

Interdisciplinary Team for cooperation on the implementation of the “Open Kraków” Programme

Minutes of the meeting: 12 April 2018 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., room 303, 3-4 Plac Wszystkich Świętych, Kraków

Course of the meeting:

The meeting was opened by Vice-Chairman of the Team, Adam Bulandra.

He presented the agenda of the Team for cooperation on the implementation of the “Open Kraków” Programme, proposed by Chairman Andrzej Kulig:

1. Opening of the meeting of the Interdisciplinary Team for cooperation on the implementation of the “Open Kraków” Programme,
2. The issue of the implementation of the “Open Kraków” Programme: Hate crime (monitoring, response, prevention):
 - information from the representative of the Plenipotentiary for the Protection of Human Rights in the Police – Deputy Inspector Paweł Karnas – representative of the Provincial Police Headquarters in Kraków,
 - information from a representative of the City Guard in Kraków,
 - information from a representative of the Municipal Police in Kraków.
3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 18 January 2018 and 19 February 2018,
4. Presentation of the proposals of the Regulations for granting the “Logo of Multiculturalism of Kraków,”
5. Issues raised,
6. The end of the meeting. Members of the Team present did not make comments to the proposed agenda.

RE 1. Opening of the meeting of the Interdisciplinary Team for cooperation on the implementation of the “Open Kraków” Programme.

Vice-Chairman of the Team, Adam Bulandra, welcomed all those present at the 7th meeting of the Interdisciplinary Team for cooperation on the implementation of the “Open Kraków” Programme. He presented them the proposed agenda of the meeting.

RE 2. The issue of the implementation of the “Open Kraków” Programme: Hate crime (monitoring, response, prevention)

- information from the representative of the Plenipotentiary for the Protection of Human Rights in the Police – Deputy Inspector Paweł Karnas – representative of the Provincial Police Headquarters in Kraków,
- information from a representative of the City Guard in Kraków,
- information from a representative of the Municipal Police in Kraków.

As an introduction, Vice-Chairman of the Team, Adam Bulandra, presented the plan of the second item. He welcomed the present guests. He asked for a presentation of the

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security situation in terms of hate attacks on the area of the Małopolska Region. He gave the floor to Mr Paweł Karnas, representative of the Provincial Police Headquarters in Kraków.

Paweł Karnas introduced members of the Team to the actions of the Police in the Małopolska Region in the area of fight against hate crimes. One of them is prevention and prosecution of hate crimes, the second is to prepare police officers for such actions. 74 proceedings qualified as hate crime were conducted in one year. During the meeting, the representative of the Police admitted that the number is not large, but the Police are aware that they have a huge impact on the sense of collective security.

16 proceedings were conducted under Article 119, 14 under Article 256, 30 under Article 257, and 21 indictments were issued. In 24 cases, the perpetrator could not be detected, there were also a few discontinuations due to insanity, and several crimes committed by minors were transferred to family courts. The Police are aware that not all crimes are reported – this phenomenon is known as under-reporting. However, they make every effort to detect the perpetrators in every case.

Moreover, the Police run numerous so-called sensitising training courses for Police officers, which are held in the area of, among others, the Auschwitz Camp. There are courses on combating hate crime. Among others, students learn hate signs, words, acts which can be identified and thus qualified as hate acts. The Police also organise conferences and seminars which cover this topic. Training is provided, inter alia, through reference to cultural heritage and history in anti-discriminatory education and counteracting hate speech. In response to the question of one of the Team members whether the number of hate crimes is larger than in previous years, Paweł Karnas stated that statistically the Police record an increase in hate crimes. However, in his opinion, this is due to an increase in awareness among the public and, above all, professionalisation of policemen.

Aleksandra Zapolska presented statistical data which shows an increase in the number of foreigners, with an emphasis on Ukrainian nationality, and stated that the sentiments of the community do not inspire optimism. **Paweł Karnas** assured everyone that there is no way for the Police to remain indifferent to any reports that inform the communities. At the same time, he declared cooperation with the communities representing foreigners and minorities.

