



**INTERNATIONAL
POLICE ASSOCIATION**
INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

IPA Newsletter

February 2022

IPA Children around the World



Winning entry of the IPA Children's Painting Competition:
Livia Viana de Paula Santiago from Brazil

WORD OF INTRODUCTION

Dear IPA friends,

I hope that everyone is keeping well and safe.



In this month's newsletter, I would like to address the issue of cybercrime and its prevalence despite the adverse consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Notwithstanding the challenging times that we are still facing, cybercriminals have managed to make the most out of the opportunities created during the pandemic, exploiting the fact that many of us work remotely and therefore rely heavily on the internet. The fact that a lot of people depend on teleworking provided cybercriminals with the necessary incentive required to explore new ways through which they can exploit unsuspecting members of the public, especially the most vulnerable ones.

Cybercriminals' activities include (but are not limited to) attacks relating to e-commerce through which they can gain access to the victims' bank accounts, child grooming and sexual exploitation through the internet, and highly sophisticated software attacks on large corporations and public institutions, such as health care providers, for ransom.

As Europol points out in its latest Internet Organised Crime Threat Assessment (IOCTA), although the Dark Web remains a vital tool for cybercriminals, they are now increasingly using other platforms which are freely accessible to everyone, such as social media and gaming platforms.

The use of these widely accessible platforms enables cybercriminals to expand their operations even further, which means that no one is immune from cyber-attacks.



It is therefore essential for everyone to remain vigilant and take all the necessary precautions required to protect themselves from this extremely serious type of criminality that can have a devastating impact on our lives.

To conclude, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy, prosperous and Covid-free year.

Kind regards,

Demetris Demetriou, Chairperson of the Professional Commission

AROUND THE WORLD

IPA Montenegro organise International New Year's Eve Party

The IPA Section of Montenegro organised a New Year's Eve party for its members and friends in Durres, Albania. Colleagues from the provisionally affiliated IPA section of Albania, whose members and friends also welcomed the New Year with them, helped organise this event.



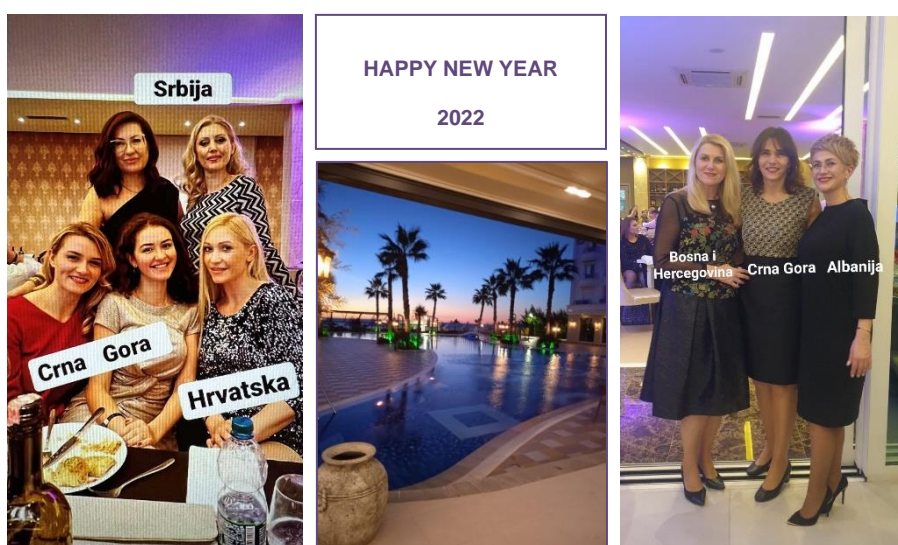
The invitation for a joint welcome was sent to all neighbouring countries of Montenegro, and therefore members of IPA sections Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Croatia also welcomed 2022 together.

In this way, the IPA Section of Montenegro organised an international event which brought together 180 members and friends of the mentioned IPA sections.

During the formal and informal gatherings, members of the sections exchanged experiences and planned the next joint activities, and the IPA motto 'Servo per Amikeco' was promoted in the best way possible.

A gala dinner with a special New Year's programme and three excursions during the following days were organised for all participants. A trip to Durres, a coastal town, included a tour of historical sites, the seashore and breaks at local cafes and seafood restaurants. The next day, a tour of Tirana was organised, during which everyone was able to enjoy visiting the modern football stadium. Afterwards, the group took a cable car to a lookout on the mountain, from which our members had a beautiful view of Tirana. In addition, the group visited the UNESCO-protected old town of Berat.

Biljana Dulović, President IPA Montenegro



Section Poland's New Year's IPA #MeetingAtTheSummit

According to a New Year superstition, the way we spend the New Year will determine the whole year. Following this motto, and only slightly adjusting the situation to the intended purpose, for the first long weekend of 2022, we went to the south of Małopolska Province, where the highland cultural region of Podhale is located at the foot of the Tatra mountains.



