

**МЕЃУНАРОДНА НАУЧНА КОНФЕРЕНЦИЈА
БЕЗБЕДНОСТА И ЕВРОАТЛАНТСКИТЕ
ПЕРСПЕКТИВИ НА БАЛКАНОТ**

**ПОЛИЦИСКИТЕ НАУКИ И ПОЛИЦИСКАТА
ПРОФЕСИЈА (СОСТОЈБИ И ПЕРСПЕКТИВИ)**

**INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE
SECURITY AND EUROATLANTIC PERSPECTIVES OF
THE BALKANS**

**POLICE SCIENCE AND POLICE PROFESSION (STATES
AND PERSPECTIVES)**

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POSITION OF POLICE SCIENCES WITHIN THE SYSTEM OF SCIENCES

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Abstract

In the recent years, the Republic of Macedonia and its surrounding countries increasingly follow the contemporary trends in the police area. Expert public faces the dilemmas associated with the need for allocation of the police science as a separate area within the social sciences. However, the problem of separation of Police Science and finding an appropriate place for them within the security sciences opens many controversies among the experts dealing with police in Europe and North America.

Since the Second World War, police experts from US began to think actively about this challenge. They found a solution that proved that the main characteristic of the police science is its applicative nature. Centres for police training brought the police skill in an academic environment that makes it science. Functioning within the academic police environment in Europe, the labour in direction of finding out answers to questions related to the definition and classification of the police science resulted in creation of the Final report of the Project Group on European Approach to Police Science in April 2007.

This paper explains the affiliation of the police science with application of qualitative methods. It is used to give a convenient explanation of the differences between the police science and the policing. It also analyses and compares European and North American approach to the dilemmas of introducing and defining the police science. For this purpose, historical and comparative method is used. The paper should contribute to the development of the police science in Europe and further, together with participation of the Macedonian academic community in segments of this area.

Keywords: *police, crime, dilemmas, science and security.*

Introduction

Creation of the police science is initiated by the police and social needs, development of crime and technology. The “science” means the broad

array of methods and technologies that police have confronted over the last half century. This includes advances in forensics such as DNA testing, digital fingerprinting and other technologies meant to improve detection and identification. It also includes social science which had often been neglected by the police before, but it has begun to play an increasingly important role over the last few decades, both in terms of advancing of the crime analysis and in evaluating and assessing traditional police practices and innovations in the police strategies. By this science it is also implied to advancement of the use of scientific models of inquiry, such as the problem-oriented policing.¹

Today, police science gets a wider dimension by involving external stakeholders in its definition and development. Many of them, such as media, academies, NGO's and other factors have a significant role in making the police better, more transparent and more democratic in terms of obeying the rule of law, human rights and freedoms. Moreover, it should not be allowed that the police science loses the link to the subject, for which it is primarily designed - the police. Police will always be a main source for scientific surveys and researches related precisely to this establishment or other security issues.

In defining the position and role of the police science, there was an enormous contribution from the experts and institutions dealing with training and education of the police. They served as mediators in overcoming the critical attitude of the external stakeholders and the police community. Most of them work in fields which belong to the group of social sciences; social sciences on their part, especially in Europe, are overlapping with the tendency of understanding the police science as part of the group of social sciences and set the beginnings of the police science mainly as a forensic science. Contemporary police science is focused on issues related to police and dealing with crime, and this makes it different from the military or generalized security science. Also, when the policing overpasses the national borders and there is need for police cooperation, the Police Science uses data, expertise and experiences from many countries. That implies involvement of many police entities in solving the police issues. Besides the fact that there are many differences regarding the national political and police systems, there are also many similarities which allow building of common methodological approaches within Police Sciences.

