



**INTERNATIONAL
POLICE ASSOCIATION**
INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

IPA Newsletter

May 2022

Michael Odysseos (1935 – 2022) Former International President of the IPA



Rest in Peace Michael – Servo per Amikeco

WORD OF INTRODUCTION

Dear Friends,

Priorities change quickly. The Covid-19 pandemic kept us in suspense for the last two years and although far too many people are still becoming seriously ill or are sadly dying due to Covid, the virus is becoming a more minor matter.

After more than 20 years, war is taking place on European soil again. At the end of February, Russian troops invaded the independent and internationally recognised state of Ukraine, and are causing unimaginable suffering with bombs and grenades. Thousands of people have died on both sides in this senseless war, unimaginable suffering has been inflicted on the civilian population, and entire cities have been razed to the ground. After 10 weeks of war, millions of Ukrainians had to flee to neighbouring countries, and it is impressive how willing the people in these countries are to help.

The worldwide will to help from IPA members is overwhelming. IPA organisations receive refugees at the border, provide them with food, drink and other essentials and transport them further inland. After just a few days, IPA sections such as Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, Ireland, and many others, sent first aid deliveries with urgently needed goods to the Ukrainian border.

The International Executive Board is also actively involved in the aid initiative and has set up a donation account. Many sections and IPA organisations have already donated, and further help is needed. In addition to helping affected IPA colleagues, the money will also be used for refugee aid in the neighbouring countries of Ukraine, which will be organised by local IPA officials.

Money from the IEB donation account can be made available for projects very quickly. If money is needed for aid projects, please let me know. The account details are shown here below. When donating, please also inform the IAC (iac@ieb-ipa.org) and me (ts@ieb-ipa.org) about the sum of the transferred amount, and provide the reference of 'Ukraine Emergency Aid'.

Ukraine Emergency Aid Account details:

Account name:	International Police Association
Address:	c/o Michael Walsh, Treasurer Finances
Street:	Raha, Oughterard, Co Galway
Zip code:	H91Y8DT
City & Country:	Galway, Ireland
Bank Name:	Bank of Ireland
Address:	Mervue Business & Technology Park, Galway
Zip code:	H91F3P3
Country:	Ireland
Account Number :	83009341
BIC :	BOFIE2D
IBAN Code:	IE46 BOFI 9040 4283 0093 41

At the end of April, 10,000€ from your donations were already handed over to IPA Poland, to help Ukrainian refugees in Poland. A short article on this event is published in this newsletter.

It is said that your greatness is not what you have, it is what you give.

By working together, our greatness will be brought to the fore and will overcome these difficult days.

Servo per Amikeco!

Martin Hoffmann, Treasurer Social Affairs

OBITUARY

Michael Odysseos – Former IPA International President

Dear IPA Friends,

It is with great sadness that the IPA family heard recently that our dear friend and former IPA International President Michael Odysseos had passed away.

The IPA always played an enormous role in Michael's life.

On the international stage, Michael was elected as Internal Auditor, before serving two terms as International Vice President from 1994 onwards. His IPA career thereafter continued with his election as International President, an office he held for 12 years, and for which he was honoured with the IPA Bronze Medal in 1986, the Silver Medal in 1993 and the Gold Medal in 2012 at the IPA World Congress in Israel, where he voluntarily stood down from his office. His final international task saw him in the role of Advisor to the IEC and the International Board until 2013.



Michael fulfilled the IPA motto, *Servo per Amikeco*, throughout his long and active life, and was a driving force in ensuring his home section of IPA Cyprus always played a vital role within the association. As such, he took great pride in the organisation of the XXI IPA World Congress in 2015 in his home country.

The IPA was at the heart of Michael's life, and Michael's heart beat for the IPA. Michael was one of the greatest ambassadors of our association on a global level for many years. A close friend and confidant of our founder, he took over the leadership of the IPA in 2000, before Arthur Troop passed away in the same year. It was the handing over of the baton between two great men, a guarantee that the work of our founder would remain in trustworthy hands, with the assurance that the values and principles of the IPA would continue. This was the case, for Michael led our great family with enormous self-sacrifice, dedication and will. As President, one could always admire Michael's seriousness when conducting business, his friendliness towards everyone, his sense of service, diplomacy and his dexterity in problem solving and politics.

