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Akademia e Kosovës për Siguri Publike/ Kosovska Akademija za Javnu Bezbednost
Kosovo Academy for Public Safety

4th INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

**IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON INTEGRITY
OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY SECTOR**

16 - 18 November 2022
Prishtinë/Priština, Kosovo

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

From 16 to 18 November 2022, the Kosovo Academy for Public Safety (KAPS) will organize the fourth International Scientific Conference entitled "Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Integrity of Public Safety and Security".

The Conference will focus on negative effects, mitigation and responses for recovery stages of the security and safety sector on COVID-19 impacts to security. The Conference is supported by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and will be held in Prishtinë/Priština, Kosovo.

Academics, students, scientific researchers and other independent professionals or employed in the fields of public safety and security, state institutions, educational and research institutions from Kosovo, Western Balkans, Europe and wider are invited to present their views through the scientific papers on how COVID-19 pandemic impacted law enforcement integrity in their respective countries and/or societies.

During the Conference, participants will be asked to present their research or like documents in English, Albanian or Serbian, as professional simultaneous interpretation will be provided in all three aforementioned languages.

Objective of the Conference

Global challenges, such as pandemics and different human-made or natural disasters and their effects impact the integrity of public safety agencies, oblige societies to increase investment on prevention, and bolster proactive education and training efforts for public safety officers.

Similarly to naturally occurring critical incidents that cause damage on society, such as hurricanes, floods or earthquakes, but also those dealing with modern security threats, such as terrorism, COVID-19 pandemic has also exposed key obstacles on law enforcement. Such impacts include, but are not limited to, communication, human resources management, enforcement of public health restrictions, and increase of crime and/or new criminal modalities. Due to these global challenges, their prevention, recovery stages and the need to exchange expertise in order to face with these threatening challenges for the mankind in the initial phases, the Conference aims to highlight measures for responses to pandemics and other similar extraordinary situations in order to primarily ensure safety, security and welfare of law enforcement officers and the communities they serve.

In this context, research work that will be presented at the Conference, including recommendations that may emerge, will serve KAPS and its Institute for Research and Development to include recommendations in its study programme in the field of public safety. In addition, research work will assist KAPS to establish new study programmes for prevention and better managing of the public safety and security

sector. This will enable an increase in competence of those officers who provide direct public safety initiatives, and also to improve care of existential threats caused by pandemic outbreaks. Commitment of KAPS by focusing on prevention and recovery of the most pressing issues for managers and executives of the public safety agencies and relevant institutions during natural disasters and pandemics will further increase integrity of public safety providers.

Purpose of the Conference

The Conference aims to bring together researchers in the field of public safety and security from Kosovo, Western Balkans, Europe and elsewhere, with an aim of exchanging local and international experiences and presenting the models of mitigation of pandemics effects and recovery measures from COVID-19. Such models and response undertaken by respective institutions, their concrete experiences, challenges and scientific findings from research, will enhance the participants' practical approaches to prevent transnational common threats, such as what occurred during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kosovo, more than others, needs to learn from the experiences and results achieved elsewhere and apply such best practices through addressing the COVID-19 pandemic and the challenges dealing with the integrity of public safety agencies in emergency and extraordinary situations.

Structure of the Conference

The Conference will be organized in plenary sessions in Prishtinë/Priština with in-person and hybrid platforms. KAPS seeks 28 - 30 professionals to present one of the topics related to impact of pandemic, prevention or undertaken measures for recovery as follows:

- Ethics and integrity of law enforcement officers during emergency situations or the COVID-19 pandemic
- Community policing and challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Probation Service and the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on its integrity
- Correctional Service and the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on its integrity
- Customs and the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on its integrity
- Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services and the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on their integrity
- Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on advancing the technological platforms on Public Safety and Security Training and Education
- Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on increasing the types of crimes
- Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on increasing the Cyber Security crimes, Fake News and the Cyber Crime security in general
- Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) in the Age of COVID-19 pandemic

- Mental Health and Policing during times of crises and pandemics
- Women in Policing and impact of COVID-19 pandemic
- Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on Domestic Violence and challenges on Victim Protection and Interviewing
- Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on Sexual Harassment and challenges on Victim Protection and Interviewing
- Best practices of comprehensive training curriculum development that includes realistic scenarios for managing emergency situations, natural disasters and pandemics

All abstracts will be analysed by KAPS Scientific Board and each accepted abstract will be presented at the Conference. The presentation of scientific research papers will be done in Microsoft Power Point. Each presentation is scheduled at maximum 20 minutes and allow for an additional maximum of 5 minutes for questions and answers from the audience.

Important dates

Abstract submission: to 10 October 2022

Notification on acceptance of Abstracts: from 10 October 2022 to 15 October 2022

Final paper submission: from 16 October 2022 to 25 October 2022

Notification on full paper review results: from 26 October 2022 to 5 November 2022

Conference dates: 16 - 18 November 2022

Submission and Review Process

The KAPS Scientific Board (the Board) remains with the discretionary authority to select participant submissions that will be presented during the Conference. If the papers are accepted by the Board, the author(s) will be notified on participation in the Conference. Accepted submission will include notification to the author(s) with the "Structure and Standards of the scientific paper", based on which the papers will be prepared and submitted.

Abstracts shall contain a minimum of 250 words, but a maximum of 300 words, with 4 - 5 keywords. Abstracts may be submitted via e-mail or USB/CD to KAPS in Vushtrri/Vučitrn.

Submitted abstracts must be written in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Official languages of the Conference are Albanian, Serbian and English. The abstract of papers presented in all three languages;
- It should contain full name of the author/authors, institutional affiliation and e-mail address;
- The text should be written and typed with 1.15 space between the lines in "Times New Roman" font with font size 12.

Papers and presentations must not have been previously published or presented elsewhere.

After submission of abstracts and evaluation, based on the schedule above, authors will be notified of their participation in the Conference, as well as with additional details, such as agenda, venue and presentation modalities.

For any question regarding the Conference, please do not hesitate to contact us at the following points of contact:

- Conference Organization Commission, kaps.conference@rks-gov.net.
- Dr. Ferid Azemi, Head of Research & Development, at ferid.azemi@rks-gov.net
- OSCE Mission in Kosovo KAPS Adviser, Ms. Shpresa Muharremi, e-mail at shpresa.muharremi@osce.org

The Conference proceedings will be published in a volume provided with an ISBN. Further information about the Conference can be found on the official website of KAPS at <http://aksp-ks.net>, and specifically at "KONFERENCA" at <http://aksp-ks.net/?page=1,265>

We would be grateful if you will share this call for participation with your colleagues and collaborators.

Thank you for your interest.

This Conference is supported by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo