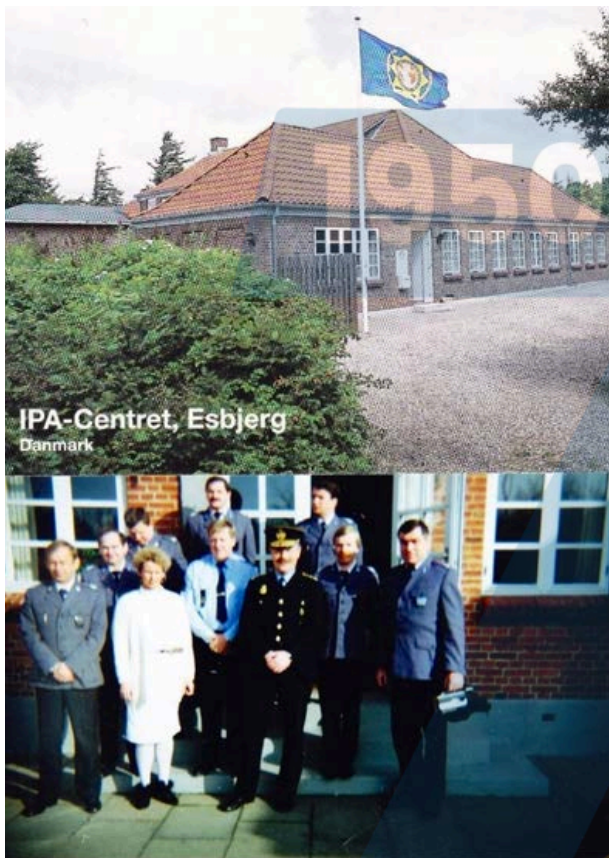
We kindly remind all Sections to send their photos, videos, and participation details (number of trees planted, number of members involved, and local partners) to chair-scc@ieb-ipa.org via WeTransfer. These contributions will be featured in a commemorative video presentation during the upcoming World Congress in Krakow, Poland and in a special edition publication that will be circulated in due course.

Together, we’ve taken a significant step toward a greener future—while proudly upholding the ideals and values of the International Police Association.

Look out for the Green IPA Plant a Tree Publication coming soon where all sections and photos will be featured!



33 YEARS OF IPA – ZDZISŁAW MIRECKI



Tygodniowe szkolenie policjantów z Regionu Jelenia Góra w ośrodku IPA Esbjerg (Dania) - luty 1992 r.

My journey with the International Police Association began in 1992 during a training visit to Denmark. There, I encountered the idea of IPA for the first time—a global police association based on the motto *Servo per Amikeco* – “To Serve Through Friendship.” Shortly afterward, I became a member, receiving membership card no. PL 028.

From the very beginning, I actively engaged in building bridges between officers from different countries. I co-organised numerous exchanges, study visits, and conferences. Thanks to the contacts established through IPA, young people could participate in international projects, and police officers had opportunities to explore practices of other law enforcement services. Over the years, I hosted officers from countries such as Israel, Germany, Denmark, Hungary, and France, and I also participated in many international initiatives myself.

Within the structures of the IPA Polish Section, I proudly held positions as General Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Vice President. I was also responsible for coordinating with the International Training Centre in IBZ Gimborn, where I helped define seminar topics and organized Polish delegations.

It was a privilege to see IPA become a platform for exchanging knowledge between police, prosecutors, and border guards.

IPA, however, is more than professional development. It's a space for genuine friendship and social engagement. Throughout my years of service, I witnessed how the association supports education, culture, youth integration, and the promotion of a positive image of the police. As part of the “Placement Programme,” I hosted international participants and also visited other countries as an IPA representative.



Today, more than three decades later, I still proudly wear the IPA badge. I continue to promote the idea of the association in high schools, among police personnel, and within senior citizen communities. I firmly believe that the values IPA stands for—friendship, solidarity, cooperation—remain as relevant as ever in our changing world.

On the occasion of IPA's 75th anniversary, I wish all members continued success, inspiring connections, and the conviction that being part of this unique community is truly worthwhile.

Zdzisław Mirecki – IPA Member since 1992
IPA Poland

IPA NORWAY 70TH ANNIVERSARY AND NATIONAL CONGRESS



During the last weekend of April, IPA section Norway carried out its 28th national congress.

The congress was held in the old fortified town of Fredrikstad. Now, the whole town isn't fortified anymore, but the old parts of the town are. We had a tour in the old town as the social and cultural part of the gathering.

Region East (11) was technical organiser for the congress and provided a very nice and successful national congress. Some also brought their spouses, making the spare time of the congress also a social arena.

The congress opened on Friday 25th. Two of the speakers were Inger Grete Lia and Therese Lutnæs who presented their experience after attending She is IPA in Gimborn. They spoke of a useful and inspiring gathering. They experienced that too many women lack the respect and possibilities one should expect.

One participant, a recent mother, brought with her some-month old baby-boy. As she stated, this was the only way she could attend, and she wanted to participate. The baby-boy also showed interest of IPA, crawling about in the congress-room.



The meeting was successful, and one former member was honoured for her service, Monica Lillevik, with a badge of honour. Lillevik sadly had to leave IPA, as she started a new career outside the police. She has been the Secretary General for several years, providing the section with stability and knowledge on the organisation. One former holder of a badge of honor was decorated as a honorary member, Geir Larsen. He has excelled himself by amongst other things, by working with and supporting IPA in the Balkans.

IPA section Norway was established in 1954, as the fifth section of IPA, thus making its 70th anniversary in 2024. We found the National congress a suitable opportunity for a celebration. We marked the anniversary with speeches on the section history and the way forth towards 100 years. As IPA section Norway first was founded in Oslo, there were only members in the capital. This was to change in 1963 as Bergen stepped up and became our second region. Much was learned, as there were no directions on the use of powers of attorney then, thus some members represented more than 60 others. Later this clearly had to be regulated. We got a history lesson on how that formed IPA section Norway.

IPA NORWAY 70TH ANNIVERSARY AND NATIONAL CONGRESS

In 1954 the annual fee was kr 10,-, equals Euro 1. Since then, we've had some 944% price increase, thus, the price was probably noticeable for the time. A senior member, Kjell Berg of the Oslo region (1), provided the celebration with the very first ledger, neatly written down, cent by cent.

The meetings final issue was electing a new national board. The congress entrusted Jan Tore Hagnes 3 more years as president. The board was changed in some posts, making Gunnar Baardsen officially the Secretary General. Three new members now fills the roles as treasurer, secretary for social medias and board member with responsibility as travel secretary and representative to the Gimborn talks. The board is now represented by more women.

As head of social committee is in service for the United Nation, Hans Sørheim will be acting head of social committee until Thorben Westgård returns.

On Saturday, after the official program, we got a guided tour through the fortified old town, established in the mid 1600's as a defence against Sweden. Then it was a purely military establishment, now only serving as a tourist attraction with no military presence. Instead of guns, there were bars, making this spring weekend even better.



The new elected National board. From left; Christer Aas (editor), Gunnar Baardsen (SecGen), Kamilla Margrethe Ruud (treasurer), Jan Tore Hagnes (President), Marit Lundemo (SoMe), Magne Langseth (VP/Professional committee) and Ola Akselberg (Ass SecGen).

Not present: Thorben Westgård (Social and cultural committee), Hans Sørheim (travel secretary, Social committee and Gimborn) and Vetle Fosse (travel secretary, Gimborn). There were elected 3. Deputies as well, none of these were present.

Magne Langseth
Professional committee, VP
IPA Norway

IPA SPAIN ZAMBOMBA 2025



IPA Spain, through its Andalusia Delegation and IPA Xerez Group, invites you to Zambomba 2025, taking place in Jerez de la Frontera from 5-7 December 2025.

Celebrate the season with flamenco, festive cheer, and local traditions in this unique event, recognised as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Andalusia.

Jerez is easily accessible via XRY Airport, making it a perfect destination for IPA members across Europe. Don't miss this joyful cultural gathering in the heart of southern Spain!

EASTER CAMPAIGN OF IPA AUSTRIA IN UKRAINE

As in 2023 and 2024, the head of the regional group of Styria and 3rd Vice President, Elke Strohmeyer, organised another support campaign together with IPA Romania. The goal was to help children of Ukrainian border police officers (Help Ukraine Children) who died in the war against Russia.

On April 6, 2025, Elke drove her car, which was fully loaded with gifts for 15 Ukrainian children and 60



shoeboxes filled with presents for the special education center in Mukachevo, Ukraine. These shoeboxes were lovingly packed by first-year students from the secondary school in Güssing. First, she drove to Cluj, where she picked me up at the airport. Then we continued more than 300 kilometres to Sighetu Marmăției, where the Secretary General of IPA Romania, Marius Mureșan, and the regional IPA President of Maramureș, Silviu Palagi, were already waiting for us.

On the morning of April 8, 2025, we visited the commander of the border police in Sighetu Marmăției, General Florin Coman. He informed us about the ongoing challenges in monitoring the more than 650-kilometre-long border with Ukraine. After giving him some small gifts, we crossed the narrow wooden bridge over the Tisza River to the Ukrainian border. Our gift-filled car was carefully checked there. After a short drive, we arrived at the Romanian consulate in Solotvyno, Ukraine. There, the consul Mr. Gratian Florin Parvu and the Ukrainian children were already waiting for us. The gifts from IPA Romania and IPA Austria were handed over there. All the children were overwhelmed by the many presents.



Since we did not have enough time to visit the children at the special education center in Mukachevo, the gifts were given to them later, on April 16, 2025, by Consul Gratian Florin Parvu and IPA President Silviu Palagi.

The Easter campaign of IPA Austria was once again a great success and shows the strength of the global, practical network of the IPA, true to the founder Arthur Troop's motto: *servo per amikeco* (service through friendship). IPA helps wherever help is needed.

EASTER CAMPAIGN OF IPA AUSTRIA IN UKRAINE

As Chair of the Social Commission of IPA Austria, I want to thank all IPA Austria members, local branches, regional groups, and the IPA publishing house for their generous donations. Without everyone's help, this campaign—which has now taken place for the third time—would not have been possible.

A special thank you goes to Elke for organising and carrying out this inspiring aid project.

**Kurt Walker 2nd Vice President & Chair of the Social Commission
IPA Austria**



IPA JAPAN FRIENDSHIP JUDO WEEK



- Judo practice instructed by judo masters including:
Olympic Gold Medalist
Former European Champion
Former All Japan Champion, etc.
- A short tour to police facilities.
- A one-day trip to a famous tourist spot.

Through this event, you will have a great experience of learning the both techniques and spirit of Japanese judo and have a chance to feel Japanese culture and nature. A total of 16 places are provided for IPA members on active duty. Beginners are also welcomed.

