Lecture 1

Outline

General Introduction to INTERPOL: History, Constitution and Legal Status, Structure, Role and Missions

Summary: This lecture will introduce INTERPOL as the international intergovernmental organization responsible for global police co-operation. Created in 1923 under the name of International Criminal Police Commission, INTERPOL considerably reviewed its status in 1956 to become the International Criminal Police Organization. In 2008, INTERPOL has 186 member countries and implement operational police co-operation tools.

Related documents: Constitution and General Regulations, Headquarters Agreements, Activity Reports

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1. From the International Criminal Police Commission (1923) to the International Organization of Criminal Police - INTERPOL (1956)

2. 1956 and the adoption of the new Constitution: a way to join the model of contemporaneous international organizations

3. Institutional Framework and Governance

   A. General presentation
      - The five components of INTERPOL's structure
      - The issue of membership

   B. The INTERPOL governance
      - The General Assembly: Composition, role and organization of work
      - The Executive Committee: Composition, role and organization of work
      - The General Secretariat: Composition, role and organization of work
      - The National Central Bureaus
      - The Advisers
      - A new organ? The Commission for the Control of INTERPOL's Files (see also lecture 5)
      - The Budget

   C. INTERPOL's four Core Functions
      - Secure Global Communication Services
• Operational data services and database for police
• Operational Police Support
• Training and Development

D. Crime areas

• Public Safety and Terrorism
• Drugs and Criminal Organizations
• Financial and High Tech Crimes
• Tracing Wanted Individuals
• Trafficking in Human Being
• Environmental Crime
• Trafficking in Works of Art
• Fight against Corruption

E. International Relations

• The United Nations (see also Lecture 4)
• The European Union and Europol
• Regional Police Organizations