



24th Annual Conference  
of the European Society of Criminology  
11-14 September 2024, Bucharest

**Criminology goes East**



**EUROCRIM2024**

**BOOK OF ABSTRACTS V1**

**11.09.2024**

**- to be updated -**

**BUCHAREST - ROMANIA**

**001. Pre-conference meetings - See in the abstract all the details**

ESC

Pre-Conference Meeting

8:00 to 4:30 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Front Courtyard*

ISRD Steering Committee WG Meeting 09:00-12:30 Room 1.05 ISRD WG Meeting 13:30-16:00 Room 1.05 WG Meeting Working Group on Radicalization, Extremism, and Terrorism 14:00-16:00 Room 1.09 Organized Crime and Criminal Networks WG Meeting 12:00-16:00 Room 0.11 Working Group on Restorative Justice Meeting 15:30-16:30 Room 1.13 Meeting of the European Network for Open Criminology 15:00-16:30 Room 2.10 ESC Victimology WG Meeting 15:00-16:30 Room 2.20 Community Sanctions WG Meeting 15:30-16:30 Room 0.22 Policing WG Meeting 09:00-16:00 Room 1.17 Pre-ESC seminar - Environmental crime, crisis and conflict (registration needed: <https://www.eurocrim2024.com/concert>) 09:00-16:30 Room 1.30

**002. Opening plenary & Awards**

ESC

Plenary Session

5:00 to 7:00 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Aula Magna*

Chair:

**Klaus Boers**, University of Muenster

Discussants:

**Răzvan Dincă**, The Dean of Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest

**Marian Preda**, The Rector of University of Bucharest

Participants:

 Evolution and state of the European Criminology: a study with topic modelling *Josep Tamarit, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya*

 Criminology goes East. How and what we research in Romania *Andra Roxana Trandafir, University of Bucharest*
**003. Opening Concert**

ESC

Social Events

7:00 to 8:00 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Aula Magna*

The opening concert performed by Traffic Strings will take place on September 11, in the Aula Magna, after the Opening Plenary. On this occasion, we will enjoy together the good music from all the meridians of the globe, just like the participants of this conference. About Traffic Strings TRAFFIC STRINGS project was initiated by the musician Lucian Moraru and has in its composition some of the most talented instrumentalists of the moment in Romania. TRAFFIC STRINGS practices music that does not belong to any musical style or period. Hence the name of the ensemble, which suggests the constant leaps that they make through the musical genres. Classical, tango, jazz, folk, pop, they go through the filter of their instruments everything that inspires and considers them valuable. The musicians who are part of TRAFFIC STRINGS play with sensitivity and virtuosity. They approach each musical genre with exquisite feeling. Their orchestrations are innovative yet true to the original compositions. The manner in which TRAFFIC STRINGS perform is both profound and authentic. TRAFFIC STRINGS appeal to each and every music lover. Whether you enjoy listening to the rich heritage of Romanian folklore or to Bach and Vivaldi or to a cocktail of sound and rhythm in their tango, jazz, or instrumental pop/rock concerts, TRAFFIC STRINGS are sure to enthrall you. Their concerts are bound to fill you with energy. Once you have taken a pill of TRAFFIC STRINGS, your life will be much more beautiful. <https://www.eurocrim2024.com/concert>

**004. Welcome Reception & Cocktail - moved inside, Groundfloor**

ESC

Social Events

8:00 to 9:00 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Front Courtyard*
**005. Changes in Prison Officers' Professional Roles within the Shifting Lithuanian Custodial Sentencing Policy and Practice**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Pre-arranged Panelzzzz

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”*

The session is based on a research project founded by the Lithuanian Research Council that ran from 2023 to 2025. Using qualitative data methods (semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions), this study analyses and elaborates on the transitions of prison officers' roles and duties under changing conditions in Lithuanian prison settings. The study acknowledges that officers' activities and the environment in which they pursue their professional goals necessarily generate contradictions and internal conflicts. Prison officers are forced to continually balance and reconcile their use of authority and control with the goals of assisting and resocialising offenders (Bruhn et al. 2010; Liebling 2011). Contemporary correctional systems place a major emphasis on social work and care-based correctional work. Nevertheless, this orientation fails to guarantee the possibility of reconciling the officers' divergent and contradictory responsibilities with the accompanying duties. Constant efforts to reform the Lithuanian prison system, and the inherited Soviet-era methods of sentence execution, which is marked by a significant degree of supervision, control, and punishment (Sakalauskas et al. 2020), exacerbate the difficulty of carrying out the professional role, and responsibilities of prison officers. The goal of the presentations in this session is to explain the obstacles that Lithuanian prison officers face while striving to carry out their professional roles, as well as to examine how these roles have evolved in light of recent reforms.

Chair:

**Arturas Tereskinas**, Law Institute of the Lithuanian Centre for Social Research

Participants:

 Prison Officers' Roles and the Negotiation of Prison Order: Transitioning from Carceral Collectivism to Care-based Correctional Work *Ruta Vaiciuniene, Law Institute of the Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences*

The prison order in Eastern European countries with specific features of post-Soviet penalty undergoes shifts that have an impact on prison daily life, but most notably on prison officers' perceptions of their professional roles and prison power. The prison systems of the majority of post-Soviet states continue to exhibit characteristics of carceral collectivism, such as understaffing issues where officers transfer a control and power to prisoners and a deeply institutionalized underworld of prisoner society (Piacentini and Slade, 2015; Slade and Azbel, 2022; Symkovich, 2018 and 2023; Vaičiūnienė and Tereškinas 2017; Vaičiūnienė et al. 2023). In recent decades, substantial reforms have been enacted in the legal framework, administration, and modernization of prisons. These changes have necessitated a re-evaluation of prison operations, the roles and responsibilities of prison officers, the reorganization of prison rules and daily life. The purpose of this presentation is to show how prison order is renegotiated and reconfigured in the context of evolving policy and practices. By conducting interviews with correctional officers who have daily contact with inmates, this study demonstrates how recent changes have affected perceptions of the duties and responsibilities of prison officers, as well as the social climate and power dynamics within correctional facilities.

 Professional Roles of Lithuanian Probation and Prison Officers in the Context of Shifting Correctional Policy and Practice *Simonas Nikartas, Law Institute of the Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences*

This paper examines the professional roles and role conflicts experienced by probation and prison officers in Lithuania. Research literature demonstrates that correctional officers are consistently tasked with balancing and reconciling their exercise of power, control, and supervision to assist and rehabilitate offenders (Bruhn et al., 2010; Liebling, 2011). The balancing of contrasting rehabilitative and controlling roles presents a challenge for Lithuanian probation and prison officers due to ongoing reforms,

necessitating their adaptation to evolving objectives, ideologies, and regulations in their daily duties. Drawing on data from two qualitative studies conducted in 2018 and 2024, this paper compares the experiences of roles and role conflicts of probation and prison officers in adapting to reforms and reorganisations in their interactions with clients and management.

**The Nature and Quality of Staff-inmate Relationship in Lithuanian Prisons: Correctional Officers' Perspective** *Liubovė Jarutienė, Vilnius university*

A professional and positive staff-inmates relationship during prison sentence is suggested to be one of the key elements of the quality of prison life (Lieblieng & Arnold, 2004). The introduction of dynamic security methods in Lithuanian prisons also presumes the necessity to shift daily officers' practices from control and supervision to building professional rapport and responding to inmates' daily needs. However, recent studies revealed a low level of trust in correctional staff among inmates (Sakalauskas et al., 2019) and the lack of proper training about dynamic security practices in Lithuanian prisons (Uscila, 2020). This study aims to reveal correctional officers' perspective on the quality and nature of staff-inmates relationship in Lithuanian prisons. The insights provided by the correctional officers during semi-structured qualitative interviews draw attention to the practical challenges of adopting dynamic security methods and defining correctional officer's professional role in Lithuanian penal service system.

**The Emotional Labor of Prison Officers: A Lithuanian Perspective** *Arturas Tereskinas, Law Institute of the Lithuanian Centre for Social Research*

The prison is a specific emotional field that influences the identities of prisoners and officers and creates specific emotional geographies. Impression management, central to subcultures of prisoners and prison staff, further highlights the primacy of emotions in prisons. The language of emotions serves as a crucial means of conveying what it is like to live and work in a prison. Based on twenty-five semi-structured interviews with officers of different Lithuanian prisons, this presentation focuses on how Lithuanian prison officers, female and male, manage their emotions as well as the emotions of prisoners. What emotional competencies are necessary to work in a Lithuanian prison? What strategies of emotion management are most often employed by prison officers? How do altering and suppressing emotions directed towards inmates and co-workers affect various situational behaviors in prison? Besides answering these questions, the presentation also examines the recent developments in Lithuanian prison policies and their impact on officers' emotional labor in this institution.

**006. Community policing a digitalized society**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”*

In an era of rapid digitalization, police forces worldwide are navigating the complexities of integrating technological advancements. In that respect, it is not only important to regularly reflect on how police use technology, but also what impact technology has on police operations and on the public. This panel aims to delve into the academic dimensions of this relationship, with a focus on understanding the implications of technology on community policing. We focus on how technology fundamentally reshapes community policing. Contributions in this panel answer the questions: (1) 'How does technology mediate the relationship between the police and society?', (2) 'What are the ethical and socio-political implications of these various technologies?', (3) 'What are the views and perceptions of police officers towards the adoption of technologies?'

Chair:

**Jasper De Paepe**, Leiden University & Ghent University

Participants:

The dynamics of technology and community policing **Jasper De Paepe**, *Leiden University & Ghent University*; **Marleen Easton**, *Universiteit Gent*

In this presentation, we focus on the relationship between

community policing and technology. This relationship is particularly interesting because there is an apparent contrast between both components. Community policing emphasises personal involvement and human relationships (See Corder, 1997, 2014; Reisig, 2010), while technology at times gives the impression of reducing this human dimension in policing (e.g. Terpstra & Salet, 2022). Terpstra and Salet describe how policing is being 'dehumanised' within the context of the 'abstract police'. They refer to how social interactions have been pushed into the background and have largely been replaced by artificial (digital) systems and procedures, leaving less room for police officers to provide tailor-made services. We present the state of the art in community policing and technology, based on a scoping review of the literature published since 2000. We find that there is some optimism about the contribution of technology to community policing, suggesting that it can promote transparency and facilitate citizen-police interaction. However, research shows that police organisations are struggling to meet these high expectations, and optimism is tempered by practical experience and empirical research. The ongoing discourse about technology and community policing highlights the necessity of customizing technology to suit particular contexts, considering both physical and social dimensions. It has become evident there is the need for a tailored approach that acknowledges the diversity of communities and the characteristics of police forces. In that sense, this state of the art is provoking a reflection on the core principles of community policing.

**Social Media Practices by Police Football Units in England and Wales** *Liam Ralph, Northumbria University; Paul Robinson, Northumbria University; Adam Aitken, University of Salford*

The policing of football matches remains deeply contested across the globe. To this end, numerous studies have emerged over the years that have attempted to show how the police can and should engage with fans. Many of these studies have pointed to the need for closer and more personal engagement between officers and fans, and the need to avoid, when possible, more authoritative and tougher policing models. In England and Wales, Police Forces have attempted to repair their relationship with fans through dedicated Police Football Units. Their role involves engaging with fans before, during, and after football matches to maintain their trust, whilst also ensuring their compliance in and around stadiums. Our study examined how five Police Football Units used the social media platform X (formerly known as Twitter) across the 2022/23 football season. In total, we analysed 1,027 posts. Our findings point to three key tactics. First, X was used by Police Football Units to communicate 'softly' with fans and by way of talking about congenial subject matter. Second, Police Football Units attempted to control the movement of fans on X. Third, X served instrumental outcomes for Police Football Units, as they sought to both prevent crime and further highlight that the police were equipped to deal with any disorder. Our paper finishes by discussing the implications of these tactics on where and how the police go from here to better engage with fans.

**"The computer made me do it": A consideration of technology as an actor in police-citizen encounters** *Megan O'Neill, University of Dundee; Estelle Clayton, Edinburgh Napier University; Will Andrews, Keele University; Aston Liz, Edinburgh Napier University; Helen Wells, Keele University; Ben Bradford, University College London*

Recently, UK police forces have introduced various technologies that alter the methods by which they interact with the public in face-to-face encounters. This includes devices such as body-worn video (BWV), mobile data terminals (MDT) and smart phones. Using data from in-depth ethnographic observations of response, community and traffic policing units in three UK police forces, as well as focus groups with the public, we will demonstrate how digital technologies are perceived and navigated during these in-person encounters. Through employing an Actor Network Theory framework to these data, we will demonstrate that police officers and will give agency to technology, such as by using it as a tool of coercion and power ('The technology is telling me you are wanted') and being directed by technology (sometimes in error) to stop people or vehicles ('The system says you don't have a license'). Further, officers have identified that BWV gives them a sense of safety when encountering 'problem' members of the public and can

alter the behaviour of that public, even when it is not activated. Members of the public will also engage with technology in an encounter (such as by using their own camera phones), to redress the balance of power to a degree. We will consider technology as an actor in its own right in these interactions, and the extent to which it sets the rules for other actors in the encounter.

The police role in a changing society *Dorian Schaap, Radboud University Nijmegen*

What are the police for and what should they concern themselves with? Several attempts have been made to understand the police role in society (Bittner, 1980; Brodeur, 2010), yet most researchers are understandably hesitant to tackle this issue. However, intertwined developments like rapid societal change, the evolution of non-police policing actors, new dynamics in crime and safety issues, and technological innovation, once again beg the question what—if anything—lies at the core of the police role. Based on an extensive analysis of literature, focus groups and interviews with participants from inside and outside the Dutch police, an attempt is made to build a new conceptual framework of the police role in society. The broadly accepted central police tasks—dealing with crime, maintaining public order, and helping those in need—have in common that force may be required (often because situations that the police are asked to deal with are at least initially unclear). However, surprisingly, a second thread emerged that sheds a different light on the police role. Because of the wide scope of police activities and their central position in the public safety domain, the police have unique knowledge and insight into (societal) problems and challenges. They match technical know-how with knowledge of wider, interconnected social phenomena. This combination makes police knowledge and advice highly valued and sought after by partners and local governments, even when the police are legally subservient to those very same actors. We conclude that the police, at least in the Dutch context, possess two core competences: the competence to use force and the competence to share knowledge and advice. This notion has wide-ranging implications, the most important of which are the need to protect police professional autonomy vis-à-vis politics and their obligation to constantly build on their knowledge base and skill set.

**007. Responding to Gender Based Violence: Challenges, Solutions, and Lessons Learned**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”*

This panel brings together four papers which together address the aftermath of gender-based violence from a variety of perspectives. These include the policing of sexual violence, legislative attempts at curbing marital rape, support provision to survivors of GBV, and women's attitudes to police and the wider criminal justice system. Collectively, these presentations offer a comprehensive exploration of the complexities of responding to GBV, while also providing actionable insights for policy, practice, and future research in the field.

Chair:

*Stephanie FOHRING*, Northumbria University, UK

Participants:

Detectives Perspectives of Adult Sexual Assault *Mike Rowe, Northumbria University*

Coupled with concerns about low levels of prosecution and convictions in cases of sexual assault are findings showing that police fail victims through a failure to provide a professional service. Many studies indicate that police have not taken sexual assault reports seriously and, through the perfunctory dismissal of victim testimony, have significantly added to victim's trauma. Jordan's (2004) influential study of police culture and investigatory practice showed that police officers ascribed to 'rape myths' to effectively deny and downplay reports of sexual assault. Based on a series of interviews and 19 focus groups, this study found little evidence of police officer Rape Myth Acceptance. On the contrary, often they provided detailed accounts of why traditional 'rape myths' were detrimental to effective police investigations. In

theoretical terms these findings are significant since they indicate that police officer perspectives on sexual assault were no longer 'anchored' in personal or cultural discourse about this particular crime type or those victimised. Instead, officer accounts of sexual assault and their role in responding to it were expressed in terms of professionalism and an evidence-base that informed their service delivery. Limitations and advantages of this model of professional practice are identified, although it is noted that officer behaviour and attitudes are improved victims continue to be poorly served because of resourcing and legal challenges.

: #SheWasJustWalkingHome: Women's responses to the killing of Sarah Everard *Stephanie FOHRING, Northumbria University, UK*

On the evening of 3 March 2021, 33-year-old Sarah Everard was kidnapped in South London, as she was walking home from a friend's house near Clapham Common. Six days later, Wayne Couzens, a serving Metropolitan police officer, was arrested and charged with her kidnapping, rape, and murder. The killings of Sarah and other women including Aisling Murphy and Sabina Nessa, have reignited the debate about women's safety, or lack thereof, in modern day Britain. Sadly, the attention has led to little change, as since Sarah's death, at least 125 women have been killed by men every year. The result is that women's trust in police and faith in the wider criminal justice system is at an all-time low, evidenced by the continual decline in the likelihood of reporting sexual violence to the police. This research draws on data collected from X (formerly Twitter) in the weeks following Sarah's death. Through the analysis of ~2000 tweets/posts using the hashtags #SheWasJustWalkingHome and #SarahEverard, the paper explores women's reactions to the killing, the police and government response, fear of crime and confidence in the wider criminal justice system.

Navigating Challenges in Gender-Based Violence Support Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Insights from Practitioners *Damilola Daniel, Northumbria University*

The COVID-19 pandemic posed unprecedented challenges for practitioners working within the gender-based violence (GBV) support sector, significantly impacting service delivery and the recovery process of survivors. Drawing on qualitative interviews with practitioners across the northeast of England, this study investigates practitioners' understanding of crisis and crisis management drawing pivotal lessons from the management of the Covid-19 pandemic. Furthermore, the study explores the multifaceted challenges encountered during the pandemic and their implications for supporting survivors of GBV. Findings reveal the complexities of navigating government policies, adapting service delivery methods, and addressing systemic barriers to accessing justice for survivors. However, despite these challenges, practitioners demonstrated resilience and dedication to their work, highlighting the importance of continued efforts to strengthen GBV support services during times of crisis. This study provides valuable insights gained from practitioners' experiences, offering significant implications for policy, practice, and future research in the field of GBV response and support.

Wife Rape: Hidden crime, serious consequences and possible solutions *Vibha Hetu, Northumbria University*

The most culturally and legally accepted type of violence against women, rape in marriage/wife rape, is largely unacknowledged as a significant social issue in India. The Government of India realizes the dangers of early marriages but has not taken any concrete steps to criminalize marital rape. The article has contended that marital rape should be legally recognized and classified as a criminal offence in Indian law. The 'crimes against women and their victims' data as outlined in the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and husband subjecting his wife to cruelty, under Section 498A, IPC, 1860 indicated concerning surge over last eight years. The female victims of domestic violence may be especially susceptible to being raped by their husbands, making it possible that rape in marriage must be the most common kind of sexual violence. Legally defined marital rape will reveal the extent of this crime and apprise its effects. The possibility of using restorative justice as transformative approach for mitigating the effects of this pervasive issue.

## 008. Bystander Intervention in Gender-Based and Intimate Partner Violence

Topic 4: Victimology/Policy and Prevention of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”*

Gender-based and intimate partner violence is a significant global problem with social, economic, physical, psychological and health consequences. While prevention efforts to date have largely focused on either perpetrators or victims, increasing attention has been paid to bystander action or intervention, that is, actions that are taken by those not directly involved in the critical event to disrupt or prevent the event from occurring. Research suggests that promoting bystanders to take action when they witness gender-based and intimate partner violence may be an effective prevention tool, both in terms of interrupting the violence, and in reducing the impacts of harmful behaviours and attitudes that condone gender-based violence. There are a range of factors that may influence whether people will intervene to disrupt violence, including the existence of barriers, facilitators and ‘capable guardians’. This panel (one of two focused on bystander intervention and sexual and gender-based violence) brings together scholars from Australia and Europe to examine innovative approaches to gender-based and intimate partner violence, including through the use of digital technologies, and shining light on why bystanders may decide to report gender-based and intimate partner violence. The panel includes discussion of police reports, qualitative and quantitative research, as well as theoretical and conceptual frameworks to demonstrate the potentials of bystander intervention in incidents of gender-based and intimate partner violence.

Chair:

*Asher Flynn, Monash University*

Participants:

**Empowering communities to lead primary prevention: A whole of community response to Domestic and Family Violence** *Ana Borges, Griffith University; Amy Young, Griffith University; Elena Marchetti, Griffith University; Celeste Harris, Griffith University; Rebecca Wickes, Griffith University; Sameer Deshpande, Griffith University; Patrick O’Leary, Griffith University*

Research and scholarship on violence against women and children has risen dramatically in the last few decades. Yet the search for an antidote remains abstruse in both prevention and intervention. Gender stereotypes, inequality, and toxic masculinity are recognised amongst the key drivers of violence against women and children. There have been calls for a whole of community approach to both prevention and responding to domestic and family violence (DFV). Such approaches aim to empower bystanders to challenge underlying drivers while at the same time calling out violent behaviour and supporting victims. Yet there has been little research on both how to implement such initiatives and their effectiveness. In this presentation we report on an action research project that examines the experience of developing a whole of community approach where bystanders can take active roles in reaching out to victims and perpetrators as well as interrupting everyday drivers of violence. The project ran in urban council area Australia and it operated on the basis that a whole of community approach is needed to mobilise people across families, groups, institutions, businesses, and governments to create a consciousness that we are all part of the solution by being active and self-reflective bystanders. Findings from a study which aimed to develop a whole of community response to DFV in an Australian local area. Community members were given bystander training in how to respond to DFV and the drivers of gender-based violence and were supported through co-design to roll out their own training and prevention initiatives throughout the community. Accompanying research consisting of pre and post surveys and interviews with key community members was used to assess the impact on the community. The presentation concludes with some implications for future policy, practice, and research initiatives.

**Why Do Bystanders Report Intimate Partner Violence? Insights into Real-Life Reasoning from Those Who Actually Intervened** *Carlijn van Baak, Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime*

*and Law Enforcement (NSCR), University of Amsterdam; Veroni Eichelsheim, Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement; Don Weenink, University of Amsterdam; Marie Rosenkrantz Lindegaard, NSCR and University of Amsterdam*

As intimate partner violence (IPV) often remains unknown to police, bystanders can play a crucial role in prevention and further escalation of IPV. One form of intervention that may be particularly helpful consists of reporting suspicions to a domestic violence hotline. Yet, little is known about what brings bystanders into action by reporting incidents of IPV to authorities. As such, we use statements of bystanders who filed reports about IPV incidents to an official domestic violence agency in the Netherlands (N = 78), to investigate the reasoning and motivations for reporting their suspicions. The results indicate that bystanders report IPV incidents when the need for help is clear, and their motivation for acting concerns the well-being of victims. Yet, the reasons for bystanders to report IPV differ depending on the relational dynamics between partners. In situations perceived as intimate terrorism, involving a hierarchical abusive relationship between a man offender and a woman victim, bystanders primarily reported when previous helping initiatives proved inefficient, and they did so to prevent further harm, often particularly in relation to the woman victim. In situations perceived as situational couple violence, involving a symmetrical abusive relationship, bystanders primarily reported when escalation appeared, and they did so to prevent further harm to involved children. Our findings add to the growing body of evidence about real-life bystander intervention in emergencies and highlight the need for understanding intervention as context-specific in order to design effective intervention initiatives.

**Innovative approaches to intimate partner violence interventions and engaging bystanders** *Freya McLachlan, Griffith University; Patrick O’Leary, Griffith University*

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is widely understood to be a worldwide epidemic, having serious implications on individuals, families, and communities. In Australia one in four women have experienced IPV since the age of 15, and this violence is mostly perpetrated by a current or former male partner. Justice and service responses to stop this violence to save lives have failed to stem these deaths. Creating community culture that calls out attitudes and behaviours that drive violence against women might offer hope to create sustainable change. One approach is educating community members to be bystanders who feel empowered to call out attitudes and behaviours that drive violence as well as reach out to assist victim/survivors and where appropriate intervene to stop violence. Community grass-roots intervention can offer hope to create community norms that model safe and respectful behaviour, while linking victim/survivors to support and directing people using violence to appropriate services. Bystander approaches provide a basis for both prevention and intervention. Reporting the findings from a scoping review, the presentation will outline the concept of bystanders as well as the evidence base within the literature on effectiveness. Exploration will include details of bystander programs that exist within Australia and look to explore how innovative practice that are emerging. Examples of innovative practice with the Indo-Pacific context will be given. This presentation will further discuss the importance of engaging bystanders, not only to empower other men to intervene when exposed to violence or violent attitudes, but also in facilitating early intervention and education. Implications will focus on the value of innovative community bystander approaches and how this may be applied in Australia and other countries in the Indo-Pacific region.

**Integrating app technology in bystander responses to Domestic and Family Violence** *Amy Young, Griffith University; Ana Borges, Griffith University; Patrick O’Leary, Griffith University; Shaan Ross-Smith, Griffith University*

Activism and advocacy have helped elevate violence against women and children as one of the most pressing and entrenched global social problems. Public awareness programs are more visible than ever but occurrences of violence against women and children continue to occur at alarming rates often overwhelming justice and services responses. In recent decades, bystanders have constituted some of the focus of prevention efforts, due to the important role

they play in maintaining, reinforcing, or challenging the attitudes and beliefs which underpin the use of violence (Jouriles et al., 2018). Yet research on both the implantation and effectiveness of bystander initiatives have been limited. This presentation reports on findings from the development and evaluation of an innovative technology response to empower bystanders to respond to domestic and family violence (DFV) in their communities. The Be There App provides community members with DFV educational articles, a journaling tool, self-care resources and links to helplines. This presentation reports on user experiences while engaging with an app (Be There) aiming to support DV bystanders. The research team utilised a mixed-methods design to engage users, collecting data through surveys, interviews, focus groups and app data. Data suggests that alongside bystanders, survivors also utilised the app for support, and that the app was used by groups under-resourced by traditional DV responses, such as those in regional areas. This study demonstrates how apps and other technologies can expand current DFV service responses and assist community members to support others. Key learning from this project shows how apps might be utilised beyond intended target groups as well as the need to integrate with other technological resources as well as frontline services. The presentation concludes with some implications for future policy, practice, and research initiatives.

### 009. Cybercrime Offenders & Victims (part 1)

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Cybercrime (Cybercrime WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 5 „Constantin Stătescu”*

The presenters in this panel research the human factor in cybercrime. The aim of this panel is to better understand how people become involved in cybercrime, why people are victimized by cybercrime, and how cybercrime can be prevented. The first presentation is about an unique online video ad campaign on Youtube against tutorials for launching DDoS-attacks and using remote access trojans (RATS), which is the result of a cooperation between Dutch law enforcement and academics. The second presentation is about pathways of young people into and out of digital fraud. For this study, the authors interviewed 39 experts, analyzed five criminal investigations, and analyzed police registrations of suspects involved in digital fraud. The third and fourth presentation revolve around victims of ransomware. The authors examined the willingness to pay a ransom among people who have and have not been previously victimized by ransomware, as well as the willingness to report after ransomware victimization among entrepreneurs. The presentations in this panel have important practical and theoretical implications that are relevant for the criminological field as a whole.

Chair:

**Luuk Bekkers**, The Hague University of Applied Sciences

Participants:

Countering cybercrime tutorials with online video ad campaigns:

A quasi-experiment on YouTube *Asier Moneva, Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR); Rutger Leukfeldt, NSCR; Maurice van der Stoel, Cyber Offender Prevention Squad (COPS), Netherlands Police*

Popular social media platforms host harmful content. One type of such content is video tutorials for launching cyberattacks or using cybercrime tools that are posted on YouTube. Often, the videos are uploaded from accounts with thousands of followers, registering an even higher number of views. Following these videos step-by-step requires such basic computer skills that cybercrime becomes available to anyone. For users who are content consumers, these videos can therefore provide a pathway into cybercrime. As part of a broader approach to the use of cybercrime awareness messaging, law enforcement and academics have joined forces to try to counteract the effect of these cybercrime tutorials. This presentation shows the pioneering cybercrime prevention work done jointly with the Cyber Offender Prevention Squad (COPS) of the Netherlands Police to deploy online video ad campaigns on YouTube against tutorials for two types of entry-level cybercrime: launching DDoS attacks and using remote access trojans (RATs). After an initial pilot study, the campaign was set up using four types of skippable video ads following 2 x 2 factorial design (DDoS vs. RATs x deterrent vs. social message), having an efficient reach (i.e.

reaching more unique users at lower cost) in the Netherlands, and targeting Dutch or English-speaking users aged 18-24. After about four months of activity, preliminary results show that the video ads were more compelling than the average in YouTube, with anti-DDoS tutorials being the most viewed and most compelling. We discuss the practical implications of implementing this type of campaign for law enforcement and cybercrime prevention, as well as future research directions.

Youth pathways into and out of digital fraud *Joeri Loggen, The Hague University of Applied Sciences; Asier Moneva, Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR); Rutger Leukfeldt, NSCR; Arjan Blokland, NSCR*

In recent years, youth have become increasingly involved in digital fraud, in Dutch slang also called "F-game". However, little is known about the steps they take that lead them to involvement in such crimes, why they maintain their cybercriminal activities, and the steps they take to abstain from cybercrime. This is problematic because knowledge of these processes is valuable for the development of preventative strategies. Therefore, in this study, we aim to map out the pathways of youngsters into and out of digital fraud. We do this by interviewing 39 experts involved in investigating and disrupting (cyber)criminal youth networks, analyzing five criminal investigations, and analyzing police registrations of suspects involved in digital fraud. Results show that there are two types of offenders involved in digital fraud: 'new' cybercriminals, who start their career engaging in cybercrime, and 'switchers', who first engage in traditional crime, and later make the switch to cybercrime. Both types of offenders appear to be part of a subculture where status is important, which is achieved by having a luxurious lifestyle. Because potential cyber-fraudsters appear to have a relatively low socioeconomic status, they do not seem to have the legitimate means to make enough money to live this lifestyle, which seems to push them to engagement in crime. They learn of the existence of digital fraud through ads on social media, offline social ties, and online games. Next, their decision to engage in digital fraud (instead of other crimes) appears to be related to its low costs and high benefits. The necessary skills and knowledge are learned through cybercrime-as-a-service and social learning. Lastly, rational choice, together with the use of neutralization techniques, and maturing appear to play a part in their decision to maintain or desist. Implications and potential interventions will also be discussed.

I would rather pay money for a new computer than pay a ransom to criminals: Examining willingness to pay among individuals after ransomware victimisation *Sifra Matthijsse, The Hague University of Applied Sciences; Susanne van 't Hoff-de Goede, The Hague University of Applied Sciences; Rutger Leukfeldt, NSCR*

Background In today's digitalized society, individuals increasingly spend time online and rely on information technology. This also increases the risk of victimisation of cybercrime, including ransomware. However, little is currently known about how individuals respond to ransomware victimisation and what motivations and factors contribute to the decision to pay a ransom demand. Methods This study uses two surveys to gain more insight into the motivations and factors that are related to the decision to pay a ransom demand. The first survey was conducted among Dutch individuals who were victimised by ransomware (n=856), to gain insight into their experiences with and responses to victimisation, including the decision to pay a ransom. The second survey was conducted among Dutch individuals who were not previously victimised by ransomware (n=4.088) and included a vignette experiment to gain insight into the factors that are related to the willingness to pay a ransom in the event of ransomware victimisation. Results Findings show that about 4% of the respondents that were victimised by ransomware paid the ransom demand, citing various reasons for doing so. In addition, respondents in the vignette experiment were unlikely to pay the ransom demand. The affordability of the ransom, the threat of data being leaked and being advised to pay was significantly related to the likelihood of paying the ransom in the vignette experiment. The findings provide insight into what makes ransomware victims

vulnerable to extortion.

It never crossed my mind to report it: Examining willingness to report among entrepreneurs after ransomware victimisation *Tijmen Fuchs, The Hague University of Applied Sciences; Sifra Matthijse, The Hague University of Applied Sciences; Susanne van 't Hoff-de Goede, The Hague University of Applied Sciences; Rutger Leukfeldt, NSCR*

Although ransomware attacks are considered one of the biggest online threats today, the willingness to report among victims is low. Insight into the prevalence of victimisation is further complicated by the fact that attacks are reported to various agencies, such as the police, banks, insurance companies and cybersecurity firms. While research has been conducted on reporting of traditional crimes, these studies are lacking for many specific forms of cybercrime, including ransomware attacks. There is therefore a need to understand the willingness to report ransomware victimisation and factors that contribute to it. The current study uses a vignette experiment among Dutch freelancers (n=1.769) and SMEs (n=732), to understand the relationship between willingness to report and various factors, such as company characteristics, attack characteristics and motivations for reporting. The findings show that the willingness to report is high among both freelancers and SMEs in the vignette experiment. The presentation will address factors and motivations that play a role in the decision to report, and will give practical implications and recommendations.

#### 010. EUROCRIM 10 Economic Crimes

Topic 2: Types of Offending/White collar Crime, Organizational Crime, Corporate Crime, Financial Crime (EUROC)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”

Chair:

*Ana Isabel Garcia Alfaraz, Universidad de Salamanca*

Participants:

Criminals, partners, or enablers? Making sense of lawyers' involvement into economic crimes by mafia members in Italy *Matteo Anastasio, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore*

Criminological theory states that mafia groups require a high degree of human and social capital to expand into non-traditional areas (Catino, 2018; Sciarrone, 2021). If they cannot find these resources internally, mafia members turn to external actors who operate within the so-called "grey area" as a transmission chain between the legal and illegal worlds. These actors are often professionals, and namely lawyers. There are several studies on the involvement of lawyers in economic crime, particularly in money laundering (Benson, 2020; Levi, 2022), but very few studies have so far investigated how lawyers facilitate criminal infiltration by mafia members in Northern Italy, and specifically (a) what resources they provide to mafia members and how they contribute to the accumulation of human and social capital by mafia members (b) what exchanges and agreements they make with mafia members, and (c) how and to what extent they participate in the criminal decision-making. These issues will be addressed through a script-network analysis of a dataset comprising cases of criminal infiltration by mafia groups into legitimate businesses in Northern Italy involving lawyers. The results are relevant both for understanding the participation and facilitation of economic crime by professionals and for evidence-informed policy making.

International sanction circumvention techniques: key actors, jurisdictions and methods *Giovanni Nicolazzo, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Matteo Anastasio, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Caterina Paternoster, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Laura Ventre, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Giorgia Cascone, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Francesco Venturini, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Michele Riccardi, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore*

This study provides a qualitative analysis of mechanisms used to evade international sanctions, using legal documents, case studies, and global news aggregators as data sources. The objective is to reveal the transnational networks that companies use to circumvent international sanctions by transferring assets, layering beneficial ownership, and using crypto assets. The paper describes the methods used to evade international sanctions, outlining their operational features, key actors, assets, jurisdictions, and financial flows. By delineating sanction circumvention techniques, the paper contributes to the ongoing discourse on the effectiveness of international sanctions. The insights provided can assist policymakers, regulators, and academics in developing more effective strategies to combat such practices. The analysis is carried out under the project KLEPTOTRACE, co-funded by European Commission, ISF police.

Money never sleeps: A criminological analysis of Ponzi schemes *Ana Isabel Garcia Alfaraz, Universidad de Salamanca*

Ponzi schemes are fraudulent schemes where participants are lured to invest money with promises of high returns, primarily by recruiting new members rather than from legitimate business activities. As the scheme grows, it becomes unsustainable and collapses, leaving most investors with losses. The relevance and timeliness of the topic of Ponzi schemes are evident given the ongoing emergence of new fraudulent schemes and the devastating impact they can have on individuals and society at large. In an increasingly interconnected and digital world, fraudsters have more tools at their disposal to carry out these schemes in a more sophisticated and widespread manner. Furthermore, the growing complexity of financial markets and the global economy can create conducive conditions for the proliferation of fraudulent schemes. A criminological analysis of Ponzi schemes offers several important benefits. Firstly, it can help understand the causes behind the criminal behavior of fraudsters, including individual, social, and economic factors that may influence their decision to engage in these fraudulent activities. This, in turn, can inform the development of more effective prevention and law enforcement strategies to combat these schemes. Additionally, a criminological analysis can help identify the risk factors and vulnerabilities that make individuals more susceptible to becoming victims of Ponzi schemes. By better understanding these factors, specific interventions can be designed to protect at-risk individuals and reduce the incidence of these schemes. In summary, a criminological analysis of Ponzi schemes provides valuable insights into the nature and causes of this type of fraud, as well as guidance on how to prevent it and protect affected individuals. Given the increasing importance and prevalence of Ponzi schemes in today's society, this analysis is crucial for effectively addressing this issue and protecting individuals against financial and emotional exploitation.

#### 011. Interdisciplinary approaches to radicalization, political violence and the relations between terrorism and crime to advance P/CVE

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Terrorism and Terrorism Financing, Radicalization, Extremism (Radicalization, Extremism, Terrorism WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)

Over the last two decades, radicalisation became a key concept for counter-terrorism and also a major concern and urgent priority for the EU and Member States. In the context of the terrorist attacks on European soil, radicalisation served to devote a huge amount of resources (public and private) to understand and prevent the process by which individuals allegedly become involved in violent extremism or terrorism related activities. Throughout these years, research on radicalisation has also received a strong push by donors and policy-makers, considering that this knowledge will be useful to design prevention measures and strategies. However, many authors point out that all these prevention efforts are not being effective and did not have the intended impact. It is worth recognizing that research on terrorism shares several important characteristics with more ordinary crime, including the multidisciplinary emphasis with contributions from a variety of disciplines. This panel, part of the INTERRAD research project, aims to contribute to the

development of P/CVE by exploring the new trends in the study of radicalization and political violence as well as the relations with crime, including contributions from criminology, political science, social psychology, international relations and social science.

Chair:

**Inmaculada Marrero**, University of Granada. Dpt of International Public Law and International Relations

Participants:

Radicalisation and its influence on the securitisation of European prison systems. National security and jihadist terrorism. **Salvador Berdún**, *ACAIP Center of Studies of the Administration of penitentiary institutions*

Prison systems have become part of national security and defence strategies. As a result, some European prison laws have included reference to public security and even national security when establishing more restrictive prison regimes. This process had already been anticipated in the seventies of the twentieth century when it faced the problems generated in prisons by nation-style terrorist groups. Security strategies have come to consider radical, non-democratic ideologies as risk enhancers. These ideologies are seen as possible sources of propagation of violent ideas and actions. Alonso Pascual (2013, pp. 231-234) points to the risk posed by extremist ideologies to national security, which implies an expansion of this concept. At the same time, this broadening of the concept of national security has been anticipating the State's response to the prevention and criminalization of behaviors that are often far from being true criminal conduct from a criminological perspective. As Cano Paños and Castro Toledo (2018, pp. 32-36) explain, there is a profound discrepancy between the criminological assessment and that made by the courts when judging the processes of Islamic radicalization. These preventive practices have been implemented in all sectors of institutional action, from social policies to criminal and penitentiary policies. Prison systems are now just another instrument of national security. This has led to the creation of a new category of risk that is considered dangerous to general safety and to which a sui generis statute applies, which entails the standardization of a series of control measures based on the safety of the public. As a result, at-risk individuals are often subjected to increasingly restrictive prison regimes. The indeterminacy of the concepts and the subjectivity in the application of risk assessment criteria make it necessary to reflect deeply on the rationality of these practices that have been embodied in European legislation.

Updating P/CVE Strategic Communications: Conflict – competition dynamics and centrifugal effects of extremists narratives **Javier Ruipérez Canales**, *The Euro-Arab Foundation and University of Granada*; **Antonio Sanchez Ortega**, *The University of Granada and CEMIX Joint Centre University of Granada - Army Training and Doctrine Command*

Extremist groups frequently exploit societal fears and uncertainties, framing minorities as threats to social, economic, political or cultural issues. Within the ever evolving technological advances, extremist groups create and share content that is designed to go viral, reaching a broad audience quickly as a means to advance their extremist agendas and recruit new members. Through different communication strategies, extremists attempt to insert their narratives into mainstream political and social discourse to manipulate public opinion increasing societal polarisation and paving the way for further radicalisation, also fostering hate speech and hate crimes and violent manifestations both online and offline. In response, strategic communications are gaining momentum in recent years aimed to identify P/CVE communication responses to address these threats in the communications ecosystem. However, more evidence on the effects that extremist narratives as well as strategic communications responses have in audiences is needed. This paper is the result of a comprehensive research conducted using OSINT tools to compile and analyse the narratives of extremist groups in three case studies: the first case study explores Casapound group narratives about Italian public policies concerning housing and the treatment towards ethnic minorities and migrants, including asylum seekers and refugees; the second case study analyses extremist narratives against minorities of the group

Group, Union, Défense (GUD) on the pension law reform in France; the third case study analyses the falangist groups narratives against minorities around the Spanish foreign policy on Morocco and the Sahara. The results of this research present new insights on how strategic communications need to be designed in order to reach the specific preventive objective.

Evolution of the Jihadist Salafist Threat: Scenarios and Trends. **Carlos Echeverria**, *National University of Education at Distance UNED. Dpt of Political ScienceCY*

This contribution is focused on the evolution of the threat represented by the Islamic State and the Al Qaida terrorist groups' activity in a context defined by the following three realities: • The evolution of the two groups' strategies adapting their activism to the particular circumstances emerging in various geographical scenarios, from Central Asia since the Taliban took again the control of Afghanistan in August 2021, and the psychological impact of their victory, to the focal point of the Caliphate project in Syria/Iraq and the mutation of the Islamic State in the area. • The impact of these two events in terms of increasing radicalization in different scenarios, from Europe to a number of African regions, and the consequences of the increasing number of persons coming back to their countries of origin from Syria/Iraq and other scenarios of the Caliphate project implementation in the last decade. • The three wars already developing in Ukraine, since 2022, as well as in Gaza and Sudan, since 2023, as dramatic violent scenarios, are attracting so much attention and effort that the evolution of the terrorist threat represented by the Islamic State and Al Qaida – from the ideological to the direct terrorist activist levels – is becoming marginal. The war in Ukraine is defined as an additional opportunity by radical Islamist groups due to the fact the Christians kill among them, and the wars in Gaza and in Sudan are contributing to increase chaos and radicalization. Both effects become an invitation for present and future terrorist efforts to be made by Jihadist actors.

The side effects of the violent extremism prevention program **Férix Andalucía Roberto Muelas Lobato**, *University of Burgos. Dpt. of Health Sciences*

In order to prevent violent extremism in areas at risk of exclusion, a program was designed to promote social inclusion based on social mentoring and the 3N model of radicalization. More than 4,000 minors from 80 educational centers located in areas of exclusion participated. This study aimed to evaluate the impact of the prevention program using a theory-based evaluation. Four hundred ninety-two participants completed the assessment, in addition to 492 students who were part of the control group. The three factors of the 3N model were assessed: significance quest, deviant networks, and violent narratives; before and at the conclusion of the program. To estimate the impact of the program, mixed ANCOVAs were conducted to examine changes in the three factors over time and in comparison to the control group, taking into account covariates such as age, sex, and duration of program implementation. To elucidate the changes produced at the individual level, based on the initial level of risk, a latent transitional profile analysis was performed. The results showed that the significance quest improved after program completion, but not the networks or narratives. Considering three risk profiles (low, medium, and high), the probabilities of improvement were higher in all groups, although there was also a small chance that participants were at an increased risk after the end of the program. The program showed a moderate impact on reducing the risk of violent extremism. On the one hand, social mentoring was found to have a greater impact on providing significance to participants. However, no significant impact was found on deviant networks or violent narratives. The impact was reduced because several low-risk participants ended up developing more risk after participating in the program. We conclude by emphasizing the need to assess participants' baseline risk to tailor interventions.

## 012. Sentencing 8. Novel Approaches in Sentencing Research

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Courts and Sentencing and Penal Decision Making (Sentencing and Penal Decisionmaking WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am



Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)

Chair:

**Ester Blay Gil**, University of Girona

Participants:

Researcher's challenge or nightmare? Criminological prognosis in light of the results of court files research. *Katarzyna Witkowska-Rozpara, University of Warsaw, Institute of Social Prevention and Resocialisation (Department of Criminology and Criminal Policy), Center for Criminological Analysis*

Polish law requires a judge to make a prognosis regarding future behaviour of the offender when intending to impose a suspended imprisonment. Although the Polish Criminal Code does not use the term "criminological prognosis," theorists and practitioners generally agree that the judge is obliged to make such a prognosis, and only a positive criminological prognosis opens the possibility of applying conditional suspension of the execution of a penalty. However, the question arises whether the expectations placed on the judge are justified, and moreover – whether they are achievable, considering the limited time and relatively modest diagnostic tools available to judge for the purpose of such prognostication. Considering the above, can we even say that the judge makes a criminological prognosis, and if so – on what basis? I will address these questions by presenting preliminary results from criminological research conducted in 2024, encompassing court files in cases involving three different crimes. In my presentation, I will outline how the process of collecting information about the offender looks like in practice and whether the obtained information justifies making a prognosis. I will also attempt to assess whether the diagnostic process itself differs depending on the crime committed by the offender. Additionally, I will pay attention to whether, in justifying decisions to suspend the execution of a sentence, judges refer to the issue of criminological prognosis at all.

The role of the plea agreement in ensuring compliance with the reasonable term of the criminal process *Andrei Viorel Iugan, Bucharest Economic School, Faculty of Law*

The institution of the plea agreement was introduced for the first time in the Romanian legislation starting from January 1, 2014. In the statement of reasons, the legislator showed that "the introduction of this institution implies a radical change in the Romanian criminal process. The procedure of the plea agreement does not it not only reduces the duration of the trial of the case, but also simplifies the activity of the criminal investigation. Moreover, one of the most common arguments in favor of this procedure is that of the economic advantage which, to one degree or another, favors almost all parties to a trial, but especially the state, which has the opportunity to save essential financial and human resources. The plea agreement represents an innovative legislative solution that will ensure the resolution of cases in an optimal and predictable term, being at the same time a remedy for eliminating a deficiency of the Romanian judicial system, namely the long duration of judicial proceedings." The present study aims to analyze, 10 years after the regulation of the plea agreement, how this institution is used by the criminal investigation bodies. We also aim to examine to what extent the new legal provisions have led to the shortening of court proceedings and the observance of reasonable time.

Is Sentencing Suggestion a Mere Suggestion? —An Empirical Study on the Rigidity of Sentencing Suggestion in China *Jinruo Hu, China University of Political Science and Law*

China officially incorporated the system of leniency for pleading guilty and accepting punishments into the Criminal Procedure Law of the People's Republic of China in 2018, with article 201 stipulating that the People's Court should generally accept the People's Procuratorate's charges and sentencing suggestions. In practice, the court's acceptance rate of procuratorial sentencing suggestions experienced a sharp drop from 96.03% during the pilot period to 58% after the system's incorporation into law half a year later, and then to a stable 98.3% after four years. This demonstrates the inherent tension between the courts and procuratorates regarding the acceptance of sentencing suggestions. The reason lies in the ambiguity of the language. The phrase "generally should" grants the procuratorial agencies substantial sentencing power,

sidelining the courts' adjudicative power and breaking the original division of responsibilities between the judiciary and the procuratorate, causing confusion in the sentencing recommendation mechanism and the entire plea bargaining with leniency system. Therefore, the sentencing suggestion article needs further clarification. Based on an empirical study on A City B District Court, this paper analyzes the application rate, submission rate of specific sentencing suggestions, and acceptance rate of such suggestions, finding that there are issues with insufficient negotiation and deficient rationality of specific sentencing recommendations. Hence, it is proposed that the "generally should" provision should be revised and abolished to prevent procuratorial agencies from sidelining the courts' adjudicative power; encourage procuratorial agencies to make more flexible sentencing recommendations; and protect the accused's right to defense in plea bargaining. Adopting procuratorial sentencing recommendations is likely to become the future landscape of criminal justice. Therefore, this paper aims to improve the binding provisions of sentencing recommendations at the system level and enhance the appropriateness of procuratorial sentencing recommendations in operation to a new potential pathways to criminal justice reform.

What Do We Communicate Through Punishment? The Critical Role of Perceived Punisher Motives in Making Punishment More Constructive *Melissa de Vel-Palumbo, Flinders University; Mathias Twardawski, LMU Munich; Mario Gollwitzer, LMU Munich*

Through punishment, victims and third parties seek to communicate various "messages" to transgressors. But are the messages we wish to send effectively delivered and understood? This research explores how transgressors understand why they are being punished, and the influence of these subjective perceptions on attitudes and behaviour. In particular, we test the hypothesis that transgressors' inferences about punishers' social motives crucially shape post-punishment attitudes and behaviour. We present the results of three quantitative studies (N = 990) showing that transgressors may attribute two key motives to punishment: (1) that the punisher is trying to restore the transgressor's social relationships as breached by the wrongdoing (relationship-oriented motive); and (2) that the punisher intends harm to the transgressor (harm-oriented motive). Attributing punishment to a relationship (vs. harm-oriented) motive increased prosocial attitudes and behaviour. We also find that interventions based on ideas of procedural justice may be effective insofar as they influence perceptions of these two punisher motives. Communicating punishment respectfully increased perceptions of a relationship-oriented motive and reduced perceptions of a harm-oriented motive, with downstream consequences for attitudes and behaviour. Implications are discussed, including recommendations on how to best communicate punishment both in penal and in broader decision-making contexts.

The role of interpreters in access to justice *Ester Blay Gil, University of Girona; Ignacio González Sanchez, University of Girona*

This research is focused on the work of interpreters and on their contribution in overcoming the cultural barriers of foreign citizens involved in criminal justice procedures. These barriers are related, among other aspects, to the difficulties of accessing justice in conditions of being understood and of being able to express oneself as a victim, as a person accused of committing an offence or as a witness to a crime, but also to understand what is happening at different moments in the judicial process. To better understand the problem of language and cultural barriers in criminal proceedings, it is necessary to collect data close to where the action takes place. For this reason, we have used qualitative methodology. On the one hand, we have conducted semi structured interviews with a diverse group of judicial interpreters, which have resulted in the collection of the experiences and perspectives of the professionals in charge of interpretation. Moreover, we have conducted non-participant observation in lower and higher criminal courts in Barcelona and Girona where non-Spanish speakers have been involved, with and without interpreters. Additionally, we have interviewed a small sample of criminal justice professionals (judges, prosecutors and defence lawyers) on their experiences and with interpreters. The results of this research will be presented, identifying key elements

in professional practices and interactions in court, and pointing at areas that allow for improvement. Moreover, results show the need of further research on various issues, such as interpreting for particularly vulnerable persons, such as children or the mentally ill.

### 013. Attitude towards Crime and Punishment

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Attitudes about Punishment and Criminal Justice System

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Library - reading room 1

Chair:

**Sandra Pérez**, Universidad Miguel Hernandez - Crimina

Participants:

Attitudes and perceptions regarding algorithmic judicial judgement: barriers to innovation in the judicial system?  
*Sandra Pérez, Universidad Miguel Hernandez - Crimina; Pere Simón, Universidad Internacional de la Rioja (UNIR)*

The presentation discusses a study from project TED2021-129356B-I00, funded by MCIN/AEI and the EU's NextGenerationEU/PRTR. It serves as a starting point for examining attitudes and perceptions regarding the use of algorithmic tools in the judicial sector, as well as identifying potential obstacles to innovation within this field. The study uncovers variances in acceptance levels among the general public, data and AI experts, and legal professionals, with the latter group exhibiting skepticism due to concerns about objectivity, fairness, and adherence to legal principles. The research also points out the challenges in integrating these tools, highlighting the complexity of tasks and the necessity for a balance between automation and human supervision. Ultimately, it emphasizes the importance of a thoughtful approach by both society and legal professionals to successfully incorporate algorithmic tools into the judicial system.

An experimental approach to research on corruption perceptions  
*Adil Rodionov, Maqсут Narikbayev Institute for Networking and Development; Dmitrii Serebrennikov, Institute for the Rule of Law at the European University at Saint-Petersburg; Maqсут Narikbayev Institute for Network and Development; Kazakhstan Sociology Lab; Timur Bocharov, Maqсут Narikbayev Institute for Networking and Development; Aigul Zhanadilova, Maqсут Narikbayev Institute for Networking and Development; Astana IT University; L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University.; Amirlan Nurgazin, Maqсут Narikbayev Institute for Networking and Development*

Perceptions of crime and justice are hot spots of contention in contemporary criminology research. Perception is complicated by the fact that participants in morally and/or legally questionable actions can apply obfuscated structures. For example, participants in corrupt transactions use various structures and/or instruments to mitigate moral taboos and/or legislative restrictions. In our study, we test Rossman's theory of obfuscation structures – bundling, brokerage, gift exchange, and pawning – that decrease the moral opprobrium of external audiences and thereby legitimize corrupt transactions. In doing this, we combine two interrelated experimental approaches. First of all, we replicate the Schilke-Rossman vignette experiment, demonstrating how it works in another geographical context. For these purposes, we conducted a pilot experiment involving 200 respondents. Second, we combine qualitative and experimental approaches by conducting focus groups with embedded experiments, inspired by the approach of Boltanski and Thévenot. All this sheds light on various nuances of the perception of crime and justice, and allows us to understand deeply how people perceive corruption and how they justify their perceptions about it.

Do political instability and political violence affect attitudes to state surveillance? A comparison between post-communist and Latin American countries using Wave 7 of the WVS  
*Francesca Menichelli, University of Surrey; Daniel McCarthy, University of Surrey*

A relatively small, but growing, body of work exists that looks at

what people think about the role of state surveillance. Our previous research on attitudes to state surveillance started to address this gap. In order to explore whether a past legacy of intrusive state surveillance could explain present-day differences in attitudes to it, we compared post-communist countries and established democracies in Europe. We found remarkable similarities across the two groups of countries in terms of underlying reasons for support of mass surveillance. To further advance our research, we use data from the World Values Survey (Wave 7 – 2017-2020) to compare countries from post-communist Europe and Latin America. The comparison between these two groups of transitional countries with comparable experiences of extensive surveillance of political dissent, allows us to assess potential patterns of difference across these geographic regions, relating to public attitudes to political violence and state surveillance. No studies to date have explored linkages between political violence and state surveillance; thus, our paper will offer a significant contribution to our growing understanding of how attitudes to surveillance emerge cross-nationally on a comparative basis.

Insights into Non-Consensual Dissemination of Intimate Images: Perceptions of Victim and Offender Culpability  
*Mally Shechory Bitton, Ariel University, Israel; Liza Zvi, Ariel University*

The internet has become indispensable in modern life, but it also harbors darker issues like revenge pornography, also known as the non-consensual dissemination of intimate images (NCII). Despite increased awareness prompting legislation in many nations, laws often fall short in addressing victims' needs. Quantifying the prevalence and incidence of NCII globally poses challenges, as many individuals may be unaware of whether their intimate images have been taken or shared. Research has shown strong support for criminalizing NCII, but beliefs that involve victim-blaming or downplaying its severity can normalize such acts, leading to decreased support levels, particularly if a victim has produced the images themselves (e.g., through "sexting"). This study aimed to expand the limited empirical literature on perceptions of NCII by examining how the source of distributed images affects judgments and blame attributions of both victims and offenders. We devised a scenario featuring male offenders and female victims, manipulating whether the intimate images were self-taken by the victim or stealth-taken. Two hundred and fifty male and female students were assigned to two research conditions. The results suggest differential treatment of NCII victims based on their involvement in taking intimate images. Regardless of the victim's culpability, the offender was perceived as highly blameworthy and deserving severe punishment in both conditions. However, victim-blaming was evident, especially towards female victims who had taken their own photos, leading to heightened negative feelings towards them. Male participants exhibited particularly high levels of blame attribution and negative sentiments towards female victims, indicating a double standard in sexual behavior.

Public Perceptions Of Evidence Exonerating Wrongfully Convicted Murderers  
*John C Navarro, Sam Houston State University; Michael A. Hansen, University of Turku*

Wrongful convictions can significantly undermine the integrity of the criminal justice system, making it crucial to shed light on public perceptions of exonerations, with a special focus on the most common exonerees: murderers. American citizens were randomly assigned to one of two conditions in an online survey, which described the presence or absence of prosecutorial misconduct toward a man exonerated of murder. Respondents were then asked about their degree of confidence in this exoneration across four separate common contributing factors of wrongful convictions: false accusations, false confessions, forensic evidence, or mistaken witness identification. These results raise questions about the credibility of the defendant, societal perceptions of criminality and punitiveness, and legal remedies for wrongful convictions.

### 014. Critical Realism, Crime and Criminology

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Theoretical and Epistemological debates in Criminology (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Roundtable

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)*

This roundtable aims to foster dialogue about the emerging contribution of the philosophy of critical realism to research on crime, (in)security, and criminal justice. The roundtable will consist of short contributions from members of the Crime, Security and Justice Network (CSJN), that is part of the Critical Realism Network, followed by a wider discussion of the potential for critical realism to revitalise criminological research and explanatory accounts of crime. The CSJN consists of a range of academic and professional researchers, who recognise the value of using critical realist ideas in the philosophy of social science to understand and intervene in problems of crime, insecurity, and rival policy responses. In doing so, the Network draws upon the commitment of critical realism to explanation, interpretation, and description as complementary aims of social scientific approaches to social problems. The roundtable will explore the relevance of key critical realist ideas such as: the importance of producing knowledge that is practically adequate in informing interventions in social problems as well as promoting a better understanding of them; and, the realist belief in the possibility and desirability of criteria for judging between rival accounts of crimes and security challenges, of criminal, restorative and social concepts of justice, and of arguments about managing the risks of crime and insecurity. Topics include: - Criminology and chaotic concepts (Adam Edwards, Cardiff University, Wales, UK) - The intersections of critical realism, phenomenology, and fraud (Jane Ngan, The University of Manchester, England, UK) - Exploring the histories of empire: a geohistorical approach (Gordon Hughes, Cardiff University, Wales, UK) - Critical realist informed research on financial crime compliance (Korry Robert, The University of Manchester, England, UK) - Elias, critical realism and the night-time economy (Rachel Swann, Cardiff University, Wales, UK) - Corporate crime, (concrete conceptions of) causality, and critical realism (Nicholas Lord, The University of Manchester, England, UK)

Chair:

**Nicholas Lord**, The University of Manchester, UK

Discussants:

**Adam Michael Edwards**, Cardiff University

**Jane Ngan**, University of Manchester

**Gordon Hughes**, Cardiff University

**Korry Robert**, University of Manchester

## 015. Social perceptions of crime

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Media and social construction of crime

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.10*

Chair:

**Ezgi Aral**, Loughborough University

Participants:

Highlighting the Collective Harm: Tackle Illicit Drug Use in the Netherlands With Moral Appeals *Sylvia Xu, University of Groningen; Laetitia Mulder, University of Groningen; Floor Rink, University of Groningen*

Addressing the pervasive issue of recreational illicit drug use remains a global challenge yet years of anti-drug campaigns yielded unsatisfactory results. While previous anti-drug campaigns have mostly focused on the adverse effects of illicit drugs individually (i.e., health-related harm), this research aims to provide a novel intervention by framing recreational illicit drug use as a problem of social dilemma — a conflict between immediate self-pleasure and longer-term collective harms (e.g., contributing to organized crime and cross-national corruption). What are the effects of moral appeals highlighting the collective harm of illicit drug use on decreasing illicit drug use intention and increasing negative attitudes toward drug use? And how will prior illicit drug use moderate such effects? To answer these questions, we conducted four studies in the Netherlands with surveys and a longitudinal, field experiment. Studies 1-3 (Ntotal = 917) tested the effect of moral appeals delivered in text format with online surveys. Study 4 (N = 613) employed a two-week time-lagged design, targeting participants attending events with prevalent recreational illicit drug use, and introduced video moral appeals alongside text format. Exposed to the manipulations in Wave 1, participants reported

intentions and attitudes in both waves and disclosed drug use behaviors between Wave 1 and 2. Across studies, the results revealed the potential of moral appeals in reducing future illicit drug use intentions, particularly for individuals with a history of drug use. Additionally, the research revealed a broader impact of moral appeals in fostering negative attitudes toward illicit drug use, irrespective of individuals' prior behaviors. A subsequent mini meta-analysis further supported these findings. In summary, by emphasizing collective harms of illicit drug use, our findings offer a nuanced perspective and advocate for the incorporation of moral appeals in future anti-drug initiatives, marking a pivotal step toward more effective interventions.

Strange Affair: Representations of human trafficking in Peter Robinson's 2004 novel in conjunction with this crime's contemporaneous UK news reports *Ilse A. Ras, Leiden University; Christiana Gregoriou, The University of Leeds*

Though millions are victims of human trafficking, one-sided representations of the issue impede the recognition of real, but non-stereotypical, cases (e.g. Bouché et al., 2018; Cunha et al., 2022). Whilst proposing that fictional analyses affect this crime's perception, we note that studies of trafficking representations primarily focus on newspapers (see Gregoriou & Ras, 2018) instead of fiction (e.g. Beyer, 2018). With access to a special collection archive containing various materials Robinson collected and created whilst writing *Strange Affair* (2004), we ask to what extent this novel's treatment of exploitation may be linked to contemporary newspaper articles. These materials are examined through a combination of a critical stylistic, content (using Atlas.TI 24) and corpus (using AntConc) analysis. Preliminary findings suggest that Robinson's novel does tap into the then-dominant narrative, for instance by unnecessarily conflating smuggling and trafficking, but also deviates from this narrative, for instance by introducing organ harvesting as part of a broader trafficking scheme that otherwise primarily focuses on sexual exploitation. References Beyer, C. (2018). "In the suitcase as a boy": Representing transnational child trafficking in contemporary crime fiction. In *Representations of Transnational Human Trafficking* (pp. 89–116). Palgrave. Bouché, V., Farrell, A., & Wittmer-Wolfe, D. E. (2018). Challenging the Dominant Frame: The Moderating Impact of Exposure and Knowledge on Perceptions of Sex Trafficking Victimization. *Social Science Quarterly*, 99(4), 1283–1302. Cunha, A., Gonçalves, M., & Matos, M. (2022). Exploring Perceptions of Portuguese Police about Human Trafficking Victims and Perpetrators. *Crime, Law & Social Change*, 77(3), 253–273. Criminal Justice Abstracts. Gregoriou, C., & Ras, I. A. (2018). Representations of Transnational Human Trafficking: A Critical Review. Palgrave. Robinson, P. (2004). *Strange Affair*. Pan Macmillan.

Unveiling the contradictions of bullfighting in modern Spanish society: criminological insights on cultural practices and animal rights *Patricia Puente-Guerrero, UNED*

This paper delves into the complex realm of bullfighting in Spain, exploring its historical roots and deep cultural significance, particularly in rural communities. It exposes the violence and harm inflicted on both nonhuman animals and humans within the bullfighting industry, and how these practices are intertwined with broader societal issues, including gender dynamics. It critically examines the evolving public attitudes towards bullfighting, indicative of a shift in human-animal relationships perceptions. It also highlights contradictions in Spanish legislation, acknowledging nonhuman animal sentience and advocating for their wellbeing while exempting bullfighting from provisions on animal abuse, thus creating inconsistencies in nonhuman animal protection laws. This work concludes with a call for a nuanced understanding of cultural practices, a critical review of their intersection with (non)human animal rights, and the development of a more cohesive and ethically sound legal framework that better aligns with contemporary values and advances nonhuman animal protection in Spain.

Understanding British News Media Coverage of Rape in the Context of a High-Profile Rape Trial: An Analysis of the Benjamin Mendy Case *Ezgi Aral, Loughborough University*  
How the news media portrays rape has long been the subject of

extensive investigations. Research has consistently revealed a recurring tendency to establish familiar patterns over time. An extensive body of literature on news narratives surrounding rape indicates a historical inclination towards misinformed and inaccurate depictions. Consequently, the news media has often been found to perpetuate rape myths and misconceptions, often distorting the dynamics of rape, as well as perpetuating misconceptions about victims-survivors and perpetrators. However, recent research has revealed some consistent findings that while rape myths and misconceptions still appear in the news media, these are more subtle rather than more obvious compared to previous studies, making them harder to challenge. Nevertheless, a nearly constant aspect of the literature is that not all rape cases are equally newsworthy. Notably, research reveals that certain stories receive more media attention than others, and that 'celebrity rape' has emerged as a common genre, and due to their celebrity, athletes' rape and sexual assault cases are particularly noteworthy. In this respect, the empirical focus of this study is a high-profile rape case involving celebrity footballer Benjamin Mendy, and how this case was covered in the British news media. This case is significant not only because it involves a celebrity, but also due to the involvement of multiple accusations against him, the fact that the news coverage may contain potential racial elements as he is a French and black athlete, and this is a relatively recent case. Consequently, this presentation begins with an overview of existing literature on news media representations of rape. Subsequently, it presents the findings derived from the content analysis conducted within the empirical phase of the study.

#### 016. Mental Health and Crime

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Mental Health

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11

Chair:

**Ruth Spence**, Middlesex University

Participants:

Exploring the perceptions and psychological dimensions of gambling among Czech citizens *Filip Kovařík, Palacký University Olomouc*

Gambling is an important aspect of modern society and influences many aspects of social reality. Therefore, they have long been a subject of interest in various scientific disciplines. The Czech Republic has long been one of the countries with the highest availability of gambling. The number of casinos and technical games (EGMs) per capita ranks among the world leaders. In 2022, the average Czech citizen invested 3,500 € in gambling, totalling over 30 billion €. However, previous research on gambling has generally focused only on the prevalence and negative impacts of primarily hard forms of gambling, while soft forms of gambling have been overlooked. Yet, these are the most widespread and accessible forms. Gambling can have serious consequences for the mental well-being of individuals, as well as their families and communities. Moreover, it can strain family ties and lead to domestic violence, divorce, and child neglect. Gambling facilities themselves are often seen negatively by the population for instance as a source of social problems, linked with increased alcohol consumption and antisocial behaviour. It is still not entirely clear what role space plays in people's gambling behaviour and whether increased accessibility also has an impact on the increased frequency of participation in such games in society. Attitudes towards soft gambling and perceptions of its riskiness were investigated in the general population through a questionnaire survey. This paper focuses on the availability of gambling and riskiness, which varies across types of gambling concerning the potential for problem gambling in the population. It seeks to establish the level of popularity, availability and factors associated with the risk of problem gambling in different forms. Additionally, it aims to achieve a complete understanding of the phenomenon of gambling with varying degrees of social danger in real life, i.e., mainly in its geographical and psychological context.

Feasibility and Primary Outcome Study of Trauma-Based

Programming in a United States Jail *Stephen Tripodi, Florida State University; Tanya Renn, Florida State University; Lauren Herod, Florida State University*

There are over 2 million people incarcerated in the United States with nearly 750,000 being held in local jails. Approximately 80% of all incarcerated people have experienced multiple traumatic events, which are connected to the development of mental health problems and substance use disorders, and if left untreated, increase the likelihood of re-incarceration once released from jail. This study assessed the feasibility and preliminary outcomes of a manualized program for individuals with trauma – entitled Skills Training for Affective and Interpersonal Regulation (STAIR) – in a jail setting. To assess the feasibility of treatment approaches, participants were randomly assigned to receive all sessions in the facility or half of the sessions in the facility and half in the community after release from jail. Following the delivery of programming in the facility, all participants showed improvements in self-efficacy, aggression, impulsivity, PTSD, depression, and anxiety symptoms. Participants assigned to all sessions in the facility showed greater improvement than those assigned to half of the sessions in the community. To understand these differences and the overall impact of STAIR programming, participants were also interviewed following the completion of the program. Participants who opted to discontinue the program or did not complete the community sessions indicated that external commitments were a barrier to continuing participation. However, participants did suggest that participation in the program provided benefits such as increased awareness of their trauma and the development of new coping skills. Participants also offered recommendations on how better to improve the relevance of STAIR programming to incarcerated populations. This project provides promising results in implementing trauma-based programming in correctional settings, particularly within a local jail. Future experimental studies will help understand the efficacy and effectiveness of STAIR programming with incarcerated individuals before releasing to the community.

How does misdiagnose in externalizing disorders and ADHD lead to delinquency and victimization? *Ana Martinez Catena, University of Barcelona*

The most prevalent disorders among children aged 10 to 14 years old are anxiety disorders, conduct disorders, and AD/ADHD (WHO, 2022). However, these estimates may be biased, and little is known about their relationship with further adverse outcomes. These disorders, particularly when coupled with substance abuse disorder, can significantly disrupt children and adolescents' behavior, rendering family life challenging. Such children often struggle more than others to develop personal skills, achieve educational milestones, and foster satisfactory social relationships. Moreover, they tend to experience intense negative emotions about themselves, being this condition worst in girls (Kwaning et al., 2021). Perhaps the least desirable consequence of these disorders is the increased likelihood for these children of victimization, illness and higher mortality or suicide. Additionally, these disorders consistently correlate with increased delinquency and involvement in the juvenile justice system (Chartier, 2021), ultimately leading to serious drug use impairments and chronic recidivism. This study presents results concerning the prevalence of externalizing disorders and AD/ADHD, delinquency, victimization and other risk factors, among children aged 6 to 18 years old. Data were collected through a comprehensive national survey of parents in Spain (N=1,500). Sample was stratified in age groups (6-8/ 9-11/ 12-13/ 14-15/ 16-17) based on the following reasons: population data, child development achievements, relevance for the appearance of these disorders, coherence with the criminal responsibility age, and criminological relevance of age 12-13 for the initiation of criminal behavior and 16-17 for the peak of criminal expression. Our primary aim was not only to explore the prevalence of these difficulties within our population but also to analyze the potential misdiagnosis of these disorders and their correlation with negative consequences. We anticipate that these findings will highlight the necessity for early detection and the implementation of prevention programs aimed at mitigating the most severe repercussions of these disorders.

Schizophrenia and aggression - are they correlated? Psychological study on the sample of mentally disordered patients in Poland

*Inga Markiewicz, Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology, Department of Forensic Psychiatry; Grzegorz Kudlak, University of Warsaw, Institute of Social Prevention and Rehabilitation; Przemyslaw Cynkier, Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology, Department of Forensic Psychiatry*

As presented by scientific studies, the probability of aggressive behavior in people with mental disorders compared to healthy people is usually higher than among healthy people. Given the social harmfulness of the acts committed by people with schizophrenia, a thorough analysis of their determinants is desirable. The oral presentation will present the results of research conducted by a team from the Department of Forensic Psychiatry of the Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology in Warsaw, Poland on the psychological determinants of aggressive behavior of people diagnosed with schizophrenia. The analysis includes selected demographic characteristics, personality traits, as well as the level and type of aggression presented, taking into account previously engaged in violent behavior. The presented study includes the results of research conducted on patients with a diagnosis of schizophrenia, interned in the medium security ward at the Department of Forensic Psychiatry of the Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology, as well as patients of general psychiatric wards (with and without a dual diagnosis).

The Online Safety Bill and content moderators *Ruth Spence, Middlesex University; Jeffrey DeMarco, Middlesex University; Elena Martellozzo, Middlesex University; Paula Bradbury, Middlesex University*

The Online Safety Act received Royal Assent in 2023. Through legislation this provides Ofcom, the UK's communication regulator, to hold user to user services responsible for assessing the harm caused by illegal content, taking effective steps to manage and mitigate identified risks. The proliferation of online child sexual abuse material (CSAM) has in part been mitigated through technological solutions, such as hash matching, but these only go so far. Much of the work continues to be undertaken through human content moderators, individuals tasked with analysing and removing flagged content as offensive or harmful. Based on our work exploring mental health impacts of the moderation of CSAM, this presentation discusses the ramifications of the Online Safety Act and effects of moderation on workers. This work was funded by the Tech Coalition and End Violence, led by Jeffrey DeMarco and Elena Martellozzo and supported by Dr Ruth Spence and Paula Bradbury.

#### **017. Let's talk about cyberviolence. An approximation with data**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Cybercrime (Cybercrime WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.14*

This session will showcase the Cyber-violence as a phenomenon that has gained increasing interest because of its individual and social consequences. This session will show from global and local perspectives, the measurement, analysis and prevention of cyberviolence and its challenges. It is important to mention that the impact of COVID-19 pandemic was with no doubt a determining factor that accelerated the dynamics and uses of technology. Likewise, challenges such as the diversity of information and the limited access to it, impacts on the design and implementation of public policies, as well as on cooperation strategies to share data in an agile way to increase the level of reliability for evidence-based decision making to combat cyberviolence.

Chair:

*Adrián Franco, National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)*

Participants:

Bullying and cyberbullying in the time of Covid19 *Alessandra Capobianchi, Istituto Nazionale di Statistica of Italy (ISTAT); ramona cavalli, ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DI STATISTICA (ISTAT)*

According to the literature, bullying is an aggressive behavior, repeated over time, characterized not only by the desire to victimize another subject, but also by an imbalance of power between

aggressor and victim, who has difficulty defending herself, which has always represented one of the major problems that characterize the dynamics of boys, especially for girls and foreigners. With the advent of social networks, the phenomenon has moved online, taking the form of a dynamic with its own characteristics, which scholars call cyberbullying. During the Covid-19 pandemic, children and adolescents have been over-exposed to the use of social platforms, creating states of uncertainty and stress in boys and girls and, in some cases, suicidal thoughts, caused by the impossibility of living their routine and being able to hang out with their schoolmates. In this context, Istat has long since launched the survey "Children and young people: behaviours, attitudes and future projects", with the aim of collecting information on some aspects of the daily life of boys and girls aged between 11 and 19 living in Italy. In 2023, Istat carried out a new edition of the survey, in which it was important to assess the implications of social isolation due to the Covid-19 pandemic for the intensive use of the internet among children and adolescents and its possible consequences on cyberbullying and in relation to the practice of self-inflicted violence, as defined by the WHO.

Data on cyberviolence: the mexican experience *Adrián Franco, National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI); Dayana Lizeth Perez, National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)*

Mexico will present results on the prevalence of cyberbullying and the characterization of different declared situations through the information produced by the INEGI. Also, this presentation will explore the establishment of the identity and sex of the person who committed this type of cyber-violence, the intensity, and the impact it had on the victims. Additionally, it includes the age range and educational level of the population who declared themselves a victim of cyberbullying, the actions that were taken against them and the measures of security carried out by the Internet's user population to protect their information and equipment. This information is based on different Surveys produced by the National Statistical Office of Mexico.

Cyber violence against women and girls *Cristina Fabre, European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)*

As it moved online amid the COVID-19 lockdowns, the world faced a global escalation of the negative side of the digital space - cyber violence. Digitalisation not only generated a new environment for different forms of violence to take place, but also created new tools to inflict and amplify harm. Cyber violence has serious psychological, economic and societal consequences: victims tend to withdraw from social media and social interactions, isolating themselves and eventually losing opportunities to build their education, professional career and support networks (GREVIO 2021). While cyber violence targets both women and men, evidence shows that the female population is highly exposed to this form of violence (EIGE, 2017); it is more likely to be targeted (UN Women, 2020) and to suffer from serious consequences (FRA, 2014). Cyber violence is a part of the continuum of violence against women: it does not exist in a vacuum but stems from and sustains multiple forms of gender-based violence that persist in our societies. However, to date cyber violence has not been fully conceptualised, defined or legislated against, and remains a blind spot in most Member States and at the EU level.

#### **018. Criminology of Mobility. Panel 6. Border crossings and border control systems**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Crime Control and the Immigration System (Immigration, Crime and Citizenship WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.22*

Chair:

*Małgorzata Dziewanowska, Faculty of Law and Administration, University of Warsaw*

Participants:

From 'Crimmigration' to 'Enemy Penology': the Greek Case of Immigration Control *Filippos Kourakis, Panteion University*

This essay explores the function and rationale of the Greek immigration control system, starting with a brief overview of the criminology literature. The study then identifies key pillars utilized by the Greek state in controlling human mobility at the border. By scrutinizing the inherently exclusive nature of these immigration control mechanisms, the essay explores the role of delusions of superiority and homogeneity in shaping the modern Greek state. This foundation establishes a connection with enemy penology (Jakobs, 1985), a theory elucidating the underlying hostility toward foreigners that underlies current Greek immigration control practices. The characteristics of enemy penology are examined in the context of the Greek state's immigration control system. The essay concludes by examining the wider implications for democracy stemming from the Greek state's portrayal of immigrants as enemies and its targeting of those perceived as their allies. These practices challenge the rule of law and the very foundations of democracy, raising concerns about its erosion.

**USA vs. EU/UK border policies: curtailing established travel freedom** *Laurence Armand French, Affiliate Professor, College of Liberal Arts, Univ. of New Hampshire, Durham, NH; Magdalena Manzanarez, Western New Mexico University*  
 COVID-19 heightened economic unrest served to heighten the migration flow out of depressed regions including Africa and Asia as well as the Caribbean, South and Central America. At the same time, the desired destinations included Western Europe, the United Kingdom, the USA and Canada, making migration a hot political topic leading to a number of actions that are not only questionable (forces deportations via flights) or geo-political pressure to curtail once open regional borders (a USA tactic in addition to forced deportation). Racism seems to play a role in these policy decisions. We examine the nature and extent of these comparative policies.

**Different borders - separate standards. Legal situation of migrant in Poland.** *Małgorzata Dziewanowska, Faculty of Law and Administration, University of Warsaw*

For several years, Poland has been experiencing a migration crisis, which is the result of the situation on both the Belarusian and Ukrainian sides. Despite the existence of uniform legal provisions, in practice there are two standards of service for migrants and people seeking international protection. Different experiences concern not only the migrants themselves, but also the supporters, volunteers and activists who, depending on the geographical location of their activities, are treated as friends or enemies of the system. The aim of the presentation is to show the systematic dualism in terms of the practical use of legal provisions, but also the criminological context in which Poles and foreigners staying in Poland operate. Legal solutions will be presented, which, depending on the part of border that is crossed, are applied differently by border guard authorities or even state authorities. What is most interesting from a criminological point of view, however, will be the presentation of the same activities, which criminalization or lack of legal consequences will depend on the nationality of the foreigner or the country from which he or she comes. Is it possible to criminalize humanitarian help in XXI century? Is it possible to use discriminatory factors to divide people into groups that can or cannot benefit from our help? But the most important is question about our humanity in times of global population movements.

## 019. Challenges in qualitative research I

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Qualitative Methods (Qualitative Methods WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.29

Chair:

**Leila Ullrich**, [Leila.Ullrich@crim.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Leila.Ullrich@crim.ox.ac.uk)

Participants:

“Breaking the Silence: Analyzing the Propensity to Speak up in Field Experiments” *Monika Elza Bancsina, Max-Weber-Institute for Sociology, University of Heidelberg; Markus*

*Pohlmann, Max-Weber-Institute for Sociology, University of Heidelberg*

Silence persists in organizations, even in extreme cases like sexual abuse or unethical practices. Traditional methods like training, hotlines, and moral appeals have limited impact as they are often ignored or forgotten. Our interactive bridge-building workshops simulate an organizational environment where participants need to build a 1.5m bridge with papers, glue and scissors between two desks. At the end, it needs to pass a resistance test. During the simulation the participants are exposed to illegal building materials, explicitly forbidden to use. Our observations from 20 simulations with 18 employees each, showed us that the rules are often forgotten or ignored. Under stress, the propensity to cheat was high and we acquired detailed understanding of the organizational barriers inhibiting employees' willingness to voice their concerns. We observed to whom the employees report the misconducts and what measures help raising the propensity to report. We applied an evidence-based approach by comparing control groups, that had only a whistleblowing box at their disposal to report, with two treatment groups: 1. A tone from the top Top regarding the importance of compliance and 2. An anonymous 360° feedback. These simulations were very successful and in group discussions we further explored the many similarities with real-life situations. Our findings indicated that the implementation of 360° feedback effectively increased the inclination to report misconducts, while the 'Tone from the Top' significantly impacted merely adherence to rules and regulations. Thus, our labs-in-the field have been proven to be a successful tool to measure the propensity to report misconducts in organizations, and had the additional benefit of improving the awareness concerning organizational wrongdoings. In scientific terms, we could not only provide evidence to the question what impact different compliance measures have in organizational settings, but could also identify the mechanisms behind organizational bystanding more precisely.

**Facilitating justice-Involved children to become partners in youth justice research** *Kathy Hampson, Aberystwyth University; Andrea Nisbet, Loughborough University; Stephen Case, Loughborough University, UK*

The 'Child First, examining children's meaningful collaboration in the Youth Justice System' research project is using an overarching qualitative design of participatory interpretivism and developing an innovative methodology to identify how justice involved children can be facilitated to influence the design of research concerning them. The study's methodology builds on pockets of evolving innovative and progressive youth justice participatory research that have materialised in recent years in the United Kingdom. The research project investigates children's experiences and perceptions of their collaboration in youth justice decision-making and 'effective' practice. The participatory methodology, includes children in the research design, implementation and evaluation processes by convening a Project Reference Group of justice-involved children to co-design every research stage, ensuring a child-centric focus is maintained throughout. Participatory creative methods were explored, with the PRG, enabling the children to communicate and express themselves in diverse ways for more accessible participation. Additionally, these methods have supported relationship building, enabling children to use their knowledge and ideas, develop creativity and communication skills, all contributing to neutralise power relationships. We will share emerging findings, from developing this innovative approach, revealing the challenges of accessing participants, ongoing engagement and group dynamics, the significance of building trusting and authentic relationships with children, using clear communication to ensure understanding, and offering children a choice of creative activities to meet interests, abilities and needs. This project extends knowledge in this evolving methodology in the field of youth justice and offers significant benefits by developing a framework for future expectation of children's full participation in youth justice research, by positioning children as co-researchers in research concerning them.

**The co-constitution of chaos: Applying social theories of “mess” and “entanglement” to explicate the entangling of individual and institution in the Australian Criminal Justice System**

*Patricia Fay Morgan, The University of New South Wales*

Violent offenders are often depicted as chaotic, whereas the chaos these individuals encounter in criminal justice institutions is not commonly reported. However, we found in qualitative offender-based research on diversion that chaos was co-constituted. We believe it is important to understand this co-constitution of chaos to address current barriers to change in the criminal justice systems. Our findings are drawn from qualitative research on ReINVEST a pharmacotherapy Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT) at UNSW, Sydney. This RCT researched the use of sertraline to reduce impulsivity in men with histories of violence. Using Grounded Theory Analysis to analyse the 32 in-depth interviews conducted, and Law (2004) and Lock & Nguyen's (2010) innovative theories of "mess" and "entanglement" respectively, we discovered that the co-constitution of chaos can result from: the complexity and entangling of individuals and institutions; conflicting cultures and practices, and dysfunction in criminal justice institutions, and issues with communication and relationality between individuals and institutions. Linking these aspects of chaos with participants reports of dysfunction in their lives and the criminal justice system, we emphasise the need to acknowledge and encourage healthy relationality and strong emotional intelligence and labour between criminal justice professionals and criminal justice involved men. We advocate for policy and practice that directs these men away from the criminal justice system into treatment and rehabilitation. It is vital that those creating such policy and practice understand the importance of emotional intelligence and healthy communication, the entangling of individuals, systems, and processes, and the co-constitution of chaos.

Can the Subaltern speak through WhatsApp?: Exploring Epistemic Resistance through Knowledge/Labour *Leila Ullrich, Leila.Ullrich@crim.ox.ac.uk*

'This question is useless, because it's obvious that discrimination and racism are very common in this country,' one Syrian refugee told us. He was not the only one who felt that we were asking 'useless' questions. Reflecting on four qualitative WhatsApp surveys of Syrian refugees and Lebanese host communities that I conducted with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Lebanon between 2017 and 2021, this paper will show how asking 'useless' questions can nonetheless produce important insights into relations of knowledge production under colonial capitalist conditions. Rather than asking what knowledge production does to the subaltern – empower or disempower them – as much decolonial criminological scholarship does, this paper asks what the subaltern does in knowledge production, in other words, what is their role as knowledge labourers? Indeed, knowledge is not a thing that the powerful create, possess or steal. Neither is it merely a tool of governance that exists apart from those it governs. Instead, knowledge is always a co-production even if an exploitative one. By placing Marxist-Feminist standpoint theory in conversation with decolonial criminological scholarship, this paper argues that knowledge production is better understood as a form of social reproduction labour, more akin to the domestic labour women perform at home, some of which is visible and paid, but most of it is invisible and unpaid. By studying those relations of knowledge production, we also learn how they can be challenged and changed not necessarily through our conscious design choices as individual researchers but through the everyday resistance of our research participants. By illuminating the relationship between knowledge, work and resistance as it played out through the WhatsApp survey, the paper offers a conceptualization of epistemic resistance as knowledge/labour which could be useful for criminologists who are interested in moving beyond the predominantly normative debate of the decolonial turn.

**020. POL Panel 9. Privatisation and pluralisation in policing and its impact on police, partners and the public**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.04

Chair:

*Pieter Leloup, Ghent University/Free University of Brussels*

Participants:

Citizen-led policing, Watch Groups and responding to security 'crises' *Xavier L'Hoiry, University of Sheffield; Keith Spiller, University of Southampton; Amy Stevens, University of Sheffield*

This paper considers Watch Groups (WGs) in the UK, which are groups of self-mobilised citizens responding to various perceived security crises. These groups increasingly coalesce around issues perceived to be neglected or ignored by the formal police actors such as low-level social disorder, shoplifting, illegal immigration or child abuse. The growth of such groups has been facilitated by online platforms such as Facebook which have connected by individual group members together as well as allowing watch groups themselves to form networks and alliances in combatting perceived threats. The affordances of online platforms for such groups is a key focus of the paper. Our paper presents initial findings from a project exploring WGs as part of which we engage directly with members of such groups. The paper contributes insights from interviews with WG members and associated stakeholders, and analysis of WG communications online.

Mapping the Nodes: Understanding Collaborative Dynamics in the UK's Anti-Money Laundering Network *Diana Bociga, PhD candidate University of Manchester*

This article explores collaborative efforts between law enforcement authorities and relevant organisations, including private sector organisations, in the fight against money laundering in the UK. Employing social network analysis (SNA), it investigates how these actors harness network resources to combat the infiltration of illicit funds into the legal economic system. The results reveal a network structure characterised by distinct power dynamics among its nodes. Both public and private entities act as "brokers," strategically placed to bridge network barriers and regulate the flow of resources. The analysis elucidates that the anti-money laundering network in the UK exhibits traits akin to various network typologies, as previously identified in security network scholarship, including information exchange networks, knowledge-generating networks, problem-solving networks, and coordination networks. Furthermore, the study sheds light on different forms of collaborative links within the network, distinguishing between tactical and operational intelligence exchanges, alongside strategic ties. These findings underscore the multifaceted nature of collaborative efforts in combating money laundering, emphasising the significance of diverse stakeholders and their strategic positioning within the network architecture.

The (de-)politicization and framing of private security and its regulation in Belgium, 1980-2020 *Pieter Leloup, Ghent University/Free University of Brussels*

During the last 40 years, the private security sector in Belgium and its related policies have changed considerably, with the industry becoming an accepted and important partner in domestic security governance. While the political context in which the sector has been developing is an important subject in criminological scholarship, the exact processes of politicization and de-politicization of the phenomenon has attracted much less attention. This paper examines the different approaches used by political actors to frame private security as part of policy-formulations and efforts to introduce (new) regulation. Empirical data are drawn from parliamentary records between 1980-2020. Focussing on the parliamentary arena allows us to analyse how an issue – i.e. the need for private security regulation – is discussed, perceived and framed by those in power. The findings of this study provide new insights on the forms, degrees and manifestations of (de-)politicization of private security, and its relation to (security) events over time. As such, it provides a deeper understanding of the political field and conditions in which the trajectory of private security has been unfolding in Belgium.

**021. Illness, incarceration and professional identity: healthy prisons, unhealthy practices and staff-prisoner relations**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.05*

This panel is made up of four papers, three qualitative and one quantitative, emerging out of a PhD project on women's open prisons in England, and two ongoing sibling research projects based at the University of Oslo: PRISONHEALTH and PriSUD: Diagnosing substance use disorders in prisons. PRISONHEALTH aims to provide new knowledge about the effects of high-quality prison healthcare services and prisoners' and prison staff's experiences of healthcare, asking the overarching question: under what circumstances can prisons be "healthy" or health-promoting institutions? PriSUD in turn examines the implementation of drug treatment in prison, and the potential long-term effects of such on health outcomes and quality of life during and after imprisonment. The PhD project on women's open prisons in England aims to explore the 'objective characteristics' and 'subjective experiences' within the institutions. This panel will discuss themes of drug treatment, effects of disruptions in low-security prisons, prison officers' professional identities, mental health and illness, and solitary confinement.

Chair:

**Rose Elizabeth Boyle**, University of Oslo

Participants:

Title: 'Healthy' prisons in unhealthy times. How disruptions and austerity influence weight and tightness. *Pernille Nyvoll, University of Oslo*

This study examines the dynamics at two low-security prisons in Norway amidst a backdrop of various disruptions. Both prisons are open institutions with an emphasis on trust and dynamic security and have been highlighted as examples of Scandinavian or Nordic penal exceptionalism. Drawing on extensive ethnographic fieldwork and qualitative in-depth interviews with both prisoners and prison staff, this study navigates through the tumultuous landscape shaped by the global COVID-19 pandemic and nationwide austerity measures. In addition to these over-arching disruptions, one of the prisons experienced additional local disruptions stemming from organizational restructuring and internal workplace conflicts. These situations affected prisoners and prison staff alike and thus became a fundamental part of the study, which originally aimed to explore health-promoting aspects of low-security prisons. These major disturbances affected both prisons, but not equally and not in the same way. Employing Ben Crewe's theoretical framework of weight, depth, and tightness, this study unveils variations in staff presence and institutional control. One prison became increasingly staff-absent; in the other, staff remained present. Both, however, experienced increased bureaucratic pressures and resource constraints imposed by the Norwegian Correctional Service, although with varying degrees of tightness. By examining the interplay between disruptions and institutional responses, this study increases our understanding of penal institutions struggling with multifaceted challenges.

"Double punishment"? Interlocking logics of punishment and treatment in high-security prisons *Rose Elizabeth Boyle, University of Oslo*

Prison sentences are arguably a useful format for providing treatment for substance use disorders in jurisdictions where criminal justice systems have the resources and will to lay the necessary groundwork; in that prisoners may be more 'accessible' both practically and psychologically for change and adoption of new habits, treatment providers may also be more accessible to people once entering prison than outside of it. However, it is worth asking what the prison context itself does to the provision and experience of treatment interventions. Based on 55 interviews with prisoners with a history of drug use and prison staff in Norwegian prisons, this study examines how logics of treatment and logics of punishment are experienced as not only conflicting with, but also complementing one another. Prisoners were shown to have different preferences for the levels of punitiveness, or strictness, in the treatment programs available in high-security prisons; whilst both staff and prisoners expressed difficulty navigating risk, trust and progress in drug treatment while operating within the constraints of the prison.

'We don't see ourselves as prison officers here': Exploring the professional transitions and role of prison officers in women's open prisons in England and Wales *Daria Przybylska,*

*University of Cambridge*

Much of our knowledge about imprisonment is based on accounts of those living and working in closed prisons. However, burgeoning studies of open prisons shows important distinctions between experiences of imprisoned individuals in open and closed prisons (Marder et al., 2021; Mjäländ et al., 2021). One notable theme within this scholarship is the significance of transitioning from a closed to an open prison, and the challenges associated with adapting to open conditions (Micklethwaite & Earle, 2021; Waite, 2023). Others have also noted that ambiguity often characterises prisoners' experience of open conditions (Shammas, 2014; Statham et al., 2021). What is missing from most accounts of open imprisonment, however, is the perspective of prison officers who work in this unique environment. Drawing on semi-ethnographic fieldwork in women's open prisons in England & Wales, I offer novel insights into prison officers' perceptions of working in this environment. First, I reflect on the professional transition from working in a closed to an open prison, described as entering a 'whole different world' and posing challenges of adapting to a more 'relaxed' regime, mirroring the experience of this transition by prisoners (see Waite, 2023). Next, I discuss the ambiguity officers felt about their role, identifying as 'administrators', 'counsellors', 'therapists' or 'buddies' rather than 'real officers'. I suggest explanations, including greater emphasis on prisoner independence in open conditions which limits and alters officers' duties, and professional expectations rooted in experience of working in a 'traditional' (closed) prison. Finally, I reflect on the parallels in prison officers' and prisoners' accounts of transitioning into and adapting to an open prison environment, and what this tells us about the texture of open imprisonment.

## 022. ISRD panel 1: Results from ISRD4 – focus on correlates of offending and victimization

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Juvenile Crime (ISRD WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 1.09*

This is the first panel in a series of panels around the International Self-Report Delinquency (ISRD) Study, an extensive international collaborative self-report survey of victimization and offending among 13-to-17-year-old students. An internet-sample-based survey supplements the school-based survey. Data collection for the fourth ISRD (ISRD4) round is in its final stage. This panel consists of 4 papers reporting on correlates of offending and victimization, including gender, ethnicity, feeling of belonging, and urban-rural dimension.

Chair:

**Ineke Haen Marshall**, Northeastern University

Participants:

Exploring Demographic Dynamics: Rural-Urban Contrasts in Delinquency and Victimization Patterns on ISRD4 Data in Slovenia *Iza Iza Kokoravec, University of Maribor, Slovenia; Ineke Haen Marshall, Northeastern University; Gorazd Meško, University of Maribor*

This study utilizes data from the International Self-Report Delinquency Study 4 (ISRD4), collected by researchers from the Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security at the University of Maribor, Slovenia. Focused on juvenile delinquency and victimization, the research explores demographic differences and similarities between rural and urban environments. By employing a comparative approach, the study examines patterns in delinquent behaviour and victimization experiences among adolescents in diverse settings. The findings from this comparative analysis shed light on demographic dynamics influencing juvenile delinquency and victimization in both rural and urban contexts. The study concludes with recommendations for further research, and practical implications are discussed, providing guidance for policymakers and practitioners aiming to address and prevent juvenile delinquency in diverse geographical settings

School belonging, ethnic identity and delinquency: a case concentrating on minority youth in the Netherlands *Mehmet Day, a Department of Psychology, Education and Child Studies, Erasmus School of Social and Behavioural Sciences,*



*Erasmus University Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands.; Majone Stekete, Verwey Jonker Institute and Rotterdam University*

The belongingness hypothesis suggests that feeling a sense of belonging positively affects goal-oriented behaviour, whereas a lack of belonging can lead to adverse social behaviour (Baumeister & Leary, 1995). While the effects of belonging are widely researched, the effects of school belonging are less understood. School belonging is discussed to affect academic achievement and mental health outcomes positively, and a stronger connection between students and their teachers and schools can prevent delinquent behaviours (Slaten et al., 2016). Furthermore, adolescents with a migration background may have difficulty coping with multiple cultural identities when facing discrimination, which predicts adolescent delinquency (Day et al., 2020). However, a solid commitment to one's ethnic identity may moderate the adverse effects of discrimination on psychological wellbeing. Studies found a direct negative relationship between ethnic identity and adolescent delinquency, suggesting that a strong ethnic identity may prevent tendencies towards delinquent behaviour (Walsh et al., 2015). Using the International Self-Report Delinquency Study 4 (ISR4), the current study explores the relationship between school belonging, a sense of ethnic identity and delinquent behaviour among Dutch adolescents with a migration background. Preliminary findings and recommendations for tackling youth delinquency will be discussed by concentrating on protective factors and gaining a better understanding of the role and influence of schools and communities.

**Disciplining Student Appearance: Findings from the ISR4-4**  
*Mikaela Sky Nielsen, University of California, Irvine*

**Abstract:** This presentation reports on findings from the fourth wave of the International Self-Report Delinquency survey (ISR4-4). Using data from the U.S. internet sample, the present study examines practices and consequences of school appearance code enforcement. While often considered a minor disciplinary practice, this study examines whether appearance codes are a form of exclusionary discipline and to what extent they contribute to racial and gender disparities in punishment. Furthermore, this project explores how dress code violations relate to other important factors like delinquency, discrimination and school inclusion. Findings point to race and gender disparities in appearance code enforcement as well as the use of exclusionary school discipline in response to student appearance.

### **023. School Violence and Bullying: Research and Theory across Continents**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/School Violence and Bullying (ISR4 WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.11

Chair:

**Günter Stummvoll**, Institute for Conflict Research Vienna

Participants:

A Systemic Approach to Violence and Bullying in Slovenian Schools: Methodological and Conceptual Challenges *Eva Bertok, Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law Ljubljana, Slovenia; Jasmina Arnež, Institute of Criminology, University of Ljubljana and Centre for Criminology, University of Oxford*

Violence and bullying in and concerning schools represent complex phenomena with profound impacts on the well-being of students, staff, and (school) communities. Despite their perceived prevalence, these issues often remain covert and do not receive adequate academic and professional attention. This paper uses a synthesis of qualitative insights from focus groups involving students and teachers at different educational levels and geographical locations, as well as quantitative research instruments, to introduce a systemic approach to researching, understanding, and addressing school-based violence in primary schools across Slovenia. By doing so, it captures the multifaceted and nuanced

dynamics of violence in schools, particularly: (1.) The fluid and ever-changing forms of peer violence, including its visible (verbal abuse, physical aggression, cyberbullying) and invisible (psychological pressure, harassment targeting vulnerable groups, victimisation based on experienced structural harms) manifestations; (2.) The roles played by perpetrators, victims, bystanders, and broader societal norms and responses shaping peer violence and bullying behaviours; (3.) The multi-directional and contextual understanding of violence pathways, ranging from violence outside the school premises through school-based violence performed by children and teachers, and the role of parents and other adults in contact with the educational environment. The paper presents the methodological and conceptual challenges of designing a comprehensive systemic approach to violence in schools, especially in enabling longitudinal monitoring and adapting school strategies to address these issues effectively. It concludes by conceptualising how incorporating feedback from stakeholders and considering age-specific and contextual factors, systemic approaches to school-based violence could foster tailored interventions that protect victims, support children in desisting from violence, and promote a sense of trust and safety within (school) communities.

**Understanding the social context of school bullying behaviours among middle school students in China**  
*Yuanmei Dong, The University of Hong Kong*

School bullying has become a severe problem in Chinese middle schools, with an increasing number of students reporting their experiences and resulting trauma. To better understand bullying, social influential factors behind such behaviors have become a central topic for scholars. However, limited attention has been paid to story-based experiences and the analysis of the real inner journeys of certain bullies. This study establishes a bilateral theoretical framework to comprehensively study the motivations of bullying. The general strain theory and edgework theory illustrate the different mindsets in bullying as a form of deviant behavior from a criminological perspective. Bourdieu's field theory is applied to understand how bullying acts as a field and how students gain different capital within daily interactions. This study offers a new insight into understanding the motivations behind school bullying by conducting semi-structured interviews with students, teachers, and experienced education professionals. It argues that strains can be sources of negative emotions that eventually lead to bullying, while bullying is also an expression of boredom by applying the edgework theory. Lastly, future research directions are suggested, particularly by combining qualitative and quantitative research methods with similar multi-dimensional frameworks.

**Violence in schools - Trends and Correlates**  
*Yvonne Krieg, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony; Leonie Dreißigacker, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony; Carl Philipp Schröder, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony; Jan-Philipp Steinmann, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony*

In the public perception, violence at school is a problem that has increased considerably in recent years. This presentation examines the development of physical and psychological violence at school using data from a regularly conducted representative survey of ninth graders in Lower Saxony. Overall, a decline in physical and psychological school violence and victimization can be observed from 2013 to 2019. In 2019, for example, around one in seven adolescents were victims of physical violence at least once and around one in ten adolescents were perpetrators in the last six months of school. The presentation also provides evidence of gender and school type differences, and was able to identify a pronounced victim-offender overlap. Finally, significant correlations were found between school violence and accompanying school and psychological symptoms. The more often students are victims and perpetrators of physical and psychological violence at school, the worse they rate their school commitment, the more they skip school and the lower their average school grades (physical violence only). In terms of psychological side-effects, it is also noticeable that depressive and anxiety symptoms increase with the frequency of physical and psychological victimization. Regarding substance use, there is a significant positive correlation between the perpetration of both types of violence and the use of

alcohol, cannabis and hard drugs.

Socioeconomic status and social support as correlates of bullying victimization in Brazil and Spain: Evidence from PISA 2022  
*Cíntia Santana e Silva, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais - UFMG; Valéria Cristina de Oliveira, Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG); Raquel Bartolomé Gutiérrez, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha; Alejandra Cortés Pascual, University of Saragoza*

School violence is a diverse topic. Therefore, researchers have worked to define the field's limits by focusing on the theories and methods that define the field. In this sense, bullying became a central category in the 2000s after Olweus (1997) defined it as an act intended to cause harm that occurs repeatedly and between peers in unequal positions of power. With this in mind, this study investigates the correlates of self-reported bullying by students who took PISA 2022 in Brazil and Spain. Comparing these countries is justified. Brazil has more school coexistence problems (TALIS, 2013). However, Spain has low student misbehavior levels and has many programs to prevent it (Córdoba Alcaide; Del Rey; Ortega-Ruiz, 2014; Gálvez-Algaba; García-González, 2022). We analyzed the quantitative data using linear regression models. The response variable was a bullying victimization scale. The covariates correspond to individual, family, and school factors. The key variables were those relating to social support from family and teachers, which are indicated in the literature as protective factors against bullying (Gutiérrez; Herráiz, 2020). The results show that bullying is driven by different factors in each country. In Spain, female students were more likely to be victims. Family socioeconomic status (SES) is associated with greater victimization by bullying in Brazil, whereas Spanish students with lower SES are more exposed to this type of violence. Regarding support variables, among Spanish students, parental support reduces victimization. In Brazil, teacher support in academics plays this role. The results show an important link. It is between victimization, school conditions, and family SES. This indicates that Brazilian social inequality implies the need for the theme of bullying to be contextualized on socioeconomic factors, especially in studies that seek to build a comparative perspective.

#### 024. Atrocity Crimes: Types of Offending (EACTJ)

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, War Crimes (Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.13

Chair:

*Nathalie Ottosson*, UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Participants:

Criminological Perspectives on Rape in Armed Conflict *Anouk Noelle Nicklas, University of Leipzig*

Although attention to sexual violence in armed conflict is growing worldwide, wartime rape and its criminological background are still gravely under-explored. Adopting a mixed-methods approach, this dissertation project pursues the objective to create a better understanding for the phenomenon of wartime rape. Combining existing data on wartime rape and various conflict- and actor-related variables, this project delivers a comprehensive dataset on rape in armed conflicts from 1989 till 2015. In the statistical analyses, some traditionally discussed factors like the type and intensity of the conflict show a significant influence on the reported prevalence of wartime rape, whereas others like military strength and external support present themselves as statistically insignificant. By testing the influence of gender equality on wartime rape in various ways, the study offers a complex picture of the interactions between equality and sexual violence. The second part of the study consists of two in-depth case-studies of the UPC/FPLC and the FNI/FRPI in the Ituri conflict in the DRC and shows the impact of neutralization mechanisms, institutional attitudes towards sexual violence and individual propensities on wartime rape. Ultimately, this study aims to offer a comprehensive understanding of rape within the context of armed conflict.

Feminist State Crime Theory- What makes Sexual Violence Genocidal? *Annalisa Battista, University of Edinburgh*

This research promotes the elaboration of a new theoretical approach to improve the criminological understanding of the use of sexual violence as a means of ethnic cleansing by using the case of the Yugoslav wars of the 1990s as a point for departure. The newly proposed theory is called feminist state crime theory and its elaboration results from the application of Fairclough's (2001) model of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to the victims' testimonies of sexual violence collected within the ICTY digital archive and those already present in the literature, since the rapes perpetrated during the Yugoslav wars of the 1990s have been described as "the best-documented ones in the annals of war" (Mann, 2005: 357). The analysis of findings has led to the identification of what makes the deployment of sexual violence genocidal in the context analyzed. It does so by shedding light to the social and cultural connotations of practices such as forcing victims to either witness or perpetrate sexual violence on family members and fellow prisoners within detention camps, forced impregnation and what the implications of such violence are when these crimes are committed against non-Bosnian Muslims. The research investigates how the interrelation between gender and ethnicity plays a pivotal role in determining why certain acts of violence, especially sexual violence, are intently used against a targeted group of individuals for the purpose of ethnic cleansing. The project aims to overcome the hierarchy of victimhood (Christie, 1986) that overlooks the experiences of victimization of individuals belonging to the same ethnic group as the perpetrators (Golubovic, 2019) and has led to the representation of the conflict as a one-dimensional attack by the Serbian and Bosnian Serb forces against Bosnian Muslims (Buss, 2014), even though sexual violence has been perpetrated "by all sides of the conflict" (Bassiouni Report, 1994: 60).

Perpetrators of international crimes and the role of the moral self  
*Tom van den Berg, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Faculty of Law, Department of Criminology; Luigi Corrias, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Faculty of Law, Department of Legal Theory*

Situational, dispositional, and interactionist explanations of the perpetration of international crimes often refer to the transformation process by which ordinary men become perpetrators. In our study, we argue that this transformation should be understood as a process of moral transformation and that these explanations presuppose a concept of moral self that is dynamic and reflexive. However, within current explanations, the concept of a moral self remains unarticulated. In this paper we try to fill this gap. Through recourse to philosophical insights on personal identity, we formulate such a dynamic and reflexive concept of self, which is characterized by narrativity. We show that this narrative concept of moral self emphasizes the narrative and reflexive structure of the moral transformation process of perpetrators, grounding and making explicit a true interactionist approach. Such an approach transcends the dichotomy between explaining behaviour either in terms of situational or dispositional factors. Furthermore, it goes beyond regarding it as simply the product or a combination of both these factors. Our analysis leads to several methodological implications for empirically investigating the behaviour of perpetrators and resisters, in which self-narratives take a central role.

Preventive wars of aggression: The new definition of preventive "self-defense" and the normalization of perpetual military violence  
*Vasja Badalič, Institute of Criminology*

This paper explores the redefinition of preventive war in the 21st Century. The paper is divided into three parts. The first part explores how successive US administrations – from the Bush to the Trump administration – embraced a new definition of the concept of imminent threat and, consequently, introduced a new doctrine of preventive national self-defense. In this part, I show how the US redefined imminent threat by excluding two of its key traditional components – that is, the immediacy and certainty of the threat. The second part examines which states, both US allies (e.g., the U.K., Israel, Australia, Canada, India, Turkey) and non-allies (e.g., Russia), adopted a similar doctrine of preventive self-defense. This part provides an overview of the political discourse (e.g., statements

made by political leaders, policy papers) and state practice to determine which states adopted the new preventive war doctrine. The final part examines how the redefinition of preventive self-defense relaxed the rules for the use of armed force (e.g., lower threshold for launching military operations, broader temporal and geographical scope of war) and thus contributed to creating the conditions for perpetual war.

The weaponization of environmental degradation: A pledge for the prosecution of illegal mining offences as crimes against humanity under Article 7 of the Rome Statute *ZELDA MARIE MAUMEJEAN, University College London (UCL)*

The growing research on the prosecution of environmental degradation as crimes against humanity (“CAH”) under Article 7 of the Rome Statute (“RS”), unnecessarily restricts itself to land-grabbing offences. This article focuses on the political instrumentalization of illegal mining offences to harm indigenous communities. This article’s objective is to prove that the existing RS framework must be used for the prosecution of environmental crimes before the international community attempts to create new provisions on green criminology. The amendment process, under Article 121 RS, is particularly time-consuming which contradicts the need for immediate actions to counteract climate change’s effects. This research adopts an interdisciplinary approach to Article 7, combining a doctrinal study of the RS with a quantitative analysis of social sciences data. It highlights the link between mining crimes, indigenous communities’ lack of sustainable access to fresh water and food, and high rates of murder and forced displacement. This interpretation consolidates the ICC’s mandate and objectives, and the global turn to green criminology, whilst respecting general principles of international criminal law. It creates a promising tool for environmental regulation, and marks a step towards the obtention of environmental justice by the targeted indigenous communities. Despite the difficulties caused by the tight link between illegal mining offences, corporate and financial crimes and complex organised criminal group structures, the Office of the Prosecutor (“OP”) can establish personal criminal responsibility under Article 25 RS. This article argues that any limitations in the new interpretation’s practical impact are attributable to the ICC framework’s own shortcomings. This research belongs to a broader academic work the author submitted to the OP, as part of its call for submissions on the prosecution of environmental crimes. This project will contribute to future academic research on international green criminology and the prosecution of illegal mining offences as CAH.

## 025. Researcher Wellbeing and Emotionally Challenging Topics

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Feminist Criminology (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.17

Criminological and criminal justice researchers embark on explorations of diverse topics, aiming to deepen our understanding of numerous issues, a journey that often leads them into some of the most disturbing and distressing aspects of the human experience. There is growing recognition that undertaking this type of research can pose many difficulties for researchers, including secondary and primary trauma, yet there are few examples of managing their wellbeing effectively. This panel acknowledges and evidences the challenges inherent in such research, focusing on the often-overlooked aspect of researcher wellbeing. The panel structure moves from the individual auto-ethnographic experiences of early career researchers through to the long-term impacts of undertaking such research for decades and the findings of a multi-method cross-disciplinary study. We end with a discussion of the role that professional societies might play in leading the way in addressing the long-neglected issue of researcher wellbeing and emotionally challenging topics.

Chair:

*Michele Jane Burman*, University of Glasgow

Participants:

Emotional labour in gender-based violence research: An auto-ethnographic account *Joana Miguel Gomes Ferreira, Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge*

Criminological research is undeniably an emotional endeavour. It requires a great deal of emotional labour, from the conceptualisation of the research to its implementation and dissemination. Throughout the research process, researchers are confronted with a wide range of feelings towards their work, their identity and researchers, and their participants, many of which are difficult and at times unexpected. Acknowledging and adequately managing these emotions, within and outside the fieldwork experience, is crucial to ensure researcher wellbeing. Drawing on my experience as a PhD student conducting research with women who have been victimised by their intimate partners, I reflect on the different context in which I engaged with my emotions and those of my participants, and the many different ways I perhaps failed to do so. Engaging in this reflexive exercise, I identify some of the key support needs and strategies which I believe are central to ensuring researcher’s emotional wellbeing particularly in their early experiences of fieldwork.

Limitless research: when the impact of data collection forces you to recognize and protect your limits *Ellen Van Damme, Centre de Recherches en Droit Pénal (CRDP), Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium.*

“As a criminologist you have to be able to deal with these kinds of things”, “How were you dressed?”, “Why are you doing this research if it hits you so hard?” ... These are just a few of the many comments I received during my research on gender and gangs, violence, migration and (post-) incarceration, and why I preferred to keep my experiences in the field to myself. However, denying or attempting to suppress one’s own emotions during research and fieldwork stands in sharp contrast to feminist methodologies. Feminist criminology and other feminist social sciences not only point to the importance of an empathic relationship (‘empathic stance’) with the people involved in our research, but also to the fact that (certain) research themes do not leave the researcher untouched or unaffected. Within my experience as an early career female academic, researchers often do not dare to go public with problems they experience in the field. Extensive research has been published in the last two decades on sexual violence (Kloß, 2017; Mügge, 2013), mental/emotional problems (Hume, 2007; Woon, 2013) and trauma (Markowitz, 2019; Robinson & Ryder, 2014) during research. Researchers often keep these experiences to themselves for fear of being seen as “too weak” or “not cut out for this type of research” (Ross, 2014). In this paper, I discuss three themes: first, recognizing different forms of problems and cross-border experiences during research. Secondly, discovering and setting boundaries in research areas that are often not clearly defined. Third, the prevention of (secondary) trauma, through a personalized plan of action.

Cross-disciplinary/topic impacts of researching potentially emotionally challenging topics *Kristine Brance, University of Bath; Tina Nicola Skinner, University of Bath; Sarah Halligan, University of Bath; Heather Girling, University of Bath*

The UKRI funded Researcher Wellbeing Project addresses a gap in understanding the impact of potentially sensitive research on researchers across various disciplines. Focusing on the impacts on wellbeing, the study also aimed to understand the underlying factors increasing researchers’ vulnerability to distress. Using a mixed-methods approach, 31 semi-structured interviews were conducted with academic staff working on sensitive research topics. The Secondary Trauma Stress (STS) Scale was also used to assess participants’ symptom severity for descriptive statistics. Participants’ experiences and impacts on their wellbeing were analysed using thematic analysis. Researchers reported a spectrum of psychological and physical symptoms aligned with ‘PTSD-like’ symptoms. Most common symptoms included trouble concentrating, negative emotions, and distressing thoughts. Just over a third reported gaps in memory, hyperarousal and avoidance. Beyond the STS symptoms, the study also demonstrated that researchers’ social relationships were impacted. Factors increasing vulnerability to distress included limited control over research topics, inadequate coping strategies, shared experiences with traumatised groups, and personal life challenges. The study underlines the need for institutional support systems, including training in coping strategies and guidelines for conducting sensitive research. It highlights the importance of a collaborative approach to

address the wellbeing of researchers, moving beyond individual resilience to foster a supportive research environment. Specific implications include developing training programs, peer support groups, and regular wellbeing check-ins to mitigate risks associated with potentially traumatic research topics.