Attendance fee, including accommodation and the excursion, is approximately: single room for 1 person - ¥110,000, twin room for 2 people - ¥223,000 (price for 2 people). To register, contact Ryoji Suzuki r.suzuki@ipa.gr.jp or rsuzuki@rose.plala.or.jp



IPA Japan are hosting "Friendship Judo Week," a judo training session, will take place in Chiba Prefecture from November 24 to 30, 2025. Through this event, participants will have the opportunity to learn the techniques and spirit of Japanese judo and experience Japanese culture and nature. The instructors will include an Olympic gold medalist, former European champion, former All Japan champion, etc. A total of 16 spots are available for active police officers who are IPA members. Black belt status is not required for participation and beginners are welcome.

Female judoka will instruct female participants. The application deadline is July 25. Let's practice judo in Japan, the birthplace of judo, with IPA friends from around the world under the guidance of top judo instructors!

MORE INFO

15TH ANNIVERSARY OF IPA BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

From May 2-4.2025, at the Jelena Hotel in Brčko, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the Association of Police Officers in BiH (IPA BiH) was celebrated.

The ceremonial part of the assembly was held with welcoming speeches by the President of the IPA BiH Assembly Goran Žulj, the host Milan Nikolić and the President of the IPA BiH Šero Družić. The said assembly was attended by, among others, the President of the Brčko City Assembly, a representative of the Brčko District Government and the Assistant Chief of Police of the Brčko District. On this occasion, gifts were presented to officials and sections of Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia;



During the working part of the Assembly, reports on the work and finances of the section for 2024 and plans for 2025 were adopted, as well as other decisions important for the functioning of the section;

In the morning, the stands of the Sections of Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro, Slovenia and local regional clubs (IPA USK, IPA HBŽ, IPA ŽZH, IPA Sarajevo and IPA Brčko) are on display. Autochthonous products from the mentioned countries and regions, as well as advertising material from sections and clubs, were placed on the stands;

www.ipa-international.org



In the meantime, a round table was held on the international IPA project #SHEisIPA, which was attended by IPA members from IPA BiH, IPA Serbia, IPA Croatia, IPA North Macedonia and IPA Slovenia, and Dragana Stević presented the activities of women in IPA Brčko, shared her experience from the international seminar for IPA women in IBZ Schloss Gimborn, Germany, where she was present together with a member of the international team in the #SHEisIPA project Ivana Pavlović. The present members were greeted by the president of IPA BiH Šero Družić and the vice president of IPA BiH Milan Nikolić.



15TH ANNIVERSARY OF IPA BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

Afterwards, another commendable action and the #greenipa project was held, where representatives of all visiting sections (Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia) planted one tree each in front of the Brčko District building, after which the police building was visited and they were introduced to their work;



After the "working" part of planting trees, the guests went for refreshments and tasting of quality indigenous wines and delicacies at the Pajić Winery in Bukvik;

Thanks to the hosts from IPA Brčko for the excellent organisation and hospitality.



Special thanks go to the founders of IPA BiH who started this story in 2010 with the help of the friendly section of IPA Croatia.



IPA Bosnia & Herzegovina

MULTICULTURALISM IN IPA BRANCHES IN ISRAEL

The Israel Police Association has 120 branches, half of which are serving police officers and half are retired.

The Israel Police and the Prison Service include members of different religions, denominations, and beliefs. Even among members of the same religion, there are many differences.



The Israel Police includes all those who serve in it in a uniform and equal manner.

In the International Police Association, the situation is different, since the emphasis is placed on cultural and social activities in which holidays, customs, and rituals are celebrated.

In IPA Israel we have, Jews, Muslims, Druze, Circassians, Bedouins, Christians and others. To demonstrate the multicultural complexity, among the Jews there are people from Arab countries, Europe, Africa, Asia, Oceania, there are countless customs and traditions.

Among the Christians there are Catholics, Orthodox, Protestants. For example, among the Orthodox there are Greeks, Russians, Romanians and more.

This has a meaning when celebrating holidays, send greetings, and conducting rituals.

Among the IPA branches in Israel, there is one prominent sector, mainly in the north of the country where most of the Druze and Circassian members are concentrated. There are communities where most of the residents are Druze and there are Circassian villages. What sets these communities apart is that most of them serve in the Israel Police, the Prison Service and the army. In these communities, there are large IPA branches of retirees. The police officers in service are members of branches in police units throughout the country.



MULTICULTURALISM IN IPA BRANCHES IN ISRAEL



The Druze celebrate holidays, some of which coincide with Muslim holidays, some of which are unique.

The IPA Israel presidency has two serving members who are Druze and two who are retired. Last month we celebrated Druze Women's Day and towards the end of the month the Feast of Sacrifice.

Because of the uniqueness of the Druze members, there are activities dedicated to Druze saints, holidays and special events.



These branches are special and are defined by us as the rural sector. Among the members of these branches are retired senior officers and also many who have become religious.

The Druze religion is secret, so only those who have decided to be religious are exposed to it, and then they are required to wear a special mustache and head covering.



At IPA Israel we make sure to give respect to members of all religions, sects, and beliefs. I don't know of an IPA section in the world with such a unique complexity of multiculturalism as in Israel.

Dr. Eran Israel
Secretary General IPA Israel

63 YEARS OF IPA BRAZIL



The Brazilian Section of the International Police Association – IPA Brazil celebrated this April 1, 2025 its 63 years as a member of the International Police Association – IPA, the largest police class association in the world. Although faced with a national electoral process to define the new management of the IPA in Brazil, which will take place on June 2, 2025, the current management has not stopped developing its strategic management project for the first half of this year, starting its actions right after the January recess.

Thus, in February, the Extraordinary Meeting of the National Executive of the IPA in Brazil took place, at which time the strategic management plan for the first half of 2025 was approved, as well as the electoral process for the IPA Brazil 2025 Elections.

In March, the IPA Brasil Academic Center promoted the ceremony of granting the title of "Doctor Honoris Causa", for the year 2024, for members who completed the inherent courses, highlighting the President of the IPA Regional in the State of Rio de Janeiro, Dr. Helio Machado, and Dr. Giulieny Matos, member of the Ethics Council of IPA Brasil, in a beautiful event promoted on March 22, 2025, in conjunction with UNISCECAP University, at the Parlamundi Auditorium in Brasília-DF.



Also in March, IPA Brazil took its musical cultural area, with the renowned Clube do Choro (traditional Brazilian music) to performances in Barcelona/Spain, with the support of the Section of IPA Spain, and then in the cities of Porto and Lisbon in Portugal, with the support of IPA Portuguesa, demonstrating that the national cultural actions of the Sections of IPA can and should go beyond their borders.



63 YEARS OF IPA BRAZIL

The month of March was intense, as a delegation from IPA Brazil was present at the beautiful friendship week developed by IPA Japan, a unique event that really showed what is the feeling of "Amikeco" in the world of IPA, which resulted in the awarding of the largest official and registered award from IPA Brazil, the AMIKECO Medal, intended for people who do or have done for IPA in the world, to the Secretary of International Relations of that Japanese Section, and coordinator of the event, police officer Ryoji Suzuki. We take this moment to make public our sincere praise to the president of the IPA in Japan, Masahito Kanetaka, for providing several IPA members from various IPA Sections around the world with an event worthy of being an IPA.

We entered the month of April, with the anniversary of IPA Brazil, with the traditional commemorative event, in a format different from the others, called: "Intelligent Connections", a moment in which members, partners and guests were brought together, to talk about IPA Brazil and IPA in the world.



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63 YEARS OF IPA BRAZIL



However, the main focus in the month of April was the service to the IEB/IPA with the development of the project: IPA Green (Brazil), which in view of the National Project: "Reflorestar", by IPA Brazil, in partnerships with Greenpeace, Casa da Amizade/DF, Brasília Ambiental, and Escola Classe nº 2 RFI (Department of Education/DF), several actions were developed, among which: tree plantings, lectures and media publications, as well as editions of books related to the theme, reaching various social segments in Brazil.

IPA Brazil
SERVO PER AMIKECO



IPA CROATIA ELECTORAL ASSEMBLY

We are pleased to inform you that the Electoral Assembly of the IPA Croatian Section was successfully held in Karlovac on March 29, 2025, with FULL ATTENDANCE of all members entitled to vote. This demonstrates the strong commitment of our members to the democratic processes of our organisation.

On April 10, 2025, following the expiration of the previous mandate, the newly elected bodies of the Section officially assumed responsibility for the IPA Croatian Section.



NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE SECTION:

- President: LORIS KOZLEVAC (IPA ISTRA)
- Vice President: DARKO DRAGIČEVIĆ (IPA MEĐIMURJE – ČAKOVEC)
- General Secretary: MATIJA MIRT (IPA HRVATSKO ZAGORJE)

IPA Croatia



IPA INTERNATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

IPA Spain, on behalf of its IPA Catalonia region, invites you to participate in the 1st IPA 2025 International Team Bowling Tournament, which will take place on September 20, 2025, at the BOWLING EL VENDRELL facilities, C/ Les Mates, 2 - 12 (Les Mates Industrial Estate), 43700 El Vendrell, Tarragona.

All information and registration information can be found in the attached document and by email at rutasipabcn@gmail.com

HIGHLIGHTS FROM IPA ICELAND

It's been an eventful first half of the year for Section Iceland. Two social events, IEB visit, national annual meeting and the biggest professional seminar in our history.

I have already written about the IEB visit so I will briefly go over the last few weeks for our Section.

We held our annual national meeting on April 11th, a bit later than usual due to various scheduling conflicts. Before the meeting I had set a personal goal for it to be the shortest meeting in history of Section Iceland but I failed. The meeting started at 19:03 and finished at 19:21. In the days before the meeting members could put their name in a lottery to win a fully paid trip to join us at the World Congress in Poland. Two members will be joining us to see what IPA is all about.



We decided to suggest an increase of about 13 euro to our levy as we prepare for more events in the future. This was agreed to by the meeting with no objections and leaves our levy at just under 50 euro a year. This gives us a better chance to plan long term for a Regional meeting in Iceland in 2027 plus some other ideas that we have for '26 and '27.

As always, a social event followed the meeting with roughly 70 people in attendance of all ranks and ages that had fun well into the night.



It is always comforting to hear praise from two previous presidents. Fridrik Gunnarsson attended the meeting and Kristjan Kristjansson got the annual report sent as he now lives in Norway. They did not have any issues with the annual report so we continue on our path to increase membership and maintaining the good reputation of the IPA in Iceland and around the world.

For some time now Section Iceland has used the IPA network and other networks to find professional lecturers about a current topics in policing and hosting them in Iceland for a professional seminar.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM IPA ICELAND

This is something that has been a great success for us and has resulted in increased membership, increased awareness of the IPA and good cooperation with the first responder community in Iceland.

This time we hosted a former Chief of Police in the Boston Police Department that was in charge of the response to the Boston Marathon Bombing in 2013.



