WHAT IS THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN POLICE TRAINING: THE PRACTICES OF TURKEY FROM GLOBAL SECURITY PERSPECTIVE?

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Abstract

Globalization of transnational crime has pushed law enforcement organizations to cooperate in fighting transnational criminal networks in a world characterized by rapid technological advancements. Police training plays a vital role to create a common ground to increase the knowledge and ability of the police organizations struggling against transnational crime. The purpose of this study is to examine the contributions of the international police trainings on international security and the reflections of relationship among countries in the context of globalization. Besides the contributions of other international actors in the field of police training, Turkish National Police (TNP)’s contributions are emphasized throughout the paper.

Key Words: Police, Police Training, Cooperation, Global Security, Globalization

POLİS EĞİTİMİNDE ULUSLARARASI İŞBİRLİĞİNİN ROLÜ:
GLOBAL GÜVENLİK PERSPEKTİFİNDEN TÜRKİYE’NİN DENEYİMLERİ

Öz


Anahtar Kelimeler: Polis, Polis Eğitimi, İşbirliği, Küresel Güvenlik, Küreselleşme

1. INTRODUCTION

Globalization of crime has pushed countries to work cooperatively. Over the past five decades crimes posing the most threat to global security include international terrorism, organized crime, drug trafficking, human smuggling, human trafficking, and cyber-crime. The transnational nature of these crimes enforce different countries to work together to attain effective outcomes. Transnational police trainings, therefore, are significant part of this collaboration. Due to cooperation in police training, countries have opportunities to increase their knowledge and capacity in the field of policing.

Police operations have transcended national boundaries and enforce law enforcement agencies to work with one another in solving special cases. At this point, transnational police trainings provide formal and informal basis among law enforcement agencies globally. More

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recently, international police academies throughout the world such as International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) established by US in Thailand, Hungary and in Botswana, FBI Training Academy created by US, the Middle European Police Academy created by Austria and Hungary, Turkish International Academy Against Drugs and Organize Crimes (TADOC), have begun to play important roles in the global arena.

The purpose of this study is to examine the contributions of the international police trainings on international security and the reflections of relationship among countries in the context of globalization.

This article sought to answer the questions; how globalization has affected international police trainings since last five decades. Why international police trainings have been arranged among countries, what are the reasons? What are the reasons that increase the demand for international police training nowadays? And what are the Turkey’s contributions in international police trainings?

In the first part of the study, the conceptual framework of globalization is emphasized. Second part states the relationship between globalization and security within the frame of the effects of globalization on international security. In the third part, the global developments in transnational police training, especially the impacts of international training on global security are emphasized. Finally, the contributions of Turkey in international police training field are discussed.

2. THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF GLOBALIZATION

Globalization is a multidimensional process, resulted from micro and macro level interactions of individuals and collectivities (Rosenau, 2003). Ferguson and Mansbach (2004: 8) define globalization as: “It involves additional governance, military, cultural, demographic, human rights, environmental dimensions as well as the world economy and technology”. Globalization is also defined by Langhorne as; “the latest stage in a long accumulation of technological advance. These advances have provided people to manage their affairs all over the world without government authority, reference to nationality, time limit and physical environment”.

Kellner (2002) states that the globalization can only be understood with comprehensive scientific and technological revolutions that restructure of capital globally. Globalization is a tendency that makes all countries in the world bring together whereby interdependence of economic, political, and cultural relationships across borders (Holton, 1998). The technological improvements are the major factors that break down physical barriers to worldwide communication, and then in turn cause globalization (Langhorne, 2006).

Today, the internet provides people with almost unlimited access to information about many issues. Internet users can access to fifty thousand daily newspapers in all languages from any point of the world (Khanna, 2005). Besides, intelligence services all over the world commonly use the internet as open source to reach and gather information for security purposes.
3. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GLOBALIZATION AND SECURITY

Fight against crime and criminals have become a significance issue in the contemporary world of our times. Combating crime, therefore, requires international cooperation between countries. Due to the last advancements in telecommunication, technology, and transportation, crime phenomenon has become a significant issue having no borders. In other words, the need for international police cooperation arises from the paradigm of globalization, despite the fact that the phenomenon of globalization is not a new one. It is however aroused by abnormal advancement of information technology in particular (Aboagye, 2007).