**Coping with emotionally challenging research: a strategic vision for institutional change** *Tina Nicola Skinner, University of Bath; Kristine Brance, University of Bath; Sarah Halligan, University of Bath; Heather Girling, University of Bath*

The Researcher Wellbeing Project (Skinner et al., 2023), funded by the UKRI Research Culture Fund, is a recent, cross-disciplinary, mixed-methods study. Our team's analysis demonstrates that symptoms linked to secondary trauma were common across topics/disciplines. This paper will discuss coping mechanisms participants found helpful and their desired support for future challenges. The data suggest that academics employed various coping mechanisms. Most of these were informal. At the individual level, they included physical exercise and other hobbies. In terms of interactions with others, support came from two primary sources: outside of work (family and friends) and within work (colleagues/networks/peers). Some academics with prior training or experience in other professions used formal support mechanisms, such as wellbeing plans, clinical supervision, and counselling. However, they integrated this support into their academic life without the funding or help of their employer. Only a small minority accessed formal support funded by their institution and arranged in agreement with their line manager. When asked about formal support, the consensus was that there needed to be more. The paper ends with a strategic vision of what Bronze, Silver and Gold Standard institutional responses could look like. Reference: Tina Skinner, Kristine Brance, Sarah Halligan, Heather Girling, Paul Chadwick, Emily Tsang (2023) Researcher Wellbeing Project Report, UKRI Research Culture Fund: University of Bath. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/376349678\\_Researcher\\_Wellbeing\\_Project\\_Report\\_11\\_12\\_23](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/376349678_Researcher_Wellbeing_Project_Report_11_12_23)

**Discussion** *Michele Jane Burman, University of Glasgow; Tina Nicola Skinner, University of Bath; Kristine Brance, University of Bath; Joana Miguel Gomes Ferreira, Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge; Ellen Van Damme, Centre de Recherches en Droit Pénal (CRDP), Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium.*

At the end of the session, Professor Michele Burman will chair a discussion between the panel and the audience about the importance of maintaining researcher wellbeing and the role that universities and professional societies might play in providing best practice guidance to address researcher wellbeing more effectively.

## 026. European Developmental and Life-course Criminology Working Group, Panel 1: Criminal careers

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Development and Life Course Perspectives (Development and Life Course Criminology WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.18

Chair:

*Aaro Beuker, University of Helsinki*

Participants:

Advancing knowledge about the developmental sequences of risk factors underlying persistence in crime *Miguel Basto-Pereira, William James Center for Research, Ispa-Instituto Universitário, Lisbon; Darrick Jolliffe, Department of Law and Criminology, Royal Holloway University of London, London, UK; Lidón Villanueva, Universitat Jaume I de Castellón; David Farrington, University of Cambridge*

In the field of Developmental and Life-Course Criminology, the link between developmental multisystemic vulnerabilities and life-course persistent trajectories of offending is well-established. Nevertheless, to our knowledge, no study has systematically investigated how sequences of risk factors across different areas of

development influence the persistence of criminal behavior into adulthood among youths who have been involved with the juvenile justice system. Therefore, this study aims to identify the crucial developmental sequences of risk factors, from childhood through adolescence, that contribute to adult recidivism among males with juvenile criminal convictions. Identifying age-graded sequences of risk factors that create a continuum of risk for persistent criminal behavior in adulthood is essential for understanding the particularly detrimental criminogenic needs within a specific developmental trajectory. This work builds upon The Cambridge Study in Delinquent Development (CSDD), a comprehensive multi-informant longitudinal study that followed 411 males from South London from the ages of 8-9 up to 61. Sequences of risk factors at ages 8-10, 12-14, and 16-18 were analyzed as predictors of adult criminal convictions among males convicted during adolescence. Our findings will pave the way for the development of a new generation of tailored interventions for the juvenile justice system, which could concentrate on identifying and mitigating particularly harmful future risk factors within specific developmental risk trajectories.

**Adverse and Positive Experiences in Childhood and Psychopathy in a Sample of Women in Prison** *Marina Leonor Pinheiro, University of Minho, Braga, Portugal; Rui Abrunhosa Gonçalves, Universidade do Minho; Olga Cunha, Lusófona University of Porto, Portugal*

The literature suggests that individuals with psychopathic traits tend to have a higher prevalence of adverse experiences in childhood. However, studies primarily focus on male samples, lacking an in-depth exploration of the relationship between psychopathy and positive childhood experiences. Therefore, this study aims to investigate the connection between adverse and positive childhood experiences and psychopathy in a female prison sample. The sample comprises 111 incarcerated women, ranging in age from 23 to 72 years. They were evaluated using the Adverse Experiences Scales (ACE's) and Benevolent Experiences in Childhood (EEBI), along with the Psychopathy Self-Report Scale (SRP-SF). The results indicate that women in prison report a high number of adverse childhood experiences (76.1%), with notable instances of physical neglect (82.6%) and substance abuse by a family member (48.6%). Additionally, a substantial prevalence of positive experiences was observed (42.2% reported 10 positive experiences). Statistically significant positive correlations were identified between the total number of adverse childhood experiences and total psychopathy, as well as between specific adverse experiences (physical neglect, sexual, physical, and emotional abuse in childhood) and the lifestyle facet of psychopathy. Significant differences in the lifestyle facet of psychopathy were noted between women who reported and those who did not report emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, as well as exposure to domestic violence. Furthermore, distinctions were observed between the group without and with instances of physical abuse in the interpersonal and antisocial facets of psychopathy. Statistically significant negative correlations were found between positive childhood experiences and the total number of negative childhood experiences, emotional and sexual abuse, emotional and physical neglect, parental divorce, and exposure to domestic violence. While these findings are preliminary and exploratory, they hold significance for research in this area and for interventional practices, underscoring the importance of early interventions in preventing adversity.

**Criminal sanctions and the crime drop: A register-based study from Finland** *Aaro Beuker, University of Helsinki; Karoliina Suonpää, University of Helsinki; Antti Latvala, University of Helsinki; Mikko Aaltonen, Faculty of Law, University of Eastern Finland; Pekka Martikainen, Population Research Unit, University of Helsinki, Finland*

The Finnish criminal justice system uses ladder model of punishments that vary in their severity: unconditional and conditional prison sentence, community service, monitoring sentence and fines. The numbers of these penalties imposed by the courts have decreased since the mid-1990's, but less is known about the specifics of this decrease. As many other countries, Finland has experienced an overall declining crime trend, but it has been argued

that during this period crime has become more concentrated to persistent offenders. Prior research has indicated that a substantial proportion of crimes is committed by a small number of active offenders. However, it is unclear how this is reflected in the criminal justice system and whether there are specific groups of offenders that burden the justice system considerably. We employ Finnish longitudinal register data comprising individuals born in Finland between 1980 and 1990 with at least one criminal sanction and follow-up until age 30. As in research on criminal careers, our objective is to study the transitions between sanctions and the possible differences in convictions between cohorts. The study of these sentence trajectories is fundamental for recognizing possible trends and changes between the cohorts, namely, which groups have disappeared from the criminal justice system, and whether the criminal careers have become more severe. Preliminary results will be presented.

## 027. WG-PLACE 1: Crime Scripting

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Routine Activities and Situational Perspectives (WG on Space and Culture)  
Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.06

This year marks the 30th anniversary of representing crime as scripts, also known as crime script analysis or crime scripting. In his seminal article (Cornish, 1994), he describes how this analytical method can contribute to generate, organize and systematize knowledge about the procedural aspects and preconditions of crime commission processes. Over the past 30 years, the method has been applied frequently and in a variety of ways, both in scientific research and in practice for the purpose of crime control or crime prevention. This pre-arranged panel illustrates and discusses the breadth of how crime research and prevention practice applies the method. The panel also looks forward to prospects for further development of crime scripting.

Chair:

**Thom Snaphaan**, Avans University of Applied Sciences & Ghent University

Participants:

Crime scripting in theory and practice: An overview of a foundational work *Peter Klerks, Netherlands Public Prosecution Service & Police Academy; Thom Snaphaan, Avans University of Applied Sciences & Ghent University*

Crime scripting is gaining importance as an analytical method in academic research and practice. This presentation will provide a glimpse into its diversity based on an anthology from a forthcoming edited book (Crime Scripting: Theory and Practice; to be published in Dutch by Boom criminology in the fall of 2024). This will include a general overview of the structure and core aspects of the collection work, focusing on what the method entails, its value in contemporary criminological research, how it is applied in practice, and how it relates or could relate to other methods and techniques. This presentation is also an overarching introduction to the other presentations in this thematic session.

Unraveling financial fraud in Belgian football: A crime scripting analysis *Rein Lionel Struyve, Ghent University; Lucie Vanwersch, Ghent University; Wim Hardyns, Ghent University*

Our study provides an overview of the modus operandi used in one of the largest financial fraud cases in Belgian football, known as the Zheyun Ye case. The case consists of two distinct types of fraud in sports: match-fixing and financial fraud. In this presentation we focus on financial fraud, by shedding light on the modus operandi used by the fraudsters in this case to commit financial fraud through the football sector. To do so, we conducted a crime scripting analysis, using the judgments rendered by the court of first instance and the court of appeal. Furthermore, we conducted qualitative interviews (n=7) with law enforcement key informants and professionals within the football milieu to triangulate the data of the court files and gain deeper understanding of the case. By doing so, we lay down the basis for two different crime scripts of financial fraud through football: one focusing on money laundering and another on tax fraud. Based on our findings, we conclude that during the time of the Zheyun Ye case, certain conditions distinctive to the football landscape were major contributors to these criminal activities. Moreover, the case in question holds an important

warning, because of the hypothesis that the same modus operandi is still used in contemporary financial crime related to betting related match-fixing. Not only within the domain of football but also across the broader spectrum of sporting activities today.

Electronic partner surveillance up close: A crime script analysis based on in-depth interviews *Janneke M. Schokkenbroek, imec-mict, Department of Communication Sciences & IRCP, Department of Criminology, Criminal Law & Social Law, Ghent University; Thom Snaphaan, Avans University of Applied Sciences & Ghent University; Koen Ponnet, imec-mict, Department of Communication Sciences, Ghent University; Wim Hardyns, Ghent University*

Electronic partner surveillance (EPS) describes the practice of using digital technology to control and monitor a romantic partner's activities and social connections. EPS is becoming increasingly common, particularly among younger adults, and can have a significant impact on the partners involved and their relationship. Yet, little is known about the specific (sequential) decision-making and action processes that drive partner surveillance behaviors. To fill this important knowledge gap, we conducted in-depth interviews with ten individuals who use digital technology to control and monitor their partner. Employing a crime scripting framework, we identified several cognitive, affective, and practical steps that are taken prior to, during, and after EPS. Additionally, we uncovered several underlying mechanisms and overarching factors that give further context to the processes that drive EPS practices. As the first study to apply the crime scripting framework to systematically map EPS, our work forms an important contribution to the research field of partner surveillance, as well as that of crime scripting. We look forward to further discuss our findings, their limitations, and their scientific and societal implications during the EUROCRIM conference.

Illegal waste management activity and guardian scripting *Giulia Giardi, Maastricht University; Kim Geurtjens, Avans University of Applied Sciences*

A rather new development in the crime scripting literature is Leclerc and Reynald's (2017) indication that using the script tool to unpack the actions of actors that participate in crime events other than offenders would be a desirable next step in the evolution of CSA (see also Leclerc 2014; 2017). Given the roots of CSA in environmental criminology, these actors are, most frequently, victims and guardians as they are conceptualized in routine activity theory, specifically in the crime triangle devised by Felson (1986). This contribution welcomes and builds on the suggestion that the script tool should be applied to the interventions of guardians. It expands on the indications made by Leclerc and Reynald in 2017 in three ways: first, the guardian script devised here draws on data of police authorities whereas Leclerc and Reynald had initially scripted a by-stander's intervention (however, police have already been scripted in Blais and Leclerc (2023) and Sytsma et al. (2021). Second, the type of criminal activity that is being intervened upon is fraud as part of routinised, corporate environmental crimes. The original proposal centered on a mugging. Third, the guardian script is the second in a two-stage analysis of a single crime phenomenon. The offender perspective is gaged by applying CSA in the first stage. In fact, two sets of findings will be shared: the first set is yielded from a more "traditional" application of CSA to two crime events involving fraudulent handling of waste oils. The second set is about a police team, which investigated those crime events. The guardian script also dissects the police's involvement (in collaboration with other state authorities) in systematic monitoring and enforcement activities in the industrial sectors in the context of which the crime events took place.

Connecting the dots: Utilizing crime scripting to leverage multimodal data and innovative techniques in a meaningful manner *Thom Snaphaan, Avans University of Applied Sciences & Ghent University; Hervé Borrión, University College London*

The growing availability of new and emerging data sources (e.g., mobile phone data, social media data, and open access administrative data) offer promising avenues for crime related research. For today's generation of researchers, the challenge

appears to lie less in accessing rich datasets than in creating value from them. With the development of powerful computational techniques, such as those emerging from the field of artificial intelligence, the focus is on formulation of useful hypotheses, and meaningful organization of knowledge. Thus, the question remains how these multimodal data can be placed in context to create value from it and how to organize knowledge in a meaningful way so that innovative techniques can leverage it. This article discusses the potential value of using crime scripting to put data in context and utilize novel techniques for the purpose of problem-oriented and intelligence-led crime reduction. Crime scripting is an analytical method for generating, organizing, and systematizing knowledge about the procedural aspects and procedural requirements of crime commission. Here, crime scripting acts as a generic knowledge structure (or ‘backbone’) method, where the dots with multimodal data and innovative techniques are connected.

## 028. Narrative Criminology

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Narrative Criminology

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.07

Chair:

**Sveinung Sandberg**, Department of Criminology and Sociology of Law, University of Oslo

Participants:

Desistance from organized crime: a narrative psychosocial perspective *Alfredo Verde, University of Genoa; Giulia Gibelli, Criminological Unit, Department of Health Sciences (University of Genoa, Italy); Alessandro De Santis, Criminological Unit, Department of Health Sciences, University of Genoa (Italy)*

Desistance from crime is a complex process, which also varies depending on the nature and characteristics of the specific criminal career. In particular, desistance from organized crime, given the specific characteristics of the latter and the presence of well-defined organizations from a cultural and anthropological point of view, requires a theorization that takes into account these complex aspects. The organizations that have developed in Italy are many and very different from each other: the Sicilian Mafia, the Calabrian ‘Ndrangheta, the Neapolitan Camorra and the Apulian Sacra Corona Unita cannot be considered as a whole, but must be studied separately. From this point of view, it seems necessary to understand the peculiarities and differences of each individual desistance process according to the characteristics of the organization to which each subject belongs: in this paper we will consider the desistance of four members of the ‘Ndrangheta. The subjects to which we will refer are part of a larger sample in the project: Lives on the Edge. The Genoa Study of Desistance, which uses an approach inspired by psychosocial narrative criminology, and in which desisters are subjected to three qualitative interviews according to the methodology developed by Hollway and Jefferson and called FANI (Free Association Narrative Interview). For each subject studied, reference will be made to the factors of entry into the criminal organization and to those of exit, analyzing the way in which each subject locates himself from the point of Self change and of the defense mechanisms used (both individual and psychosocial), comparing the results obtained with the recent theorizations of the desistance process.

In Their Own Words: The Meaning and Causes of Crime in the Autobiographical Narratives of Offenders in Czechia *Václav Walach, University of Ostrava; Petr Kupka, University of West Bohemia*

This paper seeks to present the preliminary findings of an ongoing research endeavor examining the life stories of two distinct groups of non-violent offenders in Czechia: petty criminals and more sophisticated economic offenders. These narratives are constructed based on narrative interviews conducted with 20 individuals from each category. On average, each interview, segmented into three parts, lasted approximately 5 hours. Interviews were conducted with individuals either in prison or shortly after their release. Rooted in narrative criminology, the project aims to compare these narratives and explore specific themes identified during the

research interviews. These will include key events to which perpetrators attribute significance for understanding their own actions and circumstances. The contribution of this paper also lies in the fact that narrative criminology remains largely neglected in the Global East context. The evidence gathered from this cultural context has the potential to enrich the general theorizing on the narratives of criminals.

Seaching for the Missing Links in Narrative Desistance: Integrating Narrative and Psychosocial Criminology with Social Psychological Theories of Self *Simon Félix, The University of Westminster*

The self has been a popular topic in desistance research, as it provides an avenue for measuring progress towards the development of a replacement self incompatible with crime. However, the means by which a replacement self is produced and even what that replacement self looks like have proven to be enigmatic. Narrative researchers have attempted to broach this topic, but a holistic explanation accounting for agentic, reflexive, and social aspects of the self is yet to be achieved. It is argued here that narrative approaches are suited to the task due to the analytical tools available to narrative researchers and the epistemological fluidity afforded by the approach; however, success has been hindered by researchers overlooking the role of the experiential on the self, as well as the likely fractious nature of a messy self-change process being masked by post-hoc rebiographing in retrospective data. This paper seeks to present a solution to these issues through integration of narrative and psychosocial criminological approaches with social psychological theory, to develop a process by which the self can be appreciated holistically, addressing the social, reflexive and agentic selves. Integrating Gadd & Jefferson's (2007) psychosocial criminology is proposed as a solution to the aforementioned oversights, as experience and incoherence feature heavily in their approach, plugging the gaps in narrative research to date. Moreover, narratives will be presented as a psychosocial phenomenon, further supporting the integration of the two methods. Finally, the integration of social psychological theory to ground analyses can further explain and validate findings. Integrating these elements can improve our understanding of self-change through desistance, providing avenues for future research and development of useful interventions.

The life-changing impact of piracy: Victims’ narratives of survival and resilience *Bryan C Peters, KU Leuven, Faculty of Law and Criminology; Letizia Paoli, KU Leuven Faculty of Law and Criminology*

Prompted by the rapid escalation of Somali piracy between 2008 and 2012, maritime piracy has received considerable attention by policy makers and researchers. Much of this attention, however, has concentrated on the economic and trade-related impacts of piracy. Despite the seriousness of this crime and the potential ramifications for its direct victims (e.g., merchant mariners, vessel protection detachments, passengers, etc.), the human costs of piracy have received less attention. Moreover, the catalog of criminological theories and approaches that potentially could help us to better understand this phenomenon (including victimology) have not been broadly exploited. In this paper, we build upon this limited body of work. Adopting a narrative perspective, we examine the lived experiences of piracy victims conveyed to us in in-depth interviews. Their stories of injustice reveal the life-changing nature of this crime, one that often involves prolonged periods of confinement (in some cases well over a year) and repeat victimization, experiencing and witnessing acts of extreme violence ranging from physical assaults to what can only be described as torture, as well as other psychological harms resulting from living in constant fear, mock executions, threats, extreme isolation, no contact with loved ones and numerous other indignities. Through our thematic analysis of their narratives, it has become clear that their victimization had and continues to have profound impacts on their lives. Their victimization remains “fresh” in their memories and lives notwithstanding the passage of time. What is remarkable about the piracy victims’ stories is their resilience and their desire and willingness to help others who have experienced similar injustices. In addition to contributing to the growing body of literature on the human costs of piracy, our findings have implications for the support and care of victims of piracy and other serious crimes.

Per Imaginem ad Veritatem: Joint Fantasizing of Crime *Fabio I. M. Poppi, University of Łódź, Poland/Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, Lithuania*

This study introduces the concept of joint fantasizing into narrative criminology. Joint fantasizing is presented as a conceptual and methodological innovation because it allows for the exploration of fantasies, a type of narrative capable of conveying highly important content, often unattainable through other means. It does so in a collective and shared manner, minimizing the researcher's presence, thereby improving the ecological validity of individual interviews, widely used in narrative criminology. By analyzing joint fantasizing that emerge from interactions among four men who comprise a motor vehicle theft group, the analysis identifies the functions of joint fantasizing within a criminal context, categorizing them as "Formation of Subcultural Narratives," "Escapism and Catharsis," and "Symbolic Resistance and Moral superiority." By delving into the multifaceted dimensions of joint fantasizing, this study aims to suggest a novel conceptual and methodological framework and contribute valuable insights into the identities, values, motivations of individuals within the criminal landscape.

**029. Crime, Science and Politics WG Panel 1. Criminal Policy legitimation**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Penology and Theories Punishment (Crime, Science and Politics WG )

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.10

Chair:

*Claire Michelle Smyth, Kingston University*

Participants:

The Philosophy of Irregular Punishment *Christopher Nathan, Trilateral Research*

In recent decades there have been theoretical advances in our understanding of the expressive or communicative nature and function of punishment. However, the implications of this element of punishment for our normative understanding of other state institutions is not yet fully explored. According to the expressive idea, punishment is not just hard treatment by an authority, but it also involves an expression of censure for a wrongdoing. It is natural to consider when else states may express censure that is accompanied by hard treatment, including in the broader exercise of the police and criminal justice system, and how we should understand its legitimacy. Further, if we take seriously the idea that the contents of communication are not reducible to the speaker's intentions, then non-intentional punishment becomes a significant category. In this paper I explore the contours of this problem and defend in particular the possibility of non-intentional state punishment against recent critique.

Policing the pandemic in Chile. What is the relationship between vulnerability and arrests in Chilean cities? *Natalia Cabrera-Morales, University of Cambridge*

During the coronavirus pandemic in Chile, more than 460,000 arrests were made. Were these arrests made equally in different cities, regardless of the percentage of migrant, indigenous and poor population? Although the literature highlights that criminalisation was stronger in Chile than in other countries, evidence suggests it was relatively equal among different socioeconomic areas. However, these analyses did not observe other types of vulnerability indicators. This becomes relevant in circumstances where studies from other countries have found a relationship between criminalisation and race and/or socioeconomic status in controlling COVID-19. I find, using negative binomial regressions, evidence of a positive relationship between percentages of migrants and indigenous people in a city and detentions by police. These findings are discussed by questioning the use of punitive control as public policy, criticising the over-policing of populations that are also more vulnerable to contagion (thus under-protected) and the implications of it from a conflict perspective; and also, the risk for legitimacy that accompanies unequal treatment. Methodologically a reflection in differentiating inequality (unequal distribution of control) from discrimination (inequality due to bias of police officers) is made. I also reflect on

the pandemic as a natural experiment in which all the people on the street are targets to control since the crime is being outside home. This represents a unique methodological opportunity to reflect on selection bias. Keywords: stay at home orders; policing; vulnerability; inequality.

The proportionality of the absence of punishment for the exploitation of migrant women *Wendy Pena-Gonzalez, University of Salamanca*

Could the principle of criminal proportionality be used to determine a minimum punishment for the most serious offenses? The question is posed by the situation of sexual exploitation, labor exploitation, or for the commission of offenses (situations in which migrant women are usually victimized). These crimes are not yet punishable under Spanish law (but trafficking is) despite their seriousness. The principle of proportionality between the seriousness of the offense and the severity of the punishment cannot provide an answer to this question, since, in responding to a criterion of justice, it must be open to reducing the punishment or waiving it for other reasons of justice (such as the offender's situation of need). It is concluded that the principle of proportionality in a broad sense (in particular, the necessity of punishment) is what determines this requirement of the punishment of those behaviors (not the proportionality of the punishment). These figures determine the need to punish those conducts in which criminal intervention is necessary, such as those mentioned above. Thus, the principle of proportionality in a broad sense and the principle of necessity are configured as bracket principles (Untermaßverbot), determining not only a maximum of punishment but also a minimum of punishment - the access to punishment of the conducts themselves. The clarification of the issue is decisive in order to impose on the states the obligation to establish criminal sanctions for the most serious conducts, thus resolving the issue of exploitation of human beings in Spain.

Why do we punish? The Role of the Criminal Law in Enforcing Abortion Restrictions *Claire Michelle Smyth, Kingston University*

Despite many international committees calling for criminal sanctions to be removed from all abortion legislation, the vast majority of states maintain strict criminal sanctions. Indeed, there appears to have been a move in recent years to tighten the restrictions around access to abortion and to impose harsher punishments for those acting outside the scope of the legislation. Many of the debates surrounding the introduction of these prohibitions focuses on the woman 'choosing' to end a pregnancy, it ignores the impact that this has on the general right to health of women. It does not consider those circumstances where a woman is denied treatment as a result of being pregnant which then significantly impacts both the right to health and life of the mother. The focus of this paper is threefold, firstly examining whether the law ought to have a role in restricting the right to abortion. The second, and more prominent aspect of this paper focuses on the criminalisation and criminal sanctions that are applied when women abort outside of the terms of the legislation. The abortion regime in the UK has generally been hailed as one that is very liberal, and many do not realise the strict nature of the 1967 legislation that governs this area. A recent case in the UK saw a woman being sentenced to 28 months in prison for terminating her pregnancy outside of the terms of the Act (although overturned on appeal). Finally, the paper will look at traditional theories of punishment, including retribution, prevention denunciation and reparation theories, to examine how the criminalization of abortion fits these traditional concepts of why we punish.

**030. Intergenerational Criminology, Panel 1. Family and Intergenerational Perspectives**

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Family and Intergenerational Perspectives (Intergenerational Criminology WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14

Chair:

*Michael James Frith, University i Oslo*

Participants:

The Intergen project: Preliminary results of a criminological

survey investigating the Intergenerational Transmission of Violence *Patricia John Sánchez, ehs University of Applied Sciences for Social Work, Education and Nursing, Dresden; Christina Beckord, ehs University of Applied Sciences for Social Work, Education and Nursing, Dresden*

As the primary socialising environment, the family is central to the development of the individual. When parents (generation 1, G1) use violence against their children (G2), this can, in combination with possible other environmental influences, lead to the transmission of violent behaviour, whereby the victimised parents (G2) in turn raise their children (G3) in a violent manner. These transmission processes are analysed in the project The Intergenerational Transmission of Violence (Intergen). In the course of the study, parents (G2) who were originally part of the sample of the panel study Crime in the Modern City (CrimoC), conducted in Duisburg, Germany, between 2002 and 2019, are interviewed in the form of a criminological survey. The study examines how certain transmission pathways work and what influence different factors such as attitudes regarding parenting behaviours, personality traits, or social support have on the (non-)transmission of violent parental behaviour. In addition, a neurobiological investigation of parent-child dyads is being conducted on a sub-sample in order to examine the effects of parental behaviour (G2) on child development (G3) at both the biological and psychological levels. This presentation will introduce the Intergen study in more detail and discuss the first wave of the survey, which was conducted in 2023. In addition to information on the sample and the response rate, first preliminary results of the criminological survey will be presented.

Violence in the context of overlapping parenting styles *Christina Beckord, ehs University of Applied Sciences for Social Work, Education and Nursing, Dresden; Patricia John Sánchez, ehs University of Applied Sciences for Social Work, Education and Nursing, Dresden*

The experience of parental violence is a widely recognised predictor of later delinquency. In the literature, a distinction is often made between different parenting styles (e.g. according to Baumrind authoritative, authoritarian, permissive, and neglectful). This categorisation suggests that these styles can be clearly distinguished from one another. Methodologically, these findings are mostly based on qualitative data or on the results of factor analyses. The German criminological panel study "Crime in the modern City" (CrimoC) and its follow-up study "The intergenerational transmission of violence" (InterGen) serve as the data basis for this study. It can be shown that previous classifications based on modified version of the Conflict Tactics Scale, taking into account the response patterns across all dimensions of parenting, loses its clarity. Using latent profile analysis, for example, it can be shown that children who experience violence from their parents often also report a high level of empathic parenting practices. The results are discussed with regard to the current state of research on the consequences of violent parenting.

The State's role in shaping deviant identities: A psycho-anthropological critique of intergenerational criminalisation *Sandra Cavaliere, Phd student presso il Dipartimento di Salute Mentale e Medicina Preventiva Università degli Studi della Campania Luigi Vanvitelli; Chiara Feliciani, PhD at the Graduate Institute of International Development Studies of Geneva*

What role does the State play with communities it doesn't deem compliant with its laws and with individuals belonging to them regardless of their behavior? It's believed that the state's categorization of crime influences family perception, with consequences on the intergenerational transmission of "criminal behaviors". State procedures reserved for these individuals often involve trauma due to the measures implemented in crime suppression, such as the pursuit and capture of offenders, the definition within the judicial process, and social interpretation, including through media. Particularly in involved children, these traumas reinforce identifications, driven by protection instinct and fear, with family members through categories defined by the State. Hence, the significance of the state's definition in shaping identities within contexts of criminalization and suppression enter the

intimate sphere of the family. These defining mechanisms contribute to internalizing opposition to the State and to the development of "deviant" mentalities and cultures. Institutions thus play a key role in recognizing and institutionalizing criminal identities, while family narratives influence individual identity construction. With this paper, we are interested in analysing these two interlocking mechanisms that we identify in creating this reality. Through a collaborative psycho-anthropological approach, we present several specific cases encountered in research conducted in recent years in the prisons of the city of Naples and in neighborhoods with high criminal density that are reported to illustrate recurring mechanisms in the establishment of the criminal class in Southern Italy. Moving away from the Lombrosian tendencies that still permeate Italian policies, we bring back the sentiment of state abandonment as a key element in the intergenerational "transmission of crime". A critical approach to the complex Neapolitan context provides a strong basis for the advocacy of prevention and rehabilitation strategies that could contribute to the reduction of (intergenerational) recidivism.

How far does the apple fall? Offence type-similarity transmission between family members *Michael James Frith, University i Oslo*

One of the most common risk factors for criminal behavior is some form of familial offending. That is, and because most often investigated in terms of the parent-child relationship, if a person has an offending parent (or family member), they are more likely to commit crime themselves. In fact, from a recent meta-analysis by Besemer et al. (2017), they are almost double at risk of offending if their parent has committed a crime, even after accounting for other variables. This is not surprising given the array of mechanisms put forward in various theories from social learning to biological. While many of these studies, as outlined above, only analyse intergenerational or parental transmission of offending, they also often analyse crime as a single entity. In other words, do criminal parents give rise to criminal children? In this analysis, data from Norway is used to investigate to what extent different types of offending in different family members impact on the other family member's offending choices. For examples, does a burglar parent influence them to commit burglary or does a violent criminal sibling affect them to also commit violence? To do this, a longitudinal model of offending is employed. For one, to account for the temporal ordering of offences from one family member to another. Second, to expose any periods of crime specialization in the family members which may no longer exist as they age and have become involved in a greater variety of offences. Lastly, so time-varying constants can be introduced to try and account for any general trends (e.g., in the types or seriousness of offences) as the focal offender ages.

### 031. Forced Marriages Domestic Violence and sexual abuse: Practices and Perspectives

Topic 4: Victimology/Policy and Prevention of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.20

Chair:

**Marc Salat**, University of Lleida

Participants:

Best practices to approach forced marriages in Catalonia (Spain) *Carolina Villacampa, University of Lleida; Clàudia Torres Ferrer, University of Lleida; Rubén Espuny, University of Lleida*

Forced marriage (FM) is a manifestation of violence against women scarcely addressed in Spain, except in Catalonia. This research, based on in-depth interviews with key actors, identifies five good practices in the institutional, welfare and police approach to this reality in Catalonia which, with the appropriate improvements, could be implemented throughout Spain and other European countries where this reality has not been clearly addressed, to favour the surfacing and adequate treatment of the victimisation of women by FM. These good practices are: 1. The approval of the Catalan Protocol for the Prevention and Tackling of FMs in 2020 and its



revision process in 2023, 2. The preparation of local protocols for dealing with FM, 3. The support programme for victims of FM implemented by specialised entities, 4. The role of the so-called "referents" in the prevention of FM and the recovery of victims and 5. The approach of the Catalan autonomous police to FM.

Hear me. Believe me. Respect me. A survey of adult survivors of child sexual abuse and their experience of support service *Cristian Mihai Dogaru, University of Suffolk; Fiona Ellis, Co-Founder & CEO, Survivors in Transition*

This study reveals the critical support needs and experiences of adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse (CSA) in the UK, revealing profound insights from one of the nation's largest surveys on the subject. With nearly 400 survivors participating, the research uncovers the stark realities of CSA - predominantly occurring within family settings, often enduring for years, and resulting in significant barriers to disclosure and justice. The findings underscore the inadequate response and support from statutory services compared to the more positively viewed voluntary and independent sectors. Survivors reported a severe lack of accessible, responsive, and survivor-centered support services, highlighting the necessity for more proactive, informed, and empathetic service provision. This study argues for a reimagined approach to CSA support, emphasizing the importance of listening, believing, and respecting survivors, alongside a strategic shift towards empowering the voluntary sector to lead support initiatives. It challenges prevailing misconceptions and calls for a more vigilant, survivor-informed support system that prioritizes the well-being and recovery of CSA survivors. This research contributes to a deeper understanding of the complexities surrounding CSA and the pivotal role of effective support services in facilitating survivors' healing journeys.

Exploring forced marriage as a manifestation of violence against women: a comparative approach *Marc Salat, University of Lleida; Carolina Villacampa, University of Lleida*

Forced marriage, a form of gender-based violence, profoundly impacts women and girls worldwide. This presentation employs a comparative approach to examine this phenomenon, commencing with the victim-centred perspective mandated by the Istanbul Convention, which prioritizes victim protection. It scrutinizes data on forced marriage alongside the institutional and legislative responses in Germany, Spain, Finland, and Ireland. As a result of this analysis, additional empirical insights are necessary in the analyzed countries to develop effective preventive strategies. The legislative response should shift from an emphasis on criminal law, which risks overly narrow conceptualizations of forced marriage, towards civil and family law considerations. In conclusion, we advocate for increased institutional focus on forced marriage within the four analyzed countries, aiming to provide victims with effective access to justice. This underscores the need for comprehensive measures prioritizing prevention, protection, and empowerment in combating this egregious violation of human rights.

### 032. Changing the real-world response to online child sexual abuse through research and innovation

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Sex Crimes, Sex Work and Sex Trafficking

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22*

In 2022 the US National Center for Missing & Exploited Children analysed just over 32 million reports of child sexual abuse material received from across the globe. This represents an 87% increase on the number processed in 2019. The true scale of child sexual exploitation and abuse online is likely greater than this as a lot of harm is not reported. Given this context, there is a pressing need to deepen our understanding of the individuals who commit online child sexual abuse offences, so that we are best placed to act to reduce the harm they inflict on children here in the UK and worldwide. The aim of this panel is to present recent research and innovation emerging from the International Policing and Public Protection Research Institute (IPPPRI) and describe how this research is impacting on real-world efforts to prevent online child sexual abuse.

Chair:

*Samantha Lundrigan, Policing Institute for the Eastern Region*  
Participants:

Utilising a user-centered design approach to design and develop a technological prevention tool to support effective self-management of individuals at risk of committing CSAM offences *Samantha Lundrigan, Policing Institute for the Eastern Region; Deanna Davy, Policing Institute for the Eastern Region; Lea Charlotte Kamitz, Anglia Ruskin University; Minne DeBoeck, University Forensic Center, Antwerp University Hospital; Larissa Van Puyvelde, University Forensic Center, Antwerp University Hospital*

The volume of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) available online and the global demand for it has reached unprecedented levels. Increasing numbers of individuals concerned about their online behaviour are contacting therapeutic providers for help and support outside of the criminal justice system. Previous research asking individuals what would help them to stop viewing CSAM suggests that the availability of a technological solution to voluntarily self-manage access to CSAM could be an effective tool. Funded by the EU Commission, Project Protech employed a user-centred design (UCD) approach to the development of the 'Salus' prototype, a technological prevention tool to support effective self-management of individuals at risk of committing a first or further CSAM offence(s) by blocking, in real time and at device level, access to CSAM. A USD approach was adopted in order to ensure Salus met the real-life needs of the end users, through a participatory process. To do this we conducted semi-structured interviews with 30 at-risk individuals across three European settings, to explore the specific needs, design features, deployment methods, concerns and barriers for the design, development and implementation of an effective prevention tool at the individual level. Additionally, 5 focus groups were held across four European settings with service providers with extensive experience of dealing with individuals at risk of committing CSAM offences to explore the same issues at the service level. Thematic analysis of interview and focus group data revealed themes relating to three main areas of design; privacy/accessibility, blocking features and interactivity, which were integrated into the design and development of the final Salus prototype, to be piloted across Europe during 2024. The presentation will include a demonstration of the final Salus prototype and a consideration of lessons learnt from the first phase of Project Protech.

Changing the real-world response to support the families of individuals being investigated for online child sexual abuse offences. *Theresa Redmond, The Policing Institute for the Eastern Region at Anglia Ruskin University; Rachel Armitage, University of Huddersfield*

Child sexual abuse offending is on the increase, with police forces in the UK conducting an average of 1000 warrants a month for image and communication-based offences. Of these, our research suggests that approximately 40% will have children living at home at the time of the warrant. This traumatic and highly impactful event requires changes in policy and practice to minimise the secondary harms to the children and families of those under investigation. Within this presentation, we will present findings from several UK based research projects that explored the broader psychological, social, physical impacts of this offence on families, and particularly those with children. Within this context, we will focus on and share the real-world impacts of our work of building an evidence base, through collaboration and engagement with police and third sector partners, and family members in this space. This has led to some groundbreaking, innovative policy and practice changes in relation to how police forces understand, engage with, and support these family members; as well as the development of a flexible and dynamic model of support which is based on multiagency and sector collaboration. Finally, we will outline the research gaps and the next steps to continue to build and strengthen this evidence base and to establish the new support model more nationally.

"It's just one of those things that happens now": A participatory approach to the development and delivery of a self-generated child sexual abuse material prevention campaign *sarah Colley, Policing Institute for the Eastern Region; Samantha*

*Lundrigan, Policing Institute for the Eastern Region; Theresa Redmond, The Policing Institute for the Eastern Region at Anglia Ruskin University; Carter Smith, Anglia Ruskin*

Recent reports have noted a marked increase in the amount of self-generated child sexual abuse material (SG-CSAM) available on the internet (IWF, 2023). This is in addition to the ever-decreasing age of children 'producing' this imagery being detected, with the fastest increase being amongst primary-aged children, aged 7-10 years (IWF, 2023). These images can be initially taken and shared by children and young people consensually amongst peers but are in many cases SG-CSAM which is produced as a result of online grooming or blackmail (sextortion) (INHOPE, 2022). This material can then subsequently be traded and sold by child sexual offenders online, via the dark and surface web. This paper will report on the findings from a collaborative project between the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) and the Policing Institute for the Eastern Region (PIER), funded by the Oak Foundation. The aim of the research was to examine SG-CSAM through the lens of three different groups — children/young people, parents/educators, and perpetrators — and use these findings to inform the development of a targeted prevention campaign to reduce the number of 'self-generated' child sexual abuse images and videos on the internet. The presentation will describe the pre-campaign research phase which included participatory research with 307 children, 13 parents and carers and 38 teachers / educators across 34 focus groups, as well as an analysis of dark web perpetrator SG-CSAM forum posts and discussions. The final campaign resources will also be showcased.

A cross-sector study of the wellbeing and support provision for child protection professionals who regularly view child sexual abuse material (CSAM) *Deanna Davy, Policing Institute for the Eastern Region; Ashley Perry, Policing Institute for the Eastern Region; Theresa Redmond, The Policing Institute for the Eastern Region at Anglia Ruskin University; Samantha Lundrigan, Policing Institute for the Eastern Region*

There is a relatively small but growing body of literature on the subject of the mental health and well-being of professionals who regularly view child sexual abuse material (CSAM) as a part of their job role. However, there remain knowledge gaps regarding – the impacts of regularly viewing CSAM on professionals across different child protection agencies; mapping of the well-being support that is available within organisations; and the gaps and challenges for staff in accessing these support services. To better understand the impacts of viewing CSAM on professionals, and the landscape of well-being support in key sectors (law enforcement, NGOs, and the private sector) internationally, researchers from the Policing Institute for the Eastern Region (PIER) conducted qualitative research to understand and document, inter alia, study participants' views regarding the negative impacts of viewing CSAM; their experiences of accessing well-being support (formal, and informal support) within their organisation; and their reflections on how well-being support should be strengthened. We explored these issues through semi-structured interviews with UK police officers and civilian staff (n = 20), and content analysts/moderators from the NGO and private sector (n = 9) in the UK and North America. Study findings indicate negative well-being impacts from regularly viewing CSAM, including anxiety and depression. Only limited formal support is available within some organisations, especially Police; such support tends to include individual sessions with a trained counsellor. Instead, professional staff that are negatively impacted by viewing CSAM, as well as other professional stresses, tend to seek out informal support, in the form of team debriefs and other activities. Within law enforcement, there persists a culture of staff wanting to be perceived by peers and managers as stoic, and not letting the work affect them, which results in staff not regularly seeking out formal support services. Best practice can currently be identified in NGO study participants, which offer robust support services for staff, including short work schedules, and compulsory therapy sessions. Thus, best practices sharing, between NGOs and law enforcement, should be encouraged.

### 033. EHC-WG Panel 1: Expanding the Knowledge Base on Crime in History

Topic 7: Comparative and Historical Perspectives/Historical

Comparisons of Crime (Historical Criminology WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.04*

Chair:

*Janne Kivivuori, University of Helsinki*

Participants:

Crime in the first twenty volumes of the Journal of the Statistical Society of London, 1838-1857 *Janne Kivivuori, University of Helsinki; Henry Yeomans, University of Leeds*

Triggered by the booming continental criminology after the emergence of modern national crime statistics in France (1827), British research on crime increased considerably from the mid-1830s. The first wave of research was, to a significant degree, published in the Journal of the Statistical Society of London. According to Radzinowicz and Hood (1986), the first twenty volumes of the Journal (1838-1857) contained 22 articles on various aspects of crime. We examine the aims, topics, and possible trends in this early criminological research corpus. These patterns are tentatively discussed from the perspective of how data availability and the social context influence disciplinary emergence and development.

Convergence and Divergence in the Long-term Decline of Violence: Comparative Evidence from the Global South *Manuel Eisner, University of Cambridge*

Most generalisations on the long-term trend in interpersonal violence over the past 200 years come from the global North, especially from Europe, where homicide rates have declined and converged. Much less is known, in contrast about long-term trends in various regions of the Global South. This paper will examine emerging evidence on trends in homicide focussing on five regions in the global South, namely the Southern parts of Latin America, the Caribbean, Sri Lanka, Singapore and Hong-Kong and Sydney. Adopting a world-system perspective it will first critically discuss the limitations of the data and the challenges to assessing violence in colonial contexts, where interpersonal and systemic state violence are intimately interconnected. In a second step, it similarities and differences in long-term trends based on a review of existing scholarship in each region as well as on primary data collections. It will then, in a third step, discuss then extent to which macro-historical frameworks such as the Theory of the Civilising Process, Modernisation Theory, or World-System theory can account for convergence and divergence in interpersonal violence trends across the globe.

The knowledge base of Swedish criminal policy: The case of smuggling and illegal selling of alcohol in the mid-19th century *Johan Edman, Department of Criminology, Stockholm University*

In a recently started project, the use of criminal policy knowledge in Sweden will be investigated during the years 1853–2024. The aim is, firstly, to investigate what knowledge our national politicians have claimed when discussing criminal policy issues, and how this has changed over time and, secondly, to thereby contribute with a historical perspective on current criminal policy and criminology. The project will amongst other things ask questions about the relationship between knowledge use and penal tendencies and how this has developed over time. As a first case study from the project, an investigation of smuggling and illegal selling of alcohol during the years 1853–1876 will be presented. Results from this study suggests that smuggling and speakeasies primarily where considered a supply problem, as opposed to the demand framing of the alcohol problem some decades later but very much like how the drug problem was presented a century later. The knowledge legitimising the political problem description and suggestions for solutions were to some extent based on external sources of knowledge production, professional knowledge and some statistics, but more often on personal anecdotal knowledge and logical conclusions as well as a profound engagement with the MP's constituencies from which local knowledge of the problem was drawn. The results from the first case study will, together with results from the studies to come, form the empirical basis for a discussion of the historical development of themes discussed as

relatively novel phenomena in today's crime policy and criminological debate, such as increased politicization, research resistance, emotional arguments, crime victim focus and populism, repression and harsher punishments.

**Who are Pirates: A Comparative Analysis of Piratical Movements in Europe and East Asia, 1274 – 2010s** *Hua-Lun Huang, University of Louisiana at Lafayette*

In the past four decades, criminologists and historians have published numerous books, articles, and investigative reports on pirates and piratical movements. As a result of this intellectual movement, pirateology has become a mainstream topic of modern criminology. While pirateology has grown into a prominent area of modern criminology, its research seems to be restricted by the approach of regionalism. That is, Western scholars tend to focus on European pirates when examining piratical movements while Eastern researchers mainly concentrate on Asian (especially Chinese) pirates when addressing the issue of maritime crime. This feature strongly implies that present-day pirateology is composed of two distinct groups. Since the boundary between these two camps appears to be clear, some issues (e.g., the origins of European-directed piratical movements in East Asia) remain to be analyzed systematically in this field of criminology. Based on the statements above, the purpose of this paper is to promote a cross-regional study of piratical movements. To achieve this goal, four topics will be addressed in this paper: First, the factors that helped piratical movements take shape in Europe and East Asia after 1274 will be examined. Then the core features of such movements will be compared to each other to detect patterns of behavior. After the issue of principal characteristic has been examined, the long-term trend of these movements will be evaluated. Finally, the social implications of maritime piracy in Europe and East Asia will be discussed.

**034. WG Organized Crime and Criminal Networks Panel 3. Preventing and policing organized crime**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Organized Crime (Organized Crime WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06

Chair:

**Polina Smiragina-Ingelström**, DIS and Lund University

Participants:

Asset forfeiture as a means of combating organized crime *Andrea Planchadell-Gargallo, University Jaume I; Catalina Vidales Rodriguez, University of Valencia*

Organized crime is a serious concern for the international community and poses a major challenge to the security and stability of States, as reflected in the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo, 2000). This Convention highlights the serious economic repercussions of this phenomenon. At a global level, it is estimated that organized crime generates between 1.6 and 2.2 trillion dollars per year, exceeding in Europe 110 billion euros per year. Based on the conviction that the confiscation of profits can be an important incentive for the abandonment of these activities, various regulatory provisions have given a significant role to the confiscation of the proceeds of criminal activities. This explains the important reforms in this area that the Spanish Criminal Code underwent in 2010 and 2015 and the no less novel creation also in 2015 of the Office for the Recovery and Management of Assets (ORGA), attached to the Ministry of Justice. In the current proposed study, having analyzed the legal framework, our aim is to conduct an empirical study that analyzes the effectiveness of these instruments after nearly 10 years of evolution, since the National Strategy against Organized Crime and Serious Crime (2019-2023), "Security is a common project", pointed out the need to neutralize the criminal economy after recognizing that only 0.2 % of the profits from this illegal practice are seized

Looking the other way? A systematic study of police-gang relationships in Rio de Janeiro *Andrea Varsori, University of Huddersfield, UK*

A key topic in the study of criminal organisations is the latter's relationship with law enforcement agencies. While the literature has explored this topic, systematic data collection is still needed, and nowhere more so than in Rio de Janeiro. While this city has been the subject of much attention in the academic literature, the relationship between gangs and police forces has so far been under-researched. This is due to law enforcement agencies' lack of transparency, as well as to potential personal danger when investigating the topic. This paper presents the results of extensive content analysis of newspaper articles and internal police documents regarding police-gang relationships between 2010 and 2017. The analysis points out to a complex spectrum of arrangements, varying along two main axes: voluntary/forced and occasional/regular. This, along with the fact that police-gang relations in Rio are often managed at a very local level, means that these relationships are extremely variable and context-dependent. At the same time, a categorisation of these arrangements is possible, and their impact is consequential on the resilience of criminal groups.

**Obstacles and best practices in fighting against trafficking in cultural goods.** *David Castro-Liñares, University of A Coruna*

Exploration of crime control concerning cultural heritage (CH) crime encounters prevalent pessimism within possibilities of curbing this tendency. Scholars underscore the ineffectiveness of criminal justice efforts against trafficking in cultural goods (TCG). Unlike other forms of organized crime, negative assessments are recurrent in cultural property (CP) crime. Once exposed that, this study try to challenge this conventional perspective, emphasizing cross-national diversity in anti-TCG capabilities and noting improvement in crime control scenarios. While acknowledging areas for refinement, this paper highlights a discrepancy between detected cases and sentenced offenses, urging exploration of impediments to meeting collective expectations, particularly in prosecution and sentencing as well as cooperation issues among law enforcement agencies and public awareness obstacles emerge as primary concerns. Having said that, addressing these challenges necessitates ambitious public-private partnerships and public involvement. Empirical findings suggest nuanced views among law enforcement units regarding the role of technological innovations in crime prevention and control. Scholars and policymakers extensively explore best practices against CP crime, with initiatives like the EU Action Plan against Trafficking in Cultural Goods showing promise. Likewise, it also important to mention the role of the Italian police squad Carabinieri TPC, renowned for its achievements in combating CH crime, emerges as a potential model for replication across Europe. To sum up, in this paper we try to expose some of the principal obstacles to tackle trafficking in cultural goods crimes as well as these insights shed light on refining crime control strategies against CP crime and navigating challenges in preserving cultural heritage.

**Behind the Veil of Transplant Tourism: A Cross-Jurisdictional Study of the Effects of Medico-Legal Frameworks and Technological Advancements on the Illicit Trade in Human Organs** *Polina Smiragina-Ingelström, DIS and Lund University*

The illicit trade in human organs for the purpose of transplantation is a reality, which poses evident risks to both personal well-being and public health. The crime of trafficking in human beings for the purpose of organ removal (THBOR) is rarely formally identified and highly under-researched. This study aims to conduct a comprehensive comparative medico-legal analysis of the implementation of current legal frameworks regulating transplant tourism and organ trade in Sweden and the US. By examining these frameworks, this research will seek to uncover insights into their effectiveness, identify gaps, and understand their role in facilitating or obstructing THBOR. Additionally, the research aims to explore how the legal landscape responds to emerging technological advancements, including the utilization of the dark web, and how technology influences THBOR.

**035. Prison Working Group: Correctional philosophy, architecture, and prison climate**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”*

This pre-arranged panel—Correctional philosophy, architecture, and prison climate—has been organised by the ESC Prison Working Group and consists of four papers. Firstly, ‘Contradictions and Ritual: Hulsman, Illich and the Institution of the Prison’ is presented by Keith Adams. The second paper is entitled ‘Change starts with knowing the present and imagining futures: Discussing approaches and ideas of social science research engaging the penal system’ and has been developed by Louise Frey, & Ueli Hostettler. Shifting the focus to prison architecture, the third paper is ‘Carceral configurations: exploring condition, functionality and staff training relevance of Victorian prison architecture in England and Wales’ by Jennifer Turner, Dominique Moran, Matt Houlbrook, & Yvonne Jewkes. The concluding paper of the panel is ‘Exploring attitudes held by Swiss penal staff members towards different forms of correctional orientation and what the relationship is with the social climate in these institutions’ by Conor Mangold, & Sofia Battaglia.

Chair:

**Keith Adams**, Leuven Institute of Criminology

Participants:

**Contradictions and Ritual: Hulsman, Illich and the Institution of the Prison** *Keith Adams, Leuven Institute of Criminology*

Prisons have demonstrated a tremendous capacity to persist, even expand, despite ever-growing evidence of their harms and counter-productivities. Different mechanisms—penal populism, path dependence, co-option of rights language—are offered to explain this resilience. While these explanations all elucidate different facets of the puzzle, this paper will argue that the institution of the prison is reinforced because of its role as a ritual in society, thereby concealing its contradictions. The concept of ritual, or ceremony, in penology has broadly focused on an individual’s reintegration to society; Braithwaite’s reintegrative shaming and desistance literature. In this instance, the message being communicated from any ritual is intended for individuals. By taking Louk Hulsman and Ivan Illich as conversation partners, who were both concerned with how institutional contradictions were concealed, this paper will explore how the contemporary prison functions as a societal ritual. Or, in Illich’s words, a “secular ritual.” Ritual is thereby concerned with what is said rather than what is done, so the need to create a prevailing narrative is central to this mechanism. Therefore, to persist, prison must become a myth-generating institution as the stories it tells about itself, reinforce its indispensability to society. In conclusion, this paper will posit that understanding the prison as ritual invites a rethinking of advocacy and activism to focus on and reveal the contradictions.

**Change starts with knowing the present and imagining futures:**

*Discussing approaches and ideas of social science research engaging the penal system* **Louise Emily Frey, Universität Bern; Ueli Hostettler, Universität Bern**

Imagine a senior researcher with some years of experience in prison research of both kinds: basic and applied. Seated opposite him is a younger scholar with prison abolitionist ideas and questions. In this paper, two critical researchers enter dialogue with different attitudes towards prison research – between utopia and empirical knowledge, critique, and pragmatism. How should we invest research funds and human resources? Who should we collaborate with? What is the responsibility that researchers have? From the frictions generated by these questions, we want to gain methodological impulses and we aim to document what happens when “reformist” and “abolitionist” questions meet in the everyday work of a prison research group. How can the encounter of different experiences and attitudes be utilised methodically without turning them into mutual blockade or dead end? What common grounds can (not) be found? How does a stimulating and cross-generational collaboration take place with respect and recognition for the legitimacy of different research perspectives? And finally: How can we avoid getting lost in the “ivory tower” when we engage in this dialogue?

**Exploring attitudes held by Swiss penal staff members towards different forms of correctional orientation and what the relationship is with the social climate in these institutions**

*Conor Mangold, University of Bern; Sofia Battaglia, University of Bern*

Over the last decades, the Swiss attitudes toward punishment have changed, slowly moving towards a rehabilitative and resocialization ideology. While this change has taken place both on a societal and legal level (such as open prisons and a focus on resocialization), the question remains: Is this change also reflected in the attitudes of the people who should implement the shift, i.e., prison staff? It is, therefore, essential to understand what attitudes prison staff hold towards punishment, and if perceived institutional characteristics influence these attitudes. Concerning the relationship with socio-demographic factors there are indications that people with higher levels of education tend to have less punitive attitudes (e.g. Kamenowski/Baier, 2020, Hartnagel et al. 2008, Roberts/Indermaur 2007, Windzio et al., 2007). Using data from a more extensive study (N= 2306) conducted in 2023, we asked Swiss staff members what attitudes they held towards different forms of correctional orientation (including rehabilitation, retribution, incapacitation, specific deterrence, and general deterrence). Using current data, this research aims to understand how different sociodemographic characteristics, such as age, gender, or level of education, are interrelated with in staff members’ attitudes. In the second part, this research aims to understand the relationship between an institution’s social climate (measured using the EssenCES, Schalast & Groenewald, 2009) and attitude towards punishment (based on the wording of Tewksbury & Ehrhardt Mustaine, 2008). Are staff members who see/perceive the social climate as more positive also more open to resocializing inmates? This paper aims to present current research to understand if changes in attitudes are reflected in the attitudes of Swiss correctional staff members.

**036. Comparative Perspectives on Complaints against the Police**

**Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law Enforcement (Policing WG)**

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”*

This panel examines the handling of complaints against the police in a comparative perspective. It presents key findings from the international project Police Accountability – Towards International Standards (ORA, 2021-2024) which brought together researchers from Canada, France, Germany, Japan and the United Kingdom. The project and the panel mainly focus on Independent Police Complaints Bodies (IPCBs) external to the police and their role in the system of police accountability. While in all countries involved in the project, citizens have the possibility to file complaints against police practices, the way in which IPCBs are institutionally shaped and their practices in the handling of complaints vary considerably. The panel draws conclusions from the empirical work on IPCBs carried out in the five countries. Some of the contributions are based on chapters to be published in an edited volume (Johansen et al. (eds.), Routledge 2024).

Chairs:

**Hartmut Aden**, Berlin School of Economics and Law, Berlin Institute for Safety and Security Research (FÖPS Berlin)

**Daniela Hunold**, HWR Berlin – Berlin School of Economics and Law

Participants:

**Independent Police Complaint Bodies’ Use of Amateur Footage: Benefits and Drawbacks** *Morgane Herauld, CESDIP-Université Versailles*

In the current context with the advent of new technologies, the question of the important role that images play in the dynamic between police institutions and the public have been widely studied by scholars. Less examined are the effects that the digital era causes for Independent Police Complaints Bodies (IPCBs). The proliferation of smartphones has facilitated the recording and sharing of videos of police actions on social media, often in the context of demonstrations or street level policing. These videos are likely to provide decisive contextual elements, counter-shots and new perspectives on the situation, which might be difficult to gather without recording tools. The proliferation of images and recordings can be seen as a massive boon for IPCBs, especially those who are structurally weak where it might partially compensate for the lack

of formal investigative powers or the lack of human and material resources. This paper asks whether the use of amateur video by the IPCB is a burden or an asset? More importantly, does amateur image allow the IPCB to get an encompassing picture of police misconduct and then permit them to assess police behaviour more globally and more systematically?

**Controlling the police? What are the Independent Police Complaint Bodies for?** *Anja Johansen, University of Dundee; Christian Mouhanna, CNRS CESDIP*

In recent years, many democracies have seen the development of independent police complaints bodies (IPCBs). Depending on the country, different IPCBs' models have been introduced into systems where other forms of control already existed: internal affairs within police forces, judicial control by magistrates, control by elected assemblies - particularly through parliamentary committees. This raises the question of the added value provided by these bodies. What are their precise objectives, and how do they fit in with those of other bodies? How do they manage to acquire legitimacy and concrete power to control the police? Do they succeed in establishing a balance between the advocates of giving the police the freedom they need to be as effective as possible, and those who defend human rights, fairness and impartiality? Over and above theoretical approaches to these issues, we propose a pragmatic analysis, based on an in vivo study of five countries: the UK, Germany, France, Canada and Japan. What are the interests of stakeholders and where do they potentially conflict? How do the - often vague and open-ended - formulations of objectives reflect aspects that are politically controversial? How are overlaps with the remits and powers of other authorities and institutions articulated in the stated objectives? This presentation will discuss these dilemmas and ambiguities, to clarify the points of contention and how these might be addressed.

**To complain or not to complain: an interplay of perceptions between Independent Police Complaint Bodies and complainants** *Vicky Hébert Brassard, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières*

This presentation examines the perceptions of complainants within police oversight organisations, which should play a crucial role in maintaining public confidence in law enforcement agencies. The legitimacy of these oversight mechanisms hinges on how accessible, supportive, and impactful they are perceived by the parties involved, including Independent Police Complaints Body staff, police officers, and complainants themselves. Our research delves into the identity and perceptions of complainants by analysing findings from interviews with professionals directly engaged with complaint systems across five countries: Germany, France, UK, Japan, and Canada. Furthermore, we complement these qualitative insights with quantitative data sourced from publicly available resources for each jurisdiction. By exploring these perceptions, we aim to shed light on the experiences and perspectives of complainants within the context of police oversight, offering valuable insights for enhancing the effectiveness and fairness of complaint mechanisms.

**International Standards for Police Complaints System** *Genevieve Lennon, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow; Hartmut Aden, Berlin School of Economics and Law, Berlin Institute for Safety and Security Research (FÖPS Berlin)*

There are a number of, sometimes detailed, international standards on police complaints systems, both 'hard' law instruments, such as the ICCPR and the ECHR, and 'soft' law, such as the OSCE's Guidebook on Democratic Policing and the UN's Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials. These provide useful guidance, particularly given the vast variation in the structures, powers and practices of independent police complaints bodies (IPCBs). They may also be usefully leveraged by jurisdictions arguing for the creation - or expansion of such bodies. This paper will compare these standards against the practices of the IPCBs in Canada, France, Germany, Japan and across the UK that were examined as part of the project Police Accountability - Towards International Standards, highlighting deficits in current institutional structures, legal bases and powers and reflecting upon the gaps in the standards themselves that fail to address the shortcomings in IPCB practice and regulation.

**037. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 7: Barriers and challenges in reporting of and responding to violence and abuse**

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”

Chair:

**Solveig Bergman**, Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies

Participants:

**Barriers and challenges experienced by vulnerable domestic violence victims in the French overseas territories, the case of Réunion Island** *Margarita Vassileva, CNRS Laboratoire PACTE*

PLEASE, REPLACE MY OTHER PROPOSAL (THE EDIT FUNCTION DOESN'T WORK), THANK YOU ! My presentation will focus on the perceptions of support services among vulnerable victims of domestic violence in the French overseas territory of Réunion. At the heart of my presentation is the role of accumulated vulnerabilities in shaping victims' experiences. The fieldwork comprised 11 semi-structured interviews, each lasting between 2.5 to 3 hours. These interviews were carried out with vulnerable victims in May 2023 as part of the European Horizon project IMPROVE (Improving Access to Services for Victims of Domestic Violence by Accelerating Change in Frontline Responder Organisations). Analysis of the pathways to support shows what motivates victims and what inhibits their ability to seek help, as well as the steps to seeking support. Number of specific factors explain the lower take-up of support services for DV in the French overseas territories: higher tolerance of violence, the prevalence of certain sexist stereotypes, the weight of certain traditions, the high level of economic dependence of women, constraints linked to insularity, such as the difficulty of leaving a violent partner. These barriers are exacerbated by belonging to different vulnerable groups such as young mothers, elderly, men, LGBTQ, migrants, people living in rural areas, migrants, victims with mental health conditions. Challenges often arise from the multiplication of barriers caused by the accumulation of various vulnerabilities in a single victim. Experiences with support services reveal situations of conflicting behaviors or goals, e.g., older people may feel a sense of failure if they seek help, LGBTQI people fear stigma, mothers struggle with conflicting desires to protect their children and maintain family unity, men often delay seeking help because of feelings of helplessness or fear of judgement.

**Qualitative reflections on support pathways for child-to-parent violence : A gendered analysis** *Nikki Rutter, Durham University; Lihan Miao, Durham University*

Child to parent violence has often been viewed as a gendered phenomenon, instigated by adolescent boys and harming their mothers. In this work, workshops and interviews with eight children and adolescents (aged 8-16), four boys and four girls, who were instigating child to parent violence took place. The focus of the workshops was to explore how the children and young people sought support for their harmful behaviours and how they understood the responses from those adults in authority around them. The data was analysed in a gendered way to understand the differences between seeking support for their harmful behaviours and how they made meaning of this based on their gender and gendered expectations. Girls often found higher levels of stigma, labelling, and generalised mistrust from authorities figures in their lives. Boys found higher rates of exclusion and segregation overall. How these different approaches from adults who were meant to be supporting children and young people, and how young people interpreted this support will be explored.

**Rabbit in Headlights: evaluation of non-specialist practitioners' use of co-produced stories and resources for holding space with children and young people when disclosing domestic abuse.** *Cait Jobson, Durham University Centre for Research into*

*Violence and Abuse; Nikki Rutter, Durham University*

Previously, when responding to domestic abuse, focus has often been on the adult victim. However, in England, the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 now recognises children as victims of domestic abuse in their own right if they witness or experience the effects of abuse. As such, thinking about domestic abuse should be at the forefront of safeguarding children. Many practitioners such as youth workers, teachers, and social workers, who are in frequent contact with children and young people, are not domestic abuse specialists. Yet, these professionals are frequently required to hold the space with children and young people when responding to domestic abuse disclosures alongside safeguarding procedures and whilst waiting for support from domestic abuse specialists. Rabbits in Headlights was a project created by Changing Relations CIC to address this gap in support through co-producing stories with children and young people in the Northeast of England, which describe their real experiences of neglect, domestic abuse and controlling behaviours, both within families and young people's own romantic relationships. The use of these co-produced stories, alongside activities and worksheets, by non-specialist practitioners was evaluated, through interviews with social workers and teachers across primary and secondary schools, focus groups with young people, and participatory observation of training on using the resources. The stories were seen as invaluable resources which provided the space for practitioners to have difficult conversations and discuss the diverse representation of real young people's experiences of these issues, highlighting the importance of co-production with children and young people themselves. The evaluation of the resources highlighted key challenges around time, overwhelm and support needed to implement the resources but also discusses best practices so that practitioners not only use the resources to start the conversation but can then hold the space that children and young people need when disclosing domestic abuse.

*Inside and Outside: Barriers and challenges affecting helpers working with violence and abuse in Sámi communities Solveig Bergman, Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies*

The Sámi are an indigenous people inhabiting the Arctic parts of northern Europe. Research from Norway indicates higher exposure to violence and abuse (VA) among the Sámi compared to other ethnic groups, particularly among women and children. These results accord with international studies relating the high level of VA reported by indigenous people to historic traumas caused by colonialism. The legacy of assimilation, subordination and discrimination has affected individual and collective identities of the Sámi, as well as their attitude towards state authorities and support services. Building on interviews and focus groups, the paper explores how professionals deal with structural and cultural barriers that restrict help-seeking among the Sámi. Additional information has been collected from NGOs, policymakers and other experts. Drawing on and comparing results from earlier and ongoing research, we examine how VA is understood and dealt with by professionals working with Sámi victims. The paper reflects the complex processes of being 'inside' and 'outside' as constantly (re)negotiated parts of working with VA in Sámi communities. For the helpers, being part of the community is often a pre-condition for getting access. Yet, being an insider can be challenging in small and tightly knit communities, as people sometimes prefer to talk about sensitive issues to an 'outsider'. An outsider's position can also be a disadvantage, since they lack 'quiet' knowledge often inherent in language, culture and identity. Non-Sámi helpers report of challenges including the lack of cultural-linguistic competence, limited knowledge about the Sámi context, and a mistrust in authorities among the Sámi. The tradition of silencing tabooed issues or keeping them within the family/kin, can prevent help-seeking. However, we argue that a discursive change is taking place, as themes such as violence, gender and sexuality have entered onto the cultural and political agenda in Sámi communities, breaking the 'culture of silence'.

**038. Bystander Intervention and Image-Based Sexual Abuse**

Topic 4: Victimology/Policy and Prevention of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”*

Image-based sexual abuse (IBSA), also known as non-consensual dissemination of intimate images (NCII), is an emerging form of technology-facilitated sexual violence that involves the non-consensual taking, distribution, and/or threat to distribute nude or sexual imagery of another person. Over the past ten years, there has been greater scholarly and public attention paid to this form of violence globally, with research finding perpetration and victimisation is relatively common. Consistent among these studies is a higher rate of victimisation among people who are gender and sexuality diverse, from ethnic or racial minorities, Indigenous and First Nations people, and younger cohorts, mirroring other forms of sexual violence. Research has also identified a range of significant harms, such as anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation, social isolation, and employment loss. IBSA and other digital harms continue partly because others actively or passively support inequality, discriminatory attitudes, or violence; remain silent; and/or tolerate the abuse and its underlying causes. Indeed, research suggests that support for, and intervention by, people who witness abusive behaviours can reduce the extent and impact of those behaviours, problematic attitudes, and harms. In this regard, bystanders are an untapped resource and have a potentially greater role to play in the prevention of image-based sexual abuse. This panel (one of two focused on bystander intervention and sexual and gender-based violence) brings together scholars from Australia, Italy, Denmark, Belgium, England and the Netherlands to examine the potentials of bystander intervention in IBSA, and other forms of sexual harm, including child exploitation material and online sexual harassment. The panel includes discussion of both qualitative and quantitative findings, as well as theoretical and conceptual frameworks for better understanding bystander intervention in online settings.

Chair:

*Asher Flynn, Monash University*

Participants:

Understanding and disrupting young bystander's barriers to intervene against Non-Consensual Dissemination of Intimate Images *Sofie Boye Kromann, Department of Communication and Arts, Roskilde University*

Several studies highlight the pervasive nature of Non-Consensual Dissemination of Intimate Images (NCII) among youth, leading to severe psychosocial and legal ramifications for victims and perpetrators respectively. Despite growing recognition of the preventive potential in bystander intervention, recent reports find that bystander involvement in cases of NCII remains rare. This paper will explore young bystander's perspectives on the factors that reduce their willingness to act as proactive and reactive upstanders. Utilizing participatory methods, the paper engages 15 Danish high school students (aged 16-18) in three stages of collaborative data collection. Theoretically, this paper is inspired by scholars highlighting the affective-discursive entanglements of social practices. As such, the analysis will illuminate how bystander's proclivity to intervene is influenced by online-offline affective-discursive dynamics. Additionally, it will point to potential avenues for disrupting these dynamics, by identifying cracks and ruptures that enable gradual changes of the gendered techno-social landscape facilitative of NCII. As a result, this paper will offer new insights capable of informing preventive initiatives and efforts to end NCII amongst youth.

Barriers, Facilitators and Strategies to Promote Bystander Intervention in Image-Based Sexual Abuse Contexts *Asher Flynn, Monash University; Elena Cama, University of New South Wales; Adrian J. Scott, University of Goldsmiths*

Research suggests that support for, and intervention by, people who witness abusive behaviours can reduce the extent and impacts of those behaviours, problematic attitudes, and harms. Research also suggests that promoting bystander intervention when witnessing violence and discrimination may be an effective prevention tool. In this regard, bystanders could play a greater role in preventing image-based sexual abuse (IBSA). Utilising data from surveys and in-person focus groups with 219 participants in four Australian States, this presentation discusses barriers and facilitators to bystander intervention in IBSA contexts, and how messaging could

be improved to help people intervene in a safe and effective manner. We found that bystander intervention was affected by perceptions of safety and the potential risks of intervening; gender; perceptions of how the intervention would be perceived by the perpetrator and other bystanders; relationships; the age, physicality, and mental state of the perpetrator; and the presence of others. The presentation concludes by discussing what mechanisms participants identified as potential ways to improve bystander intervention when witnessing IBSA.

Perceived harmfulness as trigger for bystanding in image-based sexual abuse. *Aurelie Gilen, University of Antwerp; Michel Walrave, University of Antwerp; Catherine Van de Heyning, University of Antwerp; Mona Giacometti, University of Antwerp*

A 2023 prevalence study showed that non-consensual dissemination of intimate images (NCII) is a recurrent form of image-based sexual violence among Belgian adolescents and young adults. To investigate its prevalence and consequences, a survey-vignette study was conducted among 2819 Belgian digital natives (15 to 25 year). Of the respondents who sent sexting messages, 25.8% had their intimate image disseminated without their consent. When asked about their feelings connected to events of NCII, victims mentioned feeling nervous (36.8%), ashamed (32.2%), helpless (32.6%), guilty (21.3%), and lonely (22.6%). In terms of perpetration, 31.9% engaged in NCII. These high numbers of occurrence of NCII-events as well as the feelings of loneliness and helplessness suggest that victims are often isolated and unsupported. The study further found that victims do not find their way to professional help, but mostly turn to peers (30%) and parents (26,8%) for support. A significant group of victims (17.4%) does not seek support and deals with the event alone. These numbers suggest a high level of isolation of victims and low levels of active bystanding. However, the vignette-study found high numbers of the population labelling scenarios of NCII as harmful (average 70.3%). Moreover, high percentages of the respondents indicate that events of NCII should be prosecuted by law enforcement, with the majority proponent of punishing perpetrators by alternative sanctions to prison sentencing such as probation condition or following a course on online violence (45.7%), paying a fine (48.2%), community service (39.1%), or mediation (39%). This paper considers the gap between the commonly perceived harmfulness of NCII and support for action against perpetrators on the one hand, and the perceived isolation and lack of bystander support among victims on the other hand. The question thus becomes how to turn the high level of intolerance towards NCII into active bystanding of victims.

Bystander intervention and image-based sexual abuse: the Italian case of Telegram groups *Cosimo Sidoti, PhD candidate at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore and Transcrime, Milan, Italy; Edel Beckman, Clinical Criminologist at PermessoNegato APS*

The diffusion of non-consensual intimate images is a largely debated topic in the study of Internet cultures. Among its many implications, it represents one of the main ways in which gender-based violence is currently perpetrated every day on the Internet. Through a data scraping of the main 6 Italian Telegram groups where such phenomena take place within the platform, this ongoing research aims at analysing descriptively the messages exchanged throughout a whole week among the members of these communities. A key part of the research is to analyse the interactions that take place within these groups and how the men have created a community within which, despite knowing the social disvalue of supply and demand, they empower and encourage each other, justifying themselves. This behaviour can be traced back to a toxic masculinity and a patriarchal system, which spills over into the language used towards women, whose intimate images and personal details are daily shared; we also noticed that there is a high request of child pornography: some of the keywords inside the groups are in fact "rape" and "kids". From a social point of view, how would those men who are not present within these groups react? Despite in many cases we have registered an attitude of solidarity towards other men, minimising their behaviour, we will deepen if instead there could be, five years after the enactment of the Italian law regulating image-based sexual abuse, a breeding

ground for a bystander intervention, educating the society is recognizing a harmful situation and choosing to respond in a way that will positively influence the outcome.

"After I wash my hands" - Young adults on reporting harmful sexual images *Sidsel Harder, University of Copenhagen; Sofie Bovée, University of Copenhagen; Jakob Demant, University of Copenhagen; Michel Walrave, University of Antwerp*

The digital pornography that young people grow up with today is a two-way street. Users can impact content by seeking out specific genres, and by reporting images that they assess to be harmful or illegal. Reporting hotlines enable internet users to alert authorities to e.g. image-based sexual abuse and child sexual abuse material. But few people know why, what, and how to report when browsing for porn online. Young people are thus left with limited possibilities to act as active bystanders if they witness offensive, harmful, or criminal images. This paper presents findings from interviews with 29 young adults from Belgium and Denmark and uses the bystander intervention model to point to concrete difficulties in reporting harmful sexual images. We conclude that the pro or con debate about pornography neglects to address how young people are navigating the problems and possibilities of an internet of nude images.

### 039. Cybercrime Offenders & Victims (part 2)

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Cybercrime (Cybercrime WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 5 „Constantin Stătescu”*

The presenters in this panel research the human factor in cybercrime. The aim of this panel is to gain a better understanding of how people become involved in cybercrime, why people are victimized by cybercrime, and how cybercrime can be prevented. The first presentation is about an alternative intervention for the settlement of online fraud, where victims can claim financial compensation by holding the beneficiary account holder liable under private law through a civil legal representative (such as a bailiff). It will provide insight into the implementation of and experiences with the intervention. The second presentation provides insight into the activities and operations of cybercrime offenders on Telegram, using scraped messages from 300 Telegram groups. The third presentation examines the relationship between the use of website defacements among hacktivists and routine activity theory. The fourth presentation examines the behavioral and psychological predictors associated with more serious forms of cybercrime, including denial of service attacks. The presentations in this panel have important practical and theoretical implications that are relevant for the criminological field as a whole.

Chair:

*Sifra Matthijsse, The Hague University of Applied Sciences*

Participants:

An alternative intervention for the settlement of online fraud *Merel van Leuken, The Hague University of Applied Sciences; Susanne van 't Hoff-de Goede, The Hague University of Applied Sciences*

Background The criminal justice system at present seems insufficiently equipped to provide an outcome that meets the needs of victims of online fraud. An alternative intervention for the settlement of online fraud is becoming increasingly common. Victims of online fraud can claim financial compensation by holding the beneficiary account holder (i.e. the recipient of the money) liable under private law through a civil legal representative (such as a bailiff). However, it is unknown how this intervention works in practice and what consequences it has for victims, perpetrators, and society. Methods Based on deskresearch and interviews with professionals (N=20), we will examine how this intervention is implemented in practice. Furthermore, victims of online fraud were interviewed (N=45) with the aim of determining what results this intervention brings to victims of online fraud and how they experience this. Results Victims can apply to a civil legal representative on their own initiative. It also occurs that they are referred to a representative by the bank or the police. This study shows what percentage of cases victims are able to successfully claim financial compensation by holding the beneficiary account holder liable and, if not, why. In doing so, problems regarding the

findability of the beneficiary and the recoverability of the damage are addressed.

Telegram as an online offender convergence setting: Exploring the activities of cybercrime offenders using longitudinal data *Luuk Bekkers, The Hague University of Applied Sciences; Joeri Loggen, The Hague University of Applied Sciences; Hugo Bijmans, TNO; Naomi Keja, TNO; Ignas Melman, TNO; Rutger Leukfeldt, NSCR*

In recent years, Telegram has emerged as a digital offender convergence setting, making it possible for anyone to become involved in cybercrime. However, very little research is conducted on how offenders utilize Telegram, with a virtual absence of longitudinal data. The aim of the current exploratory study is therefore to provide more insight into the activities and operations of cybercrime offenders on Telegram, with which we can directly inform law enforcement on how to approach this platform. To accomplish this, we utilized a large dataset containing content of 14 Dutch Telegram groups that revolve around illegal products or services, both related to cybercrimes and traditional crimes. This information was collected by scraping all the messages that were posted in the groups from August 2022 to August 2023. In this time frame, we found that more than 1,400 users were involved in cybercrimes, while 8,900 users were involved in traditional crimes. Many cybercrime offenders also engaged in traditional crime categories, while traditional offenders virtually all specialized in traditional crimes. Some of the users were extremely active, with some crime categories being associated with an average of 500 messages per user. However, noticeable is that only a small minority of all the messages are unique, which means the same message tended to be shared very often. This possibly reflects a degree of organization and cooperation behind the messages. Data also showed that, overall, almost half of the users stop posting messages at some point. Especially phishers tended to quit. Our data provides unique insights into the use of Telegram by offenders, and offers ground for future endeavors to further investigate the role of Telegram in the preparation and commission of crime.

Our weapons are lines of codes! Applying routine activity theory to analyze the use of website defacements among hacktivists as a form of protest *Marco Romagna, The Hague University of Applied Sciences; Rutger Leukfeldt, NSCR*

Hacktivists are known for extensively using website defacements to promote their socio-political agendas. Website defacements are often relatively easy to achieve, especially when targeting websites that use systems with known unpatched vulnerabilities or that receive little maintenance. They are also relatively simple to fix, typically causing mild troubles to the targets but also hinting at more serious threats that might lurk behind the attacks. This study analyzes 14 years of website defacements recorded from January 2010 to December 2023 against thousands of websites worldwide. The analysis is based on the data provided by the Zone-H database, the largest self-reported repository of website defacements. It focuses on 'patriotism' and 'political reasons,' two of the seven categories that can be indicated as the main motives for hacking by the defacer. We used regression analysis to examine the relationships between hacktivism (obtained by the combination of the two categories) and variables of routine activity theory.

Exploring the behavioral and psychological predictors of serious cybercriminality *Thomas J. Holt, Michigan State University; Luuk Bekkers, The Hague University of Applied Sciences; Rutger Leukfeldt, NSCR*

Criminological inquiry on more serious forms of cybercrime, like malware use and denial of service attacks, largely examine these crimes through police data, or online forums and related data sources. Survey research suggests that these behaviors are exceedingly rare in college samples and the broader population. As a result, it is difficult to identify what behavioral and psychological predictors may be associated with such criminality. This analysis attempts to extend the prior literature through an examination of these behaviors using survey data collected in the Netherlands. The findings suggest that traditional correlates of offending are associated with denial of service attacks and web defacements, though not with malware use. The implications of this study for both policy and practice will be explored in detail.

#### 040. EUROCRIM 11 White-Collar and Corporate Crimes in Context I

Topic 2: Types of Offending/White collar Crime, Organizational Crime, Corporate Crime, Financial Crime (EUROCRIM)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”

Chair:

**Rita Faria**, CIJ - Center for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice, University of Porto

Participants:

Financial crime and the art market: A review of the literature. *Siv Runhovde, University of Oslo*

The art market, a lucrative global industry, may be at significant risk of financial crime, due to factors such as transactional anonymity and regulatory gaps. Existing research highlights a lack of risk awareness and self-regulation among market participants, emphasizing the need for enhanced oversight. While the illegal trade in art and cultural artifacts is frequently driven by economic motives, both research and regulatory authorities have not adequately prioritized understanding the characteristics and prevention of economic crime within the art market context. This paper represents the initial phase of a research project examining this issue within the Norwegian art market. It offers preliminary insights derived from an extensive review of the existing international literature, aiming to shed light on the current understanding of this area of criminal activity.

The system of sanctions applicable to legal persons in Romania *George-Alexandru Lazăr, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest*

The system of sanctions provided by Romanian law for legal persons is already 20 years old. While changes have been made in 2006 and 2009, its framework remains largely the same. Meanwhile, the economic landscape of Romania has seen dramatic changes in the past two decades. As with any emerging market economy, companies have multiplied and have grown from corner shops to giant retailer chains and from craftsman workshops to manufacturing conglomerates. The lack of any meaningful change in the system of sanctions of legal persons in the past 18 to 20 years in Romania must raise some eyebrows. How can a system devised for small-time businesses be efficient when applied to telecom or energy companies? This is just one of the many issues which concern the current state of affairs in the field of the criminal responsibility of legal persons, along with questions relating to the hidden figure of crime, the knowledge and the resources police and prosecutors can employ for fighting corporate crimes and the general attitude of society towards the responsibility of legal entities.

Food crimes and the role of corporate actors in policing and regulating the food system *Alice Rizzuti, University of Hull*

Economic crisis and socio-political changes can create risks for the integrity of the food supply chain and open space for regulatory non-compliant and criminal behaviours (food crimes). These endanger the safety and trust of the food system to the disadvantage of public health, food industry, and consumers. By raising issues for the security and resilience of the food supply chain, food crimes flag the fragility of modern food systems. While there is criminological research on the role played by corporate actors in perpetrating food crimes, the role played by the same type of actors as third-party regulators in facing these challenges and in guarding and regulating the food sector has been scarcely analysed. Drawing upon qualitative interviews and documentary sources, this paper aims to expand the research on this issue by mapping food crime responsibilities and unveil if and how the private industry upholds rules and standards in preventing and monitoring different forms of dishonesty. Finally, using the case of the UK food market, the paper will shed light on how the food supply chain is regulated and policed in relation to the consequences of these standards for public health, food safety, and for the overall integrity and sustainability of the food system.

Modern slavery and digitisation in 'fast fashion' supply networks:



the transparency dividend *Jon Davies, The University of Manchester; Rose Broad, University of Manchester; Amy Benstead, The University of Manchester*

The concepts of ‘transparency’ and ‘due diligence’ have permeated discussions and decision-making processes within corporations in various ways – although their efficacy is hotly contested. Digital technology, especially tools such as AI and Blockchain technology, have the potential to affect how companies manage their supply networks, including their responses to forms of labour exploitation and modern slavery. The contribution of this paper is to examine to what extent digital technology has been effective in shaping corporate attitudes and behaviours towards addressing modern slavery in the garment manufacturing and retail sectors. This paper draws on a mixed methods study consisting of semi-structured interviews with industry stakeholders and an assessment of the Fashion Transparency Index. We argue that despite some positive rhetoric, there is limited awareness and commitment towards implementing digital technologies across businesses and supply networks. This limited commitment is related both to the perceived value and feasibility of digital technology, but also to broader systemic challenges with recognising and reducing opportunities for exploitation to occur. Such a discussion will help to understand the motivations and attitudes of corporate actors when addressing exploitation within businesses, their subsidiaries, and other networks.

**Predatory Publishing Practices: paper tigers or actual threats?** *Rita Faria, CLJ - Center for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice, University of Porto; Dimity Stephen, German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies (DZHW), Berlin; Emanuel Kulczycki, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan; Martin Reinhart, Robert K. Merton Center, Humboldt University, Berlin*

Recently, changes in how science is being evaluated increased the visibility of lower-quality research, incurring a moral panic about predatory publishing practices (PPP) on the science system. Predatory publishers are known to falsely claim impact and indexation in key databases, foregoing peer review, spamming researchers and engaging in cyber-crimes by cloning legitimate journals’ websites or using phishing to attract authors. However, there is little empirical research examining the causes, risks, and impact of PPP on the academic system, reflecting the key characteristics of a moral panic: intense concern without sufficient justification. While criminological research about the actual causes of questionable research practices is challenging due to their invisibility, the effects of labelling practices as questionable are more immediate. Due to the important role that reputation plays in the scientific reward system, accusations of misconduct or the retraction of journal articles have serious consequences for the accused, making it important to understand how these labels are used and assigned. Nonetheless, Criminology rarely uses its conceptual and methodological toolbox to look into deviant practices in scientific research and publication, leaving it as an under-developed area in occupational and organisational crime scholarship. Given the current panic about PPPs and the damaging effects of labelling behaviours as predatory, the 4-year study “Predatory publishing practices: Paper tigers or actual threats from evaluation systems?” proposes an explorative and comparative mixed-methods approach to elucidate the relationship between evaluation systems and PPPs, considering that negatively labelling behaviours and outcomes relies heavily on cultural context, which cannot be ignored in a global academic community that readily compares and evaluates research produced in different contexts. In this context, the relevance of criminological research on deviance in science, namely PPPs, will be discussed in depth.

**041. Radicalisation Into Right-Wing Extremism and Multi-Agency Approaches to Counter and Prevent it**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Terrorism and Terrorism Financing, Radicalization, Extremism (Radicalization, Extremism, Terrorism WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement -

*Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)*

Right-wing extremism and radicalisation towards right-wing extremism pose a major problem internationally. This panel starts from a model of radicalisation as deviant social development that integrates ontogenetic social-developmental processes, proximal radicalisation processes from early adolescence to middle adulthood and extremist attitudes and behaviour. In a second step, educational approaches to prevent stereotypes and prejudice and to counter radicalisation processes in the school environment are presented and discussed. The following sections of the panel are dedicated to analysing efforts to counter right-wing extremism in Germany as well as at international level. As it is becoming increasingly evident that right-wing extremism is a problem that requires the joining of forces of different professions and institutions, a special emphasis is placed on multi-agency approaches, focusing on the goals pursued when working across organisational borders, the approaches followed, challenges and possible obstacles, success factors and outcomes of cross-organisational work against right-wing extremism.

Chair:

*Thomas Görgen, Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei/German Police University*

Participants:

**Radicalisation as Deviant Social Development: Empirical Confirmation of an Integrated Model** *Andreas Beelmann, Friedrich Schiller University Jena*

Presents empirical data on a new social-developmental model of radicalisation among youth and young adults. This model assumes a three-step model of radicalisation: Ontogenetic social-developmental processes (interaction of societal, social, and individual risk and protective factors); proximal radicalisation processes within early adolescence to middle adulthood with four interrelated but distinct social-developmental processes (antisocial attitudes and behaviour, prejudice, identity problems, acquisition of political or religious ideologies); and finally, extremist attitudes and behaviour. First empirical results stem from a cross-sectional school survey with 1.145 students aged 14 to 17 years. They showed that the risks for radicalised and extremist attitudes are continuously linked to the four proximal processes and that students with high manifestations on all proximal risk factors had approximately a seven times higher risk for radicalised and extremist attitudes. Several important implications of the social-developmental model will be discussed. For example, we will outline different forms of developmental prevention at different stages and subgroups. Finally, we will conclude that a developmental perspective is necessary to supplement the more politically oriented approaches to explaining and countering radicalisation and violent extremism.

**Countering Radicalisation in Classrooms: Instructional Design for the Prevention of Stereotypes and Prejudice** *Tihomir Vrdoljak, German Police University; Thomas Görgen, Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei/German Police University*

The development of stereotypes and prejudices is an essential socio-cognitive element of right-wing radicalisation. While systematic evidence on the effectiveness of different psychological approaches and forms of educational intervention in reducing prejudice has already been presented (Beelmann & Heinemann, 2014; Beelmann & Lutterbach, 2022), there is still a lack of implementation of these findings at the level of instructional design, i.e. the systematic planning, development and evaluation of learning environments. How can these be designed in order to reduce prejudice in an evidence-based way, for example by addressing intergroup emotions, perspective-taking and empathy-building? To answer these questions, this contribution will present findings on linking psychological impact research with educational considerations. Furthermore, preliminary results from an ongoing project funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research will be presented, in which innovative teaching and learning concepts are being developed to reduce prejudice and discrimination. This includes incorporating social (quasi-)experiments in the form of small-scale observational studies or surveys into the instructional design. The students themselves are the subjects of these (quasi-)experiments and subsequently analyse them and their results together with their teacher. This should contribute to a better understanding of stereotypes and prejudices as well as to their reduction.

Countering Right-Wing Extremism Around the World - Findings from a Qualitative Interview Study *Josephine Gerlach, Agentur für Sicherheitsforschung, Kriminologie und Kriminalpolitik; Lennard John, Agentur für Sicherheitsforschung, Kriminologie und Kriminalpolitik; Dominic Kudlacek, Hochschule Bremerhaven*

This presentation reports on a comparative analysis that examines what measures have been developed to deal with right-wing extremism in different countries. The study, which is part of the Connect project, is based on qualitative interviews with representatives of security authorities, civil society organizations and academics dealing with right-wing extremism. The data shows a heterogeneous scene in the various countries, with different ideological orientations, political goals and approaches as well as a trend towards internationalisation of activities. Regarding religious extremism, multi-agency approaches to counter radicalisation and promote reintegration are common in many countries. Positive assessments of such projects or programs are common, although scientific evaluations are rare. In line with the observed trend towards internationalisation, cross-border cooperation is even highly recommended by several respondents.

Cooperation Between Civil Society Organisations and Law Enforcement Agencies in Countering Right-Wing Extremism in Germany: Findings from a Multi-Method Study *Andreas Arnold, German Police University; Tihomir Vrdoljak, German Police University; Thomas Görgen, Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei/German Police University*

One of the biggest societal challenges in Germany in recent years has been the fight against right-wing extremism. As part of a project commissioned by the German Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community, we conducted a multi-method study on cooperation between civil society organisations and law enforcement agencies, focusing on the objectives, methods, possible obstacles, success factors and outcomes of cross-organisational work against extremism. This included national surveys of police authorities and public prosecutors' offices as well as 50 in-depth interviews with German experts from the fields of law enforcement, civil society organisations, politics and academia. The findings highlight that cooperation between police and CSOs is widespread and focuses primarily on preventive measures rather than criminal prosecution. Both parties generally regarded cooperation positively, noting its benefits such as enhanced information sharing and improved access to target groups. However, the analysis also identified various challenges, including barriers to information exchange, differing professional roles and the importance of building trust. Recommendations include clarifying data protection regulations, providing support measures to manage expectations on the ground, legally establishing the right of civil society actors to refuse testimony and implementing decision-making criteria for selecting civil society partners for cooperation initiatives.

#### 042. Mapping the Penological Landscape of the Balkans

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Penology and Theories Punishment (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Roundtable

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)*

Recognizing that the study of crime entails the study of societies' response to crime, a thorough scientific investigation into penological features of the Balkans has been far overdue. Therefore, the roundtable provides an overview of the forthcoming edited volume (Springer 2024) Mapping the Penological Landscape of the Balkans: A Regional Study on Sentencing and Imprisonment with a Critical Analysis of Current Penal Policies (Editors: Getoş Kalac, A., Kilchling, M., Meško, G., Aebi, M. & Maljević, A.). The book is the scientific output of the Balkan Criminology Network and 'maps' sentencing and imprisonment in Balkan and neighbouring countries in a comparative way with the aim to detect common traits as well as national specifics, thereby also shedding light on major developments during the past two decades. The roundtable, after discussing the survey's concept and methodology will provide first insights into penological findings from and on the Balkans. Editors of the Book: Anna-Maria Getoş Kalac, Michael Kilchling, Gorazd Meško, Marcelo F. Aebi and Almir Maljević

Chairs:

*Anna-Maria Getoş Kalac*, University of Zagreb Faculty of Law  
*Michael Kilchling*, Max Planck Institut (Freiburg)  
*Marcelo F. Aebi*, University of Lausanne

Discussants:

*Andra Roxana Trandafir*, University of Bucharest  
*Daniel Nitu*, Babes-Bolyai University, Faculty of Law  
*Lea Feuerbach*, Central European Academy; Balkan Criminology  
*Rok Hacin*, University of Maribor

#### 043. Criminal Justice, Wildlife Conservation and Animal Rights in the Anthropocene, 2024, Sollund and Lie (eds.)

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Environmental/Green Criminology

Author meets critics

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Library - reading room 1*

This book published on Bristol University Press addresses one of today's most urgent issues: the loss of wildlife and habitat, which together constitute an ecological crisis. Combining studies from different disciplines such as law, political science and criminology with a focus on animal rights, the chapters explore the successes and failures of the international wildlife conservation and trade treaties, CITES and the BERN Convention. While these conventions have played a crucial role in protecting endangered species from trade and in the rewinding of European large carnivores, the case studies in this book demonstrate huge variations in their implementation and enforcement across Europe. In conclusion, the book advocates for a non-anthropocentric policy approach to strengthen wildlife conservation in Europe.

Critics:

*Jennifer Ann Maher*, University of South Wales  
*Angus Nurse*, Anglia Ruskin University

Book Authors:

*Martine S.B. Lie*, University of Oslo; Dept. of Criminology and Sociology of Law  
*Ragnhild Sollund*, University of Oslo

#### 044. POL Panel 10. Police use of force: impacts, training and opportunities for change.

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)*

Chair:

*Amal Ali*, London School of Economics

Participants:

Police homicides, minorities and riots in France *Sebastian Roche, Sciences-Po Grenoble / Université de Grenoble-Alpes; Simon Varaine, Pacte, Sciences Po Grenoble*

Why do some police homicides lead to riots while others do not?

The present paper analyzes the intensity of riots in France through the monthly number of arsons on private property at the departmental level from January 1996 to August 2022 (N = 32, 080). The results suggest that police homicides in general have no discernible correlation with rioting. However, certain characteristics of homicides are critical for triggering riots when i) the victim has a non-European immigrant background, ii) the police officers are from the BAC (tough anti-crime unit), and iii) there are multiple victims.

Policing Under Hardline: A Case Study of Lethal Operations in São Paulo's Coastal Region *ARIADNE LIMA NATAL, PRIF; Maria Gorete Marques De Jesus, Núcleo de Estudos da Violência - Universidade de São Paulo (NEV-USP)*

After the election of a far-right governor in São Paulo in 2024, a shift towards more repressive public security policies was observed, significantly focusing on use of police force. This marked a departure from previous approaches to law enforcement in the region. This article delves into the repercussions of these policy

changes, particularly emphasizing the notable 20% increase in police lethality, which resulted in a concerning total of 504 deaths in the year 2023. The study conducts a case study, centering its focus on a series of police operations that occurred in the coastal region of São Paulo. These operations, which took place in August 2023 and February 2024, was triggered after the death of 4 police officers and culminated in at least 58 civilian deaths, raising significant questions about the proportionality and effectiveness of the police response. Through a combination of analysis of data from official documents, news articles, reports, and public interviews, the study presents a thorough view of the criminal dynamics and police actions in the region. It uncovers the complexities and the underpinnings of these dynamics, offering insights into immediate and long-term effects of these law enforcement strategies. Furthermore, the article presents an overview of the current security policy in São Paulo. It highlights the use of police force and critically examines its relation to the broader national political scenario. In doing so, the article sheds light on the influence of political ideologies and platforms on public security strategies. This analysis is crucial for understanding the broader implications of these policies, not just for public security but also for their social and political consequences. By providing these critical insights, the article contributes to the discourse on law enforcement and public safety, highlighting the urgent need for an approach that safeguards both public security and civil liberties.

**Representative Bureaucracy: Examining Demographic Alignments and Use of Force Patterns in England and Wales**  
*Amal Ali, London School of Economics; Jasmine Oware, London School of Economics; Krisztián Pósch, University College London*

The concept of representative bureaucracy, that public institutions ought to reflect the demographic composition of the society they serve to effectively cater to the diverse needs of citizens, has long been advocated as a remedy for identified disproportionalities in police-public interactions, such as stop and search and the use of force. Over the past several decades, extensive scholarly work has delved into the concept of representativeness within policing. However, it remains unclear whether demographic alignment between police officers and citizens in terms of age, gender and ethnicity is likely to reduce the probability of taser in use of force encounters. Drawing on administrative police data, our study centres on two key aspects: (1) the demographic characteristics of both citizens and officers and (2) larger geographical areas within these police forces. We aim to present how both aspects can enhance our understanding of the nature and patterns of use of force. We utilize data from police-recorded Use of Force forms from three police force areas in England: Greater Manchester Police, Hampshire Police, and the Metropolitan Police Service. After any incident where an officer uses force, officers are legally required to submit a UoF form, which provides information on citizen and officer characteristics and use of force tactics deployed. The study uses data collected over three years, from January 2019 to December 2021 (N=552516). Findings indicate that instances where an officer, who has recorded the use of force, shares the same gender and ethnicity as the citizen involved, are associated with a reduced likelihood of red-dotting, or firing the Taser compared to any other use of force. Overall, these results support the idea that a gender and ethnic similarity or 'match', may have a de-escalatory potential. Therefore, we propose a heightened focus on enhancing representativeness throughout police forces in England and Wales.

#### 045. Technology, Cybercrime and Fear of Crime

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Fear of Crime and Risk perception

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.10

Chair:

**Inês Guedes**, Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Crime, Justice and Security of the School of Criminology - Faculty of Law of the University of Porto

Participants:

**Assessing Criminal Risk in case of the Convicted Persons. Constitutional Standards vs Technology** *Laura Maria Stanila, West University Timisoara, Romania*

Criminal justice systems are in the midst of a risk assessment revolution. The role of risk assessment is increasingly prominent at all stages of the criminal justice system, including policing, pretrial detention, sentencing, corrections and parole. Even though risk assessment tools are designed to inform and not to replace the exercise of judicial decisionmaking of the human actor, the use of technology in assessing the criminal risk may affect the rights of the convicted persons. In the present essay the author is searching for gaps and inconsistencies within criminal legal framework and criticises the ruling of the Romanian Constitutional Court on the using of risk assessment instruments in the postconviction phase of the criminal trial.

**Towards a functional fear of online crime among children** *Remco Spithoven, Saxion University of Applied Sciences; Nicole Rader, Mississippi State University*

We know from offline fear of crime research, that parents provide their children with important crime knowledge and a repertoire how to protect oneself against victimization (Rader, 2023). People come to understand crime risks, and where, when, and how to evade the risks of crime victimization in the offline world by exchanging information about unsafe places and times (Spithoven, 2017). This knowledge is projected on so called 'mental maps', which contain detailed cues that individuals can scan their immediate surroundings for in combination with an action tendency (Gabriel & Greve, 2003). Being socialized into fearing (particular types of) crime can have unwanted outcomes such as crime myths (Rader, 2023) but may also help to keep individuals aware and resilient (Spithoven, 2017). This is where the fear of crime literature distinguishes 'dysfunctional fear of crime' from 'functional fear of crime' (Jackson & Gray, 2010). Being digital immigrants (Rothrock, 2018), parents may never have been in the online environments their children use on a daily basis and therefore lack adequate estimations of the risks their children face online, so children might well be missing crucial information as well as parents being open to crime myths about online offenders. In this theoretical paper we will argue that it is necessary to explore how to provide parents with an adequate and balanced image of contemporary online crime risks and ways to prevent victimization of cybercrime for their children. We conclude our paper with an outline of (both fundamental and applied) possibilities for future research.

**What are the predictors of fear of cybercrime? An empirical study**  
*Inês Guedes, Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Crime, Justice and Security of the School of Criminology - Faculty of Law of the University of Porto; José Pedro Martins, School of Criminology, Faculty Law, University of Porto; Samuel Moreira, CIJ (Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice) - School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto, Portugal | CEJEA (Center for Legal, Economic, International and Environmental Studies) - Lusitana University, Portugal*

Fear of crime is a hot topic in the criminological field. Nevertheless, little research has examined the extent, nature, and determinants of fear of cybercrime. Even though the existent studies present relevant insights, they tend to rely on specific groups of cybercrimes (e.g., Roberts, 2013; Cook et al., 2023; Abdulai, 2020; Choi et al., 2021), barely comparing different types of cybercrimes and their determinants. Therefore, the present study takes a step further in the field of fear of cybercrime, since it explores whether the determinants of fear of interpersonal cybercrime (fears of cyberbullying and cyberstalking) are different from those that explain the fear of property cybercrime (fears of online consumer fraud, online identity theft, and malware discovery). To do so, it tests the influence of individual and routine activities variables in the explanation of the fears of interpersonal and property cybercrimes. In total, 726 individuals (70% women, M age= 27 years) answered an online self-reported survey. Regarding the fear of property cybercrime, the results showed that older individuals, with higher scores of economic insecurities, greater levels of offline property fear, and adopt more online risky behaviors present higher

levels of fear of property cybercrime. The strongest predictor of this dependent variable was fear of offline property crime. Concerning the fear of interpersonal cybercrime, we found that higher levels of economic insecurities, greater offline property and interpersonal fear, capable guardianship, computer skills and risky behaviors predicted this dependent variable. The strongest predictor was offline interpersonal fear. These results contribute to the research in this field, showing that online fear is differently explained according to the types of cybercrimes.

#### 046. Applications of learning and neutralization perspectives

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Learning, Control and Strain Perspectives

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11

Chair:

**Valéria Cristina de Oliveira**, Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG)

Participants:

Academic mobilities, disciplinary boundaries and the lived experiences of academics moving to/out of criminology *Ian R Cook, Northumbria University*

Many academics move disciplines or fields at least once in their career. This is especially so within criminology, where many of those who research or teach in criminology have arrived in criminology from other disciplines/fields. This presentation considers the experience of teaching and researching in a 'new' discipline/field. Drawing on interviews with academics who have moved into or out of criminology, the presentation considers the strategies deployed, the emotions generated, and the challenges faced.

Setting the Social Learning Approach: direct and indirect effects of the social structure on antisocial behavior in Spanish students *Valéria Cristina de Oliveira, Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG); Raquel Bartolomé Gutiérrez, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha; Esther Fernandez Molina, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha*

This paper explores the interaction between social structure and social learning processes, which can either increase or decrease the likelihood of young people engaging in antisocial behaviors. This integration plays a role in heightening the social costs associated with violence and the activities that violate social norms. The study is grounded in the Social Structure and Social Learning (SSSL) approach proposed by Ronald Akers (1998) which suggests that the learning of conforming or deviant behavior serves as an intervening process between social structure and individual acts. We analyzed data from the 2013–2014 ESO, Bachillerato, and Vocational Training students in the Spanish cities of Madrid (N=1497) and Albacete (N=1834) who participated in the third round of the International Self-Reporting Study on Delinquency (ISRD). To investigate these data, Structural Equation Models (SEM) of the "Antisocial Behavior Index" were fitted. "Social Structure" and "Social Learning," two sets of elements, were introduced to the SEM index as external and intervening variables, respectively. This study's initial findings support our hypothesis. The model that included the latent variables "Social Structure" and "Social Learning" confirmed the idea that exposure to risk factors acts as a mediating element between the practice of antisocial behavior and structural variables. The research highlights the importance of focusing on various complementary aspects of the variables influencing criminal or antisocial conduct.

Techniques of neutralization as emotion-regulating mechanisms: the role of emotions in violent extremism *Katrien Vanlerberghe, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB); Kristof Verfaillie, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

In "Techniques of Neutralization: A Theory of Delinquency", Sykes and Matza (1957) want to make sense of why men violate the norms in which they believe. Their argument was that much crime seems to be based on "justifications for deviance that are seen as valid by the delinquent but not by the legal system or the society at

large" (Sykes&Matza, 1957: 666). These justifications can be understood as techniques of neutralization; they weaken the effectiveness of social control, they allow offenders to mitigate feelings of guilt and shame so that they feel less restrained to engage in criminal behavior. In an ongoing doctoral study we found that offenders seem to apply neutralization techniques to justify their behavior prior to acts of violent extremism. How exactly neutralization techniques weaken social controls and facilitate norm violations has remained somewhat underdeveloped in Sykes & Matza's work. In this paper we develop their suggestion that neutralization techniques should be understood in terms of emotion-regulating mechanisms. We present key findings about the role of emotions in violent extremism and discuss the implications for further research in this field.

#### 047. Reinvigorating the United Nations and its actions against war and transnational crimes

Topic 7: Comparative and Historical Perspectives/Transnational Crime and Justice (Organized Crime WG)

Author meets critics

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.14

The book "Reinvigorating the United Nations" (Routledge, Sept. 2024), co-edited by Prof. M. Kornprobst (Diplomatic Academy, Vienna) and Dr. hab. S. Redo (The UN Studies Association), addresses current globally critical structural and programmatic developments jeopardizing UN's ability to bring to justice the perpetrators of war and transnational crimes. The panel: (a) reviews the book's contributors practical suggestions for how to reinvigorate the United Nations in the area of countering war crimes, corruption and organized crime, and (b) projects its ideas and recommendations into the forthcoming deliberations of the UN "Summit for the Future" (22-23 Sept. 2024), as per its draft agenda, whereby the book will be officially launched at the ancillary event.

Critics:

**Jay Albanese**, Virginia Commonwealth University

**Miklós Lévy**, Széchenyi István University

**Wojciech Zalewski**, University of Gdansk, Law Faculty, Poland

Book Author:

**Slawomir Redo**, United Nations Studies Association

#### 048. Criminology of Mobility. Panel 2. Human trafficking trends and identification of victims

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Human Trafficking

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.22

Chair:

**Carlotta Carbone**, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

Participants:

Human Trafficking Study in Croatia *Aleksandar Marsavelski, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb*

This study investigated all cases of identified victims of human trafficking in Croatia from 2016 to 2020. Data revealed that during this five-year period, 177 victims of human trafficking were identified, averaging approximately 35 victims annually. Slightly over half of the identified victims (52%) were of Croatian origin. Among victims from abroad (48%), the majority were from the Far East (35%, primarily due to one case in 2018 where 59 victims from Taiwan were identified), followed by Southeastern Europe (8%) and the Middle East (3%). The study observed an equal representation of males (50.3%) and females (49.7%). More than a half of identified victims were from Croatia (52%) and others from abroad (48%). Data analysis regarding the age of identified victims indicated that nearly three-quarters (76.8%) were of younger age, with 28.8% being under 18. Among minors, significantly more girls (60.8%) than boys (39.2%) were victims of human trafficking. Moreover, over half of the identified minor victims of human trafficking (52%) were intended for sexual exploitation, with nearly three-quarters being girls (73.1%) and over a quarter being boys

(26.9%). While records do not disclose the ethnic background of victims, interviews with stakeholders reveal a significant presence of Roma children among victims. Nearly half of the identified victims of human trafficking were exploited for the commission of unlawful acts (46.6%), followed by sexual exploitation (27.5%) and labor exploitation (22.8%). Male victims were predominantly exploited for the commission of unlawful acts (71.1%) and exclusively appeared as victims of forced labor. In the context of unlawful acts committed, it is essential to ensure that victims will not be punished for offenses committed during human trafficking. The study also developed conclusions and recommendations that will be presented in this paper.

**Identification of victims of human trafficking – searching for the essence of the phenomenon** *Lukasz Wieczorek, University of Warsaw*

Estimates of Global Slavery Index indicate nearly 50 million victims of modern slavery annually, while the US TIP Report 2023, 27 million victims of human trafficking. However, official statistics regarding the number of identified victims suggest a vastly different scale of the phenomenon. For instance, according to US government, there are 115,000 victims identified worldwide each year, which is less than 0.5% of the estimated number. Assuming that these estimates are collected accurately and are reliable, and that the actual data is collected diligently, a significant disparity between the estimated and real numbers must be noted. This raises a crucial question: why are there so few identified victims globally? In other words: why does the world seem to be stuck in some strange incapacity, resulting in such ineffective identification of victims of THB? Answers can be sought on the side of the victims: then we can argue, for instance, that such low numbers are "attributed" to the victims themselves because they do not want to be identified. We can also look at the law enforcement agencies, asking whether they are equipped with good legal instruments and properly trained to identify more victims. But we can also pose a completely different question: do we understand the phenomenon of identifying victims of THB as such? Have we explore the nature of this process and the limitations it may face? Perhaps it is only seemingly that we understand the nature of THB, and as a result, the adopted legal, organizational, and technical solutions are simply far from sufficient. Further questions are legitimate: is the identification of victims of THB a priority for national authorities? What conditions must be met for identification to be effective? What indicators and tools should be used to improve the identification process? All these important questions require further scientific exploration.

**Unveiling the Dynamics of Trafficking in Human Beings: A European Perspective** *Carlotta Carbone, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore*

Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) represents a complex transnational organised crime with various manifestations, including sexual and labour exploitation, alongside other forms such as forced criminality. It is a dynamic and continuously changing phenomenon, with perpetrators often operating within extensive criminal networks, leveraging societal, geopolitical and technological factors to their advantage. Notably, the digital realm has become a key arena for traffickers, who exploit online platforms to recruit and exploit victims, ushering in a new era of exploitation. Given its continuous evolution, it is crucial to promptly understand its dynamics to inform research and develop effective prevention strategies. This study delves into THB dynamics in Europe, specifically focusing on sex trafficking, labour trafficking and forced criminality. Drawing upon extensive literature reviews and insights from semi-structured interviews with THB experts, including law enforcement officials, border guards, and policymakers, it pursues two main objectives. Firstly, to elucidate the evolving landscape of THB by analysing the techniques employed across various stages of the crime and the involvement of criminal organisations, especially in light of emerging international threats such as the COVID-19 pandemic and global conflicts. Secondly, to identify the underlying factors contributing to individuals' involvement in THB as either victims or perpetrators (i.e., vulnerabilities). The study presents the initial findings from the European-funded project VANGUARD (Grant Number 101121282). By addressing these objectives, the research

endeavours to provide a comprehensive understanding of human trafficking dynamics and inform strategies for combating this pervasive crime.

**Breaking Down Labour Trafficking: Investigating Company and Victim-focused Risk Factors for Improved Detection** *Francesco Calderoni, Transcrime / Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan); Clara Rondani, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Michele Riccardi, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore*

In today's capitalist economy, the exploitation of workers represents a tangible risk, facilitated by deregulation and flexibility of labour markets. Additionally, increased migration, due to conflicts or poverty in migrants' home countries, creates a favourable condition for traffickers and exploiters who seek access to a cheap workforce, without the need to provide legal protection. In this context, proactively examining the risk factors embedded in the characteristics of labour supply and demand is essential for promptly identifying instances of exploitation. This paper will present the results of a preliminary analysis of the factors that are associated with increased risk of labour trafficking, based on national and international investigations and judicial decisions. The identified risk factors highlight the intricate nature of labour trafficking, which often involves legitimate companies and is connected to other types of corporate crimes and violations of labour laws. On the labour supply side, several victim-focused risk factors are identified to support professionals in detecting signs of exploitation during interactions with potential victims. The analysis, conducted within the EU co-funded INVERT project (GA 101101914), contributes to the development of a risk assessment model to support law enforcement agencies and prosecutors in identifying victims and companies potentially involved in labour trafficking.

**049. Culture, Narrative and the Sensory in Research**

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Qualitative Methods (Qualitative Methods WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.29*

This panel explores the potentials of broadening our methodological horizons in order to amplify voices of the marginalized and for expanding criminological discourse. How do we better encompass both assessments and interpretations of the researched and researcher? This endeavour, we argue, requires us to depart from conventional methodological approaches. What happens to the processes and products of research when we explore more innovative and authentic ways of engaging with the field? How does our understanding shift when we make more room for appreciating culture, foregrounding the senses, and unfolding personal narratives in ways which honour the stories of those we seek to understand? How can we authentically represent marginalised voices through means that are more reflective of, or connected to, the field? How do we encourage broader engagement with methodologies which are themselves, too often marginalised within broader criminological discourse?

Chair:

*Kate Herrity, University of Cambridge*

Participants:

Sensing proximity, sensing parameters *Kate Herrity, University of Cambridge*

Drawing on findings from past research - including the recently published "Sound, Order and Survival in Prison (Bristol) - as well as a current paper-in-progress, I explore the ways in which foregrounding the sensory shifts senses of space. I use space here to mean both the material environment and the less tangible distance between myself as researcher, and those who inhabit the prison social world and form the focus of inquiry. The sensory, I argue, can shift and diminish the distance between researcher and those we collaborate with. This has implications on several fronts, three of which form the subject of this presentation. First, encouraging sensory reflection alters the way we understand, relate and experience the materiality of the prison in conjunction with those we spend time with. Second, the sensory encourages an interrogation of positionality and proximity in relation to those we

work with. Third, this has significant implications for how we understand prisons research – at least that of an immersive variety – as emotional and corporeal edgework, demanding constant assessment and navigation of ethical practice as boundaries warp and flex.

