The geopolitical uncertainty, that has become a feature of our time, is characterized by a wide range of global problems, a part of which are cross-border. Organized crime, terrorism, environmental deterioration, disputes over and exploitation of natural resources, uncontrolled refugee flows connected to illegal immigration and poverty have become global risks for the entire humanity. As a direct consequence, the security concept has been undergoing a dramatic transformation in multiple sectors, posing increasingly complex challenges. Alongside globalization and the spread of networked and hyper-connected technologies, there are new Police tasks, significantly increased in complexity and scale, that influence local, national, regional and international decisions determining security challenges that need to be assessed by actors operating at different levels.

In this context, the Carabinieri have recently celebrated the 203rd Anniversary of their foundation. Since then, the Carabinieri have assisted generations of Italians, with their attentive and reassuring presence, playing a key role in Italian history as tireless protagonists of historical events, both in their homeland and in international engagements, to restore peace and security in collapsed Countries. During more than two centuries of history, the Carabinieri have been irreplaceable guarantors of “private and public security”, sharing all difficult and at times tragic moments, but always following a path marked by high loyalty to the institutions and dedicated to protect the citizens, following the values that have always represented the core of our identity. It is important just to recall here- for those who are not perfectly acquainted with our Institution – that the Carabinieri have a unique identity soul, determined by being, at one time, an Armed Force with Military Police tasks and a Police Force with a general competence and an international vocation. This nature has required specific capabilities, among which the participation in international missions, with Military Police and peacekeeping Units, always working to defend the weaker, contributing in the frontline of the fight to guarantee peace and global security.

In this regard, with the support of MSUs original establishment in destabilized areas and the international recognition of its reliability, the Carabinieri have become a more requested protagonist in the stabilization of completely or partially collapsed Countries, where the application of principles aimed at supporting, training and monitoring local civil Police Forces has been always appreciated by the International Community.

This is the starting point to fully understand the particular mission of the Carabinieri Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units. The CoESPU is a unique think-tank, a hub to develop training and educational activities manned by 150 highly specialized Carabinieri. In this Center, the doctrines for Stability Police Units are studied, developed and promoted by means of a holistic approach in collaboration with the most important international academic and research institutes. At the Center, high level courses are delivered to Police officers, commissioned and non-commissioned, from all over the world. The CoESPU represents a combination of the best Police forces capabilities, an Italian excellence in the international security training sector. In this vein, I am pleased to present the current issue of the CoESPU Magazine 2017, which will allow You to discover the wide range of CoESPU activities.

Have a good and, above all, profitable reading!

Tullio Del Sette
Carabinieri Commanding General
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The current international landscape is characterised by widespread instability. This leads to conflicts that may not be limited in scope and that feed on political, social, economic, environmental or religious factors, especially in areas subject to economic and social tensions. If today we think of the threat, the terrorist organization called Daesh comes immediately to our mind, for its global dimension, its organizational effectiveness and the symbolic power of attraction that spurred many more malicious effects to the detriment of the entire international community, e.g. foreign fighters, lone wolves/self-radicalization phenomena. A threat, the terrorism, which only recently has acquired the characteristics of a marked “geographical pattern”, while it had assumed different connotations in previous historical periods. However, it indeed represents only a step in the “cyclical flow” of the crisis, according to which, more or less every ten years, the international community deals with the emergence of new threats on the strategic-military level.

Therefore, about every decade, the strategic approach of the international community has changed in relation to the emergence of new forms of threat, beginning with intra-state conflicts of the 1990s in former Soviet areas, proceeding with international terrorism in the aftermath of September 11th, 2001, to the current hybrid threat posed by jihadist terrorism.

This is a trend of particular importance for the “insiders” of the defence, since it imposes profound organizational changes and adaptations to be always in a position of advantage to anticipate, as far as possible, the seeds of the next crisis, preparing adequate tools and capabilities to be ready for the
moment they will be required. This principle is valid also for the International Organizations, which sometimes change too often and too rapidly. Nowadays we could say that we are facing security challenges coming from two arcs of crisis and instability lapping on NATO and Europe’s borders: the southern one from the Middle East invests North Africa and sub-Saharan/Sahel region, and the eastern one, which encompasses the Black Sea and the eastern Mediterranean from the Baltic Sea. Italy, whose strategy is focused on the Mediterranean for obvious historical and mostly geographical reasons, promotes in all international fora as well as in terms of domestic policy, the development of strategies to deal with the security challenges emerging on this so-called “Southern Flank” of NATO and Europe. In the meantime, we do not shirk our responsibilities, as an active and engaged member of the most relevant International Organizations, wherever asked to intervene.

The “Southern Flank” presents a great complexity and evokes a multi-shaped threat that is not limited to the countries facing the Mediterranean, but includes other areas, namely the Arabic Peninsula, Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa and the Horn of Africa. But not only, because the two arcs of crisis merge in the Black Sea and the Balkan regions. All of these have direct and indirect influence on the security of the Mediterranean basin. More specifically, this wider area is where multiple phenomena converge, such as institutional fragility, uncontrolled migration, faith-inspired terrorism and the proliferation of transnational criminal organisations that thrive on illegal trafficking, first and foremost of human beings. In this scenario, a “triangular” relationship emerges, which requires the need to act simultaneously and synergistically - at the political, diplomatic and military level - on three variables: the fight against terrorist phenomena, the contrast to the criminal network that draws profits from migratory flows and the contribution to the stability of the countries of Northern Africa and Middle East. Only an informed action taken by governments and the international
community towards this “three-dimensional” approach will enable the difficult stabilization process to progress, with beneficial effects on the entire region. Provided that there is no single causal link between the three components mentioned, and in particular between terrorism and the migratory phenomenon.

A need that calls for a multidisciplinary and 360-degree engagement through a whole-of-government approach that requires not only a more intense action by legal, intelligence and security systems, but also a more articulate and synergistic cooperation among the various international and institutional actors involved.

With specific regard to terrorism, we have to expect that foreign fighters returning to their countries of origin, as well as proselytism and radicalization phenomena will facilitate the spreading of terrorist techniques and tactics within our countries. This specific threat, therefore, could even expand, marking the beginning of a not less dangerous season and, maybe, more difficult to be contained.

The complexity and the scale of the challenges requires an ability to respond globally and synergistically.

As a consequence, no measures to limit migration can be adopted unless accompanied by other initiatives in the affected countries, for instance fighting terrorism, supporting stability, and capacity building. In order to face the threats that originate along such flank, Italy supports the idea that an integrated and international answer is required and should be developed to prevent and address crises in multiple fields. From a military point of view, this translates into the NATO project known as ‘Hub for the South’, an organisation that will be located at the NATO HQ - Naples to coordinate and implement all security-related courses of action in that area.

This is especially true in the international arena, where our country has always been a very active and convinced supporter - if not promoter - of the many initiatives launched by the International Community in the last two decades, both in the framework of the reference International Organizations (UN, NATO, EU) and adhering to other forms of intervention such as the Coalitions of the Willings.
Currently, Italian Armed Forces deploy approximately 7,000 soldiers in 32 operations in 21 different crisis areas, while 7,100 are engaged in homeland security operation in close coordination with national police forces.

International organizations with the instruments at their hands, are the only that can ensure consensus, legitimacy and proportionate use of force, and develop a coherent intervention path from prevention to stabilization and normalization. This is the reason why we must sustain with renewed attention the role of International Organizations in dealing with crisis.

Referring to the UN missions, thirteen traditional peacekeeping missions were established between 1948 and 1978, while none between 1978 and the collapse of Soviet Union. Those missions, consisting mainly of unarmed observers, typically occurred only after a conflict had ended and with the consent of belligerent parties.

The end of Cold War, instead, created new demand, opportunities and incentives for intervention, leading to an unprecedented increase in the number and scale of military interventions conducted under the flag of UN. Consider that between 1988 and 1995 – thus in only a 7-year time window – 20 new peacekeeping mission were established.

As a result, we have seen a more active role of United Nations Security Council and the content of its mandates. They have become increasingly wider in scope, up to and including peace building, conflict prevention, and peace enforcement tasks in scenarios where peace has not already been made or marked by the widespread presence of insurrectional movements, implying a deployment of a more robust military force with a wider range of tasks.

