



The Higher Institute of Police Sciences and Internal Security is the only Police University in Portugal and one of the 14 Police Universities in Europe accredited to Bologna and delivering a Master Degree on Police Sciences for Senior Police Officers.

It depends directly from the National Director of the Public Security Police, a Civilian Police that depends of the Minister of Interior.

The Institute was created in 1982 and the aim was to have a Police Academy to deliver training for Senior Police Officers within the Police. Notice that until 1974, Portugal was living on a Dictatorship and since the Public Security Police



(PSP) was created, in 1867, all the Senior Police Officers in the PSP were recruited from the army. So, with this new Democracy installed since 1974, it was important that the top management of the civilian police would not continue to be officers with a military training.

Lessons started in 1984 and since then, 535 Portuguese senior police officers were trained at our Institute and finished their course. In 2012, only 28 years after and for the first time, all the police officers in the PSP were trained by the PSP, including the National Director, who was a student from the first course in '84.

Since 1988, we had also 104 students and further senior police officers from African Portuguese speaking Language Countries, which is nearly 20% of our graduates. Every year we keep hosting students from Angola, Mozambique, Cap-Vert, Guinea and Sao Tomé and Prince. Once they finish their Master, they return to their Countries and star their Senior Police Officer career there.



All our students in the Integrated Master Course on Police Sciences must complete 5 years of study. The first four year with classes at the institute and the last year with an internship in several police Units and the presentation of a Master Thesis before a Jury. When they finish, they earn the rank of *Subcomissário* (equivalent to the rank of Lieutenant).

Besides delivering training for Senior Police Officers, the Higher Institute of Police Sciences and Internal Security also delivers training for civilians in Security, Leadership, Defence, Civilian Crisis Management, Law and Criminal Investigation matters. Since 2004, we deliver Post Graduation Courses and Masters for more than 300 civilians from different nationalities. For 2015 we expect to deliver the first PhD Course at the Institute. Each year more than 10 Seminars, Conferences and Workshops are delivered in several of these subjects.



The Institute

also plays an important role considering the international cooperation. As member of the European Association of Police Colleges, we already participated in some courses and activities and last January (2014) we hosted the AEPC's Governing Board Meeting and an International Seminar on “*New Strategies on Police Training – Technological Approach*”, which had more than 100 participants from more than 30 different countries.

As active members of the European Police College (CEPOL), since 2009, 16 courses were delivered by the Institute on several subjects, meaning that more than 500 police officers and nearly 100 experts from all over Europe were involved in training activities at the institute.

Last month of April, we also became members of the International Association of Police Colleges (INTERPA) and since last year we are observers of AMERIPOL (The Police Community of the Americas)

Besides these major agreements, the Institute also has dozens of cooperation agreements with other Universities and Police Colleges all over the world. This ISCPSI brand is now an International brand known and recognised all over the world as a Centre of Excellence on Security related matters training.



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