**Shifting the Paradigm: Embracing Home Pedagogies in Southern Prison Ethnography** *Kanupriya Sharma, University of Cambridge*

Researchers from the global South have often struggled with what Monzo (2015, p.373) refers to as ‘reclaiming our subaltern’. Our geographical contexts, epistemologies, pedagogies, and sources of knowing and learning have always been deemed ‘unique’ – but restrained, perhaps submerged, in our yearning to climb the ivory tower and thrive in an academic world that largely values western epistemes of knowledge production. Consequently, it is unsurprising that much of the research on prisons, while predominantly concentrated in the global North, continues to rely on empirical concepts and methodological practices that are largely unexplored outside the metropole, even when carried out by highly reflexive Southern scholars conducting research in their homelands. This paper is an attempt to reclaim my subaltern voice by bringing into the fore what Delgado Bernal (2001) refers to as ‘pedagogies of the home’. Drawing from my experiences conducting ten months of fieldwork in seven closed and two open prisons across two states of India, I advocate for an ethnographic approach rooted in culturally informed home pedagogies, particularly tailored for South Asian prison settings. This approach stems from a deep understanding of local, regional, and caste-based practices, as well as cultural beliefs. Practically, it involves employing ‘cultural intuition’ for data inquiry, utilising ‘jugaad’ (hacks) to access institutions and participants’ lives, relying on sensory processes for consent, embracing cultural concepts like ‘shared grief’ and ‘intimate disclosure’ in research design, and establishing fictive kinship ties to build trust and cultural credibility in the field. I argue that this methodological approach is not only essential for disrupting the western playing field of traditional ethnography but also for opening up new, alternative, and more emancipatory pathways for scholars conducting research in the global South.

**Seven Basic Plots? How can narrative inquiry and literary theory inform our understanding of the experiences of the children of prisoners?** *David Shipley, University of Southampton*

Much research focused on groups with low social visibility is conducted about rather than with them, if it manages to engage directly with such groups at all. Even then much work relies on a researcher-produced semi-structured interview, imposing pre-existing assumptions and structures on the participants. The can be experienced as dominating, and even as fragmenting the participant’s life experience. Narrative inquiry, relying on human beings’ universal characteristic of storytelling, can empower participants to tell their stories, in the way they choose? But to what extent do these tales fit with archetypal models such as Booker’s Seven Basic Plots, so beloved by scriptwriters and authors? Drawing on research in the UK with the children of prisoners, this paper provides a fresh approach to conceptualising and analysing narrative inquiry as a research methodology.

**Can we listen to what’s not yet there? Vocal and sonic methods as pathways of possibility** *Lucy Cathcart Froden, University of Oslo / Malmö University*

Recent years have seen a generative and thought-provoking proliferation of sonic and sensory approaches to criminological inquiry (eg. Herrity et al., 2021; Herrity, 2024; Crockett Thomas et al., 2020; 2021). This attention to the sonic realm has also opened up new possibilities for theorising what it means to make music and sonic art in and around carceral spaces. However, at the same time it has been recognized that such prison-based arts programmes can be co-opted to sanitise or mask the harms and injustices of incarceration – a critique described as ‘decorative justice’ (Cheliotis, 2014). Through examples of sonically-focused research and practice from prison contexts in several countries, including the Distant Voices project in Scotland and the Prisons of Note project in Norway, this presentation will explore how the shared creation of music, spoken word poetry, podcasts and other sonic artefacts can play a critical and relational role, and the extent to which it is

possible to navigate the complex ethical tensions involved in such practices. Recognising the prevalence of highly individualized narratives around crime, punishment and rehabilitation, this presentation will also ask whether collaborative creativity through sound and music in carceral spaces might allow the emergence of work that expands, complicates and pluralises these linear, one-dimensional stories. Can listening help us access new speculative and prefigurative perspectives? Can we use Tim Ingold’s conceptualisation of paying attention as ‘stretching toward’ (2021) in order to tune in what’s not yet there – and in so doing, to create new possible futures?

**050. POL Panel 5. Public Order, Violence and Protest Policing**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.04

Chair:

*Sylvia Staubli*, Cantonal Police Basel-Stadt

Participants:

Prevalence and change of pro-violent attitudes among police trainees *Dirk Baier, ZHAW/UZH*

The analysis of personal attitudes among police officers is an increasingly important area of criminological research due to incidents of racist or xenophobic behaviour by police officers. The question of prevalence and development of pro-violent attitudes is also of great interest against the background of incidents of excessive police use of force in the past. These pro-violent attitudes are analysed in the presentation on the basis of two studies among police trainees in Switzerland: on the one hand, a survey of over 800 police officers in training (representative sample) and, on the other, a 3-wave panel study of 88 trainees. The analyses are based on a 5-item instrument that reliably and validly measures pro-violent attitudes. The analyses show that around a third of respondents agree with these attitudes; there is also an increase in attitudes over time. Possible factors influencing this increase are presented, including different stressors and experiences with superiors and colleagues. Additionally, it is analysed whether the influence of these factors is moderated by characteristics such as personal resilience and social support. Based on the results, implications for research and practice can be formulated.

Social identity and context matter: perceived procedural justice and legitimacy in policing pro-Palestine protest in the UK *Angus Chan, University College London; Ben Bradford, University College London; Clifford Stott, Keele University*

In policing large-scale demonstrations, maintaining trust and legitimacy is paramount for law enforcement agencies to encourage compliance from the crowd. Failure to adequately justify the use of force could eventually escalate tensions and lead to more violent confrontations with protestors. Embedded within the recent Israel-Palestine conflict that has triggered various mass demonstrations in London, this study aims to explore the impact of social identity on individual’s perceptions of police actions and government response. By conducting an online survey with 150 participants in the UK, we seek to understand how social identification with the protestors can shape individuals’ perception of procedural justice and legitimacy of the police actions, as well as satisfaction regarding the government’s response to the issue. Our findings show that social identification significantly influences how individuals perceive both police actions and government responses, with participants identified with the pro-Palestine side viewing police actions as less procedural fair and less legitimate, compared to their pro-Israel and neutral counterparts. Moreover, our path analysis suggests that police legitimacy is a significant factor in predicting and mediating the effect of their satisfaction with the government’s response. Not only do our findings support the Group Engagement Model that the relational identification with the police mediates the effect of procedural justice on legitimacy, but it also extends the theoretical framework to include individuals’ perceptions of the government. While most policing research on procedural justice and legitimacy focuses on interpersonal interaction between the police and those

being policed, this research contends that studying the wider socio-political context is critical for a comprehensive understanding of how contextual intergroup relations can influence individuals' perception of fairness and legitimacy.

The role of dialog teams in protest policing *Silvia Staubli, Cantonal Police Basel-Stadt*

The number of demonstrations is constantly increasing, which means extra work for the police, especially because many demonstrations and rallies take place at weekends and in busy locations in the city centre. Most demonstrations are peaceful, but some lead to violence and riots. Causes are manifold and include incomprehensible police measures or inadequate behaviour of the police. In order to prevent escalations and violent outcomes, several police forces in Germany and Switzerland rely on tactical communication and dialogue teams. They should provide a continuous dialogue between protesters, bystanders and the police. The aim of this research project is to gain empirical and scientific knowledge about processes that lead to violent clashes in the context of demonstrations. In a first step, it will be evaluated which police corps in Switzerland use this dialogic-based approach and how. Building on the results of the first study and based on approaches of procedural justice and social identity, the second work package focuses on escalating and de-escalating factors, and the role dialogue teams play. Research shows, for example, that the identity of groups is fluid and changeable. Fronts harden the more individual members show solidarity with one another and develop a perceived common identity. If, on the other hand, the police succeed in building up the creation of such a strong, shared social identity among demonstrators, it is easier to influence them and the demonstration process. Interviews with those acting as dialogic officer, with decision makers and other key players within the police will be conducted. Finally, several demonstrations where dialogic teams are used will be observed.

#### 051. Navigating the challenges of measuring prison climate

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Roundtable

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.05*

The prison climate, referring to the overall environment and culture within a prison, encompassing a wide range of factors that affect the daily experiences and behaviours of both incarcerated persons and staff, has long been an intriguing topic of academic interest. Recognising the critical need to better understand these environments, our roundtable seeks to explore the challenges and methodologies associated with measuring prison climate. It brings together a group of researchers who have conducted or are conducting studies on prison climate within five different jurisdictions. The discussion will focus on the methodological challenges inherent in conducting prison climate research. Participants will explore the complexities of conducting studies within prison institutions, where access is often restricted and ethical considerations are paramount. The discussion will address the difficulties researchers face in obtaining reliable data amidst the unique dynamics and realities of prison environments, including establishing trust with inmates and staff and navigating the bureaucratic hurdles often accompanying such sensitive research. Additionally, the roundtable will consider the challenges of ensuring international comparability of prison climate studies, given the vast differences in prison systems, policies, and cultural contexts. This segment aims to foster a dialogue on typical methodologies and metrics and how they can or cannot accommodate these differences, facilitating meaningful cross-national comparisons. By confronting these challenges head-on, the roundtable intends to highlight innovative approaches and strategies that researchers can employ to overcome obstacles, enhance the quality and reliability of prison climate research, and contribute to the global understanding and improvement of correctional environments. No formal papers will be presented; the discussion will be framed by a set of questions that the participants will attempt to answer. The roundtable will allow a deeper discussion on the methodological challenges described above among the roundtable discussants but hopefully include active participation from the broader audience.

Chair:

*Mojca M. Plesničar, Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law Ljubljana*

Discussants:

*Kirstin Drenkhahn, Freie Universität Berlin*

*Milena Miličević, Institute for Criminological and Sociological Research*

*Ivana Sekol, University of Sheffield*

*Darja Tadic, Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law Ljubljana*

#### 052. ISRD panel 2: Results from ISRD4 – focus on national findings

Topic 2: Types of Offending/School Violence and Bullying (ISRD WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 1.09*

This is the second panel in a series of panels around the International Self-Report Delinquency (ISRD) Study, an extensive international collaborative self-report survey of victimization and offending among 13-to-17-year-old students. An internet-sample-based survey supplements the school-based survey. Data collection for the fourth ISRD (ISRD4) round is in its final stage. This panel consists of 4 papers reporting on the results of ISRD4 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Poland, UK, and Brazil.

Chair:

*Marina Rezende Bazon, University of São Paulo*

Participants:

Exploring Juvenile Delinquency and Victimization in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Preliminary Results from the ISRD4 Data  
*Sandra Kobajica Misanovic, University of Sarajevo - Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies; Muhamed Budimlić, University of Sarajevo - Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies*

This paper provides the preliminary findings from the fourth round of the International Self-Report Delinquency Study (ISRD4) conducted in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The study was conducted in Sarajevo and Bihac between April and December 2022. The data was collected with the use of the mixed method approach (online and pencil-and-paper questionnaires) among juveniles aged 13–17 in elementary schools, vocational high schools and grammar schools. The sample surveyed 125 classes and included about 1900 juveniles. This paper aims to examine the prevalence and types of delinquent behaviours and victimization reported by juveniles in Bosnia and Herzegovina, building upon earlier rounds of the ISRD conducted in the country. The findings contribute to the existing knowledge on juvenile delinquency and inform future research and criminal policy initiatives.

ISRD4 Study in Poland: Preliminary results *Marta Dabrowska, University of Bialystok; Ewa Monika Guzik-Makaruk, University of Bialystok*

This presentation aims to introduce the preliminary results of ISRD-3 Poland. The goal of this research is to collect data on delinquency and victimization among 7th–9th-grade students as well as explore and test contemporary theoretical approaches in criminology with the additional modules in the questionnaire. This presentation is based on the statistical analysis of Polish ISRD4 data. The school-based survey was conducted by Bialystok School of Criminology in 2023-2034 in two large Polish cities: Bialystok and Rzeszow, using the ISRD4 standardized questionnaire with a national module on online child sexual abuse.

Contribution to the development of Criminology in Brazil: testing theoretical models based on ISRD4 data *Marina Rezende Bazon, University of São Paulo; André Vilela Komatsu, University of Sao Paulo; Ana Beatriz do Prado Schiavone, University of Sao Paulo; Rafaelle CS Costa, University of Sao Paulo*

Although Brazil has significant scientific and technological development, Criminology does not exist as a specific area of knowledge, nor as an autonomous career. This means that most Brazilian studies on crime and violence are developed by scientists from different disciplines independently, without integration. As a result, social/governmental responses to prevent or mitigate crime and violence are fragmented, and always prove insufficient/inefficient. Regarding the phenomenon of juvenile

delinquency, the Brazilian database from ISRD4 presents an opportunity for testing prominent criminological models or theories, which can help in the development of Criminology in Brazil. The Brazilian team at ISRD4 is thus working in this direction, based on data obtained from 1,956 investigated adolescents, through structural equation modeling. Initially, the General Theory of Crime (GTC) was tested, focusing on self-reported offenses as the dependent variable. The model proved reliable and explained 25% of the variance. Then, aiming for greater refinement, the GTC was tested focusing only on self-reported violent offenses. The model proved reliable and explained 16% of the variance. In both models, the dimension of self-control "sensation seeking" was significant, while impulsivity was not. Lastly, to introduce more complexity to the model, the variables "deviant parental behavior" within the family context and « morality », directly interacting with self-control, were incorporated. However, this latter model yielded unreliable parameters and displayed some inconsistent relationships. Nevertheless, in a simple correlation analysis, « deviant parental behavior », « sensation seeking », and « morality » emerged as the variables showing the strongest significant correlations with both overall offenses and violent offenses. Thus, by testing models/theories developed in other sociocultural contexts, we are moving closer to identifying models that are more relevant to Brazilian reality.

**053. Focus on At-Risk Youth: School Exclusionary Practices, 'Bad ' Neighborhoods, and Metaphor Comprehension**

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/School and Peer Groups (ISRD WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.11

Chair:

*Majone Stekete*, Verwey Jonker Institute and Rotterdam University

Participants:

An examination of educational and social care needs and youth justice involvement among young people permanently excluded from school in England *Glorney Emily, Royal Holloway, University of London*

Permanent exclusion from school is a method of behaviour management that is used to address challenging behaviours. Reducing exclusions is important because children and young people excluded from school are known to have poorer life opportunities than their in-school counterparts. This is reflected in factors that make some children and young people vulnerable to exclusion (e.g. a history of adverse experiences, Special Educational Need, the subjective experience of social exclusion) and also vulnerabilities as a consequence of exclusion (e.g. increased vulnerability to exploitation and serious youth violence). This research explored a consecutive cohort sample of 200 children and young people permanently excluded from schools in a single county of England between September 2018 and December 2020. Education data was linked to information held by social care and police/youth justice services. Data indicated that children and young people permanently excluded from schools presented with multiple and possibly complex needs and vulnerabilities relating to possible deprivation, mental health and social care, and at a higher level than reflected in the national data. Pupils who were excluded for persistent, disruptive behaviour often had an extensive history of fixed term exclusions, whereas it was not uncommon for pupils who were permanently excluded for drug-related reasons to have no history of fixed term exclusions. Furthermore, most children and young people who were justice-involved had their first contact with police and youth justice services before or at the time of permanent exclusion. Half of children and young people who continued to be justice-involved after exclusion had needs relating to deprivation, mental health/learning style, and were cared for by the local authority. Implications of the results will be discussed and with reference to how police could work with schools to prevent school exclusions and respond to young people vulnerable to engagement with the youth justice service.

Landscapes of Violence *Sanna King, Mississippi State University;*

*Shane Miller, Mississippi State University*

School violence and punishment research focuses on incidents within schools with limited discussions of the regional, community, cultural, or historic practices of violence and punishment. Using data from the 2020-2021 Civil Rights Data Collection, the Tolnay-Beck Lynching Data, and the National Register of Historic Places, we examine school suspension and corporal punishment in comparison to the different forms of violence and punishment in the Southeastern region of the United States. In this study, we examine the connections between different forms of violent and/or exclusionary punishment in schools in areas with documented racialized violence and racist incidents to explore the question of the socialization and normalization of racialized violence and control. The findings from this exploratory study should help provide more nuance around research on legacies and landscapes of violence and its contemporary iterations. Implications for policy and future research are also discussed.

The role of neighborhood and school in the development of substance use patterns in youth *Lars Roar Frøyland, Norwegian Social Research, Oslo Metropolitan University; Willy Pedersen, University of Oslo/Oslo Metropolitan University; Frøydis Enstad, Norwegian Social Research, Oslo Metropolitan University; Tilmann von Soest, University of Oslo/Oslo Metropolitan University*

The initiation of substance use often occurs during youth, yet there remains considerable ambiguity surrounding how usage patterns develop. Recent shifts in narcotics-related policies and policing may influence this development. Patterns of substance use among youth in Oslo, the capital of Norway, vary significantly both between neighborhoods and schools. However, the relative importance of the two clusters in substance use socialization has, so far, only been studied for alcohol use. This study employs cross-classified multilevel models (CCMM) to investigate substance use patterns among senior high-school students in Oslo, drawing on a 2023 population-based sample of 10,595 participants. The analysis incorporates explanatory variables spanning diverse socio-ecological levels, with a specific emphasis on the impact of neighborhood socio-economic resources and peer-driven sociocultural processes linked to the Norwegian high school graduation celebration. Results underscore the paramount importance of the school milieu and peer environments in shaping substance use behaviors among youth, highlighting this as vital when designing prevention efforts.

What does metaphoric language say about aggression? The relationships between metaphoric language, impulsivity, and aggression *Rotem Leshem, Bar-Ilan University; Nira Mashal, Bar-Ilan University*

Aggressive behavior among adolescents has been identified as a serious worldwide problem, especially when combined with trait impulsivity. This study investigates the impact of an overlooked aspect of language, namely, metaphor comprehension, on impulsivity and aggression in adolescents. A total of 204 adolescents completed self-reported questionnaires assessing impulsivity and aggression and underwent tests assessing familiar and less familiar metaphor comprehension. The findings reveal inverse relationships between metaphor comprehension and both impulsivity and aggression. Regarding aggression, notable distinctions were observed in the correlations between familiar and less familiar metaphors with specific aggression types. Additionally, impulsivity was found to mediate the relationship between the comprehension of familiar metaphors and aggression. These results are elucidated in the context of cognitive and executive functions, emphasizing the significance of considering metaphor comprehension as a cognitive process capable of modulating aggressive behavior.

**054. Atrocity Crimes: New Approaches in the Analysis and Teaching of Atrocity Crimes (EACTJ)**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, War Crimes (Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room



1.13

Chair:

**Andy Aydın-Aitchison**, University of Edinburgh

Participants:

**Ethical Loneliness in the Trial of Dominic Ongwen** *Kjell Anderson, University of Manitoba*

Philosopher Jill Stauffer writes of “ethical loneliness,” which she defines as “the isolation one feels when one, as a violated person or as one member of a persecuted group, has been abandoned by humanity, or by those who have power over one’s life’s possibilities.” Those experiencing ethical loneliness “emerge from that injustice only to find that the surrounding world will not listen to or cannot properly hear their testimony”. In my paper, I will use the concept of ethical loneliness to explore the trial of former child soldier Dominic Ongwen at the International Criminal Court. There are layers to this ethical loneliness in the trial. Dominic Ongwen would not have become a commander in the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) had he not been abducted. His abduction was only possible due to the failure of Uganda to protect children from the predations of the LRA. His rights were gravely violated, yet he emerged from the LRA to find that his testimony would only be heard through the frame of his criminal trial. Ongwen’s victims were long forgotten until his trial. His trial validates their stories while invalidating those of other victims. In exploring these themes my paper will shed light on the complexities of responding to child perpetrators of mass atrocities and the place of criminal processes in combatting and contributing to ethical loneliness.

**The ‘Butcher’: A Sociolegal Analysis of a Conflict-Related Metaphor** *Carola Lingaas, VID Specialized University, Oslo, Norway*

In every conflict, there is at least one protagonist who is called a ‘butcher’: Klaus Barbie, the ‘Butcher of Lyon’; Ta Mok from the Khmer Rouge, the ‘Butcher of Cambodia’. Ratko Mladic was the ‘Butcher of Bosnia’, while Radovan Karadžić and Slobodan Milošević both were ‘Butcher of the Balkans’. Charles Taylor was termed the ‘Butcher of Monrovia’. This paper examines the metaphorical use of ‘butcher’ in the context of armed conflicts and genocides. Metaphors are figures of speech by which the characteristics of one thing are assigned to another thing that resembles it. Applied to the butcher metaphor, we assign the actions of a professional butcher to the actions of an individual who kills other people. The paper examines whether and how international(ised) criminal tribunals discuss and integrate the ‘butcher’ metaphor in their jurisprudence, thereby assigning it legal value. The paper covers all adjudicated cases of the past 80 years, starting with Nuremberg and ending with the International Criminal Court, thereby providing comparative aspects across different conflicts and periods. The paper draws on legal, criminological, linguistic, and psychological research, especially the conceptual metaphor theory. The analysis reveals that witnesses often use the metaphor, which is stereotypically gendered and not only has negative connotations.

**Analysis of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia using the social justice model: Review of The Republic Srpska international commissions** *Laurence Armand French, Affiliate Professor, College of Liberal Arts, Univ. of New Hampshire, Durham, NH*

The Republic Srpska (RS) of Bosnia commissioned two interdependent international commissions in 2020 to evaluate outcomes from the Bosnian War with focus on a commission of Sarajevo and another for Srebrenica. Two of us were on both commissions (my colleague died from COVID). The commissions comprised of noted experts in international law, sociology, archeology, history and political sciences. Two of us had clinical credential (psychologist/psychiatrist). The final conclusions, when reviewed through the lens of social justice provided insights into the role of historical and personal biases that unwittingly colored outcomes.

**Assessing Albanian national framework on Rome Statute obligations** *Alba Gerdeci, Epoka University*

Albania signed the Rome Statute in 1998 and formally ratified it through legislation in 2002. The heinous acts committed in the

1990s in nearby Yugoslav regions, particularly in Kosovo, inhabited by Albanians, played a pivotal role in garnering full Albanian support for international justice mechanisms. Additionally, Albania’s involvement in post-conflict reconstruction efforts in war-torn areas like Afghanistan and Iraq, as part of UN, NATO, and EU peacekeeping forces, has stimulated discussions within Albania regarding international crimes and the pursuit of international criminal justice. Given the country’s commitment, this article seeks to assess Albania’s national framework concerning Rome Statute obligations conducting a comprehensive review on status of ratification/acceptance of amendments to the Statute, complementarity legislation and mechanisms as well as cooperation agreements. This review will identify areas where action is needed, to serve as recommendations for the Albanian policy makers and to fill the gap resulting from the lack of a periodic review process. Keywords: Albania, international crimes, Rome Statute, ICC, complementarity, cooperation

**The emotions and ethics of teaching mass atrocities using archives** *Andy Aydın-Aitchison, University of Edinburgh; Annalisa Battista, University of Edinburgh*

This paper explores the interplay between ethics and emotions in teaching and studying atrocity crimes through a mixed-method study on the experiences of students and teaching staff on a senior undergraduate course, Criminologies of Atrocity. The students are presented with the general study of atrocity crimes, perpetrators and victims, and the Yugoslav Wars of the 1990s which act as a case study. The students are given the opportunity to conduct criminological archival research by using court transcripts and exhibits from the ICTY web-archive. The sensitive nature of the material with which the students work for their final assessment (a research report) demands reflection on the ethical and emotional dimensions of working in the field of atrocity criminology. Supported by literature on research ethics and the scholarship of teaching and learning sensitive of difficult topics, the study combines focus groups with the students enrolled in the course, survey data collected covering 4 instances of delivery (2020-2023), and reflective conversations between teaching staff. We propose implications for pedagogical practice in teaching atrocity through the archives and preparing students to conduct independent research on the topic.

#### **055. Nordic Himpathy -the social construction of responsibility and sympathy in cases of sexual violence**

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Feminist Criminology (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Roundtable

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.17*

In recent years, the Nordic countries have witnessed a surge in public discourse and awareness surrounding sexual violence, particularly exemplified by the #metoo movement and consequential reforms regarding consent-based rape legislation. Although different in their outcome and framing in the Nordic countries, the legal rape reforms and #metoo can be understood as results and efforts to change social norms regarding sexual violence. However, efforts aimed at altering norms tend to generate ambivalence and resistance. To grasp contradictory societal reactions to sexual violence the concept of himpathy has potential as an analytical lens. This neologism is short for sympathy with him and was introduced by Kate Manne (2018). Himpathy with the defendant in cases of sexual violence might result in epistemic oppression of the female victim and her trauma. Participant’s previous country-specific research will be used to identify unique Nordic patterns on how sexual violence are handled and understood in the Post #me-too era. The roundtable will engage in themes such as the negotiation of sexual consent among youth, institutional responses within educational settings, impacts of consent-based rape legislations, examination of the Nordic manosphere, and the defense strategies employed by men implicated within the #metoo movement. The specific national contexts and manifestations of variations of himpathy in five Nordic countries (Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Norway, and Iceland) will be compared, and common factors unique to the Nordic countries will be addressed, such as similar social structures, institutions and institutional cultures, and shared cultural heritage, but we will also shed light on differences within the Nordic countries. This roundtable endeavors to deepen insights into the contentious nature of sexual

violence, elucidating barriers to the establishment of consensual sex as a societal norm and legal reality.

Chair:

**Hildur Fjólá Antonsdóttir**, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Akureyri, Iceland

Discussants:

**Sara Uhnoo**, University of Gothenburg

**Hannah Helseth**, Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies

**Päivi Honkatukia**, Tampere University

**Katrine Bindsbøl Holm Johansen**, University of Southern Denmark

### 056. Character, Circumstances, and Criminal Careers: Towards a dynamic developmental and life-course criminology

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Development and Life Course Perspectives (Development and Life Course Criminology WG)

Author meets critics

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.18

Why do young people embark on criminal careers and how can this be explained? This session introduces and discusses key theoretical arguments and central findings from the book *Character, Circumstances, and Criminal Careers*, by Per-Olof H. Wikström, Kyle Treiber, and Gabriela D. Roman. This recent addition to Oxford University Press's *Clarendon Studies in Criminology* provides the most up-to-date presentation of the on-going longitudinal Peterborough Adolescent and Young Adult Development Study (PADS+), which has followed a random sample of participants in the UK from pre-adolescence into young adulthood; and its guiding theoretical framework, Situational Action Theory (SAT). In this session Kyle Treiber will present the book's key contributions, which include (1) arguing for a more dynamic developmental and life-course criminology; (2) theorising the dynamics of the causes and drivers of individual crime trajectories from the perspective of SAT's Developmental Ecological Action (DEA) model; (3) testing key hypotheses of SAT and the DEA model through advanced statistical analyses of crime trajectory groups and the relationship between patterns of development of people's crime propensities, criminogenic exposure, and crime involvement through adolescence and into young adulthood; and (4) exploring the role of the contexts of social disadvantage and social adversity in childhood and their links to future trajectories of crime. The panel welcomes the commentary and critique of leading scholars whose expertise include, among many other topics, developmental and life-course criminological theory development, advanced research design, and innovative theory testing, and whose work encompasses the interactive role of character and circumstances in the explanation and study of crime and criminal careers.

Critics:

**Michael Gottfredson**, University of California, Irvine

**Dirk Enzmann**, University of Hamburg

**Torbjørn Skardhamar**, University of Oslo

Book Authors:

**Per-Olof H Wikström**, University of Cambridge (emeritus) and University of Malmö

**Kyle Treiber**, University of Cambridge

**Gabriela D Roman**, University of Cambridge

### 057. WG-PLACE 8: Neighbourhoods and Crime

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Neighborhoods and Crime (WG on Space and Crime)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.06

Chair:

**Fabián Gil**, Fundación Paz Ciudadana

Participants:

"Then they simply go somewhere else...": An Exploratory Study of Crime Displacement in a German Context *Florian Dittrich*, Leipzig University; *Alexandra Heyden*, University of Cologne; *Peer Keßler*, Leipzig University; *Christoph Meißelbach*,

*University of Applied Police Sciences in Rothenburg; Reinhold Melcher*, University of Applied Police Sciences in Rothenburg

This paper answers the question whether weapon ban zones (WBZ) lead to a displacement or reduction of crime. WBZ are among the toughest security policy measures employed by the police to ensure public safety, especially in places with high crime rates. Critics often question their effectiveness in reducing crime rates, as they may lead to displacement and simply shift crime to surrounding areas. We argue that the respective effects of a WBZ are contingent on the type of criminal behaviour. According to a dual-process model (Evans 2018; Van Gelder 2013), displacement effects are more likely to occur in crimes that render rational planning (such as property crimes) as opposed to affect-driven crimes (such as violence). To test this assumption, we examine data from the introduction of a WBZ in Leipzig, Germany, in November 2018. We analyse crimes recorded by the police between 2016 and 2020. First, the spatiotemporal crime patterns are visualized using geostatistical methods. To identify spatial shifts in crime concentration and dispersion over time, we also conduct hot-spot analyses. The results show a clear decline in petty and grand theft – both within WBZ and in neighbouring districts ("diffusion of benefit"). Despite this overall decline in property crime, the hot-spot analyses reveal a permanent shift of property crime to new centres outside the zone. However, violent crimes and their hot spots only shifted to neighbouring areas in the first six months following the introduction of the WBZ. After six months, violent crime increased sharply not only within the WBZ but also outside ("rebound effect"). The results provide new insights into unintended consequences of the introduction of weapon ban zones to reduce local crime rates.

Spatial Correlates of Crime Rates in Post-Soviet Cities: A Micro-Level Analysis in Astana and Almaty, Kazakhstan *Dmitrii Serebrennikov*, Institute for the Rule of Law at the European University at Saint-Petersburg; *Maqsut Narikbayev* Institute for Network and Development; *Kazakhstan Sociology Lab; Asem Kusmanova*, Kazakhstan Sociology Lab; *AITU*

Various types of crimes exhibit specific spatial correlates. This study pioneers an assessment of the socio-economic characteristics at the micro-level associated with crime rates in post-Soviet cities. Specifically, we analyze geolocations of registered thefts and violent crimes in major metropolises such as Astana and Almaty, Kazakhstan. Together, these cities with populations of 1.3 million and 2.4 million respectively, account for up to 35% of thefts and 15% of violent crimes nationwide. Dividing each city into hexagons with a diameter of 500 meters, we scrutinize changes in crime rates within each hexagon while considering independent variables related to the socio-economic profile of the hexagon (using diverse data sources) and spatial lag. Utilizing microdata, we further disaggregate crimes by the type of area where they occur, analyzing each type separately: apartment buildings, private houses, and outdoor-public spaces. Comparing the distribution patterns of property (thefts) and violent crimes, we find that the level of business activity and the percentage of built-up area within a hexagon are positively correlated with the number of crimes in all spatial contexts. We consistently observe a significant negative correlation with the distance from the city center to the hexagon center. Moreover, thefts are associated with a larger resident population, while the cost per square meter of housing is the sole predictor that yields significant positive and negative outcomes depending on the type of area where the crime occurred. We also identify some minor differences between the two cities, which we attribute to their distinct spatial morphology and building typology.

Understanding the spatial patterns of homicide and near miss homicide *Andy Newton*, Nottingham Trent University; *James Hunter*, Nottingham Trent University

Crime is spatially concentrated at the street segment level and in micro places. This can be explained by specific characteristics of these places at certain time points - such as the built environment, pedestrian movement, levels of social cohesion and the greater presence of individuals/premises with enhanced victimisation risk characteristics. This type of spatio-temporal analysis has been applied to explain the crime context of, for example, specific neighbourhoods within cities, transport hubs, retail centres, schools,

and the night-time economy. Whilst there is an extensive crime and place literature analysing the spatial patterning and drivers of violent and sexual offences, residential burglary, criminal damage, and vehicle crime, less attention has been paid to an exploration of the spatial dynamics of homicide. This is in part due to low volumes of incidents. This paper seeks to address this relative gap in the literature by providing an analysis of combined homicide and near miss homicide (NMH) across street segments in a UK police force between 2018 and 2023. Drawing on police-recorded crime data, the paper identifies hot spot locations based on the volume and over-representation of homicide/NMH incidents. The spatial concentration of the homicide/NMH hot spots is then compared to other types of violence and robbery offences to determine the extent to which homicide/NMH incidents are in the same or different parts of cities and towns compared to other types of violent offence. Drawing on a range of open data sources, the paper then utilises elements of routine activities theory, geometric crime patterning, crime generators and crime attractors, and social disorganisation theory to identify the significant factors driving the presence or absence of homicides/NMH within different types of street segment, and compares these with other violence and robbery.

**Neighborhood and Crime: Long-Term Effects of the Slums Relocation Policy in Santiago** *Fabián Gil, Fundación Paz Ciudadana; MacLean Gayle, Fundación Paz Ciudadana; Felipe Carrera, Reed College; Muñoz María Constanza, ConsiliumBots; Fernanda Rojas-Ampuero, University of Wisconsin Madison*

The present research analyzes the long-term effects on crime resulting from the slums relocation policy implemented in Santiago between 1979 and 1985. The Urban Marginality Program provided access to formal housing to families residing in informal settlements, representing 5% of the population of Greater Santiago. This governmental initiative was materialized through two strategies: (i) the resettlement of slums through a process of construction and formalization of social housing in the same place where families were living, and (ii) the eradication of slums with the relocation of families to social housing projects in other places. The estimation of these effects was carried out by comparing the results in adulthood between children and adolescents who were relocated and those belonging to resettled families from the same original commune. This identification strategy utilizes a quasi-experimental variation, assuming that both relocated and resettled families were comparable before the program's implementation. The main results indicate that minor children of relocated families experienced, between 2000 and 2010, a 45.8% increase in contacts with the penitentiary system and a 58.8% increase in convictions in adulthood compared to their counterparts from resettled families. Our analysis suggests that the mechanisms explaining these results are related to the specific characteristics of the relocation neighborhoods, mainly located on the outskirts of Greater Santiago, and the social composition of the new neighborhoods generated through the Urban Marginality Program. The findings of this study are relevant for the formulation of public policies by contributing to the literature on the adverse impacts of family relocation policies in crime, especially on children and adolescents, in the context where displacement is not accompanied by infrastructure or access to the rest of the city.

#### **058. Professional performance and other institutional components of policy implementation**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Penology and Theories Punishment (Crime, Science and Politics WG )

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.07

Chair:

**Thierry Delpuech**, CNRS UGA PACTE

Participants:

Occupational Stress and Health Implications Amongst Correctional Officials: A Cross Sectional Study of Lafia and Keffi Custodial Centres, Nasarawa State, Nigeria. *Sadiq Ewaoda Amali, University of South Africa*

This study was conducted in two custodial centres cutting across

Nasarawa State, Nigeria which include, Lafia and keffi custodial centres respectively. Since it was a cross sectional study and comparative in nature, both quantitative and qualitative methods were employed to collate reliable data. The study was able to empirically examine occupational stress and health implications amongst correctional officials and their individual experiences. However, both male and female correctional officials which formed part of the study. A well constructed questionnaires as well as an interview guide were administered and used to obtain both quantitative and qualitative data from correctional officials. Some selected findings of the study revealed that a majority of respondents (65%) stated they were stressed due to prolonged hours at work. This study recommends additional recruitment of staff which could reduce the number of hours correctional officials spend at work and there is also a need for every custodial centre to be equipped with medical gadgets like blood pressure machine which could help correctional officials to monitor their blood pressure before and after resumption at work.

**The Same But Different: A comparative study of environmental 'extremism' by Just Stop Oil and Insulate Britain** *Mark Littler, University of Greenwich; Melanie Flynn, Liverpool Hope University; John Walliss, Liverpool Hope University*

The routine framing of environmental protest as 'extremism' has become a characteristic of contemporary British political debate. Not only have successive home secretaries labelled legal environmental protest movements as 'criminals' and 'security threats', but senior police officers have branded members "anti-democratic extremists". Media commentators have also contributed to this climate of hostility, routinely calling for the use of counter-terror and counter-extremism powers in policing responses, while polling evidence suggests public hostility to the members and actions of environmental activist groups has grown, despite comparably high levels of public concern about the climate crisis. As recent work by Silke and Morrison (2022) highlights, climate change and environmental protest are likely to play an increasing role in terrorism and extremism discourse moving forwards, yet despite this, there is comparably little empirical research seeking to explore the operation, ideology, and 'extremity' of major groups active in this space. Drawing on work to be published in a monograph later this year, and building on work in recent papers exploring Insulate Britain, this presentation presents the results of analysis exploring the online footprints of both Just Stop Oil and Insulate Britain. Using a thematic analysis of social media content (including formal group posts and member comments), it will seek to explore their patterns of usage, online behaviours, and membership with a view to determining whether the labelling of such groups as 'extremists' is reasonable. The implications of these findings for CVE policy and practice will be discussed alongside potential directions for future research.

**Prioritizing Femicide Prevention in Reunion Island: Implications for the Justice System's Operations and Strategies** *Thierry Delpuech, CNRS UGA PACTE; Cathy Pomart, University of Reunion Island*

Since the mid-2010s, policies to combat DV in France have focused on the concern of preventing incidents culminating in victim fatalities. This approach catalyzed a procedural mandate: each instance of a woman's death is to initiate a rigorous feedback mechanism, essentially an audit coordinated by local judicial authorities designed to review and assess the interventions of the various policy stakeholders involved prior to the tragic outcome. Drawing upon an empirical investigation conducted in Reunion Island, our contribution aims to elucidate the nuanced ramifications of enhancing accountability among those tasked with victim protection and oversight. This increased accountability exerts a dichotomous influence on public measures and the professional dynamics of those engaged in this domain. On one dimension, it has precipitated enhancements in victim support services. Conversely, the apprehension surrounding potential blame for systemic failures has engendered work-related stress, susceptibility to burnout, adoption of tactics aimed at deflecting responsibility, and erosion of trust and cooperative synergy within professional networks. Particular attention is bestowed upon the repercussions of this accountability pressure on judicial personnel. We observe an augmented reliance on socio-psychological evaluations of both

perpetrators and victims to preempt future incidents, the intensification of precautionary measures within pre-trial procedures, the establishment of specialized processes and divisions within courts, the nomination of designated coordinators to ensure meticulous case oversight, and a pronounced inclination to prioritize victim protection, sometimes at the expense of their autonomy or overall well-being. Our contribution is based on a qualitative study comprising 90 interviews with a diverse array of stakeholders involved in DV victim support— LEA officers, members of the judiciary and NGO representatives— conducted from 2019 to 2024 in Reunion Island. This investigation forms a component of the European Horizon IMPROVE project (2023-2025), conducted in partnership with the Centre for Legal Research of the University of Reunion Island.

Evidence of horizontal violence in health care settings: a narrative review *Emma Flutti, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele; Alberto Blandino, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele; Palmira Caruso, University of Milan; Guido Travaini, Vita-Salute S. Raffaele University*

In the professional realm, the healthcare sector stands out as one of the most susceptible to violence. One notable manifestation of this is violence among colleagues, commonly referred to as horizontal violence, which has garnered significant attention in recent times. To delve deeper into this phenomenon across various categories of healthcare professionals, a comprehensive search was conducted on PubMed, Scopus, and CINAHL, resulting in the inclusion of 13 articles. The findings of this narrative review illuminate how horizontal violence can manifest in both physical and psychological forms and how it often becomes normalized among the healthcare professionals who endure it. Particularly vulnerable to such occurrences are recent graduates and those with limited professional experience. Furthermore, it has been observed that horizontal violence has detrimental effects on the well-being of those subjected to it, as well as on the quality of patient care delivered. Considering preventive measures, numerous studies emphasize the pivotal role of effective departmental leadership in fostering a harmonious work environment. Despite the largely underreported nature of this phenomenon, the conclusions drawn in this study advocate for a deeper exploration of the dynamics surrounding horizontal violence, with the goal of devising targeted strategies to mitigate its occurrence.

**059. Challenging Criminological Universality: Perspectives on Alternative Forms of Justice in the Global South**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Criminal Justice Policy (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.10*

Conversations on alternative forms of justice have been overwhelmingly driven by knowledge produced in the Global North. This session aims to bring together academic experts specialised in restorative, therapeutic, generative, and transitional justice processes whose works bring the global periphery to the forefront of criminological knowledge production and theorising. Papers covering diverse jurisdictions such as Brazil, Chile, Indonesia and Island communities in Greece will critically engage with the current gaps in Northern literature and contemplate the unique insights brought by their research in relation to key concerns within alternative justice: punishment, rehabilitation, human rights and universality. Part of a wider effort to ‘southernise’ criminology, this panel is also the beginning of a dialogue between different forms of alternative justice thought that so far have largely developed independently of each other.

Chair:

*Kerry Carrington, University of Sunshine Coast*

Participants:

Between Penal Populism and Human Rights Discourses: The Development of Drug Treatment Courts in Chile *Iulia Cristiana Vatau, University of Oxford*

The scholarship on therapeutic justice within drug treatment courts has been dominated by insights from the Global North. Organisational structures, mindsets, and discourses have been primarily explored through the lens of English-speaking, common law jurisdictions, leading to a specific understanding of the punitive

culture within these rehabilitative environments. Drug courts have been criticised for not being able to renounce frameworks reliant on punishment and instead creating a form of “therapy with teeth”. This paper aims to shift the lens towards drug treatment courts in the Global South, specifically Chile, and interrogate the place of punishment in their development. Drawing on rationales of marginal criminological realism, the paper reflects on the syncretism between therapeutic rationales, rights concerns and neoliberal penal populism in an attempt to ultimately understand if drug treatment courts have the potential to transcend cyclical efforts to reinvent punishment, and, if so, under what conditions. Findings from stakeholder interviews and court observation showcase key insights on the benefits of a cultural awareness on rights, as well as the challenges posed by competing notions of responsabilisation and societal insecurity.

Retributive and Restorative Approaches to Drug Offending in Indonesia *Daniel Cullen, University of Oxford*

Over recent decades, Indonesia has pursued a punitive, criminal justice-focused response to the illicit drug trade, in the context of a ‘war on drugs’ across Southeast Asia. As well as retaining the death penalty for drug trafficking, lengthy prison sentences are imposed for a range of drug-related offences, including low-level offences of drug use and possession. Among the many problems arising from this punitive approach is a significant prison overcrowding crisis. One of the solutions which is being championed as an alternative to imprisonment in (some) drug use cases is a restorative justice approach focused on rehabilitation. Over 40,000 individuals went through recognised rehabilitation treatment processes during 2021. However, this approach is implemented in a highly fragmented manner through numerous institutions, and has led to reports of forced treatment, corruption and extortion, and arbitrariness in the diversion process. Drawing on interviews with prisoners serving sentences for drug offences in a prison in Jakarta, and with Indonesian civil society organisations working on drug policy issues, this paper will examine the implementation of the restorative justice model while embedded within a retributive drug policy regime. It will also consider the extent to which this model may risk reproducing the socioeconomic disparities that have characterised the country’s criminal justice approach.

Doing Justice Differently in a Mountain Region of Contemporary Crete, Greece *Leah Koumentaki, Keele University*

Early anthropologists shaped the parameters constituting the presence and operation of customary law in the Mediterranean and Balkan Peninsula. Eurocentric epistemologies acknowledged customary law as an honour-driven approach to correcting an injustice occurring in ‘developing’ societies wherein legal and social infrastructure is absent, and corruption prevails. Similar research indicated a revenge culture, rooted in customary law, in the mountain villages of Crete (Southeast part of Greece), wherein Cretans tend to take the law into their own hands when their honour is harmed. Nonetheless, knowledge from northern metropolises continues to impact subsequent research on the island, receiving zero to little scrutiny by researchers on why and how Cretans prefer ‘customary laws’. This paper will examine why and how locals in Crete follow a customary approach to justice beyond the conventional understanding of customary law. It will explore why people in Mountain Crete follow different practices from the Western-influenced justice procedures the Greek state applies despite the lack of legal affirmation of customary justice practices. Re-evaluating the customary practice of justice in Crete will advocate reconsidering the existence and preference of customary justice in non-northern contexts and rethinking the impact of universalising justice notions. The paper will use the findings to attempt to decolonise the scholarship of customary law in Eastern European Countries.

**060. Intergenerational Criminology, Panel 2. Family and Intergenerational Perspectives II**

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Family and Intergenerational Perspectives (Intergenerational Criminology WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14*

Chair:

**Shihan PENG**, University of Cambridge

Participants:

Are Dating and Peer Aggression Models Symmetrical Across Three Countries *Sheila Royo Maxwell, Michigan State University; Carrie K. W. Li, The University of Hong Kong, Department of Social Work and Social Administration; Christopher D Maxwell, Michigan State University*

Aggression towards peers and dating partners are seldom studied using the same matrix of aggression questions and within the same sample. This makes it hard to reasonably assess whether aggressive behaviors are general (the same perpetrators aggressing against multiple types of relationships—peers, dating partners) or specific (peer-specific or dating-specific). This study uses the same set of aggression questions for dating relationships and peer relationships, making it possible to compare propensities of aggression across relationship types. Consistent with previous studies, it is hypothesized that experiences of familial aggression will be related to dating aggression; and risk-taking and hostile attitudes will be related to peer aggression. The sample was taken from college students in large universities in three countries: the United States, South Korea and the Philippines. Both male and female students completed a self-report questionnaire that assessed their degree of aggression when upset or angry; their experiences of witnessing parental violence, their hostile and risk-taking attitudes, and their self-conscious emotions of guilt, shame and blaming.

Overcoming the Past: Protective Factors and Resiliency in Childhood Maltreatment Survivors *Samantha An Manuel, The University of Texas at Dallas*

Childhood maltreatment literature would predict that childhood trauma victims are at greater risk of engaging in criminal behavior throughout adolescence and adulthood. Through the lens of social bonds theory, childhood maltreatment results in damaged or underdeveloped social ties early in life, causing impaired ability to refrain from criminal or antisocial behavior. However, there are childhood maltreatment survivors within the Asian American community who become resilient, productive members of society. This is a qualitative study exploring the protective factors and turning points throughout the life course to understand how social bonds were broken and rebuilt to promote resilience to antisocial and criminal behavior.

The Moderating Effects of Filial Piety on the Association between Child Abuse and Psychopathic Traits in Chinese Adolescents: A Transcultural Study *Shihan PENG, University of Cambridge*

Child abuse has been identified as a critical predictor for psychopathy, one of the major personality disorders associated with numerous criminal behaviours. This study investigates the role of filial piety as a moderating factor in the relationship between child abuse and psychopathic traits among Chinese adolescents. Utilizing a quantitative cross-sectional design, the research involved 862 students aged 14-19 from public and polytechnic schools in Jiangsu Province, China. Contrary to existing literature, our findings indicate that only physical and emotional abuse from parents serve as predictors of psychopathic traits, while parental neglect does not. Filial piety, a cornerstone of Chinese culture encompassing collective values and familial hierarchies, was found to moderate the impact of child abuse on psychopathic tendencies. It acted as both a protective and exacerbating factor under specific conditions. The study highlights the need for culturally sensitive psychometric tools and interventions, contributing to a more nuanced global understanding of the psychosocial impact of child abuse and construct of psychopathy.

## 061. Gender-Based Violence and Victimization in Diverse Contexts

Topic 4: Victimology/Patterns and trends in Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.20

Chair:

**Ieke de Vries**, Leiden University

Participants:

Environmental Injustice: Re-Conceptualizing Fracking as

Gender-Based Violence *Jayne Mooney, City University of New York; Fintan Mooney, Yale University*

Unconventional gas extraction technology involving horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing, commonly referred to as “fracking”, is the subject of extensive environmental controversies, and its adverse effects on the health of nearby communities are well-documented. However, its specific impact on women, particularly Indigenous women, women of color, and economically disadvantaged women, remains underexplored and theorized. This is particularly relevant in the context of ongoing debates related to what constitutes gender-based violence, crime, and social harm. Evidence suggests a correlation between fracking regions and high rates of interpersonal violence against women, necessitating further investigation, and exploration in terms of its complex relationship with other forms of social harm. By researching the experiences of women living in these regions in the US, this paper seeks to bridge existing gaps in the literature, providing a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of fracking’s impact on women and the intersectional relationship between gender-based violence and environmental issues.

The streets were dark with something more than night: Predicting risky sexual behaviors and victimization among young females seeking detoxification *Maayan Nagar, Ariel University; Sara Kalimi, School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Haifa, Haifa, and Retorno Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, Beit Shemesh, Israel; Sharon Rabinovitz, School of Criminology, Faculty of Law and The Unit for Excellence in Research & Study of Addiction (ERSA), and The Center for the Study of Crime, Law, and Society, University of Haifa, Israel*

Adolescence signifies a period marked by impulsive and often detrimental behaviors, including delinquency, substance use, and risky sexual behaviors (RSB), typically perceived as transient. However, these behaviors can yield enduring repercussions. Despite an escalating prevalence of substance use disorders (SUD) among young women, treatment seeking is notably lower compared to men, with gender-specific issues remaining understudied in SUD research. The current study investigates sexual trauma and RSB among female adolescents and emerging adults undergoing SUD treatment. Through standardized interviews and self-reports, we assessed clinical profiles and sexual experiences in a random sample (~1:2, 45%, n=194) drawn from all admissions to the single national acute detoxification unit for young females (aged 14-34) over five years. Our findings reveal a staggering 89% prevalence of sexual assault within the sample. We identified predicting factors (e.g. age of first SUD diagnosis, global mental health, social support, relationships with parents) associated with various RSB, such as unprotected intercourse and transactional sex. Notably, addiction severity, peer drug use and living on the streets emerged as significant predictors of multiple RSB, posing substantial risks to both individual patients and public health. These insights elucidate the complex interplay between SUD, victimization and re-victimization, providing a foundation for the development of innovative treatment strategies tailored to address the multifaceted challenges encountered by young women.

Cyber Gender-Based Violence in Spain, a quantitative and qualitative radiography *Maria José Garrido Antón, Secretary of State for Security, Ministry of Interior, Spain; Neus Mascaró Coll, España; Lidia Alonso, España; Laura Sánchez, España; Fernando Miró-Llinares, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche*

Technology-facilitated gender-based violence against women (TFGBV), also known as cyber gender-based violence (CVDG) or digital violence, encompasses violence perpetrated through Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) against women. Despite the lack of global statistics, studies indicate significant prevalence rates, with estimates suggesting that a majority of young women globally and a substantial portion of women overall have experienced some form of gender-based violence online. In Europe, one in ten women has been a victim of digital violence, highlighting the urgency to address this issue legislatively and through policy frameworks. The purpose of this research is to offer a quantitative and qualitative overview of

CVDG through data reported in Spain to the Security Forces and Corps. The sample corresponds to 300 cases of CVDG reported between 2015 and 2022. The results indicate that almost 80% of the victims are Spanish, and the majority of perpetrators (72.1%) also hold Spanish nationality. Regarding the type of relationship, the highest percentage corresponds to ex-partners (separated, divorced, ex-partners), and 94.4% of the relationships had ended. 82.7% of women claim to have suffered cyber violence. With regard to sentence violation, there are 43.5% of cases, mainly through WhatsApp (49.3%), followed by Instagram (14.7%), Facebook (15.7%), and/or email (6.3%). There is very high data on simultaneous criminal cyber behavior in many cases, highlighting cyber threats, cyber harassment, cyber offenses, and discovery and disclosure of secrets. Jealousy is present in 50% of aggressors, and cyberbullying towards the victim is observed in 91.4% of cases. The discussion emphasizes that the perpetrator's violence usually appears once the relationship has ended, especially in cases where the aggressor does not accept the breakup. The importance of addressing this phenomenon in a multidisciplinary manner to protect and safeguard women's rights is highlighted.

**Examining Victimization Risk and Risk Contagion through the Social Networks of Sexually Exploited Victims** *Ieke de Vries, Leiden University; Arjan Blokland, NSCR*

Growing awareness of human trafficking has resulted in extant research addressing the risk factors for human trafficking, especially for sexual exploitation. However, most studies focus on individual-level risk factors of victimization, which recent studies have criticized for being too narrow and excluding victims whose risk profiles look different. Few studies have challenged this risk narrative by examining risk within the socio-ecological context of victims. The current study begins filling this gap by examining risk and risk contagion of victimization through the personal networks of victims of sexual exploitation. Novel data from Statistics Netherlands are used to compare the personal networks (comprised of housemates, family, neighbors, peers, and colleagues) of approximately 1,500 reported victims of sexual exploitation in the Netherlands during 2014-2023 with those of equally sized comparison groups of non-victims and reported victims of other violent crimes. Risk contagion models are used to test the 'contagious' nature of victimization, specifically whether exposure to certain crime and victimization increases the risk of sexual exploitation. Findings are pending and part of a larger project examining the socio-ecological context of sexually-exploited victims (funded by the Dutch Research Council). Implications for policy and practice will be discussed.

**062. Child Sexual Abuse**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Sex Crimes, Sex Work and Sex Trafficking

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22

Chair:

*Krzysztof Hanusz*, National Research Institute in Poland

Participants:

Perceptions of child sexual abuse among adult women in Romania: a social constructivist study *Theodora Stefania Dinca, University of Sheffield*

Child sexual abuse (CSA) is a significant global concern. Occurrences of sexual acts between adults and children have been recorded throughout history; however, as understandings of CSA are highly dependent on the social, cultural and historical contexts they have emerged – and continue to emerge in – there is no definition that comprehensively encapsulates this complex concept. The social constructivist framework functions on two main assumptions: a) that a completely objective reality cannot exist in a socially constructed world and b) that knowledge is constructed jointly and individually assimilated. Due to sociology being banned throughout the communist era, social research in Romania is fairly new, having started to emerge after the fall of the communist regime in 1989. Consequently, there are many aspects of the social world to be explored in the Romanian context. The current study employs the qualitative methods of digital story completion and semi-

structured interviews to understand CSA in the Romanian context through the perceptions of Romanian women of different backgrounds and ages. Thus, as there is very little discussion of CSA in Romanian academia, the novelty of the research lies in the in-depth analysis of CSA as a concept and as a part of the Romanian social world. It is foreseen that the study will contribute to the improvement of comparative work on this topic and potentially start a discussion on the extent to which CSA is a problem in this country. Preliminary findings will be presented.

**The association between childhood sexual abuse, engaging in prostitution before the age of 18, and persistence of offending behavior** *Gabriel Tanasescu, University of Craiova Faculty of Law*

The research presents a criminological analysis of the link between childhood sexual abuse, maltreatment, aggressive parental behavior and initiation of prostitution before the age of 18. The research uses the method of interpretive phenomenological analysis, as a qualitative method, the interviews being carried out at the Craiova Penitentiary. The participants in the study are 7 women prisoners, who are serving sentences for committing the crimes of pimping, forming a criminal group, trafficking minors. The participants answered the Adverse Childhood Experiences Questionnaire and believe that practicing prostitution before the age of 18 did not represent a moment of naivety or a choice in ignorance, but only the realization of an activity that would save them from the aggressive social environment, the repeated escape of girls and leaving home being the only alternative to living with the abusive family. Certain individual and situational factors predict potential antisocial behavior. The research highlights the fact that victims of childhood sexual abuse experienced anxiety disorders, alcohol and drug use, conduct disorders and self-mutilation, suicidal ideation and low self-control, involvement in risky criminal activities. Poor school results, absenteeism, shame and low self-esteem, poor hygiene and material deprivation have contributed to school dropout, which occurs before the age of 14. The participants believe that there are no alternatives when they start practicing prostitution. The research also presents a meta-analysis of recent studies exploring the link between childhood sexual abuse and early initiation of sexual life and prostitution. Childhood maltreatment is a strong predictor of recidivism for youth in detention centers. Additional criminological research is needed to validate the association of childhood sexual abuse and prostitution before the age of 18.

**Crime, victim, perpetrator - Sexual abuse of children in cyberspace from the Polish perspective.** *Katarzyna Staciwa, National Research Institute in Poland; Krzysztof Hanusz, National Research Institute in Poland*

The presentation will discuss the research results obtained as a result of the analysis of 220 criminal cases conducted against people accused of crimes related to CSAM and/or sexual abuse of children in cyberspace. The analysis used a detailed survey covering issues regarding the profile of the perpetrator, the harmed child, the course of criminal proceedings, as well as the role of forensic experts in the criminal trial. The study can be called a unique attempt to capture the image of the phenomenon of child sexual abuse, thanks to which it will be possible to propose specific recommendations, including in the area of policy. As an example, one of the observations concerns the problematic activity of the so-called "pedophile hunters", who surprisingly often actively engage in various types of provocative activities. The theoretical part of the research report along with the survey will be translated into English to provide inspiration for similar projects in other countries.

**063. EHC-WG Panel 2: Histories of Race, Gender and Vulnerable Groups**

Topic 7: Comparative and Historical Perspectives/Historical Comparisons of Crime (Historical Criminology WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.04

Chair:

*Esmorie Jacqueline Miller*, Lancaster University

Participants:

Race, Gender, and Penalty in Historic Interwar British Youth Penal Reform: A Case for Penal Welfarism *Esmorie Jacqueline Miller, Lancaster University*

Extant literature lamenting the deepening relationship between race and penalty, in contemporary Britain, defines the race/penalty nexus as the empire coming home (Moore, 2014; Brown, 2002). Correspondingly, scholars of race have doubled down on calls to address race-blindness in British criminological histories (Choak, 2020; Phillips, et al, 2019). A vocabulary of erasure and amnesia indicate both active and passive processes of exclusion from criminological inquiry. Moore and Brown's positioning of the amplified penalty being meted out to racialized peoples, in contemporary Britain, as the empire coming home reflects this race-blindness. The paper centres British interwar youth penal reform as a primary site for addressing this race-blindness. Drawing on historical records, including the Fletcher Report, the Liverpool University Settlement Records, and the Eugenics Review catalogue, the paper explores the role of interwar youth reform in shaping a historic politics of race in Britain. Consistent with the deviance invention logic which emphasized earlier modes of penalty for White, working-class youth, early modes of penalty similarly implicated racialized youth and their families, but this remains largely unknown in the criminological canon. In particular, racialization played an especially antithetical role excluding racialized young women from the logics and practice of care recognized as crucial, by the reform movement, for supporting the transformative potential of marginalized urban, working-class youth. Such exploration widens the lens to expose historic intersections between race, gender, and penalty in Britain.

Histories of race, crime and justice in Cardiff, Wales *Lizzie Seal, University of Sussex*

This paper will discuss findings from a British Academy funded project, conducted with Esmorie Miller, on race, crime and justice in Cardiff, 1870-1955. As an 'empire city', Cardiff had a historically and culturally significant multicultural population located in the Butetown district, making it an excellent case study for this topic. The project sought to examine everyday experiences and portrayals of crime, victimisation and justice in relation to racialised people during the period. It was researched from historical newspapers, photographic registers and life history documents. This paper will discuss themes related to the formation of race in the public sphere, experiences of racist victimisation and the significance of racialised imaginaries of space. These themes help to identify the historical underpinnings of the nexus between race and crime in Britain, something which has strong contemporary relevance given the overrepresentation of racialised people in the present-day criminal justice system. The research contributes to historical scholarship that marks race in British history and connects race to nation and Empire (Matera et al., 2023) and seeks to answer the call to overcome the 'criminological amnesia' regarding race, colonialism and criminal justice in Britain (Phillips et al., 2020: 439).

Institutional Abuse: Reformatory Schools and the Use of Physical Force. *Emma Deborah Watkins, University of Birmingham*

Understanding how offending children in the first government-run youth institutions were disciplined, and how that was framed by the institution, and responded to outside of it, allows us to question contemporary ideas and practices. Exploring the deep historical roots of such practices will enable new lines of enquiry to begin to challenge the way 'we' think about 'offending' juveniles. This historical criminological project will investigate the use of physical force in disciplining and controlling institutionalised offending children within reformatory schools. This research will also uncover how institutions justified the use/extent of physical force used, and how the views were reflected, or differed, at the political and public level. This will be done by consulting regional reformatory records (institutional level), parliamentary reports (political level), and newspapers (public level). The period under study is 1854-1933. This is because Reformatory schools were certified by government legislation at this time; these were the first government-run youth institutions in England and Wales and set a precedent for confining children and young people in separate specialised institutions. The reformatory schools were later merged with Industrial Schools to form Approved Schools in 1933. This will be

taken as the logical end point for the comparative study of three reformatory schools.

Punishment and social structure in slave-owning Brazil: the public and the private in the reproduction of order. *PATRICK CACICEDO, University of São Paulo*

Slavery determined specific forms of punishment. In colonial Brazil, the penal system acted in a double way, in an official regime of little practical impact for the free population and a parallel system of unofficial punishments for the enslaved population. In Colonial Brazil, the concrete relations of the slave society show the coexistence of a private punitive power alongside a public system of punishment. The differences between rural and urban slavery, as well as the political, social and fatal transformations in the period that goes from the discovery of Brazil to the inauguration of the first modern prison (1500-1850) reveal how the constituted powers adopt their own punitive forms for reproduction of the slave order. The movement that started with corporal punishment in private environments in the rural areas of the colony demands the non-use of prison sentences and the death penalty. However, with the development of urban slavery, new punitive practices were imposed and culminated in the entry of the police into Brazil (1809), after the arrival of the Portuguese Royal Family in Rio de Janeiro. With the independence of Brazil, new ones occurred and, now, prison and death sentences, which were previously incompatible with the slave system, are presented as a necessity for its maintenance. The study proposes a materialist analysis of the transformations of punitive practices in slave-owning Brazil.

064. WG Organized Crime and Criminal Networks Panel 1.

Methods for studying organized crime

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Organized Crime (Organized Crime WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06

Chair:

*Ernesto Savona*, Transcrime / Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan)

Participants:

A Death of Known Knowns? Empirical Research into Money Laundering Methodology: A Systematic Literature Review *Timo Hauler, Universität Leipzig; Katrin Höffler, University of Leipzig*

Purpose: The present article provides a comprehensive summary of the existing empirical research into money launderers' modi operandi and considers its policy implications, most notably regarding the legitimacy of today's anti-money laundering regimes. Design/Methodology/Approach: A Systematic Literature Review was performed via databases KrimDok, KrimLit, Web of Science, and Google Scholar. After the initial search had yielded n=3.465 results, we selected n=22 studies for data extraction and synthesis pursuant to predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria as well as a bespoke hierarchy of evidence. Findings: The article paints a kaleidoscopic – convoluted, sometimes even contradictory – picture of money laundering methodology, thus indicating significant differences in the sophistication and geographical scope of delinquents' modi operandi. Nonetheless, virtually all studies included in the final sample agree that money launderers frequently use figureheads, invest in assets which may be repurposed for other criminal activities, and misuse the financial sector. Originality/Value: The article's findings are rendered more palatable through the formulation of two Weberian ideal-types: the blue-collar and the white-collar money launderer. In light of the four categories of risk typified by Donald Rumsfeld and Slavoj Žižek, we moreover question the popular narrative regarding a "death" of empirical research into money laundering methodology.

Leveraging open sources to understand illicit firearms trafficking in Europe: an exploratory analysis *Marina Mancuso, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Caterina Paternoster, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore*

Numerous research works have underscored the effectiveness of

open sources in scrutinizing various forms of criminal activity. Sophisticated data processing and crawling methods based on data and text mining techniques have demonstrated their utility in gathering information on diverse criminal events such as terrorism, human trafficking, and human smuggling. This includes insights into perpetrators, victims, and modi operandi, particularly concerning crimes where official data is limited or outdated. Within the framework of the Horizon Europe CEASEFIRE Project (Advanced versatile artificial intelligence technologies and interconnected cross-sectoral fully operational national focal points for combating illicit firearms trafficking), this study proposed a methodology centered on open source data analysis for investigating illicit firearms trafficking across Europe. By leveraging open source data, the study examines incidents involving firearms (including seizures and selected firearm-related crimes) across EU Member States, where official data is often lacking and varied. This approach facilitates the acquisition of an updated intelligence picture of the phenomenon, potentially enhancing the ability to identify emerging trafficking trends and define reliable risk profiles.

**Lifting the Veil of Legitimacy: Investigating the Structure of ‘Ndrangheta Penetration of Legal-Market Businesses Using Open-Source Business Register Data** *Niles Breuer, University of Oxford; Zora Lea Hauser, University of Oxford*

Is the structure of a criminal organization independent from the activities it carries out? To answer this question, we compare the presence of the ‘Ndrangheta – a mafia hailing from Calabria – in the legal economy in Italy and Germany. We hypothesize that in Italy – where the ‘Ndrangheta has historically controlled local markets and engaged in governance activities – the group will exhibit network structures similar to other mafia groups. On the other hand, we expect that the group in Germany – a new market for the ‘Ndrangheta where the group was primarily focused on the investment and laundering of criminal proceeds alongside other trade activities – will resemble other criminal networks involved in trade activities. To test these hypotheses, we have collected publicly-available business register documents in Italy and Germany and constructed two corporate interlock networks representing which actors are officially affiliated to the same companies. We use descriptive and hypothesis-testing network analysis techniques to investigate the structure of the two groups and the social mechanisms underlying the tie formation process in each network. Overall, we expect that the network structure of an organized crime group is not set; instead, it adapts to the requirements of the criminal activities it carries out. The paper contributes to the literature on the structure of mafias and other organized crime groups, with the aim of expanding the focus beyond the type of group to also consider the group’s activities. Further, our research develops the usage of an underutilized data source in the study of organized crime – public business registers – and contributes to the field’s understanding of how organized crime groups infiltrate legal markets.

**Artificial Intelligence for Researching and Investigating Organized Crime** *Ernesto Savona, Transcrime / Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan)*

The introduction of Artificial Intelligence in law enforcement has shown promise but concerns loom regarding its potential contributions to the proliferation and sophistication of crimes. This awareness brings the law enforcement community to a conclusion that the use of AI could be a benefit for criminals but also for law enforcement. This paper aims to delineate the potential benefits and limitations of leveraging generative AI in researching and investigating organized crime (OC) and financial crime. By exploring both aspects, law enforcement agencies can optimize their investigative efforts to develop strategic and tactical intelligence. The conceptual framework employed aligns with the one developed by Transcrime for the UNODC and INEGI Center of Excellence in 2012 ([https://www.transcrime.it/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/CoE\\_MOC-in-Latin-America-and-the-Caribbean-Sept-2012.pdf](https://www.transcrime.it/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/CoE_MOC-in-Latin-America-and-the-Caribbean-Sept-2012.pdf)) This framework encompasses five dimensions (Groups, Activities, State Response, Enablers, Civil Society Response) measurable through quantitative and qualitative data at Macro (territory), Meso (vehicle), and Micro (subjects) levels. The main assumption is that OC risks vary across different

socio-economic contexts, organizational structures, and vulnerabilities, forming a basis that generative AI can utilize to map risks related to OC and financial crimes. Examples of the methodology and its implementation are provided.

**065. Plenary 1 - Thursday**

ESC

Plenary Session

11:00 to 12:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Aula Magna*

Chair:

**Tom Vander Beken**, Professor and director of the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP), Ghent University

Participants:

**Violence in the Balkans: Between Myths and Realities in Times of Penal Populism** *Anna-Maria Getoš Kalac, University of Zagreb Faculty of Law*

Hardly any other European region is as burdened with violent images and stereotypes as are the Balkans, although compared to the rest of Europe the Balkans appear to be a low-crime region. Rates of intentional homicide victims have been rather stable or even slightly declining throughout the past decade, while not much deviating from the rates found in most other parts of Europe. Nevertheless, the Balkans are commonly perceived as a wild and violence-prone region, facilitating an internal and external discourse about crime and security that fuels penal populism. Coupled with the region’s lack in evidence-based policy approaches, a still developing criminological community and a well-established civil society sector, myths and ideologies dominate over facts and realities. With the plenary an attempt is made to debunk such myths through facts and figures while incentivizing the Balkan as well as the European criminological community to more vigorously engage in science activism aimed at taming growing penal populism.

**A running start: Desistance from crime, Zatopekan pain, and embodied rehabilitation** *Thomas Ugelvik, University of Oslo*

This paper looks at the role long-distance running may play in individual change processes. Based on interviews with 12 former offenders who share an interest in running, I ask how endurance training may work as an engine or a catalyst for desistance from crime processes. The analysis shows that race goals and a training plan may provide a much-needed sense of structure and predictability that may help the desistance process move forward. Regular training may help former offenders cope with addiction and the risk of reverting to old drug and/or alcohol use habits. Running may also help former offenders communicate or signal to others that they have changed, contributing to recognition and tertiary desistance. Serious endurance training always involves a measure of pain, however. For all runners, it is vital to find ways to maximize positive (or ‘Zatopekan’) pain while avoiding negative, injury-related, pain. Several participants talked about the positive aspects of running-related pain. They also described how they use negative experiences from their former lives as a pain management technique. Finally, introducing the term ‘embodied rehabilitation’, we argue that desistance from crime, identity change, and physical/corporeal change might combine and mutually strengthen each other, driving the desistance process forward.

**066. Prison Working Group: Education, treatment, and rehabilitation of people in prison**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

1:00 to 2:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”*

This panel offers an exploration of multi-faceted aspects of education, treatment, and rehabilitation of people in correctional settings. Comprising five different studies, the session delves into the realms of parenting, external mental health care, music programs, peer learning and peer support initiatives, alongside reintegration activities during and after imprisonment. Organized by the ESC working group on prison life and the effects of imprisonment, this



panel aims to unravel the inner workings of correctional facilities. It focuses on an array of programs and their impact on both individuals in prison, as the prisons themselves. Drawing on insights from Belgium, England, Switzerland, and The Netherlands, each study examines unique facets, collectively providing a comprehensive understanding of various aspects related to education, treatment, and rehabilitation of people in prison, or people with experiences of imprisonment. The studies employ diverse methodological approaches, incorporating both quantitative and qualitative methods.

Chair:

**Dorien Brosens**, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Participants:

Accessing external medical services in detention: Prevalence and challenges in Geneva *Leonel da Cunha Gonçalves, Geneva University Hospitals & University of Bern*

According to international recommendations for the health care of detained persons, patients are transported to local hospitals or clinics for specialist consultations, medical investigations, or treatments that are not available in prison. Despite this, there is a notable gap in research concerning external medical services. This study assesses the prevalence, variety of medical services provided, and characteristics associated with external medical visits among persons detained in Geneva, Switzerland, from January to March 2023. In total, 681 external medical visits were planned for 336 patients, averaging 0.3 visits per person monthly, but with significant variation across institutions (0.2-0.5). Medical services covered specialties (41%, dermatology being prominent), diagnostics (23%), surgeries (12%), emergencies (9%), and other treatments (15%, including dental care). Most visits were for somatic conditions (96% vs. 5% psychiatric). However, 36% of these visits did not occur as planned due to rescheduling (38%), cancellations (34%), or patient refusal (28%). Refusal rates significantly differed across institutions, even when adjusting for patient age and gender. Furthermore, an older age was associated with an increased number of external visits. These findings highlight the need for improved management of medical resources within detention settings and underscore the barriers faced by detained persons in accessing health care.

What can music programs in prison learn from Paulo Freire's pedagogy of the oppressed? *Silke Marynissen, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Dorien Brosens, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Geert Vandermeersche, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels Research Centre on Innovation in Learning and Diversity (BILD)*

Prior studies provide insight into the positive outcomes of music programs for incarcerated individuals, such as stimulating self-development and facilitating connections. Our realist literature review reveals that the approach of the music facilitator is an important mechanism underlying these outcomes, which can be linked to Paulo Freire's pedagogy of the oppressed. This pedagogy argues that we need to move towards education where dialogue is essential to make people conscientious about their (oppressed) position in society. We used a multi-method approach to study the link between the principles from Freire's pedagogy and music programs in prison, which include (1) theory-gleaning interviews with international academics and program developers, (2) and participant observations at six music programs in prisons across the UK and Flanders (Belgium). (3) To include the voice of people in prison, we applied the Most Significant Change technique in the music programs observed in Flanders. This research offers insights into how some music programs in prison embody Freire's pedagogy and where they are still falling short. Music facilitators treat participants as human beings, ensuring that everyone's (musical) voice is heard. Despite their great efforts, their managing role is often in contrast with Freire's idea of an equitable dialogue. Music programs in prison hold great potential to create societal awareness of oppressing systems, but the political dimension is often missing.

Understanding the complexity of peer programs in prison *Dorien Brosens, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Silke Marynissen, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Leen Vandeveld, Vrije Universiteit Brussel/University of Antwerp*

Peer programs in prison encompass programs in which incarcerated

people educate, tutor or support their fellow incarcerated persons. Yet, a comprehensive understanding of their effectiveness remains difficult to assess. In response, this study reviews 29 international articles and reports on peer programs in prison, complemented by ongoing interviews with academics and program developers, to gain insight into the outcomes, the underlying mechanisms, and the conditions under which peer programs in correctional settings are likely to be effective. This study scrutinizes the nuanced outcomes, uncovering both the potential benefits as negative outcomes on peer workers (e.g. identity desistance and improved/deteriorated mental health) or prisons (e.g. reduced staff pressure, security treats). Success is contingent on micro-level factors (e.g. recruitment procedures, peer worker motivation) and exo-level elements (e.g. institutional prison profiles, training/hands-on experiences of peer workers, institutional buy-in). Various underlying mechanisms, including support for and supervision of peer workers and the establishment of a safe space, are identified as crucial to optimize peer programs. Unravelling the outcomes of peer programs in prison, as well as the underlying contextual factors and mechanisms, provides valuable insights for practitioners and policy makers in designing and implementing effective peer programs in correctional settings.

Re-integration or disintegration? Exploring the journey of individuals reentering society after prison *Rosa Koenraadt, Criminology, Leiden University, the Netherlands; Jennifer Doekhie, Leiden University; Anouk den Besten, Leiden University*

Since 2019, the Dutch government has implemented a new policy aimed at enhancing reintegration after prison, with the goal of reducing recidivism rates. This policy shift emphasizes greater attention to reintegration both during and after imprisonment, improving key factors such as housing and income, and strengthening the role of case managers within prisons. To date, however, there is little insight into how this new policy is experienced by individuals in prison themselves. In this large-scale two-year qualitative study, a sample of 100 imprisoned men and women has been followed from the moment just before release to six months after release. Through interviews and analysis of case files, we examined which reintegration activities have been offered and undertaken by individuals during and after prison, how they experience their reintegration process and areas for improvement. While a large part of the sample met at least two basic conditions upon release, our findings indicate that problems occur after prison in the realms of material, social and personal reintegration. It is shown that (formerly) imprisoned individuals have to navigate highly complex systems to 'get things done' which can be challenging and demotivating, potentially hindering their reintegration efforts. Furthermore, released individuals display low levels of trust in re-integration professionals and organizations. Overall, the current reintegration policy seems to work for a specific part of the prison population - the ones that are already quite self-reliant and know how to navigate the system. However, for a larger part who lack the skills and knowledge to navigate these systems effectively, existing policies fall short. This underscores the need for targeted interventions and support tailored to the diverse needs of individuals reentering society after prison.

#### 067. Justifying intrusive measures in policing, prison, and administrative detention - between theory and practice

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

1:00 to 2:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”*

In the interaction between state authorities and citizens, justifications for executive decisions are a basic rule of law requirement. They help the addressees of the decisions to understand them and challenge those decisions they believe to be unjustified. Additionally, a duty to give reasons helps public authorities scrutinize and monitor their own decisions for patterns of discrimination, racial profiling and harassment. This is the theory, reaffirmed by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union in 2000. In practice, the implementation of the theory causes numerous difficulties, particularly in policing and carceral contexts. This may be because decision-

makers are not trained to distinguish between case-specific justifications and universally applicable ones; or because, the selection of individuals to be subjected to measures is based on common discriminatory stereotypes, that cannot be revealed in the statement of reasons; or because adequate justification standards have yet to be developed as this is the case for AI applications, which are increasingly replacing conscious decision-making. This panel investigates the described discrepancy between theory and practice referring to four case studies that explore police stop practice in England, administrative detention decisions in Germany, decisions taken in Belgian prisons and the seemingly intractable problem of justifying AI decision making in law enforcement contexts.

Chair:

**Beate Kutschke**, Paris Lodron University Salzburg

Participants:

Individual justifications for police stop and search: a range of inadequate options from England & Wales *Estelle Marks, University of Sussex*

Police action that interferes with the freedom of movement and privacy rights of the individual is precisely the type of state action that ought to require specific contextual and individualised justification. Even where legal powers do not contain threshold requirements of individualised reasonable suspicion the rule of law demands that these powers are at minimum used for their stated purpose. Police stop practices in the England & Wales fall far short of this basic rule of law requirement and this paper discusses the problem across a range of different legal powers. First, the majority of police powers to stop and search individuals in the street do legally require individualised reasons but has repeatedly found the police frequently use vague formula justifications that are almost impossible to challenge. Second, police stops of vehicles under the road traffic act do not contain a legal threshold of reasonable suspicion the powers are routinely used for purposes other than road traffic enforcement and new nationwide requirements to record RTA stops will allow officers to do so using a drop down menu of predefined formula justifications. Third, an increasing number of 'suspicionless' search powers aimed at specific purposes do away with the pretence of individualised reasons entirely, instead offloading any justification to the authorisation of the power in a specific context.

Justifying Decisions supported by Artificial Intelligence:

Approaches and Limitations of the Accountability Settings foreseen by the European Union's "Artificial Intelligence Act" *Hartmut Aden, Berlin School of Economics and Law, Berlin Institute for Safety and Security Research (FÖPS Berlin); Steven Kleemann, Berlin Institute for Safety and Security Research (FÖPS Berlin)*

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is renowned to be a black box. Therefore, the (limited) explainability of decisions supported by AI tools is a major challenge for the justification of these decisions. In law enforcement, false decisions can have a far-reaching negative impact upon the fundamental rights of those concerned. In December 2023, the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission reached a compromise in the Trilogue negotiations for a Regulation on Artificial Intelligence ("Artificial Intelligence Act"), based on a proposal published by the Commission in 2021 (COM(2021) 206 final). This paper analyses the accountability mechanisms that the AI Regulation introduces and discusses how far these mechanisms can contribute to the accountable use of AI in a democratic rule of law context. Particularly with regards to the requirements of fairness, transparency, explainability and the justification of decisions. The paper also looks at the relationship between additional accountability settings for AI and well-established accountability forums such as the European Data Protection Supervisor, the European Data Protection Board and the European Ombudsman.

The power of transparency: the importance of justifications in the prison context *Pieter Houbey, CTRG/CCSP; Sonja Meijer, Radboud University*

The justification of administrative actions is regulated by law and aims to increase confidentiality, legitimacy, and transparency regarding the reasons underlying the decision. The substantive obligation to provide reasons requires that a decision should be

supported by factual and legal motives that are disclosed and should justify the decision. The importance of providing reasons for decisions is also emphasized in the Belgian prison legislation. This is particularly important in the prison context where detainees reside in closed 'total institutions', and therefore find themselves in a special position of dependency vis-à-vis the prison staff and administration. Moreover, the decisions taken by staff and the administration can sometimes involve far-reaching measures, such as conducting a strip search, placement in a high-security regime, or in a disciplinary cell. Based on the work of the Belgian council for prison monitoring, the difficulties, problems, and challenges related to the justification of decisions are examined in the light of the seemingly everlasting struggle to balance security and human rights in 'total institutions'.

Empty formulas to justify detention pending deportation - the justification practice of the Federal Police under scrutiny by the German Federal Court of Justice *Beate Kutschke, Paris Lodron University Salzburg*

The obligation for state authorities to provide reasons for decisions that interfere with citizens' rights is firmly anchored in German law. The (Federal) Administrative Procedure Act (VwVfG), which has been in force since 1977 (as well as the respective administrative procedure acts of the individual federal states), stipulates that executive decisions must generally be justified, except in certain cases. In addition, Section 39 (1) sentence 3 VwVfG defines in particular the justification requirements for discretionary decisions. The legal norm reflects the widespread conviction among German jurists that the fundamental rights of the rule of law and the guarantee of legal recourse, i.e. in particular the right to challenge decisions by state authorities, have no practical significance if the decisions are not backed up by an appropriate statement of reasons. Despite this favourable legal situation for those affected, the implementation of an adequate justification practice appears to be a challenge for state authorities, especially in areas in which comparatively powerless people are the addressees of state decisions. In last year's Eurocrim, I pointed out that, for around 30 years, the German Federal Employment Agency has regularly used empty formulas to justify a type of discretionary administrative act that interferes with the constitutionally guaranteed freedom of action of unemployed people, and that the Federal Social Court has regularly approved these justifications, thus diverting from the judicial and academic-juristic consensus. In this year's paper, I examine the justifications given by the Federal Police for applications for detention pending deportation of persons without residence status. The paper will analyse the case law of the Federal Court of Justice, which has regularly criticised empty formula justifications in such applications since 2010.

## 068. Gender, Prison and Reentry Experiences – A Matter of Time

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Feminist Criminology (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Author meets critics

1:00 to 2:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”*

This book explores the unique reentry experiences of incarcerated men and women who are about to be released from prisons in Portugal. By analysing gendered reentry experiences through the narratives of men and women, Gender, Prison and Reentry Experiences sheds light on current practices and strategies adopted in prisons regarding reentry and examines the structural, institutional, and personal barriers that influence the reentry outcome. Gender, Prison and Reentry Experiences examines the narratives built around an individual's prison experiences, their perception of the prison's impact on reentry, and their expectations after release. It reveals how men and women narrate and attribute meaning to their time in prison and how they navigate their 'prisoner' and 'gendered' identities. In doing so, this book demonstrates the importance of these identities in relation to recidivism and desistance, while also questioning the role incarceration has in further criminalising and obstructing an individual's reentry process. It puts forward recommendations that aim to improve the lives of all incarcerated individuals within the current system, in addition to advocating for decarceration and prison abolition. It presents a novel contribution to the internationalisation of knowledge across multiple disciplinary subfields, namely critical reentry studies and feminist criminology, filling a gap in the current knowledge as few studies focus on

prison experiences as a core aspect of understanding the reentry process.

Critics:

**Loraine Gelsthorpe**, University of Cambridge  
**Ana Ballesteros-Pena**, Complutense University of Madrid  
**Rafaela Granja**, University of Minhho

Book Author:

**Silvia Gomes**, University of Warwick

**069. The Social Services' Risk Assessments Of Violence In Close Relationships Against People With Cognitive Disabilities**

Topic 4: Victimology/Policy and Prevention of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

1:00 to 2:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”*

People with cognitive disabilities, such as intellectual and developmental disabilities, are at a higher risk of experiencing violence in close relationships than the general population. This may be connected to, for example, physical or economic dependence on others, social isolation, and perceived vulnerability by perpetrators and also close relationships including institutional housing, and by caregivers and/or assistants. To protect and support them, the process of assessment of risk of violence in close relationships needs to be adapted to their needs. The SAFE research group focuses on studying and developing support for the social services' work with violence against people with cognitive disabilities. The research group conducts two research projects: one aiming to adapt and develop the social services' methods to detect and assess risk for violence in close relationships so that it suits work with people with cognitive disabilities, and one aiming to develop, evaluate, and implement a flexible and research-based support material for social workers in their meetings with people with cognitive disabilities. The research group is a collaboration between researchers from social work, occupational therapy, and disability research. The projects rest on the socioecological model, including trauma-informed and disability accommodated approaches as theoretical frameworks. This panel presents results from these studies.

Chair:

**Åsa Källström**, Örebro University

Participants:

**Social Work Practices With Victims Of Violence Among People With Cognitive Disabilities** *Filippa Klint, Örebro University; Åsa Källström, Örebro University; Lisette Farias Vera, Karolinska Institute*

Social workers may find it challenging to identify victims of violence in close relationships among people with cognitive disabilities, make risk assessments, and provide support. This study contributes to the field by describing and analyzing social workers' current practices with victims of violence in close relationships among people with cognitive disabilities in Sweden. Analysis of five focus-group discussions including 20 social workers revealed four main themes that describe the practices used with these victims, 'Competency', 'The system of collaboration', 'Protective and supportive measures' and 'Instruments and tools'. Sub-themes illuminate the differences in competency and resources offered to victims of violence in close relationships between mainstream victim services and disability services. Mainstream victim services have a lack of practices adapted for people with cognitive disabilities, and disability services have a lack of practices for victims of violence. Additionally, these services were found to have insufficient collaboration. The results illuminate a challenge regarding violence and disability related to the fragmentation of social services. Victims of violence with cognitive disabilities got access to only one of the two domains: Mainstream victim service or disability services. The domains' differences in competency, collaboration, protection, support, and tools are likely to make significantly different services available to victims. We suggest that future research should investigate the prerequisites for services to collaborate.

**Social Workers Navigating The Dialogue With Victims Of Violence: Considering Cognitive Disabilities** *Sofie Ann-Louise Adaszak, Örebro University; Johanna Gustafsson, Örebro University; Marie Holmefur, Örebro University; Åsa*

*Källström, Örebro University; Lisette Farias Vera, Karolinska Institute*

People with cognitive disabilities are less likely than the general population to be provided with victimization support adapted to their needs. Exposure and risk of violence may hence continue. In enactment of support dialogues with victims of violence, social workers need to consider needs related to both trauma caused by violence and also disability. There is a lack of knowledge of how this is managed in client interactions and accordingly, this study aims to explore how social workers navigate barriers and enact the dialogue with clients with cognitive disabilities exposed to violence in close relationships. Data was collected in semi-structural individual interviews conducted with 18 social workers with experience of identifying and/or assessing exposure to violence in close relationships against people with cognitive disabilities. The data was analysed with inductive qualitative content analysis. Preliminary results illustrate how social workers navigate tensions and dilemmas at the micro level when enacting a support dialogue, and how these are inflicted by aspects on the meso and macro level. The micro level dilemmas relate to accommodating support for both trauma and disability-related needs while building insight and aligning response to the client's preparedness. Balancing between individuals' rights for self-determination versus complex needs for protection and support is a dilemma on macro level, and professional agency and expertise versus the clients' capacity to meet formal and informal expectations in the dialogue is a meso level dilemma. Implications highlights the need for increased organizational and professional understanding of intersectional needs, in relation to victimization and in relation to disability, for an accessible practice for this client group. Since practice, in terms of direct client interaction, is described to be inflicted by policy the findings from this study will also be of interest to policymakers to facilitate for accessible practice.

**Violence Victimization Among Service Users – What About First-Person Recognition?** *Filippa Klint, Örebro University; Johanna Gustafsson, Örebro University; Åsa Källström, Örebro University*

Support and protection for victims with cognitive disabilities are underdeveloped and deserve more attention to enable the enactment of human rights and equal victim support. This study aims to explore how disability service users' knowledge about their victimization of violence is treated by their surrounding support systems. A deductive analysis from the perspective of epistemic (in)justice was conducted on qualitative data. The sample consisted of 26 in-depth interviews with professionals in disability support services in Sweden. The interviews covered the professionals' experiences of working with victims of violence with cognitive disabilities within their organizations. Our codebook was developed based on Fricker's epistemic (in)justice with an additional theme of participatory (in)justice (see Hookway, 2010 and Schmidt, 2019). Lastly, an inductive analysis of the material within each category was conducted for an overview of the results. Results show all three themes represented in the material. The testimonial theme included examples of unjust silencing of victims' testimonies but also of justice given by interpreting and listening to non-verbal utterances. The hermeneutical theme included examples of an unjust lack of knowledge for these victims of their rights but also counteractions of educative interventions. The participatory theme included examples of full exclusion of access to support- and protection services but also instances of strategies for inclusion in decision-making regarding processes for support. We discuss how service users are treated as first-person knowers when victimized by violence in close relationships. The supportive apparatus performs balancing acts of supporting self-determination but also victims' safety, believing in victims in combination with understanding what knowledge they lack due to marginalization, and promoting inclusion but reacting quickly. Professionals must navigate sometimes contradicting rights such as the right to a life free from violence and the right to self-determination.

**Collaboration To Support Victims Of Violence In Close Relationships With Cognitive Disabilities** *Filippa Klint, Örebro University; Johanna Gustafsson, Örebro University; Marie Holmefur, Örebro University*

Society is failing to support and protect victims of violence in close relationships who have cognitive disabilities. Additionally, these crimes are rarely reported to the police resulting in hidden statistics and marginalisation of victims with cognitive disabilities. Previous research has shown a fragmentation between disability support and victim support; hence collaboration efforts are recommended to bridge knowledge gaps and enable adjusted support. To initiate a change in the availability of support and protection, this study brought together professionals from the different relevant professional fields: victim support and disability support for a collaborative workshop. The aim was to find facilitating and hindering factors for collaboration to find applicable support and protection for people with cognitive disabilities. The workshops included a discussion of a fictive case of violence in close relationship toward a person with cognitive disabilities followed by a group interview assessing the case discussion and collaboration facilitators and barriers. Data consists of video recordings of the workshops enabling verbatim and observation analysis. Manifest declarations and latent signs will be analysed based on the discussions and body language of professionals from each field, to find facilitators and barriers for this type of collaboration. This is a work in progress and preliminary results will be presented at the conference. In conclusion, this study highlights the pressing need to address the vulnerability of people with cognitive disabilities to violence in close relationships. By fostering collaboration between victim support and disability support professionals, we see the potential for positive outcomes such as less pain for victims and higher rates of police reporting, for example. This could be an important step towards finding organisational means enabling professional collaboration to support victims of violence among people with cognitive disabilities.

**Understandings Of Violence From The Perspective Of People With Cognitive Disabilities** *Softe Ann-Louise Adaszak, Örebro University; Johanna Gustafsson, Örebro University; Marie Holmefur, Örebro University; Åsa Källström, Örebro University; Lisette Farias Vera, Karolinska Institute*

To protect and support people with a cognitive disability, assessments must be tailored to their specific needs. Assessments implemented in Sweden have questions that are clear and easy to understand for the general population. However, these questions can be challenging for those with cognitive disabilities. To develop adapted assessments and strengthen support, it is important to have a deep understanding of how people with cognitive disabilities understand violence. The aim of this project is to investigate the conceptualization of violence and perception of potential violent situations among people with cognitive disabilities. Individual interviews were conducted with 20 participants who have cognitive disabilities. The interview guide was adapted to include vignettes and pictures to facilitate dialogue with the participants. A reflexive thematic analysis suggests that main themes are interrelated and highlight significant aspects that participants associate with violent situations or victimization. Preliminary findings illustrate various levels and types of violence, as well as differences in the circumstances that facilitate for people with cognitive disabilities to disclose exposure of violence and for professionals to identify risk. It is crucial to understand the perceptions and understanding of violence by people with cognitive disabilities in order to adapt assessments and language that match their descriptions. Clear communication about the definitions of violence and the types of violence that people with a cognitive disability may experience is needed to coordinate and provide better support among services. The influences of norms and differences in lived experiences highlights a need for a critical and client centered approach. Above this, experiences related to contextually living with cognitive disabilities adds a need of accessible practice with potential to form a more inclusive, and less taken for granted practice with normative conceptualizations of violence.

#### 070. Cybercrime Working Group - Trends in cybercrime 2

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Cybercrime (Cybercrime WG)

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 5 „Constantin Stătescu”

Chair:

*Dorel Herinean*, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest

Participants:

**SIM Swapping: A Deep Dive Into One of the Most Significant Cybercrime Threats Today** *Marie-Helen Maras, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, USA; Emily R Ives, University of Virginia*

What would you do if someone took control of your mobile phone number? This is not a hypothetical situation but a reality for SIM card hijacking (or SIM swapping) victims. Criminals have engaged in this cybercrime to gain control of the target's phone number, bypass two-factor authentication, and gain access to the target's cryptocurrency wallets, email, social media, banking, and any other accounts that require two-factor authentication. Given that mobile phones are an integral part of professional, personal, financial, and health activities, SIM swapping is one of the most significant cybercrime threats today. Because little is known about SIM swapping and the characteristics of the actors and groups that commit this cybercrime, our study identifies its characteristics. The aims of the research are two-fold: 1) to situate SIM swapping within the broader literature on cybercrime; and 2) to develop a typology of SIM swapping based on an in-depth analysis of cases. This typology identifies the actors involved in this cybercrime, particularly offender demographics and whether offenders committed this cybercrime individually, with another actor, or as a part of a group; the size, structure, and roles of members of any identified groups; and the offenders' tactics, tools, targets, areas of operation, and modus operandi.

**Technoethics: from "hackers' ethics" to a re-definition in a "hybrid" criminal world** *Fotios Spyropoulos, PHILIPS UNIVERSITY (Cy); Evangelia Androulaki, University of West Attica (GR); Martha Lempesi, Center for the Study of Crime*

In the 'Hybrid' World, every new innovation poses a particular ethical dilemma. New norms are replacing the old, and the challenge is to provide convincing answers without applying traditional normative ethics to the development and deployment of new digital ethics. This article attempts to reflect on the motivations and values of hackers by considering Technoethics as a 'continuity' or 'evolution' of hackers' ethics in light of the global 'networked information society' in which decisions are made on the basis of facts rather than intuition, a posthuman or even transhuman world in which not only intelligence but also agency and identity are distributed across heterogeneous networks of humans and non-humans. The occasion for this attempt is the digital transformation, the emergence of a global network society, the digital society, the 'hybrid' criminal world in the light of the discipline of digital criminology.

**Deconstructing a Form of Hybrid Investment Fraud: Examining 'Pig Butchering' in the United States** *Emily R Ives, University of Virginia; Marie-Helen Maras, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, USA*

Cyber-enabled fraud has become more complex, making it harder for targets and law enforcement to recognize its occurrence. Hybrid investment fraud, colloquially known as "pig butchering" is a manifestation of this complexity, and describes a cyber-enabled fraud where criminals befriend and foster trust with victims, and then exploit this trust by using a series of confidence building and coercive measures aimed at encouraging the victim to continuously invest in securities or commodities (e.g. cryptocurrency and gold) until the victim becomes unable or unwilling to continue to make payments towards the investment or the offenders become unreachable. There is a gap in the literature on this cyber-enabled fraud, demographics of involved parties, and tactics, targets, and methods of operation of offenders. Our study aims to fill this void by analyzing more than 1,300 news articles, court documents, and government publications between January 1, 2018, and November 1, 2023, to identify over 60 cases of hybrid investment fraud targeting victims in the United States. The results of our study situate hybrid investment fraud within the broader fraud literature and identifies the type of hybrid investment fraud perpetrated, its impact, victim and offender demographics, and the methods of operation of perpetrators, including their tools and tactics. The

findings of our study can inform criminal justice practices and future research of this cyber-enabled fraud.

Should e-crime be a different type of crime? Substantive and procedural law perspectives *Dorel Herinean, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest*

The paper starts from the idea that a different type of a definition of the crime might prove useful for the purpose of prevention, detection and sanction of the crimes committed in the digital domain. The definitions of the were never thought of, in the past, as necessary to be applicable in the cyberspace. Now, there are a lot of criminal conducts that can be committed both in the real and digital world. Besides these, there are some crimes that can be committed only in the digital world or in relation to a computer system. The study goes through the different options that can be considered for the elaboration of a new definition of a crime specific to the e, analysing the pros and cons of each possible solution when it comes to substantive and procedural issues that may appear.

#### 071. EUROCRIM 12 White-Collar and Corporate Crimes in Context II

Topic 2: Types of Offending/White collar Crime, Organizational Crime, Corporate Crime, Financial Crime (EUROCRIM)

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”

Chair:

*Justin Kotzé*, Northumbria University

Participants:

Estimating and Understanding Health Care Fraud Victimization and Reporting in a Sample of Florida Residents *Nicole Leeper Piquero, University of Miami; Alex Piquero, University of Miami, United States (former Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics)*

Fraud victimization is presumed to be an extensive problem. Yet, due to under-reporting of victimization more generally, it is unclear whether and why people choose to report and the factors that may effect the reporting decision. As well, while much of the research on fraud victimization has concentrated on identify theft, we center our investigation on health care fraud, which is a common fraud especially in the study location. Specifically, this study uses data from a random sample of Florida residents to examine individuals' willingness to report health insurance fraud that they have experienced as well as fraud that they are aware of but have not directly experienced. In so doing, we examine how correlates derived from the theory of planned behavior help understand patterns of health fraud victimization and reporting.

Polluter by Proxy: Norsk Hydro's polluting mining activities in Brazil as state-corporate crime *FERNANDO PROCÓPIO PALAZZO, Pontificia Universidade Católica do Paraná; Lieselot Bisschop, Erasmus University Rotterdam*

This study examines the interaction between Norsk Hydro and the Norwegian government in relation to the polluting mining activities that occurred during the exploitation of aluminum in Barcarena, Brazil, between 1997 and 2022. Over many decades, foreign corporations and countries have exploited Brazil's natural resources economically, and Norwegian enterprises have also recently been part of these ventures. In this regard, Norsk Hydro's involvement in the alumina refinery Alunorte has been controversial and has been implicated in severe ecological damage in the Amazon basin for many years. As such, the purpose of this study was to examine the state-corporate nexus in these activities by studying how they unfolded according to state-corporate crime theory and Southern Green criminology. On the basis of this theoretical framework, the incidents concerning the leakage of tailings dams, the disposal of toxic wastes in rivers, and the use of double standards in mining operations were examined. The study was conducted using qualitative methods. Literature review and document analyses were conducted to assess the catalysts for action described by Kramer and Michalowski. The results indicated that Norwegian public and private interests were closely intertwined. It was clear from the findings that two separate organizations worked together to accomplish their goals, which thereby resulted in pollution.

According to this scenario, a number of recommendations were made aimed at enhancing the study of state-corporate crime according to Southern green criminology elements in the Global North and Global South as well as providing a perspective to assess the role of the state in environmental pollution.

Private Hospitals' Monitoring and Assessment of Doctors' Deviant Behaviours in England *esin damar, University of Essex*

This presentation delves into the monitoring system employed by private hospitals to detect behavioral and clinical deviances among doctors, alongside assessing such deviations. The research makes a significant contribution by highlighting deficiencies in these systems and endeavors to propose improvements. Despite the potentially detrimental impact of these behaviors on patients' health and public trust in the medical profession and private healthcare sector, they often receive inadequate attention from the media and hospitals. The study was conducted through 19 semi-structured interviews with board members, hospital administrators, and medical directors responsible for enforcing rules, observing doctors, and assessing actions in the private healthcare sector. When scrutinizing the distribution of participants, it is discernible that they represent a cohort originating from eight distinct hospital groups operating throughout England. The findings of this study underscore the challenges associated with detecting behavioral deviation within hospitals' quantitative data-driven monitoring systems. Moreover, assessing such deviance is shown to be influenced by various factors, ranging from patient-centered orientation to the hospital's profit motives. In summary, this research emphasizes the importance of enhancing monitoring and assessment systems to effectively address deviant behaviors among doctors in private hospitals, ultimately contributing to improved patient care and public trust in the healthcare sector.

Con Air: Exploring the Trade in Counterfeit and Unapproved Aircraft Parts *Justin Kotzé, Northumbria University*

Counterfeit aircraft parts are among the most well-known counterfeits and pose a significant risk to public safety. It is estimated that as much as 10% of the legal market for aircraft parts are counterfeits and the presence of these parts on commercial aircraft are more commonplace than many people realise. Yet, criminological research on this pressing issue is remarkably scarce. Informed by accounts from specialised and highly knowledgeable actors embedded in the aviation industry, this paper aims to explore how counterfeit and unapproved parts enter the legitimate supply chain and what factors drive or motivate their circulation and use.

#### 072. EXTR2 Threat landscape and counter-terrorism I

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Terrorism and Terrorism Financing, Radicalization, Extremism (Radicalization, Extremism, Terrorism WG)

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)

Chair:

*Arije Antinori*, Sapienza University of Rome

Participants:

Identifying Threats and Vulnerabilities in Places of Worship *Marco Dugato, Transcrime / Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan); Carlotta Carbone, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Ernesto Savona, Transcrime / Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan)*

This paper provides a detailed classification of threats and vulnerabilities characterising places of worship. It highlights the exposure of these venues to a spectrum of security threats, from attacks driven by religious or political motivations, including terrorism and hate crimes to crimes devoid of religious or political motives (e.g., theft, violence) or natural disasters (e.g., earthquakes, construction fails, pandemics like COVID-19). Further, the paper reasons of the main vulnerabilities that make places of worship particularly susceptible to specific risks. The paper leverages insights from a network of religious communities, law enforcement agencies, academic or security experts and public authorities. Additionally, case studies illustrating these threats and

vulnerabilities identified through a systematic scraping of online news articles across EU MS are also presented. By exploring the key threats and vulnerabilities affecting places of worship, this study aims to provide a framework for developing effective strategies to enhance their security and safety. The results presented in this paper originate from the analysis conducted within the EU co-funded project SHRINES.

**Assessing Terrorism Prevention Initiatives: Evaluability Insights from U.S.-Based Programs** *Sarah L Cook, RTI International; Ariane Noar, RTI International*

Since 2016, the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has allocated funds towards initiatives geared at thwarting terrorism and targeted violence. Even with these initiatives, there remains a scarcity of evidence-based evaluations for prevention programs. RTI International has undertaken evaluations of a subset of DHS' Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (TVTP) grantees from the FY20 cohort and continues to evaluate current cohorts (FY21, FY22, FY23). Each evaluation begins with an evaluability assessment to determine the feasibility of a process or outcome evaluation. This presentation delves into the evaluability assessment conducted with seven distinct grant programs for targeted violence and terrorism prevention, all of which were funded by DHS in 2021. The discussion will center on the diverse evaluation methodologies employed to assess these programs and highlight areas for enhancing evaluation capacities within similar terrorism prevention initiatives. Moreover, the presentation will address the inherent challenges encountered during the implementation of these programs in real-world settings.

**Apocalypse Now? Assessing the Current Islamist Threat Landscape in Europe & the US** *Christopher Wright, Austin Peay State University*

Despite a rise in right-wing extremist violence in Western nations, globally Islamist attacks dwarf all other ideologically inspired violence. While the total number of attacks have come down from their peak during the recent Syrian War, they remain high worldwide and are spreading in some regions, such as the African Sahel. What is the current threat environment from Islamist inspired terrorism in the West? To what extent has the threat been reduced? And, to what extent should we see a continuation of trends that started in the immediate aftermath of 9/11? This paper uses data collected from the recently published Jihadi Plots in Europe Dataset (JPED) and recent updates to the Jihadi Plots in the USA (JPUSA) dataset to attempt to answer these questions. Variables such as plot size, weapons used, and targeting choices can help explain terrorist goals. Since much Islamist terrorism in the West can be viewed as the result "spillover" from overseas conflicts and of Western involvement in them, we should expect little variation in jihadi plots in the West given the relative stability of foreign policy. Findings: TBD.

**The Generative AI ecosystem of Disinformation, Extremism and FIMI** *Arije Antinori, Sapienza University of Rome*

The use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) has brought about significant transformations in various sectors, including communication and content creation. The exploitation of GenAI to foster and boost online hate, extremism and terrorism represents a significant criminological challenge, especially when considering the different dynamics of engagement to radicalisation, visual storytelling, memes warfare, toxic narratives, disinformation, and conspiracy theories. The emotional communication, amplified by GenAI in unprecedented ways, is a key factor in such a complex post-truth scenario. Through the creation of content that resonates on a deeply emotional level, GenAI has become a powerful tool of both States, non-State actors and proxy actors, as shown in the ongoing conflicts, seeking to spread extremist ideologies and narratives to attack and weaken democracies, also in terms of Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI). The Malicious Use of GenAI (MUGenAI) allows hostile actors to produce highly engaging and emotionally "weaponising" content which facilitates the radicalisation process by appealing to feelings of anger, fear, anxiety, uncertainty and injustice. This emotional engagement is critical in drawing individuals into extremist circles, making them more susceptible and vulnerable to extreme ideologies. Visual storytelling, memes and other ambiguous online

contents represent an important extremist resource to produce information disorder and allow complex and often toxic narratives to be simplified and spread rapidly in the cyber-social ecosystem, in particular among youngsters. Therefore, MUGenAI make it possible to exploit pre-existing societal tensions and/or fears with the aim to deepen divisions, as well as normalize toxic language, polarize and weaponize communities and individuals, creating fertile ground for both "traditional" extremism as well as the increasing Anti-System & Anti-Government Extremism (ASAGe).

**073. Sentencing 7. Emerging Issues in Sentencing Research**

**Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Courts and Sentencing and Penal Decision Making (Sentencing and Penal Decisionmaking WG)**

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)*

Chair:

**Andrei Zarafiu**, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest

Participants:

**Categories and legal boundaries of Algorithm-Based Sentencing**  
*Hauke Bock, University of Leipzig*

For some time now, there has been intense debate about the opportunities and limitations of algorithm-based sentencing. One hypothesis is that its use promises more equality in sentencing and, consequently, more relative sanction fairness. The technological progress of recent years, particularly the increased computing power and advancements in machine learning, has led to numerous practical implementations or attempts at implementation. Even more systems have been theoretically proposed. The legal evaluation of such systems cannot be generalized but must be appropriate to the diversity of the technical systems. The presentation proposes categorizing computer-assisted sentencing systems into 21 variants based on technical approach and influence on decision-making. This forms the basis for further considerations. Subsequently, a legal analysis will be conducted differentiated by categories, particularly considering the European Union's Artificial Intelligence Act. The current legal limits of each category will be examined. Based on this, it will be addressed whether further legislative action is needed.

**Flight risk in pre-trial (detention) proceedings. Contrasting applications in the Member States of the European Union**  
*Alexia Jonckheere, National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology; Eric Maes, INCC - Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie*

In this contribution we present results of an analysis of the use of 'flight risk' (or the risk of absconding) as a criterion within pre-trial (detention) proceeding. These results come from a regional research (as part of the EU-funded Flihrisk-project, coordinated by Fair Trials), in which we used two data collection methods: a literature review and a survey via a open-ended questionnaire, that was completed by correspondents in the 27 EU countries. Our study is consistent with previous research findings regarding differences in the use of these criteria between EU Member States (predominance of flight risk over recidivism, and vice versa - but also regional differences within the same jurisdiction/country). In general, it seems that pre-trial detention decisions based on the risk of flight are mostly not motivated substantially. The factors used to determine/justify flight are the seriousness of the offence, the estimated sentence severity, the suspect's residency status or nationality, his/her mobility (assessed based on past or future travel possibilities), and the elements that 'tie' the suspect to the country (family, professional occupation, etc.). In other words, there is a combination of elements from the past and the future, without it always being possible to determine whether one or the other perspective predominates. The situation of foreigners is specific and locally problematic. In some countries, they are over-represented in pre-trial detention statistics, generally because they are treated differently in criminal proceedings. The results of our research not only confirm previous findings but also show new developments in knowledge about pre-trial detention. As such,

some few studies offer a critical analysis of the development of assessment tools that could be used in the future to objectify the risk of flight.

**Prosecutors and Anti-Intellectualism as a Trial Tactic: The Cultural Roots of Scepticism Towards Expertise in Capital Cases** *Chloe Deambrogio, Merton College, Oxford*

The paper explores how anti-intellectual sentiments and scepticism towards expertise shape prosecutorial arguments, along with juries' receptivity to such arguments, in Texas capital cases involving mental incapacity issues. Drawing on unpublished trial records collected from the archives of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, the paper shows that Texas prosecutors have historically used trial tactics that advance a common-sense view on mental illness, along with a populist critique of expertise, that encourage the imposition of death verdicts on severely mentally ill defendants seeking criminal exculpation. Moreover, the paper identifies three cultural traits that help explain why these sentiments are so pronounced in Texas proceedings and why they seem to correlate with the regular imposition of death verdicts.

**The fieldwork prosecutor in Peru: a sociological critique of the focal concerns perspective** *Diego Tuesta, University of Toronto*

Here I will analyze the relevance and the limitations of the focal concerns perspective to understand the work of prosecutors in the Latin American civil law context. Focal concerns are an essential part of the toolbox a prosecutor uses; however, on its own, this framework fails to capture the moral problems and challenges that prosecutors experience in the Latin American context. To defend this point, I will draw upon evidence from two empirical case studies of line prosecutors who conduct investigations on human trafficking, illegal gold mining, and crimes associated with social protests in Peru. The fieldwork evidence shows that prosecutors must navigate working environments marked by resource scarcity, risks to personal safety, informal mechanisms of policing and prosecution, and a complex social division of labour. The cognitive tools and cultural and sociological resources prosecutors use exceed many of the behavioural patterns prescribed by the focal concerns perspective.

**Use of extra-judicial technical surveillance in criminal decision-making. European limitations and national challenges** *Andrei Zarafiu, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest*

At European level, the general rule for the gathering of evidence and the use of investigative methods involving the restriction of fundamental rights and freedoms is that these activities should only be carried out by bodies with judicial powers, only by means of judicial instruments and only in the framework of judicial proceedings. This judicial exclusivity is respected even when proactive criminal investigations, as it ensures a mechanism of checks and balances on measures consisting in violations of individual rights. The case law of the European Court in Strasbourg has consistently stated that even a severe threat to national security, such as acts of terrorism, or other risks of a global nature are not to be relied upon in order to override this form of protection and control. The present study aims to address the particular situation of technical surveillance carried out through specific intelligence gathering activities that restrict the exercise of fundamental rights or freedoms. Beyond the essential issue of the admissibility of the use of information obtained by officers (bodies) specializing in national security activities as evidence in criminal proceedings, the analysis aims to identify controversies and offer solutions on other issues of interest: the ability of non-judicial bodies to become involved in the conduct of criminal investigations, the effectiveness of the mechanisms for controlling these intrusive methods, the conformity with European law of national regulations allowing such participation, the way in which information gathered by extrajudicial bodies can influence the criminal decision-making process. The analysis will be carried out from both a European and a national perspective, taking into account the particularities of the Romanian judicial system.

**074. Crimes that Affect the Environment - the Research of UNODC**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Environmental/Green Criminology Roundtable

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Library - reading room 1

The Research and Trend Analysis Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has had its mandate expanded by UN Member States to include first wildlife crime and then crimes that affect the environment. This means that UNODC is required to produce research outputs investigating the nature and scope of these once overlooked crimes. This roundtable shares some of the latest findings from these investigations, including wildlife crime, illegal deforestation and logging, and criminal marine pollution.

Chair:

**Tanya Wyatt, UNODC**

Participants:

**Understanding wildlife crime through the offenders' eyes: Finding solutions for the future – prisoner interviews in Indonesia** *Katalin Kecse-Nagy, UNODC*

For the past 20 years, Indonesia has taken steps to increase its law enforcement efforts to address wildlife crime. This increase in law enforcement has led to a growing wildlife crime offender prison population. Indonesia is therefore exploring a policy of selective release of low-risk offenders, looking into alternatives to imprisonment to prevent wildlife crime and deter poachers and traffickers from participating in the illegal wildlife trade, such as through wildlife crime prevention, and restorative justice. To inform this process, this research conducted by UNODC in collaboration with the Indonesian Prison Service aimed to understand the circumstances and motivations of individuals convicted for wildlife crime offences in Sumatra: wildlife crime modus operandi, how offenders have adapted in response to counter-wildlife trafficking efforts, and why recidivism occurs. Another key component was to explore what deters offenders from engaging in illegal wildlife trade and how they adapt their behaviours to evade law enforcement interventions. Finally, the research aimed to explore recidivism potential to find indicators of who is at high risk of repeat offending and how best to target or tweak sanctions and enforcement tactics so these offenders do not return to illegal wildlife trade upon release.

**Illegal deforestation and logging - UNODC's Global Analysis on Crimes that Affect the Environment** *Giulia Serio, UNODC*

In the last 50 years, nature has changed at an unprecedented rate in human history. Between 1990 and 2020, 420 million hectares of forest were cleared, an area equal to losing two and a half Amazon rainforests. Deforestation, both legal and illegal, is now recognised as one of the greatest drivers of biodiversity loss but the fight against illegal deforestation has advanced at a much slower pace. UNODC Global Analysis on Crimes that Affect the Environment represents a first attempt to consolidate the state of global knowledge on illegal deforestation and logging. Who are the actors? What modus operandi are adopted? How does corruption play a role? The presentation will draw from the key findings of the UNODC study on illegal deforestation and logging to prompt a discussion on a still under researched form of crime.