This circumstance has represented the biggest, marked change in the strategic posture of UN in the framework of peace support operations in the last 25 years. Such a change in UN’s strategic approach to worldwide peace and security begun with the first operations launched in the wake of the Berlin Wall’s collapse – and ONUMOZ was among the very first operations – and, after some ebbs and flows, it reached a complete maturation in Lebanon, with post-2006 operation UNIFIL. I have personally witnessed those two operational experiences, both in a command position.

The reason behind the success of ONUMOZ was, first and foremost, the synergistic effort of the diplomatic and the military components of the mission. Together, they relentlessly pressured the warring factions to sign an agreement that both could accept, so that threats could be significantly reduced in magnitude and scope.

Not less important was the application, from a conceptual and doctrinal point of view, of those same principles that the widely known and acclaimed “Petraeus Doctrine” has embraced later, the expression “live with the people” being a case in point. By understanding the complex mechanisms of
interaction between military contingents and local population, we can take steps to adapt our actions and therefore achieve long-lasting success in modern counterinsurgency operations.

As for UNIFIL, I think it is still the feather in the modern UN peacekeeping’s cap and should be a benchmark for all UN-led peacekeeping operations. Besides Lebanon is still experiencing a tense period, also due to regional conflicts, UNIFIL can still cope with the changing and unpredictable situation across its assigned area. This is possible thanks to the wider and more robust mandate envisaged by Resolution 1701 and the double-hatted role – diplomatic and military – assigned to the Force Commander/Head of Mission, that makes this latter the only means of communication between the two parties, through the Tripartite mechanism.

Today, modern peace support operations transcend the traditional peacekeeping and security operations, to the extent that we speak of “modern hybrid multidimensional peacekeeping”. In Mali, for instance, three different operations are run by three different organizations: UN are concerned with peacebuilding and reconstruction, EU with the primary task of training local forces and the French-led coalition together with the African Union tasked with protection and combat responsibilities. This situation is going to become the norm for the years to come in dealing with stability and reconstruction.

Italy is for sure a strategic partner for UN, in the framework of peace operations, to the extent that today our country is the first force provider to UN missions, among the western countries. In particular, in Lebanon we still contribute with a strength of 1,100 personnel to the United Nation Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). Italy also contributes with military personnel to MINUSMA in Mali, UNFICYP in Cyprus and UNSMIL in Libya.

A part from the support to the UN mission, as I said before, Italy is fully engaged in the international effort to guarantee peace and security. Starting from the Balkans, Italy has always attached great importance to the stabilization of the region, given our political tradition, geographical position, and cultural similarities. The main commitment in the area is our participation in NATO operation “Joint Enterprise” in Kosovo, under Italian leadership for the fourth consecutive year with 550 personnel.

Italy is also part of the counter-DAESH operation “Inherent Resolve”, with slightly more than 1,400 personnel which today represents our major quantitative effort. In this context, let me mention the contribution of our Carabinieri, strongly requested by our partners, for their effectiveness in developing capable local security forces; they are 100 men and women currently deployed in Baghdad and Kurdistan in support of Iraqi and Kurdish police forces.
In Afghanistan, we are still supporting the stabilization of the country with 950 personnel deployed on NATO’s Resolute Support Mission, where Italy fills the position of Deputy Commander and serves as Framework Nation of the Training Advisory Assistance Command West (TAAC-W) in Herat.

In Africa, Sahel’s current security conditions are giving cause for concern. This region, which can be considered the “Southern border of Europe”, is where many phenomena are emerging that directly affect European security. For this reason, Italy is supporting a large number of capacity-building initiatives of the International Community, primarily EU’s, to create the conditions for long-term security and development in the region. Also in the Horn of Africa, Italian defence plays a very active role as leader of the European Union Training Mission in Somalia and as a member of the EU air-naval operation Atalanta.

We are among the main promoters and actors in a number of multilateral and bilateral initiatives aimed at stabilizing the Mediterranean, in accordance with our national strategic priorities. This includes our overarching commitment to Libya with a view to pursuing an effective “whole-of-government approach” to solve the crisis in the country. In September 2016, we deployed 300 personnel on operation “Hippocrates” on Libyan request to provide medical support to the local forces that fight DAESH as well as administer advisory and capacity building activities in the health care sector in Misrata.

The Italian presence in the Mediterranean is also relevant. We are deployed on operation “Mare Sicuro” to fulfil protection and security tasks at sea, and protect sea lines of communication, naval transports and Italian oil platforms. In the EU, we are part to the EUNAVFORMED “Sophia” to disrupt the criminal networks associated to human trafficking and train the Libyan Navy and Coast Guard. Within NATO, Italy is contributing to the highly flexible maritime operation “Sea Guardian” to fulfil a wide range of operational tasks related to maritime security.

In conclusion, considering the unpredictability of current international scenarios, Italian Defence - and Italy as a whole - as an active and careful player in the context of global security has no intention to shun its own responsibilities. Therefore, in order to be always up to the task, Italy will continue to adjust and develop multidimensional response capabilities to meet any security requirement.

In order for this to happen, Italian Defence should rely on our most valuable asset, namely our servicemen and servicewomen. They are competent and deeply motivated professionals, our most precious resource. They can make the difference, much more than any technological or organizational innovation, albeit significant. These are men and women we are proud of. Of these men and women I am the proud Commander.

General Claudio Graziano

Chief of Italian Defence General Staff
PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

According to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the related Additional Protocols of 1977, civilians and all persons not taking part in combat may under no circumstances be the object of attack and must be spared and protected: for the first time the Protection of Civilians (PoC) was afforded to all civilians caught up in armed conflicts, and the Protocols included enhanced obligations on parties to the conflict to provide the essential needs for the survival of the civilians population, including humanitarian access, protection of humanitarian relief workers and a general prohibition on starvation.

Despite the development of the law and the protection provided by the law, in reality civilians have been increasingly targeted throughout human history. It is estimated that one out of ten casualties in the First World War was a civilian. By the Second World War, this number had increased up to five out of ten casualties. Today the estimation has increased to nine out of ten casualties: a very impressive number.

Residents of the refugee camp of Yarmouk, Syria, queuing to receive food supplies from the UN

This trend is alarming, particularly in light of significant legal developments, among which the establishment of international tribunals, designed to end impunity and limit effects of armed conflicts on the civilian populations.

In contemporary conflicts, in fact, the losses sustained by civilians are generally higher than those
seen among weapon bearers. To make matters worse, control over the population is often one of the major issues at stake in confrontations. The development of this situation can be attributed to the rise of religious and ethnic hatreds, the collapse of State structures, the battle for control of natural resources, the vast availability of weapons, the proliferation of acts of terrorism, and the spread of so-called asymmetric conflicts.

The PoC became a central concern in the international community in the late 1990s, accompanying an upsurge in humanitarian action and peacekeeping. Especially in the last decades, the PoC in armed conflicts has become an increasingly necessary and more complex issue.

Even if much has been done, today the biggest misunderstanding involves “how to do” protection in practice. In fact, the challenges of ensuring physical protection and normative development in war zones have dictated that protection is no longer the exclusive domain of humanitarians.

In practice, it requires the coordination of multiple actors such as UN bodies and governmental and non-governmental associations, an issue which is not always possible and simple. Human rights and International humanitarian law have not always been respected, causing even more war crimes, affecting mostly children, women and other civilians: violence against civilians continues to rise, including the use of explosive devices in urban areas, sexual violence as a weapon of war and systematic targeting of people along ethnic or religious lines, and, as a matter of fact, in today’s asymmetric-armed conflicts almost all of those killed,
injured or harmed, are civilians.

In 2000, the so-called “Brahimi Report”, and the corresponding United Nations Security Council Resolution 1327, recommended that peace operations be given clear, credible and achievable mandates and, where appropriate and within their mandates, a credible deterrent capability. Those documents further recommended that the mandated tasks be appropriate to the situation on the ground, including the potential need to protect civilians. In particular the Brahimi Report stressed the relevance of capability of each potential troop contributor to meet the requisite United Nations training and to have the equipment requirements for peacekeeping operations, prior to deployment. At the same time the UNSC Resolution 1327 emphasized the importance for the Member States to take the necessary and appropriate steps to ensure the capability of their peacekeepers to fulfil the mandates assigned to them, underlining the importance of international cooperation in this regard, including the training of the peacekeepers.

Since these first steps, the United Nations Security Council has increasingly focused on responding to PoC challenges: accordingly, the Council has provided the missions with tougher and more specific mandates, including the support for a robust peacekeeping as a means to protect civilians, and mandates have become much more focused on protecting civilians as a key priority.

