

EVALUATION REPORT IN MODULE 3

NAME OF EVALUATED UNIT: Police Academy of the Czech Republic in Prague

FORD: 5 - Social sciences

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE EVALUATED UNIT

3.1 Introductory information about the unit under evaluation

Indicator 3.1 is a non-evaluated indicator that provides basic information about the evaluated unit such as its mission and vision, organizational structure, size and staffing, or R&D&I capacities.

Commentary:

Police Academy of the Czech Republic in Prague (PA CR)

The Police Academy of the Czech Republic in Prague (PA CR) is the sole state university in the country dedicated to education, scientific research, and project work focused on the specialized training of professionals and managers within the Czech security forces.

Founded in 1992, PA CR functions as the leading academic and research institution under the authority of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. It holds a distinguished place in the Czech higher education system, particularly in the fields of security and police studies.

The Academy offers a diverse range of study programs in security sciences, criminology, law, public administration, and other disciplines closely related to the mission and operations of the security services.

PA CR comprises two main faculties:

- Faculty of Security and Law
- Faculty of Security Management

These two faculties operate as a unified academic and administrative body, without separate legal or financial autonomy.

Main Focus and Study Programs

The Police Academy of the Czech Republic in Prague (PA CR) offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs, preparing students for professional roles in security and armed forces, public administration, and the private security sector. Key study programs include:

- Security and Legal Studies
- Security management
- Criminology and Criminalistics

These programs combine theoretical knowledge with practical training, equipping graduates with the skills needed for careers in a wide range of security-related fields.

International Cooperation

PA CR is actively engaged in international collaboration through various projects, research initiatives, and academic exchange programs with partner institutions across the European Union and beyond. The Police Academy is actively involved in projects such as:

- **Prevention of child sexual abuse, assistance to victims of child sexual abuse and tools to detect child sexual abuse online** - European Commission Migration and Home Affairs, Internal Security Fund (ISF), ISF-2021

- **CHIMERA: Comprehensive hazard identification, and monitoring system for urban areas – Horizon Europe project** - Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON), Disaster-Resilient Society 2022 (HORIZON-CL3-2022-DRS-01)
- **CLARUS: Building clarity and preventing bias in digital forensic examination, interorganisational communication and interaction** - Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON), Fighting Crime and Terrorism 2022 (HORIZON-CL3-2022-FCT-01).

PA CR established for example cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Tarleton State University in Texas (USA), University of Haifa in Israel, University of Cagliari in Italy, MEPA programm and CEPOL EU Agency.

These partnerships enable both students and academic staff to participate in internships, study abroad opportunities, and research exchanges, gaining valuable international experience.

Research and Development

Research is a core pillar of PA CR's mission. The Academy conducts scientific research in areas such as:

- Security and Crisis Management
- Crime Prevention
- Public Safety and Policy

Through its research, PA CR contributes to the advancement of security science and the development of practical solutions for real-world challenges in the field.

Modern Facilities and Equipment

To support its academic and training programs, PA CR is equipped with state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories, and specialized training facilities. Key resources include:

- A fully equipped training centre
- A modern forensic analysis laboratory

These facilities provide students with hands-on experience and practical skills essential for their future careers in security-related professions.

Values and Mission

The Police Academy of the Czech Republic in Prague (PA CR) is dedicated to shaping the next generation of professionals who will play a key role in ensuring security and stability in society. The Academy emphasizes the development of professionalism, moral integrity, and ethical values in its students. These guiding principles prepare graduates to effectively address the complex and evolving security challenges of the modern world.

The Police Academy focuses mainly on applied research, using its resources efficiently to deliver practical solutions for the security sector. Unlike large universities, it does not pursue broad basic research but instead works on projects with clear, usable outcomes. Close cooperation with security institutions ensures research results are put into practice, reinforcing the Academy's role as a key centre for security education and research.

PA CR's focus on applied research aligns with its mission and the practical needs of security forces. Its goal is to equip security institutions and public administration with knowledge, analyses, methods, and strategies that can be quickly applied to enhance security and public order. Research efforts target areas like improving criminalistic methods, crime prevention, crisis management, and better cooperation within the integrated rescue system. This ensures a direct positive impact on the performance of security forces and contributes to greater internal security and public safety.

Size and staffing

From the tables presented, it can be concluded that there is a balance in the gender ratio at PA CR. From this perspective it can be stated that the staffing is also provided in the required quality and quantity, here it should be noted that there is adequate representation of professors, associate professors and assistant professors. This number is supplemented by a sufficient number of research/expert assistants when considered over the period under review. Table 3.1.2 above shows the number of academic staff in the first year of the evaluation period. These are 10 professors, 29 associate professors, 48 assistant professors and 56 assistants. Table 3.1.3 shows the number of academic staff for the last year of the evaluation period, namely 13 professors, 31 associate professors, 76 assistant professors and 39 assistants. Here, therefore, we can see a clearly positive finding that there is both a growth in qualifications and a rejuvenation of staff. In terms of the age structure of staff, there has been a shift from the previous evaluation period, but efforts should be made to develop staff qualifications and find suitable sponsors at a younger age. This appears to be a problematic factor within tertiary education in general. In terms of gender balance, the ratio is balanced, with regard to the lower representation of women among the academic staff. Compared to the previous assessment period, it can be noted there has been a positive shift in terms of gender balance, which can be considered as positive finding. Finally, we would like to comment on the number of students, from the data provided it is evident that in each year there are similar numbers, therefore it can be concluded that there is a permanent interest in education at the PA CR, which is undoubtedly related to the quality of the educational institution, but perhaps also to changes within the Czech, but also European security environment. From the above data, it can be stated that on average, approximately 2 400 students study at PA CR each year, of which almost half are women. The PA CR provides educational programmes in the Czech language, none of the educational programmes are provided in English, which corresponds to the specific focus on the internal security of the state, or on the legal order of the Czech Republic and orientation in it.

RECOGNITION BY THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

3.2 Recognition by the research community

Evaluate the position of the evaluated unit in the R&D&I research community based on the facts presented in indicator 3.2 and its annexed tables (3.2.1 to 3.2.5).

Rating [1–5]:

5 - Outstanding

Qualitative assessment:¹

PA CR demonstrates strong and consistent performance in international security research and education. Its academic staff actively contribute to the global scientific community through reputable editorial board memberships, invited lectures at prestigious institutions, and participation in evaluating significant national and European research programmes. These activities show a clear commitment to maintaining high professional standards and international reach.

Recommendations:

The high rating recognises PA CR's strong position and active contributions to the international scientific community through editorial work, invited lectures, and project evaluations. However, to achieve the highest mark, there is still potential to increase the number of large-scale international research projects led by PA CR, expand partnerships with globally leading universities and organisations - primary with leading international HEIs especially in the field of security studies and enhance its visibility in top-tier scientific journals worldwide. PA CR should continue to encourage

¹ Provide verbal assessment of the indicator and briefly comment on the reasons for awarding the specific rating. Follow a similar procedure for the other indicators.

its academic staff to publish more in renowned journals in the Scopus and WoS databases. In this context, their publications would become even better known, and the citation rate of academic staff outputs would also increase.

PA CR should facilitate international mobility and exchange opportunities, especially for early-career researchers. These steps further boost its impact and prestige on the international stage.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

3.3 Research projects

Evaluate the most important research projects of the evaluated unit, especially regarding the results achieved and the application potential of the project, the proportionality with respect to the R&D&I capacities of the evaluated unit, the degree of interdisciplinarity and collaboration with other parts of the evaluated HEI, and the consistency with the declared mission and vision of the evaluated unit. Use the data from the full list of research projects and contract research activities in Tables 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 to supplement the evaluation.

Rating [1–5]:

4 - Very good

Qualitative assessment:

The projects clearly reflect an interdisciplinary approach, combining security studies, law enforcement practice, criminology, crisis management, forensic science, psychology, digital forensics, radiation physics, and artificial intelligence. Such diversity requires cooperation between different faculties, departments, and sometimes external partners. This indicates that PA CR successfully encourages collaboration across disciplines and builds bridges within its academic structure to address complex security challenges comprehensively.