**Criminal Marine Pollution - findings from UNODC's first ever Global Analysis on Crimes that Affect the Environment** *Tanya Wyatt, UNODC*

The unprecedented triple planetary crises that Earth is facing—climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution—threatens the provision of these vital ecosystem services, the marine economy, and life on Earth. Pollution, understood as the indirect or direct alteration of the properties of the environment in such a way that it creates a hazard or potential hazard to the health, safety, or welfare of living beings, is evident everywhere. In the marine environment, pollution can originate from land, air, or at sea itself. Criminal marine pollution refers to pollution of the marine environment that is criminal in nature, meaning that it is undertaken in contravention of national or international legal frameworks. This type of crime that affects the environment is typically fueled by two major fundamental elements—the opportunity for perpetrators to obtain very high economic benefits, and the simultaneous very low risk of being caught. This presentation shares the findings of a dedicated chapter in the Research and Trend Analysis Branch of UNODC's Global Analysis on Crimes that Affect the Environment which

explored the nature and scope of criminal marine pollution. This included uncovering who, what, where, when, why and how criminal marine pollution takes place. The aim is to provide an evidence base to underpin improved policy and enforcement responses.

### 075. Theoretical explanations and criminal policy implications

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Theoretical and Epistemological debates in Criminology (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Roundtable

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)

This round table explores trends in femicide amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, presenting diverse theoretical frameworks for understanding these trends, along with new data from around the globe. The discussants are authors in the special issue organised by Marcelo F Aebi and Lorena Molnar "Trends in Intimate Partner Homicide during the COVID-19 pandemic: Theoretical explanations and criminal policy implications" in the journal *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*. Discussants' contributions are as follows: 1) Intimate partner violence, femicide, and general theories: issues for research and policy from the view of Modern Control Theory, by Michael R. Gottfredson and Mikaela S. Nielsen 2) Intimate partner abuse during the Covid-19 pandemic: a Situational Action Theory analysis, by Kyle Treiber 3) Understanding Intimate Partner Femicide and Attempted Intimate Partner Femicide During and After COVID-19: A Comprehensive Strain-Based Approach by Olga Cunha, Sónia Caridade and Rui Abrunhosa Gonçalves 4) Femicide and COVID-19 Pandemic: Examining the Situation in Croatia, Hungary, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Slovenia, by Rok Hacin and Gorazd Meško 5) Femicide and domestic violence against women during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic – the Israeli case by Limor Yehuda and Irit Ein-Tal 6) Global and regional estimates of female intimate partner and family-related homicide, by Maurice Dunaiski, Camelia Abdelgelil, Andrada-Maria Filip, Natalia Ivanova, David Rausis, Sonya Yee, and Angela Me

Chairs:

**Marcelo F. Aebi**, University of Lausanne

**Lorena Molnar**, University of Lausanne

Discussants:

**Michael Gottfredson**, University of California, Irvine

**Mikaela Sky Nielsen**, University of California, Irvine

**Kyle Treiber**, University of Cambridge

**Rok Hacin**, University of Maribor

**Gorazd Meško**, University of Maribor

**Olga Cunha**, Lusófona University of Porto, Portugal

**Rui Abrunhosa Gonçalves**, Universidade do Minho

**Sónia Maria Martins Caridade**, Escola de Psicologia da Universidade do Minho

**Maurice Dunaiski**, UNODC

**Limor Yehuda**, Ashkelon Academic College

### 076. Social Dimensions of Fear of Crime

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Fear of Crime and Risk perception

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.10

Chair:

**Evi Girling**, Keele University

Participants:

Attitudes toward Immigration and Fear of Crime: Findings from the European Social Survey 2022 **Stelios Stylianou**, *Cyprus University of Technology*

Fear of crime has been studied widely. Some conclusions have been well established, while debates still exist. Regarding correlates, much evidence has accumulated to support that women, the elderly, the less educated and the disadvantaged are generally more fearful. Contextual correlates, such as neighborhood incivility, population composition and social capital, have also been linked to fear of crime. Using data from the 10th Round (2022) of the European

Social Survey (28 participating countries), the present study examines the relationship between attitudes toward immigration and fear of crime. While observing debates on the conceptual affinity between fear of crime and perceived threat of victimization, the item "how safe do you – or would you – feel walking alone in this area after dark?" was used as a measure of fear of crime. It was recoded into a binary variable separating the sample into people who feel "very safe" or "safe" and "unsafe" or "very unsafe". Assuming that attitudes affect fear, rather than the more common assumption that fear affects attitudes, this binary variable was modeled as the dependent variable in logistic regression equations with four key predictors: attitude toward immigrants of the same race/ethnic group as most people in each country, attitude toward immigrants of a different race/ethnic group as most people in each country, attitude toward immigrants of people from the poorer countries outside Europe and opinion about whether each country is a worse or a better place to live due to the presence of immigrants. Several controls (gender, age, education, relative deprivation, trust in people and trust in the police) were included in the models. The analysis detected statistically significant (albeit modest) effects in the expected direction (more negative attitudes toward immigration associated with more fear of crime) for all four key predictors. Theoretical implications of the findings are discussed.

### Biographically-shaped modalities of experiencing safety and risk in a sample of Edinburgh-based LGBTQ+ people over 60 *Leo Kritikos*, *University of Edinburgh*

Is there a way of perceiving and experiencing safety and risk that can be appropriately assumed to be universal to all? The author of this paper will draw on his doctoral research collecting oral histories of LGBTQ+ people over 60, who have lived in Edinburgh for a significant part of their lives, to re-evaluate the process, in criminological research and beyond, of laying down all-embracing definitions for what it means to be and feel safe or at risk. The presenter will do this by setting out the multifarious, dynamic and, sometimes, contradictory ways in which the participants of his research project reported to have experienced safety and risk at different stages of their lives and how their understanding of these concepts has changed with the passing of time and in the process of ageing. Through this paper the author intends to contribute towards renewing the impetus for discussions in criminological research that revisit the axiomatic assumption that fear of crime and victimisation are the sole, or even the primary, instigating factors of risk or debilitating agents of safety and that seek to widen criminological interest to account for the subjective ways of perceiving safety and risk.

### Institutional trust and its impact on fear of crime *Michael Hanslmaier*, *Technische Hochschule Nürnberg Georg Simon Ohm*; *Stefanie Kemme*, *University of Münster*

In times of multiple crises (including a global pandemic, wars in Ukraine and the Middle East), trust in institutions is being put to the test. Although, at first sight, trust in institutions has nothing to do with crime, it does have an impact on perceived safety. General anxiety about social cohesion, moral decline and insecurity can be transformed into fear of crime (e.g. Hirtenlehner 2006). Based on two representative samples from Munich and Hamburg with more than 7,000 respondents we are able to show how low institutional trust and economic anxiety drive fear of crime. These findings are robust after controlling for alternative explanations of fear of crime (vulnerability and disorder). Due to the methodological nature of our data, we are able to replicate our analyses in two independent samples which corroborates our findings. Implications for how society deals with the fear of crime are discussed.

### It's "just part of being a woman": The abuse and fears of women runners *Rose Broad*, *University of Manchester*; *Caroline Miles*, *University of Manchester*

In 1995, Stanko discussed the endemic, everyday, and mundane nature of violence against women, including the harassment of women in public spaces, highlighting the impact of gender-based abuse and violence on women's fear of crime. The research informing this paper reveals that almost thirty years later, women runners are experiencing everyday abuse from men in public spaces, have high levels of concern for personal safety whilst running and are rarely reporting these experiences. In this paper, we



draw on three sources of data: police data covering a two -year period across two UK forces; survey data from 498 women runners; and audio diaries from 10 women runners. The key findings evidence that women’s experiences of abuse whilst running are so frequent that they are normalised; only a small proportion report their experiences to the police despite high levels of fear; and as part of their running routines, undertake risk assessments and numerous safety precautions to avoid abuse and mitigate their fear.

Veiled suffering? The social meanings of marginality and vulnerability in an English town *Evi Girling, Keele University; Ben Bradford, University College London; Ian Loader, University of Oxford; Richard Sparks, University of Edinburgh*

We have conducted two studies of the same relatively safe and moderately prosperous town - Macclesfield in north-west England – 25 years apart. Our study of crime-talk in the town, conducted from 1994-96, explored how worries about crime featured in local social relations (Girling et al. 2000, *Crime and Social Change in Middle England*). We returned in 2019, following a quarter of a century of technological, socio-economic, cultural and political change, with a view to using the town as a site for exploring what it means to be and feel secure in Britain today. In so doing, we have discovered or observed various forms of social marginality and suffering in the town. These include assorted private harms (domestic abuse, isolation, scamming, drug addiction and exploitation) and vulnerability in public spaces (homelessness, drug use/dealing, neglected and vulnerable youth). Managing the town’s social margins is central to the quotidian work of local statutory and voluntary agencies, including the police. But how do those living in relative comfort and safety in this town perceive and respond to social suffering? How does vulnerability register in people’s consciousness and sense of place, and what demands for governance does it provoke? In this paper, we describe the competing repertoires that marginality provokes (care, concern, attention, discomfort, disgust, denial) with a view to deciphering the place of social suffering in local narrations of the present condition and future prospects of the town and the wider world.

#### 077. RJ beyond the mainstream

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Restorative Justice (Restorative Justice WG)

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11

Chair:

*Estelle Zinsstag*, Edinburgh Napier University, UK and KU Leuven, Belgium

Participants:

Restorative Justice in the Columbian Special Jurisdiction of the Peace: Strengths, Limitations, and Lessons from the Field *Kerry Clamp, University of Nottingham*

In this presentation, I provide an overview of the Special Jurisdiction of the Peace (JEP) as it is currently operating in Columbia, which investigates major human rights violations during the armed conflict. The JEP incorporates restorative justice principles, making it an innovative transitional justice model that emphasizes the rights of victims, communities, and the environment, and centralises their role in the peacebuilding process. Perhaps one of the most innovative aspects of the JEP is that it also specifically aims to reintegrate former combatants into society. Yet, the JEP has several challenges including ongoing conflict between the state and combatants, non-participation of certain groups, political opposition, and risks faced by both victims and ex-combatants in revealing the truth, as evident in post-peace agreement violence. The presentation concludes with suggestions on how restorative justice can be further integrated to overcome challenges faced by the JEP and have a broader impact on Colombian society.

(Im)possibilities of restorative justice in a time of war(s) *Katerina Soulou, European Forum for Restorative Justice; Anna Matczak, The Hague University of Applied Science*

Any armed conflict creates and amplifies the need for extreme

militarisation and securitisation, accompanied by war rhetoric and propaganda. For restorative justice scholars and practitioners, the time of war puts to test the applicability of restorative justice values and practices, as it favours and maintains bipolar interpretation of events, conflicts and human suffering. However, the relevance of a restorative approach should stem from the values it promotes and the possibility it offers to deal with strong emotions of injustice, which are very present in any war. This presentation will outline the preliminary argument about the impossibilities and possibilities of restorative justice in a time of war(s). The limitations of restorative justice are argued as intrinsic and necessary from a legal perspective to qualify the harmful acts, which is a prerequisite for criminal responsibility and an important step on the road to justice. Indeed, restorative justice begins where guilt is not in question. The potential of restorative justice is then seen in a double way: first, as the vast range of bottom up, micro-level restorative practices (e.g. to deal with the refugee crisis). Second, as an opportunity to think differently about the war in the light of the restorative value of truth, in particular of the concept of “parrhesia” as courageous and honest speech that can activate people’s ethical capacities. Then, far from a rhetoric of the “peacemaking” potential of restorative justice, the concept of “parrhesia” can be a thread to distinguish between individual, collective and media truths in order to reclaim a story.

Are restorative justice solutions appropriate to address the needs of intimate partner violence victims? *Teresa Lancry Robalo, University of Macau*

Due to the Istanbul Convention, the restorative encounter that was previously regulated in the Portuguese Law 112/2009 was revoked. This restorative encounter was a victim-offender meeting, occurring upon their agreement and mediated by a mediator habilitated to do so. On the other hand, in Macau, a Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China with a specific legal system based on Portuguese law, the Domestic Violence Act allows a victim-offender conciliation meeting during the provisional suspension of the proceedings. The main purpose of this presentation is to discuss to which extend the Portuguese legislator should have revoked the former restorative encounter, as well as to analyze the details of the solution currently in force in Macau. As a conclusion, we consider that restorative justice solutions are a possible tool to deal with the outcomes of intimate partner violence, both for current and potential victims, but these solutions cannot have a contra productive effect, which is to leave the victim without any protection, namely in the event of a definitive closure of the case. It is crucial to indicate how restorative justice can be used, given the inherent cycle of violence. Victims have the right to meet the offender, to tell their stories and to heal from the trauma caused by the offences, but they also have the right to be protected. In turn, law makers shall attend to all these variants in order to create the best solutions on behalf of the victims, the offenders and the society as a whole.

Beyond the Ban: restorative approaches to addressing harmful behaviours in Online Gaming Communities *Pablo Romero-Seseña, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche; Mario Santisteban Galarza, UPV/EHU Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea; Aiala Tejada García de Garayo, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche; Fernando Miró-Llinares, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche*

In the past two decades, the surge in online gaming, particularly among minors and young adults, has led to a corresponding increase in harmful behaviours within online communities. Instances of harassment, sexual misconduct, hate speech, and gender-based discrimination have become distressingly common in various online gaming environments. Unfortunately, responses from moderators, whether they be individual users or platforms themselves, have often been limited to mere bans, account suspensions, or permanent deletions, failing to address the need for victim reparation or prevention of future incidents. In response to these challenges, the GamerVictim project aims to explore, firstly, what are the main responses provided by platforms and/or moderators to the emergence of abusive or problematic behaviors in online gaming communities, and then conceptualize how a restorative justice framework could offer a more comprehensive

approach to tackling these harmful behaviours in the online gaming realm. Therefore, and through an extensive review of existing literature, we juxtapose prevailing moderation strategies, which usually rely on purely retributive outcomes, with a restorative justice model proposal. Additionally, we identify and confront the primary challenges to the real-world application of this model. Furthermore, we provide targeted recommendations for integrating restorative principles into content moderation policies and community guidelines within online gaming platforms. Our goal is to effectively meet the needs of victims while affording offenders the opportunity to make amends for their actions.

#### 078. Affect Theory in Rural Criminology Roundtable

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Rural Criminology (Rural Criminology WG)

Roundtable

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.14

Affect theory provides a valuable analytical framework for criminologists to analyse relationships between individuals and their social environments. By focusing on emotion as a dynamic and transmissible component of human interaction, affect theory allows criminologists to account for the less tangible – but nonetheless extremely significant—aspects of the justice process. Despite the tremendous potential utility for affect theory to assist criminologists with conceptualizing crime and justice, affect remains surprisingly underutilized in criminological research. This is particularly the case when considering the rural space and criminology. This roundtable will allow the exploration of affect among rural citizens, and how crime and victimisation impacts community cohesion through collective psychological effects. The roundtable discussion will allow for the exploration of crime, security, and victimisation within the rural space and how this can influence the psychological health and wellbeing of those communities. The discussion will furthermore explore more widely the impact the response from the wider criminal justice system to rural crime has on confidence, trust, and mental health of rural communities.

Chair:

*Susan Dewey*, The University of Alabama

Discussants:

*Kreseda Smith*, Harper Adams University

*Brittany VandeBerg*, University of Alabama

#### 079. Criminology of Mobility. Panel 3. Migrants, labour and exploitation

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Crime Control and the Immigration System (Immigration, Crime and Citizenship WG)

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.22

Chair:

*Nieves Sanz Mulas*, University of Salamanca (Spain)

Participants:

“Beyond ‘a few bad employers’: the structures that facilitate slavery in the Lebanese Kafala system” *Marya Al-Hindi*, The University of Edinburgh

The Kafala system is a set of customary norms developed to monitor migrant workers entering the Middle East, and has been globally condemned as a form of modern-day slavery. Amidst wider calls to abolish the system, this paper highlights the need to account for the structures that maintain it. Narrowing the focus down to Lebanon, allows for an in depth analysis of the way that this system enslaves Migrant Domestic Workers (MDWs) today. I begin by outlining the limitations of current research, namely the emphasis on the employer-employee relationship, which abstracts the structural issues that maintain the subjugation of MDWs in Lebanon today. Pinning the exploitative treatment of MDWs on the behaviour of a few “bad employers”, ignores the systemic marginalisation they face at the hands of (1) society, (2) the state and (3) recruitment agencies. A historical overview of domestic work and the racialisation of MDWs in Lebanon will be conducted, before moving on to explain how this manifests itself in the societal

permissiveness around domestic work, with the Kafala system codifying a relationship of domestic servitude. The paper moves on to note how the state abstracts its duty to provide legal protection for these women, by not including them in the labour law. It delegates responsibility over the women to individual employers, in an attempt to distract from its failures at governance, justifying greater control over MDWs freedom. Finally, Lebanon is situated into the larger context of modern-day slavery today to draw attention to how agencies capitalise on the feminisation of poverty and the unequal distribution of wealth globally, to push vulnerable women further into marginalisation. This paper concludes that more investigation must be conducted into how the structures surrounding the Kafala system (society, the government and recruitment agencies) uphold the domestic servitude of MDWs today.

Victims and Villains: The Rhetoric of Exploitation as a Temporal Strategy of Migration Control *Stephanie Hanlon*, University College Dublin

In Europe, marriage and family-related migration has become the target of political concern, state intervention and increasingly punitive measures. In Ireland, marriages of convenience have been referred to as facilitating the exploitation of women for immigration purposes, abusing the immigration system, and attacking the institution of marriage. Prior to 2014, the majority of claims made around the illegality of marriage focused on protecting the state against potential immigration abuses. After 2014, the majority of claims made hinged on the potential risk of abuse to vulnerable European women. Drawing on Ashworth and Zedner (2014), this paper explores the use of ‘exploitation’ as a discursive tool of preventive justice within ‘penal humanitarianism’ (Bosworth, 2016). This examines Project HESTIA, a two-year pan-European interagency project was established by the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control as part of the drive to associate marriages of convenience with human trafficking. As a discursive tool, the Exploitative Sham Marriage requires less justification or due process, even if punishment is experienced (Zedner 2016). In the Irish case, this has led to pre-emptive punitive approaches under the guise of protecting against potential exploitation to justify state intervention and an exclusionary rhetoric that legitimises racial discrimination against ‘undesirable’ couples (De Hart, 2014). This paper problematises the articulation of exploitation as a symbolic device which has a range of multiple meanings that serve multiple purposes which can be ‘activated’ depending on the context. It argues that the Exploitative Sham Marriage provides an insight into the interplay between prevention and punishment; recasting women simultaneously as potential victims and villains, acting as an extended network of punishment that sits primarily outside of traditional criminal justice settings, ultimately broadening and justifying the reach of state prevention.

Criminalization of migration and mediated labour *Živa Šketa*, Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law Ljubljana

Past research on the reciprocity between history of capitalism and history of regulation of migration has shown that contemporary regimes of mobility control do not attempt to completely exclude migrants from the labour market, but rather include them – through their criminalization – as an easily exploitable labour force. Border regimes provide the labour market with a labour force made up of people facing deportation, people without work permits and people whose legality of residence in a country is directly linked to their employment. In this paper, I will use the concept of multiplication of labour (Mezzadra and Neilson) to explore the ways in which agents who mediate between employers and migrant workers are correlated with criminalization and how they contribute to labour force fragmentation. The presentation will explore different forms of subordination, characteristic of migrant workers, which result from the different types of mediated labour and the legal grey areas through which migrant labour is supplied to employers.

Female Migration and Human Exploitation *Nieves Sanz Mulas*, University of Salamanca (Spain)

The “genderization” of migration results in a whole series of disparities which, however, have nothing to do with genetics, but rather with the social position of women in the family and the community. Patriarchal culture and economic processes come together to define devices of interiorization and dehumanization of

women, which determine all kinds of violent practices, abuse, trafficking and reduction to slavery. The invisibility and impunity of domestic servitude is particularly striking. Also, in the supposed human rights paradise that is Europe, there are girls and women who have been deceived by employers, agencies or intermediaries, being indebted or even trafficked, making it possible for abusive employers and mass-traffickers (mail-order brides) to subject them to slavery or domestic servitude. An undervalued and inferior work known as "dirty work", that is mostly carried out by black, Latino, Caribbean, Asian, indigenous, migrant and (almost) always women. Specifically, women and girls in an irregular situation opt for domestic service because it is less visible to migration authorities, the payment is in cash and they sometimes stay overnight at home, which saves them from having to worry about accommodation and a certain sense of security. However, this situation makes them more vulnerable, especially if the regularity of their situation depends on employment. A clear violation of human rights that remains virtually unpunished.

#### 080. Methodology and immigration

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Qualitative Methods (Qualitative Methods WG)

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.29

Chair:

**Olga Petintseva**, National Institute for Criminology and Criminalistics - Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Participants:

A sensitive and ethical approach to studying youth in refugee detention centers *Ioannis Papadopoulos*, Directorate of Social Sciences; University of Salford, Manchester, UK; *Rita Faria*, CIJ - Center for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice, University of Porto

Ethics, as a way of deciding between good and bad actions, is closely entrenched with the activity of collecting data from or about human participants – a common and current activity in most social sciences, including Criminology. Empirical research is relevant in solving pressing social problems but cannot be conducted at any cost, especially when there are (social, emotional, physical, economic, legal) risks to participants or when participants in research are especially vulnerable. This presentation deals with ethical considerations when studying unaccompanied migrant minors in detention centers, due to their particularly vulnerable situations. The intersection of them being underage, in state detention facilities and with no legal representatives demands from researchers extra ethical precautions to which, in turn, are added new layers of complexity when frequently the minors are simultaneously labeled as victims (of human trafficking or smuggling) and offenders (undocumented and illegal migrants). At a time of continued migratory flows and increased border control, criminologists need to keep studying migrants and refugees, including children, and, thus, anticipate ethical challenges and dilemmas. Examples from a prolonged fieldwork in a detention center in Greece will be used, presenting the ethical reasoning used to overcome many of the challenges and dilemmas, particularly when recruiting participants, building trust and creating rapport, asking for informed consent from minors, safeguarding their well-being, minimizing harm and potential for re-traumatization and neutralizing power imbalances. It will be concluded that training researchers on ethical principles is crucial, but that frequently ethical dilemmas will arise during fieldwork and that researchers need to learn how to “be” ethical and integrate ethical decision making into all steps of the research process. This presentation is one step further into that learning process.

Hosting in a time of hostility: Ethnographic reflections on Ukrainian refugees arriving in Spain *Daniel Briggs*, Northumbria University

This paper is about the lives of various Ukrainian families, some of whom I came to host in my home in Madrid in Spain, and others whom I came to know through the experience of ‘hosting’. From March 2022, when my Ukrainian family arrived, through until the

close of the year, I vigorously documented the feelings, experiences, hopes and ambitions of they went through as well as several Ukrainian families immediately after they had left their country in search of safety and stability as an uninvited war began in their home country. This paper is not only about their brutal experiences of leaving the Ukraine and the challenges of starting a new life in Spain but it is also about, as a consequence of their arrival, how I inadvertently became plugged into an emerging community of other hosts and their Ukrainian families in my home town. Over the course of 10 months, I got to know and met regularly with both hosts and their families at local events and parties, was regularly called upon to look after Ukrainian children and entertain them and was even asked by the mayor to run an association for the new compatriots in my local town. This unparalleled access allowed me to intimately document not only how the families left, under what circumstances and what led them to Spain but also the painful teething issues associated with the sudden pressures of integration in Spanish cultural life.

Netnography in Criminology: Investigating "Clan Crime" via Instagram *Tamara Dangelmaier*, HWR Berlin – Berlin School of Economics and Law; *Daniela Hunold*, HWR Berlin – Berlin School of Economics and Law

This contribution discusses the use of netnography as a advancement in qualitative criminology methodologies, specifically in the exploration of "clan crime" within German-speaking area. "Clan crime" refers to security issues linked to (family-based) collectives that are often stigmatized by their ethnic backgrounds and characterized by supposed divergent values and behaviors. Traditional discourse has been criticized for its oversimplification and stigmatization, emphasizing the need for more nuanced research methods. The study highlights the application of netnography in the KONTEST project, which aims to explore the digital and analog lifeworlds of individuals affected by the clan discourse. This research presents netnography as a valuable tool for capturing digital lifestyles and perceptions within this specific context. By focusing on Instagram as a field of investigation, the research outlines the methodological approach from community selection to data collection and analysis. In conclusion, the contribution emphasizes netnography's potential in critical criminological research to challenge and critique the existing perceptions of "clan crime", offering new insights into the complex and morally charged phenomenon. This approach not only questions the legitimacy of the "clan crime" concept but also contributes to the broader discourse on qualitative methodologies in criminology.

Reading between the lines: methodological reflections while reconstructing interactions between victims of migrant smuggling and frontline services *Olga Petintseva*, National Institute for Criminology and Criminalistics - Vrije Universiteit Brussel; *Charlotte De Kock*, Myria; *Jessy Carton*, Myria; *Carrol Tange*, National Institute for Criminology and Criminalistics (Belgium)

This paper addresses epistemological and methodological questions concerning the reconstructions of opaque, selectively reported and, at times, silenced interactions between victims of migrant smuggling and frontline services (e.g., the intercepting police officers, care professionals) in the course of research that draws on documents and expert interviews. The contribution originates from the ongoing TRAQ-project (Traffic Analyses Qualitatives) that seeks to understand the ways in which interactions between migrant smuggling victims and frontline services proceed, especially against the backdrop of the existing Belgian ‘residence procedure for victims of migrant smuggling in aggravating circumstances.’ The Residence Permit Directive (2004/81/EC) defines the conditions for granting residence permits to third-country nationals who are recognised as victims of trafficking in human beings. In a unique fashion, in Belgium, the scope of the special residence procedure for victims of trafficking has been extended to victims of migrant smuggling in aggravating circumstances. These victims of smuggling may be granted a residence permit if they cooperate with the competent authorities, sever all ties with the presumed smugglers and accept the support provided by a recognized specialised reception centre. However, while this Belgian residence

procedure for victims of smuggling has been in place since 2007, few of these procedures have been initiated to date. The TRAQ-project seeks to understand the ways in which this procedure is used and to contribute to its improvement. To this end, this qualitative research project foregrounds the initial interactions between victims and frontline services. These interactions were studied by means of post factum reconstructions, based on prosecution case files and professionals' accounts. The presentation discusses challenges, limitations, opportunities, and the value of such reconstructions. It speaks to broader methodological discussions of 'reading between the lines' and 'researching silence.'

**081. POL Panel 6. Policing gender-based violence, rape and domestic abuse**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.04

Chair:

*Sophie Marsh*, University of the West of England

Participants:

Public health policing in the Pacific Islands: Responding to gender-based violence *Melissa Jardine*, University of the Sunshine Coast; *Kerry Carrington*, University of Sunshine Coast; *Helen Singh*, University of the Sunshine Coast

Knowledge about policing has been produced and disseminated unevenly so that our understanding comes from a skewed emphasis on the Global North. There is much variation in the nature of policing globally which requires deeper understanding in order to identify alternative approaches, understand good practices in different contexts, and to better inform how and why changes to improve occur or are stifled (Jardine & van Dijk, 2022). The Pacific Islands represents diverse cultural and geographic sites for exploring the roles of police as they relate to different functions, especially their roles in response to gender-based violence. This paper presents initial findings based on original research in the Pacific Island of Fiji. Despite high prevalence of gender-based violence, both customary and legalistic interventions are inadequate. The dominance of religion and sport are used as means to raise awareness and implement prevention programs, yet access to justice is limited as a result of police attitudes to victim-survivors and lack of tangible resources (i.e., transport, facilities and infrastructure) to respond even when they attempt to do so. Police in Fiji have been able to adapt quickly and positively in relation to other public health challenges, such as COVID-19 (Chand et al 2023), yet, prioritisation of gender-responsive policing, also a public health issue, remains stubbornly low. This paper explores the unique context for policing in Fiji and the possibilities for unique interventions to reduce gender-based violence and increase access to justice.

The role of the victim in prosecuting domestic abuse: Examining the use of evidence led prosecutions in cases of domestic abuse *anna hopkins*, Open University

Prosecuting domestic abuse (DA) without the victim/ survivor's support is a contentious issue with debates centred around the appropriateness of this way of prosecuting DA (Davis et al, 2008), where some argue they simply replace the control of the abuser with the control by the state (Ford, 2003). Evidence-led prosecutions (ELP's) are those where the Crown Prosecution Service feels there is sufficient evidence to proceed to court without the support of a victim. Despite the fact that ELPs have been advocated for many years in the UK, there is a dearth of published research exploring how they work in practice and importantly, what impact they have on victims. This paper draws on research across three UK police forces, involving detailed analysis of 90 police investigations files of ELPs, interviews with police decision makers, victims who have experienced ELPs, focus groups with front line police officers and CPS prosecutors. Findings suggest the type of evidence available plays a crucial part in deciding whether to pursue a case of DA by means of an ELP, expressions of fear by the victim/survivor are instrumental in successfully convicting the perpetrator yet are often

not captured sufficiently by police officers and victim/survivors identified both advantages and disadvantages of their cases being prosecuted without their involvement.

Typologies of Sex Offenders: An Analysis of the Violent and Sex Offender Register (ViSOR) to compare the characteristics of 'actively' and 'reactively' managed offenders *Sarah Kingston*, University of Central Lancashire; *Clare Scollay*, University of Central Lancashire; *Leona Mydlowski*, University of Central Lancashire; *Nathan Birdsall*, University of Central Lancashire

In 2017, constabularies in England and Wales began to implement a risk-based approach to managing sex offenders. The goal of this approach was to prioritise resources toward the most dangerous sex offenders and reduce the risk posed to the public. Under this new approach, offenders who had consistently been assessed as low-risk, and who had not reoffended, for more than three years were considered for reactive management. Reactively managed offenders did not receive home visits but remained subject to annual notification requirements and continued monitoring. Despite this significant change, almost no research has examined how reactive management is being used or evaluated its effectiveness nationally. This study addressed this research gap through the analysis of pseudonymised data extracted from the Violent and Sex Offender Register (ViSOR) by five police constabularies in England and Wales. The study drew on this data to develop a typology of reactively managed sexual offenders. It found that although actively and reactively managed offenders were similar in terms of their personal, offending, sentencing, and lifestyle characteristics, there were some important differences. Specifically, offenders on reactive management tended to be older and have more historic offences than those on active management. They were also more likely to have been assessed as low risk for a long period of time, have no Civil Orders, and be on ViSOR for life. Moreover, offenders on reactive management were more likely to have been convicted of contact offences and offences involving adult victims than those on active management. Many of these characteristics correlate with low recidivism rates, suggesting that police officers in England and Wales are moving offenders at a lower risk of reoffending onto reactive management.

Rape Investigations and the Police Interview: Perceptions, Practice and the Law in England and Wales *Sophie Marsh*, University of the West of England

In 2022, 67,169 reports of rape were made to the police. However, the vast majority of cases are not reported to the police; it is widely accepted that the prevalence of rape is largely part of a 'dark figure of crime.' The 1970s highlighted poor victim treatment from the police when reporting a rape. The police interview with victims of rape has been identified as a significant point of attrition due to its impact on potential subsequent prosecutions and court proceedings. Whilst the interview with victims of rape has been considered amongst many disciplines, there is a gap in considering the impact of legislative and best practice guidance in the context of police interviews with victims of rape. The thesis will examine the history of issues in police investigations of rape, the role of police discretion, and the relationship between the police and the CPS in order to understand rape investigations. The thesis will examine legislative measures that govern the police interview, such as the Victims' Code 2020 and the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999. It will also examine best practice guidance in the context of police interviews with victims, such as Achieving Best Evidence 2020 and the National Operating Model for rape investigations. The current Draft Victims' Bill may also create new legal obligations of police treatment of victims of rape during interviews. This project has three empirical themes: interviews with police officers who have interviewed victims of rape; surveying interviews with victims of rape who have been interviewed by police officers; and case analysis of transcripts of police interviews with victims of rape. This paper will present the preliminary findings from the data collection of interviewing police officers who have interviewed victims of rape.

**082. Prison Working Group: Doing prison research: Reflections on funding, ethics, knowledge production, and othering**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.05

Chair:

**Dwayne Antojado**, University of Melbourne

Participants:

Scandinavian Prison Aid: A Comparative Analysis *Katrine Antonsen, Department of Criminology and Sociology of Law, University of Oslo*

Over three decades, the Scandinavian countries have extensively engaged in the financing and implementation of prison projects worldwide, encompassing a wide range of areas such as human rights protection, penal reform, and prison infrastructure. Funded as development aid and foreign policy, these projects target regions as diverse as the Horn of Africa, Western Balkans, and Eastern Europe. However, the dynamics, trajectories and extent to which Scandinavian prison aid is employed beyond the Scandinavian borders remain largely unexplored. Drawing on a comprehensive dataset comprising all prison projects funded by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs in Norway, Denmark, and Sweden between 1990 and 2022, this paper aims to shed light on the evolution, trends, and patterns of Scandinavian prison aid initiatives. Through a comparative lens, it examines differences and similarities among the three countries concerning project nature, recipient countries, participating actors, budget allocations, and development over time. By unravelling these dynamics, the paper offers insights into the concept of prison aid as well as the global dissemination of Scandinavian penal power.

The Securitization of Research Ethics: Navigating the Ethics of Engaging Criminalized Voices *Alexis Rowland, University of California, Irvine; Joanne DeCaro, University of California - Irvine; Keramet Reiter, University of California - Irvine*

Prisoners are classified as additionally protected subjects in behavioral research in the United States with heightened protocols in an effort to eliminate risk for incarcerated participants. These regulations require the consent and oversight of the carceral system and can have the effect of drastically limiting the types of research conducted in carceral institutions. As members of the PrisonPandemic project, an archival project not governed by the Institutional Review Board, we had to borrow from and create our own ethical framework for collecting data from archival contributors. In this paper, we ask what ethical regulations govern work that is not “biomedical and behavioral research”—including oral history and archival projects, legal work and research, journalistic projects, big data, and multi-disciplinary projects—but nonetheless takes place inside the academy? We examine ethical frameworks for research in the social sciences, as well as participatory action, oral history, archival, and data use ethical frameworks, attending to how these academic ethical frameworks define risk and how these definitions shape resulting research, in intentional and unintentional ways. Through analysis of examples from each of these frameworks, we argue that efforts to eliminate risk often create other harms, while distracting from more fundamental ethical questions about the well-being of research subjects and data contributors.

Against Othering: Participatory Action Research in two Belgian prisons *Lennert De Boe, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Elieze Termote, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; An-Sofie Vanhouche, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Kristel Beyens, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

The Participatory Action Research (PAR) method encounters challenges in integrating into Criminological Sciences, often resulting in discussions about incarcerated persons and their social networks without their direct involvement. Nonetheless, we argue that practices of othering and dehumanization of incarcerated persons can be countered by actively involving them in PAR. In our research conducted in two newly established Belgian prisons, the complexities of implementing PAR within a correctional setting became evident. The study aimed to identify the experiences and needs of three groups: incarcerated persons, personnel from service and activity providers, and prison staff. Next, different representatives of each group were involved in a process to set up

activities that would respond to their needs. The correctional environment, with its diverse stakeholders, intensive collaboration requirements, and varying value hierarchies, presented significant challenges. This presentation will initially delve into the challenges but also merits of Participatory Action Research in Belgian prisons, with a particular emphasis on its benefits for including vulnerable groups in research. Subsequently, we will highlight structural barriers within the academic context that hinder the adoption and utilization of PAR.

Participatory Action Research: Actions to Improve Communication and Collaboration in Belgian Prisons *Elieze Termote, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Lennert De Boe, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Kristel Beyens, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; An-Sofie Vanhouche, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

As two new prisons opened in Belgium (Haren and Dendermonde), a Participatory Action Research (PAR) project was initiated in 2023 to identify the needs of various stakeholders. In addition to the establishment of the two new prison facilities and their subsequent scaling-up, several innovative detention principles, including the adoption of digital platforms, a badge system for incarcerated persons, new responsibilities for prison staff aligned with the implementation of functional differentiation for prison officers, and semi-open regimes were introduced. While PAR consists of three fundamental principles Participation, Action, and Research, this presentation focuses on the research results and actions. The study integrates viewpoints of incarcerated persons, personnel from service and activity providers, and prison staff through the utilization of surveys and interviews. We will provide a succinct overview of the main research findings, emphasizing the need for enhanced communication and increased collaboration in Belgian prisons. In response to identified needs, experiments were initiated in 2024 as part of the action phase.

Lived Experience (Criminology): Co-optation, Representation and the “Density of Relations” *Dwayne Antojado, University of Melbourne*

In reevaluating the role of lived experience within the criminological discourse, this paper critically engages with the emergent politics of co-optation, interrogating the dynamics of knowledge production by scholars with lived prison experience. Despite the nominal valorisation of lived experiences within criminology, an authenticity gap remains, marked by demographic discrepancies between lived experience scholars and the broader incarcerated population they aim to represent. This disjunction underscores significant concerns regarding the inclusivity and diversity of criminological scholarship, prompting an inquiry into the adequacy of these narratives in capturing the heterogeneity of those ensnared by the criminal justice system (CJS). Engaging Édouard Glissant’s concepts of relation and the density of relations, this paper transcends conventional calls for demographic representativeness in lived experience narratives. It asserts that these narratives’ value lies not solely in their reflective demographic accuracy but in their substantive contributions to the discipline. Glissant’s framework, emphasising the intricate web of relations that individuals navigate within and outside the carceral system, challenges us to reconceptualise representation in criminology. This approach underscores the interconnectedness of personal narratives with broader socio-historical matrices, thereby enriching our understanding of the CJS through a more nuanced lens. This paper critically examines the power dynamics underpinning the production of criminological knowledge, questioning why and how certain lived experiences are privileged over others. It explores the mechanisms of co-optation that allow for the elevation of select narratives, which, while valuable, do not necessarily encapsulate the demographic diversity of the incarcerated populace. By weaving Glissant’s theoretical insights into the discourse on lived experience in criminology, this research advocates for a paradigm that cherishes the depth and plurality of perspectives. Such an approach not only diversifies criminological scholarship but also informs the development of more empathetic, efficacious policies and interventions.

**083. ISRD Panel 3: Results from ISRD4 – Focus on violent behaviour and attitudes towards violence**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/School Violence and Bullying (ISRD

WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 1.09

This panel presents the results from the fourth wave of the International Self-Report Delinquency Study (ISR4) mainly focusing on perception of violence, reactive violence and relationship between them. Criminal behavior among juvenile street gang members will be also discussed.

Chair:

**Janne Kivivuori**, University of Helsinki

Participants:

Subviolent and Violent behaviors and Sensitivity to the perceptions of violence. Preliminary Results from the ISR4 in Colombia *Solbey Morillo, International Bridge University; Paula Andrea Valencia, Universidad de Medellin; Catalina Isabel Ortiz, Universidad de Medellin; Liliana Paola Muñoz, Universidad de Medellin*

This paper provides the preliminary findings from the fourth round of the International Self-Report Delinquency Study (ISR4) conducted in Colombia. The study was conducted in Medellin between May and July 2023. The data was collected through self-administered questionnaires using the Lime survey, which was administered through the University of Tartu, Estonia. The sample was formed by 1276 students aged 14–17 in public schools, covering 8th grade until 11th grade. The main goal of this paper is to show the most relevant findings, with a special focus on sensitivity to perceptions of violence. There has been an increase in this subject in prosperous Western societies due to factors such as increased income, improved security, longer life expectancy, and societal feminization (Kivivuori, 2014; Von Hofer, 2000), but little information has been found in countries like Colombia, with a high index of poverty and high exposure to violence. Additionally, in the last few years, there have been a lot of migrants coming from Venezuela, and feeling discriminated against could be frequent. However, only 4% of the sample pointed out that they were not born in Colombia, and feeling discriminated against influences the sensitivity of students to perceive subviolent behaviors but does not affect their perceptions of violent behaviors.

Does sensitivity to perceive conflicts as violence vary cross-nationally? *Matti Näsi, University of Helsinki; Janne Kivivuori, University of Helsinki; Maiju Tanskanen, University of Helsinki; Karoliina Suonpää, University of Helsinki*

Social theory, as classically postulated by Durkheim, predicts that people's sensitivity to perceive conflicts as violence varies as a function of social, cultural, and crime-related variables. Prior research conducted in the developed Western nations indicates that violence perception thresholds vary by socioeconomic factors. Sensitivity to see conflicts as violence has also increased over the recent decades. However, we lack broader cross-national comparative research on violence perception. To remedy this, the 4th sweep of the International Self-Report Delinquency Study (ISR4) incorporated questions probing violence perception. In this paper, we draw on ISR4-4 data to take a first look at if (and how) violence perception varies across research sites. The patterns are discussed from the point of view of Durkheimian sensitivity theory.

Criminal behavior among juvenile street gang members in the Nordic countries: a cumulative risk factor perspective *Markus Kaakinen, University of Helsinki; Kim Moeller, Aalborg University; Margrét Valdimarsdóttir, University of Iceland*

Based on previous research, members of street gangs are more likely to be both perpetrators and victims of crime. In addition, many known risk factors seem to accumulate for street gang-affiliated youth. However, the importance of street gang affiliation seems to go beyond, for example, having criminally active friends. In this presentation, we utilize representative city samples collected from Nordic adolescents (aged 13–17) to investigate the degree to which theory-based criminological risk factors explain the link between street gang membership and criminal behavior and victimization experiences. Our analysis is based on Nordic data collected as part of the fourth International Self-Report Delinquency Study (ISR4) and logistic regression modelling

utilizing the KHB decomposition method. The Eurogang measurement is used to identify adolescents' street gang membership. In our empirical analysis, we examine the criminal behavior and victimization experiences among gang-affiliated and non-gang adolescents, and how key criminological theories help to understand the connection between adolescent street gangs and crime. In addition, we compare whether studied risk factors play a different role for criminal behavior and victimization experiences.

#### 084. Youth Delinquency: Correlates and Trends

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Juvenile Crime (ISR4 WG)

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.11

Chair:

**Barbara Gualco**, University of Florence

Participants:

Bad girls? Contemporary juvenile girls delinquency in Poland *Dagmara Woźniakowska, University of Warsaw*

How do the crimes and antisocial behaviors of juvenile girls look today? Has the image of their delinquency changed over the last 20 years? Is it true that girls are becoming increasingly cruel and more demoralized, and that the gender gap is closing? The presentation will present the current state of girls' delinquency in Poland based on court files and self-report studies.

Gender Discrimination towards Female Arab Teenagers in Israel and Their Involvement in Severe Violence: The Mediating Role of Closeness to Parents *Lana Jerjes, University of Cambridge; Mona Khoury, Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

The field of antisocial behaviour has been systematically ignoring women, particularly from ethnic minorities, probably because they occupy a lower position in society. Based on intersectionality theory, the current study examined perceptions of being discriminated against as a result of being a female in a conservative society, which restricts familial support, and the contribution of such discrimination towards violence against others amongst female Arab adolescents. The present study is based on a sample of 404 Arab female adolescents and young women (aged 12–21 years) in Israel. Participants completed a structured, anonymous self-report questionnaire. The results showed that perpetration of severe violence by female participants was correlated significantly and positively with affiliation with delinquent peers, perceived ethnonational discrimination and sexual victimisation. Conversely, closeness to parents was significantly and negatively correlated with perpetration of severe violence by female participants. The findings also showed that the association between gender discrimination and severe physical violence was mediated by closeness to parents. The findings suggest that traditional patriarchal attitudes towards gender roles might be a risk factor for antisocial behaviour and involvement in delinquency. They also highlight the critical role of parental factors in mediating violent behaviours amongst female adolescents experiencing gender discrimination in a patriarchal society.

Sport, relationship with parents, deviant behaviors and victimization in European adolescents: the results of the International Self-report Delinquency Study 3 (ISR4 3). *Barbara Moretti, DAP; Regina Rensi, Department of Health Sciences; Emanuela Pescatore, Ordine degli Avvocati di Firenze; Barbara Gualco, University of Florence*

Background. Sport is commonly considered a socialization activity that can help young people avoid deviant behavior. The study is aimed at deepening the knowledge of the sport as a risk or protective factor concerning deviance and victimization in adolescence. Method. The study analyzes the European data collected by a questionnaire "ISR4-3", administered to a sample of 54273 young students from 7th to 9th grade. Specifically, the authors analyze the relationship among the answers about the relationship with parents, self-reported delinquency behaviors, and victimization, concerning playing sports or not. Results. Students who play sports have a good relationship with their parents and feel supported by them, and when they disappoint them feel very bad.

Playing sports is a protective factor compared to shoplifting, burglary, bicycle theft, motorbike/car theft, extortion, robbery, group fights, and drug dealing. Regarding the use of alcohol or drugs, the sport appears to be a protective factor concerning the use of soft and hard drugs. As far as victimization is concerned, those who practice sports appear to be victims of theft, extortion, discrimination, cyberbullying, and domestic violence to a lesser extent than those who do not practice any sport. Conclusions. It can observe how practicing sports is a protective factor for most of the variables taken into consideration. Therefore, it is important to carry out awareness-raising interventions on the sport involving families, schools, and the community.

Family socio-economic status, Deviance, and Victimization in Adolescence in Europe: the results of the International Self-Report Delinquency Study 3 (ISR3D 3). *Regina Rensi, Department of Health Sciences; Maria Goracci, University of Florence; Barbara Gualco, University of Florence*

Background: The study aims to increase the knowledge regarding risk and protective factors related to delinquency and victimization in adolescence, paying particular attention to socioeconomic status (SES). Method: The study analyzes the data collected from the "ISR3D-3" questionnaire relating to Europe, administered to a sample of 59.950 students aged between 12 and 16. Specifically, the Authors analyze the association between responses relating to the commission of deviant behaviors, use/abuse of alcohol or drugs, and victimization throughout life, compared to responses relating to family socioeconomic status. Results: Families in which both parents work and in which the family income comes from salaries, earnings, and/or family property can be considered a protective factor concerning the majority of deviant acts, episodes of victimization, and the use of substances but not the consumption of alcohol. Families in which the minor's perception of the family's economic situation is equal to or higher than that of their peers can be considered a protective factor concerning deviant conduct, episodes of victimization, and the use of substances and alcohol. On the contrary, families in which the father is unemployed can be considered a risk factor for the creation of graffiti and episodes of victimization linked to injuries.

PROTECT-C: Results from a national study on protective factors for antisocial behavior with Portuguese vulnerable children and youth *Margarida A. Santos, CIJ - Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice; School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto; Gilda Santos, CIJ - Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice; School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto; Josefina Castro, CEJEA, Lusíada University, Porto, Portugal; Carla Sofia Cardoso, Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Crime Justice and Security (CJS) - School of Criminology, Faculty of Law of the University of Porto; Inês Fonseca, School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto; Hugo S. Gomes, Human Development and Violence Research Centre (DOVE), Federal University of Pelotas; Samuel Moreira, CIJ (Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice) - School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto, Portugal | CEJEA (Center for Legal, Economic, International and Environmental Studies) - Lusíada University, Portugal; Inês Guedes, Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Crime, Justice and Security of the School of Criminology - Faculty of Law of the University of Porto*

The link between socioeconomic vulnerability and the development of antisocial behaviors throughout life is well established. It has become even more prominent in a society that is the target of ever-increasing economic and social crises that place children and youth at greater risk of poor outcomes, such as school failure, substance abuse, and delinquent behaviors. Despite this knowledge, a question remains to be answered: why, despite all the difficulties they face, some children from deprived backgrounds, do not follow an antisocial trajectory? The answer may lie in protective factors that buffer the adverse outcomes associated with earlier risk factors in childhood and adolescence. This ongoing project aims to understand how school (e.g., school engagement, positive school

climate) family (e.g., parental practices), and neighborhood features (e.g., collective efficacy) can help mitigate socioeconomic disadvantage's harmful effects on children and youth outcomes. Using a national sample of middle-school, non-referred children aged between 12 and 15 years and attending the 7th, 8th, and 9th grades in TEIP schools, this quantitative study adopts an online self-report survey aimed at the participating children. The key results of this study will be presented and discussed, highlighting its importance in addressing a gap in the protective factors literature and contributing to developing evidence-based and inclusive prevention policies.

#### 085. Past Meets Present: Navigating the Relevance of History in Today's Context

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, War Crimes (Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.13

Mass violence and political repression leave an enduring imprint on individuals, families, and societies, with echoes that may resonate for decades. Sociopsychological legacies and memories can be passed down across generations, their contours seemingly shaped and sometimes distorted by events that follow. The remembrance of mass violence may be impacted by subsequent cycles of violence but also by transitional justice mechanisms. In some instances, the legacies of war leave deep scars that continue to plague generations, while in others, history is glorified, celebrated and passed down from parents to children as nostalgia. The presentations in this panel will discuss four different case studies where the violent or repressive past impacts the present decades later. Lucie Pentakova will focus on the psychosocial legacies of political repression in Czechia, while Amra Zeric will investigate these legacies in relation to the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Subsequently, Maarten van Munster will analyze how a state-led reconciliation initiative shapes post-civil war society in Angola, focusing on public perception, after which Maartje Weerdesteijn will look at the different manifestations of Yugonostalgia across the former Yugoslav region. The presented research relies on a wide array of research methods, encompassing literature reviews, surveys, field research and qualitative interviews.

Chair:

**Barbora Holá**, The Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR) & Centre for International Criminal Justice, VU University Amsterdam

Participants:

Adding Insult to Injury? The Role of Retributive Transitional Justice in the Intergenerational Transmission of Psychosocial Legacies of Political Repression in Czechia *Lucie Pěntáková, The Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR)*

The 20th century witnessed unprecedented gross human rights violations within the former Soviet sphere of influence. Such violations, as prior research suggests, can result in long-lasting psychosocial consequences, affecting not only immediate victims but also succeeding generations. While contemporary scholarly efforts have focused on understanding the mechanisms by which these psychosocial legacies are passed down, the possible modulatory role of transitional justice policies has not yet been considered. To address this gap, we set out to examine the role transitional justice policies play in the intergenerational transmission of psychosocial legacies of political repression in an explorative case study of Czechia. Owing to the country's communist past, marked by 40-year-long political repression and its subsequent adoption of large-scale lustrations and exposure of former secret police collaborators, Czechia offered a rich backdrop for our investigation. Using a survey, we queried three successive generations of Czech citizens about their direct or familial exposure to political repression, involvement in transitional justice measures, and current psychosocial functioning to ascertain: (i) what psychosocial legacies of political repression are transmitted to the post-communist generations and (ii) what role lustration and exposure as a secret police collaborator play in the process of intergenerational transmission. In this presentation, I will present and discuss the study's preliminary findings, along with the

methodological challenges encountered during the research.

**Softening the Blow? The Role of Criminal Trials in the Intergenerational Transmission of Psychosocial Legacies of Mass Atrocities in Bosnia and Herzegovina** *Amra Žerić, NSCR*

Mass atrocities have a long-lasting impact on individuals, families, and communities. Previous research has shown that the psychosocial legacies of mass atrocities not only affect the generation that lived through the violence but the post-conflict generations as well. In order to address the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina and its aftermath, criminal trials were utilized to hold individuals accountable. In the case of Bosnia and Herzegovina, it remains unclear what the psychosocial legacies of mass atrocities are and how the criminal trials possibly moderated the transmission of the psychosocial legacies from the war-struck generation to the post-war generation. This project aims to investigate the intergenerational transmission of the psychosocial legacies of the war in Bosnia and the role that criminal trials play in the transmission of these legacies. The focus of this research will be on the domestic trials as well as those of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). The study will be based on a literature review, population-based survey, and interviews with families in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In this presentation, I will outline the project as well as some of the theoretical, methodological and ethical considerations.

**Unveiling Angola's Reconciliation Initiative: Citizens' Perspectives and Perceptions** *Maarten van Munster, PhD researcher VU, lecturer University of applied science The Hague*

For almost 17 years Angola pursued a policy of 'forgive and forget' regarding its civil war (1975-2002) employing hardly any transitional justice initiatives. This changed in 2019 when the government appointed a reconciliation commission aiming to 'heal the psychological wounds of families' and 'restore the spirit of brotherhood among Angolans'. The commission represents a local initiative operating without any support or interference from international actors. Whilst it is known from literature that citizens in post-conflict societies tend to see local and embedded transitional justice approaches as more legitimate, Angola's reconciliation commission was installed by an authoritarian regime with waning support from a largely discontent population. This leads to the question how the population perceives the commission's work. Our paper presents the results of a survey study among the population of two medium-sized Angolan towns and a series of interviews with villagers in rural Angola on knowledge about and perceptions of the reconciliation commission and its activities.

**Restorative and Reflexive Yugonostalgia in Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia** *Maartje Weerdesteijn, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; Margareta Blažević, NSCR; Barbora Holá, The Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR) & Centre for International Criminal Justice, VU University Amsterdam; Mirza Buljubašić, The Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR); Faculty of Criminal Justice, Criminology, and Security Studies, University of Sarajevo*

Nostalgia for the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, or rather Yugonostalgia, can be controversial given the region's recent violent history. Nationalist elites that came to power after the dissolution often left little room in society for political narratives that cast the former Yugoslavia in a positive light. Boym has argued that there are different forms of (yugo)nostalgia. Restorative nostalgia is perceived as a form of truth where the past is "a perfect snapshot." Reflective nostalgia, on the other hand, sees time as a more flexible construct. It does not concern itself necessarily with truth but with memory. We have analysed how these different forms of nostalgia manifest in three of the former Yugoslav countries, Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia by travelling to a virtual place where Yugoslavia is maintained and cherished: the internet. Here, as Mazzucchelli explains, Yugoslavia moved from the "geopolitical space" to a "virtual space" where the "socio cultural space of Yugoslavia still exists today and survived the violent dissolution" (2012, p. 4). We set out a survey on some prominent Yugonostalgic social-media platforms which allowed us to pose questions to a

wide variety of individuals who share a common interest in, and feelings of, Yugonostalgia. Our respondents experience their Yugonostalgia in interaction with the national identities that co-exist in the social sphere they inhabit offline.

**086. Technology-facilitated Sexual Violence against Women and Children**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

1:00 to 2:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.17*

Sexual violence against women and child sexual abuse warrant new social science research and criminal law reflections. While contemporary criminal law and society are getting a grip on traditional offline sexual violence, they lag behind in effectively tackling technology-facilitated sexual violence and harassment. This panel sheds light specifically on verbal and image-based online harassment against women and children. It discusses gender-based violence focusing on both the normalisation of online sexual harassment on dating apps and an adapted framework for understanding the role of the online incel community in online misogynistic radicalization. To explore both opportunities and risks the ongoing digitalization brings about, a closer look is taken at the policing and reporting of online child sexual abuse material, the criminalization of the dissemination of nonconsensual deepfake pornography and the legal and jurisdictional complexities of investigating sexual crime in the metaverse.

Chair:

*Gert Vermeulen, Ghent University*

Participants:

**Tinder Tales: Exploring the Normalisation of Online Sexual Harassment in Modern Dating** *Laura Byn, Ghent University*

While Tinder is known for facilitating romantic connections and hook-ups, it also has a concerning prevalence of sexual harassment. Even more vexing is the careless shrug culture accompanying it. Research has since long confirmed the link between (normalizing) physical sexual violence and endorsing a traditional heterosexual script. This study enlightens users' discourses, experiences and attitudes upon facing online harassment on Tinder using sexual script theory. Findings indicate that users encounter twice as much textual harassment compared to non-users, with women being disproportionately targeted. Surprisingly, users often minimize the negative impact of these messages and attribute partial responsibility to recipients. Their scripts reveal a hybrid discourse with a predominance of traditional norms. Despite the perceived sexual freedom Tinder should grant, the sexual double standard seems to remain persistent. However, Tinder users agreed that non-consensual explicit images are harassing and are rather an occurrence from the past. It seems that raising awareness bears fruit in the end.

**Understanding Inceldom: An Adapted Framework for Analyzing the Incel Community Within an Online Radicalization Approach.** *Renée Pattyn, Ghent University*

The 'involuntary celibates', or men who have been unable to find romantic or sexual relationships with women despite wanting to, have congregated in the online incel community. Though initially supportive in nature, the community has become a hotbed for (violent) online misogyny. My ongoing virtual ethnographic research focuses on the nature of the incel community and its members, and how the community plays a role in online misogynistic radicalization. To this end, this contribution applies Bayerl et al.'s Radicalisation-Factor Model and its four interlinked factors—the individual, the environment, the radical groups and ideology, and technologies—to the incel community. This adjusted framework find its basis in existing insights from domains such as (online) radicalization, social psychology, scholarship of gender, masculinity and misogyny, and is further inspired by ongoing non-participatory observations on incel forums. By approaching the incel phenomenon from different perspectives, this framework has the aim of providing a holistic understanding of the incel community as well as highlighting the importance of the interplay of various individual, ideological, contextual and technological features in the process of online radicalization.



The policing and reporting of online child sexual abuse material: a scoping review *Nena Decoster, Ghent University*

Child sexual abuse material (CSAM) has exponentially increased in recent years because of technological advances and the rise of the internet. The call for new investigative tools became urgent. As a result, automated technologies became indispensable in the field of detection, filtering, classification and prioritization of CSAM. Private tech companies have slowly but surely been dominating the development of those automated tools. Furthermore, private organizations, NGO's, non-profits and big tech companies through (social) media platforms hold the reins when it comes to selecting which reports to pass on to law enforcement, aided by automatization and their own corporate policies. At the end of the line, the reports and images the police receive, have gone through a major funnel, significantly impacted by private entities. The field of evidence on the policing and reporting of CSAM remains scattered and is characterized by a lack of coherent and integrated literature. This scoping review aims to meet aforementioned knowledge deficit by critically mapping all relevant and available literature.

Criminalization of the Dissemination of Nonconsensual Deepfake Pornography in the European Union. A Comparative Legal Analysis. *Can Yavuz, Ghent University*

Nonconsensual deepfake pornography is the most common (mis)use of deepfake technology, which disproportionately targets women. As stated in the European Union Parliament's report on deepfake, "at present, the legal roadmap for victims of deepfake pornography often remains unclear." The study asserts that adding criminal law to this roadmap is preferable and more legitimate than not doing so because nonconsensual deepfake pornography causes serious harm and technical measures and civil remedies fall short of effectively tackling this issue. In this light, the study employs desk research, legal dogmatic method, and fundamental canons of legal interpretation to scrutinize to what extent criminal laws of fourteen European Union members can effectively criminalize dissemination of nonconsensual deepfake pornography. The findings demonstrate that the criminal codes of eight out of fourteen countries do not criminalize the dissemination of nonconsensual deepfake pornography. The upper limits of punishment differ significantly among countries, and some member states employ defamation, voyeurism, the violation of privacy, and the nonconsensual sharing of sensitive personal data to penalize the wrongdoing, which are not ideal instruments for the purpose.

Guardians of the metaverse-galaxy: legal and jurisdictional complexities in investigating sexual crime in the metaverse *Julie Van Pée, PhD Researcher Ghent University*

With the rapid emergence of new immersive technologies, such as the notorious "metaverse" (beyond (meta) this universe), the boundaries between the physical and virtual realm become progressively blurred. Recent reports of the European Union and Interpol caution that the metaverse (or at least, its current iterations designated as such) offers ample opportunities to criminals to commit new types of crime ("Metacrime"). Since the inception of these virtual & immersive experiences, several incidents of sexual assault targeting a user's avatar have been reported, prompting local authorities and other stakeholders to question the parameters of criminal law and criminal investigation. It raises pivotal questions about whether the harassment of avatars in the metaverse should be classified and criminalized similarly to sexual assault offences in the tangible world. To date, the legal framework for actions in the metaverse is still ambiguous, presenting uncertainties regarding both criminalization and jurisdictional matters, making the investigation of sexual crimes in the metaverse markedly complex.

**087. European Developmental and Life-course Criminology Working Group, Panel 2: Qualitative research on criminal careers**

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Development and Life Course Perspectives (Development and Life Course Criminology WG)

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room

1.18

Chair:

*Sveinung Sandberg*, Department of Criminology and Sociology of Law, University of Oslo

Participants:

British Pakistanis and Desistance: A Political Economy Approach  
*Colin Webster, Leeds Beckett University; Mohammed Qasim, Leeds Beckett University*

Aspects of the impact of economic and social relations on offending and desistance are discussed drawing upon a long-term ethnographic study of poverty, prison and identity among two groups of British Pakistanis living in Bradford, UK. One group cycled between prison and neighbourhood as they engaged in entrepreneurial criminality through heroin drug markets; the other group were ex-rioters who as young people had received lengthy prison sentences. The paper addresses the possibility of desistance in a deindustrialised, officially induced criminogenic environment; their search for identity and meaning in the place of their criminality; the adverse effects of their prison experiences and leaving prison in an increasingly punitive society where rehabilitation has vanished; the historical racial, social and economic marginalisation of the ethnic group to which they belong and the different responses to this marginalisation. Ultimately, the paper asks about their social integration, and their place in British society, in a word, their future. The paper concludes that within the groups we spoke to –drug dealers and the ex-rioters – their social and economic relations primarily drove criminal solutions not their ethnicity. Nevertheless, the redemptive possibilities offered in a postponed and idealised or perhaps imagined 'pure' 'Muslim' identity rooted in the ongoing membership of a religious and cultural group and social relations may yet procure for them what they really crave, which is a future life led by law-abiding respectability, status and honour (biraderi).

"The desisting pesister" *Rune Olsen, University of Agder, Norway*

Several key desistance studies have a comparative research design, comparing a group of 'desisters' with a group of 'persisters' (e.g. Maruna, 2001; Sampson and Laub, 2003). Because this line of research is most interested in understanding ways out of crime, there is a tendency not to devote as much effort to explore the life trajectories of the group of 'persistent' offenders. This is understandable, but still a regret at the aggregate level, as we risk losing in depth understanding about the people that Sampson and Laub (2003: 176) call "desisting persisters" (Sampson and Laub, 2003). These are the men and women who have not yet desisted from crime, but are likely to do so in the future. Based on a comparative desistance study in Norway, I will in this paper explore and analyze the life stories of the men and women in my sample who have not yet desisted from crime. The data consists of 47 interviews, 20 of which were conducted with people still engaged in criminal offending. The analysis highlights the relationship between substance abuse and crime (Hall, 2024), the lack of follow-up after release and the lack of opportunities (Nugent and Schinkel, 2016). The majority have a common goal, also from earlier, to stay away from new crimes after being released from prison. But then the good intention crumbles and they atone again. The hope and good intention that they had is lost once more. Not to be gone for good, because the hope and the goal to make is the next time seems to grow stronger despite the lack of goal achievement prior to this point.

Pull-push-dampen: How the state, the family, and the economy shaped the life courses of incarcerated people in Latin America  
*David Rodriguez Goyes, University of Oslo*

This presentation is a qualitative analysis of how three central social institutions—the state, the economy, and the family—interact to co-shape the life courses of incarcerated people in Latin America. We built our analysis on a dataset that includes repeat interviews with 420 people incarcerated in prisons in seven Latin American countries. We argue that in Latin America, the state, the economy, and the family function in a pull-push-dampen dynamic. The labour market pulls people when it needs them for menial jobs but when they become disposable, they are pushed either to the family to cover necessities or to the state to punish. Crime often occurs when both state and economy push people towards illegal sources of

income and the family has limited capabilities to dampen these processes—or is ingrained in criminal organisations. Based on insights from Latin America, we argue that life course criminology needs to restore life course studies' original emphasis on historical times and societal institutions. We also posit that these institutions need to be considered in tandem because they are linked and interrelated. Researching just one of them creates the risk of exaggerating their distinct role in the life course of people committing criminalized acts.

**Turning points to crime in Latin America: A qualitative study**  
*Sveinung Sandberg, Department of Criminology and Sociology of Law, University of Oslo*

In very different societal contexts, legal employment, marriage, parenthood, and military service has been identified as turning points in desistance from crime. Most studies, however, are conducted in Europe, USA/Canada, and Australia/New Zealand. The predominance of quantitative methods to identify turning points has also resulted in an implicit understanding of desistance as a specific event more than a continuous, complex, and ongoing process. This qualitative study (CRIMLA) explores the role of legal employment, marriage, parenthood, and military service in desistance from crime for more than 420 men and women in 29 prisons across Latin America. The role of work, for example, is fundamentally different when a huge percentage of the work force is employed in the unregulated and informal economy. While there was access to work for many participants, they were usually in the black economy, poorly paid, and unstable, and did not provide the stability that made them the turning points away from crime usually described in life course criminological studies. Marriage and children also offered less protection from crime when they happened during teenage years and introduced new financial burdens for people in a volatile economic situation. For women it could also bind them to abusive relationships. Doing military service could imply being involved in corruption and in some instances it prepared participants for a role in drug cartels and insurgency organizations. The aim of this presentation is to describe the role of 'traditional' turning points away from crime in a Latin American context and to highlight the importance of socio-economic circumstances for understanding these transitions. Additional turning points towards desistance that might be more relevant in this region are also introduced. The study paved the way for contributing both empirically and theoretically to a new and more global life course criminology.

**088. WG-PLACE 2: Towards an evidence-based model for big data policing (BIGDATPOL)**

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Routine Activities and Situational Perspectives (WG on Space and Culture)  
Pre-arranged Panel

1:00 to 2:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.06*

The BIGDATPOL research program (funded by the European Union; ERC, BIGDATPOL, 101088156) emerges as a beacon for the future of crime prevention in Europe. Big data policing models incorporate variables, including crime data, socio-economic factors, opportunity characteristics and big data sources such as images or mobile phone data, thereby highlighting the need for a holistic understanding of these models. Confronting the current disjointed landscape of big data policing, BIGDATPOL seeks to merge expertise, foster interdisciplinary cohesion, and uphold rigorous scientific standards. Consequently, BIGDATPOL aims to harmonize statistical, criminological, economic, legal and ethical facets into an evidence-based model, contributing to a more secure and fairer future for our communities. This approach leverages historical data to predict and pre-empt potential crime hotspots, optimizing police resources ultimately curbing crime rates. In this thematic panel, we present results from various studies pertaining to the overarching program, each examined from different disciplinary perspectives.

Chair:

*Wim Hardyns, Ghent University*

Participants:

The BIGDATPOL program: An introduction *Wim Hardyns, Ghent University; Inge Claessens, Ghent University*

In this presentation a general overview of the BIGDATPOL program will be provided. This presentation demonstrates the state-

of-the-art in both research and practice regarding big data policing. It elaborates on the aims of the program and the way that the overarching program is divided into several tracks. Additionally, it will be discussed how the BIGDATPOL program aims to create societal impact. Finally, we will also focus on the manner in which we aim to bring together relevant stakeholders in this field in the future.

**Evaluating big data policing: The development of a comprehensive quantitative and qualitative evaluation framework**  
*Marlies Sas, Ghent University; Thom Snaphaan, Avans University of Applied Sciences & Ghent University; Wim Hardyns, Ghent University*

This presentation unveils a quantitative and qualitative evaluation framework tailored to assess big data policing applications in practice. Recognizing the nuanced nature of qualitative assessments in the context of data-driven policing, the qualitative criteria of the framework emphasize a holistic understanding of the criminological impact, ethics, community dynamics, and, additionally, incorporates a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis. It encompasses key dimensions such as the interpretability of data-driven insights, ethical considerations in algorithmic decision-making, and the social and criminological implications of police interactions influenced by big data. It places particular emphasis on the perspectives and experiences of diverse stakeholders, including community members, to capture nuanced insights. In addition to these qualitative perspectives, the evaluation framework pays attention to quantitative aspects in evaluating big data policing applications. These quantitative evaluations cover both statistical (e.g., performance of machine learning models) and substantive (e.g., crime reduction effects) aspects. By offering a qualitative and quantitative lens on big data policing, this presentation aims to provide a comprehensive tool for policymakers, law enforcement agencies, and researchers to assess the multifaceted aspects of data-driven strategies. The presentation concludes with reflections on the potential evolution and refinement of the evaluation framework to meet the evolving needs and challenges of contemporary policing.

**Attitudes of police officers towards big data policing**  
*Charlotte Vandenbrande, Ghent University; Wim Hardyns, Ghent University*

Big data policing has received significant attention in recent years due to its potential to inform both strategic and tactical aspects of policing management. Besides the evaluation on how effective big data policing is in reducing crime rates, secondary effects that are not crime-related should also be taken into account. These effects are underreported in evaluating studies of intelligence led policing programs. Focusing on police officers and their perceptions and user experience as a secondary effect, will allow to provide a more complex and balanced overview of the impact of big data policing. Through a comprehensive survey and additional focus groups conducted across 19 Flemish police zones, this research investigates the attitudes, expectations and utilization of big data policing among police officers. The survey methodology encompasses a range of questions designed to measure different domains, such as knowledge, expectations, efficacy, trust, ethical considerations and practical implementations of big data policing among the police officers. By leveraging the insights gathered from the survey data, this study aims to inform the development and implementation of effective big data policing models tailored to the specific needs and contexts of police zones.

**Exploring explainability in big data policing: Identifying feature importance in decision-making models**  
*Naomi Theinert, Ghent University; Robin Khalfa, Ghent University; Wim Hardyns, Ghent University*

The adoption of new data-driven methods has been transforming both public and private sectors. Within the context of law enforcement, the utilisation of big data and big data analytics is fundamentally altering decision-making processes at operational and strategic levels. Specifically, place-based big data policing, i.e. using big data sources to predict when and where specific crime types are likely to occur, has broadened discretionary powers to a diverse array of stakeholders involved in its application lifecycle, including software developers, analytical translators, and traditional actors like police officers. The engagement of multiple stakeholders

underscores the critical need for explainability, ensuring that all involved parties comprehend the rationale behind decisions. Understanding the "why" behind actions serves as an additional safeguard for oversight, as it keeps key users informed about the underlying reasoning behind their tasks. Moreover, explainability addresses concerns regarding the necessary justification, especially pertinent in high-risk applications such as place-based big data policing. Drawing upon the evolving empirical literature on eXplainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI), this paper tests various techniques to assess the feature importance in big data policing models. The study aims to present an overview comparing the trade-offs among selected techniques and evaluating the implications of feature importance at both a local (specific observations) and global (overall model) level. By documenting the trade-offs inherent in these techniques, this research pivots a context-specific approach for explaining the decision-making processes and output of big data policing models. This presentation enhances our understanding of the complexities surrounding big data policing and facilitate the development of transparent and accountable decision-making processes within law enforcement.

A temporal analysis of crime concentrations in micro-places and the ambient population *Robin Khalifa, Ghent University; Thom Snaphaan, Avans University of Applied Sciences & Ghent University; Rafael Prieto-Curiel, Complexity Science Hub Vienna; Wim Hardyns, Ghent University*

The present study examines the temporal concentration of different crime types in Ghent, Belgium, between 2007-2018. Police-registered data on residential burglary, aggressive theft, battery incidents, car theft, theft out of car and bicycle theft are used to explore daily and weekly crime cycles by constructing crime heartbeats (Prieto Curiel, 2023) to detect moments with higher and lower intensity of crime events. In doing so, this study not only analyses temporal crime concentration city-wide, but also investigates daily and weekly crime cycles and concentration at the micro-geographic level, specifically at the grid level (using a grid of 200 by 200 meters). Furthermore, this study also explores the relationship between weekly crime concentrations and the ambient population over a three month period. The ambient population, representing the number of individuals present in a given area at a specific time, serves as a dynamic measure of population and population (im)mobility, encompassing crowd and footfall dynamics. The ambient population is estimated using mobile phone data consisting of counts of the number of present phones per hour for each cell of the grid during a period of three months in 2018 (N = 595,858,852 raw data points). Correlation and regression-based analyses are conducted to analyze the relationship between temporal crime concentrations and the ambient population at microgeographic units over a three-month period. The implications of the findings are multifaceted and may impact future research on big data policing, policy formulation, and practical applications of spatiotemporal crime analysis in urban contexts.

### 089. Breaking the Cycle: Youth Violence Prevention, Trauma-Informed Practice and Multi-Agency Strategies

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Non-Criminal Justice Responses to Delinquency (WG on Collateral Consequence of Criminal Records)

Pre-arranged Panel

1:00 to 2:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.07*

How do you reduce youth violence in a post-industrial region, battling to recover from a decline in its traditional shipping and fishing industries? Based on an ongoing evaluation of a violence prevention partnership in the North-east of England, the causes of youth violence are firmly located in a sense of threat felt by young people. This threat is constituted of precarity and trauma in the home, the neighbourhood, and the night-time economy. Coupled with strained relationships with criminal justice, youth and children's services one response to this is hypervigilance among young people. Delving into the specific processes of a violence reduction partnership, this panel will highlight the benefits of a trauma-informed, strengths-based partnership and evaluation. Through a detailed case study, we will introduce insights yielded at the mid-way point in the partnership about the different activities funded by the partnership. Concluding with an assessment of the achievements and challenges of this partnership approach, we will provide valuable

interdisciplinary perspectives to the field of youth violence reduction.

Chair:

*Nicola O'Leary, University of Hull*

Participants:

Effectiveness of Violence Reduction Units in England and Wales, 2019-2023 *Iain Brennan, University of Hull*

Prompted by the apparent success of the Glasgow Violence Reduction Unit (later, Scottish VRU) in reducing serious violence in Scotland and a ten-year peak in youth homicide, government in England and Wales established the Serious Violence Fund. Since September 2019, the fund has supported the creation and operation of Violence Reduction Units and the implementation of 'Surge' policing activity in the twenty most violent police force areas. This has resulted in a two-pronged approach to violence that combines a coordinated multi-agency 'public health' approach with proactive policing of violent areas and individuals. This paper will describe these two programmes of activity and estimate the effect of the Serious Violence Fund on six violence outcomes: homicide, admissions to hospital for violent injury (sharp object or any mechanism), police recorded violence (with and without injury) and possession of weapons offences. To reflect the uneven distribution of violence and violence prevention activity toward population dense, higher violence areas and to reduce the effect of confounding between the baseline outcome and funding, local authorities were used as the treatment unit. To estimate the cumulative effect of funding, pre-post trends in violence between April 2013 and December 2022 in funded area were compared with a synthetic control group of unfunded areas. The analysis found no effect of funding on the primary outcomes of homicide or admission to hospital for violence with a sharp object or the police-recorded secondary outcomes. However, there was an observed reduction on admissions to hospital for any violence. Modest evidence for an effect of the Serious Violence Fund is emerging, but not definitive and separating effects of VRUs and proactive policing remains a challenge. Understanding the contribution of VRUs is an important component of evaluating the Serious Violence Fund and crucial to the future of violence prevention policy.

Trauma Informed Approaches to Criminal Justice *Victoria Burton, University of Hull; Craig Barlow, Craig Barlow Consultancy & Training Ltd.*

Trauma informed approaches are increasingly being recognized as a framework to understand a range of behaviours including entry into the criminal justice system. Understanding the impact of trauma across the life course is emerging as a public health priority whereby childhood trauma is associated with impaired educational achievement, limited employment opportunities and crime. Linked to this, adopting a trauma informed approach to violence and crime prevention is known to have benefits for both victims and offenders. Within this context, research was commissioned to develop a definition and key principles for a multi-agency trauma informed approach to violence prevention for the Humber region in the UK. A consensus-based definition of Trauma Informed Practice for violence prevention is required to create consistency between and within different organisations, enabling a shared understanding of trauma and trauma informed practice to develop. The aim is to assist the work of the violence prevention partnership and the police to have impact where it is most needed. To: Establish an overview of patterns of violence and victimisation that emerge in different contexts from different relationships and interactions. Produce through consensus a shared definition of a trauma informed approach and practice. In this case, the team used a mixed methodology, combining a series of focus groups and an anonymous Delphi panel of experts, to synthesise different multi-agency perspectives to formulate a consensus for a working definition that would be relevant and applicable in practice.

'On the field': case study of sports interventions for young people at risk *Sophie Louise Blanchard, University of Hull; Simon Green, University of Hull*

Addressing youth violence is a public health priority given its prevalence, harms and costs to society. Services designed to prevent or reduce youth violence do exist. Indeed, there is strong evidence to suggest that youth diversion is a more efficient method to address violent behaviour amongst young people than the standard criminal

justice responses. However, the effectiveness of diversion and interventions often depends on young people engaging with them and it is important for funders and providers to know how best to support this process. This paper aims to identify key messages and lessons learned from intervention projects attempting to engage young people at risk of violence/knife carrying in the Humberside region of the UK. Our strength-based methods investigation consisted of two strands of data collection. Firstly, a pro-forma survey was sent to all leaders of funded intervention projects that were asked with engaging and intervening in the lives these young people. What was returned gave us insight into the aims and hopes of the intervention leads for the young people and the impact on the wider community affected by violent crime. The second stage is an in-depth case study of one such intervention. This deep dive exploration tells the story of not only the hopes, ambitions, and successes of those working with young people in this way, but also narrates the challenges and obstacles that they strive to overcome. Ultimately, we hope to identify key messages and understanding about how services can meaningfully engage with young people at risk of involvement in violence in a positive and impactful way.

**How to Build a Safe Place: a strengths-based, partnership approach to preventing violence** *Charlotte Victoria Russell, The University of Hull; Nicola O'Leary, University of Hull*

How can you build safety? What strategies can you deployed and how can researchers contribute to the safety of a place? Based on an ongoing evaluation of a violence reduction unit in the North-east of England, the causes of youth violence are firmly located in a sense of threat felt by young people. This threat is constituted of precarity and trauma in the home, the neighbourhood, and the night-time economy. Based on a three-year government-funded project, the local response has been to build safety through a trauma-informed, strengths-based collaboration between young people, services, and researchers. The goal is to develop both the physical, and the felt, sense of safety by identifying and supporting those young people most at risk of experiencing or using violence. At the halfway point in the project, we report on the successes and obstacles to achieving these outcomes for young people. Focusing on the development of the partnership, success measures and strength-based approach to evaluation, this presentation will provide an assessment of how far the partnership has come and the road still to be travelled.

**090. Crime, Science and Politics WG Panel 2. Criminal Policy Evolution: not always forward**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Criminal Justice Policy (Crime, Science and Politics WG )

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.10

Chair:

**Jose A. Brandariz**, University of A Coruna

Participants:

**Inclusive crime control as a criminal policy model.** *Jose Luis Diez Ripolles, University of Malaga*

A criminal justice policy model is a particular strategy to achieve crime prevention in accordance with a previously established penal program. Criminal justice policy models tend to prioritize certain objectives of the penal program over others. In this presentation, the criminal policy model of inclusive crime control is outlined. This model is integrated into welfarist or socially inclusive political projects, in contrast to neo-liberal political projects. It is based on the hypothesis, still to be verified, that less social exclusion produced by penal intervention bodies will have better crime prevention effects in the medium and long term. The eight key features of this model are presented, including the following: its comprehensive nature, as it deals with most of the relevant fields of crime control, grouped into nine broad areas; its legal and realistic nature, as it is focused on socially exclusionary legal rules and practices that are being applied or are likely to be applied in legal systems in the developed Western world; its consensual nature, as it focuses on those legal rules and practices that enjoy international expert consensus on their severely exclusionary quality; and its political nature, since its ultimate aim is, through international

comparisons, to promote systems of crime control that abandon the use of certain rules and practices that are socially very exclusionary. Finally, comparative results already obtained will be presented.

**The Political Economy of Crypto-Mining Regulation in Kazakhstan: Exploring Legal Frameworks** *Gulzat Botoeva, Swansea University*

This article employs a criminological perspective to analyse the legal regulation surrounding the crypto-mining industry in Kazakhstan, aiming to uncover the intricate interplay between economic interests, power dynamics, and legal frameworks within the grey economy. Through this lens, I scrutinise the legal landscape of crypto-mining in Kazakhstan, exploring how economic imperatives, political influences, and historical legacies in the energy sector shape the crypto-mining industry in Kazakhstan. Drawing on principles of political economy, I examine the trajectory of crypto-mining in Kazakhstan, tracing its evolution from government promotion to regulatory challenges and industry transformations. Initially heralded as a lucrative opportunity for economic growth, crypto-mining gained traction in Kazakhstan, driven by government support and incentives. However, as the industry expanded, it encountered hurdles such as electricity shortages, corruption allegations, and regulatory ambiguities. This analysis examines the current narrative that creates the dichotomy between white and grey miners, situating regulatory dynamics within broader economic and political structures. The paper scrutinises how regulatory frameworks, shaped by economic interests and political influences, impact the practices of different mining actors. My analysis contributes to criminological studies of grey economic activities by highlighting not only how the grey economy operates in Kazakhstan but also how it is used to develop a narrative by some of the actors. By critically examining the nexus of law, economy, and politics, I aim to provide insights into the complexities of regulatory governance and its implications for the crypto mining industry and broader socio-economic development in Kazakhstan.

**The Principle of Less Eligibility: A Systematic Review** *François Bonnet, CNRS, PACTE, Université Grenoble Alpes*

The principle of less eligibility posits that assistance should be made less attractive than work, and that punishment should render crime less appealing than either work or welfare. This implies that the living standards of the lowest class of workers determine the upper limit of social and penal policy (Bonnet, 2019). This study provides a systematic review focusing on the dual interpretations of the 'less eligibility' principle within social policy and the political economy of punishment. Leveraging IRaMuTeQ for text analysis and Gephi for citation network analysis, the study delves into the multifaceted concept of 'less eligibility,' distinguishing between its origins in the 19th-century Poor Law Amendment Act and its reconceptualization by Georg Rusche in his seminal articles on the political economy of punishment. Using IRaMuTeQ, an in-depth textual analysis was conducted to uncover themes, discourses, and the evolution of 'less eligibility' across these distinct yet interconnected domains. Simultaneously, Gephi enabled the mapping and analysis of citation networks, identifying influential works and authors that have shaped the discourse on 'less eligibility.' The findings illuminate the principle's enduring significance and complexity, underlining its impact on both welfare policies and penal practices."

**The return of the colonial: crime control, imprisonment and immigrant detention in Europe** *David S Fonseca, University of Sheffield*

The present work purports to address the contemporary configuration of social control practices in Europe through the lenses of historical conditions and the emergence of late modern transformations in the continent. It departs from standard accounts in the sociology of punishment to join an emerging and burgeoning literature focusing on issues of border penalty. Moving a step further, the present work aims at bringing aspects of coloniality into the framework of analysis, in an effort to elaborate a wider and more comprehensive way of looking at contemporary developments in punishment, crime control and border regulation. As such, the research seeks to analyze dynamics of crime control, punishment and migrant detention taking place in recent years for understanding

its overall rationality in Europe. It departs from the perspective that current systems of control are the result of long-established strands of a broad European colonial heritage returning to shape domestic policies in present times. The most distinctive effect of this heritage has been the adoption of harsh measures for dealing with migration flows to the region, raising domestic concerns with identity, security and welfare. As a result, the intensified border control has begun to clamp down on immigration, mostly on those unskilled migrants coming from peripheral countries immersed in a past of colonial domination. These colonial legacies, therefore, have a direct impact in the articulation of social control in the continent. Low rates of incarceration seem to be counteracted by an upsurge in the detention of migrants and stricter policies on migration, while also reverberating on the racial composition of prison populations. Although practices of punishment and immigrant detention follow distinct goals, they need to be understood in tandem. They form together assemblages of control that have become paramount in the operation of social control in Western democracies.

**Penal deflation in southern Europe: Exploring climate change in the penal field** *Jose A. Brandariz, University of A Coruna*

Against the backdrop of the economic and political crises affecting Europe in the late 2000s and early 2010s, incarceration rates began to shrink in many European countries, opening a period of penal deflation that continues to this day – albeit with cross-border divergences. In fact, Europe is the world region with the greatest decline in incarceration rates in the 2010s. Evidently, this unexpected shift stands in stark contrast to the penal populism policies characterising penalty in global north regions in the 1990s and 2000s, as well as to the mass incarceration path still followed by many global south jurisdictions in the 2020s. Spain is a suitable national case to examine this recent turn, since Spanish incarceration rates increased almost eightfold in just three decades, before an intriguing and steady decline began that is almost unparalleled in western Europe. This paper focuses on the Spanish case, exploring the background and proximate causes that have enabled the current penal deflation scenario, as well as its specific manifestations. In addition, it scrutinises if and to what extent the changes witnessed in the Spanish case reverberate across wider European regions. In so doing, the paper attempts to grasp the climate change impacting the penal field in many global north jurisdictions.

**091. Pol-recraft, training in relational craftsmanship**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

1:00 to 2:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14*

This panel presents the outcome of a three years European project funded by Erasmus+. The aim of the project was to introduce a POLice training in RELational CRAFTmanship in Europe. The consortium developed a relevant and high-quality training to strengthen police officers' skills and competences in 'relational craftsmanship', in order to improve their interactions with a changing society. Societies across Europe have changed dramatically over the last few decades, with increasing diversity and digitalization emerging as key themes across the continent. Cities in particular are witnessing evermore diversity along the lines of language, ethnicity, religion, social class, sexual orientation, etc. Police forces, whom are responsible for maintaining public order and security, need to keep on top of these changes. A major drawback in preparing police officers for the realities of today's diverse and increasingly digitalized societies is that police forces are not always trained in so-called 'soft' skills, that allow them to engage with various (community) partners. We define these soft skills here in the context of policing as 'relational craftsmanship', as 'the ability to cope with cultural and social differences between citizens. The first two presentations will present the theoretical framework of the project and define the concepts 'relational craftsmanship in a community oriented setting'. The third presentation will outline the methodology we used, an action based research design. The last two presentations will present the designing & implementation of the training.

Chair:

*Evelien De Pauw, Vives*

Participants:

Social Allies methodology as a means of connecting *Ronald van*

*der Wal, Police Academy of The Netherlands*

Around 2010, the Netherlands was struggling with severe social tensions. There were disturbances in large urban neighborhoods and there were clear signs of radicalization. In Utrecht the question rose whether the police and municipalities still had a good overview of what was going on in the neighborhoods. In order to detect social tensions in an early stage, a different form of citizen participation was developed. This is the Social Allies methodology, which involves periodic consultations between the local police chief and the municipality on the one hand and residents and other stakeholders in the working area of a police unit on the other. In this new approach to network policing, the police and the municipalities select the members of a network, looking especially for people who represent a particular community or are otherwise involved in the day to day life of the neighborhood. Working with Social Allies has increased the information position of the police in all kinds of safety issues and has in many ways improved the relationship with the neighborhood. In this lecture, we will present the results of a research conducted on the Social Allies methodology. We will talk about (discuss) the selection of the social allies, the possibilities of different network compositions and the different working methods as a leading example of policing with a relational perspective. But we will also look at the flaws of the methodology, as indicated by the research.

**On the benefits and implementation of action-based research within a policing context** *Elien De Cock, Vives; Evelien De Pauw, Vives*

In this paper we want to delve into the implementation and benefits of action-based research within a policing context, focusing on its significance in exploring diverse policing approaches across countries. Action-based research, characterized by its collaborative and participatory nature, facilitated an in-depth examination of various policing methodologies and strategies in our project. Action-based research offered the advantage of directly involving practitioners in identifying and addressing common challenges faced by the various police organizations, as well as how these challenges are tackled in different countries. By actively engaging police organizations from various countries in the research process, this approach ensured the development of culturally sensitive and contextually relevant solutions, fostering cross-border learning and collaboration to enhance global policing practices. Central to our study was the exploration of community policing and its variations across different nationalities. In Brussels, community policing plays a big part in the education and training of police officers. However, due to understaffing the implementation of this approach is not as self-evident as one would hope. The police organization in The Netherlands also considers connection, and thus community policing, as one of the core principles of their work. They carry this theory into their daily practice: the way they value connection can be seen in both the communication between officers as in the way how they approach and interact with the community. For three days, some officers from Brussels could follow along with the police from The Hague. They were immersed in their work ethic and connective approach, allowing them to reflect on their work and approach. From a researcher perspective, we observed the dynamics and interactions between the two police units. In this presentation we will bring our main findings of the difference between the two police units, their reflections and the lessons learned for further police research.

**A relational perspective on policing** *Sara Stronks, Police Academy of The Netherlands*

Connecting with the society is perceived to be an indispensable element of Dutch police work. This is not always easy. Not only because society is complex and superdiverse but also because the concept 'connection' is comprehensive and subjective. How do relationships and connections between the police, citizens and other parties help to identify, prevent and limit social tensions and confrontations in four large urban neighborhoods? This is analyzed in the research project 'Looking for constructive coexistence in superdiverse neighborhoods'. The research indicates that connections and positive interactions between them are essential for community oriented policing. In the analyzed neighborhoods, many examples of relational policing were identified. What is lacking, however, is a concrete framework that helps to give contextual,

specific and organizational substance to the concept of connecting and the relational craftsmanship that endorses it. In the presentation, we therefore introduce the relational perspective. We show that connecting starts with relational awareness: understanding that relationships are essential for people and policework. Relational awareness influences the way police professionals analyze their work (relational analysis) and approach their work (relational action). A relational perspective on policing is necessary to be a police force for everyone.

## 092. Insights from Mendelsohn's Archives: Past, Present, and Future

Topic 4: Victimology/Patterns and trends in Victimization (Victimology WG)

Roundtable

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.20

Through the lens of Mendelsohn archives, our roundtable will discuss their influence on current issues in victimology and envision the future trajectory of victimology research. We will examine the questions posed by Mendelsohn and their relevance in the present and their implications for the future. This includes exploring the role of victimology as an independent discipline or its relation to criminology, the question of victims of genocide, the role of the victim in criminal procedure, and the other issues and challenges related to contemporary times in which the theories developed by Mendelsohn can be applied. By examining Mendelsohn's legacy, we will identify new paths for exploration in the field. The roundtable will serve as a platform to envision the future of victimology, drawing inspiration from the rich historical context provided by Mendelsohn's archives.

Chair:

**Simha Landau**, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Professor Emeritus of Criminology

Discussants:

**Polina Smiragina-Ingelström**, DIS and Lund University

**Stephan Parmentier**, KU Leuven

**Jan van Dijk**, NSCR

**Andra Roxana Trandafir**, University of Bucharest

**Beatrice Coscas Williams**, Western Galilee Academic college

**Andreea Zota**, Université de Montréal

**Michael Kilchling**, Max Planck Institut (Freiburg)

**Maarten Kunst**, Leiden University

## 093. Perspectives on sex work

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Sex Crimes, Sex Work and Sex Trafficking

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22

Chair:

**Antonia Linde Garcia**, Open University of Catalonia

Participants:

'I am Elena': Romanian sex workers, trafficking politics and precarity in Nottingham, United Kingdom *Diana Blaj*, *POW Nottingham*; *Larissa Sandy*, *University of Nottingham*; *Daisy Matthews*, *Nottingham Trent University*

For some time now, migrant sex work in the United Kingdom has been conflated with trafficking, resulting in trafficking frameworks and sex work regulation riddled with the 'schizophrenic identifications' of migrant sex working women as illegal migrants or victims/suffering bodies, which shapes policy responses and sex workers' experiences. Based on in-depth interviews with Romanian sex workers in Nottingham, we explore issues surrounding the current orthodoxy of migrant sex work as trafficking and the concomitant regulation of non-normative bodies via criminalizing frameworks that compounds the pervasive inequalities and injustices sex workers face. We discuss the role of trafficking and criminalising frameworks in inducing precarity and violence; convergence and divergence in feminist theories and sex worker experiences; positioning of Romanian sex workers in global and local hierarchies of power and their attempts to earn a living, contest hegemonic frameworks and seek support.

This is why we go to work *Dr Bev Orton*, *University of Hull*

This is why we go to work. Sex workers in South Africa are criminalised and experience high-risk sexual exposures and abuse. Their unsafe working environment exposes sex workers to abuse, violence, rape and death on a daily basis. It is fraught with tension, uncertainty and murder. HIV transmission among sex workers is aggravated by low condom use, and increased risk of other STIs, such as syphilis and hepatitis. The police forcefully confiscate condoms from sex workers and demand condom free sex. This is worsened by structural risk factors which indirectly heighten the risk for HIV infection among sex workers impeding access to preventive health, HIV and STI services and treatment. The police not only confiscate the condoms but also subject the sex workers to acts of violence, rape and harassment. As a result many are simply powerless to negotiate safer sex. Their dire economic situation, poverty, lack of skills and their desperate need to earn money is coupled with their clients' refusal to pay for sex if using a condom. Intimidation and violence compels them to agree to unprotected sex. Sex workers are often stigmatised, marginalised and criminalised by the societies in which they live. There are many incidents of femicide by clients. Sex workers in South Africa who have been raped have very little hope of going to the police and laying a charge against their attacker. The police do not provide protection but subject sex workers to further sexual abuse, rape, assault and murder. The result of this is that there is a distinct lack of safety and trust. Sex workers regard their work as work. They are prepared to tolerate the stigma and violence in order to provide for their children's education, food for their families and other basic needs. That is why they go to work.

Women involved in paid sex: differences between transgender and cis-gender women *Antonia Linde Garcia*, *Open University of Catalonia*; *Josep Tamarit*, *Universitat Oberta de Catalunya*

This presentation analyses the results obtained through interviews conducted with 76 transgender and cis-gender women who provide or have provided paid sexual services. Empirical work on this phenomenon has been scarce in Spain until today. From a conceptual standpoint, the expression "paid sex" or "transactional sex" has been chosen in order to avoid the ideological, moral, or political connotations usually associated with the concepts of "prostitution" or "sex work." The analysis reveals significant differences in the characteristics of these two groups (Trans-NoTrans) regarding motivation to engage in this activity, places where the activity is practiced, age of initiation, drug abuse, health problems and violence resulting from their activity.

## 094. EHC-WG Panel 3: Police and Sanctions in Historical Context

Topic 7: Comparative and Historical Perspectives/Historical Comparisons of Crime (Historical Criminology WG)

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.04

Chair:

**Francis Martin Dodsworth**, Kingston University London

Participants:

Police Integrity in Modern Britain: A Long-Term Perspective *Francis Martin Dodsworth*, *Kingston University London*

In June 2021 the Daniel Morgan Independent Panel found London's Metropolitan Police to be 'institutionally corrupt', echoing the Macpherson report of 1999 which found them 'institutionally racist'. The 2023 Casey report branded the force institutionally racist, homophobic and misogynist and the just-published Angiolini report continues this torrent of criticism. Having once been a symbol of British liberalism, democracy and the rule of law, the public image of policing in Britain appears to have reached an unprecedented low point in the decline from 'from plods to pigs' as Reiner memorably put it, a descent beginning, he argued, in the 1960s. Reiner's account of the ascent of the police officer from 'blue locust' in the 1830s to an icon of Britishness in the 1940s and 1950s, back down to the nadir of 'institutional' failure in the 21st century, is echoed in Clive Emsley's affectionate histories of the British bobby, not only in terms of the general periodisation, but also in the extent to which the changing image of the 'bobby' is taken as an indicator of the broader state of British society and its

relationship to the rule of law. This paper revisits the arguments of Reiner and Emsley to explore the ways in which the state of the police has been narrated and related to the state of British society more generally, from the contested establishment of the 'new police', through the corruption scandals of the 1870s, 1920s, 1970s and 2020s. In doing so the paper will say something wider about current trends in the historiography and question whether current interpretations still represent a 'neo-Reithian' synthesis.

Imagining 'Progress' in the Chicago Police Department, 1867-2023 *Johann Koehler, London School of Economics and Political Science; Tony Cheng, Duke University*

Claims to have made 'progress' are a mainstay of organisational reputation management. We historicise those claims as they appear in the Chicago Police Department's efforts to project competence and to shore up its legitimacy. Drawing chiefly on over a century and a half of annual reports from the Chicago Police Department (1867-2023), this study grapples with how police professionals positioned the CPD during and after moments of scandal and reform by gesturing toward the progress they either promised to make, or that they claimed the CPD had already delivered. We find that a critical analysis of the CPD's efforts to work, stretch, and repackage 'progress' unlocks key features of police culture and organisational legitimacy.

Agent work among prisoners under communism in Poland. Through the eyes of insiders. *Kamil Miszewski, University of Warsaw*

During the communist era in Poland, prisons were dangerous places, overcrowded and full of aggression. The task of punishment was not rehabilitation but elimination of the criminal from society for many years and the use of repression as a revenge for the evil he had done to that society. The philosophy of prison security was based on the recognition of the prisoner as a dangerous enemy. In 1973, 130,000 prisoners were guarded by only 16,000 Prison Service officers. In order for them to be able to control them they were equipped with machine guns, batons, gas, dogs and shackles, but they were also allowed to conduct agent work among the prisoners. On the basis of interviews conducted with retired officers conducting this work in those years, I will try to answer the questions (among others): how they recruited informants, what they could offer them in exchange for information, what they most wanted to learn from them, and whether the informant-prisoners conducted their own games on this occasion.

Cinderella Workers of the Cinderella Service: Researching the history of paraprofessional probation workers in England and Wales from 1967 *Emily Rose Hay, University of Sheffield; Gwen Robinson, University of Sheffield; Jane Dominey, University of Cambridge*

In 1968, the Home Office met with the Probation and After-Care Committee of England and Wales to consider a small pilot experiment into the use of ancillary workers to supplement the work of qualified probation officers. Over fifty years later, paraprofessionals - those who do not require professional qualifications - make up over 50% of frontline workers within the Probation Service. However, almost all histories of probation from the late 1960s have entirely neglected to explore the expansion and development of these paraprofessional roles within the service. Reviewing the historical literature about probation prompts some interesting considerations for historical criminologists: how to contribute to and interact with a history often written by former probation officers and officials, where reflection on the past is intimately connected to the perceived decline of probation in recent years. By focusing on paraprofessional workers, our research aims to broaden our understanding of the Probation Service and to contribute a new lens through which to view the recent history of probation. This paper discusses the challenges, complexities and rewards of doing oral and archival research to uncover a neglected area of modern criminal justice history. By centring the voices of former paraprofessional workers, we aim to understand how these roles were learned, enacted and experienced across the latter half of the twentieth century. This paper will consider oral history interviewing as a methodology within criminological research, as well as the need to complement interviews with document sources from the probation archive at the University of Cambridge and from

the Home Office records at the National Archives.

Peculiarities of criminal sanctions in the Romanian legislation of the 19th century *Sorin-Alexandru Vernea, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest*

The criminal sanction constitutes a fundamental and homogeneous pillar of European justice today; however, in early modern times it was marked by regional particularities, specific to the level of development of each individual state. In this study, the author analyzes the content of criminal penalties found in the Romanian Legislation applicable during the 19th century. The work is structured in two substantial parts: the first concerns the regulations enforced between 1801 and 1864, that were different depending on the region in which they were adopted, and the second concerns the common regulation applied in the entire State, namely the Criminal Code of 1864, that entered into force the following year, and was updated constantly, until the end of the 19th century. As a method of analysis, the relevant Romanian regulations will be compared with the corresponding provisions from the European criminal codes and with the provisions of old Romanian legislation on the same matter. In this way, a series of local peculiarities will be identified, which constitute original features of the punishments applied in criminal trials. Equally, the paper will determine the similarities between the analyzed regulations, in order to identify the elements of legal continuity throughout the 19th century in the Romanian Principalities, both before and after their union in 1859. At the end of the study, the author brought together the traits appreciated as original, specific to the Romanian regulations, emphasizing that their reminiscence can be identified even today in some customs from traditional rural communities.

## 095. WG Organized Crime and Criminal Networks Panel 2. Organized crime groups

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Organized Crime (Organized Crime WG)

Paper Session

1:00 to 2:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06

Chair:

**Dan Maurice Silverstone**, Liverpool John Moores university

Participants:

'Familianness' diversification: recognition, reputation and intergenerational changes in cross-border mafia-type families. *Anna Sergi, University of Essex*

Mafia-type families, envisioned as career criminal dynasties or family-based criminal organisations, are shaped by reputation within circles of recognition, both internal and external to the family. In Australia, mafia-type families or dynasties connected to the Calabrian 'ndrangheta or of Italian origins have been successful at exploiting criminal opportunities across generations and places also thanks to their recognition and reputation. Their familianness influences both their reputation and their business, as well as impacting on their diversification. In this article we explore how mafia-type families or dynasties experience familianness diversification, including intergenerational changes, transculturation and external factors, and how this relates to their recognition in the underworld, by other criminal groups as well as by law enforcement. Based on document analysis and interviews, and building on a new analytical framework, we present four ideal-types mafia-type families in Australia. This is the first study that considers how mafia organisations evolve in their most nuclear forms and the implications of such evolution for the individuals involved.

Are good neighbor's worth more than far friends? Examining the role of propinquity in co-offending among outlaw motorcycle club members *Sjoukje van Deuren, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; Tomáš Diviák, University of Manchester; Arjan Blokland, NSCR*

Members of outlaw motorcycle groups (OMCGs) have been shown to be disproportionately engaged in criminal behavior, including serious and organized crime. Fellow OMCG members have furthermore been found to facilitate this criminal behavior both directly, by acting as co-offenders, and indirectly, by providing a

moral climate and opportunity structure conducive to crime. Here, we focus on the former and study whether co-offending among OMCG members is best explained by shared membership of the same club and chapter or rather by geographical proximity. Co-offending with geographically distant fellow OMCG members is taken to signal strategy over convenience, and as indicative for the criminal exploitation of the OMCGs' decentralized structure. To examine the driving factors of OMCG members' co-offending in different types of crime, we apply Poisson Quadratic Assignment Procedure regression on the officially-registered co-offending data of a sample of 1,096 members of four of the most notorious Dutch OMCGs that have been banned in the period 2020 and 2022. Data on individuals' chapter- and club membership and the location of the chapter's clubhouse are used as propinquity measures. The results show that in their choice of co-offenders, club- and chapter membership rather than geographical propinquity predicts the frequency of co-offending among OMCG members.

**Perception of Organised Crime among the Business and Political Elites in Mexico** *Paulina Leon Avalos, University of Cambridge*

This research delves into the perceptions and interactions of influential figures with powerful criminal organisations in Mexico. Using a qualitative approach, semi-structured interviews were conducted with public officials, influential elites, and businessmen potentially affected by organised crime. This study unveils the subjective realities, challenges, and perceptions of powerful and elite individuals regarding the complexities of organised crime. By prioritising their voices and experiences, the research sheds light on the intricate dynamics of organised crime and its relationship with elites in Mexico. Furthermore, it aims to contribute to a nuanced understanding of these networks and explores potential strategies to mitigate the influence of criminal organisations in the political and economic spheres. This research fills a crucial gap in the literature and provides insights into the role of elites in the context of organised crime in Mexico.

**Serious and organised crime in Liverpool; From 'Bottoms' to 'Tops'** *Dan Maurice Silverstone, Liverpool John Moores university*

Merseyside has a notorious reputation for serious and organised crime, yet this reputation has never been subject to sustained inquiry. This paper will rectify this, drawing on data gathered from published and unpublished reports, intercept evidence and interviews with specialist police officers tasked with policing serious and organised crime. Findings suggest that serious and organised crime is segmented into multiple markets and heterogeneous in its tradecraft and participants. It will be argued that whilst the data is clear, that entrepreneurialism is the core motivator for the criminality, the context of for its continuity is not simply absolute or relative poverty

**096. Prison Working Group: Justice, rights, othering and ethics in detention settings**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

2:30 to 3:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”*

This panel organized by the Prison Working Group unites diverse perspectives on the complexities of justice, rights, and ethics in detention settings. It features a comparative analysis of prisoners' access to justice in Denmark, Finland, and Norway, shedding light on the similarities and differences within Nordic legal systems, particularly emphasizing parole and prison leave regulations. Subsequently, it discusses the pervasive issues of homophobia and transphobia within Belgian prisons, employing a mixed-methods approach to highlight the systemic discrimination against LGBTQ+ persons. Another study from Belgium addresses the disenfranchisement of imprisoned persons, revealing their nuanced perspectives on voting and political participation, and pointing out the challenges in exercising voting rights in detention. The panel also delves into the decisions and dilemmas faced by prison governors regarding reward systems for good behavior in the Netherlands, focusing on its theoretical assumptions, applications, and outcomes. The final presentation underscores the importance of detained

persons' understanding of informed consent for ethical research practices, introducing the protocol of a randomized controlled trial designed to enhance comprehension. Together, these presentations offer a comprehensive overview of the challenges and innovations in the treatment and rights of individuals within the justice system, providing valuable insights into the discourse on correctional justice, rights, and ethics.

Chair:

*Stéphanie Baggio, University of Bern*

Participants:

Danish, Finnish, and Norwegian perspectives on Prisoners' Access to Justice *Anette Storgaard, University of Aarhus, Denmark; Berit Johnsen, Kriminalomsorgens højskole og uddanningscenter KRUS; Mia Kilpeläinen, University of Eastern Finland; Birgitte Langset Storvik, University College of Norwegian Correctional Service*

Comparative research is an eye-opener for surprising similarities and differences. This is indeed the experience from a comparative Nordic study on Access to Justice (AtJ) for prisoners. In this study, our focal points are release on parole and prison leave, two crucial matters for most prisoners. A functional comparison of the legal regulation on these matters proved similarities and differences of the contents of the regulation, as well as how the regulation is organised. Even if correctional law does exist in all the countries, a common feature is that the legal regulation of prison life is divided in a number of legal sources. Crucial details are found in supplementary regulations, which are more complicated to find than parliamentary decided law. Moreover, a large amount of discretionary power is left for prison authorities when using the regulation in practice. It is argued that this calls for high attention on prisoners' AtJ: Firstly, and in line with how AtJ in its classic understanding was studied, as access to free legal advice to identify one's legal rights as well as the rights to administrative review and/or appeal to the courts. Secondly, as a conceptual debate of the term justice – is the fact that prisoners most often are equal for the law a proof of justice? We argue that both contents and impact of the legal regulation should be included in the conceptualization of the term justice.

**Locked In, Locked Out: An Inquiry into the Subtle and Overt Forms of Homophobia and Transphobia in Belgian Prisons.** *Aurore Vanliefde, KU Leuven*

This research paper delves into the often overlooked yet pervasive issues of homophobia and transphobia within prison settings. Prisons are known to reinforce certain norms, such as well-documented forms of hypermasculinity in men's prisons. Despite a growing body of research on the experiences of incarcerated queer persons, the specific manifestations of homophobia and transphobia in prisons remain underexplored. This paper addresses this gap by investigating the pervasiveness and manifestations of homophobia and transphobia in Belgian prisons. Employing a mixed methods approach, including surveys distributed to professionals and interviews conducted with both prison staff and incarcerated persons, this study sheds light on the complex dynamics at play regarding discrimination faced by LGBTQ+ people within Belgian correctional facilities. By highlighting the systemic nature of these prejudices, the paper aims to provoke reflections on the vulnerability of incarcerated queer persons, emphasizing that their negative experiences stem not from personal characteristics but from the intolerant climate fostered within the prison institution.

**The 'Other' voter: Imprisoned Persons' Perspectives on Voting and Politics in Belgium** *Laure Deschuyteneer, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Crime & Society); An-Sofie Vanhouche, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

Despite disenfranchisement, imprisoned persons represent a significant segment of the Belgian population whose voices remain unheard in electoral processes (see Deschuyteneer, 2024). Through qualitative interviews conducted in the Belgian prison in Hoogstraten during the June 2024 national elections, this research sheds light on imprisoned persons' attitudes, beliefs, and experiences concerning voting and political participation while incarcerated. The study explores the impact of disenfranchisement on imprisoned persons' sense of civic identity and their perceptions of democratic principles. Moreover, the research examines the



potential implications of imprisoned persons' disenfranchisement on broader societal issues such as rehabilitation, reintegration, and social inclusion. Findings reveal a diverse range of perspectives among imprisoned persons, highlighting nuanced views on the importance of political representation and the potential for meaningful civic engagement behind bars. Moreover, it explores their eligibility as 'other' voters and perceived (il)legitimacy in electoral processes. The research uncovers challenges faced by imprisoned persons in accessing information and exercising their voting rights within prison walls. This research contributes to the ongoing discourse surrounding imprisoned persons' voting rights in Belgium and underscores the importance of including the voices and perspectives of 'othered' persons in democratic, as well as academic, processes.

Improving informed consent in prison research *Stéphanie Baggio, University of Bern*

Informed consent is an ethical pillar of health-related research involving human subjects, but participants' understanding of informed consent is often limited. Informed consent is also a critical issue in prison research. First, detained persons are deprived of liberty, a context that may undermine voluntary participation and autonomy. Second, detained persons have disproportionately low levels of education, literacy, and high rates of cognitive or substance- and psychiatric-related impairments. Few studies focused on understanding of informed consent in prison research and tested whether the most effective interventions in the general population are also effective in prison. This talk will present results obtained in a Swiss prison, showing that only 5% of detained persons showed a full understanding of informed consent. We will present the protocol of a randomized controlled trial designed to improve understanding of informed consent in prison research, using a modified "teach-to-goal" vs. standard informed consent process. This study will provide scientific evidence on how to improve informed consent in prison research. Results will be valuable for other vulnerable populations, including people with low levels of education and literacy and high burden of disease.

**097. POL Panel 25. Investigative challenges and legal practice: Pre-charge bail, the polygraph, waste crime and effective interviewing.**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”

Chair:

*E. Rely Vilciã*, Temple University, Department of Criminal Justice

Participants:

Deficiencies in institutional accountability in Polish criminal proceedings in light of the UN's Principles on Effective Interviewing for Investigations and Information Gathering *Denis Solodov, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn*  
Méndez Principles on Effective Interviewing for Investigations and Information Gathering introduce an elaborate system of procedural safeguards and practical recommendations, which ought to be implemented as it is without exceptions and omissions. The presentation will concentrate on the deficiencies in institutional responsibility within the framework of Polish criminal proceedings considering Principle 5 of Méndez Principles on Effective Interviewing. The analysis will delve into the challenges and shortcomings encountered in applying the Principle, shedding light on the impact on the overall functioning of the national criminal justice system. By identifying and addressing these deficiencies, this research aims to contribute to the enhancement of accountability mechanisms in Polish criminal proceedings, aligning them more closely with internationally recognised standards for effective interviewing and the protection of human rights.

Improving Waste Crime Investigation Strategies *Serena Favarin, Transcrime / Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Giovanni Nicolazzo, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore;*

*Phillip William Screen, Transcrime - Crime & tech / Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Mi)*

In most jurisdictions, waste crimes are considered to be lucrative activities with a relatively low risk of detection and prosecution. However, there is a scarcity of literature on waste crime investigations, resulting in a knowledge gap regarding effectiveness of enforcement strategies to address these offenses. The primary aim of our research is to propose a new approach for enhancing waste crime investigation endeavors. Functional to this, we identified a sample of individuals who have been investigated or charged for various forms of waste crimes in Italy and systematically gathered information on all private companies associated with them. Subsequently, we conducted statistical analyses of the characteristics of these affiliated companies to identify potential indicators of illicit activities. These indicators are utilized to develop a risk model aimed at enhancing the identification of unlawful companies operating across different sectors. By elucidating the characteristics of these companies, we gain insights into the nature of the crimes committed and, consequently, refine appropriate investigation techniques. Once unlawful companies are identified, it is possible to target in-depth financial investigations and on-site controls using new technologies (e.g., drones, air-sensors) to uncover illegal waste management practices.

Taming the beast? Law, policy and practice in the use of pre-charge bail and release under investigation in England and Wales *Anthea Hucklesby, University of Birmingham*

Pre-charge bail (PCB) and release under investigation (RUI) are police powers used when investigations cannot be completed, or charging decisions cannot be made, during the time available for suspects to be detained following their arrest. Suspects who are released on bail are often required to comply with conditions restrictive conditions which can be in place for many months representing a significant infringement of individuals' human rights to liberty and family life. By contrast, when RUI is used, suspects are free from restrictions but remain under investigation until enquiries are completed. Pre-charge bail is regulated by law which includes time limits, whereas RUI is not and can continue indefinitely. Significant changes have been made to the law in the last decade because of high-profile campaigns by both suspects and victims' organisations. In late 2022, these culminated in the removal of the presumption against bail, introduced in 2017 which had led to the widespread use of RUI (which was unused previously) and increased the timescales before bail must be reviewed by courts. The intention was to restrict the use of RUI and increase the use of PCB to better protect victims, by enabling the use of bail conditions, and safeguard suspects' rights, by regulating the period awaiting an outcome of investigations. This paper draws on empirical research conducted in three police forces in England and Wales in 2023, on the use of PCB and RUI. It will show that bail is now being used more frequently and that it nearly always includes bail conditions, and RUI continues to be used despite intentions to eliminate it. It will explore when, how and why police decisions are taken to use bail or RUI. The relevance of these findings for better understanding the complicated relationship between legal change, policy and police practices will be discussed.

