



# International Police Association

# Newsletter



## Celebrating 75 Years of Friendship – 68th IPA World Congress in Kraków, Poland

In September 2025, Kraków hosted the 68th IPA World Congress, uniting delegates and observers from 65 countries. The event marked the 75th anniversary of the International Police Association. A celebration of its legacy and a milestone in shaping its future.

[Read more on page 7](#)

## Empowering the Future: SYMC 2025 at IBZ Gimborn

From September 5–7, young members of the International Police Association gathered at the historic IBZ Gimborn for an unforgettable Strategic Young Members Conference. With vibrant discussions, innovative workshops, and lasting international connections, the event proved once again to be an inspiring platform for empowering the next generation of IPA leaders.



[Read more on page 20](#)



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# Introduction from Chairperson Professional Commission Diego Trolese



**Diego Trolese**

Chairperson of Professional Commission

Our World Congress (WC) recently concluded in the beautiful city of Krakow after two years of the IEB mandate and therefore halfway through my journey as Chairperson of the Professional Commission (PC) within the IEB.

After the initial period in 2023-2024, we agreed the projects that were previously organised and would continue and subsequently, with the recruitment of new commission members, necessary updates were made and new projects with new ideas were established.

All new initiatives were presented to the WC by the International President and the Secretary General and approved by the assembly, as new procedures and updates were communicated. The latest developments were particularly the new EDUCATION project, which establishes contacts and collaborations with other associations with which we share goals and various activities.



A meeting was also held between the project TTLLs, all present at the WC, with whom updates were shared on contacts, procedures, and related expenses, as well as on the Commission's future mandate plans.



# Introduction from Chairperson Professional Commission Diego Trolese

The major changes, approved by the IEB and subsequently by the WC Delegates, include updates to the Procedures for new and existing projects; an increase in the per capita participation fee from €150.00 to €250.00, managed by the host Sections; and an increase in the Chairmen's budget for participating in the various initiatives and projects of the Commission members.

The IEB's support for the development of new projects and contacts was not lacking, as was the necessary long-term collaboration with the IBZ GIMBORN. New initiatives in this area include the launch of the first seminar to be held outside of Gimborn in Moldova and the online seminars scheduled for multiple editions, currently in Spanish.

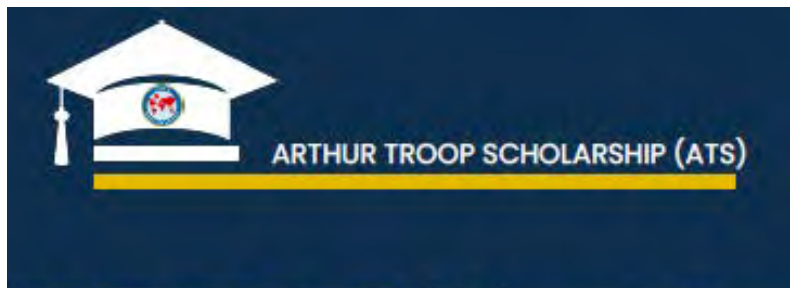


The Arthur Troop Scholarship (ATS) project team led by Salvatore del Giglio has finalised and completed all operations with its collaborators, completing all procedures related to the 2026 project. There were 80 applications and 12 winners; See page 18 for the full list of winners.

**her**  
#SHEisIPA

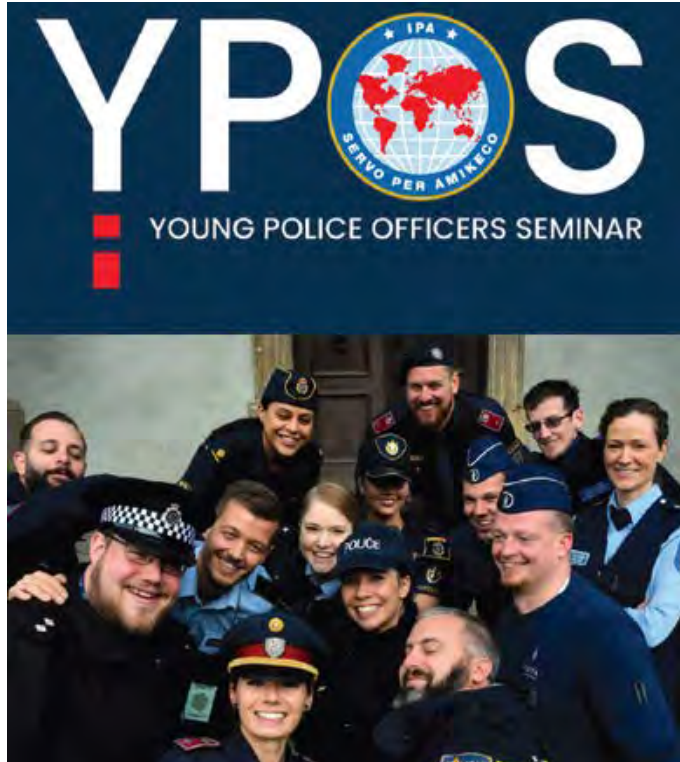


The #SHEisIPA project no longer requires further information, as it has already been operational for a long time with many initiatives and a new seminar this year, which will once again take place in the splendid setting of Gimborn Castle.





# Introduction from Chairperson Professional Commission Diego Trolese



The Young Police Officers Seminar (YPOS) also needs no further introduction. After last year's success in Vienna, the project is being hosted in November 2025 by the Romanian Section in the capital, Bucharest, with the participation of numerous members and a packed and exciting programme.

The presentation of the 2026 edition, which will be organised by the German Section, was also made during the WC.

In this context, as mentioned, the Strategic Young Member's Conference (SYMC) project has launched at took place in Gimborn from 5-7 September.



Previously integrated with YPOS, it has now been developed as a stand alone procedure by our committee with new procedures approved by the IEB and WC. Both projects will be managed by the Young Members team.

I'll conclude my brief note with an update on the 7 Regions Project, managed by our talented Vice President Oli Hoffmann, and where I have the honour of chairing the Northern Europe group. The first meeting took place in Vilnius, Lithuania earlier this year, and we had the opportunity to have our second physical meeting during World Conference in Krakow. We established shared guidelines, shared ideas and best practice and will schedule our next meeting for April 2026.

See you all and your families.

*Diego*

**Diego Trolese**  
**Chairperson Professional Commission**



# Celebrating 75 Years of Friendship

## 68th IPA World Congress in Kraków



The 68th IPA World Congress took place from 16-21 September 2025 in Kraków, Poland. Marking the 75th anniversary of the International Police Association, the congress was both a moment to reflect on the organisation's remarkable journey and a milestone in shaping its future. Delegates and observers from 65 countries gathered in a spirit of unity, continuity and confidence.

### A Historic Congress

The official opening ceremony was held in the Wieliczka Salt Mine, a UNESCO World Heritage site that provided a truly unique backdrop for this anniversary event. In his opening words, International President Martin Hoffmann underlined the importance of neutrality, solidarity and professional exchange in times of global uncertainty.



He also recalled his recent visit to Ukraine, highlighting the courage and resilience of IPA colleagues working under extraordinary conditions.

IPA Poland, under the leadership of Section President Piotr Wójcik, was warmly thanked for its excellent organisation and hospitality. With a record growth of more than 2,700 new members in the past year, IPA Poland was celebrated as the strongest growing section worldwide.



### Decisions and Strategic Direction

The plenary sessions were marked by constructive and cooperative debate. Delegates worked together in a spirit of friendship and responsibility, ensuring that the key decisions for the future of the IPA were taken with broad support.





# Celebrating 75 Years of Friendship

## 68th IPA World Congress in Kraków

Among the motions adopted were:

- Reintroduction of interpretation: Simultaneous interpretation in the five official IPA languages (English, French, German, Spanish and Russian) will be reintroduced for future World Congresses.
- Suspension of IPA Russia: The suspension of IPA Russia was extended for a fourth year, with IPA Cyprus appointed to represent its interests during this period, without voting rights.
- Event subsidies: The standard subsidy for international events such as the Young Police Officers' Seminar (YPOS) and the Strategic Young Members' Conference (SYMC) was increased to €250 per participant, making it easier for young officers to participate.
- Future congresses and meetings: IPA Kenya's bid to host the IPA World Congress in 2029 received broad support, subject to final budget approval. IPA Portugal was confirmed as host of the next Hosting Sections Meeting, to be held in Lisbon in September 2026.



The sessions also confirmed the ongoing implementation of the IPA Strategy 2023–2027, which focuses on growth, inclusivity, professional exchange and sustainability.



### A Gala Evening for the 75th Anniversary

The highlight of the congress week was the Gala Evening on 19 September, celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Association in a dignified and festive atmosphere.