The research activities align very well with PA CR's declared mission to provide applied research that directly strengthens the effectiveness of the security forces and public administration. The practical focus, immediate usability of outputs, and emphasis on improving police practice and internal security confirm strong consistency with the institution's vision of being an important centre for security education and practice-oriented research.

Recommendations:

Seek more partnerships with top foreign universities and security organisations to raise the global impact and recognition of the projects. Join or lead bigger EU or international consortia (e.g., Horizon Europe) to access more funding and broaden the scope of research. Publish more results in indexed international journals to increase visibility and citation impact. Deepen collaboration with related fields like data science, social sciences, and ethics to strengthen the design and impact of new technologies (e.g., AI monitoring, digital forensics).

3.4 Research results with existing or prospective impact on society

Evaluate the research results already applied in practice or intended to be applied in practice. When evaluating, consider whether the results are proportionate to the R&D&I capacities of the evaluated unit, how they contribute to the fulfilment of the mission and vision of the evaluated unit and, if stated in the self-evaluation, how the results take into account the gender dimension and sustainability. Use the data from the full results summary in Table 3.4.1 to supplement the evaluation.

Rating [1–5]:

4 - Very good

Qualitative assessment:

PA CR has taken meaningful, strategic steps to build a stronger foundation for impactful research. Although direct, measurable societal results have not yet been fully realised in the period under review, this is not due to a lack of effort or activity. Instead, it reflects the natural timeline needed to develop sustainable research capacity and to translate planning and investment into concrete outputs. Strengthening the Science and Research Department, introducing an Incentive Programme to reward excellence, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, improving infrastructure, and recruiting new experts are all appropriate and well-targeted measures. These actions demonstrate clear institutional awareness of previous shortcomings and a realistic, forward-looking approach to addressing them. It is also positive that the Academy acknowledges the long-term nature of research work and sets reasonable expectations for when significant results can be expected. The first early outputs suggest that these investments are beginning to pay off.

Overall, the text reflects a mature, strategic approach to building a robust research environment that is likely to deliver relevant, practical impacts on security practice and society in the near future.

Recommendations:

Keep supporting and monitoring the strengthened research structures and incentive programme. Incentive programme should be aimed not only at (internationally recognized) excellence. To assure a strong and sustainable research quality measures to help junior researchers to make progressive steps in their career should be adopted. Help researchers win grants and publish more internationally. Expand partnerships with top foreign security research centres. Focus on turning results into practice through pilots and training. Continue encouraging interdisciplinary cooperation to tackle new security challenges. In the future, PA CR should ensure that research results are presented as widely as possible, including the general public, which may ultimately strengthen security as a whole, since citizens are also part of the security architecture of the Czech Republic and individual EU Member States. In the context of above mentioned PA CR should continue expanding applied research into emerging domains (e.g., AI-related threats, environmental security, public trust in institutions).

TRANSFER OF RESULTS INTO PRACTICE

3.5 Transfer of results into practice

Evaluate the effectiveness of the transfer of results into practice by the unit being evaluated. Pay attention to whether the composition of the stated users of the results or the way the R&D&I results are commercialised (if stated) is consistent with the R&D&I results produced and the mission and vision of the evaluated unit and how successful the evaluated unit is in its activities, such as attracting new users of the results, commercialising the R&D&I results and obtaining funding from non-public, non-grant sources.

Rating [1–5]:

5 - Outstanding

Qualitative assessment:

The text clearly shows that PA CR has well-developed, practical pathways for transferring its research into real-world security practice. The partnerships with the Ministry of the Interior and a wide range of security institutions — including the Police Presidium, specialised police departments, the General Inspectorate of Security Forces, the Fire Brigade, the Integrated Rescue System, and the Customs Administration — illustrate that the Academy's research outputs are directly used by those who need them most.

