



**INTERNATIONAL
POLICE ASSOCIATION**
INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Report of the Socio-Cultural Commission 61th IPA World Congress, Auckland, 2016

Mr President,
I.E.B. Members,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies & Gentlemen,

We are finishing one year of our term within the IEB and for me it is the 3rd term, the previous 2 terms within the ISC. My first step as the chairperson of the SCC was to formulate a clear direction, strategy and work plan for the years 2015-19, you were all part of it.

The main goal of the SCC, as I see it, is to maintain close contact with all sections to lead co-operation, promote, assist, initiate, change, and set out new targets to contribute to every section and every IPA member.

Our major task is to lead and make a change, not necessarily taking sections where they want to go, but to where they ought to be.

The SCC will empower the sections and the national IPA leadership by initiating international co-operation between sections and within sections in issues related to social and cultural activities:

IPA houses and other accommodation, Hosting and travel, IYG, Media, social media, Sports and IPA games, Initiating International social activities, Video, photo, website awards, Special projects, projects regarding recruiting young police officers, changing Rules, forms, amendments and reports, hobbies.

As we look into the future of IPA we can assume that the future relies on the ability to recruit young police officers and maintain a close relationship with each national police force.

The SCC will empower projects and issues that will contribute to the efforts to reach young police officers, especially in social activities, sports, hosting, travel and social media.



SCC members' projects for 2015-19 are:

Zina Ganttcheva. (Bulgaria) Travel and hosting.

Anabela Alferes. (Portugal) Special projects.

Denis Nadeau. (Canada) Recruitment & international co-operation.

Vossie Vos. (S.A) IPA houses and "other accommodation".

Dr. Eran Israel. (Israel) SCC Secretary @ Media

Manel Castellvi. (Spain) International youth gathering.

Vytautas Piluskus. (Lithuania) Sports and IPA games.

Kyriakos Karkalis. (Greece) International Social activities.

Kikis Pericleous. (Cyprus) Video, photo and website contests.

Dr. Humerto Garcia Gomez. (Mexico) IPA heritage and history.

Denis Dunne. (Ireland) Hobbies.

Our work plan focused on promoting the most important issues for IPA members and sections. How do we know what is important?

We are in constant touch with all of you. A major part of our work plan is maintaining this dialogue with reports, questionnaires, professional seminars, direct contact by SCC members and examining all the issues which are under the responsibility of the commission. You have given us the information we needed and which provided a clear picture of the interests of the members of the organisation, and this became a first-rate management tool.

Questions, processes and results: In the previous term of the ISC we conducted a comprehensive international survey concerning travelling and hosting. As a result of this survey, we deleted unnecessary information in the travel form. The results guided us to a new, simplified form and rule.

It will be uploaded to all national websites and will appear on the international website.

We suggested that it be electronic and will have to be sent through the National Section for the required verifications.

In this term we started with an international survey about sports activity. 32 IPA Sections responded to the questionnaire: Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Hong Kong,

Iceland, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Turkey.

From your answers we have learnt a lot about the influence of sports activity on recruiting young police officers. One of the major conclusions was that, "Participation in sport events is the best way to make young police officers aware of the positive benefits of joining the IPA". Since this is one of the two major activities in the IPA we will send you all the results of the questionnaire, and we are already in the process of implementing the recommendations in the upcoming IPA games.

We are continuing with two additional surveys. The first is dealing with social activity, the major activity with the most participants in IPA. How we can expand international cooperation and how to use it in recruiting young police officers.

The second one is dealing with mapping and gathering information about IPA houses and other accommodation. It is part of a big project to produce an international information guide for hosting.

We will translate the conclusions and recommendations to a practical work plan and suggestions to the sections. Part of it will be implemented by the SCC, such as the new travel form and procedure, new information guide for hosting, IPA games and more.

Social activity: More than 200,000 IPA members participated in social events in 2015. This is the major activity in all sections and it is increasing every year. This time we do not have the distinction between social and cultural. Our aim is to encourage international co-operation and opening these events to young police officers.

The bigger sections have more activity, it is obvious, but if we check the list of sections that had more than 3,000 participants in social activities, they are not necessarily the biggest ones:

Argentina, Croatia, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Spain.

IPA sports and championships: As we have found from the international sports questionnaire, this is the main attraction to young police officers. It attracts and serves as the foundation for work plans to organise recruiting of new IPA members.

There is a constant increase in sports activities each year. In 2015 More than 70,000 IPA members participated in sporting events, both nationally and internationally. Again we see that this is a major activity within the IPA, that it is growing very quickly, as it involves large numbers of members all over the world.

Sport is a major activity in all police forces and almost every police officer participates in it. We assume that it involves especially young police officers.

As we will be on the way with the IPA games, I am sure that they will contribute to the international co-operation between sections and will be a major attraction to young police officers.

The sections that had more than 3,000 participants in sports activity were:

Croatia, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Romania.

IPA Houses, "Other Accommodation for IPA use", Travel and Hosting:

One of the major benefits for our members is the possibility for travelling, hosting and using IPA houses and other accommodation, along with the friendly assistance in each section.

We concluded that to make it easy for our members to travel and to find accommodation internationally, we need simple procedures and forms. Simple searching tools and information and good co-operation between the sections.

All information, forms and procedures will be uploaded to all national websites and will appear on the international website.

All hosting options will be published under one international hosting guide that will be updated according to the changes. It will also be uploaded to all our websites and all the information will be available and accessible to all our members.

We are growing in "other accommodation" and have fewer IPA houses. We encourage a trend of expansion in other hosting options and, indeed, we see that more and more sections are advertising these options. We hope sections will continue to inform us as new accommodation becomes available to our members.

The IPA House Managers' Meeting was held in 2016 in Scotland, U.K. One major conclusion of the SCC was that it should be changed into a professional hosting meeting. We have only 62 IPA houses, but more than 400 other hosting options in almost all IPA sections.

The next meeting will be held in Romania and we will make sure that it will be professional and with the participation of most of the IPA hosting sections.

The IYG this year is hosted by the U.S.A. section and the conclusion will be presented in the World congress, but for now, we know that 50 youths will participate from 28 sections.

In the world congress the SCC will present the awards for the best IPA websites, and will announce an international photo competition for 2017 and the video competition for 2018.

I want to thank all the members of the SCC. We have a mix of experienced and new members and we are working as a team with a lot of enthusiasm and positive energy.

It is a big commission with a lot of projects and activities, initiatives and hard work, but all in friendship and good will.

We are on the threshold of new projects in the field of heritage of the IPA, preparing a book to present the culture, folklore, police uniforms and landscape of each section in the IPA. We will give more information in the World Congress.

We wish for us all to fulfill all our goals and proceed in the correct direction, for the benefit of the IPA and our members.