

Concluding remarks from ICOS

Vitalino Canas

I'll try here to make a summary of the thoughts from ICOS (a Security and Development Policy Group) during this Symposium. Along the various panels of this event we witnessed and heard about many perspectives, be it from those who craft and develop the policies – with Dr. Biscaia from SENASP and also from General Uchôa from SENAD, Dr. Luiz Fernando Corrêa, from the Federal Police. We also counted with the participation of Mr. Lopes da Mota from EuroJust, a collaboration agency of the European Union with national institutions (like, for example, the Public Prosecution Office). We listened to presentations which highlighted the operational perspective of those actually and immediately responsible for public security; in this sense it is worth mentioning what was said by Secretary Beltrame (the Public Security Secretary of Rio de Janeiro).

We had as well the insights of the experts, from whom we learnt the historical, regional, sociological and anthropological perspectives, as well as everything related with public security, drugs, consumption and trafficking. With respect to drug policy, leaders from that specialised field brought a global perspective of the threat represented by trafficking and the operational perception, which consequently feeds into the theoretical field.

This has been an historical conference, with both high level political and operational perspectives, conducive to a unique opportunity for debate. It has brought together operational law enforcement officers, important public security managers, leading drug policy authorities, and politicians and members of the judiciary from Brazil and around the world, for an unprecedented debate on public security challenges and perspectives.

Brazil's geography, cultural diversity and various challenges have generated unique expertise and knowledge on public security in the country. This has led to Brazil becoming a leading centre for excellence on public security policy. Brazil's police forces have developed unique understandings and skills on these issues. They also demonstrate courage in facing the problem. It is clear that people here really care for their communities and are motivated to improve the situation.

This represents a unique moment as all actors share the common goal of a concern and commitment to finding the right answers. This translates at the federal level in the PRONASCI plan. At the individual state level this can also be seen in many initiatives, some of which we at ICOS have had the privilege to see in Parana.

We can see that there is a unique sense of enthusiasm and inspiration here at this time. ICOS would like to be part of this

movement; assisting in its policy elaboration and implementation. Contributing to its success and elevating its successes for use in other parts of the world. We will therefore reinforce our presence here in Brazil and would like to elaborate our partnership with Brazil at the federal and state level.

Raymond Kendall

It was very positive to have the large number of very informative presentations over the last few days. I sincerely hope that this declaration of intent can be transformed into much needed practical solutions. For this to happen we need both political will and funding.

I was able to meet over a glass of wine some of the Brazilian operational police officers yesterday evening. I was much impressed by their professionalism and dedication and I am encouraged by their commitment to the important job that they are doing.

ICOS would welcome an opportunity to become involved in the PRONASCI plan. The Council is available to give the maximum support and advice to this very interesting initiative.

Congratulations to all our speakers, the audience and partners. On behalf of all ICOS, thank you.