Today protection mandates are so broad that they risk losing focus: current protection expectations span a wide range of protection areas, including sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), conflict-related sexual violence, violence against children, environmental and health protection, and the breadth of human rights abuses. Altogether, with increasingly ambitious PoC mandates for missions presenting peacekeepers with ever-more complicated protection challenges, the international community displays an underwhelming ability to protect. In that regard, notwithstanding the many other factors impacting the ability to ensure effective PoC, pre-deployment training has emerged as essential key-element of ensuring that Peacekeepers arrive in mission with, at the very least, the basic skills required to work in an international environment. For protection tasks specifically, training in behavioral, social, and attitudinal skills, as well as other relevant skills and tools such as intelligence and communication, are absolutely necessary to ensuring that peacekeeping personnel are equipped to interact with vulnerable people and at-risk populations and that through that interaction are able to provide appropriate protection. This is particularly the case in the contemporary peacekeeping landscape where conflicts are often protracted, take place in “normal” environments (villages, schools) and the boundaries between war
and peace, soldiers and civilians, tend to blur. Given the primacy of PoC in the vast majority of peacekeeping missions, the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UN DPKO) and the Member States have promoted specific training activities adjusted to conform and engineered around building the requisite knowledge and skills.

In this frame our Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU), as doctrinal hub and renewed training center at international level, has introduced specialized courses, focused on developing mission-specific analysis and cases, plus scenario-based training, and involving civilian, police and military protection actors with a view to establish a shared understanding of the current and future UN protection challenges as well as of the most suitable response mechanisms and sequences, in accordance with the latest UN policy, strategy and guidelines.

The Protection of Civilians represents then the true challenge for the future and it requires a common effort towards achieving this ambitious goal: CoESPU is glad to actively participate in supporting all the global UN challenges, allowing all future peacekeepers to better perform their specific duties and mandates in the field.

Written by:
Captain Alberto Veronese
*CoESPU Magazine Editor*
UN FPU STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Many Police Officers serving in United Nations (UN) Peacekeeping Operations are deployed as Formed Police Units (FPUs). Nowadays FPUs represent a key element of the UN global Peacekeeping strategy and, therefore, any related UN doctrine innovation deserves a special attention by people working on Peace Operations matters.

On 1st January 2017 the new UN policy on “Formed Police Units in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations” (Rev.2016.10) has been published. This new policy, which is available on the webpage http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/sites/police/documents/FPU_Policy-rev_2016.pdf, has been realized by UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) in collaboration with the Department of Field Support (DFS). It introduces new operational recommendations, stressing the critical issues that have affected the reputation of many recent UN missions.

First of all, FPUs are re-defined not only as “cohesive” and “mobile” units, but it is also pointed out their specific nature as “specialized” units. Their composition is consistently reinforced: the total number of officers grows from 140 to 160 units, not taking into account the specialized components, which are counted separately as additional forces. And their “core tasks” are also

Medal Parade for the members of an UN FPU

Indonesian FPU member in South Sudan
changed into the three following main issues: protection of UN personnel and property, protection of civilians and support of police operations, activities that require a formed response or specialized capacity above the capability of IPOs (Individual Police Officers). Other tasks, as public order management, are considered as secondary tasks. Also, the length of the service has been consistently increased: the previous doctrine, dated 2010, stated a period from 6 to 12 months, while now it has been increased, from a minimum of 12 to 18 months. Finally, it is mandatory that all members of the Command and Operation component, as well as Logistics and Medical Officers, are able to communicate in the working language of the mission. Moreover, if English is not the working language, it is recommended that at least 50% of the FPU Command staff are able to communicate in the working language, while the remainder staff should be “proficient” in English.

The relevance of intelligence and information gathering capabilities, as well as similar operational skills, is stressed and a professional related pre-deployment FPU training is strongly remarked as necessary. Training activities must be planned and conducted not only prior to deployment but also throughout the course of the mission. These two functions – intelligence and training – are clearly considered crucial for the safety of the FPU, as well as for the fulfillment of the assigned UN mandate.

A very important innovation is the possibility that, under specific conditions and with the approval of the Mission Head (UN Special Representative of the Secretary General), FPUs and military personnel may serve under a combined and centralized chain of command under a senior UNPOL
Officer, designated by the HOPC (Head of Police Component), or under a military Officer, designated by the Force Commander. This type of approach shall be applied only in specific geographic areas and shall work within the generic “blue box” framework.

Another innovation is the new approach to female personnel within FPUs, now deployed not only in logistic duties but also in every operational task including Public Order Management (POM), Special Weapons And Tactics teams (SWAT) and high-risk operations, high visibility patrols and cordon and search operations, particularly pat-down searches of women. In fact, in some societies only female police Officers are allowed to interact with female members of the community.

Last, but not least, the UN zero-tolerance policy towards matters of SEA (Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) is strongly remarked. More generally, the new doctrine calls for an increased accountability of all deployed police Officers, especially in cases of SEA or misconducts in the use of force, none of which will be tolerated.
It was early 2014 when I first visited CoESPU. I didn’t know about CoESPU and its activities yet, and I was happy to discover the Centre. I joined the opening Ceremony of the first edition of the “Gender and Protection training”, and on the same occasion I started my collaboration as a trainer. At that time I was working at the Office of NATO’s Secretary General as the Gender Advisor of the Special Representative on Women, Peace and Security. An interesting and extremely challenging job, in a traditionally male dominated environment, where talking about gender issues has not always been the easiest thing to do (but certainly the smartest), despite the fact that NATO had adopted a Policy on the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda (UNSCR 1325) already in 2007.

Policies and practices do not always go hand in hand. During my assignment at NATO, one of the core issues of our activities was raising awareness on the importance of training on gender issues and increasing the offer of pre-deployment training both at national and international level. Training for gender equality and especially on the principles of UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions is an essential aspect of all peacekeeping operations. Not only it is a
prerequisite for becoming a Gender Advisor, but it should also be mandatory for all deployed personnel, at every level. Men and women alike. Starting from the Commander, to privates and drivers included. Leadership is key, if we want to have an impact on our operations and Gender Advisors cannot act independently from the rest of the unit.

During my experience as Gender Advisor and especially as trainer on gender issues, I have learned that gender training is more than providing information and developing skills. It is not limited at acquiring knowledge – thought information and data are essential. It rather represents a process aiming to change attitudes and behaviours. It is a question of changing mind-sets.

What I have learned is that my responsibility is about helping women and men to understand the role gender plays within our societies and the impact that this has on our lives. It is about supporting people acquiring the knowledge and developing the skills necessary for gaining the right attitude that will lead to advancing gender equality in their daily lives and work.

I learned that my role is to train individuals in order to bring about collective transformation. Training is the tool I have to have an impact on people coming from every corner of the world. It is like a window opened for me only for few hours, and I know that I cannot miss this unique opportunity to make a difference. If I can get my students to fully grasp the importance of gender, I know that they will bring back home important messages, and that this will have a real impact on their peacekeeping activities and on everybody’s lives.

CoESPU offers a diverse programme of training, not only focusing on “Gender protection” and “Protection of civilians”, and what I appreciate the most is the ability and the attention in including a gender perspective in a cross cutting manner into different training modules.

Every time I go there, I spend hours in preparing my classes, reading the most recent articles, studying new UN Resolutions, updating the PowerPoint presentations. Training after training, I have realised that students are certainly interested in PowerPoint presentations (they really love them!), but what they need most is to create a connection with the trainer. They need to understand what I am talking about, what “gender” means, - not only on a white board - but in their everyday lives. They need to understand that promoting gender equality and supporting a full and meaningful participation of women in peace building, peace keeping and conflict prevention is not a question of discriminating men, on the contrary. Having more competent women working on the entire conflict cycle is essential, if we want to achieve peace and the entire society – not only women - will benefit from this. If we are to ensure that we have the right people in place, we need to tap into the female human resource base as much as into the male one. It is not a matter of ‘soft power’ - it is a matter of ‘brain power’.
Training – and gender training more than others - is a continuous and long-term process that requires political will and commitment of all parties involved in order to create inclusive societies that recognize the need to promote gender equality in the environment of national and international security. A more secure world is possible only where security is inclusive.

Written by:
Irene Fellin

Irene Fellin is an independent Gender and Security expert who has worked on gender issues and women’s rights for different international organizations. In Rome, where she is presently based, she is President of WIIS Italy - Women in International Security, an NGO engaged on promoting the role of women in defense and security issues and on raising awareness on the important role that women can play in international security. She also works as independent consultant on several research projects focusing on Women and International Security, including training on Gender protection and Women, Peace and Security.