Guests of honour included twelve former members of the International Executive Board and Professional Executive Bureau. At the forefront were the two former International Presidents, Armand Jaminet (Luxembourg) and Pierre-Martin Moulin (Switzerland). They were joined by Phyllis Nolan (Ireland), the first woman to serve on the International Board, followed by former Vice Presidents Haim Szmulewitz (Israel), Daniel Condaminas (France), Gal Sharon (Israel) and Kyriakos Karkalis (Greece). Completing the distinguished group were Romain Miny (Luxembourg), Ioannis Panoussis (Greece), Stephen Crockard (United Kingdom), May-Britt Rönnebro (Sweden) and Demetris Demetriou (Cyprus). Their presence underlined the continuity of leadership and the strong foundation of the IPA.

A particularly moving moment was the premiere of the new IPA Song and video, created with contributions from many sections worldwide. It was received as a powerful symbol of unity and friendship across all continents.



# Celebrating 75 Years of Friendship

## 68th IPA World Congress in Kraków

### Gratitude and Acknowledgements

At the close of the congress, the International President expressed his gratitude to all delegates for their constructive contributions, to the Polish organisers for their outstanding hospitality, and to the IEB, IAC and advisers for their tireless work. Above all, recognition was given to the many volunteers and partners whose support makes the life of the Association possible.



### Looking Ahead – A Confident Future

Delegates left Kraków with a renewed sense of confidence and shared purpose. The decisions taken and the unity demonstrated once again showed that the IPA is more than an association: it is a worldwide family built on friendship.

Looking ahead, members can already anticipate the 69th IPA World Congress in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in 2026, as well as the Statutory Convention in Lisbon in 2026. Major events such as the IPA Games 2026 in Poland and further international seminars are also on the horizon.

After 75 years, the IPA is not slowing down. It is entering a new chapter with energy, inclusivity and a clear strategy. Friendship, solidarity and professional exchange will continue to be the driving forces that make the IPA the world's largest and most vibrant police association.



## IPA GAMES 2026

During the Opening Ceremony of the IPA World Congress, we were delighted to be introduced to the IPA Games 2026 Mascot – Ipek.

Preparations are already underway, and IPA Poland warmly invites everyone to take part. The IPA Games are not only about sport, but also about friendship, teamwork, and international cooperation. Registration will be opening soon, so please keep an eye out for full programme details and updates from the organising team.

Following the huge success, outstanding hospitality, and excellent organisation by IPA Poland of the 68th IPA World Congress in Kraków, there is no doubt that the IPA Games will also be a tremendous success.



# Special Recognition for Members

During the World Congress, special recognition was given to two long-standing members of the IPA for their dedication and service to the Association.



Ioannis Panousis (IPA Greece) was already in attendance at the IPA World Congress as a former PEB member invited to celebrate 75 years of IPA. Ioannis previously served as Assistant Secretary General from 2003 to 2006.

Vice President Oliver Hoffmann welcomed Ioannis to the stage to present him with his certificate in recognition for his service as Assistant Secretary General and for demonstrating exceptional commitment, leadership, and support in advancing the objectives and development of the IPA.

Congratulations to both of these most deserving members. It is important that we recognise those who dedicate their time, energy, and commitment to the IPA. Their contributions help our Association to grow, develop, and remain true to its values of friendship and service.

Hubert Vitt (IPA Germany) was honoured for his outstanding commitment to the International Police Association. His contribution has been evident through his continuous attendance at World Congresses since 2007, as well as his dedicated service to the Professional Commission and, more recently, the Socio-Cultural Commission. Hubert joined the 68th IPA World Congress via live video conference, where he was formally recognised and presented with his award.





# Service Through Friendship – Celebrating 75 Years of the IPA

In 1949, a British police sergeant named Arthur Troop published an article in the *Police Review* under the pen name Aytee. In it, he expressed his conviction that international exchanges between police officers could create something far greater than professional contacts. As he wrote: “The existence of this scheme would do much to weld friendship into a great fellowship.”

This simple but groundbreaking idea laid the foundation for the International Police Association. Troop, who had witnessed the devastation of the Second World War, believed that police officers could play a crucial role in overcoming divisions between nations.

At a time when Europe was recovering from destruction and the Cold War was beginning to cast its shadow, he envisioned an organisation where police officers could meet as friends, regardless of rank, nationality, religion, or political belief.

On 1 January 1950, Troop’s vision became reality with the official foundation of the IPA in the United Kingdom. To symbolise neutrality and internationalism, he chose the motto in Esperanto: *Servo per Amikeco* – Service through Friendship. This was more than a phrase: it was a commitment to a way of life, to dialogue, and to peace.

## The First World Congress – Eight Founding Sections

The idea spread rapidly across Europe. Only five years after its foundation, the IPA reached a historic milestone. On 16 September 1955, the first IPA World Congress was held in Paris. At this meeting, the IPA became a truly international body, and eight national sections were officially recognised as founding members:

- Belgium
- France
- Germany
- Ireland
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom

This moment firmly anchored the IPA as a worldwide association, and it remains a cornerstone of our history.



# Service Through Friendship – Celebrating 75 Years of the IPA



## Building Bridges in a Divided World

From its very beginning, the IPA offered something unique. During the decades of the Cold War, when nations were divided by ideology and politics, the IPA provided a neutral platform for police officers from East and West to meet, exchange experiences, and build friendships.

The organisation quickly became known for its three core pillars: professional development, social exchange, and cultural activities. Seminars, exchange visits, and later the Arthur Troop Scholarship and the Young Police Officers' Seminar gave members opportunities for learning and career development.

Friendship weeks, IPA Houses, and cultural competitions offered spaces for connection and understanding. At a time when Europe was recovering from destruction and the Cold War was beginning to cast its shadow, he envisioned an organisation where police officers could meet as friends, regardless of rank, nationality, religion, or political belief.

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Over time, the IPA also reached beyond its membership, earning consultative status with the United Nations, UNESCO, and the Organisation of American States – recognition of its contribution to peace, dialogue, and human rights.



# Service Through Friendship – Celebrating 75 Years of the IPA

## Our Presidents Through the Years

Since 1955, the IPA has been led by a line of dedicated Presidents who carried Arthur Troop's vision forward. The first was **André Roches** of France (1955–1958), followed by **Alphonse Smeyers** of Belgium (1958–1961) and **Herbert Kalicinsky** of Germany (1961–1964), who was succeeded mid-term by **Theo Mommsen**. In the years that followed, the presidency passed to **William C. F. Best** of the United Kingdom (1964–1967), succeeded mid-term by **Peter Matthews**, and then to **Peter J. Matthews** himself (1967–1970). The next decades saw the leadership of **Alan Holmquist** of the Netherlands (1970–1973), **Bernard Martinez** of France (1973–1976), **Harold "Harry" Wilson** of Canada (1976–1979), and **Karl Homma** of Austria (1979–1982). The office was then held by **Jürgen Klös** of Germany (1982–1988), **Roy Stragnér** of Sweden (1988–1994), and **Armand**



**Jaminet** of Luxembourg (1994–2000). Entering the new millennium, **Michael Odysseos** of Cyprus served from 2000 to 2012, making him the longest-serving President in the history of the IPA. He was followed by **Pierre-Martin Moulin** of Switzerland, who guided the Association for more than a decade (2012–2023).



Since 2023, the presidency has been entrusted to **Martin Hoffmann** of Austria, who continues to build on this proud legacy together with his International Executive Board: **Oliver Hoffmann** of Germany as Vice President and Chair of the International Relations Commission, **Jože Senica** of Slovenia as Secretary General, **Kyriakos Perikleous** of Cyprus as Treasurer of Finances, **Jean Pierre Allet** of Switzerland as Treasurer Social Affairs, **Diego Trolese** of Italy as Chair of the Professional Commission, **Christos Parginos** of Greece as Chair of the Socio-Cultural

Commission, and **Clive Wood** of the United Kingdom as Head of Administration. United as a team, they are committed to ensuring that the IPA not only honours its remarkable past but also prepares for a strong and sustainable future.

## Honouring All Who Served

It is thanks to this collective effort that the IPA has survived and thrived for 75 years. Their commitment ensured that the principles of Arthur Troop's Aytee article were not only preserved but transformed into living reality for hundreds of thousands of members worldwide.



As we celebrate our 75th anniversary, it is also essential to look ahead. The current strategy for 2023–2027 sets out ambitious projects that are already shaping the future of the IPA. These include the strengthening of our professional development through initiatives such as the Arthur Troop Scholarship, the Young Police Officers' Seminar, and the expansion of training opportunities with more online formats and seminars hosted by national sections. Our social and cultural work continues to grow, from the IPA Games and the promotion of youth activities, to artistic projects such as the new IPA Art Book by Antonio Montejano, and international campaigns like #SHEisIPA, which highlight diversity, equality, and inclusion. Sustainability remains central, with initiatives such as Green IPA, which reflects our responsibility towards the environment.

