

The Mandate

In circumstances where it is necessary to establish a refugee camp, clear terms of reference for camp security should be available for the use of humanitarian agencies. Clear lines of responsibility should be established in conjunction with local authorities. In circumstances where a peace support operation is being deployed to assist with a refugee camp environment, the mandate must be well thought-out and robust enough to address the source of insecurity experienced by the affected population. The mandate will be related to the perceived threat at the time it is approved. However, the mandating body must be prepared to monitor and revise the mandate in accordance with developments in the surrounding conflict or the condition of the refugees.

Relevant policy, doctrine and plans need to be in place to assist the organizing body with security planning, and these instruments should be consulted by those developing the mandate. All plans must stress the need for an integrated, multi-disciplinary approach.

Doctrine

Doctrine for the involvement of international civilian police in refugee camp situations should not be developed on an *ad hoc* basis in the middle of an emergency. An established doctrine is required both by planners and operators in order to provide for proper recruitment, training, deployment and employment of international police. Such doctrine should be developed in a peacetime situation and taught, practiced and understood by those responsible for refugee camp security.

Moreover, checklists developed as part of doctrine must stress the role of the host country and the need to negotiate and agree on joint security arrangements as early in the process as possible. Checklists must cover not only the security of the interior and perimeter of the camps, but they must also allow for an assessment of overall security in the host state and neighboring states, the security of national borders, and other areas as deemed necessary. Such checklists or guidelines could be used by humanitarian, military, police and others involved in camp security.

Multi-disciplinary Information/Intelligence Sharing

Even when abundant information is available on a developing or existing crisis, the timely and accurate analysis and sharing of that information can be difficult. This information is available from many sources, such as local interlocutors, international NGOs, diplomatic missions, etc., but this information needs to be collated and assessed in the location where planning is taking place. Once an operation is established, the requirement for information and intelligence sharing is ongoing. Some form of a 'joint intelligence centre' needs to be established for collection, assessment and dissemination of intelligence to relevant parties. The international community must be encouraged to act on that knowledge.