Before moving to Rome, she served as Gender Advisor to NATO Secretary General’s Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security. Prior to joining NATO, Ms. Fellin lived in Ankara, Turkey for several years, where she worked at the local offices of UNICEF and UNDP. Her work there was focused on honour killing, early marriage and domestic violence. Training local staff on gender-related issues was also part of her activity.

Ms Fellin holds a Master’s qualification in “Gender and Women’s Studies” as well as in Museology, and a degree in Literature and History of Art.
She has been training at CoESPU since 2014.
The opinions expressed in this article are her own and must not be attributed to CoESPU.
From 5th to 9th June, 2017, the Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU) has hosted the OSCE Second Live Simulation Based Training Course in “Combating Human Trafficking along Migration Routes”.

The second edition of this pilot training, organized by OSCE – Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe – and partnered with the Italian Carabinieri, aimed to enhance the ability of the participants to effectively investigate the Trafficking in Human Beings (THB), and promptly identify the THB victims along migration routes by promoting a multi-agency and human right-based approach.

Over 150 professionals from law enforcement, Carabinieri included, labour inspectorates, financial investigative units, prosecutorial offices, NGOs and social services from more than 36 states are participating in the first OSCE live simulation.

The course foresees an intensive one-week realistic, expert-developed exercise that simulate real cases of labour and sexual exploitation among migrants, including child victims.

During the training activity, participants were encouraged to make proactive use of special investigative techniques, including financial probes, to trace and size traffickers’ profits: unique in its kind, its implementation required wide
support staff from local authorities and civil society networks, including leading international organizations such as UNODC, UNHCR, IOM, EUROPOL and INTERPOL. This project is part of the OSCE ongoing efforts to prevent and tackle human exploitation within the framework of the current migratory flows. CoESPU will also host the next training live exercise, planned by the end of 2017, within the frame of the common strategy in “Combating Human Trafficking along Migration Routes” addressed by Italy, OSCE participating States and all the International Community.
THE CRIMINAL ANALYSIS DEPARTMENT OF “CARABINEROS DE CHILE”

The history of the Chilean police labor, and particularly Carabineros de Chile, shows how different kind of measures has been created and undertaken as the time goes by to face the problem of criminality, considering the knowledge generated at institutional and national level, as well as, the approach and models developed and applied in other countries, which have been adapted to the Chilean reality.

According to that spirit of permanent progress and improvement, that has different examples as the early creation of specialized areas or the introduction of concepts in police procedures that belong to the main models of policing in force, during 2011 Carabineros adopted the decision to incorporate the criminal analysis in the strategic, operative and tactical levels of its management, in order to face criminality, that was very high at that moment, therefore the impact expected results was not been achieved, considering the increase in human and logistic resources.

Such decision was concreted through the creation of “the Criminal Analysis Department” (DAC), which has included, in its most diverse aspects, this methodology of work in the operative culture of the institution considering the clearest consciousness that this criminal activity is not operating randomly and that must be analysis from a multidisciplinary perspective, over the territorial and temporary factors involved, characteristics of victims, perpetrators and modus

Carabineros Corps celebrating its “Foundation Day” in Santiago
operandi, allowing to focus on the police work for stopping, early detection or investigations of crimes.

According to this, an approach that came to benefit and enrich the work guidelines that were followed by the institution Records Management System (RMS) until that moment, and also to give a new and better use of the data registration system and the geographic information that was being implemented in Carabineros de Chile for a while along with a modern platform of technological support that had national coverage at that time.

Important efforts were added in terms of human resources, that have meant the training of officers and non-commissioned officers –along with other professions that belong to the engineering, cartographic and geographic areas – besides the incorporation of social, statistical, and geographical civil analysts selected, trained and certified by the Criminal Analysis Department, to be distributed to the Operations Offices of the different police stations along the country.

This was done in the context of reinforcing the main operative strategy of Carabineros de Chile: the Prescint Plan of Preventive Security (Plan Cuadrante), police work methodology created by the institution, with the incorporation of the criminal analysis in the design of strategy and tactics to process territorial information and define services, that has enriched and improved substantially by allowing the focalization of services more efficiently.

By this way, many and continuous steps have been included in the path of criminal analysis involvement in all level of management, that started from strategic aspect. Today it is also present in the tactical one, where important evidence exists about the transcendence of producing sensitive and valuable information to make an efficient distribution of the human and logistic resources available; to prevent, to investigate and to clear crimes, to arrest criminals and deactivate criminal gangs, and then to be able to give a better response to the demands of security matters to the community.

It is essential to continue advancing in that direction in the current world where a diverse, complex, dynamic and criminal reality challenges the police forces to improve its different processes by means of inclusion of the criminal theories inclusion in force, of those elements of policing models that are appropriate in each organizational cultural and idiosyncrasy and methodologies
of police work that respond to the technical and professional levels necessary to achieve positive results.

Then the impact of institutional developments as the one described has not been limited to the national frontiers, but it is an important part of the international projection of Carabineros by means of several programs of academic and professional exchange with different police forces, especially in the region, where methodology of the Precinct Plan has important impact that would be probably increased and improved by means of inclusion of the criminal analysis.

As Institution we work because since our origins the support for police organizations of partners countries has been one of our main concerns. Today it is reinforced by the fact that the transnational expression of the crimes is a real developing project from which South America cannot escape. Likewise, would be highly consistent with the described institutional spirit, to be able to extend such international cooperation actions to other latitudes. That is why we value tremendously the opportunity to spread some of our institutional advances in the CoESPU Magazine, due to the input that this could mean for implement Peacekeeping Operations, international efforts that we value and that we are always ready and willing to cooperate, and where certain methodologies such as criminal analysis could signify a positive contribution.

Written by:
Colonel Oscar Figueroa
Criminal Analysis Department of Carabineros de Chile
On Monday, 5th June 2017, at CoESPU Headquarters in “Generale A. Chinotto” compound, the celebration for the 203rd year since the foundation of Arma dei Carabinieri took place. Born on 14th July 1814 with the signing of the “Royal Carabinieri Corps Appointments”, the Arma dei Carabinieri since the year 1921 celebrates on 5th June its anniversary, when its Colours were awarded with their first Military Gold Medal for bravery in front of the Enemy.

The ceremony, chaired by the Director of CoESPU, BG Giovanni Pietro Barbano and the Provincial Commander of the territorial Carabinieri of Vicenza, Col. Alberto Santini, was attended by the highest civilian, military and police authorities at provincial level, along with representatives of
the Veterans’ and Former Servicemen Associations. After the Flag raising ceremony, CoESPU Director, the Provincial Commander of the Carabinieri, the Major of Vicenza Achille Variati and the Provincial Coordinator of the National Carabinieri Association, WO Giovanni La Face, laid a wreath of remembrance on the memorial to the Fallen. After that, the greeting message of the President of the Republic and the Order of the General Commander of the Army were read. Afterword, the CoESPU Director illustrated the training activities conducted in the previous year by this Centre of Excellence in favour of foreign police forces as peacekeepers in the context of current and future peace support operations in the international context, while the Provincial Carabinieri Commander showed the positive results achieved by the Arma dei Carabinieri in the territory of the Province of Vicenza, in the daily service for the prevention and repression of the offences which, in the previous year, matched a substantial decrease in the number of crimes. These results highlight the Arma dei Carabinieri diligence and dedication, and will be the basis for its future tasks, always matching the constant appreciation of the population.
COESPU AROUND