Equally important is the growth of our Association, both in terms of membership and the creation of new sections worldwide. Events designed for younger members are receiving special attention, ensuring that the next generation finds its place and its voice within the IPA. Digitalisation also plays a key role, with the further development of the IPA App and our modernised website, both designed to bring members closer together and make our global community more accessible.

These projects are not meant to end in two years' time. On the contrary, many of the investments we make today will only reveal their full impact over the next five to ten years. The strategy therefore serves as a foundation for long-term growth: the outcomes of our work in training, diversity, sustainability, and international cooperation will extend well beyond 2027, strengthening the IPA for future generations.



# Service Through Friendship – Celebrating 75 Years of the IPA

## A Personal Word of Thanks

At this special moment in our history, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all who have served. To the former members of the PEB and IEB, who dedicated their time and leadership to the international development of our Association. To the previous and current staff of the International Administration Centre in Nottingham, whose tireless support has been vital for the work of every International Executive Board. And to every member worldwide, whose commitment to friendship and service has kept Arthur Troop's vision alive for 75 years. Let us continue this journey in friendship – united by our motto *Servo per Amikeco* – and ensure that the legacy we inherited remains strong for generations to come.

**Martin Hoffmann**  
International President

## Watch our Video



Watch the video prepared for the IPA World Congress celebrating 75 years of IPA.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

# Stephen Crockard

## Former PEB/IEB Member 2009–2023

### My long term contact with the IAC and its staff.

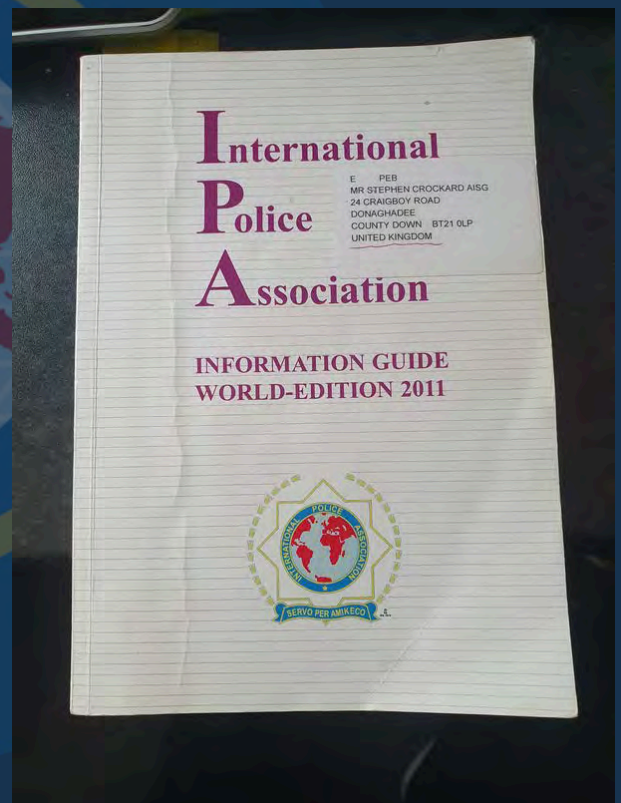
There were of course a number of short term IAC staffers over the years but I can nominate three distinct eras during my time: Wendy and Leslie with their institutional memory in an analogue age. Elke and Kerry bringing sharp fresh change in procedures and efficiency and finally Hana and Lisa in our new AI embracing digital world.



**Stephen, George, Wendy & Leslie**

There was the annual hard copy IPA Information Guide to produce in 3 languages, later 4 with Spanish and this was labour intensive. It was expensive to put together, have professionally translated and printed, then posted to a large number of recipients at ever increasing cost. As it was an annual item, it was necessary to send out updates for recipients to amend their copies. I am trying to remember whether the early black and white newsletter was posted or faxed pre-email, but it was produced variously by Wendy with input from George Katsaropoulos, then from me. When Elke arrived she adopted the newsletter and modernised it really well. It became her favourite item of work and this continued with Hana who has again stamped her positive signature on it.

During the 1980s and 1990s, as a UK regional board member I had occasions to visit Fox and made a point of calling with the UK staff and IAC staff. From 1999, as a UK Vice President, I attended IEC meetings and World Congresses each year and often travelled with Wendy & Leslie to the venues. In 2003, I joined the IPC and looked after the AT Scholarship in its early years, so now had a working relationship with the IAC. After election to the PEB in Turkey in 2009, as AISG, I visited the IAC several times each year. Remember, this was pre smart phone and universal use of email, so the staff had to take multiple phone calls each day not to mention large amounts of post and low quality fax messages. Information exchange moved at what today seems a snail pace.





# Stephen Crockard

## Former PEB/IEB Member 2009–2023

I tried to be available for the production of the IEC/World Congress agendas, again in four languages. These were also professionally translated and then sorted into four piles of paper, the largest in English, then German, next French and then Spanish. After assembling, they too were posted at great cost. We could see in the meetings those who only opened them for the first time, in the actual meetings. Today's delegates have the luxury of the anonymity of the digital agenda. The IAC received lots of visitors from individuals to large groups and we often received support from the UK staff and the Nottinghamshire IPA. Covid put a sudden stop to that and I don't know how much it has recovered.



**Website training with Stephen, Elke, Kerry & Daniel**

The steady progress in technology changed working practices, the digital Info Guide is updated monthly and the digital agenda has saved a lot of drudgery and expense. The last big items were the WC minutes and the statutes in four languages and reducing from four to one has again saved much work. AI is now helping in a way that staff in the IAC when I joined could only have dreamt of.



**Visit from IPA Macau to IAC Office, Nottingham**

My visits to the office reduced as my daily WhatsApp video calls with Elke and later calls with Hana and Lisa reduced the necessity for me to sample the delights of West Bridgford. The IAC continues to produce masses of statistics, packaged and ready for the SG and other IEB members to present in their reports

As a typical cop I want to know what is going on and via my earphones connected to my mobile, I constantly heard the arrival of news to my IEB account and to the IAC account. When I stood down as HA, my world felt suddenly silent. I am honoured to have worked with so many fine members of staff in the IAC and my PEB/IEC colleagues. It has been a large part of life for which I am truly grateful.

Servo per Amikeco



**Stephen, Hana & Lisa**

**Stephen Crockard**

# Arthur Troop Scholarship (ATS) 2026 Awardees

Following the introduction from Chairperson Professional Commission Diego Trolese we are pleased to announce the awardees of the Arthur Troop Scholarship to take place in 2026.

Awarded members - ATS 2026.								
Continent	nr.	tot.	G	dob	Name	Section	ATS Budget	
Europe	333	85	F	22/10/93	Vilma Dūdėnienė	Lithuania	1.800,00 €	
Europe	379	84	M	03/04/97	Ryan Castle	Gibraltar	849,00 €	
Europe	323	83	M	05/03/85	Dimitrios Aspasios	Greece	1.900,00 €	
Europe	391	83	F	22/03/88	Sharon Breen	Ireland	2.400,00 €	
Europe	335	83	F	28/11/96	María José Lizancos Berrio	Spain	1.000,00 €	
America	386	81	M	22/06/80	Alexander Zaganas	Canada	2.286,00 €	
Africa	375	79	F	24/08/85	Sandra Asubila	Kenya	2.000,00 €	
Asia	342	78	M	12/02/87	Daishi Yamashita	Japan	2.469,00 €	
Europe	376	78	M	14/02/85	Ivan Sørensen	Denmark	2.450,00 €	
Europe	330	77	M	03/06/88	Niko Airas	Finland	1.150,00 €	
Europe	336	77	M	24/09/86	Alexandru George Radu	Romania	2.500,00 €	
Oceania	357	75	M	26/10/92	Nathan Fulford	Australia	2.500,00 €	
							23.304,00 €	

The ATS as legacy to our founder Arthur Troop is a professional education and advanced training bursary with the aid of aiding IPA members in their professional careers. The Arthur Troop Scholarship is awarded to IPA members at the IPA World Congress which recently took place in Krakow, Poland. Each awardee may receive a bursary of up to €2500 which shall contribute to the seminar, conference or symposium fee, as well as travel and accommodation expenses.

The assessment board will review all applications and are evaluated using an assessment matrix. The Arthur Troop Scholarship is preferably awarded to at least one applicant from each continent, provided the application standard and quality is of the required standard.

