



Latin America has the highest homicide rate per inhabitant of any region in the world. **Violence** has become **one of the main concerns of citizens** and a priority issue on the agendas of the region's governments.

To address the problem of violence, in recent years it has become increasingly clear that there is a need for a **comprehensive approach** that considers not only strictly law-enforcement and judicial aspects but also other **key dimensions, such as social and economic ones, that encompasses elements ranging from prevention to control of violence.**

In the area of violence prevention, numerous stakeholders intervene: Police forces, Justice, Education, Employment, social services, etc. Additionally, although essentially defined at the national level, violence prevention policies are implemented at the local level. Therefore their implementation is more specific and adapted to the conditions of each place.

The objective of this line of action is to strengthen **violence prevention within the framework of public security policies**, with a special emphasis on youth violence.

**Working lines: Improvement of the coordination of the relevant institutional stakeholders** (multi-sectoral and between different government levels); Prevention and treatment of **adolescents in conflict with the law** . .

## Working for



### Regional

- Regional Policy Model for Violence and Crime Prevention with a comprehensive approach.
- Regional Policy Model in Juvenile Justice.

### Colombia

- Implementation of National Citizen Security and Coexistence Policy.
- Creation and implementation of the National Policy for Prevention of Juvenile Crime.

### Chile

- Design and creation of the national agency for assistance to adolescents and youth in conflict with the law.

### Ecuador

- Inter-agency coordination for implementation of a Comprehensive Security Plan.

### Costa Rica

- Coordination of stakeholders in the implementation of the National Comprehensive and Sustainable Policy on Public Security and the Promotion of Social Peace (POLSEPAZ).

### Mexico

- Implementation of the National Programme for Violence and Delinquency.
  - \* Management tools for systematising experiences.
  - \* Single model of community policing.

### Uruguay

- Coordination of stakeholders for implementation of the Programme for Local Comprehensive Management of Citizen Security.

### Peru

- Implementation of the National Plan for Prevention and Treatment of Adolescents in conflict with the Criminal Law 2013-2018.

### Panama

- Effective horizontal and vertical coordination of stakeholders within the framework of the National Security Strategy.
- Support on the security national police, particularly in these aspects related to violence prevention.

### Guatemala (complementary with SEJUST of the EU)

- Enactment of the Violence Prevention Law.
- Enactment of reforms to the criminal justice law with Violence Prevention components.

### El Salvador

- Effective inter-agency coordination mechanisms within the framework of the National Strategy for Prevention of Social Violence.

Coordinating partner:



Operating partners:





## Uruguay takes an interest in Manchester's Inter-Agency Strategy against Youth Gangs

EUROsociAL supported implementation of the Programme for Comprehensive Local Management of Citizen Security in Uruguay. This Programme aims to contribute to decreasing violent crime rates in the city of Montevideo through actions focused on prevention and control in three vulnerable territories and populations. The specific objectives are: i) to increase the effectiveness of the police in preventing and solving crimes; ii) to increase the social reintegration of minors with high risk factors associated with violent and criminal behaviours.

Uruguay took an interest in the **anti-gang intervention and prevention strategy developed in Manchester**, in which several agencies and stakeholders (Manchester Multi-Agency Gang Strategy) have taken part with very good results. The Greater Manchester Police has been advising the Uruguayan National Police on how to improve their training regarding closer interaction with citizens and investigation of local crimes.

## A regional policy model for violence and crime prevention will be approved

Within the framework of EUROsociAL, work was done on building a **vision of regional public policies for citizen security with a comprehensive focus** for prevention of violence and crime. A political adherence document to this Regional Model was drawn up, and Colombia, Mexico, Uruguay and Panama have already adhered to it.

Regional organisations such as SICA in Central America, UNASUR in South America, and the OAS participated in the process of disseminating the model. In addition to being a tool for the governments of the region, this model proposal aims to serve as a reference for the development of citizen security strategies for the European Commission as well as other donors and international agencies working in the region.

## A story of change

Ecuador opts for a preventive policy rather than a repressive one



EUROsociAL is supporting the Ecuadoran Ministry of the Interior in implementation of the *National Programme for Social Prevention of Violence and Crime in Youth Requiring Priority Attention*. Although the programme is being led by the Ministry of the Interior, it affects several public agencies in the area of citizen security, including community police, and judicial and social stakeholders.

This programme involves a change in the approach of the security policies implemented until now in this country. There has been a transition from a model based solely on reaction (and punishment) to a new one based on **fore-sight, prevention and response**.

As Felipe Fiallo, Citizen Security Director of the Ministry of the Interior, states, police forces were historically created as repressive agents that represented a threat to their own civil societies. In this programme "we propose the idea of a preventive police force, as working to prevent violence, creating a culture of peace, is much less costly for the State than demanding vast quantities of resources to invest in a repressive apparatus plagued by excesses and injustices which nobody wants".

## Numbers:

212 Participating Institutions  
<http://goo.gl/Vujj8M>

181 Latin American Institutions  
<http://goo.gl/USSKMD>

19 European Institutions  
<http://goo.gl/mga6F7>

786 Total Participants

71 Latin American Experts

33 European Experts

○ Approx. 5% Total Programme Spending

## Publications:



Vetas de transferencia de 7 prácticas internacionales en prevención de la delincuencia juvenil: análisis de adaptabilidad al contexto colombiano [Channels for transferring 7 international practices regarding prevention of juvenile crime: analysis of adaptability to the Colombian context]  
 > <http://goo.gl/WjHhHz>



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