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EVOLVING CHALLENGES AND COMPREHENSIVE RESPONSES



**ABSTRACT**

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**Theory and Practice of Police Research in Europe**

In the complex 21st century world, police forces across Europe are facing new challenges in tackling crime and disorder. Driven by rising expectations from governments and the public, an eager search for more sophisticated tools and techniques for policing has set in. The European Police College (CEPOL) is an EU agency tasked to organise training and education for (senior) police officers from EU member states. Resorting to what contemporary research and science has to offer in the process is one cornerstone in the agency's educational policy. With a view to the historical roots in some European countries the paper will discuss the main currents of "scientification" of policing in current Europe and will address the prospects and limits of "science-led" policing in the near future.