

# *The* **CoESPU MAGAZINE**

*The online quarterly Journal of Stability Policing*



**3 - 2018**



## ***Modern Technologies in Peacekeeping Missions***

*Innovation and new technology - The future of UN Peacekeeping*

*An overview of UN regulation on technology in Peacekeeping Operations*

*Social Media in International Peace Operations*

## ***Influences of mobile technology in our memory***

Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units

*Sub Jure ad Pacem tuendam Milites para*





**THE COMPOUND MEMORIAL**

# FOREWORD



One hundred years have passed, since the first World War ended, in 1918. The so called “Big War” is to be considered one of the major tragedy of the last century, the actual reason of huge economic, social, political and cultural changes, able to overturn our lives. The technology serving the cause of war is the main reason of those epochal mutations, turning fast and brutal struggles of the past in long lasting, static, no-contact conflicts.

As long as technology transformed and enhanced the impact of conflicts in the modern society, molding most of modern political balances, nowadays it is crucial to consider the so called “New Technology” one of the key weapon for the building and the maintenance of peace. “Technology”, in this contest, doesn’t have to be necessarily connected with the idea of more destructive and precise weapons. On the contrary, modern Hi-Tech tools might be particularly useful facilitating monitoring and observation procedures, data collecting (to create intelligence), vital to reduce the gap between warnings and responses on the field and, eventually, to ameliorate civilian protection activities.

The United Nations defines Peacekeeping as “*A unique and dynamic instrument developed by the organization as a way to help countries torn by conflicts to create the condition for lasting peace*”.

The word “dynamic” itself means a lot, because the instrument is supposed to be flexible, able to evolve and face different kind of challenges, to tangibly assist countries to make the difficult transition from conflict to peace.

Our world is changing faster and faster, and nothing is faster than modern technology, focused on performance and speed. This kind of velocity, moreover, has a big impact on economic development and social transformation. If the Peacekeeping instruments yearns for Dynamicity, a close attention must be paid to provide that instrument appropriate tools.

Unfortunately, for decades the technological innovation didn’t have a concrete effect on UN Peace Missions. The “Soldier’s Kit” of UN peacekeepers, for years, didn’t evolve, depriving Peace Missions of a wide range of capabilities necessary to operate effectively.

Nowadays, UN has definitively decided to invest on Modern Technologies. On 2014 the Department of Peace Keeping Operations (DPKO), together with the Field Support launched an expert Panel on Technology and Innovation, seeking to understand how to enhance missions effectiveness. From that moment on, many different venture has followed, focusing on enhanced modernity.

The 2017 “Cruz Report – Improving Security on UN Peacekeepers”, stressed that <<*The United Nations must review and initiate efforts to rapidly equip troops with basic technology for improving security. High-level sophisticated technology will not give personnel the capabilities and information they need on the ground. Knowing know who is who, where and when will make it possible to prevent attacks and identify attackers. Then, basic technology will enable personnel to take action against attackers [...]*>>

On the other hand, new technologies present, as a matter of fact, not only opportunities but also new threats. Cyber-crime, armed drones, cyber-soldiers or, at a lower level, a sloppy use of personal social networks by people deployed on the field, might be the cause of a leak of information (pictures, positioning, routes, names, dates and so on) and a consequent, mighty loss of security.

As we are going to see through the detailed studies in the following pages, presented by civilian and military experts, UN is definitively moving faster, having reached important goal in the field so far, longing to accomplish a perfect match between its peace strategies and new opportunities provided by innovation.

The CoESPU, on his side, following (and contributing to) UN strategies since a long time, plays a crucial role in this contest. Mr. Dmitry TITOV himself (*Retired UN Founding Assistant Secretary-General*) within his remarkable contribution to this number, stresses that our Center of Excellence is always ready to train police-contributors in all technology and innovations implemented by peacekeeping. An example of this vital feature might be found in the “MaGISTra” room, realized in 2016 inside the CoESPU facility, to train attendees in “Command Post” and “Computer Assisted” exercises, with hi-tech training tools.

In this third issue of the Magazine, among other contributions, we provide an overview on UN Regulation about New Technologies, on the use of Social Media in Peace Operation, and we try to understand how the “Digital Forensic Activities” might be used on the field. We display a study on the modern approach to operational communications, and on possible influences of mobile technology in our memory. You’ll find, in the end, an interesting report on the way a Unique Carabinieri Unit, the “Cultural Heritage Protection” (TPC), uses Modern Technology (database, searching algorithms, and digital “App”) to perform in depth investigations, also to provide specialized support to Peacekeeping Operations.

Wishing you a happy reading, please let my invite you all to get in touch with the Magazine editorial staff, to explore the chance, if you wish, to give a written contribution to next numbers.

**Giovanni Pietro BARBANO**  
Brigadier General  
CoESPU Director

# The CoESPU Magazine

The online quarterly Journal of Stability Policing



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UNITED NATIONS

UNIVERSITY

# INNOVATION AND NEW TECHNOLOGY - THE FUTURE OF UN PEACEKEEPING

By Mr. Dimitry TITOV

Speaking at the United Nations Security Council on 12 September 2018, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix, stressed that peacekeeping “by its essence [is] a collective endeavour”. It involves police- and troop-contributing countries, the UN Secretariat, financial donors, Security Council members, and all those who have a stake in ensuring that UN peace operations are fit for purpose. For these reasons, Secretary-General Guterres launched his Action for Peacekeeping initiative this year. A4P is about enhancing peacekeeping in all its aspects: political support, performance, and safety and security of blue helmets. Changed mindset, enhanced analytical tools, enhanced training, stronger discipline: all of these are necessary to ensure that peacekeepers are able to perform their mandated tasks, in situations which are increasingly marked by asymmetric and complex threats. From January to September 2018 alone, 17 peacekeepers have lost their lives due to acts of violence. While this represents a considerable decrease from previous years, the protection of UN personnel in the field will continue to be a top priority. This begins with better training, equipment and support capabilities – including critical enablers like helicopters, counter-IED capacities, medical support and more. Peacekeeping will continue to be outmaneuvered if it continues to operate with outdated tools



*Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix UN Deputy Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations*



and methods. However, some Member States are demanding caution in adopting new technologies; others still are concerned about financial implications and the overall cost of peacekeeping. In addition, police- and troop-contributors may require special training programs, as well as support for maintenance and procurement of additional equipment.

Nonetheless the benefits outweigh the challenges, and the UN has taken decisive steps to

advance its ability to keep pace with modern conflict situations. A special UN Expert Panel on Technology, established in 2014, resulted in the adoption of a joint, comprehensive innovation strategy by the Departments of Peacekeeping Operations and Field Support.

Key goals of this effort include: safety and security measures; the enhancement of the



situational awareness, including mobile event reporting and incident tracking; and improved UN site perimeter surveillance. Several UN peace operations, including in Mali, the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan are already employing information-gathering drones, aerostat images, life high-resolution video feeds, integrated camp protection platforms and other means. These activities also involve the better management of convoy movement, vehicle-mounted and UAV/GAV sensors as well as rapid police, military and civilian response and tactics. Furthermore, a considerable attention is being paid to high-tech medical facilities and services, such as the helicopter evacuation squadron provided by Canada in Mali. Simultaneously, DPKO and DFS are investing considerable efforts to: improve connectivity across wider areas of operation, especially in remote locations; enhance access to bandwidth; and generally improve

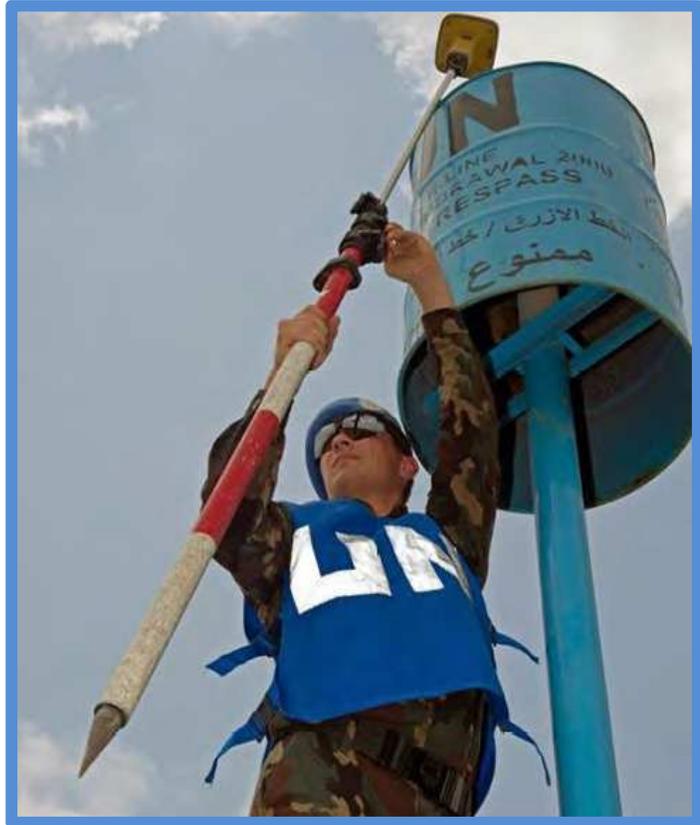


strategic communications support. As always, reliable communication links are the lifeline of peacekeeping. Bearing this in mind, a special Signals Unit Training was established at the UN Logistics Base in Entebbe Uganda, which is also pioneering special instruction courses for female peacekeepers. The UN is also paying considerable attention to enhanced situational awareness, which includes the creation of corporate web-based incident tracking, data visualization and analysis tools. Concurrently, the UN is working with partners to

identify and develop an open source GIS platform together with other solutions and technical

capabilities that meet requirements of the field. UN operations should be information-based and integrated, combining police, military and civilian data analytics.

This extends to areas that relate to policing, including general criminality, illegal exploitation of natural resources, drug trafficking, corruption, and other related issues. With clear guidance from Member States – and with clear mandates from the Security Council – the UN will be able to work with host-states to ensure that peacekeeping is able to continue to innovate, using the latest technology and best information that can help ensure sound decision-making. For example, the United Nations Police is working on enhancing police components’ contributions to Missions’ overall situational awareness. The deployment of criminal analysts, in compliance with the Strategic Guidance Framework (SGF) for international police peacekeeping, will enable operations to better identify and address domestic and transnational criminal threats. Using intelligence-led policing methodology, police components will



have greater situational awareness of criminal threats for strategic, operational and tactical planning purposes. For example, in Mali, MINUSMA Police are using a Level II forensics laboratory, which supports the Malian authorities in producing forensic reports from evidence extracted from disabled IEDs. The work in this laboratory also helps to provide “on-the-job” training, advising and mentoring for the Malian security forces. In CAR, MINUSCA has a Specialized Police Team, dedicated to forensics, that is accompanying national police and gendarmerie to crime scenes, supporting them in gathering and protecting evidence. Meanwhile, in Haiti, MINUJUSTH supports the Haitian National Police to establish criminal databases. However, without logistical support, the work of substantive components – including police – UN peacekeeping would not be able to function. On the support site, colleagues in DFS are using technology also to reduce Missions’ environmental footprints, by launching green power generation projects, integrating alternative energy sources, and providing remote services. For example, the UN Global Communications Centre in Valencia (Spain) has become Europe’s greenest data centre, employing 4030 square meters of solar panels. Renewable energy sources are growing across peacekeeping missions, and the UN is utilizing solar panels in Lebanon, Mali, the DRC, Western Sahara and other settings. Partnerships with CoESPU are critical to ensure that police-contributors can be trained in all of the new technology and innovations which peacekeeping is implementing. In May 2018, the UN Secretary-General promulgated his system-wide Strategy on New Technologies, which incorporates artificial intelligence, robotics, biotechnology, blockchain, machine learning, and much more. While not all of these have yet



been applied in mission settings, peacekeeping needs to remain prepared. Exploration of new tools should not cases, and the utility of applying new methods and new technology to peacekeeping will require constant engagement and dialogue with Member States, research partners, private enterprises, and institutions like CoESPU and its partners.

