

“Conflict Resolution, Mediation and Restorative Justice and the Policing of Ethnic Minorities in Germany, Austria and Hungary” (285166)



Restorative Justice oriented Approaches within the Austrian Police

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- *Unit 'Minority Contacts'*
- *Association 'Fair & Sensible'*
- *Conflict Resolution Meetings*
- *Conclusions and Recommendations*

Unit 'Minority Contacts'

- *Establishment 2010*
- *Mediation between Migrants and Police Officers*
- *History of Origins: 'Fair & Sensibel'*



- 1990: Friction between Austrian Police and Africans (‘Operation Spring’, Case of Marcus Omofuma)
- Project ‘Police and Africans’
- 2006: Foundation of ‘Fair & Sensibel’



Aim:

Conflict-free Coexistence between the Police and people, independent of their Origin, Skin Colour, Religion, Disability or sexual Orientation

§ 89 Austrian Security Police Act: Complaints due to Violation of the Guideline Ordinance

- *Possibility of a Conflict Resolution Meeting*
 - *Satisfaction: Complaint may be dropped*
 - *Discontent: Formal Procedure continues*



Conflict Resolution Meeting

Reasons for rare Application:

- *Knowledge about § 89 SPA*
- *Agreement on both Sides*
- *Lack of Support at Superior Level*
- *Accused Officer(s) do not take part*

‘Fair & Sensibel’, Unit Minority Contacts

- *Positive Experiences*
- *Lack of Acceptance by the African Minority*
- *Improvement of mutual Image*
- *Request of independent Complaints Office*



Conflict Resolution Meetings

- *Strengthening of this Approach*
- *Obtaining of Commitment on Superior Level*
- *Participation of concerned Police Officer(s)*

***Dialogue between Complainant
and accused Officer(s)
promotes mutual Understanding
and Learning Opportunities at
the individual Level.***

Thank you for your Attention!