International Police Association

July 2026

NEWSLETTER



IPA Serbia Successfully Hosts the 5th IPA Management Academy

Police representatives and members from 23 countries gathered in Belgrade as IPA Serbia delivered a successful international academy focused on education, professional development, international co-operation, and strengthening friendship within the global IPA family. Read more on page 17

Showcase Your IPA Story – International Video Competition 2026

Can your Section capture the spirit of the IPA in just two minutes? Members, regions and Sections worldwide are invited to create a promotional video showcasing friendship, professional cooperation and international understanding. Entries close on 20 September 2026.

Read more on page 9.



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International IPA Kohltour 2027 – Bremen, Germany



IPA Bremen invites IPA members and partners to the International IPA Kohltour in Bremen, Germany, from 29–31 January 2027. Welcoming up to 300 participants, this popular event brings together serving and retired police colleagues from Germany and abroad to celebrate the traditional North German Kohlfahrt while strengthening international friendships. Registration is via online form only: **https://forms.gle/QJuDQQ2gcHNnTusQ6**.

Personalised invitations are not available. Enquiries: kohltour(at)ipa-bremen.de

More Info

Introduction from Christos Parginos Chairperson Professional Commision



Christos Parginos

Chairperson Socio-Cultural Commission

Dear IPA Members and Friends,

Welcome to this edition of our newsletter.

The International Police Association continues to provide valuable opportunities for police officers around the world to connect, exchange experiences, and strengthen the spirit of friendship that unites our global family. Through sporting, cultural, educational, and social initiatives, we continue to build bridges between colleagues from different countries, cultures, and generations, reinforcing the values that have guided our Association since its foundation.

One recent example of this spirit was the IPA Games 2026 in Wrocław, Poland, which brought together more than 1,000 participants from 31 Sections. Events of this nature demonstrate the importance of creating opportunities for members to meet, interact, and develop lasting friendships.



They remind us that beyond our professional responsibilities, we share common values and a common commitment to international cooperation.

The work of the Socio-Cultural Commission remains closely aligned with the strategic objectives of the International Police Association. Through our projects and initiatives, we aim to promote participation, encourage engagement, and create meaningful opportunities for members to contribute to both the IPA community and society as a whole.

A key area of focus is environmental sustainability through the GREEN IPA project. This initiative seeks to increase awareness of environmental issues and encourage practical actions that can make a positive difference within our communities. The SCC continues to maintain contact with the United Nations Environment Programme and supports activities that contribute to a more sustainable future.

Projects such as Plant a Tree and Beach Clean-Up events, organized throughout the year and often linked to international observances including Earth Day and World Environment Day, provide excellent opportunities for members to take part in community-based activities while promoting environmental responsibility.

Introduction from Christos Parginos Chairperson Professional Commision

These initiatives also help raise awareness of the positive role that the IPA can play in society.

I encourage all members, Regions, Branches, and Sections to actively participate in these activities and to work together in expanding their impact. Through collective effort, we can continue to demonstrate that friendship, service, and social responsibility remain central to the identity of our Association.



Plant a Tree in Kenya

At the same time, preparations continue regarding the administrative procedures for the 2nd IPA World Football Tournament. Further information will be circulated in the near future concerning this event, which will take place in Cambrils, Spain, during the second semester of 2027. I encourage all interested members and Sections to stay informed and follow future announcements.

The Arts and Culture Project also continues to offer opportunities for participation and creative expression.
Members and their families are warmly encouraged to take part in the International Photo Competition, the Children's Drawing Competition, and the Literary Competition, all of which remain open. These initiatives celebrate creativity, cultural diversity, and the many talents within our IPA family.

In addition, a seminar dedicated to the Art of Expression will be organised at Gimborn, providing participants with a unique opportunity to explore communication, creativity, and artistic development within an international environment.

Regarding IPA Travel, I encourage members to make use of the new travel form and the resources available through our extensive international network. During the summer, a social media campaign focusing on IPA Houses will provide useful information and highlight the many benefits available to members. Increasing the visibility and use of IPA Houses remains an important objective, helping members make the most of the unique opportunities offered by our Association.
The successful implementation of all these initiatives depends on cooperation and teamwork. I would therefore like to acknowledge the dedication of our Project Leads, project teams, SCC members, and volunteers who contribute their time, ideas, and enthusiasm to the development of our programmes. Their collaborative efforts continue to strengthen our activities and support the objectives of the Commission.

As we move forward, let us continue working together to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation among police officers across the five continents. Through sport, culture, travel, education, environmental action, and community engagement, we continue to create opportunities for meaningful connections and mutual understanding, keeping alive the spirit of Servo per Amikeco.

I wish you enjoyable reading and look forward to your continued participation in the many activities and projects of our Association.

Christos

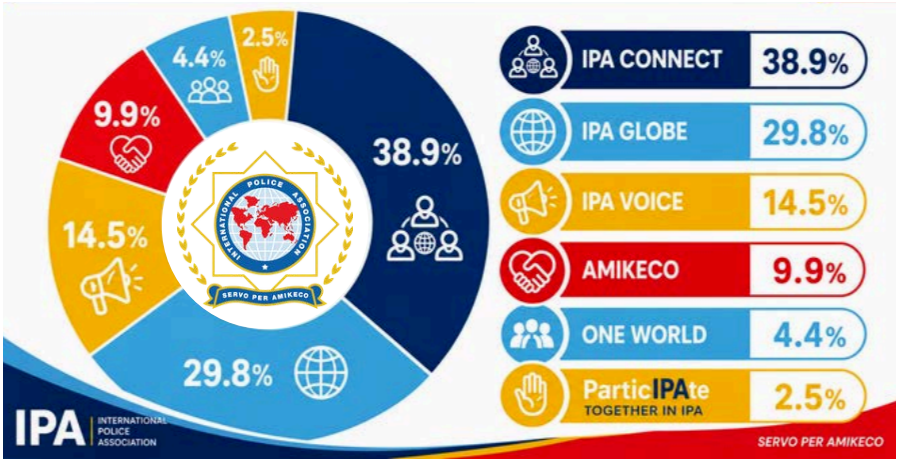
Christos Parginos
Chairperson Socio-Cultural Commission

IPA Monthly Publication Rebrand – Members Have Chosen!

The poll to select the new name for the IPA's monthly publication officially closed on 14 June, and we are delighted to announce the results following an excellent response from members across the Association.