THE WORLD
On the international landscape, the Carabinieri Center of Excellence for the Stability Police Units (CoESPU) is recognized as doctrinal hub, think tank and cultural center for advanced studies, serving the training needs of the modern peace operators. Consequently, CoESPU is committed to conduct own studies and researches in order to contribute in developing new doctrinal guidelines and strategic concepts, in support of peace operations under the aegis of the United Nations (UN) or other International Organizations. This Center of Excellence is particularly interested in exploring every doctrinal aspect globally promoted, also participating and contributing in conferences and meetings at international level. In this frame, from 23rd to 25th May 2017, the UN Police Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations has invited the CoESPU, represented by its Director, Brigadier General Giovanni Pietro Barbano, to participate in two events of the highest relevance: the 10th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Standing Police Capacity, and a workshop to assist the development of the UN Police Commanders’ Course.
Curriculum. In 2005, in fact, following the Brahimi Report approach, the UN General Assembly created the United Nations Standing Police Capacity (UN SPC) to start up police components in new missions and assist them in existing missions. SPC became operational in October 2007 and its Police officers and staff were immediately deployed to help set up the UN Police component in the mission in Chad (MINURCAT). Since its foundation SPC has supported the fulfilment of the UN Police strategic missions by providing rapidly deployable, effective, and coherent policing expertise to UN Peace Operations, post conflict and other crisis situations. The 10th anniversary of SPC, held on 23rd May, 2017, has marked the great achievements reached so far. Nevertheless, current multidimensional UN Peace Operations demand additional specialized skill sets and areas of expertise from UN Police commanders. In addition to possessing sound leadership and management skills, UN Police commanders need to be operationally competent and well-versed in UN policing practices, as set out in the Strategic Guidance Framework for International Police Peacekeeping (SGF) to effectively direct the implementation of mandated tasks. In this direction, from 24th to 25th May, 2017, the Police Division planned to convene the UN Police Commanders’ Course (UNPCC) Curriculum Development workshop with Member States, regional Organizations and UN Partners, concurrently with the SPC anniversary. Through the UNPCC, the UN Police Leadership have the opportunity to receive all the necessary knowledge and practical guidance for their everyday fieldwork, and in particular developing a comprehensive approach on Specialized Training Materials already developed by UN DPKO-DFS and available for Peacekeepers. The aim of the Curriculum Development workshop was to jointly consider a zero draft curriculum, to collect initial inputs from all stakeholders, and to agree on a collaborative way forward to finalize the current and future training programs. The invitation to participate in the great events has been fully appreciated by CoESPU that, now more than ever, is glad to renew its consolidate collaboration with the United Nations, in supporting the global effort in Peace Operations for a better and peaceful world.
The role of police and military components in peacekeeping and peace support operations is primarily to provide a secure environment as a precondition for lasting peace agreements in often-complex conflict-affected areas, where parties to conflicts include state and non-state actors, and where civilian populations are often implicated in the conflict, either as combatants or as victims. This context generally necessitates direct interactions between police and military components and local populations. The approach requires harnessing the professional expertise of male and female peace operators to achieve optimum operational effectiveness for ensuring that the security concerns of women, men, girls and boys are adequately addressed without discrimination.

So far lessons learned have demonstrated that war and conflicts affect men, women, girls and boys differently and peace operations conducted in areas with very different cultures and gender roles, severe use of sexual violence or other forms of abuse and repression, have made it obvious that gender perspectives are an important part of a comprehensive approach in order to effectively fulfill the aim of the mission.

With reference to these issues, the Swedish Nordic Center for Gender in Military Operations (NCGM), in cooperation with the Swedish Defense University, organized a Key Leaders Seminar on Gender Perspectives in Military Operations in Stockholm, Sweden, from 12th to 13th June, 2017.
NCGM was established in 2012 as result of increased efforts by the Nordic countries in implementing UN Security Council resolution 1325 and related resolutions on Women, Peace and Security into military peace support operations. NCGM is devoted to assist military components in integrating gender perspectives into planning, execution and evaluation phases of operations through education and training, integrating gender into military exercises, cooperation through a network of key experts and institutions and by providing advice to policy and process development.

NCGM was appointed as NATO’s Department Head concerning gender in February 2013.

The two day seminar for Key Leaders was chaired by Rear Admiral Jonas Haggren, Head of Swedish Armed Forces Policy and Plans Department, and was focused on how to work with gender perspectives in a military and security environment. The main purpose was to enable Key Leaders to receive knowledge of how gender perspectives can contribute to improve operational effectiveness, strengthening military capability. The seminar was conducted through round tables in order to facilitate discussions and exchange of experiences among the participants. In this frame the Carabinieri Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU), represented by its Director, Brigadier General Giovanni Pietro Barbano, was invited to attend the seminar, providing its input and expertise.

Among the various topics, a special focus was dedicated to the topic “gender perspective, sexual violence in conflict and implementation in a military context”.

Discussions were held from the leadership point of view, aiming to advice participants on how to support staff and subordinated units to integrate gender perspective into daily tasks.

A great opportunity for our Center to share with military, police and civilian experts at international level, the consolidate CoESPU training model and the Carabinieri know-how in peace support operations around the world.
From 17 to 30 May 2017, the conduct phase of the UNITED ACCORD 2017 (UA17) exercise took place in Accra (Ghana) at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Center (KAIPTC).

Italy and Carabinieri in particular took part with Major Alessandro Criscitiello - 3rd Section Commander, Training Department, CoESPU - in the EXCON as Police Advisor / Police Scripter for the Joint Exercise Control Group and in the Training Audience as the MINUSMA Regional Command East Police Liaison Officer with a focus on United Nations Police activities in terms of Formed Police Units / Individual Police Officers.

UA17 has, in various respects, been involved around the 600 subjects, including civilians and militaries from several nations such as Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cote d’Ivoire, Chad, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Belgium, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, United Kingdom and International Organizations as: MINUSMA, ECOWAS Standby Force, UN Peacekeeping Strategic Partnership DPKO/DFS, UN Humanitarian Commission for Refugees, Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, ICRC, CoESPU, EU Training Mission-Mali.

UA17, conducted by USARAF and set in the real scenario of the MINUSMA Mission's Eastern Sector in Mali is a Command Post Exercise / Field Training Exercise, aimed to exercise the interoperability between all partners and enhance their capabilities to execute sector headquarters and subordinate national contingent headquarters responsibilities as
part of a United Nations (UN) mandated Peace Operation (PO) in severe conditions. Participating nations and organizations have exercised and enhanced capabilities to support Peace Operations and respond to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief crises within the region. Significant was the process of familiarization with assigned Area of Responsibility, the use of Sector Headquarters operating procedures at UN PKO level and the use of UN Counter-IED procedures and doctrine, as well as the integration of the main entities / Multinational and non-military agencies in military operations.

Major Alessandro Criscitiello

CoESPU Training Department
3rd Section Commander
On 1st April, 2017, His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, visited the Carabinieri Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU) in Vicenza, Italy. The Royal visit in Vicenza, as part of the official tour in Europe, from 29th March to 6th April 2017, was oriented to highlight the UK relationship with Italy in several areas, among which important topics such as social cohesion, military ties and combating human trafficking were in the agenda.

The Prince of Wales started his visit to the Vicenza Province early in the morning, touring the Montecchio Precalcino Commonwealth War Cemetery, which contains more than 430 Commonwealth burials of the First World War. The event was organized to commemorate the centenary of the deployment of British forces to the Austrian front in 1917. His Royal Highness laid a wreath at the Stone of Remembrance, honoring all those who lost their lives on the Italian front during WWI. Arriving to CoESPU, located in the Carabinieri “G. Chinotto” Compound, the Prince of Wales was welcomed by Italian Army General Claudio Graziano, Chief of the Italian Defense Staff, and by General Tullio Del Sette, Carabinieri General Commander.
The CoESPU Director, Carabinieri Brigadier General Giovanni Pietro Barbano, played hostess to HRH, introducing the many activities performed by the Center of Excellence. After the rendering of military honors by a Carabinieri Squadron, the Prince of Wales visited an exhibition hall, staged within the CoESPU library, where he heard how the Carabinieri Headquarters for the Protection of Cultural Heritage (Comando Carabinieri Tutela Patrimonio Culturale - TPC) is engaged in the environment and world cultural heritage protection.

Continuing the visit, the Prince was given a training demonstration of how Carabinieri Special Forces operate in crisis situations. The simulation based scenario included a police break-into a house to rescue a hostage, ended with the arrest of the suspected.

He also visited the new “Modeling and Gaming Information Simulation Training Area” where CoESPU attendees, represented by senior Police and Military Officers from UN contributing Countries, were involved in a peacekeeping training exercise.

Finally, the Prince of Wales met the inter-force staff of the recently established NATO Stability Policing Center of Excellence (NATO SP COE), which is located within the Chinotto compound. Carabinieri Colonel Andrea Paris, Director of the NATO SP COE, explained the mission of the Center and how it contributes to the transformation of the Alliance by developing the new policing dimension of the NATO military operations.
Prince Charles signs the CoESPU Honor Book. At his right General Tullio Del Sette, Commander General of Carabinieri Corps
Concluding the visit, His Royal Highness expressed his personal appreciation for the relevant role played by CoESPU, as training center and doctrinal hub strengthened by a decade-solid experience, that, in cooperation with the European Gendarmerie Force and the NATO Stability Policing Center of Excellence, aims to reinforce the current Stability Policing concept, providing specific courses and also through the participation in the development of innovative techniques, tactics and procedures in order to support the UN effort in Peace Support Operations.

