



ENLETS
Green Policing
Technology Interest Group
GP TIG

2023



Best Practices | Co-Creation | Research

European Network of
Law Enforcement
Technology Services

About ENLETS

The European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services (ENLETS) is a consortium of 29 members from across Europe, dedicated to addressing shared priorities in law enforcement technology and capabilities. ENLETS operates through National Contact Points to facilitate the exchange of information and connect relevant stakeholders. Its objective is to enhance co-creation, initiate research, and foster the exchange of best practices among member nations, supporting the EU's strategic vision connected to security.

ENLETS works by sharing best practices on a broad level, engaging on mutual priorities and stimulating future projects that can help fill the gaps and known issues facing law enforcement. The environment promotes collaboration and fosters a supportive network, working to help each other through current challenges.

Within ENLETS, Technology Interest Groups (TIGs) are instrumental in propagating best practices, offering a platform where ideas and insights are exchanged to stimulate progress in law enforcement technology across Europe. TIGs are coordinated by a subject matter expert from a member state, with objectives, duration, and membership approved by the ENLETS Core Group.

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About TIGs

Based on the strategic goals of the European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services, the community can establish Technology Interest Groups. The TIGs work in a structured way and are led by an expert from a member state.

TIGs are formed to achieve ENLETS' objectives and support front line policing, crime and public protection as well as procurement-related challenges. Objectives, duration and membership will be described in a Project Initiation Document (PID), approved by the ENLETS Core Group.

There are TIGs dedicated to six different areas:

- Digital Workplace
- Public Order
- C-UAS
- Financial Investigation
- Operational Centres
- Green Policing



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About the Report

Between the 13th and 15th of September 2023, police officers from across Europe convened in Prague, Czech Republic, to discuss green policing procurement topics that will enable implementation of the **European Commission's Green Deal** objectives.

At the Prague forum, clean mobility, energy management of buildings, and the efficiency of material and logistical police processes – specifically relating to police uniforms – were discussed in detail to this end. The primary objective was to gather insights on the existing procedures of participating nations and their preparedness for upcoming environmental sustainability goals, given the immense quantity of resources and expertise needed to achieve them.

This ENLETS event marked the **inauguration of a new Technology Interest Group, the Green Policing TIG**, committed to enhancing collaboration among European nations to advance the carbon reduction agenda.

Through the following report, we use this opportunity to present the GP TIG, and its way of cooperation.

GP TIG – Background

The newly established Green Policing TIG currently consists of 35+ members representing 13 European countries. The group is spearheaded by Pavel Boublerle from the Police of the Czech Republic, who is supported by Martina Verdisen from the National Police of the Netherlands, with additional assistance from subgroup leaders.