Michael honoured the IPA motto through the excellence of his commitment, and the countless messages received in recent days from all over the world attest to the degree of friendship that he carried and demonstrated. He had the soul of a knight, a heart full of generosity and the spirit of a conqueror.

All those of us on the IEB and throughout the IPA world who had the privilege of spending precious time with Michael, can count themselves lucky to have benefitted from his example and advice, and we are grateful for the friendship he shared with us. On behalf of the entire IPA family, our deepest condolences go to Michael's family, as well as to our friends in IPA Cyprus.

Servo per Amikeco,

Pierre-Martin Moulin, IPA President

OBITUARY

IPA Cyprus bid a heartfelt Farewell to Michael Odysseos

Dear IPA Friends,

It is with great sadness that I write, on behalf of the Cyprus Police Leadership, the entire police family and of course the International Police Association (IPA), our obituary for the former Assistant Chief of Police, former International President of the IPA and Honorary President of IPA Cyprus, Mr. Michalakis Odysseos.



Michalakis was a remarkable person, a great member of the Police Force and a worthy member of IPA Cyprus. He was born in Lemythou village on the 25th of October 1935 and graduated from the Mitsi School of Lemythos in June 1953.

He was married to Chrystalla with whom he had 3 daughters: Androulla, Panagiota and Anthoulla and a son, Ioannis. His beloved daughters gave him 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren, whom he adored. Unfortunately, his only son passed away in 1992, at the age of just 33, to an incurable disease. He also had to say his final farewell to his beloved wife in 2013.

Michalakis Odysseos joined the Cyprus Police on the 4th of January 1954.

From the first years of his career, the particularly positive elements of his personality and character became apparent to all, distinguishing him from other colleagues. During his service he worked, among other roles, in rural police stations, in Limassol CID, in the Administration Department, as well as as Commander of the Port and Marine Police. Due to his qualities and achievements, he was appointed Commander of the Cyprus Police School.

He eventually rose to the rank of Assistant Chief of Police, a position from which he retired in March 1995. After retiring from the Police, he was appointed Advisor to the Minister of Justice and Public Order. Professionalism, dedication to the service, but above all, integrity, honesty and discipline are the characteristics that perfectly represented him.

The large family of the Police, as well as its Leadership came together at Michalakis' funeral on 26 April 2022, to say their last farewells.

The IPA has always played a huge, perhaps a leading role in Michalakis' life. His intervention in the foundation of the Cyprus Section of the IPA was decisive.

From 1985, and for almost 35 years, he was the President of IPA Cyprus. He was the first who, together with Michalakis Pachitis and Tassos Panagiotou, conceived the idea for the creation of the IPA in Cyprus, and the expansion of the institution within the Cyprus Police.



He shared with me how the IPA was created in Cyprus, when in 1982 he was Commander of the Port and Marine Police, and a ship arrived at the port of Limassol with German Police Officers, who told him that they were members of the IPA. From that moment he conceived the idea and initiated the procedure for the creation of the Cyprus Section of the IPA.

My beloved President, you have been my mentor in my IPA career both locally and internationally.

As far as the international side of the IPA is concerned, Michalakis was initially elected as Internal Auditor and then served for two consecutive terms as the International Vice President from 1994 to 2000. His IPA career continued when he was elected International President in 2000 in England, a position he held for 12 years, after 4 consecutive international electoral contests. In 1986, he was honoured by the International Executive Committee and awarded the IPA Bronze Medal, while in 1993 he was awarded the Silver Medal and in 2012 at the IPA World Congress in Israel he was awarded the Gold Medal. This was also his last term.

Upon leaving the post of International President, he continued for another year to act as Advisor to the International Executive Board.

I will never forget the moment when you first chaired the World Congress in 2001 in Reno, Nevada, USA after your election as International President of the IPA in 2000 in the United Kingdom, representing the Cypriot Section along with Dimitrakis Georgiadis and the former Chief of Police, Tassos Panagiotou. We were extremely proud of what you had achieved, as a humble man from our small island was chairing a World Congress attended by 65 countries from all over the world.