Pretrial Justice Reform in the United States: A Review of Contemporary Efforts to Abolish Cash Bail *E. Rely Vilciã, Temple University, Department of Criminal Justice; Sarah D Jones, Temple University, Department of Criminal Justice*

The pretrial decisions and practices—whether or not persons accused of crimes are tried in liberty or confinement—are some of the most consequential in any legal system. They juxtapose concerns for individual liberty, the safety of the community, and the integrity of the judicial process. The United States is one of the few countries in the world to rely on the use of cash bail as a main mechanism to determine the accused's pretrial status (i.e., release or preventative detention)—and the history of bail reform in the United States identifies the reliance on cash and the resulting discriminatory consequences as the most intractable problem. This paper highlights the most significant contemporary efforts to reform pretrial justice, namely those aiming to abolish cash bail entirely. We compare and contrast bail reform in three jurisdictions, as case

studies: the State of New Jersey, as legislator-led reform; Harris County, Texas, as judiciary-led reform; and the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as prosecutor-led reform. Our review suggests that legislator-led reforms are most likely to be successful in implementing policy as intended. Across all approaches, it is essential that support for the reform is secured across a wide spectrum of stakeholders, and especially those most directly responsible for final decision-making, the judiciary. The Philadelphia effort, in particular, offers a cautionary tale about reform pursued mostly unilaterally. Across the board, all reforms also need to monitor for and take measures to decrease race disparity in bail-related outcomes. Lastly, the paper underscores challenges to reform stemming from the common-law roots and the political nature of the legal system of the United States, especially as they relate to the sources of law and ability of legal actors to enact reforms.

**098. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 10: Family Violence: experiences, assessments and interventions**

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”

Chair:

**Chunrye Kim**, Saint Joseph's University

Participants:

Children's Experiences of Interventions Following Exposure to Domestic Violence: A Systematic Review of Systematic Reviews *Nazanin Khasteganan, University of Wolverhampton; Mahuya Kanjilal, University of Wolverhampton; Elaine Arnall, University of Wolverhampton*

Children exposed to domestic violence suffer adverse effects on their physical, mental, and social well-being. Despite interventions, systematic reviews reveal outcome variations due to diverse study populations, interventions, and measured outcomes. A comprehensive search will span electronic databases (e.g., MEDLINE, PsycINFO), grey literature sources, and relevant websites. Data synthesis will entail statistical pooling or narrative synthesis based on study heterogeneity. The review will illuminate intervention effectiveness and identify areas for further research, thus informing healthcare providers, policymakers, and advocates. The paper here reporting on the findings of the systematic review aims to enrich the evidence base regarding interventions for children exposed to domestic violence and seek to empower stakeholders to enhance outcomes for children and families.

Domestic Violence against children in Portugal - a faceless crime?

*Sara Leitão Moreira, Coimbra Business School; Guilherme Leitão Loureiro, UMAL: Universidade da Maia*

Domestic violence has been in the Portuguese State's agenda as a priority in terms of prevention and repression. It is a fairly democratic and non-discriminatory crime, because it affects victims of all ages, genders and status, as we have seen in the statistics that have been made public in the last decade. Regardless of this, one cannot be indifferent of the severity of this crime and the effects it has upon its most vulnerable victims – children. The family (protected by the Portuguese Constitution as an institution) can be a place of maltreatment and domestic abuse. Gelles and Strauss concluded that “you are more likely to be physically assaulted, beaten, and killed in your own home at the hands of a loved one than anyplace else, or by anyone else in our society” and for many children the household is not a place of comfort and love, but of pain and hatred. The legal framework has shifted over the years, yet society still accepts physical punishment as an educational method. We do not share this understanding, sanctioning a zero tolerance policy against corporal punishment. Domestic violence against children should not be taken lightly, however sentencing in Portugal has not yet shifted to consider this type of behaviour as violent crime due to the penal framework. We are not stating that prison is the solution, not only because it may not be accompanied by educational measures for the defendant, but also because it can have several undesired side effects, namely within the family. To

undergo this paper, we have reviewed national and international literature, statistics and also sentencing from Portuguese Courts of appeal and have come to the conclusion that we still have a long way to go until society is appropriately educated to exclude all shapes and forms of violence against children.

(M)othering in child-to-parent violence and abuse: voicing parent's experiences *Yana Demeyere, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

Child-to-parent violence and abuse (CPVA) is a growing scientific interest in recent years, yet a concern within familial dynamics, challenging conventional perceptions of parental authority. This paper, forming part of an ongoing PhD research in Belgium, aims to explore the nuanced processes of 'othering' experienced by parents (especially mothers) affected by CPVA, an area that remains underexplored in academic discourse. Through a literature review of international insights in the experiences of parents and a qualitative analysis of interviews and surveys with affected parents in Belgium, we uncover the multifaceted ways in which these individuals navigate societal stigmatization, isolation, and altered self-perception. Our findings reveal that in the context of CPVA othering can manifest in several ways (e.g. parental self-othering, societal othering of parents, and othering within the family dynamics) impacting both the parents experiencing violence and the broader societal response to such incidents. The paper concludes by reflecting on the implications of these insights for social work practices, policy formulation, and the broader research agenda on family violence, advocating for a more nuanced understanding and support system for parents experiencing CPVA.

Risk factors for South Korean male intimate partner violence (IPV) victims only, offenders only and victim-offenders *Chunrye Kim, Saint Joseph's University*

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a serious social issue in South Korea. However, many scholars and policymakers in South Korea tend to focus disproportionately on men as IPV perpetrators, rather than acknowledging their role as victims or both victims and offenders simultaneously. To develop the treatment and intervention strategies tailored to IPV offender, victims, and victim-offenders, it is important to understand the factors that are associated with each group. Using the data from the Violence Against Women, Focused on Intimate Partner Violence study, collected by the Korean Institute of Criminology and Justice (KICJ), this study examined the prevalence of IPV perpetration, victimization and both perpetration and victimization; 2) how the prevalence rate varies depending on the different types of abuse (i.e., violent vs. non-violent); and 3) the factors associated with each group, using multi-nominal analyses. We found that each type of violence (i.e., physical, sexual, emotional and controlling behaviors) was statistically different from the others when measuring IPV perpetration only, victimization only, and both IPV perpetration and victimization. In addition, both violent types and non-violent types of IPV, Korean men who had experienced IPV perpetration only and the ones who had experienced both IPV perpetration and victimization tended to share similar risk factors compared to the IPV victimization only group whereas Korean men who experienced IPV victimization only exhibited an unique risk factor. Results confirm the previous literature's findings that some similarities exist among Korean IPV offenders, IPV victims and IPV victim-offenders, but there are distinct characteristics among them as well.

**099. The challenges and opportunities of using experimental approaches to inform VAWG policy in the UK**

Topic 4: Victimology/Policy and Prevention of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”

Tackling violence against women and girls, in many countries, is now designated a priority policy area and acknowledged as an important strand in policy and practice to reduce violent crime. The move closer to mainstream criminological research and policy along with increasing financial investments to reduce it, has led to demands for larger scale 'gold standard'

evidence to guide future policy, practice and investments. This is a challenge to criminologists specialising in violence against women and girls research who have tended to focus mainly on smaller scale studies using qualitative or mixed method approaches. In this paper we discuss a new programme of work in the UK and how we might merge what we know about doing research on violence against women and girls with providing high quality evidence based on larger scale trials to shape policing policy and practice.

Chair:

*Nicole Westmarland, Durham University Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse*

Participants:

Overview of the College of Policing VAWG evidence building projects: key challenges and lessons learned *Nicole Westmarland, Durham University Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse; Cerys Gibson, College of Policing; Rosie Erol, College of Policing; Georgia Steventon, College of Policing; Ella White, College of Policing*

The evidence bases on the effectiveness of specific interventions aimed at tackling violence against women and girls is limited. Supported by funding from the UK Cabinet Office Evaluation Accelerator Fund, the College of Policing set up a programme of work in 2022 aimed at building the evidence base in this area, with policy links into a joint National Police Chiefs' Council/College of Policing VAWG taskforce. The College of Policing, together with our partners and stakeholders, have launched three experimental and quasi-experimental research evaluations outlined in this Panel. This paper brings together key challenges in implementing these evaluations and shares lessons learned to support future research. It looks ahead to how the findings will be disseminated to support future decision-making in this policy area, to make best use of the resources invested into the evaluations.

The use of forensic marking products in domestic abuse cases *Nicole Westmarland, Durham University Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse; Alishya Dhir, The Police Foundation; Rachel Oughton, Durham University; Rosie Erol, College of Policing; Amber Meakins, College of Policing; Andy Myhill, College of Policing; Pele Petnga-Wallace, College of Policing*

'Forensic marking', using products such as SmartWater which is invisible to the eye but shows up under UV light, has traditionally been used as a deterrent and investigation tool in cases of burglary. Recently, its use has been expanded to other forms of crime including domestic violence and abuse. Victims of domestic violence and abuse who are no longer living with the suspect are offered a handheld 'spray canister' and/or forensic gel which is placed on key points of access to their property (walls, gates, window ledges etc.). In this paper we will describe how forensic marking is being used across the five English police forces in our research and describe the matched cases trial that we have ongoing. In particular, we will describe the challenges and opportunities faced with using propensity score matching using police data. We outline the reasons why a randomised control trial was not used and propose that propensity score matching offers a high-quality alternative where opportunities for randomised control trials are limited.

Police officers in classrooms supporting the PSHE curriculum: Building methods to evaluate interventions *Simon Hackett, Durham University; Catherine Donovan, Durham University; Victoria Butterby, Durham University Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse; Keming Yang, Durham University; Georgia Steventon, College of Policing; Ella Rylatt-West, College of Policing; Abbie Foulger, College of Policing; Beth Vague, College of Policing; Cerys Gibson, College of Policing; Pele Petnga-Wallace, College of Policing*

Our research aim is to understand whether police involvement in personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education affects young people's trust and confidence in the police and their understanding of sexual consent and the law. Working in partnership, our research team designed and implemented a multi arm cluster randomised control trial of a new teaching intervention on the topic of sexual consent and the law with school students aged

between 13 and 15 years old. This builds upon previous LSE research of police-led lessons about drugs and the law. In this paper, we consider the methodological, conceptual and practical challenges of this work. This includes reflections on sample sizes and recruitment of schools; randomisation of schools; recruitment and training of police officers and collection methods for feedback from students during the evaluation period.

Video first response to domestic abuse *Ella White, College of Policing; Abbie Foulger, College of Policing; Cerys Gibson, College of Policing*

Video first response is an intervention to respond to non-emergency domestic abuse (DA) calls for service via video conferencing, as opposed to physical attendance. This includes 'rapid video response' (RVR) where the victim and officer connect almost immediately after they have called the police, and 'scheduled video response' (SVR) where an appointment is made at a date and time convenient to the victim. Video response is aimed at, among other outcomes, improving victim satisfaction, engagement and feelings of safety, police efficiency and perceptions of police effectiveness. In this paper, we will describe the randomised control trial and quasi-experiment we are conducting to evaluate this approach. We are also conducting over 50 interviews with police officers and staff, support services and national stakeholders, which explore how video response is implemented in different police force areas, and its benefits and challenges in practice.

## 100. Cybercrime Working Group - Cybercriminals

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Cybercrime (Cybercrime WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 5 „Constantin Stătescu”*

Chair:

*Kelly Huie, Queen's University Belfast*

Participants:

Controlling or curious partner? Findings from a Czech representative questionnaire survey and analysis of criminal files *Katerina Kudrlova, Institute for Criminology and Social Prevention*

In 2020, a nationwide representative questionnaire survey was conducted in the Czech Republic with a sample of almost 7,000 Czech internet users. Respondents provided answers among others about their experiences with unauthorised access to selected online accounts (e-mail, social network, e-banking, gaming account), both as a victim and as a perpetrator. The data is supplemented by findings from the analysis of criminal files from 2015 and 2019 on unauthorised access to a computer system (simplified). Together, they paint a disturbing picture of online privacy breaches, particularly by those closest to us, at an unprecedented level.

How Acceptable is Hacking in Gaming Communities? The Impact of Perceived Motivation and Modding on Normative Evaluation. *Alina Machande, University of Bath*

This study investigates the influence of offender motivation on the perceived acceptability of hacking within the gaming community, with a particular focus on the potential role of modding behaviour. Drawing on previous research linking hacking to online gaming and recognising the significance of perceived motivation in normative evaluations of cyberdeviance, a quasi-experimental study was conducted with 365 British and Irish gamers. Participants were presented with vignettes depicting hacking scenarios characterised by four distinct motivations: Hacking for intellectual challenge, money, social peer, and political justice. Normative evaluation was assessed through measures of injunctive and descriptive in-group norms. The findings reveal a nuanced relationship between offender motivation and normative evaluation, highlighting a discrepancy between descriptive and injunctive norms. While hacking for intellectual curiosity and money were perceived as prevalent behaviors within the gaming community, participants indicated that hacking for political justice was the most acceptable motivation. Overall, there was limited endorsement of hacking activities, suggesting either a lack of support for hacking among gamers or potential social desirability biases among stigmatised groups such

as gamers. Contrary to expectations, modding behaviour did not significantly impact normative evaluation across any of the motivational scenarios or on descriptive and injunctive norms. This suggests that within healthy gaming communities, modding does not serve as a "gateway" to hacking. These findings contribute to our understanding of the complex interplay between offender motivation, normative perceptions, and gaming behaviour, offering insights into strategies for addressing cyberdeviance within gaming communities.

**Identifying trends and patterns in offending and victimization on Snapchat** *Kelly Huie, Queen's University Belfast*

Social media has had an enormous impact on society, evolving from a simple mode of communication, to the behemoth of global connection that it is today. Present day social media outlets, while intended for use with benevolent motives, does allow for new opportunities for cybercrime victimization, and even shapes human interactions, reality, and normality as we know it worldwide. Snapchat, while under researched compared to Facebook or Instagram for example, is an ephemeral photo sharing social media application, that still boasts a usership of over 500 million users worldwide. Few studies have examined crime on Snapchat despite its popularity and growing accounts of victimization occurring on the application. This study addresses this gap in knowledge by conducting a rapid review of crime on Snapchat across multiple databases. The findings indicate this area is under-researched, with only 35 articles eligible for inclusion and five focusing solely on crime on Snapchat. Nevertheless, eleven types of crimes were identified as occurring on Snapchat, including: blackmail; the sharing of private, sexual material without consent; grooming/solicitation of minors; stalking; posting threatening, intimidating, or harassing material; hate crime; sharing offensive, menacing, or obscene content; obtaining illicit goods; identity theft; fraud; and hacking. The findings additionally revealed some patterns in offending and victimization that have implications worldwide when it comes to not just crime on Snapchat, but cybercrime more generally.

**101. EUROCRIM 4. Organisational Crimes, Wartime and Atrocities**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/White collar Crime, Organizational Crime, Corporate Crime, Financial Crime (EUROCRIM)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”

Chair:

*Rita Elisabeth Haverkamp*, University of Tübingen

Participants:

Risk-Profiling Corporations: Patterns and Trends of Organizational Characteristics of Corporate involvement in Atrocity Crimes since WWII *Susanne Karstedt, Griffith University; Wim Huisman, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; Annika van Baar, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; Rebecca Endricht, University of Hamburg; Lorena Rivas, Griffith University*

Since WWII, numerous corporations have been involved in genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. As the involvement in atrocity crimes of transnationally operating corporations has become a major concern worldwide, criminological contributions, in particular from a corporate crime perspective are more important than ever. This contribution looks at 'motivational factors' as corporate risk factors and identify trends and patterns that are both persistent and related to specific time and space contexts. Our analyses are based on a data set with more than 200 cases of alleged corporate involvement spanning the time since 1940. We use latent cluster modelling to establish risk profiles of corporations or corporate propensities within a time-space context, and analyse outcomes. Our risk profiles combine industry type, partner/ collaborator and involvement type, our outcomes include violence/ types of crime and gains. We identify six risk-profiles across the decades from 1940 – 2020 that are conducive to corporate engagement in massive violence and discuss these results both in terms of criminological and regulatory theory and potential interrelations between the two.

Lafarge in court: a critical reflection on the prosecution of Lafarge for terrorism financing and involvement in crimes against humanity. *Annika van Baar, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; Tasniem Anwar, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*

In November 2016, Sherpa and the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR) filed a criminal complaint with the French Public Prosecutor. On behalf of 11 Syrian former employees, these organizations alleged that Lafarge had financed terrorist organizations and thereby had become complicit in crimes against humanity and war crimes. In addition, the company was accused of endangering employees. The prominent cement company Lafarge had continued to operate its factory during the war in North-Syria and had paid large sums of money to, amongst others, Islamic State (IS). In October 2022, in a separate proceeding in the United States, Lafarge pled guilty to providing financial and material support to various terrorist groups via their subsidiary in Syria. Attention for holding corporations accountable for involvement in atrocity crimes has been on the rise in recent years. The Lafarge case is a prominent and unique example of this trend. In this paper, we investigate criminological explanations for how and why Lafarge became linked to IS and how judicial responses to this involvement can be understood in a broader (international) legal and political context. In addition, we argue how these judicial responses fit within a broader tradition of Eurocentrism in the War on Terror.

**Control and prevention of corruption crimes in Ukraine and Lithuania during the state of emergency and martial law** *Kateryna Kulyk, Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania*

Based on research concerning state of corruption crime in Ukraine during martial law and in Lithuania during the state of emergency, the author defines the elements of the most frequent since 24 February 2022 corruption offences. The analysis of the above-mentioned corruption offences enabled further identification of the highly vulnerable to corruption risk areas. Particularly, such areas include defence sector; humanitarian aid; migration during the martial law; reconstruction of real estate; military procurement; medicine and social care spheres; activities of military medical commissions; etc. The results of the research also uncovered the factors contributing heavily to the spread of corruption offences specifically during the state of emergency and martial law. Thus, the mentioned factors include as follows: inadequate control and supervision; vulnerability; increased need for funding; lack of transparency and openness; citizens' moral hazards; aggravation of social problems and mistrust in the authorities; etc. Upon the evaluation of the above-mentioned factors, the author provides recommendations on measures aimed at strengthening control, as well as and preventing corruption crime in Ukraine during martial law and in Lithuania during the state of emergency.

"An administration like this is a huge tanker" - Organisational deviance in organisations during the Covid-19 pandemic *Rita Elisabeth Haverkamp, University of Tübingen; Deborah Halang, Endowed Professorship of Crime Prevention and Risk Management, University of Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany*

During the Covid-19 pandemic, German authorities and organisations with security responsibilities were confronted with regulations issued by the federal and state governments, some of which were impossible to implement. This was due to bureaucratic structures, ambiguous decision-making authority, or simply practical unsuitability. These factors promoted organisational deviance: authorities and organisations found pragmatic solutions that did not necessarily follow the prescribed rules and procedures. Regarding organisational deviance initial results from expert interviews on municipal and local management during the pandemic will be presented.

**102. EXTR3 Threat landscape and counter-terrorism2**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Terrorism and Terrorism Financing, Radicalization, Extremism (Radicalization, Extremism, Terrorism WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)

Chair:

*Lilly Barker*, Nottingham Trent University

Participants:

**Situational Prevention of Attacks Through Staff Awareness and Training: the Case of Terrorist Threats to Rail Transport** *Charlotte Niese, German Police University; Andreas Arnold, German Police University; Thomas Görden, Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei/German Police University*

In the past, railways and railway stations have repeatedly been the target of terrorist attacks (for example the attacks in Madrid in 2004 and London in 2005). Compared to airports and air traffic, railway stations and trains are characterised by their open and difficult-to-control nature. It is therefore all the more important that employees in trains and stations (railway staff, catering teams, retailers, etc.) are trained to recognise and deal with dangerous situations. Research findings from the European Commission-funded IMPRESS project, based on a survey and a literature review, show that these groups have a particular need for training in the areas of security awareness, recognising suspicious objects / persons, dealing with suspicious persons / objects, dealing with bomb threats and dealing with armed attacks (including attacks using CBRN material as a weapon). As part of the project, German Police University developed a total of 6 training modules in the aforementioned areas. The training modules are adapted to the different target groups and are taught using multi-method approaches (lectures, e-learning, brochures, serious games, field exercises, etc.). The presentation gives a brief overview of the training programmes, their main topics and instructional methods.

**Structure and Operations of Threat Assessment Teams in the Prevention of Targeted Violence: A Systematic Review.** *Amber Seaward, University College London; Zoe Marchment, University College London; Paul Gill, UCL*

Threat assessment involves identifying, assessing, and managing threats of violence prompted by warning behaviours, and has only recently been applied to terrorism. As an emerging field, what works, for which offence types, and in which settings, is largely unknown. A crucial first step to this is understanding how threat assessment has been implemented in practice. This systematic review analyses case study literature describing the structure and operations of existing targeted violence threat assessment teams. Included studies described 22 threat assessment teams in Europe, the USA, and Australia, and covered six targeted violence types. Teams were compared based on their objectives and development, team structure, threat assessment and referrals processes, interventions, case management, and quality assurance mechanisms. Findings show the typical threat assessment team is developed following literature reviews and expert consultation, follows a public health approach with emphasis on prevention over prediction, and incorporates structured case management following intervention. Teams are multidisciplinary, including representatives from at least law enforcement and mental healthcare. Threat assessment comprises several processes of triage before in-depth assessment utilising the full team and available resources. Very few teams have been subject to publicly accessible and/or peer-reviewed evaluation, which hinders any comparisons of effectiveness or confidence in evidence-based practices. Beyond this, main points of variation are whether interventions are carried out in-house or outsourced to services elsewhere, and the resources and tools used in assessment. The few dedicated violent extremism teams, for example, lack the stable evidence base and therefore suitable set of empirically validated risk assessment instruments at other teams' disposal. Overall, this structured understanding of the existing implementation of threat assessment can aid development of future teams in such an emerging space. However, future evaluative research of the operation of these teams is crucial, and lacking: what works, where, and for whom remains uncertain.

**Consequences of citizenship revocation for the resocialization of terrorist offenders: A case study of the Netherlands** *Maarten Bolhuis, VU Amsterdam*

Since the introduction of new legislation in the Netherlands in 2010 and 2017, the government aims to revoke the Dutch citizenship of all dual nationals who were convicted for a terrorist offence or have

joined a terrorist organization abroad. However, most of the terrorist offenders who lose their Dutch citizenship cannot be removed to the country of their residual nationality, because they are not accepted or not safe there. After completion of their prison sentence, these offenders become 'undesirable but unremovable' former citizens, who continue to reside in the Netherlands unlawfully. The revocation of Dutch citizenship not only means these former citizens lose any entitlement to social benefits, but it also means they are excluded from any resocialization or deradicalization effort that governmental and other actors are undertaking. The logic behind this is that staying in the Netherlands is made as unattractive as possible and that all efforts are concentrated on the departure of the individual. The reality is, however, that unremovable terrorist offenders remain unlawfully in the Netherlands for years. Municipalities, which are responsible for the resocialization process as well as deradicalization efforts, as well as the probation service, which implements resocialization measures imposed by courts as part of the criminal justice process, are thus not able to perform their tasks. This leads to great concern among those and other governmental actors, who fear these terrorist offenders are lost out of sight and pushed back to their old networks, rendering citizenship revocation counterproductive to their counterterrorism efforts. In this presentation, I will share some preliminary empirical findings from a bigger study on this problem, based on interviews with Dutch municipalities, the probation service, law enforcement and public prosecution actors, immigration authorities, social and health care organizations, and other organizations working with terrorist offenders who completed their sentence.

**The counterterrorism strategy 'Prevent' and Post-16 Education** *Lilly Barker, Nottingham Trent University*

There is existing, extensive attention on the effects of counterterrorism policy on the Muslim population. This paper goes further by providing an analysis of the intersectionality of religion, race, gender identity and the effects of counterterrorism policy, namely 'Prevent'. I focus upon understanding young Muslim women's experiences concerning the United Kingdom's counterterrorism strategy Prevent, with a theoretical framework of Critical Race Feminism. This research thus demonstrates the UK government's incorporation of Muslim women into countering violent extremism policies and how this aids the Prevent strategy's wider acceptance and legitimacy within society, whilst also categorising Muslim women as a tool in deradicalization. I directly address the gap between feminist research and the lived experiences of Prevent for young Muslim women in post-16 education. This is achieved by drawing upon the qualitative experiences of young Muslim women in further and higher education in the UK. Through an empirical exploration of the focus group and interview data concerning the entanglement of Muslim women within Prevent, this study is one of the first to offer insights into Muslim women's feelings surrounding how Prevent operates within the UK's post-16 education sector. To aid this exploration, Critical Race Feminism is used as a theoretical framework to advance the discussion of intersectionality within this paper. Within the data collected, certain themes are evident such as: the self-censoring of students; the responsabilisation of Muslim women; gendered Islamophobia; and the reluctance to report to the Prevent strategy. The findings of this research demonstrate that there is a gendered impact of the Prevent strategy within the UK's post-16 education sector and this occurs through different avenues. Accordingly, this paper should be added to the context of debate about the future of Prevent (if any) particularly within the education sector, and to existing work that discusses the securitisation of racialised people.

**103. Prosecutorial Decision-making and Alternatives to trial 1. Opportunity and Negotiated Justice Across Jurisdictions**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Prosecutorial Decision-making and the Prosecutorial Process, Alternatives to trial (Sentencing and Penal Decisionmaking WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)

Chair:

*Cristian Bălan*, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest

**Participants:**

**Dismissal of criminal proceedings by paying a fee - The procedure of the amicable settlement *Marlies Heirstrate, VUB***

The amicable settlement procedure in Belgium, as described in Article 216bis Sv, entails that the accused pays a pre-negotiated sum of money in exchange for the dismissal of criminal proceedings. This procedure, which takes place behind closed doors, and the decision-making processes of involved actors have not previously been studied in practice. My doctoral research addresses this lacuna and focuses on economic, financial, tax and special criminal law procedures in Flemish public prosecution service. The data collection method for this study includes interviews with various actors, including lawyers and public prosecutors. During this presentation, I will discuss three central themes based on the interviews: (1) the roles of involved actors (as defined by the actors themselves), (2) their decision-making processes, and (3) the interactions and dynamics between the various actors involved. I will conclude with a reflection on how this study contributes to a deeper understanding of the practice of amicable settlements in this specific legal context.

**Is There a Real Factual Support Behind the Guilty Plea During the Criminal Trials - The Macedonian Experiences *Boban Misoski, Misoski, Faculty of Law "Iustinianus Primus" Skopje***

The Law on Criminal Procedure in Republic of North Macedonia, enacted in 2010, consists several adversarial trial's instruments, which main task was supposed to be improvement of the efficiency of the Macedonian criminal trials and acceleration of the criminal procedure. However, after a certain period we are witnessing decline of the number of cases resolved through such adversarial instruments for speedy trial, and in particular decline of the number of cases where defendants are pleading guilty at courts. Some of the reasons for such decline of these cases which are resolved with defendant's guilty plea can be based upon the improper implementation of the law, or due to legal imperfections together with the lesser sanctioning policy and absence of proper instrument for providing of the expected sentence as an outcome from the bargaining procedure. However, in practice the author has detected an additional problematic area located within the factual support of the guilty plea during the main hearing. Hence, in practice it was observed that the courts often do not analyze sufficient evidence as factual support to the defendants' guilty plea. However, in this context the real question that is raised in such cases is what is sufficient evidence in regard to factual support of the guilty plea, and how high is the level of persuasion of the courts while determining whether to accept or to decline the offered defendant's guilty plea. Hence, author concludes that there is a gap between the theoretical definitions of the guilty plea and its practical implementation, and provides practical proposals for improvement of the provisions of the Law on Criminal Procedure.

**Negotiated Justice in an Inquisitorial Context: Factors Affecting the Defendants Decision to Enter Into Plea Agreement in Poland *Andrzej Lewna, University of Gdansk***

In the context of Poland, introduction of formal plea agreements with the entry into force of the currently binding Code of Criminal Procedure 1997, has permanently changed the reality of the criminal justice system. From that time on, growing role of consensual modes in court practice can be observed, manifesting itself in an increasing number of cases resolved in these procedures as compared to those disposed by full jurisdictional trial, which is scientifically confirmed on the basis of court files research and analyses of statistical data from judicial authorities. Yet the central question remains: why do so many people forgo their right to put the prosecution's case to test in a contested trial and agree to be convicted and sentenced on consensual basis? While guilty pleas and plea bargaining have garnered extensive scientific interest in Western jurisdictions, research on factors affecting the use of consensual modes is virtually non-existent in Poland. The proposed paper presents the results of a research project carried out at the Department of Criminal Procedure, Faculty of Law and Administration of the University of Gdansk, designed fill the existing empirical gap by exploring legal and extra-legal factors influencing defendants decision to use existing consensual modes of Polish criminal procedure. Employed methods involved combined

qualitative and quantitative elements. Qualitative data was collected during courtroom observations and direct, semi-structured interviews with a sample of 41 defendants, whose cases were concluded on consensual basis in one of 8 chosen common court units within a country in the period from May 2021 to April 2023. This was further supplemented by the data obtained through the use of highly standardized questionnaire for interviewed respondents, designed primarily to obtain basic demographic information on the sample, as well as relevant procedural information related to the course of proceedings on the pre-trial stage.

**Confining the Principle of Opportunity in the Continental Criminal Process *Cristian Bălan, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest***

Current trends in comparative law reveal a tendency to adopt specific institutions from Anglo-American systems into continental criminal procedures, which are fundamentally based on the principles of legality and truth-finding. The apparent success in managing the resources necessary for the realization of criminal justice in states that have adopted the Anglo-American system has justified the efforts of other states to move away from the constraints imposed by the principles of legality and truth-finding. These states seek to implement institutions that, on one hand, allow for the negotiation of the limits of criminal liability, and on the other hand, forego the prosecution in situations where, although the conditions for imposing criminal liability are met, the facts are of such minor severity that the costs of conducting a criminal trial would be disproportionate. These procedures are based on the principle of opportunity, which establishes the limits of the prosecutor's discretion in formulating the charge, determining its content, and negotiating the resolution to be proposed to the judge in the case. Although the efficiency of applying the principle of opportunity has led to its adoption in the legislations of European states, its implementation has varied according to the specifics of each system. In this paper, we will provide a brief overview of the reform of the European criminal process and how the principle of opportunity was adopted, followed by an analysis of the limited implementation of the principle of opportunity and elements of negotiated justice in the new Romanian criminal procedural legislation.

**104. Academic Publishing and Open Research in Criminology**

**Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Teaching Methods**

**Roundtable**

*2:30 to 3:45 pm*

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Library - reading room 1*

This roundtable brings together editors and editors-in-chief of criminology journals to explore the evolving landscape of academic publishing in criminology. As the field embraces transparency and accessibility, this forum addresses key themes crucial to fostering open research and open access practices. The roundtable will explore the pros and cons, the strengths and limitations, and the practicalities of various open research frameworks and their application in criminology. Namely, we will invite participants to share their perspectives on the following themes: (a) open data – quantitative and qualitative – and open analytic code; (b) pre-registrations, registered reports, and null findings; (c) open peer review; and (d) open access, pre-publications, and post-publications. The following editors and editors-in-chief of criminology journals will participate in this roundtable: - Matthew Ashby, Editor of 'Crime Science'; - Loraine Gelsthorpe, Editor-in-Chief of 'Criminology and Criminal Justice'; - Emily Gray, Editor of 'The British Journal of Criminology'; - Ernesto Savona, Editor-in-Chief of 'European Journal on Criminal Policy and Research'; - Volkan Topalli, Editor-in-Chief of 'Criminology'; and - Kyle Treiber, Editor-in-Chief of the 'European Journal of Criminology'. The roundtable will illuminate best practices and strategies for advancing open research and academic publishing in criminology. By fostering collaboration among editors and scholars, this forum seeks to catalyse meaningful transformations in the openness, dissemination and accessibility of criminological knowledge. This roundtable is organised by the European Network for Open Criminology.

**Chair:**

*David Buil-Gil, The University of Manchester*

**Discussants:**

*Kyle Treiber*, University of Cambridge  
*Ernesto Savona*, Transcrime / Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan)  
*Emily Gray*, University of Warwick  
*Loraine Gelsthorpe*, University of Cambridge  
*Matt Ashby*, UCL

**105. POL Panel 12. Police integrity and accountability: exploring why and how to implement change**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)

Chair:

*Esther de Graaf*, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Participants:

Human Rights-Based Policing: Analysing the Implementation of the Recommendations from the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland *Emily Williams*, Irish Council for Civil Liberties

The Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland (CoFPI) was established in May 2017 to provide recommendations on reform of An Garda Síochána (the Irish police). The CoFPI arose from multiple scandals and subsequent tribunal and/or commission reports calling for Garda reform, following An Garda Síochána operating with non-intrusive governance and very little external oversight for most of its history. The Commission's paramount recommendation was that human rights should be the foundation and purpose of policing. To ensure human rights at the heart of policing, it recommended a strengthened, and more simplified, system of police governance, oversight, and accountability. Using a human rights lens, this paper analyses the implementation of the recommendations from the CoFPI. Key to this analysis is the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024 (PSCS Act), which is intended to implement the Commission's recommendations, including reforms to existing oversight bodies and the creation of new ones, including a corporate Garda board and an Independent Examiner of Security Legislation. Ultimately, this paper finds a common theme is a potential regression of powers, access to information, and independence of the reformed oversight bodies. These findings are regrettable and worrisome given the history of successive crises in An Garda Síochána arising from a lack of sufficient oversight. Effective oversight is essential for maintaining the momentum and continuity of human rights-based reform. To complement the legal analysis of the implementation of CoFPI recommendations, qualitative research data obtained through semi-structured interviews between the author and policing stakeholders (including staff and members of the oversight bodies, academics, former members of CoFPI, and civil society organisations) is embedded throughout the paper.

Moving Beyond Bad Apples Towards The Rotten Orchard in Police Deviance: A case study of recent UK Inquiries *Denise Martin*, University of Northumbria

The heinous crimes committed by 2 former service police officers in the Metropolitan Police Service uncovered in the early 2020s in London sent shockwaves across the UK. How could two individuals continue to work for the police while carrying out such violent and harmful acts. Recent inquiries following the crimes most notably that by Baroness Louise Casey and Dame Angiolini hint at organisational culture as a determining factor in precipitating the deviant acts carried out by these officers and other misconduct uncovered in recent years. The Angiolini Inquiry suggests this is not just about 'Bad Apples' but more a 'rotten orchard'. However, while the analysis of organisational culture in these inquiries move beyond focusing of individual typologies of police misconduct they fail to understand the individual action of officer fully. Drawing on these reports as case studies, this paper argues that the definition of culture is still narrowly focused on core characteristics of police culture and that a broader lens is required to really understand what drives police misconduct. Using a situated action theory as

suggested by Vaughan (2002) this paper argues that to understanding individual police officer misconduct we need to apply multi-level analysis. While not trying to excuse individual acts of misconduct, this paper seeks to explore how we can better understand why the pattern of police misconduct might be repeated through applying a different analytical lens.

Towards inclusive policing: examining diversity policies in Brussels' six police districts *Esther de Graaf*, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

This contribution is part of a broader research project titled 'Diversity in the Police: The Test of Democracy,' conducted in collaboration with the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB). The objective of this project is to gain insights into the organization of diversity policies within the six police districts of Brussels. As a first step in this research endeavor, we focused on creating a cartography—mapping the various initiatives undertaken to address ethnic diversity within these districts. The purpose of this contribution is to discuss the first preliminary results derived from the cartography. By examining and presenting the diverse initiatives related to diversity within these police districts, we aim to provide valuable insights into the current state of diversity policies in law enforcement, with a more specific focus on the police. The discussion of these initial findings is intended to contribute to a broader understanding of the ongoing efforts and challenges in fostering diversity within the police force, ultimately promoting democratic ideals within law enforcement practices.

**106. Urban Dynamics and Community Safety**

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Fear of Crime and Risk perception

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.10

Chair:

*Kjell Elefalk*, Senior Advisor

Participants:

Adopting the Signal Crime Perspective to explain fear of crime in a mixed urban neighborhood *Havva De Bruin*, Education/Research

This study explores the dynamics of fear of crime within a mixed urban neighborhood in Rotterdam, employing the Signal Crime Perspective (SCP) as a foundational framework. Through a mixed methods approach that integrates residents' viewpoints, focus groups with professionals direct observations and municipal statistics we delve into how specific crimes or acts of disorder – termed as signal crimes or events – act as signs of insecurity for the residents. Our findings introduce a novel dimension to the SCP by highlighting not only the impact of signal crimes and events but also the role of 'signal people', including confused individuals, homeless people, and drug users contributing to perceptions of insecurity. Instead of the frequency of signals, our findings emphasize the influence of the mere occurrence of a wide span of signals, ranging from minor disturbances to disorder and crime. The study however also confirms the SCP assumption that the accumulation of weak signals can exert as much influence on safety perceptions as a single, strong signal (amplification). Additionally, the research indicates that the visible signals do not uniformly affect all residents' sense of security, suggesting a process of normalization for some within the community. By illustrating the intricate ways in which a variety of signals work in the context of a neighborhood, this study extends the SCP, offering new insight in the interplay between signals and perceptions of security.

Beyond Determinants: a Taxonomy of Fear of Crime Interventions at the Neighbourhood Level *Jossian Zoutendijk*, Inholland University of Applied Sciences

Despite the extensive research on determinants of safety perceptions, knowledge about effective interventions at the neighborhood level remains limited. This contribution adopts a literature synthesis approach to bridge this gap, focusing on identifying a wide array of interventions through systematic reviews and relevant individual studies. The methodical search

across academic databases is designed to uncover peer-reviewed articles and reports that discuss various interventions, regardless of their direct measurement of effectiveness. The central goal of this study is to develop a taxonomy of interventions. It aims to offer a comprehensive overview of interventions available and to explore their intended mechanisms and influences on distinctive dimensions of safety perceptions or fear of crime. Additionally, it notes the contexts in which these strategies may be most applicable to provide an understanding that goes beyond mere effectiveness. While the findings are forthcoming at the time of writing, the anticipated outcome includes an emphasis on interventions in the physical environment and variety of academic disciplines that address fear of crime in neighbourhoods, such as Public Health Sciences and Architecture and Urban Studies. This study is expected to provide valuable insights into the available interventions and their effectiveness, offering guidance for policymakers and practitioners aiming to enhance neighbourhood safety perceptions.

#### Delineating patterns of the spatial crime perception gap (SCPG)

*Qilei Huang, Department of Geography and Regional Research, University of Vienna; Andrea Pödör, Institute of Geoinformatics, Alba Regia Technical Faculty, Óbuda University; Ourania Kounadi, Assistant Professor Department for Geography and Regional Research, University of Vienna*

The mismatch between crime perception and prevalence is defined as the crime perception gap (CPG), which may result in a lack of vigilance to risks or unnecessary avoidance behaviours and anxiety. However, only a few studies regarding CPG are from a place-based perspective, namely, looking at the spatial crime perception gap (SCPG), which concerns a finer spatial scale and includes the misperception of safe areas as unsafe areas and the misperception of unsafe areas as safe ones. To investigate SCPG, we developed a digital sketch map survey tool, where the participants mapped the areas they perceived as safe and unsafe as well as their daily route lines and then answered a series of questions regarding the factors that might affect their perception (<http://cpg.amk.uni-obuda.hu/survey1.php>). Survey data were collected from November 27, 2023, to February 20, 2024, including 656 responses from Budapest and Vienna. Besides the factors gathered from the survey (e.g., age, gender, and perception related to crime), the spatial characteristics of the study areas (collected from open street map) and the social-economical characteristics of the study areas (collected from census data) were also examined. The study delineated the SCPG and investigated its frequent patterns in the two cities. The scope was to outline which combinations of factors (e.g., attributes of people, physical environment, and social context) were more prone to mislabel safe areas as unsafe and vice versa. Besides the frequently considered factors, we focused on the influence of spatial and geographical factors referring to SCPG. A spatial constraint-based data mining method was proposed to explore the frequent patterns both on a city scale and on more minor scales in both cities. The results can assist further research and public policy interventions to focus on the most prominent problems regarding SCPG from a geographical perspective.

#### The Local Safety Measurement System – strategic studies for local policing *Kjell Elefalk, Senior Advisor*

The Local Safety Measurement System (LSMS) was introduced in The Swedish Police late 1990's. The overall political goals set for the Swedish police service – to reduce crime and increase public safety – are central. Due to LSMS, the ideas and opinions of the people living or working in an area served will become a crucial element in the planning of everyday policing. In Sweden, the Local Governments now has a statutory responsibility for crime prevention. Dialogue and collaboration are greatly facilitated by the results from the measurement. By 2024, more than 1.3 million respondents have responded to police surveys. 2000 municipalities, divided into 5000 geographical parts, have been surveyed when each occasion counts over the years. Data has been collected with the same questions, sequencing, data collection methods, and where the only changes have been a couple of new questions, when introduced, they are always placed last in the survey. The response rate is high, around 60 percent on average. Increasing crime have been a dominant theme in Sweden throughout the 2020s and have become the most important political issue. Unnoticed is that

vulnerability that individuals exposed to violence, theft and criminal damage has been reduced in a dramatic way. This is the prime findings shown by The Local Safety Measurement System. Today, analyses always take place using established patterns, that merged in a brand-new manner 2022, such as algorithms, Clopper-Pearson accurate binomial model, confidence interval, forecasting science and police experience. This seems to be an exceptional efficient method with few equivalents when reviewing safety studies. The purpose of the presentation is to discuss the data from The Swedish Local Measurement System 1998 – 2023 and how follow-up systems and analysis are structured. Since 2022 with a unique analysis model, unknown elsewhere, for safety measurements, also retroactively calculated back to 1998.

### 107. RJ in Institutional Settings

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Restorative Justice (Restorative Justice WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11

Chair:

**Kerry Clamp**, University of Nottingham

Participants:

All ears? Restorative dialogue as a response to interpersonal harm at universities *Nieke Elbers, NSCR/VU university*

Interpersonal harm within academia persists as a pressing issue, where both staff and students increasingly endure physical and/or emotional harm due to threats, harassment, bullying, discrimination, and other detrimental behaviors. Factors such as limited funding, intense competition, heavy workloads, precarious contracts, implicit hierarchies, and abuses of power contribute to an unsafe university climate, fostering unhealthy relationships and eroding trust while increasing absenteeism. This detrimental environment impedes scientific progress, as fruitful collaboration is essential for advancing knowledge. Universities are actively seeking solutions to address and prevent these issues. However, the complexity of the problem is compounded by the significant underreporting of misconduct by victims, and the dissatisfaction often experienced by those who do engage in formal complaint procedures. Consequently, cases remain unresolved, and opportunities for learning are lost. Recognizing the need for a preventative approach, there is a consensus that a preventative dialogue is crucial, yet the precise implementation of such an approach remains unclear. A promising approach to addressing interpersonal conflicts is found in restorative justice practices. By convening all stakeholders affected by a dispute, restorative justice provides a platform for dialogue aimed at repairing harm, ultimately leading to more satisfactory resolutions for both victims and offenders. My research delves into the viability of applying restorative practices to prevent and resolve interpersonal conflicts within the university environment. I present the outcomes of a qualitative study conducted at two universities in New Zealand, where I interviewed key stakeholders involved in their respective Employee Assistance Resolution Services (EARS). Through this investigation, I explore effective strategies and challenges associated with implementing restorative justice within higher education.

Applicability of Restorative Justice Approaches in Addressing Students' Experiences of Hate Crime and Incidents in Higher Education Institutions *Kahyeng Chai, University of Leicester*

Through a series of national and academic studies conducted over the last decade, the deleterious impact of hate crime and incidents on students' wellbeing, attainment rates, and the overall student experience in the UK is well-documented. Existing universities' responses to such non-academic misconducts, however, have been criticised for their inability to address the problem. To understand the reasons underpinning such criticisms, a critical discourse analysis of policies at 18 publicly funded British universities was conducted in a doctoral research project, where it found that a punitive discourse has been embedded in the institutional policies. Based on the new empirical findings, this paper examines the limitations of punitive approaches to hate crime and incidents. In



addition, this paper also explores the potential of restorative justice approaches as an innovative form of response that will be particularly suitable for addressing hate crime and incidents within the context of higher education institutions. Premised on the understanding that crimes are not simply a violation of laws, restorative justice focuses on the harms caused by the criminal offence and emphasises the importance of moral learning as well as positive human development in healing the harms inflicted. Taking its purpose into consideration, restorative justice may be suitable for addressing experiences of hate crime and incidents. This is because restorative justice processes facilitate the reparation of harms by challenging biases and misconceptions towards identity differences among offenders, whilst the emotional and psychological damages experienced by victims may be alleviated through such dialogue-driven processes. Therefore, this paper suggests that restorative justice approaches hold the potential to heal fragmented community relationships in universities. Moreover, as the student population across British universities becomes increasingly diversified following the marketisation and internationalisation of the higher education sector, it is imperative for biases to be challenged within such educational settings through restorative justice.

**Restorative Justice Training and Practice: Findings and Lessons from a Facilitator Training and a California Prison Project**  
*Alexa Sardina, California State University Sacramento; Ernest Uwazie, California State University Sacramento*

Restorative justice (RJ) is a framework for addressing all forms of harm with impact on the victim, offender, and community. Victim-offender dialogue/mediation (VOD/M) is one of these processes. In 2021 and 2024, the authors received a Victim Offender Dialogue (VOD) grant from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), to develop and deliver VOD facilitator training and facilitate assigned cases for VOD. The authors designed a 40-hour, 8-week training for community volunteers interested in facilitating VOD cases referred by the CDCR. The training covered topics including restorative justice frameworks, cultural identity, victim-offender dynamics, the impact of childhood trauma, accountability, and forgiveness. Additionally, the authors lead a weekly class about restorative justice with people incarcerated at California State Prison, Sacramento (CSP-Sac) called Restorative Justice Dialogues. Since June 2022, the authors have led 3 cohorts of approximately 25 people through the program. Results regarding the effectiveness of the training curriculum from the community facilitators will be shared in addition to results from the first cohort of the Restorative Justice Dialogues and VOD, to identify impacts, prospects and constraints of programming in carceral settings for behavioral change.

**Til Everything Better: Youth, Restorative Justice, and Abolition**  
*Calvin John Smiley, Hunter College-CUNY*

This presentation explores the implementation of college-level 'Introduction to Sociology' courses into juvenile detention facilities that utilize a restorative justice framework. While research has been done that highlights the positive impact of higher education in adult carceral facilities, less is known about how adolescents respond to college-specific courses. Here, I unpack, and reflect, on various obstacles and victories to creating this unique style course within the facility. First, I contextualize earning trust through patience and meeting students where they are at. Second, creating modifications because of limited access to technology within carceral spaces. Next, understanding the limits of theory and making space for practice, specifically utilizing drill music to enhance sociological and criminological inquiry. Finally, advocate that education is not only liberation but a form of abolition to resist carceral logics.

**108. Farming, Fear, and Frustration: How crime and unrest is considered in the rural context**

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Rural Criminology (Rural Criminology WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.14

Chair:

*Mark Odion, Harper Adams University*

Participants:

Crime and fear among rural residents in Poland *Emilia Jurgielewicz-Delegacz, Faculty of Law, University of Bialystok*

What crimes are rural residents in Poland most afraid of becoming victims? Are they afraid of crimes against life and health, property, road safety, or perhaps others? What is the extent of fear of crime among rural men and women, and does fear vary by age? The author of the paper is conducting a research project in Poland entitled. "Rural Crime in Poland." As part of the project, quantitative research in the form of a victimization survey was conducted in December 2023 and January 2024. It was conducted among 1,006 people living in rural areas of Poland. One part of the survey questionnaire was devoted to fear of crime. The author will present selected results of the survey in this regard, juxtaposing them with the rural crime picture in Poland.

Policing farmers' protests in France: how to deal gently with violent people *Christian Mouhanna, CNRS CESDIP*

In January 2024, a series of demonstrations and road blockades began in France, lasting several weeks. As well as obstructing the free circulation of people, the protests included violent acts such as explosions in administrative buildings, arson attacks on public buildings and the destruction of goods in road transport vehicles. Compared to the police treatment of the riots in the suburbs in June 2023, or even the yellow jackets protests of 2018-19, or the demonstrations against the law on pensions, what is striking is the great leniency with which the government and police forces have treated the farmers. Of course, this refers to the positive image farmers have in public opinion, but also to the influence they have over the government. We will therefore look at how rebel groups are policed using a softer strategy that contrasts with what the police are used to. This calls into question the paradigm of a systematically violent police force and reintroduces the issue of the protester's personality into policing. From a broader perspective, we will also examine farmers' behaviour outside demonstrations, and in particular their relations with the gendarmes, who are responsible for policing the countryside, and with the environmental police. Interaction with the latter also involves violence that is fairly tolerated by the authorities.

The Future of Rural Crime and Rural Policing in England and Wales *Kreseda Smith, Harper Adams University*

Confidence and trust in the police is at an all-time low nationally. This is seen extensively throughout rural communities in England and Wales. Despite pockets of good practice, many police forces are struggling to resource the rural space, leaving communities feeling like second class citizens. The rural space is seeing a change in criminality towards an organised approach driven by national and international groups, and a rise in community self-policing and subsequent reports of vigilantism. This is coupled with a lack of parity in funding for rural police forces, despite calls for a fairer funding formula at a national level, mainly driven by a lack of understanding of the act of rural crime and the impact of this on the communities affected among government departments. This presentation will explore the reasons behind this current state of rural policing from both perspectives – the rural communities, and the police – to provide a balanced and unbiased assessment of the key issues surrounding rural policing in the current society.

**109. Criminology of Mobility. Panel 5. Narratives and lived experiences of refugees, asylum seekers & migrants**

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Immigration / Migration (Immigration, Crime and Citizenship WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.22

Chair:

*Amy Cortvriend, Loughborough University*

Participants:

Power, Agency and 'Crisis Maintenance': the safeguarding experiences of refugees in the Aegean *Charlotte Victoria Russell, The University of Hull*

What can asylum seekers themselves contribute towards the dialogue on safeguarding the inhabitants of Europe's refugee camps? As core geopolitical entry points to the European Union, the Aegean Islands were selected as the research sites for the exploration of this question. Based on consultations with asylum seekers living in the Aegean island refugee camps, as well as the islands' NGOs, legal representatives, and local citizens, this paper offers new ways of conceptualising and addressing the root causes of abuse and exploitation in the contested political space of the refugee camp. By diversifying the dialogue to include those with lived experience, this presentation offers vital new perspectives on statelessness, power and sovereignty in relation to refugees in contemporary Europe. These new perspectives challenge and extend those proposed in canonical research literature. This data demonstrates that the rhetorical, legal and affective division of refugees into binary categories not only influences but also perpetuates numerous, interrelated cycles of abuse, exploitation and suffering in the zone of the camp. Such binaries include the division of: adult and child; male and female; threat and victim; vulnerability and agency; deserving and undeserving; and citizen and non-citizen. An appraisal of empirical evidence on the functional implications of these binaries will demonstrate how they serve to entrench particular cycles of behaviour and thereupon opportunities for abuse and exploitation – both between camp inhabitants and committed against them. Promoting a combination of interdisciplinary solutions to the deconstruction of these embedded practices, this paper offers a series of updates to the academic dialogue, legal policy and humanitarian practice. Informed by the knowledge of those with lived experience, the results of this study hold the capacity to edify camp safeguarding outcomes and the realisation of asylum seekers' human rights globally, both in theory and in practice.

“Real Refugees” – Critical analysis of responses towards Ukrainian refugees within Germany *Ann-Sophie Maluck, Graduate School Universität Hamburg*

The refugee movement triggered by the war in Ukraine received overwhelming empathy and support in Germany. While “irregular migration” from other countries was met with increasing restrictiveness as well as criminalization the urgency to support Ukrainian refugees remained indisputable. In 2022 approximately 1.2 million people sought refuge in Germany – about 1 million of them originating from Ukraine. Employing situational analysis (A. Clarke) this PhD project delves into media narratives concerning Ukrainian refugees within popular print media in Germany. The analysis aims to explore if refugees from different nationalities are narratively pitted against Ukrainian refugees within the media. Interviews with agents working within the institutional and systemic sphere intend to explore whether these narratives influence social work and policymaking, investigating potential differentiated treatment. In this context, the question of the media's role in shaping the political and institutional discourse to determine which individuals are considered to be “real refugees” deserving of support is being raised. Thus, the interviews check whether the popular narratives influence behaviours of social organisations and policy makers tasked with aiding refugees. Furthermore, the study gauges the awareness of those working with Ukrainian refugees in Germany regarding the possibility of differentiated behaviour towards different groups and seeks to identify its origins. The study's main goal is to clarify whether or not the different media narratives actually translate to Ukrainian refugees receiving a different treatment than refugees from other countries.

Race, gender and violence: Latin American women's experiences of the UK's migration regime. *Roxana Pessoa Cavalcanti, University of Brighton; Monish Bhatia, University of York*

This paper examines findings from a pilot study of the experiences of border regimes from the perspective of Latin American migrant women in the UK. Latin America faces the highest rates of firearm violence and homicide in the world and the highest rates of femicide around the world, with 3,529 women killed across the region because of their gender in 2018 (OECD, 2021). While violence is a central driver for displacement, and despite growing migration between Latin America and the UK, the experiences of Latin American migrants in the UK remain understudied, and the group remains invisible in policy and public debates. There is a paucity of

literature about the experiences of women who migrate, their experiences of crossing borders and their disproportionately disadvantaged status. This paper begins to address this issue by exploring the interconnections between gender, racialisation, violence and immigration regimes. The study analyses data from in-depth semi-structured and unstructured interviews with 12 women from Latin America living in the UK, some of whom are seeking asylum, and some who were previously undocumented. Additionally, one interview was conducted with a practitioner working to support the women. The study shows that violence, including from organised criminal groups and the police, plays a significant role in the need to flee one's country of origin. While mothers and families lost loved ones, the state continued to sanction and enforce violence against them by failing to support. Complex forms of violence and neglect continued after the women fled and sought shelter in the UK. The paper considers the ramifications of the harms caused by migration regimes.

Guilt, shame and motherhood in the British asylum system *Amy Cortvriend, Loughborough University; Vardan Petrosian, University of Westminster*

Stigma has been weaponised by politicians, leading to an increase in stigma politics (Tyler 2020:62), particularly in relation to asylum seekers, as evidenced in the proliferation of extreme immigration policy. Stigmatisation is a harmful process, resulting in the internalisation of ugly feelings such as guilt and shame (Addison, 2023). Drawing on Pemberton's (2015:30) concept of ‘relational harm’, this paper draws from narrative interviews with mothers seeking asylum in the UK to show how the harmful conditions of the asylum system stigmatise and marginalise women, impacting on their relationships with their children.

## 110. Methodology and law enforcement

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Qualitative Methods (Qualitative Methods WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.29

Chair:

*Asbjørn Storgaard, Lund University*

Participants:

A systematic scoping review of criminal justice research partnerships internationally to inform the Criminal Justice Open Research Dialogue (CORD) in Ireland *Patrice McCormack, Maynooth University; Ian Marder, Maynooth University*

Open research is increasingly recognised as the most rigorous, transparent, and replicable method of producing openly accessible knowledge. Open research partnerships allow collaboration between knowledgeable stakeholders to share information and develop and disseminate knowledge openly. In criminal justice, such partnership working is increasingly recognised as best practice in ensuring that research informs policy and practice. The Criminal Justice Open Research Dialogue (CORD) Partnership is an innovative Irish open research partnership initiated to develop and embed a culture of open research in Irish criminal justice through research partnership and collaborative contribution. To develop such an initiative, it was essential to understand what could be learned from the experience of partnerships internationally in both criminal justice and open research. A systematic scoping review was conducted, and the available literature was thematically analysed to extrapolate information relating to what types of research partnerships currently exist in criminal justice, how criminal justice and open research partnerships operate, who is involved, what are the challenges, facilitators, barriers, outcomes and impact of such partnerships, including from a policy and practice perspective. Information regarding funding and governance was also analysed. Research questions related to the extent to which current research partnership practices aligned with the objectives of open research and whether there has been a contribution to the continued development of an open research culture within the criminal justice system to date. The presentation outlines these findings and provides initial thoughts as to how they

may be used to inform the CORD Partnership. It will assist in defining how CORD will define ‘open research partnership’ to develop and enhance Irish Criminal Justice through a culture of open research and collaborative partnership.

Framework for developing quantitative agent based models based on qualitative expert knowledge: an organised crime use-case *Frederike Oetker, University of Amsterdam; Vittorio Nespeca, University of Amsterdam; Thijs Vis, Police Amsterdam; Paul Duijn, Institute for Advanced Science, University of Amsterdam; Peter Sloot, University of Amsterdam; Rick Quax, University of Amsterdam*

Objectives Developing Agent-Based Models (ABMs) of organized crime network dynamics is a promising approach to support the design of predictions and interventional strategies for law enforcement. The problem is that too little quantitative data is available to effectively identify a unique ABM model, which is also true in many other psychosocial contexts. Methods Here, we propose a modelling framework that also incorporates qualitative data, such as police reports, literature, and expert interviews, to systematically develop, train, and validate computational ABMs in data-poor contexts. In our framework, first a conceptual model is designed in close collaboration with domain experts. Then, the conceptual model is then refined and translated into a quantitative model through thematic content analysis based on both the quantitative and qualitative data analysis. Finally, the quantitative model is calibrated and validated by supplementing the quantitative data with training and validation statements, which are distilled from the qualitative data. This is the most innovative part of our framework. Lastly, scenario testing, sensitivity analysis and uncertainty quantification complete the modelling cycle. We illustrate this framework through an exemplary case study of the criminal cocaine network in the Netherlands. Results The resulting ABM, called Criminal Cocaine Replacement Model (CCRM), captures dynamics of kingpin removal and replacement. Conclusion Our scenario testing confirms that the proposed framework enables the development of accurate ABMs in the case of little qualitative data.

Qualitative interviewing in a field of strong, collective narratives. The uses of active interviewing *Pål Winnæss, The Norwegian Uni Police Col.*

Several researchers have rightly criticized interview-based studies for confusing the stories told with what happens in reality. In an article on police subculture, Waddington warns against taking what police officers say in interviews at face value. Without further reflection on the answers given, what researchers may get are not stories about actual police work, but generalized beliefs and collective narratives - often dominated by "war stories". And this problem arises when researchers rely too heavily on what police officers say. Drawing on a study of police students, and using qualitative interviewing as the main method, I will argue that by using the technique of active (or confrontational) interviewing, we might be able to provide more sober interpretations by getting "behind" superficial representations and idealized narratives.

Responsible application of emerging data driven technologies require integral impact monitoring. The case of the AI ELSA Labs in the Dutch public safety context *Ben Kokkeler, Avans University of Applied Sciences; Peter Novitzky, Avans University of Applied Sciences*

As the main societal challenge is the responsible adoption of AI applications by public authorities, an ELSA lab supports public authorities to create commonly shared goods and values, while engaging societal stakeholders in specific ELSA Lab activities to build and sustain increased trust in these authorities and their growing expertise on applied AI. In turn, these lab activities also engage the actors in the public policy life cycle and instrumentation of municipalities and safety regions, that way adding to resilient and innovative democratic institutions. Public awareness creation and mobilizing citizens' expertise via citizen science is the second and enabling societal challenge, while developing and testing intelligence enhancing ELS methods for public authorities and citizen science, including data- and computational power sharing. Emerging data applications and technologies for safety & security are at the core of the network of dedicated ELSA Labs that is being

organized with major cities in the North-Brabant region of The Netherlands. The ELSA Labs bring together police, municipalities, safety regions, technology developers, and citizen initiatives to address such questions by facilitating the equitable transition towards a novel socio-public partnership for public safety, established on fair and responsible data use, exchange, and AI applications. Drawn from socio-technical methodologies and tailored to the concrete cross-cutting needs of specific regional communities, contextualized and responsible approaches will be developed to center AI, big data, IoT-centric service ‘experiments’ around participants rather than technologies. The authors present and discuss the ELSA Lab approach, the portfolio of qualitative methods, and the first insights from specific socio-technical experiments on smart public safety.

Utilizing EM/CA to explore trust formation in manual-based rehabilitative interactions within Probation Service *Asbjørn Storgaard, Lund University*

A trust-based relationship between probation officers and clients is generally regarded as crucial for successful rehabilitation within probation services. However, recent ethnographic studies expose a discrepancy between the ideal trust-based interaction and the prevalent reality of manual-based, scripted conversational practices within the Danish probation service. This disjunction manifests as a choreographed rehabilitative interaction, where predefined roles, set within an asymmetric social hierarchy, portray the client as inherently intransigent and erratic, often cast as an irresponsible subject. Despite ongoing discussion, more comprehensive empirical examinations into the nature of trust within both scripted and unscripted supervisory interactions are imperative to truly understand the potentials and pitfalls of manual-based rehabilitative interventions. The SCRiPT project, titled "Rehabilitation through Scripted and Unscripted Conversational Routines in the Nordic Probation Services and the Implications for Trust Relations", brings together an interdisciplinary group of Nordic researchers committed to exploring the intricacies of trust relations in natural probation service settings. Leveraging video-ethnography and conversation analysis within an ethnomethodological framework (EM/CA), this project aims to uncover potentials for stimulating desistance through the formation of trust relations in both scripted and unscripted motivational conversations within Nordic probation services. This presentation will explore the intricacies of the SCRiPT project's methodological design, underscoring its distinctive strengths and untapped benefits in utilizing EM/CA for the analysis of rehabilitative practices. By precisely identifying how meticulous mapping of conversational nuances related to trust establishment, loss, and regeneration can be achieved through this methodology, the presentation will highlight the role of EM/CA as a valuable tool for enhancing the validity of ethnographic studies within supervisory settings. Furthermore, it will emphasize how the application of EM/CA can elevate the quality of evaluations of manual-based strategies in probation service, contributing to a more nuanced discourse and serving as a foundation to inform future policies and practices in the field.

#### 111. POL Panel 7. Police and the use of body-worn video

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.04

Chair:

*Piotr Lewulis, University of Warsaw*

Participants:

Police use of body-worn video technology in the UK: A socio-technical analysis of change *Jean-Pierre Roux, University of Glasgow and University of Edinburgh*

This presentation discusses core findings of a doctoral study which examined the ways in which police in the United Kingdom (England and Wales) and body-worn video (BWV) technology shape one another. These findings emerge from a sociotechnical approach which gave equal consideration to both the social and technical elements involved in the shaping process. By paying

sufficient attention to the technical elements of BWV technology such as the device lens, recording functionality, mobile connectivity as well as the footage management software and the interoperability of its ancillary systems, novel findings emerge around usage practices and the implications of technological advancement. This study was able to identify interesting ways in which BWV technology adoption, expansion, and development shaped a policing organisation on an institutional, managerial, and individual (behavioural) level. It also covers the ways in which policing, within a specific regional context, shaped the way BWV technology is selected, used, and subsequently re-designed. The presentation provides implications surrounding BWV technological design and the ways in which BWV technology is understood and regulated. It concludes by adding to a growing symphony of voices which call for criminologists to adopt more sociotechnical/material approaches when researching the impacts of technology on society, bringing the discipline more in line with the developments in Science and Technology Studies and the more critical elements of Feminist Technoscience.

The use of body worn cameras in police work in Poland – new findings. *Magdalena Tomaszewska-Michalak, Faculty of Political Science and International Studies; Pawel Waszkiewicz, Faculty of Law and Administration; Lukasz Kuliński, University of Warsaw*

Polish police bought the first body worn cameras (BWC) in 2018. According to Police Headquarters in 2023 there were 5857 BWC in use in Poland. Although there is a lot of research on the ways and effects of using BWC in the work of law enforcement agencies in other countries, there is a lack of such research in Poland. The aim of project Body-worn cameras in policing and criminal justice (NCN OPUS 2021/41/B/H5/02988) is to analyze the real impact which body worn cameras have on police work. This presentation focuses on the newest data which the research team gathered on the use of body worn cameras, the amount of complaints against law enforcement officers, the number of incidents where a police officer was injured or insulted before introducing cameras and after starting to use BWC.

Qualitative Insights from Interviews on Body-Worn Cameras in Policing and Criminal Justice *Piotr Lewulis, University of Warsaw; Pawel Waszkiewicz, Faculty of Law and Administration*

In this presentation, we offer an exploration of some qualitative findings from our nationally-funded research project on body-worn cameras (BWCs) in policing and criminal justice, initiated at the University of Warsaw two years ago. Following our preliminary presentation, which outlined the planned research methodology, we have since conducted in-depth interviews with three distinct groups of experts: judges, law enforcement officers, and defense attorneys/human rights activists. The core of our analysis revolves around the perspectives and experiences of these professionals, offering a diverse range of viewpoints on the practical implications of BWCs. Judges have provided insights into the adjudicative challenges and benefits of using BWC evidence in courtrooms. Law enforcement officers have contributed frontline perspectives on how BWCs influence policing practices, officer behavior, and interactions with the public. Defense attorneys and human rights activists have offered a critical lens on the implications of BWCs for civil liberties, legal defense strategies, and broader human rights concerns. Our findings primarily focus on three pivotal issues: the use of BWC recordings as evidence in criminal proceedings, the impact of BWCs on law enforcement officers and their interventions, and the effects that BWCs may have on civilians during encounters with law enforcement.

## 112. Prison Working Group: Needs, care and risk in the prison context: Challenges and implications

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.05

Chair:

*Luca Sterchele, Università degli Studi di Padova*

Participants:

LGBT Prisoners' Experiences in a Brazilian Male Prison *Dayanne Jaques do Mont Serrat Andrade, Faculty of Law, University of Porto; Rita Faria, CIJ - Center for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice, University of Porto; Miriam Pina, University of Porto*

Evidence regarding the experiences of the LGBT community in prison settings is limited; most studies are conducted in the US and primarily focus on transgender women. Furthermore, existing research has predominantly examined prisoners' housing, victimization, and healthcare needs. To address this gap, the present study aims to explore the imprisonment experiences of the LGBT community in a Brazilian male prison. Data were collected through interviews with a purposefully selected sample of 10 LGBT inmates at the Provisional Detention Center II in São Paulo state. The results highlight not only the traditional 'pains of imprisonment' faced by these inmates but also the unique challenges experienced by LGBT prisoners. These include instances of LGBT inmates, particularly those with a transfeminine identity, engaging in sex work to acquire resources and experiencing limited access to hormone therapy. Additionally, results indicate that being allocated to specific cells offers greater security due to reduced interaction with heterosexual inmates; however, this does not eliminate other types of conflict. Inmates with a transfeminine identity reported issues with prison staff not using their social names. Furthermore, LGBT inmates face restrictions on sharing personal items (such as glasses and cutlery) with heterosexual inmates. While many findings support the deprivation model, the 'pains of imprisonment' take on different dimensions when considering the specific needs of these inmates. Future studies should aim to provide updated theoretical frameworks that better explain and understand the behaviors of LGBT inmates, moving beyond traditional prison theories that often frame sexual orientation and gender identity within a context of deviance. It is essential to shift the focus of prison studies to view sexual orientation and gender identity as non-deviant factors that significantly influence individuals' experiences with crime and the criminal justice system. Keywords: LGBT; Imprisonment; Adaptation; Housing; Victimization.

Trauma and Social Support Experiences of Imprisoned Men in Northern Ireland *Daniel McFadden, Queen's University Belfast; Michelle Butler, Queen's University Belfast; Gavin Davidson, Queen's University Belfast*

Background: Social Support has multiple benefits for mental wellbeing and has been established as a 'buffer' to the negative impact of trauma experiences. Trauma can negatively impact upon social support, reducing the extent of social networks. However, some trauma experiences can also strengthen social relationships. Imprisoned men are disproportionately likely to have experienced a traumatic event when compared with the general population. Research has found that traumatic events can lead to a decrease in social support among imprisoned men. However more research is needed to understand the variations in perceived social support in this group as well as the relationship between social support and different trauma types. Method: A cross-sectional survey of 384 adult men detained in the Northern Ireland Prison Service was conducted. The survey collected data on the men's demographics, mental health, substance use, and criminal history. Respondents were also asked to complete a Trauma History Questionnaire (THQ) and the Multi-dimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support (MSPSS). Regression analysis was then used to investigate the possible associations. Results: All types of trauma experiences were not associated with lower levels of perceived social support. Only those who had experienced crime related trauma were more likely to report lower levels of social support. Older imprisoned men and those using substances were more likely to report lower levels of perceived social support, while those who had served a sentence of less than one year reported higher levels of perceived social support. Discussion: Trauma informed policy responses should be cognisant of these findings, those with experiences of crime related victimisation are less likely to have the social support needed to buffer against future trauma experiences. The findings demonstrate that some individuals experience lower levels of

perceived social support. This will potentially impact upon them during release and affect their reintegration into society.

**Risk and self-governance: moral communication with English life-sentenced prisoners through the medium of risk management** *Ben Jarman, Birkbeck, University of London*

The 'ruling concept' through which English prisons communicate with prisoners about the moral obligations associated with their punishment is risk. Risk thinking and risk talk pervade the management of lifers and prisoners generally, and the management of risk is a primary conduit for the operation of power. This has been said to produce distinctively 'tight' prison pain, for those governed through risk. This paper, based on PhD research interviews with 48 life-sentenced prisoners in two English prisons, reviews how risk factored in the sample's ethical lives: how they made sense of the concept, or in some cases, dismissed it as a bad-faith imposition. It summarises official documents to describe risk assessments for the sample, which broadly suggested that the participants were ordinary and 'easy-keeping' lifers: compliant, mostly self-governing, adapted to imprisonment, and posing few risks to others in custody. This, the chapter argues, means they were subject to discontinuous, and varying, kinds of 'grip', with 'tight' conditions prevailing for some, but 'loose' and 'lax' conditions for others. It produces a typology of ethical responses to moral communication about risk, and suggests what an ethical approach adds to our understanding of risk governance and of the moral communication delivered by punishment.

**Medicine, law and the construction of race in Italian prisons.**

**Ethnographic reflections in dialogue with Frantz Fanon** *Luca Sterchele, Università degli Studi di Padova*

The high prevalence of psychiatric disorders among the prison population has come to assume a certain centrality in the field of prison studies in recent years, representing a critical issue frequently highlighted by sociological, legal or forensic medical studies. This consistent presence in the academic literature derives from the relevance that health issues (mental health in particular, but not only) have in the daily routine of those who work within prison contexts, leading to the consolidation, in Italian prisons, of what has been called a "psychiatric issue". This appears to be strongly "ethnified". This contribution intends to reflect on the knowledge and practices that social actors in prisons mobilise to deal with this critical issue. The interpretative keys put forward by the staff to reconstruct the meanings of the malaise experienced by the inmate population often refer to readings of a culturalist matrix (where culture is naturalised as a fixed element, incontrovertible and given a priori particularly for migrant subjectivities) or to explanations that, in reconstructing the dimensions of trauma in migratory paths and in the settlement in Italy, do not recognise any effective value to the subjective or collective expressions of malaise, crushing the readings on a symptomatological level only vaguely "ethno-psychiatric" and not recognising the impact of material conditions (Fanon, 2011). In this sense, Frantz Fanon's thought may prove to be of great use in deconstructing the main axes of these narratives that 'silence' subjectivities, providing useful tools for rereading the phenomena described by recognising their complexity and ambivalence. Paying particular attention to how biographical experiences are inscribed on - and expressed through - imprisoned bodies, the contribution aims to propose a more shrewd reading of the "psychiatric question", rooted in the theoretical armamentarium offered by Fanon himself.

### 113. ISRD Panel 4: Focus on Victimization

Topic 2: Types of Offending/School Violence and Bullying (ISRD WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

2:30 to 3:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 1.09*

This panel presents results from the fourth wave of the International Self-Report Delinquency Study (ISRD4). Four papers in this panel focus on victimisation and the online-offline victimisation overlap. Children's experiences of hate crime and discrimination are also discussed.

Chair:

*Anna Markina, University of Tartu*

Participants:

**Youths as targets of hate crime: results of a longitudinal study** *Patrik Manzoni, Zurich University of Applied Sciences ZHAW; Maria Kamenowski, Zurich University of Applied Sciences ZHAW; Lorenz Biberstein, Zurich University of Applied Sciences ZHAW*

Hate crime, that is violent acts motivated by prejudice against specific social groups, may cause serious harm to victims. This paper examines juveniles' experience of hate crime victimisation in several regards by using longitudinal data from Switzerland collected in 2021 and 2022 as part of the fourth sweep of the International Self-Report Delinquency study (ISRD4). First, we present the specific characteristics of hate crime victims, as well as the specific circumstances and reasons for the offence. Secondly, the question of whether victims of hate crime go on to become violent offenders will be addressed. The relationship between previous hate crime victimisation and subsequent violent offending is analysed, taking into account the role of revenge dispositions and other relevant explanatory concepts. Finally, conclusions and suggestions for further research are provided.

**Impact of Peer Groups on Victimization in Young Adults- A study on victimisation pattern in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India** *Susmita Priyadarshini Mishra, KIIT Deemed to be University, Odisha, India; Yogesh Mishra, National Law University, Meghalaya, India*

Research has suggested that there correlation between social structures and criminalities. Most of a young adult's waking hours are spent with friends, family, and college. Time spent with family or in college is known to lower the risk of criminal behaviour while hanging out with friends—especially in larger groups without adult supervision—increases the chance of misbehaviour and victimization. Social learning theory's tenets are employed by subcultural theories to explain why a large portion of crime is performed in groups, occasionally gangs. In other words, according to the social learning theory, friends are the main providers of definitions that support crime and act as motivators for nonconforming behaviour. Unstructured peer socialization and peer criminality are frequently utilized as markers of lifestyle risk. Variations in lifestyles, defined as "routine daily activities" like job, education, and leisure activities, are linked to variations in victimization risk. Rational choice theories are in line with this perspective by emphasizing the possibility of committing a crime, either to validate oneself or to impress others. This empirical article analyses the impact of peer group involvement in any criminal behaviour or activity. The research is done through non-probability sampling with snowballing techniques. Through this, it can be analysed that the social circle one is surrounded by significantly influences and moulds one's behaviour and development, both positively as well negatively.

**The overlap between online/offline offending and victimization: Results from the US Internet-based ISRD4 sample** *Michael Gottfredson, University of California, Irvine; Mikaela Sky Nielsen, University of California, Irvine; Ineke Haen Marshall, Northeastern University*

Researchers have increasingly come to recognize the significance of the overlap between victimization and offending, (e.g. Berg and Mulford 2020), and the significant relation between online and offline behavior (e.g. Gorzig 2016; Rokven et al., 2018). However, until recently there was a paucity of data to explore the co-occurrence between offline/online (a) offending and (b) victimization. The International Self-Report Delinquency study (ISRD4) survey instrument fills this gap by including a range of items that allow the study of the offending/victimization overlap, both for online and offline offending and victimization. For this presentation, we use the results of the internet-based sample of 15-to-18 year olds (n = 4,092), collected as part of the ISRD4 data collection in the US to explore the co-occurrence between (a) online and (b) offline offending/victimization. In addition to specific measures of offending and victimization (online/offline), we include results related to the sample self-reported routine use of online sources. The primary purpose of the paper is descriptive, as a first step to develop an analytic strategy to test theoretically-derived hypotheses concerning factors related to online and offline offending and victimization, and concerning related to the overlap

between offline/online offending/victimization.

Hate Crime in Austria: Prejudice and hostility against minority groups. Results from the ISRD-4 study. *Günter Stummvoll, Institute for Conflict Research Vienna*

Hate crime has been defined as any hate incident, which constitutes a criminal offence, perceived by the victim or any other person, as being motivated by prejudice or hate. The police collect data on offences, perpetrators and victims as bearers of stigmatizing characteristics, including ethnicity, sexual orientation, faith, disability, gender identity, social status and worldview. In addition to official crime data, self-report surveys have the potential to collect further information about the socio-demographic background of offenders, the victim's commitment to marginalised groups and the experience of discrimination due to their group affiliation. This paper presentation discusses data on hate crime and discrimination from the Austrian sample of the ISRD survey conducted in 2022. The analysis shows that 16% of juveniles say they have been victims of personal hate crime in the past (17% online hate crime). Somewhat surprising, discrimination due to "physical appearance" was among the most important motifs for the offence. More results will be presented in this presentation.

#### 114. Juvenile Justice 3. Emerging Issues in Juvenile Justice Research

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Juvenile Justice and Children's Rights (Juvenile Justice WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.11

Chair:

*Liese Hofkens, KU Leuven*

Participants:

Examining Justice System Exposure Among Youth on Health in Young Adulthood: Does Dosage of Contact Matter? *Julie Krupa, Michigan State University*

Drawing on juvenile justice and social determinants of health literature, this study examines the influence of three levels of justice system contact among juveniles – police stop, arrest, adjudication – on depression, suicide ideation, and general health in young adulthood. Mahalanobis distance matching utilizing National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health data test whether dosage of system contact negatively impacts health in young adulthood. Additional analyses compare within system contact differences to identify magnitude of health consequences for systems-involved individuals. Arrest and adjudication experiences as a juvenile negatively impacted at least one health outcome in young adulthood relative to those with no contact. Depression was significantly higher among those with an adjudication experience relative to those with an arrest experience. Results support further exploring juvenile justice system experiences as a social determinant of health.

Key moments of juvenile justice in Ukraine *Natalia Khmelevska, Ukraine*

Juvenile justice in Ukraine is actively developing and improving. The traditional system of juvenile punishment does not provide the expected result in terms of correction of the convict, compensation of the victim and prevention of recidivism of criminal offenses. Ukraine is actively developing restored justice, which can solve many more problems than traditional justice. accordingly, victims will be rehabilitated, for whom only material or moral compensation in monetary terms is often lacking. The application of restorative justice makes it possible to understand the reason for committing a criminal offense against them, to hear an apology, to feel safe again and not to be afraid to continue living in society, to receive emotional healing. It is also very important for a juvenile offender to be able to hear the state and emotions of the victim, which in the future performs a preventive function regarding the commission of new criminal offenses. In addition, restorative justice focuses its attention not on the offender and his punishment, but on rehabilitation, which has a positive effect on all participants in the process. The "Barnachus" model created in Ukraine is

beginning to be used more actively in criminal proceedings involving minors, at the pre-trial investigation stage. The practice of completing the opening of Centers for protection and socio-psychological support in the justice process for children who have suffered or witnessed violence and in other cities of Ukraine. It is important in the field of juvenile justice to observe the principle of the best interests of the child and to understand the specifics of pre-trial investigation and trial. It is also important to pay attention to the prevention of child crime. Juvenile justice in Ukraine needs further changes that will help develop a child-centered approach and improve child-friendly justice.

The London Accommodation Pathfinder Project: A pro-social programme for black and ethnic minority boys *Elena Martellozzo, Middlesex University; Paula Bradbury, Middlesex University; Ruth Spence, Middlesex University*

There is currently a dearth of suitable alternative provision to custody in London and little incentive for any one of the organisations involved to invest in a new provision. This was emphasised in the 'Case for Change' report which highlighted the drastic need for alternatives to custodial sentences and the need to provide the catalyst for transformation. The LAP aims to improve outcomes for children through alternative pathways to custody at remand, post- sentence and resettlement. This includes improving mental health, self-esteem, employability skills and reducing re-offending. The psychologically informed community-based approach has been proven to deliver better outcomes than custody. This directly supports the Ministry of Justice vision to deliver a world class justice system that works for everyone in society and the strategic priority that the system reforms offenders. Providing a new life-building, and pro-social pathway for children. Specifically black and ethnic minority boys who are significantly overrepresented in custody secured units across the UK. This presentation is based on the midway evaluation report which focused on the lessons learnt from the programme set-up and a unique insight into the perspective of the children taking part. This research was funded by the Camden Borough Council (London, UK), led by Dr Elena Martellozzo, Professor Anthony Goodman and supported by Dr Ruth Spence, Paula Bradbury, Sabrina Holness and Sue Mulcahy.

The smoking ban in closed community institutions for juvenile offenders: situated within a comprehensible and coherent legal framework? *Liese Hofkens, KU Leuven*

In the Flemish Community, young people who have (presumably) committed an offence can be placed in a closed community institution when subjected to the residential measure or sanction of closed placement. In these institutions, smoking has been banned since 2019. However, young people staying here often ask why it is not allowed. As an argument pro smoking and vaping, they often pitch that it would bring them mental peace. They also point out that smoking is not criminally prohibited for minors, and thus when outside the facility, they do have the choice to smoke. The aim of this presentation is to take a look at the legal framework behind this smoking ban in the community institutions for juvenile offenders. Is it comprehensible and coherent? In answering this question, consideration is given not only to the general legal framework on smoking by minors (in closed, publicly accessible facilities), but also to a comparison of the regulation in the community institutions with the regulation in other closed facilities (for young people). Liese Hofkens, teaching assistant and PhD candidate, Institute of Social Law and Leuven Institute of Criminology, KU Leuven and monthly commissioner at community institution De Kempen, campus De Hutten Published article: L. HOFKENS, "Het rookverbod in de gemeenschapsinstellingen: gesitueerd binnen een begrijpelijk en coherent juridisch kader?", TJK 2023, 252-259.

#### 115. Book Discussion - Informers Up Close: Stories from Communist Prague

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, War Crimes (Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice WG)

Roundtable

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.13

This roundtable will reflect on the recently published book - *Informers Up Close: Stories from Communist Prague* (OUP) - co-authored by Mark Drumbil and Barbora Holá. Informers contribute to the power of repressive regimes. While informers may themselves be victims, and are enlisted by the state, their actions can cause other individuals to suffer significant harm. Informers, then, are central to the proliferation of endemic human rights abuses. 'Informers Up Close' explores two questions: (i) why ordinary people inform on others in repressive times, and (ii) how, after those times end, law and politics should speak of, to, and about informers. Through a case-study of Communist Czechoslovakia (1945-1989)—and drawing from secret police archives, oral histories, and a broad gamut of secondary sources—'Informers Up Close' unravels the complex drivers behind informing and the dynamics of societal reactions to informing. It explores the agency of both informers and secret police officers. By presenting informers 'up close', and the relationships between informers and secret police officers in high resolution granularity, 'Informers Up Close' centers the role of emotions in informer motivations and underscores the value of dignity in transitional reconstruction. This book also leverages research from informing in authoritarian states to better understand informing in so-called liberal democratic states which, after all, also rely on informers to maintain law and preserve order.

Chairs:

**Mark A. Drumbil**, Washington & Lee University  
**Barbora Holá**, The Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR) & Centre for International Criminal Justice, VU University Amsterdam

Discussants:

**Kjersti Lohne**, University of Oslo  
**Maja Munivrana**, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb  
**Jakub Drápal**, Charles University; Institute of State and Law of Czech Academy of Sciences  
**Antony Pemberton**, Katholieke Universiteit of Leuven (KU Leuven)

#### 116. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 11: Young people - gender and GBV

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.17

Chair:

**Lana Jeries**, University of Cambridge

Participants:

Relationship Between Impulsiveness and Indirect Aggression Among Arab Female: The Mediating Role of Affiliation With Delinquent Peers and Moderating Role of Closeness to Parents  
**Lana Jeries**, University of Cambridge

This study examined the mediating role of affiliation with delinquent peers (ADP) and the moderating role of closeness to parents in the relationship between impulsivity and perpetration of indirect aggression. Arab female adolescents in Israel (aged 12–21; N = 404) completed a self-report questionnaire. The mediation-moderation model was examined after controlling for intersectional factors related to the females' unique social locations in Arab society. The study found that 66.1% of the girls had perpetrated at least one indirect act of aggression at least once during the past month. Moreover, most reported agreement with at least one item that examined their closeness to their father and mother (75.7% and 77%, respectively). The results also showed that the direct effect of impulsivity on perpetration of indirect aggression against others became significant after including the mediation factor (ADP). Finally, for high closeness to parents, the association between impulsivity and ADP was positive and significant, whereas it was insignificant for medium and low closeness. The findings highlight the importance of operationalized as parent—closeness to parents, child communication skills, boundary setting, and monitoring, which may decrease the tendency of adolescents to perpetrate aggression.

'Responding to Risks': Researching Extreme Misogyny, Policy, and the Experiences of Secondary School Teachers **Lizzie**

**Mansell**, Liverpool Hope University

Several recent high-profile occurrences of misogynistic and involuntary celibacy (or Incel) extremism have captured popular and media attention. Anecdotal evidence suggests that teachers and schools are seeing an increase in extreme misogyny in their settings, but despite this, there is little understanding of policy guidance as to how to respond to this issue and the contours of the space remain poorly understood. In the context of frontline professionals working in secondary education – the space arguably most impacted by misogynistic extremism - this lacuna has significant consequences. Little work has been done to understand both the extent to which schools have a responsibility to respond to the issue, and their efforts to do so. To address this gap, this paper presents the results of an analysis of national policies with the aim of better understanding where schools' legal requirements to respond to extreme misogyny sit, and the avenue through which they should address the issue. It will then present the findings of policy analysis from case study schools to determine how national policies are enacted on the frontline. This will form part of the author's PhD research project aimed at assessing how schools understand and respond to extreme misogyny, with a view to piloting and developing interventions that will enable educators to better identify and respond to the threat of violence from pertinent groups.

Risk factors, predictors and mediators of attitudes towards violence against women among second-generation refugee, migrant and native Swiss adolescents in Zurich, Switzerland.  
**Lana Ghuneim**, University of Sheffield; **Manuel Eisner**, University of Cambridge; **Denis Ribeaud**, University of Zurich  
 Research on violence against women (VAW) attitudes among adolescent migrant communities is limited. This study examines VAW attitudes in second-generation refugee and migrant adolescents compared to native adolescents in Zurich, Switzerland. Participants completed surveys at ages 15 and 17 as part of a longitudinal study. The research explores differences in VAW attitudes between groups and identifies factors associated with higher support for VAW. Findings show low overall support for VAW across all groups, with second-generation refugee adolescents significantly more likely to support VAW than native adolescents. However, regression analyses controlling for gender, parental education, and maternal Gender Inequality Index (GII) revealed no direct relationship between migration background and VAW attitudes without interaction terms. Significant interactions were found between refugee background and moral neutralisation of aggression at ages 15 and 17, and with experiencing corporal punishment at age 15. Higher VAW attitudes among second-generation refugees are linked to increased moral neutralisation of aggression and experience of corporal punishment. Interestingly, those with average levels of these factors demonstrate lower VAW attitudes compared to both second generation migrants and natives, indicating successful assimilation. Overall, while VAW attitudes are generally low among second-generation refugees, targeted interventions addressing moral neutralisation of aggression could mitigate residual higher support during this developmental phase.

#### 117. European Developmental and Life-course Criminology Working Group, Panel 3: The development of (juvenile) delinquency

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Development and Life Course Perspectives (Development and Life Course Criminology WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.18

Chair:

**Jasper Bendler**, Bielefeld University

Participants:

Children in care who are sentenced to custody: is there anything distinctive about their life histories, and why did interventions fail? **Teresa Cox**, Buckinghamshire New University; **Maria Ansbro**, Buckinghamshire New University

This project sought to find out if there is anything particular about

children in care (CIC) who become imprisoned that sets them apart from the majority of CIC who do not. Although UK outcomes for children who have been in the care of the Local Authority are generally poorer than those who have not, it is still only the minority of CIC who find themselves in custody. This research used case records to examine the lives of a sample young people who were sentenced to custody whilst they were in the care of the Local of Authority. Our findings paint a (possibly unsurprising) picture of backgrounds that lacked stability and parental involvement, but it was difficult to identify anything qualitatively different from the backgrounds of most CIC. There were two recurring issues around the way that this group of children were worked with by professionals and dealt with by the Courts. The first was that diversionary, desistance-based principles had questionable results when dealing with the children in the sample who had been recruited into 'County Lines' type drug dealing. The second was that substantial resources were invested in the cases once problems were extreme but achieved little, whereas a fraction of the resources at a much earlier stage might have been more fruitful.

**Do Adverse Childhood Experiences Cause Criminal Behavior in Collectivist Societies? The Case of Turkey** *Ayhan Erbay, Istanbul Kultur University*

Although the effect of adverse childhood experiences on criminal behavior has been examined in the field of criminology for many years, it is still not clear whether these adverse childhood experiences have a direct effect on criminal behavior. Since the studies referenced in the literature mostly reflect individualistic cultures, it is necessary to understand this mechanism in collectivistic cultures. In individualistic cultures, temperament traits such as anger, hostility, moodiness, poor self-regulation, and inability or unwillingness to inhibit one's behavioral reactions to others are reported to have a stronger predictive capacity than psychopathological symptoms such as psychopathy and adverse childhood experiences. In collectivist cultures, it is reported that abuse history predicts criminal behavior in studies conducted among the convicted population, but the results obtained in the non-convicted population remain unclear. For this purpose, how adverse childhood experiences affect criminal behavior in Turkey, which reflects a collectivist culture, was examined. In this study, data were collected through self-report in a cross-sectional design with 391 individuals older than 18 years of age. The relationship between adverse childhood experiences and criminal behavior was examined in the context of the parallel multi-mediator role of participants' psychopathological symptoms. According to the results, it was found that there was no direct effect between adverse childhood experiences and criminal behavior, but hostility and interpersonal sensitivity symptoms mediated the relationship between adverse childhood experiences and criminal behavior. Based on these findings, it was concluded that the effect of adverse childhood experiences on criminal behavior in collectivist cultures, similar to the studies conducted in individualistic cultures, may not be direct, but effective in the presence of some psychopathological characteristics. keywords: adverse childhood experiences, criminal behavior, collectivist culture

**Predicting juvenile delinquency in the context of different legal socialization processes.** *Ameen Azmy, criminology department at Bar-Ilan University and faculty of humanities at Ono Academic College; Tomer Einat, Department of Criminology, Bar-Ilan University; Avital Mentovich, University of Haifa*

Research on policing and juveniles has been limited to exploring the juvenile's perceptions of police legitimacy and cooperation with law enforcement. However, there have been very few studies that have examined the factors that lead to juvenile delinquency within different legal socialization processes. This current study aims to fill this gap by exploring the dynamics between social resistance, perception of police legitimacy, evaluation of police fairness, and assessment of police effectiveness in explaining juvenile delinquency among three groups of juveniles: (a) at-risk juveniles (N=150); (b) normative juveniles (N=143); and (c) at-risk juveniles participating in a police studies program (N=175). The study found that among at-risk juveniles, an evaluation of police effectiveness and social resistance were significant predictors of risky and criminal behavior. Furthermore, the results showed that police effectiveness was a slightly stronger predictor of such behavior than

social resistance. Among normative juveniles, perception of police legitimacy and social resistance were significant predictors of risky and criminal behavior. However, social resistance played a stronger role in predicting such behavior than perceptions of police legitimacy. Lastly, among at-risk juveniles participating in a police studies program, only perceptions of police legitimacy were found to be a significant predictor of risky and criminal behavior, while an evaluation of police effectiveness and social resistance played no role in predicting such behavior.

**The reciprocal effects of the development of delinquency and the acceptance of legal norms** *Jasper Bendler, Bielefeld University*

In criminological research, legal norm acceptance is one of the most theoretically and empirically important factors influencing individual delinquency. While a large number of empirical analyses of the effect of legal norm acceptance on delinquency (especially juvenile delinquency) have been conducted in recent decades, the construct of legal norm acceptance itself has been little studied. In particular, the developmental trajectories during adolescence and the reciprocal influence of the trajectories of legal norm acceptance and delinquency have rarely been analysed in detail. Using data from the first eight waves of the Crime in the Modern City (CrimoC) panel study conducted in Duisburg, Germany, with over 3,000 adolescents, I examine how the developmental trajectories of delinquency and legal norm acceptance influence each other. The method used is a Bayesian parallel process latent growth model. First results suggest a reciprocal influence.

**118. WG-PLACE 3: Understanding and Preventing Auto Thefts**

**Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Routine Activities and Situational Perspectives (WG on Space and Culture)**

Pre-arranged Panel

2:30 to 3:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.06*

Car theft remains a problem in most major metropolitan areas in spite of decades of innovation in anti-theft technologies. This session brings together researchers working in Europe and the United States to examine empirical patterns in car theft. The session looks at the environments that foster car theft as well as differences in theft patterns across car types. The session asks how crime patterns can be leveraged to develop and implement novel crime prevention strategies that specifically target car theft.

Chair:

*P. Jeffrey Brantingham, University of California Los Angeles*

Participants:

**A place-based big data policing approach to car theft prevention** *Robin Khalfa, Ghent University; Wim Hardyns, Ghent University*

This presentation explores the application of a place-based big data policing approach for predicting and preventing car theft incidents. First, an overview is provided of (which and) how big data sources, including location technology data, municipal service records (e.g., parking registrations), and emerging sources like mobile phone data, can be used to quantify potential theft targets (i.e., vehicles) and their associated attributes. Furthermore, we delve into the integration of predictive big data analytics for predicting car theft occurrences. We present preliminary findings from a comparative analysis of diverse machine learning models applied to a car theft dataset spanning the period 2007-2018 for the city of Ghent, Belgium. Specifically, three machine learning algorithms are employed and compared: Ensemble Neural Network (ENN), Random Forest (RF), and K-Nearest Neighbor (KNN). The performance of these algorithms is assessed through various established performance metrics, including but not limited to, direct hit rate, near-hit rate, precision, and F1 score. Finally, the implications of our findings are discussed in light of different crime prevention strategies within the context of car theft.

**What do "balance-of-trade" models tell us about variation in supply and demand for stolen cars across city neighborhoods?**

*P. Jeffrey Brantingham, University of California Los Angeles; Craig D. Uchida, Justice & Security Strategies, Inc.*

In a typical year, around 20,000 cars are reported stolen in the City of Los Angeles. Around 60% of these stolen vehicles are eventually recovered, though often from locations far from the initial point of



theft. This paper examines the spatial patterning in theft-recovery data for different make-models of cars using a “balance-of-trade” approach. In a closed world, each theft of a car from one neighborhood would be balanced by the recovery of that car from the same or some other neighborhood. The theft-recovery pattern thus should reflect the supply-and-demand relationships within and between neighborhoods. Specifically, some neighborhoods may be net “exporters” of stolen vehicles and other neighborhoods net “importers” of stolen vehicles. We explore whether neighborhoods spatially cluster into functional “exporting” or “importing” blocks. We also address whether theft-recovery patterns within and between neighborhoods vary across car make-models. Some car types may be almost always recovered when stolen, and others almost never recovered. The implications for countering both opportunistic and organized car theft are discussed.

**Empowering Youth to Become Co-producers of Community Safety: Implementing a Community Response to Address an Unprecedented Increase in Kia and Hyundai Auto Thefts**  
*Alejandro Gimenez-Santana, Rutgers University; Adriana Santos, Rutgers University; Gaspard Tissandier, School of Criminal Justice Rutgers University-Newark*

In 2021, a TikTok video commonly known as the “Kia Challenge” was launched by a youth group in the United States. This short video described how Kia and Hyundai cars manufactured between 2011 and 2021 have a design vulnerability that allows the ignition to be bypassed using a simple USB cable. As a result of this viral video, cities across the United States experienced an unprecedented increase in Kia and Hyundai auto thefts, with some cities reporting an exponential increase in incidents. The current study analyzes the spatio-temporal patterns associated with Kia and Hyundai auto thefts in the City of Newark. We identify hyperlocal environments, mainly residential areas near schools, as the main areas where auto thefts tend to cluster. This information was shared by the Newark Public Safety Collaborative (NPSC), an anchor initiative at Rutgers University-Newark, with over fifty community stakeholders. The response to the problem was to organize various focus group sessions with students attending schools near these hyperlocal areas. These sessions empowered youth to contextualize what community conditions were influencing this problem. It also allowed NPSC’s community partners to identify potential programs and activities to respond to this crime problem. The result was a coordinated community youth effort to reduce and prevent auto thefts in various opportunity zones across Newark.

**Comparing patterns in car theft across different built environments**  
*Craig D. Uchida, Justice & Security Strategies, Inc.; P. Jeffrey Brantingham, University of California Los Angeles; Shellie Solomon, Justice & Security Strategies; Robin Khalifa, Ghent University; Wim Hardyns, Ghent University*

Environmental criminology posits a strong relationship between the structure of the built environment and patterns in crime. Car theft poses an interesting case where the target is stationary at the time of theft, but the removal of the car is a central part of the theft process. Here we explore how the complexity of street network structures impact the character of car theft. We compare very different built environments in European and American settings to establish pattern similarities and differences.

**119. Collateral consequences, criminal records and employment**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Non-Criminal Justice Responses to Delinquency (WG on Collateral Consequence of Criminal Records)

Pre-arranged Panel

2:30 to 3:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.07*

The first paper challenges the so-called ‘subordinate importance’ of collateral legal consequences following a criminal conviction in comparison to actual punishment. It examines a peculiar case in which punishment fails to be imposed, but significant consequences akin to those usually arising from punishment nevertheless take effect, for example, citizenship deprivation and denial of repatriation of suspected offenders. This panel furthermore explores the relationship between criminal records and employment in important novel ways. The second paper combines a multi-method study, consisting of surveys, interviews and a participatory symposium, to explore employers’

attitudes towards hiring people with convictions (PWCs). Evidence-based approaches and a toolkit for inclusive hiring are presented, which allow for creating clear and consistent policies and practices regarding employment and reintegration of PWCs. The third paper applies an interdisciplinary quantitative study based on the large body of research on applicant reactions towards job selection procedures. The perceptions of various stakeholders, e.g. employers, applicants and screeners, are measured regarding the fairness and validity of criminal-record based pre-employment screening, also in comparison to several standard selection procedures. The fourth paper uses a systematic review to analyse the multidisciplinary literature on the relation between criminal records and on the job behaviour. Can it be evinced that people with criminal records make poor employees? It synthesises empirical evidence on, e.g., the relation between criminal records and task performance, organizational citizenship behaviour, and workplace deviance. The fifth paper critically examines the harms of exclusion and the narrative of ‘harm prevention’ surrounding collateral consequences. By adopting a social harm perspective, a reconceptualisation of collateral consequences as ‘harm production’ is presented, based on findings from semi-structured interviews with approximately 15 individuals with a criminal record in England and Wales.

Chair:

*Alessandro Corda, Queen's University Belfast*

Participants:

**No conviction, no consequences? Examining the consequences of the state’s failure to punish**  
*Milena Tripkovic, University of Edinburgh*

Collateral legal consequences follow a criminal conviction and significantly increase penal burdens imposed on criminal offenders: yet, these sanctions continue to be considered as subordinate in importance when compared to punishment. To substantiate a claim that such sanctions are equally – if not even more – important to the state’s repressive and exclusionary ambitions, I examine a peculiar case in which punishment (that is presumably deserved) fails to be imposed, but significant consequences akin to those usually arising from punishment nevertheless take effect. Using the examples of citizenship deprivation and denial of repatriation of suspected offenders, I demonstrate how countries work to deny rights and entitlements that pertain to all segments of the affected person’s life, including education, labor, family life, social welfare, political participation and so on. In other words, rather than seeking to punish such citizens, countries seek to eradicate them from all spheres of social, economic, and political life. The paper concludes by aiming to articulate the profile of a (suspected) offender who is commonly exposed to this form of (penal) exclusion.

**The Secondary Punishment: A Study on Employer Attitudes to Hiring People with Criminal Convictions and Toolkit for Inclusive Hiring**  
*Joe Garrihy, Maynooth University; Ciara Bracken-Roche, Maynooth University*

This paper examines the attitudes of employers in Ireland to hiring people with convictions(s) (PWCs) and the experiences of PWCs in employment. Employment remains a key protective factor on the distance journey and supports the development of an inclusive, fair, and equal society (Carr et al., 2015; Healy, 2017; Reich, 2017). Successful reintegration can partially be measured by employment outcomes for PWCs (Ramakers, 2021). There is evidence that employers are broadly open to hiring PWCs, but raise concerns based on perceptions of risk in doing so. The absence of guidance and uncertainty about evidence-based approaches and legal requirements leads to inconsistent policies and practices while PWCs continue to face intersecting barriers to employment and reintegration. This paper draws on a multi-method study of employers’ attitudes to hiring PWCs and experiences of employment pathways for PWCs, comprised of a survey (n = 55), interviews (n = 23), and a participatory symposium of key stakeholders in the summer of 2023. The paper presents 10 recommendations based on the key findings. The paper will be of interest to academics, researchers and people with lived experience of the criminal justice system while employers will benefit from the clear guidance for inclusive hiring of people with convictions in the form of a bespoke toolkit.

**Reactions towards pre-employment screening procedures: Perceptions of fairness and validity.**  
*Ard Barends, Leiden University; Elina van 't Zand-Kurtovic, Leiden University*

A large body of research investigates applicant reactions towards selection procedures, such as personality assessments and job interviews. However, no work has yet investigated reactions towards pre-employment screening procedures such as financial debt and criminal records screening, despite the fact that such procedures may reveal stigma of applicants. Moreover, organizations may have little discretion in these pre-employment screening procedures as there may be legal restrictions that prohibit people with criminal convictions from working in specific jobs. Therefore, it cannot be automatically assumed that employers and/or screeners have positive perceptions regarding the fairness and validity of such pre-employment screening procedures. The current quantitative study therefore investigates perceptions of fairness and validity towards various pre-employment screening procedures and compares those to reactions towards several standard selection procedures. Moreover, the current study also investigates whether these perceptions of applicants, employers, and screeners converge. The results of the current study help better understand how such widespread pre-employment screening procedures are perceived by various stakeholders. They also help explain various self-selection behaviors of applicants, e.g., withdrawal from selection procedures, and of employers, e.g., implementing criminal record screening when not legally required for the position.

**Criminal records and on the job behavior: A systematic literature review.** *Elina van 't Zand-Kurtovic, Leiden University; Ard Barends, Leiden University*

Research demonstrates that more than half of the job applicants are asked whether they have a criminal record at some point during their job search process, and that the use of criminal background checks is ever growing. Given the many restrictions they face on the job market, this suggests ample and convincing proof that people with a criminal past make poor employees. However, a synthesis of relevant empirical research on this topic is lacking. Therefore, our current systematic literature review attempts to give an overview of research investigating whether or not people with criminal records differ from those without such records in their on the job behaviors, such as task performance, organizational citizenship behavior, and workplace deviance. The relatively scarce research available seems to suggest that a conviction history does not predict counterproductive work behavior. The results of this systematic literature review allow for a critical reflection on the current steep rise in criminal record checks, as well as policy initiatives like Ban-the-Box, in order to increase successful employment outcomes for both employer and employee. Above all, they manifest the need for more research contributing to an accurate view of how employees with a criminal background actually behave on the job.

**The Harms of Exclusion: A Critical Analysis of Collateral Consequences of A Criminal Conviction** *Amy Gwen Sage, University of Bristol*

One in every six people in England and Wales have a criminal record. However, their attempts to 'live it down' are often frustrated by exclusionary treatment at the hands of employers, landlords, social housing providers, educational institutions, providers of financial services and state institutions. Commonly referred to as the 'collateral consequences of criminal conviction', such treatment severely restricts an individual from exercising their full rights and privileges as members of the community. This paper therefore conceptualises collateral consequences as tools of social exclusion, rendering a sizable proportion of the population unable to fully participate in some of the most basic elements of social life. They result in a substantial and, in some instances, permanent change in the legal and social status of those convicted of crime, perpetuating the distinction between 'offender' and 'non-offender', 'included' and 'excluded', long into an individual's post-sentence life. Despite being applied with a broad brush, with little consideration of the connection between the offence committed and the restriction imposed, the narrative surrounding collateral consequences is often framed in terms of harm prevention. However, through the adoption of a social harm perspective, this assertion is challenged and, instead, a reconceptualisation of collateral consequences, not as harm reduction, but as harm production devices is presented. This paper therefore presents a critical examination of the collateral

consequences stemming from criminal convictions, shedding light on the multifaceted harms of exclusion that permeate individuals' lives long after they have served their sentences. Findings from semi-structured interviews with approximately 15 individuals with a criminal record in England and Wales will be presented. Furthermore, this analysis critically evaluates existing and proposed legal frameworks and policy interventions aimed at mitigating the collateral consequences of criminal convictions.

## 120. Crime, Science and Politics WG Panel 3. Society's role in Criminal Policy Making

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Criminal Justice Policy (Crime, Science and Politics WG )

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.10

Chair:

*Dragoș Pârgaru*, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest

Participants:

**Polarization in Social Networks: A Systematic Review.** *Sara Sampayo Sande, Universidad Miguel Hernández de Elche*

The significance of polarization in criminal justice debates has been extensively researched across various fields. The emergence of new information and communication technologies, such as social media, has introduced new players and altered the traditional dynamics of the previously studied communication ecosystem. The significance of social networks and their increasing academic interest is undeniable. However, the study of this subject has not been extensively explored from the perspective of behavioural sciences, particularly criminology. Therefore, this research conducts a systematic review of existing empirical studies on polarization in social networks. The objective of this task is to collect and summarise the various methodologies used to address the problem. To carry out this systematic review, the PRISMA system was employed, and the sample was obtained from Web of Science and Scopus. The review included empirical articles published in the last five years that addressed polarization in social networks.

**Doing Peace and Security: Civil Society and the Production of Security on the Island of Ireland** *Alley Albert, Queen's University Belfast; Matt Bowden, TU Dublin; Amanda Kramer, Queen's University Belfast; Chloe Therese Carragher, Technological University Dublin*

Critical elements of the peace settlement in Northern Ireland included the reform of policing, the formation of political institutions, the standing down of paramilitary violence and the transition of combatants to both politics and civil society. In the Republic of Ireland, police reform since 2005 gave rise to a greater pluralisation of policing, embracing inputs at local and municipal level by both civil society and local politics. In the border context, civic peace and security was greatly aided by the effective invisibility of the border – a resolution which has been seriously jarred by Brexit and the uncertainties and tensions it creates. This paper reports on the qualitative findings of a study of the role of civil society in the production of 'everyday security' in the border regions of Ireland, north and south. The findings stress the central role of local actors who make investments in everyday practices including the de-escalation of conflicts, the formation of relationships across nationalist and unionist divides, and engagements with formal policing institutions. While civil society is relied upon to provide inputs into producing security in the form of information capital and goodwill (social capital), its value remains unenumerated in the production of peace and security, and consequently it is a marginal, underfunded and poorly resourced sector.

Thus spoke the Dictator *Amr Marzouk, Erasmus University Rotterdam*

Cyberspace has emerged as a new frontier for citizens to express their opinions and exercise their freedom, particularly in the face of authoritarian conditions in various parts of the world. However, this freedom has been increasingly challenged, as many authoritarian governments have instituted more restrictive laws under the guise of protecting morality and security concerns. This paper examines

the elite-engineered moral panic surrounding the Internet in post-Arab Spring Egypt, specifically focusing on the penal policies, and implemented laws. Through discourse analysis of publicly available speeches by state officials, this study reveals a deliberate attempt to create panic and moral hysteria regarding the Internet and social media platforms. The narrative constructed by state officials aimed to portray these digital spaces as hubs for nefarious activities and societal disruption, thereby justifying the passage of laws that significantly curtailed online freedoms and enabled heightened censorship. Over a span of nine years, numerous restrictive laws have been enacted, leading to a substantial increase in arrests based on these laws. By shedding light on the deliberate construction of moral panic and its consequences, this research contributes to a deeper understanding of the tactics employed by authoritarian regimes to stifle online freedoms and control cyberspace."

Limiting the extent to which legislators should obey society's requests for criminalisation and harsh punishment of certain offences *Dragoş Pârgaru, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest*

Recent history has witnessed a strong shift towards populist policies, either expressed as a political programme or actually implemented in certain jurisdictions and regarding certain aspects. Unfortunately, criminal law has not been shielded by such approaches. Of course, the law should develop in a manner that reflects the social paradigm of a certain period. As social values change over time, the law should adapt accordingly both in regard to the conducts it criminalises and in regard to the penalties it prescribes for different offences. However, a question arises: should the legislator fully mirror society's wishes or should the legislators ignore what it considers unjustified or exaggerated requests? If the correct answer is the latter, where should the limit be set and what are the methods by which the legislator would determine which requests are well founded and which requests are to be disregarded?

## 121. Theoretical and Epistemological debates in Criminology

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Theoretical and Epistemological debates in Criminology (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14*

Chair:

**Renata Salecl**, Institute of Criminology at Faculty of Law, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Participants:

Problem-solving criminology: Proposal for a new discipline *teresa silva, Mid Sweden University*

Ideally, developing interventions or strategies to prevent or hinder crime is framed by a problem-solving approach that involves cycles of design and evaluation in which (alternative) solutions are proposed, selected, and improved. During the design stage, problem-solving criminologists draw upon up-to-date and resounding scientific literature to propose program theories that rationally align objectives and actions to serve a purpose (solve crime). In this regard, basic research produced in universities and research centres needs to be 'translated' in ways that make it possible to apply its findings in the field. Designing effective solutions for crime problems is a process analogue to product development, and the field relies on an epistemological framework placed on the intersection of design science, social science, and behavioral science. If we search for a preventive solution, then relying upon the field of prevention science may, eventually, be necessary. Likewise, police science and penology may assist in the design/development stage of interventions that use policing or criminal justice knowledge. We present the epistemological framework of the problem-solving criminology new discipline using violent extremism and organized crime prevention examples.

Translational (and Transnational) Criminology: A Journey through the United States *Bitna Kim, Sam Houston State University; Sunhye Kang, Sam Houston State University; Meghan Royle, Sam Houston State University; Matthew Bills, Correctional Management Institute of Texas*

Translational criminology, defined as "the theory and study of transforming criminological and criminal justice research into practical outputs, tools, programs, interventions, and actions," has emerged as a leading force in criminal justice innovation. Coined by John Laub during his tenure at the National Institute of Justice in 2012, this approach has spurred a significant shift towards implementing academic findings to advance criminal justice practice. This presentation aims to assess the evolution and current status of translational criminology in the United States, shedding light on its significance and influence for an international audience. At its core, translational criminology seeks to expedite the transition from knowledge to action, ensuring that empirical research informs everyday criminal justice operations. This has become increasingly imperative in tackling contemporary challenges within the criminal justice system. However, there is not a unanimous consensus among criminologists regarding the primary roles of their discipline. Thus, our examination will commence with a critical analysis of the ongoing debate: Should the emphasis be on comprehending the causality of criminal behavior, or should it shift towards crafting problem-solving interventions? Subsequently, through an exploration of case studies, this presentation will underscore successful instances where US criminological research has been effectively applied in policy reform and academia. We will address the facilitators and barriers encountered, offering a comprehensive perspective on the implementation of translational criminology. In conclusion, the presentation will underscore the indispensable role of translational criminology in enhancing criminal justice practices globally. It is anticipated that this presentation will offer insights into how a customer-centric approach to research—engaging researchers, practitioners, and policymakers as equal partners—can foster evidence-based practices in criminal justice. Ultimately, the aim is to demonstrate how collaborative research can be conceived, disseminated, and applied to generate impactful, evidence-based practices within the realm of criminal justice.

Apathy, crime and permanent states of exception *Renata Salecl, Institute of Criminology at Faculty of Law, Ljubljana, Slovenia*

At a time of traumatic social situations and political turmoil, more and more people are choosing to shut themselves away in their own bubbles or disconnect from daily information. This is especially happening in times of permanent states of exception, when governments are inventing ever new ways to control people. But apathy and emotional numbness isn't something we encounter only in times of social crisis. Neoliberalism has created an atmosphere in which apathy has become a means of escaping the pressures to increase our productivity, success and happiness. The lecture will address the difference between apathy that existed in times of socialism and apathy that is present in the neoliberal societies. It will show how apathy is related to crimes of the powerful and how acceptance of corruption contributes to emotional numbness. In conclusion, the lecture will show how sometimes in times of overheated political passions, apathy can paradoxically provide a moment of reflection and distance.

## 122. Mendelsohn's Archive and the Early Days of Victimology

Topic 4: Victimology/Patterns and trends in Victimization (Victimology WG)

Roundtable

2:30 to 3:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.20*

The Mendelsohn archives represent an invaluable collection chronicling the emergence and development of victimology. This collection comprises original materials, including Mendelsohn's extensive correspondence, seminal articles, photographs, and personal documents, that trace the discipline's evolution over its first 30 years. They offer a window into the mind of victimology's founding father, revealing his pioneering thoughts and the challenges he faced. Our roundtable will center on Menachem Mendelsohn's archives, exploring their discovery, existing research, and prospects. Using recently acquired documents from the Jerusalem archive and additional holdings from the Max Planck Institute and the Faculty of Law in Bucharest, our discussion will focus on Mendelsohn's life, ideologies, and the early stages of victimology. Presenters will analyze these newfound materials, revealing Mendelsohn's initial theories and the historical context in which he operated. The session will outline forthcoming research plans, inviting scholars to contribute to broadening our comprehension of victimology's

history and shaping its future trajectory. We will also pay tribute to Leslie Sebba's dedication to upholding Mendelsohn's legacy, notably through his role on the Scientific Commission of the International Society for Criminology in Paris. Our roundtable endeavors not only to reveal new findings but also to encourage discourse on their importance. Experts will discuss how these materials, alongside the primary findings, enrich our understanding of victimology's origins and development, potentially reframing current perspectives and uncovering previously overlooked aspects of Mendelsohn's impact on the field. Finally, we will explore possibilities to expand our research, inviting collaboration from fellow researchers to advance our project's goals.

