Research & Training for Enhancing European Societal Security

Bengt Sundelius

Professor of Government, Uppsala University & Swedish National Defence College
Societal security – a social contract with the citizens

It is an obligation of good governance to prepare for the unthinkable and to allocate the necessary resources to minimize the impact on people and society from catastrophic events.
An All Hazards plus Approach

Societal consequences are similar for crises caused by natural disasters, man-made disasters or by terrorists and other antagonistic threats.

Critical functions of Society are at stake

This approach draws on a different logic than a counter-terrorism plus approach, where immense investments in security measures for antagonistic threats may also give other societal security effects.
Challenges for Societal Security

• Trans-boundary & Real Time Flows
• Technological Interconnectedness
• Second & Third Order Consequences
• Mediatization
• Governing versus Government
• Public Service versus Private Profit
• Multilevel, Cross-sector & Multilateral Capacity Building
Failures of

- Imagination (9/11)
- Initiative (Katrina)
- Next: Coordination (trans-boundary crisis)
Overcoming Jurisdictional and Mental Gaps

- Security and Safety professionals
- Civil and Military professionals
- Civil and Civil authorities
- National, Regional and Local authorities
- Public authorities and Private Sector
- Public domain and Volunteer associations
Vulnerability Surpluses & Crisis Management Capacity Deficits in Europe

• Domestic focus is dangerously limiting

• EU Solidarity Clause for managing trans-boundary crises (Art. 222 of Lisbon Treaty)

• Requires coordination across:
  – Multi-sectors,
  – Multi-levels,
  – Multi-institutions,
  – Multi-nationals.
Research → Training → Improved Practices →

- Societal Security Research Programs
- Curriculum Development for Higher Education
- Comprehensive Training and Coordinated Exercises for Government Authorities and with Private Sector and NGO Engagement
Evolution of civil European security research

- **ESRIF** (2007-2009)
- **ESRAB** (2005-2006)
- **PASR** (2004-2006)
- **GoP** (2003-2004)

**FP7 Security Theme**
- (2007 -2013)
- 1400 M€

**Nationally based security research programs are estimated to match EU level funding 10:1**

**New Commission Communication announced**


**GoP report “Research for a secure Europe”** (March 2004)

**ESRAB report “Meeting the challenge: the European Security Research Agenda”** (Oct 2006)

From ESRIF web-site
What is ESRIF: Purpose and objectives

European Security Research & Innovation Forum

• to develop and promote a European civil „Joint Security Research and Innovation Agenda“ for all European stakeholders (public and private)
  – Advising European & national civil security research programmes
  – Taking a mid & long term perspective
  – Bringing together the demand and supply side of security solutions, and the civil society perspective

• to aid the structuring process in the security domain on both demand and supply side

From ESRIF web-site
Key Components of S & T for Enhanced Societal Security

- The ESRIF report was presented in Stockholm at the European Security Research Conference on September 29-30, 2009. www.esrif.eu
ESRIF: Key Messages

- Societal Security
- Societal Resilience
- Trust
- Interoperability
- A systematic approach to capability development
- Industrial policy
- Innovation
- Security by design
- Awareness raising through education and training
European Security Research and Innovation Agenda

- Securing people
- Civil Preparedness
- Crisis Management
- Explosives
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear
- New technologies, new threats
- Security of Critical Infrastructure (Natural Resources, Energy, Transport)

- Security economics
- Border Security
- Identity management and protection
- Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
- Space
- Evidence and forensics
- Informed Decision Making
Recommendations

• **ESRIF strongly recommends that the EU and its Member States launch new measures to enhance the security of its citizens. These should also aim to create amenable conditions for European excellence in research and innovation, and thus advance Europe’s security. Policy recommendations:**

• **Common European Capabilities**
• **New Policy Initiatives**
• **Integrated Approach to Security**
• **The Global Dimension**
• **Security Research: The future**
Vision for the Future

European Security Research Programs—EU-based and national in unison—should underpin a coherent Union approach to meet antagonistic threats and natural or man-made disasters, reduce transnational vulnerabilities and build trans-boundary capacities to strengthen our shared societal security.