



Personal information on the author

First Name: Syan

Last Name: Schaap

Position: Senior researcher-advisor

Organisation: COT Institute for Safety, Security and Crisis Management, the Netherlands

Most important career path

Syan Schaap (1978) has a Master's in Public Administration. Since 2004 he's been working as researcher and consultant at the COT Institute for Safety, Security and Crisis Management. This institute supports organisations in the public and private sector on a broad range of safety and security issues. The COT is well known in the field of crisis management. Syan Schaap's focal points are large crowd events and education.

Syan Schaap published the book 'Veilige evenementen' (Safe and secure events) in 2009 with co-authors professor U. Rosenthal and doctor M. van Duin. This book contains a review on event risks, public and private responsibilities. The book gives suggestions for an integrated risk-based method on handling large scale and high-risk events.

In 2009 he was involved in the evaluation research of the crisis management during large scale hooligan riots on a beach dance party in Rotterdam. The public impact of both this incident and the COT evaluation report was high. Right now event risks are on top of the public agenda and subject to many discussions in The Netherlands.

At this moment Syan Schaap is involved in an overview study of the COT on the phenomenon of public disturbance at large crowd events in the Netherlands. He's a speaker on seminars and conference. He also is involved in trainings and exercises for crisis management teams on a regular basis.

Title of presentation

Safety and security issues at large crowd events

Description of the contribution

In his contribution, Syan Schaap discusses recent developments in safety and security of large crowd events in The Netherlands. The safety risks of events are high on the public agenda at this moment. A number of events have been struck by incidents. Especially events that are free accessible and dance events seem to have higher risk profiles because of public behaviour. But what are there risks exactly? What is the role of alcohol and drugs? To which incidents can they lead? How can event organisations and authorities work together to contain these risks?

Syan Schaap will give insight in the provisional outcomes of a new Dutch study on public disturbances at large crowd events. He will address the differences in approach between police, municipalities and event organisers and the consequences this has for event safety. He will give special attention to the role that alcohol and drugs play in the behaviour of rioters.