Chairs:

**Beatrice Coscas Williams**, Western Galilee Academic college  
**Francesco Zanvetor**, Hebrew University, Jerusalem  
**Simha Landau**, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Professor Emeritus of Criminology

Discussants:

**Jan van Dijk**, NSCR  
**Andra Roxana Trandafir**, University of Bucharest  
**Josep Tamarit**, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya  
**Stephan Parmentier**, KU Leuven  
**Michael Kilchling**, Max Planck Institut (Freiburg)  
**Polina Smiragina-Ingelström**, DIS and Lund University

### 123. Policing and sex crimes

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Sex Crimes, Sex Work and Sex Trafficking

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22

Chair:

**Duncan McPhee**, University of the West of England

Participants:

Police liaison officers: Do they work? **Larissa Sandy**, University of Nottingham

Police liaison officers (PLO) are seen as an important form of service enhancement focused on building stronger, more supportive relationships between marginalised communities and police. Police liaison programs have come to dominate police service enhancement approaches as the preferred way to improve relations with communities that have had, and continue to have, problematic interactions with police (such as sex workers and LGBTIQ+ communities). While the PLO model dominates, we have limited research on whether these forms of police service enhancement do in fact enhance the service these communities receive from police. This paper overviews the results of a research project conducted in partnership with a local sex worker organisation that focused on police liaison officers involved with the support of sex workers. It considers the challenges and barriers of using these approaches with these communities, and how the PLO model could be adapted to address some of these concerns and makes recommendations.

Policing pleasure: International comparisons of what works to reduce the solicitation of sex **Nhi Ngoc Hoang Le**, Sam Houston State University; **Holly A. Miller**, Sam Houston State University; **Jordan Medrano**, Sam Houston State University

To date, research and legislation targeting sex workers dominates the literature. Given the increase of interest in reducing sex trafficking and recognitions that sex workers are victims rather than offenders, efforts have been made to focus on other participants playing a role in this problem. Notably, there is very little focus on those who solicit sex from the workers, colloquially known as "Johns". Given that men who solicit sex represent the demand for sex work, research on criminal legal responses towards this group is warranted. In this study, we compare American efforts to sentence and punish men who solicit sex to international efforts. We examine the legislation of Sweden, Australia, and the Netherlands, representing nations where prostitution is illegal, regulated, or legal respectively. After reviewing their policies, we compare them to legislation in the United States, where prostitution is criminalized. A discussion on the effectiveness of each approach is presented. The findings from this review can further inform researchers about

the most effective approach for managing men who solicit sex.

Policing Violence Against Sex Workers in Gwent (South Wales, UK); Examining Police and Sex Worker Perspectives on Trust and Legitimacy. **Duncan McPhee**, University of the West of England; **Jane Nolan**, University of the West of England

There are long established challenges that relate to how sex workers interact with the police; among them, a reluctance to report experiences of victimization (Struyf 2022), a lack of trust and confidence in the police (Krusi et al 2016), and concerns about investigative strategies, criminal justice outcomes, safeguarding and the identification/management of risk. In 2024, Gwent Police (South Wales, UK), entered into a research partnership with the University of the West of England and Cyfannol (Women's Aid). With support from the Police STAR fund, the project was set up to evaluate policing responses to incidents of sexual violence reported to the police by sex workers and sexually exploited adults (SEA) in Gwent. In bringing together partners from policing, Women's Aid (Cyfannol) and academia, the project examines investigative approaches, community dynamics and processes of risk identification and management. Drawing on interviews conducted with both police officers and sex workers/SEA's in the spring/summer of 2024, this paper will present preliminary findings relating to two of the project's central questions regarding the nature of the relationship between sex workers/SEAs and the police, and the barriers that inhibit the reporting and investigation of violent offences committed against them. The findings will be discussed in the context of the broader aims and scope of this innovative research partnership which will run to Spring 2025.

### 124. EHC-WG Panel 4: Theoretical and Pedagogical Innovations in Historical Criminology

Topic 7: Comparative and Historical Perspectives/Historical Comparisons of Crime (Historical Criminology WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.04

Chair:

**Gordon Hughes**, Cardiff University

Participants:

Towards a Criminology of Empire: Some Foundational Questions and Provocations **Gordon Hughes**, Cardiff University

In this paper (and forthcoming book Towards a Criminology of Empire) I utilize and critically adapt the canon of classical social theory alongside the theoretical and empirical resources of contemporary historical-sociological scholarship as the major basis to explore a series of key questions that the rise, reproduction and fall of empires pose for the discipline of criminology. Although a body of substantive historical and sociological work exists on empire, a systematic attempt to develop a comparative and historical criminology of empire has not yet been attempted. Developing the basis of such a comparative sociological criminology of empire will be my major contribution in the forthcoming monograph to this burgeoning field of study into the histories of 'crime, violence and empire'. In particular, it is suggested that the most productive way into moving 'towards a criminology of empire' is to begin by establishing the key canonical questions that such a historical criminology must address. Given the time constraints of a panel presentation, the paper focuses specifically on delineating what I contend are the five foundational questions that a historically-ambitious sociological criminology of empire and colonialism must address.

Criminology, globalisation, nomos: Carl Schmitt's The Nomos of the Earth as key to re-locating the criminological imagination. **Wayne Morrison**, Queens Mary

Carl Schmitt's Nomos of the Earth (1950 in German English translation 2003) re-presents the development of globalism. Globalism first occurred through European Imperialism where under the legitimacy of the Church European powers took possession of the 'empty' spaces of the world in the name of discovery; seizure of land, division and then productive use and trade. Discovery always occurred without the permission of the 'discovered peoples' and the discovered became known through the

knowledges (the ‘sciences’) of the discoverer who thereby knew the discovered better than the discovered did themselves. Europe retained its position as the power and knowledge centre, the Nomos (the understanding of right and legitimacy) of the world became a set of concrete situations (colonies/kingdoms etc individual situations of legal positivism) in relation to a Europe that determined the Jurisprudence. While Europe internally became more and more a civilised space, where the rule of law and norms of social organisation developed, outside, whatever took place was not judged by the same norms – instead it was that which was assumed necessary to deal with the ‘others’, the savages, inferior races, the degenerate. Schmitt sought a new Nomos of the Earth, for him this lay in a return to the soil, to the relationship to the earth itself. Ironically this is central to the use of post-colonial indigenous perspectives. Schmitt fits contemporary post-colonial Aotearoa/New Zealand where Māori (people of the land), first treated as a savage race expected to die out, now are 15% of the population but 54% of the male prison population, where the imposed legal order is asked to re-accommodate Māori tikanga either as radial co-existence or abolition of the inherited.

**Historical criminology, embodiment, and phenomenology** *Daniel Gyollai, University of Copenhagen*

In their recent book, *Historical Criminology*, Churchill, Yeomans, and Channing (2022, pp. 6, 43-44) use the term “embodied time”, i.e., “a time embodied in things and a time to which things belong”, to illustrate the historical specificity and historicity of crime. This article proposes that the concept of embodiment, if used in its phenomenological sense, would better serve the purpose of analysing how the past shapes our understanding of crime and criminal justice. Collective memories that underlie emotions and attitudes towards both violence and criminal justice, are often constructed through experiences in interactions, rather than merely through narratives and discourse. To put it differently, such attitudes develop as a result of our capacity to reconstruct and re-actualize patterns of dispositions formed through a history of encounters. Drawing on phenomenological accounts of the role of the body in shaping our experiences and memories, e.g., collective body memories, the article outlines how this occurs in the context of crime and crime control.

**Integrating True Crime Videos into the Classroom** *Mark Jones, East Carolina University*

In this presentation, I discuss ways to integrate YouTube videos, featuring myself, other scholars, experts in the field, which function as guest speakers, into the criminology/criminal justice classroom, be it face to face or online. A number of crimes of significant socio-political impact, in the United States and Europe, filmed on location with voice overlays, are profiled. Suggestions and tips on creating videos as teaching tools, from making the most of inexpensive camera work to writing scrip for YouTube videos are covered. Some of the cases included are the duel between Hamilton and Burr in the United States to the Florence Monster serial killer to Jack the Ripper. Lesser known crimes are included as well. On location filming adds to the learning experience, bringing the event off the pages of a printed book or website to a visual medium with which many modern students can better relate.

## 125. WG Organized Crime and Criminal Networks Panel 5: Organized crime: involvement, trajectories and vulnerabilities

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Organized Crime (Organized Crime WG)

Paper Session

2:30 to 3:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06*

Chair:

**Cecilia Meneghini**, University of Exeter

Participants:

**Elite Private Security & The Transnational Intersectionality of Privilege** *Conor O'Reilly, University of Leeds*

The harmful effects of diverse and concurrent global insecurities are increasingly felt by those possessing multiple intersecting disadvantages of race, of gender, of socio-economic class, or of other structural frailty. Understandably, this enhanced risk exposure is an important focus for research attention. However, a contrasting

contributor to unequal security experiences in this time of polycrisis is to be found in its obverse, the transnational intersectionality of privilege. An important trend that has yet to receive significant academic attention. Whilst vulnerability experienced by the marginalised is increased by intersecting global insecurities, elites have emerged comparatively impregnable to harm and have proved highly insulated from global risks through multiple, intersecting, privileges. In particular, they are increasingly protected by strategically connected consortia of global risk professionals offering portfolios of highly bespoke and ‘always-on’ security, healthcare, insurance and emergency response products and services. Focussing on these niche security actors and the concierge security services they provide, this paper spotlights their strategic harnessing of the contemporary nexus between permanxiety and polycrisis. Engaging with scholarship concerned with elite mobilities, transnational policing and security commodification, this paper addresses how we might conceptualise elite entrepreneurial security responses to increasingly interconnected global risks as well as drawing attention to elite private security’s role in exacerbating already uneven global mobility / security experiences.

**Pre-mortem Analysis of British Border Vulnerabilities to Organised Crime Activities post-Brexit** *Jakub Pinter, UCL (University College London)*

Borders are considered to be one of the primary defences of nation states against a range of threats such as terrorism and organised crime. Countries around the world continue to securitise their borders and border security often plays a role in political competitions. Perceived inability of British authorities to control its own borders was one of the reasons why British public voted to leave the European Union. In the campaign leading up to the Brexit referendum, Leave campaign argued that free movement provisions enshrined in the EU treaties make it harder to fight terrorism and deal with criminals. However, following Brexit, UK lost access to some of the EU internal security instruments such as Second generation Schengen Information System which is the largest information sharing system for security and border management in Europe. Considering changes to the UK’s border regime and to the capabilities of its law enforcement, it is necessary to analyse the effectiveness of British border security policies and to analyse changes in the criminal landscape that can lead to new opportunities for organised crime. The pre-mortem analysis is a method for stress-testing that is used to assess policy robustness by identifying weaknesses or flaws in existing policies and potential breaking or failure points along possible policy trajectories. It relies on the concept of prospective hindsight, i.e. generating explanations for a future event as it has already happened. Past research shows that application of prospective hindsight increases chances to correctly identify reasons for future outcomes by 30%. To better anticipate organised crime developments in the context of post-Brexit UK border vulnerabilities, this paper conducts pre-mortem analysis to gain a deeper understanding of organised crime threats related to UK border, and to develop measures that can strengthen border security of the UK.

**Tracing the (financial) paths: Analyzing the criminal pathways of financial facilitators** *Jo-Anne Kramer, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam/Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR); Arjan Blokland, NSCR; Edward Kleemans, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; Melvin Soudijn, National Police of the Netherlands (KLPD)*

Financial facilitators are pivotal in laundering the substantial proceeds generated by serious drug offenders through illicit activities. They are able to launder significant sums of illegally obtained money, as they possess specialized expertise needed to circumvent legal and procedural barriers raised by anti-money laundering policies. The services offered may include intricate schemes such as concealing illegal origins through corporate structures, or simpler methods like underground banking transfers. Thus, as money laundering services offered can be diverse and seriously varying in terms of complexity, this raises questions about the type of offenders who serve as financial facilitators. Existing literature on money laundering primarily focusses on modus operandi and the efficacy of anti-money laundering policies, with limited insight into the background, including criminal careers, of

financial facilitators. While studies on criminal careers of financial-economic offenders indicate tendencies towards specialization in financial-economic offences, late onset of criminal activities, and minimal prior offences, they predominantly examine fraudsters, with money laundering seldom being their primary offence. The study aims to address this gap by employing a life-course perspective to analyze the criminal trajectories of 198 financial facilitators active in the Netherlands between 2016 and 2020. Utilizing data from the Research and Policy Database Criminal Documentation (OBJD) maintained by the Research and Documentation Centre (WODC) of the Dutch Ministry of Justice and Security, the study examines each case registered by the Public Prosecution Service involving the targeted facilitators, starting from age 12. Group-based trajectory analysis will be employed to discern patterns in the criminal careers of these facilitators. One of the questions to be answered is, for instance, whether financial facilitators who mainly offer money laundering services to drug offenders are more similar to financial-economic offenders or typical blue-collar offenders in terms of their criminals careers.

Violence transmission dynamics and organized crime involvement *Cecilia Meneghini, University of Exeter; Francesco Calderoni, Transcrime / Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan)*

Previous research across various offending samples consistently suggests that co-offending can increase the probability of committing violent crimes in the future. However, while studies on general offenders attribute this phenomenon to mechanisms involving the internalization of violence—akin to epidemics where exposure to violent offenders leads individuals to adopt similar behaviors—research on organized crime offenders indicates the operation of distinct mechanisms. Specifically, among organized crime groups, co-offending appears to facilitate the transmission of violence without necessarily inducing the internalization of violent behavior as posited in earlier studies. This discrepancy may be explained by the unique dynamics within criminal associations, where group processes foster a continuous and dynamic diffusion of responsibility. Such involvement may incentivize future acts of violence committed in collaboration with others, with little or no impact on future solo violent offending. In this study, we aim to investigate this hypothesis by quantitatively assessing whether the influence of co-offending on future violent behavior varies following organized crime involvement. To achieve this, we leverage a large dataset including all the crimes committed by organized crime offenders in Italy to reconstruct offenders' criminal careers before and after organized crime recruitment. We employ dynamic regression models to estimate the impact of co-offending on the probability of committing violence in subsequent offending periods, distinguishing between pre- and post-organized crime involvement phases. Results contribute to our understanding of the mechanisms underlying the transmission of violent behavior among organized crime cohorts, shedding light on how group dynamics influence criminal trajectories.

## 126. Prison Working Group: Life in women's prisons: Adjustment, quality of life, and peer support

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”

Chair:

*April Smith*, University of Portsmouth

Participants:

Female Imprisonment in Ireland: The Need to Research These ‘Institutions of Hope’. *Maria Cleary, School of Law and Criminology, Maynooth University, Maynooth, Kildare, Ireland*

Women who offend have been recognised as a complex and vulnerable cohort internationally, yet they continue to be marginalised in criminology, penal policy, and prison systems. In Ireland, female imprisonment is a particularly under-researched area and previous empirical studies are now outdated. However, the

female prison landscape continually receives particular attention, both positive and negative. Recently, there have been significant developments for women in prison in Ireland. Ireland's first gender-informed, female-only prison, the Dóchas Centre – ‘Dóchas’ meaning ‘hope’ in the Irish language - was recently joined by a new female prison in Limerick in October 2023. This has been said to exemplify international best practice, constitute a trauma-informed environment and continues the legacy of an institution of ‘hope’. Nevertheless, Ireland's female prisons continue to be subject to criticism, and there are concerns relating to the outcomes stemming from recent reforms. This highlights the critical need for comprehensive research on female imprisonment in Ireland. This paper will provide an introduction to female imprisonment in Ireland, including the new ‘state of the art’ prison and its context within a challenging penal landscape. It will present the need for in-depth research on the lived experiences, power relations and cultures within female prisons in Ireland. Lastly, it will present how, and why this research aims to be conducted through an ethnographic approach within both institutions. This research will have significant findings for imprisonment research and penal policy internationally.

Incarcerated women's adjustment to life in prison *Katarzyna Celinska, John Jay College of Criminal Justice*

Forty-two women were interviewed in a northeastern state prison for women in the United States. This presentation depicts women's perspectives on their journey to adjustment to life in prison. The interviewed women were serving time for various crimes and resided in all levels of security units: minimum, medium and maximum. Women discussed their individual experiences in prison, their understanding and definition of adjustment, the nature and the process of adjusting to prison and the challenges that they experienced while coping with imprisonment. The interviews were semi-structured to encourage women to openly discuss their life stories and their experiences in prison. By applying the grounded theory approach, the results suggest that the vast majority of women identified being in a jail as a particularly difficult period in their lives. This extremely tough experience made in comparison their imprisonment easier and safer. In addition, women used various coping techniques that allowed them to view prison as a temporary placement that leads to life outside with their families and children. Women discussed also the challenges and subsequently, the changes in the prison's policies that could help them in better adjustment.

Relations and Quality of Life in Prison: A Longitudinal Study in Women Prison *Zala Osterc, University of Maribor; Gorazd Meško, University of Maribor; Rok Hacin, University of Maribor*

Prison workers' role in “modern” prison systems can be described as a form of peacekeeping, based on institutional legitimacy, communication, and building of relations with prisoners. Their main product is not security or control but personal interaction between them and prisoners. A comparative study focusing on the dynamic nature of legitimacy in prisons and relations between prison actors was implemented in the only prison for women in Slovenia in 2015 and 2023, where 29 prisoners were interviewed. In general, the results of the qualitative comparative analysis showed that prisoners perceive prison workers as legitimate power holders and develop good relations with them. Obtaining benefits and avoiding sanctions were identified as primary reasons for prisoners' cooperating with prison workers and compliance with their decisions. The findings exposed differences in prisoners' perception of prison workers' fairness, as well as, the nature of prison staff-prisoners' relations in studied periods.

Women in Prison in Serbia and the Quality of Prison Life *Sanja Čopić, University of Belgrade – Faculty for Special Education and Rehabilitation, Serbia; Ivana Stevanović, Institute of Criminological and Sociological Research, Serbia; Nikola Vujičić, Union University, Law School Belgrade, Serbia*

Female prisoners present one of the most vulnerable social groups, but they are rather marginalized in the studies, primarily due to their small share in the total prison population worldwide. The aim of the paper is to discuss findings of the empirical study on the quality of prison life (QPL) of female prisoners in Serbia. It is a part of the

national three-year research project entitled PrisonLIFE, supported by the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia (No. 7750249), which aims at identifying key aspects of the QPL of convicts in Serbia, assessing it and suggesting measures for improvement. The study was conducted in May and September 2022 on a sample of 91 females who served prison sentence in the Correctional Institution for Women in Pozarevac, the only prison for women in Serbia. The data was collected with the use of a Serbian version of the Measuring the Quality of Prison Life (MQPL) survey, assessing five dimensions of the prison social climate. Research results suggested relatively low general QPL of female convicts ( $M=3.53$ ;  $SD=2.54$ ; range 1–10). As for the QPL dimensions, the study revealed that Conditions and Family Contact, Harmony and Security dimensions were positively estimated, while relatively negative experience of female respondents was found with Wellbeing and Development and Professionalism dimensions. Differences in perceiving QPL based on respondents' socio-demographic, criminological and penological characteristics will be examined. We will conclude with pointing to specific prison climate dimensions requiring improvement or intervention.

**Understanding Peer Mentoring in a Women's Prison** *April Smith, University of Portsmouth*

This qualitative study investigates peer mentoring within the context of an operational women's prison in England and Wales, aiming to deepen understanding across three key areas. It explores how both inmates and staff perceive and understand peer mentoring, examines the impact of serving as a peer mentor on incarcerated women, and evaluates the broader implications for prison governance and the continuity of the mentorship role. Adopting a gendered approach, the study prioritises the perspectives and experiences of female peer mentors, conducting interviews and focus groups at HMP Holloway prior to its closure in 2016. Core principles of peer mentoring for incarcerated women, including sameness, authenticity, boundaries, and mutual aid, emerge from the research findings. The study reveals practical and personal gains accruing to peer mentors, such as empowerment and identity repair, while acknowledging role conflict and emotional impact. Peer mentoring also plays a role in facilitating desistance and achieving correctional objectives, reflecting its multifaceted nature within prison settings. The research highlights the utilisation of peer mentors by the prison to support operational functioning and the continuity of mentoring beyond release, albeit with inherent fragility due to mentors' ex-offender status. The conclusion provides a critical and positive assessment of peer mentoring, recommending the recognition and leveraging of mentors' unique strengths and skills, along with increased support and resources for their continued involvement.

## 127. The interplay of Police and Science: what can we learn from each other?

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”*

Both academics and police organisations seem to agree that there are mutually beneficial synergies in cooperating with each other. The police can benefit from academic insights to improve their own organization and procedures, while academics need the cooperation of the police if they want to be able to base their research on factual data, and if the goal is to inform policy and practice through research (Fleming 2010). Though a lot of emphasis is placed on quantitative research due to the prevalence of evidence-based policing (Sherman 1998), the range of methodologies and types of collaboration are growing further. At the same time, one cannot deny that this road has been bumpy, and the relationship has been described as a 'dialogue of the deaf' (Bronitt, 2013). The police can consider academic criticism as unfair, while academics may find it difficult to find the right balance and be a 'critical friend', someone who is independent but at the same time is actively searching to work together with the police to make improvements. In this panel, we present a number of papers related to this subject. One paper compares the police-science landscape in two countries. A second paper zooms into the potential contributions of Science and Technology Studies for police research and police practice. A third paper showcases the importance of academic

concepts such as policing and the police function on the political discussions of our expectations of the police in the (near) future. Finally, the last paper explores our academic understanding of the framing of police decisions in an ethical and not just a legal framework, enhancing police practices.

Chair:

*Joery Matthys, Leiden University*

Participants:

**Theorizing technoscience in-of policing and police studies** *Vlad Niculescu-Dinca, Leiden University*

Science and technology have arguably become constitutive to contemporary policing and security practice. At the same time, the influence of Science and Technology Studies (STS) concepts in police studies and practice is expanding but is far from reaching the potential it has achieved in other areas where science and technology are key. On the one hand, a growing critical collaboration between STS scholarship and policing and security communities sees the emergence of fruitful analyses, dissecting a plethora of political, ethical, social issues related to new technologies and their security uses (Egbert & Leese 2020, Leese et al. 2020, Niculescu-Dinca 2021). On the other hand, less scholarship has been directed towards police science itself, reflecting on the enterprise with the epistemological predispositions and conceptual frameworks of science and technology studies. What did scholars and practitioners mean with the notion of science in police science and how is it related to the one of technoscience(s)? This paper engages with key writings in the police studies literature that have problematised the enterprise of police science and analyses them through the lens of various conceptions of the notion of technoscience as put forth in the STS literature. From this analysis the paper reflects on the influence and potential of the concept in police studies, deriving implications for research and practice.

**The police-science landscape in Belgium and the Netherlands. A comparison.** *Monica den Boer, Leiden University; Joery Matthys, Leiden University*

The relationship between police and science is often tense. On the one hand, police organizations appear to be opening the doors to collaboration with science more often, but on the other hand, police organizations also seem wary of the role of science: contrary, critical views are not always desirable. But times are changing. The police increasingly indicate that they want to draw on a range of sources and want to use science as an important provider of validation, shying away from so-called fact-free policing. Science can also serve as a mirror and an opportunity for reflection. It can also be an interpreter towards others, explaining police practices without necessarily validating or condemning them. Science can on occasion even serve as a mouthpiece of the police, defending the necessity of the organisation in a modern democratic society. But it is not clear whether the police mainly regard science as a supporting instrument, discarding it if it is not fully supporting preconceived notions, or rather as an essential pillar on which it depends to guide future practices. This would hypothetically lead to a spectrum of different relationships between police and science, ranging from business/instrumental to synergistic/symbiotic. In this article we give conceptual insights into these relationships, and from an empirical standpoint compare the police-science landscape of the Netherlands with that of Belgium.

**The police function and the future of policing** *Joery Matthys, Leiden University*

Even before the introduction of the concept of plural policing (Loader 2000), showing that the police is not the only actor involved in policing, questions have been raised about what the core functions of the police are, or perhaps even more what makes the police distinct from all the other policing actors. Often, the possibility to use violence has been put forward as an answer to this question (Bittner 1972; Brodeur 2010). However, this paper posits that this claim is the result of a confusion of two distinct academic concepts, that of policing and that of the police function. While policing actors, of which the police if one, do distinguish themselves from other actors with the potential use of violence, the core police function in a democratic society seems to lie in the ability of the police to be the first point of contact with the citizen and therefore be involved in a whole range of societal issues, from

low to high policing. It is what sets it apart from other actors. This is an important conclusion, since police reforms searching for the distinguishing element of the police and finding it in its ability to use force, can be counterproductive by limiting the ability of the police to connect with citizens and address general issues.

**How It Works: Police-Science Collaboration Towards Evidence-Based Policing** *Mieke Struik, Netherlands Police; Valérie Peeck, Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement NSCR; Vana Hutter, Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR), Amsterdam, the Netherlands Department of Human Movement Sciences, Faculty of Behavioural and Movement Sciences, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherla; Stijn Ruiter, NSCR*

Evidence-based policing (EBP) means that the best available evidence is used to inform and challenge policing policies, practices and decisions (UK College of Policing). So, this is clearly about policing, not about academia. However, EBP can be supported by collaboration with academics. While EBP has often been incorrectly characterized as favoring a specific scientific method (i.e. randomized controlled trials) over others, we argue that this is only the result of the type of question EBP-proponents have been trying to answer. Indeed, RCTs could provide strong evidence for the effect of some intervention, tactic, or strategy in a certain context. However, other questions are just as important to decision-makers in police, which is why we embrace the EMMIE framework that is strongly rooted in the realist evaluation tradition. Next to questions regarding the Effect, police and academics should be equally interested in answering questions regarding the Mechanisms, Moderators, Implementation, and Economics. Answering these often require the full gamut of research methodologies. We discuss how we aim to contribute to EBP in the Netherlands and what it requires from both police practitioners and academics.

## 128. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 5: Sexual violence

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”*

Chair:

*Michele Jane Burman, University of Glasgow*

Participants:

**Bad Romance? Consent as a cultural artefact in the sex game gone wrong** *Alexandra Fanghanel, Greenwich University*

Contemporary sexual practice is in crisis. In this session I explore how this crisis emerges, in part through on ongoing tension within the English and Welsh criminal justice system's relationship with consensual sexual violence, risk, and criminality. By analysing a series of criminal cases from the past ten years, the paper will explore the approach that the courts take to policing non-normative, or deviant, sexualities alongside the imperative to act against gendered and sexualised violence. The cases concern incidents where women have been injured or killed during a sexual encounter with a man, and where that sexual encounter is held to be consensual. Consent is held as key in these debates and yet the very conceptualisation of consent itself can cause trouble in this crisis. In this paper, I argue that consent should be thought as a cultural artefact – a product of a socio-cultural present – that reflects contemporary sexual ethics. I examine how consent is operationalised and iterated in these crown court cases and how this interacts with contemporary sexual cultures, rape myths, and minoritised sexuality rights. By analysing consent in this way, we open the door to better understanding what consent can do, the limits of consent, and how thinking critically about consent can help us to navigate sex crises.

**Rape within relationships: How men convicted of intimate partner rape use the complexities of sexual consent to deny offending** *Faye Vanstone, Bath Spa University*

Men convicted of sexual offences experience intense stigmatisation

because of their offending. Previous research has explored denial as a method used by men convicted of sexual offences to resist the negative label associated with their offence. This paper explores the ways in which men imprisoned for intimate partner rape deny their offending. The data is based on in-depth semi-structured interviews with men convicted and imprisoned for rape, who deny the offence. The research was conducted in two prisons based in England and Wales. The findings illustrate that men convicted of intimate partner rape deny their offending to manage the stigma associated with a sexual offence. In accordance with the Sexual Offences Act 2003, the absence of consent was the reason for a rape conviction and, as such, understandings of sexual consent were an important part of the men's narratives and their denial. The men utilise denial strategies premised on the complexities of sexual consent, where they draw upon rape myths based on the intricacies of sex in established relationships. The findings demonstrate that the men, specifically, allege a precedence of consent and cite the continued relationship, after the offence occurred, to deny committing rape.

**Testimonial Injustice? Police decision-making in sexual offence cases in which the victim/survivor has learning disabilities and/or neurodiversity** *Helen Williams, University of Sunderland; Alison Jobe, Durham University*

People with learning disabilities and/or neurodiversity are at increased likelihood of sexual violence yet much less likely to disclose this to police. When they do report, their cases often drop out of the criminal justice system at the investigative stage and they are much less likely to see a charge or a conviction. Our previous work examined how the criminal justice system is experienced by people with learning disabilities and/or neurodiversity who report sexual violence. We found that 'being believed' was a key issue for victim/survivors and one which shaped their experiences of reporting and giving evidence. Practitioners considered police concerns about witness credibility a key reason for case attrition. Building on this previous work, we sought to understand perceptions of credibility and how these impacted police decision-making in cases of sexual violence where the victim/survivor had a learning disability and/or neurodiversity. Working in partnership with a local force, we were granted access to the police records of 36 closed sexual offence cases. This data was thematically analysed to capture the information which officially informed and justified police decision-making. The findings are presented in this paper. We found that communication difficulties, victim/survivor behaviour or the presence of contradictory testimony affected police perceptions of credibility, and this was a significant factor in cases which did not progress. We argue that standard measures of credibility may not be suitable for victim/survivors with different frames of reference and that communication may be impacted by learning disabilities/neurodiversity. Support is available to mitigate these difficulties and facilitate understanding, although these were poorly utilised in the case data. The result denies access to criminal justice and increases vulnerability to further victimisation rendering the justice system inherently discriminatory.

**The Becoming of the Legal Phenomenon of Rape in Times of Transition: An Analysis of Danish Rape Cases as Affective Assemblages** *Liv Navntoft Henningsen, Danish Institute for Human Rights*

In 2021, the Danish criminal provision on rape was amended from being constituted around coercive sex to becoming constituted around the sex without mutual consent as the actus reus of the crime. This paper explores the reorientation of the legal phenomenon of rape after the amendment, by analysing the judicial review and assessment of evidence in court cases. The amendment of the rape provision has entailed an increase in word-against-word cases, where technical evidence, such as medical examinations, is ambiguous or nonsuggestive in relation to the legal assessment. The rulings in these cases are thus primarily based on the credibility of the testimonies. To substantiate their discretion in this regard, the judges and other legal actors resort to their experience and imagination as to the plausibility of various scenarios, to confirm or reject divergent testimonies and reconstruct the incidents, also relying on similar assumptions that has been expressed by the courts in earlier cases. The reiterations of certain elements of and around the incidents gradually congeal into legal discretionary criteria that are amplified with each case, affecting the legal definition of rape.



Thereby, the legal phenomenon of rape is enfolded in legal as well as extra-legal norms and affects that are folded into case law by procedural statements, testimonies, expert statements, digital data, forensic examinations, etc., and the *raison d'être* of the legal actors, as the future potential of the law is both enabled and constrained by such factors. Based on case law analysis and legal ethnographic studies, entailing observation of court cases and focus group interviews with different legal actors, the paper theorises this process through the concepts of affectivity and assemblage, accentuating the extra-legal factors that contribute to enacting rape as a legal phenomenon, such as normative sexual scripts, conceivable performances of victimhood and responsiveness to defendants.

## 129. Victim Rights and Legislative Initiatives

Topic 4: Victimology/Victims' rights (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”

Chair:

**Diana Maria Ionescu**, Babeş Bolyai University Cluj Napoca

Participants:

Access to restorative justice of crime victims under the Polish criminal procedure *Joanna Beata Banach-Gutierrez, UWM in Olsztyn*

This paper deals with access to restorative justice of crime victims in criminal proceedings. Specially, that restorative justice is an important tool in a contemporary criminal procedure, focusing on the interests of crime victims on the one hand. But, on another side it aims at the rehabilitation of the offenders, as well. Undoubtedly, an individual victim of crime is fully recognized as a subject, legally standing in criminal proceedings. Therefore, this presentation deals with access to restorative justice of individual victim, giving some insight into Polish legislation and judicial practice. Actually, it is argued that in this way the disputes could be resolved much faster than in a court proceeding, and at the lower costs. Mediation was introduced into the Polish Code of Criminal Procedure by the Act of January 10, 2003. This gives the right to use mediation at all stages of criminal proceedings, from the moment of disclosure of the crime, through preparatory and court proceedings, to the executive proceedings. In the judicial practice, mediation most often takes place in cases involving crimes against life and health, crimes against freedom, crimes against family and care, against honor and bodily inviolability against property, against security in communication, i.e., unintentionally causing an accident in which another person suffers bodily injury). The list of cases which cannot be referred to mediation due to their nature, includes among others murders, abuse with particular cruelty, abuse resulting in the injured party taking his or her own life, sexual harassment of minors, organized crime, situation where the perpetrator has been punished many times and is very demoralized.

Crime victims and criminal justice: modern legislative initiatives and the Greek experience *VASILIKI VLACHOU, PANTEION UNIVERSITY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES; VASILIKI STATHOPOULOU, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences*

Contemporary legislative initiatives for crime victims at the European and international level are focused on rights' institution, increasing humans' protection, and the substantial settlement of the issue of compensation with a view to solving existing difficulties and obstacles and considering current social developments. In that sense, the new legislation in Greece attempts essential innovations at the level of rights for crime victims, establishes legislative regulations for special categories of victims, such as adults, witness-victims of human trafficking, etc. and introduces new procedures such as plea bargaining with clear implications for victims. The ultimate purpose of the above is, among other things, to strengthen the reporting of crimes by victims with obvious positive consequences at the level of societies (e.g. reduction of dark crime numbers etc.) and the conscious choice of recourse to criminal justice that serves not only the victim's satisfaction, but at the same time the provision of important services to the potential

victims, but also to the perpetrators of the crime in the direction of crime prevention and social solidarity.

The victim impact statement according to the Spanish Victim's Statute: An empirical project *Patricia Bello San Juan, University of Malaga; Anabel Cerezo, University of Malaga*

The main objective of 2012/29/EU Directive was the standardization and reinforcement of victim's rights across European Union. This came to fruition in Spain with the approbation of the Victim's Statute in 2015. This law includes general rights contained in the Directive such as information or restorative justice rights, but also includes a new one in European victim's protection paradigm: the article 13 allows victims to participate at judicial decisions related to sentence enforcement. This has motivated the analysis of the Victim's Statute from a criminal policy perspective to know if this Law has supposed an authentic progress of victim's rights in Spain and the real impact of article 13. For that reason, an empirical research has been developed, based on semi-structured interviews to those collectives who have been more involved in the implementation of Victim's Statute: judges, staff at victims assistance offices and victim associations. These interviews let us establish a general valuation of Victim's Statute implementation according two key points: the relevance of the right to be informed and the dual nature of this law because of the contrast between vindicative elements (participation at sentence enforcement) and reparation ones (restorative justice). In consequence, some criminal policy strategies have been proposed to enhance the implementation of this Law in terms of victim's rights strengthen.

The victims' right to state compensation in Romania *Diana Maria Ionescu, Babeş Bolyai University Cluj Napoca*

This contribution examines the victims' right to state compensation in Romania. It focuses on legislation and its application, using case-law and empirical data reflecting the practical impact of legal texts. Having faced a lack of national data regarding the exercise of the victims' right to access state compensation, the data were collected by applying the instruments enforced by Law no 544/2001 on access to public information. Requests for information regarding victims' access to state compensation from January 2005 to September 2023 were submitted to all 41 Romanian tribunals. This is the first empirical research on this topic in Romania. The data indicates several problems concerning state compensation, such as a low number of crime victims requesting access to such compensation, a low number of granted requests, and a low amount of compensation. This contribution analyses factors that might contribute to this reality. First, the legislation imposes several restrictive eligibility criteria for state compensation. Secondly, the victims lack awareness of the right to state compensation. The study of several finally decided cases at the archive of Cluj Napoca courts revealed that, as a rule, the investigative authorities do not fulfill their duty of information. Thirdly, exercising the right to access state compensation highly depends on legal assistance. The research included obtaining data on victims' access to legal aid and an online questionnaire distributed to Cluj Bar lawyers. Since the victims' access to legal assistance is at a low level and lawyers are not trained on victims' rights, the capacity of victims to access state compensation is also low. Considering the recent development of a rights-based approach to victim support in the EU, the research findings will support policy proposals aiming to enforce the application of victims' right to state compensation in Romania.

## 130. Cybercrime Working Group - Responses to cybercrime 1

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Cybercrime (Cybercrime WG)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 5 „Constantin Stătescu”

Chair:

**Alison Wakefield**, University of West London

Participants:

A Comprehensive Comparative Study Between the United Kingdom and Taiwan: Public Private Collaboration and Cooperation in Tackling Large Scale Cyber Attacks *Chi-Hsuan Cheng, University of Southampton*

This research aims to evaluate public-private partnerships against cyberattacks by comparing the UK and Taiwan. First, the study analyses major cyberattacks and factors influencing cybersecurity in both countries. Second, it assesses the effectiveness of current cyber defence strategies in combating cyberattacks by comparing the approaches taken in the UK and Taiwan, while also evaluating the cyber resilience of both nations. Lastly, the research evaluates existing public-private partnerships by comparing those in the UK and Taiwan, and proposes recommendations for enhancing cooperation and collaboration mechanisms in tackling cyberattacks. Grounded theory serves as the core research method. The researcher recruited participants in both the UK and Taiwan and conducted semi-structured interviews. The participants fall into two categories: investigators or police officers with experience in tackling cyber attacks, and experts from cybersecurity firms. After gathering information from participants in both the UK and Taiwan, the research highlights the current status of the cybersecurity industry, governmental plans for cybersecurity, and contributions to cybersecurity from both government sectors and cybersecurity firms, with a particular focus on public-private partnerships. Finally, this research aims to offer practical recommendations to law enforcement, private sectors, and academia for reflecting on current strategies and tailoring future approaches in cybersecurity.

**Intensifying the local police approach to online crime: Exploring preliminary findings from action research** *Jurjen Jansen, NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences; Remco Spithoven, Saxion University of Applied Sciences; Saskia Westers, NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences; Julia Klopman, Saxion UOAS*

The workload of the Dutch police has changed dramatically in recent years. Fifty per cent of victimization in the Netherlands is now caused by online crime. In recent years, the Dutch police has taken significant steps to keep up with these developments, in particular by appointing specialist teams. For now, the local, digital police task seems to be a task for the ‘hobbyist’ or ‘enthusiast’, while the scale of online crime would legitimize prioritizing this form of crime at the local level as well. This is the next step in adapting the Dutch police organization to the increasingly digital environment and the starting point of our two-year study. The main question of this study is: How can local police units prepare their staff in a proven effective way to intensify the local approach to online crime? In this contribution, we present the results of the first phase of this study in which we interviewed N = 35 police officers from two local police units about their take in the local police task regarding online crime. During the interviews, we delved into the specific responsibilities of police officers in addressing online crime at the local level, emphasizing the primary focus and essential knowledge and skills required for an effective local approach. What stands out is that there remains a significant need to underscore the importance of fundamental knowledge and skills regarding online crime as well as basic understanding of digital tools and processes. Furthermore, we elaborate on how the researchers use action research to design an intervention together with police officers to improve and innovate professional practice.

**Intersecting Frontiers: Unravelling Legal Complexities, and Social Challenges in Combatting Online Sextortion Against Women in Bangladesh** *Monira Nazmi Jahan, University of Manchester, UK*

This paper highlights the experience and impact of the use of digital communication technology to facilitate sexual violence, abuse, and extortion in Bangladesh. In this digital era, online sextortion refers to (Patchin & Hinduja, 2020) “the threatened dissemination of explicit, intimate, or embarrassing images of a sexual nature without consent, usually to procure additional images, sexual acts, money, or something else.” The Police Cyber Support for Women, a dedicated police unit in Bangladesh, reported receiving 10,094 complaints related to technology-based crimes against women from November 2022 to 2023 that included sextortion and spreading sexual content. Regrettably, many victims were unwilling to pursue legal recourse against the perpetrators. This paper explored the obstacles to prosecuting offenders by conducting more than fifteen in-depth interviews with victims of online sextortion, NGO members, police, and prosecutors. The findings reveal three

substantial concerns. First is the intricacy of relevant legislation, which impedes the prosecution of perpetrators and complicates the victims' journey through the criminal justice system. Second are the social obstacles that victims encounter, which deter them from taking formal legal action against their abusers. The lack of technological cooperation from other nations and the regulatory bodies of social media platforms is an additional significant concern. The findings highlight the need to develop effective interventions for each stage of the victim's journey through the criminal justice system that are sensitive to the socioeconomic circumstances of Bangladesh and in accordance with the best practices of developed nations.

**Non-Consensual Intimate Images: An examination of distribution and removal** *Antoinette Raffaella Huber, University of Liverpool; Zara Roddis(Ward), University of the West of England and the Revenge Porn Helpline*

Research was conducted in partnership with the Revenge Porn Helpline (RPH) to examine the location and removal of non-consensual intimate images (NCII). By examining reports to the helpline, data was collected to uncover where intimate images were being non-consensually distributed and avenues for image removal. Whilst data confirms that social media plays a key role in NCII distribution, it also provides insight into image distribution across non-social media platforms. Data on image removal indicates that knowledge of platform navigation is important for image removal success, highlighting the need to make reporting processes more accessible. Findings also indicate the need to broaden regulatory efforts beyond the largest internet platforms and to consider the need to respond to smaller high-risk platforms.

**Security convergence and critical infrastructure protection in Europe: findings from a criminological literature review** *Alison Wakefield, University of West London; Cody Normitta Porter, UWE Bristol; Louisa Schneller, Independent*

Converged security is defined by the US government as the ‘formal collaboration between previously disjointed security functions’. The concept reflects how technological advancements, including Internet of Things applications, are increasingly linking organisations’ physical and cyber assets so that security measures must address increasingly complex, interconnected and cascading threats. This is identified as an especially pressing issue in the protection of critical national infrastructure. This presentation will present findings from a literature review on converged security, forming part of ongoing research at the intersection of security risk management, criminology and psychology. It will examine the emergence and development of converged security thinking, the growing focus on cyber resilience of critical infrastructure through the EU’s NIS Directive and the US Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and the security challenges associated with accelerating technological advancement and complexity.

### 131. EUROCRIM 13 White-collar and corporate offender profiles

Topic 2: Types of Offending/White collar Crime, Organizational Crime, Corporate Crime, Financial Crime (EUROCRIM)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”

Chair:

**Sally S Simpson**, University of Maryland

Participants:

Profiles or subtypes of white-collar offenders in a Spanish sample  
*Andrea Gimenez-Salinas, Universidad Pontificia Comillas; Ana Martinez Catena, University of Barcelona; Florencia Pozuelo, General Secretariat of Penitentiary Institutions; Sandra Chiclana de la Fuente, Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED)*

Previous studies have examined the differences between white-collar offenders and other common offenders (Alalehto, 2015; Benson & Kerley, 2002; Holtfreter, 2005; Ribeiro et al., 2019; Stevens et al., 2012) to show empirically that white-collar offenders have a high social and educated profile as first shown by David Sutherland (Sutherland, 1939). White-collar offenders have also

been compared with businessmen, particularly in terms of psychological differences (Alalehto, 2003; Blicke et al., 2006; Ragatz, 2012; Walters & Geyer, (2004). Scant attention has been devoted to identifying subtypes of White-collar offenders and their associated characteristics. This holds significant utility in generating accurate preventive and intervention strategies, given the broad spectrum of criminal offences included in the term white collar crime, each requiring different expertise, knowledge and occupational positions. Some studies have identified groups regarding prior criminal records (Walters & Geyers, 2004). Longitudinal studies have identified different white-collar criminal trajectories revealing disparities in the duration and frequency of offending (Benson & Kerley, 2001; Onna et al., 2014; Piquero & Weisburd, 2009; Weisburd & Waring, 2001). The present study endeavors to explore the typologies arising from a sample of persons who are serving a prison sentence for a white-collar offense (n=350). Data were derived from a self-administrated questionnaire collected across 23 Spanish correctional facilities. The offenses perpetrated by the participants predominantly included: fraud (73%), tax evasion (8%), corruption (7%), money laundering and insolvency or bankruptcy (12%). To analyse the structure underlying structural patterns within the dataset and identify different profiles a three-phase analytical approach was adopted: a multiple correspondence analysis, a hierarchical cluster analysis and an inter-cluster comparison utilizing the Chi-square test. Results will be discussed with the existing literature and may have a great impact on elucidating their potential to reduce white-collar crime recidivism.

#### Specialisation or Generalisation: A Latent Class Analysis on the

Diversity of Offending in Dutch Inland Shipping. *Jelmar Meester, VU Amsterdam; Marieke Kluin, Leiden University; Arjan Blokland, NSCR; Wim Huisman, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*

Growing risks and extensive legislation and regulation characterize the Dutch inland shipping industry. The current enforcement strategy in this sector was implemented to enable risk-based enforcement, but hardly considers patterns of offending. The aim of this research is to provide insight into (patterns in) the nature of regulatory offending. The study examines the diversity of regulatory offending by calculating the diversity index (D) at both the ship and corporate level. Additionally, using Latent Class Analysis (LCA) recurring patterns in offense types are identified. This provides insight into the extent and nature of the diversity of regulatory offending. The results indicate a dichotomy in the sample at both levels. One group has a completely specialized pattern of regulatory offending ( $D < 0.05$ ); the other group has different levels of diversity ( $D > 0.05$ ). The Latent Class Analysis cautiously supports the finding that, at both levels, some groups specialize (Inland Shipping Act, Inland Shipping Police Regulations, Hazardous Substances), while other groups show a more diverse composition of regulatory offending. In conclusion, there is both generalization and specialization in inland shipping offending. Thematic clusters of regulatory offending are recognized only to a limited extent. In future research, the development of diversity over time can be analysed. In regulatory practice, diversity scoring is an informative factor to consider for risk-based analyses.

#### White Collars, Dark Histories: The Factors That Lead Women to Commit Corporate Crimes *Tomer Einat, Department of Criminology, Bar-Ilan University; Lilach Ben-Moshe Gaash, The Israeli Prison Rehabilitation Authority*

The literature on white-collar crimes committed by women is sparse, dealing mostly with their motivations, the incidence of the phenomenon, and differences between the women who commit them and those who commit other types of offenses. This qualitative study maps factors leading women to commit such crimes, with particular focus on their family and personal histories, and on the various roles they played as children and adults, which prepared and “trained” them for future illegal behavior. Data were collected using semi-structured interviews with 18 women convicted and imprisoned for white-collar crimes. A relationship was found between problematic family background and difficulty in help seeking and a nearly obsessive need for love in adulthood, and between the latter and white-collar crime. Theoretical and practical conclusions are discussed and future directions proposed.

The benefit of longitudinal studies for understanding corporate criminal careers and the life course *Marieke Kluin, Leiden University; Natalie Schell-Busey, Rowan. Univeristy; Sally S Simpson, University of Maryland; Jordan M Pierce, University of Maryland, College Park*

Criminological inquiry places great value on longitudinal empirical studies, but such research is relatively rare in the white-collar and corporate crime area. This is unfortunate as longitudinal and panel designs offer many advantages compared with one-off studies. The power of longitudinal analysis to predict and explain corporate crime could be unprecedented. To demonstrate the utility and benefit of longitudinal corporate crime data, we have garnered an exhaustive list of longitudinal (some panel) corporate crime studies from Europe and the United States (N ~19). Using a life-course/organizational life cycle lens to examine corporate criminal careers, we investigate the various dimensions of the criminal careers of the corporations from the different studies, including such things as offending frequency, severity, duration, and desistance. We also examine type of and variety of crime committed. We show in this study, among other things, that regulatory enforcement agencies collect useful data which offers significant insights into understanding corporate responses to enforcement activities. We describe the themes and patterns across our data sources; what has been collected (industries, variables, methods for example) and found, and what remains unexamined. We end with potential areas for theoretical advances and an agenda for future research.

#### 132. EXTRA4 Terrorism and Extremism: Legal perspectives and the courts

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Terrorism and Terrorism Financing, Radicalization, Extremism (Radicalization, Extremism, Terrorism WG)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)*

Chair:

*Luisa Ravagnani, University of Brescia*

Participants:

Radicalisation: A concept used in the courtroom? *Stéphanie De Coensel, FWO Postdoctoral Researcher & Visiting Professor Ghent University*

The radicalisation process is often portrayed in the literature as a pathway. Whilst the author has built a meta-framework which embodies the current state of research on phase models of radicalisation (De Coensel, 2018), no research has been conducted on the use and operationalisation of these phases in the courtroom. Nevertheless, there is a severe risk that phase models are used as conclusive proof in court, since criminal liability has been increasingly expanded to risk-involving behaviour that corresponds to early phases of the radicalisation process. This presentation will demonstrate to what extent and how the concept of radicalisation is used to motivate the conviction of terrorist offenders by conducting a systematic, qualitative content analysis of over 117 Belgian court rulings pronounced between 2012 and 2020 on terrorism-related acts. Through this systematic content analysis crucial insights are provided on the operationalisation of the concept in a real-life context and its consequences regarding criminal liability, as well as on the profiles of convicted terrorist offenders.

Tackling radicalisation of children: Balancing fundamental rights, child protection and public safety *Nina van Capelleveen, PhD candidate, Leiden University*

Tackling radicalisation of children forms a crucial element of the Dutch counter-terrorism strategy. This strategy takes shape at the municipal level and aims at early identification and tailored intervention for children at risk of radicalisation. Interventions that can be imposed in this context vary in intensity and degree of coercion and have different fields of law as a legal basis: interventions based on administrative law, criminal law and civil child protection law can be employed. Administrative preventive measures can be imposed to limit the child’s freedom of movement

if considered necessary for the protection of public safety. Juvenile justice proceedings are available when the radicalisation results in actions that violate criminal law. Finally, child protection orders can be applied to protect children against serious threats to their development. Each of these interventions, however, interferes with fundamental rights of children, in particular freedom of thought, conscience and religion, freedom of expression and – depending on the concrete legal instrument – respect for private and family life, freedom of movement, and the right to personal liberty. Besides, the choice of an intervention that is applied in an individual case, and consequently the choice of a specific field of law, has a substantial influence on the extent to which various interests at stake are protected. However, due to a wide discretion when deciding which instrument will be applied in a specific case and due to a lack of a clear (legal) framework, it is uncertain on what grounds these decisions are made and which interests are pursued. Therefore, interviews with professionals were conducted to examine how radicalisation of children is perceived in practice, and what this means for the intervention of the state in this context, and – consequently – the rights of children.

**Terrorism offence cases tried by courts in Germany: a file analysis**  
*Axel Dessecker, Centre for Criminology (KrimZ)*

Terrorism offences in Germany are mainly guided by European legal frameworks such as the Directive (EU) 2017/541 of the European Parliament and of the Council on combating terrorism. The criminal law lists offences relating to a terrorist group as well as offences aimed at individuals acting independently. This contribution will focus on empirical results of an extensive court file analysis of convictions for terrorism offences by courts in Germany that became final in the period 2012–2019. The bulk of the material available for research relates to cases of transnational Jihadism (n = 129) but other criminological backgrounds were also included.

**The search for procedural truth as an element to prevent and counter violent extremism**  
*Luisa Ravagnani, University of Brescia; Carlo Alberto Romano, university of Brescia*

On May 28, 1974, a bomb exploded in Brescia – Italy – during an anti-fascist demonstration called by the trade unions, causing the death of 8 people and wounding over 100. After an unusually long procedural process, in 2017 the Court of Cassation, confirming the sentence of the Court of Appeal of Milan, sanctioned the criminal responsibility of the instigators of this attack. Questions remained open and the responsibilities of the alleged perpetrators of the attack in Piazza della Loggia (place in which the attack occurred) remained open. For this reason, 50 years after the massacre, the legal case continues despite many difficulties: at the end of February 2024 the first hearing was held against R.Z, now an American citizen, at the time of the events a young man belonging to subversive right-wing groups of neo-fascist; at the beginning of March 2024 the trial against R.T, now a Swiss citizen, who was underage at the time of the events and similarly belonging to the same subversive groups, opens in the juvenile court. The exhausting search for the judicial truth in which the Brescia community and the association of the families of the victims of the massacre have been constantly engaged for half a century responds to the precise need to give a face and a name to the perpetrators of the terrorist attack but, on the other side, offers a contribution to the needs of prevention of violent extremism in Italy. The research try to underline the link between the search for judicial truth and the social engagement in PCVE.

**133. The young adults and juveniles in the Romanian justice system – perceptions, profile and conduct during the trial**

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Attitudes about Punishment and Criminal Justice System

Pre-arranged Panel

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)*

The panel includes four papers focusing on various topics related to youth and juveniles in the Romanian justice system. The first paper is the final part of a 5 years study of the perceptions of the young adults studying law over the way in which the Romanian law fulfils its goals. The second paper focuses on the perception of juveniles and youth over the custodial educative

measures they are the subject of and overall, of the criminal trial they were involved in. The third paper focuses on the profile of the juveniles committing property crimes and the fourth paper analysis the credibility of children statements, be them offenders or victims during the criminal trial.

Chair:

*Lavinia Valeria Lefterache, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest*

Participants:

**Imprisonment in Romania. Perception and facts (Part IV - Final Part)**  
*Lavinia Valeria Lefterache, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest; George-Alexandru Lazăr, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest; Dorel Herinean, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest*

The perception of the duration and nature of penalties that should be provided by law and applied by the courts depends on a variety of factors. This presentation is the fourth (and final) part of a five years study, started in 2020, aiming to evaluate how the criminal code that has had entered into force in 2014 fulfils its goals in the eyes of young adults studying law. Our goal is to assess if the courts of law and the society are on the same page. We have a total of nine surveys which take part in the evaluation. We continue to assess how well the alternative solutions have been implemented by the courts and if they reflect the perception of young people. In the previous years, the circumstances have put us in the situation to evaluate if the restrictions imposed by the pandemic affected the perception of deprivation of liberty. Also, we analysed the post-pandemic era to see if it affected the perception of our students over some of the most frequent crimes and the sentencing practices of the courts. In this final part of the study, we are drawing all the conclusions from the five years' worth of gathering the perception of the students, taking into consideration also the current legislative trend from Romania of increasing the penalties for some crimes.

**The Romanian juvenile justice system through the eyes of incarcerated juvenile offenders**  
*Ștefana-Iuliana Sorohan, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest*

The current Romanian Criminal Code from 2014 provides a unitary system, consisting only of custodial or noncustodial educative measures - and no punishments. The legislator envisioned reforming the behaviour of the juveniles who disregarded the law as much as possible by keeping them close to the community, the custodial measures being used only as cases of ultima ratio. Equally praised and criticized in the legal literature, this new sanctioning system was the center of numerous analyses and de lege ferenda proposals in front of which the legislator remained silent, not making any changes to the mentioned provisions since the date of their enforcement. However, nowadays, almost a decade after its adoption, based on the practical experience, a new perspective can be proposed over these provisions, which has the focus on the recipients – the delinquent minors. This study only focuses on the perception of the minors who are serving custodial educative measures. The question to be asked is if the educative measures – as they were implemented by the Romanian legislator in 2014 and they are put into practice by the legal actors - are effective tools for reforming the behaviour of delinquent minors or just forms without substance. To answer it, we conducted a survey among some incarcerated delinquent minors to verify their experience in this matter. The present study aims to discover the perspective of minors who were sentenced to custodial educative measures to see how they were changed by the interaction with the justice system and which was the impact of the educative measures they executed. Moreover, the study verifies if the juveniles can see the difference between the custodial educative measure and the imprisonment.

**The profile of the juvenile offender in the case of property crimes**  
*Marius-Georgel Sima, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest*

The juvenile offender profile in the case of crimes against the person aims to analyze the evolution of juvenile crime in the case of crimes against property, in relation to certain environmental factors, in order to identify certain traits. This paper is dedicated precisely to the presentation of the topic under two aspects: juvenile delinquency in crimes against property and the evolution of certain factors which can affect juvenile delinquency. Offender profiling came about as a process of identifying the characteristics of the

offender by highlighting those traits that activate or amplify criminal tendencies. These traits are, most often, directly related to the environment from which the person comes and/or lives. Or, if the environment is the one that can "bear the blame" for crime, its evolution must be followed in the prevention and combating of the criminal phenomenon.

Is there an algorithm for truth? Criteria for establishing the credibility of children's statements *George-Cristian Ioan, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest*

In a vast array of cases, whether children are interviewed as victims of a crime or witnesses, their statement may be a fundamental piece of evidence in determining the guilt of the accused. However, interviewing children and assessing the credibility of their statement can raise many issues, some based in factual differences regarding the way in which children's memory operates, while some based on myths that have proliferated regarding how children act when interviewed. The presentation is mainly based on critically assessing current literature regarding the subject of the criteria relevant for establishing the credibility of children's statements. The goal is to verify whether coherent guidelines on the validity of statements made by children can be established or whether it is fundamentally impossible to arrive to any relevant principles given the sheer variety of manners in which children act when faced with a judicial interview. In order to achieve this goal, we will first discuss, if, in fact, analysing a child's statement should be fundamentally different to analysing an adult's statement. Secondly, we will analyse conflicting opinions in current literature on markers of credibility and critically assess them. Finally, we will present our conclusion on the possibility of delineating a coherent theory on assessing children's statements and determining their serviceability in establishing the truth in criminal cases. The answer the question posed can greatly influence the manner in which criminality is treated by judicial authorities, especially in cases concerning children witnesses.

#### 134. Forest crime in Romania: policing, criminalisation and ecojustice

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Environmental/Green Criminology Roundtable

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Library - reading room 1*

In this roundtable, we aim to showcase recent research and novel theoretical and methodological approaches to forest crime in Romania in an attempt to open new spaces for green criminology explorations. Although the country has been for many years in the headlines for rampant illegal logging, the violence against journalists and forest defenders and the frequent infringement of EU environmental regulations (Iordăchescu 2020), an examination of the harms and ecojustice issues associated with forest crime is long overdue. Green criminology research has yet to bridge this gap by critically examining aspects of policing, victimhood, and the recombinant vulnerabilities associated with illicit forest extraction. Illegal logging plagued the country as post-socialist forest restitution unfolded (Dorondel 2016), driven by forest dependency and poverty alike (Bouriaud 2005). As the country reintegrated into a global market, the phenomenon contributed to developing patron-client relationships (Vasile 2019), leading to various forms of labour precarisation (Herța 2016) and high-level corruption (Rise Project 2016). Recent research inspired by political ecology approaches has linked the current development of prohibitive policies to a global turn towards criminalisation in conservation (Iordăchescu & Vasile 2023). The proliferation of multiple forms of violence associated with this criminalisation often deepens rural vulnerabilities and marginalisation (Vasile & Iordăchescu 2022) and hints at institutional corruption and economic dependence (Pokorná & Matejova 2024). Even if the phenomenon of illegal logging has often been portrayed as Mafia-like and organised crime, these discourses remained stereotypical and rarely fit the realities of organised crime on the ground (Neag 2022). As we explore in this session, fostering cross-pollination between green criminology, political ecology, and environmental anthropology will enhance our understanding of environmental harms, victimhood and the complex entanglements between policing forest crime and addressing deeper forms of forest dependency.

Chairs:

*George Iordachescu, Universitatea Lucian Blaga din Sibiu; Wageningen University*

*Alexandra Neag, Anglia Ruskin University*

Discussants:

*Laura Bouriaud, Universitatea Ștefan cel Mare din Suceava*

*Adéla Pokorná, Masaryk University*

#### 135. POL Panel 13. Criminal justice data collection, data analysis and surveillance

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)*

Chair:

*Wannes Bellaert, Ghent University*

Participants:

Algorithmic reading as a precursor to policing action: what to do when routine surveillance of citizens yields too many irregularities *Lior Volinz, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

Surveillance tools are increasingly integrated in the digital toolbox of public administration: with access to multiple databases, citizens' data can be elicited, drawn, scrutinized, aggregated, and cross-checked across time and multiple data nodes. Often, such routine algorithmic exercises that delve into citizens' data (such as on income, on migration and residency status, on taxation and welfare, or on social media activities) can produce multiple results of irregularities, thereby creating suspicion for possible illegal, illicit or fraudulent activities on a large number of citizens. This can bring forth severe real-life consequences: in the Netherlands, the Children Benefits scandal of 2021 created false allegations against thousands of residents, mostly those with a migrant background; the US no-fly included multiple innocent individuals, whose name was added due to flawed data handling; and the UK 'hostile environment' policy involved the erasure of migrants' records due to alleged irregularities, leading to denial of rights and deportations. In other cases, participatory and lateral surveillance practices produce multiple allegations of illegal activities, prompting controversial and selective policing actions. This paper explores the existing strategies employed by public servants in tackling the large number of irregularities arising from algorithmic reading of citizens' data; and the type, scope and orientation of the policing action that follows. Drawing on existing literature, media articles and a limited number of semi-structured interviews with policymakers, it presents a set of practical and ethical considerations to guide civil servants when encountering large-scale data irregularities, and how these should (or should not) be acted on.

CSIA: Crime Script Investigative Analysis A framework for behaviorally analysing crimes. *Jasper J. van der Kemp, VU School of Criminology*

Solving crimes comes down to the reconstruction of the scenario of the crime to answer the 5WH-questions. To counteract the risk of miscarriages of justice due to tunnel vision or suspect-led police work in the investigative stage using a scenario-approach is beneficial as we know from analysis wrongful convictions. In this study a new method for scenario construction in criminal investigation is proposed: crime script investigative analysis. This new framework links behavioural analysis of crimes (i.e., behavioural investigative advice, or offender profiling) and the systematic analysis of the commission of crimes by focusing on the investigative aspects that added to the classic crime script analysis methodology. Crime script analysis was originally developed to determine all the steps in a crime commission process to help identify potential prevention possibilities by describing phases, scenes, actors (or roles) and props needed. The current study shows that with adjustments crime script analysis can also be used to create investigative crime scripts that provide scenarios of a crime under investigation. The method has been applied to cases and provided a comprehensive step-by-step account of the decisions and actions that must be taken by the offender at each step for successful completion of the crime under investigation. Using this framework allowed for the consideration of multiple scenarios in a structured way that provided a clear overview of the essential points of

difference between the alternatives and an overview of what evidence should be present if that scenario were to be true. The clear presentation of all actions involved individuals, prerequisites, motives, locations, and times provides a perspective for analyzing both hot and cold cases through the crime script investigative method. As such, making it a potentially effective measure against tunnel vision and a useful tool for criminal investigators.

**Eurostat crime and criminal justice data collection** *Anna Ferrara, EUROSTAT; Arsela Sturc, EUROSTAT*

The presentation is focusing on the main results and challenges concerning Eurostat data collection for the crime and criminal justice domain. Collection of crime statistics is not mandatory, but it is recommended by the Economic and Social Council of the UN. Furthermore, Eurostat received a mandate under the 2004 The Hague programme: strengthening freedom, security and justice in the European Union to develop comparable statistics on crime and criminal justice. In 2012, the Commission planned its strategies to improve the collection of crime statistics. These statistics are indispensable tools for developing evidence-based policy at EU level. Impact assessments, evaluations of the implementation of EU legislation from the Member States and assessment of the effectiveness of new laws are only some examples of the use of statistical information. Since 2014, the Eurostat crime data collection is implemented jointly with the United Nations Surveys on Crime Trends and the Operations of Criminal Justice implemented by the UN Office on Drug and Crime (UNDOC). Official crime statistics are available for EU members, EFTA countries, and potential EU members. Data provided to Eurostat on police, prosecutors, courts, and prisons may vary for each country as they establish their own criminal laws, crime definitions, law enforcement, legal proceedings, etc. Nevertheless, national authorities are requested to adhere to standard definitions when calculating the figures and to provide details for any divergences. So, challenges in terms of compliance with definitions and counting rules arise. Eurostat includes this information in the metadata, while no statistical modification is done to the data. Moreover, criminal justice systems, crime definitions, and crime statistics vary substantially between countries. This represents another challenge for comparison of crime figures between countries. Eurostat will give an overview of the information crime statistics provide, focusing on results and challenges faced during the collection and dissemination process.

**The Lawfulness of Non-DSC Data at Europol** *Wannes Bellaert, Ghent University*

Over the past years Europol supported national law enforcement to counter organized crime by unravelling covered and encrypted methods of communication. The personal data in obtained bulk data sets should be categorized before further processing these. Europol conducted this categorization process until the EDPS complained about the insufficient data protection standards and decided the process should be completed within six months. Following legislative intervention, Europol's legal framework was unnecessary broadened, as this article argues Europol already had the contested competence. Contrary thereto, the legislative intervention made Europol's framework complex and will give rise to disputes.

### 136. Policing, social control and crime prevention

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Crime prevention

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.10*

Chair:

**Ruza Karlovic**, University of Applied Science of Criminal Investigation and Public Security

Participants:

Moving beyond 'Nudge'. Implementing a wider psychology of influence in policing and crime prevention. *Jason Roach, University of Huddersfield*

Although Thaler and Sunstein's (2008) 'Nudge' approach is arguably one of the most widely known examples of how to influence human decision-making, many lesser-known ways of

influencing the decision making of others, are yet to be so widely adopted by those in policing and crime prevention. To develop a wider 'psychology of influence', additional ways of influencing human decision making and behaviour, including 'Locus of Control', 'Affordance' and 'Co-action' will be presented, with suggestions made for where future research might wish to focus and how and where policing and crime prevention might benefit most from their inclusion.

**Survey of the Attitudes of Police Officers Toward Effectiveness of Police Crime Prevention** *Ruza Karlovic, University of Applied Science of Criminal Investigation and Public Security; Ivana Glavina Jelaš, University of Applied Science of Criminal Investigation and Public Security; Kruno Mahnet, police officer; Sandra Veber, police officer*

The research aimed to examine the attitudes of police officers toward the effectiveness of police crime prevention. The research was conducted on 734 police officers. A factor analysis was carried out using the principal component analysis. 5 components were singled out, which explained a total of 59% of the variance of the results. The conducted parallel analysis confirmed the retention of 5 factors. The first is called an assessment of the effectiveness of preventive techniques, the second is cooperation with preventive police officers, the third is an assessment of recognition of the importance of prevention, the fourth is knowledge of police prevention activities and the fifth is an assessment of the social impact on police prevention activities. It was shown that out of the total of 49% of the variance explained by predictors the Knowledge of police prevention activities factor explains 4% of the variance of the criteria. By introducing the second subscale – Cooperation with preventive police officers, the percentage of explained variance of the criterion increases by 2%. With the control of the contribution of the previous subscales or predictors and the introduction of the predictor Assessment of the effectiveness of preventive techniques in the third step, the explained variance of the perception of the effectiveness of prevention increases by as much as 37%. With the introduction of the factor Assessment and the recognition of the importance of prevention, the percentage of criteria explained increased by 5%. Finally, the last factor obtained as a predictor in the fifth step – Assessment of the social influence on the activity of police prevention did not increase the explanatory power of the criterion variance. Considering the above explained, those police officers who see the meaning of the techniques and methods of police prevention evaluate the activity of police prevention as more effective.

**The outbreak of lethal violence in the absence of up-to-date social control** *Limor Yehuda, Ashkelon Academic College; Uri Timor, Ashkelon Academic College*

Murder as an extreme expression of violence is a phenomenon extensively studied worldwide. In Israel, there has been a concerning increase in the dimensions of murder cases in general, particularly within the Israeli Arab society. Public protests demanding the state to act in reducing lethal violence have not yielded comprehensive solutions, and despite a sharp increase in murder cases (three times more) in the past five years, the issue has not been deeply investigated. Qualitative research, aimed at mapping changes and key factors in the surge of criminal murders, could contribute to the development of targeted policies that would address the underlying issues. In the current qualitative study, 22 criminal murderers in Israel, sentenced to life imprisonment, were interviewed. The findings indicate the personal criminogenic factors that were highlighted alongside social pressures linked to the breakdown of traditional societal surveillance structures, as well as gaps in the emergence or reliance on alternative, formal, and informal societal surveillance structures. Additional findings will be presented at the conference.

### 137. RJ country developments

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Restorative Justice (Restorative Justice WG)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11*

Chair:

*Estelle Zinsstag*, Edinburgh Napier University, UK and KU Leuven, Belgium

Participants:

Restorative Justice Developments in Europe: Key findings from an International Encyclopaedia Project *Andrea Parosanu*, Victoria University of Wellington; *Frieder Duenkel*, University of Greifswald; *Marianne Lehmkuhl*, Universitaet Bern; *Ineke Regina Pruin*, University of Bern

As part of a global encyclopaedia project, representatives from the European team will share comparative insights into restorative justice developments in 48 countries and jurisdictions of the Council of Europe and beyond. Coordinated by professors Ivo Aertsen and Jennifer Llewellyn, the International Encyclopaedia of Restorative Justice illustrates experiences of restorative justice in six regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America and Oceania. The focus of the European volume (editors Frieder Duenkel, Marianne Lehmkuhl, Andrea Păroşanu and Ineke Pruin) lies in an analysis of the legal, policy and practical dimensions of implementing restorative justice within each country. While a variety of countries have adopted favourable approaches, the use of restorative justice practices still falls short of its potential, underscoring the need for policy strategies to enable broader application. The presentation will highlight key findings regarding reform efforts, implementation in practice, and challenges encountered across different countries and jurisdictions.

The restorative nature of Aymara Indigenous justice in Bolivia *Paolo Baffero*, University of South Wales; *Ali Wardak*, University of South Wales; *Kate Williams*, University of South Wales

Much current scholarship developed in the Global North suggests that the modern idea of restorative justice is not entirely a recent invention; rather, it shares foundational principles and similarities with Indigenous justice. This conference proposal is grounded in fieldwork conducted on Indigenous justice in Bolivia, aiming to elucidate how Indigenous communities perceive and resolve conflicts at the local level. Contrary to common assumptions, this proposal asserts that Indigenous justice in Bolivia significantly diverges from the restorative justice practices prevalent in the Global North. In the Global North, modern justice systems predominantly adhere to retributive principles, emphasising individual blame and punishment, with restorative mechanisms often playing only a supplementary role. Our Bolivian fieldwork revealed Indigenous justice to be a fully-fledged, intrinsically restorative system of justice. Through an analysis of Indigenous justice in Bolivia, the present conference proposal contends that it is the differences between restorative justice and Indigenous justice which are more important to a proper understanding of Indigenous justice. It makes the argument that linking the two may be damaging to the comprehension and survival of Indigenous justice and may also inhibit the real potential of Indigenous justice to enrich justice practices in the Global North.

The programs of restorative justice *Tomáš Strémy*, Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Law; *Radovan Blažek*, Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Law

Restorative justice programs represent an alternative approach to solving crime in which the primary focus is on restoring broken relationships between offender, victim and community. Programs include mediation, community and family group conferences, community decision-making circles, and many others. The essence of these programs is to support the offender's accountability for their actions, enable victims to express their feelings and needs, reach an agreement on compensation or restitution, and, not least, reduce the rate of recidivism. These programs allow dialogue between all stakeholders, seeking to foster mutual understanding and support community healing. They are flexible and their application can be seen in minor property crimes, while controversial, but not excluded, is their use in cases of violent and vicious crime. The aim of the present project is therefore to analyse the different restorative justice programmes in terms of their use in foreign countries. By analysing individual programmes, the aim of the project is to assess the need for their implementation in the

Slovak Republic. An important part of the project will also identify the challenges faced by these programmes, including the need for trained facilitators and appropriate case selection. The results of the project should provide recommendations for improving existing programmes and suggestions for expanding their use in the Slovak Republic. The intention is also to raise awareness of the benefits of the programmes for the victim, the offender and the wider community.

Restorative Justice Responses to Gender Violence? Answers from a case study on trafficking in women in China *Anqi Shen*, Northumbria University

Restorative justice plays a crucial role in crime responses in many societies worldwide, extending to cases of violence against women, human trafficking and other serious crimes. China is believed to have cultivated certain restorative justice ideas since ancient times, with Confucian philosophy and traditional Chinese values deemed compatible with the tenets of restorative justice in many ways. However, in contemporary China, despite recent shifts in criminal justice policy emphasising a balance of leniency and severity, punitive justice remains predominant. While restorative elements may be visible in addressing juvenile offending and minor crimes, the consideration of restorative measures in response to severe offences, such as trafficking in women (and children) with potential harsh penalties including death, may not be probable. This article examines a high-profile case of trafficking in woman for forced marriage in China, which sparked public outcry in 2022. Using this case as a focal point, the article contends that the prospect of introducing restorative justice principles in instances of grave criminal offences and crimes deeply entrenched in profound social and structural problems, such as trafficking in women, remains unlikely given the prevailing socio-political landscape. The article's analysis contributes to ongoing debates in the fields of restorative justice, human trafficking and violence against women. It provides insights from a country where restorative justice lacks official endorsement and is interpreted and practised with distinct cultural nuances and political sentiments. The article also explores the intricate nature of women trafficking in China, unveiling the complexities inherent to this issue. Furthermore, it sheds light on criminal justice policies and practices in the country. In doing so, the article adds valuable perspectives to the existing literature in these domains.

### 138. Rural Subjugation: How dominance and control pervade the rural space

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Rural Criminology (Rural Criminology WG)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.14

Chair:

*Kreseda Smith*, Harper Adams University

Participants:

Constructing a threefold architecture of domestic abuse in rural areas *Paige Bromley*, University of Winchester

This presentation will showcase the theoretical framework used to help make sense of the data collected from my PhD research. The research uses the theory of Intersectionality alongside Keith Halfacree's three-fold architecture of rural life, to provide a complex and nuanced understanding of domestic abuse in rural areas, with a focus on the processes of differentiation that exist in rural areas and how these impact the experience of domestic abuse victim-survivors who live there. Previous research has highlighted the importance of a gendered perspective when it comes to understanding and theorising about domestic abuse. However, domestic abuse in rural areas is a complex phenomenon. Whilst the role of unequal gendered power relations is undoubtedly significant, there are additional challenges associated with rural areas that make living there more dangerous for victim-survivors of domestic abuse. Both the theory of intersectionality and Halfacree's understanding of rural space work together to provide an understanding of this complexity, that is a result of varying, unequal power relations, alongside specific processes which produce a

specific kind of rural spatiality that is not cognizant of the everyday experience of domestic abuse victim-survivors. This paper will use empirical material from the PhD to illustrate the use of the theoretical framework.

**The Role of Culture in Facilitating the Crime of Human Trafficking in Edo State, Nigeria.** *Mark Odion, Harper Adams University*

This research aims to conduct fieldwork, investigating how human traffickers adopt the traditional cultural value system in Edo State, Nigeria to traffic children, youth, and young women to Europe and the Gulf countries for domestic servitude and sexual exploitation. Human trafficking is understood to be a lucrative, highly profitable, and low-risk organised crime. It flourishes in Edo State, where the traditional cultural system is valued very highly by the people, and also because of the high level of poverty permeating the Edo community, largely fuelled by the high level of corruption in the country. Therefore, the syndrome of “quick money-making” creates a virtual market for trade in humans. The study provides an overview of the Edo culture and highlights some of the cultural practices adopted to facilitate the crime of trafficking. This study adopts descriptive approaches by deploying qualitative research methods; it elicited much of its data from interviews and questionnaires. The data drawn is descriptively presented and interpreted. The study found that the cultural practices in Edo State are used to manipulate the victims of human trafficking to subject them. It concludes that culture has a social value which accounts for the migration of the victims of trafficking. **KEYWORDS:** Traditional Culture, Human Trafficking, Domestic Servitude, Sexual Exploitation, highly profitable, low-risk organised crime.

**Undesignated Domestic Violence and Prosecutorial Decision-Making in Rural Alabama** *Brittany VandeBerg, University of Alabama; Susan Dewey, The University of Alabama*

One of the most pressing challenges facing communities today is domestic violence and its impact on diverse communities. However, research on domestic violence is either dismissed, under-measured and ubiquitous, or focuses on a specific group of offenders. The purpose of this study is to elucidate the factors influencing prosecutorial decision-making in select felony cases and gain a more comprehensive, nuanced understanding of the legal factors that contribute to undesignated domestic violence. The study focuses on rural communities in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, a state where domestic violence is a complex and nuanced issue impacting nearly 40% of women and 30% of men over the course of their lives (Smith et al. 2017). We analyze over 1000 adjudicated homicide and serious assault felony cases with female victims to ascertain how many could have been charged as domestic violence cases and consult with prosecutors and the District Attorney to understand the underlying reasons for the absence of or subsuming of domestic violence charges within higher charges. By making instances of undesignated domestic violence visible, we aim to establish a form of community accountability that advocates for rural victims.

**139. Criminology of Mobility. Panel 4. Ethnicity, crime and experiences in prison**

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Ethnicity and Crime

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.22

Chair:

*Angie Steffania Rojas Varón*, University of Malaga

Participants:

Islam in Flemish prisons: lived experiences of Muslim men *Elias Woodbridge, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Iman Lechkar, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; An-Sofie Vanhouche, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

Research, media and political debates on Islam in Belgian prisons has often focussed on radicalization and essentialized this religion to a basis for future danger. This research gives incarcerated Muslim men a voice and shows how Islam can provide a way of coping with prison life, finding structure and peace and giving hope

for the future.

**The Good Lives conceptions by Persons labelled Not Criminally Responsible with a migration background: What can we learn?** *marjolein de pau, Ghent University; Stijn Vandevelde, Ghent University; Tom Vander Beken, Professor and director of the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP), Ghent University*

Our societies are rapidly becoming (super)diverse in terms of age, country of origin, gender, language or religion. This is reflected in our forensic mental health services, which increasingly have to cater for a diverse population of forensic clients. More specifically, persons labelled Not Criminally Responsible with a migration background are relatively overrepresented in Belgian forensic mental health services. Moreover, first generation migrants reside significantly more in high-secure facilities. In this respect, it is essential to provide cultural sensitive treatment in forensic mental healthcare in an attempt to reduce these disparities. This qualitative study delves into how having a migration background affects the Good Lives Model conceptions. Good Lives interviews were conducted with 17 individuals labeled NCR. Thematic analysis of verbatim transcriptions reveals that cultural factors significantly can shape the pursuit of secondary goods. Findings indicate the presence of internal and external obstacles, such as exposure to potentially traumatic events, trauma symptoms, difficulty meeting cultural expectations, low language proficiency, lack of residency rights, and experiences of discrimination. Conversely, identified strengths include proficient language skills, residency rights, and a robust social network. By recognizing the specific mechanisms linking secondary goods, obstacles, and strengths, this research contributes valuable insights for tailoring interventions and promoting more equitable mental health services. Implementing these findings may enhance the effectiveness of forensic mental healthcare, fostering inclusivity and tailored support for this diverse population.

**Life experiences in the criminal justice system: foreign former foster youths in prison** *Angie Steffania Rojas Varón, University of Malaga*

Spain is a host country for unaccompanied migrant children from the African continent. Thus, it is the responsibility of the state to ensure their protection and social integration. Preliminary exploratory research has revealed a significant presence of foreign former foster youths in prison; however, we do not have official statistics from penitentiary institutions regarding this matter. Bearing this in mind, the general objective of the JEPRAN research project (Former foster youths in Andalusian prisons) is to bring attention to the challenge faced by Andalusian and Spanish society in the inclusion of foreign former foster minors and to identify the social and legal dilemmas they face during the migratory process and transition to adulthood. This presentation will focus on some of the results of the project related to the contact with the criminal justice system, as well as the experience of these young people during their stay in prison. The research reveals that foreign former foster youths enter prison at a very early age, most of them are in custody, and the crimes they commit are not serious offences. An issue of particular concern is that they report scarce access to treatment programs. In fact, the majority do not consider the penitentiary system to be a source of help in preparing for release.

**140. Fieldwork Experiences in Criminology and Security Studies: Methods, Ethics, and Emotions**

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Qualitative Methods (Qualitative Methods WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.29

This pre-arranged panel explores the fieldwork experiences of scholars researching topics that include sex workers, ethnic minorities such as the Roma, gang members, church members, and individuals involved in parties. All panelists are united through their contribution as co-authors to the book 'Fieldwork Experiences in Criminology and Security Studies: Methods, Ethics, and Emotions' by Diaz, del Real, and Molnar (2023).

Chair:



**Lorena Molnar**, University of Lausanne

**Participants:**

**Silence of the Altars: Researching Sexual Abuse in Religious Institutions in Catalonia (Spain)** *Marc Balcells, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya; Josep Tamarit, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya*

Our research assessed clergymen's perceptions of child sexual abuse in Catalonia (Spain) and identified elements pointing towards anomie and a discourse linked to the neutralization of the perpetrators' criminal responsibility. The study included 20 interviews from diocesan priests and members of religious congregations: they highlighted the impact of sexual abuse on clergy, the plurality of sensitivities, the existence of discourses tending to idealization, the presence of neutralization techniques and the existence of an institutionalized and persistent anomie within the Catholic Church. To achieve these results, however, lack of institutional cooperation complicated and limited data collection. Our presentation deals with the challenges experienced to reach the sources; how the sensitive nature of the topic had an impact on both interviewees and interviewers; and offers some insights of the research process as well as some recommendations.

**Researching Party Zones: Drugs, Alcohol, and the Night** *Tim Turner, Coventry University*

The Balearic Island of Ibiza exudes an indelible cultural status as the global epicentre for clubbing and hedonistic excess, with thousands of summer tourists drawn to the beaches and super-club dancefloors of 'the White Isle' in a brief hiatus from reality. As such, the island represents a party zone extraordinaire, a magical realm where the line between illegal and legal forms of intoxication has become blurred to the point of collapse. This presentation draws on ethnographic research, carried out over six periods of field work carried out over three summers (6 trips of one week each), with British tourists and seasonal workers in the party zones of Ibiza. The chapter has two main aims. Firstly, it provides insight into the methodological processes and challenges of ethnographic research with drug users and drug dealers in nightlife party zones. Secondly, the emotional journey of the 'Ibiza experience' is traced through the eyes of participants, and by reflecting on my own time as a researcher immersed in a wild and unpredictable party zone.

**Gangs: Fieldwork experiences, ethical dilemmas, and emotions in youth street groups research** *CARLES FEIXA PAMPOLS, Pompeu Fabra University*

This presentation takes up the famous thesis that Robert Park exposed in his preface to *The Gang* (Thrasher, 1927), considered the first serious scientific study on youth gangs, namely gangs are a specific type of society, which can be found in different parts of the planet and whose internal structure and dynamics can be studied with the help of research techniques of urban ethnography. To do this, I begin by describing five experiences of research on the field, which correspond to different contexts and types of gangs (from territorial gangs in post-war Spain to current transnational gangs). Next, I present the three phases of fieldwork—entry, permanence, and exit—, and different research techniques used in these investigations: oral history, newspaper analysis, participant observation, focus groups, in-depth interviews, life stories, ethnographic video, surveys, social network analysis, and digital ethnography. Finally, I reflect on the ethical dilemmas that research with vulnerable and stigmatized groups such as gangs entails, on the emotions and moral dilemmas they raise, and on the consequences that all this has for research and social intervention.

**Conducting Criminological Practitioner Research with Sex Workers in Switzerland** *Lorena Molnar, University of Lausanne*

Research with sex workers presents a series of methodological and ethical challenges that need careful consideration. Sex workers are a heterogeneous group that has been studied by criminologists mostly in countries where sex work is illegal. I present the methodological and ethical considerations of conducting research as an early career researcher and research practitioner in Switzerland, a country where sex work is legal. Based on three studies between 2017 and 2021 with roughly 140 sex workers, I discuss the need for pragmatism and adaptation to the study's

population. I argue that the researcher or research team needs to cover linguistic and ethnic requirements to access the participants and the figure of researcher-practitioner might allow both the deep understanding of the context and the higher acceptance of the research by the sex workers. Observations, interviews, and surveys are complementary, and they need adaptation. The safety of the researcher and the participants, flexibility, and emotional intelligence are vital topics to be discussed in protocols that address the research with sex workers.

**141. POL Panel 8. Police officer experiences and mental health**

**Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)**

**Paper Session**

*4:00 to 5:15 pm*

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.04*

**Chair:**

*Christopher Riches, Bangor University*

**Participants:**

**How might the frequency of use of force or exposure to citizens' resistant behaviors and the psychological health of police officers impact each other?** *Emilie Telle, University of Mons; Arthur Dehon, University of Mons; Audrey Vicenzutto, University of Mons; Thierry Pham, University of Mons*

Literature on risk factors associated with mental health problems and police Use of Force (UF) is lacking in several aspects. Although the risk factors relating to the development of Common Mental Disorders (CMD) are well established, namely individual (e.g., neurotic traits), organizational (e.g., work overload) or operational (e.g., traumatic events exposure) factors (El Sayed et al., 2019), the UF is not clearly established as an operational factor. Moreover, while literature defines the main domains fostering UF (suspect, officer, encounter, and community characteristics), it does little to investigate how the officer's CMDs may impact the UF (Bolger, 2015). This study aims to investigate association between frequency of UF or Citizen Resistant Behaviors Exposure (CRBE), and various CMDs (traumatic stress, PCL-5; burnout, MBI-GS; depression, anxiety and suicidal ideation, GHQ-28; substance use, ASSIST). These variables were collected among 176 police officers from several Belgian police departments (72.7% policemen; MeanAge = 43.26; SD = 10.02; MeanLength of professional experience = 18.78; SD = 10.57) using a broad online survey investigating psychological health and its risk factors. Main results indicate a restricted number of correlations between UF/CRBE and CMDs. Overall, when correlations are observed, they are positive but weak. Specifically, traumatic stress is most frequently associated with the use of soft- and hard-empty hand techniques and chemical-irritant sprays as well as passive to non-lethal aggressive resistance ( $p = .16$  to  $.22$ ). Anxiety was also correlated with the use of chemical-irritant sprays or projectile launchers and with passive and active resistance ( $p = .15$  to  $.25$ ). No significant correlation was found between UF/CRBE and suicidal ideation, substance use or burnout depersonalization symptoms. These preliminary results suggest UF/CRBE and CMDs are relatively distant risk factors, implying further investigation of their association with operational risk factors. These results will be discussed in the light of the international literature.

**Stress in Policing: A Comparative Study of American and Czech Female Police Officers** *Tara Shelley, Tarleton State University; Tomáš Mráka, Police Academy of the Czech Republic in Prague; Rhonda Dobbs, Tarleton State University; Eva Illnerová, ECCE Prague*

Policing is known to be an inherently dangerous profession and officers are regularly exposed to traumatic events and stressful situations, environments, and working conditions. And yet, the inherent dangers and unpredictable nature of the job are not always the leading cause of stress for police. Some research on police stress has revealed that officers can also experience significant stress from organizational dynamics—even more so than the dangers (e.g., use of force, being injured) or unique requirements of the job (e.g., unpredictable, shift work). This comparative project explores these topics across a sample of female police officers to better understand

how gender contextualizes the forms of stress most salient to female officers working in the Czech Republic

The changing culture of UK source-handling: the moral ambiguities and tensions experienced by specialised police handlers in a UK Dedicated Source Unit (DSU) *Christopher Riches, Bangor University*

Covert investigation is a key feature of late modern policing that commonly involves the deployment of civilian informants, amongst other methods. This paper draws upon interviews conducted with officers from various law enforcement agencies who have responsibility for the day-to-day management of informants to examine the impact of specialised source handling. In particular, the discussion explores some hitherto unnoticed aspects of the human relationship between officer agents of the state (handlers) and citizen informants (CHIS). The latter must now be recruited and managed very differently, and there is evidence to suggest that the use of coercion noted in previous literature has been challenged and reshaped by important changes in the working environment. In the absence of overt oppression, handlers must now rely on alternative and softer means to convince informants to risk their own safety and work with the police. In so doing, the paper demonstrates that contemporary dedicated source handling takes place in a unique vacuum, which has far-reaching cultural implications for the handler as they come to work inside and navigate a police organisation from which they feel largely detached. In the absence of direct experience or exposure to the covert tactic, the majority of conventional police officers – including those who supervise handlers – have little concept of how informants are managed in this new, non-coercive setting. The overall aim of this paper, therefore, is to examine the lived experiences of the informant handlers who operate within this much-altered milieu. It considers the investment, emotional labour and soft power expended by handlers who must rely on the human connection to achieve the safety and compliance necessary for this secretive and challenging work.

**142. Prison Working Group: Life and death sentences: Experiences, management, and ethical considerations**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.05

Chair:

*Bryce Kushmerick-McCune*, Sam Houston State University

Participants:

The sentence management of men serving life sentences in Ireland: A multidisciplinary model *Anna Flynn, University of Limerick & Irish Prison Service*

Aligning with 2003 Council of Europe recommendations, the Irish Prison Service (IPS) Psychology Service and the Probation Service developed a new model of sentence management for people serving life sentences in Ireland. This human rights-based model applies to those sentenced after 01/04/2017. The model involves early multidisciplinary assessment, engagement, and sentence planning, rather than delaying intervention until the first Parole Board review. This is vital in the context of the Parole Act 2019, which moved the first Parole Board review from year seven to year 12. This presentation will discuss PhD research, which, using quantitative and qualitative methods, explored the management of men serving life sentences in Ireland, with particular focus on the new model. Using the IPS Prisoner Information Management System, data was collected from the files of 352 men serving life sentences in Ireland. This included demographic data, offence data, and the following data by sentence stage: disciplinary reports, visits, letters, telephone calls. The aim was to identify key strengths, needs, and risks that would guide priorities at different sentence stages (early=0-7 years, middle=7-14 years, late=14-21 years, above average=21+ years). Interviews were also conducted with 13 men serving life sentences at different sentence stages. The aim was to explore the experiences of those sentenced both before and after the implementation of the model on 01/04/2017. Findings to date will be discussed. Together

with human rights standards, this research will meaningfully inform the development of life sentence policy and practice in Ireland.

Another Absolute Life Imprisonment (LWOP) in Japan: Cruel and Unusual Treatment of Inmates on Death Row *Shinichi Ishizuka, Professor*

Japan remains a retentionist state where the death penalty is carried out by hanging. Those sentenced to death are held in solitary confinement with minimal contact with the outside world until execution, essentially isolating them from society. The Minister of Justice retains the power to issue an execution order, even if a retrial is pending. Historically, only four people have been exonerated and released from death row since the 1980s. Another death row inmate's application for a new trial is currently under consideration. This individual suffers from Detention Reaction Syndrome, a psychiatric condition brought on by prolonged incarceration. This presentation uses a case study of the 1998 Wakayama Curry Poisoning Incident, in which random victims were poisoned in Wakayama Prefecture. The defendant was convicted and sentenced to death by the Japanese Supreme Court in 2009. A review of the final verdict was requested on the basis of new testimony from a renowned expert who presented evidence that the alleged murder weapon, arsenic, had been misidentified. Despite this, the request for a retrial was later withdrawn by the defendant, who was under considerable psychological distress following the tragic deaths of her daughter and grandchild.

Narrative Resilience Among People Sentenced to Die in U.S. Prisons *Bryce Kushmerick-McCune, Sam Houston State University; Danielle S Rudes, Sam Houston State University; Chelsey Narvey, Sam Houston State University; Elisa Toman, Sam Houston State University; Wyatt Brown, Sam Houston State University*

Nearly two million people are incarcerated in the U.S. Of those people, approximately 200,000 are serving a life sentence and another 2,400 are facing the death penalty – meaning that at least 10 percent of the incarcerated population will likely die in prison. Using a narrative resilience framework – or stories of tenacity through times of adversity – we seek to understand how people who are sentenced to die in prison cope and make meaning of their lives in a harsh and oftentimes dehumanizing environment. During interviews with 61 people who are serving life/death sentences in eight prisons across four U.S. states, individuals shared stories of hope, humanity, and perseverance. When individuals with life sentences were denied programs or services because of their sentence, they found other means to educate and/or develop themselves. When people on death row were housed in isolation, they bonded together and developed innovative ways of communicating. In these instances and more, we witnessed incredible resilience in the face of extreme adversity. This research speaks to the hope that is possible within these historically stark places.

**143. ISRD Panel 5: Methodological issues in ISRD4**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/School Violence and Bullying (ISRD WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 1.09

This panel focuses on methodological issues in ISRD4. ISRD data is traditionally collected in schools. In recent years, access to schools has become increasingly complicated. Therefore, ISRD4 has experimented with an additional mode of data collection - the Internet-based sample. Two papers in this panel explore the results of this experiment. The methodological issues related to cross-national comparability of the data are also discussed.

Chair:

*Zuzana Podaná*, Katedra sociologie, Charles University Prague

Participants:

Randomized response techniques and self-reported delinquency in ISRD3 and ISRD4 *Dirk Enzmann, University of Hamburg*

Social desirable responding is one of the major validity threats of self-report delinquency studies. Especially when comparing prevalence rates of delinquent behavior between cultures, differential responding to sensitive questions is an issue. In surveys

of the International Self-Reported Delinquency (ISRDL) studies different techniques to assess (and control for) social desirable responding have been used. The presentation will compare direct and indirect responses to questions of offending behavior using two different variants of randomized response techniques: The crosswise model (ISRDL3) and the parallel item technique (ISRDL4), thereby evaluating the feasibility of these techniques to elicit truthful responses and to estimate the degree of social desirable responding across cultures in large scale studies of self-reported delinquency.

A comparative analysis of school-based and internet-based samples used in the ISRDL4 study in Czechia *Zuzana Podaná, Katedra sociologie, Charles University Prague; Jiri Buriánek, Katedra sociologie, Charles University Prague*

The paper examines the advantages and limitations of two modes of data collection utilized in the International Self-Report Delinquency study (ISRDL4) in Czechia, conducted in 2023. The school-based segment of the survey relies on a random stratified sample of school classes in two Czech cities, covering grades 8-11 (youths aged approximately 13-17; N=2,126). The second sample was drawn from an online panel provided by a professional research agency. It comprises young people aged 16-21 and was based on a shortened version of the ISRDL4 questionnaire (N=1,626). Firstly, the paper discusses the data quality and representativeness issues associated with both samples. Secondly, it addresses the comparability of the samples and contrasts results of selected indicators from both surveys. Thirdly, the focus shifts to examining associations and the similarity of their seize and direction in both samples, presenting bivariate as well as multivariate results. The paper concludes with a discussion on the implications of employing different sampling methodologies within the ISRDL4 study framework in Czechia.

Factors affecting comparability of delinquency measures in cross-national research *Anna Markina, University of Tartu*

The paper discusses the importance of translation of the instrument on the comparability of the data collected using this instrument. The paper demonstrates how eliminating one "unnecessary" word from the question impacts the measurement results. The paper analyzes the data from the school-based ISRDL4 (N=6,349) study in Estonia conducted in 2023.

The lessons learned from the ISRDL4 internet-sample experiment *Chris Birkbeck, Salford University; Janne Kivivuori, University of Helsinki; Ineke Haen Marshall, Northeastern University; Dirk Enzmann, University of Hamburg; Anna Markina, University of Tartu*

In ISRDL4, the standard School-Based Sample ISRDL4 survey was complemented with a methodological study using a much shorter version of the ISRDL4 questionnaire designed for iPhones or smartphones for the Internet Sample (IS). In some countries, the Internet-based sample succeeded, while in others, it did not. At the end of data collection in 2024, the steering committee interviewed the national teams to look deeply for the factors that impacted the success or failure of the internet-based sample mode.

#### 144. Juvenile Justice 1. Offender and Participant Perspectives

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Juvenile Justice and Children's Rights (Juvenile Justice WG)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.11

Chair:

*Janelle Rabe, Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse - Durham University*

Participants:

Depth of demoralisation of Polish juveniles *Maria Kopeć, University of Warsaw; Dominik Wzorek, Institute of Law Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences*

In Poland, a country known for its welfare-oriented approach to juvenile justice, "demoralisation" is a behaviour that triggers intervention from the juvenile justice system. This concept is often

criticised for its vagueness and ambiguity, which necessitates further study. In the first phase of our study, we have examined how demoralisation is interpreted in practice, identifying behaviours that courts deem as manifestations of demoralisation and delineating boundaries of court intervention in a juvenile's life. In the next phase of our study, we aim to measure the extent of demoralisation among juveniles by analysing the cooccurrence of its manifestations. Additionally, we will investigate the factors in juveniles' lives, such as gender, age, family, and school situation, that correlate with both the demoralisation itself and its specific manifestations. Our analysis will be based on a representative sample of 665 juvenile court case files from 2019, all of which entail manifestations of demoralisation. Through this approach, we will explore the depth of demoralisation among juveniles and the connection between demoralisation and various personal and environmental factors in the lives of Polish juveniles.

Experiences with the juvenile justice system in Germany – the perspectives of young people and legal professionals *Diana Willems, German Youth Institute (DJI); Annemarie Schmoll, German Youth Institute (DJI)*

How juvenile court judges, prosecutors, youth services in criminal proceedings, and young people experience the German juvenile justice system is an eminent question. An analysis of two recent longitudinal studies along this question reveals descriptions of cooperation and collaboration and their evaluation. In addition, respondents assess the quality of professional competencies and contributing factors such as consideration of young people's interests or sufficient time for young people in contact with the justice system and its various professionals. The analysis identifies mutual perceptions, including acceptance or rejection, as well as prejudices and conflicting interests. In doing so, it sheds light on the field of juvenile justice, especially the events surrounding the main hearing, taking into account the different actors involved.

Perceptions of judicial professionals on the treatment of girls and boys in the Dutch juvenile justice system *Anne-Marie Slotboom, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; Charlie Stoeldraaijers, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*

There are concerns from judicial practice and policy that there is too little knowledge of delinquent girls. To implement adequate policy aimed at delinquent girls, further insight into this perpetrator group is needed. This presentation discusses recent research into the characteristics and risk factors of delinquent girls and young adult women in general, police and judicial populations. Various sources and methods were used for this, namely a systematic literature study, self-report data linked to police registrations, interviews with 27 judicial professionals and a case law analysis. The empirical data were collected in the Dutch juvenile justice system. This presentation discusses the qualitative part of the research (interviews with 27 judicial professionals), which examined the considerations of professionals regarding the decision-making process for suspicion, prosecution and conviction of girls and boys. The results show that differential treatment according to gender is experienced as undesirable by professionals, but nevertheless appears to be present. Several possible explanations were formulated. For example, girls and boys appear to differ in delinquent behavior, which means that girls are less likely to be identified as suspects by the police. In addition, girls are said to behave differently in contact moments with professionals, which influences how they are treated. Professionals also admitted their use of a stereotypical image of 'the delinquent girl'. However, according to these professionals, this gender differentiation does not play a major role in their considerations. Based on the results, several recommendations for policy and practice have been formulated.

Using boredom for diversion: Reducing the pains of children in police custody *Craig Webber, The University of Southampton; Mark Brown, The University of Southampton*

Going into police custody is a rare moment where one's phone, and easy access to the web, has been taken away. Consequently, it might also be a time when children are more conducive to positive messaging and suggestions for how to seek help to make better choices. This paper reports on an evaluation of a project to provide video-books to children coming into police custody. These cheap

iPad-like tablets have no network functionality, and are pre-loaded with videos providing information on the custody process. In addition, they can contain other videos whose aim is to provide pathways to information that might encourage diversion from further offending. The content can be tailored to reflect the child's characteristics (eg. race, gender, or age, as well as disclosed neurodiversity). The video-book is also provided at a time that has been identified as a reachable/teachable moment (Bevan 2022; Kemp and Watkins 2022; Skinnis et al. 2023). Drawing on data from the project that included interviews and a survey of those who were given the video book, we propose something that many parents have known for some time: Giving children a tablet-computer reduces boredom, but, in this case, might also reduce further offender. At the same time, custody suites are spaces of conflict and resistance, in terms of both those taken into custody, and those charged with holding them. We outline some of the challenges of placing a form of technology usually associated with leisure-time into this site of resistance. We will discuss the implications of this innovation for police discretion and the pains of police custody, especially as they are felt by children.

**Step up, Speak Out: Amplifying young people's voices in sexual violence prevention through a collaborative participatory approach** *Janelle Rabe, Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse - Durham University*

Sexual violence among adolescents remains an urgent concern, marked by a seeming normalisation of violence in young people's lives. This paper will present findings from a collaborative participatory research study with 29 young people (13-18 y.o) from a school and a youth club in Northeast England. Our project sought to explore their understandings of sexual violence and its prevention. Guided by the concept of participation as protective, our collaborative study makes a case for young people's inclusion of young people in violence and abuse research as a means of promoting their rights to protection. Adopting a flexible design of 17 iterative participatory and creative workshops, the young people participated in individual and group-based interactive activities such as vignettes, games, and discussions. The key findings of our research underscored the significance of using young people-informed language, terms, and definitions instead of adult-centric language in discussions with young people. Their insights revealed their nuanced views of sexual violence that drew upon gender norms, peer dynamics, and broader contexts perpetuate its normalisation and prevalence in different contexts with adults and peers, online and offline. They underscored the impact of pressure, manipulation, and force that manifest in physical and non-physical ways. A major narrative that arose relates to shame, silence, and stigma as a way of understanding the impact of sexual violence in their lives. These insights have significant implications in co-designing interventions with young people, in educational and community settings, stressing the need for young people-informed strategies that address barriers to disclosure, reporting, and help-seeking among adolescents. By discussing methodological and ethical considerations, the paper presents a replicable approach to meaningfully engage young people in co-designing solutions to sexual violence. Overall, our findings highlight the value of empowering young people in shaping effective responses to sexual violence and abuse.

#### **145. Prosecuting atrocities – challenges of collecting, presenting and evaluating evidence in a cross-cultural setting**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, War Crimes (Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.13*

Trials of international crimes usually take place years after the atrocities have been committed, and often before courts that are geographically remote from the scenes of the crimes. Acquiring evidence to prosecute the accused is a challenging task in any context, but operating in a cultural setting that is often unfamiliar poses its own specific set of hurdles. Not only in relation to witnesses and their testimonial evidence, but also in relation to the presentation and evaluation of other types of evidence, and the ways in which evidence is collected and used during trial. The different papers in this panel

therefore address some of the challenges that stem from operating in different socio-cultural contexts when prosecuting international crimes. The papers address various forms of evidence that can be collected for an international trial: open-source evidence (such as videos, Facebook and Twitter posts), forensic evidence, documentary evidence, and testimonial (witness) evidence. Taken together, the panel will offer an overview of certain misconceptions, lessons learned and potential ways forward when it comes to effectively investigating and prosecuting international crimes in various socio-cultural settings.

Chair:

*Caroline Fournet, University of Exeter, Law School*

Participants:

**Cultural and cognitive biases of digital open source investigations**  
*Anastasiia Liulina, University of Groningen*

In the modern age of social media and smartphones, Internet is abundant with the digital data related to atrocities, both fake and real. Due to availability of this information non-governmental organizations are often the ones that embark on the task of sifting through the large amounts of data to find truth. However, digital open source investigations themselves pose a lot of challenges, some of which are connected with cultural background. For example, in order to be able to find reliable sources of the information, the investigator has to be familiar with social, political and cultural peculiarities of the relevant parties allegedly participating in the analysed commission of an atrocity, such as armed groups, organizations, military units and others; languages, including slang, relevant to the area or nationality of perpetrators/victims; popular websites, search engines, social media, news reporters, mobile applications; relevant legislation; internet coverage of the area and so on. The language factor is especially important since some colloquial, jargon terms may be unknown to those who speak the language fluently but are not immersed in the context of the situation. Special attention shall be paid to euphemisms used to denote sexual assault and to coded notions and symbols used to incite violence and hatred. All of these issues suggest that the nationals of the states involved in the atrocities fit best to conduct investigations. In this case, however, national sentiment and personal experience might kick in endangering impartiality of the concluding report. This draft will address these and other cognitive problems associated with investigation of violations of international humanitarian and human rights law and will attempt to provide possible solutions and advice.

**The role of the Prosecutor in investigating extraterritorial atrocity crimes** *Marieke de Hoon, University of Amsterdam*

During the 2010s, technological developments generated a surge of initiatives by non-official investigators, new institutions and transnational collaborations to document, investigate and share evidence of atrocity crimes. Their aim is "justice", most often in the form of criminal accountability. Hence, the aspired end-users of this information are prosecutors. Yet, the myriad of actors and now terabytes of information that is generated creates a bottleneck at the level of the prosecutor's offices, that do not have the capacity to analyse all information collected everywhere by everyone, cannot always accept information (for instance due to lack of jurisdiction when there is no suspect on their territory), or share information with other prosecutorial offices (for instance due to procedural or logistical hurdles). However, the prosecutor's role is surprisingly undertheorized and ambivalent: having to uphold fundamental legal principles while straddling the lines between magistrate and civil servant; representing the public or the victim; truth-finding and crime-fighting. This is highlighted in the domestic prosecution of extraterritorial atrocity crimes, given the mismatch between the number of potential cases across the world's many conflicts and serious human rights violations and available resources within domestic justice systems to allocate to extraterritorial atrocity crimes. This paper explores the prosecutor's role in investigating extraterritorial atrocity crimes, with a particular focus on the contemporary challenges of emerging technologies and evidence overflow, complexities of transnational collaboration with myriad public/private actors in collecting/analysing evidence, and the importance of communicating justice to - foreign and large - afflicted societies and the world-at-large.

How do you construct an international trial? Cultural differences

before the ICC *Adina-Loredana Nistor, Faculty of Law, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (The Netherlands)*

Recent studies have shown that cultural differences profoundly affect the way in which national and international courts and tribunals deliver justice to societies that are geographically and culturally distant from them. This issue presents specific hurdles: linguistic issues (translation challenges and the difficulty of finding interpreters), taboos, different understandings of how certain concepts are defined across cultures (such as childhood, distance or time), the over-reliance on intermediaries to name just a few. The mismatch between the legal norms that guides the judges and the diverse cultural norms of those participating in the legal proceedings has not seldomly led to tensions and errors that raised substantial criticism. Given the International Criminal Court's (the ICC) almost universal jurisdiction and the culturally diverse background of the actors who take part in the ICC trials, challenges relating to the cultural differences of those participating in the international trials (either as defendants, lawyers, witnesses or victims) are bound to continue to emerge with every new situation brought before this Court. Many of the misunderstandings can arise before the trial has even commenced, during the investigations phase. Based on an in-depth analysis of ICC trial transcripts, this presentation will highlight the cultural challenges that have been identified by trial participants during the proceedings, in particular, challenges that occurred during the collection of evidence. The presentation will zoom in on two ICC situations: the Democratic Republic of Congo (Lubanga, Katanga and Ntaganda trials) and Uganda (the trial of Dominic Ongwen) and will provide an overview of the potential ways forward.

**Selecting Witnesses for Testimonial Evidence: A Slippery Slope?**  
*Suzanne Schot, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*

Those who suffer psychologically from the consequences of international crimes may become witnesses in criminal proceedings. This paper examines how trauma is taken into account by investigators and parties to the proceedings in the decision-making process of selecting witnesses to testify, and argues that while the selection process may be driven by evidentiary needs, the well-being of witnesses should be taken more into account to ensure the fairness of proceedings. The selection of witnesses has not been addressed in much detail in relation to international criminal proceedings, and the process has therefore been characterized by a lack of transparency. An analysis of transcripts of proceedings and scholarly literature, however, offered insights into what is taken into account by investigators and parties to the proceedings. First, the initial selection of witnesses by means of a screening interview is examined, and it is also addressed how vulnerable witnesses are identified in this process and how the taking of multiple statements, which is common for the prosecution of international crimes, has the potential to affect testimonies and witnesses. Although witnesses may have been selected, the analysis of court records and transcripts of proceedings revealed that sometimes witnesses may become unable or unwilling to continue testifying, which is hereafter addressed by examining the challenges this brings to ensuring a fair trial. Lastly, this paper explores the identified crucial trade-off between evidentiary needs and the well-being of the witness in the process of selecting witnesses to testify about international crimes, and which factors should play a role in selecting traumatized witnesses for testimony.

**146. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 6: Women in prison**

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.17*

Chair:

*Lorraine Gelsthorpe, University of Cambridge*

Participants:

A Paradigm Shift Missed: The expanding incarceration of women in an age of drug decriminalisation *Lauren Ivy Borders, University of Toronto; Erika Chabén Cabrera, University of*

*Oxford*

In recent decades, countries around the world have attempted to navigate away from a punitive 'war on drugs' framework to implement non-prohibitionist drug policies, such as decriminalisation. These policies are meant to bring about a paradigm shift in how illicit drug issues are addressed — reducing the role of the criminal justice system and protecting human rights. However, despite their intentions, women in several of these countries are increasingly incarcerated for low-level drug offences, and in many cases, still endure disproportionate and harsh punishment. Using Latin America as a regional case study, this paper examines the ways in which Global-North-inspired models of decriminalisation have failed to sufficiently consider the transnational and intersectional qualities of women's relationship with drugs. Ultimately, these unique circumstances necessitate solutions beyond current models of progressive drug policy, which will need to be crafted and promoted by local voices at the international level.

**Gender and Carceral Policies in Portugal** *Raquel Matos, Universidade Católica Portuguesa; Mónica Soares, Universidade de Coimbra*

This paper aims to examine the relation between gender, feminism and carceral policies and practices, in Portugal. We propose to understand whether and how gender equality movements have had an impact on the Portuguese justice system, specifically in prisons. Some of the academic works done in the country since the 1980s focused mainly on the context of women's imprisonment, evidencing gender-based obstacles in the trajectories of women serving sentences. They also evidenced practices of the prison system that could be harmful for women for not considering constraints linked to gender expectations, roles, and relations. More recently, a concern to incorporate the LGBTQI+ population into academic work on gender and criminal justice has begun to emerge, although there are still very few studies on this subject. By analyzing laws, regulations, and interviews with inmates and with prison staff, we question whether and to what extent gender-equality policies, have impacted Portuguese carceral policies and practices. The results are discussed into three key dimensions: Gender (in)equalities, Sexual-gender diversity and LGBTQI+ people, and Parenthood, sexuality and reproductive rights, in prison.

**The risk-relevance of psychiatric disorders for women's recidivism following release from prison in Norway: A national cohort study** *Vegard G Svendsen, University of Oslo; Marianne Riksheim Stavseth, University of Oslo; Torbjørn Skardhamar, University of Oslo; Anne Bukten, University of Oslo*

Background: Mental health problems are highly prevalent among women who experience incarceration and might have important implications for treatment needs and correctional outcomes. However, little is known about the risk relevance of specific psychiatric disorders in this population or how this risk might be moderated by other gender-specific risk factors. With access to high quality national registry data spanning a broad range of relevant variables, we employ a prospective study design to investigate the association between recent psychiatric history (as defined by clinical diagnoses recorded in health care records) and recidivism in all women released from a Norwegian prison over a ten year period (2011 to 2020; n = 4920). Acknowledging that recidivism is a heterogeneous and sometimes arbitrarily defined construct, we describe and measure return to crime in a manner that is both gender-informed and comprehensive. Based on previous research in fields such as feminist criminology, social psychology and forensic psychiatry we develop and test several hypothesis about women's recidivism, and how it might be associated with mental illness. Research Question: How does a recent history of psychiatric disorders contribute to women's recidivism following release from prison in Norway? And does this relationship vary by different types of recidivism (e.g. time to any crime; any crime other than most common misdemeanours or drug use; violent crime) or when adjusted for relevant gender-specific (e.g., motherhood, custody of children, civil status and partners criminal status), context specific (e.g., opioid maintenance treatment) and gender-neutral (e.g.,

history of previous incarceration, parents criminal record, substance use) risk factors.

