



*Ministero dell'Interno*

*Dipartimento della Pubblica Sicurezza*

*Scuola di Perfezionamento per le Forze di Polizia*

*Il Direttore*

*Rome, 4 June 2020*

*As usual, at the end of the Academic Year, the Director of the Scuola di Perfezionamento per le Forze di Polizia (Interagency Law Enforcement Academy of Advanced Studies), has the duty and the honour to shortly illustrate the training activities which have been conducted during the year, according to the guidelines agreed and shared by the Highest Authorities of the four Police Forces and the Board of Teachers.*

*Since this year was affected, at global level, by the awful Coronavirus emergency, the Closing Ceremony was not held. As a consequence, it was impossible to award the t.SFP qualification and the II Level Master Degree certificates to the Senior Police Officers as well as to deliver the golden metal pins in the presence of the Highest Institutional Authorities of the Italian Republic, the Diplomatic Authorities, the Board of Teachers, the trainees' parents and all the people supporting with admiration Italian Police Forces. This terrible situation is for me a reason for deep sorrow.*

*Therefore, I deeply feel the duty and honour to shortly illustrate all the activities which were conducted at the Academy of Via Priscilla and to underline that, after the outbreak of the Coronavirus emergency, the training activities concerning, above all, the XXXV Advanced Training Course were carried out using the distance learning system.*

*We were obliged to organize only 6 out of the 10 so called Second Level Courses, while the others have been postponed.*

*Moreover, as from 11 March 2020, we have been forced to postpone also all the courses which had been scheduled to be held at the Caserta-based International Advanced Training Institute for the Prevention and the Fight against Organized Crime as well as at Cepol.*

*It is to be pointed out that although the distance learning module is effective as regards training activities and allows to deliver lessons and organize conferences, the trainees cannot have contacts and interact among them during a period of nine months. As a matter of fact, the*

*attendance in a classroom, as well as the residential activities and the possibility for Senior Police Officers to live together are the core, the added value and, above all, the main purpose of the Academy. Moreover, the institutional visits and the study visits abroad are an essential part of coordination.*

*The sharing of knowledge, the exchange of experiences, the daily confrontation in the workplace, the common participation in advanced training activities conducted by designated trainers, represent the proper background for an effective coordination at training and operational level. This is the best pattern of training, since the different origins and features of the four Police Forces are the fundamental tools to be used with the aim of having different approaches in detecting, finding out, preventing and countering any phenomenon representing a threat to Public Security. According to this pattern, different methods can be used according to a common view and the intention to enhance a concrete and shared coordination.*

*Unfortunately, as from 11 March 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the connected health emergency, we have been obliged to change this pattern and to adopt the distance learning modules.*

*It is to be pointed out that this year 24 Senior Police Officers attended the Advanced Training Course. Twenty of them belonged to the Italian Police Forces and four of them to foreign Police Forces.*

*The Advanced Training Course represents the best professional training activity at the Academy. It is well-known at national and international level and it is designed to implement, through the common training of Management Grade Officers of Police Forces, the provisions of Law no 121 of 1981 which provides for an organizational pattern based on the culture of coordination among Police Forces as one of the pillars of the complex security system in Italy.*

*Also this year the curriculum of the Course was divided into four major thematic areas, which were dealt with by prominent University professors, magistrates and experts, who followed a teaching methodology based on interdisciplinary and interactivity: police forces coordination and the fight against organized crime and terrorism; international cooperation, social and economic sciences as well as public management. The trainees had to write group and individual dissertations, which have been assessed during the final exams.*

*As in the case of the previous Courses, the XXXV Advanced Training Course included the II Level Master in Security, Interagency Coordination and International Cooperation. This*

*Master Degree has become available after the signature of an agreement between the Rome-based La Sapienza University and the Public Security Department. This year it dealt with the analysis of complex criminal phenomena, with a special focus on those deriving from the technological development and innovations as well as on the role of Police Forces in the global communication system. It was possible to analyze, in particular, the situation in France, Brazil, China and the Republic of Peru, thanks to the contribution provided by the Senior Police Officers coming from those countries.*

*The Course was completed by employing the above mentioned distance learning modules, which allowed to provide, through the interactive training, high scientific standards in the field of training and the possibility for the trainees to keep in touch and exchange their opinions. In this way, also at the end of this Academic Year, all the targets of the Course were fully achieved.*