All awardees are asked to submit reports and photos of the Arthur Troop Scholarship upon completion. Look out for stories from these awardees in the coming months.

Applications for 2027 are now underway. If you would like to apply for the Arthur Troop Scholarship, visit our website for the application form. The closing date is 31 March 2026.

**APPLY TODAY**



# IPA Collaboration With ASEANAPOL

During the IPA World Congress, delegates had the privilege of a presentation by Lt. Col. Nguyen Hui Ngoc, who outlined ASEANAPOL's mission and vision. ASEANAPOL, the Association of Southeast Asian National Police Organisations, brings together police forces from countries including Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar.



Chairperson of the International Relations Commission, Oliver Hoffmann, is working closely with ASEANAPOL to explore opportunities for collaboration between ASEANAPOL and the IPA.

Currently, the IPA has limited representation in this region, making this partnership a significant opportunity for future growth and development. By fostering engagement with ASEANAPOL, the IPA can expand its international reach, build connections with police officers across Southeast Asia, and promote the values of friendship and professional exchange that are at the heart of the organisation.

This presentation highlighted the potential for mutual learning, knowledge sharing, and strengthening global police networks, paving the way for meaningful partnerships in a region where IPA membership has historically been limited.



# Strategic Young Members Conference (SYMC)

## Strategic Young Members Conference 2025 at IBZ Gimborn – A Success Story!

From September 5–7, 2025, young members of the International Police Association (IPA) gathered at the historic IBZ Gimborn for this year's Strategic Young Members Conference (SYMC). With participants from across Europe, Asia, and Africa, the event once again proved to be an inspiring platform for exchange, innovation, and international friendship.



### A Strong Start

The conference began on Friday with a warm welcome and introductions. Participants shared their backgrounds, IPA roles, and expectations before diving into group work and poster sessions. These first activities already sparked lively discussions on communication, leadership, and the role of young members in the IPA. The evening concluded with a networking BBQ supported by V-Armed, where new friendships and international connections quickly formed.

### Engaging Topics, Practical Insights

Saturday was the heart of the SYMC, featuring keynotes, presentations, and interactive workshops. Highlights included:

- Targeted Communication in Digital Spaces – How ChatGPT Can Assist IPA Sections
- Practical exercises showed how new technologies can support IPA sections in reaching members more effectively. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive!
- Young Police Officers' Mentoring Programme – Best Practices from IPA Ireland
- A real success story that inspired many sections to consider launching similar initiatives.
- On-Patrol Events – A Cost-Efficient and Effective Format for Young Members
- A creative way to connect and engage with young IPA members.
- Exchange Programmes and Study Trips – Quo vadis?
- Opportunities and challenges were discussed, with a strong call for more accessible information and better coordination.



*A key takeaway from the workshops: while IPA already offers fantastic opportunities, there is a clear need for professional digital communication tools, mentoring structures, and improved visibility of programmes.*



# Strategic Young Members Conference (SYMC)



## Sharing Knowledge Beyond the Conference

To ensure that ideas and knowledge continue to spread, all presentations and materials were made available to participants via a shared cloud platform. This way, the SYMC experience will carry on beyond Gimborn and into the daily work of national sections.

## Looking Ahead

The participants expressed a clear wish for continuity of the SYMC format, broader international participation, and even more room for exchange in the future. There was strong agreement that SYMC should remain a stand-alone event, dedicated to empowering young IPA members and shaping the future of the association.

## Conclusion

The SYMC 2025 was not only a conference – it was a meeting of ideas, cultures, and people united by the spirit of the IPA. With constructive discussions, inspiring workshops, and unforgettable networking moments, the event showed once again: the future of IPA is in good hands with its young members!

## Philipp Kurz

**Project Lead Young Persons**

# IPA Armenia August Activities

On August 20, at the IPA Armenia office we received a guest from the IPA Germany, police officer working in Darmstadt Marcel Aldorf.

During the meeting we discussed some nuances of the Armenian and German police, exchanged gifts, and Marcel Aldorf was also awarded a medal.

On August 28, the IPA Section of Armenia celebrated the 35th anniversary of the creation of the Armenian special forces. The President of the IPA Armenia Grigor Sargsyan is one of the founders of the Armenian special forces.

**IPA Armenia**



# International President Visit to IPA Ukraine



On August 28-31, 2025, IPA President Martin Hoffmann, together with IPA Estonia President Uno Laas, visited the capital of Ukraine, the city of Kyiv, at the invitation of their Ukrainian colleagues.

The programme began with a meeting with the Head of the National Police of Ukraine, General Ivan Vyhivskyi. Along with the head of police were his deputies and other staff members. From the Ukrainian Section of the IPA, the meeting was attended by Oleksandr Zarubyskyi, Acting President of the Section,

and Oleksandr Yarmysh, member of the National Executive Committee and Head of the Professional Commission.

The meeting was well-organised and held in a warm, constructive atmosphere. Attendees honoured the memory of the fallen with a moment of silence, after which they discussed issues united by a single theme – how to improve the interaction of IPA, its Ukrainian Section, and the National Police.

Each participant shared their views. The Head of Police, as an IPA member, was invited at one of the regional police chiefs' meetings to express his personal attitude toward the Ukrainian Section of IPA and to direct his colleagues accordingly.

Much was discussed about preparing joint sports teams to participate in IPA competitions, as well as the idea of organising participation for athletes with disabilities.

Attention was also given to organising recreation and psychological rehabilitation for the children of fallen police officers, improving cooperation in the scientific and practical sphere, and other issues. At the end of the meeting, which lasted three times longer than planned, souvenirs were exchanged according to tradition.





# International President Visit to IPA Ukraine

After a substantive meeting with the leadership of the National Police, our guests and their accompanying delegation proceeded to Irpin and Bucha. The names of these small towns near Kyiv are today known far abroad. At the entrance to Irpin, we saw a large destroyed bridge which was blown up by Ukrainian patriots, to defend Kyiv.



Guests laid flowers and honoured the memory of the deceased residents honouring a minute's silence following the devastations of the ongoing war. A representative of the City Council presented the attendees with a photo exhibition depicting the reason events in Bucha.



Today, Bucha and Irpin look very different than they did three years ago. The cities are quickly recovering and improving their appearance daily. The guests were keen to visit the Irpin City Police Department building, which has been truly rebuilt from the ashes, and familiarised themselves with its technical equipment.

On the way back to Kyiv, the guests were shown some of the consequences of air raids on the capital.

# International President Visit to IPA Ukraine



The working day for the IPA President and his delegation concluded at the National Administrative Centre. Mr. Hoffmann reviewed the financial documents regarding the distribution of financial assistance from the IPA to members of the Ukrainian Section. At the end, he stated that the work carried out and the information provided deserved high recognition.

The second day of the visit took place at the National Academy of Internal Affairs. It began with a business meeting with representatives of the Academy's leadership – Vice-Rector Professor Serhii Cherniavskiy and Head of the International Department Oleksandr Zhovtiuk. The guests were introduced to the system of training future law enforcement officers, with emphasis placed on modern approaches to education that meet the realities of service during wartime. We discussed prospects for cooperation in education, research projects, and professional practice exchange.



The guests showed great interest in the exhibition of the Museum of Police History and Criminology. Afterwards, the delegation travelled to the Academy's training base in the village of Vita Poshtova. The guests visited practical training grounds where cadets practice skills in responding to emergencies, apprehending offenders, conducting investigative actions, and other elements of professional training. They also inspected classrooms equipped with modern technology, spoke with cadets, and took photographs with them.



The third day of our friends' stay in the capital of Ukraine began with a visit to Mykhailivska Square, where they spent considerable time at the Wall of Remembrance, gazing at the countless photographs of heroes who gave their lives for Ukraine, among them our police brothers. Tears were visible in the eyes of Martin and Uno.



# International President Visit to IPA Ukraine



On Andriyivskyi Descent, known here as Kyiv's Montmartre, the guests were drawn to the art fair, where they even considered some of the paintings. Naturally, they admired the immortal creation of Rastrelli – St. Andrew's Church. The programme continued with a walk through Old Kyiv, including a coffee break in one of the city's popular cafés, which at that hour was almost fully packed. They also showed interest in the Golden Gate, the Opera Theatre, and other landmarks. The guests were equally delighted by the view of the Dnipro River from the observation deck near the Museum of the History of the War.

At 2 p.m., a working meeting took place with members of the National Executive Council of IPA Ukraine. Acting President Oleksandr Zarubyskyi, in his opening remarks, briefly informed those present about the implementation of the visit's programme and then gave the floor to the guests. Martin Hoffmann and Uno Laas shared in detail with their Ukrainian colleagues their impressions of their stay in the capital and highly praised the organisation of the visit. The IPA President also provided a detailed briefing on new approaches in the work of the International Executive Board and the IPA as a whole, and answered questions.