Chief Daniel Linskey instantly accepted our invitation and had a room of 200 first responders on the edge of their seat for a full day event. It was very interesting to see his view of the event after having seen a movie and a documentary series about the incident. Chief Linskey highlighted many good points regarding leadership and training that we all put in our “file cabinet of leadership.”

In the name of friendship Section Iceland decided that this event was relevant for all first responders from a training standpoint so the guestlist was long; Police, Fire, EMT, Hospital staff, Red Cross, civilian 112 dispatchers, volunteer SAR personnel, supervisors etc. attended the event. With most hotel venues being booked already I ended up booking the Reykjavik City Theatre for this event and sincere thanks go out to the Theatre staff for their professionalism and service.



For the rest of the year we will at least try and host a social gathering but for 2026 we have some ideas that we are putting together and see what the budget allows.

So far this year we have registered 14 new members and we just sent the most recent graduating classes a flyer with information about the IPA and its work domestically and abroad.

I look forward to seeing everyone in Poland in September for open and direct discussions.

Best wishes to all

Baldur Olafsson
President
Section Iceland

IPA GERMANY SUPPORT COOL & SAFE APP



Strong Partnership for Child Protection: The “Cool and Safe” App by SMOG e. V. Now Available Free of Charge

Together for the safety of children and young people: As a long-standing partner of SMOG e. V., IPA Germany is proud to introduce the new “Cool and Safe” app – an interactive learning program designed to educate children aged 7 to 12 about everyday and digital dangers in a fun and age-appropriate way.

The facts speak for themselves: In 2023 alone, more than 16,000 cases of child sexual abuse were officially recorded in Germany – a 5.5% increase compared to the previous year. Cyberbullying and digital assaults are also on the rise. According to recent studies, nearly one in five children has already been affected. Even more alarming: one in four of these young victims reported having had suicidal thoughts.

Early prevention is key – and this is exactly where SMOG e. V. comes in with “Cool and Safe”.

Launched in 2013, the “Cool and Safe” e-learning program has become a trusted component in primary schools across the state of Hesse. Developed in cooperation with Goethe University Frankfurt, technically realised by mecom, and supported from the very beginning by IPA Germany and IPA Luxembourg, the program has received numerous accolades – including the Comenius Seal, Comenius Medal, the Hessian Prevention Award, and in 2023 was listed in the prestigious “Green List Prevention”.



A Big Step Forward: The “Cool and Safe” App

Thanks to LEADER funding, the program has now been expanded and made even more accessible. Since May 16, 2025, the “Cool and Safe” app is available free of charge and ad-free in all major app stores. The new version was developed by compositum in Fulda.

IPA GERMANY SUPPORT COOL & SAFE APP

The app brings this proven learning experience to life outside the classroom – ideal for use in sports clubs, families, or youth groups. With interactive elements, videos, and easy-to-understand lessons, the app conveys the importance of violence prevention in a way that resonates with children.

The app is available in German, English, Spanish, French, and Ukrainian.



Official Launch in Bad Hersfeld-Sorga

The app was officially launched on May 16 in Bad Hersfeld-Sorga. Hessian Minister of the Interior, Prof. Dr. Roman Poseck, praised SMOG e. V.'s important contribution to prevention work and described the app as a modern tool that meets children where they are – in the digital world.

In front of numerous guests from politics, law enforcement, and the community, SMOG e. V. Chairman Erwin Maisch and Sonja Neidhardt from compositum presented the app and its functionality. Interviews with enthusiastic children from SG Neuenstein and two Ukrainian boys confirmed how well the app is received by its target audience.

IPA Germany Remains a Committed Partner

As co-initiator and early supporter, IPA Germany is proud to be part of this pioneering project. Our close cooperation with SMOG e. V. reflects our continued dedication to prevention, awareness, and international knowledge-sharing in the field of child protection and violence prevention.

“Cool and Safe” is a shining example of shared responsibility – and a reminder of what we can achieve when we combine expertise, compassion, and digital innovation to make the world a safer place for children.

Download it, share it, and help spread the word – for a strong and safe future for all children.

Servo per Amikeco

IPA Germany

[DOWNLOAD HERE](#)

IPA ITALY REMEMBER POPE FRANCIS



THE MEMORY OF POPE FRANCIS: "GREETINGS TO IPA, ENCOURAGING A GENEROUS COMMITMENT TO FRATERNAL SOLIDARITY"

ROME - They came from all over the world on May 15th a year ago, in St. Peter's Square and a generously sunny Rome welcomed them. There were 2000 policemen belonging to the International Police Association, the association which, with its 400,000 members spread across five continents, brings together members of the police forces of 68 nations. They had come to the capital of Italy to meet Pope Francis.

The caps with the unmistakable logo had coloured the stalls of the square framed by Bernini's colonnade blue, almost as if to reflect the blue sky that had characterized that special Vatican morning.

The faces of the participants, starting from the international president Martin Hoffmann and his wife, together with Mick Walsh former international vice president and the national president Nicolangelo Pezone, the deputy president Alfredo Iasuoizzi and the vice president Antonio Molinaro, were visibly sculpted by emotion at the moment in which Francesco had announced the name of the IPA, describing its Mission and sending to all the members what it is not belittling to say was a special Urbi et Orbi blessing limited to the world of forces armies.

"Greetings to the International Police Association, encouraging a generous commitment of fraternal solidarity", this was and will be, as if he had instilled in his soul the existential verb of an association such as the one founded by Arthur Troop who bases his creed on solidarity, the phrase of the good Pope, of the Right Pope, of the Pope of the last and weakest of us of the IPA, the phrase uttered by Francis and which we will carry tattooed on our hearts.



IPA ITALY REMEMBER POPE FRANCIS

A Pope who came almost from the end of the world and who overturned perspectives has passed away. Jorge Mario Bergoglio, the first Jesuit Pope in history, passes away; a simple Pope, one of those who, when he was a cardinal in Buenos Aires, took the bus to the suburbs of the villas miserias, shacks full of people who were starving and who couldn't distinguish whether he was a simple priest or the archbishop he was.

We were greeted by a Pope who, after one of the first nights, at dawn sees a young Swiss guard outside the door, "have you been up all night, son?", he makes him sit down and offers him breakfast; a Pope who goes to the shops in person to change glasses or shoes, brings his own hand luggage and is amazed at the amazement that this original way of doing things arouses in those who see it.



The Pope of the suburbs left us, who gave voice and visibility to the least of the Earth, to the discarded, involved in the affairs of peoples who are of no interest to anyone, kept out of bounds by global communication. Many things about him will remain in my memory, such as the first surprise trip he made among the migrants to Lampedusa, which has become the cemetery of the Mediterranean, or when he highlighted the fact that bridges are always solutions, never walls. In short, a Great Man has passed away even before an incomparable Pope.

**The Editorial Director of IPA Italy Magazine
Mauro Nardella**



IPA PERU POLICE WOMEN DAY

The International Police Association Peruvian Section, within the framework of the #SHEisIPA Project, held a seminar on May 8, 2025, in the Mariano Santos Mateo Auditorium of the Ministry of the Interior. The Table of Honor was chaired by Mrs. Liliana ORRILLO VIACAVA, representative of the Minister of the Interior, she is currently General Director of Democratic Security of the Vice Ministry of Public Security of the Ministry of the Interior and is a retired Police Officer; She was accompanied by General of the National Police of Peru Pedro Robert ORTIZ CASAVARDE, representative of the Commander General of the National Police of Peru, he is currently Director of the Directorate of Protection of Families and Vulnerable Persons of the National Police of Peru, in addition to the Police Attaché of the National Police of Spain, accredited in Peru, Chief Inspector Vanesa ARIET GARCÍA and the President of the International Police Association Peruvian Section Carlos Fernando VELASQUEZ SALAZAR.

The National Police of Peru commemorates May 2, Police Women's Day, where police women are recognized and thanked for their commitment and dedication to preserving the human security of all people who are under the jurisdiction of the Peruvian State. As a result of Directorial Resolution No. 868-2006-DIRGEN-PNP, of April 27, 2006, May 2 was made official as "Peruvian Police Women's Day", in tribute to the forty Peruvian ladies who joined the Peruvian Police in 1956; Therefore, the International Police Association Peruvian Section, in perfect harmony with the institutional project #SHEisIPA, seeks to unite all police officers and raise their collective voice through the presentation of testimonies from female members of the National Police of Peru, who carry out their activities successfully, and who make proud the sacrificial work of the police officers of the world.



Within the framework of such a great event, the Professional Affairs Member of the International Police Association Peruvian Section, Javier Raúl GAMERO KINOSITA, gave a keynote lecture on "Citizen Security in the 21st Century and Police Women", in which he emphasized the presence of women in the workplace through a quality culture that includes proactive and adequate police leadership, confronting homo sociality, where the presence of men in leadership positions predominated and excluded to women, adding in this context that the police have traditionally been an institution imbued with a masculine police culture where police leadership was characterized by having a paradigm of the heroic man as an ideal, dominant, strong, conscious, cooperative and honest police leader; Well, today we are experiencing a transformation that enhances women's police service with their alternative and differentiated skills.



IPA PERU POLICE WOMEN DAY



The Third Technical Non-Commissioned Officer of the National Police of Peru Jennifer Milagros CASTROROMERO, described her work experience as an expert in Tourism, her work as coordinator of police deployments with the United Nations and her performance as administrative assistant of the Office of the Presidency of the Republic of Peru.

The Medical Commander of the National Police of Peru María Raquel SOLARI DÍAZ, who is an aeronautical doctor, internationally certified in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), nominated for the Women's Space Awards, Solari, for her scientific contributions made by women dedicated to space, is a member of three aerospace scientific societies, and regularly contributes to the magazine AEROMUNDO MAGAZINE.

The Colonel of the National Police of Peru Rosa Yuly HIDALGO SERNA, is the first Female Officer eligible to access the rank of General, described how she began her career in 1985 as a Non-Commissioned Officer and from 1996 as an Officer; She currently serves as Head of the Division of Protection against Family Violence, where she leads strategies aimed at the care, prevention and eradication of violence against women and members of the family group, showing a firm commitment to defending the rights of vulnerable populations, especially children, adolescents and women.

In turn, the following were present: Retired Lawyer Colonel of the National Police of Peru Rossana Di Natali, current President of the Supervisory Council of the International Police Association Peruvian Section who held legal advisory positions while she was active and had the responsibility of being the Police Ombudsman in Peru while she was retired. Colonel of the National Police of Peru Maslú ARTEAGA SALAZAR, is the current Head of the Private Secretariat of the General Command of the National Police of Peru and the Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the National Police of Peru in retirement, an integrator of women police officers for twenty years and an outstanding police officer while she was in active service.

