



Lisbon Declaration 2005

Final Document From Lisbon to Budapest

I

On November 10 and 11, 2005, took place in Lisbon, organised by the Inspectorate General of Home Affairs, the Conference “Human Rights and Police Behaviour”, formed by an International Seminar (November 10) and the 5th meeting of the PMIBs and ACAs of the European Union (November 11).

II

In their quality of delegates to the Conference, 28 organisations, coming from 21 Member States, were present.

Other 19 similar organisations, coming from Europe, Africa, South America and Asia, were also present.

III

The general theme of the Conference was addressed by the delegations, academics and the audience under the headings, “Understanding the control of police action” and “Carrying out the control of police action” in a democratic society.

All relevant materials of this event will be made available in due time, namely in the Internet and through a book.

IV

Analysis of the rich information conveyed by the answers to the questionnaire, the considerations of the moderators and speakers, and the vivid and plural debates, point out some basic topics:

a) the democratic control of police action, carried out by organisations, with the requisite independence and/or specific terms of reference as deemed appropriate in the national context and according to criteria of impartiality and objectivity, is acknowledged as a corner stone of the rule of law;

b) the democratic control of police forces in the European Union operates through a myriad of various and plural organisations, all of which nonetheless are engaged in the task of ensuring the compliance of police behaviour to the rule of law, both domestic and internationally;

c) human rights are perceived to be embodied, in broad terms, in the missions, structures, human resources and working methods of our organisations;



d) our organisations continue their missions, structures, human resources and working methods they have nowadays, namely in the perspective to be excellent in their contribution to the integration of the values of human rights in police behaviour;

e) notwithstanding this, there may be scope for our organisations to exert influence in many areas of policing. These include:

- the encouragement of the inclusion of human rights values and ethical approach in the selection, training (induction and development) of police personnel;**
- identifying and disseminating within police forces, and the public in general, human rights friendly policing techniques, particularly those regarding the use of force and firearms by police officers;**
- take practical steps to build mutual confidence between the general public, NGOs and police forces in regard to the need for the existence of human rights values in the performance of their functions;**
- promote and encourage the organisation of seminars and research in regard to police monitoring, including best practice in this area of competence.**

V

Our organisations also express their commitment to work in partnership and share best practices in all fields that impact on the effective performance of their missions.

VI

They also express their commitment to co-operate, support each other and work in partnership with all similar organisations around the world, in particular those of countries applying for EU membership.



VII

a) They also express their commitment to co-operate with PMIBs outside of Europe and will invite representatives from such groups to a special session attached to the 6th Annual Meeting in Budapest in 2006.

b) The results of this special session will be presented to the general audience of the conference latest by the end of the Budapest convention.

VIII

Thus they agree to go on meeting on a regular basis and further agree that the 6th annual meeting of the Heads and key representatives of Police Monitoring and Inspection Bodies as well as the Heads and key representatives of the Anti-Corruption Agencies will be organised by Hungary in the second half of November 2006:

- Rendvédelmi Szervek Védelmi Szolgálat, the Protective Service of Law Enforcement Agencies, has kindly agreed to host, in Budapest, this 2006 conference.
- Departments or units that have already organised conferences will gladly offer their experience and assistance.

IX

Finally, they express their commitment to make available and disseminate this “Final Document” of Lisbon within their countries.