After an exchange of souvenirs, the communication continued in a warm and friendly atmosphere. In the evening, the guests were accompanied to the Central Railway Station.

**Oleksandr Zarubyskyi**  
Acting President, IPA Ukraine

## IPA Sweden CQB Defensive Tactics Course

IPA Sweden are glad to invite you to the CQB Defensive Tactics course.

Registration is now open.

Dates: April 24–26, 2026

Location: Uddevalla, Sweden

Course fees Official course value: €2,199 Standard registration: €1,199 (from January 1, 2026) IPA member early bird: €599 (available until December 31, 2025 · limited seats)

Full course details and application can be found on our website: [CQI IPA Sweden](https://www.cqiipa.com)

This course is primarily designed for police officers, IPA members, security and military personnel, and experienced first responders.

### CQB DEFENSIVE TACTICS

COPS INTERNATIONAL 2026

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DEFENSIVE TACTICS • TACTICAL FIRST AID (TECC BASED)

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- Movement & control tactics under threat

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- Transition from empty-hand to firearm
- Instinctive shooting under stress
- Target acquisition without sights
- Weapon retention and CQB drills

#### INTEGRATED TACTICAL FIRST AID (TECC BASED)

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# International IPA Photo Competition 2025 Results

During the IPA World Congress that took place from 16–21 September in Krakow, Poland, the Chairperson of the Socio-Cultural Commission Christos Parginos, on behalf of the Arts & Culture project team had the pleasure of announcing the results of the IPA International Photo Competition 2025.

This year's IPA Photo Competition proved to be truly remarkable. We received nearly 500 photographs from IPA members representing 32 countries across the globe. Participants competed in two categories – Open and Police – submitting works that ranged from simple yet charming captures to true photographic masterpieces.



The evaluation was carried out by an international jury from Mauritius, Kenya, Poland, and Germany, whose diverse perspectives and professional experience brought great value to the judging process:

- Harry Mootosamy (Mauritius): A seasoned portrait artist, photographer, and designer, Harry brings decades of creative experience and a strong artistic vision to the jury.
- Janet Nyanchoka Nyamwamu (Kenya): An accomplished journalist and visual storyteller, Janet contributes deep media expertise and a passion for amplifying untold stories through photography.
- Marek Krupa (Poland): As the official photographer of the Polish National Police, Marek offers extensive documentary experience capturing the life, service, and humanity of law enforcement.
- Klaus D. Fahlbusch (Germany): An internationally exhibited photographer with work spanning over 90 countries, Klaus brings vast artistic sensitivity across genres from street to landscape photography.
- Aneta Sobieraj (Poland): A police officer and award-winning photographer, Aneta combines professional communication expertise with a personal passion for capturing the human side of policing.

The overall level of submissions was varied, yet among them shone many true gems – works that inspire, touch the heart, and showcase the diverse talents of our IPA family worldwide.



# International IPA Photo Competition 2025 Results

The Grand Prize was awarded to a powerful and deeply moving image capturing the rescue of an animal in life-threatening danger. The photograph shows police officers risking their own safety to save the distressed creature, embodying courage, compassion, and an unwavering sense of duty. The raw emotion and intensity of the moment are palpable, making the image not only a documentation of an extraordinary act, but also a timeless story of empathy and humanity.



## Overall Winner: Ester Lechuga Alonso – IPA Spain

There were 2 categories in the International Photo Competition including the Open Category and Police Category. See some of the awardees over the page and view the images by clicking the link:

[View Photos](#)

# International IPA Photo Competition 2025 Results

## Open Category



**1st place: Albe Mickael – IPA France**

## Police Category



**1st place: Alex Stammers – New Zealand**



**2nd place: Mariusz Żyła – IPA Poland**



**2nd place: Jesus Eduardo Sanz Rodriguez – IPA Spain**



**3rd place: Moris Raskin – IPA Israel**



**3rd place: Munisamy Visha Govind – IPA Mauritius**



# IPA UK the Third Annual Cross Border Seminar in Belfast

## International Police Association (IPA) Seminar at Garnerville Police College, Belfast on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2025

The IPA third annual Cross Border seminar was hosted in Garnerville Police College, Belfast on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2025.

It was co- facilitated by Ms Marie Daly IPA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Section Ireland, Chair of IPA Region 24 Garda College and DC Deirdre Mahony Chair of UK IPA No2 Region. A delicious lunch and all logistics were organised by the committee of UK IPA No2 Region.



The Garda commissioner was represented by Chief Superintendent Sean Colleran and Chief Constable PSNI was represented by Deputy Chief Constable Bobby Singleton . Bobby and Sean officially opened the seminar.

The theme of the seminar, as always, is current policing issues facing both An Garda Síochána (AGS) and PSNI. Section Ireland provided two speakers and Section UK IPA No2 Region provided two.



The topics this year were:

“Extreme Violence- Terrorising versus Terrorism” delivered by DCI Paula Bradley, . Paula is a detective Chief Inspector currently working as a Senior Investigating Officer in the Terrorist Investigating Unit.

“Murder on the lough: Case Study” delivered by Detective Chief Inspector Gary Robinson. Gary is working in MIT4 leading investigations in serious crime.

“Interviewing victims – a trauma informed approach to competent forensic Interviews’ was delivered by Geraldine Noone, PhD. Geraldine was National interview advisor to an Garda Síochána and was instrumental in researching and developing An Garda Síochána Interviewing Model (GSIM).

Money laundering- the lifeblood of transnational Organised Crime” delivered by Steven Meighan PhD. Steven is a Detective Superintendent in Organised and Serious Crime in An Garda Síochána.

# IPA UK the Third Annual Cross Border Seminar in Belfast

These dedicated members of IPA gave freely of their time and expertise to educate their IPA colleagues. The participants bring back a wealth of knowledge to AGS and PSNI.

Ms Deirdre Mahony, Chair Section UK IPA No2 Region.

**Ms Marie Daly, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Section Ireland**



## IPA Netherlands/Belgium Lowlands on Patrol 2026

IPA Sections Limburg (Netherlands) and Antwerpen (Belgium) are proud to invite you to Lowlands on Patrol 2026, taking place 12–20 April 2026.

This international youth-focused event will strengthen our motto “Servo per Amikeco” and give young IPA members the chance to build lasting friendships across borders.

Highlights include:

- Visits to Dutch, Belgian, and Military Police units
- Specialised programmes: Riot Police, Royal & Diplomatic Security Service, Police Training Centre
- Ride-alongs, dog handler and stables visits
- Social, cultural, and touristic activities
- Full accommodation, meals, and transfers included

Key info:

- Dates: 12–20 April 2026
- Location: Venlo region, Netherlands
- Max. participants: 10 (active duty, max. age 40)
- Application deadline: 1 December 2025

Interested? Send your application to [Limburg-noord@ipa-nederland.nl](mailto:Limburg-noord@ipa-nederland.nl).

More details on conditions, schedule, and requirements are attached and this can also be found on our website: [IPA - Upcoming Events](#)

We look forward to welcoming you to the Low Countries in 2026!



# 1st Central European IPA Motorcycle Meeting – Slovakia

From September 4 to 7, 2025, the 1st Central European IPA Motorcycle Meeting was held at Hotel Zerrenpach Látky, organised by the Slovak Section of the International Police Association. The event successfully combined our passion for motorcycling with friendship and cooperation, in the spirit of our motto "Servo per Amikeco."

More than 140 participants and 120 motorcycles, representing 15 IPA sections – Slovakia, Czechia, Italy, Poland, Germany, Spain, France, Luxembourg, the United Kingdom, Austria, Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, and North Macedonia – had the opportunity to discover the beauty and hospitality of Slovakia during the organised rides.



The region of Central Slovakia, together with the High and Low Tatras, provided a magnificent setting for our journeys. A visit was also made to the Slovak National Uprising Memorial in Banská Bystrica, a place of deep historical significance.



I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all participants and to express my pride in the organisational team for their excellent work. Special appreciation is due to the officers of the Special Traffic Department of the Presidium of the Police Force of the Slovak Republic, who escorted the event and ensured our safety on the roads.

This meeting provided an opportunity not only for long-standing friends to reunite but also for new friendships to be established. I am confident that the days we spent together were filled with memorable experiences and joy, building bridges of understanding and solidarity that are, today more than ever, essential.

We look forward to welcoming you again to Slovakia.