IPA PERU POLICE WOMEN DAY

The International Police Association Peruvian Section, reaffirms its commitment to promoting the key IEB project "Women in the IPA" #SHEisIPA, which adopts an inclusive vision for the future, which is why our associate Rossana DI NATALI SUAREZ travelled to the Seminar held at IBZ Gimborn, where she was able to share with the police officers who work on presenting innovative opportunities to future associates, promoting international networking and the discovery of values that will boost their personal and professional development.

IPA Peru



61ST ANNIVERSARY OF IPA MALTA



In May, IPA Malta Section celebrated its 61st Anniversary since joining the International Police Association in 1964.

For the occasion a thanksgiving mass was held at Police Headquarters. Later those present at the mass were invited for coffee and cake at the Officers Mess.

Police Commissioner Angelo Gafa was present for the occasion.

The National President Mt Joseph Borda thanked all those who were present during the Thanksgiving Mass.

Joseph Borda
President IPA Malta



XXVII IPA POZNAN 2025 INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

This year's edition of the oldest football tournament for uniformed services in Europe is over!

On 15–18 May 2025, the IPA Poznań Region was the organiser of the XXVII IPA Poznań 2025 International Football Tournament.

It should be mentioned that according to IPA Poznań Region's long-standing knowledge, this is Europe's oldest uniformed services tournament played on open pitches, and has been played continuously every year for 27 years! A tournament which is enjoying growing interest, because another year we are forced to refuse some of those willing to participate in it. We will probably have to increase the number of teams in subsequent years...



However, as in previous years, this year we had 20 participants representing 6 different uniformed formations (Police, Border Guards, Army, Prison Service, Special Services and Municipal Guards)

We hosted 4 foreign teams:

- Malta Police
- two teams from Romania /APS LEGEA SIBIU and IPA Region 2 Maramures/
- and a team from Germany Lower Saxony

All 20 teams travelled a total of around 13,000 km to participate in the two-day tournament!

The venue for the tournament was the superbly prepared venue of the Lipno Stęszew team, which recently won a well-deserved promotion to the Third League! And the participants stayed at the Hotel Delicjusz on the hospitable grounds of the Municipality of Stęszew.

XXVII IPA POZNAN 2025 INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

The event was honoured and given the right rank by the Honorary Patronage of :

- Marshal of the Wielkopolska Region Marek Woźniak
- Starost of Poznań Powiat Jan Grabkowski
- Chief Superintendent of Police in Poznań Tomasz Olczyk
- President of the Polish Section of the IPA Piotr Wójcik
- Mayor of the Municipality of Stęszew Włodzimierz Pinczak
- Mayor of the City of Poznań Jacek Jaśkowiak

We would like to thank the honorary patronage of our tournament

On Friday morning, the official opening of the Tournament took place. This was done by the chairman of the IPA Poznań Region, coll. Witold Drzażdżyński, in the presence of invited guests. There was also the official side of the Wielkopolska Police Force in the person of 1st Deputy Chief of Police Insp. Sławomir Piekut.

On Friday in the morning, 20 teams in 5 groups played a total of 30 preliminary matches, during which as many as 141 goals were scored, giving 4.7 goals per match.

- Twelve teams advanced to Saturday's final part of the tournament:
- Police MALTA
- Border Police Romania /IPA Region 2 Maramures/
- GERMANY Police – Lower Saxony
- Military Counterintelligence Service (Warsaw)
- Police Piła
- Police Jarocin
- Prison Service Poznań /OISW/
- Polish Army – 31st Tactical Air Base
- Polish Army – 2nd Tactical Air Wing Poznań
- Criminal Department of the KMP Poznań
- OPP Poznań
- IPA Poznań Oldboy



Immediately after the conclusion of Friday's matches, the President of the IPA Poznań Region, together with representatives of the IPA Polish Section and members of the tournament's organising committee, presented cups to the teams from places 13 to 20.

In Saturday's final matches, emotions often ran high and decisions were sometimes made in the final seconds of matches! On Saturday, 103 goals were scored in the 24 matches played (average 4.3 goals per match).

XXVII IPA POZNAN 2025 INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

In the final match played on the main pitch of the Lipno Stęszew football club, the teams of the 31st Tactical Air Base and the Police of Germany (Lower Saxony) met. In a very close match, the score was 1-1, however, in the penalty shootout, the Polish team won 3-2 and became the winner of the XXVII International Football Tournament IPA Poznan 2025! It should be noted that this team defended its championship from a year ago! Special congratulations!

Final classification of the Tournament:

1. Polish Army – 31st Tactical Air Base
2. Police Germany Lower Saxony
3. Police Jarocin
4. Police Prevention Unit Poznań
5. 2 Tactical Air Wing Poznań
6. IPA Poznan Oldboy
7. Prison Service Poznań /OISW/
8. Romanian IPA Maramures
9. Police MALTA
10. Military Counterintelligence Service
11. Police Pila
12. Criminal Department of the KMP Poznań
13. Romania Sibiu APS Legea
14. Police Leszno
15. Border Guards /Poznań Ławica Airport/
16. IPA Konin
17. IPA Gniezno
18. Trade Unions KMP Poznań
19. Senior Trade Unions KMP Poznań
20. Municipal Police Poznań



In Saturday's final matches, emotions often ran high and decisions were sometimes made in the final seconds of matches! On Saturday, 103 goals were scored in the 24 matches played (average 4.3 goals per match). A total of 66 matches were played throughout the tournament in which 286 goals were scored, i.e. 4.3 goals per match. Congratulations to the winners and all the teams taking part in the tournament!

Thanks to the referee team of Szymon Lizak, Maciej Kaniasty, Błażej Robakowski and Krystian Jung for their professional conduct of the tournament.

The games were followed by the closing ceremony and the presentation of cups and medals, as well as small commemorative gifts. During the closing ceremony, the Chief Superintendent of Police Tomasz Olczyk was represented by Chief Superintendent Violetta Mójta, Deputy Chief Superintendent of Police, who was assisted by the President of the IPA Poznań Region Witold Drzażdżyński, President of the Polish Section of the IPA Piotr Wójcik, a member of the Board of the Poznań District Paweł Jazy and the President of the Association of the ZW NSZP) of the Wielkopolska Region, Chief Inspector Andrzej Szary.

XXVII IPA POZNAN 2025 INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



Individual honours:

- Fair Play: Romania IPA Maramures
- Best Shooter: Maxi Werner Police Germany (15 goals)
- Best Goalkeeper: Tomasz Woelke KPP Jarocin
- Best Player: Igor Świętkiewicz 2 Skrzydło L.T. P-Ń
- Oldest Player: Jacek Wilczqb Municipal Guard P-Ń

Thank you also for the support of the Powiat Starosty in Poznań, the Provincial Executive of the NSZZP in Wielkopolskie Voivodeship and the Executive of KZ KKOP at KWP in Poznań. We would like to thank Mr Paweł Wojtala, President of the Wielkopolska Football Association in Poznań and the Sports Support Foundation of the Polish Football Association.

For logistical support for the tournament we would like to thank Mr Włodzimierz Pinczak - Mayor of the Municipality of Stęszew, Mr Marian Płóciniczak - President of the Lino Stęszew club for making the stadium available, and Mr Dariusz Wojtkowiak - the host of the facility and Vice President of the club for perfect preparation of the pitches and the entire facility. Due to the unfavourable weather conditions during this year's event, the support of the following companies proved invaluable Elmark Hale Namiotowe represented by Mr Dawid Przydanek.

Our tournament could not have taken place without the help of our distinguished members and the institutions and companies that cooperate with the IPA Poznań Region on a daily basis. Our warm thanks go to: APART Suchy Las, DECORA w Środzie Wlkp. Dekpol Budownictwo Sp. z o.o., Firmy HTI Poznań, Cichy - Zasada z Poznania, Mat-Bet - Poznań, ŻABKA Polska, SKK Rail sp. z o.o. Poznań, ZM Mielczarek Komorniki, Zakłady Mięsne Bystry, Bodo Professional and many others.

At this point, it is necessary to mention and thank the members of the Organising Committee and members of the IPA Poznań Region for their efforts in the 8-months to prepare and conduct the football tournament (Witold Drzażdżyński, Michał Bartkowiak, Mateusz Przybyłowski, Daniel Szczygło, Radosław Borowczyk, Jarosław Głuchego, Roman Rauhut, Hubert Kołacki, Bożena Nowicka, Hanna Wachowiak, Magdalena Wicha, Romuald Jaskólski, Piotr Szymurski, Tomasz Biedermann and many others).

It should be mentioned that colleagues from the Malta Police, who were in and around Poznań for a little longer than the tournament itself, spent time sightseeing with us. We visited the stadium of the new Polish football champion KKS Lech Poznań as part of an organised tour. They expressed their admiration for the standard of the facility and the many solutions used there, also in the context of police service during the security of Lech Poznań matches. We also visited the Old Market Square with our colleagues from Malta, including the traditional Poznań Goats.

Thank you for the many words of appreciation expressed after the tournament and congratulations once again to all the participants for their sporting rivalry and see you next year at the XXVIII Tournament!

'SERVO PER AMIKECO'

WATCH VIDEO

Michał Bartkowiak
IPA Region Poznań Polish Section

www.ipa-international.org

IPA NORTH MACEDONIA XIV NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



In accordance with the principles and goals of the International Police Association IPA, following the moto "Service through Friendship" and honoring May 7th, the Day of the Macedonian Police, an International IPA meeting was held in Shtip from May 8-11, 2025, within the framework of which the XIVth regular annual assembly of the National Section IPA North Macedonia was also held. IPA Region Shtip, as a segment of the National Section, hosted this XIVth regular Annual Assembly of the National Section IPA Macedonia.



This international meeting on the occasion of the XIVth annual assembly was attended by delegations from 9 IPA National Sections, IPA Albania, IPA Bulgaria, IPA Bosnia and Herzegovina, IPA Greece, IPA Cyprus, IPA Romania, IPA Serbia, IPA Croatia and IPA Montenegro, as well as representatives from the IPA Regions within the National Section IPA North Macedonia, namely IPA Region Skopje, IPA Region Kumanovo, IPA Region Tetovo, IPA Region Strumica, IPA Region Tikvesh-Povardarie, IPA Region Prilep, IPA Region Ohrid, IPA Region Bitola, IPA Shtip, as well as our friends from OIDE i.e. more than 80 foreign participants.

IPA NORTH MACEDONIA XIV NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



In the spirit of the principles and goals of the IPA organisation, the goal of this international event was to deepen cooperation between IPA national sections with the aim of educating the members of the IPA organisation, exchanging professional knowledge and experience between them, especially in dealing with new forms and trends of organized crime. The IPA organisation has a special importance around acquiring new professional knowledge of members of the law enforcement agencies, especially police officers, and it is a partner of the competent institutions.

The participants at this event had the opportunity to enjoy the sightseeing city of Shtip, the largest city in the Eastern part of our country, one of the most important educational and economic centers in the East, with hidden beauties that make it truly worth a visit, as well the surrounding municipalities and landmarks.