The rapid and increasing advance in accessibility of information has political, economic, and social consequences. The combination of rapid changes accompanied by unfamiliarity, rootlessness and dismay with a sense of aggressive and implacable westernization served by dominant global culture may contribute to the rise of religious movements and terrorism (Langhorne, 2006). Transnational terrorism created nexus between criminal and terrorist networks, threatening individual freedoms, and national and global security (Aboagye, 2007).

The number of transnational criminal organizations, posing one of the greatest threats to human security, has dramatically increased over the years. These illegal organizations exploit opportunities created by the global economy, weak and failing states, and strong demand for illicit goods and services. Yakuza in Japan, the Mafia in Sicily and in the United States, the Triads in China, the Colombian cartels, and the Nigerian criminal organizations are the examples of the well-known international criminal organizations carrying out different criminal activities over the past years (Gerspacher and Dupont, 2007: 347; Langhorne, 2006: 164). The increase of transnational crime has forced many countries to make more cooperation to effectively fight crime and criminal. State actors created international organizations (IOs) such as Europol (created in 1991), Interpol (created in 1941) in the name increasing cooperation with the aim of fighting against transnational crime, gathering intelligence, analyzing crime, risk and threat assessment, and providing an alternative way that allows information exchange. Gerspacher and Dupont (2007: 347-364) emphasize the importance of systematic cooperation among national law enforcement agencies to successfully prevent transnational crimes by saying that; “Without the systematic cooperation national police units cannot access the accurate information, so they are less able to combat transnational criminal in their territory.

Today, terrorism is one of the most significance issues of transnational organized crime and political violence. Even though there is no international consensus on a definition of terrorism, it can be defined as political violence against civilians committed by non-state or sub-state actors. Process of globalization has significantly changed the form of terrorism. The new kind of terrorism is clearly associated with growing global integration. The results of globalization allow terrorists to reach targets regardless of the distance and accessibility. Moreover, outcomes of globalization enable terrorists to communicate among each other on planning an attack or concealing attacker after the attack (Langhorne, 2006).

Globalization has not only affected the structure of terrorism, but also has reshaped the other transnational crimes. Drug trafficking and drug-related crimes have rapidly risen to a global level by means of developments in transportation and communication. Today, over 71
percent of drug is transported via land routes. Balkan route is the key land route that links major producers (Afghanistan and Pakistan) to major consumers (Europe). Russia, Ukraine, and Eastern Europe, Turkey, Bulgaria, Serbia, and Croatia are the countries on the way of Balkan route (Turkish National Police Report, 2008). In a sense, having a great demand and supply for illicit drugs, these major level problems cannot be solved by the efforts of one country. Therefore, there is a need for international cooperation among countries to solve problems.

3.1. Global Developments in Transnational Police Training

3.1.1. Development Process of Transnational Training

Training has often played a significant role in police to police relations, even if it is not the most important. Akgül and Marenin (2007) discussed about the history of transnational police training in their article that “Colonial Powers have always created their own police forces, including the minimal training necessary to be called police and act like a police. The police forces of all former colonies have their origins rooted in colonial policies and purposes and quite frequently the power of fundamental ideologies and practices continues to exert a powerful influence on current policing. One such influence is the continuing practice of sending officer rank police for training and study to the command colleges of their former colonial powers which practice, of course, perpetuates foundational ideologies and organizational behaviors” (p.85).

Many of the law enforcement organizations in Central America and in the Caribbean have been created by US as a part of its foreign policy aim in that area. The US has assisted the forces in that region throughout the 20th century (Cottom and Marenin, 1989). After the World War II, the winners of the war sought to recreate the police forces of the defeated axis powers particularly Germany and Japan according to their own intent and established training programs. In early 1960s, a group of developed countries created police training programs for developing countries as part of their general strategies of global development and delivered foreign assistance and programs. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, The Office and Public Safety Programs of the US (OPS) engaged in transforming police officer in the developing countries to take early measures against counter mutiny and to protect amicable regimes against internal subversion by the US (Huggings, 1998; Lobe, 1977).

Another important international police training organization ILEA (International Law Enforcement Academy) established by the US in 1995, to bring international law enforcement organizations together to reduce crime, to combat terrorism, and to share knowledge and training. Police officers coming from different foreign countries are exposed to knowledge about domestic or international safety and threats. They have also gained experience about effective techniques for investigating, detecting, and preventing crime and criminal groups (Marenin, 1998). There are five ILEAs located around the world: ILEA Budapest in Hungary, ILEA Bangkok in Thailand, ILEA Gaborone in Botswana, ILEA Roswell in New Mexico, USA, and ILEA Salvador in El Salvador (www.state.gov, 2010).