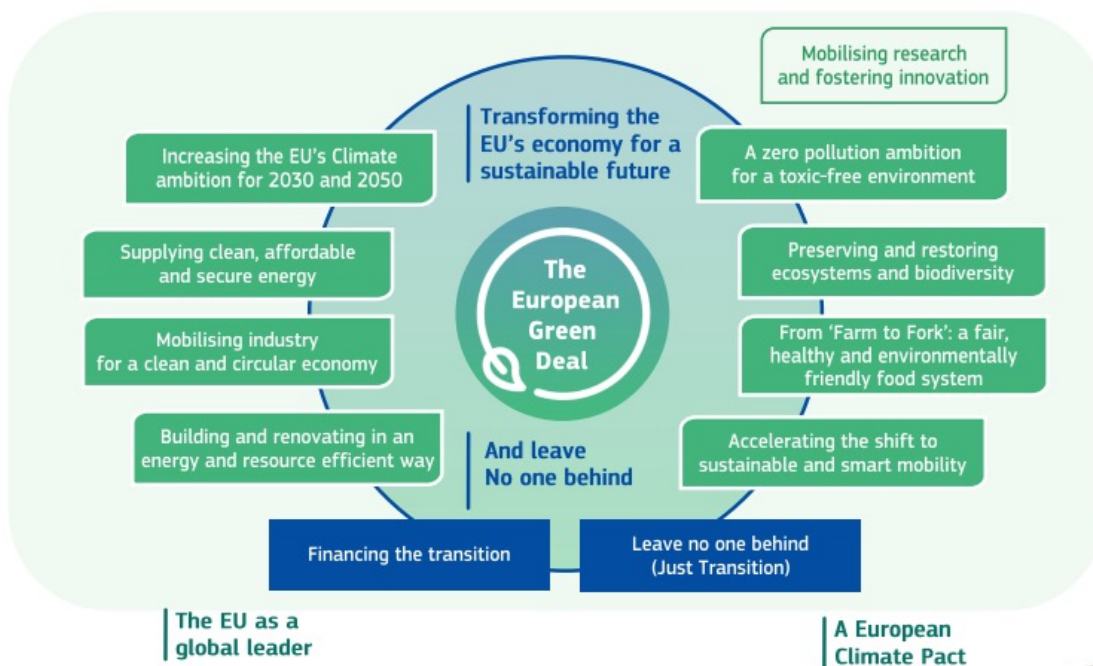
The TIG's primary goals are to foster innovation and collaboration across three areas of environmentally-conscious policing, which will require a fast and coordinated approach to meet targets: **Green Mobility**, **Green Buildings**, and the **Green Ways of Working**. Independent subgroups have been formed for each of the three domains, with regular online meetings to be used as the core mode of ensuring accountability and progress.



Background: European Green Deal

At its current pace, climate change is a major challenge worldwide, increasingly felt in Europe through severe weather events such as flash floods and wildfires. Environmental degradation is a serious threat to our future, which is why the European Commission has decided to take decisive action to prevent it. In December 2019, a package of policy initiatives to save nature was signed. It's called the **European Green Deal**.

The primary goal of the Deal is to achieve **climate neutrality by 2050**. The Green Deal initiative also sets benchmark emissions goals for 2030 (a **55% reduction in greenhouse gases** as compared to 1990) as well as 2040 (to be determined), and engages both private and public sectors – including Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs).



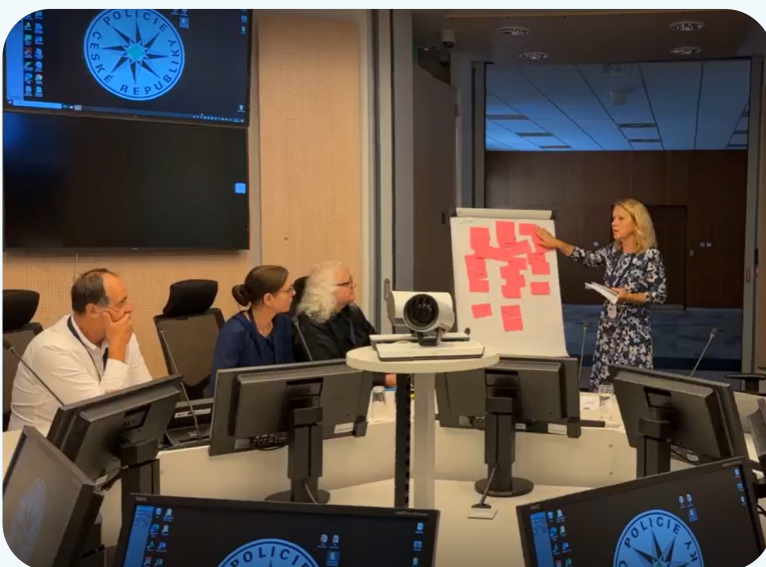
GP TIG Workshops

Green Mobility Workshop

The Green Mobility workshop, led by Pavel Boublerle and Martina Verdiesen, focused on the transition to green mobility within European police forces. The subgroup for Green Mobility is primarily led by the Czech Republic, Finland, the UK, and Belgium.

Green Mobility is a particularly pressing topic given the obligation to introduce police vehicles with an alternative drive from 2035, not to mention the existing Euro 6 and upcoming Euro 7 vehicle standard scheduled to take effect in 2025. With these challenges affecting all sectors and demographics in Member States, LEAs must take it upon themselves to ensure they allocate sufficient funds to enable these changes.