*These targets, which were characterized by significant innovations, have been outlined for the first time with the direct and valuable contribution of the University Professors as well as of the Police Forces' Central Offices and experts, with the aim of conducting an in-depth analysis of the different situations. As a matter of fact, the activity of our Academy is devoted, from a cultural and institutional point of view, to develop a common culture of coordination and cooperation in order to create new methods and training perspectives, thus providing Senior Police Officers with new knowledge which is necessary to acquire new professional skills and to adopt a pro-active approach to tackle the current complex situation as well as to face any other challenge in the field of security. The following principle: "Learn the learning" was the pillar of this training activity.*

*In particular, the Course focused on the following initiatives:*

- the training activities were delivered from a European and International perspective, with the awareness that international police cooperation has a key role in carrying out the fight against organized crime and terrorism;*
- the consequences of criminal activities at economic and financial level were analyzed, taking into account all the aspects of this problem. The information and knowledge concerning IT technology were increased in order to provide practical tools to be used in the decision-making processes in the framework of complex criminal scenarios. The most updated instruments and methods developed by the modern criminal analysis, at tactical and strategic level, were detected and enhanced, joining up the theoretical aspects and the best practices in the light of the results achieved in this field by the international scientific research, which was analyzed from the police*

*point of view and adjusted to the peculiar situation in our country.*

*- the research activity and the teamwork interdisciplinary experimentation were conducted, taking into account the valuable professional background of the trainees. These activities were directly connected to the perspectives of Police Forces' missions, studying in-depth some topics which are important in the current as well as in the future situations or which are difficult to be faced at technical, legal and operational level. The analysis and the study were focused on all the aspects of these topics and a lot of proposals were suggested.*

*As regards the interagency coordination and international cooperation courses, only two of them were held out of the four which had been scheduled. As a whole, 45 Senior Police Officers from the Italian Police Forces attended those courses. Three of them participated in their capacity as observers since they belonged to the Local Police, which has been increasingly tasked with safeguarding security in the towns.*

*As I have already underlined, due to the Coronavirus emergency, we have been obliged to postpone those courses as well as the development of an innovative pattern which will join together the training activity of those courses and other training activities, thus allowing to increase the training level.*

*Moreover, from 14 October 2019 to 14 February 2020 two Crime Analysis Courses have been held out of the four that had been scheduled. One of them was a First Level Course and the other a Second Level Course. They have been attended by 46 Senior Police Officers from the Italian Police Forces. In particular, for the first time the trainees of the the XXXV Advanced Training Course attended the 21° II Level Crime Analysis Course in their capacity as decision-makers.*

*This kind of training activities started in 2001, when they were considered as experimental laboratories for coordination. They are aimed at spreading among Police Forces' personnel the understanding and the awareness of the importance of context and scenario analysis, which is a supporting tool for the creation of proper strategies aimed at preventing and countering complex criminal phenomena, also financial crime, as well as at better managing the available resources.*

*This year, the Annual Conference of the Analysts was particularly successful. It was entitled: "The challenges of Police Forces in the future scenarios. Police leadership: decision-making processes and complexity". It was held at our Academy on 12 February 2020. Prominent university professors and experts participated in that Conference, which underlined, once more, the fundamental role of analysis to face the complex situation related to criminal phenomena as well as to our society in which Police Forces must operate.*

*In concert with the Anti-Drug Central Directorate, the Criminal Police Central Directorate, and the Police Forces' Coordination and Planning Office, the scheduled third edition of the Course for "Security Expert" was held. This Course, which has been recently set up, was attended by 9 trainees. It is aimed at honing the technical and professional expertise of Senior Police Officers who will take the position of Experts for Security at the Public Security Department and will be detached to Italian Embassies abroad.*

*In cooperation with the Italian Society for the International Organization, with which a memorandum of understanding was signed, the First Course on Calls for Italian Senior Police Officers to be detached to EU Agencies and International Organizations was held. It represents a new training pattern which has been created with the aim of meeting the national strategic need to prepare and nominate Senior Police Officers who want to take part in public competitions announced by UE Agencies and International Organizations.*

*The main purpose of this Course is to provide the candidate, who has been selected by his own Administration, with the necessary expertise, which is not usually included in the professional background of Senior Police Officers, to pass the exams and win the competition.*

*The training activity of this Course, in its first edition, was devoted to Italian Middle-Management Grade Senior Police Officers, and was attended by 22 trainees belonging to the four Police Forces. This Course fully achieved the established training purposes as it was totally confirmed by the trainers and the trainees who took part in it. In fact, they declared that this innovative initiative is the first and concrete structural step, useful to create an organic strategy based on an international profile for Police Forces.*