Michalakis Odysseos identified his name with the International Police Association. The fact that your funeral was attended by the IPA President, Pierre-Martin Moulin, the Delegations of Greece with your friend Christos Kontakos, of Israel with your dear friends Gal Sharon and Eran Israel, of Great Britain and Scotland with Anne Sinclair, as well as the dozens of condolence messages that we received at Section Cyprus from delegations from all over the world, show the love, appreciation and recognition of the contribution of your work to the International Police Association.

Through this farewell obituary, we honour your contribution to both the Cyprus Police and the International Police Association, together with all your colleagues in the Police and the Association who were inspired by you. Your valuable legacy should be cherished and remembered.

Have a good trip, our dear President, your memory is eternal, and I wish that the Almighty God who wanted to take you near Him on Good Friday, will rest your soul in peace.

Demetris Demetriou, President IPA Cyprus

ON THE TABLE OF THE IEB

Handover of Donations to IPA Poland's Ukraine Aid

On 24 April 2022, a donation from the international aid for Ukraine was handed over to our Polish section in Lodz/Poland.

In my capacity as Treasurer Social Affairs, I was welcomed to Lodz by Polish Section President Piotr Wójcik and Vice-President Aneta Sobieraj.

From the international donations for Ukraine Aid received so far, on this occasion 10,000 Euros were handed over to the Polish Section.



The donation was handed over in an orphanage in Lodz, which currently houses 106 people from the Ukraine (93 children and 13 adults). This orphanage has made room for a further 150 people.

The donations are urgently needed for the purchase of food, schoolbooks and electronic learning supplies, in order to be able to offer distance learning in Ukrainian.



The importance of helping orphanages was shown when the donation was handed over. The retired police officer who took us from the hotel to the orphanage, had also been placed in this orphanage from the age of 5 to 19.

Text: Martin Hoffmann, Treasurer Social Affairs

Photos: Sebastian Szwajkowski

AROUND THE WORLD

Help for Ukraine via IPA Poland's Lublin Voivodeship Group

Humanitarian aid for Ukraine has been provided from the very first day of war onwards, and as part of these actions, IPA Poland's regions from the Lublin Voivodeship Group are showing great commitment to this initiative. The chairpersons of IPA Biała Podlaska, Chełm and Lublin regions are distributing the collected supplies Ukrainian refugees directly at the border crossing points in Dorohusk, Zosin and Dołhobyczów.



The IPA Włodawa, Zamość and Opole Lubelskie regions, friends of the IPA, meritorious people, police officers from different garrisons serving at the border, civilian employees of uniformed services and members of our families are also involved in collecting supplies. Every day, trucks full of goods collected to help refugees from Ukraine and those who remained there to fight for their freedom, leave towards the border with Ukraine. We collect basic necessities, groceries, hygiene items, bandages, medicines, clothing, sleeping mats, torches, batteries, etc.

Help from the IPA Regions from the Lublin Voivodeship Group is not limited to collection and distribution of goods only. We also pick up refugees from the border and transport them to the interior of Poland, we assist IPA national and European structures with coordinating the humanitarian aid properly, we assist to find accommodation for people who help Ukrainian citizens travelling through our voivodeship. All those who ask us for logistical assistance receive such assistance. Special thanks are to be given to Grzegorz Worlicki, Tomasz Struk and Waldemar Dzedzic, who dedicate all their free time to helping those in need.



We can assure, that all the collected supplies will be handed to people in need, and help for Ukraine will last as long as it is needed!

Text: Piotr Wójcik, President IPA Poland

Photos: Lublin Voivodeship Group Region

Popular IPA Wrestling Tournament held in Serbia

The Serbian Championship in wrestling for cadets, as well as a revue tournament in folk wrestling was held on 2nd April 2022 in Valjevo, and was jointly organised by the Serbian Wrestling Federation and IPA Serbia. It was attended by members of the Ministry of Internal Affairs from various organisational units, including the Headquarters, Criminal police, and Police Directorates, as well as the Wrestling Club "Gendarmerie", among which there are a large number of IPA members. As many as 180 competitors came from all around our country to participate.



