Replacing and Rebuilding Police: Toward Effective and Legitimate Public Order
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in The New World of UN Peace Operations: Learning to Build Peace?

The chapter zooms in on three cases of learning within the domain of building police. The first case is the introduction of constabulary police forces as a new instrument to deliver public security in war-torn areas. The case details the effort to develop basic standards for the roles and functions of constabulary police forces, just recently introduced to fill the ‘security gap’ that emerged in the early weeks and months of every peace operation after civil wars. The second case is the shifting approach in building police services on the ground, from a focus on individual training and technical support toward a holistic view of the institution and the need to turn around its leadership, culture, and regulations to make it effective and accountable. The third case is the establishment of the Standing Police Capacity, a small group of experienced UN police officers that enables the UN to rapidly deploy a core police team to new missions or strengthen existing missions at critical times.