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# An overview of UN regulation on technology in Peacekeeping Operations

By Capt. Vito FRANCHINI

Late in June 2014, an Expert Panel on Technology and Innovation in UN Peacekeeping took place under the umbrella of the UN Under-Secretaries-General of Peacekeeping Operations and Field Support (DFS).



The task was clear: to discuss and give rise to a number of recommendations focused on technology, as long as it might help peacekeeping forces in fulfilling their mandates.

Six months later, the final report was officially issued. It stressed several wide known concepts, going straight to the beating heart of the problems to be faced and giving a

clear frame to the issue: since the new millennium had begun, the world is facing a technological revolution, favored by the global expansion of the internet. Innovation was (and is) everywhere but, as a matter of fact, United Nation peacekeeping used to limp: *“The gap the gap between what the average peacekeeping mission does have and what it should have is so pronounced, that some of the countries with the world’s most capable military and police forces have been reluctant to participate in many of the more difficult and challenging peacekeeping operations”* [from the Report *“Initial Summary”*].

The main point to be understood, was that providing people deployed in the field of peacekeeping with modern technology is not to be considered a luxury. **No mission can be expected to guarantee peace and security, or manage complex crisis, without appropriate technology enhancing operational effectiveness, in every field.**

From that moment on, modernization was to be catalyzed and needed to become standard part of each approach to a crisis. The official final Report offered recommendations and observations to

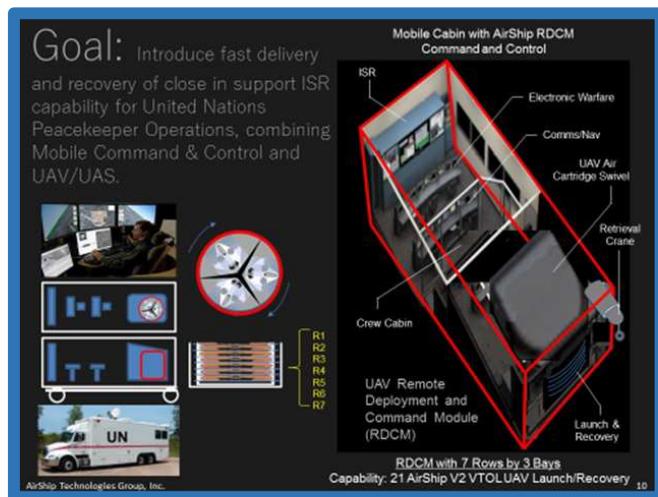


obtain an immediate growth of technology provided in the field and, afterwards, laid the foundation of a strategy seeking to apply innovations on a continuous basis, as a part of each mandate implementation. That strategy assigned an important and active part of “port of call” to Member States, when soliciting particularly specialized technologies for different peacekeeping missions.

Several Principles in choosing, deploying and using modern technologies for Peacekeeping purposes are clearly established in the Report, such as: use of wide-available solutions (no reliance on market niches); use of high-mobile and robust items, easy to maintain in the field; push technology as far forward as possible in the operational chain; local - regional supply channels (when possible). Member States can be part of the strategy by making available technology, expertise, or training for those units that deploy it. “Technology Contributing Countries” or “TechCCs”, should be identified and engaged in much the same way that troop and police contributing countries (TCCs and PCCs) are today.



Moreover, the Report undertakes a remarkably new method of focusing on actual issues regarding the subject: it displaces a chart to dispel some of the more relevant myths regarding technology. Two columns, on the left “Myths”, on the right “Reality”. The purpose of that graphical setting is to visually inform readers to foster dialog at a tactical, operational, political and strategic level. For example, reading the chart, it is simple to realize that, in the framework of UN strategy, Technology will never substitute human resources on the ground but, as a matter of fact, it simply aims to enhance peacekeepers ability. Technology, on the other hand, must not be considered out of reach, too expensive, because most of the hi-tech systems provided to peace operators are all in wide spread everyday use. Chasing Technology’s leading edge is nothing but a global tendency. Further



on, Technology is not a euphemism used to introduce “Drones” in mission areas for political purposes, as long as that kind of items are becoming common in the mainstream society and, quite the opposite, UN Rules of Engagements foresee a transparent use of each Unmanned aerial System (UAS).

Given all the above generic forewords, assumptions and principles, the Report plunges into details spread into 8 chapters, named: **“Getting the Basics Right, Operational Imperatives, Mission Support, the Longer View, Challenges, Additional**

**Considerations, Final Thoughts and Summary of Recommendations”.**

Going through the components of all the Chapters, the principles stressed in the introduction come increasingly to light: “modern peacekeeping Missions must deploy with at least the same technological advantages that most governments and enterprises around the globe now find operationally indispensable in today’s word”.

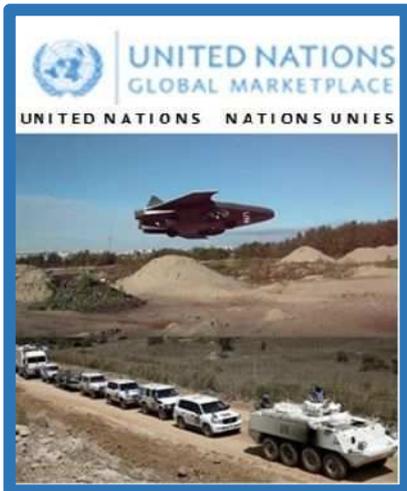
On the other hand, the Report shows how technology used by peacekeepers might turn useful for local population too. One example above all: in chronic water shortage areas, ground penetrating radars and advanced geospatial imaging can help to obtain successful drilling, convenient both for

people deployed in the field and local inhabitants. Moreover, similar recommendations are provided in the field of IT Technologies, Energy, Health and well-being, Mobility.

As a final auspice the Report, having recognized that innovation and bureaucracy are organizational antipodes, and that inside the UN many structural and operational barriers still contrast a deep cultural improvement, yearns for a future institutionalization of a dedicated Office for Technology and Innovation within the Department for Peace Keeping Operation.



Since 2014, when the Report was issued, the UN continued to encourage the changes needed to fill the technological gaps in peace keeping operations. In the same year, following the recommendations of the Panel, the Department of Field Support (DFS), through the initiative of its Information and Communications Technology Division, established **“The Partnership for Technology in Peacekeeping”**, aiming to bring greater involvement to peacekeeping through innovative approaches and technologies, in order to align the technological and innovative capacities of the world with the specific needs of field missions.



The Partnership, since then, organized four important symposia: “Exploring New Partnerships” (hosted by Italy in 2014), “Innovation and Next-Generation Peacekeeping” (hosted by Austria in 2015), “Awareness, Protection, Innovation” (hosted by Korea in 2016).

**“Next Tech Peacekeeping”**, the 2018 symposium, hosted by Germany, centered discussions around innovations, focusing on new opportunities and technological discoveries suitable to match with UN peacekeeping strategies.

written by:

*Capt. Vito FRANCHINI*  
*CoESPU Managing Editor*



# Social Media in International Peace Operations

By Talene BILAZARIAN and Nadia GERSPACHER,

Policing around the world increasingly relies on social media as a tool in daily operations, to conduct investigations,<sup>1</sup> manage the reputations of law enforcement, and provide public notifications.<sup>2</sup> Social media connectivity is increasing globally<sup>3</sup> which heightens the need for police to develop strategies to engage with communities online. Now more than ever, social media is a highly strategic domain for policing, especially in countries affected by conflict.

Terrorists and rebel groups use social media to recruit for their causes<sup>4</sup>, often fomenting inter-communal tensions and attempting to delegitimize



vulnerable state institutions. Negative narratives about the police and perceptions of their abuses of power are strategically used on social media to intensify grievances and political instability, heightening the need for police to represent themselves on these platforms with alternative narratives.

One of the contributions that international peace operations can make is to advance the professionalization of policing. A key measure of this professionalization is the level of engagement of the community by the police. Overall, the professionalization of the police requires that law enforcement have the capacity to establish and maintain partnerships to solve problems together with their communities. Narratives about policing that highlight how police provide public protection and use transparency to highlight areas for improvement are an important and underutilized way to build these community partnerships. Narratives are especially critical for policing because they provide a response to those who are attempting to delegitimize the police and to directly address political grievances that motivate violence. Social media is a valuable tool that can enhance policing capacity to communicate with their communities and disseminate these narratives online.

This article highlights the importance of developing a robust social media strategy and how social media can be used for policing in international peace operations. We argue that social media is a crucial tool that can help police react to immediate security concerns and proactively communicate with their communities. We close by discussing effective strategies for the management of social media when conducting international peace operations.

Police can use social media reactively to address immediate security concerns. In unstable or politically divided areas, online communications have been used to spread hateful rumors that foment anger and incite violence, setting back long-term stability.<sup>5</sup> Where possible, police should use social media as an attempted corrective to these rumors early on. Police may face challenges in impacting public perception where there is low confidence in policing, but law enforcement should take reactive measures to establish facts on the ground and reduce fear where events are misunderstood or misreported by journalists.<sup>6</sup> Social media can also be used in more proactive ways that reflect offline policing and provide a narrative for the public about who the police are and how they are working to provide security. Police can publicize ordinary policing activities and highlight productive work in the community,<sup>7</sup> as well as highlight opportunities for the community to interact with police, inviting communities into a two-way interaction with police both online or offline. Finally, social media provides an additional avenue to elicit information from the public about missing people, suspected individuals, or other tips to solve crimes that can be used to support broad policing objectives. When there is a wide gap between how communities experience policing and how policing is portrayed online, communities may perceive police narratives on social media more as propaganda than a valuable service. To remedy this, police should aim for transparency in the way they represent themselves online, communicating honestly about challenges associated with their work and indicating areas for improvement. Transparent communication establishes police credibility because it shows that police have a sense of their shortcomings and are realistic about areas for improvement. Police have discretion about how and when they share areas for improvement, but this can help police communicate their narratives and contextualize heavy-handed police action that often creates new grievances and jeopardizes the public's confidence in policing. Police manage their social media presence in various ways. Many police forces rely on one social media or



public relations coordinator - often not a police officer - to handle all of the police's social media presence. Others give a range of policing leaders control over social media who then encourage content from police personnel that reflects activities in a specific neighborhood or region. In peacekeeping contexts, it is vital that social media content reflects a wide range of policing perspectives and that police communicate their activities and priorities in a language that is

specific to different areas. Senior law enforcement should adopt these tools and approaches as an example to lower level officers, helping to establish routines around the use of social media as a tool to communicate with the public.

International peacekeeping operations present an opportunity to build and integrate social media communication capacity for policing in conflict countries. More than ever, the professionalization



of police requires an online presence because many of the narratives that are harmful to public security and the legitimacy of the police are propagated online. Social media is a valuable tool that enables policing to increase reactivity to immediate security concerns and establish facts on the ground in

insecure environments. Social media can also be used pro-actively with narratives that explain policing activities and priorities, as well as outlining areas for improvement. By establishing a robust social media strategy, police can improve channels of communication between themselves and their communities and promote the public’s trust.