*Our Academy also carried out a wide-range activity in the European context by means of the CEPOL National Unit, which is tasked with providing EU Senior Police Officers with a common training.*

*In the period we are taking into account, three residential Courses were held. They were organized with the support of the Rome-based "La Sapienza" University, the Anti-Mafia and Anti-Terrorism National Directorate, the Italian Police Forces, the University of the West of England, Eurojust, Europol and UNODC, and dealt with topics concerning the social network analysis and the fight against terrorism financing. Moreover, three study visits concerning CEPOL and EUROMED POLICE IV projects were organized with the participation of delegations from Lebanon, Jordan and other Middle Eastern and Northern Africa countries. A number of 124*

*trainees attended the Courses but further initiatives, which had been already organized, were postponed.*

*The new training initiatives, which are strategically intended to provide Police Forces with a supranational approach to their activity, are implemented, above all, at the Caserta-based International Advanced Training Institute for the Prevention and the Fight against Organized Crime, that is under the authority of our Academy.*

*The Caserta-based Institute is internationally recognized as a training center of excellence in the field of prevention and fight against organized crime and terrorism, with a special focus on the methods used to detect and seize the illegally acquired assets and reinvest them into the legal economy.*

*This Institute was set up according to a successful and ambitious initiative of the Public Security Department. As a matter of fact, there is no similar Institute in the world. The Caserta-based Institute was created with the aim of spreading, at international level, the information and knowledge about organized crime phenomena, which are often almost unknown abroad.*

*The activity of the Institute is carried out as follows:*

- *making use of the experience acquired in this field by Italy to organize the training activity;*
- *supporting the adoption of joint investigation techniques and best practices as well as the development of analysis skills to be employed in the investigation activities;*
- *strengthening international cooperation tools;*
- *promoting study activities aimed at detecting legislative proposals which can be applied to other legal systems, taking into account that an effective fight against organized crime at global level must be based on the widespread awareness of the related serious consequences affecting the social, economic and institutional systems in the different Countries.*

*This assessment is particularly valuable to adopt legislative measures aimed at effectively countering those phenomena, with the purpose of strengthening international cooperation.*

*The related training programmes are carried out in accordance with the international profile of the trainees as well as with the purposes established by the Palermo Convention and its additional protocols. Next December, the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the signature of that Convention will be held.*

*It is to be pointed out that 8 Courses were held out of the 12 which had been scheduled. They were attended by 182 trainees, 90 of whom were foreign Police Officers coming from more than 50 countries.*

*The significant work carried out by the Caserta-based Institute is to be underlined. Since its creation, this Institute has been devoting to the training of 1.170 Senior Police Officers, 705 of whom were foreign Police Officers coming from 91 countries. I take this opportunity to thank the Director of the Institute, Lieutenant Colonel Massimo Labartino, for his availability and skill in organizing training activities.*

*I want to reiterate the good reputation of the Interagency Law Enforcement Academy of Advanced Studies by recalling the participation, for the first time, of the President of the Italian Republic in the Opening Ceremony of the Academic Year. His presence represented the higher institutional appreciation for the activity which has been carried out for 35 years.*

*The interest raised at international level by this Academy, which is the unique example of interagency training institute in Europe, was confirmed by the visits made by the CEPOL Executive Director Detlef SCHRÖDER, by the Undersecretary for Coordination, Training and Professional Development of the Ministry of Security of the Argentine Republic, Mr Alberto FOHRIG, as well as by the delegations from the People's Public Security University in Beijing and from the Civil and Military Police of São Paulo (Brazil). Moreover, this Academy was selected to host the first meeting of the Foreign Liaison Officers' Network in Italy.*

*The culture of dialogue and openness towards other institutions as well as towards the academic, cultural and economic world has been put into practice, within this Academy, through a series of conferences, round tables and lectures held by prominent Authorities. Unfortunately, the programme of conferences, meetings and lectures, which can be usually attended also by Police Officers belonging to central and territorial Offices and Departments, was not fully completed for the above-mentioned reasons.*

*I'd like to mention, in particular, the sessions on:*

- blockchain, organized in concert with the Accademia del Notariato (Notary Academy), with the purpose of further understanding the way in which this particular instrument could be used in our legal-economic system, with a special focus on how to prevent the bad use of technology, as well as on cyber terrorism, on-line money laundering and dark web crimes in general;*

