Police in Finland

- Preventing violent extremism
- The work of Anchor

Chief Inspector Matti Airaksinen
Police in Finland

Ministry of the Interior

National Police Board

11 Police Departments
National Bureau of Investigation
Police University College
Finland Security Intelligence Service
Why Are American Cops 100 Times Deadlier Than Finnish Police?

Paul Hirschfield, 2015
BASIC PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION

The duty of the police:
- to secure the rule of law;
- maintain public order and security;
- prevent, detect and investigate crimes;
- and submit cases to prosecutors for consideration of charges.
- The police work in cooperation with other public authorities and with communities and residents in order to maintain security, and they engage in international cooperation pertaining to their duties.

(Police Act, Section 1)

• When exercising power, police must respect people’s fundamental rights and freedoms and, when weighing up different viable options, choose the one that best promotes these principles.

• The police’s actions must be proportional to the significance, severity and urgency of the task, the desired goal, the behaviour, age, health and other characteristics of the person towards whom action is being taken, as well as other factors that affect the overall assessment of the situation.
FINNS HAVE FAIRLY OR VERY HIGH CONFIDENCE IN POLICE OPERATIONS

94%
Prevention of Violent Radicalisation and Extremism in Finland
Preventing extremism in Finland

Not only a security issue -> social challenge.

Early prevention is emphasized

Multi-agency and cross-sectoral approach
  – merging into existing cooperative structures of crime prevention.

Ambition to increase knowledge

To share and learn best practice
• Adopted in April 2016
• Bottom-up approach
• 36 measures
  1. General resilience
  2. Individuals at risks
  3. Individual that are part of extremist environments
Guiding Principles

1. The specific measures focused on groups and individuals which run the risk of becoming, or are already, radicalised
2. The primary goal: to reduce violence against people (threat of it)
3. Target all forms of violent extremism in Finland
4. Participation and transparency, clear coordination
5. Action that counters violent radicalisation and extremism as well as the promotion of democracy and human rights are mutually supportive
6. Interaction, both vertically and horizontally between different authorities, organisations and communities
7. An implementing organisation based on networking and networks
8. Effective and clear communications
PREVENTIVE EFFORTS IN FINLAND

Ramboll, Mapping -Efforts to prevent extremism in Nordic countries, 2017
The Anchor-model
Collaboration working model since 2003-2004

Early stage intervention

• Promote adolescents wellbeing

• Crime prevention
  – Prevention of violent radicalisation and ekstremism
  – In some areas, prevention of domestic violence
ROLES OF THE ANCHOR PROFESSIONALS

POLICE
- Pre trial investigation
- Legal guidance
- "Monitoring"

COMMON TASKS
- Assessment of service needs
- Collaboration with other professionals and partners
- Addressing local phenomena
- The work with adolescent and his/her family
- Forward to follow-up services

SOCIAL WORKER
- Assessment of service need
- Urgent child wellfare actions
- Review of the need for child protection

YOUTH WORKER
- Meetings with adolescents
- Support activities
- Group work

HEALTHCARE (NURSE)
- Assessment on health status
- Support on health issues
- The expertise on health services
The process of the Anchor-model

Concern for the young person:
- Suspected or reported crime
- Use of intoxicating substances
- Violent radicalisation or extremism
- Issues with well-being, such as domestic violence

Contacting Anchor

Intervention by the Anchor team:
- Anchor meetings (1–5 times) with the young person and parents
- Anchor team: experts from the police, social services, health care and youth work

Forwarding to further support, if necessary
THE ANCHOR-WORK STANDS FOR

**Adolescent**
- Providing the path to services
- Individual support with comprehensive support
- Support for the guardians

**Organization**
- Network of expertise
- Information sharing and development
- Disseminate the knowledge about the target groups

**Society**
- Provide the expertise
- Provide wide-range collaboration
- Promote internal security
WHEN THE PREVENTION FAILS
PROCUREMENT OF EQUIPMENT, GEAR AND WEAPONS

- Procurement of special weapons in 2017 to improve the capabilities of street patrols
- Procurement of protected vehicles use of special operations teams by police departments
- Technical specification for tender related to the development of undercover capabilities is under way
- Additional procurement of personal protective equipment 2018
Police patrols are trained to respond to realised threats envisaged in the emergency plan, where a person committing mass murder must be stopped by the first patrol on the scene.

Requires adequate and continuous 24/7 capabilities and operational readiness from police patrols in the field.
First call 16.02

A stabber or stabbers
Several victims
Busy city centre
The Finnish police showed its sense of duty after making the stabber harmless, the police gave him first aid and calmed the near bystanders

(Finnish news paper Ilta-Sanomat)
"Multiagency collaboration in promoting adolescents wellbeing and to crime prevention"

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