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*She guest lectures often around the world on advising effectively, building capacity sustainably and on policing with a community oriented approach. Gerspacher is the author of “Strategic Advising in Foreign Assistance” among several other publications.*



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Nadia GERSPACHER

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<sup>1</sup> International Association of Chiefs of Police. *International Association of Chiefs of Police 2015 Social Media Survey Results*. Accessible Online: <http://www.iacpsocialmedia.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/FULL-2015-Social-Media-Survey-Results.compressed.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> KiDeuk Kim, Ashlin Oglesby-Neal, and Edward Mohr. *2016 Law Enforcement Use of Social Media Survey A Joint Publication by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Urban Institute*. Urban Institute: February 2017. Accessible Online: <http://www.theiacp.org/Portals/0/documents/pdfs/2016-law-enforcement-use-of-social-media-survey.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Statista: The Statistics Portal. *Number of social media users worldwide from 2010 to 2021 (in billions)* Accessible Online: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/278414/number-of-worldwide-social-network-users/>

<sup>4</sup> “How extremists and terror groups hijacked social media.” *BBC*. 13 December 2017. Accessible Online: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bbcthree/article/16b6c718-17d4-426d-add4-625af822e8d2>; Hassan Khitab. “Rebels using social media in anti-govt campaign.” *Pajhwok Afghan News*. November 25, 2015. Accessible Online: <https://www.pajhwok.com/en/2015/11/25/rebels-using-social-media-anti-govt-campaign-aiss>

<sup>5</sup> Taub, Amanda and Max Fisher. “Where Countries Are Tinderboxes and Facebook Is a Match.” *New York Times*. April 21, 2018. Accessible Online: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/04/21/world/asia/facebook-sri-lanka-riots.html>; Vidhi Doshi. “India’s millions of new Internet users are falling for fake news--sometimes with deadly consequences.” *Washington Post*. October 1, 2017. Accessible Online: [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia\\_pacific/indias-millions-of-new-internet-users-are-falling-for-fake-news--sometimes-with-deadly-consequences/2017/10/01/f078eae9-f7f-11e7-8ed4-a750b67c552b\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.3e6f5243ff26](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/indias-millions-of-new-internet-users-are-falling-for-fake-news--sometimes-with-deadly-consequences/2017/10/01/f078eae9-f7f-11e7-8ed4-a750b67c552b_story.html?utm_term=.3e6f5243ff26)

<sup>6</sup> Andrew Gunn and Jennifer MacDonald. “It Started with a Tweet: How Social Media is Shaping the News. Brunswick Review.” *Brunswick Review* (4) 2011, 57-59.

<sup>7</sup> The Police Foundation. *The Briefing: Police Use of Social Media*. June 2014. Accessible Online: [http://www.police-foundation.org.uk/uploads/catalogerfiles/police-use-of-social-media/Social\\_media\\_briefing\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.police-foundation.org.uk/uploads/catalogerfiles/police-use-of-social-media/Social_media_briefing_FINAL.pdf)

# The importance of Computer Assisted Exercises in Police Peacekeeping Training

## - The CoESPU's CPX area "MaGISTrA" -

By Lt.Col. Paolo DI PIAZZA



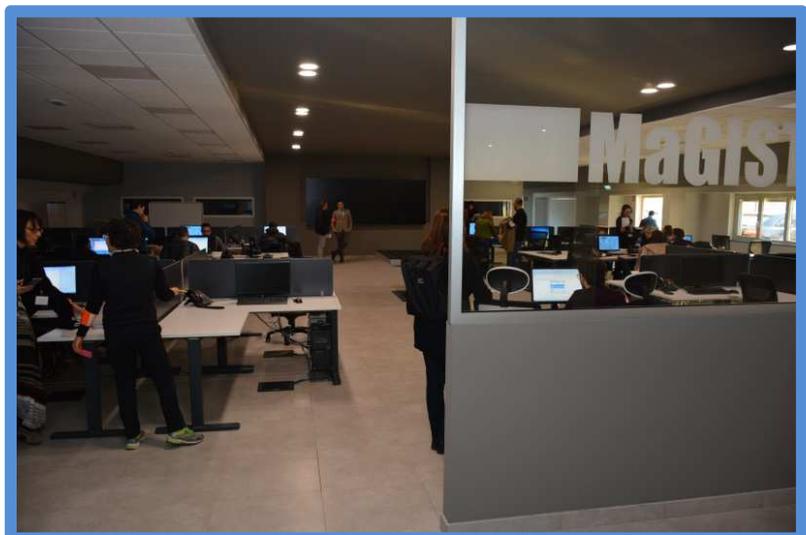
Computer Assisted eXercises (CAXs), especially in the form of Command Post eXercises (CPXs), have been employed by CoESPU since 2009 within several GPOI courses as well as during other training activities carried out in this Center of Excellence. The CPX provides a precious didactical tool, as it can force the trainees to confront themselves with problem-solving exercises of various

level of difficulty and inspired by lessons learned from mission areas, to work within the framework of UN doctrine, and to operate inside a large and complexly structured organization composed of partners coming from several different countries and cultures.

Such remarkable was the impact of this type of training activities that, in 2016, the Carabinieri Corps decided to set-up in CoESPU a new dedicated environment for CAXs (previously hosted inside a room equipped with computers, panels and flip-charts), with the construction of the **MaGISTrA**, completed in March 2017. The name "**MaGISTrA**" comes from the Latin term *magister*, which means "*Teacher*", "*Maestro*", and with such an idea it has been used in this context

as an acronym for "**Modelling and Gaming Information Simulation Training Area**". The shape, structure and technological equipment of this new area have been carefully designed basing on the experiences gained during the previous exercises. In particular, **MaGISTrA**, realized over a surface of 450 m<sup>2</sup>, is composed of different rooms, each hosting specific equipment and serving specific purposes.

These are:



- *The Main Exercise Room (MER), the central and largest room of the MaGISTrA. It contains 6 different large desks, so-called “islands”, plus a smaller one. Every “island” hosts several (6 to 8) workstations, all equipped with telephones and Personal Computers running software and*



*applications chosen to allow the Training Audience to fulfil its tasks. Essentially, each workstation is employed to simulate an office, such as the J1 or J2 of a military staff; different islands refer to different components, e.g. the military component of a mission, the civilian one, the police one, an FPU, etc. The smaller desk, also equipped with a Simulation Training Area”. The shape, structure and technological equipment of this new area have been carefully designed basing on the experiences gained during the previous exercises. In particular,*

- computer and a phone, is typically employed by key exercised figures (for example, the Head or Chief of all other trained components). Needless to say, all computers are connected together and can exchange messages and information via an internal e-mail system and shared folders; they are however purposely completely disconnected from any outer network, including Internet. In addition, the Main room hosts other important equipment, such as printers, accessible from any workstation; two Interactive Multimedia Whiteboards; some loudspeakers installed above the ceiling; a Multi-Touch Interactive Table; and a 3x2 Video Wall. The latter is composed by 6 monitors, each 55” in size; it can be employed to visualize the output of any other multimedia device, including, not only those already installed in the

**MaGISTrA** and elsewhere in the CoESPU (e.g. the cameras installed inside the Training House or in the Longare Training site<sup>1</sup>), but also any external device (digital cameras, etc.) that can be adapted and connected *ad hoc*.

- The **Briefing Room**, dedicated to carrying out meetings and briefings, contains a large desk equipped with microphones, whose audio can be redirected to the loudspeakers of the MER,



and a camera, that can register what happens in the room and redirect the signal to the Video Wall installed in the MER. In this way, each briefing can be followed by all exercised personnel. This allows for further training, discussion and deeper learning; in fact, according to the experience gained at CoESPU, staff meetings are an invaluable opportunity for less-

experienced personnel to learn a lot on how a mission really “works” and how complex, multi-dimensional decisions are taken at higher level.

- The **Press Conference Room**, dedicated to the simulation of press conference releases, an important training activity aimed at getting CoESPU trainees accustomed to release interviews, speak in front of a camera and of several persons, stay calm when aggressive questions are posed, and so on.
- The **Direx room**, hosting the “**Direction of the Exercise**” (**Direx**). It contains 13 workstations, employed by the Direx staff for both sending injections (via e-mail or by phone) to the Training Audience and analysing their performance.
- The **Ops Room**, equipped with PCs, radios and 3 monitors to simulate an Operational Room or other operative environment such as a Police Station. The monitors can be used as well for different purposes, from simulating a TV, where press media (realized by the Direx) are released, to showing images from outer cameras. In the latter case, real time videos from the Longare site or the Training House can be chosen.



<sup>1</sup> The Longare site is a training area, located about 10 kms from CoESPU, containing several buildings, including a jail, roads, and green areas; it can be employed for **Field Training eXercises** to simulate, e.g., a riot, a search, arrests, etc. The Training House is a large room employed to simulate irruptions, arrests and other Police operations.

Therefore, thanks to the hardware installed in the Ops Room, the **MaGISTrA** can be employed to implement the Command Post during a mixed **CPX/FTX** (Command Post eXercise / **F**ield **T**raining eXercise).

Nowadays, exercises inside the **MaGISTrA** environment are systematically carried out during GPOI Courses such as:

- The **CPM** (Civil/Police/Military Cooperation) **Course** where the full staff of a Sector (i.e., the Head of Sector, the Chief of Staff, and the Heads of the Civilian, Police and Military Component, all accompanied by their staff) is exercised. The standard UN **Carana** Scenario is employed.
- The **POC** (Protection Of Civilians) **Course**, which employs the Carana scenario too, but develops only the staff of the Police component including some FPU.
- The **TB** (Training Building) **Course**, where attendees are requested to build by themselves a new scenario, different albeit somewhat similar to Carana, as well as an exercise (with appropriate *injections* and so on) based on it.

**MaGISTrA** is also employed during the **SPU** (Stability Police Units) **Course**, a Carabinieri course aimed at completing the training of young Italian Carabinieri officials (but foreign officials are admitted as well) in the field of the Stability Policing activities; in this case, trainees simulate three FPUs (each composed by a Commander and his/her staff) and must solve tactical issues in the Carana scenario.

Last but not least, **MaGISTrA** is extensively used during exercises performed at **CoESPU** when other important international agencies such as **EUPST** (European Union Police Services Training) and **OSCE** (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) come to this Center of Excellence for high-level, specific training. In particular, the above mentioned organizations typically perform large (up to 500 exercised personnel, coming from different components: Police, Civilians, Judiciary, etc.), combined **CPX/FTXs**. Therefore, they can take full advantage of the potential offered by the **MaGISTrA** environment, as all the above mentioned technological tools enable efficient real-time coordination between the Command Post and the “people with *boots on the ground*”.

In conclusion, the **MaGISTrA** is an important tool, a flexible and innovative instrument that definitely qualifies the CoESPU as one of the most technologically advanced and appreciated training centers in the international panorama.

Written by:

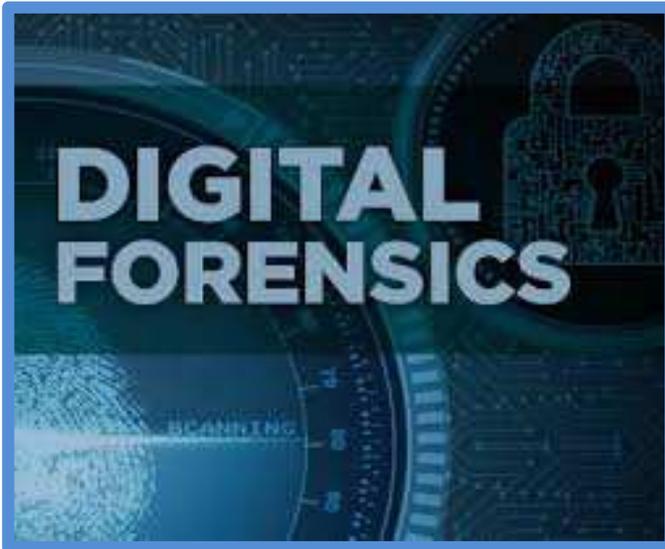
By Lt.Col. Paolo DI PIAZZA

CoESPU Planning & Exercise Peace Support Operations



# PEACEKEEPING 2.0 – POSSIBLE ROLE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES AND DIGITAL FORENSIC ACTIVITIES

By Luigi NICOTERA.



