

The history of police forces



- A **police** force is a constituted body of persons empowered by the state to enforce the law, protect property, and limit civil disorder.
- Their powers include the legitimized use of force.
- Police forces are often defined as being separate from military or other organizations involved in the defense of the state against foreign aggressors; however, gendarmerie are military units charged with civil policing.



History

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graph TD; A[History] --> B[Ancient policing]; A --> C[Medieval policing]; A --> D[Early modern policing];
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Ancient
policing



Medieval
policing



Early
modern
policing



History

- **Ancient policing**

- 1. Law enforcement **in ancient China** was carried out by "prefects" for thousands of years since it developed in both the Chu and Jin kingdoms of the Spring and Autumn period. In Jin, dozens of prefects were spread across the state, each having limited authority and employment period. They were appointed by local magistrates, who reported to higher authorities such as governors, who in turn were appointed by the emperor, and they oversaw the civil administration of their "prefecture", or jurisdiction.

- **2. In ancient Greece**, publicly owned slaves were used by magistrates as police. In Athens, a group of 300 Scythian slaves (the ῥαβδοῦχοι, "rod-bearers") was used to guard public meetings to keep order and for crowd control, and also assisted with dealing with criminals, handling prisoners, and making arrests.
- **3. In the Roman empire**, the army, rather than a dedicated police organization, provided security. Local watchmen were hired by cities to provide some extra security. Magistrates such as procurators fiscal and quaestors investigated crimes.

● 4Ancient Egypt

- Of all the countries of ancient Eastern world the most complex and centralized police force was created in ancient Egypt in XVI-XII centuries. BC. The basis of these bodies were special paramilitary units, completed mainly because Libyans mercenaries
- Such small military and police units were attached to the tax collectors, held in temples, traditionally performs the function of the judicial and public places.

Medieval policing

- The Santa Hermandades of medieval Spain were formed to protect pilgrims on the Camino de Santiago.
- In medieval Spain, Santa Hermandades, or "(holy) brotherhoods", peacekeeping associations of armed individuals, were a characteristic of municipal life, especially in Castile. As medieval Spanish kings often could not offer adequate protection, protective municipal leagues began to emerge in the twelfth century against banditry and other rural criminals, and against the lawless nobility or to support one or another claimant to a crown
- **The Vehmic** courts of Germany provided some policing in the absence of strong state institutions.

In France during the Middle Ages, there were two Great Officers of the Crown of France with police responsibilities: The Marshal of France and the Constable of **France**

Early modern policing

- The first centrally organised police force was created by the government of King Louis XIV in 1667 to police the city of Paris, then the largest city in Europe. The royal edict, registered by the Parlement of Paris on March 15, 1667 created the office of lieutenant général de police ("lieutenant general of police")
- The word "police" was borrowed from French into the English language in the 18th century, but for a long time it applied only to French and continental European police forces. The word, and the concept of police itself, were "disliked as a symbol of foreign oppression" (according to [Britannica 1911](#)). Before the 19th century, the first use of the word "police" recorded in government documents in the United Kingdom was the appointment of Commissioners of Police for Scotland in 1714 and the creation of the Marine Police in 1798.

Police work includes:

- **-patrulirovanie,**
- while the police can move on foot, on horseback or on a vehicle, carefully watching what is happening.
- Patrol officers often work in shifts that can last for hours.
- **-reception and registration statements and reports of offenses committed or being planned, as well as accidents;**
- arrival at the place of the offense, the scene; suppression of unlawful acts, eliminate threats to public safety and public security; assistance (primarily the first medical) people
- **-rassledovanie crimes,**
- which involved primarily employees of the Criminal Investigation Service;
- **-regulirovanie traffic.**
- Traffic police carries out testing drivers for alcohol to, check the use of seat belts and so on.