The folk wrestling tournament, commonly called the "IPA CUP", attracted a lot of attention. It highlighted the fact that age shouldn't stop people from enjoying wrestling, and that martial arts are part of the culture and way of life of many people in Serbia; folk wrestling (bone wrestling) is deeply rooted in our tradition. All these circumstances led to the creation of an exceptional atmosphere in the hall.

"It was a great honour to participate in the organisation of tournaments that attracted such a large number of participants and spectators. It is nice to see such a crowd, atmosphere and the veterans of martial arts who once again measured their strength. All of this left an exceptional impression on all the guests, and praise came from many cities and from many levels of the Wrestling Federation of Serbia", said Dušan Arsenijević, Vice President of RSS, the Serbian Wrestling Federation, and member of the National Assembly of IPA Serbia.



The President of the National Assembly of IPA Serbia, Prof. Nebojša Pantelić PhD, emphasised the importance of such a competition in a sport which is practiced by many members of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, including many IPA members. He especially praised the presence of a large number of children, as well as the competitors, the audience, and the good organisation of the entire event.

The winners of the respective categories of this competition were awarded medals and trophies.

Zdravko Đurić, IEC Delegate IPA Serbia

Spartan Race – Physical Limits for IPA Germany Friends

Spartan Races are extreme obstacle courses, taking place in various countries.

21 German IPA friends recently took part in a Spartan Race in Munich. Although it was at the beginning of April, the weather conditions made it feel like winter – snow and cold.

The race included jumping over a real firewall, carrying heavy weights uphill and walking with iron chains – 5 kilometres and 20 obstacles.

With the first IPA team member finishing after 1:15 hours, and the last one after 1:54 hours, our IPA competitors celebrated their achievement with a hearty meal and Bavarian beer.



Walking with chains



'Iron Girls': Julia Karl (left), is Advisor in IPA Germany's new 'Idea Workshop Commission'



Together through the Firewall

In August 2022, the IPA German Section will compete with a team in the Xletix Challenge, a tough mud and obstacle race near Stadtoldendorf in Germany: <https://de.xletix.com>.

Hubert Vitt, Vice President IPA Germany

IPA Croatia renew old Customs of Coastal Fishermen

IPA Croatia's Regional Club Primorsko-goranska has renewed the traditions of old fishermen from the Croatian coast.

In ancient times, fishermen of the Bakar Bay and the town of Bakar fished with a hook from the shore. To be more successful, they set up massive ladders called "tuners" from the shores towards the middle of the bay. From the top of the ladders observers watched the movement of fish along the bay, especially Adriatic tuna, and informed the fishermen who were onshore.

After a big catch, the fishermen organised joint cooking, roasting and salting of the tuna. Meanwhile, they played card games in the taverns with their families, mostly brisket and tress. Others played open-air bottles or ballots outside.

In addition, they consumed wine and a special sparkling wine called "Bakarska vodica" – Bakar's water – made from grapes produced by farmers on the rocky slope of the Bakar Bay.



IPA members enjoying the Triathlon activities



This traditional event has been called "Fishermen's Triathlon Tuners – ribarski triatlon tunera" by the IPA Regional Club Primorsko-goranska, after the tuner ladders that were very useful to the fishermen. Today, several tuners have been restored and serve as attractions for tourists and bathers in the bay, and for the most daring to dive into the sea from a great height.



At the beginning of April this year, a total of 104 IPA members from Slavonia, Dalmatia, Lika, Banovina, as well as Istria and IPA Koper representatives from the neighbouring IPA Section of Slovenia, a total of 8 IPA clubs, gathered at this event organised by IPA primorsko-goranska.

All participants, just like the old fishermen of this area, fished with a hook from the shore, played cards in the tavern of the community centre Praputnjak, and measured their strength in bottles.

No one dared to climb the high tuner - it's not bathing season yet!

Along with the host, IPA primorsko-goranska members of the Association of Croatian Homeland War Veterans from Bakar, and the City of Bakar itself participated in the organisation, and the Luben Sports Association from Bakar made sure that the fishing was in accordance with the rules.



