



## **DELIVERABLE 2.4 FINAL REPORT: Unity – Ethical, legal and socially responsible framework for training, awareness raising and exploitation.**

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**Lead Beneficiary of this deliverable: Edinburgh Napier University**

**Dissemination Level: Public**

Project Title: Unity

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## Executive summary of D2.4

**Purpose:** the main aim of Deliverable 2.4 is to provide research evidence which supports Work Package 8 and the construction of legal, ethical and socially responsible frameworks which will be utilised to support community police (CP) training, locally based CP awareness exercises and finally the exploitation and dissemination of the results produced by the Unity project.

**Methods:** the recommendations reported here are drawn from a re-examination of primary data collected by Unity partners for Deliverables 2.1, D2.2, D2.3 and D3.1, 3.2 and 3.4, and a review of wider CP and other relevant literature. In total 323 participants from young minority groups, intermediaries who support minority groups, police personnel involved in CP, legal experts, advocates and academics took part in structured interviews.

**Training for Community Policing (CP):** CP, in contrast to response or reactive policing is based on a problem solving, preventative approach to local crime issues. It looks to provide a visible and dedicated local officer within a geographically bounded area and includes the involvement of the local community itself in identifying police priorities. The change in direction, for some policing organisations, from a reactive and response led policing service towards a more preventative and problem solving style of policing which looks towards a focus of crime prevention, community engagement and partnership working, has prompted many police scholars to argue that ongoing CP training is required to support the "...fundamental and strategic changes in almost all areas of policing" (Palmiotto et.al. 2000:80) which are brought about by the implementation of operational CP. Not all serving police officers can be assumed to have the specific skills or knowledge base required to carry out the core tasks of CP and it is this notion which supports the Unity aim of developing a legal, ethical and socially responsible framework of training for CP to ensure that the most effective form of local policing is being delivered at each local area.

In summary research finding presented in D2.4 show that:

- Many participants, including the police, believe they do not have the correct training or knowledge to deal with some minority groups.
- From the perspective of research participants local police do not have the relevant training and resources to engage with minority groups.
- Average participant responses from partner countries indicate that the police are not effective at engaging minority groups and there is room for improvement in relation to enhancing police understanding of the issues faced by minority groups.
- Findings indicate that current engagement practices are predominantly unsuccessful in assessing the needs of various groups.
- Specific issues that minority groups find more difficult to discuss with the police varied by country but common issues included: domestic violence, personal /family issues, sexuality /LGBT, trust in the police, sexual offences and culturally specific issues.
- Across partner countries there was a general perception that at present CP is not being delivered equally within and between communities.

## Summary of recommendations for CP training:

1. Findings indicate that there is a general requirement for specific CP training across all partner countries for their policing organisations.
2. Training should be provided to police personnel and local community members should be provided with CP awareness raising days which will foster two way communication and improve each group's knowledge of the core concepts, principles and expectations of community policing in the local context.
3. Training for officers should focus on communication skills and highlight effective engagement practices, particularly focusing on 'hard to reach' groups.
4. Palmiotto et.al. (2000) emphasise the importance of CP officers developing a capacity for critical thinking in the field.
5. Training should support a problem solving and a preventative approach.
6. Training should include a focus on the social and cultural background, norms and roles of local minority communities and should include:
  - LGBT issues and hate crime
  - Sexual violence
  - Domestic abuse/violence, with additional culturally specific training
  - Specific cultural knowledge should be provided to all police officers in an attempt to prevent stereotypical assumptions being made, e.g. Roma
7. Training should be ongoing throughout the working life of officers and ideally be provided to all serving police officers.
8. Training should be learner led and contextualised with real life experiences e.g. problem based learning.
9. Feedback should be provided by learners and training should be evaluated.
10. Training should be follow European legislation in ensuring all people across society have equal access to and are fully engaged in civic life.
11. In order to enhance the professional attitudes, conduct and interactions of officers training should foster procedural justice and be in line with the European Code of Police Ethics.
12. Training should focus on improving knowledge on the problems faced by minority groups and understanding and assessing their needs.

Awareness raising and exploitation: Deliverable 2.4 also sets out Unity's recommendations for the ethical, legal and socially responsible awareness raising and exploitation of the project findings and outcomes. Developing an exploitation and dissemination framework is integral to each individual Horizon 2020 project with an expectation that each project will provide,

"...targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public), in a strategic and effective manner and possibly engaging in a two-way exchange (Article 38 of the model grant agreement)"

In terms of raising awareness of community policing in general and the technological outputs generated by the project in an ethically, legally and socially responsible way, this deliverable recommends that dissemination is conducted locally by consortium

partners using a wide variety of communication platforms that will be accessible to all member of the public. This would include public meetings and face to face discussions for those who do not have access to the internet, advertising in local media outlets and utilising the variety of pre-existing social media platforms. Partners when conducting dissemination and awareness raising should also be cognisant of the variety of local languages and dialects used in their region and ensure that their activities are suited to the local demographics and meet with the requirement of current European legislation.

The recommendations reported here also set out the proposed exploitation framework for Unity outputs. These include conducting market analysis to identify key stakeholders, utilising a variety of platforms and languages suited to each audience group whilst protecting the intellectual and/or industrial property rights of each consortium partner.

The research which supports the Unity project was conducted within a strict ethical, socially responsible and legal framework based on the European Convention on Human Rights. This was done to ensure that the research aims of the project were met with integrity at all times. In section 7 of D2.4 we use the wider academic research ethics literature to underpin and situate the consortiums exploitation, dissemination and awareness raising activities at the local level. The consortium partners are also responsible for ensuring that all awareness raising, exploitation and dissemination activities are legally based and socially responsible.