Eventually, the Prince of Wales ended his day in the Province of Vicenza by visiting the well-known military “Path of the 52 Tunnels”, in the nearby Pasubio mountain, an astonishing masterpiece of military engineering built by the Italian Army Engineer Corps during the First World War, when tens of thousands of British soldiers fought alongside the Italians during the so called “forgotten front”.

A sacred site that remind us to the strong effort supported by Italian and British Army during WWI in defending the unbreakable values of peace and freedom, as well as a great warning from history for a better world.

Admiral Michelle Howard is a 1978 graduate of Gateway High School in Aurora, Colorado. She graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1982 and from the Army’s Command and General Staff College in 1998, with a Masters in Military Arts and Sciences.

Her initial sea tours were aboard USS Hunley (AS 31) and USS Lexington (AVT 16). While serving aboard Lexington, she received the secretary of the Navy/Navy League Captain Winifred Collins award in May 1987. This award is given to one woman officer a year for outstanding leadership. She reported to USS Mount Hood (AE 29) as chief engineer in 1990 and served in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. She assumed duties as first lieutenant on board the USS Flint (AE 32) in July 1992.

In January 1996, she became the executive officer of USS Tortuga (LSD 46) and deployed to the Adriatic in support of Operation Joint Endeavor, a Peacekeeping effort in the former Republic of Yugoslavia. Sixty days after returning from the Mediterranean deployment, Tortuga departed on a West African training cruise, where the ship’s Sailors, with embarked Marines and U.S. Coast Guard detachment, operated with the naval services of seven African nations.

She took command of USS Rushmore (LSD 47) March 12, 1999, becoming the first African American woman to command a ship in the U.S. Navy.
Admiral Howard was the commander of Amphibious Squadron Seven from May 2004 to September 2005. Deploying with Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) 5, operations included tsunami relief efforts in Indonesia and maritime security operations in the North Arabian Gulf. She commanded Expeditionary Strike Group Two from April 2009 to July 2010. In 2009, she deployed to CENTCOM theater, where she commanded Task Force 151, Multi-national Counter-piracy effort, and Task Force 51, Expeditionary Forces. In 2010, she was the Maritime Task Force commander for BALTOPS, under 6th Fleet.

Her shore assignments include: J-3, Global Operations, Readiness and executive assistant to the Joint Staff director of Operations; deputy director N3 on the OPNAV staff; deputy director, Expeditionary Warfare Division, OPNAV staff; senior military assistant to the secretary of the Navy; Chief of Staff to the director for Strategic Plans and Policy, J-5, Joint Staff, deputy commander, US Fleet Forces Command, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans & Strategy (N3/N5), and the 38th Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

On her way to CoESPU, Admiral Michelle Howard has been received by General Vincenza Coppola, Carabinieri Deputy Commanding General.
After the official introductions, the meeting took place in the CoESPU conference room at the presence of CoESPU staff representatives. During the briefing, the numerous CoESPU activities and the organizational and logistic structures of our Centre were illustrated.

Meanwhile, it was underlined the relevant role played by CoESPU, that, as training center and doctrinal hub, in partnership and thanks to the support offered by EGF and NATO SP-COE, aims to reinforce and increase its strong commitment in order to pursue a successful training contribution in developing an effective global capacity to conduct Peace Support Operations (PSOs) under the aegis of the United Nations as well as other international Organizations.

Modern PSOs require in fact an increasingly multidimensional approach, which provides for high-qualified and professional training for Police, Military and Civil forces, as fundamental pillars of every modern mission, aiming to empower their capability as well as their operating and tactical skills on the ground.

In this context Admiral Howard appreciated the key role played by CoESPU in supporting the global effort in Peace Support Operations through specific training courses and the development of innovative operational techniques, tactics and procedures.

At the end of the conference Admiral Howard visited the training facilities of the “Chinotto” compound. Great interest has been particularly shown for the counter-IED room and for the indoor shooting range.

Concluding the visit, Admiral Michelle Howard expressed his personal appreciation for the relevant effort supported by CoESPU at international level, stressing the importance of this first meeting in anticipation of a future new cooperation, according to the consolidate US-Italy partnership.
Let us face it… some briefings may appear as a torture instrument, not even considered by the Geneva Convention rules.

Raise your hand if at least one day in your life, you found yourself in a boring meeting because it was incomprehensible and not tailored to the audience you were in.

Communication is an essential part of a leadership action. Everyone knows how to talk and write, but very few really know how to communicate effectively. It is also very complicated to present a briefing during a stressful situation, with almost no time available or, even worst, in front of an audience who does not speak our own language.

Do you really think that there are some tricks for preparing an interesting and informative briefing?

Well, I really think so… let us first review and apply the rule of the four Ps, i.e. planning, preparation, practice and presentation. Another important factor to consider is the “consistency”, i.e. the slide must be “in harmony” as far as colors and framing are concerned, in order to create a smooth environment.

One important factor is that the briefer and the listener must speak the same language and understand each other, or to cite an expression I often use in my lectures “Let’s be on the same sheet of music”. Think of the briefer as a director of a symphony orchestra. Everyone plays a different instrument, but when the director raises the right hand, a pure and homogeneous sound comes out immediately. According to Dale Carnegie, it is important “to tell your audience what you are about to say, say it and say
what you have told them”. This because the listener’s attention is very volatile and repeating an idea will ensure that the concept will be clarified and learned. A good portion of the seminar is dedicated to the need of receiving a feedback, i.e. the importance of constructive criticism; for example teaching the audience how to separate the content of the presentation from the person. Let us also keep in mind two important factors, the first one is that the adult in a listening situation will only understand and retain what he/she thinks will be useful for his/her work and the second one is that the audience listening and understanding rhythms are different and slower than the lecturer’s speaking speed. I always recommend speaking slowly, calmly and giving enough time to the public to digest your information. This factor will also show the briefer’s behavior importance in order to avoid stress and “stage fright” when facing the public. The seminar also focused on the importance of concentrating on the message you want to deliver to the audience and let them understand how important they are for you, the briefer. One important thing: do not forget the human factor, i.e. try to find a relaxed environment for the audience.

Let us also consider the use of visuals, obviously avoiding to create an “overkill factor” i.e. do not put lots of information on one slide in order to shorten the presentation time. Well, time is money you may say, but doing this may create opposite points of view. The audience will get confused, annoyed and the attention will be lost. Everybody knows the old saying “A Picture is worth 1000 Words”, well, having said that, we need to understand the importance of visual support, both in graphics and pictures in order to better convey our message and ideas to the audience. We can apply these concepts to any
presentation with overhead projectors and slides, with the blackboard, with the power point slides. A clearly presented concept has nothing to do with the instrument we use to convey the message to the audience.

During the presentation, we need to think about eliminating, if possible, the so-called “click-man”, or to better say “Mr. Next slide please”. Thanks God, the modern technology is helping us with remote controls that allow us, the briefers, to be independent and change the slides directly.

We can affirm that the briefing is a result of a very attentive analysis, tailored to the audience needs and expectations, supported by visual information, the reflected picture of the entire unit in a foreign country, the so-called “Corporate Identity”.

The briefing is not the repetition of old briefings, the direct reading of the speaker’s notes or the direct reading from the slides.

Ivano Trevisanutto
Training Support Center Italy, US Army

Ivano Trevisanutto has been working with US Army in Vicenza since 14 March 1972. He is the Director of Training Support Center Italy, US Army. He speaks four languages (English – French – German – Spanish) and is an expert in Communication and Briefing Techniques.
ACUTE STRESS REACTIONS: SOME PHENOMENA

In the last news we have spoken about the stress and broadly its mechanisms, now we try to observe some phenomena connected to the acute stress reaction.

In the some conditions, when we have in front of us a threat or we could encounter a challenge, we feel fear or anxiety. We are going to analyze in a next news the human emotions, but at the moment is important to distinguish the fear, like an emotions that we feel when we have concretely in front of us the threat (we are involved in a shooting, we are kidnapped and are in the interrogation, etc), meanwhile in the anxiety the danger is not in front of us, and maybe, we will never encounter it. Commonly anxiety is also defined like “fear without object.

