



Swiss Crime Prevention SCP

Threat Management in Switzerland's Cantons

A National Survey Conducted in 2015

Martin Boess | Director of the Swiss Crime Prevention (SCP) | April 14, 2015

Overview

1. Swiss Crime Prevention SCP

Who are we?

What do we do?

2. Switzerland

Cultural, political and legal conditions

3. Survey of the Cantons of Switzerland on Threat Management

Research questions, aims and survey participants

Results

Challenges and open questions

Who are we?

Swiss Crime Prevention (SCP):

- Inter-cantonal competence centre of the Conference of Cantonal Justice and Police Directors (CCJPD)
- Financed by the residents of all cantons of Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein (at 14 Swiss cents each, or approx. 13 euro cents)
- Subsidized by the Swiss federal government (90,000 Swiss francs annually)

Staff:

Martin Boess: Director

Chantal Billaud: Vice-director

Markus Stauffer: Project staff for *Sicheres Wohnen Schweiz* [secure housing in Switzerland]

Simona Materni: Intern

What do we do?

- The SCP is a national partner of the cantonal police forces in all matters relating to crime prevention by the police. It develops crime prevention materials and conducts campaigns.

Examples of current brochures and projects:

Recht am eigenen Bild and *Zivilcourage*



- The SCP networks the police with important cooperation partners in crime prevention.
- The SCP provides knowledge on new, important topics in crime prevention.

Examples of current projects:

Secure housing in Switzerland, threat management



Switzerland



Source: Federal Statistical Office

The Swiss federal state is divided into 26 cantons and four language regions.

Framework conditions

Switzerland has a federal structure:

- The police sector falls within the competence of the cantons.
- The police forces in the cantons work in accordance with national legislation (Swiss Criminal Code and Swiss Criminal Procedure Code), cantonal legislation and cantonal police laws.
- The cantonal ordinances and regulations and the cantonal police laws vary → the powers of the police differ from canton to canton.
- The Federal Office of Police, among other things, combats crimes in the area of organized crime (human trafficking, money laundering, etc.).

Threat management and the SPC

Why is the Swiss Crime Prevention (SPC) conducting a cantonal survey on threat management?

- The SPC is the only inter-cantonal agency that handles coordination tasks in the area of crime prevention.
- Threat management is subsumed under the broader area of 'crime prevention'.

Aims of the survey

- Support the exchange of knowledge and experience among the cantons
- Encourage cooperation on planning and implementation
- Increase policy makers' awareness of cantonal threat management (CTM)

Definition

Six necessary conditions for CTM:

- Legal bases for action by the cantonal authorities exist.
- Access to data and data management are regulated within the canton.
- Specialists employed by the canton use valid risk analysis tools and instruments.
- The most important cantonal institutions are represented on the crisis and case team. Questions concerning procedures, possible measures and lead are clarified.
- Within the canton, conditions have been created for continuously carrying out and improving identification, assessment and management of persons with a high potential for violence.
- All forms of targeted violence are handled.

Survey questions

1. How do the individual cantons currently manage persons residing in the canton that pose a potential threat of violence?
2. How far along are the individual cantons with planning and implementing a cantonal threat management (CTM) process?
3. Which of the six necessary aspects of professional threat management mentioned previously do the CTM processes fulfil?

Survey participants and time plan

1. All 26 cantonal governments
2. Questionnaire sent: 3 September 2014
3. Survey data available: December 2014
4. First internal report sent: Mid March 2015
5. Report published: End of April 2015 (anticipated)

Results I

Grouped by planning and implementation stage

1	<i>No planned or ongoing CTM projects</i>	Fribourg, Graubünden, Jura, Nidwalden, Thurgau, Uri (6/25)
2	<i>Planning is not yet very advanced</i>	Aargau, Appenzell Ausserrhoden, Appenzell Innerrhoden, Bern, Glarus, Obwalden, Ticino, Vaud, Valais (9/25)
3	<i>Advanced stage of planning; step-wise or comprehensive implementation</i>	Basel-Landschaft, Basel-Stadt, Lucerne, Neuchâtel, Schaffhausen, Saint Gallen, Schwyz, Zug (8/25)
4	<i>Full CTM is in operation</i>	Solothurn, Zurich (2/25)

Results II

Instruments and tools for risk assessment:

1. Thirteen cantons use instruments and tools for risk assessment
2. They use more than 20 different instruments and tools
3. Tools used by more than one canton:
 - DyRiAs Intimpartner (9 of 13 cantons)
 - ODARA (5 of 13 cantons)

Results III

Survey participants' experience up to now:

1. There is a need for CTM.
2. Introducing CTM requires comprehensive preparations.
3. Without awareness and commitment on the part of all partner organizations, CTM is not possible.
4. Developing CTM takes time and demands sustained liaison and networking.
5. Successful CTM is effective.

Achievement of the survey aims

- Support the exchange of knowledge and experience among the cantons
 - The report supports this objective through disseminating the survey results (including CTM leaders' contact information)
- Encourage cooperation on planning and implementation
 - The situation analysis accomplished by the survey facilitates informal exchange at the specialist level
- Increase policy makers' awareness of cantonal threat management (CTM)
 - The ranking of the cantons activates policy makers

Challenges and open questions

1. The diversity of assessment tools used for risk assessment

Why so many different instruments, and why are they being used differently in some cases?

2. Inter-cantonal exchange of information

How is inter-cantonal exchange of information currently regulated? How should information exchange be regulated ideally? Who is/should be responsible for this regulation?

3. Training

How and by whom are the persons responsible for threat management in the cantons trained, and how is their training refreshed?

Challenges and open questions

4. Evaluation of CTM

At what point in time, how and by whom should CTM processes be evaluated?

5. Hotlines

Would hotlines for the public be advisable and useful?

6. Defusing

How do the cantons deal in the individual case with persons who pose a risk of violence?

What strategies and measures are at their disposal, and when do they apply what measure?

In conclusion...

“The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who are evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing”.

Albert Einstein

Contact

Martin Boess

Swiss Crime Prevention

Haus der Kantone

Speichergasse 6

3007 Bern

Tel. +41 31 320 29 50

mb@skppsc.ch

www.skppsc.ch