This event was given special significance by the presence of the Minister of Interior Mr. Pance Toshkovski at the opening of the XIV Annual Assembly, who during his address to the participants, emphasized and confirm the support of the Ministry of Interior for the activities of the IPA National Organisation, as well as the presence of the Mayor of the Municipality of Shtip, Mr. Ivan Jordanov.



IPA LUXEMBOURG DANCING INTO MAY



Dancing into May (30 April 2025) with the International Police Association Luxembourg: A Night to Remember Aboard the Marie-Astrid

On a beautiful spring evening, the International Police Association (IPA) Luxembourg hosted its traditional Dance into May celebration, bringing together members, friends, and international guests for a night of joy, camaraderie, and unforgettable memories. This year's event took place aboard the elegant MS Marie-Astrid, a ship renowned for its charm and scenic cruises along the Moselle River.

The atmosphere was electric as guests gathered to welcome the month of May in true IPA style. With good food, fine drinks, and a fantastic mood, the evening was a perfect blend of tradition and festivity. The culinary offerings delighted the palate, while the drinks flowed freely, encouraging laughter and lively conversation among old friends and new acquaintances alike.

A special highlight of the evening was the presence of our dear friends from IPA South, whose warm spirit and enthusiasm added an international flair to the celebration. Their participation underscored the IPA's mission of fostering global friendship and solidarity among police officers.

The musical heartbeat of the night was provided by the talented Duo Lisa Mariotto and Jeannot Conter, whose vibrant performance had everyone on their feet. Their mix of classic hits and modern tunes created the perfect soundtrack for dancing under the stars, as the ship gently cruised along the river.

As the night unfolded, the decks of the Marie-Astrid transformed into a dance floor filled with laughter, music, and the joyful celebration of spring. The "Dance into May" event once again proved to be a cherished tradition, bringing people together in the spirit of unity, friendship, and fun.



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make this evening so special. We look forward to many more celebrations to come — until next year, may the spirit of the IPA continue to bring us together!

IPA Luxembourg

IPA MOLDOVA IN ACTION: RECENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Visit of Friends & Colleagues from Botosani

Between 04 - 06 April 2025, in the context of the Cooperation Protocol from March 2023 between the Stră Ineni Office of the IPA - Republic of Moldova Section and Region 1 Botosani IPA Romanian Section, the Strășeni Office hosted the visit of friends and colleagues from Botosani.

Thus, the 50 colleagues from Botosani participated in a vast tourist-cultural program visiting the Hîncu Monastery, the Gallery of the Petru Costin collections of the Ialoveni District Council, Mimi Castle, the memorial complex "Head of the bridge Serpeni".



At the same time, on April 06, 2025, the members of the IPA from Botosani participated in a show "Sunday in the village", organised in the Moldovan Village of Buciumul, in the mun. Chisinau.

We welcome the initiative of the Offices within the IPA - Moldova Republic Section for the links of cooperation and friendship, at the regional level, with colleagues from other states.



[SEE MORE](#)

Chisinau Half Marathon

From April 12 to 13, 2025, in the city of Chisinau, the 2025 Marathon was held.

Chisinau Half Marathon by OM is the second largest and spectacular international sports competitions in Moldova.

On behalf of A.O. "International Police Association - Section Republic of Moldova" 11 people participated:

- 7 persons at 21 km;
- 3 people at 10 km individually;
- 1 person in the 3 person team 10 km relay.



IPA MOLDOVA IN ACTION: RECENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

The following results were obtained after the marathon:

- The "Eagle" team, in which a member of the "Fulger" BPDS Bureau took part, ranked third in the 10 km relay event;
- in the 10 km individual race - Gheorghe Buzulan, member of the BPDS "Fulger" Bureau, placed second;
- 21 km were attended by members of the BPDS Fulger, SPPS and IPA Balti Offices. 2 members of the IPA National Executive Committee – Republic of Moldova Section also participated in this event.

At the end of the sporting event, the marathon participants had a meeting with the leadership of the IPA – Republica Section, where they shared the same feelings and pleasant moments during the marathon. Congratulations to all the marathon participants, including the "Vulturii" team, who ranked third.

[SEE MORE](#)



The team from our country had the opportunity to connect with leaders from 24 countries, to bring home good practices and new ideas to promote gender equality and strengthen female leadership in AFP, IPA, MAI and Police of the Republic of Moldova.

Our ladies returned with a medal from the [#SHEisIPA](#) Project Team Professional Commission International Police Association, as a sign of appreciation of the team and the efforts in promoting female leadership in AFP and IPA Moldova. This international appreciation motivates to continue with even more determination and passion.

We appreciate the partnership made between AFP and IPA – Moldova Republic Section and we are looking forward to new projects, as well as impactful joint activities.

[SEE MORE](#)

#SHEisIPA Seminar Gimborn

From April 13-17 2025, the team of the Board of Directors of the Association of Women in Police (AFP), active members of A. An "International Police Association – Section Republic of Moldova" (IPA), participated in the international seminar [#SHEisIPA](#), held in Gimborn, Germany.



IPA GERMANY EXCHANGE VISIT



Global Friendship in Action: IPA Exchange Visit from Baltimore County, USA

On May 1st, 2025, the Frankfurt Police Headquarters proudly welcomed a very special guest as part of our commitment to international exchange and friendship:

Andrew Dove, 28, Shift Supervisor from Baltimore County, Maryland, and a long-standing member of the International Police Association (IPA).

This visit was much more than just a professional tour—it was a vivid example of the power and value of our international IPA network, which continues to build bridges across borders, cultures, and police traditions.

Andrew's visit began at the Directorate of Traffic Safety, where Director Mr. Heberer and his dedicated team provided an in-depth presentation of their work.

The operational planning for major public events, such as Germany's largest cycling race held annually in Frankfurt, particularly captured Andrew's attention.

The next stop took Andrew into the heart of real-time policing: the Operations and Situation Center. Here, under the guidance of Police Operations Leader Mr. Schmidl, Andrew experienced the impressive coordination and technology that drive large-scale police responses. The seamless integration of communication, strategy, and field deployment was a powerful reflection of German policing in action.

In addition, the start of the authorisation process was coordinated, with a Directorial Resolution of the General Command of the Peruvian Police, for the use of the International Police Association headband on the PNP Uniform.

Another key insight came through the visit to the Criminal Duty Service, where Andrew explored the interface between emergency response and investigative work.



IPA GERMANY EXCHANGE VISIT

The day offered not only professional exchange but also powerful symbolic moments: a high-ranking representative of the U.S. Consulate welcomed Andrew personally, acknowledging the value of cross-cultural police cooperation. A commemorative coin presented to Andrew marked the occasion, serving as a symbol of appreciation and the strong transatlantic friendship shared between our two countries—and between IPA members everywhere.

Later, at Police Station 1, a spontaneous conversation with a colleague of American heritage highlighted once again the personal connections that make IPA unique. That sense of camaraderie deepened when Andrew joined officers during an ongoing operation, witnessing and supporting real-time policing that led to several arrests related to drug trafficking. It was a moment of shared purpose that transcended national borders.



Andrew also shared his experiences during an interview with the Frankfurter Neue Presse, emphasizing the tremendous value of international cooperation, not only for expanding knowledge but for reinforcing the human side of policing.

During a deployment at a public demonstration, he witnessed firsthand the principles of de-escalation and community policing that characterize the work of German police forces.

On May 2nd, the exchange continued with a visit to the Federal Police at Frankfurt Airport, one of Europe's busiest international hubs. Thanks to IPA member Bernd Hellmann, Andrew was received warmly by Commander Johannes Ament and Public Relations Officer Carsten Ziebler of Inspection V. A behind-the-scenes airfield tour revealed fascinating insights into aviation security and operations.

IPA GERMANY EXCHANGE VISIT

Deputy Commander Gregor Engbers of Inspection III, together with colleague Nikolas Reuter, led Andrew through the terminals and explained the day-to-day challenges of airport security. In a heartfelt gesture that captured the spirit of IPA friendship, Gregor—a proud IPA member for over 30 years—presented Christian Heckens with a rare FBI coin as a personal token of international solidarity and lifelong connection.

This visit was far more than a schedule of appointments. It was a living example of what the IPA stands for: "Servo per Amikeco"—Service through Friendship. The exchange of knowledge and experience is essential, but it is the genuine human connection, the shared understanding, and the mutual respect among police officers across borders that define the heart of our global IPA family.

We extend our sincere thanks to all our colleagues who helped bring this exchange to life with such energy, generosity, and professionalism.

The friendships formed during this visit will last far beyond the days spent together—and that is the true strength of the IPA.



IPA GERMANY

IPA SPAIN TRADER SHOW 2025



IPA Barcelona inform you that the reunion of the "25th Barcelona International Trader Show", will celebrate on 29 November 2025 in Barcelona city.

For more information email zunigabcn@gmail.com or visit our website.

[CLICK HERE](#)

IPA NETHERLANDS LOWLANDS TRAINING EDITION 2025

IPA Limburg-Noord (Netherlands) and IPA Provincie Antwerpen (Belgium) have had a close cooperation for several years now.

On Friday 2 and Saturday 3 May 2025, the fourth edition of the Low Lands Training Edition event took place. After last year's third edition of this event took place in Sevenum, it was this time to go to Belgium. The event's primary target group are Dutch and Belgian IPA members. Through a two-day training course, the organisers want to give IPA members from both countries a behind-the-scenes look at each other's tactics. However, after announcing the event, it soon became clear that there was also a lot of interest from other countries.



On Friday, participants gathered under beautiful weather conditions at the Civil Protection barracks in Brasschaat, near the city of Antwerp. With 37 participants from police and customs services from Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Spain and Ireland, a varied programme consisting of workshops began.

Thus, participants did engage in learning physical techniques, such as opening doors (without totally destroying them) under the guidance of instructor Julius and Richard. They also trained in tactical first aid. Instructors Ellen and Wouter taught participants the basics in tactical first aid such as tourniquets and the care of gunshot and stab wounds.



This first day ended with snacks and drinks. Indeed, the social aspect is at least as important at the IPA as the educational part. During this get-together, stories and experiences were exchanged and valuable contacts were made for the future. It is great to see how a group of people manage to become friends within just one day.

On Saturday, the programme included simulations. For instance, the participants had to perform a vehicle check in which a weapon was suddenly involved. Together with dog handler Sam and K9 Trix, the suspect was apprehended. After this, the participants had to search for concealed spaces. For this, the Belgian Federal Police, led by Andy, had brought some fully prepared luxury cars with hidden spaces. Despite the fact that a lot of (international) knowledge and experience was present, this turned out to be anything but an easy job. In fact, the spaces in these vehicles were very difficult to find.