The types of outputs — threat analyses, methodologies, training, legislative proposals, and guidelines — are concrete, actionable, and directly aligned with the daily operations of these institutions. This close, structured collaboration helps ensure that PA CR's research is not only theoretically sound but also relevant, practical, and immediately applicable to current security challenges, from organised crime and cybercrime to crisis management and corruption prevention.

Overall, this effective transfer mechanism strongly supports PA CR's mission as an applied research institution focused on delivering real impact in the field of internal security and public safety.

Recommendations:

Keep strengthening these practical partnerships, expand cooperation to other relevant bodies where possible and document real-world impacts to demonstrate the value of research to policymakers and society. We recommend that the PA CR record the submitted research results and at the same time monitor their influence or impact on individual subjects. PA CR should consider piloting cross-border knowledge exchange formats, e.g. bilateral workshops with partner police academies or ministries.

POPULARIZATION OF VAVAI

3.6 The most important activities in the field of popularization of R&D&I and communication with the public

Evaluate how active and successful the evaluated unit is in the field of popularisation of R&D&I and communication with the public.

Rating [1–5]:

5 - Outstanding

Qualitative assessment:

PA CR's popularisation and outreach activities are well-structured and clearly aligned with its mission to strengthen its role as a security research and education hub. By engaging both the expert community and the wider public, the Academy successfully raises awareness of its scientific work, promotes security topics, and builds its reputation. Participation in major security fairs (IDET, Future Forces Forum) ensures that research results and expertise are visible to both professionals and the public. The active use of these events for discussions and demonstrations is a strong point that brings research closer to real-life application. The Student Scientific and Professional Activities (SVOČ) competition is a valuable tool for motivating students to engage with research early, building practical research skills and nurturing the next generation of experts in security and law. Involvement in the Gaudeamus fair and regular Open Days help connect the Academy with future students and the public, creating awareness of study opportunities and the importance of applied security research. Finally, the Lifelong Learning Courses are a clear example of how PA CR extends its impact beyond its own students, offering knowledge transfer to practitioners and the professional public, which in turn strengthens the practical relevance of its research outputs.

Recommendations:

Maintain and expand these outreach activities with a clear strategy for measuring their impact. Consider developing more interactive formats (e.g. workshops, webinars) to reach wider audiences. Highlight real research success stories at these events to demonstrate PA CR's impact on society. Consider also offering more Lifelong Learning Courses to engage broader, non-specialist audiences and support continuous education.

PA CR should explore opportunities for digital popularization, such as short-form videos, webinars, or podcasts on general security topics.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

3.7 Implementation of the recommendations in Module 3

Evaluate how the evaluated unit has reflected the recommendations from the previous evaluation of the IEP, if applicable.

If the evaluated unit has not been evaluated before, the indicator will be marked as N/A – Not Applicable.

Rating [1–5]:

4 - Very good

Qualitative assessment:

PA CR has responded well to the recommendations from the previous evaluation. It recognises its unique position and correctly focuses on benchmarking itself according to its special mission rather than trying to fit into metrics for general universities. There is clear evidence of progress in ensuring the practical applicability of research results, which aligns well with its mission of serving internal security bodies and the public. The emphasis on national and international security projects shows the institution is moving in the right direction. The effort to extend researchers' activities regionally is positive — more networking and external engagement help expand PA CR's impact beyond its immediate environment, supporting local security strategies and broadening its professional community ties. The popularisation of sensitive research remains challenging but is handled appropriately. Despite confidentiality constraints, PA CR uses fairs, open days, and public education events to raise awareness and maintain transparency where possible.

Recommendations:

Keep focusing on mission-based evaluation — continue to justify unique outputs with clear impact on security practice rather than purely academic outputs.

Increase practical transfer — prioritise partnerships that guarantee direct use of results in policing and crisis management.

Strengthen regional outreach — expand regional networks and local partnerships to share expertise widely.

Innovate popularisation — explore secure ways to share more anonymised insights or case studies to boost public understanding without breaching confidentiality.

EVALUATED UNIT RATING

Evaluation of unit

Having evaluated the individual criteria of module M3, please summarise your evaluation in the context of the module, describing and justifying the strengths and weaknesses of the unit being evaluated.