With respect  
**Richard Kadnár,**  
**President Slovak Section IPA**



# International Vice President and IPA Germany Delegation Visits Sydney



On 26 July 2025, it was a privilege for the NSW Region to host the International Vice President of the International Executive Board (IEB), Assistant Commissioner Oliver Hoffmann, together with his esteemed team from the State Investigation Office Baden-Württemberg and fellow IPA Germany members Patrick Filkorn, Sarah Klügel, Daniel Reichert, Philipp Fechner, and Jens Kautz. Their visit to Australia formed part of a professional work trip on matters involving the Australian Federal Police, and the NSW Region was delighted to extend a warm IPA welcome during their time in Sydney.



The delegation enjoyed a private guided tour of Government House, the official residence of the Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC. This was followed by lunch at the historic Orient Hotel and a guided tour of The Rocks Police Station, warmly hosted by Sergeant Peter Knott and Sergeant Karen Coughlin-Hall. The NSW Region extends its thanks to Superintendent Martin Fileman APM, Commander of Sydney City Police Area Command, for his valued support in facilitating this visit.



In the evening, the NSW Region had the honour of hosting our guests at the Royal Automobile Club of Australia Harbour Dining Room, where a formal three-course dinner was held overlooking Sydney Harbour. NSW Secretary Greg Lynch and Committee Member Geoff Woodgate joined me in welcoming the delegation. In keeping with the traditions of our Association, the evening was marked by the exchange of challenge coins, the IEB bannerette, and meaningful police souvenirs – a symbolic expression of camaraderie, respect, and international friendship.



# International Vice President and IPA Germany Delegation Visits Sydney

Sydney provided a fitting backdrop to this occasion. Known worldwide for its stunning harbour, historic Rocks district, and cultural landmarks such as the Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge, the city embodies both tradition and modernity. For our international visitors, it offered a unique opportunity to combine professional exchange with cultural experiences, reinforcing the IPA's mission of service through friendship.

I am very grateful to our International Vice President for visiting us in Sydney, and equally for the support of our International President, Martin Hoffmann, in their visits. Their presence reflects the strength of our global Association and the enduring friendships that unite IPA members across the world.

Servo per Amikeco – Service through Friendship

**Patrick Tsang**  
Chairperson, NSW Region  
Section Australia



# "Modern Forensic Methods" – Gimborn August 2025

In the middle of the week we travelled to Bonn where we had a tour of their regional HQ - a large, modern, steel and glass building quite unlike any police station I saw during my service! During the visit we saw a forensic team, visited the control room and had a presentation on cold cases from a university professor who works with the police.



In between all of the sessions I enjoyed all that Gimborn has to offer - great food including a Romanian dinner and a BBQ, and of course the delights of the turmbar!

**Andy Oldham**  
**IPA UK**





# “Modern Forensic Methods” – Gimborn August 2025



I retired in 2023, having completed just over 30 years both as a Special Constable and then as a regular with Surrey Police, transferring to the Met for my last five years. In my time I did all manner of uniform roles, ending up as a full-time tactical firearms commander.

Since retiring I've started a business as a police advisor/consultant to Film and TV companies and have already done some interesting pieces of work for BBC, ITV and Sky productions. I'm conscious though that I have a knowledge gap when it comes to forensic investigations and so signed up to attend this course at the IPA's castle in Gimborn.

I last attended Gimborn in November 2004 when I gave a presentation about the Special Constabulary. The castle looks as splendid as ever, especially in the warm sunshine which made the week even better!

This week long course attracted delegates from Germany (Federal Police and Bonn City Police), Cypress and Romania (various CID, forensic and police departments) plus the lone representative from the UK – me!



During the week, we heard presentations about methods for lifting fingerprint marks from organic substances (fruit, leaves, even human skin), and an interesting case study from Romania, where a murder suspect was identified through clothing marks left in mud at the scene.

One particularly unusual presentation – a university in Germany has developed a method of comparing the skeletal features of an offender on CCTV to suspects in custody with a high level of confidence. This method involves scanning the scene with existing 3D technology, but also scanning the suspect via a turntable and multiple cameras.

# Frontline Cruisers – Exclusive Travel for First Responders

## Created by an IPA Member for IPA Members

We are Frontline Cruisers, founded by retired Sergeant Gary Lavoie (Greater Sudbury Police Service, Ontario, Canada) and proud member of the International Police Association, Region 18 (Canada). Together with his wife, also a professional travel agent, they design unforgettable cruise and land vacations tailored for Police, Fire, and EMS personnel – active and retired – and their families.

## Why choose Frontline Cruisers?

- Organised by first responders, for first responders
- Operated by an IPA member committed to international friendship
- Special group rates and exclusive offers worldwide
- Opportunities to meet and travel with colleagues across borders
- Every trip celebrates Servo per Amikeco – Service Through Friendship

## Recent highlight:

We recently brought together 300 first responders on a Caribbean cruise – an unforgettable experience of camaraderie, relaxation, and international friendship. Now, we are proud to extend these opportunities to the IPA family worldwide!

Email: [flc@expediacruzises.com](mailto:flc@expediacruzises.com)  
Website: Frontline Cruisers

Whether your dream is sailing the Caribbean, exploring Europe, or enjoying a land-based adventure, Frontline Cruisers – by IPA members, for IPA members – is here to make it happen.





# Children's Drawing Competition 2025 Results

Following the announcement by Chairperson of the Socio-Cultural Commission, Christos Parginos, at the IPA World Congress in Krakow, I am delighted to share with you the results of the Children's Drawing Competition.

This annual initiative continues to showcase the creativity, imagination, and talent of children from IPA families across the world. The variety and quality of the submissions were truly inspiring, reflecting the spirit of friendship and international understanding that our Association promotes.

There were 3 categories: Animals, Cars & Environment with an overall winner awarded.

The winning drawings have now been uploaded and are available for your access



A heartfelt congratulations to all our talented winners, and sincere thanks to every child who participated. Each entry is a reminder of the joy, creativity, and hope that young people bring to our global IPA family.



**Overall Winner**

**Ariel Mordehai**

**IPA Israel**

**Age 10**

# Children's Drawing Competition 2025 Results

## Animals



**1st place: Vakare Baltusyte - IPA  
Lithuania Age 6**



**3rd place: Shion Shimomoto - IPA Japan  
Age 9**



**2nd place: Papathemeli Paraskevi -  
IPA Greece Age 12**



# Children's Drawing Competition 2025 Results

## Cars



**1st place: Minadakis Nikolas - IPA Greece  
Age 12**



**2nd place: Dan Adrian Amuguini - IPA  
Kenya Age 10**



**3rd place: Lucia Calle Moreton- IPA Spain  
Age 9**



# Children's Drawing Competition 2025 Results

## Environment



**1st place: Minadakis Nikolas – IPA Greece  
Age 12**



**2nd place: Dan Adrian Amuguini – IPA  
Kenya Age 10**



**3rd place: Lucia Calle Moreton– IPA Spain Age 9**



# her



## #SHEisIPA

## Free Webinars

Following last month's announcement from IPA UK, we are delighted to share more details of the exciting series of free webinars available to all IPA members worldwide.

These online sessions are designed to support both professional development and personal growth, offering valuable insights and practical skills directly from experts across policing and related fields. Many of the webinars are part of the #SheIsIPA initiative, highlighting the contribution of women in policing and providing inspiration for members at every stage of their careers.

### Upcoming Webinars Include:

- Effective Communication in Modern Policing – Tools and techniques for stronger engagement with communities.
- Leadership Pathways for Young Officers – Practical advice on building confidence and advancing your career.
- Wellbeing and Resilience in Policing – Strategies to maintain balance and support mental health.
- Women in Policing: Stories of Leadership and Change – Inspiring experiences from colleagues across the IPA family.

INTERNATIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION  
**#SHEisIPA**

**Barbara Lawrence**

Women in the IPA  
embracing an inclusive  
vision for the Future

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[sheisipa@ieb-ipa.org](mailto:sheisipa@ieb-ipa.org)





INTERNATIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION  
**#SHEisIPA**

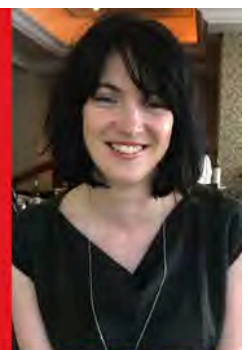
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embracing an inclusive  
vision for the Future

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Whether you are just starting out in your career or are an experienced officer looking to expand your knowledge, these webinars are a fantastic opportunity to learn, exchange ideas, and celebrate the spirit of international friendship. Don't miss out – join us, get inspired, and be part of the global IPA learning community!

# Gimborn Castle and Modern Police Work: Cybercrime and Digital Investigation Methods

COLOGNE (GERMANY) - A stone's throw from Cologne airport, the International Police Association manages a continuous study and information center for police officers of any function and rank, at an international level. It is the only one in the world as an institution of the entire world police organisation and as many as 2500 people take advantage of its seminars every year.

The topics covered are numerous and range across various themes: for example on modern society and the role that the police can play in it, drug addiction, juvenile delinquency, terrorism, security not only in Europe, but also in other countries such as the United States, Turkey, Japan and China. The pedagogical methods used are somewhat different from those followed for the training of young policemen.



The internationality of the seminars increasingly becomes the predominant quality of the IPA Castle. It was already in the first seminars held in Gimborn that IPA members from different countries, such as Austria, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Belgium, the Netherlands and Scandinavia, where German is also spoken, participated, contributing to a valid international exchange of police experiences.

For some years now, in addition to seminars in German, conferences on international topics have also been organised in other languages, in English, French, Dutch and Italian.



Speaking of the Italian seminar, in June it was the turn of the one dedicated to modern policing and with the eloquent title: "Modern police work: cybercrime and the professional use of digital investigation methods". For the occasion, in addition to the international Diego Trolese, the national president of IPA Italia Nicolangelo Pezone and his deputy Antonio Molinaro, the seminar also saw the presence of the IPA Palermo with its president Castrense Ganci. Among the speakers we remember Dr. Raul Bodde of the University of Mittweida, from Sardinia Raul Chiesa, expert in information security; Antje Brackmann and Rouvenn Ross from the Wuppertal Police; Ingo Petters ZKI OL FK cybercrime; forensic crime expert Sven Becker; Barbara Strappato First director of the State Police Central Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Cyber Security in Rome; Mirco Ciccarese, Deputy Commissioner of the State Police and Head of the Aosta Cyber Security Operational Section.

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



# IPA UK Member Attends US Section Training Seminar

The Star Spangled Banner waving , eagles flying, BBQ, drag racing, football, bowling, college campus, fire trucks, big rigs, Sheriffs, State Troopers, and lots of cops. I don't think I could have got any more of an American lifestyle if I had tried during my 5 days in Green Bay, Wisconsin, for the 2025 IPA US Section Training Seminar.

I joined the IPA in 2022, and apart from having a family photograph in front of 10 Downing Street and adding the Police patch I was given when I joined to my collection, I am probably guilty like most of not taking the opportunities that the IPA can offer it's members.

Originally born in Orlando, Florida, I have forever been obsessed with my American heritage with the big old US of A, and when the opportunity arose to apply to win some funding to go to the 2024 US Section Training Seminar, I thought that I could finally itch that scratch. I've always wondered if my parents had remained stateside, if I would have chosen a career in law enforcement as I have living in the UK as a Bobby.



I am guilty of watching US cop shows on a regular basis and being in awe of the muscle cars, uniform, and sense of family they have in the stations.

I have to admit that I was very apprehensive about the trip, and it was a big unknown for me as I had never done anything with the IPA—not even an online seminar—so I was jumping in at the deep end. I was going to board a plane and head to Green Bay and hope that the a guy called Joe, who I had been talking to, was true to his word and had someone waiting for me at the airport.

Joe Johnson was not only true to his word but surpassed my expectations. I was met off the plane by a member of his team, and from that moment on, I can only describe what followed as 5-star hospitality.

The seminar commenced and 31 cops were bundled into a lecture hall. They came from PSNI, Kenya, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Japan, Maldives, Gibraltar, Australia, and of course England.

All these officers were from all over the world and within hours of being with them all, one thing was obvious, we were all Cops!

# IPA UK Member Attends US Section Training Seminar



We were all dealing with the same crimes, the same problems, and enjoyed the same successes. Each officer represented their home country and force like true professionals, and we were all clearly there not only for the experience but to develop ourselves as officers. It was obvious to me that from day one I had made the right decision to attend, and this was validated as the days progressed, and I experienced the training and social events.

Day two began with the physical side of the training and a trip to a shooting range. Not only did I get to dress up as a Sheriff but also try my hand at firing a gun.

Now, as I was the only UK officer who did not carry a firearm and the UK being the only nation at the seminar whose officers don't carry a gun as standard, my odds of being one of the better participants were low, and after the handgun firing session, it was confirmed that I was a terrible shot. (I did hit the target once, but it was in error). When we progressed to the high-powered rifle, I was much better and didn't miss once, however, that was due to the gun and not the talent.

We then moved on to searching a large area as if we were looking for an active shooter, and this is when it hit me. The USA cop shows I watch, and documentaries are not just entertainment on the television they are real. The cops that were delivering this training to me were teaching this as gun violence and this is a real daily threat. The officers come into work each shift with the possibility of being shot at. One of the teachers Jeremy Stover with the Ashwaubenon Public Safety Department, told us a story of when he had an active shooter in a casino, reinforcing the dark reality that cops, not just in the USA, face each day with gun crime. In latter days of the seminar, we also did active shooter training in a local high school. From this visit, I can confirm that the high schools are like they are in the movies, but the threat of high school shootings are at such a level that teachers are given similar training to what I was given which shocked me. I was given the opportunity to sweep corridors looking for an active shooter, which was made more realistic with a training backpack that set off shooting sound effects.

I also trained in OC spray, which is simply captor/lava spray most UK forces use. This training was delivered by retired NYPD and Chicago officers. Now, this was the day I was least excited about, as I thought it was going to just be the same as my own PST training I moan about each 12 months when I must requalify but I was wrong. Despite most of the techniques being the same, I took so much from the course. All officers were comparing notes on how they did it, and it made me think about different techniques and methods I would have never thought about and will be taking into my own policing style. We were at this point all close and getting on well, and you could say we were learning through friendship.





# IPA UK Member Attends US Section Training Seminar

Now, I've saved the best experience of the trip to tell you about last.

The Police Lights of Christmas charity event Ride With The Lights. Each year, this charity holds events to raise money to buy gift cards that can then be distributed at Christmas by Police Departments to those in real need. 2025's Ride with the Lights had a twist—it had 31 international cops along for the ride, with local law enforcement agencies including the State Patrol! An emotional opening ceremony was conducted with a retired officer expressing his thanks to the charity that supported him whilst he was ill. The retired military displayed the flag while the national anthem was sung live. It felt like I was at the Super Bowl, and it's a moment I will never forget.

Once we arrived, we mingled with everyone there and members of the public were given a card with each nation's flag on, and they were tasked to get signatures for each nation. I had the pleasure of being selected to ride along in a Chevrolet Charger! (That was an item on my bucket list ticked off being in an American muscle car.)



Once we set off, approximately 182 Harley Davidsons led the pack, followed by 71 patrol cars mixed with 89 muscle cars, and to end the 15-minute procession was a big rig semi-truck. The noise was something to behold, and my arm was aching from waving at the public as we drove through small towns. When the route was completed, we arrived at Wisconsin International Raceway. It was a little quicker than usual, as all intersections had been cleared by the Wisconsin State Patrol. At the racetrack, everyone was allowed to give their vehicles a blast down the 1/4 mile drag track, where we again heard the national anthem, but this time, an eagle was released that so it could fly above us all whilst we paid our respects to the Star-Spangled Banner.

I spoke to cops from all different law enforcement agencies and managed to speak to a State Trooper being a roads policing officer, it's something I was desperate to do and of course we swapped patches. Over the course of the afternoon, I quickly became addicted to watching drag racing, and as always, a friendly local was at hand to talk to me and explain the finer details. The English accent is a plus in getting a conversation going.

# IPA UK Member Attends US Section Training Seminar



The day, I think, went down for most of the officers in attendance as their best experience. To see so much support for law enforcement was overwhelming and a sharp reminder why all of us at the seminar joined the force. Sometimes I think we can all be guilty of forgetting why we joined the police, and events like this reminded us all why. The days event raised \$14,710, which was a massive success.

Each evening whilst in attendance brought social events, including a tour of the Green Bay Packers stadium, and as an operational football officer, I was really looking forward to the tour and Lambeau Field surpassed Wembley Stadium for me.

We had an evening of bowling, a tour around a brewery, and lots of war stories being shared in a recreation room while a sergeant from Chicago PD span records on the DJ set.

Joe, the US section President and his partner Missy were the leading force of a small team who made the experience the best it could be. Their hospitality was second to none, and no ask was too big. They made the whole experience amazing.

A short walk over the River Fox from the College Campus accommodation was De Pere City Hall, housing both the fire and police stations and the mayor's office. In good old-fashioned American friendliness, when I walked over to say hello, I was given a private tour of the fire station, the police station, and the mayor's office—all of which was a great experience, and I took away so much from it all.

Joe, at the beginning of the course explained that we would leave this course with new connections and friendships from across the globe. I took this as just a selling tagline, but he could not have been more right. I left with new friendships, knowledge, and experiences that I never thought possible.