After the votes were counted, the winning title is:

IPA Connect – 38.9%



The full results were:

- IPA Connect – 38.9%
- IPA Globe – 29.8%
- IPA Voice – 14.5%
- Amikeco – 9.9%
- One World – 4.4%
- ParticIPAte – 2.5%

Thank you to everyone who took part in the vote and helped shape the future identity of this exciting new development for the IPA.

Going forward, the publication will be referred to as the IPA's monthly publication rather than simply a newsletter, reflecting its much broader purpose within our international organisation.

IPA Connect will serve as a central source of information, communication, and collaboration across the Association, bringing together the initiatives, activities, and achievements of the International Board, commissions, teams, sections, and members worldwide. It will provide a platform for sharing ideas, experiences, projects, events, and best practice from across the global IPA family.

The publication will officially launch in August, and members can look forward to receiving the very first edition of IPA Connect on 1 August.

We hope the new name reflects the spirit of friendship, communication, cooperation, and international connection that lies at the heart of the IPA.

Hana Bower
Office Manager - International Administration Centre

Introducing IPA to Fraud Insurance Investigators: Participation at the IASIU Europe Seminar in Rome



I recently had the opportunity to attend the 12th IASIU Europe Insurance Fraud Seminar & Expo in Rome, held from June 8–10, 2026 at the A. Roma Lifestyle Hotel. The event brought together more than 250 professionals from across Europe and beyond who are dedicated to fighting insurance fraud.

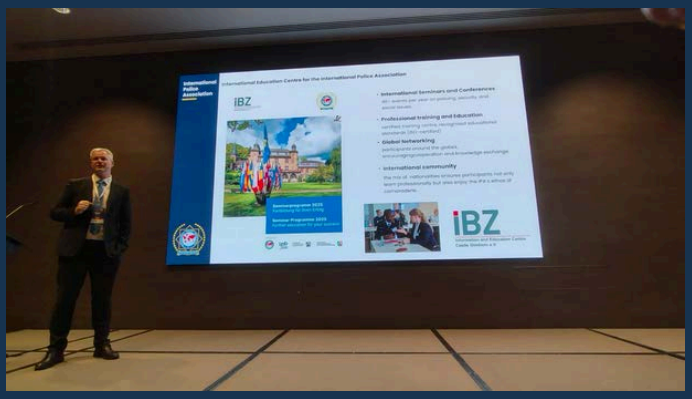
What is IASIU?

The International Association of Special Investigation Units (IASIU) is the largest organization for insurance investigators worldwide. Founded in 1984 in the USA by a group of insurance fraud investigators, IASIU expanded into Europe in 1990.

The association's primary mission is to educate and raise the skill levels of insurance fraud investigators while ensuring that high ethical standards are maintained. IASIU is a non-profit organization dedicated to:

- Promoting coordinated efforts within the industry to combat insurance fraud
- Providing education and training for insurance investigators
- Developing greater awareness of the insurance fraud problem
- Encouraging high professional standards of conduct among investigators
- Supporting legislation that acts as a deterrent to insurance fraud





The annual IASIU Europe Seminar is a key event in the insurance investigation community, offering a platform to exchange strategies, share technical insights, and build networks necessary to stay ahead of increasingly sophisticated fraudsters.

Oliver Hoffmann
International Vice President & Chairperson
International Relations Commission

Introducing IPA to Fraud Insurance Investigators: Participation at the IASIU Europe Seminar in Rome

Introducing IPA to a New Audience

I was invited to introduce the International Police Association (IPA) to the seminar participants and to deliver remarks highlighting the organization's global reach and mission. This was particularly meaningful because many attendees are former police officers who have transitioned into the private sector, working as investigators for insurance companies. Some of them were already IPA members, making the connection between policing and private investigation even more tangible.



The overlap between the two fields is clear as both police work and insurance investigation rely on professionalism, integrity, thorough fact-gathering, and a commitment to justice.

My participation in the IASIU Europe Seminar opened the door for potential future collaboration between IPA and the insurance investigation community. Strengthening ties with organizations like IASIU aligns with IPA's broader efforts to expand its network and build partnerships across related professional fields.

The event in Rome was a valuable opportunity to show IPA's relevance to professionals working beyond traditional law enforcement and to reinforce the idea that the fight against crime—including insurance fraud—remains a shared responsibility across sectors. Thanks for Antonio Molinaro from the IRC Commisison and the President of IPA Rome, Paolo Cianci for their support.

Oliver Hoffmann
International Vice President & Chairperson International Relations Commission

Showcase Your IPA Story – International Video Competition 2026

The International Police Association is pleased to announce the launch of the IPA International Promotional Video Competition 2026, an exciting opportunity for members around the world to showcase the spirit, values and activities of our Association.



IPA Sections, regions and individual members are invited to create a short promotional video highlighting what makes the IPA unique. Whether through friendship, professional cooperation, cultural exchange, social activities or international understanding, we want to see how the IPA is making a difference in your country and community.

The competition aims to create inspiring content that can be used internationally to promote the IPA and demonstrate the benefits of membership to current and future generations of police officers.

Videos should be between 30 seconds and 2 minutes in length and may be produced in any language, provided English subtitles are included. Entries should be suitable for an international audience and reflect the core values of the IPA: friendship, professional cooperation and international understanding.

Participants are encouraged to be creative and showcase the many facets of IPA life, including social events, professional seminars, cultural activities, international exchanges and community engagement. All videos must use the new official IPA logo and corporate identity and conclude with the official IPA website:

www.ipa-international.org

The winning entries will help shape the future promotion of the IPA worldwide and provide valuable content for use across international communication platforms.
Before submitting, participants should ensure that all individuals featured have provided consent and that any music, images or third-party materials comply with copyright requirements.

Showcase Your IPA Story – International Video Competition 2026

Key Information

- Open to all IPA Sections, regions and individual members
- Video length: 30 seconds to 2 minutes
- English subtitles required
- Correct use of the new IPA logo is mandatory
- Submission deadline: 20 September 2026

This is your opportunity to tell the IPA story from your perspective and help showcase the strength, diversity and international friendship that define our Association.

We look forward to receiving your entries and seeing the creativity of IPA members from around the world.

Servo per Amikeco

international Marketing Team

IPA Children's Drawing Competition 2026



Children and grandchildren of IPA members aged 6–12 years (born between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2020) are invited to participate. Schools and children's institutions may also enter under a separate special category.

