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MULTIDIMENSIONAL SECURITY AT THE BORDERS

MINISTÉRIO DA
JUSTIÇA E
SEGURANÇA PÚBLICA



Mackenzie





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Institutional Environment for Cooperation Part 2

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Institutional Environment for Cooperation



If we ask ourselves what the borders between our countries are like, we all know that we have some common characteristics. Firstly, the high rate of economic informality that favors the camouflage of illicit and, in many cases, criminal activities, the chronic development deficit that also favors the complex crime as a job opportunity. The floating and informal demographics that also favor migratory exploitation for different purposes, the expressive asymmetries in terms of human, technological and budgetary resources that weaken the continuity of operational strategies.

In addition, there are two no less important factors: ideological interference in border security policies that weaken the effectiveness and efficiency of combating complex crime and acts of corruption, both systemic and structural, in the public and private environment, which favor the persistence and growth of hybrid threats and criminality.

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Operationally, the border security strategy in **Argentina** is based on three topics.

The first is a regulatory topic that includes a set of important laws to fight organized crime, such as the Comprehensive Federal Law to Fight Organized Crime, the Asset Forfeiture Law, the Law to Combat Human Trafficking, the Law of Aircraft Interception and the Law against Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism.

The second topic is the Border Facilities Development Program, created in 2019, based on technological border surveillance systems installed at four central points on the northern border.

The third topic is the Northern Integration Operation, which enables the Air Force to provide logistical support to the security forces in the region, through the transfer of neutral terrestrial data to assist in deterrence and the fight against complex crime.

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In **Brazil**, there are programs implemented at the borders to fight organized crime. These programs include the Integrated Border Protection Program (PPIF), the Integrated Border Monitoring System (SISFRON) and the VIGIA Program.

International cooperation and collaboration with other countries is very necessary, such as the police cooperation agreement applicable to the border areas of the Mercosur member states.

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In addition, the importance of intelligence information in the fight against organized crime is highlighted.

The National Police of **Paraguay** has established an organic regulation for the management of sensitive information and intelligence from the state parties, ensuring its proper processing and its use in official investigations.

The need for a secure chain of custody is emphasized to ensure the integrity of information and its use in criminal investigations.

Collaboration with the Public Ministry in investigations is very important in the fight against transnational organized crime and to improve security in the region.

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Despite the multiple inter-institutional cooperation agreements between Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and other countries, and the assistance programs implemented in the triple border, at least three problems persist at the border that facilitate the growth of the complexity and adaptability of the criminal groups: **obstructive bureaucracy in cooperation and integration processes, systemic corruption and structural poverty and the lack of comprehensive border development programs.**

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In order to improve the cooperation environment in multidimensional security at the triple border, the creation of a positive agenda is suggested that includes the implementation of police cooperation agreements, the strengthening of the Mercosur security information exchange system, the execution of the work platform of the Mercosur penitentiary cooperation network and the coordination between financial information units to fight money laundering, currency evasion and the financing of terrorism, among other initiatives. The consolidation of border radarization processes, the promotion of education programs and information campaigns against informality, illegality and crime, and the stimulation of the creation of binational development centers with the aim of eradicating structural poverty in the region are also proposed.



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