

The CREOGN Research Notes

French Gendarmerie Officers Academy Research Centre

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STRENGTHENING CLOSER TIES WITH THE PUBLIC

Four main objectives to be achieved, comprising a total of 17 recommendations:

► STRENGTHENING INFORMATION SHARING WITH THE PUBLIC

- Improving transparency in police operations;
- Encourage the public to share feedback regarding the quality of interactions with law enforcement;
- To increase public awareness of the structure, operations, and role of law enforcement agencies, as well as public safety issues;
- Develop an official app to collect and track security issues reported by the public.

► CHANGING THE WORKING CULTURE OF THE POLICE FORCE

- Teach, promote, and encourage collaborative approaches at all organizational levels;
- Rewrite the oath;
- Ensure that law enforcement officers possess empathetic qualities through recruitment and training;
- Promote best practices for interactions with the public. Ensure that inappropriate conduct by law enforcement officers is dealt with effectively;
- Strengthen the “non-judicial” evaluation of services and staff;
- Ensure a continuum of partnership practices within regions with similar characteristics.

► SHAPING YOUNG PEOPLE'S PERCEPTIONS

- Develop appropriate ways to engage (social media, simulation games, sports, etc.) by using “relationship magnets” (animals, vehicles, technology, etc.);
- Increase opportunities for interaction and engagement, both in person and online, between young people and law enforcement;
- Develop and fund a “prevention and safety program” that spans the entire school cycle from elementary school through middle school.

► GET THE PUBLIC MORE INVOLVED

- Establish a genuine system for citizen participation in the governance of national and local public safety policies;
- Build and retain a dedicated team focused on community outreach and prevention;
- Experiment with forming outreach teams that combine active-duty and reserve gendarmes with young volunteers from the Universal National Service (SNU);
- Select, train, and employ SNU youth with the strongest interpersonal skills for prevention, mediation, and outreach assignments.