

2010 AEPC Annual Conference on “Police Education at the University Level: Problems and Perspectives”

Final Declaration

2010 AEPC Annual Conference on “Police Education at the University Level: Problems and Perspectives” was held in Istanbul, Turkey, in 16-17 June 2010 with the participants from 30 different member states. Totally, in three different panels, 9 different researches about the police education were presented in the conference.

The first panel focused on the issues in police education. In the panel, different theoretical and practical training systems were discussed. Having learned the different curriculums to educate police cadets, the members of AEPC had opportunity to compare their own system with others. Besides, the problems existed in basic police education in specific countries were also discussed in the panel and the participants were informed about the potential problems that police educators might face in today’s world. In this panel, the importance of the practical training was underlined in the basic police education. It was noted that the practical training system should be able to build competencies and the abilities of policing as it is in the real life.

Also, in this panel, some attention was drawn on methodological issues in designing police education. Specifically, it was stressed that the way of tracking problems and providing solutions in police education should rely on scientific-based methodology. In some of the presentations, scientific-based models and approaches to treat the police education problems were also presented and they provided different perspectives for the participants. The role of international cooperation in basic police education was also emphasized by providing scientific evidences on its contributions on each nation’s own security and global security. The cooperation in police training was treated as one of the main cornerstone of cooperation in policing.

The second panel was about the transition from police academy to Police University. The presentations attempted to reveal the new trends of police education which was formulated as Police University. The German and Turkish models of Police University have brought new dimensions and dynamism in police education system. The challenges and issues faced during the transitions from police academy to Police University were discussed in the panel and the experiences were shared among members.

In the third panel, the master’s degree course on police science was discussed. In the panel, the Portugal, Russian and Turkish models were presented in details. As well as the basic education, it was realized that the research and graduate studies in advanced police education system has tremendously developed in the last decade. Different master, PhD, and certificate programs related to police administration and management and criminal justice issues are offered in police

institutions effectively and most of the programs are open for national and international stakeholders.

Overall, this conference created an environment in which all the AEPC members shared their experiences and learned current trends in police education. In this way, the AEPC members increased their sharing capacities with other members of the states. Also, the participants had opportunity to experience global-related issues of police education. More importantly, it was noted that the more we cooperate each other, the more powerful each country will be. Accordingly, it was underlined that, today, in this globalized world, we need to act collectively in order to effectively provide quality law enforcement services to our citizens.

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AEPC Conference Organization Committee