In the early 1990s, The European Union (EU) provided financial and technical aid to EU candidate countries in order to transform their criminal justice system and the police work to the European standards. The European Police College (CEPOL) was established in 2005 by a
decision of the European Council to bring senior police officers together from different police forces in Europe. 27 member countries of EU and 3 candidate countries to EU have attended in-service trainings organized by the CEPOL. The main aim of the CEPOL is to develop a European approach to deal with transnational crimes in a collective manner. For this purpose, the CEPOL arranges general and technical short or long term courses for all member states at different national academies; organizes an annual research and science conference to share ideas and knowledge (www.cepol.net, 2010).

The United Nations (UN) has supported basic police academies for peacekeeping and peace building operations in post conflict and failed states. The main goal is to introduce basic policing skills and attitudes in newly created or reorganized law enforcement agencies gradually by providing them both short and long term police trainings (Akgül and Marenin, 2007: 887).

It is also possible for any member of law enforcement agencies from different countries to attend any training programs given by one country’s local training institutions or international institutions such as FBI Academy, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in the US, and the Bramshill Academy in the UK. Today, many international police organizations and countries more generally offer short term training course. These interactions result in similarities in the organizational structure of law enforcement agencies and police training curricula of many countries (Akgül and Marenin, 2007: 86).

In recent years, countries, professional groups, and regional and international agencies have focused on establishing international police academies or centers. One of the newest examples is IPTC (International Police Training Center) which will be established in Ankara, Turkey at the end of 2015 with a capability to train 3000 police officers at the same time.

3.1.2. The Effects of Transnational Police Trainings on Cooperation among Countries in the Context of Global Security

International cooperation in police training is also an important function of international relations intended to protect human rights and freedom. Kapti (2009) emphasizes the eight main contributions of police trainings on international cooperation. These contributions are; learning and sharing different cultures, developing point of view, increasing the ability of comparing and assessment ability, gaining global experience, learning new strategies and approaches to struggle with crime, perceiving the differentiations in implementation of policing by the nations, and gaining wide perspectives about potential threats of security.

The UN peacekeeping trainings related to policing are also other important factors contributing towards the cooperation of countries. The United Nations has deployed police officers for service in peacekeeping operations since the 1960s. The international training centers of the UN peacekeeping missions in countries provide trainings both for deployed police officers and regional police officers to create awareness about critical issues such as human rights and international humanitarian law besides enhancing skills and judgment of police officers (Aboagye, 2007).

TNP makes important contribution to world safety and security by sending police officers to NATO and UN missions. Turkish police share their experiences with their foreign
counterparts, whenever required, mainly the ones employed in UN Peacekeeping Operations. Up to now, over 1,000 Turkish policemen have participated in some of the UN missions (Kosovo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Liberia, Congo D.C., Sierra Leone, Eastern Timor, Afghanistan, Ivory Coast, Haiti, Burundi and Sudan). Therefore, with its high rate of participation in UN peacekeeping operations, Turkey ranks first among the European countries and third in the world. In addition, the Turkish police have also exerted considerable amounts of efforts to establish peace and security in various countries as part of the European Security and Cooperation Organization Missions and the EU Police Mission (EUPM) (www.disiliskiler.pol.tr, 2010).

Transnational police training is also a significant tool to rebuild the police organizations in conflict regions. The police in Iraq and Afghanistan, for instance, are currently being trained by different countries to rebuild their national police. While Iraq police are being trained in Jordan Police Academy by US, Afghanistan police are trained by the US, German, Turkey, England (Akgül and Marenin, 2007). In a global context, all countries have dramatically expanded their energy in order to rebuild Afghan and Iraq police forces through the training of recruits and the provision of equipments.

Beside these transnational trainings, Interpol, having 188 member countries, is interested in police trainings. By means of these trainings, Interpol aims to improve its member’s operational effectiveness, enhance their skills and build their capacity (www.interpol.int, 2010). Police training is considered one of four core functions of Interpol.