Competition themes:

- Police Cars
- Animals
- Environment

Each child may submit up to two A4 drawings using any preferred medium including pencil, watercolours, pastels, inks or tempera.
Entries must include the child's name, age, parent/guardian email address and contact number.
Closing date for entries: Saturday 16 August 2026.

Deadline for entries: Saturday 16 August 2026.
Drawings should be scanned and emailed to:
artsandcultureprojectteam@gmail.com
Prizes will be awarded in each category, including an overall winner prize of €100. All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation by email.
Selected drawings will be exhibited during the 69th IPA World Congress in Sri Lanka, where the winners will also be announced.

Back on the European Stage: IPA Builds Momentum in Strasbourg



Momentum is building for the International Police Association as efforts to restore its participatory status gain renewed traction. In a series of high-level exchanges with a representative of the Council of Europe and Member of the European Parliament Lena Düpont, one message came through clearly: IPA global police network remains a valuable and relevant partner.

Both counterparts voiced strong support for closer cooperation, recognizing the unique role IPA plays in connecting law enforcement professionals across borders.

These discussions have already opened the door to initial working contacts with the Council of European encouraging development that now calls for sustained follow-up and strategic engagement.



At the centre of these efforts is Martin Laubis of the International Relations Commission, who will serve as a key point of contact and driving force in deepening these newly established ties.

The visit also offered a behind-the-scenes glimpse into European policymaking. MEP Düpont shared insights into her parliamentary work and guided the delegation through the European Parliament, adding a practical and personal dimension to an already forward-looking mission.

Oliver Hoffmann
International Vice President & Chairperson International Relations Commission

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

From Online to In-Person: Project Young Members Meets in Turin



The first physical meeting of the Project Young Members of the IPA Professional Commission took place this weekend in Turin, Italy. Until now, all cooperation and project work had been carried out exclusively online, making this first in-person meeting an important milestone for the further development of the project team and its international cooperation.

The meeting was attended by Diego Trolese, Chairperson of the Professional Commission, Philipp Kurz (Germany), Teamleader of the Project Young Members and President of IPA Germany, as well as the project members Mirco Ciccarese (Italy), Vesna Znidaric (Croatia), Yvonne McGregor (United Kingdom) and Joyce O'Grady, Secretary General of IPA Ireland.

During the productive working sessions, the participants focused on the current planning status of YPOS and SYMC, future hosting locations, the strategic orientation of both formats, as well as necessary amendments to the related procedures and organisational frameworks.

Further discussions addressed future projects such as ILDEP, the promotion and involvement of young members within the IPA, the strategic revision of existing procedures and preparations for the upcoming IPA World Congress.

In addition to the intensive project work, the meeting also provided an excellent opportunity to strengthen personal exchange and international friendship within the team. The participants experienced outstanding hospitality and an excellent conference venue in Turin.

A special highlight of the weekend was the evening visit to the historic Castello Reale di Moncalieri on the outskirts of Turin. Since the post-war period, parts of the castle have been used as the headquarters of the 1st Carabinieri Regiment "Piemonte", while other areas remain open to the public as a museum.

The meeting demonstrated the strong motivation and commitment of the Project Young Members team to further develop international cooperation, professional exchange and sustainable young member involvement within the IPA worldwide.

Philipp Kurz - Young Members Project Team Lead

CALLING ALL
POLICE OFFICERS
WORLD
POLICE & FIRE
GAMES
PERTH 2027
wpfg2027.com
You're invited to the Games - a multi-sport event for **active, volunteer and retired** law enforcement and emergency services personnel from around the world. The Games will unite **8,500** athletes of all skill levels standing **Shoulder to Shoulder** both on and off the field.
Join us from 12-21 March 2027. All police officers, police auxiliary officers and police staff are eligible to compete and volunteer.
10 DAYS | 66 SPORTS | REGISTRATIONS OPEN 1 MAY

4th SHEisIPA Seminar at IBZ Schloss Gimborn

hero #SHEisIPA

Empowering Female Leaders in the IPA and Beyond'
12-17 April 2026



I am an officer with the Canada Border Services Agency and Region 9 executive member (Treasurer and Membership). Joining the IPA in 2019 was a life changing decision for me. I had no idea that a worldwide friendship association existed despite being in law enforcement for over two decades at that point. This speaks to the fact that the IPA needs to improve the way it promotes and recruits new members, particularly women. Initiatives such as the #SHEisIPA international project is a fantastic way to showcase the association and all that it offers its members.

Since joining the IPA, I have participated in three international conferences (and was on the organizing committee of the two local ones), one Friendship Week (Scotland 2025) and many social events. In 2023, received the Harvey Creek scholarship (R9) and used it to attend a Professional Development Conference in Germany. It is notable that at each event, I was one of the only women in attendance. When women are part of the IPA, it increases their support network and fosters inclusion in a worldwide community.

Attending the #SHEisIPA seminar 'Empowering Female Leaders – in the IPA and Beyond' at IBZ Gimborn Germany this April provided the opportunity to meet with women from around the world and discuss their challenges and accomplishments. There were 35 participants from 20 different countries. There were women of various ranks, ages and experience levels. Two male allies attended and they are part of the UN Women Project – HeForShe. International President, Martin Hoffmann joined virtually to welcome the participants and provide an IEB update. It is good to know that there are many men within the IPA who are working hard to change perceptions and make workplaces safer and more inclusive.

During our seminar, there were presentations about female membership and projects. The casual conversations during evening walks or time in the Turmbar helped generate ideas and build strong connections among all the women. I learned that there is a commonality for women in law enforcement that transcends borders. Whether you live in Moldova, the Kingdom of Eswatini, Canada or anywhere in between, you feel an instant connection to colleagues. That feeling was so apparent during our seminar that presenters stated they felt an incomparable energy from the group.



4th SHEisIPA Seminar at IBZ Schloss Gimborn

Empowering Female Leaders in the IPA and Beyond'
12-17 April 2026

We went on a field trip to the Bundespolizei Sankt Augustin. It started with a presentation by several high-ranking female officers. Hearing about their careers, high level of education, and experiences was inspiring. Next, we went on a tour and met women who worked in the federal police air support services and performed their jobs from inside helicopters.

I'd like to express my gratitude to IPA Section Canada, not only for the financial assistance but also for the opportunity to represent the women of Canada at an international event.I came home with wonderful memories and tools to promote the IPA. I will continue to be an ambassador for the association, sharing my experiences with colleagues and law enforcement friends and encouraging them to join the IPA too.