The best participants were awarded with medals and trophies and the IPA badge.

The participants were greeted by the Mayor of the City of Bakar, Mr. Tomislav Klarić, the President of IPA primorsko – goranska and IPA Section Croatia Miljenko Vidak, the President of the Special Police Unit “Ajkula (shark)” Perica Prpić, and the President of the Association of Croatian Homeland War Veterans of Bakar, Davor Presečki.

Servo per Amikeco!

Miljenko Vidak, President IPA Croatia & IPA primorsko-goranska



IPA Championship in Ślązański Half Marathon held in Poland

IPA Region Wrocław, in cooperation with the Provincial Police Headquarters in Wrocław and the Provincial Executive of the Police Trade Union NSZZ in the Lower Silesia Province, organised the IPA Ślązański Half Marathon Championship under the Honorary Patronage of the President of the Polish Section of the IPA, Piotr Wójcik.

The competition, which took place on 26 March 2022, was held as part of the 14th "Panas" Ślązański Half Marathon over a distance of 21.097 km on asphalt roads around Mount Śląza, starting in Sobótka, then going through Strzegomiany - Będkowice - Sulistrowiczki - Tąpadła Pass - Sady - Sobótka West, with the finish line in Sobótka. As every year, this run is one of the sports events opening the running season in Poland, and 76 police officers took part in the race.



The best runners representing the Police were presented with trophies by Szymon Fiedorow from the Training and Selection Department of the Regional Police Headquarters in Wrocław, and Bartłomiej Majchrzak, a plenipotentiary for the Protection of Human Rights. Additionally, thanks to the support of the President of the Polish Section of the IPA, the fastest IPA female runner received a voucher to be used in Hotel Victoria in Lublin, whereas the oldest IPA competitor who completed the competition received a voucher from Hotel Bukowy Park and Apartments from Polanica Zdrój.

During the medal ceremony, Mr. Wojciech Kasperski, Director of the Ślązański Half Marathon, Mr. Antoni Stankiewicz from the Organising Committee and Mr. Andrzej Panas, sponsor of the race, who have all supported the organisation of the

Championship for many years, were awarded with certificates for "Distinguished Services to the Polish Section of the IPA".

Classification - Women:

- I Anna Ficner (1:27:43) Wrocław
- II Marlena Bajsarowicz (1:41:19) Wrocław
- III Monika Mrugała (1:44:52) Opole

Classification - Men:

- I Paweł Wylężek (1:14:48) Katowice
- II Mateusz Wolnik (1:15:07) Katowice
- III Bartłomiej Olbrych (1:22:07) Gorlice

Age Categories:

Women:

K-20

- I Marlena Bajsarowicz (1:41:19) Wrocław

K-30

- I Anna Ficner (01:27:43) Wrocław
- II Sylwia Szpocińska (01:56:44) Wrocław
- III Renata Piech (02:05:19) Wrocław

K-40

- I Monika Mrugała (01:44:52) Opole
- II Agnieszka Antoszak (02:17:35) Gniezno

Men:

M-20

- I Jakub Pasiewicz (1:27:02) Świdnica
- II Damian Połec (01:28:36) Ruda Śląska
- III Marcin Bul-Mucha (01:57:19) Strzelin

M-30

- I Wojciech Błazik (01:25:07) Warszawa
- II Marcin Respondek (01:26:18) Katowice
- III Dawid Palusiński (01:30:14)

M-40

- I Szymon Fiedorow (01:37:51) Wrocław
- II Paweł Czechowski (01:38:15) Wrocław
- III Mariusz Noski (01:38:20) Wrocław

M-50

- I Piotr Fielek (01:32:44) Region IPA Wrocław (also 3rd place in the open age category)
- II Paweł Jankowski (01:32:53) Wrocław
- III Cezary Kupiński (01:34:58)

M-60

- I Andrzej Szydłowski 01:41:36
- II Leszek Łukasik 01:47:34
- III Jan Mandat 01:59:02



Mariusz „Napoleon” Łęcki, Region Wrocław, IPA Poland

IPA Montenegro Members enjoy an IPA Easter Break with Greek and Albanian Hospitality

The IPA Section of Montenegro, with the help of colleagues from IPA Greece, organised a tour of Greece for their members during Easter.