IPA NETHERLANDS LOWLANDS TRAINING EDITION 2025

The other group was instructed to enter a building by using special tactics. After opening the door, they suddenly found a victim with gunshot wounds who needed acute treatment. It was therefore necessary to switch mindset immediately and act decisively. As the groups were mixed and thus consisted of IPA members from different countries, this was an extra challenge.

A wonderful two-day event concluded Saturday around noon. Organisers Sander and Stijn and volunteers Aron, Vanessa and Naomi thanked all participants for their participation but especially for the instructive and enjoyable time.



IPA Netherlands

INTERNATIONAL PHOTO COMPETITION

Attention all IPA members! The deadline for submissions to this year's IPA Photo Competition is fast approaching—be sure to submit your entries by 31st July 2025. Don't miss the chance to showcase your talent and compete for some amazing prizes!

This competition is open to all members of the International Police Association. Each participant can submit up to 5 photographs per category, providing ample opportunity to share your creativity and perspective.

Award Categories

1. Open Category: Any photographic subject or topic.
2. Subject Category: Police at work.

Prizes

Overall Winner: €400, Category Winners: 1st Place: €300, 2nd Place: €200, 3rd Place: €100, Merit Awards: Six additional photographs will receive special recognition.

Submission Details

All entries must be submitted along with the official entry form via email to: anetasobieraj@ipapolska.pl.



IPA ROMANIA AND THE HUNGARIAN POLICE FOOTBALL MATCH

Football remains an extraordinary ambassador in relations between countries, both to express friendship, good relationships, fair play and a healthy lifestyle.

In Romania, almost 70 football competitions are held annually at regional or national level. IPA members love this sport and take every opportunity to practice it.

And because sport is very well combined with any other solitary activity, at the end of last year the vice-presidents responsible for sport and international relations organised a friendly match with the Budapest Police representative.



This year, it was the turn of our colleagues in Budapest to visit our beautiful views in Bihor County, only this time, we had two matches, one between the boys teams and another between the girls teams. As always, the result is less important, but certainly, every finding, every contact with people who share your passions represents unique memories and quality time.

It is obvious that we can do much more to strengthen the caste spirit, to make this blue chain stronger around the world.

We only need to listen a little more carefully to what they want and expect from us, with a little effort and some involvement in the exercise of our mandates.

Mihai-Liviu Tărtăreanu, President of IPA ROMANIA



IPA SLOVENIA SUPPORTS IPA'S INTERNATIONAL EARTH DAY

The International Police Association (IPA) once again called on its national sections around the world to participate in the Plant a Tree initiative, launched in celebration of Earth Day.

This year, five clubs from Slovenia responded to the call: IPA Celje, IPA Štajerska, IPA Postojna, IPA Ljubljana, and IPA Koroška.

IPA Koroška held a ceremonial planting in the park of Bukovje Manor, where a lilac (Syringa) bush was planted. The event was attended by the Mayor of the Municipality of Dravograd, Anton Preksavec, Deputy Mayor Robert Plimon, President of IPA Koroška Iztok Ferk, and President of the local community Ferdo Abraham. Representatives of the public institution Dravit and members of IPA Koroška were also present.



IPA Celje proudly joined the Plant a Tree – Green IPA project. In front of the Celje Police Directorate, they planted a “tree of friendship” together with colleagues from IPA Skopje, IPA Strumica, IPA Kumanovo, and IPA Region Shtip, in cooperation with the Municipality of Celje and the Celje Police Directorate.

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The tree symbolizes connection, sustainability, and international cooperation. “Let this tree grow as a symbol of our cooperation and shared values,” they stated.



IPA Štajerska was guided by the desire to plant species that would benefit the local environment, enhance its appearance, and support biodiversity. In partnership with the Beekeeping Society Cirkulane and the Municipality of Cirkulane, they planted three honey-producing linden trees (*Tilia*), highly favored by bees for their nectar. The linden is a symbol of Slovene heritage, with some trees in Slovenia believed to be up to 700 years old. Traditionally planted on special occasions, linden trees have long served as community gathering points and are widely regarded as symbols of peace and friendship—making them a fitting choice for police station surroundings. One linden was planted next to the kennels at the headquarters of the Maribor Police Station for Police Dog and Horse Handlers, providing shade for the service dogs.

IPA SLOVENIA SUPPORTS IPA'S INTERNATIONAL EARTH DAY



Attending the planting were IPA Club Štajerska President Miran Šadl, Vice President of the Beekeeping Society and IPA member Stanko Vidovič, board member Anita Kovačič, and the head of the police station, Peter Majcenovič, along with two officers. Two additional linden trees were planted in front of police stations in Gorišnica and Ormož. Participating in both events were IPA Club Štajerska board member Mitja Tramšek, Stanko Vidovič, and Anita Kovačič. In Ormož, they were joined by Assistant Chief Aleš Plohl, and in Gorišnica by Assistant Chief Borut Toplak. According to Darka Jurgec, president of the beekeeping society, the linden trees will provide a natural habitat for bees and other wild pollinators. As one of the most nectar-rich plants, linden trees are highly valuable to bees. These plantings will help protect pollinators while also beautifying the environment—an initiative warmly welcomed by the police officers involved.



With the aim of expanding forms of cooperation between the clubs and strengthening our motto "Servo per Amikeco" – "Service Through Friendship" – the members of IPA Ljubljana gladly accepted the invitation from IPA Postojna to plant a tree together as part of the project. Members of IPA Postojna planted a walnut tree and a black mulberry, while together with IPA Club Ljubljana, they planted a white mulberry and a pear tree.



Anita Kovačič
IPA Slovenia

JOIN THE GREEN IPA PROJECT: BEACH CLEAN-UP EVENT THIS MONTH



On behalf of the Socio-Cultural Commission and the GREEN IPA PROJECT, we're excited to invite you to take part in our upcoming Beach Clean-Up IPA Event, taking place between 1–15 June 2025.

Let's unite to give back to nature and help preserve our beautiful coastlines. Every year, beaches are polluted with harmful waste—plastic bottles, bags, straws, fishing gear, cigarette butts, surgical masks, and more—posing a serious threat to our environment.

Now's the time to make a difference. Your involvement can have a lasting impact!

In celebration of World Environment Day on 5 June, we encourage all IPA members to take action and support environmental protection in their local communities.

Branches are welcome to organise local clean-up meetups and invite members to participate. Let's show the power of our IPA network through meaningful action!

Get involved, take part, and help us protect our planet.

What to Bring:

- Gloves
- Reusable water bottle
- Comfortable shoes & sunscreen
- A positive attitude!

After the clean-up, we encourage IPA Branches to host a small social gathering—a great way to relax, connect, and celebrate your efforts outdoors.

Please share your photos, videos, and feedback (via WeTransfer) with us at chair-scc@ieb-ipa.org by 30 June 2025.

Christos Parginos
Chairperson Socio-Cultural Commission

IPA POLAND TRAVELER PROJECT

SECOND EDITION



The "Traveler" project was an experiment in 2023 – and some even claimed it was a joke that would fail. Initially, three suitcases with the IPA Silesia logo were individually ordered, with the intention of lending them out for IPA Silesia events. After showcasing the gadget, suggestions emerged to expand the "Traveler" bags with IPA flags to complement the project. As a result, 20 square flags matching the logo and idea were produced.

The first edition in 2023 turned out to be a surprising success for both organisers and originators.

The suitcases and flags travelled through countries such as the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Miskolc Thermal Baths (Hungary), Austria, Croatia, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ireland, Hungary (Lake Balaton), the Netherlands, Germany, France, Turkey, and Greece. Then they left the old continent and reached Jordan, Cyprus, Egypt, Thailand, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Australia, Bali, Madagascar, and Zanzibar. In total, in 2023 alone, they covered 105,825 kilometers – one way.

At that point, the world – and the project – paused to take a deep breath. As the Chinese proverb goes, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." We waited for a response in 2024. The flags again spread out across nearly all Silesian IPA Regions and set off on new adventures with the suitcases.

At first, we aimed merely to match the success of the previous year. However, it turned out that our travel gadget climbed mountain peaks, dived into seas, crossed deserts, and plunged into the depths of caves. The adventure was simply meant to continue. And in the end, after summarising the 2024 season, the outcome exceeded all expectations.

In total, the three "Traveler" suitcases and flags visited four continents and dozens of countries – sometimes multiple times – including: France, Zanzibar, Austria, Czech Republic, Taiwan, Australia, Italy, Germany, USA, Slovakia, Portugal, Poland, England, the Netherlands, China, Italy, Spain, Turkey, Albania, Egypt, Serbia, Greece, Montenegro, Sweden, Denmark, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Thailand, Cyprus, South Korea, Malta, and Mexico. The most unbelievable place our flag waved? The demilitarized zone between South and North Korea – on the "right side," of course. In total, an estimated 200,022 kilometres were travelled (one-way), and since everything returned, the total distance is almost 10 times the circumference of the Earth!

We're still negotiating to send our flag on a mission to the International Space Station (ISS), which is only 408 km from Earth – but whether that will happen remains to be seen.

See you on the trail with IPA Silesia and the "Travelers"! Details of individual journeys can be found on our Facebook profile.

IPA Poland

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTHUR TROOP SCHOLARSHIP

Editorial by Nic Bannan - IPA Australia

My scholarship journey started in early 2023 when I applied for the award. I have always had an interest in innovative technologies and how we can integrate them into policing. In December 2023 when I was casually reading the December issue of the IPA Police Down under magazine at Belconnen Police Station in the ACT, while heating up my dinner, with excitement I read on page 15 I was one of the two successful Australian applicants for the Arthur Troop Scholarship 2024. Within a week I had confirmed that I had been awarded and my next task was organising what would be one of the most memorable adventures of my life thus far. I was fortunate to have a study topic and course already decided. My scholarship application identified a clear topic of interest being the use of drones in policing, fortunately for me IBZ Gimborn holds a seminar on that very topic. My next task was fitting as many IPA opportunities as possible into a three-week trek through northern Germany. I eventually decided on an itinerary of Berlin, Hamburg, Dusseldorf, Gimborn (course), Koblenz and Frankfurt.

BERLIN

My time in Berlin started late in the evening of the 23rd, having travelled for the 30 hours previous I was ready for some deserved sleep (not in an airplane chair). The following day I literally 'hit the ground running.' I booked a walking tour of Berlin in an attempt to see as much as I could of the city in the short time I had. Breakfast that morning would ignite a love affair with the German Backerei, something my belt line would not be pleased with by the end of the trip. As a history buff the energy and constant state of change in Berlin always interest me, to see the city and be there was something I had wanted for a long time. I was fortunate to visit sites such as: Checkpoint Charlie, the remnants of the wall at the Topography of Terror, the holocaust memorial and the beautiful buildings that populate museum island.

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In the afternoon I booked a tour of the BMW Motorrad Factory, where all BMW motorbikes are born. Being an avid bike rider and a BMW rider, I felt this was a pilgrimage when visiting Berlin. The factory was excellent, an amazing experience seeing the finest in German engineering, no Police motorbikes but still a worthwhile experience. I spent the evening finding a traditional German restaurant to meet my craving for a pork knuckle and sauerkraut.