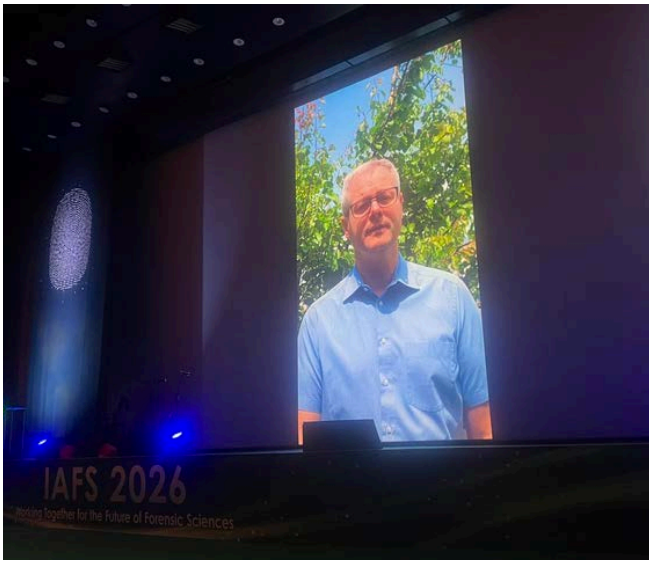




As an IPA member, we can travel throughout the world knowing there are friends (new and old) to connect with wherever we go. People are always willing to give a tour and welcome you. I will continue to reciprocate so if you are ever in my hometown of Chilliwack, BC please reach out.

Andrea Brezden
IPA Canada

Strengthening Cooperation: IPA at the Annual Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences



As part of our joint efforts to build a partnership with the International Association of Forensic Sciences (IAFS), I was honored to be invited to address the audience and participants with welcoming remarks at the association's annual meeting.

In my speech, I highlighted the importance of both organizations and emphasized the close connection between policing and forensic science. Modern police work relies heavily on forensic expertise, while forensic science in turn benefits from close cooperation with law enforcement professionals. Together, both fields form a vital link in the pursuit of justice, the fight against crime, and the advancement of professional standards.

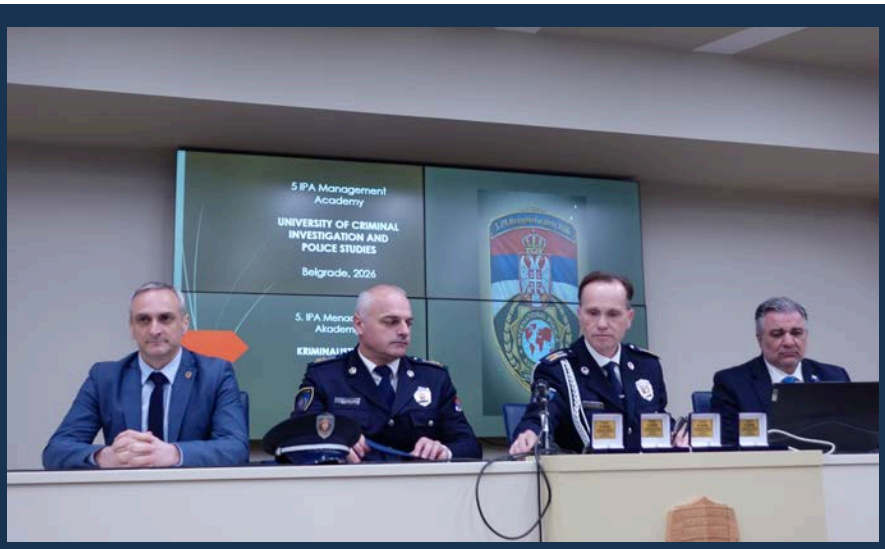
The meeting offered an excellent opportunity to underline the shared values and complementary missions of IPA and IAFS. It also marked an important step in our ongoing efforts to strengthen ties and explore future collaboration between the two organizations.

By bringing together practitioners, experts, and professionals from different disciplines, the annual meeting once again demonstrated the importance of international exchange and interdisciplinary cooperation in addressing today's complex challenges.

Oliver Hoffmann
International Vice President & Chairperson International Relations Commission



IPA Serbia Hosted The 5th IPA Management Academy



The International Police Association of Serbia, as part of its numerous activities at the domestic and international level — through which it has greatly contributed to the promotion and reputation of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Internal Affairs both at home and abroad — pays special attention to the education and professional development of ministry police officers and IPA members.

In line with the above, IPA Serbia, with the full support of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, hosted the international event "IPA Management Academy" at the Academy of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies and Police Studies in Belgrade from 22 to 26 April 2026, attended by police officers from 23 European and world countries that are IPA members. On behalf of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Serbia and the Minister of Police, the gathering was addressed by Colonel Vladan Radisavljević, Assistant Director of Police, who stated among other things that "participation in the work of the global IPA further strengthens the position of the Republic of Serbia within the international framework and contributes to the reputation of our police and institutions as a whole.

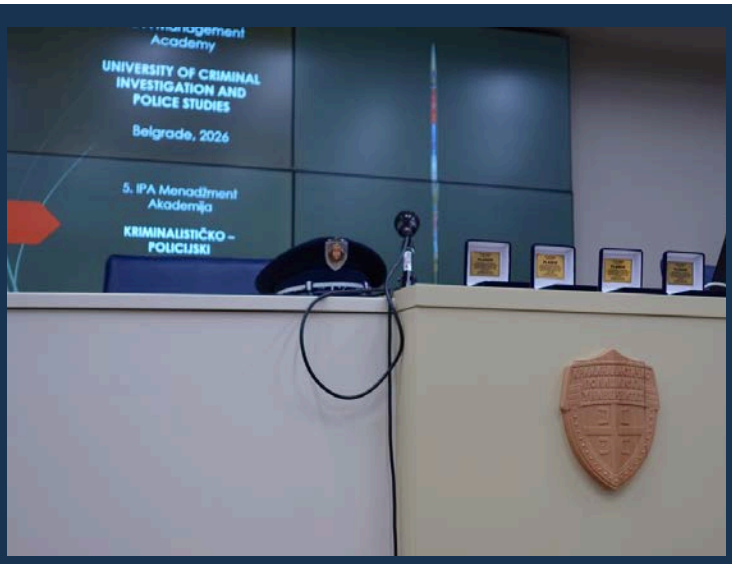
The International Police Association of Serbia, through its activities, significantly contributes to the promotion of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, both domestically and internationally, with special emphasis on education, professional development and the building of professional capacities. I am confident that this gathering will also contribute to further strengthening of cooperation, exchange of knowledge and experience, as well as deepening of professional and friendly relations among the participants."