Needs for Police Science

¹David Weisburd and Peter Neyroud. *Police Science: Toward a New Paradigm*. (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice, 2011)

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/228922.pdf> (accessed on March 01st, 2012). p. 2

Many social events and processes contributed to the development of Police Science as a distinct scientific field. Police Science was developing at the time when the major political changes occurred in the developed world. With the democratic changes in the society, citizen protection of their freedoms and rights, respect of the rule of law and fight against organized crime became nucleus of the policing. These changes are also analysed in terms of demilitarization and partially as decentralization of the police. The contemporary police organization defocuses its purposes from the state officials to the individuals. The policing represents an executive measure which in the same time is too complex, has its principles of work, its own methodology, system of values and builds its own system of knowledge. It makes the fundamentals of science, i.e. Police Science. The beginnings came with the skills developed by the police training centres and used by the police officers. The subject of policing, after certain period of evolution, grew up from police routine to science within police academic entities. So, applicative police work evolved to a research-based Police Science which serves to increase the police efficiency and to understand the aetiology and phenomenology of crime and other police concerns.

Today, there are different target groups of police studies evaluated, which also became wider - incorporated in many scientific fields which deal with police issues. Most of them were addressed to university students and academic communities, some to the public within political action, and others to the police. They followed their self- understanding as practitioners who were not familiar with the academic rules and procedures but rather with the law and professional police standards gained by the experience of generations of police officers. Knowledge of policing was not, according to the police doctrine, a result of scientific reflection but of police practice and long term experience. During the 1960s and 1970s the police in the Western world considered the expanding police studies, more or less, as attacks from outside on its professional self-concept.² Democratic developments and principles of the modern management methods made the police more open for criticism from outside and even from inside the police organisation. The police organisation realized the purpose of scientific studies for police management and their positive impact on the police practice. Thus, tensions between the police culture and the academics were reduced, and police authorities started to establish their own research departments, or cooperation

²Hans-Gerd Jaschke et al. *Perspectives Of Police Science In Europe*. (Hampshire, United Kingdom: CEPOL House, 2007),

http://www.cepol.europa.eu/fileadmin/website/Research_Science/PGEAPS_Final_Report.pdf

(accessed on March 01, 2012), pp.15-16.

with the independent researchers outside the police. This picture is not only a result of the police learning process; moreover, it is a result of social and political impacts of a more complex society, which needs a modern police force.³ The level of independency of academics gave them the power to criticise, to discuss and develop new police methods, to write articles about police issues and to be involved in police expertise. The police officers have their work competences to act, to give or to execute orders, even when they are out of the principles valued in the society. At the beginnings, it went against the police culture and it did not give them a lot of opportunities to be involved in the police studies' activities. Today's picture is largely changed.

The attempt to differentiate Police Science within the social and other sciences, led to the conclusion that it is a quite difficult process due to policing covering multi-disciplinary topics. Even at its beginnings, the Police Science was incorporated within the forensic science, criminal justice, criminology and other related sciences. First in US and then in Europe, it succeeded to build its own field of research. Normally, Police Science is a multi-disciplinary science and it makes it difficult to separate it from the up-mentioned sciences. These sciences should be considered as the root of the Police Science, but with evolution, the policing and the Police Science became much more complex and developed, compared to them.

The five different sections of such a Police Science could be the following:⁴

- Political (governmental) Police Science, which is mainly concerned with the normative definition of tasks and competencies of the police and of its relationship with the administrative and legal authorities, and the population.
- Social Police Science, which is mainly focused on the actual and the desirable functioning of the police body in relation to its own goals, but also to the same extent, to its relationships with the authorities and the population; its own organisation and persons; and general conditions and developments in society.
- Technological Police Science, within which technical and organizational means are developed in order to enable the police body to function in a way it gives evidence of a sense of political responsibility and which seems desirable from the social scientific point of view.

³Hans-Gerd Jaschke et al., 15.

⁴Cyrille Fijnaut. "Over de traditie van de politiewetenschap in West-Europa", in *Theoretische opstellen rondom de politie*, Peter van Lochem, et al. (Apeldoorn: Nederlands ePolitie Academie, 1983), pp. 36-37.