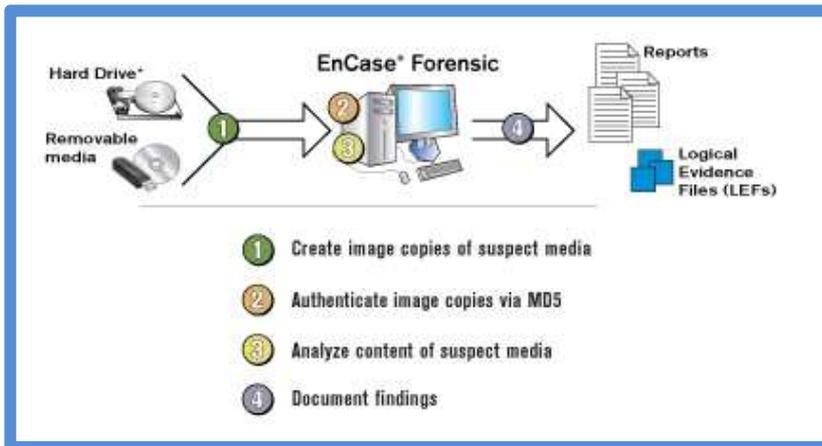
The “Digital Forensic”, acknowledged as a Science only in the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, mainly focuses on the recovery and investigation of data stored in digital devices. According to the different kind of storage technologies involved in the Forensic analysis, it is divided in several sub-branches such as “Computer”, “Network”, “Data” and “Mobile Devices” Forensics. In any case, the standard process of this kind of technical investigation involves acquisition and analysis of digital media and the production of a final report.

The Digital Forensics Science has a direct impact in computer crime (now a branch of the so called cyber Crime), in both criminal and civil Courts, if focusing on penal violation or, for instance, dealing with protecting the rights and property of individuals. Nowadays, it is frequently used in the private sector, for internal corporate investigations, mainly to face network intrusions.

**Could the Digital Forensic Science be useful for peacekeepers?** Definitely yes.

First and foremost, the constant monitoring, provided by intelligence Agencies, of data flows, could be crucial for prevention in not-friendly crisis areas. The advanced technological tools needed to achieve a total cover, have to be shared with peacekeepers on the field, to allow them to analyze the local population, to detect in advance possible hostilities and to prevent struggles. In the past, this kind of technical devices obtained good goals in the field of preventing and discovering human trafficking. As a matter of fact, these technological resources are not common used, so far.





We live in an era where data and information travel extremely fast, passing mainly unnoticed. Most of human being, produce a huge amount of data every day and everywhere, even in crisis areas of undeveloped Nations, especially through their smartphones. To prevent conflicts or breaking them down, intelligence is crucial, and in

order to produce intelligence, constant data collection is needed .

The constant monitoring activity (nowadays it can be carried out in observance of individuals' privacy), would allow to integrate the information acquired "on the road" and cross them with the flow of data passing through telematics networks. The result of that data matching, is the so called "Reputational Report".

When the *Reputational Report* shows data not in favor of the mission, anthropometric<sup>1</sup> detection technologies could be implemented through the acquisition of body-cam images connected to the operations center, sent to a specific software of facial recognition<sup>2</sup>.

Considering the technological evolution, it would be really useful to provide the mission teams with the minimum budget for a digital forensics activities, to allow them to quickly identify, acquire, analyze and extract useful information from any memory support including smartphone, having "clear" visibility of information that sometimes could not be intercepted or re-enter into false negative cases during the analysis of information flows.

The digital forensic analysis of telephone "Records" (and radio base station records) might be crucial as well, as long as it is a decisive factor in most of legal actions. That kind of analysis, matched with information obtained from devices, "on the field", and through Phone "Cells" investigations, facilitates the recognition and identification of



"link networks", connections between people, allowing to understand routes and habits too. Those data are crucial, for investigations against organized crime and terrorism.

<sup>1</sup> <https://wwwn.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhanes3/manuals/anthro.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://maxwellsci.com/print/rjaset/v4-551-556.pdf>



The use of technological resources linked to “Digital Forensic” analysis, requires high level professional skills, and may not be delegated to non-specialized operators. When a new peacekeeping mission is deployed, therefore, a specialized forensic unit might be integrated in the Command Chain, to be able to supervise the whole operation. In any case, people deployed in the field need to be aware of Digital Analysis methods and procedures, to be able to collect and freeze potential useful data, to be inserted in the mainstream database.

The more expert, the better, we could say, but most of times the awareness of the importance

of gathering data or devices collected during searches, patrols, sweeps and all other kind of standard field activities, could be more than enough.

An abandoned mobile phone, found on the floor after an action, could provide crucial data and potentially save several lives.

Written by:  
*Dr. Luigi NICOTERA*  
*Digital Forensic Expert*





sophisticated mass communications systems, such as social media, which allow messages to be spread to large sections of the population. The choice of dissemination system is also closely linked to the recipient of the message that you want to send.

The media can be visual, audio, audiovisual or other more modern. Among the visual media there are flyers, posters, drawings, murals, objects. Audio products include radios and loudspeakers. Among the audiovisual products there are television, cinema, video supports. Among the most technologically advanced products we find internet, mobile phones, digital billboards.



The methods for using loudspeakers, radio, television and the Internet, as well as traditional leaflets and posters that are particularly effective in areas with a high illiteracy rate and low technological development, were also examined in depth.

Operational communications represent a fundamental element in the conduct of peace operations, which, wanting to pursue the principle of low intensity as much as possible, must follow appropriate methods. With different methods and means, psychological operations have been conducted by all the

forces deployed at all times. It was after the Second World War, however, that the concept of psychological operations and operational communications expanded, becoming more in tune with changing needs, especially those related to peacekeeping operations.

In 1992, during the Balkans conflict, as part of the UN operation "Provide Promise" in Bosnia, an Italian military aircraft carrying humanitarian aid was shot down on landing in Sarajevo. This incident led the coalition forces to launch aid from the sky using parachutes. To help avoid accidents such as the shooting down or the damage to civilians, two leaflets were produced: the first urged not to shoot on planes explaining that they carried aid for the entire population; the second indicated the danger of rushing to the landing area of heavy loads of aid for the risk of being crushed by the weight of the containers.

Today, all the armed forces of countries with advanced doctrines have specialists in psychological operations: these are highly specialized personnel who represent a capability that assists the force commanders in pursuing the aims of the mission.



The means to be employed to make the messages rejoice vary according to the operative context, the local culture, the level of perception, the technological availability, the literacy, the predisposition to reception.

The culture of operational communications is also gradually expanding to the armed forces of countries where peacekeeping operations were carried out. Recent is the case of Afghanistan, where the course for specialists in operational communications directs to 13 soldiers of the 207th Afghan Army Corps, who have been qualified to the procedures of conception and diffusion of the messages in support of the operations, has ended few months ago. These included four women, who became the first professionals in information campaigns. The course on operational communications was held at the Italian base, and mainly concerned the development of procedures to facilitate the consensus of the local population with the Afghan security forces.

Written by:

*Paolo ROLLI*

*Journalist*

*Italian Army Captain (res)*

*PIO and Psyops Specialist*



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# CoESPU



# AROUND

# THE WORLD

# CoESPU AROUND THE WORLD

By Capt. Vito FRANCHINI

## “Junta Interamericana de Defensa” (JID)

June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Washington, DC (USA):

CoESPU participating in **Semi-Annual Talks at the US Department of State.**



The CoESPU Director, Brigadier General Giovanni Pietro Barbano, met Mr. Lee Litzenberger, Senior Advisor in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs - US Department of State, presenting the Center Coat of Arms.

After the meeting the Director took part to “**Junta Interamericana de Defensa (JID)** - Inter-American Defence Board (IADB) in Washington DC, for a Conference on Stability Policing.

Later on, Brigadier General Giovanni Pietro Barbano and Ambassador Marilina Armellin, Permanent Observer of Italy to the Organization of American States (OAS), signed JID honor book at the presence of Brigadier General Bucio, JID Chairman, Brigadier General Lacroix, Director General of the IADB Secretariat, Major General Goretta, Defense Attaché at the Italian Embassy in Washington DC, and of the President of Inter-American Defense College.



## “Khartoum Process”

24<sup>th</sup> September, 2018. Khartoum (Sudan):

Italy chairs the “Khartoum Process”, established in Sudan in 2014 in the framework of the “Global approach to Migration and Mobility” (GAMM) and of EU Migration Policy.

Furthermore, through the CoESPU, is partner of the first regional project “*Addressing Mixed Migration Flows in East Africa*” (AMMI), aiming at supporting the efforts of East African States to improve the management of migration flows and the fight against migrant smuggling and human trafficking. In the picture, Lt. Col. Melidonis, Head of the CoESPU Research Office, met the Italian ambassador in Sudan, Fabrizio Lo Basso, and offered him a CoESPU Coat of Arms.



## “Lowlands Grenade” 2018 international exercise

25<sup>th</sup> September 2018, Groningen (NL):

“**Lowlands Grenade**” is a major international exercise, conducted by 17 Gendarmerie and Police forces from 13 Countries, who spent two weeks jointly developing skills and methods for international missions.

A total of over 200 Police Officers from 20\25 different police organizations were involved in the exercise.

The CoESPU took part in this activities sending a team of two CRC instructors.



The participants and training team members come from different countries in Europe, North and South America and Africa. The first week consisted of various training sessions in monitoring, mentoring, advising and training (MMA&T), community policing and so on (training for in-theatre situations). In the second week a 65-hour exercise and a VIP conference took place.

The “Royal Netherlands Marechaussee” (RNLM) has been leading European Union Police Services Training II (EUPST II), on behalf of the Netherlands, since 2015.

Because of its leading role, the RNLM also Chairs the *Consortium*, composed by 17 members and 13 Countries.

Some countries are participating in the consortium with both Gendarmerie Force and Police Organizations.



## “USARAF: CoESPU providing training to police-contributing countries”

By Capt. USA Olivia COBISKEY

14\29 August, 2018. GAKO (Rwanda):

*“Helping the military-contributing nations understand the unique skills police peacekeepers provide during United Nation missions is paramount”,* said Lt. Col. Alessandro Criscitiello, a commander in the training department of the Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU), in Vicenza, Italy.

*“And if we are referring to the police component, exactly the opposite,”* continued Criscitiello, who has been the police advisor for eight U.S. Army Africa exercises, *“They need to understand the other’s needs in terms of plans and operations, involve the other component in their procedures, and exploit their specific capabilities. The stabilization process can be considered a time frame where the military component is handing over operations to the police component, who will be the lead during peace and stabilization operations.”*



Police as peacekeepers is not a new concept, Criscitiello said. During peacekeeping operations police provide unique skills to bridge the ‘security gap’ identified during operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1997. At first the gap was bridged by military units, created by the Carabinieri, Italy’s national police force, and capable of performing some of the typical tasks of a civilian police force called NATO Multinational Specialized Unit (MSU). However, eventually the concept of military forces performing police duties evolved into the current concept of stability policing by police units trained at CoESPU, created by Carabinieri in March 2005 as part of an agreement between the Italian government and the G-8 nations.

“So, we were there in the beginning and we are still at it,” said Criscitiello, who has been on missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE).

