



LANDESKRIMINALAMT  
NIEDERSACHSEN

## State Office for Criminal Investigation of Lower Saxony

Criminological research within the State Office as a central service for the fight against crime and crime prevention in Lower Saxony

### Criminological research

Assigned task since organisational enactment in 2006:

- Applied criminological research, connection of theory and police practice, advisory tasks
- Interdisciplinary team of researchers and police officers (Law, Sociology, Criminology, Architecture and Urban Planning, Psychology)
- Research subjects generated through orders/agenda-settings/strategic aims of the Lower Saxony police management and the ministry of interior
- Strategic products from police data (e.g. statistics, operational data)
- Periodic Victim Survey for Lower Saxony since 2013



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## Competence Center for Urban Security (KURBAS)

Planning and designing security together with the police

- Interdisciplinary team with transdisciplinary approaches
- Transferring scientific research into practice
- Differentiation between subjective and objective safety and security
- Spatial factors of fear of crime and risk areas mainly on petty crime (living environment and neighborhood)
- Target hardening and strengthening urban resilience

Main tasks:

1. Applied research
2. Interdisciplinary cooperation and networking
3. Advising local police, municipality





## Public spaces are protected while respecting privacy and avoiding mass surveillance

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LKA has political mandate to protect citizens from crime and reduce risk of harm

Our interest is to improve protection of public spaces without the need for 24/7 data collection and storage by protection of architectural quality, management and user behavior.

What LKA can offer:

- Adoption of a broad interpretation, which supports prevention initiatives that address citizens' feelings of insecurity
- Differentiation between places where people feel unsafe and crime hot spots
- Evidence-based research but practice informed: integration of science in practice and vice versa with real-time testing (prototyping) and learning through case studies
- Set of common standards and good practices by local authorities, operators, police, crime prevention councils and policy makers by inter- and transdisciplinary cooperation
- Mixed method approach: quantitative surveys of residents, police, municipality; qualitative site visits and observations
- Perspectives take into account disciplines such as Criminology, Sociology, Urban Planning, Architecture