Representative of the Municipal Police informed those present that meetings in schools are organised. Even though they concern the subject of graffiti, there are no objections to add information about hate crime. However, we should bear in mind that the Police will not replace the education system in shaping the attitudes of openness. **Piotr Kwapisiewicz** admitted that, in his opinion, input of the Police is a last resort. However, he reminded everyone a project from Olsztyn when the Police joined the cooperation action with schools on hate crimes. Such meetings also make school headmasters aware that certain behaviours related to aggression against minorities may result in a conflict with the law. There is no doubt that the Police have the ability to make pedagogical staff aware of the consequences of ignoring signals of racist or religious incidents or conflicts.

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Cybercrime was also discussed.

Urszula Majcher-Legawiec pointed out that the desire to include the Police is not an attempt to pass on responsibility, but a desire to include them in joint activities. In her opinion, this may bear fruit in the future. Representative of the Municipal Police emphasised that the atmosphere of openness and tolerance is not always well associated with a uniform. Acting only through the indication of legal consequences and threatening with paragraphs is a last resort. In his opinion, one should be very careful not to give the impression that openness and tolerance are introduced through the force of uniforms.

Dawid McGirr introduced himself to the guests of the meeting as a representative of expatriates in Kraków. He also mentioned that he has been a policeman for many years. His duties also included the fight against racism and hatred. This topic is discussed at the Team meeting for the first time and this is a very good signal. He noted that he would like to discuss how this phenomenon looks in Great Britain and Scotland. Incidents also happen there, but their scale is completely different. Crimes at the level of 884 proceedings in Poland are incomparable to the amount of 81 thousand in Great Britain. In his opinion, this difference results from the way of “recording” these crimes. While preparing for the meeting, he talked to expatriates on how they are treated in Kraków by Poles. Half of them indicated that in their estimation Kraków is an open city. However, it is sad that less than half of those who have different experiences did not report this fact. The website of the Provincial Police includes a lot of information on how to report road hogs and others, but there is no information on how to report cases of hate crime. He also referred to the statement of the representative of the Police about the reluctance of groups and communities of foreigners or minorities to establish contact with the Police. In his opinion, representatives of the communities working in the Team should be the transmission belt between the victims and the Police. Therefore, he is very interested in examining the way to contact representatives of the Police. He also noted that the Ministry of the Interior has very good information about hate crime on its website, however, it is incomplete.

A very good campaign, the task of which was to make people aware of what hate crimes are, was organised in 2014. Unfortunately, when you click on detailed information, a page error activates. The portal should redirect to the website of the Provincial Police Headquarters, where you should be able to find clear instructions on how to deal with aggression, hate crimes. How this matter will be solved will have a huge impact on the expatriate community. At the same time, **David McGirr** declared his help.

Paweł Karnas invited David McGirr, representative of expatriates, at his place and declared that he would be glad to meet with others. He admitted that reporting via the website is not in good condition, but he also expressed hope that it will change. He also admitted that the Police prefer personal contact, as these are the procedures. At the same time, he invited to a conversation regarding the protection of the expatriate group.

Rafał Grabowski also mentioned the meeting with the Police connected with the opening of the Information Service for Foreigners. He also asked about the cooperation

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of the Police with a representative for foreigners of the Jagiellonian University, which was related to the case of an attack on one of the students. The Police confirmed that cooperation is ongoing and developing well.

Then, the topic of human trafficking and actions of the Police in this area were discussed. Paweł Karnas asked for any incidents to be reported when representatives of foreign communities have such knowledge.

Radosław Gądek, representing the City Guard, described the activities of the City Guard related to the elimination of illegal graffiti. Unfortunately, the removal of graffiti from buildings is not imposed by law. One can refer to the construction law which, however, does not provide penalties for the lack of response from the owner. There are no problems with the buildings which belong to the commune. However, the case looks differently with private owners. In principle, besides monitoring, there are no legal sanctions.

Last year, the Guard recorded less than 900 inscriptions, while two years ago there were twice as many. The inscriptions are being gradually removed. Information on the possibility of reporting illegal graffiti can be found on all municipal websites.

The City Guard conducts systematic lectures for schools. Meetings are held with students, mainly on the topic of destruction of property by painting on the walls. About 3,700 lessons like this were organised. Competitions of knowledge of law are held.

“Eight in spray” – a competition of designs of positive graffiti, have been organised for several years.

Dawid McGirr said that he has browsed through the websites of the City Guard. He admits that they made a very good impression on him. Most graffiti concerns fight between clubs but there are also racist ones.