The visit of this beautiful country, rich in cultural and historical sights, was wonderful thanks to the kind hosts.

Our members visited Meteora, Athens, Nafplio and Ioannina with their families.

On their way back, the group visited the Albanian town of Gjirokastra.

Our photos speak louder than words.



Biljana Dulović, President IPA Montenegro



READERS' CORNER

'When the Ancient Tree Falls' – Jared Ojuok

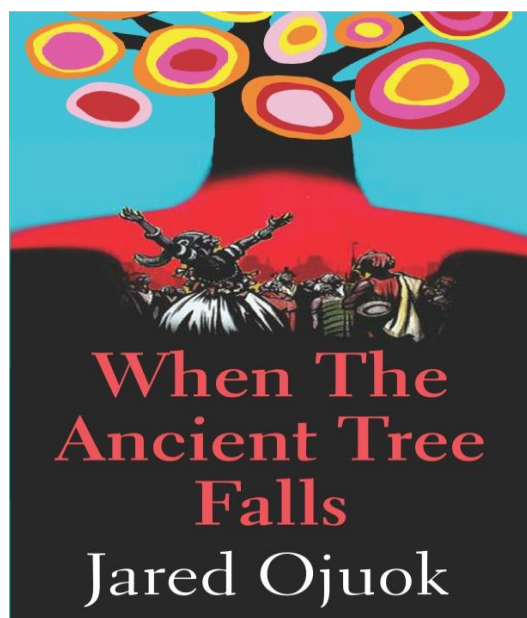
Mr. Jared Ojuok, HSC, Superintendent of Police and IPA Kenya's Secretary General is currently deployed as the Public Information Officer in the Office of the Deputy Inspector General, Kenya Police Service. He is a distinguished scholar, an astute communicator, a transformative leader, and a family man.



A writer par excellence, Mr. Ojuok, wrote his inaugural fascinating novel entitled "When the Ancient Tree Falls". The series of stories narrated through the thirteen chapters in the book highlight the various cultural practices and values among the Luo people. The novel is set in a remote Kenyan village and depicts the traditional political, socio-cultural, and economic life of the Luo community. The story is about the accomplishments of Ngode Aganyo, a pre-colonial community leader in the land of Mumbo, a confederation of six related clans. He was a great warrior and a judicious leader who led his clan with love and firmness, which made him the epitome of good morals and economic attainment within his community.

Jared Ojuok's motivation to write the book was inspired by the African proverb, "A man who sees a hen scattering excrement should stop it, for who knows who will eat the leg?" From a security perspective, Mr. Ojuok believes that teaching the young generation traditional values and value systems will create a more cohesive society where good morals will be upheld, virtues of honesty, respect for seniors, and kinship ties will also be observed. Society will respect women and children, and participate jointly in bringing up a responsible successor generation that will carry forward the culture, the spirit of a people, informed by common belief systems and values.

As a communication enthusiast, Mr. Ojuok hopes to write more books that shall be read by school children across the globe to expose the world to the unique Kenyan talent, and more importantly to re-introduce the African cultural concepts to the global public psyche. (Text source: book cover)



If you are interested in buying Jared's book, click: [Link to Jared Ojuok's e-book](#)

IPA Kenya Head Office

LAST WORD

The month of May traditionally sees many events throughout the IPA world: regional, national and international. It always feels as if the IPA is gaining momentum, and a hint of excitement is in the air.

May is also the time when the IAC preparation for the IPA World Congress gains pace, and a large amount of our time is spent assisting the IEB with their annual reports, with motions and other documentation.



With the World Congress this year taking place in 'reality' rather than virtually, it is vital that all IPA sections send their registration documents to the organising section, IPA Spain.

Therefore, if you have not already done so, please complete your forms and send a copy of the delegate and observer information to the IAC also.

Daniel and I are looking forward to the World Congress in Spain in October, and to finally meet many of you in person once more!

Elke