**147. Investment of Criminal Proceeds into the Legitimate Economy: Analysis of Italian and Russian Organised Crime in the UK Real Estate Market**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Organized Crime (Organized Crime WG)

Author meets critics

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.18

This book explores the infiltration of Italian and Russian organised crime in the UK real estate market, assessing how vulnerable the UK is to these sorts of activities. It identifies the drivers behind the criminal choices and modus operandi of Italian and Russian organised crime groups, and the factors causing their mobility abroad. This study broadens our knowledge on the relationship between criminal agency and criminogenic opportunity in a socio-economic and legal context. This book offers a critical insight into the criminal actors and operations of Italian and Russian organised crime groups, such as money laundering schemes in the real estate sector, whilst also exploring the role of crime facilitators. Drawing on interviews with prosecutors, law enforcement agents and investigative journalists, this research explores how criminal investments adversely affect both law enforcement operations and socio-economic development in this area.

Critics:

*Matthew Light*, University of Toronto

*Anna Sergi*, University of Essex

Book Author:

*Emanuele Scalfani*, University of the West of England

**148. WG-PLACE 4: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behaviour**

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Routine Activities and Situational Perspectives (WG on Space and Culture)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.06

Chair:

*Adrian Jakob*, Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences

Participants:

Explaining Cybercrime *Alexander Betz*, KU Eichstätt-Ingolstadt;

*Laurin Schwemer*, Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg

This study aims to analyse deviant cybercrime from the perspective of Situational Action Theory (SAT). According to SAT, deviant action is conceptualised as a consequence of a two-step perception-choice process, where the perception of an opportunity is explained by a moral filter in the first step and the choice of deviant action is explained by the conditional relevance of controls (Wikström & Treiber, 2015) in the second step. Our focus is on the first stage, mainly on morality and the moral filter. To this end, we introduce a new way of measuring morality. In contrast to previous studies, which mostly neglected the situational character of morality, as proposed by SAT, we use vignettes to account for conditional relevance. To test our assumptions, we use the modelling strategy introduced by Eifler and Leitgöb (2021) to analyse the perception-choice process, which is based on combining a factorial survey approach (Wallander, 2009; Piquero et al., 2021; Treischl & Wolbring, 2022) with a sequential logit model (Buis, 2011, 2017). Furthermore, we measure both morality and self-control with instruments specified according to the definitions of these concepts in the SAT.

Lost in space: Exploring CPTED in Practice *Ruth Liston*, Victoria University

The practice of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) draws on the work of sociologists and planners from the mid-twentieth century onwards who have explored the relationship between human behaviour and the urban physical environment. In recent decades, nearly all state and territory governments in Australia have established CPTED-related guidelines and policies. In Victoria, local councils routinely require designers to incorporate

CPTED principles in tenders and engage the police to conduct or participate in CPTED audits. Meanwhile, CPTED training is mainly delivered by private contractors and most practitioners are untrained. This presentation reports on a study conducted to review the nature and efficacy of CPTED, assess current CPTED practices in Victoria, Australia, and identify the need for enhanced training. The research encompassed interviews with urban planning and design practitioners, focus groups with police officers, and a survey of local council members. Our study found significant variations in the definition, merits, and implementation of CPTED within Victoria, aligning with existing literature. Notably, a tension exists between evidence-based approaches to improving safety in a pro-social manner and the prevailing securitisation focus of CPTED in practice. To address this, we propose changes to CPTED practice that foster a better shared understanding of the evidence base for inclusive prevention of crime in public space.

Radicalization and Space. Empirical evidence from a multi-perspective study in Germany *Sebastian Kurtenbach*, FH Münster; *Armin Küchler*, Bielefeld University/ FH Münster

The issue of extremism remains a persistent threat and has been examined from a variety of perspectives, with factors such as poverty, peer pressure, and online interactions often cited as root causes. However, the influence of the physical environment, particularly neighborhoods, has received less attention, despite a long tradition of studying neighborhood effects. This study aims to fill this gap by examining the relationship between neighborhoods and radicalization. Conducted in three German cities, the research employed a multi-method approach that included 60 qualitative interviews, three years of ethnographic observation, and surveys with nearly 2,100 participants in each city. The findings shed light on how neighborhoods contribute to vulnerability to radicalization, the protective role of local nonprofit organizations, and how extremist groups integrate into different spatial contexts.

Perception and Choice: Comparing Situational Action Theory and Social-Psychological Views on Self-Control. *Adrian Jakob*, Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences

Situational Action Theory (SAT) (Wikström et al., 2012) offers a well-tested (Pauwels et al., 2018) but still discussed (Hirtenlehner et al., 2022; Kroneberg and Schulz, 2018) view on the situational process of criminal acts. The situational analysis in this regard focuses on the interaction of personal morality and aspects of the setting when perceiving a criminal action alternative, as well as deterrence and self-control when choosing such an action alternative. Compared to other theoretical perspectives (Gottfredson and Hirschi, 1990; Hofmann et al., 2012), the role of self-control is rather restricted and is only relevant under certain circumstances. With an interest of empirically comparing explanations of crime, this view is contested by another explanation that has no criminological background, but a cybernetic one. In the context of the so-called control theory (Carver, 2004; Carver and Scheier, 1982, 2008), a hierarchical regulation system is used to explain human behavior. Thus, humans are viewed as goal directed acting beings. This perspective is elaborated to be comparable to the perception and choice view of SAT. It is argued, that self-control can be seen as a set of strategies under the perspective of control theory where one of these strategies influence the perception of action alternatives, while another set is relevant for the aspect of choosing (criminal) action alternatives. Results show that SAT is in general better suitable to explain the perception of a criminal action alternative and the intention of a criminal act, but that the explanation of perceiving criminal action alternatives could profit from theoretical integration.

**149. Perspectives on Non-Criminal Justice Responses to Delinquency**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Non-Criminal Justice Responses to Delinquency (WG on Collateral Consequence of Criminal Records)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.07

Chair:

*Yoko Demelius*, Centre for East Asian Studies, University of

Turku

Participants:

Changing Contours in the Politics and Policing of Climate

Emergency Activism: A Case Study of Extinction Rebellion (XR) *Gabriel Mythen, University of Liverpool*

The environmental movement Extinction Rebellion (XR) came to prominence in the UK in October 2018 after a series of visually spectacular and well publicised protests in London, including the blocking of five bridges and activists glueing themselves to the gates of Buckingham Palace. These protests were designed to seize media, political and public attention in order to raise awareness of the urgency of the climate emergency and led to over 80 protestors being arrested by police. Post these demonstrations, interest and involvement in XR mushroomed nationally and abroad. In September 2019 XR organised several days of orchestrated protest involving climate activist organisations across 150 countries. The emphasis on civil disobedience was maintained, including deliberate ‘mass arrest’ by XR ‘rebels’. While these tactics have proved axial in XRs attempts to advance its demands for action by the State, major polluting companies and fossil-fuel investors, opinion polls consistently indicate very limited support for such strategies. As a response to this - and other factors such as the tightening of the policing of protest and new legal restrictions on public demonstrations - XR UK recently announced a shift from public disruption and civil obedience tactics to peaceful protest. Directly addressing the rationale for, implications of, and potential efficacy of this sea-change, this paper draws firstly on semi-structured interviews with XR members, analysing reflections on effective forms of activism and perspectives on the underpinning reasons for the strategy shift. Secondly, ethnographic data gathered during XR protest and event observations is presented and discussed in order to explore the changing dynamics of environmental activism and the policing of protest.

The meaning of sport for the social reintegration of people who are or were incarcerated *Marie-Lou Libbrecht, PhD Student*

My research focuses on the role of sports in the social reintegration of individuals during and after incarceration. I explore, from a social work perspective, the significance of sports for them, and also engage with other stakeholders (such as sports coaches, correctional officers, directors, etc.) to understand the factors influencing this process of assigning meaning. I employ the Capability Approach to analyze my data. Currently, I am conducting a multi-stakeholder analysis, examining three distinct cases: three sports programs in three prisons located in Flanders, Belgium, specifically in Hasselt, Beveren, and Oudenaarde.

Why do They Fall? Explanations for Relapses of Former Addict and Peer-Supporter Individuals *Ety Elisha, The Max Stern Yezreel Valley College; Esthi Shachaf-Friedman, Ashkelon Academic College*

In recent years, there has been a growing trend of integrating former incarcerated and addict people into peer-based programs, in prison and in the community. Previous studies have pointed to many benefits of peer support, especially for aid providers. However, very little is known about former addict people who have "fallen" (i.e., relapsed) in their recovery journey, while holding peer support role. The present study seeks to fill the gap on the subject. The study participants were former addicts and ex-prisoners who managed to recover and engaged in peer support roles but relapsed into addiction. Some have managed to recover since then and get back on the recovery path. The analysis of the interviews indicates several key factors that lead to such a fall. The study will discuss these findings from the convict therapy and positive criminology perspectives.

Technologies of the YouTuber Self: Digital Vigilantism, Masculinities and Attention Economy in Neoliberal Japan *Yoko Demelius, Centre for East Asian Studies, University of Turku; Yutaka Yoshida, Cardiff University*

This paper explores vigilante YouTubers in contemporary Japan. While Japan's social control tends to be associated with its group-oriented culture (Braithwaite, 1989; Komiya, 1999), the current study illustrates how the antipathy against the mainstream culture, in conjunction with the growing emergence of attention economy

driven by YouTube, has given rise to a new form of grassroots social control in Japan. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, online communications and information circulation increased. Due to isolation and slow economic activities during the pandemic, individuals started engaging in social movements via online social media to “police” communities and exercise moral justice. Some media content shared by vigilantes on YouTube channels includes videos showing “perpetrators” who allegedly engage in fraudulent schemes and groping undergo the processes of private arrests from the perspective of vigilantes to attract powerful empathy from the viewers. Such activities by vigilantes are motivated by the ambition to legitimise their masculinity, moral superiority, and respectable social roles in contemporary Japan, in which hegemonic masculinity, rigid gender-role expectations, and the concept of a well-functioning “proper” society are being challenged and renegotiated. Based on fieldwork involving interviews and online material, this study delves into the correlation between self-branding, attention economy, and alternative technologies of the self in a neoliberal context. By applying Foucault’s technologies of the self as a theoretical framework, this study contributes to the scholarship of digital vigilantism by zooming in on the conceptualisation of vigilantes’ identities using social media by delving into the notions of masculinity and entrepreneurship in neoliberal Japan.

#### 150. The Future of Alternative Justice: A Dialogue between Proponents of Different Schools of Alternative Thought

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Criminal Justice Policy (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Roundtable

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.10*

Over the last three decades, alternative forms of justice have been gradually gaining ground within criminological and socio-legal debates. We have seen the emergence and development of therapeutic, restorative, problem-solving, and, more recently, generative justice. All these distinct philosophies have been aiming to reimagine current criminal justice processes in a more compassionate, humane manner, each with distinct approaches and priorities. In this roundtable, scholars pertaining to different schools of alternative thought will be encouraged to think about the benefits and limitations of working collaboratively and developing alternative justice philosophies and mechanisms more interdependently rather than individually. Drawing on their own empirical focus, participants will engage critically in an open discussion about what alternative justice more generally offers, where it falls short, whether and where we would benefit from sharing and adapting mindsets, priorities or methodologies. We aim for this roundtable to be the beginning of a wider conversation on the future development of alternative justice thought and practice.

Chair:

*Iulia Cristiana Vatau, University of Oxford*

Discussants:

*Shona Minson, University of Oxford*

*Beth Weaver, University of Strathclyde*

*Alejandro Rubio Arnal, UPF/UFV*

*Katerina Soulou, European Forum for Restorative Justice*

#### 151. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: Showcasing Global Research

Topic 7: Comparative and Historical Perspectives/Transnational Crime and Justice (Organized Crime WG)

Roundtable

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14*

The Research and Trend Analysis Branch of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime publishes around 40 studies each year. These range from Transnational Organized Crime Threat Assessments to annual Flagship reports. This roundtable shares three different recent studies highlighting the breadth and depth of the methodologies used as well as the range of crime types researched - the 3rd National Corruption Survey in Nigeria, estimating the prevalence of trafficking in persons, and the third World Wildlife Crime Report. First UNODC partnered with the Nigerian National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) to implement a corruption survey that covered 33,000 households in all of Nigeria's 37 states and territories, focusing on people's every-day experiences

of bribery and other forms of corruption such as nepotism in employment and vote buying. Second, to support Member States in their effort to report on this Sustainable Development Goal indicator about trafficking in person, UNODC with several partners, has been developing methodological techniques to estimate prevalence of trafficking in persons. These includes specialized surveys, large scale surveys and the use of Multiple Systems Estimation, a statistical technique that permits estimation of the 'hidden figure' based on national data on trafficking victims from several different sources. Finally, The World Wildlife Crime Report is grounded in World WISE, a bespoke database combining several sources of official data and web scraped data to enable estimates of the illegal wildlife trade in numerous protected species. Overall, the discussion will illuminate the varied quantitative and qualitative methods employed across UNODC's varied research mandates.

Chair:

**Tanya Wyatt**, UNODC

Discussants:

**Maurice Dunaiski**, UNODC

**Giulia Serio**, UNODC

**Katalin Kecse-Nagy**, UNODC

## 152. Transforming policy into practice - developing victim sensitive justice systems

Topic 4: Victimology/Victims' rights (Victimology WG)

Roundtable

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.20*

Victim Support Europe (VSE) is the leading European umbrella organisation, advocating for the rights of all victims of crimes. VSE brings together around 80 members from across Europe and beyond, who provide support to more than 3 million victims every year. VSE has developed a number of visionary concepts, including a policy paper on a National Framework for Victim Support, a discussion paper on Safe Justice for Victims of Crimes, accompanied by a Model Provisions Paper setting out VSE's vision for the next EU Victims Directive, and one on transforming how we communicate with victims. These papers elaborate a vision for a paradigm shift in responding to the needs of victims. The papers recognise that criminal justice systems are poor in responding to the needs of victims. Core solutions are proposed on determining victims needs, establishing support in criminal proceedings, ensuring effective participation through legal support, and enabling communication of victims. A number of multi-national projects have analysed the situation on the ground and developed and tested operation solutions. These include – BeneVict, an analysis of practical implementation of victims rights in 26 EU States, Project Covis - led by Victim Support Sweden (Brottsofferjouren Sverige) which is exploring the core requirements of court-based victim support services and how to implement them, the LINK project, which is looking into the availability of procedural accommodations for children with disabilities, the AREV project which developed needs assessment and referral tools, and FYDO which developed facility dogs which support victims within criminal proceedings. This roundtable led by VSE will bring together key academics and practitioners to discuss the results of these policy papers and projects focused on three important aspects of a victim centric justice system, namely needs assessment processes, delivering support within criminal proceedings, enabling legal support of victims, and communicating effectively with them.

Chair:

**Levent Altan**, Victim Support Europe

Discussants:

**Aleksandra Ivankovic**, Victim Support Europe

**Frida Wheldon**, Victim Support Sweden - BOJ

**Bruno Monteiro**, Validity

**Antony Pemberton**, Katholieke Universiteit of Leuven (KU Leuven)

**Suzan van der Aa**, Maastricht University

**Simon Green**, University of Hull

## 153. Sex offenders

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Sex Crimes, Sex Work and Sex Trafficking

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22*

Chair:

**Virginia Soldino**, Universitat de València

Participants:

Criminological differences between contact sex offenders targeting adult and minor victims *Virginia Soldino, Universitat de València; Carlos López-Pinar, Universidad Europea*

Victim age has often been used as a distinguishing factor between perpetrators. This study aimed to analyse the distinctive criminological characteristics of contact sexual offenders with adult and minor victims. The study involved 97 adult males who were serving a prison sentence in Spain for at least one contact sexual offence against an adult or a minor. Researchers gathered data on criminological variables concerning the offender, victim, and modus operandi from prison records and interviews and between-group differences were analysed. Sex offenders with adult victims (SOAV) exhibited higher rates of violence/intimidation ( $\Phi = -.362$ ,  $p < .001$ ) and weapon use ( $\Phi = -.362$ ,  $p = .008$ ). Additionally, they were more likely to offend against their intimate partners ( $V = .393$ ,  $p = .002$ ) and in public places ( $V = .426$ ,  $p = .001$ ), and a marginal statistically significant relationship suggested that they were more likely to have female victims ( $V = .246$ ,  $p = .051$ ). SOAV were also more likely to be serving other ongoing prison sentences ( $\Phi = -.450$ ,  $p < .001$ ) and reported having a history of substance abuse ( $\Phi = -.285$ ,  $p = .005$ ). Sex offenders with minor victims (SOMV), in contrast, were more likely to offend against family members ( $V = .426$ ,  $p = .001$ ). Additionally, there was a statistically significant age difference between the two groups at the time of assessment ( $t(53.396) = -2.914$ ,  $p = .005$ ,  $d = -.561$ ), with SOMV ( $M = 45.16$  years;  $SD = 12.54$ ; range = 19–77) being older than SOAV ( $M = 38.59$  years;  $SD = 8.1$ ; range = 22–55). These results suggest that there are key differences between SOAV and SOMV that should be considered in tailored prevention programmes for each subgroup of offenders.

Factors Influencing Differential Engagement with A Multiple Perpetrator Rape: A Quantitative Investigation. *Ioana Madalina Crivatu, University of Suffolk*

Multiple perpetrator rape (MPR) is an international problem but remains an under-researched area of sexual violence. One such gap involves those cases where not every group member rapes the victims. This limits theoretical understanding and ability to design effective prevention programmes. This research presents the findings of a quantitative survey with those involved in an MPR but who did not sexually penetrate the victims. Descriptive analyses, cluster analyses and ordinal logistic regressions were used to investigate a) the MPRs; b) the interest individual's characteristics and actions; c) what situational, contextual and individual factors influenced their behavioural decisions. The sample consisted of 439 community adults residing in UK. The rapes took place in social contexts in inside locations. They involved groups of men and women consisting of two/three perpetrators known to one another against two/three victims known to the offenders. The groups and victims were homogeneous in terms of ages and ethnicities. Over 80% of the interest individuals were involved in more than one MPR; the largest proportion were heterosexual, White men, who were part of MPRs between the ages of 19 and 25. Over 60% engaged in facilitatory actions (e.g. holding the victim, cheering the others on) and in non-penetrative sexual acts (e.g. masturbating, kissing the victim). Sexual interest and excitement were the most common reasons provided. Nearly 20% watched the rape without getting involved or alternated between engagement and passive presence. Less than 10% helped the victim. Situational and group elements and psychological profiles impacted actions. Type and degree of engagement were influenced by perceptions of consent, relationship with the victim and group, number of victims and locations, MPR's context and one's level of moral disengagement and MPR proclivity. A taxonomy of engagement is presented. Theoretical, legal and practical implications are discussed.

Sexual offending in youth revisited: stories of recidivism and desistance *Chantal van den Berg, NSCR*

With an average follow-up period of over 20 years, this presentation will provide insight into recidivism (sexual and other delinquency), and desistance for a large sample of 1525 youths with a history of sexual offending. Register data, including criminal records, and prosecution files were analyzed, and results highlight the various



pathways youths embark on after having committed an initial sexual offense. Dynamic risk and protective factors will be discussed.

Sexual orientation of people sexually interested in children: How does identity relate to attractions and behaviours? *Michele Grace Bal, University College London; Jyoti Belur, UCL; Richard Wortley, University College London*

Background: The sexual orientations of people who sexually respond to children have remained largely invisible and subsumed within the clinical or criminological perspectives because attraction towards children has long been classified as pathological, and sexual behaviour with children is a criminal act. Thus, there is a lack of knowledge on the sexual identity of people sexually interested in children. Sexual identity is defined as the conscious acknowledgement of the other components of sexual orientation (i.e., sexual attraction, fantasies, arousal, and behaviour). Since identity was found to have a powerful role in guiding decision-making and explaining behaviours, a better understanding of the sexual identity of people sexually interested in children would lay the foundational knowledge necessary to identify the mechanisms that lead people with a sexual attraction to children to commit or refrain from committing child sexual abuse. The current research project aims to explore sexual identity and its role in the relationship between sexual attraction and sexual behaviour among people sexually interested in children. Methods: The data set in this research project consists of posts written by members of an online community for people who experience sexual responses to male children analysed using thematic analysis. Genuine conversations on sexuality would be difficult in many other settings due to the strong stigmatisation of people who sexually respond to children. Online forums are more likely to make people comfortable while sharing experiences of their sexuality because they are anonymous peer contexts. Conclusion: A better understanding of the intersections of sexuality and the decision to have sexual intercourse with children among people with a sexual interest in children can provide researchers and policymakers with the foundational knowledge to develop interventions to prevent sexual contact between adults and children.

#### 154. The Price Of Freedom Criminalization and The Management outsiders in Germany and the United States

Topic 7: Comparative and Historical Perspectives/Historical Comparisons of Crime (Historical Criminology WG)

Author meets critics

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.04

Seeking to shed light on how we might end mass incarceration, *The Price of Freedom* compares the histories and goals of the American and German justice systems. Drawing on repeated in-depth interviews with incarcerated young men in the United States and Germany, *Michaela Soyer* argues that the apparent relative lenience of the German criminal justice system is actually founded on the violent enforcement of cultural homogeneity at the hands of the German welfare state. Demonstrating how both societies have constructed a racialized underclass of outsiders over time, this book emphasizes that criminal justice reformers in the United States need to move beyond European models in order to build a truly just, diverse society.

Critics:

*François Bonnet*, CNRS, PACTE, Université Grenoble Alpes

*Calvin John Smiley*, Hunter College-CUNY

Book Author:

*Michaela Soyer*, Hunter College

#### 155. WG Organized Crime and Criminal Networks Panel 4. Drug-related organized crime activities

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Organized Crime (Organized Crime WG)

Paper Session

4:00 to 5:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06

Chair:

*Vincent Chris Figliomeni*, F.F. Social Science Research Center

Participants:

Dutch herbal cannabis from Spanish soil: The involvement of Dutch criminals in illicit herbal cannabis cultivation in Spain *Irma Johanna Vermeulen, National Investigations & Special Operations Unit, National Police of the Netherlands; Tirza Chessa, National Investigations & Special Operations Unit, National Police of the Netherlands*

The involvement of Dutch criminals in the illicit cultivation of herbal cannabis is a niche in drug-related transnational organised crime. In this study we applied crime scripting and social network analysis to gain insight into their roles and positions. One of the sources examined concerns a drug network of 12,133 unique accounts and their drug-related communications (i.e. relationships) within the closed encrypted communications network PGP Safe. Within this drug network, Dutch-speaking organisers of herbal cannabis cultivation were identified that coordinate separate criminal (business) processes of herbal cannabis cultivation and trafficking. These organisers of herbal cannabis cultivation are not indispensable for the cultivation as such, as the illicit cultivation of cannabis is widespread in Spain. However, they are relevant to the trafficking of the herbal cannabis because they have access to and are part of a large transnational drug network. Moreover, they use the network for international trafficking of other drugs since they are mainly involved in poly-drug trafficking. Therefore they are active within various drug-related (business) processes, and they utilize their relationships in the network for that purpose as well. Organisers of herbal cannabis cultivation are also not indispensable as contacts within the drug network due to its size and robustness. However they do require the network that enables them to carry out their drug-related criminal activities. The drug network can on the other hand only exist by the grace of all its participants and their activities. Interdependence therefore occurs not only at the individual level (i.e. at the level of the herbal cannabis cultivation organisers) but also at the system level.

The Changing Landscape of Freelance Drug Dealing In Mexico City *Roger Guy, SUNY-Oswego; Piotr Chomczyński, University of Lodz*

Organised Crime in Mexico has undergone considerable change since 2006 when violent competition between drug trafficking organisations (DTOs) intensified. This article explores changes in drug trafficking activities from the perspective of independent dealers in Mexico City. Based on in-depth interviews (N=64) we conclude that freelance dealers are increasingly pressured to become affiliated with DTOs despite being reluctant to do so. Our data suggest that cartels are more successful in attracting independent dealers with few economic alternatives, than those who can support themselves with a combination of licit and illicit activities. Therefore, to the degree that illicit drug sales are essential for economic sustenance, we expect that drug dealing for a criminal organisation will become norm as independent dealer become drawn into cartel work as licit opportunities diminish. For this reason, we expect that independent dealers will continue their decline as the prevalence of DTOs increase.

Young career makers in drug-related organised crime in the Netherlands *Jessica van Mantgem, National Investigations & Special Operations Unit, National Police of the Netherlands; Irma Johanna Vermeulen, National Investigations & Special Operations Unit, National Police of the Netherlands; Tirza Chessa, National Investigations & Special Operations Unit, National Police of the Netherlands*

For many years, the Netherlands has been an important hub in the transnational drug market. Our study focuses on young offenders involved in drug-related organised crime in the Netherlands. Juvenile crime in general has been declining in the Netherlands over the last decade, but there are concerns about the involvement of youngsters in drug-related crime and the fact that they may end up in important positions in drug-related organised crime. Although some (qualitative) research has been carried out, little is known about the size and nature of this group and the extent to which they develop more serious criminal careers. Based on a data set of all young drug-related organised crime suspects (18-23 years) from police investigative files in the timeframe 2019-2023, we have gained insight in the main characteristics and criminal records of these young suspects, the role they have played within drug-related

organised crime, and to what extent their roles have evolved over time. A better understanding of this group of young 'career makers' contributes to the development of prevention and intervention strategies. Researchers of the National Police of the Netherlands are currently working on the National Strategic Assessment of Drug-Related Serious and Organised Crime in the Netherlands 2024. The aim of this report is to provide an overview regarding the scope and nature of drug-related organised crime in the Netherlands and the criminal networks and subjects involved. The study of young career makers in drug-related organised crime in the Netherlands is part of this research-project.

**Cocaine Transiting at the Port of Gioia Tauro: A Case for Reemphasis on 'Ndrangheta Organized Crime of Calabria**  
*Vincent Chris Figliomeni, F.F. Social Science Research Center*

According to the Italian Minister of Interior (MOI) Annual Crime Report 2017, cocaine is one of the most preferred distributed illicit drugs. Analysis of its major seizures provides insights into the locations, quantities, and overall volume of its distribution. In 2017 alone, 1912.22 kg, which is equal to 80.98% of the overall maritime border seizures, were seized at the Southern Italian Port of Gioia Tauro (MOI Annual Report 2017:26). In May 2023, Italian authorities seized over 2.7 tons of highly pure cocaine at this same hub (ANSA 16 May 2023). According to the ORGANIZED CRIME AND CORRUPTION REPORTING PROJECT Report of 26 January 2017, "Ndrangheta made more money than Deutsche Bank and McDonald's put together with a turnover of €53 billion (US\$ 70.41 billion) mostly from drug trafficking." This enormous quantity of illicit wealth is tied to the container seaport of Gioia Tauro in Calabria, which is heavily influenced by 'Ndrangheta organized crime operatives. It serves as the main entry point for South-American cocaine in Italy. A cause for concern is a current initiative by the Italian government to invest 50 million Euro as part of its Special Economic Zone (Zona Economica Speciale - ZES) which includes the Port of Gioia Tauro as part of the overall plan (see Bartoloni 2018). This study is a call to action for using a multidisciplinary approach among policy makers and Law Enforcement Agencies' subject matter experts, as well as those from the academic community to create a dedicated organized crime task force in order to focus on the Port of Gioia Tauro and the 'Ndrangheta cocaine transiting problem set. Qualitative and quantitative data are presented and analyzed in order to draw conclusions and make recommendations in an effort to neutralize the impact of 'Ndrangheta and its lucrative illicit drug trafficking activities.

**156. Prison Working Group: Prison climate and quality of life**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”

Chair:

*Nicholas Blagden*, University of Derby

Participants:

With Dignity for All: Human Dignity as “Win-Win” in Correctional Settings *Arthur Rizer, Oxford University Centre for Criminology*

Correctional officers (“COs”) are unique in the way they have regular and one-on-one contact with those in prison, and those routine interactions with incarcerated individuals make correctional officers a critical element in shaping the culture behind bars. Unfortunately, prison workers by and large report profound dissatisfaction with their jobs. Prison work is often stigmatized and correctional officers are often overworked and underpaid. It is no surprise, then, that these conditions manifest in COs’ cynicism about the incarcerated. In many correctional settings, a negative feedback loop is created and persists: job-related stress and subpar working conditions lead to CO cynicism about the goals and purposes of incarceration, which helps to worsen conditions behind bars. This paper proposes that attention to the human dignity of those behind bars is not opposed to or at odds with efforts to recognize the dignity, and improve the condition of, those who

work in correctional institutions. Many corrections officers believe otherwise: They assert that efforts to improve prison conditions are bought at the expense of their pay, security, and prestige. They oppose rehabilitative-focused prison reforms as unnecessary, wasteful, dangerous, and above all without any benefit for them. But research suggests the opposite: Evidence suggests that correctional officers who endorsed more rehabilitative attitudes had lower levels of job stress, while those who endorsed more punitive attitudes had higher levels. And in the United States, the history of the implementation of the Prison Rape Elimination Act over the past two decades strongly supports the thesis that reforms focused on the human dignity of those behind bars has direct benefits for COs and other prison workers, as well. This suggests that a focus on human dignity and improved conditions in prisons is not an “either-or,” but a “both-and” situation.

**Prison climate and work experience in the context of job differentiation** *Elodie Schils, NICC - National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology; Luc Robert, INCC - Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie; Eric Maes, INCC - Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie; Elien Goossens, National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology*

The Law of 23 March 2019 provides for the introduction of a new surveillance method in Belgian prisons. This new working method is aimed primarily at prison staff responsible for surveillance. It defines a differentiation of tasks between security assistants and detention supervisors. Currently, this new working method is only being established in some prisons, before being extended more widely. Prior to the extension of this new working method, an evaluation of the practice is being carried out in four Belgian prisons (two applying the differentiation of tasks and two not yet applying it) through a study of the living climate of inmates and the working climate of prison staff. The aim of this study is to compare the experience of these two groups of prisons in order to determine: how living conditions in prison are perceived by inmates in prisons with and without job differentiation and to study how the working climate is perceived by staff in prisons with and without job differentiation. This presentation will focus on the results of the survey carried out among inmates concerning the prison/living climate within the four prisons. To achieve this purpose, a questionnaire has been developed based on the ‘Prison Climate Questionnaire’ (PCQ). The next stages of the project will also be presented. The research started in November 2023 and will run until mid-2025.

**Staff-Prisoner Relationships and Quality of Life in Serbian Prisons: Preliminary Research Findings** *Milena Milićević, Institute for Criminological and Sociological Research; Ljeposava Ilijić, Institute for Criminological and Sociological Research; Olivera Pavićević, Institute for Criminological and Sociological Research*

The study reports preliminary findings on the impact of the prison regime, staff-prisoner relationships, and individual quality of life on the well-being and development component of the quality of prison life (QPL) among Serbian convicts within the PrisonLIFE project (No. 7750249, Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia). The study involved 520 male convicts from Serbia’s four largest penitentiary facilities, mean age of 40 years (SD=10.17; range 20–73), with an average sentence length of 16 years 10 months (SD=8 years, range 1–40 years). Most participants were Serbian nationals (98%), single (54%), had a secondary school education (66%), denied drug use before imprisonment (51%), and had prior prison sentences (57%). The majority (56%) received sentences ranging from 3 to 10 years, with 74% being assigned to closed prison wards and 55% incarcerated in the same prison for over two years. Offences against property accounted for 35% of convictions, followed by offences against human health (31%) and life and limb (20%). Data were collected using MQPL and WHOQOL-BREF surveys. Analysed via hierarchical multiple regression, findings reveal that staff-prisoner relationships ( $\beta=.59$ ) as the most influential predictor, highlighting positive interactions, trust, and support. Environmental factors ( $\beta=.21$ ), such as safety and recreation opportunities, psychological aspects like self-esteem ( $\beta=.14$ ), and factors related to physical health ( $\beta=.10$ ), including mobility and pain

management, also significantly impact QPL. While the prison regime (closed/semi-open) showed significance, it was less influential compared to other factors ( $\beta=.06$ ). Surprisingly, social relationships among prisoners showed no significant impact, suggesting their lesser role. Trusting, fair, and honest interactions between staff and prisoners, alongside supportive environments within the prison setting, are crucial for enhancing QPL. Interventions should target improving staff-prisoner relationships, ensuring physical safety, providing recreation and skill development opportunities and access to health and social care, and addressing inmates' physical and mental well-being.

**The Quality of Prison Life in Serbia: Criminological and Penological Characteristics** *Nikola Vujičić, Union University, Law School Belgrade, Serbia; Ivana Stevanović, Institute of Criminological and Sociological Research, Serbia; Sanja Čopić, University of Belgrade – Faculty for Special Education and Rehabilitation, Serbia*

The paper discusses findings of the empirical study on the quality of prison life (QPL) in Serbia. The study is part of a national three-year research project entitled PrisonLIFE, supported by the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia (No. 7750249), which aims to improve the understanding of the QPL of convicts in Serbia. The data was collected with the use of a Serbian version of the Measuring the Quality of Prison Life (MQPL) survey. The study was conducted from May 2022 to January 2023 on a sample of 650 convicts (559 male and 91 female) who served prison sentence in four Correctional Facilities for Men and one Correctional Facility for Women. The samples average age was 39.84 (SD = 10.27, range 20-74), with an average length of a prison sentence of 95.46 months (SD = 100.64, range 2-480 months). More than two thirds of respondents were recidivists, where about half of them have previous prison experience. 28.2% of the sample was imprisoned for drug-related offences, then for robbery 13.7% and aggravated homicide 11.2%. On a 5-point scale, respondents evaluated the dimensions of the quality of prison life as follows: Harmony Dimensions (M = 3.12; SD = 0.80, range 1.07-4.95); Professionalism Dimensions (M = 2.92; SD = 0.84, range 1.00-4.86); Security Dimensions (M = 3.31; SD = 0.70, range 1.27-5.00); Conditions and Family Contact Dimensions (M = 3.45; SD = 0.89, range 1.00-5.00) and Wellbeing and Development Dimensions (M = 3.45; SD = 0.76, range 1.11-5.00). The findings indicate that professionalism received the lowest ratings within the sample, averaging below the acceptable threshold of three. Data on the QPL will be analyzed in relation to certain criminological and penological characteristics of the sample. At the end, the authors will indicate the possible ways to improve the QPL in Serbia.

**Prison Climate and Rehabilitation of Men with Sexual Convictions: The relationship between prisoner-staff relationships, readiness and compassion** *Nicholas Blagden, University of Derby*

Prison-based treatment for men with sexual convictions is contested. Mews and colleagues (2017) found the rate of overall sexual reoffending was larger in treated men with sexual convictions. This is perhaps not surprising, especially for prison-based interventions, given that prison may not be the ideal place for rehabilitative work. This presentation will unpack a series of empirical studies that have explored rehabilitative prison climate and its impact on intervention. It explores the relationship between prisoners and staff, treatment motivation and readiness and beliefs about change. A key finding is that rehabilitative climate mediated the relationship between prisoner-staff relationships and readiness for treatment. The implications for this and for the ideal conditions for prison-based interventions are discussed. The core argument in this presentation extends the recent focus of compassion-focused therapy in forensic interventions (see Hocken & Taylor, 2021; Kolts & Gilbert, 2018) and argues that a possible way forward for correctional practice more broadly is to adhere more closely to principles of compassion in order to promote more meaningful self-change (Blagden et al, in 2023).

### 157. Governing the Effects of Climate Change: Local policing adaptations, impacts and implications

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

5:30 to 6:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”*

It is now widely accepted that the climate crises presented by the Anthropocene may well be among the biggest, and perhaps the biggest, threat humankind has ever faced. Both the direct and indirect impacts of these climatic events are having far-reaching and profound effects that are changing everyday lives across the globe – with effects varying considerably across spatio-temporal contexts. These new ‘harmscapes’ have also had a direct impact on localised policing and security responses and criminological scholarship has already begun to recognise the increasing role of police, local communities and the private sector acting as first responders to climate disasters and climate-related harms. Yet there is still much to be learnt as to the ways in which everyday policing and localised responses to climate-related harms is taking place with respect to new adaptations, the impacts on current practices, and the implications for the development of new roles, mentalities and partnerships. This panel considers the evolving nature of state and non-state policing responses to climate change impacts through a discussion on practices occurring in diverse geographic contexts, thereby engaging with northern and southern perspectives on the issue, as well as reflecting on the specific roles of public, private and community entities, whilst also acknowledging the increasing plurality of localised responses to climate harmscapes.

Chair:

*Ali Malik, University of Leeds*

Participants:

Private security governance responses to climate-related harmscapes *Julie Berg, University of Glasgow; Clifford Shearing, University of Cape Town*

This paper reflects on the proliferation of novel forms of private security governance assemblages, specifically the roles of private auspices and providers in responding to contemporary climate-related socio-material ‘harmscapes’. The authors use the lens of climatic harms and associated discursive shifts in understandings of the relationship between humans and ‘nature’ to draw attention to: climate gating adaptations; assemblages of powers and capacities being mobilised in response to emerging harmscapes; the logics and technologies underpinning these developments’ the roles of established security agents and novel security professionals; and, the use of resilience as a conceptual framing.

90 Seconds to Midnight - Capacity Building Processes for Environmental Law Enforcement during Permaccrisis *Anna Matczak, The Hague University of Applied Science*

Despite the growing recognition of environmental crimes as a pressing policing matter, the enforcement of existing environmental laws, amplified by emerging climate-related legislation, will require significant changes in the structure, prioritisation, resource allocation, and operational processes of police services. The EU landscape in this regard has been for example shaped by the introduction of the European Green Deal, revision of the EU Environmental Crime Directive, and/or development of ecocide legislation. Police in EU member states (and most likely elsewhere, too) must be better prepared to handle a new wave of environmental legislation, despite their staff shortages, insufficient budget allocations, lack of political will or increasing number of demonstrations opposing the EU policy direction (e.g. farmers’ protests). The field of environmental crime enforcement is complex, fragmented, and dynamically changing, presenting challenges in maintaining sufficient staffing levels and balancing national versus local priorities. Therefore, policing strategies need to include new approaches, such as engaging with citizen science projects, leveraging non-governmental organizations, or utilizing geospatial data. The paper explores the ways how to build and strengthen capacity for policing environmental crimes within the police service, and how these processes can be observed and evaluated.

Police and partner preparedness for climate change in England and Wales *Katja Hallenberg, Canterbury Christ Church University; David Lydon, Canterbury Christ Church University; Violeta Kapageorgiadou, Canterbury Christ Church University*

The UK government has been criticised for being ‘off track’ to meet its own climate change related aims and targets, as domestic policy continues to invest in and subsidise fossil fuel extraction and combustion related industries, mitigation interventions are weakened, and market-reliant policy setting, implementation and regulation fails to meaningfully address the problem. Meanwhile, the adverse cascading ‘consequences of consequences’ of climate change – public health crises; fuel and energy deficits; food insecurity; national security conflicts; organised crime; vulnerable populations; forced migration with climate ‘refugees’ fleeing environmental and societal decay in search of safety and stability, and key infrastructure degradation – are starting to be felt not just globally but in the local communities in England and Wales. Their criminogenic potential and the threat posed to human security are acknowledged at strategic level in reviews of future operating environment and structural trends shaping public safety in the next few decades. If and how this strategic awareness translates into operational planning and preparedness among the police and its key partners, however, is much less well understood; something the current paper aims to address. It reports on a small-scale scoping study of 13 participants involved in strategic, tactical, and operational levels of risk assessment, planning, management, response and service delivery within police and key partner agencies. Thematic analysis of interview data revealed four key themes: awareness of climate change impacts; why the police should care; prioritisation and preparation, and various enabling and impeding factors. The results suggest that preparedness for climate change impacts is hampered by a narrow focus on legislated requirements, short-term planning, lack of funding and resources, and limited prescience. Recommendations centre on redefining planning parameters, strengthening central government engagement, amplifying awareness and understanding of trend analyses, prioritisation of ‘futures’ thinking, ethical considerations, and collaborative preparedness.

**Epistocracy as a conduit for change? Exploring the role of knowledge(s) to steer localised responses to climate change in the UK** *Ali Malik, University of Leeds; Julie Berg, University of Glasgow*

This multidisciplinary paper explores the potential for epistocracy to guide localised and polycentric responses to the emergent and long-term harms of climate change. The paper draws on the case study of Local Resilience Forums (LRFs) in England and Wales, a key multiagency partnership comprising local police and emergency first responders, and a broad range of other public, private and third sector agencies. The LRFs have the potential to coordinate effective, and localised, responses to civil contingencies but recent research and policy discourse into their response to the covid-19 pandemic has highlighted challenges at a ‘horizontal’ level (between partner agencies) and at a ‘vertical’ level (between LRFs and central government). Furthermore, more than two decades of austerity, coupled with the growing political emphasis on the role of the police as ‘crime-fighters’ risks a retrenchment of the police role and mandate. This can manifest in a ‘governing through crime’ paradigm which can at best limit the capacity of the police to adequately contribute to their obligations to LRF partner agencies and at worst approach the emergent climate risks from a narrow crime-focussed lens. We argue that the challenges faced by the LRFs are consistent with those identified in empirical research on polycentric governance settings. We suggest that epistocracy, underpinned by three conditions—epistemic decision-making, knowledge co-production, and democratic mediation—may be better suited to act as a site of coordination, resisting partisan interventions and steering the police and the LRFs towards a broader harm reduction paradigm.

**158. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 12: Gender and Justice**

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”

Chair:

*Michele Jane Burman, University of Glasgow*

Participants:

**Policing Gender Violence in the Global South** *Kerry Carrington, University of Sunshine Coast; Melissa Jardine, University of the Sunshine Coast; Helen Singh, University of the Sunshine Coast*

Gendered violence is ‘one of the most significant issues to be addressed in our time’ (United Nations 2015). Yet, there are huge gaps in the knowledge base as around 75% of research on gendered violence focuses largely on the Global North. Most models of policing gender violence are based on approaches developed in English speaking countries in the northern hemisphere (Carrington et al 2019). They are male dominated and insensitive to the needs of victims (Prenzler and Sinclair, 2013; Douglas and Fitzgerald, 2019). The unique challenges of policing gender violence in complex cultural settings of the Global South are poorly understood. Despite decades of policing reform, Pacific Island women have continued to report lifetime prevalence rates of violence between 60 per cent and 80 per cent (UNICEF 2017). Framed by southern criminology, this project addresses this knowledge gap by aiming to discover innovative approaches to policing gendered violence inspired by concepts, knowledge and practices based on new evidence collected from the Global South. Our research project investigates how to improve the policing of gender violence to take account of the cultural and practical complexity and ambiguity involved in policing gender violence in fragile nation states of the Global South within close proximity to Australia. This paper presents our initial findings based on original research in the Pacific Island of Fiji.

**The Effects of Gender, Race, and Migration on the Overrepresentation of Roma and Racialized Women in Spain’s Criminal Legal System** *Maéva Thibeault, University of Edinburgh; Becky Ratero Greenberg, Utrecht University*

This paper analyzes the intersection between gender, race, migration, criminalization, and abolitionism in the Spanish context. In the forty years following the end of Spain’s dictatorship, the prison population quadrupled. After the implementation of the democratic Criminal Code in 1995, there has been approximately one Criminal Code reform per year, resulting in the creation of new offenses and the consequent escalation in incarceration rates. Paradoxically, Spain now has one of the highest incarceration rates in Europe (with prison sentences often twice the length of the European average), while at the same time being one of the countries with the lowest crime rates in Europe. As of December 2023, there were 4,000 incarcerated women in Spain, representing just over 7% of the prison population. Gender and race manifestly structure the construction of delinquency and criminality. Although the Roma population makes up only 1.4% of the total population of Spain, Roma women accounted for 25% of the prison population in 2005. Almost all of these women were imprisoned for crimes related to drug trafficking, an offense that increased significantly after the 1995 Criminal Code reform—pointing to a possible increase in the percentage of incarcerated Roma women. Drawing from penal abolition and decolonial feminist theories, as well as the analytical framework of border imperialism, this paper will focus on the overrepresentation of Roma and racialized women in the Spanish prison system, as well as the effects of this situation on their status as caregivers within their families and communities.

**Violence, abuse and racially minoritised communities in the UK: Developing a theoretical perspective on justice** *Geetanjali Gangoli, Durham University*

This paper draws on ongoing and completed research into violence and abuse for racially minoritised communities to develop an intersectional conceptual perspective on the meanings of justice for victims/survivors of these forms of justice. Justice is understood as going well beyond the prevailing formal criminal and civil systems of justice, including restorative justice and use of religious arbitration, and represent a mix of tangible and intangible needs for recognition, restitution and reconstitution. Firstly, we will explore how racially minoritised women and girls in racially minoritised communities are often treated as a homogenous category in legal and policy discourses, while in reality experiences of violence and abuse intersect in other ways, such as: religion, gender, sexuality

immigration status and age. Secondly, we will explore how gender based abuse against racially minoritised women and girls has been subjected to criminalisation and criminal justice intervention in particular ways that may speak to exoticising forms of abuse seen as endemic or specific to some communities. For example, we are aware that female genital mutilation and forced marriage have been criminalised before more generic forms of abuse, such as domestic abuse. This paper will explore these issues in the context of the harms and benefits of criminal justice approaches for different groups of marginalised and minoritised women and girls in the UK. Withdrawing from the criminal justice system process, for example, could indicate positive, self-protective choices by victims/survivors who recognise the type of ‘justice’ on offer is not what, or how, they want, and it may simultaneously be an indictment of the prevailing formal systems and raises the question of what alternatives are available. Therefore, as well as considering the criminal, civil, family, restorative, arbitration and religious councils, we are alert to informal spaces such as inter/intra-family or community attempts to achieve justice.

**Women’s Problem Solving Courts: Variations on a Theme** *Shona Minson, University of Oxford*

Women’s Problem-Solving Courts (WPSC) are specialised courts designed to address the unique circumstances of women who are charged or convicted of criminal offences. Women in the criminal legal system often have mental health problems, addiction issues, unstable housing, exploitative or violent domestic relationships, and broken or strained relationships with their children. All of these are factors which are likely to have contributed to the criminal offending. Imprisonment is unable to address these issues, but the WPSC take a different approach by supporting the woman to address many of these issues during her sentence. Dr Shona Minson’s work on the sentencing of women has most recently focused on the use of these courts in two jurisdictions in the UK (England and Wales, and Scotland). Extension of their use is being trialled in the UK. Argentina has been using WPSC since 2018 and is a jurisdiction where legislation passed in 2018 mandates training on gender and violence against women for all in public office including the judiciary. Drawing on empirical research and policy and practice documents from three jurisdictions, this paper considers the different models of WPSC in England/Wales, Scotland and Argentina, and the rationale behind them. It explores the hypothesis that until we understand the purpose of these courts, both in terms of law and justice, it is impossible to evaluate their usefulness to women as an alternative justice procedure.

**159. Victim participation in criminal justice in Europe**

Topic 4: Victimology/Victims’ rights (Victimology WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

5:30 to 6:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”*

Victim participation is deep-rooted in criminal justice globally but has been contentious in contemporary academic, legal and policy debates. This panel explores what is similar and different to these debates using a European lens. The nature of the continent’s civil legal systems provides broad scope for victim participation, but familiar challenges appear. These challenges, such as the State’s claim of a monopoly on criminal offences and justice professionals’ commitment to continuing ‘the way things are,’ are not unique to civil systems. However, the diversity and tenacity of ‘the local’ within and across the countries of Europe offers enormous scope for victim participation in criminal justice.

Chairs:

**Robyn Holder**, Griffith University, Australia

**Nieke Elbers**, NSCR/VU university

Participants:

Testifying in court: Virtual reality as a preparation strategy for survivors of sexual violence in Iceland *Hildur Fjólá Antonsdóttir, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Akureyri, Iceland; Margrét Tórshamar Georgsdóttir, Department of Psychology, Reykjavik University; Malena Írisardóttir Þórisdóttir, Department of Psychology, Reykjavik University; Hildur Skúladóttir, Department of Psychology, Reykjavik University; Magdalena*

*Konop, Department of Psychotherapy, Jagiellonian University Medical College; Paola Cardenas, Department of Psychology, Reykjavik University; Hannes Högni Vilhjálmsson, Department of Computer Science, Reykjavik University; Bryndís Björk Ásgeirsdóttir, Reykjavik University; Erla Katrín Jónsdóttir, Reykjavik University; Rannveig Sigurvinsdóttir, Reykjavik University*

For survivors of sexual violence, testifying in court can be a stressful experience. For many survivors, preparation has shown to be of importance to improve this process and reduce feelings of secondary victimization. In this study we report findings from a research project in Iceland where survivors have been invited to explore the use of virtual reality (VR) as a preparation strategy for testifying in court. Here we explore how VR, as a preparation strategy, can facilitate survivors’ agency when testifying in court. The data consists of three studies where survivors of sexual violence in Iceland entered a VR courtroom and were subsequently interviewed regarding the VR experience. The results suggest that the VR experience evokes similar negative emotions as the real-life courtroom, and these might decrease with repeated exposures. The VR experience also appears to increase a sense of empowerment, control, and agency. The findings are presented within the framework of Konradi’s theory of witnesses’ agency in the criminal justice process.

**The Norwegian Victim Lawyer Role in a Nordic Context: Developments, Tensions and Adaptations** *Solveig Laugerud, Department of Criminology and Sociology of Law (IKRS), Faculty of Law, University of Oslo, Norway; Hildur Fjólá Antonsdóttir, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Akureyri, Iceland*

To be able to participate in the criminal justice system, victims generally need legal support. In the Nordic jurisdictions, the victim lawyer has become a common feature largely due to the advocacy of the women’s movements and their concern for survivors of rape and other forms of sexual violence. In this paper we focus on role and professional status of the Norwegian victim lawyer based on interviews and court observations. Against the backdrop of the other Nordic jurisdictions, we begin by explaining how the Norwegian victim lawyer came about, describe its current role and function, and finally identify some of the tensions that characterize aspects of the Norwegian victim lawyer role. The findings indicate that the introduction of the victim lawyer in Norway has created some tensions and contestations which has required adaptations in the legal field. These tensions have revolved around both professional and political issues, i.e., the relationship between legal and non-legal work; the boundaries of the victim lawyer role; and tensions between professional and political loyalties.

**Ineffectiveness of the right to compensation for victims of sexual violence. A comparison between five EU Member States** *Helena Soletó, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid; Nieke Elbers, NSCR/VU university; Arno Akkermans, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; Josep Tamarit, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya; Laura Arantegui Arràez, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya; Gian Luigi Lepri, University of Sassari; Doriana Chirico, University of Sassari; Iluta Lāce, MARTA centre; Nicholas Spetsidis, Union of Women Associations of Heraklion*

One way to ensure justice for victims of violence is to provide financial compensation. This research investigated legal policies on state and offender compensation in five EU countries – Spain, Italy, Greece, Latvia and the Netherlands – to gain insight into the extent to which victims of sexual violence are being compensated fairly and appropriately. Policy data was collected via the EU justice portal and verified by local experts, and empirical data on law in practice was sought. The analysis consisted of comparing who can apply, what is needed to apply, and what is compensated. Major differences were found between countries. For example, the timeframe to apply for state compensation ranged between three months and ten years, the numbers of applicants ranged from 10 to 1210, and decision times ranged between two months to ‘without delay’. And while, for example, the average offender compensation awarded in Spain was twice as high as in the Netherlands (€ 13,728 versus € 6,451), the likelihood of victims receiving the

compensation in these two countries was 14% and 100%, respectively, due to lack of enforcement. Because of the substantial variation between countries, and with reference to the European Court of Justice's 2020 judgment, it was concluded that some of the EU countries examined do currently not comply with the requirement to provide fair and appropriate compensation. It is recommended that accessibility should be improved and that an advance payment scheme should be adopted so that victims actually receive compensation they are awarded. More research is needed.

**Human Dignity, Rights and Victim Participation in Criminal Justice** *Robyn Holder, Griffith University, Australia; Albin Dearing, Vienna Forum for Democracy and Human Rights*

Human dignity is the cornerstone of human rights and central to the Treaty on European Union (EU) and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. It is embedded within constitutions across EU countries. This strong commitment to human dignity has given rise to extensive reflection on its centrality to correcting rights violations, inequality, discrimination and the oppressive conduct of state institutions. This article explores the work that human dignity does for people victimised by crime in the EU. We argue that the agentic human, central to the idea of victim participation, originates in human dignity. However, using a dignity lens, an analysis of victims' rights documents and rights research reveals a paradox within the victim-friendly civil law jurisdictions of Europe. That is, the procedural position of the victim established in tradition and law is undermined by justice professionals' attachment to the idea of the state's ownership of the violation. We then discuss jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights relevant to the protection of human dignity to identify how this tension between the protection of individual victim rights, especially the right to remedy, and public interest is adjudicated. We suggest that the Court's attention to individual rights should be harnessed by victim rights advocates and lawyers. While the victim's procedural role matters to their substantive and meaningful participation in criminal proceedings, it is their right and capacity to act independent of the state that may matter more.

**Victim participation through private prosecution: empirical research on sex crimes** *Josep Tamarit, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya; Laura Arantegui Arràez, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya*

The Spanish criminal justice system encompasses a distinctive model of private prosecution, affording crime victims the opportunity to participate in the judicial process in a different way to other legal systems. While this grants victims certain advantages, it also carries inherent risks. The ongoing debate about the current configuration of public prosecution in Spain is of significant comparative and international interest. Our contribution to this debate lies in the incorporation of empirical research findings based on data collected from judicial judgments in sex crimes. After bi- and multivariate analysis we have found that that judicial decisions are influenced by the presence or absence of private prosecution in the process. This influence appears to be stronger on determining the length of prison sentences than on determining the amount of civil liability.

**160. Cybercrime Working Group - Victimization & Resilience 1**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Cybercrime (Cybercrime WG)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 5 „Constantin Stătescu”

Chair:

**Cristian Tiberiu Stanescu**, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest

Participants:

High Tech SME Cyber Resilience: chains, networks, and ecosystems. What motivates SMEs to join in shared cyber teams? *Esgert ten Thij, Avans University of Applied Sciences; Ben Kokkeler, Avans University of Applied Sciences; Rick van der Kleij, Avans University of Applied Sciences / TNO*

SMEs are facing a growing variety of cyber-attacks. These attacks are still handled as incidents. As these attacks are often orchestrated

by organized crime groups, it becomes urgent to raise cyber awareness and create knowledge among SMEs. Furthermore, as organized crime groups start to hit OEMs and SMEs in their supply chain, it becomes necessary to cooperate. Interestingly, this urgency to cooperate opens opportunities as well to learn, share intelligence and expertise, and deploy specific resilience measures collaboratively. In this perspective, investments to raise cyber resilience could be part of business continuity investments and investments in product- or business process innovation. This paper presents the results from three different studies. The first study addresses opportunities for shared expertise and shares CISO functions in supply chains, investments in their infrastructure and governance. The second study focuses on an EU-sponsored initiative to develop digitally resilient ecosystems wherein major municipalities, bigger companies and public authorities that are seen as 'critical digital infrastructure' take the lead and create a trusted environment for sharing of intelligence and lessons learned for SMEs: the case of Digital Resilient Breda. The third study focuses on awareness creation, addressing the reasoning of SMEs as to why they do not engage or would be willing to engage in cyber resilience measures.

**Society 5.0 and the importance of human-centric cyber security in the age of AI** *Tihomir Dovramadjević, Technical University of Varna, Bulgaria; Wayne Patterson, Patterson and Associates, Washington, DC, USA; Rozalina Dimova, Technical University of Varna, Bulgaria; Rusko Ficlhev, Bulgarian Association of Ergonomics and Human Factors (BAEHF), Bulgaria*

Artificial Intelligence presents a comprehensive exploration of the paradigm shift toward Society 5.0, emphasizing the integration of advanced technologies such as AI while prioritizing human-centered principles. It explores the importance of human factors in the design and implementation of cybersecurity measures in the context of Society 5.0, emphasizing the importance of considering human behavior and decision-making models. The inclusion of insights from the book "New Perspectives in Behavioral Cybersecurity" further enriches the discussion by elucidating the intricate relationship between human behavior, cyber threats, and effective defense mechanisms. The article also examines the HEDY Life in the AI Era project, which defines a position on the role of AI in society, highlighting its impact, risks, and opportunities in various domains. It also highlights the need to address the security of digital finance and the resilience of social systems in the face of cyber threats, underscoring the multifaceted challenges of digital transformation. The involvement of the Bulgarian Association of Ergonomics and Human Factors (BAEHF) underscores the collaborative efforts to promote human-centered design approaches in cybersecurity, and to advance the understanding of ergonomics and human factors principles in the digital era. Through this multidimensional exploration, the article aims to illuminate the challenges and opportunities inherent in navigating the evolving intersection of Society 5.0, AI, human factors, cybersecurity, digital financial security, social systems, and the proactive role in international collaborations of academic, networks, and science-oriented organizations in shaping a safe and human-centered digital future. The contribution is in the creation of relevant to current research books and digital resources (in multiple languages), some with open access, for the benefit of society.

**Criminological Differences between Victims of Contact and Noncontact Child Sexual Exploitation Grooming Offenses in Spain** *Kathryn Seigfried-Spellar, Purdue University; Virginia Soldino, Universitat de València*

Our primary goal was to analyze the criminological differences between victims of contact and noncontact-driven child sexual exploitation suspects investigated for grooming offenses by law enforcement agencies in Spain. 295 cases (i.e., unique chatlogs between an offender and minor) were extracted from 98 police reports provided by the Guardia Civil and Policía Nacional. For inclusion in the current study, the case needed to include an online child sexual grooming offense according to the Spanish Criminal Code, Article 183; an offender-victim chatlog; and a law enforcement report to code the criminological variables of interest (e.g., victim characteristics, high-risk behaviors). 257 cases met

these criteria resulting in 234 unique victims for statistical analysis. Most victims were female (64.5%), Spanish (90.6%), and their ages ranged from 7 to 17 ( $M = 13.17$ ). We found significant differences between victims of contact-driven suspects ( $n = 99$ ) and victims of noncontact-driven suspects ( $n = 135$ ). Victims of contact-driven suspects were more likely to be male whereas victims of noncontact suspects were more likely to be female ( $\phi = .52$ ). Victims of noncontact suspects were also significantly younger ( $r = .26$ ). There was a marginally significant difference in victim location, indicating that victims of contact-driven suspects were more likely to be in Spain ( $\phi = .13$ ). When analyzing high-risk behaviors that made the victims more vulnerable to exploitation, victims of contact-driven suspects were more likely to offer something in exchange for sex or sexually explicit images ( $\phi = .18$ ). The most common high-risk behavior occurred when victims initiated requests for sexts from the suspects. These high-risk behaviors, whether engaged in voluntarily or influenced by manipulation, occurred within an abusive context marked by a power imbalance. Our findings provide valuable insights into the characteristics and high-risk behaviors of victims groomed by contact and noncontact-driven suspects in Spain.

The dark figure of cybercrime in Romania *Cristian Tiberiu Stanescu, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest*

This paper analyses the gap between the actual number of cybercrimes committed in Romania and those reported to authorities. It aims to show how dark figure distorts Romanian official crime statistics and influences our understanding of crime rates and patterns. Given the Romanian particularities both in the ways of committing and in investigating cybercrime, determining and examining key influencing factors of the dark figure of cybercrime is essential for our complete comprehension on how to overcome this rapid-growing phenomenon.

#### 161. EUROCRIM 8 Organisational Cultures and Compliance

Topic 2: Types of Offending/White collar Crime, Organizational Crime, Corporate Crime, Financial Crime (EUROCRIM)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”

Chair:

*Yunmei Wu, Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences*

Participants:

A private affair? Implications of systems of corporate justice for internal economic and financial crime within organisations  
*Clarissa Meerts, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*

As a result of multiple factors such as an overburdened criminal justice system, a lack of fit between criminal justice solutions and commercial interests, and the existence of a professionalised corporate investigations market, the control of internal economic and financial crime is in many countries for an important part a private affair. ‘Corporate investigators’ may provide investigative services in cases when internal and self-investigations are necessary, and may provide or be of assistance with private solutions for these matters (‘corporate justice’). The emphasis on private investigations and -solutions with regard to internal economic and financial (or corporate) crime has certain implications. There are notable potential benefits to organisations, the criminal justice system, society and the persons under investigation. These include a higher level of efficiency, lower costs for society, the promotion of the self-cleaning ability of organisations and the fact that an investigated person will not receive a criminal record. However, this semi-autonomous social field of crime control may also have notable negative implications. The fact that corporate investigations and settlements make up a system of corporate justice, may for example mean that access is limited to the organisations that have the funds to make use of them. In addition, concerns can be raised about scarcity of criminal justice involvement in the control of internal economic and financial (or corporate) crime, the limited external (democratic) oversight over corporate investigations and the position of individuals who are implicated by corporate investigations. This presentation examines the above and other implications of private efforts by organisations

in response to internal economic and financial (or corporate) crime, based on empirical qualitative studies in the Netherlands.

Banking Compliance and Anti-Money Laundering Efforts: An Inquiry into the Roles, Challenges, and Perceptions of Financial Professionals *Korry Robert, University of Manchester*

Financial institutions, in particular the banking sector, play a crucial role in facilitating the movement of money domestically and internationally. As a result, financial institutions have been enlisted into the fight against money laundering. They are required to adopt a quasi-policing role in order to detect and prevent the transfer of illicit funds through their organisations. How they must carry out this role is dictated by a comprehensive anti-money laundering (AML) framework made up of a series of policies, regulations, and legislation. Notably, failures to comply with certain requirements carry the risk of regulatory and criminal penalties. Although the importance of compliance is reiterated amongst policymakers on a global scale, how this role manifests within organisations is largely overlooked. Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to provide an overview of how this role is managed in commercially orientated banking institutions, as well as the challenges of staying compliant with the AML framework. These are preliminary findings based on several interviews with financial professionals working in AML compliance or compliance adjacent roles within banks.

Organizational Culture and Misconduct: A Causal Process Tracing Approach *Nina Tobsch, University of Amsterdam; Marieke Kluin, Leiden University; Benjamin van Rooij, University of Amsterdam*

This article addresses the issue of organizational culture and its role in the emergence and development of severe misconduct and crime within organizations. Following large-scale scandals of organizational crime, emphasis is often placed on a ‘defective culture,’ but a fundamental understanding of what ‘toxic’ organizational cultures are remains elusive. Scholars from various disciplines struggle to fully measure culture and rarely empirically link it to more extreme forms of organizational misconduct. To address these shortcomings, the current article proposes a new methodological approach, causal process tracing, to explore organizational culture in greater depth. This method offers a nuanced understanding that can investigate more facets of culture than survey instruments can, but without the intensity of traditional ethnography. Drawing on insights from organizational psychology, management sciences, and criminology, this article demonstrates how cultural ‘toxic’ processes, identified through causal process tracing, can lead to serious misconduct. The article illustrates this methodology through an empirical case study of violent misconduct within an American police department. Despite prolonged supervision and interventions to correct the defective culture, this police department continues to grapple with high-profile scandals, including incidents of police violence and corruption. The article shows how we can theoretically think about causal processes, empirically measure culture based on publicly available sources, and find support for our hypothetical processes using this data. Finally, the article discusses the implications of this approach for science and interventions focused on organizational culture.

Organizational life-cycle analysis of corporate offending: insights into how changes in business cycles interact with regulatory oversight to shape compliance and violations *Yunmei Wu, Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences; Benjamin van Rooij, University of Amsterdam; Marieke Kluin, Leiden University*

This paper showcases an organizational life-cycle analysis of corporate offending behavior in small businesses. It analyzes two small food and hospitality firms in China, drawing on deep ethnographic data collected during three years of fieldwork. The paper investigates these two businesses as they go through three phases: pre-existence, existence, and survival. The study shows that organizational life-course analysis is important for understanding the development and root causes of organizational offending. It finds that offending evolves alongside the development of the organization. It shows that an organizational life-cycle analysis should focus not just on changes in the corporation itself, but also on how the regulatory context changes over the course of the organization’s development and maturing. Stages in the business

cycle coincide with changes in regulatory encounters, and this shapes how corporations view what regulators expect of them and the extent to which they can violate such expectations. This points to a broader form of life-course analysis. It urges the field to move beyond an analysis of changes in the business to also study the how such changes coincide with changes in the regulatory frameworks that are supposed to monitor and reduce offending.

## 162. EXTR5 Radicalisation and conspiracy beliefs

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Terrorism and Terrorism Financing, Radicalization, Extremism (Radicalization, Extremism, Terrorism WG)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)

Chair:

**Barbara Vettori**, Associate Professor of Criminology, Department of Social Sciences, University of Naples Federico II

Participants:

Is radicalisation a “good concept”? A discussion of the main definitions in the scientific literature. *Gilbert McLaughlin, Liverpool Hope University*

The significance of the concept of radicalisation continues to be a subject of ongoing debate in the academic literature. This research actively engages in this debate by addressing the three following key questions: What are the main definitions of radicalisation? What is constitutive of a ‘good concept’? Is it feasible to propose an operational definition of radicalisation suitable for the social sciences? The first step involves a comprehensive review of multiple definitions of radicalisation published between 2004 and 2022 in the academic literature. Employing an ‘open coding’ method, ‘key concepts’ will be extracted, and subsequently categorised into broader ‘categories’. In the next step, through cross-tabulations, I will demonstrate that radicalisation encompasses different phenomena under the same denomination. At last, I will argue that, despite the diversity in existing studies, it is possible to unite them under a common category, fostering concord and theoretical convergence in the field. The heuristic approach adopted, characterised by the generalisation of definition coding and the use of cross-tabulations, allows us to propose an operational definition of the concept of radicalisation, which we submit for scholarly debate. This research relevance aligns well with the broader discussion on the definition and application of the concept of radicalisation.

Assessing the relationship between language use and conspiracy beliefs *Isabelle van der Vegt, Utrecht University; Bettina Rottweiler, UCL; Paul Gill, UCL*

A growing body of research studies conspiracy theories through text analysis of social media posts. While this approach can offer valuable insights into the content and propagation of conspiracy theories, little is known about the characteristics of individuals behind the online posts. A promising way to learn more about the language use of individuals with conspiracy beliefs, is to conduct surveys assessing the latter while simultaneously asking participants to write about their (possible) conspiracy beliefs. As a consequence, we can relate linguistic measures (e.g., of toxicity, concreteness, and complexity) to ground truth psychological measures. This study makes use of unique survey data from a U.S. nationally representative sample of 2,500 participants, measuring conspiracy theory beliefs, violent extremist attitudes, intentions, and behaviors as well as associated risk and protective factors. The survey was conducted in early 2024, in a particular challenging time for political polarization due to the U.S. presidential elections. The current study is the first to explicitly assess the relationship between language use and ground truth psychological measures associated with conspiracy beliefs.

Examining Change in Conspiracy Beliefs and Violent Extremism over Time *Bettina Rottweiler, UCL; Paul Gill, UCL*

The spread of conspiracy theories and violent extremist ideologies threaten to undermine our democratic foundations and create fundamental issues of trust on which our democracy lies. The

COVID-19 pandemic, the growth of anti-government/ anti-establishment movements as well as political elites and mainstream media figures increasingly propagating extreme rhetoric and conspiracy beliefs, have led to declining levels of trust in our political and government institutions and to increasing polarization between social and political groups. To address these growing issues, we conduct prospective-longitudinal online surveys among the U.S. population (5 waves, 1500 each) throughout the U.S. 2024 presidential election year. We apply latent growth curve modelling to examine potential temporal changes and growth trajectories in conspiracy theories propagated and to monitor changes in extremist attitudes, intentions, and behaviours among the general population. By conducting these first-of-a-kind longitudinal surveys on the trajectories of different violent extremist outcomes, conspiracy theories as well as their associated risk and protective factors prior and leading up to the U.S. general election, we provide unique insights into the developmental trajectories and causal mechanisms.

Anti-vaxxers during the COVID-19 pandemic in Italy: a form of violent extremism? *Barbara Vettori, Associate Professor of Criminology, Department of Social Sciences, University of Naples Federico II*

The impact of COVID-19 on terrorism has been widely discussed in the literature. Less attention has been paid to another facet of the phenomenon, namely the extent to which anti-vax groups became violent extremists. During the pandemic, newspapers around the world reported violent actions against doctors, Covid vaccination centres and other symbols. This phenomenon has not yet been comprehensively analysed. The aim of this paper is to understand whether and to what extent individuals who see themselves as part of groups against COVID vaccinations and restrictions meet the definition of violent extremism, focusing on Italy as a case study.

## 163. Prosecutorial Decision-making and Alternatives to trial 2. Emerging Issues in the Prosecutorial Process

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Prosecutorial Decision-making and the Prosecutorial Process, Alternatives to trial (Sentencing and Penal Decisionmaking WG)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)

Chair:

**Victor Beltran Roman**, Universidad Diego Portales

Participants:

Assessing intimate partner violence legitimizing beliefs of the Portuguese Justice System agents: Implications on the investigation, prosecution and penal decision making. *Ana Isabel Moreira Lopes Morais, University of Porto - Phd. student; André Lamas Leite, Porto University - Faculty of Law; Rui Abrunhosa Gonçalves, Universidade do Minho*

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a broad and complex phenomenon, involving a multiplicity of factors. Despite the efforts made, Portugal still has strong gaps in the management of IPV, resulting in low confidence in the Justice System, supported by poor victim protection and offender restraint. The literature has documented that better preparation of the justice agents is associated with higher prosecution rates and greater trust of victims in the system. Therefore, a point of extreme importance is the interference of personal beliefs in the treatment of reports, from the initial report, through the investigation, to the verdict, where preconceived ideas are reflected in disparities in the final decisions. The analysis of the points of constraint of the Justice System therefore also involves identifying the weight of these factors in the treatment of complaints, in order to be able to respond with concrete measures aimed at the needs presented, contributing to a better management of the phenomenon. Therefore, the objective of this communication is to highlight the existing beliefs of the different groups of the Justice System, the training obtained by them, as well as their level of motivation and confidence to work with IPV, also analyzing the importance attributed to the risk factors assessed by the risk assessment form currently used by law-enforcement agents. To this end, the Conjugal Violence Belief Scale (Machado, Matos



& Gonçalves, 2008) and a questionnaire developed for this purpose were applied to a sample of 448 participants belonging to the Police, Public Prosecutor's Office, and Courts. It is expected that the results that demonstrate the presence of beliefs that legitimize IPV are correlated with less training of justice agents, the impact of which will also affect the appreciation of risk factors identified in the literature as predictors of the risk of revictimization, namely homicide.

**Criminological Obstacles in Prosecuting Corporate Crime in Spain** *Jordi Bonshoms-Guzmán, Pompeu Fabra University*

The prosecution of corporate criminality is a difficult task for law enforcement agencies. Both in common law and civil law traditions, prosecutors hold a key role as gatekeepers in researching corporate crimes. Yet evidence on what prosecutors think and do about corporate crime is hard to find. Despite a few criminological studies, scant knowledge explains how prosecutors handle the introduction of corporate criminal liability, how they make decisions, and what obstacles they find throughout the process. Drawing on a qualitative investigation with prosecutors specialised in economic and corporate crimes in Barcelona (Spain), this research presents new evidence on how is the prosecutorial decision-making process shaped in corporate cases. To what extent do prosecutors hold all the cards when it comes to corporate prosecutions? What are the main criminological obstacles in prosecuting corporate crime? What are the existing dynamics at play between prosecutors and government control agencies regulating corporate conduct? In analysing qualitative data with prosecutors, this article also reflects on the role of criminologists in assessing the current state of justice reaction to corporate crimes, and more generally, crimes of the powerful.

**Evidence Based Prosecution, Child Criminal Exploitation and County Lines: Should we Bypass the Reluctant Victim?** *Julie Shaw, Liverpool John Moores University*

In response to the difficulties of securing victim testimony in 'county lines' child criminal exploitation (CCE) cases and the inherent vulnerability of those affected, the UK police have begun to utilise evidence-based prosecution (EBP) in conjunction with Section 2 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (MSA), as a means of securing convictions against adult perpetrators, bypassing the need for victim involvement. Nevertheless, despite judicial and legislative endorsement of EBP, the question of whether and how far it is in fact desirable to decentre the victim in such cases remains open for debate. Certainly, whilst EBP has been associated with increased convictions in domestic violence cases in the USA, existing research indicates mixed results in respect of longer-term risks of revictimization and indeed, a successful prosecution may mean very little to a victim who remains at risk of harm. Drawing upon case study research into a high-profile 'county lines' case example, this presentation will critically evaluate the EBP approach, considering whether it achieves victim recognition and safeguarding, or further disempowers victims and marginalises their experiences. It will make suggestions for further research into EBP and future directions for policy and practice. Additional information 'County lines' is a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more importing areas within the UK, using dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of "deal line".

**Mental Health and the Judiciary: A Mixed Methods Study of Behavioral Health Court Dockets** *Steven Keener, Christopher Newport University*

U.S. localities have taken varied approaches to addressing the growing intersection of mental health challenges and the criminal justice system. One such initiative has been the implementation of behavioral health court dockets. These dockets consistently attempt to take a problem-solving approach as they divert individuals away from the traditional court processes. However, they vary widely across localities, such as in the types of charges that exclude client participation and how they attempt to create, and help clients along, treatment pathways. This mixed methods study critically analyzes how these dockets operate, why they operate in that manner, how they vary across jurisdictions, and their impact on communities. The quantitative portion of the study involves the use of court data to analyze the types of charges individuals on the dockets face, how

the cases vary by locality, and potential variance across defendants' racial identity. The qualitative portion of the study involves semi-structured interviews with members of behavioral health court docket teams. Directed content analysis of the interviews illuminates important context on the structural factors shaping behavioral health court docket variances across jurisdictions, the impact of these dockets on their local communities, perceptions of docket efficacy, and the future of how the judiciary handles mental health challenges. The results provide important context on the operation and impact of behavioral health court dockets in the U.S. and their role in addressing the growing criminalization of mental illness. For example, results from the quantitative analysis revealed significant variance in whether dockets considered clients charged with 'assault against law enforcement'. The qualitative interviews revealed docket officials having to navigate local and state political concerns regarding charges of this nature. This presentation will detail the other major results of this study and its policy implications.

**Portrait of Prosecutor-Police Dynamics in Criminal Investigations: Exploring Prosecutor's Functional Direction of the Police** *Victor Beltran Roman, Universidad Diego Portales*

This paper investigates the prosecutors' directive authority through "functional direction" over police forces. By employing data from in-depth interviews with Chilean prosecutors and police officers and analysis of investigation files, the study portrays the dynamics shaping the relationship between prosecutors and police during criminal investigations. The study proposes a taxonomy of five models characterizing criminal investigations (reactive, follow-up, reconstructive, proactive, and analytical), elucidating the complexities and challenges faced by both prosecutors and police officers in directing and executing investigative directives and highlighting the diverse skills demanded from prosecutors, assistants, and police officers. Findings provide a nuanced understanding of the exercise of "functional direction" in an accusatorial framework, identifying challenges, opportunities, and areas for improvement in the collaborative dynamics between prosecutors and police during the investigation and prosecution process.

**164. Green Criminology #1 - Ecocide and Environmental Governance**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Environmental/Green Criminology  
Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Library - reading room 1

Chair:

**Marília de Nardin Budó**, Federal University of Santa Catarina (Brazil)

Participants:

Quid Ecocide ? A Human Rights Perspective over an Emerging Crime *Daniela-Anca Deteseanu, University of Bucharest Faculty of Law*

In the past decade, climate change became one of the most debated topics, both in the relevant professional environments and by the general public. It is probably less known that, hand in hand with climate change, experts are pointing out the fact that Earth may have entered the sixth major extinction. Differently from the previous ones, the current extinction is mainly – if not exclusively – attributed to the impact of human activities and it may generate effects that are difficult, or even impossible to assess. It is common knowledge that, though sometimes subjected to scientific controversy, these complex phenomena triggered a legal reaction at the international level. While the international treaties and other international instruments on environment protection and climate change are mostly known, the importance of this matter, linked to the very existence of the human race, reverberated to other branches of international law. From the perspective of international criminal law, a trend in the direction of criminalizing certain acts directed against the environment, not (only) as "regular" offences, but as a distinct category of international crime – the ecocide, has emerged. Under human rights law, a series of cases brought in front of international specialized tribunals require that the protection of the

environment be validated as a fundamental human right. This research aims to analyze these evolutions under both international human rights and international criminal law, as they cannot be seen as parallel and unrelated. Not only that they may prove influential over each other, but if the outcome of this normative process shall be successful, it may result in one of the most important evolutions, in both international human rights law and international criminal law in the post-war period.

**Enhancing Environmental Governance: A Study of Performance and Transparency of Environmental Inspections in Bosnia and Herzegovina** *Sandra Kobajica Misanovic, University of Sarajevo - Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies*

Bosnia and Herzegovina faces significant environmental challenges, with various anthropogenic pressures threatening its air, water, land, forests, and biodiversity. Addressing these challenges and ensuring environmental protection and improvement require coordinated efforts from all stakeholders, including environmental inspection authorities. These authorities play a crucial role in deterring environmental violations by identifying breaches and enforcing environmental laws through sanctions or other means. The administrative structure of Bosnia and Herzegovina adds complexity to environmental governance, as inspection responsibilities are fragmented among numerous administrative units. The country has 13 inspection administrations with specialized environmental inspection units. This study aims to assess the effectiveness and transparency of environmental inspections in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Through the analysis of key indicators such as the frequency and nature of inspections, the number of inspectors, and the sanctions and measures imposed, the research will identify the main challenges that hinder the effectiveness and transparency of environmental inspection authorities. The findings are expected to offer valuable insights for policymakers and other stakeholders, facilitating efforts to enhance environmental governance in the country.

**The role of the Permanent People's Tribunal in the face of ecogenocide in Cerrado biome, Brazil: subverting definitions of rights, victims and justice** *Marília de Nardin Budó, Federal University of Santa Catarina (Brazil); Rafaella Bogado Melchioris, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul; Karine Ágatha França, Federal University of Santa Catarina*

Cases of genocide, ecocide, massacres, especially when they occur on the margins of global power, have historically been invisible. Courts of opinion have been one of the alternatives to oblivion in cases of serious human rights violations, given the various limitations of international criminal law and courts. This work seeks to understand how the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal, in its structure and organisation, articulates the notions of victim (active), memory (questioning history) and justice (concrete and symbolic) to reflect about the possibilities of such a tribunal in the struggle against ecocide and climate changes. The PPT is a court of opinion with headquarters at the Lelio and Lisli Basso Foundation in Rome, Italy. Its creation was in response to the experience of the International War Crimes Tribunal, also known as the Russell Tribunal. It is an initiative that is not based on the State structure, but on a proposal for qualified and meaningful listening to the voices of those who have been historically silenced when their most fundamental rights are affected. We present and analyze the case number 49, which is also known as the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal in Defence of the Cerrado Territories, conducted in 2021 and 2022 in Brazil. The theoretical framework is based on studies of green criminology, environmental restorative justice, and the crimes of the powerful. We articulate the theoretical tools brought by decolonial and counter-colonial theories to comprehend the role of modernity and coloniality in the denial of the crimes of capitalism and colonialism. The discussion about the roles of victims and the possible effects of this kind of tribunal as a place for building a grassroots and activist justice is addressed. We conclude reflecting on the importance of moving beyond State justice by highlighting the need for pluralism of cosmopolitanism to achieve environmental justice.

**165. POL Panel 14. Police powers, decision-making and adverse consequences**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law

enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)*

Chair:

*Yinthe Feys, Radboud University*

Participants:

**Integrated Offender Management and the Policing of Prolific Offenders** *Frederick Cram, Cardiff University*

This paper offers a timely contribution to research on multi-agency criminal justice working by examining empirically, a modern form of policing in England and Wales: 'Integrated Offender Management' (IOM). IOM involves police officers adopting the role of 'offender manager' and working alongside staff from other criminal justice agencies all in a bid to reduce the criminal activities of prolific offenders, through support and rehabilitation. Government inspections, TV documentaries and press releases, have depicted the scheme as a novel and exciting way to reduce the criminal activities of prolific offenders – one which has changed the culture and practice of police officers considerably. In this paper, I examine empirically the validity of such claims, revealing them to be largely mythical. Based on extensive fieldwork carried out in an English police force, my findings demonstrate that many police 'offender managers' continue to plough on with orthodox police cultural practices. This development has significant implications for our chances of steering prolific offenders away from crime.

**Police stops for drugs: Exploring the use of stop and search for drug offences in England** *Winnie Agnew-Pauley, Flinders University*

The police power to stop and search members of the public is a core activity used to investigate and target illicit drugs that causes ongoing international debate. Proponents of police stop and search powers argue that they are essential to address drug-related crime, deter drug use and improve public safety. However, there is increasing evidence that stop and search generates a range of adverse effects, including the disproportionate targeting of ethnic minorities and young people, poor mental health outcomes, increased police use of force and strained police and community relationships. The aim of this research is to examine how police officers in England use stop and search to target and investigate drug offences. This research is primarily based on ethnographic methods, through over 350 hours of observation across three community policing teams between October 2021 and January 2022. Twenty-two semi-structured interviews were also conducted with frontline and senior police officers and with key stakeholders engaged in stop and search policy at a national level. This research takes a critical realist approach to identify the underlying mechanisms that drive different stop and search outcomes, as well as the contextual conditions that enable the operation of these mechanisms. This research shows how police use a range of different stop practices, including 'stop and account', traffic stops and stop and search, to target drug offences. Beyond detecting offences, officers justify stops as serving a range of purposes such as collecting intelligence or protecting young people. Yet, the research demonstrates that the use of stop and search is over-valued at a national, organisational and local level and that its use in practice is at odds with the stated objective of addressing serious drug offences and associated violence. This has important implications for drug law enforcement policy and practice in the UK context and internationally.

**Unintended consequences of early exposure to policing: assessing long-term effects of police stops during adolescence in the United Kingdom** *Amal Ali, London School of Economics; Arabella Kyprianides, University College London; Pele Petnga-Wallace, College of Policing; Paul Quinton, College of Policing; Thiago Oliveira, University of Manchester*

Some people spend their lifetime without ever being stopped by the police, while others often experience disproportionate exposure to policing from an early age. Previous studies suggest that police-initiated encounters in youth are associated with unintended consequences including higher odds of drug use and self-harm in

later adolescence. However, the consequences of early exposure to police on offending behaviour, education and health trajectories are not well understood. Using a large-scale longitudinal survey, we examine the long-term effects of being stopped or arrested during early adolescence on offending, educational performance, and health outcomes up to three years later. Crucially, the study explores racial/ethnic differences in the experiences and longitudinal effects of being stopped or arrested during adolescence, shedding light on disparities in treatment and outcomes. We draw on the two most recent sweeps of the United Kingdom Millennium Cohort Study (MCS), covering data from 2015 to 2018 (N = 9,159). The MCS is a nationally representative panel study that has tracked 19,000 children born between 2000 and 2002. Using panel data, we model changes in offending behaviour, educational outcomes, and mental health indicators between ages 14 and 17 based on the experience of a stop or arrest before age 14; although repeated measures are not available for every outcome variable of interest, we use the longitudinal structure of the data to ensure correct temporal ordering. We also control for important pre-treatment confounders, such as prior offending behaviour, drug use, and gang membership, among other potential dynamic confounders. Results indicate that being stopped during early adolescence is associated with increases in the probability of engaging in offending behaviour, decreases in the probability of attending university, and negative changes in self-esteem three years later. Additionally, deleterious consequences of early exposure to policing tend to be stronger among Black and other ethnic minority youth.

**Worldwide views on police discretion: A scoping review regarding police decision-making** *Yinthe Feys, Radboud University*

Since the acknowledgement of police discretion in the 1960s, numerous studies have been initiated to grasp police decision-making. Considering the multitude of studies on this topic, creating a comprehensive overview of this research is useful. To provide such an overview, a scoping review has been conducted to map the available literature on this topic and explore the characteristics of these studies. This scoping review explicitly aimed to summarise the empirical research on this topic and to explore whether and how certain factors affect police decisions. In total, 15,193 titles were assessed, resulting in a shortlist of 526 publications that were included in the analyses. Among others, it was found that the number of empirical studies has increased substantially since 1964, that a large proportion of the studies have been conducted in North America (68%) and that 70% of the available literature is based on quantitative research. Throughout the scoping review, different groups of factors relevant to police decision-making were identified: police officer characteristics, civilian characteristics, organisational characteristics, situational characteristics and neighbourhood characteristics. In total, 376 studies (72%) included at least one situational factor. Civilian characteristics were also common, being included in 351 of the studies (67%). Police officer characteristics and organisational characteristics were included in less than half of the studies: police officer characteristics were identified in 232 studies (44%), organisational characteristics in 218 studies (41%). Furthermore, 14% of the studies identified through the scoping review included factors on neighbourhood level. During the presentation, the characteristics of the literature and the multitude of factors found through the scoping review will be discussed, as well as recommendations for future research.

#### 166. New Forms of Human Trafficking, Springer, March 2024

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Human Trafficking

Author meets critics

5:30 to 6:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.10*

This book analyses new forms of human trafficking taking into account the transposition of the Directive 2011/36/UE which sets out minimum standards to be applied throughout the European Union in preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims. Sexual exploitation of trafficked persons is at its highest rate. After COVID-19, new forms of sexual exploitation have been identified, specifically in the Global South. The book analyses new forms of exploitation used by traffickers to coerce victims.

Combining the perspectives of academic researchers with those of highly skilled professionals from governmental institutions, this book is a unique contribution, promoting collaboration in preventing and combating human trafficking crime, and in raising awareness of this ongoing problem.

Critics:

*Katja Franko*, University of Oslo

*Jose A. Brandariz*, University of A Coruna

*Elisa Garcia-España*, University of Malaga

Book Authors:

*Maria Joao Guia*, University of Coimbra, Centre for Legal Research and Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa, Ratio Legis

*Joanna Beata Banach-Gutierrez*, UWM in Olsztyn

*Gorazd Meško*, University of Maribor

*Joanne P. van der Leun*, Leiden University

#### 167. Advances in Teaching Methods

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Teaching Methods

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11*

Chair:

*Louise Allen-Walker*, Cardiff Metropolitan University

Participants:

The integration of generative AI in the Criminology curriculum: Navigating possibilities and pitfalls *Ione Geerts, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Aude Fieuw, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Jasmine De Backer, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

The integration of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) into higher education settings represents a significant developmental trend shaping the future of learning. It is however only recently that the higher education sector is beginning to engage deeply with the implications of AI. As AI technologies progress, they offer innovative tools that have the potential to transform traditional teaching and learning processes. However, the integration of AI in (methodology) courses also brings forth challenges and ethical considerations that must be carefully addressed. This presentation aims to delve into critical insights from literature regarding the use of AI in higher education, highlighting both its promises and potential risks. Additionally, we will share the outcomes of a small-scale quantitative and qualitative survey taken by Criminology students at Vrije Universiteit Brussel. By exploring students' perceptions, experiences, and practices, we aim to gain insights into their current usage patterns of AI, their motivations, and challenges, the impact of AI on their learning experiences. Utilizing the insights from our survey findings and the current pedagogy literature, we look at how to implement AI in different methodology courses within Criminology and explore how generative AI can support student learning while fostering critical skills development. This presentation will thus offer proposals for leveraging AI models and promoting critical AI literacy among Criminology students and educators. These suggestions will be informed by good practices drawn from literature, practical experiences of educators, and the insightful findings of our survey. By carefully considering these ideas, we aim to pave the way for effective implementation of AI in higher education, particularly in the context of Criminology studies.

Through the Looking Glass: An Interdisciplinary and Multi-Stakeholder Strategy for Engaging with Sensitive Visual Material in Research *Ashton Kingdon, University of Southampton*

As the turn to interdisciplinary work becomes greater, it is important to consider that advances in research and development are more likely to happen at the intersections between multiple fields. Through the Looking Glass was an interactive, interdisciplinary, and multi-stakeholder workshop series co-hosted by the National Centre for Research Methods and VOX-Pol (an academic research network on online extremism and terrorism). Five events brought together PhD students, early career researchers, academics, practitioners, law enforcement, and industry professionals from across the world who discussed their best

practices on how to more effectively engage ethically and methodologically with visual data. This paper will outline some of the key findings, with focus being placed on the ethical and methodological components that come from researching sensitive imagery, including access, anonymity, storage, researcher safety, mental health, and cybersecurity. The paper will also draw attention to the trauma that comes from researcher exposure to sensitive images, how researchers can report on and share content on sensitive topics in an ethical way, and the ways in which imagery is used by bad actors, especially to intimidate and traumatise marginalised communities.

**Exploring Student and Instructor Experiences in Blended Criminology Courses** *Danielle Murdoch, Simon Fraser University; Shannon J Linning, Simon Fraser University; Sheri Fabian, Simon Fraser University*

Universities have begun offering various course formats to accommodate diverse student needs and logistical considerations. Our Canadian university now routinely offers blended learning courses. Blended courses contain a mix of synchronous and asynchronous delivery components. In this presentation we highlight 'lessons learned' from both an instructor and student standpoint. We draw from student surveys and measures of student engagement and our reflections as instructors teaching seven undergraduate criminology classes. While most students appreciate the flexibility of blended courses, they have offered feedback to refine effective course delivery. While we have experienced many positives in teaching blended courses, such as more meaningful student interaction, we recognize the workload involved in designing and delivering these courses. We offer potential implications for student learning and teaching practice through the lens of our successes and failures.

**Criminology for Criminal Lawyers** *Daniel Pascoe, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong*

Criminology is the study of causes, accounts of and responses to crime, whereas criminal law is the body of law that determines whether a defendant may be punished for a criminal infraction by the state, and the quantum of that punishment. The benefits of criminologists and criminology students having a basic understanding of criminal law are well established (e.g. Cross 2020; Ashworth 2011). Yet the pedagogical literature is sorely lacking a mirrored account of how would-be criminal lawyers might benefit from a grounding in criminology. This paper presents the results of a preliminary study of the benefits for criminal lawyers of studying criminology, focusing on common law jurisdictions around the world. After reviewing the criminological course offerings for law students at a representative sample of major universities across the common law world, the paper proceeds to relay the more obvious ways that criminal law students stand to benefit from studying an elective in criminology (as future lawmakers and judges developing the criminal law; in arguing bail applications, mental state defences and sentencing submissions, and in engaging with social services personnel, police, and crime victims). Finally, the paper reveals the results of a survey of more than 1000 pro-bono criminal lawyers, barristers and prosecutors in Hong Kong, identifying the other subtle ways that studying criminology did, or could have, helped these legal professionals with their early years in criminal practice.

**Creating Safe Spaces: Constructing a model of clinical supervision of moral and ethical discussion for future community facing practitioners** *Louise Allen-Walker, Cardiff Metropolitan University; Daniel Williams, Cardiff Metropolitan University*

The presence of unconscious bias within decision making is well established (e.g. Tversky & Kahneman, 1974). Reviews have indicated that, though researchers are examining avenues to combat unconscious bias, there is insufficient evidence to support any specific intervention currently in use (Corsino & Fuller, 2021; FitzGerald, Martin, Berner, & Hurst, 2019) nor is there sufficient evidence that unconscious bias training is sufficient to change behaviour (Noon, 2018). Within policing settings, for example, research on this type of training has indicated that the impacts on the day are promising – with officers increasing their knowledge about, and motivation to reduce, bias – but these effects do not persist one month after the training (Lai & Lisnek, 2023). Given the

importance of making sound moral judgements within practice, our research team sought to explore the ways in which ethics and morality is taught within programmes where students will become community practitioners (e.g. Policing, Criminology, Youth and Community Work; Allen-Walker & Williams, 2024). The key finding that emerged from this research was a need for a form of clinical supervision for both students and staff. Staff reported that this would support operation within the moral grey that is working in community settings and would allow students to consider their own biases and morality. As a result of these findings, we have conducted focus groups with industry practitioners who teach on degrees training learners who will be community-facing. In these groups, we co-constructed a model of clinical supervision for non-clinical settings. Use of this model will enable discussion of complex ethical issues, personal ontology and professional standards in a safe space, while challenging preconceived ideas and supporting moral reflection. These discussions will enhance students' practice beyond their degree and help staff to reflect on their current practice.

**168. Domestic violence - exposing unpopular topics**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Homicide and Violent Crime (Homicide Research WG and European Violence Monitor WG) Roundtable

5:30 to 6:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.14*

The fundamental scientific and public discourse on domestic violence has experienced a certain Copernican revolution in the last few decades – from an almost invisible phenomenon seen merely as private matter, domestic violence gained its more noticeable content and form in the 20th century, ultimately becoming a phenomenon worthy of both scientific attention and political focus. However, strong focus on domestic violence made the phenomenon a politically opportune topic infused with penal populism which led to the creation of policies based on ideological agendas, rather than scientific findings. It also produced topics which are unpopular to discuss. This roundtable aims to discuss those unpopular domestic violence topics which are avoided within the scientific or general discourse. Topics include questions such as: defining psychological violence within domestic violence, boundaries of domestic violence, gender asymmetry in intimate partner violence, strong focus on violence against women, the power of criminal law in dealing with domestic violence, reasoning behind femicide and more. The roundtable will provide an opportunity for the researchers to share their thoughts on the topics which are unjustifiably neglected, yet important in domestic violence discussion. This will also be an opportunity to present the results of Violence Lab project study and key findings on domestic violence in Croatia. Those results will hopefully initiate powerful talks on domestic violence 'hidden areas' rooted in the growing penal populism within societies across the world.

Chair:

*Petra Šprem, University in Zagreb, Faculty of Law*

Discussants:

*Ruza Karlovic, University of Applied Science of Criminal Investigation and Public Security*

*Lucija Sokanović, University in Split, Faculty of Law*

*Reana Bezic, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Law*

**169. Criminology of Mobility. Panel 7. Migrants and asylum seekers as a threat and in the criminal justice system**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Crime Control and the Immigration System (Immigration, Crime and Citizenship WG)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.22*

Chair:

*Jacqueline Carvalho da Silva, University of Málaga*

Participants:

Asylum seekers' and refugees' experiences of and resistance to their criminalisation in the UK *Niroshan Ramachandran, School of Law, Criminology and Policing, Edge Hill University*

This paper explores asylum seekers' and refugees' criminalisation

experiences in Liverpool, UK. Criminalisation is the transformation of individuals or groups into 'criminals' through various processes. Criminalisation is evident in the UK government's legitimisation of discourses casting asylum seekers and refugees as potential criminals and illegals. This process of criminalisation has led to punitive and hostile policies and practices aimed at asylum seekers and refugees. Interviews were conducted with twenty asylum seekers and refugees who have experienced the asylum process to learn about their experiences of criminalisation and how it factors into their everyday lives and to explore their resistance to it.

The deportation system of convicted foreigners in the global North: comparing European and American jurisdictions with the RIMES instrument *María Contreras Román, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche; Angie Steffania Rojas Varón, University of Malaga*

The expulsion of convicted foreigners is provided in all the European and North Americans jurisdictions. In general, these provisions are justified on the ground of national security interests, although it is necessary to comprehend them in the theoretic framework of crimmigration phenomena. Using the RIMES instrument, specifically designed to compare different national Criminal Justice systems according to the degree of social exclusion they produce, in this communication we present the findings of the analysis of the deportation system of convicted foreigners conducted in 11 jurisdictions: 7 European (Spain, Italy, Germany, U.K., Poland, Finland and Rumania) and 4 American (California, New York, Texas and Florida). The results show certain similarities among jurisdictions, but also substantial differences regarding how deportation of convicted foreigners is defined, the legal formula provided to do it, the specific categories of convicted foreigners affected, and the kind of crimes for which deportation can be considered a penal response. Consequently, different levels of social exclusion for convicted foreigners are defined.

Trust in the police among immigrants: Experiences of Albanians in Iceland *Bryndís Jónsdóttir, student; Eyrún Eyþórsdóttir, University of Akureyri, Iceland; Helgi Gunnlaugsson, University of Iceland*

Trust in the police has been a subject of extensive research over the years, with recent attention specifically directed towards the perspectives of immigrants (Murphy and Mazerolle, 2018; Saarikkomäki, 2021). This paper's presentation focuses on the intricate dynamics of immigrants' trust in the police in Iceland, a pivotal facet of policing, especially in the context of burgeoning populations and increasing societal diversity. The findings show a pervasive lack of trust among immigrants, attributed to a dual challenge of over-policing and under-policing. Participants' encounters with the police undermine their confidence in receiving procedural justice, with racial profiling emerging as a disconcerting byproduct of prevailing law enforcement practices. Employing qualitative research methods, this study makes use of in-depth interviews with a number of Albanian participants living in Iceland to shed light on their experiences with the police. This research, while limited in generalizability, provides valuable insights into the nuanced dynamics shaping immigrants' perceptions of the police. The identified issues call for reevaluating policing strategies to rebuild trust and ensure equitable treatment within diverse communities. Keywords: Police, immigrants, stop and search, over-policing, under-policing, racial profiling, trust.

Investigating youth incarceration for accused human smuggling: insights from Southern Spain *Jacqueline Carvalho da Silva, University of Málaga*

In a recent report (2022) the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) points out that many people are detained along the Canary route, accused of smuggling migrants. The report questions whether the weight of the law would be falling on people who have little to do with criminal networks that do business with human smuggling vessels. Non-governmental organisations have also detected and denounced a similar situation on the Italian coast (ARCI Porco Rosso and Alarm Phone, 2021). During fieldwork carried out in southern Spain in the framework of the JEPRAN project (Jóvenes Extranjeros Exutelados en las Prisiones Andaluzas, 2021-2023) and seeking to identify different profiles of young people in prison, a surprising number of young people

accused of human smuggling were identified in Almeria. This finding has raised concerns about this phenomenon: the Canary Islands and Andalusia in Spain and the Italian southern border seem to share a punitive response to the arrival of migrants in boats on their territory. This paper will present the results of interviews with young people in prison accused of human smuggling and reflect on the European response to this crime. The testimonies of these young people indicate that they are a particularly defenceless group, without information about their rights and that some of them are minors who are not identified as such by the police or by any other authority, along their path from sea to jail.

## 170. Methodology and prison

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Qualitative Methods (Qualitative Methods WG)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.29

Chair:

*Céline Tronquo, Ghent university*

Participants:

Case matching as a method for international comparative research into prison rates *Hester de Boer, Leiden University; Olivier Nuyts, Leiden University; Sigrid van Wingerden, Leiden University; Kristel Beyens, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Miranda Boone, Leiden University*

Comparative law research, which examines the similarities and differences in the legal systems or legal practices of two or more countries, has many obstacles. To explain differences in prison population trends between the Netherlands and Belgium, we introduce case matching as an innovative research method. This method enables us to follow comparable cases retrospectively through both the Dutch and Belgium criminal justice system. Through a thorough matching process, 40 Belgian criminal cases have been paired with 40 Dutch case files. To ensure the comparability of the cases, various criteria have been used, encompassing aspects of the offense (such as the applicable legal article, *modus operandi*, and indicators of the severity of the offense) as well as characteristics of the suspect (including age, gender, and criminal record). The judicial decisions and outcomes at each stage of the criminal justice process have been recorded, (re)coded, and compared using both qualitative and quantitative analyses. The strength of case matching lies in its ability to provide a thorough understanding of the treatment of comparable criminal cases across different criminal justice systems. In addition to some initial findings, we also discuss practical and theoretical challenges of this research method.

Exploring music therapy in a Norwegian prison through participatory arts based action research *Kjetil Hjørnevik, University of Bergen, Norway*

This paper presents a study of music therapy with prison inmates in a Norwegian low security prison. With a focus on bespoke strategies for participatory arts-based action research the paper discusses the methodological basis for the study and its particular relevance for qualitative approaches to criminology and penal studies. Drawing on the domains of performance ethnography, cultural criminology and arts-based research the paper elucidates musical performance as an epistemic practice. With the adoption of a critical and reflexive perspective, the paper draws on case examples from songwriting, studio recordings and live musical performances in the prison to illustrate the analytic significance of using music as data. The paper discusses challenges and possibilities of participant involvement in prison research, and highlights how engaging in entangled processes of creative performance and reflection afforded a sense of identity and community for the participants.

Inussuk – a program for individuals convicted of sexually abusive behavior *Annemette Nyborg Lauritsen, Ilisimatusarfik/University of Greenland*

Unlike legal systems in Denmark or many other countries, the Greenlandic Penal Code does not include the concept of

punishment. Instead, the Code contains several diverse sanctions intended to prevent reoffences through treatment. Alarming data indicate that approximately one in three children in Greenland experiences upbringing with neglect and nearly one in five children in 1995 or later has been subjected to sexual abuse. Against this backdrop, in 2022, a program initiative called "Inussuk" was launched within the Greenlandic Correctional Service aimed at motivating inmates convicted of sexual offenses to undergo further treatment for sexually abusive behavior. Based on the evaluation of the project and the methodology used, the intention of this presentation is to shed light on the methodological challenges that may arise when using qualitative data collection in small communities such as the Greenlandic, as well as with small group of respondents. Furthermore, emphasis will be placed on the ethical considerations made.

**The 'key question': Analysing the educational situation in prison through an object** *Maria Jakob, German Youth Institute; Anja Frank, German Youth Institute; Daniel Diegmann, German Youth Institute; Maruta Herding, German Youth Institute*

In this paper, we combine situation analysis and sequential analysis in order to investigate the significance that the prison key has for pedagogical work. A prison key's function is to hinder prisoners from escaping incarceration or from freely moving between cells or wards. It divides human beings at prison into those who are being locked in and those who lock. External social workers, who offer support and education in prison, do not have a key from the start. Being external to the justice system, they belong to neither group, but find themselves in a triadic constellation of staff, inmates and external actors. At times, prisons offer external actors a key for meeting their clients independent of prison staff, who otherwise have to open and lock doors for them. It is then a vital decision for external social workers whether or not to use a key: The 'key question' has consequences regarding the status of external social workers within the prison institution. Based on extensive ethnographic fieldwork on social work by civil society actors in the field of extremism prevention in prisons in Germany, we analyse the various positions towards the use of a key. Using sequential analysis, we reconstruct the significance the key has for social workers and prisoners. With the help of situational analysis and positional maps, we relate and contrast the positions to each other. Our findings indicate that external social workers display a spectrum of positions on using a key, ranging from 'locking as a functional necessity' to 'locking as a demonstration of power'. The key is part of a constant negotiation of their relationships to inmates and staff, both central to external social work at prison. On a methodological level, we show how situation analysis and sequential analysis are compatible and productively overlap.

**The use of Participatory Action Research on health in detention - a scoping review** *Céline Tronquo, Ghent university*

The health of prisoners is a complex issue and has been extensively researched. While traditional research methods focus on identifying health conditions and prevalence, they often fall short in incorporating the active participation of prisoners. Participatory Action Research (PAR) is emerging as a more inclusive and empowering alternative, enabling prisoners to actively engage in the research process and address their specific needs. More importantly, PAR creates opportunities for meaningful actions and positive change. The aim of this paper is to provide a detailed overview of the current state of research on the use of PAR within health research in detention by conducting a scoping review. A scoping review helps to identify the current state of knowledge, gaps, and potential areas for future research and implementation. The main focus of this review is to examine the extent to which prisoners have been involved in the research process and to understand their contributions. In addition, attention will also be given to the actions and improvements that contribute to the development of effective interventions and the promotion of prisoner health.

**171. Serious youth violence in the Netherlands and judicial reactions to it**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Juvenile Crime (ISR D WG)  
Roundtable

5:30 to 6:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 1.09*

In this roundtable session we will discuss youth violence and the criminal justice response in the Netherlands. We will go into trends in juvenile delinquency and more specific, on serious violence and homicides. Next to this, we will discuss juvenile justice policy, with a focus on adolescent criminal law.

Chair:

*André van der Laan, WODC (Research and Data Centre), the Netherlands*

Discussant:

*Marieke Liem, Leiden University*

Participants:

**Trends in juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice policy in the Netherlands 2000-2023** *André van der Laan, WODC (Research and Data Centre), the Netherlands*

Just as in most western countries juvenile crime trends in the Netherlands decreased enormously in the years 2000-2023. Compared to the peak years 2005-2008 in these decades police and justice registered juvenile crime more than halved, whether self-reported delinquency decreased with less than a quarter. Since 2017, the crime drop amongst juveniles appears to have stagnated and even reached a stable level in most recent years. However there are some exceptions, the number of minors convicted for serious crime increased between 2017-2021 followed by a decrease in 2022 and the number of suspects of knife crimes and shoplifting increased slightly in the most recent years. Moreover, crime seems to concentrate in specific neighborhoods, so called hotspots. During these two decades, the focus of juvenile justice has changed in roughly two directions. Firstly, for less serious crimes the approach is more focused on diversity and child-friendly justice. Secondly, the focus turned to a more strict approach to serious juvenile crime and juvenile delinquents, and a focus to prevention at neighborhood hotspots. Prevention at the local level and tailored made approach are buzzing concepts. Although both can be consistent with an evidence-based perspective, there are also risks of inequality and other bottlenecks in complying with children's rights in practice. In this presentation recent developments in the Netherlands in juvenile crime, justice policy and bottlenecks for compliance with children's and human rights in practice will be discussed.

**Is serious violence among youth in the Netherlands on the increase?** *Joris Beijers, WODC; Lise Prop, WODC; André van der Laan, WODC (Research and Data Centre), the Netherlands*

Various news reports suggest that youth crime has become more serious in recent years, the perpetrators are becoming younger, and they are using knives and firearms more often. Is this true? In our research we address the question of how the number of juveniles convicted for serious violent crimes (attempted) serious assault, manslaughter, and murder has developed over the short and long term and how this relates to the development of general juvenile crime. We also want to find out how this development differs between groups of young people and between municipalities and what the nature is of this violence for the crime (attempted) manslaughter. This study uses the Dutch Research and Policy Database Judicial Documentation (OBJD) on convicts. Numbers of 12 to 23-year-old convicts were examined in the years 2010 to 2022. In addition, all available verdicts of cases in which youth were convicted for (attempted) manslaughter in the years 2016 and 2021 have been examined. The results show that in the longer term there has been a decrease in convictions for serious violence committed by young people. However, this decline is less pronounced than with other forms of crime, and in the years 2016 to 2022 an increase is even visible again, especially among minors. In addition to these results, we will answer the question of what the nature of this type of violence is for the offense of (attempted) manslaughter, and to what extent there are differences between the years 2016 and 2021 in the type of violence and its perpetrators.

**Adolescent criminal law in the Netherlands** *Lise Prop, WODC; Kirti Zeijlmans, WODC; André van der Laan, WODC (Research and Data Centre), the Netherlands*

In recent years, there has been increasing attention to adolescent offenders in the criminal justice system. Adolescent criminal law in

the Netherlands provides for a tailor-made approach to the sentencing of 16- to 23-year old offenders. Under specific legal conditions, it is possible to sentence 16- and 17-year-olds with adult sanctions and 18- to 23-year-olds with juvenile sanctions. The aim of this special treatment of adolescents in the criminal justice system is to create more flexibility in the sanctioning of offenders around the age of 18-years-old. Their chronological age has become less decisive in the choice for sanctioning according to juvenile or adult criminal law. Instead, emphasis has been placed on the development of the adolescent offender and possibilities for rehabilitation. However, little is known about the characteristics of (criminal cases of) 16- to 23-year-olds sentenced according to adolescent criminal law. Nor is there insight into the motivation of judges and other professionals for applying adolescent criminal law. In this study, verdicts from 2017-2021 were used to describe and compare (criminal case) characteristics of four groups of convicted adolescents and the motivation of judges and other professionals. Results show that the shocking nature of a (violent) offense, a calculating attitude of the adolescent and absence of (developmental) possibilities for the adolescent within the juvenile justice system are cited as important reasons for sanctioning 16- and 17-year-olds with adult sanctions. In criminal cases involving juveniles and young adults sentenced with juvenile sanctions, developmental possibilities are mentioned as an important reason for applying a juvenile sanction.

## 172. Juvenile Justice 2. Children in the Justice System

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Juvenile Justice and Children's Rights (Juvenile Justice WG)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.11

Chair:

*Áine Bernadette Mannion*, University College Cork

Participants:

Are we putting all children first? Diversion, Disproportionality, and the English Youth Justice System *Joseph Alexander Kiff*, University of Bedfordshire; *Timi Osidipe*, University of Bedfordshire; *Anne-Marie Day*, Manchester Metropolitan University; *John Pitts*, University of Bedfordshire; *Isabelle Brodie*, University of Bedfordshire

This paper presents findings from a current research project investigating racial disproportionality in the youth justice system in the UK, specifically in relation to decision making in diversionary practice. The project is a partnership between the University of Bedfordshire and Manchester Metropolitan University, funded by the Nuffield Foundation. Over-representation of minoritised children in the youth justice system has been captured in criminological literature and policy research documents, evidencing a disproportionate likelihood of formal sanctions, including custodial sentences. This raises debate about the varying experiences of children and young people from initial interactions with police continuing throughout the youth justice system and challenging policy commitment to 'Child First' in the English and Welsh Youth justice systems. The project's research methods have included a national survey of youth justice leads; quantitative analysis of local area statistics on diversionary outcomes, ethnic background, age and gender; case studies of four English sites, including analysis of case files and interviews with key professionals and children. This paper focuses on emerging findings from the study, specifically in relation to decision making processes and potential implications for children and young people. The study is ongoing, but it is evident that diversionary outcomes for young people vary nationally and across our four fieldwork sites. This paper will dig into the emerging findings in respect to possible reasons for this. This paper will focus on the relationship between the ethos and approach of local youth offending teams and diversionary practice; the different perceptions of "influence" and "agency" across the decision making systems, specifically the relationship between police and youth justice; and the implications of the system context for the young person's experiences of diversion.

The rights of children behind bars in Romania from the perspective of stakeholders and civil society *Mihaela Alida Tomita*, West University of Timisoara; *Roxana Ungureanu*, West University of Timisoara

In Romania the children 'behind bars' have benefited in recent years from major changes regarding social and penal policies that have consistently improved the rehabilitative interventions. Respect for the rights and their superior interest is at the core of this. Thus, children and young people in the custody of educational and detention centers in Romania have become increasingly visible within the child protection system and implicitly within all other systems providing services for the society, such as educational, health and legal system. Their rights as children were practically become operational from all perspectives. Our research is a qualitative one, based on 22 interviews with stakeholders and civil society who are working in the field of child protection system, in Romania. In this study we analyze the stakeholders and civil society perspectives in the term of respecting rights of children behind bars. The Romanian legislation on child protection has undergone a series of changes aimed to create an institutional framework conducive to the respect of their rights, including regulations on criminal liability and all these created a new dynamic about it, at the level of local and national cooperation. Our main conclusion is that under the effect of educational measures, children in units subordinated to the National Administration of Penitentiaries (educational and detention centers) benefit today from interventions and programs comparable to those at European and international level and more than the criminal justice system, an important role is played by different other institutions and civil society.

Detention As A Last Resort? An Interrogation Of The Policy And Practice Of The Decarceration Of Irish Children And Young People *Áine Bernadette Mannion*, University College Cork

Detention "...shall be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time" (UNCRC Art. 37[b]), a phrase in many domestic and international policy documents and one repeated in criminal and youth justice lectures across academia, but what does it actually mean? How, or even has, it been incorporated into philosophy or practice? On June 30th, 1960, there were approximately 4000 children and young people confined to 51 children detention schools in Ireland (DoE, 1960). By June 2020 there were just 45 present in a single children detention campus (Oberstown, 2020). This was also a period where the daily average prison population for Adults in Ireland notably rose from approximately 460 in 1960 to 3,824 in 2020 (O'Donnell et al., 2005; IPS, 2021). The explanation for the lack of supply of children for detention schools and the evolution of a parallel youth justice system in Ireland is multifactorial, however, a production of knowledge redefined the Irish child as a distinct bearer of rights. This paper tracks the development of the notion of detention as a last resort in Ireland as it began to permeate criminal and youth justice policy and practice, accumulating in the formalisation of the Garda (Police) Diversion Programme and its statutory provision in the Children Act 2001. However, this paper also challenges the very notion of detention as a last resort. Cementing the default position of detention and that the alternative is an alternative, detention as a last resort as principle describes that placing children in detention should only be considered after all other possible alternatives have been exhausted. Therefore, what does that mean for the children and young people, such as repeat offenders or children with complex needs, who have not experienced the trends of decarceration equally?