During a conversation with **Dawid McGirr**, **Radosław Gądek** explained that the reduction in the number of graffiti is associated with the notification of graffiti by citizens but also a quick reaction and removal from public space – recently, 21 inscriptions “UKRAINE OUT” were removed. Currently, only 7 are left. Offender are being constantly monitored and prosecuted. Cooperation between the Police, the City Guard and the Team for the liquidation of graffiti and the Chairman of the Team, **Waldemar Domański**, was also the subject of conversation. In addition to this, actions need to be taken for better lighting, removal of bushes, and conscious infrastructure around buildings, which should also reduce the number of inscriptions on the walls.

The actions of the Team for the liquidation of scrawls allow comprehensive operation of the city. Happening activities, which are not only a way of social commitment in the removal of graffiti, but also to build a civil society, are also of great importance.

Dawid McGirr suggested that victims and foreigners living in Kraków should be involved in the fight against scrawls.

At the end of the discussion, it was proposed to invite Mr **Waldemar Domański** to the next Team meeting. This ended the discussion.

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RE 3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 18 January 2018 and 19 February 2018.

Adam Bulandra, Deputy Chairman of the Team, proposed voting on the adoption of the minutes of 18 January and 19 February 2018. As a result of the vote, minutes were adopted.

RE 4. Presentation of the proposals of the Regulations for granting the “Logo of Multiculturalism of Kraków.”

Adam Bulandra opened a discussion on the draft Regulations for granting the “Logo of Multiculturalism.”

Dawid McGirr, due to his absence at previous meetings, asked for clarification whether the project was limited only to NGOs or would informal organisations be able to apply for the logo. **Adam Bulandra** referred to the discussion from the previous meeting during which it was determined that the winners of the competition could be people, groups and initiatives of associations.

During the discussion, it was agreed that the Regulations would be supplemented with informal groups.

Magdalena Furdzik suggested that comments on the working form of the Regulations of the Logo of Multicultural be sent to the MOWIS Office by the next week. Such a procedure would allow including the comments in the already proposed draft.

RE 5. Issues raised.

Participants discussed the continuation of activities related to the Team's participation in work in the fight against racism. It was agreed that members of the Team would meet with representatives of the Provincial and Municipal Police. This will allow determining how organisations involved in the work of the Team can help the Police and the community, which are represented by representatives of migrant groups.

Ferdinand Wouters asked that the minutes clearly specify what matters are to be continued or what has been implemented. The agendas of the meetings are too broad and do not allow a thorough discussion of the topic. He would also like to know what problems have been solved. He also asked about the progress of work on translation of the procedures.

Magdalena Furdzik explained that the procedures have not yet been submitted by the Translation Agency. She also informed that this would not close work on them, because we should take into account that later they would need to be placed on the websites of the Public Information Office and otwarykrakow.pl.

Woters asked that information be prepared on what activities have been carried out within the Team, so that members could inform their communities about the fulfilled tasks.

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Magdalena Furdzik informed that many tasks have been completed. The Information Service for Foreigners was created, procedures were developed and submitted for translation, educational activities, which resulted in cooperation with the Education Department, were undertaken, a draft resolution of the Kraków City Council regarding the appointment of the Logo of Multiculturalism is being prepared, today's meeting with the Police will also have consequences. Meetings with representatives of organisation will be held, which should result in solutions to, among others, the lack of information on reporting hate crimes.

The openykrakow.pl portal and a shared drive for Team members, where information about the Team's work and activities within the OKP is available, were also mentioned.

Urszula Majcher-Legawiec proposed an evaluation meeting which would allow summarising actions of the Team. It was agreed that members would send concrete proposals of solutions to the address poczta@um.krakow.pl

RE 6. The end of the meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Interdisciplinary Team would be held according to the schedule on **24 May 2018 at 5 p.m.** (Portrait Hall).

Vice-Chairman of the Team, Adam Bulandra, conducting the Team meeting closed it at 7.30 p.m.

Chairman of the Team: Andrzej Kulig

Vice-Chairman of the Team: Adam Bulandra

Minutes prepared by: Danuta Czechmanowska

Appendix to the minutes:

1. Attendance list of 12 April 2018.