4. TURKEY’S EXPERIENCES IN THE FIELD OF TRANSNATIONAL POLICE TRAINING AND THE NEW IPTC PROJECT CONCEPT

Turkey, straddling the cross roads between Asia and Europe, occupies a strategic location in confronting and suppressing the serious threats to economic and governmental stability and community safety posed by the activities of organized crime groups and others who are involved in trafficking of narcotics, weapons and people and associated crimes of violence, corruption and money laundering (Turkish National Police Report, 2008).

Turkey is located very close to the World conflict regions. For instance, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan and Balkan countries are neighbors of Turkey. Israel and Palestine are also not far from Turkey. It shows Turkey’s strategic geopolitical importance.

Since 1999, Turkish National Police (TNP) have sent expert police trainer to Asian and African countries such as Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Sudan, Jordon, Iraq to help their police counterparts to be developed in a professional manner. Wardak and Jowzjan Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRT) in Afghanistan are the prime examples of Turkey’s contribution in that field.
4.1. International Training Background of Turkey

Training Department, located in Ankara, Turkey, coordinates all national and international in-service trainings of Turkish National Police (TNP). TNP has five different international and national in-service training units. These are; (1) TADOC-Turkish International Academy Against Drugs and Organized Crime (under the Anti-Smuggling and Organized Crime Department), (2) Crime Research and Investigation Training Center (under the Public Order Department), (3) Crime Technical Research and Training Center (under the Criminal Police Laboratories Department), (4) Intelligence Academy (under the Intelligence Department), (5) Counter Terrorism Training Center (under the Counter-Terror Department).

4.1.1. Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime (TADOC)

Under the collaboration agreement between the United Nations (UN) and Turkey, Anti-Smuggling and Organized Crime Department of the TNP established the Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime (TADOC) according to the United Nations Drug Control Program. The main goal of the TADOC is not only to train Turkish and other law enforcement agencies in confronting drugs and organized crime at national and international levels, but also to conduct research relating to organized crime, drug trafficking and money laundering which are main financial sources supporting terrorist activities. The basic goal of the TADOC is to implement educational and training programs in controlling drugs and organized crime for law enforcement agencies from Balkan, Central Asia, Middle Eastern, and African countries, to improve police professionalism, capacity, and performance, and to enhance cooperation and coordination among police agencies in the region (www.tadoc.gov.tr, 2010).

TADOC offers drug smuggling and organized crime trainings to other Turkish law enforcement officers from Gendarmerie, Coast Guard, and Custom Protection Agency.

4.1.2. Crime Research and Investigation Training Center

The Crime Research and Investigation Training Center was established in 1998 under the management of the Public Order Department. The Crime Research and Investigation Training Center gives training about investigating and analyzing crime to officers from national and international law enforcement agencies. Specifically, Crime Research and Investigation Training Center provides trainings about forensics, riot policing, fingerprints, interrogation techniques, human trafficking, and sex crimes.

The Crime Research and Investigation Center has given training in different fields for police officers from countries such as Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Germany, Moldavia, North Cyprus, Philippines, and Tunisia (Training Department Report, 2011).

4.1.3. Crime Technical Research and Training Center

Crime Technical Research and Training Center established in 2005 under the Criminal Police Laboratories Department to give forensic trainings such as crime scene investigation, fingerprint, photo investigation, appearance detection, bloodstain analysis etc. to officers who work in the branches of the Criminal Police Laboratories. This center also offers forensic trainings to officers from abroad.
4.1 4. Intelligence Academy (ISAK)

Established in 2003, the Intelligence Academy aims to provide trainings on collecting information about terror and organized crime in order to improve intelligence gathering capabilities of officers from Intelligence Department of the TNP and other officers from 14 countries which has security cooperation agreements with Turkey.

4.1.5. Counter Terrorism Training Center (TEMAK)

Turkey is one of the countries hardest affected by terrorism during the past three decades, and has been struggling against different forms of terrorism without sufficient attention from the international community. Turkish National Police, particularly Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) has great experiment about fighting against terrorism issues. The counter terrorism department has organized much in-service training both for domestic and international levels.

In recent years, international police trainings of TNP have increased because of increased demand of regional countries. From 1999 to 2011, TNP has organized approximately 900 international training activities on different specialized subjects for more than 48 countries’ law enforcement agencies. For this period, 14,250 law enforcement officers from these foreign countries are given training (Training Department of TNP Annual Report, 2012).

4.2. IPTC Project

The IPTC project was developed by The Turkish National Police in 2008 in respond to national and international training demands of law enforcement agencies. The project will be established in Ankara, across a 2, 5 million square meter space, and will have a capacity to train 3000 police recruits at the same time. All departments of TNP can organize various tactical and theoretical trainings, and computer based trainings. The project will be finished on August 2015 (Training Department of TNP Project Book, 2012).

TNP has several in-service training units under the departments of TNP Headquarter. This system sometimes creates disorganized structure for national and international in-service trainings because some department does similar works, spends double effort for trainings, and waste resources. Thus, rather than giving autonomous trainings under each department, TNP needs one in-service training center to effectively and efficiently use all resources. In addition, this new center aims to reduce training costs and minimize duplicated efforts for providing trainings. Moreover, all central departments of TNP might put great efforts to increase the quality of training contents rather than dealing with the issues of finding building, facility, and equipment for trainings by establishing a new training center.

This center will provide an opportunity for disseminating best practices in training among departments of TNP. Qualified personnel will be deployed as trainers in the IPTC by TNP. Although Central Departments of TNP, with the coordination Training Department, give successful national and international police trainings in their in-service training centers, there is an urgent need of having one big training center especially to meet the demands of foreign countries in a fully coordinated effort in in-service training. As a holistic approach to in-service trainings of TNP, this center will provide standardized and professionalized in-service trainings to national and international law enforcement personnel.
This center will meet training needs of the TNP and other countries´ law enforcement agencies. The center will contribute immensely to the security of Turkey, and to the world at large. Under the IPTC, there will be many in-service training academies. These academies are; Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime, Peacekeeping Training Academy, Interpol Counter Terrorism Academy, the Strategies of Crime Prevention Academy, The Academy against Cyber and High Tech Crimes, Forensic Sciences Academy, Special Forces and Tactical Training Academy, Leadership and Management Academy, Traffic Management and Security Academy, Bomb Disposal and Investigation Academy, The Academy of Security and Riot, VIP (Protection Very Important Person) Academy. Besides, E-Learning Institute and many research centers in different fields will be established (Training Department Project Book, 2010).

5. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Globalization of transnational crime has pushed police organizations to cooperate globally in fighting transnational criminal networks in a world characterized by rapid technological advancements. With the existence threats and risks of terrorist and terrorist networks, countries will need more cooperation to effectively overcome contemporary security challenges. Furthermore, transnational police trainings will contribute to increase the knowledge and ability of the police organizations struggling against transnational crime provide common understanding between police organizations; identify standards in curriculum development, training programs and opportunities to exchange knowledge across global police infrastructures. Additionally, transnational police trainings will strengthen the confidence to effectively deal with global threats of security on common grounds. Turkey also will take a significance role in next ten years by means of its contribution to global security. Thus, experiences and the capacity of Turkish National Police in the field of transnational crime and terrorism are critical along those trajectories.

One of the main criticisms to police training across the world is that there is a gap between the training given in police training institutions and what police do in real life. Basic law enforcement training is not really associated with the real life that the new officers will face when they begin to work. Knowing the fact that Law Enforcement Agencies are expected to prepare their personnel to carry out their missions perfectly under stressful conditions, Law Enforcement Agencies need to have skilled people in order to serve the public. One of the important challenges of Law enforcement training is the transition of academic knowledge into real life. Therefore, many law enforcement agencies spend millions of dollars to develop new police training programs to train their personnel to meet the increasing demands of society.

Modular training, which combines the theoretical knowledge and practical applications in a comprehensive way by field experts, is one of the new methods that have been used by TNP for police trainings over the last years. Under the umbrella of IPTC, modular training will be designed and used to teach and improve both domestic and foreign law enforcement candidates and personnel in the light of contemporary policing approaches which include the notions of democratic policing, community policing, and problem-oriented policing.
Turkish National Police (TNP), with more than 250,000 employees across the country, is one of the leading law enforcement organizations, trying to adopt new trainings methods and techniques to train their personnel according to the high expectations of the society, share its valuable experiences with other countries’ law enforcement organizations. In the name of providing peace through security to its region, IPTC project will provide an opportunity to share experiences and best practices in policing with neighboring countries. Thus, Turkey will play a key role in contributing to its neighbors’ security, prosperity, and stability.

TNP has counterterrorism experience of more than 30 years and anti-smuggling and organized crime experience because of being a transit region in smuggling especially in drugs. Thus, TNP, with the establishment of the IPTC, can share all these experiences with other countries.

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