In this special part of Poland, considered the winter capital of our country, live wonderful and hospitable people, who are characterised by commitment and determination in achieving their passions and goals. Such a group are members and friends of the IPA from the Karpacki, nowotarski and zakopiański regions.

Thanks to the hospitality of Danuta and Marian Czystoń from Kościelisko, we had the pleasure once again to stay in their IPA House. In turn, the commitment of our colleague Mateusz from the IPA Karpacki Region led us to the Bielańska Cave in Wysokie Tatry in Slovakia - the longest accessible cave in the Tatra mountains. Afterwards, we experienced the

highest level of relaxation at the Szaflary thermal springs.

This time we could also count on a reliable group of mountain hiking enthusiasts. In the early morning of 8th January, when the day was slowly waking up after a frosty night, we met a strong expedition in the parking lot of one of the supermarkets in Międzybrodzie Bialskie, in Żywiec County, Silesia Province: Marian, Danuta, Piotr, Dorota, Mateusz, Marcin, Natalia, Leszek, Sławek, Marcin, Tomek, Marta and Michał, to attack **Czupel (933 m above sea level)** - the highest peak of Beskid Mały, included in the Crown of Polish Mountains. We set off from Międzybrodzie Bialskie along the red trail, which led steadily upwards until we reached the Czupel Pass, from where we reached the top of Czupel more gently, but still uphill. After a short regeneration break, feasting our bodies with snacks and our eyes with the view of the Silesian Beskid panorama, we continued along the blue trail to the PTTK mountain hostel on Magurka.

On the way back to Międzybrodzie Bialskie, at the fork of the blue and black trails, we could admire the Smocza Jama cave. The way back to the parking lot, on a partially icy trail, was more exciting than the ascent, but all the participants of the trip managed to get down safely. At the end of a fruitful day a few daredevils took a dip in the Żywieckie Lake.



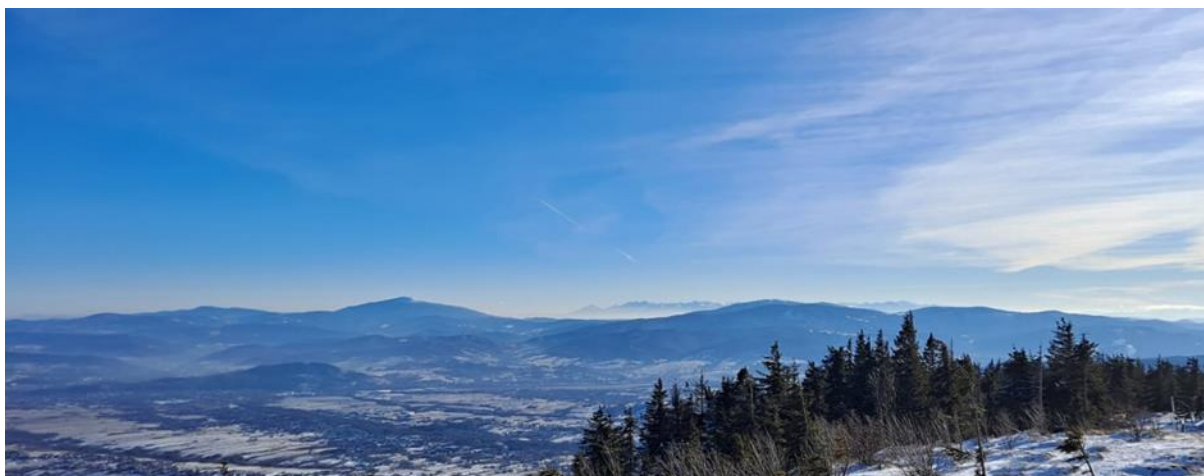
The next day, at dawn, we set off in a slightly smaller group, consisting of Marian, Danuta, Mateusz, Krzysztof, Łukasz, Marta and Michał, to Szczyrk, from where we hiked the blue trail in a bold attack on **Skrzyczne (1257 m)**, which, as the highest peak of the Silesian Beskid, is among the peaks of the Crown of Polish Mountains.

The boldness of this trail is due to the fact that at less than 4 km it leads upwards for 726 m of elevation gain, which in winter conditions with ice and snow is really demanding.

After reaching the top and the obligatory photo session, we went to the PTTK Skrzyczne mountain hostel, where we admired the panorama of Beskid Żywiecki and the Tatra mountains from the observation deck, and, tired from the climb and struggling with the wind, especially at the final stage of the ascent, we had a snack inside.

After coming down, to soothe our tired muscles, we took a refreshing dip in the Żylica River that flows through Szczyrk.

An invigorating swim in the river concluded the first weekend spent together with our IPA Highlander friends this year, which resulted in two **IPA #MeetingsAtTheSummit**. We take this as a good omen and look forward to more meetings in the spirit of friendship and the values of the International Police Association.