During the stabilization process is when the police contributing countries peacekeeping work truly begins. The Carabinieri help police peacekeepers bridge the gap between the military phase of intervention and the next phase which includes the re-establishment of civilian and democratic life, provide an essential security framework for the reconstruction of local institutions, and help integrate other national or international military and police forces who are providing security and counterterrorism operations on the ground, Criscitiello said.

‘However, the end state is the handover of full responsibility to an effective local police force,’ continued Criscitiello, who participated in USARAF’s Shared Accord exercise in Rwanda recently. ‘Stability Police Units help establish a safe and secure environment (SASE), restore public order and security; however, always with a goal towards local self-governance.’

Col. Mbika Bede, a police officer from Congo Brazzaville, agreed the hard work for police peacekeepers starts after the military intervention ends.

‘The gendarmerie’s role is different,’ said Bede, speaking French. ‘The military is the demonstration of force. The police provide internal security and stability for the government to exercise its authority.’

Bede added that the training provided during Shared Accord 2018 in Rwanda on the protection of civilians was invaluable to his police and military members.

‘In the Congo, we had an internal war, during that time we experienced the abuse of civilians,’ Bede said.

‘We really need this training to understand how to protect civilians – children, women, men – they are vulnerable and need protection.’



**The partnership between USARAF and CoESPU not only helps train peacekeepers like Bede and Murenzi it provides a platform to analyze and develop stability policing doctrine within the U.N. framework, as well as other international organizations, and used to develop the training scenarios used during exercises like Shared Accord.**

Safari Uwimana, an assistant commissioner in the Rwanda Police, said the training on gender, human rights, and public order during peacekeeping operations also enabled participating countries to capacity build and gain tools to restore peace at home.

*‘We learned a lot from their experience and expertise. The military planning process was a milestone in all the missions,’* Uwimana said. *‘The training is very important since we are now well-equipped and understand the conflict and will be able to carry any mission by putting more emphasis on protection of civilians.’*

Superintendent of Police Eric Murenzi agreed troop- and police-contributing countries (TCCs and PCCs) must ensure the protection of civilians during U.N. missions.

*‘I gained a lot from the U.S. Army Africa exercise during mission planning process and how we coordinate with CoESPU in different programs,’* said Murenzi, director of Formed Police Units (FPU) management in Rwanda National Police Department of Peace Support Operations. *‘The Kigali Principles has about 18 pledges regarding Protection of Civilians (POC) and during our Command Post Exercise mostly, the injects allowed us to simulate the POC protection which was very good for future peacekeepers.’*

# Exercise “United Accord Ghana 2018”

By Capt. Boris MARCONE

The exercise “United Accord Ghana 2018” (UA18), sponsored by USARAF (United States Army Africa Command), took place at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in Accra, Ghana, from July 15th to July 31st 2018.

The event included a Command Post Exercise (CPX), a Field Training Exercise (FTX) and a Medical Readiness Exercise (MEDRETE).

In particular, the CPX was designed in order to improve the capacity to plan, deploy and sustain a combined Joint Task Force within the framework of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSMA) in Mali. Strong emphasis was put on the necessity to work with a multi-component and multi-agency approach, encouraging the Training Audience to interact with other agencies in order to find common solutions to problems, provide mutual support and, overall, provide integrated response to threats and issues arising from the mission area.



Because of its very specific target, the exercise was not designed using standard fictitious scenarios, such as the Carana scenario which should be well-known to many CoESPU Alumni as it is systematically employed for end-course simulations and training; but, rather, it was based on the real Mali Sector West scenario, using real data on geography, ethnic groups, spoilers, etc. The target audience was composed of 65 military officers, with ranks ranging from Lieutenant to Colonel and coming from 20 different countries (mostly from West Africa, but also from Europe and America). Police and civilian components were not exercised: the CPX in fact was designed to train the military component only, at the level of a Sector Headquarters. Trainees were therefore organized into a Sector Commander, his Chief of Staff (COS), the Military Police (MP) officer, the Joint Operations Centre (JOC), and 8 different cells, that is, all cells from U1 (Personnel) to U9 (CIMIC) with the only exception of U7 (Training), which was not exercised. All remaining components (that is, the Mission HQ, which constitutes the Higher Command or HICOM; the Lower Command or LOCON, comprising the Battalions on the ground; and the Police and Civilian Component) were simulated by the Direction of Exercise (DIREX). The latter, together with the Scripters (i.e. the officers in charge of writing events and injections for the exercise), the Observation Team (i.e., officers in charge of observing the Training Audience’s activities in order to detect possible errors or unexpected response to the exercise), and the *Guest Mentors* for specific areas of competence (including Policing), consisted of 57 officers.

The activity was structured as follows. For the first 4 days, trainees were given a doctrinal “*crash course*” on United Nations missions, procedures, and so on. After that, the Training Audience was tasked to write, using correct staff procedures and organization, the Operation Order (OPORD) for its mission; the total time given for the OPORD development was 6 days. This task was somehow unrealistic, nevertheless it was precious because it forced the Training Audience to familiarize with



the environment of Mali, gather and analyze information on the situation “on the ground”, and practice staff procedures before the real activity started. Finally, after a one-day break, the 4-days exercise took place, with several events and around 1000 injections, all inspired by real cases and “*lessons learned*” from mission areas, submitted to the Training Audience in close resemblance to the “*battle rhythm*” typical of real missions. Both the adequacy (in all of its aspects, including timing) of the solution chosen and the

correctness of the procedure employed to take the decision were later evaluated by the Observation Team; all related evaluations and remarks were disseminated during the After-Action Review (AAR) and the final exercise conference on July 31<sup>st</sup>. The exercise as such could not have been delivered without a proper employment of the modern media and technologies of Kofi Annan Centre. All trained units had modern personal computers, which allowed them to both communicate (typically via e-mail) and perform their tasks (that is, revising or producing documents, images, maps, etc.). The Direx employed such media as well, both to develop the exercise and to submit it to the trainees, allowing real-time communication in a practical and “detectable” way –making life easier for the Observation Team. Carabinieri contributed to the CPX by providing 3 *guest mentors* in the field of Stability Policing; namely, Lt. Col. Alessandro DE FERRARI, Police Planning Officer at UN DPKO in New York; Capt. Paolo VOLONTE’, employed within the Training Section of the Carabinieri 2<sup>nd</sup> Mobile Brigade (i.e.. the Carabinieri unit specifically devoted to train and deploy personnel abroad for various kind of Peace Operations); and Capt. Boris MARCONE, a staff officer from CoESPU and assistant to the CoESPU Chair of Exercise and Planning. Further important mentoring was provided, although for the first days only, by Col. Amadou CAMARA, Police Chief of Operations in Mali. The tasks covered by guest mentors included briefing the Training Audience on UN Police (core functions, skills, tasks, organization, and so on) during the 4-days doctrinal session; revising all the events and injections already written by the in order to provide, where appropriate, a “*police perspective*”; and writing new events and injections for the Training Audience in order to pose them issues and problems that required an integrated approach (a “Blue/Green” cooperation) to be properly addressed. Failure to properly involve the Police by the Training Audience during the Exercise was “*punished*” with e.g. lack of information (that could have been provided by police if activated), unsuccessful de-escalation of threats posed by civilians which could turn into violent clashes, etc. The exercise was an overall success, having a measurable positive impact on the Training Audience’s ability to perform efficiently in a staff, notwithstanding the errors made which constitute, for all the trainees, very important cases of “*lessons learned*” and food for thought.

Written by:

Capt. Boris MARCONE

CoESPU Studies & Research Department



## “UN Strategic Guidance Framework Workshop”

30<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Auckland, New Zealand:



The CoESPU Director took part in the SGF Workshop, preceding the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the “International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centers” (IAPTC) [1\5 October – to be described in CoESPU Magazine nr.4].

The “Strategic Guidance Framework for International Police Peacekeeping” (SGF), is a policy architecture for international policing in Peacekeeping, developed by the UN Police Division in accordance with Member States and other partner Organizations (such as EU, Africa Union, OSCE, Interpol etc.). It aims to standardize approaches to public safety, Police reforms and support to national and international law enforcement Agencies, covering UN policy in Peacekeeping Operations too.

During the Opening of the Workshop, Mr. Andrew Capenter, Chief of the Strategic Policy and Development Section of UN Police Division, briefed on the Strategic Guidance for International Police Peacekeeping, that is the heart of CoESPU training curricula.

Later on, UNPOL Police Adviser Luis Carrilho pointed out the importance of CoESPU doctrinal activity in the field of Stability Policing, supporting UN role within the contrast to international terrorism and serious and organized crime.

**CoESPU  
Breaking  
News**

During the 24<sup>th</sup> “International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centers” (IAPTC), held in Auckland (NZ) from 1 to 5 October 2018, the CoESPU Director has been appointed as Chairman of the “Police board”, within the framework of the Conference Executive Committee. The nomination must be considered an outstanding result and an acknowledgment of CoESPU role in orientating the educational effort in orienting the educational efforts to efficiently fill the capacity gaps detected by SPUs in field Missions. Among the main targets of the Chairmanship, CoESPU will aim at the alimentation of a common Police Lessons Learned database, thought to share valuable information to tailor future training to actual necessities. Another key point of the program is the review of ITS Specialized Training Material (focusing on FPU related Module), in order to improve the operational effectiveness of the FPUs deployed in Peace Operations.





CoESPU

ONSITE

VISITS

# CoESPU ONSITE VISITS

## SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR AFGHANISTAN RECONSTRUCTION (SIGAR)

11<sup>st</sup> September, 2018.



The CoESPU Director, Gen. B. Giovanni Pietro Barbano, has greeted a delegation of the “Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction” (SIGAR).

In 2012 the USA Congress created the “Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction” to provide independent and objective oversight of Afghanistan reconstruction projects and activities.

The Office, headquartered in Arlington (Virginia), with a domicile in Kabul, conducts

audits and investigations to promote efficiency and effectiveness of reconstruction programs and to detect and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse.

After an Office Call with the Director, Mr. Gene Aloise (Deputy Inspector General), and Mr. James M. Cunningham (Project Leader/Lead Analyst, Lessons Learned Directorate), visited the Compound to get familiar with the activities of the Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units.

The cooperation between CoESPU and SIGAR started last 2017, and will continue within the framework of the Semiannual Talks with the USA Department of State and the Department of Peacekeeping Operation.



## ALLIED RAPID REACTION CORPS (ARRC)

26<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.



A delegation of the “Allied Rapid Reaction Corps” (ARRC) based in Innsworth (UK), visited the Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units.

The group, headed by the Provost Marshall Col. (UK) Nadine Parkers, on its arrivals was welcomed by the CoESPU Director.

Later, a meeting took place in the CoESPU conference room: the numerous activities and initiatives performed by CoESPU were presented highlighting the

strategic mission and policy of our Center in the framework of the common Stability Policing (SP) concept adopted by international organizations such as United Nations, African Union, and European Union.

Meanwhile, it was underlined the relevant role played by CoESPU that, being a training center and a doctrinal hub, aims to reinforce and increase its strong commitment in order to pursue a successful training contribution in developing an effective global capacity to conduct Peace Support Operations (PSOs) under the aegis of the United Nations as well as other international Organizations.



## Lt. Gen. Eric Wendt visit the Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units

26<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.

Lieutenant General Eric Wendt, *U.S. Security Coordinator for Israel and the Palestinian Authority*, visited the CoESPU.



The Authority is a key actor in the development of an effective coordination in the security sector between the Israeli and the Palestinian Security Forces, and to this respect in the development, along with other international actors, of an accountable and effective Palestinian Security Forces capability of providing law and order.