On 25 September I organised for the first of many connections with our German IPA friends. Manuel from the 2nd Technical Unit of the Berlin Police picked me up for a day with the Berlin Riot Squad, as a public order officer in Canberra I was keen to see how our German friends operated. On arrival at their Headquarters, which is in a 1930's Luftwaffe barracks, I was fortunate to meet with the battalion's leadership and see their beautiful historic headquarters. The battalions' offices were like something out of a movie, intentionally hidden deep in the forest, buildings still covered in now historically protected camouflage paint.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTHUR TROOP SCHOLARSHIP

At the Battalion I was fortunate to meet with the Air Team and inspect some of their drones and their counter drone equipment. It was great to speak with their members about the benefits and challenges our agencies face, even on the other side of the world, like most elements of the policing vocation they are the same. I then met with members of the 2nd Technical Unit who took me on a detailed tour of the equipment the unit deploys, such as their Water Canon, Barricade Busters, Armoured Rescue, and the trusty Mercedes Sprinter Riot Response Vehicles. The Water Cannon was especially impressive and the tactics it operates with were of value.



After some lunch with the unit's members, some discussions on tactics and the mandatory patch swapping it was time for me to go. Manuel and the Riot Battalion were welcoming and gave me an insight into how a well-established and experienced Riot Squad operates in the current protest climate; the insights I can bring home will be of value to our team in Canberra as it develops. On 26 September, it was time for me to pack up and say goodbye to Berlin. I spent the morning revisiting some sites I missed, I wanted to see the Reichstag and revisit some of the locations I did not get to see in detail on the walking tour, such as the Government quarter and Checkpoint Charlie.

After lunch I bid goodbye to Berlin and took the fast train to Hamburg.

HAMBURG

On arriving in Hamburg, I was met at the Hauptbahnhof by Jorn and Sibil from IPA Hamburg. After a meet and greet Sibil and Tyron took me on a ride along around their patrol area which covers the central area of Hamburg and the train stations, I saw firsth and the issues with drugs, alcohol and crime, like any major city, community policing is at its core the same and it brings a sense of comfort and solace to see the same challenges faced at home. Later that evening I met with fellow IPA members for dinner. Jorn organised a traditional German dinner with meat and beer and some great company in the form of the Hamburg IPA chapter. The dinner was filled with stories from work, the differences in our agencies and our IPA experiences abroad.



On 27 September, Jorn met me early on the day to see the Bundapolizei Bomb Disposal Unit at Hamburg International Airport. The IPA Team in Hamburg arranged for me to spend the morning with the unit, like the Riot Squad in Berlin.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTHUR TROOP SCHOLARSHIP

I was particularly looking forward to this experience as a Bomb Technician in Canberra. To my enjoyment walking into the Bomb Squads hunger was like walking into our officers at home, it was a warm and inviting place full of robots, training equipment and memorabilia. Christian, Kay, and Paul showed me their equipment and as a recruit course was also running, I was given a tour of their equipment by one of the new recruits under the close observation of the team. It was humbling to see the same bonds and dedication to the specialisation across nations and jurisdictions. After a couple of coffees, some patch swapping, and the presentation of a plaque Jorn and I left the airport for a walking tour of the city.



The remainder of the day Jorn showed me the sights of Hamburg; the impressive port where we had lunch and spoke with some retired bankers, the remaining air raid tower from WW2 and some of the police divisions such as the famous Davidache in the night district. Later that afternoon I met with Sibel for her team's socialising day where I spent the afternoon with some of Hamburg's finest. On 28 September I left Hamburg for Dusseldorf, like Berlin the visit was too short, but I met some great new friends, I saw lots of historic/ epic city sites, next stop was Dusseldorf.



I had nothing organised in Dusseldorf, so I undertook a relaxing walk around the city looking at cites and enjoying more fine baked goods, meats, and beers. The following morning, I explored the Rhine streets and shops before being picked up by the IPA driver for my trip to Gimborn. I met with the driver at the train station for a short drive to Gimborn. On arrival it was late and dark but fortunately my room was easy to find and so was the Turmbar where I met with some of my Gimborn colleagues from both my seminar and the other courses running. I was still in awe of the 12th century castle I was staying in and the social bar area complete with medieval shields, banners, and armour for knights.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTHUR TROOP SCHOLARSHIP

On 30 September, the seminar started with the traditional meet and greets and then straight into presentations. The course was made up of existing or aspiring drone operators from the United States, Germany, Ireland, Belgium, and Pakistan. Our seminar lecturers John, David and Tim are all from law enforcement in the United States, except David who was a Firefighter, and he was reminded of that daily.



The seminar covered a range of topics such as: drones in police work, crowd management, counter UAS, mapping basics, fundamentals of flying, UAV training, NIST, indoor tactical flying and the use of thermals.

Along with the seminar sessions we were introduced to arrange practical drone flying skills such as flying with VR headsets, flying inside buildings, search sweeps and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) method for skill testing. We were fortunate to have guest speakers from the Belgium Federal Police Drone Unit in Genk. Bart and his team have developed an excellent response capability using drones for intelligence and surveillance, especially in response to crowd control and port protection. Along with tactics and deployment options we enjoyed a range of demonstrations and examples of effective use of the technology.

Along with our guest speakers our course managers John and Tim provided expert advice and presentations based on their countless years of experience running drone programs in their home jurisdictions in Florida and California. John and Tim brought extensive value to their presentations having been responsible for the development of their police agencies drone programs. They presented on the use of drones order, public events and a 24 month study John conducted of drones being used to detect gravesites using infrared and ultraviolet cameras with impressive results.

A large component of the seminar was focused on the NIST method for testing standards. David took us through a range of programs NIST has undertaken with a focus on drone methods and testing. I found it immensely valuable as the NIST method and material can be adapted to a range of policing specialisations and tasks. I was particularly interested in the NIST methods as a Bomb Technician, the organization offers a range of training programs and material to provide standardized testing regimes. The NIST material will provide a solid foundation for understanding testing regimes for skillsets such as drones and bomb response robots.

Along with five days of drone flying and presentations, the seminar undertook a trip to Cologne. I was keen to try the Kosh beers in Cologne and fortunately there was a brewery close by to where we were dropped off. Cologne was a beautiful city and provided an excellent opportunity to purchase some gifts for my wife and son while seeing the sites.

The seminar was a valuable undertaking and a great use of the Arthur Troop scholarship; not just for the benefits of attending the course, learning more about the fundamentals of drone use in policing. I also valued the opportunity to visit Gimborn and network with fellow IPA members from around.

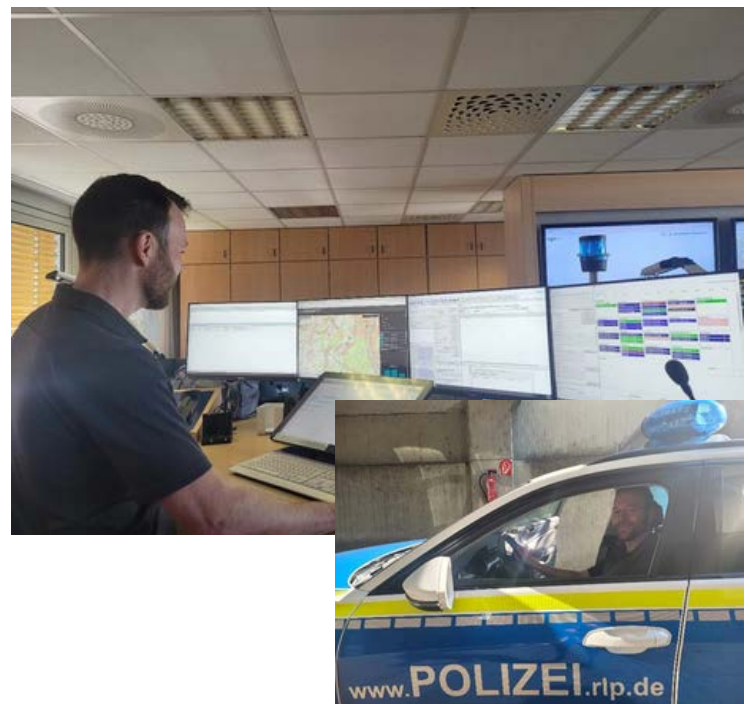
SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTHUR TROOP SCHOLARSHIP

The seminar and networking I experienced has provided valuable tools to progress my understanding of drones, their use in my agency and how they can be best used to support police operations.



KOBLENZ

After the seminar and a momentous week at Gimborn my next stop was Koblenz. On 4 October I arrived in Koblenz, and it was a beautiful night, so I took advantage of the weather and went for a walk around the new part of the city. The following morning, I was picked up at my accommodation by Ruidiger from IPA Koblenz. Our first stop for the day was the Police Operations Centre in the Rhineland- Palatinate Police Headquarters. As I currently work in Police Operations, I was interested in how our German colleagues manage their workloads and dispatch patrols. It was interesting to see the systems in place and how resources were managed, I was also granted permission to get a photo at the operations managers desk and run the district for about 5 seconds. Later, I was invited to inspect the stations patrol vehicles. Koblenz was the first location in Germany I had attended that utilised Audi station wagons as patrol vehicles, while not downplaying my Kia Sorento the Audi was an excellent looking patrol vehicle, the incorporation of the weapons and protection in the rear of the vehicle was impressive and practical.



SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTHUR TROOP SCHOLARSHIP



After the Police visit Ruidiger took me on a tour of City, Koblenz is a beautiful city with a rich history. We visited the old city and had lunch at a small pub next to the Mosel River. We visited the Kaiser-Wilhelm Monument where the Mosel and the Rhine rivers meet. It's a fantastic monument to empire, something we simply don't build anymore, interesting the allied soldiers shot the top off the monument, and it was rebuilt later after the war, everywhere you look there is a scratch or bruise from a time long ago whether American, French, Roman, it is a city with a rich history. After a brief trip in the cable car, we arrived at the Ehrenbreitstein Fortress sitting atop the Mosel valley. The gigantic fortress was built by the Prussians between 1817 and 1828.

On 6 October Ruidiger picked me up from my accommodation to go meet with Claudia, another IPA member in Koblenz. Claudia offered to take me on a tour of the Roman stone mine before going to the Rhineland-Palatinate Police Aerial Unit. The mine was amazing, a rich history of the construction and mining methods of ancient Rome. On arrival at Koblenz-Winningen Airport I was met with the noise of two police helicopters taking off in a southerly direction, I later found out the helicopters were leaving on a training mission near Munich.

We meet with Thomas one of the chief pilots and a Polizeihaupt Kommissar. Thomas showed us the existing Airbus helicopters and the new model they had recently received. We discussed the usefulness and benefits of the airwing and some of the challenges airwings face with the introduction of drones. As my agency does not have a traditional airwing it was insightful to hear about the types of incidents the helicopter responds to and their abilities.

