

Presentation title:

## The role of the police in the prevention of family-based crime in Germany

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Based on the findings of a research project conducted at the Criminological Research Department (KKF) within the State Office of Criminal Investigations (LKA) in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany, this presentation aims to identify the opportunities and limitations of police involvement in crime prevention in the context of family-based crime – an highly politicized phenomenon in Germany with a focus on families with a turkish-arabic background. The so called “clan crime“ describes a range of offenses from theft to murder, regular and organized crime, as long as belonging to a clan represents a connecting component that promotes the commission of the crime or prevents the investigation of the crime, whereby one's own norms and values can be placed above the legal system applicable in Germany. The acts, individually or collectively, must be relevant to the phenomenon. This presentation will give an overview of the causes, forms, and consequences of family-based crime as well as the State responses and prevention approaches. Based on empirical data, significant factors for successful prevention programs are being discussed. The limitations of regular police intervention and new approaches for law enforcement for the prevention of “clan crime” are being presented. The presentation highlights the importance of trust building with disadvantaged communities, cooperation with local institutions, and the collaboration with professional social workers. Different examples from Sweden and Germany will illustrate the opportunities of police prevention efforts, but also point out the challenges and limitations.