3.1 Introductory information about the unit under evaluation	NOT RATED
3.2 Recognition by the research community	5 - Outstanding
3.3 Research projects	4 - Very good
3.4 Research results with existing or prospective impact on society	4 - Very good
3.5 Transfer of results into practice	5 - Outstanding
3.6 The most important activities in the field of popularization of R&D&I and communication with the public	5 - Outstanding
3.7 Implementation of the recommendations in Module	4 - Very good
Average rating [1–5]:	5 - Outstanding

Grade [A–D]:	A
Summary assessment: The Police Academy of the Czech Republic (PA CR) demonstrates clear alignment between its mission and its research and development activities. Its orientation towards applied security research is appropriate and strongly justified by its primary role — to support the internal security system, public order, and the practical needs of the police and other security forces. The institution has shown progress in strengthening its research capacity, for example through the development of the Science and Research Department, incentive schemes, and better support for grant applications. While the direct societal impact of its research outputs is still emerging, the groundwork laid should yield measurable results in the coming period. PA CR is well integrated in the professional community, with staff actively participating in editorial boards of respected journals, delivering invited lectures abroad, and evaluating major national and European research programmes. This confirms its reputation and growing contribution to shaping security policy. In terms of projects, the Academy conducts research with clear practical outputs — such as methodologies for crisis management, tools to combat cybercrime and child abuse, or innovations in forensic science and CBRNe detection. These projects show strong applicability, interdisciplinary collaboration, and coherence with PA CR’s specialised mission. The Academy ensures knowledge transfer through close ties with the Ministry of the Interior and operational bodies like the Police Presidium, GIBS, Fire Brigade, and Customs Administration, Intelligence Services. This direct cooperation guarantees that results are used in practice to strengthen internal security. In popularisation and public communication, PA CR effectively balances the constraints of working with sensitive security topics with public engagement — through fairs, open days, student competitions, and lifelong learning courses. These activities help strengthen its visibility, recruit motivated students, and maintain a positive public image. Finally, the Academy is aware of its unique position among Czech and international HEIs and rightly focuses on its specific mission when setting goals and measuring progress, rather than trying to replicate the profile of a conventional university. Overall, the Police Academy of the Czech Republic is on the right track: its efforts to build capacity, focus on practical impact, extend regional and international cooperation, and share results where possible create a solid basis for further growth and for delivering security research with clear societal benefit.	
Summary recommendations: Maintain focus on applied, practical research Continue prioritising projects with clear real-world application that directly support security forces and public safety. Strengthen links between research outputs and practical use in police practice and crisis management. Accelerate visible societal impact Monitor the effectiveness of the strategic measures already taken (e.g., incentive schemes, support for grants) to ensure that tangible results — such as methodologies, tools, and legislative proposals — are produced and implemented without unnecessary delays. We recommend that the University continue to disseminate its findings not only to experts, but also to general public. Broaden interdisciplinary and regional cooperation Encourage wider collaboration with other universities, regional authorities, and security stakeholders beyond the current partnerships. This will boost the reach and relevance of research results. Expand capacity and expertise	

Keep strengthening research teams by attracting new experts, supporting junior researchers, and promoting knowledge transfer between experienced and early-career staff.

Enhance public communication where possible

Continue efforts to popularise research results in areas where security constraints allow. Develop new formats for public engagement — for example, policy briefs, practitioner workshops, or targeted media outputs that communicate key findings to relevant communities and enhance civil society awareness of security issue.

Keep leveraging the unique position of PA CR

Ensure that all internal evaluations, development plans, and external comparisons reflect the specific mission and role of PA CR — training security professionals and conducting mission-oriented security research rather than basic academic science.

By following these recommendations, PA CR can strengthen its position as a trusted national leader in applied security research and ensure that its academic and practical contributions have measurable, long-term impact on internal security and public safety.

Ověřovací doložka změny datového formátu dokumentu podle § 69a zákona č. 499/2004 Sb.

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