Within the workshop, a key focus area was the specification of various types of police vehicles, and whether they are designed for high-speed use, observation, or intervention, etc., plus the challenges of transitioning them to green alternatives. In particular, the lack of proper infrastructure for alternative drives like hydrogen and electric, such as recharge stations and repair services, was highlighted as a significant challenge.



Despite the lack of public infrastructure, LEAs may be able to take the fuelling issue into their own hands by planning to locate recharging or refuelling stations within their own facilities. For example, both the Belgian Federal Police and Estonian Police and Border Guard Board are already considering building fast vehicle chargers in upcoming police building complexes.



Aside from the infrastructure issue, the group acknowledged the need for centralised data systems to monitor and manage the renewal and replacement of vehicles. Additionally, they emphasised the opportunity to reduce the number of redundant vehicles and explore alternative supporting technologies for operations, like drones, inherently reducing environmental footprints.

One strategy that may enable LEAs to better research and acquire vehicles with alternative drives is simply collaboration. While the buying power of individual Member States is currently insufficient, uniting LEAs to negotiate as a group could lead to better terms with manufacturers. Not to mention, sharing information on the evolution of vehicle manufacturers' offerings and tests, and general research on alternative fuels, is necessary to stay up-to-date with developments. The option to involve other national emergency services in the sustainability conversation could also enable more effective progress.

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Participating states shared other independent areas of focus in the green mobility journey. For example:



- Finland has established minimum requirements for vehicles and an electronic log book for police vehicles.



- The UK has conducted trials on hydrogen vehicles.



- The Czech Republic is preparing a risk analysis for introducing alternative fuel vehicles.



- Switzerland is promoting alternative means of transport for sustainability reasons, such as the bike@work project.

In summary, the workshop underscored the importance of a collective and informed approach to transition to green mobility, addressing challenges, and leveraging opportunities for a sustainable future in policing mobility. Each country's progress and contributions are vital in this mutual journey towards a greener, sustainable future in law enforcement operations.

Green Police Buildings Workshop

The Green Police Buildings workshop, facilitated by Katerina Tumova, focused on the complexities and strategies associated with transitioning to energy-efficient police buildings. A Czech pilot project and other international examples served as benchmarks for energy management excellence, setting the stage for discussions on the obstacles encountered during implementation.



For context, the draft revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), which falls under the category of "Fit for 55" measures, sets minimum energy performance standards. By 2050, the vision is for all buildings in the EU to be zero-emission entities, addressing the current status quo where 75% of buildings are energy inefficient. The workshop, by unifying expertise and resources, aimed to fast-track the transition towards energy-efficient police buildings, aligning with the EU's broader sustainability objectives.

The workshop's discussion revolved around the ownership and numbers of police buildings, emphasising the budgetary allocations at both national and EU levels. Roadmaps for transitioning buildings were shared among the members, showcasing examples of reduced energy consumption in heating and cooling systems and highlighting surplus energy's potential integration into national energy grids. For example, in Switzerland, efforts are in place to redirect waste heat from server rooms for heating purposes.

With buildings accounting for over a third of the EU's greenhouse gas emissions, the workshop also emphasised preparation for the implementation of draft regulations by the EU Council on photovoltaics. In this regard, Ireland's An Garda Síochána and the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board have made clear commitments to utilise solar installations in newly built police facilities.



Green Ways of Working Workshop

The Green Ways of Working workshop, hosted by Andrea Storchova, explored innovative, sustainable practices in the procurement, storage, and distribution of police uniforms. The workshop began with a comprehensive presentation by Tomas Lehkoziv covering the ordering, warehousing, distribution, and logistics of police uniforms in the Czech Republic.



Police uniforms are a significant issue under the umbrella of ENLETS TIG Green Policing, which broadly covers material and logistical processes associated with policing. Uniform practices should be both environmentally sustainable and efficient. Traditional methods of uniform distribution involving multiple warehouses, manual picking and packing, and linear order and delivery systems are being reassessed to minimise environmental footprints.