The project **IPA #MeetingAtTheSummit** is dedicated to hiking enthusiasts, and it aims at reaching 28 peaks of the Crown of Polish Mountains.

We would like to invite IPA members from all sections to visit Poland, and through participation in our mountain trips, help restore normality and cherish the values of our Association.

Text: Michał Sługocki, Secretary IPA Region Wrocław

Photos: Marcin Kubień & Krzysztof Grapa, IPA Poland

OBITUARY

K. Arasaratnam – Former Deputy Inspector General of Police



We, IPA Sri Lanka, record with deep sadness the recent demise of an NEC Member of the Sri Lankan Section and former Deputy Inspector General of Police in Sri Lanka, Mr. K. Arasaratnam on 29th December 2021. He was an epitome of quintessential standards.

Mr. Arasaratnam was a tower of strength to the IPA in Sri Lanka and made an invaluable contribution to the organisation.

He demonstrated excellent commitment with prowess and dedication, and on numerous occasions displayed solidarity with the needy who encountered hardship.

He was a very sincere and true friend, with a veracious heart, frank and forthright, with an upright approach.

IPA details:

- ❖ Joined IPA Sri Lanka on 15.06.1993, Life Membership No. 171.
- ❖ Participated at World Congress Sessions in: Spain 1999, UK 2000, USA 2001, South Africa 2002, Norway 2003, Brno 2004, France 2010, and Germany 2014.

His demise is an irreparable loss to the entirety of the IPA community.

Personally, I have lost a very good and a sincere officer, a true colleague and an affectionate personality, who will be well remembered for his great unassuming qualities.

May his soul attain supreme bliss of Moksha.

Asoka Wijetilleka, Acting President IPA Sri Lanka

ON THE TABLE OF THE IEB

Consortium for Street Children Network Forum

The Consortium for Street Children (CSC) is a UK based global alliance who act as the voice of street children to promote good practice, and challenge and change the systems that cause children harm.

The IPA, through the Professional Commission, has supported the work of the CSC since 2013 by raising awareness about the work of the Consortium.

The forum held on 11th November 2021 took place by video conference. Professional Commission member Steve Bretherton attended on behalf of Demetris Demetriou, chair of the commission and Clive Wood, who is the commission's link to the CSC.

The session Steve attended highlighted mental health and trauma awareness in street-connected children.

It explored some of the potential symptoms exhibited by traumatised children and provided information about resources available when dealing with particular issues. The session then discussed trauma and trauma awareness, and the importance of building hope for street-connected children in order to build emotional resilience, and sharing some simple ways for practitioners to use these tools in settings with few or no resources.

Among other topics, the seminar covered:

- A child's first night on the street;
- Coping mechanisms adopted by street children such as substance misuse, fighting and disassociation;
- The common symptoms experienced by street children – flashbacks, hyper-alertness/withdrawal, mood and cognitive changes, anxiety and depression;
- The work of ACTI (Action for Child Trauma International), www.actinternational.org.uk in training teachers and care staff in 17 countries to help children with Post Traumatic Syndrome Disorder (PTSD) using Children's Accelerated Trauma Treatment.



Speakers explained that street children often exhibit complex PTSD due to repeated traumas, which hinders their learning and can prevent them forming attachments and relationships.

The seminar closed on a positive note explaining how the Children's Accelerated Trauma Treatment works by explaining to children about trauma in a way they can understand and relate to, teaching them safer coping mechanisms such as relaxation techniques, and most of all by helping them build a ladder of hope for the future.

More information about the work of the CSC can be found at:

www.streetchildren.org.

Steve Bretherton, member of the Professional Commission & SG IPA UK

LAST WORD

Nottingham, which is close to where the International Administration Centre is located and the city I live in, has a large Chinese population, thanks to a well-established partnership between the University of Nottingham and its campus in Ningbo, China.

1st February, the date for this year's Chinese New Year, is therefore celebrated widely at the university, and my family and I took the opportunity to attend our first event since Omicron hit us: a beautiful light show in the University Park.



The celebrations for the Year of the Tiger featured the projection of spectacular images and sequences onto the university's main building, which all participants were able to admire from across a lake. The motto of the event was aptly chosen: HOPE.

Now in our third year of Covid, I sense that events and occasions for people to gather have somewhat changed – opportunities to meet are not taken for granted anymore, and those attending show a welcome degree of happiness and friendliness. To me, the New Year light show was not only fantastic because of the beauty of the images shown, but even more so due to the many chats and smiles exchanged with everyone else, who was simply extremely happy to be there.

At the IAC, although we unfortunately already had to circulate a few cancellations of IPA events this past month, we are very much full of HOPE that 2022 is finally the year when IPA life, in all its facets, returns to normal, including such joyous occasions as friendship weeks, the IPA Games, and most of all the IPA World Congress.

For now, I share a few images from the celebrations with you, and wish all those in the IPA family who celebrate it, a HAPPY NEW YEAR OF THE TIGER!

Elke