After an Office Call with Brigadier General Giovanni Pietro Barbano, the

CoESPU Director, and a meeting with the Officers of the Center of Excellence, LTG Wendt visited the training facilities.

The CoESPU was proud to receive the visits of such a relevant international Authority, deeply deployed in the field of Peace maintenance.



# CoESPU



# TRAINING

# CoESPU TRAINING

By Capt. Vito FRANCHINI

## 1<sup>ST</sup> LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING FOR CAPACITY BUILDING PILOT COURSE (LET4CAP)

From 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2018, the CoESPU hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Law Enforcement Training for Capacity Building Pilot Course.

The one-week course was attended by 22 Police Officers coming from Croatia, Hungary, Kosovo, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Spain, The Netherlands and United Kingdom.

Reforming, restructuring and rebuilding Police and other Law Enforcement Institutions in post-conflict and fragile states goes to the core of European Union policing on Police Capacity-Building.

The current European Stability Policing model emphasizes that police capacity-building and development is a long-term effort that must reach all levels of every police organization, from individual personnel to groups or units.

LET4CAP is a project implemented by a *consortium* that includes the Carabinieri Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units, the Sant’Anna School for Advanced Studies, the Italian Governmental Agency “Studiare Sviluppo”, the Slovenian Centre for European Perspective and the National Polish Police.

The overall training activity, organized in 4 courses, the first of which started in Vicenza, aims to support Law Enforcement Officers, engaged in international activities in third countries, to perform their capacity building tasks in accordance with the mission mandate and the current European Stability Policing model.

For each level, the model refine the key areas of support around which police capacity-building and development activities should be based.

This specific training will enable the police components of European Union to better design, implement, monitor and evaluate police capacity-building and development projects and programs.



## 1<sup>ST</sup> CHILD PROTECTION FOR UN POLICE TRAINING OF TRAINERS COURSE (UNCP01)



From 16<sup>th</sup> July to 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2018, CoESPU organized and hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> “Child Protection for UN Police Training of Trainers Course” (UNCP01). This course was planned in close cooperation with the UN Integrated Training Service of the Division of Policy Evaluation and Training of the UN DPKO/DFS Peacekeeping Operations, with the objective to foster a process of training harmonization devoted to UNPOL Officers.

The Security Council has emphasized the need for training of military, police and civilian peacekeepers on child protection in a number of

children resolutions, and in this framework protecting children in conflict become a core mandate of many peacekeeping operations. In many conflict-ridden countries, peacekeeping missions are the largest actor on the ground and their contribution is vital to protecting children. Many are subject to grave violations as abductions, military recruitment, killing, maiming, and numerous forms of exploitation.

For these reasons, oftentimes, UN peacekeepers are in the front line to create a more secure environment for the generations to come. Only a dedicated training shall enable peacekeepers to effectively recognize, report, respond to violations and abuses, and successfully support child protection activities.

Thanks to this course, the attendees are now further sensitized and better equipped to prioritize the future demanding tasks and the role in meeting these demanding challenges.

## MONITORING, MENTORING, ADVISING AND TRAINING COURSE (MMA&T)

From 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2018, CoESPU hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> “Monitoring, Mentoring, Advising and Training Course” (MMA&T), organized in the framework of the “European Union Police Service Training” Consortium (EUPST II).

52 attendees, coming from 19 Countries and 2 international organizations, at the end of a very intensive cycle of training, received the Completion Certificates.

The aim of the EUPST II Program is to build up police capabilities and to improve cooperation and harmonization, promoting international network. This approach is vital for Police Officers and Experts to participate in international crisis management operations of the European Union, of the United Nations, the African Union and other International Organizations.

The “Civil Crisis Management” is one of the most important and visible issues of European Union strategy in conducting modern Peace Operations Mission and Institutions rebuilding, with a particular focus on police services.

In this framework, the course was designed to increase skills and competences in some sensitive areas such as EU Strengthening Missions, Stability Policing, EU Police Training Policy or Gender Mainstreaming, in view of possible future engagement in multidimensional peace operations.

Monitoring, Mentoring, Advising and Training activities on the field of peace operations, in order to rebuilding Police and other Law Enforcement Institutions in post-conflict and fragile states, goes to the core of European Union policing on Police Capacity-Building. The current European Stability Policing model emphasizes that police capacity-building and development is a long-term effort that must reach all levels of every modern Police organization, from single Officer personnel to groups or units.

The capabilities gathered in Vicenza by the 52 attendees, will assist them when undertaking responsibilities connected to European Union challenges, as qualified Police Officers and Experts deployed as monitors, mentors, advisers or trainers in Peace Operations.



## 6TH “TRAIN THE TRAINERS” COURSE FOR PALESTINIAN SECURITY FORCES

From the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of September, 2018, the CoESPU has hosted the “Train the Trainers” Course for the Palestinian Security Forces.

The 2-week course, planned and conducted through a bi-lateral initiative between Carabinieri and the Palestinian Authority (MIADIT Project), aimed to expand the Palestinian Security Forces capacities.

All 20 female attendees, chosen between all other participant to the previous training periods provided by CoESPU Carabinieri in Jericho in the last months, obtained outstanding results during the training activities in Vicenza.



The students, being instructors on their own, are now qualified to transfer what they learned to other colleagues in their country, and further develop the training procedures to enhance their security capabilities.

*"This is a great achievement at an international level that provides tangible evidence of the efforts made by Italy and the Carabinieri, here at the Center of Excellence, in support of international peace and security",* said Brig. Gen. Giovanni Pietro Barbano, the CoESPU Director, during the closing ceremony.



Written by:  
*Capt. Vito FRANCHINI*  
*CoESPU Managing Editor*







MEDICAL



Health Care  
Doctor  
Hospital  
Pharmacist  
Nurse  
Dentist  
First Aid  
Surgeon  
Emergency



# INFLUENCES OF MOBILE TECHNOLOGY IN OUR MEMORY

By Dr. Davide PEREGO

## Introduction

While smartphones and related mobile technologies are recognized as flexible and powerful tools that, when used prudently, can augment human cognition, there is also a growing perception that habitual involvement with these devices may have a negative and lasting impact on users' ability to think, remember, pay attention, and regulate emotion. About this topic, many other research and



study in the health field, have explored others problems like usage of the mobile phones and the addiction like symptoms of overuse, or possible effects of radio frequency electromagnetic field emitted from the devices on the human brain, or orthopedic problem like inflammation of tendon of the thumb owing to overuse of the finger to manage the chat. The focus of this review is in the

memory, one of three facets of cognition (attention, memory, and delay of gratification) that are clearly implicated regarding the impacts of mobile technology.

## Memory and Knowledge

Smartphones provide constant access to an endless and ever-improving database of collective knowledge. Having this access enables people to search for, locate, and learn seemingly any fact that they desire. Prior to the advent of the World Wide Web, the closest available approximation of this sort of resource was a multi-volume encyclopedia, where the cost and limited portability of which precluded ubiquitous use. Internet search engines enable anyone has a mobile device, to have access an incredible large amount of information, often free or at very low cost. Moreover, smartphone technology allows people to take this information wherever they wish, and access it immediately. Though it may seem as if constant access to a limitless database of knowledge should improve cognition, much has been written about how the rapidly changing landscape of technology is negatively affecting how we remember our own lives, the places we have been, and those with whom we have interacted. One topic that has been investigated is the oft-cited claim that modern technology is leading us to depend upon our devices to store information for us. In a highly influential and informative study, Sparrow et al. (2011) asked participants to type a series of newly learned trivia facts into a computer. Half of the participants were told that the computer would store their typed information for them and that they would be able to access it later, whereas the other half believed that the information would soon be erased. The individuals who believed they would maintain access to the typed information performed more poorly on a later recall task. Importantly,

an explicit instruction to remember the facts vs. not being told to remember had no impact on participants' rates of recall. This finding, dubbed by the authors as the "Google Effect," and later referred to by other researchers as "digital amnesia" (Kaspersky Lab, 2015) demonstrates that the expectation of having later access to information can make us less inclined to encode and store that information in long-term memory.

Sparrow et al. (2011) further argued that we are becoming symbiotic with our technology; remembering less actual information and instead committing to memory where such information can be found. To further investigate this theory, the researchers conducted an additional experiment

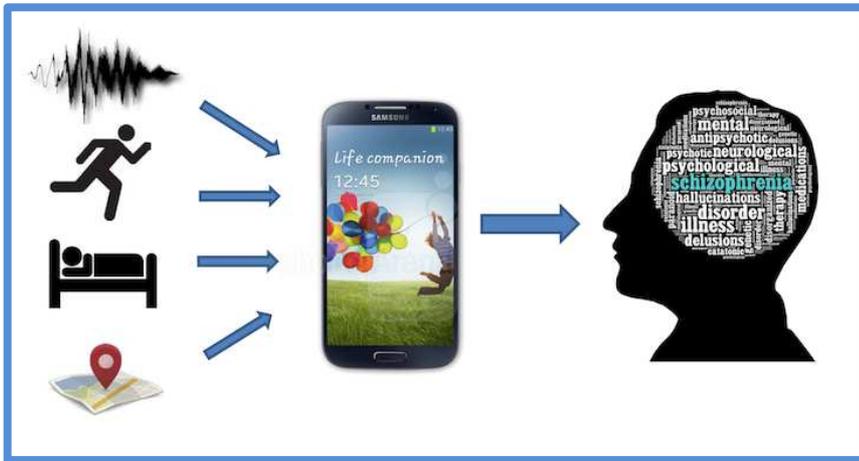


using a design similar to that described above, but with three within-subject conditions. For one third of the questions, participants were simply told that the information they entered was saved. Another third of the questions resulted in the participants being told that the information was saved into one of six pre-determined folders (named FACTS, DATA, INFO, NAMES, ITEMS, and POINTS). The remaining third of the questions were followed by a prompt that informed the participants that the information they typed was immediately deleted. The results of this experiment indicated that participants were better able to recall the name of the folder in which the relevant information was located than the information itself. The authors use this finding to claim that, "the processes of human memory are adapting to the advent of new computing and communication technology" (Sparrow et al., 2011, p. 778). A potential experimental confound that Sparrow et al. do not discuss is the amount of "information" represented by the trivia fact vs. the name of the folder. The authors provide an example fact, "The space shuttle Columbia disintegrated during re-entry over Texas in February 2003."

The complexity of the fact may make it more difficult to memorize than the name of the folder in which the information is stored (i.e., FACTS). Future research should attempt to create more balance between the trivia statements and the folder names.

Barr et al. (2015) recently reported findings from a further exploration of internet access via smartphones and knowledge representation. In keeping with the notion that humans are generally "cognitive misers" (Kahneman, 2011), these authors posited that the tendency to rely on simple heuristics and mental shortcuts extends to the habitual use of internet search engines as a substitute for deep cognitive analysis. In their experiment, Barr et al. (2015) gave participants a series of cognitively demanding questions, including syllogisms, base-rate problems, and a "heuristics and biases" battery. They also assessed participants' knowledge in different cognitive domains through administration of a numeracy test and a verbal intelligence test. Finally, participants were also asked to provide an estimation of how much time per day they spend on their smartphones overall, as well as an estimation of how much time they spend specifically using internet search engines on their smartphones. The results showed that individuals who reported being heavy users of

smartphones also exhibited less analytical “cognitive styles” and poorer performance on the knowledge measures. Moreover, individuals who indicated that they spend a large amount of time using the search engine function on their smartphones scored most poorly on these cognitive



measures. Of course, since these results are derived from self-reported data, it is conceivable that participants who highly weight their desire for knowledge may also inflate their memory for (and estimates of) the time they devote to using search engines. Further, given the correlational nature of the research, the results cannot resolve whether,

as claimed, frequent search engine use can actually “supplant thinking,” or whether individuals who already have a weaker tendency to engage cognitive analytic strategies also tend to use search engines more frequently. Interpreted in a different light, Barr et al.’s (2015) results seem counter-intuitive. After all, the tendency to go out of one’s way to seek information and knowledge has been shown to be positively correlated with fluid intelligence (Fleischhauer et al., 2010). Reinterpreted in this way, individuals with higher cognitive scores might have more semantic knowledge already accessible to them, and thus would not need to resort to using their smartphones as often. Moreover, it is possible that those with higher cognitive scores are able to conduct searches more efficiently. Accordingly, they might use their smartphone’s search engine functions just as frequently as those with low scores, but for a shorter duration each time.