- Historical Police Science, which on one hand evolves in the direction of the current socio-historical research, but on the other hand, branches out in direction of the present day scientific historical research.
- Comparative Police Science which is specific to the history and the current organisation of police structures in Europe.

Researches related to Police Sciences – European and US aspect

Europe:

In Europe, research topics which have become common property and were traceable during the period from 1960 to 1990 can be classified as follows:⁵

- Selectivity of the conduct of the police
- Use of violence / use of authority
- Discretionary power
- Professional culture
- Efficacy of police work / operating procedures
- Surveillance
- Relations between the police and the population

All of them are crossing with sociology, political and organisational sciences and analogically they belong to social sciences. The trends of developing an independent Police Science should follow the direction of establishing the Police Science as a science incorporated within security sciences. Most of the European countries follow this tendency. In EU only, which unites police educational entities of the Member States within the European Police College - CEPOL there are many similarities regarding to classification and placement of Police Science.

In 2006, the police researched the infrastructure in 26 European countries including Norway and come to some interesting conclusions. The study found that the police research is regarded as one of high or relatively high interest in nine countries outside the police, in eight countries within the Police Academies, and in five countries within the Police organisation.⁶

⁵ Hans-Gerd Jaschke et al. pp. 64-65.

⁶ Gerhard Hanak and Veronika Hofinger. "Police Science and Research in the European Union," in *Theory and Practice of Police Research in Europe* (CEPOL Series No. 1), ed. Janos Fehervary et. al. (Hampshire, United Kingdom: CEPOL House, 2006), http://www.cepol.europa.eu/fileadmin/website/Research_Science/tppre.pdf (accessed on March 1, 2012), pp. 55-62.

Today the complexity of society and the demanding tasks of the police in a changing world lead to the increasing request for scientific methods, police research and Police Science. European-focused, comparative research on causes of crime, crime prevention and countermeasures is on the way.⁷ In 2007, CEPOL's Project Group published its Final report on a European Approach to Police Science. The analysis and findings from this group which use experiences from the European countries and US, largely contribute for differentiation and establishing of the Police Sciences as different sciences within the national police education systems.

Mainstream police research is conducted on crime-related topics, both in a criminological (social control, legal policy) and criminal investigation perspective. A second core topic relates to policing and police work, sometimes with a focus on management and leadership tasks, in other cases stressing the management of public order and community policing. These two standard topics obviously play a prominent part in several countries".⁸ In surveying research institutions outside the police, the authors found that there were "both highly specialised research institutions in the field of forensics and criminal investigation techniques, and others with an emphasis on a not-so-narrow social sciences perspective on issues of security policy, legal policy, law enforcement, criminology etc".⁹

United States:

As a matter of fact, since the 1960s, studies on police and policing have expanded rapidly. Caused by ethnic conflicts and the student rebellion from 1964-5, the old American crime-fighter model of policing got into trouble and was reviewed and analysed. A lot of field surveys and case studies on the reality of police action followed the riots. Studies of Banton (1964), Skolnick (1967), Wilson (1968) and others, made it clearer that some Police actions in practice did not fit into the rule-of-law system and moral standards of the democratic society.¹⁰ Studies gave an insight into the professional culture of the police and its impact on the functioning of the police. They demonstrated the impact of the norms of the informal organisation and about the working ideology of police officers: their value system, beliefs and ideology.¹¹ During CEPOL's Project Group search for

⁷Horst Entorf and HannesSpengler.*Crime in Europe: Causes and Consequences* (Berlin, Germany: Springer - Verlag Berlin and Heidelberg GmbH & Co. K, 2002).

⁸Gerhard Hanak and Veronika Hofinger. *Police Science and Research in The European Union* (Vienna, Austria: Institute for the Sociology of Law and Criminology, 2005), p. 20.

⁹Gerhard Hanak andVeronika Hofinger, p. 30.

¹⁰Hans-Gerd Jaschke et al., pp. 14-15.