So the fear provokes a stress response from immediate Danger, and the anxiety provokes a stress response from Mental Thoughts. The consequences are that fear carry on the “3F”: Fight, Flight and Freezing, while the anxiety, when became chronic or when it is particularly intense and it is not managed, is at the bottom of many disease: PTSD, Anxiety Disease, Mood Depression, Cardiovascular problem, Obesity, etc.etc.

Previously we have seen when an external or internal TRIGGERS are perceived as dangerous by the subject, and these triggers are able to alter the homeostatic system (the balance of our biological system), the brain – central nervous system - through a series of pathways that connect different parts and organs of the body, puts in place a series of reactions to activate the state of AROUSAL. The internal triggers, moreover, could be not perceived, and could be represented by many stressors like virus, bacteria, or oxidative processes (the last worry more the women for the aging of the skin). The scenario of the stress is more complex, but it is indissolubly linked to the human life. Without deepen physiological aspects of the stress herein, go to directly to the phenomena that always result in acute stress reaction.

The first is the **Tunnel vision.** To understand better we make some details about the organs and sense connected to it: the visual system.

The visual system has some cells, that are able to collect and transport the waves light until occipital cortex. These cells are known like photoreceptors, and are of two types: cones and rods. Rods and cones are the photoreceptors located in eyes, more specifically in the retina, the innermost layer of tissue.

Cones, that are in a number of 6-7 millions, are concentrated in the central area of retina (the fovea) and are appointed to color, shape and size of the objects under high light conditions. Their ability to detect a shape is called “spatial acuity”.

Rods are around 120 million, and are concentrated in the periphery of the retina, and provide
peripheral vision; they are more sensitive to the movement, are used for vision in the dark being able to distinguish only between black and white. The work of the cones is individual in the sense that each of them generates a pulse that is launched to the brain independently from the others. In the case of the rods, however, several thousand elements converge on a single interneuron and the impulse that starts in the brain emerges from the sum of all individual pulses. The rods are thus about 4000 times more sensitive to light than the cones and, thus, more functional for night vision.

At the same moment the excitement of the sympathetic nervous system causes vasoconstriction in the peripheral of the retina, and so the reduction of blood flow. This cuts dramatically the activity of the rods, with a collapse of the extension of the visual field (the reduction is until 70%), and a strong limitation in the identification of moving parts.

The effects produced by activation of the sympathetic nervous system and its effects on visual organs, are the following:

- the narrowing of the visual field until of 70% leads to a tunnel of 48 cm and in some cases even lower, and this means that the field of view regarding the surrounding environment and around the source of danger, is completely obscured;
- the inhibition of the rods reduces the ability to identify the movement and so the reaction to moving targets suffers an elongation of the times. In added the inhibition of the rods worsen the sensitivity to the light and the contrast distinction. There is also the worsening of the visual capabilities in low light conditions, or in the case of mimicry with the surrounding environment.

**Motor Skills**

There is a strong correlation between the heartbeat and motor skills, and the heart rate is hardly influenced by acute stress. Motor skills can be classified into three categories:

1) gross motor skills: involve the action of large muscle groups. They are involved in symmetrical and simple movements with great force. Example of this type of movements are punching, running, etc.;
2) fine motor skills: involve the coordination of limbs and eyes, especially hands, and express themselves in movements of skill and precision
3) motor skills complex: requiring the intervention of a number of muscle groups in the presence of movement and coordination between hand and eye. There are therefore movements of precision and timing.

Now we are going to see how the movement are influenced by heart rate:
from an interval of heartbeat between 60 - 80 pulses/minute every type of movement is normal, without any problem, but as the value increases until 115, there is a deterioration of fine motor skill. An example: we have a car crash and fortunately without damage to ourselves. If the police ask us to sign or fill out a form, we are not able to perform it well, we have not the complete control of our finger.

In the range from 115 to 145 we obtain the best performances for the combat behavior but as passed 145 pulses/minute we loss the ability connected to the complex motor skill (without to enter in the detail, this explain why generally the weapon manipulation, when is requested the use of the finger and the coordination of distal muscles, in the real combat, it is very difficult!).

But the heart rate influences not only the movements and their coordination, but also many other physical and psychological processes (see the table).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heartbeat</th>
<th>Physiological Phenomena</th>
<th>Psychological Condition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60-80</td>
<td>normal</td>
<td>white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Deterioration fine motor skills</td>
<td>yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115-145</td>
<td>Optimal performance for combat behaviour</td>
<td>orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>145</td>
<td>Deterioration complex motor skills</td>
<td>red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>145-175</td>
<td>Deterioration cognitive performance, peripheral vasoconstriction, perceptual distortions of view, hearing and other senses</td>
<td>grey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>175-220</td>
<td>Irrational behavior (always Freezing), loss control of sphincter, bladder detrusor, black out</td>
<td>black</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In fact as we can see in the table, form 145 to 175, it may start alterations of external senses, and the consequences are auditory or visual delusion, but also irrational actions and over 175 B/M freezing. This explains more irrational actions when the people are under hight stressful or the incapacity to make everything, also to shout, as well as not clear description of criminal or violent events from the witness.

Written by:

Doctor Davide Perego
Neuroscientist, Psycho-Neuro Physiologist, expert in psychopathology and neuropsychology
CURIOSITY
Home to the highest peaks on the planet, the Himalayas begin in Pakistan stretching across India, Bhutan and Nepal until reaching China in the East. This is a majestic landscape of mountains, deep valleys and glaciers, dominated by Mount Everest.

The Everest, also known in Nepal as Sagarmatha, is Earth’s highest mountain. Its peak is 8,848 metres (29,029 ft.) above sea level. This legend-haunted mountain has captivated intrepid men and women since the 1920s: climbers from all over the world ready to make huge sacrifices, often losing their lives, in their attempts to the summit.

In 1953 Everest summit was conquered by Tenzing Norgay, a Nepalese Sherpa climber from Darjeeling, India, and the New Zealander Sir. Edmund Hillary, as climbing team of the ninth British Mount Everest expedition, led by John Hunt.
Since that time, trekking to Everest Base Camp and climbing the surrounded peaks has been one of the most awe-inspiring experiences for many climbers. I am a climber too, I like physical challenges and I have always wanted to see Everest with my own eyes. These are the reasons why I decided to visit the Everest Base Camp and to climb the Kala Patthar summit this year.

Something about working hard towards accomplishing an ambitious goal, doing something which not many people do, and being in the wilderness surrounded by beautiful nature.

Meanwhile, I am also a Captain of the Carabinieri Corps. Therefore, in recognition of extreme valour in line of duty, I decided to take with me the CoESPU flag as a tribute to the Carabinieri Corps and to CoESPU, that is like a second family to me.

On 23rd April, 2017, I arrived in Katmandu where I spent the night at the Yak and Yeti hotel. This is historically the “climbers hotel”, where many expeditions have stayed over the years. After meeting my expedition team, our adventure began in the early hours of the next morning when we had bravely to face a 40 minutes flight to Lukla in a small, roaring aircraft, making an altitude shift from 1,400 m to straight 2,850 m.

Do you know the famous Tenzing–Hillary Airport, also known as Lukla Airport? This short and steep mountain-side runway is rated as the most dangerous landing strip in the world. I would be lying if I said it wasn’t a scary ride.
Landed without incident, I hiked up to the small Phakding village where I spent my first night in the Sagarmatha National Park. The day after, I walked up to Namche Bazaar (3,330 m), the Sherpa capital, where I also rested one more day for acclimatization. With a short hike up to Khunjung and Khunde villages, I spent the extra day drinking coffee, eating pies and doing some last minute shopping.

The following day, I hiked up to Tengboche, the Buddhist lighthouse of the region, where I visited the famous local monastery and I had the opportunity to attend a Buddhist religious ceremony, witnessing a group of Lamas chanting prayers. With the clouds clearing up the following day, my team saw the magnificent views of Himalayan giants like Everest, Lhotse, Nuptse, and Amadablam, heading up to Pheriche.