The gathering was also addressed by Prof. Dr. Zoran Đurđević, Rector of the Academy of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies and Police Studies; Kiriakos Perikleos, representative of the World IPA Board of Directors; and, in the role of host, Police Colonel Prof. Dr. Nebojša Pantelić, President of IPA Serbia.

IPA Serbia Hosted The 5th IPA Management Academy

A tour of the Academy of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies and Police Studies was also organized, along with a conversation with students, and at the end a friendship tree was planted in keeping with the motto "Service through Friendship."



All participants received appropriate certificates and medals bearing the IPA Management Academy logo. In addition, three certificates were awarded for the best presentation, best speaker, and best teamwork. On behalf of the President of IPA Serbia, the IPA Management Academy medal was presented to representatives of IPA member states.

This kind of visit by foreign delegations — who expressed support for the Republic of Serbia's candidacy to host the World Congress of the International Police Association, to be held in Belgrade in 2027, at which presidents and senior representatives from 70 member states will participate and bring their families as a token of support for Belgrade as the safest city in Europe — is of enormous significance for the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Republic of Serbia, both on the international stage and in the policing, political and every other sense.

In 2023, IPA Serbia organized the Mediterranean Conference at the "Palace of Serbia" on the topic "The Migrant Crisis in Europe and the World – Challenges and Solutions," attended by senior police representatives from 33 IPA member states, followed in 2024 by the Balkan-Adriatic Conference at the Chamber of Commerce of Serbia, entitled "United Balkans – Open and Safe," at which 28 high-level delegations from IPA member states participated.

At the close of the gathering, an appropriate cultural and entertainment program was held, at which participants had the opportunity to showcase their talents in an event entitled "IPA Has Got Talent," through song, dance, acting, and other performances, with three trophies awarded on the occasion.

Zdravko Đurić
IPA Serbia

7th International Friendship Meeting Brings IPA Members Together in France

From 21–26 May 2026, IPA Gard Hérault successfully hosted the 7th International Friendship Meeting at the Île des Papes Campsite in Villeneuve-lès-Avignon, bringing together IPA members for another memorable gathering focused on friendship, cultural exchange and international cooperation.

This year's event is presented in the form of a photographic report, capturing the highlights, memorable moments and friendships created throughout the gathering. The photographs reflect the spirit of the meeting and showcase the enjoyment experienced by all those who participated.
Following the success of this year's event, organisers have already announced plans for the 8th International Friendship Meeting, which is scheduled to take place next year.
IPA Gard Hérault extends its thanks to all participants, volunteers and supporters who contributed to the success of the event and looks forward to welcoming members again in 2027.

Claire Palisse
IPA France



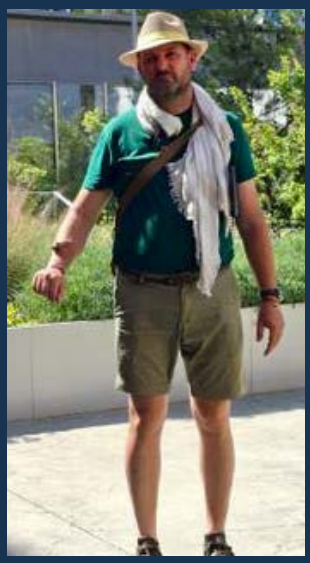
Welcome of participants opening of the meeting



Visit to the Pont du Gard and canoe trip



Visit to the Pont du Gard and canoe trip



Our Guide



Abbey of Sénanque

7th International Friendship Meeting Brings IPA Members Together in France



Boat cruise with meal



Presentation of the flag to the winner



13 countries represented 65 participants & 22 occasional visitors.

Thanks to everyone!



Looking forward to next year!



ESTA-FETE group

Friendship and Multiculturalism



The basis of the International Police association is friendship between police officers around the world.

The situation is more challenging and complex when it comes to members from different cultures and religions.
The Muslim world celebrates the Feast of Sacrifice at the end of May.

The holiday is celebrated in Israel by Muslims, Druze, Circassians and Bedouins. All have respectable representation in the Israeli Police and the Israel International Police Association.

The Feast of Sacrifice, Eid al-Adha , is intended to commemorate the story of the binding of Isaac by his father Abraham.

The Bible, which Jews, Muslims, and Christians believe in, in fact all believers of the major monotheistic religions, tells of Abraham who was the father of Isaac and Yishmael, the Jews and Muslims. So, if we look at the deeper meaning of the story, it is the story of one family with one father.

The holiday is also celebrated by the Druze, many of whose members serve in the Israel Police and the Prison Service. A third of the members of the IPA Israel presidency are Druze.

The history of the Druze points to the story of Yitro, the priest of Midian, from the Bible. Yitro's daughter, Zipporah, met Moses, who became the leader of the Jews in Egypt.

According to the Bible, Moses married Zipporah and the Druze believe they are descendants of Yitro. Yitro is buried in northern Israel and is a holy site for the Druze. This history creates a long-standing connection between the Druze community and Israel.

In June, the Druze communities in northern Israel celebrated the Feast of Sacrifice. The main event was held by the IPA in Daliyat El Carmel. A beautiful village on the summit of Mount Carmel. There are many holy places in the area for Muslims, Druze, Christians and Jews.

Holy Shrine of the Prophet Abu Ibrahim. For the Jews, this is Elijah, from where faith says he ascended to heaven.

There are also many monasteries in the area: Deir Al-Mukhraqa Carmelite Monastery. Carmel St. Joseph Monastery. Maronite Church.

Friendship and Multiculturalism

This is an excellent example of multiculturalism, of the connection between religions, beliefs, and also joint service in the police and IFA membership.

The President of IPA Israel adv. Gal Sharon and the Secretary General Dr. Eran Israel of IPA represented the association at the event and in her greetings to our Druze friends, she noted:

"The Feast of Sacrifice, Eid al-Adha, is the culmination of the most important holiday for Muslims, Druze, Circassians, and others. One of the most important meanings is the connection to Jewish heritage. The sacrifice in question is the story of the binding of Isaac by Abraham, who ultimately was the father of Isaac and Ishmael. Family closeness has been forgotten over the generations, except for our Druze brothers who have made a brotherly covenant with the Jewish people since the days of Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, the greatest of the prophets, and the leader who united the tribes of Israel into a people".

