

UNDERSTANDING POLICING

A resource for human rights activists

Anneke Osse

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Understanding Policing – A resource for human rights activists gives background information on policing issues for human rights advocates working on policing and those considering embarking on such work.

This Resource Book is based on the premise that in order to intervene effectively in police conduct, it is essential to have a thorough understanding of policing and the context in which it takes place: both the legal standards guiding police work as well as the practical methodologies developed by police to implement these. Armed with this understanding human rights advocates can make an assessment of police agencies in specific contexts. Such an assessment is vital both to developing an effective research and campaigning strategy for the improvement of police compliance with human rights, and to deciding whom to target and whether to follow a confrontational and/or engagement approach.

Anneke Osse worked for 10 years for the Dutch police as a trainer and management consultant in the field of police ethics, corruption prevention and human rights. In 2004 she joined the Police and Human Rights Program of Amnesty International in the Netherlands.

A website has been developed to accompany this Resource Book. It can be found at www.amnesty.nl/policeandhumanrights and includes downloads, updates and events and a forum to exchange ideas and experiences.



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