

Acknowledgements

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The Second SIPR Annual Lecture

by Jürgen Storbeck

Changing Challenges for Homeland Security in Germany and Europe

2nd September 2008



SIPR Annual Lecture

sponsored by ALPHA Translating & Interpreting Services Ltd.

- Chair: Peter Wilson (former Chief Constable, Fife Constabulary)
- 18.00 Introduction: Professor Nicholas Fyfe (SIPR)
- 18.10 Jürgen Storbeck (Director General for Homeland Security in the Ministry of Interior of the State of Brandenburg), "Changing challenges for homeland security in Germany and Europe"
- c. 18.50 Q & A Session and Vote of Thanks (John Graham, Police Foundation)
- c. 19.05 Sponsor: ALPHA Translating & Interpreting Services Ltd.
Selma Rahman, Business Manager (Public Sector)
- c. 19.15 Depart



Major Conference Sponsor



Major Annual Lecture Sponsor

Alpha Translating & Interpreting Services Ltd is delighted to be associated with
The Second SIPR Annual Conference and Annual Lecture, Edinburgh, 2nd September 2008
as Principal Annual Lecture Sponsor

The Annual Lecture, held in partnership with the Police Foundation and given by Mr Jurgen Storbeck, continues a reference common to both the Conference and Lecture, that of challenges and changes.

By examining the plenary and network sessions from the day conference, there is the potential to identify and thread both challenges and changes throughout the whole event, and to see these as including the challenges and changes associated with 'communications'.

Alpha has witnessed the need for and the subsequent changes throughout our 11 year history of engagement in Scotland, as lead translating and interpreting service provider in Scotland, specialising in provision to the criminal justice sector/cjs.

The main drivers for change to date in the UK and Scotland were linked to two seminal events, both infamous murder cases, in 1993 and 1998. Scotland saw the emergence of 'The Lord Advocate's Guidelines, creating the first recognised framework in relation to linguistic provision: a cornerstone set down in May 2001. In October 2001, two reports were laid before the Scottish Parliament, with seven specific recommendations, identifying and addressing pertinent issues with long lasting and continuing outcomes for the cjs.

Alpha's service provision to its clients: cjs, public, private and ngo sectors, operates within a (basic) three way relationship: the client, Alpha as the service provider, and linguists.

Since career development and prospects are two major factors that are important to individuals considering their career path, we continue to see both changes and challenges in the talent pool and availability of linguists.

There remains the urgent need for the establishment of a sustainable career path for professional linguists that is accompanied by the appropriate tools to set standards, support, promote and validate these professionals, in the same regulated manner as benefits other professions.

But, whatever the challenges and changes, the rights and responsibilities of individuals, communities, groups, and states must be engaged with and communicated.

There lies a prime role for linguistics: facilitating communication to ensure a just, fair and inclusive society.

Alpha would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the conference & lecture organisers and to continue to offer our support to the criminal justice sector.

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The SIPR Annual Lecture

JÜRGEN STORBECK



Jürgen Storbeck is the Director General for Homeland Security in the Ministry of Interior of State of Brandenburg, with responsibility for the Police and the Fire Brigades. Prior to this, he served as the Federal Interior Minister's Coordinator for Law Enforcement and Security Co-operation with the States of the Arab Peninsula and the Gulf region. Mr. Storbeck has held the position of Director General of Europol and Head/Coordinator of Europol Drugs Unit (forerunner of Europol) in The Hague, Netherlands. He was also the Head of the European Union Project Team tasked to establish Europol. Before coming to Europol, Mr. Storbeck held different senior management functions in German Federal Criminal Police Office and the German Ministry of Interior and acted as the German Liaison Officer in the General Secretariat of ICPO-Interpol in St. Cloud. He majored in law studies at the Universities of Bonn, Tübingen and Munich.

Changing Challenges for Homeland Security in Germany and Europe

Globalisation of trade and life, a greater part of Europe without border controls, Internet and IT, asymmetric threats by terrorism and the growing menace of Organised Crime result in a new understanding of security. Governments, law enforcement and security agencies, private business, but also the citizens realise the vulnerability of society, economy and infrastructures. Therefore, increasing attention is paid to elaborating and adjusting relevant safety and security strategies. Key issues are cooperation and interoperability of various actors at a national and international level in order to create synergy effects and allow for an effective and efficient use of the available resources. In summary, a tendency to create integrated or coordinated structures embracing different actors, including police, fire departments, civil defence, and natural disaster response - and sometimes military, security services and others - can be observed.

Practical examples for this development are found at European and national level. The relevance of Europol, Eurojust, Frontex and OLAF - not only as information exchange agencies and coordination bodies but also as regards the involvement in investigations - is growing. The recent initiative of the Kingdom of Sweden on simplifying the exchange of information and intelligence between law enforcement authorities of EU member states, in particular as regards serious offences including terrorist acts, has the potential to alter the existing centralised mechanisms in international cooperation to more decentralised procedures and networks, thus facilitating in a final stage direct contacts between member states' law enforcement authorities at all hierarchical levels.

In Germany currently a review of the "Programme for Homeland Security" which came into force in 1994 is under way. With regard to the federal police and security structures in Germany, this undertaking launched by the Federal State of Brandenburg aims at updating the existing Programme with the aim to develop a comprehensive and overarching (national) security strategy. The new Programme shall evaluate and react on the risks of new open borders to the states of Middle and Eastern Europe, the threats by Islamic terrorism, Organised Crime and forms of criminality in the virtual world of the Internet.

A similar EU-wide security programme is a "Must"; it may draw upon existing but not yet really implemented strategies for fighting crime and terrorism. A key question will be how to integrate the national approaches of EU member states in an overarching European Security Programme.