¹¹Hans-Gerd Jaschke et al., p. 56.

the different denotations which have been conferred to the term Police Science, in the 1950s and 1960s they come across a particular understanding in the USA which has not found its peer in Europe: Police Science as being equivalent to the police administration.¹² In 1950, O.W. Wilson published his book *Police Administration*, which has had a profound impact on the development of the study of policing. The book was a product of the principal approach to administration prevalent in the 1940s. Based on the scientific management principles of Frederick Taylor, Wilson's book stressed efficiency, hierarchy, and bureaucratic regularity as the key towards police reform. One of the most recognised hallmarks of his book is the 300-item checklist at its conclusion. A check mark in each of the 300 boxes equates to a well-run police agency. So the study of policing was the study of efficient police administration, and this approach came to be called Police Science.¹³

Taking into consideration that the researches in the field of police issues are mostly from US, they are recognized as founders of the modern empirical criminology and Police Science in the USA and Europe. In that time, scientific researches were influenced by political reasons. It explains the status of police autonomy, i.e. the political impact of the state officials on police experts due to the use of police as an instrument of state. This status of police is still a subject of change worldwide. But after this first try to incorporate the police researches as valuable for the police organization and the whole society, followed the critical approach on policing during the 60's and 70's. The opponents of internal police views (or contributors for developing of the Police Science) were lawyers, social scientists and citizens' movements. Policing was crossed with their narrow speciality or field of expertise. As a consequence, police studies became part of criminology, social sciences and law, university faculties offered studies, and magazines were founded as well as scientific associations.

From the other side, there were opponents who stated that the police do not see the social science as essential to the work of police agencies. Explanation of this is derived from the core police education and training.¹⁴ There is little concern with either scientific evidence or evidence-based policing.¹⁵

¹²Hans-Gerd Jaschke et al, p. 19.

¹³Larry T. Hoover. "From Police Administration to Police Science: The Development of a Police Academic Establishment in the United States," *Police Quarterly*, no.8 (March 2005): p. 12.

¹⁴David Weisburd and Peter Neyroud, p. 4.

¹⁵Janet B.L. Chan, Chris Devery and Sally Doran. *Fair Cop: Learning the Art of Policing* (Toronto, Canada: University of Toronto Press, 2003).

Evolution and contemporary placement of the Police Science

Police Science is the scientific study of the police as an institution and of policing as a process. As an applied discipline it combines methods and subjects of other similar disciplines within the field of policing. It includes all of what the police do and all aspects from outside that have an impact on policing and public order. Currently, it is a working term to describe police studies on the way to an accepted and established discipline. Police Science tries to explain facts and acquire knowledge about the reality of policing in order to generalize and to be able to predict possible scenarios.¹⁶ “Police included everything”. In the second half of the nineteenth century, what remained of the old Police Science was a political (or: jurisprudential) Police Science as a scientific branch, which a few decades later is completed with a criminological Police Science. The latter developed into a fully-fledged exact science (forensics), whilst, from the 1960’s onward, social science research contributed to the development of Police Science in the modern sense, the current meaning of the term.¹⁷ The discipline of Police Science consists of the key questions about police work, functions and organization, research interests, methods and objectives. The development of the Police Science means establishing the connections between the Police Science and the subjects that it is aimed at - police education and training. From the sub-themes of the Police Science, academic individuals and institutions developed special scientific disciplines related to the applicative police skills, such as: police tactics, police law, police management, police psychology, police deontology, etc. Most of them are part of the contemporary study programs within the higher police education.

As the police work covers a wide range of activities, the Police Science represents a multidisciplinary science. It adapts itself to police work, needs and challenges of the contemporary society. Basically it embraces many scientific areas of the social sciences, such as: history, law, criminology or sociology of crime, statistics, psychology, ethics, and others. Organizational sciences and management, which are part of the social sciences, are represented via police management, risk management, ruling of procedures, deontology and others. History and philosophy of policing are closer to the human sciences, but they have a great contribution to the understanding of the need and development of policing. Criminalistics takes a significant part as a fundament of Police Science, but only criminalistics methodology and tactics belong to social sciences. In the forensic science, which covers criminalistics issues, there is a large contribution of the natural

¹⁶Hans-Gerd Jaschke et al., pp. 23-24.

¹⁷Hans-Gerd Jaschke et al., p. 26.

sciences: mathematics, medicine and technological-technical sciences, such as: chemistry, kinesiology (in term of sport disciplines used by the police), human anatomy, mechanics, electro-technology, electronics, ballistics and others. The same example follows the topography and cartography as part of the geography science, i.e. natural mathematics science. The sciences related to functioning of arms, ammunition and police equipment also refers to technological-technical sciences. The sciences related to the use of information system, data processing, telecommunications and other ICT issues also refers to technological-technical sciences. Traffic security also belongs to technological-technical sciences.

Police Science is not an absolutely social science, but social sciences dominate within the police studies. The crossing over several steps determines the constitution of Police Security Science. There are following steps:¹⁸

- a definition of a special scientific subject which exists independently and is not a subject of research to any other science;
- a definition of an entirety system of empirical and theoretical knowledge about the subject of research;
- an elaboration of a relative entirety theory (or theories) which should develop interpretative, exploitative and predictive functions of the police security science;
- a creation of a conceptual (especially category) apparatus and professional police and security terminology, because current professional police language suffers from its indefiniteness, incorrectness and a lack of uniformity; and
- a creation of an effective methodology and a system of active scientific methods, because the level of a methodology development depends on the level of theory development and on the vice versa.

Special scientific subject of the police science is police work which incorporates police organization, functions, placement of police within the society, relations between police and public, police behaviour, police powers and other related sub-disciplines of the police science. Police work as a special scientific subject of the Police Science is seen from the police aspect. Police aspect means a point of view from inside - from the police organization and from outside - external stakeholders that treat police issues,

¹⁸Gustáv Dianiska& Ivan Simovcek. "Constitution of Police-Security Science", in *Policing in Central and Eastern Europe: Comparing Firsthand Knowledge with Experience from the West*, ed. Milan Pagon (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice, 1996). Proceedings from the conference organized by College of Police and Security Studies, Slovenia,

<http://www.ncjrs.gov/policing/con93.htm> (accessed March 01, 2012).

such as: academics, experts, advisors, specially established groups and NGO's, and others. That corresponds to the Weber's and CEPOL's Project Group opinion about the involvement of external parties which contribute to the establishment of police science as a social science. A European approach to the police science cannot be reduced to one single target group. It is not only the police that have scientific approaches on board.¹⁹ The civil society, intellectuals, the media and the social sciences discovered the police as an important part of the political system which clearly proves the monopoly of the legitimate use of physical force within a certain territory.²⁰

The system of empirical and theoretical knowledge about the searching subject comes from the researches, projects and funding within the police. They could be internal as part of the internal police activities. For example: as tasks and competences of analytics unit within the police. They can also come from external entities interested in police researches, mostly academics and NGO's organized at national level or within international consortium. The main focuses of these researches are the internal influences within the police, as well as the impacts on police from the social events and the impact of the police on the society.

The questions remain: Is there a specific way of posing questions and finding answers? What is the science that can be called police science and which are the links to the other sciences like sociology, economy, psychology, etc.?²¹ The methodology proposed by the CEPOL Project Group was inspired by other social sciences (such as social anthropology), which also have a large and complex social object of investigation. But, the police science developed its own methodology with the time, mainly present within the social sciences. Using methodology helps to understand the police and its issues as an integral part of the society. It is not used for investigation only, but it covers the issues such as: police behaviour, police conduct, police subculture, and organizational phenomenon which come as a result of relations within the police organization and between different police organizations. For these purposes, Police Science uses different research tools, such as: experiments, surveys (with using questionnaires and interviews), standard tests, participant and structure observations, and content and discourse analysis. Police Science is an applied science and it follows the comparative perspectives and methodological standards of the other sciences. The methodology includes two ways: seen from top-down, it is near the methodology of social sciences; seen from the reality of policing, it generates methods in the line with the problems. Police Science is not a

¹⁹Hans-Gerd Jaschke et al., p. 163.