Dr. Eran Israel
Secretary General IPA Israel

International Patch Fair 2027 The Netherlands



The International Patch Fair 2027 will take place on 29 May 2027 at 't Manneke, Berkel en Rodenrijs, The Netherlands.
This exciting international event will bring together collectors, IPA members, police enthusiasts, and representatives from law enforcement organisations across Europe and beyond for a day dedicated to trading, collecting, and networking.

Visitors and exhibitors will have the opportunity to explore a wide range of:

- Police patches
- Badges and insignia
- Challenge coins and medals
- International police collectibles
- Memorabilia from police, customs, gendarmerie, Guardia Civil, and public order organisations

Whether you are an experienced collector or simply interested in international police culture and friendship, the Patch Fair promises a welcoming atmosphere and a fantastic opportunity to connect with collectors from around the world.

28th International IPA Poznań Football Tournament 2026



On Saturday morning, the last units – participants of the 28th International IPA Poznań Football Tournament 2026 – left Poznań.

Please remember to follow the regular rules of the pitch, which have been played continuously every year for 28 years!

16 teams represented 5 different uniformed services (Police, Border Guard, Army, Prison Service, and Special Services). We hosted two international races: for the first time, IPA Sopron from Hungary and for the second time, IPA Region 2 Maramures from the organisation.

In a thrilling match for third place, the host team, IPA Poznań Oldboy, competes against the participants from IPA Region 2 Maramures (ROM). In a very dynamic and evenly matched 3-2, the hosts secured a share of the podium. In the grand finale of the tournament, played on artificial turf, Lipna Stęszew faced the 31st Tactical Air Base and the Poznań Prison Service. The exciting match remained goalless for a long time, but the first goal scored by the military forces proved the need for a more advanced game from the opponents, which led to a 3-0 victory.



Final Tournament Standings:

1. 31st Tactical Air Base
2. Poznań Prison Service
3. IPA Poznań Oldboy
4. IPA Region 2 Maramures (ROM)
5. KMP Piła
6. KPP Jarocin
7. OPP Poznań
8. IPA Gniezno
9. SKW Warsaw
10. Associations / Crimean Department KMP P-ń
11. KPP Kępno
12. IPA Sopron (HUN)
13. Leszno Police
14. Kościan Police
15. Senior Associations KMP Poznań
16. Ławica Border Guard

28th International IPA Poznań, Poland Football Tournament 2026

Individual Award:

Fair Play: IPA Sopron - Hungary
Top Scorer: Paweł Piceluk (15 goals) IPA Poznań
Top Goalkeeper: Aleksander Marcińczak (Prison Service)
Oldest Player: Nagy Ernő – Hungary

We received information about the recognition that followed, and once again, congratulations to all participants. See you next year at the 29th Tournament!!!

"SERVO PER AMIKECO"

Michał Bartkowiak
IPA Poznań Region
iPA Poland





IPA USA Training Seminar 2027

The IPA US Section has opened registrations for its 2027 Training Seminar in Green Bay, Wisconsin, USA, from 21–25 June 2027. Limited to 45 participants, the seminar offers intensive professional development, including officer wellness, firearms and defensive tactics, team and scenario-based training, plus ASP instructor certification opportunities. Accommodation is available from $45 per night. The $750 fee includes meals, training, and social events.

Interested members should apply through their IPA Section. Enquiries: president@ipa-usa.org

More Info



IPA Slovakia National Congress

On 23–24 May 2026, the National Congress of IPA Slovakia 2026 was held in Banská Bystrica with the participation of the International President of IPA, Martin Hoffmann, as well as delegations from Romania, Hungary, Poland, and the Czech Republic.



The Congress brought several important decisions for the future development of IPA Slovakia. Delegates approved the extension of membership to Military Police officers and abolished the two-year waiting period for joining IPA, making the association more accessible to new and especially younger members.



The event also included a rich accompanying programme. Participants paid tribute to the victims of the Second World War at the memorial in Kremnička Memorial, visited the UNESCO-listed Wooden Articular Church in Hronsek, Ľupča Castle, and also toured the Museum of the Slovak National Uprising.

In his address, the International President of IPA, Martin Hoffmann, praised the excellent organisation of the Congress, the strong teamwork within IPA Slovakia, and especially the active involvement of young members, who represent the future of the association.

He emphasised that IPA Slovakia is a modern, growing, and forward-looking section that serves as an outstanding example within the international IPA community.

He particularly highlighted the emotional visits to the Kremnička Memorial and the Museum of the Slovak National Uprising, stressing the importance of remembrance, peace, and shared values. He also expressed his sincere gratitude to Richard Kadnár, the organising team, and all members of IPA Slovakia for their warm hospitality, friendship, and welcoming atmosphere throughout the event.

The National Congress of IPA Slovakia 2026 was held in the spirit of friendship, international cooperation, and the shared values that have united IPA members around the world for decades.

Richard Kadnár, president Slovak section IPA

Policing with Purpose: Living with Multiple Sclerosis



There are moments in life when everything suddenly makes sense. For me, that moment came in 2017, when a consultant at my local NHS hospital confirmed: "You do have MS."
Until then, "M&S" had simply meant a well-known British retailer. From that day forward, it meant Multiple Sclerosis.

The diagnosis finally explained years of unexplained symptoms—fatigue, cognitive fog, dropping objects, and even tripping over nothing. While daunting, it also brought clarity.

Multiple Sclerosis is a neurological condition where the immune system attacks the protective covering of nerves, disrupting communication between the brain and body. Symptoms vary greatly between individuals and, although there is currently no cure, research and treatment continue to progress.

Like many police officers, I approached the diagnosis head-on. After the initial shock, I focused on understanding the condition and identifying practical ways to manage it.

I found valuable support through organisations such as Overcoming MS and the Kent Neuro Therapy Centre, whose evidence-based approaches to lifestyle and wellbeing proved invaluable.