With just a few days remaining for the ambitious goal of reaching Everest Base Camp, we further prepared ourselves by making an acclimatization hike up to 4,600 m. The next day, we started early and walked up to Lobuche, a small settlement below Lobuche peak (6,119 m). In the afternoon, I took the opportunity to visit the Ev-K2-CNR Pyramid International Laboratory-Observatory, an High Altitude Scientific Research Centre, located at 5,050 m, at the base of the Everest Nepali side. The history of this High Altitude
Scientific Research Centre began in 1986, when an American expedition declared K2 was taller than Everest. Two prominent Italian representatives, Mr. Agostino Da Polenza and Prof. Ardito Desio, could not resist this challenge and, in 1987, they united their scientific and mountaineering strengths to launch the “Ev-K2-CNR Project”, in collaboration with the Italian National Research Council.

They organized expeditions which put mountaineering at the service of science and re-measured both mountains using traditional survey techniques and innovative GPS (Global Positioning System) measurements. Not only did they confirm Everest’s title, but they also set the standard for altitude measurements to come. Two years later, they founded the Ev-K2-CNR Committee to continue promoting technological and scientific research at high altitude. One year later, in 1990, Prof. Ardito Desio inaugurated Ev-K2-CNR’s innovative Pyramid International Laboratory-Observatory. Since then, this flagship of international high altitude scientific research has become the symbol of Ev-K2-CNR, and a point of pride for the Nepali and Italian governments. Today, due to limited financial resources, this well-known research Centre is facing an age of decadence and, unfortunately, it looks like a crumbling building.

The following day, my group hiked up to Gorak Shep (5,180 m). Finally, in the afternoon, we reached, all together and successfully, the Everest Base Camp at the considerable altitude of 5,364 meters above sea level.

When you reach Everest Base Camp the feeling is euphoric. You can do nothing but marvel at the spectre before you: a canvas of beautiful white snow peaked mountains, the Khumbu icefall and the magnificent yet looming presence of Mount Everest. After the hugs and the handshakes of congratulations, you will find yourself standing in an awe complete silence, or if you are an emotional soul, shed a few tears.
The next major goal for the team was to climb up to Kala Patthar at 5,550 m, which is the vantage point for Everest. Only half of the group, myself included, got ready next day before the sunrise and trek further. “Harder the Climb - Better the View”, the climb was strenuous one but I was rewarded with breath-taking views of spectacular mountains like Everest, Pumori, Lintrend, Changtse, Nuptse, Lhotse, Amadablam, and Thamserku. Emotion catches me by surprise. Until that stage, I had not realized how much it could mean for me to stand in that magical place on earth. I felt elated, privileged, tired but happy and most of all so
very grateful to have achieved one of my life’s dreams.

After spending some time on the top, I descended rapidly down to Gorak Shep, arriving in Pangboche in the afternoon.

Once completed the most challenging days of the tour, my team descended pretty easily making night stops in Namche Bazaar, Phakding, and Lukla. On the 5th May, all the team boarded a small plane to Kathmandu. Upon arrival in the capital of Nepal, we decided to celebrate the success of our Himalayan expedition having a special dinner together. It was a great night, sharing emotions and memories about our amazing, but challenging tour.

Reaching Everest Base Camp and Kala Patthar peak will forever be one of the greatest achievements of my life. Not many people can say that they have reached such high altitudes, and being so close to the top of the world. Furthermore, bringing with me the CoESPU flag was a great honour, that makes me really proud to be a Carabinieri Officer.

Written by:
Captain Alberto Veronese
CoESPU Magazine Editor
THE 52 TUNNELS PATH

This year marks the hundredth anniversary of the completion of the mountain path well-known as “Strada delle 52 Gallerie”, which is a military trail built during World War I on the massif of Pasubio, in the district of Vicenza, Italy. This extremely pioneering track winds between the starting point named Bocchetta Campiglia, at the height of 1,219 m, and the gates of Pasubio, at the height of 1,934 m, crossing the southern side of the mountain.

In 1916, after the massive Austro-Hungarian Offensive also known as Strafexpedition, the Italian Army responded to the attack reinforcing its positions on the Pasubio Mountain and occupying the southern peak, called “Italian Tooth” or “Dente Italiano”. Similarly, the Austrians took place on the northern peak known, consequently, as “Austrian Tooth” or “Dente Austriaco”. These two peaks are facing each other, separated by the small area of “Selledda dei Denti”, which soon became a backdrop to many bloody battles right up until the end of the conflict.

At that time, the Italian front line on Pasubio was supplied by the track named “Strada degli Scarubbi”, an 8 km road located on the northern side of the massif, which was now exposed to enemy fire: it was therefore necessary to find a new route. This requirement forced the construction of the Strada delle 52 Gallerie on the southern slope of the mountain, away from the Austro-Hungarian artillery fire.

Considering that Pasubio was a crucial stronghold
for the Italian Army during WWI, the implementation of the new road was of strategic importance because it allowed communication and transfer of supplies from the valley below to the summit area of the mountain.

The road was, and it is also nowadays, a masterpiece of military engineering, considering the conditions and the times in which it was realized. Among the other primacies, the rapidity with which this road was built is outstanding: the works began on February 6th, 1917, and was concluded in November 1917. It was correctly considered to be a military engineering marvel, and was built in just 10 months under the guidance of Lieutenant Giuseppe Zappa first, and Captain Corrado Picone later, and by the work of 33rd Italian Army Engineers Company.

This road is 6,555 meters long, of which 2,280 are classified into 52 rock galleries. Each gallery is numbered and marked by its own name. The minimum width of 2,20 m was originally intended to allow the transit of contemporary two mules with their baggage.
Today the road is open to visitors, and it can be hiked all the way long, walking through the tunnels, but visitors are however advised to take proper trekking gear and torches. It takes approximately three-hours to navigate through the darkness, and care must be taken at all times. This trek is one of the best high level paths in the Dolomites, and such a walking is a memorable experience in a stunning mix of nature, history and engineering prowess. Furthermore, at the start of the walk there is an information board, with a small section in English.

Throughout the trek there are many information boards providing background and historical information related to the position in which you are, within the numbered tunnels. The tunnels are unlit and flashlights are required. Characteristic is the 19th gallery because, besides being the longest (320 m), it has a helical path to 4 turns within a giant tower of rock. The next, the 20th, is excavated in a rock tower, and to overcome the significant difference of highness it is screwed on itself like a corkscrew. The stretch from the 41st to the 45th gallery runs in the Fountain Golden Pass (1,875 m). Upon exiting the 47th gallery you will reach the highest point of the road (2,000 m), where you can enjoy a magnificent panorama.

The trail finally comes to an end at Rifugio Achille Papa, where you will be ready for a well-deserved rest and I’d advise you to bring along a small picnic lunch and enjoy the breathtaking views of the Dolomites.
“Greenery Will Bloom Again” is a 2014 Italian anti-war film written and directed by Ermanno Olmi, and set in the trenches of the Asiago plateau at the end of World War I.

A hundred years since the outbreak of WWI, this film describes Ermanno Olmi’s vision of a conflict that cost the lives of 16 million human beings. Inspired by “The Fear”, a novel written by Federico de Roberto in 1921, this brief recollection of moments in a war that was fought mainly in the trenches, replaces the sound and fury normally associated with the genre, focusing instead on the intense fear, loneliness, misery and darkness of soldiers stuck in their underground fortifications, at the mercy of enemy snipers and of heavy artillery and never allowed them to stick their noses into the open.

The story unfolds in the space of one night on the north-eastern front, following the last bloody battles of 1917 on the Asiago plateau. It’s snowing everywhere and the Austrian trenches are so close that you can hear the enemy soldiers breathing.

Italian soldiers are almost all sick and exhausted from fighting in frigid bunkers. Their commander, a captain, has a raging fever and is hallucinating.

When a major shows up with new orders that are both suicidal and impossible, the captain steps down
in protest but also because he is physically unable to lead. The major replaces the captain with a young lieutenant, who doesn’t have any war experience and he isn’t able to lead his men.

But orders are orders and they must be execute. The HQ asks to reach an outdoor stronghold, laying new communication wires, though it’s a suicide mission because snipers are targeting anyone going beyond the trench. All soldiers are at the end of their ropes and all orders seem ridiculous. A comrade, selected to perform the impossible task, shoots himself before the enemy out there can kill him.

Events follow one another without any kind of pattern and the tension rises palpably, scene by scene, with devastating simplicity and painful realism.

A heart-breaking memorial to all soldiers who fought during the First World War. No one of them is left now and no one else will be able to bear witness with his own voice to all the pain and suffering caused by that war. However, their experiences and their tales can still be passed on by us, remembered and kept actual. Not to forget those heroes represents a duty for all of us.
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