- *prevention and fight against mafia-type organizations and narco-mafia type groups, with the participation both of the National Antimafia and Antiterrorism Prosecutor and of the Rome Public Prosecutor: they gave us a clear picture, based on high scientific and technical studies, of the new models of mafia type crimes as well as of the evolution of organized crime;*
- *fight against terrorism, in cooperation with the Department of Political Sciences of the Guido Carli LUISS University and with the participation of students from that University. I want to express my appreciation to the LUISS University, “La Sapienza” University and “Tor Vergata” University, because they have launched a new cultural process, which provides for a concept of security separated from its “policing” dimension, that often had raised prejudices and had created negative stereotypes. Thanks to this new perspective, security has become an important subject of study and consideration at academic level. The Academy has been collaborating for years with the above-mentioned institutes, and, as a matter of fact, a large part of the Academy teaching staff comes from those three Universities;*

*and the sessions delivered through distance learning courses on:*

- *institutional communication by police bodies, which has become essential in the relationship with the citizens, taking into account also the continuous technological development, with the participation of well-known professionals in that field;*
- *anti-corruption, with the participation, among others, of the ANAC Acting Chairman;*
- *analysis of the international geopolitical scenarios, with the participation of the Director of the Italian geopolitical magazine “Limes”;*
- *international cooperation in the field of justice and policing, with the participation of the Public Prosecutor of Catanzaro.*

*In general terms, the training activity carried out during this Academic Year involved 545 Senior Police Officers who attended the courses, 212 of whom belonged to foreign police forces, as well as almost 500 trainers.*

*Finally, important results were achieved at logistic and instrumental level.*

*Moreover, important special initiatives were carried out. They involved a series of restoring interventions aimed at restructuring the premises and the plants of the building, as well as at adopting proper measures for safety and security of workplaces pursuant to the provisions of Legislative Decree 81/2008. Besides the above-mentioned activities, works of ordinary maintenance are normally carried out, because these facilities require a lot of commitment. The compound, in fact, is subject to the control of the Superintendency from the architectural point of view.*



*The operational functionality of the workplace has been further improved by the renewal of furniture, offices and IT equipment, as well as by adopting safety measures for the protection of health and environment.*

*An important renovation of the wellness room, as well as of the fitness equipment in the gymnasium has been almost completed.*

*Despite the lockdown, that has paralyzed our Country for some months, a lot of initiatives have been adopted. The activities that we have been obliged to postpone will be implemented and carried out as soon as the health conditions will allow us to get back to normal life.*

*“Nothing great in the world has ever been accomplished without passion” and we can trust it because that’s one of the best inspirational quotations by the philosopher Hegel, who offered views and theories on profound questions concerning human beings and time.*

*I wish to thank all the members of the Academy staff for their commitment and for their professional skills. I would like to express my gratitude to each of them, one by one, for the contribution offered with sense of duty and smart participation.*

*I’d like to thank, in particular, my closer collaborators, Mr Antonio Bacile, Brigadier General from the Carabinieri Corps and Mrs Rosaria D’ERRICO Dirigente Superiore from The Italian National Police, who have always provided me with their constructive input and valuable solutions and supported me with patience, commitment, authority, sense of duty and loyalty. I take this opportunity to thank them for their ability in making the best to motivate Senior Police Officers and the whole staff of their own Services.*

*I wish to congratulate all the staff of the National CEPOL Unit as well as with their Director, Mrs. Capolupo, Senior Police Officer from the Italian National Police.*

*Thanks a lot also to the personnel of the canteen and of the bar who served us at their best during the moments of break.*

*Many thanks also to Doctor Stefanini from the Italian National Police and to all the staff which worked, in turn, within the infirmary during such a difficult period.*

*Heartfelt thanks to my Secretariat and to Lieutenant Colonel Masciarelli. They have constantly supported and sometimes borne me, with devotion.*

*At last, I wish to express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to all the Authorities, first of all to the Minister of the Interior, to the Chief of Police and Director General of Public Security,*

*to the other Police Forces' Authorities and to the Prefect Alessandra Guidi. They have always provided me with their guidelines and support during the whole period of my mandate.*

*Before saying you goodbye, I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the trainees of the XXXV Advanced Training Course. I hope that during the months spent together they have been able to learn and understand the principle of coordination, with the awareness that it is the best tool to effectively and unconditionally operate for the benefit of the community and to protect citizens. This is the reason why we sworn allegiance to the Republic, to the Constitution and to its laws.*

*Long live the XXXV Advanced Training Course.*

*Major General from the Guardia di Finanza Corps Giuseppe Bottillo*

*Gen.D. G. di F. Giuseppe Bottillo*