Another recent study provides complementary empirical evidence regarding the potential impact of digital media on memories for personally experienced events (Henkel, 2013). In this study, participants were given digital cameras and taken on a tour of an art museum. Though the research was concerned specifically with digital cameras, the fact that nearly all modern smartphones include a digital camera function makes it relevant to the present discussion. Throughout the tour, the participants were told to take pictures of specific objects, and were asked to observe other objects without taking a picture. One day later, the participants were tested on their ability to distinguish objects they had seen during the tour from brand new objects. The results showed that taking photographs diminished memory for observed objects. Specifically, the participants’ who used the camera during their tour showed a poorer ability to recognize objects as having been previously viewed. A further experiment presented in the same paper showed that this effect was mitigated by asking the participants to zoom in on specific features of the objects that they were viewing before taking the picture. Interestingly, zooming in on a specific area did not increase recall accuracy for details specific to that area vs. the work as a whole, but did improve overall memory for the object, suggesting that the improvement was due to a more rich interaction with the object. Additional empirical support for this phenomenon comes from Zauberman et al. (2015) who found that while visual memory is improved by taking photographs, auditory memory of photographed events is impaired. The practice of taking pictures and videos of trivial occurrences in one’s life (and uploading them to a social media site) is increasingly common due to the proliferation of

smartphone ownership and the popularity of photo- and video-sharing social apps like Instagram and Snapchat. If taking pictures can lead to weaker encoding of representations in memory, then this is an important facet of the cognitive impact of ubiquitous smartphone usage. Recent qualitative research provides first-hand accounts that one's interactions with smartphones and the 'check-in' capability of some social media apps as well as photos taken with one's phone help establish a topographical memory that can both supplant and augment one's memory of their surroundings and experiences (Özkul and Humphreys, 2015). Studies investigating the relation between digital photography and memory have assumed that photographs are stored or shared in a semi-permanent matter. Thus, while the act of taking photographs may change memory encoding during an event, the photographs provide an opportunity to review and recollect the experience at a later time. However, recent trends in social media use have prioritized ephemeral photo-sharing. For example, Snapchat allows user to send and post pictures and videos that can only be viewed a limited number of times or for a finite period. Users may therefore experience the same effects on memory in the moment, without the added opportunity to refer back to the photograph or video as an external source of information/memory. Little is yet known about the specific effects of ephemeral photo-sharing tools on memory for events.



Another common concern regarding the “offloading” of our semantic memory into a modern technological device regards the impact of GPS mapping systems on our ability to navigate the world. Crafting an accurate cognitive representation of our spatial surroundings is crucial for us to effectively and efficiently get from one place to another. It has been posited that constant reliance on GPS navigation systems, which are now integrated into smartphone devices, interferes with our natural tendency to develop cognitive spatial representations. Media headlines insist that these car technologies are “creating stupid drivers” (Moskvitch, 2014) and there are many compelling instances in which a driver blindly followed an inaccurate GPS direction into peril (Hansen, 2013). As GPS navigation devices pre-exist smartphone technology, so too does the related scientific literature. In a study published a decade ago, researchers sought to identify the consequences of overreliance on GPS navigational devices (Burnett and Lee, 2005). Specifically, the authors wanted to know whether use of GPS navigational devices impacted their participants’ tendency to create cognitive maps when maneuvering through a novel environment. To do this, Burnett and Lee recruited experienced drivers to navigate around a 3D digitally rendered virtual environment. The virtual environment resembled a medium-sized neighborhood, and included many buildings and other landmarks such as trees, signs, and people. The between-subjects design required half of the participants to study a map of the environment for as long as they wished before hitting the road in an attempt to reach their destination using the most direct route possible. Conversely, the other half of participants were allowed to study the map for only 20 s, and then commenced their journey, which was accompanied with turn-by-turn voice guidance to the destination. After the participants

completed the route, their spatial knowledge of the environment was tested according to three facets of spatial representation: Landmark-, Route-, and Survey-level representations. Participants were presented with screen shots of scenes, including some from the virtual environment and some that were similar, but not actually on the route that the participants took. The participants were required to identify which screenshots they recognized as part of the route they took (Landmark) and the order in which they occurred (Route). To assess Survey knowledge of the spatial environment, participants were asked to sketch a map of their overall route as best they could on a blank sheet of paper, and to include as many landmarks as they could remember. The results from this study showed that the participants in the voice navigation group performed significantly worse in Landmark and Route knowledge of the environment. Further, those in the voice navigation group drew significantly simpler and more fragmented maps in the assessment of Survey knowledge. Some recent research has focused on identifying ways in which the detriments of navigation devices on spatial memory can be mitigated. It has been shown, for example, that spatial knowledge can be improved by allowing users to request that their position be indicated at any given time during the navigation episode (Parush et al., 2007). Further, spatial knowledge can be improved if users are forced to perform mental rotations of on-screen images, as opposed to observing automated rotations (Boari et al., 2012). This knowledge can be applied by encouraging users to keep their navigation devices set such that North is always facing up, rather than moving around the compass



as they turn. Finally, research extending the Ophir et al. (2009) findings on media multitasking also implicates this behavior in memory functioning. Most recently, Uncapher et al. (2015) showed that frequent media multitaskers differed from light users with respect to their working

memory capacity, and also exhibited diminished long-term memory functioning. In their study, frequency of media multitasking specifically predicted how participants encoded information, with higher rates of media multitasking leading to less precise representations of goal-relevant information and more task-irrelevant information filling the space. Further, the reduced precision of information in working memory observed in heavy media multitaskers was associated with diminished long-term memory performance, as measured by a surprise recognition test for tested items [with a significant association between heavy media multitasking and memory for target items in the earlier working memory task, as well as a trend level association for memory of distractor items; see also Frein et al. (2013) for related findings].

## Conclusion

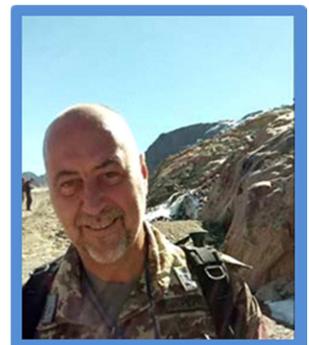
Summary research investigating the relationships between smartphone technology habits and one's memory and knowledge capabilities is still scant, but available findings indicate that, as some have worried, smartphone-related habits can in some cases be detrimental to mnemonic functioning.

Though there are some important limitations in the experimental designs that have been discussed, the work conducted to date does give us reason to be cautious about how we use new technologies. The available evidence suggests that when we turn to these devices, we generally learn and remember less from our experiences. While the research discussed in this section represents an important step toward investigating the impact of smartphone technology on memory, it is equally important to bear in mind that the sort of “memory externalization” that these articles focus on is by no means a new issue. The same concerns could, for instance, be made regarding a Rolodex. Invented in the 1950s, this ‘rolling index’ provided a system to organize one’s contacts into an easy to access alphabetized structure. It allowed its users to remember where an individual’s contact was located, rather than needing to memorize the full contact information. Determining whether externalizing cognitive processes via smartphone is necessarily worse than externalizing cognitive processes via older methods will be an important avenue for future research.

Written by:

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*Neuroscientist, Psyc-Neuro Physiologist,  
expert in psychopathology and neuropsychology*







**CURIOSITY ON THE  
HERITAGE PROTECTION**



## Carabinieri “Cultural Heritage Protection” (TPC):

### *Use of Database and App*

The TPC is a part of the Ministry of Culture and plays a role regarding the safety and protection of the national cultural heritage, through the prevention and repression of the multiple interrelated criminal activities. According to the Italian legislation, regarding the protection of cultural heritage the Carabinieri TPC is the Centre of information and analysis for all Italian law enforcement agencies. The organizational chart foreseen, at central level, a Staff Office and an Operational Department (split into three Sections: Archaeology, Antique, Modern Art and Counterfeiting) and, on a territorial level, 12 Branches with regional or interregional jurisdiction plus a Sub-Unit in Sicily.



As regards its international scope, in addition to working in the sphere of international police cooperation by INTERPOL, the **TPC has other responsibilities, such as providing specialized support to peace-keeping operations, such as in Iraq from 2003 to 2006**; training of police officers and customs officials in countries that submit such a request; consulting to the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities, in respect of activities centred on retrieving archaeological relics belonging to the national heritage and exhibited in museums and private collections abroad.

### *The Database*



Since the 1980s, the Carabinieri TPC have been using an auxiliary instrument of investigations: the **“Database of illegally removed cultural artefacts”**, provided by Article 85 of the *Legislative Decree no. 42 dated 22 January 2004* (Code of the Cultural and Landscape Heritage), which contains information on the artefacts to recover, of Italian or foreign provenance, and on related criminal events. **The use of sophisticated computer technology has made the database a**

**reference point for the entire Headquarters and for other Italian and foreign Law-Enforcement Agencies allowing to conduct a careful analysis of criminal phenomenon concerning the illicit trafficking of cultural property.**

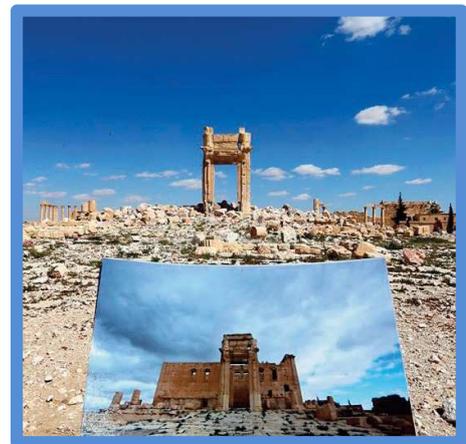
The database includes the description of more than 1.200.000 stolen objects, with more than 615,220 images (*Statistical data up to December 2017*).

It is a powerful Information Technology tool that allows the recovery of stolen items due to the combination of the **efficiency of its image search algorithm** and the experience of TPC operators. Furthermore, it allows to conduct a careful analysis of criminal phenomenon concerning the illicit trafficking of cultural property.



