



Guidelines for the Usage of the Platform

The Inter-American Network for the Prevention of Violence and Crime – RIAP

The Network is a mechanism developed to establish **dialogue and consultation**, and to foster the **exchange** of experiences, information, best practices, data and points of view among member states, civil society, media, private and academic sectors, general public, among others on the prevention of crime and violence. The interaction proposed by the RIAP will take place through in-person meetings and through a permanent virtual platform. The virtual platform seeks to facilitate the exchange of information, opinions, ideas, experiences and suggestions on the prevention of various forms of violence and crime; as well as to map actions, projects, programs, policies and best practices aimed at prevention.

The current document focuses on the latter and will lay out the guidelines and terms of use of the virtual platform.

Interaction Tools

The users will have the opportunity to exchange ideas and information with other members through the following areas:

- ✓ Forums of Discussion
- ✓ Publication
- ✓ Best Practices
- ✓ Programs and Projects
- ✓ Policies, Protocols and legislations
- ✓ Trainings
- ✓ Blog Posts
- ✓ News
- ✓ Events
- ✓ Photos
- ✓ Videos

Forums of Discussion

The Forums will be a permanent instrument of dialogue, consultation, popular participation and community organization in the process of development and management of public policies on prevention of violence and crime. Regarding the operationalization of the forums:



- ✓ Participants must register to access them.
- ✓ The moderator will be responsible for editing, moving, excluding, adapting and/or publishing posts received.
- ✓ Discussions will focus on issues related to the prevention of crime and violence.
- ✓ The themes of the discussions can be proposed by all members of the RIAP; however they must be approved by the moderator(s).
- ✓ The Department of Public Security (DPS) is not responsible for the content posted in the discussion forums. However, it reserves the right to remove any message or content that is not in accordance with the rules of the platform, described in **Annex I**.

Publications

The publications related to the prevention of crime and violence will be available to the members of the RIAP. It may include, among others: academic, scientific, legislative and political publications, as well as reports and evaluations. All members of the community are welcome to suggest documents to be published on the platform.

How to suggest/publish documents* in the platform?

- ✓ First register as a member of the RIAP
- ✓ Fill out the form available in the Platform for online submission.

*The documents can be submitted by various agencies, including universities, independent researchers and governments, individuals, among others. All the materials will go through an evaluation process and are subject to DPS approval before publication.

Best Practices

The platform will have a portfolio of best practices on the prevention of crime and violence that will rely substantially on the submissions of the members of the RIAP. The portfolio will be divided into government and non-governmental best practices.

How to submit the best practices

- ✓ Government initiatives will be channeled through the focal point of the country.
- ✓ Non-governmental initiatives must be sent by filling out a specific form available in the Platform for online submission.

*The initiatives to be considered best practices will be subject to the evaluation of the DPS in accordance with pre-established criteria.



Programs and Projects

The Network will make information on programs and projects related to the prevention of crime, violence and homicides available to the members of the RIAP.

How to suggest/publish documents* in the platform?

- ✓ First register as a member of the RIAP
- ✓ Fill out the form available in the Platform for online submission.

*The documents can be submitted by various agencies, including universities, NGOS, independent researchers and governments, individuals, among others. All the materials will go through an evaluation process and are subject to DPS approval before publication.

Policies, Protocols and legislations

The Network will make information on legislations and policies related to the prevention of crime, violence and homicides available to the members of the RIAP.

How to suggest/publish documents* in the platform?

- ✓ First register as a member of the RIAP
- ✓ Fill out the form available in the Platform for online submission.

*The documents can be submitted priory by Government authorities being them local, state or national.

Training and Learning

The members of RIAP will have the opportunity to submit information on courses and trainings on the topic that they are aware of or that they provide.

How to suggest/publish documents* in the platform?

- ✓ First register as a member of the RIAP
- ✓ Fill out the form available in the Platform for online submission.

*The information can be submitted by Governments, NGOs, Universities, Academics, International Organizations, among others.



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Blog Posts

The users of the platform will have the opportunity to write blog posts on topics of their interest or knowledge related to the prevention of crime and violence in the Americas and other regions of the world. Once users submit a blog entry, the text will be analyzed by the moderator(s) and will be published on the platform when approved.

Photos, Videos and Podcasts

Users of the platform are welcome to share videos, photos, podcasts and other multimedia materials. As mentioned before all the material submitted is subject to approval from DPS.



ANNEX I

General Rules and Conditions to use the Platform

The Department of Public Security (DPS) of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS) is responsible for the coordination of the Inter-American Network for the Prevention of Violence and Crime – RIAP and makes the virtual component of the RIAP available through the OAS Website. All the members and users of the RIAP are subject to the terms and conditions expressed below. The DPS is not responsible for the content of the messages and opinions expressed on the Virtual Forums, Blogs and Library.

Warranties and Disclaimers

RIAP members, which are users of the Platform, agree not to post material that is false and/or defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, indecent, hateful, harassing, obscene, threatening, invasive of the privacy of a person, or in contravention of any law.

Users agree not to publish any material subject to copyright, unless the user is the owner of such rights or have permission of the owner of such rights.

Users agree not to post advertising of any kind in the forums, whether it is about an individual or a company.

The Department of Public Security reserves the right to delete messages or other kind of information in the following cases:

- ✓ Obscene language or content of messages that are deemed to be blatant as opposed to incidental.
- ✓ Sending unsolicited email.
- ✓ Threatening messages to other members with the apparent intent to incite or perpetuate a conflict or argument.
- ✓ Repetitive meaningless messages in the forums or individual threads of messages.
- ✓ Publication of personal emails or chat dialogues.
- ✓ Publication of pornographic material or sexual, aggressive, discriminatory, disrespectful material of any kind or that in any way denigrates the image of persons or institutions.
- ✓ Misrepresentation.
- ✓ Discussions about illegal activities.
- ✓ Posts that are published under secondary user names or other pseudonyms.
- ✓ Messages that violate the privacy of another user.