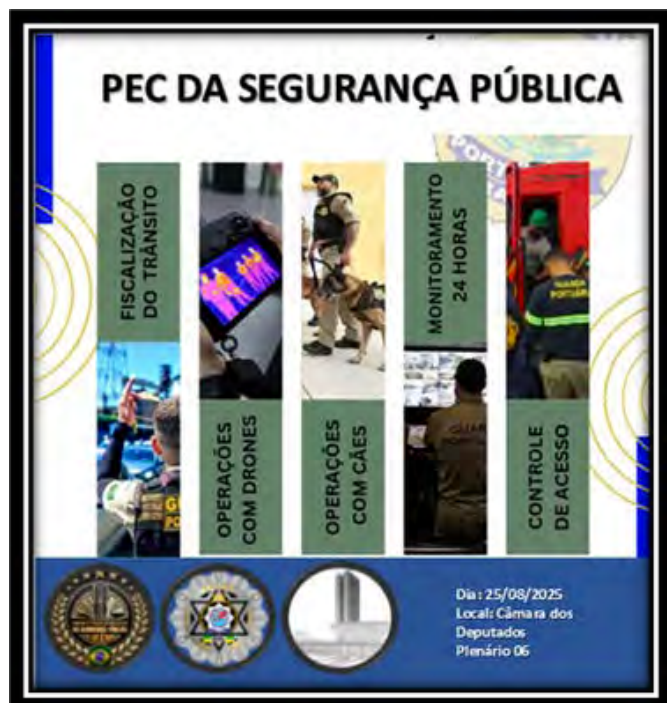
And just like a famous line in an American film: "I'll be back!"

**Ian Cosgrove**  
IPA UK





# IPA Brazil: National Public Security Amendment (PEC)



The Public Security Amendment (PEC) is currently being discussed in the Brazilian National Congress. It aims to restructure the Brazilian public security system, seeking greater integration and coordination between the different levels of government and security agencies, through a proposal that constitutionalizes the country's Unified Public Security System (SUSP). The Public Security Amendment (PEC) is seen as an important step toward modernizing and integrating the Brazilian security system, seeking greater efficiency and coordination between the various agencies and levels of government.

The Brazilian Section of the IPA is participating in the debates regarding the Proposed Constitutional Amendment (PEC), which supports the constitutionalization of the country's Unified Public Security System (SUSP), given the expansion of powers within the national police force, and the National Public Security Fund (FNSP) and the National Penitentiary Fund (FUNPEN), guaranteeing resources for the affected areas and preventing the contingency of these funds.

[www.ipa-international.org](http://www.ipa-international.org)

Also regarding the constitutionalisation of the National Public Security Fund (FNSP) and the National Penitentiary Fund (FUNPEN), guaranteeing resources for these areas and preventing the contingency of these funds, in addition to guaranteeing autonomy for police oversight offices and establishing ombudsman offices with autonomy to receive complaints and suggestions from citizens.



On the nineteenth of August of this year (2025), the International Police Association Brazil Section (IPA Brazil) was officially convened by the Public Security Committee of the National Congress to speak on the matter at a Public Hearing in Plenary 6 of the Chamber of Deputies. The chamber was packed with members of various police agencies. After approximately two hours of explanations and debates, the IPA's positions in Brazil were unanimously applauded. The IPA's Statement in Brazil was delivered by its national president, for which numerous requests for hearings were received by the federal deputies present, as well as by members of the Public Security Committee of the Brazilian Congress.

## IPA Brazil

# Upcoming Events



70th Anniversary of IPA  
Ireland

28 Sept – 3 Oct 2025



IPA Spain – Motorcycle Route  
Transpirenaica

29 Sept – 3 October 2025



28 Sept – 3 Oct 2025



IPA Spain – Barcelona Football  
Tournament & Super fun week  
October 2025

6 – 10 October 2025



IPA Spain Friendship Week  
and Cruise October 2025

11 – 29 September 2025



IPA Japan Seminar

11 – 14 October 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](http://ipa-international.org/Events)



# Upcoming Events



IPA Kenya – International Investigation Seminar

28 Sept – 3 Oct 2025



IPA Cyprus 42nd National Congress November 2025

13 – 16 November 2025



IPA Japan Friendship Judo Week

24 – 30 November 2025



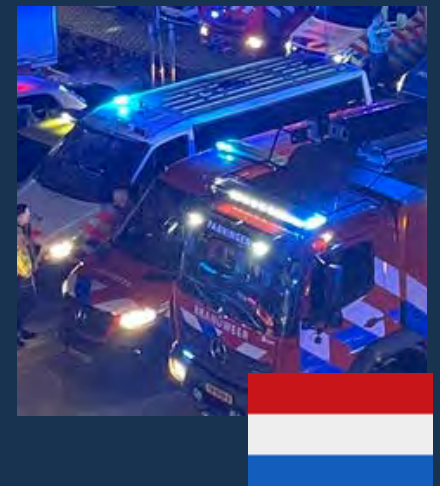
IPA Spain Trader Show 2025

29 November 2025



IPA Spain – Zambomba 2025

5-7 December 2025



IPA Netherlands Blue Light Ride

10 December 2025

Here are some of the events taking place throughout the IPA over the next couple of months.

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# 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   32	29.09. – 01.10.	■ Demokratiebildung für Polizeibehörden – Ein länderübergreifender Austausch für Entscheidungsträger		399 €	IPA 299 €
25   33	29.09. – 30.09.	■ Taktische Erste Hilfe		599 €	IPA 469 €
25   34	01.10. – 03.10.	■ Gestion des situations de tuerie de masse en milieu urbain : stratégie et pratiques policières		399 €	IPA 299 €
25   35	06.10. – 10.10.	■ Traffic Policing: Enhancing Traffic Management, Safety, and Accident Investigation: Digital Technology Solutions and Beyond Βελτίωση της διαχείρισης της κυκλοφορίας, της ασφάλειας και της διερεύνησης ατυχημάτων: Τεχνολογίες ψηφιακής τεχνολογίας και πέραν αυτών	 	499 €	IPA 369 €
25   36	20.10. – 22.10.	■ OSINT Tools for Law Enforcement – Masterclass		499 €	IPA 369 €
25   37	23.10. – 27.10.	■ Empowering Female Leaders in Law Enforcement		499 €	IPA 369 €
25   38	03.11. – 07.11.	■ Veränderungen meistern: Change Management für Polizeibehörden		899 €	IPA 799 €
25   39	10.11. – 14.11.	■ Stressintelligenz festigen – Kompetenzen stärken / Verhaltenstraining (Modul II Aufbau/Vertiefung)		499 €	IPA 369 €
25   40	17.11. – 21.11.	■ Policing Public Safety Events Policía en Eventos de Seguridad Pública	 	499 €	IPA 369 €
25   41	27.11. – 29.11.	■ Erholende Nächte, produktive Tage: Der Schlüssel zu Gesundheit und Leistung		399 €	IPA 299 €





# Marketing



## Marketing as a Driver of Growth and Belonging in the IPA

At the recent IPA World Congress in Kraków, Poland, one message rang out loud and clear: marketing matters. It is not just about promotion, it is about identity, connection, and growth. For an organisation like the IPA, marketing is the tool that allows us to tell our story, showcase our values, and ensure our members feel part of something truly special.

### 1. Building a Strong Brand Identity

A clear and consistent brand identity is the foundation of trust and recognition. As we heard in Kraków, the IPA's image should reflect our values: friendship, service, and global connection. By strengthening our brand identity, we ensure that wherever the IPA name is seen, it carries meaning, pride, and credibility.

### 2. Why Marketing Matters

Marketing is not an optional extra; it is central to the future of any organisation. Through effective communication, we can:

- Recruit new members by showcasing the unique opportunities, friendships, and experiences that the IPA offers.
- Retain our existing members by reminding them of the values and benefits they already enjoy.
- Engage members more deeply by encouraging participation in events, projects, and international exchanges.
- Raise the profile of the IPA, ensuring that the wider world understands and appreciates who we are and what we contribute.

### 3. A Call to Action

The Congress reminded us that every section, region, and branch has a role to play in telling the IPA story. Marketing is not only about big campaigns, it can be as simple as sharing an inspiring story, celebrating an achievement, or showcasing the bonds of friendship that define us.

Together, by investing in our brand and communicating with purpose, we can make the IPA more visible, more attractive, and more engaging. In doing so, we secure not just growth, but also a deeper sense of belonging for every member.

Let us all take up the challenge to recruit, retain, engage, and raise the profile of the IPA because when we tell our story well, the whole world listens.



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