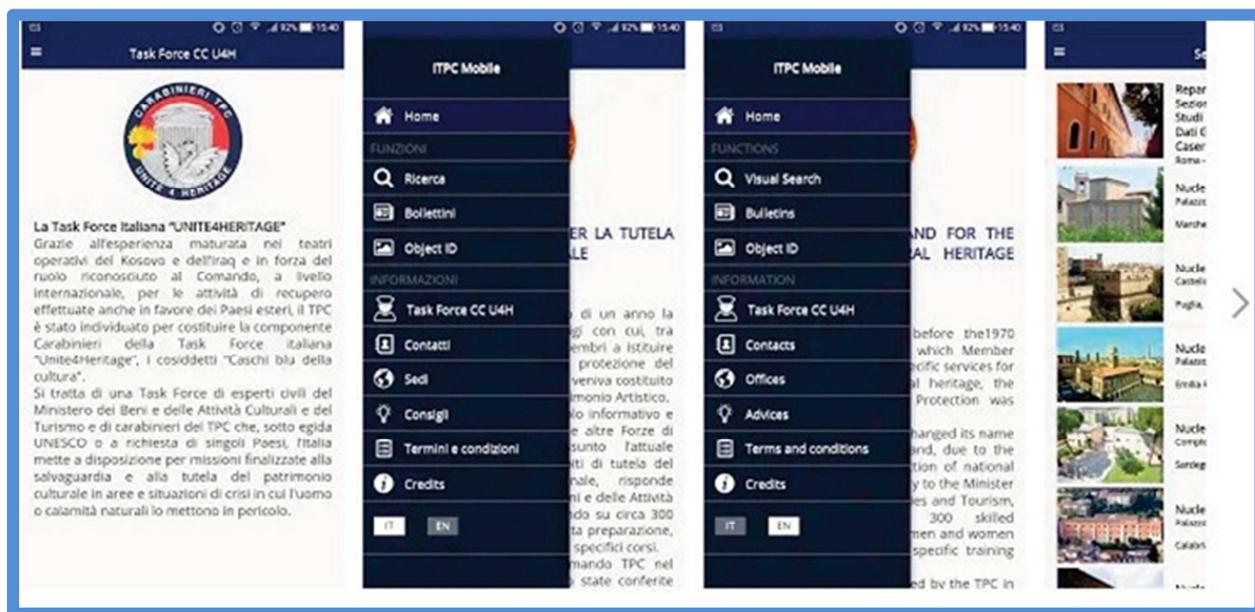
The priority of the Carabinieri TPC is to recover the stolen Works of Art, because the greatest possible damage to Cultural Heritage is the disappearance of the objects. The recovery paths may be judicial or extrajudicial.

**Carabinieri TPC have already served abroad in some Inter- national Missions** (e.g. in the framework of the “Joint Guardian” UN mission in Kosovo and in the Italian Peace Keeping Mission “Antica Babilonia” in Iraq). Their main tasks during those missions were: assessing war damage to Cultural Heritage; cataloguing existing Items; surveying archeological sites and assessing their security; training local Officials in Protection of Cultural Heritage.



### *The “iTPC App”*

**Public awareness is a key factor in the fight against art crimes.** A new way to put the public in contact with our work in protecting Cultural Heritage is the new app iTPC. Edited in 2014, in its first version, the iTPC application, for mobile devices (smartphone/tablet), has been renewed in its graphic layout, contents and functionalities.



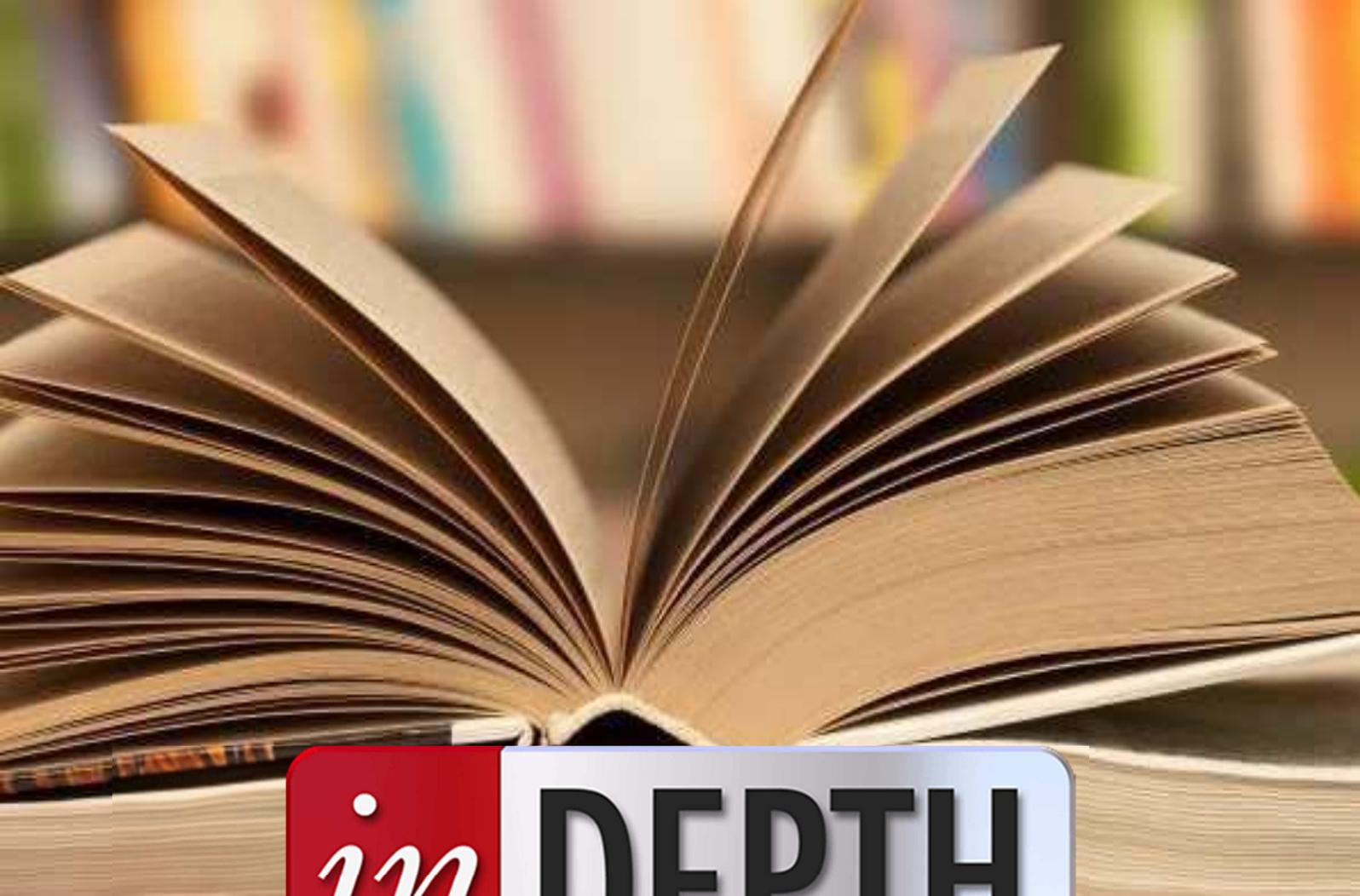
All the services have been improved and enhanced:

- the consultation of the bulletins, which allows to search for information about the works of art contained in these bulletins published by the CC TPC, with the new possibility to download the pdf file of the entire bulletin;
- an enhanced visual search tool, which allows the citizen to choose an image and to recognize, in real time, valuable stolen works of art, through the comparison of images with those contained in a dedicated archive;
- the creation of a document for the cataloguing of owned work of art (named Object ID), an "identity card" of the item, to be saved by the owner, which allows an exhaustive description of the cultural object and which has now been made faster in the information processing;
- information on the CC TPC Command and its activities;
- a collection of advices to the citizens and a section containing the contacts information to reach the nearest TPC office (geo-localized by the app);

The new version of the application is multi-lingual; this means that, besides the English language, already available today with the new version, all the contents and services will be offered soon in the other languages (French, Spanish, German).



Courtesy of the "TPC"  
Comando Carabinieri Tutela Patrimonio Culturale



*in* DEPTH



# The technological innovations in PKO's

## -The use of social media and the potential compromise of security-

By Maj. Stefano ESPOSITO VANGONE

In the most fervid collective imagination, technological innovation encompasses exclusively those features of novelty aimed at improving the living conditions of users of a service, an application or any other tool deemed useful for effective effectiveness or tendency, often and in surreptitiously, without being understood that from that same technology arise many factors that, although corollary, unknowingly and potentially, could cause greater harm than good, to the detriment of



people and communities including, not least, the military team. Precisely because of its innate operational connotation, it could, in fact, represent the privileged recipient, or even better the target, of all those who consider technological innovation to be a tool for the broader concept of asymmetric threat, with potentially fatal consequences.

It is well-known and maximum experience as on the national territory, but even more in the Operational Theater Foreign, the military makes use of social media, smartphones and countless applications that allow you to break down the distances with their loved ones left over Homeland, but which, at the same time and in a prodigious way, also reduce safety levels, with an actual compromise of the same, to the detriment of the entire team. Focusing the attention more in detail, it is possible to understand how the use of networked apparatuses, now an appendix of the human being, represent, in T.O.E. a “*vulnus*” (*Latin word*: to break/to force a right) of the Force Protection, as they provide outside the Armed Forces system. and without the military having actual perception or understanding, a multitude of data, (from geo-referencing, with attribution of position, itinerary and altitude, to the location and composition of reserved or neuralgic areas) - even more interesting if enclosed in a shot of which they can boast - by



interfacing with easily violent sharing servers from anyone with real interest. Consider, in this regard, the strategic value of the acquisition of photos taken inside a compound that, without the user's knowledge, could be cataloged and put into a system to acquire the areal mapping of the entire base, or the information offered on the level of safety in terms of active and passive measures or individual or departmental

equipment, all through the simple sharing of a photo transmitted and intercepted in the ether. A reflection is a must and imposes itself as a necessary epiphany: "the soldier abroad respects a specific dress code that requires him not to wear patches of his department, or scratch it with his surname, or deems it appropriate to deprive himself of the wedding ring to conceal the existence of emotional bonds to prying eyes (local worker, foreign colleague), without considering, however, the risk inherent in the sole existence of their social page and what was shared there, even years before "

From this point of view, any use of the free-trade apparatus represents a danger, both random and real for the military, even if engaged in recreational activities or sports gymnastics (applications that track the lifestyle habits or favorite itineraries to follow); the framework of behaviors susceptible to censorship, therefore, appears to be very broad and not easy to exemplify. It is important to draw attention to some emblematic behaviors, including the publication of contents, photographs or videos relating to service activities that may actually disclose operating procedures that must remain confidential, without considering the possible violation of privacy regulations or the possible lesion of the image of the Institutions with regard to more or less explicit and discriminatory positions referable to the sexual, religious, political or other sphere which, although an expression of the individual, reverberates on the institution of belonging.



The advent of new technologies and the immediate and global possibility to access and feed the information present on social networks ultimately represents a real threat to the safety of military personnel, infrastructures and military secrecy whenever, albeit in the absence of malice or effective awareness of the potential impairment of the Armed Force, we proceed to the dissemination, on or through these communication tools, including third parties, of photographs and / or any additional digital information related to aspects peculiar to the operating context within which we operate or referred you are aware of your status - assignment - function.

In relation to the considerations expressed above, in recent years, the Italian Armed Forces and allied, with particular regard to the contingents deployed in TOE, are oriented, through the circulation of circulars, interventions and the search for a constant dialogue on

the part of the hierarchical superiors, not only towards the imposition of prohibitions related to

publication or disclosure in any way or form on the so-called "public sites" of photos, information or documents relating to military installations, equipment, equipment or any other aspect reconnected to the life of barracks, but also towards a staff sensitization that favors every profit reflection on the subject, oriented to create a code of ethics and a "culture of digital", all not leaving out or subtracting the various and possible disciplinary or penal effects, graduated according to the level of damaging about behaving badly eventually put in place.

Today, more than in the past, the military professional cannot and must not fail to consider the consequences of all his behavior, even the most apparently insignificant, because behind each soldier there is a family, an institution and a nation, but above all a brother/comrade in arms to be preserved and protected.



Written by:

*Maj. Stefano ESPOSITO VANGONE*

*Commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Company*

*Carabinieri Regiment "T.A.A."*

*(Translation by Magazine staff)*







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