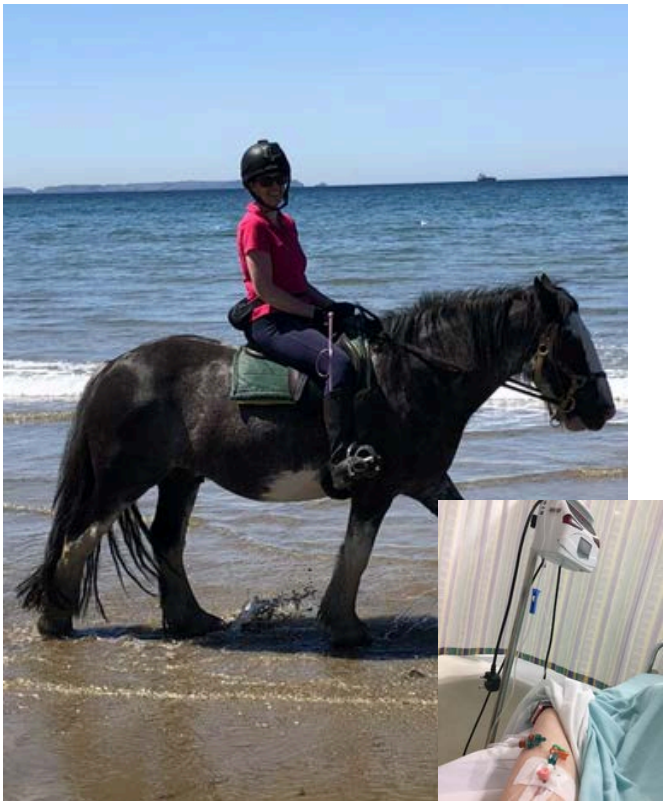
Nearly a decade on from my first symptoms, MS remains part of my life, but it does not define it.

One of the biggest lessons has been learning to adapt. Through experience, I identified dietary triggers affecting my symptoms and made significant lifestyle changes. I have also had to adjust how I work, recognising the importance of managing fatigue and chronic pain.

I joined the Metropolitan Police Service in 2005 and became a detective in 2016. Policing is far more than a profession—it is a commitment to serving others. MS has changed how I perform that role, but not my dedication to it.

While I am unlikely to return to frontline duties, I continue to contribute through investigative and administrative work.

Policing with Purpose: Living with Multiple Sclerosis



The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated how adaptable policing can be, with remote working providing opportunities for officers with long-term health conditions to remain productive and engaged.

This experience highlights an important reality: there remains a valuable place within policing for officers and staff living with chronic conditions.

Living with MS presents daily challenges. Plans can change unexpectedly, energy levels fluctuate, and even simple tasks may require significant effort. For those used to the demands and discipline of policing, adjusting expectations is not always easy. Yet resilience is deeply embedded within policing culture, and it is that resilience which enables adaptation rather than withdrawal.

During the pandemic, I became lead for the Metropolitan Police MS Support Network, helping officers and staff connect, share experiences and access support. This reinforced the importance of community—something also central to the International Police Association.

With this in mind, I am now working towards establishing an IPA MS Support Network to connect members internationally who are living with MS or supporting loved ones affected by the condition. The aim is to create a network based on shared experience, practical support and understanding.
A diagnosis such as MS changes the way you live and work, but it does not diminish your value, purpose or ability to contribute. Policing taught me resilience, adaptability and determination. MS has reinforced those lessons in ways I never expected.

Together, they have shaped a different path—one that still allows me to serve, support others and remain part of the policing family.

For further information or to support the development of an IPA MS Support Network, contact:
Lee.m.l.ellis@met.police.uk

Lee (M. Louise) Ellis
IPA UK

UK Members Help Protect the River Stour During Big Paddle Clean Up 2026



Members of the International Police Association (IPA) Regions 6 and 10 came together this week to support the Big Paddle Clean Up 2026, spending the day helping to care for one of Essex's most treasured waterways..

The group walked the route between Dedham and Flatford Mill along the banks of the River Stour, collecting litter and helping preserve the natural environment for the residents and visitors who enjoy the area.

Armed with litter pickers, bin bags and plenty of enthusiasm, members spent the day making a practical difference while enjoying the countryside and the company of fellow volunteers. The event was about much more than the amount of litter collected. It highlighted the importance of community spirit, friendship and taking responsibility for the local places we all share.

The clean-up reflects one of the International Police Association's environmental "Green Pillars", demonstrating that police officers, retired colleagues and members can continue to serve their communities beyond their professional roles.

Colin Shead - Chair of IPA 10 Region (Bedfordshire, Essex, Hertfordshire) said:

"The day was a fantastic reminder that making a difference does not always require a uniform or a formal event. Sometimes it simply takes a willingness to give up a few hours, enjoy the outdoors and leave a place a little better than you found it."



Following the clean-up, members rounded off the day with a well-deserved cream tea, celebrating not only their efforts but the friendships that are at the heart of the IPA. IPA Regions 6 and 10 hope the event will encourage others to take part in future environmental and community projects, proving that even small actions can have a lasting mpact.

"The strength of the IPA is not only in the friendships we build around the world, but the positive difference we make in the communities we call home."

Alex Watkins
VicePresident Section UK

IPA Lower Austria – "AUSTRIA" – Charity Golf Tournament 2026

The IPA Lower Austria Charity Golf Tournament 2026 was a great success and took place in perfect golfing weather. The tournament was played in the Texas Scramble format. The weather was glorious. Only the last group was caught in a sudden downpour on the 17th hole, but this didn't stop both teams from finishing the 18th hole with a pair.



Organized by Anita Tiefenbach, Chairwoman of IPA Lower Austria.

After the tournament, all participants were treated to an excellent barbecue buffet. The awards ceremony followed, during which numerous attractive prizes were presented.
... The following categories were scored:

🏌️ Longest Drive (Ladies & Men)
🏌️ Nearest to the Pin
🏆 Gross Winner
🏆 The three best net teams

A special thank you goes to Leopold Lechner, owner of the Eldorado Golf Club in Pichl near Zöbern in the Bucklige Welt region, for the excellent organization and support of this successful day of golf.

We were particularly pleased by the visit of Marion Raufer, Deputy Director of the Wiener Neustadt Forest School. The tournament's charity proceeds will be donated to the Wiener Neustadt Forest School, making a valuable contribution to a good cause.

The day culminated in a raffle, where numerous participants were delighted to win attractive prizes and lovely gifts.

We thank everyone involved for a wonderful day celebrating sport, community, and social commitment.