Soon it was time to leave Koblenz and go to my final destination Frankfurt. Koblenz was a lovely city, and I made some great friends in Ruidiger and Claudia.



FRANKFURT

On 6 October I took my final Deutsche Bahn train ride to Frankfurt. When I arrived in Frankfurt, I knew instantly it was a bigger and busier city, the train station and the mood of the place was more fast paced than Koblenz and Hamburg, even Berlin. I had nothing planned on the 7th of October; it was an opportunity to explore the city. My accommodation was near Römer, the city's 14th century city hall, I enjoyed breakfast and a coffee walking around the old part of the city.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTHUR TROOP SCHOLARSHIP

After a stroll down the Rhine, I decided to attend the Kriminal Police Museum, on arrival I found out it was only open to School and police groups by appointment; but the museum was near the Deutsche Bundesbank Museum (Germany's Central Bank), as a former banker I could not pass up the opportunity to see some currency and bullion. In the afternoon while exploring the city I stumbled into an Asian food market and then another museum about life for children under the nazi's, it was yet another example which was present throughout my trip of the changes and adaptability of the German people, their acceptance of the past and how they move forward as united people.



On 8 October I packed my bag for the last time in Germany and left my accommodation knowing I was now in the end zone and mentally preparing for yet another long trip. I had planned to meet with Julien and Dirk, IPA Frankfurt members at the 4th Polizeirevier, the hardest Police station in Frankfurt. Kirk, a Polizeihaupt Kommissar at the station met me outside with Julian who works at another station on the outskirts. Julian made a special trip into the city to come and meet me, which was great. Kirk organised for one of his units to take me on a ride along and show me the sites of the dark part of town.

After a brief introduction and trying on the active shooter kits we went for a tour of the hard streets of Frankfurt, inspecting some hotels and a drop-in center for drug users. Germany has an advanced version of the drug decriminalisation laws we have in Canberra; it was insightful to see how the laws had changed the culture and makeup of the inner city. While we were walking the beat Julian intercepted a female with a rifle butt in her handbag, not a normal item to have in central Frankfurt. We toured the area and tried to find some jobs to tag onto. We only had one job which was a hire car collision. The team showed me how they complete the entire investigation using a dedicated phone app on their issued mobile phones. After a quick tour to the top of the Deutsche Bahn Tower to see the city views, we found out the riot squad were undertaking a 'control operation' near the train station. On arrival at the control order, I saw about twenty police with the same number of pedestrians lined up against a wall in varied stages of being searched. While German laws collectively reduce police powers to search, the control order allows police to stop groups of people for the purpose of conducting checks and searches, but only in specific areas of high crime like central Frankfurt.



SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTHUR TROOP SCHOLARSHIP

After some more coins, shield and patch swaps it was time to head to the airport. Julian was kind enough to give me a final ride on the autobahn before heading home. Two days later I arrived home with plenty of patches, new friends and found memories of my German adventure.



I would like to thank the IPA for entrusting me with the scholarship and all the IPA members who took time out of their busy lives to show me their work, their cities and in many cases meet their friends and family.

The scholarship and travel were a fantastic experience, one I will cherish forever. I would encourage anyone who has not applied for the scholarship to think creatively, find something you want to achieve to better yourself and the IPA, then simply apply and keep applying. The networks, friends, and memories I gained from this experience will last a lifetime. We have a unique and special connection in our professional vocations, our blue family does not stop at borders. The IPA links those bonds across jurisdictions, countries, and oceans.

Nicholas Bannan
IPA Australia

ARTHUR TROOP SCHOLARSHIP: APPLICATIONS OPEN YEAR- ROUND

The Arthur Troop Scholarship, one of the IPA's most prestigious educational opportunities, is open for applications throughout the year. This scholarship supports IPA members in pursuing professional development through international training and education.

Applications are reviewed annually after 31st March, with successful candidates awarded scholarships for courses taking place in the following year. We encourage all interested members to register their interest early and begin preparing their application in good time. Many recipients choose to attend seminars at IBZ Gimborn, renowned for its wide range of policing and international affairs topics. You can see examples of these courses on page 61 or explore the full calendar online.

However, you are not limited to Gimborn. The Arthur Troop Scholarship also supports courses from any reputable training provider of your choice, giving you the flexibility to pursue education tailored to your specific interests and career goals.

Whether you're looking to enhance your skills, gain international insights, or connect with IPA colleagues worldwide, the Arthur Troop Scholarship is a valuable pathway to personal and professional growth.

For full details and to apply, visit the IPA international website or contact your National Section.

Act early—invest in your future with the support of the Arthur Troop Scholarship!

IPA SLOVENIA ROAD RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIP

Organised by the IPA Section Slovenia, the National IPA Road Running Championship was once again held on Saturday, April 26, 2025, at the Bukovci Sports Park. The competition took place as part of the 9th Markovci Mini Marathon "Markoton 2025."

The national championship included races at 5.5 km and 10 km distances. A total of 12 IPA members (men and women) participated in the championship, which featured five women's and five men's age categories at both distances.

Results:

Women – 5.5 km:

- 1st place (30–39 age group): Petra Nudl – IPA Štajerska
- 2nd place (30–39 age group): Anita Kovačič – IPA Štajerska



Women – 10 km:

- 1st place (30–39 age group): Leja Žido – IPA Štajerska
- 1st place (40–49 age group): Petra Podlesnik – IPA Štajerska
- 1st place (60+ age group): Zlatka Tičar – IPA Ljubljana

Men – 5.5 km:

- 1st place (30–39 age group): Darko Hercog – IPA Štajerska
- 1st place (40–49 age group): Boštjan Ozmec – IPA Štajerska
- 1st place (50–59 age group): Karl Petelinšek – IPA Štajerska
- 2nd place (50–59 age group): Dušan Bartelj – IPA Ljubljana

Men – 10 km:

- 1st place (40–49 age group): Andrej Debelak – IPA Celje
- 2nd place (40–49 age group): Matej Kraner – IPA Celje
- 1st place (60+ age group): Mihael Burilov – IPA Ljubljana

Well-deserved IPA medals were presented to the participants of the national championship by the president of IPA Štajerska, Miran Šadl.

IPA SLOVENIA ROAD RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIP



Congratulations to all for their outstanding achievements, especially Boštjan Ozmec and Andrej Debelak, who secured excellent 3rd places in the overall rankings for the 5.5 km and 10 km races.

We extend our thanks to all IPA runners who braved the rain and participated in the national championship.

IPA Slovenia

CHILDREN'S DRAWING COMPETITION

Calling all young artists! The 5th IPA Children's Drawing Competition is open to children and grandchildren of IPA members aged 6–12 (born between 1 Jan 2013 and 31 Dec 2019).

Themes:

- Police Cars
- Animals
- Environment

Each child may submit up to 2 A4-sized drawings using pencil, paint, pastels, or ink. Please include a completed entry form with full name, age, parent's email, and phone number.

Deadline: Saturday, 16 August 2025

Submit entries to:

artsandcultureprojectteam@gmail.com

Prizes: 4 winners per category + 1 overall winner!



UPCOMING EVENTS



International World Football
Tournament

4-8 June 2025



IPA France European
Practical Shooting
Championship

11-12 June 2025



IPA Italy IPA European Bikers
Reunion

20-22 June 2025



IPA Greece 30th
Mediterranean IPA Sections
Conference

20-23 June 2025



IPA Romania Beach Soccer
Tournament

21-26 June 2025



IPA Austria - Hiking Week
Nassfeld June 2025

22-29 June 2025

Here are some of the events taking place throughout the IPA over the next couple of months. Visit our international website for a full list of our upcoming events:

ipa-international.org/Events

GIMBORN SEMINARS









IBZ Castle Gimborn also referred to as the flagship of our association offers professional seminars, conferences and meetings and plays a vital role in fostering professional exchange among law enforcement officers. These seminars help to build personal networks that are the cornerstone of successful international crime-fighting.

Find the link to the seminar programme and book today!

[CLICK HERE](#)



UPCOMING SEMINARS

25 21	02.06. – 06.06.	■ Moderne Ermittlungsmethoden bei Gewaltdelikten Nowoczesne metody prowadzenia dochodzeń w sprawie przestępstw z użyciem przemocy		499 €	IPA 369 €
25 22	16.06. – 20.06.	■ Moderne Polizeiarbeit: Cyberkriminalität und der professionelle Einsatz digitaler Ermittlungsmethoden Il lavoro della polizia moderna: la criminalità informatica e l'uso professionale dei metodi di indagine digitale		499 €	IPA 369 €
25 23	23.06. – 27.06.	■ Stressintelligenz entwickeln – Kompetenzen stärken: Hilfe durch Stressmanagement (Modul I)		499 €	IPA 369 €
25 24	30.06. – 04.07.	■ Islamistischer Terrorismus – Globale Netzwerke und lokale Auswirkungen		499 €	IPA 369 €
25 25	07.07. – 10.07.	■ Social Media im Polizeieinsatz: Professionelle Kommunikation und Krisenmanagement		499 €	IPA 369 €
25 26	14.07. – 18.07.	■ Police Street Survival Training		499 €	IPA 369 €
25 27	04.08. – 08.08.	■ Defensive Training Instructor Course for Women in Law Enforcement		499 €	IPA 369 €
25 28	25.08. – 29.08.	■ Modern Forensic Methods for the Investigation of a Crime Scene		499 €	IPA 369 €
25 29	01.09. – 05.09.	■ Eagle Strike – Terrorism Counter Strike Training for Task Forces		599 €	IPA 469 €
25 30	15.09. – 19.09.	■ Seminar for Young IPA Members – Cyber Griffin Incident Response Training		499 €	IPA 369 €
25 31	22.09. – 26.09.	■ Technologie trifft Polizeiarbeit: Chancen und Grenzen der digitalen Transformation La tecnología se une a la policía: oportunidades y límites de la transformación digital		499 €	IPA 369 €



MARKETING



Social Media Campaign

Dear IPA Friends Worldwide,

We invite you to submit photographs for use in our official IPA channels (social media, website, newsletters, etc.) to support our monthly marketing themes in 2025. Please send your images to marketing@ieb-ipa.org.

- **June:** Youth Engagement Programmes

Emphasise activities where police positively interact with young people. Photos could highlight workshops, safety talks in schools, sports events, or mentorship programmes.

If you have any police-related topics you'd like to see featured on our social media channels, or if there's any other type of content you'd like us to share more often, we'd love to hear from you at iac@ieb-ipa.org.

Please ensure you have the rights and permissions to any photos submitted. Thank you for your support and cooperation. Your contributions will help present a strong, unified image of the IPA around the world.



Scan the QR code to view our social media channels. Make sure you follow us for the latest events and information.



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