²⁰Max Weber. "Politics as a Vocation", in *From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology*, eds. Hans Heinrich Gerth and Charles Wright Mills (New York: Oxford University Press, 1946), p. 78.

²¹Hans-Gerd Jaschke et al., p. 105.

methodological belief system that is applied to the problems. On the contrary: first, there are problems and research questions; then, as a second step, a useful methodological approach will be selected and developed.²²

Contemporary relations of police science with other sciences

In the recent years, due to many similarities (common research methods and scientific subjects), police science is mainly related to the criminology and administration of justice sciences, even the police science analyses the police work from its own aspect.

Police science adopted a broader array of theory from criminology, a theory about individuals, groups, communities, and institutions, which help us to better understand the question “why policing,” while at the same time incorporating the advantage of a methodological revolution in criminology. From the administration of justice perspective, police science has integrated a broader policy research viewpoint, as well as a greater emphasis on the evidence of what works through better and more systematic (and scientific) evaluation research. By incorporating the best from the perspectives of criminology and the administration of justice, police science has greatly accelerated scientific knowledge about what constitutes policing, how it is made operational in a variety of social settings, how its institutions reflect or diverge from broader social and political values, what theoretical frameworks guide policing, how police perform, and the effect of their performing. So, nowadays the police science integrates the social theories of criminology with the institutional and systems perspectives of the administration of justice. In this respect, police science has become more theory-driven and evidence-led. Even with the inclusion of criminological and administration of justice perspectives, the police science still remains different in focus and in the use of other conceptual frameworks that inform our understanding about the police. Police science is concerned with policing in its broadest sense, ranging from policing as an individual set of behaviours through the interconnections of policing across the world. It rests at the intersection of law, the physical sciences (in the case of forensics), psychology, social psychology, sociology, public policy, history, economics, and evaluation methods and statistical analysis, as well as criminology and the administration of justice. Variety is considerable in the domains of knowledge that informs our understanding of policing. The breadth of entries in this volume attests to the complexity of studying the police, and the multiplicity of perspectives used and indeed needed for such

²²Hans-Gerd Jaschke et al., p. 164.

understanding.²³ While often difficult to distinguish from each other, police science departments usually focus more on the technical aspects of policing: administration, management, crime analysis, and the “doing” of law enforcement. Criminology, when it deals with the police province, more often uses a “system in action” focus. Thus, criminological approaches to the problem of policing are apt to be sociological in nature and to focus on informal structures and relationships.²⁴ Police science will never isolate the connection with areas covering the crime justice and criminology. That is because many areas of the policing are based on adapting policing to the legal grounds (on which is formed the police law), monitoring the trends prevailing in the national legislation (incrimination and development of criminal policy), sociological aspects, the emergence and dynamics of crime, representation of socio-pathological phenomenon in the community and wider.

Conclusion

Police science, as a need of creating science from the police work, must be accepted in both communities – academic and police. The monopoly of use of force that is given to police will always attract public interest within the society. It makes the police to be viewed as a social phenomenon as the police science tries to explain the police work as a social science. Thus, at the beginning, a lot of transformation of the police science was made, but yet, for a long time it will be related to relevant and similar scientific areas - criminology and criminal justice.

After establishing the police science in Europe, it is too early for divisions to be made. Actual scientific communities that cover police science via criminology, political science, sociology and other related disciplines will grow into the independent scientific community of the police science. The dilemma will remain about their exact title (Departments of Police Science, Police studies or Police related research). The social scientists and police officers involved into the academic research will dominate in the police science literature, conferences, and work groups established for police issues. Their approach will be inter or trans-disciplinary.

²³Jack R. Greene (ed.).*The Encyclopedia of Police Science*, Third Edition (New York: Routledge, 2006), xix-xx.

²⁴ Jack R. Greene (ed.), p. 362.

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