SERVO PER AMIKECO
Anita Tiefenbach
IPA Austria

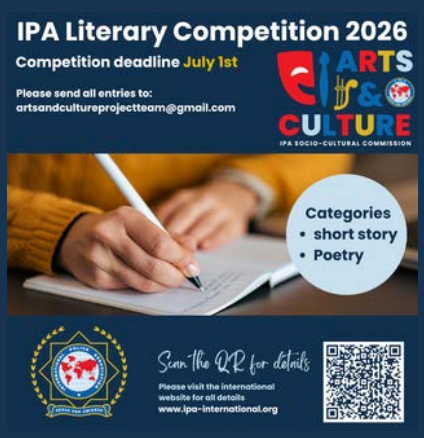
Upcoming Events



[International Photo Competition]

Open Now

Deadline 31st July 2026



[International Literary Competition]

Open Now

Deadline 1st July 2026



[International Children's Drawing Competition]

Open Now

Deadline 16th August 2026



IBZ SCHLOSS GIMBORN

[Security Actors in Interaction – Civil-Military Cooperation in the Current Situation]

6-9 July, 2026



IBZ SCHLOSS GIMBORN

[Police Street Survival Training (E)]

13-17 July, 2026



IBZ SCHLOSS GIMBORN

[Point Shooting and Firearms Skills (E)]

17-19 July, 2026,

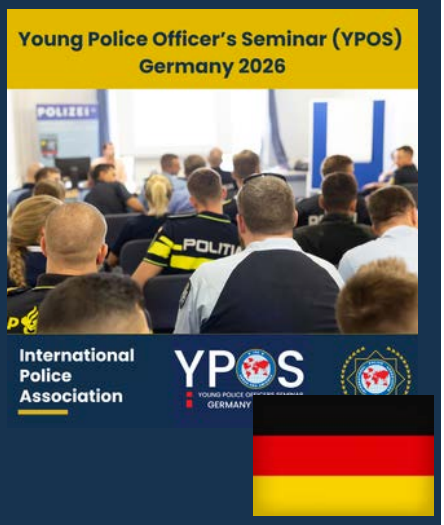
Here are some of the events taking place throughout the IPA over the next couple of months.
Visit our international website for a full list of our upcoming events:
ipa-international.org/Events

Upcoming Events



- IPA Estonia Summer Days 2026

24-26 July 2026



Young Police Officer's Seminar (YPOS)

2-9 August 2026



IPA Greece Mount Olympus Annual Hike 2026

6-7 August 2026



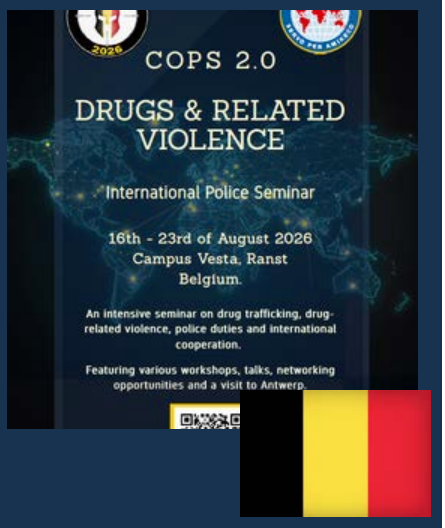
10th International IPA Friendship Meeting in Selm-Bork

7-16 August 2026



NextGen Policing Advanced – Terrorism Response & Advanced Operations

10-15 August 2026



IPA Belgium Drugs & Related Violence COPS 2.0 Seminar

16-23 August 2026

Here are some of the events taking place throughout the IPA over the next couple of months. Visit our international website for a full list of our upcoming events: ipa-international.org/Events

Gimborn Seminars

Set within the impressive surroundings of Castle Gimborn, IBZ Gimborn continues to provide outstanding international training and networking opportunities for law enforcement professionals from around the world. As one of IPA's key educational centres, it offers a diverse programme of seminars, workshops, and professional exchanges designed to encourage learning, cooperation, and the sharing of best practice.

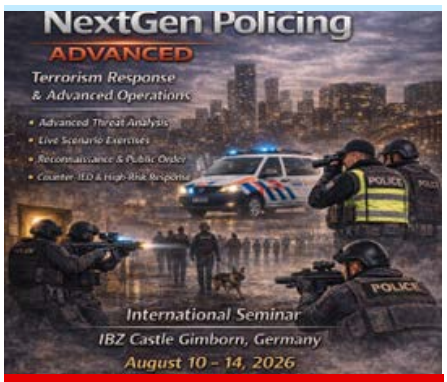


The 2026 programme features a broad selection of topics aimed at supporting professional development, strengthening international collaboration, and addressing current policing challenges. Members are encouraged to explore the upcoming seminars and take advantage of the unique opportunity to learn, exchange experiences, and build lasting international connections within the IPA family.

IBZ SCHLOSS GIMBORN
INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING & EDUCATION

Click Here

UPCOMING SEMINARS



Register Here

NextGen Policing Advanced – Terrorism Response & Advanced Operations

10-15 August 2026



Register Here

Negotiations in Crisis Situations: The Role of the Police

24-28 August 2026



Register Here

Terrorism – Recognising radicalisation, preventing attacks, dismantling networks

7-11 September 2026

Marketing

Free Marketing Tools for Sections – Linktree

Many IPA Sections use social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and WhatsApp to communicate with members and promote activities. One simple free tool that can help bring all of these together is Linktree.

Linktree allows organisations to create one single web link that contains multiple important links in one place. This is especially useful on platforms such as Instagram or Facebook where space for website links can be limited.

Instead of regularly changing links in social media profiles, Sections can simply share one Linktree page that directs members and visitors to everything they may need.

A Section could use Linktree to include:

- Membership application forms
- Event registration pages
- Newsletters
- Official websites
- Social media accounts
- Contact details
- WhatsApp groups
- Photo galleries
- Donation or fundraising pages
- Important announcements

For example, when promoting an event on Facebook or Instagram, the post could simply say: "Full details available via our Linktree link."

This makes communication easier, more organised, and more professional for both members and the public.

Marketing

Some advantages of Linktree include:

- Free and easy to set up
- Mobile-friendly
- Simple to update at any time
- No technical knowledge required
- Keeps all important information in one place
-

For smaller Sections without dedicated websites, Linktree can also act as a simple central information hub.

Combined with tools such as Canva and Meta Business Suite, Linktree can help Sections improve visibility, communication, and member engagement using free and accessible digital tools.

View our international link tree here:

Keep up to date with the IPA community by following us on social media and feel free to share our updates with friends and family.

Scan the QR code to access our Linktree and explore all our platforms. Discover how we are promoting the IPA and connecting members worldwide.



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