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The workshop considered a consolidated approach to storage, proposing the reduction of warehouse numbers and the establishment of a centralised uniform warehouse. Automated storage and warehouse picking were also discussed to enhance efficiency and minimise waste. Such improvements aim not only to streamline operations but also to reduce energy consumption and emissions.

Participants deliberated on modernising the ordering process, exploring the integration of an e-shop for online police uniform orders and an e-measure system utilising lidar cameras for precise online measurements. These digital solutions are expected to optimise resource allocation, decrease unnecessary travel, and subsequently, lessen carbon emissions. The Police of Norway is one of just a few LEAs that currently employs a central e-shop for police clothing.

A crucial part of the discussion involved future areas for cooperation, focusing on the lifespan of uniforms from procurement to disposal. The group underscored the importance of green and ethical procurement, considering the manufacturing processes and the components making up each garment. The concept of smart uniforms and e-textiles emerged, spotlighting innovations that not only enhance officer safety and efficiency but also promote sustainability.



Furthermore, the workshop examined the imperative of responsible management of old uniforms, advocating for recycling and disposal systems that align with police social responsibility. The broader vision encapsulates a shift towards a holistic, sustainable approach in police uniform management, bridging innovative technology and green practices to foster environmental stewardship in law enforcement operations.

Conclusion

The meetings in Prague marked a positive step towards **integrating sustainability into European policing**. Key discussions on Green Mobility highlighted the challenges and possibilities of transitioning to eco-friendly police vehicles. Collaborative efforts are essential to overcome the immense infrastructure and funding obstacles associated with Green Deal objectives, and the shared experiences from various countries will be instrumental in navigating this path.

Energy-efficient police buildings are another focus, with shared roadmaps and expertise speeding up the implementation of EU energy consumption legislation. Sustainability in police uniform procurement, storage, and distribution is also gaining traction. The integration of digital solutions and green practices promises efficiency and environmental responsibility.

The shared challenges and collaborative initiatives discussed in Prague signify a practical and concerted move towards a sustainable future in policing, anchored by the collective efforts of European nations. If you represent a European Law Enforcement Agency, please consider [joining the Green Policing TIG](#), and doing your part to collaboratively support a common goal and much-needed transformation.

Upcoming GP TIG Meetings

- The group will continue to organise the subsequent meetings.
- The next face-to-face meeting will be announced soon.



ENLETS: The European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services

Join ENLETS!

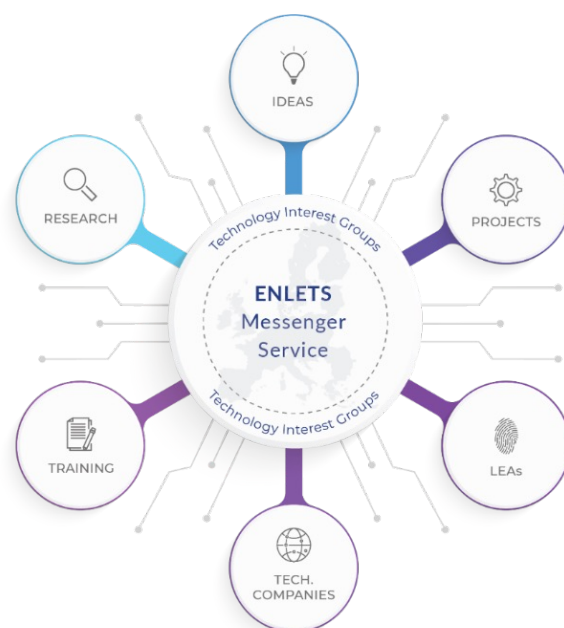
If you want to join the TIG and contribute to similar events and activities, please ['Join ENLETS'](#).

GP TIG already gathered many partners from multiple European countries and is eager to invite more LEAs.

The leader of the group is Col. Pavel Boublerle.

If you want to learn more about GP TIG and the future results of its work, e.g. recommendations, please contact us:

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This report contains the status quo of **October 2023**.
If you want to be updated on further developments, please share your
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