## 173. Roundtable: Sights, Sounds, and Sensibilities of Atrocity Prosecutions

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, War Crimes (Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice WG)

Roundtable

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.13

This Roundtable will have a flexible format to discuss a volume co-edited by Mark Drumbl and Caroline Fournet: Sights, Sounds, and Sensibilities of

Atrocity Prosecutions (Brill, 2024). The Roundtable will include the two editors, who will present an overview of the book; one of the volume's contributors; and three external expert discussants. The discussion will address the overarching question raised in the edited volume: How does international criminal justice interact with the human senses – sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch – when it comes to perceiving mass atrocity and thereafter holding perpetrators accountable? The participants will explore the dynamics of the five human senses in how atrocity is perceived, remembered, and condemned. They will reimagine what an atrocity means, reconsider what drives the manufacture of law, and reboot the role of courtrooms and other mechanisms in the pursuit of justice. They will consider how law translates sensory experience into its procedures and institutions, and how humanistic inputs shape perceptions of right and wrong. The Roundtable will thus offer new insights into the underappreciated role of aesthetics, time, and emotion in the world of law.

Chairs:

**Caroline Fournet**, University of Exeter, Law School

**Mark A. Drumbl**, Washington & Lee University

Discussants:

**Marina Aksenova**, IE University

**Stephan Parmentier**, KU Leuven

**Carola Lingaas**, VID Specialized University, Oslo, Norway

**Adina-Loredana Nistor**, Faculty of Law, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

#### 174. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 8: Contextual variants in domestic abuse (I)

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.17

Chair:

**Gwen Hunnicutt**, UNC Greensboro

Participants:

Differential Impact of COVID-19 Restrictions on Domestic Violence Across Demographic Groups *Anne Coomans*, Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement; *Veroni Eichelsheim*, Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement; *Steve van de Weijer*, Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement; *Arjan Blokland*, NSCR

Not all groups in society seem to have been equally affected by the COVID-19 restrictions. Vulnerable groups, such as those with low socio-economic status or a migration background, may have experienced a particularly significant impact. Although vulnerable groups already have an increased risk of committing and/or becoming a victim of domestic violence, this may have been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g., increased financial insecurities and limited access to support services). Therefore, this study aims to answer the following research question: Who is at risk of exposure to domestic violence, and, has this changed during the COVID-19 pandemic in the Netherlands? This study draws upon national data of suspected domestic violence incidents as registered by the Dutch police between 2019 and 2021. By correlating police records with microdata from Statistics Netherlands, including information on demographic characteristics and socio-economic status, this study compares data from 2020 and 2021 against that of 2019. Utilizing time series analyses, the research systematically investigates the extent to which COVID-19 restrictions correlate with shifts in the demographics of individuals potentially involved in domestic violence during times of crises. Anticipated findings suggest that certain families may have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic, with already vulnerable households experiencing greater setbacks such as financial strains and increased social isolation. These factors may have contributed to heightened tensions within homes. Targeted interventions aimed at supporting vulnerable families could play a crucial role in breaking the cycle of violence during future crises.

Exploring Attitudes and Expectations of Coercive Control:

Insights from a Cross-Dimensional Study in the Gender and Sexually Diverse Community *Anna Wehren*, Loughborough University

This paper presents findings from a comprehensive study investigating attitudes and expectations of coercive control within the gender and sexually diverse (GSD) community. Through a cross-dimensional approach, data was collected via interviews with GSD harm users, focus groups comprising practitioners working with harm users, and a survey distributed to members of the queer community. The study aimed to provide a nuanced understanding of coercive dynamics within GSD relationships and shed light on the perceptions and experiences of both harm users, practitioners that work with them, and community members. Analysis of interview data revealed multifaceted perspectives on coercive control, highlighting the intersectionality of identities and the diverse lived experiences of GSD individuals. Practitioners' insights, gathered through focus groups, offered valuable perspectives on the challenges and complexities of addressing coercive behavior within the GSD community, as well as potential avenues for intervention and support. Furthermore, survey results provided a broader community perspective, elucidating prevailing attitudes, awareness levels, and expectations surrounding coercive control in queer relationships. The findings underscore the importance of tailored interventions and support services that acknowledge the unique needs and experiences of GSD individuals, while also addressing broader societal attitudes and systemic barriers. This cross-dimensional study contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of coercive control dynamics in the GSD community, informing future research, policy development, and intervention efforts aimed at promoting healthy, respectful relationships within diverse sexual and gender contexts.

Instrumentalised animal abuse in contexts of gender-based and domestic violence: the case of Spain. *Maria-Ángeles Fuentes Fuentes-Loureiro*, University of A Coruña

Animal abuse is frequently used as a violent means to harm the human victim in contexts of gender-based or domestic violence. In this paper I address this issue, focusing on the Spanish case. Firstly, based on a literature review, I reflect on the different ways in which animal abuse is used as an instrument in gender-based and domestic violence contexts, mainly as a form of coercion or psychological harm to the human victim. I then analyse the treatment that Spanish jurisprudence has given to this criminal phenomenon in recent years. On this basis, I finally conclude with a reflection on the treatment that the Spanish Criminal Code gives to this matter, concluding that it provides a limited response to the punitive needs of instrumentalised animal abuse, as it excludes from its scope of application cases of domestic violence, in which it has been shown to be particularly relevant.

Intimate Partner Violence During Public Health Disasters: Strengthening Theoretical Foundations *Gwen Hunnicutt*, UNC Greensboro

One of the immediate consequences of COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns was a spike in Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) across the globe. Shelter-in-place orders, coupled with widespread unemployment, left many victims trapped with their abusers and unable to safely connect with services. Moreover, pandemic restrictions put in place to reduce the spread of the virus compromised response services, such as shelters and alternative housing, intended to offer safe haven. The effects of this public health disaster have been particularly pronounced for vulnerable populations. In this paper I argue that pandemic-related-IPV crises should be framed as "public health disasters" in the interest of sharpening our understanding of IPV during times of both order and disorder. As public health disasters are similar in characteristics to other disasters (such as earthquakes, hurricanes and floods), I draw on a "sociology of disaster" framework and ecofeminism to understand IPV circumstances of vulnerability and resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic. Sociology of disaster is an interdisciplinary subfield that strives to interpret social relations during times of both human-made and natural disasters. Ecofeminism is concerned with the links between ecological disruptions and gendered injustice. Because of existing gender inequalities, women may face greater consequences from public



health disasters than do men, but in different ways, according to their unique contexts and circumstances. Drawing on these two perspectives helps strengthen our theoretical foundations of IPV.

### 175. WG-PLACE 5: Neighbourhoods and Crime

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Neighborhoods and Crime (WG on Space and Crime)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.06

Chair:

**Beate Volker**, NSCR

Participants:

Analyzing Fear of Crime: Methodological Insights from Urban Landscape Perception *Victor Augusto Bosquilia Abade, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) and Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná (PUCPR); Lucas Melgaço, Associate Professor - VUB; Leticia Peret Antunes Hardt, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná (PUCPR)*

Urban landscape design goes beyond the association of morphological structures and empty spaces that shape the city environment; it influences an individual's perception and behaviour in the public space. Similarly, people's grasping of criminality and where it occurs also influences their appreciation of city areas through feelings of insecurity and fearfulness. Therefore, this research aims to discern how landscape perception methodologies can help understand the fear of crime, illustrated by the case applied in Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil. This study consists of a scientific framework approach to comprehending how individuals perceive spatial material and immaterial aspects relating to criminality and public urban spaces' landscape. The results show how landscape perception can help extract subjective data from individuals concerning their feelings and perceptions related to fear of crime. Two analytical focuses are emphasized, the first regarding Landscapes Preferences, which relates to an individual's environmental interpretation by aesthetic judgment, and the second is the Environmental Images and Cognitive Mapping, which relates to a person's singular way of cognitively assimilating environmental information to apply in their daily lives. Conceptually, both perspectives illustrate an intrinsic relation to how fear dwells on spatial perception and how urban spaces are engaged. In that manner, a methodological layout involving the topics mentioned above is discussed, incorporating surveys, alternative forms of information gathering, and data mapping. The conclusion is that the landscape perception approach contributes directly to a qualitative study design on comprehending, through a different lens that focuses more on cognitive and emotional human perception, how criminality affects the daily life of citizens in their use of space.

Measuring the effect of governance-type organised crime on local communities and markets: a quasi-natural experiment on Japan *Martina Baradel, University of Oxford; Andrea Giovannetti, University of Cambridge*

Japanese criminal syndicates, collectively known as the yakuza, are a long-established criminal organisation spread all over Japan that has exerted a governance dimension over the communities in which they operate. Since their association is not illegal, syndicates openly establish their territorial presence through multi-storey offices from which they run business and activities. Critically, as a governance-type organised crime (OC) associations, yakuza syndicates not only engage in illegal activities but also pivot through the local regular economy, playing an institutional role on illegal and semi-legal markets and actors, both as economic facilitators and community regulators. The impact of governance-type OC in the neighbourhoods they inhabit is a debated topic. This paper addresses the extant discussion by leveraging on a recent regulatory change which enforced tighter restrictions on the yakuza's territorial grasp, ranging from imposing a more discreet local presence to the closure of some of their offices. We examine the effects of yakuza offices' closure on local social and economic landscapes. To do so, we exploit a novel institutional dataset on yakuza's office activity (including suspension of operations and closure) covering 39 municipalities (corresponding to 307,901 city blocks, equivalent to the 14% of Japan population). By controlling

for demographic and socio-economic characteristics of micro-territories, we are able to perform a quasi-natural experiment that isolates the institutional impact of OC on local societies and economies. We find that the role of OC is complex and context-dependant. We use this information to generate several policy recommendations.

“Still not belonging?” Safety perceptions and nuisances in neighbourhoods with different migration histories in the Netherlands *Beate Volker, NSCR*

In his well-known paper entitled ‘E pluribus unum’, Putnam (1997) made three broad claims. First, the influx of migrants will continue to increase in modern societies. Therefore, ethno-racial diversity in neighborhoods will increase. Second, this development of increased diversity challenges social capital and social solidarity and causes significant problems in residential neighborhoods, such as lack of cohesion and social disorder. Third, in the longer run, however, new forms of solidarity and community will emerge, and the negative consequences of increased diversity are outweighed by these new forms of togetherness. The first and second claims have been studied abundantly albeit with mixed results. My contribution reviews these different findings and discusses the diverging evidence in the light of theories of social capital, communitarianism and social cohesion as well as taking the contextual conditions in the respective studies into account, i.e., the immediate conditions in a neighborhood as well as migration policies in a region. Next, I focus on neighborhoods in the Netherlands and contrast neighborhoods with different migration histories concerning outcomes such as safety and nuisances. Using different waves from the Netherlands' Safety Monitor, a nationally representative longitudinal survey, it is inquired into Putnam's third claim, made in 1997. Is the so-called ‘hunkering down effect’, if it exists at all, persisting or changing through time?

### 176. The macro and the micro: Holistic Approaches to Criminal Policy and their connection with local environments

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Criminal Justice Policy (Crime, Science and Politics WG )

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.07

Chair:

**Lynsey Black**, Maynooth University

Participants:

Chilean Communal Councils of Public Security in practice: a documentary analysis *Maria Fernanda Diaz Vidal, University of Edinburgh*

In 2017, Chile established by law the Communal Councils for Public Security. Notwithstanding some relevant modifications throughout the years, these Councils were already in practice in some municipalities, as included in several governmental programs implemented since early 2000. The Council's legal enactment defined its purposes, attributions and members, including mandating its establishment across the national territory. During the parliamentary discussion, they were characterised as participatory mechanisms while the law instructed their purpose was to advise the Mayor in public security matters, to promote institutional coordination among state institutions at different levels and civil society in the commune and to contribute to the design and monitoring of the public security policies as defined at the local level. However, how are these councils being implemented in practice? This article attempts to contribute to answering this question with a documentary analysis of the Communal Council of Public Security's official records of one of the municipalities of the country. In particular, I will ask: are its functions and attributions being performed? In what ways and to what extent? As a mechanism of governance, how is the interaction between its members, and how are they contributing to the public security policy design and implementation at the local level? What are the topics discussed? For that purpose, I will draw into the ideas of collaborative and participatory governance developed in public policy and the existent literature on security governance.

Contested Space: Penal Nationalism and the Northern Ireland Border *Danielle C. Jefferis, Maynooth University - School of*

### Law & Criminology

This presentation lays out the framework and preliminary findings of CONSPACE, an Irish Research Council-funded project which takes the Northern Irish border as an organising concept. The work investigates successive phases of penal nationalism, each of which has been distinguished by the centrality of the Northern Irish border – a border which has been a locus of security, penalty and crime control since its inception a century ago and which achieves an urgent timeliness post-Brexit. Commenced in September 2022, CONSPACE takes a multi-strand approach to the research, joining historical and contemporary perspectives through focus groups, oral histories, interviews, photovoice, archival and historical press analysis, and contemporary media and political documentary. This presentation will address one central strand of the work, exploring questions of border living. The border living strand investigates the ways in which ordinary people have lived and continue to live under border security regimes, the experiences of those who have and continue to police the region, and the operation of border policing and penalty in the social and legal constructions of identity. The work employs the field of border criminology and the concept of penal nationalism, turning the analytic capacity of these lenses to an under-studied region.

**The European Security Model: A holistic framework for enhancing societal safety while upholding fundamental values**  
*Andrew Wootton, University of Salford; Caroline Davey, University of Salford; Dagmar Heinrich, University of Salford*

The EU Horizon 2020 funded project, Cutting Crime Impact (CCI), aimed to develop a comprehensive European Security Model (ESM) addressing the gap in security policy literature concerning so-called 'petty crime.' This endeavour was initiated upon discovering that, despite frequent references, a concrete model did not exist within existing frameworks. Through extensive literature reviews, interviews with security policymakers, and structured workshops involving consortium and advisory board members, the ESM was conceptualised and prototyped, culminating in its unveiling at the Designing Security Futures conference in Brussels on 25 November 2021. Central to the ESM are European values such as liberty, democracy, respect for human rights, and the rule of law, underpinned by a unique cultural perspective rooted in the Enlightenment era, termed 'European exceptionalism.' The model articulates five core principles: Citizen-centred approaches; Transdisciplinarity; Preventative measures; Collaborative efforts; and Demonstrable impacts — each supporting a strategic framework aimed at enhancing societal security. This framework emphasises the importance of understanding citizen behaviours, engaging civil society, promoting community-based initiatives, and fostering transnational problem-solving collaborations. The model underscores the necessity of preventative strategies, transdisciplinary engagement, and evidence-based solutions to tackle emergent security challenges effectively. Furthermore, it highlights the role of the European Commission, envisioned as the "Guardian of the Flame of European Enlightenment," promoting values, supporting principled action, improving capability, and ultimately delivering a positive societal impact. The ESM serves multiple functions, including providing a coherent framework for European security efforts, facilitating the structured assessment of existing strategies, guiding future security research, and enhancing policymaker and law enforcement roles towards a broader, value-based security perspective. Importantly, it calls for a reevaluation of security policies that prioritise high-profile risks at the expense of addressing 'petty crime,' which significantly impacts citizens' daily lives, sense of security and wellbeing.

**Telling Stories and Navigating Silence in Post-conflict Northern Ireland**  
*Lynsey Black, Maynooth University*

The work explores the lived experience of borders and the everyday 'criminality' of people who live at national boundaries. The creation of a border creates a liminal space for crime, a grey zone for illegality. In Ireland/Northern Ireland, one of the consequences of the establishment of the border in the 1920s was the advent of smuggling. This boundary line, which wound its way through hundreds of kilometres of often inaccessible farmland, became a nexus for the smuggling of, among other items, livestock and agricultural goods. The presentation draws on research conducted in a border region in the north-west of Ireland, involving oral

history interviews with older men who recalled their engagement in small-scale livestock smuggling from the 1950s to the 1990s. The men's experiences outlined how these smuggling enterprises were conducted under the spectre of 'the Troubles' which erupted in Northern Ireland in the late-1960s. The interviews explored how 'Ordinary Decent Criminals' (as some of the men identified) navigated the increasingly securitised Northern Irish state and the militarisation of the border. The research threw up a paradoxical finding; the men were keen to tell stories, but this was couched by the imperative of silence. Participants made sense of their pasts through narrative but in reflecting on matters of political, national and religious identity, the silences of the past remained.

### 177. Prison Groups at Risk

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Criminal Justice Policy (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.10

Chair:

*Conor Murray, Ulster University*

Participants:

Exploring the treatment of trans and non-binary people in custody in the UK: Implications for policy and practice  
*Helen Williams, University of Sunderland; Sarah Connelly, University of Sunderland*

Within the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE 1984), heteronormative language is prevalent, reflecting a dichotomous understanding of gender. The use of 'same sex' and 'opposite sex' within the broader Code of PACE serves to exclude people who identify as trans, non-binary, intersex or agender. While the need for sensitivity to 'transgender, transsexual or transvestite people' in custody is acknowledged (Code C, Annex L), in practice there is little guidance or training on what this entails. In such cases, the treatment of an individual depends heavily on the interpretations, attitude, and discretion of the officer in charge. Thus, trans and non-binary people face unique challenges within custody. Little research has been conducted which explores the intersection of vulnerability and gender identity in custody settings or the role of an appropriate adult (AA) in safeguarding individuals impacted by Annex L. This is despite intense debates on trans rights and an increased awareness and understanding of gender diversity in recent years. Custody suites are complex spaces with varying narratives surrounding risk, vulnerability, and safeguarding, and populated by a range of professionals working in parallel to respond to the needs of the person and situation. Through a triangulated approach, this project collates a range of experiences, perspectives, and understandings in relation to the treatment of trans and non-binary suspects. This is achieved through exploring perspectives of practitioners and lived experience narratives, this research aims to feed into organisations to inform effective practice and interpretations of Annex L. These include practitioners, AAs, and trans and non-binary people with lived experience of custody. This paper presents the preliminary findings from interviews with people affected by Annex L to explore how policy and guidance from governmental bodies is used, negotiated, and experienced. Here we present our recommendations for evidence-based policy and practice development.

**Tikanga Māori and the Indigenisation of New Zealand's Penal Programmes**  
*Philip Austin Joseph, Faculty of Law, University of Canterbury (NZ)*

Māori, the Indigenous people of New Zealand, are grossly overrepresented in the country's prison population. In 2019 the Government introduced an ambitious prison policy, Hōkai Rangi, to rehabilitate Māori and break the cycle of chronic Māori reoffending. Hōkai Rangi promotes Māori cultural identity and heritage (tikanga) as the basis of the new rehabilitative model. This model is a reflection of the evolving national discourse in New Zealand that today celebrates Māori as tangata whenua (people of the land). My paper acknowledges the need to address the overrepresentation of Māori in prison but questions whether Hōkai Rangi is delivering on its promises. It reaches the dispiriting conclusion that it is failing its objectives owing to a combination of

implementation woes.

The Carceral Feminism Debate as a Comparative Lens for Punishment and Society Research? *Johanna Nickels, Freie Universität Berlin*

Against the backdrop of mass incarceration, US scholars and activists have brought forward an intersectional critique of feminist discourses that call for the expansion of criminal law in order to foster gender equality. Feminist public discourses in Germany call for the expansion and harshening of criminal law, too. However, critical reflections similar to the discussion in the US are extremely rare not only in public but also in academic debates. Using these two diverging observations, this presentation explores what insights the analysis of carceral feminism in these two countries offers for punishment and society research and for (comparative) accounts on the political economy of punishment specifically. In a first step, the presentation carves out how the literature on carceral feminism refines existing accounts on the political economy of punishment. In a second step, both countries are contrasted in two ways. First, differences in the phenomenon of carceral feminism in both countries are being analyzed and linked back to existing comparative studies of the political economy of punishment. Second, this presentation also dissects the differences in academic and public reflections on carceral feminism (or the lack thereof) to reveal further insights on the political economy of punishment.

'Can't hack the whack': Exploring young men's gendered discourses on time in prison *Conor Murray, Ulster University*

Although there is a growing body of literature that documents prisoners' experiences of time in custody, and while prison is usually the experience of young men, there are few studies that focus on young men's experiences of time in prison. Based on findings from a 9-month ethnographic study of a young offenders' institution, this paper addresses these gaps in the literature, exploring how young men's (aged 18–24) gendered discourses on time in prison shape their prison experience. This is explored through three principal themes: 'heavy-whacking', the subordination of those young men who were struggling to cope with their time in prison; 'time-hierarchy', the gendered discourses in prison that associated sentence length with toughness; and the 'Young-Elders', a group of young men who benefitted from the gendered discourses in the prison and lived relatively free from stigmatisation on the most enhanced landings in the prison.

#### 178. States of Criminology: A Colloquy of Criminologists working in Poland and the UK

Topic 7: Comparative and Historical Perspectives/Cross-National Comparisons of Crime and Justice (Quantitative Methods WG) Roundtable

5:30 to 6:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14*

Throughout 2024 criminologists from the University of Warsaw and the University of Sussex have engaged in a series of dialogues with the aim of developing a transnational understanding of the criminological topics that inspire our research. This colloquy marks the culmination of these meetings and serves to hold a space for discussants to reflect upon and share what they have learned through this process. Discussants will reflect upon their work on issues of Criminal Law Reform, Policing, Hate crime, Short-term Detention, and the state of Criminology more generally. The last decade has proven politically volatile for both Poland and the UK - how have criminologists in both academies responded and what can they learn from one another for the future?

Chair:

*Paul McGuinness, University of Sussex*

Discussants:

*Estelle Marks, University of Sussex*

*Luca Follis, University of Sussex*

*Stephen Cameron Shute, University of Sussex*

*Jarosław Utrat-Milecki, University of Warsaw*

*Dagmara Woźniakowska, University of Warsaw*

*Katarzyna Witkowska-Rozpara, University of Warsaw, Institute of Social Prevention and Resocialisation (Department of Criminology and Criminal Policy), Center for Criminological Analysis*

*Szymon Nawrocki, Uniwersytet Warszawski*

#### 179. Critical Issues in Intimate Partner Violence and Gender-Based Violence

Topic 4: Victimology/Patterns and trends in Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.20*

Chair:

*Merili Pullerits, City, University of London*

Participants:

Cyber Intimate Partner Violence in Korea *Nithila MK, Kyonggi University; Hyewon Jeon, Kyonggi University; EuiGab Hwang, Kyonggi University*

Relationships today exist between the boundaries of the cyber and the real world. Cyber intimate partner violence and intimate partner violence work together most of the time. The effect of C-IPV may be reflected in physical violence and vice versa. Intimate partner violence is a well-studied topic and many measures have been taken to support the victims. But Cyber intimate partner violence is an emerging topic and under-researched in Korea. Cyber intimate partner violence or C-IPV is a technologically facilitated violence and has emerged only in the last ten years. It includes cyber sexual violence, cyber stalking, cyber defamation, cyber bullying, cyber coercion, cyber verbal violence, cyber impersonation, cyber extortion and personal information leak. Korea has seen a steady increase in cyber-violence cases. C-IPV is an important aspect that needs to be studied and for which awareness among the public is essential. The current research study will look into C-IPV, its prevalence, how it connects with IPV, its impact on victims, policies and implications.

Is Physical Intimate Partner Violence a Risk Factor for Physical Child Maltreatment in a Nationally Representative Sample of Finnish School Children? *Laura Mielityinen, Faculty of Social Sciences, Tampere University; Noora Ellonen, Research director; Monica Fagerlund, Tampere University*

Previous studies have found a high co-occurrence between physical intimate partner violence (pIPV) and physical child maltreatment (pCM); however, little is known about this issue from children's own perspective and from nationally representative surveys. The main objective of this study was to examine the connection between pIPV and pCM in a nationally representative sample of 12–13 and 15–16-year-old Finnish children (N = 6,825) after controlling for other known risk factors. The  $\chi^2$  test and the logistic regression model were used. Around 73% of the children who had been exposed to pIPV had also experienced pCM during the past year, whereas 16.4% of those who had not been exposed to pIPV reported pCM. Children exposed to pIPV were almost four times more likely to experience pCM than children who were not exposed to pIPV. The connection remained statistically significant after controlling for other risk factors. Prevention and early identification of pIPV might reduce pCM in families. A holistic approach to assessing pCM would enrich research and clinical practice.

Obstetric Violence: Realities of Migrant Women in Portugal *Joana Bessa Topa, University Maia/ CIEG/ISCSP-ULisboa*

Currently, there is a significant presence of migrant women in multicultural and migratory maternity settings. However, these women often face the risk of encountering obstetric violence (OV), a widespread issue affecting women worldwide during labor and the postpartum phase. OV, viewed as a form of gender-based violence, can manifest in various ways, including disrespectful treatment, neglect, physical and verbal abuse, non-consensual medical procedures, and the stigmatization of cultural birthing practices. For migrant women, this problem is further compounded by language barriers, unfamiliarity with the healthcare system, and racial and cultural discrimination. As a result, these women encounter challenges in articulating their needs and grievances, as well as in reporting instances of discrimination and violence. Given the maternal healthcare challenges in Portugal, it's crucial to comprehend these circumstances. This communication outlines the findings of a qualitative study aimed at understanding the subjective

experiences of pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period among immigrant women in public health facilities. The findings reveal that these women often delay seeking antenatal care due to multiple obstacles. Their experiences are characterized by insensitivity and discrimination from healthcare professionals, leading to a notable prevalence of OV, which significantly impacts their mental and physical well-being.

**Differential disclosure:** A comparative analysis of domestic violence reporting in face-to-face and self-completion modes of the Crime Survey for England and Wales *Merili Pullerits, City, University of London*

The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) is a vital source of victimisation data in England and Wales, including being the source of official national statistics on domestic violence. In the CSEW, the data for the official national statistics on domestic violence are gathered through a self-completion module asked after the main face-to-face questionnaire. Despite differences in phrasing and the types of violence/abuse covered, some domestic violence data is also collected via the main face-to-face questionnaire. This face-to-face domestic violence data continues to be used by some researchers due to its ability to capture the frequency of violence, which is not possible in the self-completion mode. Existing research indicates that domestic violence disclosure is between four (Walby et al., 2014) to seven (ONS, 2018) times higher in the self-completion compared to the face-to-face questionnaire. The existing analysis is limited in its scope as it does not disaggregate domestic violence by perpetrator type (intimate partner vs. other family member) and does not sufficiently explore how disclosure might differ by victim socio-demographic characteristics. To address this gap, this paper aims to describe the differences in prevalence of domestic violence in the face-to-face and the self-completion mode of the CSEW by perpetrator type and victim socio-demographic characteristics. By doing so it aims to provide an enhanced understanding of which victim sub-groups are more or less likely to be included in secondary analyses of domestic violence using either the face-to-face or self-completion mode of the CSEW.

## 180. Sexual offending and victimization

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Sex Crimes, Sex Work and Sex Trafficking

Paper Session

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22

Chair:

*Wendy Fitzgibbon*, University of Westminster

Participants:

Pre-military adversity and enlistment into the Armed Forces:

From the frying pan into the fire? *Justin Moorhead, Liverpool John Moores University*

This paper looks to explore adversity experienced by a cohort of ex-military personnel convicted of Sexual offences in England and Wales, prior to enlistment into the Armed Forces. Initially considering Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and broader adversity endured by this population (Katon et al, 2015; Blosnich et al, 2014), this paper considers enlistment into the military and the impact of joining this intuition, with many joining under the age of 18, and whether adversity experienced in the military, as well as prior to enlistment, should be a priority for professionals when working with veterans in the criminal justice system who have gone on to commit serious harm.

**Sexual harm prevention orders: bespoke public protection or disproportionate backdoor criminalisation?** *Wendy Fitzgibbon, University of Westminster; Maria Ansbro, Buckinghamshire New University*

Sixty-four professionals from diverse quarters of the UK criminal justice system were interviewed on the workings of the Sex Offender Register, and the use of Sexual Harm Prevention Orders with sexual offenders emerged as an important aspect of this topic. These are civil orders that contain an individualised list of requirements which commonly include activities that must or must not be undertaken, places that must not be visited, people who the

subject must not be with, and restrictions relating to internet use. Whilst most practitioners believed they were highly effective because they were crafted around each individual's risk, there were also concerns around their use, both practical and ethical. These concerns are examined, and our interviewees' suggestions for improving their use are presented.

**Sexual offending and employability barriers** *Cody Normitta Porter, UWE Bristol*

Employability is important for reducing reoffending. Unfortunately, those with a prior sexual offence find employment opportunities challenging. As such, knowing when to disclose a prior offence is important. This talk will examine employability biases based upon two empirical studies. The first study will highlight the problems associated with a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check disclosure. The second study will examine the effectiveness of a self-disclosure prior to a hiring decision. To examine this, we firstly investigated employability decision making when a prior sexual conviction is disclosed. In the first study, we were interested in whether potential employers were more likely to reject a candidate after a DBS check. As such, we asked potential employers to select the most appropriate candidate based upon their application form, CV's and interview notes. We then provided a DBS check with either no prior offence (control) or a prior sexual offence (rape, sexual activity with a child, or possession of indecent images of children). We found that those with a contact offence (rape 57%, sexual activity with a child 80%), received higher rejection rates than those with a possession of indecent images of children (49%) conviction. In the second study, we examined a disclosure during the written application stage reduced reject rates. We found that it did across all conditions: rape [self-disclosure 63% vs no disclosure 70%], sexual activity with a child [self-disclosure 52% vs no disclosure 84%], or possession of indecent images of children [self-disclosure 23% vs no disclosure 69%]. Qualitative decision-making responses and implications for research and policy will be further discussed.

**The exceptional case of sextortion: exploring the rise of male victims in sexual crimes** *Edel Beckman, Clinical Criminologist at PermessoNegato APS*

The use of technology and devices as forms of sexual exploitation and criminal victimisation in people's relationships and intimacy is growing day by day. By looking at the case of sextortion and the exploratory data on this phenomenon, it seems that most victims are shown to be male. This newly-recent criminal activity consists of an invasive form of extortion that occurs when a perpetrator threatens to release explicit images of the victim unless he or she send them a ransom (usually money, explicit images, or even sexual favours). Drawing upon preliminary and exclusive data, the no profit organization PermessoNegato has handled more than 500 cases of sextortion during 2023, of whom only 50 were females. Using the abovementioned data as starting point, this research has focused on who the male victims are and how they became victims, delving into an understudied, yet ever-increasing phenomenon within the broader sphere of image-based sexual abuse. The aim of the research is to explore how the victims are groomed online, and consequently how the perpetrators acts. Studying the online habits of the victims has been one of the key points, as well as the offline ones, and if there is a scheme used to lure victims: how they are contacted, how they manage to establish trust in such a short time, and how the extortion takes place.

## 181. Victimization and Crime Statistics: Experiences on measuring VAW.

Topic 4: Victimology/Patterns and trends in Victimization (Victimology WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

5:30 to 6:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.04

Violence against women is a phenomenon that has gained increasing interest in the last decades not only because of its individual and social consequences in the lives of women, but also because of the impact that this has on the institutions related to health, safety, and justice. Victimization surveys are a key tool for collecting crime data directly from victims' experiences, thereby uncovering incidents that often go unreported. It delves into various aspects of crime, not only assessing its prevalence but also exploring the complicated

dynamics involved. In addition, the survey examines cases of multi-victimization and its consequences. Through rigorous analysis, vulnerable demographic groups and risk effect can be identified. This session will focus on measuring VAW through victimization Surveys.

Chair:

**Adrián Franco**, National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)

Participants:

The contribution of the Italian Citizens Safety Survey for collecting data on online harassment. *Maria Giuseppina Muratore, Istituto Nazionale di Statistica of Italy (ISTAT); Alessandra Capobianchi, Istituto Nazionale di Statistica of Italy (ISTAT); Claudia Villante, Istituto Nazionale di Statistica of Italy (ISTAT)*

In 2023 Istat carried out a new edition of the Italian “Citizens safety” survey and particular emphasis has been dedicated to the measurement also of the cyber forms of different crimes. The focus of this work will be on harassment with the aim of describing the main results in regard to both its “off-line” and “online” dimension. It will explore characteristics, impacts, risk factors and consequences experienced by victims, with a focus on gender disparities. In addition, the analysis investigates correlations between online violence and other suffered crimes. By comparing the new form of harassment with the more conventional ones, the analysis offers useful insights into the evolution of this phenomenon with both research and policy implications.

New methodological approaches for measuring victimization in women in Spain: challenges and opportunities *Luis Felipe Rivera-Galicia, Universidad de Alcalá*

This work provides a detailed examination of the economic costs associated with gender-based violence (GBV) against women in Spain. Recognized as a serious public health problem with far-reaching social and economic consequences, gender-based violence requires a thorough and updated analysis of its impact. This study builds on previous research from 2019, updating the monetary estimates of the costs of intimate partner violence against women (IPVAW) and introducing estimates of non-partner sexual violence against women (NPSVAW) costs for the year 2022, using data from the 2019 Macroencuesta de Violencia contra la Mujer. The main objective of the study is to comprehensively analyze the cost of IPVAW and NPSVAW. We provide updated and accurate monetary valuations for 2022, and highlight the distribution of these costs among different stakeholders. By distinguishing between tangible and intangible costs, the study provides a nuanced understanding of the economic burden of GBV. Tangible costs refer to direct expenses such as medical treatment, legal fees, and lost income due to surviving victims' inability to work. Intangible costs, on the other hand, include the psychological impact on victims, including pain, suffering, and lost productivity due to premature death. We use a prevalence-year approach, considering the number of women aged 16 and more in Spain who experienced violence within a 12-month period.

The relevance of victimization surveys to measure gender-related killings of women and girls *Maurice Dunaïski, UNODC*

This presentation will focus on the role and importance of crime victimization surveys for measuring Gender-related killings of women and girls (femicide/feminicide), because this is the most extreme and brutal manifestation of violence against women and they affect all regions and countries worldwide. However, unlike for other forms of violence against women, there was until recently no global or regional standardized statistical approach to define and produce relevant metrics on such killings of women and girls.

Victimization and Crime Statistics matter! The experience of Mexico measuring Violence Against Women *Adrián Franco, National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI); Dayana Lizeth Perez, National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)*

This presentation will show institutional capacities and relevant experiences from the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico (INEGI) to generate and conducting Crime Victimization Surveys. This dimension focuses on measuring

VAW. Hence, it will exhibit experiences in using different statistical methods to collect and produce data to provide a better understanding of the nature, magnitude, and consequences of violence against women and girls in Mexico.

## 182. Illicit Firearms and Organized Crime

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Organized Crime (Organized Crime WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

5:30 to 6:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06*

This panel brings together leading and emerging experts researching the intersections between illicit firearms, organized crime and criminal networks. The panel is comprised of select authors who are contributing chapters to the forthcoming edited collection: *Illicit firearm markets and organized crime: Global, regional and local perspectives*. (Oxford University Press). The book represents an interdisciplinary, global edited collection drawing together cutting-edge research on illicit firearms markets in different regions, with a specific focus on the interconnections and interrelationships between illicit firearms markets and organized crime / organized criminal groups. This includes: (1) The methods and routes by which firearms enter illicit markets; (2) Illicit firearms as facilitators and enablers of other illicit markets and other crime including organized crime; (3) The role of illicit firearms in exacerbating organized crime, and related crime and violence; and (4) Policy responses to illicit firearms and the efficacy of such including unintended consequences. Each chapter of the book will examine a particular global region and / or a specific thematic area and shed light on the links between illicit firearms markets, illicit firearms trafficking and organized crime. In this panel we discuss these issues in the context of Europe, the Caribbean, firearms trafficking networks, and the use of illicit firearms by members of organized criminal groups.

Chair:

**David Bright**, Deakin University

Participants:

Organized crime and illicit firearms in Europe *Lina Grip, Swedish Prison and Probation Service*

Criminal groups are widely recognized as the primary force behind the illicit firearms market in Europe. Firearms are used to protect and advance OCGs interests, particularly in the drug trade. Based on open-source data, this study provides an overview of the current state of knowledge regarding the nexus of organized crime and illicit firearms in Europe. It finds that there are large differences in the effects of the firearm and OCGs' nexus, with most countries having experienced positive developments – a reduction of violence – since the 1990s. The study details the types of firearms and trafficking modus operandi used by OCGs. Previously stable for twenty years due to weapons from the Balkans and former communist countries, there has been a shift in recent years to modified pistols and a rapid emergence of 3D-printed weapons. This shift is lowering the bar for accessing weapons, resulting in increased gang violence, most notably in Sweden.

Firearms trafficking and crime in the Caribbean. *Nicolas Florquin, Small Arms Survey, Switzerland; Anne-Séverine Fabre, Small Arms Survey*

This chapter on trafficking of firearms in the Caribbean examines the sources of illicit firearms, smuggling techniques and stakeholders, including organized crime groups, involved in this trafficking activity as well as its impact on violence. It reviews the concealment methods, the modes of transport and the types of firearms associated with smuggling of illicit firearms in the Caribbean. It also explores the efforts in the region to counter trafficking and the implication of the geographical situation of the region—mostly comprising multiple islands, located between North America and Latin America—which brings additional challenges in terms of trafficking dynamics. Drawing on an earlier study, this chapter also discusses the nexus between firearms and violence in the region, including evidence that firearms are the most common mechanism used in homicides in a number of Caribbean countries.

Firearms trafficking networks: A multiplex network approach *Fenna van der Wijk, University of Groningen*

Illicit firearms trafficking is a transnational problem impacting communities worldwide. It enables, and is frequently intertwined

with, multiple other organized crime activities, such as drug and human trafficking. Firearms trafficking is considered to be largely carried out by criminal groups (Sneddon, 2021). A way to map and measure relationships and flows between individuals in firearms trafficking groups is provided by social network analysis (SNA). This chapter focuses on using SNA to understand the criminal activities in firearms trafficking networks and the social structures facilitating those activities. By means of a multiplex approach, we examined multiple layers or link types, specifically the flow of commodities (firearms, money, and equipment) and the supporting social dynamics (orders, negotiation, and planning) in a Dutch firearm trafficking network (see Table 1). This network was subject to police investigation and information about the network was provided by the Dutch police. The network consisted of 42 actors with 224 ties between them. There was sufficient information for 105 of those ties (47%) to determine the link type while for 119 ties (53%) the link type remained unknown. SNA metrics (density, degree centrality, and betweenness centrality) were calculated for the merged network and the six individual network layers. Additionally, a subgroup analysis was performed on the merged network in which three subgroups were identified. Results are discussed in light of the literature on the social organization of criminal groups. The chapter concludes with implications for policy and practice.

“If you get into the business you have to arm up”: The possession, display and discharge of firearms by members of organized criminal groups. *David Bright, Deakin University*

The chapter examines different types of firearms use in the context of organised crime and organised criminal groups. This will include carrying, displaying (e.g., revealing a gun during the course of a crime), through to discharging guns during a crime or as a means to prove one’s mettle to peers etc. This will include discussion of the meaning of guns, as opposed to other types of weapons in interviewees lives, with a focus on organised crime type offences (drug trafficking etc) and being a member or associate of organised criminal groups. The chapter draws from 75 in-depth interviews with prisoners convicted of gun-related crime in Australia and focuses specifically on the lived experience of participants in illicit firearms market. In this paper, we explore the use of crime guns by members of organised criminal groups and in the commission or ‘organised crime’ offences such as drug trafficking. We explore a range of themes drawing on interviews including preferences for particular types of firearms; firearms to enhance status and power; firearms and protection in the illicit drug trade; firearms and ripping off drug dealers; and firearms and conflicts between organised criminal groups. We discuss implications of the results for policy and practice.

### 183. Poster Session & Ice Cream Social

ESC

Poster Session

6:45 to 8:00 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Front Courtyard

Participants:

P001 - 2PS – Developing Training Materials for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) *Julia Willmes, German Police University*

Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) and the use of Child Sexual Exploitation Material (CSEM) online are a growing concern worldwide with serious consequences for victims. Addressing this issue requires more than just police intervention; it demands a proactive approach aiming at preventing CSA before it occurs. Preventive approaches can reduce CSA and the use of CSEM online and thereby prevent children from harm. The poster presents data from the current the project “Protect and Prevent Through Support – 2PS”, funded by European Union’s Horizon Europe Program. 2PS aims in tackling various urgent issues related to Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (CSAE), particularly in the online environment (OCSAE), through preventive initiatives. 2PS collaborates with global stakeholders in order to establish a cohesive approach that prioritizes preventive measures complementing current strategies. The goal is to protect children by addressing the support needs of individuals with a sexual interest in children, providing them with alternative pathways. In order to create police training modules for

investigating and combating CSAE, a survey has been carried out in the most European countries, in order to gain an overview on the current training activities in the field of CSAE and to identify training gaps initial content-related results of this evaluation are presented, with a particular focus on best practice approaches and topics that still need to be addressed. On this basis, it presents practical conclusions for the development of new training modules for different target-groups with the police.

P002 - Advocacy Strategies to Empower Persons with Disabilities Survivors from Violence *Nattakarn Noree, Chulalongkorn University; Vijita Rachatanantikul, Mahidol University*

The issue of violence against persons with disabilities is persistent and prevalent in every region of the world. Through a preliminary assessment of the situation in Thailand, violence against persons with disabilities occurs across all types of disabilities. It is not only physical violence perpetrated by individuals that causes harm, but also extends to mental, sexual, and includes instances of neglect and abandonment. Currently, there is a growing emphasis on the rights of persons with disabilities survivors, shifting the perspective from the traditional model of disabilities to a rights-based approach. Despite the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) addressing freedom from exploitation, violence, and abuse in Article 16, there is a notable absence of thorough guidelines for both policy and practical levels in preventing and intervening in cases of violence against persons with disabilities. Service providers from public, private, and disability organizations still demonstrate insufficient awareness and prioritization of persons with disabilities who experience violence. The presenter proposes a recommendations on systematic approach to prevention and intervention, focusing on Policy, Prosecution, Protection, Prevention, and Partnership.

P003 - Alt-right Pipeline: Responses and mobilizations from TikTok users *François Gillardin, Université de Montréal; Samuel Tanner, Université de Montréal*

This poster presents the interaction between users and the TikTok platform's algorithm. The focus will be in part on the Alt-right pipeline phenomenon, which corresponds to the idea that viewing political content such as anti-feminist, anti-LGBTQ+, Islamophobic, racist ideas, etc., leads progressively and increasingly to the exposure of Alt-right content. This phenomenon, already observed on YouTube, is also reproduced exponentially on TikTok. That said, the focus will not be on videos with Alt-right connotations, but on those of "anti-alt-right" users who mobilize on TikTok. This form of vigilantism will be presented and treated from a socio-technical angle, thanks to a semiotic analysis of the visual content (around thirty videos). This approach will enable us to understand the transformations arising from the interplay between users, digital platforms, and their algorithms and thus to better understand the new communicative practices of contemporary activism. The aim of this poster is to show how interactions between users and digital platforms contribute to the creation of an oppositional discourse, in this case anti-Alt-Right pipeline vigilantism.

P004 - Analysis of Police Handling of Apophobia: An Assessment of Practices and Needs of Law Enforcement Agencies *Amaia Yurrebaso, University of Salamanca; Eva Picado-Valverde, University of Salamanca; Raquel Guzmán Ordaz, University of Salamanca; Esther García-Valverde, University of Salamanca*

This study presents a comprehensive analysis of the treatment of apophobia by Law Enforcement Agencies. Its significance has recently been underscored with its classification as an aggravating factor in hate crimes under Article 22.4 of the Penal Code. This recognition has led to an increasing demand for visibility and attention, given its substantial impact on various impoverished communities. The primary objective of this research is to examine how law enforcement agencies address discrimination due to apophobia and other associated forms of victimization, moving beyond mere classification as a hate crime and the sole reliance on reporting mechanisms. To achieve this, a study was conducted comprising semi-structured interviews with a group of ten security agents, followed by a thorough analysis of the collected data. This analysis aims to evaluate the adequacy of law enforcement actions

in this area and identify potential areas for improvement. Among the most significant conclusions is the prevalent lack of awareness among many agents regarding the reality of aporophobia and the absence of specific protocols to handle such cases. This finding underscores the pressing need to implement training and awareness strategies within law enforcement agencies to enhance their responsiveness to discrimination based on poverty-related grounds. Furthermore, the study highlights the multifaceted nature of aporophobia and its intersection with various social and economic factors, emphasizing the necessity for a nuanced and holistic approach in addressing this form of discrimination. Additionally, it emphasizes the importance of community engagement and collaboration with relevant stakeholders to develop effective prevention and intervention strategies. Ultimately, the findings of this research contribute to a broader understanding of aporophobia and provide valuable insights for enhancing law enforcement practices in combating this pervasive form of discrimination.

**P005 - A possible correlation between poverty, age, gender and the crimes of driving under influence, driving a vehicle with false or without registration numbers** *Cristina Nicorici, West University of Timisoara*

Three types of crimes are often met in Romanian criminal law courts: driving under influence, driving a vehicle with false registration numbers or without registration numbers. It seems, from an intuitive perspective, however, that these crimes are often committed by young (rather than elderly) men (rather than women) who come mainly from a low-income family or have a low income. This study aims to analyze the data regarding these crimes and the possible correlation between the gender, age and income, and to search a possible explanation for this correlation.

**P006 - A Study on Factors for Maintaining Employment of Released II** *Aika Tomoto, Chiba University*

In Japan, employment support for people released from prison is provided through cooperation with cooperating employers and social workers. This is because it has been pointed out that unemployed people have a high recidivism rate. However, there are reports that about 60% of criminals who receive employment support quit their jobs within a year, so it is necessary to consider how to maintain employment support. Therefore, in this study, we focused on the level of mental health and career maturity in order to examine the willingness to live in society and the intention to work. We believe that mental health is an important condition for "living as oneself" and that it greatly affects "quality of life." In addition, we considered that the attitudinal and cognitive readiness of individuals who are willing to tackle their own career development tasks is also a concept that deserves attention. In this survey, we conducted a survey on the level of mental health of individuals who have been in prison and are living in society, and conducted questionnaires such as the Adult Career Maturity Scales to clarify the level of career maturity. We conducted a survey. As a result, we examined the relationship between the mental health and career maturity of the research participants (N=57), current employment support, and other factors related to crime risk. In employment support for prisoners, etc., it was considered important to enhance career maturity, rather than simply aiming to get a "job." I will report on the results on the day.

**P007 - BIGDATPOL: Big data policing in Europe** *Wim Hardyns, Ghent University; Inge Claessens, Ghent University*

The BIGDATPOL research group is an ambitious team led by Prof Dr Wim Hardyns at the Department of Criminology, Criminal Law, and Social Law, Ghent University. Prof Dr Hardyns has been awarded a prestigious ERC Consolidator Grant by the European Research Council (funded by the European Union; ERC, BIGDATPOL, 101088156) to develop an evidence-based big data policing model that will be tested in several European cities. This groundbreaking research initiative addresses crucial gaps in the existing study of big data policing and will translate it into a European context. Currently, knowledge and expertise in this field are dispersed, hindering the development of effective strategies. Moreover, interdisciplinary collaboration is essential for a comprehensive understanding of this complex issue, spanning statistical-methodological, criminological, economic, legal, and ethical dimensions. Our approach is innovative and radically

different from the existing initiatives, which often lack transparency. Our objective is to unite and integrate the statistical-methodological, criminological, economic, legal and ethical dimensions of big data policing in an evidence-based model that will be tested by different randomized controlled trials across various European cities and built on the principles of an international and interdisciplinary approach.

**P008 - Capgras Syndrome and Criminal Behavior** *Franco Posa, NeuroIntelligence (Private Institute of Research in Forensic Neuroscience and Criminology); Matteo Posa, NeuroIntelligence; Jessica Leone, NeuroIntelligence; Marta Moalli, NeuroIntelligence; Francesco Scclavi, NeuroIntelligence; Chiara Ciuffreda, NeuroIntelligence*

Capgras Syndrome is described as a delusional belief that loved ones, objects, animals, or places have been replaced by impostors or duplicates. It's an extremely rare condition, with available epidemiological data suggesting a prevalence of about 0.12% in the general population, with a female-to-male ratio of 3:2, while in the psychiatric population it rises to about 1.3%. This condition, which affects the perception of others' identity, also has significant criminological implications. Its association with criminal behavior highlights the need for legal and psychological depth to adequately support the judicial process in cases involving affected individuals. Distinguishing Capgras Syndrome from other disorders, such as schizophrenia spectrum disorders and dissociative disorders, is crucial for accurate diagnosis and targeted treatment. The most common comorbidities include schizophrenia, mood disorders, neurodegenerative disorders, and organic diseases. Etiological hypotheses proposed to date include functional, organic factors, and substance abuse. Exploring its criminological implications can offer important insights for intervention strategies and support in legal evaluation, requiring interdisciplinary collaboration among psychiatrists, psychologists, criminologists, and legal professionals for a holistic approach that considers the multiple dimensions involved in this complex syndrome.

**P009 - Challenging Conventions: Rethinking Violent Extremism through the Lens of Black Pilled Incel Communities** *Traian Toma, University of Montreal; Sébastien Brouillette-Alarie, University of Montreal*

Violent extremism is commonly defined as the act of violence against others to further an extremist cause. Terrorism and political violence are the forms of violence that readily come to mind when we discuss violent extremism. Yet, the emergence of the Black Pill ideology within Incel communities underscores the shortcomings of this understanding of violent extremism. The Black Pill starkly illustrates that extremism can inspire violence directed inward, including suicide. We trace the evolution of the literature on Black Pilled Incel communities with the aim of showing how this form of extremism subverts conventional understandings of violent extremism. From there, we propose a more comprehensive definition of violent extremism that takes into account the different forms of violence that it can encompass. This raises some theoretical implications regarding the study of extremism. Firstly, it encourages researchers to adopt a more nuanced outlook towards violence when studying any form of extremism. Secondly, it promotes research on violent extremism that transcends an exclusionary security discourse that further isolates vulnerable people from conventional society. In this sense, the project also brings some practical implications, as it recommends a psychosocial approach that could address the iatrogenic effects of the conventional security-focused approach to violent extremism. In a context where suicidality may escalate to violence against others (for example murder-suicide incidents), the comprehensive perspective on violent extremism that we propose can aid practitioners in more effectively engaging with their clientele.

**P010 - Child-friendly justice ? Towards an effective guarantee mechanism for child victims of crime.** *Lukasz Cora, University of Gdansk*

Along with the development, trends and directions of selected rights of child victims, the article presents the assumptions of the creation of the guarantee mechanism: standards for the protection of the rights of the child and increasingly specific rights that clarify the rights of the child with regard to certain aspects of their

participation at criminal proceedings. The aim is to demonstrate the effective right of the child to a criminal court, in the sense of a "child-friendly justice system", through an analysis of the direction of the creation of international procedures, policies and strategies. The basic research thesis is to see the correlation between children's subjectivity, which has underpinned the implementation of the regulation of children's procedural rights, initially with a focus on the formal regulation of rules for the participation of minors, and the creation of assumptions that we are now assessing as benchmarks for the evaluation of whether we have a 'child-friendly justice system'. Irrespective of the legal framework, it is still an open question whether the practice of the application of the rules on the participation of children in criminal proceedings needs to be adapted to the standards so that a fair procedure in reality means not only fulfilling formal-legal criteria, but also taking into account the special needs of children as participants in the proceedings and, at the same time, completing the protection of their subjective rights in relation to which criminal proceedings are being conducted. The presentation will discuss, inter alia, European standards for protecting, empowering and supporting child victims, including in particular: European Commission Report 2022 on the evaluation of Directive 2012/29/EU and the effectiveness of its implementation and Rights of child victims of crime in the draft Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23.07.2023 amending Directive 2012/29/EU

- P011 - Child Online Safety and Age-Related Digital Environmental Trust Cues: Using Triangulated, Experimental Study Designs to Create Safer Online Spaces for Children Away From Predatory Adults. *Catherine Louise Bostock, University of Bristol*

For social media, there are fewer social norms surrounding boundaries between adults socializing with children compared to the real world. Additionally, for non-digital spaces, there are other social norms, expressing the unacceptability of child abuse, whereas, in certain social media environments, such norms are lacking. The prior statements are examples of how social media can foster a greater opportunity for adult deviancy towards children. For the rest of my PhD, the aim is to consider how to create online environmental trust cues, which can deter adult online predators, but not children, from child-aimed social media spaces. Environmental trust cues are aspects of the digital environment, whether that be the appearance or language of the social media environment as instances, which invoke trust surrounding the digital space within the individual. Investigating digital trust environmental cue variation among adults and children includes thinking around cognitive differences, as well as socialized digital variance between adults and children. Cases of variables, which can be presented through digital environmental features, for manipulation of trust include risk perception variety among children & cognitively developed adults (age 25 and up) and socialized differences surrounding digital privacy between adults & children. Researcher-created social media spaces will be created to gauge differences in digital trust for one variable at a time among adult and child participants, along with other forms of variable-dependent testing for triangulation, such as eye-tracking data. Differences in environmental trust cues between adults and children, identified by the previous experiments, will then be brought together in a singular social media simulation to gauge any differences in digital behaviour between adults and children due to trust. The results of the final study will be triangulated by eye-tracking data and follow-up interviews to confirm whether adults can be deterred from child-aimed social media without impacting children's online experiences.

- P012 - Child sexual abuse prevention: What Portuguese people know and believe? *Vanessa Mourão Ferreira Sampaio Azevedo, Faculdade de Psicologia e de Ciências da Educação da Universidade do Porto; Mariana Magalhães, Faculdade de Psicologia e de Ciências da Educação da Universidade do Porto; Ana Isabel Sani, University Fernando Pessoa (UFP); OPVC-UFP; CIEC-UM*

According to the Human Rights Channel - Council of Europe, about one in five children in Europe are victims of some sexual violence, which includes sexual touching, rape, sexual harassment,

grooming, exhibitionism, exploitation in prostitution and pornography, and online sexual extortion and coercion, among others. In Portugal, the Portuguese National Annual Safety Report, based on official numbers from 2022, concluded that child sexual abuse (CSA) was the crime in the category of crimes against liberty and sexual self-determination more prevalent. In the same year, according to the Portuguese Association for Victim Support, 1356 sexual crimes against children and youth were supported. Worldwide, there are increasing voices from well-known organizations (e.g., World Health Organization) and academia requesting a change in the paradigm of child sexual abuse prevention, namely addressing CSA as a preventable phenomenon, i.e., that efforts should be made to decrease the probability that CSA will occur in the first place. This paradigm shift, inspired by the public health approach - has clear implications for decision-makers, demanding changes in allocating human and economic resources. Despite emerging scientific evidence to support this paradigm shift, this kind of change requires the involvement and acceptance of public opinion. Currently, very few international studies have addressed this issue. In particular, studies have yet to be conducted in Portugal to accurately and deeply understand public knowledge and perceptions of CSA prevention. In this poster, we will present an exploratory project on this topic, describing its aims, method, and expected outcomes.

- P013 - Comparative Perspectives Regarding Conjugal Visits *Paula Rosa, Northumbria University; Ian Matozo Especiato, PhD in Criminal Law from the University of São Paulo; Bruna de Paula Diniz, University of São Paulo*

Conjugal visits for prisoners are controversial in criminal justice systems around the globe. The scarce data available points to their wide implementation in Latin America and partially in Western Europe, but rarely in other countries. After initial research into the current legislation in four countries in Latin America – Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, and Argentina –, the next step of our research is to collect data from as many countries as possible. Which countries allow conjugal visitation? In the ones that do, how is it regulated? e.g. do people have to be married? Are same-sex couples allowed this type of visitation? Is it recognised as a right or a privilege? If it is a right, how does it connect with and guarantee other fundamental rights (e.g. the rights to family life, to privacy, to keep contact with the outside world?). This study seeks to gather information from different countries through a literature review and analysis of various national legislations. Additionally, an online questionnaire will be circulated, which may be answered by any person with knowledge of legal provisions and policies of a specific country. After the initial data from the questionnaire is collected, the researchers will also access sources from each country mentioned to extract information regarding their official regulation of conjugal visits. This research is expected to generate academic papers on comparative criminal justice systems and a website with an interactive map where other academics and practitioners can have easy access to the data on conjugal visits.

- P014 - Confronting Stigma – Exploring Its Organizational Impact on the Work of Investigating Online Child Sexual Abuse *Alva Lindholm, Umeå University*

This poster presentation outlines a dissertation project that aims to explore the impacts of stigmatization experienced by investigators working with online child sexual abuse (CSA). In the police organization, investigators are hesitant to engage in such investigations due to potential scrutiny from colleagues, as well as feelings of distance and isolation. Despite the well-acknowledged mental strain associated with this role, the overarching stigma surrounding it has received limited attention. Recognizing the need for additional studies, this thesis seeks to understand the organizational issues that may arise due to stigmatization and its effects in the police organization. Four sub-studies have been outlined: Study 1 aims to provide a contextual understanding of how this crime type is worked with and to identify key challenges encountered by investigators in their work practice. This will be done through document analysis, interviews, and meeting observations. Study 2 aims to explore the investigators' experiences with stigma, its manifestations, and the strategies they use to navigate it. Data will be collected through semi-structured interviews with 20 investigators specializing in online child sexual



abuse and analyzed using thematic analysis. Study 3 offers an insight into the lived experience of one investigator working with online CSA by using oral history, a qualitative method that emphasizes the participants perspective. This is done by doing several in-depth, open-ended interview sessions with one participant, capturing the essence of their professional journey in the stigmatized work. Study 4 aims to answer the question of how these investigators are perceived within the police organization. Here, a survey will be used to investigate to what extent employees within the police organization stigmatize investigators working with online CSA, its prevalence and causes. Ultimately, this research seeks to deepen the understanding of the organizational challenges associated with stigmatized work, offering insights for the enhancement of supportive strategies.

**P015 - Considerations of the Trafficking In Persons Report & Global Initiatives on Human Trafficking** *Elizabeth Carlisle, American University*

Since 2017 the United States has published an annual Trafficking in Persons Report that discusses the trends in the forced labor and sex trafficking and categorizes states into tiers consistent with how they meet the minimum standards of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. This study aims to identify specific commonalities and differences between Tier 1 (meeting minimum TVPA standards), Tier 2 (not fully meeting standards), Tier 2 Watch List (not meeting standards with increasing trafficking rates), and Tier 3 (not meeting standards and not making significant efforts to meet standards). In this study, I analyze how state categorization, report recommendations, and current state efforts to eliminate human trafficking compare between and within tiers. I also control for regional disparities, partnerships with the United States, and current armed conflicts within the state that may influence this categorization.

**P016 - COVID-19, Conspiracism and Far-Right Extremism** *Ashreet Acharya, Liverpool Hope University, Liverpool, England*

The purpose of this paper is to look into the relationship between Covid 19, conspiracism, and far-right extremism. It also aims to provide light on the possible consequences of such occurrences and incidents. It is obvious that the combination of conspiracism and radicalism could lead to increased unrest or possibly violence. According to research, persons on the extreme left and right are more likely to believe in conspiracy theories than moderates. Such organisations take use of this human need to promote radical ideas by offering their target audience with explanations for terrible events, allowing individuals to preserve convictions and beliefs despite fragility and logical inconsistency. Conspiracy theories are prominent in all forms of extremism. According to Europol, right-wing extremists have carried out a significant number of terrorist incidents in Europe in recent years, fuelled by a global community that subscribes to and reinforces conspiracy theories and broadcasts calls to violence. Conspiracy theories have been demonstrated to increase antipathy in people, which can lead them to take action to solve perceived wrongdoings or injustices, usually by confronting, beating, or assaulting the subject of their fury. As a result, conspiracy theories have the potential to enhance support for violence. Continuing to believe that powerful hostile others are conspiring to cause violence focused at a specific target. The paper discusses whether the Far Right is consistently disseminating COVID-related material in an accessible manner through a variety of sources, including casual (e.g., social media), and whether they are targeting specific groups for recruitment goals through these methods, drawing on ethnographic research conducted exclusively among citizens in the United Kingdom (UK). To support primary research, policy planning, and decision making about connected online efforts and policy responses, existing research must be combined, the evidence base must be better understood, and gaps must be filled.

**P018 - Crime and Sentencing of Parents Who Committed Crimes in Child Abuse Death Cases** *Charges and sentencing of the perpetrator in child abuse death cases 齋藤知子 TOMOKO SAITO, Teikyuu Heisei University*

Currently, about 70 children die in Japan every year due to parental abuse. Nearly half of them try to die with their children when their

parents commit suicide, while the other half die from physical abuse or neglect. If such a case occurs, the police arrest the parent, who is then referred to the Public Prosecutor's Office, which charges the case with the court, the court will try and determine the charges and sentencing of the accused. More than 90 percent of them are manslaughter or manslaughter by neglect of a person in charge, and the charge of murder is rarely applicable. The researchers will analyze court records and publish their findings, including their involvement with welfare agencies. Accept and Continue

**P019 - Criminal Profile of Portuguese Homicide Perpetrators: Pathways to crime** *Olga Cunha, Lusófona University of Porto, Portugal; Sônia Maria Martins Caridade, Escola de Psicologia da Universidade do Minho; Joana Veloso Oliveira, Psychology Research Center*

Homicide is one of the most heinous crimes, profoundly impacting both the victims and society as a whole. Understanding this phenomenon requires considering the heterogeneity of perpetrators, who are influenced by their individual characteristics and adverse life circumstances. In this study we characterized Portuguese homicide cases by examining the perpetrators' life trajectories, motivations for committing crimes, and the methods employed, with the objective of delineating a comprehensive criminal profile. The sample consisted of 51 individuals convicted of homicide in Portugal, ranging in age from 21 to 83 years (M=49.73, SD=14.07). The results revealed that the perpetrators begin their criminal career in adulthood, with interpersonal conflicts being the main reason for the crime committed. Exposure to adverse experiences in childhood and low levels of education appear as preponderant factors in the life history of perpetrators, unlike mental illness, which is recorded in fewer numbers cases. Using multiple correspondence analysis and cluster analysis, four distinct profiles emerged: "greedy," "passionate," "psychopath," and "instrumental". Analyzing risk factors and criminal profiles for homicide perpetrators plays a fundamental role in informing prevention and intervention policies in this context.

**P020 - Criminological analysis of sex trafficking in India: A Qualitative study** *Manikandan soundararajan, Staffordshire University; George E Richards, Pennsylvania Western University*

India is known for its rich culture and diversity but also faces challenges related to social practices and crimes against women and children, including trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. This pervasive issue positions India as a source, transit, and destination country in the trafficking network with a high prevalence of interstate/intercity trafficking. Criminal networks are involved in recruiting, transporting, selling, and managing a large number of girls forced into prostitution. The demand for exploited individuals is met at various locations such as hotels, lodges, spas, saloons, dance bars, resorts, and private/rented apartments/homes. Supply chains enable the movement of girls between different criminal groups across cities based on demands raised at particular locations. Local recruitment has intensified since the COVID-19 pandemic situation without adequate understanding from law enforcement or policymakers about new criminal group dynamics. This paper analyzes the people involved in the sex trafficking industry like victims/survivors, police/law enforcement agencies, traffickers and pimps from a criminology framework. It aims to help readers, researchers, practitioners, and policymakers understand common patterns behind this complex problem. The authors have utilized purposive sampling techniques and conducted in-depth interviews with relevant actors associated with the issue. The study highlights how traffickers use advanced methods to trap victims, including misleading promises, administering drugs, abductions, and forced marriages. It recommends a multi-dimensional solution-based approach through rigorous indigenous research studies, dissemination of knowledge to concerned stakeholders, defining goals, and tracking progress based on a matrix-based assessment framework.

**P021 - Cybercrime Among Adolescents: A Cross-National Comparative Analysis of Severity and Prevalence** *Janne Vepsäläinen, Tampere University; Markus Kaakinen, University of Helsinki; Noora Ellonen, Research director; Atte Oksanen, Tampere University*

Emerging technologies makes cybercrime an increasingly important area of research in criminology. However, it is currently unclear how cybercrime compares to other criminal behavior among young people in terms of prevalence and severity. The often used multiple-item measurement of self-reported offending can obscure differences in severity between different crimes. This is particularly problematic for new forms of crime, such as cybercrime, whose relationship with more traditional forms of crime is still partly unknown. In this study, we are using representative cross-national data from ten countries from fourth International Self-Report Delinquency Study (ISRD4, N = 21 913) to study the prevalence of hacking, cyber fraud, hate speech and online sexual violence among adolescents (aged 13 to 17). The countries included in the study are United Kingdom, Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela, Iceland, and Slovenia. In addition, we utilize Item Response Theory to analyze the relative seriousness of cybercrime offenses against more conventional forms of delinquency (i.e. property and violent crimes). Study also provides information on the shared risk factors for cybercrime and more traditional forms of delinquency. Based on our findings, we reflect on the criminal political significance of cybercrime from the point of view of the prevalence and seriousness of crime.

P022 - Cyber-resilient society – promoting the human factor in cybercrime *Joline Wochnik, Agentur für Innovation in der Cybersicherheit GmbH; Petra Welscher, Agentur für Innovation in der Cybersicherheit GmbH; Nicole Selzer, Agentur für Innovation in der Cybersicherheit GmbH*

The sub-department 'Cyber-resilient society' of the German 'Agentur für Innovation in der Cybersicherheit' (Cyberagentur) identifies future research topics in the sociotechnical sciences with a focus on cybercrime in order to develop calls for proposals. It is the mission of the Cyberagentur to contract disruptive research projects in the field of cybersecurity and related key technologies. It thus finances research with a horizon of 5 to 15 years. The agency was established by the federal government as an in-house company under the joint leadership of the Federal Ministry of Defense and the Federal Ministry of the Interior. The Research and Innovation division comprises three departments: 'Key Technologies', 'Secure Systems' and 'Secure Society'. Specifically within the 'Secure Society' section promising research could emerge for the community, for example in the fields of digital identities, cyber-resilient society, human-machine interaction or the cyber-enabled state. The sub-department 'Cyber-resilient society', focuses on the human factor in cybercrime and cybersecurity, subsequently the goal is to understand cybercrime not only from a merely technical point of view but also to engage with criminology, ethics, law, sociology, psychology, and other interdisciplinary fields. The aim is to strengthen criminological cybersecurity research to anticipate legislative needs, design courses of action, empower law enforcement agencies and develop measures to support cybersecurity and counter cybercrime. This myriad of goals is accomplished by bringing together heterogeneous actors and thus develop ecosystems, identify novel scientific research fields and support existing networks. A recent tender of the sub-department focuses on the future of cybercrime by identifying patterns to forecast national and cross-border developments in the field of cybercrime. The project is intended to lay the foundation for the sub-department 'Cyber-resilient society' to identify approaches for further research and development of tools and options for action.

P023 - Cyberstalking and sexting in Spain and in the Basque Country: phenomenology and criminal law protection *Isabel Germán, University of the Basque Country. Basque Institute of Criminology*

Since 2015, stalking and sexting are two criminal phenomena that have been criminally protected in Spain. Concerning stalking, a new criminal type of harassment was introduced in the Spanish Penal Code, within the crimes against freedom, in order to provide a response to those serious behaviors that, often, couldn't be classified as coercion or threats. It refers to all those cases in which, even if there is not necessarily an explicit announcement of the intention to cause a harm (threats) or the direct use of violence to restrict the victim's freedom (coercion), there are repeated acts that seriously undermine the victim's freedom and his/her sense of security, and which can often be committed through ICTs.

Regarding the sexting crime, it consists of the unauthorized sharing of intimate images or videos acquired with the consent of the person concerned. The aim is to provide a response to those cases in which images or video recordings of another person, obtained with their consent, are then shared without their will, when the image or recording has been taken in a personal sphere and its distribution, without the consent of the person concerned, seriously harms their privacy. Taking into account these considerations, this poster presents the data concerning the extent, nature and circumstances of these two criminal phenomena (cyberstalking and sexting), based on crime statistics in Spain and in the Basque Country in the period 2018-2023. It is also explained the criminal protection provided by the Spanish Penal Code regarding these two criminal phenomena, pointing out some problems in their implementation.

P026 - Decoding prosecutorial decisions beyond legal considerations: An exploration of decision-making processes in the judicial field with special attention to social influences. *Katharina Heermann, FU Berlin*

Decisions within the justice system are associated with rational considerations against the background of legal requirements so that the system can fulfill its functions for society. This is based on the general principles and professional standards of neutrality and objectivity. Nevertheless, some surveys on the prosecution office in Germany reveal irregularities in the decision-making practice that cannot be solely explained through legally legitimate factors. Instead, hypotheses suggest that aspects such as biases and the workload of legal professionals may also influence the determination of whether a case is prosecuted or dismissed. However, the state of research with deeper insights into this topic is limited, as prosecutorial decision-making in Germany is mainly studied from a jurisprudential perspective or through the use of quantitative methods. While some European studies include psychological aspects, the analysis of societal factors is underrepresented. In order to better understand the process behind prosecutorial decisions, the study takes a biographical-narrative approach in which social and institutional influencing factors are reconstructed through the everyday actions of the prosecutors. The theoretical framework is formed by three different sociological explanatory models, which are to be explored for the judicial field. The poster introduces the project and invites to discuss the background of judicial decision-making beyond legal and psychological factors as well as the use of qualitative methods in this field. (It is suggested that the poster be hung near Laya Alizad's poster, which also examines the German prosecution office in her research, in order to create a meaningful addition.)

P024 - Digital Shadows: unraveling the impact of online harassment on young adults' mental health *Benedetta Barchielli, Department of Dynamic, Clinical Psychology and Health, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; Benedetta Barchielli, Department of Dynamic, Clinical Psychology and Health, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; Cricenti Clarissa, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; Martina Manna, Department of Psychology, Sapienza University of Rome, 00185 Rome, Italy; Giannini Anna Maria, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; Stefano Ferracuti, Department of Human Neuroscience, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; Giulia Lausi, Faculty of Law, Vilnius University*

This study examines the prevalence and consequences of online harassment, with a particular focus on young adults. Data collection is ongoing and data were collected through an online survey on the Qualtrics XM platform, administered in a self-report format using any suitable electronic device for completion. A demographic questionnaire was administered to collect demographic information relevant to the study's aim. To assess online victimization, an ad hoc questionnaire was developed based on different categories of online harassment that individuals may be exposed to. These categories included Trolling, Cross-Platform Harassment, Cyberbullying, Cyber-Mob Attacks, Cyberstalking, Deepfake, Denial of Access, Denial of Service (DoS) Attacks, Dog Whistling, Doxing, Hacking, Hashtag Poisoning, Hateful Speech, Nonconsensual Intimate Images, Online Impersonation, Online Sexual Harassment, Phishing, Threats, Zoombombing. The "Online

Sexual Harassment" (Buchanan and Mahoney, 2021) was used to investigate the specific aspect of online sexual abuse and the Brief Symptom Inventory (Derogatis, 1975) was used to assess symptomatology. The "Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire" (JVQ, Hamby et al., 2004) was used to assess the degree of exposure to violence and victimization in youth and the "Humiliation Inventory" was employed to assess the internal experience of humiliation. Preliminary analyses with a sample of 41 participants revealed that all participants experienced at least one form of online harassment, with a high incidence of offensive statements and sexually explicit harassment. Moreover, the study highlights a significant correlation between previous victimization experiences and increased exposure to online harassment. Statistical analyses have demonstrated significant associations between online victimization, particularly sexual harassment online, and various psychological symptoms, such as depression, anxiety, and somatization. The work emphasizes the importance of considering online victimization experiences within the broader context of peer violence and social dynamics among young adults, highlighting the need for further research and targeted interventions to prevent and counteract these harmful phenomena.

P025 - Direct and Indirect Victims of Bullying *Ivana Larrosa Ibañez, Universidad San Jorge (Zaragoza, Spain) / Ministry of Justice; Ivan Luesma Larrosa, Young researcher*

The application of violence or intimidation to human relationships is always reprehensible and must be combated by the Rule of Law, but when the passive subject of the same is a minor, the zeal of the State must be especially intense, and this for two reasons: firstly, due to the situation of special vulnerability which can be generally predicted for minors; secondly, due to the devastating effects that the use of violence and/or intimidation as a way of relating produces in beings in formation. The harmfulness of bullying even reaches the children who witness it as mute witnesses with no capacity to react, because on the one hand, an atmosphere of terror is created in which everyone is affected as potential victims, and on the other hand, these children are exposed to the risk of assuming a permanent attitude of passivity, if not tolerance towards violence and injustice. The family environment of the direct victim also suffers from the harmful effects of bullying as their sons or daughters collapse and fall into despair and depression in the face of the violence they are suffering. Achieving the objective of achieving an atmosphere of peace and security in and around schools, where children can be properly educated and socialized, must become an inalienable goal. The radical awareness that has been raised in relation to domestic violence, which has led to zero tolerance treatment, must now be transferred to school bullying. States must be the ultimate guarantors of this

P027 - Disentangling involvement in and the impact of integrated health and criminal justice systems in England and Wales *Joanne McGrath, Durham University; Steph Scott, Newcastle University; Naomi Griffin, Newcastle University; Kat Jackson, Newcastle University; Michelle Addison, Durham University*

The Criminal Justice System (CJS) in England and Wales (E&W) exacerbates health and care inequality and fails to tackle re-offending. People experiencing poor health are over-represented in the CJS in E&W, and a significant proportion are marginalised and minoritized due to complex intersections of race, gender, age, poverty/ disadvantage, drug use, mental ill health and neurodiversity. Currently little is known about the integration of health and criminal justice systems, and where the system potentially "breaks down" post-release from custody – this ESRC funded project aims to understand how increased integration of H&J systems could provide a vital response to health and care inequalities for those who potentially need this the most. In this poster presentation, we provide an overview of this ambitious research consortium and outline our research design (mixed methods, longitudinal research), which is heavily aligned with co-creation and complex systems principles. Key work-packages include: 1. A systematic review of international literature focusing on the impact of integrated/ aligned H&J systems on health and care inequalities aims to synthesise existing evidence on integration of H&J systems and impact of CJS involvement on health inequalities; 2. Comparative case studies with women, older people, younger people, neurodivergent populations involved in the CJS will

highlight specific issues within minoritised groups; 3. Quantitative analysis of routine data will determine the impact of CJS involvement on health and care inequalities; and 4. Explanatory frames will be co-created with CJS involved marginalised communities, working together with researchers, creative practitioners and third sector partners.

P028 - Elder abuse in Spain: problems in the legal system and improvement measures *César Guardia, University of the Basque Country*

Elder abuse is a phenomenon that takes many different forms, including physical, psychological, economic and neglect of the elderly, both in an institutional or domestic context. The high levels of dark crime that characterises this phenomenon is a factor that increases the difficulty of an effective response to this problem. Starting from the data recorded on violence against the elderly in Spain, the aim of this work is to explain and to understand, from an interdisciplinary perspective, the difficulties encountered by these persons, who are particularly vulnerable, in reporting such cases, and to show, on the basis of real situations, how these cases are treated in the courts. Thus, after clarifying the penal protection provided by the Spanish Criminal Code to respond to these crimes, the circumstances related to the epistemic injustices that arise during the legal process are discussed, as well as other forms of secondary victimisation suffered by the victims of this type of violence. Understanding the circumstances surrounding this phenomenon and its prosecution can contribute to the prevention of some of the negative consequences that have been detected.

P029 - Engage2innovate: Enhancing security solution design, adoption and impact through effective engagement and social innovation *Dagmar Heinrich, University of Salford; Andrew Wootton, University of Salford; Caroline Davey, University of Salford*

Engage2innovate (E2i) is a European-funded project that will investigate and address barriers to implementing EU security research and innovation outputs, including: · Poor engagement with end-users, stakeholders and citizens · Lack of front-end research and problem framing · Ineffective innovation processes. E2i adopts a human-centred, transdisciplinary approach (as demonstrated in CCI –GA: 787100), recognising innovation as requiring both key elements: novelty and implementation. Social Innovation is a human-centred approach to developing meaningful solutions rooted in a rich understanding of end-user contexts, such that novel ideas (inventions) are actually implemented. Through effective engagement with security policymakers, researchers, and practitioners across the quadruple helix, E2i will champion good practice in Social Innovation and human-centred design. Researchers will demonstrate and deliver the E2i Security R&I Toolbox: (i) enabling adoption of Social Innovation and human-centred design approaches to engage citizens and end users in security R&I; (ii) supporting security R&I actions in framing and designing security solutions and outputs and optimising their acceptance and adoption; (iii) providing benchmarks, standards and quality criteria for security solutions through Responsible Research and Innovation; and thereby (iv) strengthening EU security research and innovation. To promote the engagement of citizens and end users, E2i will develop a Societal Development Plan describing the current landscape of Social Innovation. This will provide guidance on how the approach can strengthen EU security research and innovation, and include an explanatory conceptual model and practical exemplars to inspire and motivate. Finally, E2i will build on the enthusiasm and inspiration of the next generation of researchers and design thinkers through two international Social Innovation Design Challenges, showcasing new innovative thinking and solution concepts while fostering adoption of E2i outputs.

P030 - Enhancing Understanding of Victimisation Trends: Insights from the Czech National Victimisation Survey *Michaela Roubalova, Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention; Jakub Holas, Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention*

Victimisation surveys serve as essential tools worldwide, providing unique insights into the hidden aspects of crime and the contextual factors of victimisation. The Czech Republic has a rich tradition of

using this research approach. It began with participation in the International Crime Victim Survey (ICVS) in 1992, followed by the implementation of several national-level surveys inspired by the ICVS methodology. Despite this legacy, these surveys have often struggled to provide comprehensive data on crime trends due to their ad hoc nature and varying methodological approaches. Recognising this challenge, the Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention (IKSP) embarked on a significant initiative in 2017: the launch of a revised Czech National Victimization Survey. The aim of this initiative is to conduct surveys continuously and repeatedly, using a standardised methodology, that allows for meaningful comparisons over time. A new questionnaire, developed by a dedicated research team, builds on previous studies while incorporating innovations tailored to the Czech context. This poster presents findings from two rounds of the survey, conducted in 2017 (N=3328) and 2022 (N=3073). The core victimisation screener focused on respondents' experiences with 12 specific offences over the previous three years. Other issues related to victimisation were also addressed in the questionnaire. In our poster, we will delve into the strengths and weaknesses of general victimisation surveys as vital sources of knowledge on crime rates and related issues. By examining the evolution of the Czech National Victimization Survey, we aim to contribute to a deeper understanding of victimisation trends and the broader context of crime in the Czech Republic.

- P031 - Evaluating Attitudes Towards Punishment and Rehabilitation in the Criminal Justice System: Implications for Reintegration and Intervention Practices *Cricenti Clarissa, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; Cricenti Clarissa, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; Giulia Lausi, Faculty of Law, Vilnius University; Benedetta Barchielli, Department of Dynamic, Clinical Psychology and Health, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; Alessandro Quagliari, Universitas Mercatorum; Emanuela Mari, Sapienza, University of Rome; Jessica Burrai, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome; Ginevra Tagliaferri, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome; Giannini Anna Maria, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome.*

The balance between punitive and rehabilitative approaches within the function of the Criminal Justice System has long sparked debate within both legal and societal spheres. Indeed, the complete reintegration of detainees depends on both the actual function of the prison from a legal standpoint and the attitudes of individual members of society with whom the detainee will interact outside the prison. From this perspective, the role of symbolic knowledge in shaping perceptions and behaviors is crucial. According to social constructionism, when we are distant from a reality, symbolic knowledge, or the society representation, tends to replace direct knowledge, becoming the primary source of information (Surette, 2015). Therefore, this study aims to explore attitudes toward punishment or rehabilitation function of the prison among individuals with and without direct knowledge of the inmates. Through the Rehabilitation Orientation Scale, the research analyzed the relationship between these attitudes and several bio-psychosocial variables, including right-wing authoritarianism, beliefs about emotion controllability, emotional intelligence, moral disengagement, and general attitudes towards prisoners. Attitudes toward inmates' rehabilitation may affect the outcome of treatment. Therefore, understanding these perspectives can inform public policy and intervention practices within the penal system, promoting awareness both inside and outside correctional institutions by decreasing the culturally conditioned, instinctive response to crime.

- P032 - Evaluation of Judicial Responses To The Crime of Parental Child Violence and Profile of The Offender Person *Estefanía Ocariz, Universidad del País Vasco; Laura Ortiz de Arri Olarte, Universidad del País Vasco*

Aim: The proposal of the panel is related with the evaluation of the judicial responses that are offered from juvenile courts to the crime of child to parent violence during the period of 2017 to 2023 in the Basque Autonomous Community (Spain). It has been analyzed in a

profound way the number of restorative processes and the number of judicial measures that has been directed to minor people that commit crimes of this type. In addition, the profile of the offender minor is described. Methodology: Thanks to the Collaboration agreement that the Basque Institute of Criminology of the University of Basque Country has with the Justice Direction, we were able to access to all the restorative processes and to all the judicial measures correspondent to the period of 2017 to 2023 related to the child to parent crime and psychosocial reports of the offender underage people. The information that is presented comes from the Juvenile Justice Service, to be revised, analyzed and worked by IVAC/KREI. Results: during the whole period, less restorative processes than judicial measures are produced. In addition, the majority of the measures taken are in an open environment. The profile of the offender minor presents risks factors related to parental control, substance abuse, peer group and leisure time. Conclusions: Even though is a low rate crime it occurs within families where physical and/or psychological violence is involved so it produces destabilization, anxiety and discomfort. We believe that the judicial system records fewer cases than the ones that exist in reality. The response of the judicial system is included within tertiary prevention, so it would be urgent to apply secondary prevention measures directed to victims. We consider necessary and urgent further research related to the psychosocial profile of the offender minor.

- P033 - Evaluation of the Finnish youth street violence prevention model *Teemu Juhani Vauhkonen, Finnish institute for Health and Welfare; Anneli Portman, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare*

Evaluation of the Finnish youth street violence prevention model Finnish institute of health and welfare coordinates and evaluates the of new Youth Street violence prevention project In Finland. The project consists of five different sets of measures: (1) improving the knowledge and operational practices of health, social services, and education professionals, (2) strengthening the communal participation of children and young people and the social cohesion of growth environments; (3) inviting young people and parents from neighborhoods identified as restless to participate in preventing street violence and gang formation/developing ways to quickly respond to problems; (4) reducing criminal gangs' opportunities to recruit young members and (5) supporting the well-being and future planning of young people living in residential schools and child protection institutions with intensive support. Each of the measures are evaluated by means of qualitative process evaluation, follow-up surveys and registry-based effectiveness analysis (quasi-experimental design). In our presentation, we will detail how these measures are intended to reduce street violence and gang formation, and how the effectiveness of these measures is evaluated.

- P034 - Examining Transformative Pedagogy to Address Structural Challenges and Cultural Deviance Among Justice-Impacted Citizens *Chad Sloss, Wittenberg University; Susybel Kallsen, University of Dayton*

Over one million people are incarcerated in the United States, with 62% of those released rearrested within three years. In Ohio alone, nearly 1 in 3 individuals return to state prison within three years of release. Recent studies suggest that educational and vocational programming in correctional institutions can decrease recidivism rates and increase post-release employment opportunities and wages. Education seems to represent a significant opportunity for meaningful 'second chances.' However, there is limited pedagogical research examining the structural challenges faced by incarcerated individuals that either hamper or facilitate reentry back into communities. This study uses a phenomenological approach to analyze ten years of assignments completed by justice-involved students enrolled in educational programs across various correctional institutions in Ohio. The aims of the study are twofold: 1) to identify the structural components that perpetuate cultural deviance; and 2) to develop pedagogical strategies and curriculum to assist justice-involved students in overcoming or managing these structural barriers. Coding and themes will be developed and recommendations will be discussed.

- P035 - Exploring AI's Role in Child Pornography: Trends and

**Legal Implications** *Omar Abdedaim Herrera, PhD Criminal Law and Criminology at University of Alicante*

The rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has brought numerous functionalities and benefits to society, but it has also facilitated crimes such as deep fakes, identity theft, and the production of child pornography. In Spain, the recent incidence of this last phenomenon poses legal challenges and raises social concerns. This research aims to examine the evolution of AI in creating and editing child sexual content on the Internet, identify trends and strategies for detecting AI-manipulated content, and conduct a legal analysis of the challenges posed by these behaviors. The study focuses on two main aspects: exploring the use and detection of child pornography generated or modified by AI, and analyzing the legal consequences of these actions. The first section delves into the trajectory of AI tools in this context over the past 5 years, exploring emerging trends and detection methods using AI itself. The second part addresses the complexity of analyzing potential criminal sanctions for different scenarios, considering the source of the material and the involvement of minors in its production. It examines the clash of rights such as honor, image rights, or moral/psychological integrity; and how legislation penalizes these behaviors. In summary, this work seeks to shed light on the emerging phenomenon of AI-manipulated child pornography, given the increasing concern sparked by recent cases in Spain.

**P036 - Exploring Career Trajectories of Russian Judges: an Empirical Research of Judicial Biographies Based on Judicial Qualification Board Unstructured Documents Using Text Mining** *Lika - Kapustina, HSE*

We can answer the question of who judges Russian citizens in a very limited way - mainly due to survey research conducted about 10 years ago (Volkov, Dmitrieva & Titaev, 2015), including the professional background of Russian judges (Volkov & Dmitrieva, 2015). In addition, there is no unified database of Russian judges. In my study, I use text mining techniques to obtain from unstructured textual decisions of Russian Regional Judicial Qualification Board (JQB) information about judges' previous employment, professional and socio-demographic characteristics. A previous study based on Judicial Qualification Board data covered 957 biographies of candidates who wanted to be judges for the first time in 2014-2015 (Dmitrieva, 2021). My study cover all texts of regional JQB decisions on the first recommendation of judges for appointment and help formulate the most typical career trajectories of Russian judges and add to the understanding of the structure of the judiciary in Russia, while the data collected will further clarify the impact of the professional background of Russian judges on judicial decision-making.

**P037 - Exploring Forgiveness Therapy with Jewish Theological Insights among Addicts** *Yitzhak Ben Yair, Zefat Academic College*

The intertwining of religions with cultures will continue to hold significant sway, demanding thoughtful integration into therapeutic approaches. Judaism, revered as one of the oldest faiths, will encompass a wealth of theoretical and practical wisdom applicable to mental health interventions. This study will delve into the efficacy of forgiveness therapy infused with Jewish theological perspectives, drawing from Enright's social scientific forgiveness therapy model. By delving into Jewish scriptures and interpretations, we will illuminate the transformative principles associated with forgiveness. The effectiveness of this therapeutic approach will be exemplified through its implementation within the "Returno" therapeutic community for addicts in Israel, operating within the Jewish framework. Quantitative research findings will be presented, showcasing how individuals undergoing forgiveness therapy within this context will report enhancements in psychological well-being.

**P038 - Exploring the Gendered Impact of Economic Vulnerability on Fear of Crime: A Study in Urban Areas of Mexico** *Áurea Esther Grijalva Eternod, University of Guadalajara, Mexico; Áurea Esther Grijalva Eternod, University of Guadalajara, Mexico*

Fear of crime has a negative impact on people's quality of life. Women in particular tend to limit their activities and behavior in order to feel safe and avoid risks, especially in places with a high

level of violence. These restrictions reduce their autonomy and their ability to participate in public life. Using data from the National Survey of Victimization and Perception of Public Safety, I will demonstrate the differential impact of economic vulnerability on men and women in urban areas in Mexico. Higher socioeconomic status offers men a sense of protection, but it increases vulnerability and feelings of insecurity among women. Therefore, in addition to economic policies, institutional measures are needed to reduce the gender gap in the fear of crime and empower women.

**P039 - Exploring the impact of embedding career readiness skills and financial wellness into the criminal justice curriculum** *Mercedes Valadez, California State University, Sacramento; Mercedes Valadez, California State University, Sacramento*

Criminal justice majors, like other college students, are susceptible to financial scams. Young adults comprise a growing number of financial scam victims. They are often targeted because of their limited financial literacy. Some of the most common financial scams prey on college student's financial hardships and vulnerability. For example, college students often encounter offers from fake well-paying remote jobs, housing scams, fake scholarship opportunities, etc. Falling victim to a financial scam can have long term consequences, including impacting one's career options. It is critical that criminal justice majors have a better understanding about financial scams. In the US, financial wellness is often considered by employers. They consider it a marker for responsibility and maturity. Unlike other majors, criminal justice courses do not typically focus on building career readiness skills and financial literacy into the curriculum. This presentation will focus on the challenges and successes of building fundamental financial literacy skills into the criminal justice curriculum.

**P040 - Exploring the Pedagogical Landscape: How to Teach the Dark Web to Criminal Justice Students in the United States and Abroad** *Scott Belshaw, University of Dayton; Nicole Leeper Piquero, University of Miami; Susybel Kallsen, University of Dayton*

This research explores the integration of Dark Web education into the curriculum of Criminal Justice programs, aiming to equip students with a comprehensive understanding of the digital underworld and crimes that are committed on it. As technology advances, criminal activities have shifted to online platforms, necessitating a paradigm shift in the education of future law enforcement professionals. This research delves into the importance of familiarizing Criminal Justice students with the Dark Web, emphasizing its role in cybercrime, illicit transactions, and the challenges it poses to traditional investigative methods. The proposed educational model aims to cultivate a proactive mindset among students, enabling them to adapt to emerging cyber threats and develop effective strategies to investigate digital crime. This research discusses potential pedagogical approaches, including simulated exercises, case studies, and guest lectures from cybersecurity experts, to engage students in practical learning experiences related to Dark Web investigations. Ultimately, this research concludes by highlighting the potential impact of Dark Web education on enhancing the skillset of Criminal Justice graduates, better preparing them to address the challenges posed by cybercrime in the contemporary law enforcement landscape.

**P041 - Femininity in a Man's Field: The Contagion Effects of Women in Law Enforcement** *Ashley Schroeder, American University*

This project will be examining representative bureaucracy and the contagion effects of women in policing to ask if higher concentrations of female officers impact use of force among departments. This will be done by comparing use of force rates by precincts with varying proportions of female officers. Data is available from the Police Response to Resistance dataset which is gathered yearly from the Dallas Police Department in Dallas, Texas. The aim of this study is to lead to a better understanding of the impact of women in male dominated professions as well as the point of critical mass in terms of representation of female officers in police departments. Possible avenues for future research could compare how differing cultures effect the point at which critical mass is reached for women in policing.

**P042 - Forced cohabitation during Italy's COVID-19 lockdown:**

analyzing risks of negative, violent aspects across various family configurations *Emanuela Mari, Sapienza, University of Rome; Emanuela Mari, Sapienza, University of Rome; Cricenti Clarissa, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; Ginevra Tagliaferri, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome; Jessica Burrat, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome; Benedetta Barchielli, Department of Dynamic, Clinical Psychology and Health, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; Alessandro Quagliari, Universitas Mercatorum; Giannini Anna Maria, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome.*

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the Italian population was forced into lockdown to prevent the spread of this new virus. This event compelled families and cohabitants to spend entire days and weeks in the same physical space, interacting with partners and children with a significantly different degree of intimacy compared to the previous situation. The present study, in which 1750 participants took part, investigated the effects of forced cohabitation on different family patterns, various dimensions such as stress, time perception, evaluation of cohabitation quality, and future perspectives. A scale on cohabitation (positive and negative) was constructed ad hoc, seeking to explore how forced cohabitation may have affected relationships leading to episodes of violence. From the results, participants indicate a potential increase in separations between spouses and domestic violence due to the Covid-19 emergency. However, data on positive and negative relationships suggest a contrasting outcome; as the scale of negative relationships shows indifference, arguments, and violence to have low values. This apparent contradiction could be explained by the fundamental attribution error, which tends to underestimate situational factors. Additionally, from the qualitative analysis, a prevalence of negative words and ideas emerges linked to the experience of lockdown and forced cohabitation.

P043 - Gathering project: Balancing security, privacy and cost *Lucas Melgaço, Associate Professor -VUB; Julie Caluwaerts, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Rosamunde Van Brakel, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

In today's interconnected world, local surveillance has become a complex nexus of technologies, stakeholders, and data flows, blurring once clear boundaries. This project, drawing from Haggerty & Ericson's concept of 'surveillant assemblage', delves into the governance of surveillance technologies in the context of public gatherings (such as music festivals, Christmas markets, farmer markets, street parties, religious celebrations, demonstrations, and spontaneous assemblies). GATHERINGS aims to analyse surveillance effectiveness, its impact on privacy, and economic and social viability. In tackling the complex challenges posed by surveillance practices in public gatherings, the project takes into account the impact of surveillance on vulnerable subjects, particularly emphasizing intersectionality and diversity in its research approach. The project aims to raise awareness among professionals and citizens, fostering international alignment on privacy-aware, socially sensitive, and cost-effective surveillance practices for safer public gatherings.

P044 - Gender Stereotypes and Beliefs: How the Greek Society Acknowledge the Violence Against Women *Kalliopi Ioannou, CSI INSTITUTE; Kalliopi Ioannou, CSI INSTITUTE; Vasiliki Anna Mega, CSI INSTITUTE*

This study explores stereotypical beliefs about gender and gender-based violence in the Greek population, emphasizing the need to consider societal variations. Employing the Beliefs About Relationship Violence Against Women Scale (BEREVIWOS) and the Gender Stereotypes and Beliefs (GESTABE) scale, the research investigates whether sociodemographic factors influence these beliefs. Surveys were administered online to 150 adults aged 18 to 55. While gender, age, sexual orientation, and marital status showed limited impact, the level of education emerged as a significant factor. These results align with existing research highlighting the influence of educational status. Additionally, differences between cisgender men and women were noted. While the study's findings may not be broadly applicable, they contribute to understanding gender stereotypes and violence in Greece, aiming to enhance

cross-cultural validity for Fakunmoju et al.'s (2016) questionnaires.

P045 - Guilty or Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity? A Comparative Study *Anat Yaron Antar, The Max Stern Yezreel Valley College*

Background Some murders are committed under the influence of a psychotic state resulting from a mental disorder, mainly schizophrenia. According to the law in many countries, people with mental disorders do not have criminal responsibility. They are defined as not guilty due to insanity (insanity defense) and therefore cannot be punished. In Israel, in recent years, more lawyers are requesting psychiatric opinions for the murder defendants they represent. This study aims to explore the differences between two groups of murderers: individuals who committed murder and were found not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI) and individuals who committed murder and were found responsible and guilty. The comparison is made from a broad perspective by examining sociodemographic factors and psychiatric factors as well as criminological and forensic factors. Methods This study, conducted in Israel, analyzes the sociodemographic and forensic differences between 72 individuals who committed murder and were found not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI) and 56 individuals who committed murder and were found responsible for their actions and fit to stand trial (guilty). Results The findings show that NGRI participants were more likely to be from central areas, to be Jewish (rather than Arab), to be diagnosed with schizophrenia and have a background of hospitalizations before committing the murder, to have remained at the murder scene and/or called for help, and to be less likely to have committed the murder with a partner. Conclusions The study's findings are explained and the limitations discussed. The findings add to the existing knowledge base about murder by reason of insanity and the differences between NGRI and criminal murderers. The characteristics of the NGRI group found here can help to identify risk groups and to develop and implement prevention programs for people with mental disorders who are at risk of violent behavior.

P046 - How Ethnicity and Immigrant Status Structure Fear of Crime Among U.S. College Students *Leah Daigle, Georgia State University*

Research shows that levels of fear of crime differ according to demographic factors. Much of this research has focused on sex, race, and age and shows that females tend to be more fearful than males, older adults tend to be more fearful than younger persons, and people of color are more fearful than white people. Despite these differences, it is not clear if there are differences in levels of fear across race and ethnicity (e.g., Asian vs. Hispanic) and within race and ethnicity (e.g., East vs. Southeast Asian). Further, whether being an immigrant affects fear is not clear. Using data from the American College Health Association National College Health Assessment (III) Spring 2021 survey, we explore whether and how race and ethnicity and immigrant status influence fear of crime among U.S. college students. Even when controlling for other factors related to fear of crime, we find differences within and across race and ethnicity groups in levels of fear and that being in the U.S. on a visa impacts fear of crime. These findings suggest the need for U.S. institutions of higher learning to work towards inclusive and safe spaces both on and off campus for college students.

P047 - "I buy, therefore I am": Perceptions of people with compulsive buying disorder regarding its characteristics, origins, and consequences *Ety Golan, Mrs; Anat Zelig, PhD*  
People with compulsive buying disorder (CBD) are unable to control impulses to make unnecessary purchases, which turns the shopping from an everyday activity into something that can significantly harm their quality of life and that of their families and associates (Bridgforth, 2004). CBD has not been defined as a distinct mental disorder in the ICD-11 or DSM-5 because of a lack of empirical psychological, neurological, or genetic data that describe its unique characteristics or distinguish it from other disorders. To understand the profile of people with CBD, the causes of the disorder, and its psychological, economic, interpersonal, and even criminal sequelae, we conducted semi-structured, in-depth interviews with n=33 participants aged 21-68 who met the Clinical Screening for Compulsive Buying Questionnaire's threshold for

diagnosing a disorder (Faber & O'Guinn, 1992). Using thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006), we identified several themes: (a) Normativity-participants were highly educated and employed. Incidence of mental disorders or other addictions was low. They also ruled out criminal activity to fund their purchases. ; (b) Obsession- participants described constant rumination about purchasing items (mainly clothing, jewelry, and cosmetics) and browsing physical or online stores; (c) Buying as a joyful experience- participants felt excitement from the moment of browsing websites to thinking about, acting on, and receiving a purchase. They considered the experience as compensation for past suffering. Most of them didn't feel anxiety, anger, or regret, although admitted their shopping was excessive; (d) Availability-participants claimed that the availability of purchasing means (credit cards, websites, apps) exacerbated their compulsive buying. The study presents a psychological profile of people with CBD. However, this disorder cannot be understood in isolation from cultural values, the influence of the internet, and digital money.

**P049 - "I'd have smashed his head with the pool cue" How Thinking Skills Programmes Impact Self-Regulation** *Nicholas Blagden, University of Derby; Nicholas Blagden, University of Derby; Luke Vinter, University of Derby; Eve Penford, University of Derby; Jade Mason, University of Derby; Polly Delliere-Moor, University of Derby*

Cognitive skills programs are cognitive-behavioural programs designed to help offenders solve problems and make personal decisions more effectively by helping offenders learn how, rather than what, to think (Travers et al, 2014). The targets of cognitive skills programs are generally impulse control, emotional regulation, anti-social cognition, consequential thinking, and social problem-solving skills (Travers et al, 2014; Papalia, 2020). This paper will highlight the results of a large-scale qualitative study (n=51) investigating the impact of the 'Thinking Skills Programme' on prisoners. The poster will showcase themes on reconstruing relationships, development of self and emotional regulation and the importance of compassionate and 'authentic' therapists.

**P050 - Impact of crime and fear of crime on small and medium entrepreneurs and the protective actions they employ** *Larysa Bielik, Mid Sweden University; teresa silva, Mid Sweden University*

Crime committed against small and medium entrepreneurs (SMEs) threatens their stability and communities' economic and social tissue, negatively affecting the whole society. When law enforcement and public administration's crime prevention strategies are ineffective, entrepreneurs are forced to apply protective measures at their own cost. In this study, we examined the impact of crime on SMEs in Sweden, the entrepreneurs' trust in public stakeholders and the measures they took to protect their businesses. An online questionnaire was distributed among entrepreneurs in the 21 Swedish regions, obtaining 1,552 valid answers. Almost 50% of the entrepreneurs indicated that they (or their businesses) had been victims of crime on at least one occasion in the prior five years. The crime most often committed against them was theft/robbery, followed by vandalism, invoice fraud, and cybercrime. While 24.7% of the entrepreneurs who were victimized did not report the crimes to the police, from those who did report, only 7.6% saw the crimes prosecuted. More than 44.0% of participants opted to install security alarm systems on their premises, 35.5% installed CCTV cameras, and 22% installed security doors and locks. Despite these measures, 86.3% believed that nowadays, no business is secure against crime. We concluded that the entrepreneurs' lack of trust in the police and the local administration forced them to find their own strategies according to the crimes they suffered.

**P051 - In search of a criminological Kuznets curve: evidence from Northern and Southern Europe** *Vincentas Giedraitis, Vilnius University; Andriy Stavytskyy, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv; Ganna Kharlamova, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv; Erstida Ulvidienė, Vilnius University; Tomas Karpavicius, Vilnius University; Brigita Kavaliauskaite, Vilnius University*

The Kuznets curve in economics states that with economic development first comes increasing then decreasing rates of

economic inequality. In general, more developed European economies tend to be wealthier and equal economies. Our preliminary research indicates that various types of crime follow a similar trend: first, increasing up to about 8,750 euros per capita, then dropping again. This trend holds for the Northern European country of Lithuania, and we are currently testing this model with other "older" European Union countries. We propose various explanations for this phenomenon. Firstly, we find that petty crime is more common in poorer countries. As the economies of countries develop and they become more wealthy, forms of crime tend to change. Naturally, petty crime still exists, but financial crime becomes more prominent in the case of Lithuania, and becomes more difficult to discover and prosecute. We are testing this model with Southern European countries presently.

**P052 - Integration of Visual AI for Public Safety Improvements** *Shannon E. Reid, University of North Carolina, Charlotte; Shannon E. Reid, University of North Carolina, Charlotte; Babak Ardabili, UNC Charlotte; Hamed Tabkhi, University of North Carolina, Charlotte*

Modern policing and broader public safety is continually working to improve how it monitors and responds to public safety concerns. This poster overviews the implementation and integration of an autonomous, context-aware sensing system that utilizes CCTV systems to detect a broad range of anomalous behaviors. The multi-step project leverages recent advances in edge computing, computer vision, and deep learning, and integrates them into a broad range of community locations, while protecting privacy and minimizing bias in AI.

**P053 - Investigating Gender-Based Discrimination: Unveiling the Underlying Mechanisms** *Giulia Lausi, Faculty of Law, Vilnius University*

According to Feminist theories that have addressed GBV (Gender Based Violence), social changes related to globalization intersect with the etiologies of Violence Against Women (VAW); the causes of VAW no longer stop at national borders. VAW is a major public health problem worldwide: World Health Organization data report that approximately one in three women worldwide has been a victim of violence. For more than 15 years, the integrated social-ecological theory has evolved as a theoretical model for exploring the factors associated with VAW. The present research will investigate the relationship between basic cognitive functions (decision-making and emotion regulation), Need for Cognitive Closure, sexist beliefs, and acceptance of gender stereotypes by considering the "Culture in Mind" theoretical framework, concerning adherence to and perpetuation of Gender-Based Discrimination (GBD) through its implicit stereotypical manifestations. The research project will be structured around three overarching objectives: 1) explore adherence to gender stereotypes in the reference sample; 2) identify the relationship between cognitive variables that lead to stereotypical thinking to understand which relationships are the strongest; 3) investigate which models explain the relationships between cognitive variables and stereotypical thinking. Although the patterns of GBV differ across cultures, the fact that it is a worldwide phenomenon leads to the hypothesis that there are factors that outweigh the cultural aspects that allow discriminatory stereotypes to persist. Therefore, the project aims to integrate the factors that most seem to be related to adherence to gender stereotypes into a single theoretical and innovative model.

**P054 - Investigating Hate in Social Media: a Criminological Analysis in the Polish Context** *Piotr Lewulis, University of Warsaw*

This poster presentation centers on the nuanced realm of investigating and prosecuting social media hate speech in Poland. By utilizing qualitative case studies, it examines the detailed methodologies applied by Polish law enforcement agencies to identify and prosecute individuals engaged in violent, criminally prosecutable forms of hate speech. The case studies offer an essential assessment of the effectiveness of these investigative methods, shedding light on their strengths and limitations. One key limitation noted is the significant reliance on the complexity of the perpetrator's actions and their digital traceability on social media networks. Most offenders acting on social media were identified

using open-source intelligence rather than state investigative powers. Furthermore, the research offers a glimpse into the criminological dimensions and underlying motivations of the prosecuted individuals. Through an in-depth qualitative analysis of statements made during criminal proceedings, it reveals a common profile of the perpetrators: they are typically spontaneous, amateur actors driven by intense, transient emotions. These emotions are frequently exacerbated by external stimuli such as provocative online content, personal crises, or the influence of substances. The research underscores the relevance of two critical criminological theories – strain and self-control – in understanding the motivations behind these hate speech incidents. This presentation aims to provide insights for criminologists, legal practitioners, and policymakers. It emphasizes the need for a nuanced understanding of both the technological and psychological aspects of social media hate speech crimes, thereby aiding in the development of more targeted and effective strategies for combating such offenses.

P055 - (In)visible Women: Experiences of and Responses to Gender-Based Online Harms *Florence King, Swansea University*

Women are disproportionately targeted by gender-based online harms such as cyber-harassment and stalking, coercive control, cyberflashing, and image-based abuse. High-profile women, with a strong social media presence, are particularly at risk. Online visibility has long been posited as a double-edged sword (Thompson, 2005). Whilst visibility can be conducive to self-promotion, forging connections, and career advancement, it equally creates opportunities for abuse (Duffy & Hund, 2019). For visible women in public-facing professions such as politics, journalism, and academia, online abuse can lead to silencing and self-censorship, threatening women's equal participation in public life. In response to these risks, the objective of this research project is to deepen our understanding of visible women's experiences of online harms and to explore adequate responses. To this end, the research will consider: (1) the impact of online visibility on women's experiences, (2) how victimisation is shaped by intersectionality, (3) women's perceptions of safety both online and offline, and (4) the efficacy of existing policy and legislative responses in addressing women's needs. Employing a qualitative design and drawing from feminist approaches to victimology, this research will shed light on the currently understudied topic of visible women's experiences of gender-based online harms and their subsequent support needs. By meeting the needs of women most exposed to risk, online and offline spaces will be made safer for all women. As such, this research will ensure highly visible victims' voices contribute to the development of actionable recommendations for practitioners and policymakers, to foster a safer online environment for women.

P056 - Is there a legal regime enabling global 'corporate knowledge' for restorative justice? A study on standards within mineral supply chains. *Stefano Porfido, Roma Tre University*

This research explores the expansion of restorative justice (RJ) principles to redress environmental unlawful harm caused by EU transnational companies' suppliers in the Global South. The opportunity to discuss RJ remedial solutions is offered by the EU efforts to address environmental and social harms that necessarily stem from the extractive logics underpinning the Green Deal's transition towards low carbon economies. These harms especially concern local communities affected by corporate colonial-like exploitation of natural resources in the Global South. Exemplificative in this sense is the long negotiated CSDD Proposal, which establishes obligations upon EU companies to redress harms caused by their suppliers throughout Global Value Chains (GVC). Integrating these obligations with RJ-oriented solutions poses a problem of 'corporate knowledge'. Precisely, it requires investigating channels of corporate knowledge creation and transmission to enable RJ approaches throughout GVC, i.e. outside the spatial dimension of physical contiguity between the corporate harm-doer and affected local realities. To this end, and narrowing the scope on mineral supply chains, the investigation explores whether due-diligence legal information tools, e.g. standards, adopted at the EU level to build and transmit EU companies' global knowledge of the adverse unlawful impacts of their suppliers in

GVC, could serve the operationalization of inclusive restorative remedial solutions. Focus is given to relevant standard-setting frames for mineral supply chains such as the OECD and the IRMA ones. By taking a southern green criminological perspective, this socio-legal analysis investigates the permeability of these frames to affected communities' voices when referring to historically loaded and culturally and geographically sensitive concepts, such as 'community members', 'livelihood', 'landscape', 'land use', and property-related ones, including 'site ownership' and 'boundaries'. In doing so, it fills the gap represented by the minor attention paid to remedial actions, so far flattened on Westernized notions of 'impacts' and 'remediation'.

P057 - Jeffrey Dahmer: A case study and comparison to the general literature *Destiny Fulton, University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Charisse T.M. Coston, University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

The case study of Jeffrey Dahmer, an infamous serial killer who operated his killing in the United States, will be explored in order to access whether his actions as the perpetrator, his victims and crime scene data fit the serial killing research, generally.

P058 - (Lack of) Safety in the Provision of Sexual Services; Awareness of Risks and Consequences of Working in the Sex Business *Renata Małgorzata Gardian-Miałkowska, Institute of Social Prevention and Resocialisation Faculty of Applied Social Sciences and Resocialisation University of Warsaw*

The author will present a tentative analysis of the phenomenon consisting in the failure to use available protective measures by individuals who provide sexual services. Additionally, it will be presents the results of research on sexual violence male sex workers, as well as the catalogue of measures which they can use as a protection against various forms of violence. The author will present a draft agreement for the provision of sexual services, taking into account the conditions of the provision of such services in Poland. At the same time the autor expressed a justified doubt as to whether any individual aware of the reality of working in the sex business would be willing to accept the commitments included in such agreement.

P059 - Learning criminal competence and lucrative criminal activities *Marie Guellec, Université de Montréal, Université de Lille, private practice; Stéphane Rusinek, Université de Lille, Laboratoire PSITEC; Frédéric Ouellet, School of criminology, Université de Montréal*

Criminological research has identified multiple risk and protective factors that influence recidivism, but struggles to explain how individuals initially learn how to commit crime, and how they desist. 'Skilled' criminals are thought to have more success in lucrative criminality, and thus desist later, than other offenders (1). Criminal competence has therefore been mentioned in literature for almost a century and is thought to be relevant for the study of crime (2). However, it is difficult to find studies that focus directly on criminal competence. Researchers generally use several concepts as proxies for studying competence: professionalism, criminal capital, criminal success or achievement, criminal self-efficacy, etc. (3). They are often operationalized for data originating from official sources (police, justice) or inmates (or former inmates) interviews. These indicators can have moderate success explaining the criminal phenomenon, as they tend to confuse criminal activities, criminal skills, and the process of learning these activities and skills, resulting in a loss of sensitivity to their evolution over time. The current research project aims to distinguish between these concepts both theoretically and empirically. Using interviews conducted directly with active, non-judicialized offenders, we retrospectively study lucrative criminal activities and competence at different points in time, as well as their learning process, paying attention to the meaning they give it from their subjective point of view. 1 (Loughran et al., 2012) 2 (Sutherland, 1937) 3 (Nguyen, 2020 ; McCarthy & Hagan, 2001 ; Brezina & Molinet, 2022)

P060 - "Let's be clear". Design and evaluation of accessible documents for children inside police custody *Esther Fernandez Molina, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha; Esther Fernandez Molina, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha; Raquel Bartolomé Gutiérrez, Universidad de Castilla-La*



*Mancha; María José Bernuz, University of Zaragoza; Cristina Carretero, Comillas Pontifical University; Alicia Montero Molera, University of Castilla-La Mancha; Ana Páez-Mérida, University of Castilla-La Mancha; Marta Parra, University of Castilla-La Mancha*

As required by European standards, professionals in juvenile justice systems should inform children about why they are being prosecuted, what their rights are, what their role is in the different procedural phases, what options they have, and what the consequences of the different decisions they may take are. This explanation should be done in clear language and through adapted materials that, in an accessible way, guarantee good understanding. With this objective in mind, the Criminology and Juvenile Delinquency Research Group developed Let's be clear project, a package of accessible documents aimed at minors involved in criminal proceedings. These documents were designed in three different formats: text, comics, and audiovisual. To date, the first work package on rights and procedures in police headquarters has already been developed and will be used by the Spanish police (Guardia Civil) in the region of Castilla-La Mancha from May onwards. This poster presents how the first package of documents has been constructed and presents the three formats designed. In addition, the results of the first evaluation after the first few months of implementation are presented. The evaluation will be conducted by administering a questionnaire to both professionals and minor users.

P061 - 'Like being an immigrant in someone else's imagination': using poetic methods in a study of the everyday reading experiences of prisoners in England and Wales. *Judith Gardom, University of Cambridge*

Poetic research methods in qualitative research encompass a variety of techniques and purposes, including data creation, analysis, and communication. Despite the evidence for the power of these methods, clarification of techniques and evidence of value are still needed. In a doctoral study of experiences of informal book reading in two men's prisons in England and Wales, I interviewed 50 men to elicit reader narratives, and accounts of reading practices and experiences. Alongside other methods of qualitative analysis of the data, I used a version of poetic analysis with the interview transcripts, closely based on the 'poetic transcription' methods developed by Glesne, Mears and others, preferring to refer to it as 'poetic distillation' as more accurately capturing the process. The distillations used only the words of the participants, condensed and arranged to present the use of language, metaphor, narrative, and affect of the individual interview. The attentive and reflective act of distillation revealed new narrative and thematic aspects of the data and brought others more clearly into focus, particularly the central themes of responsivity and intersubjectivity in prisoners' experience of reading. The distillations also served as a means of communication within the research as representations of the distinct narratives and experiences of individual participants. A selection of the poems formed a separate section in the thesis between the Methodology and the core Findings chapters. Short sections from the poems were also used as chapter and section epigraphs. The communication value of the method has already been demonstrated in other contexts with academic and general audiences. Through presenting examples of the poetic distillations in this research poster, alongside an explanation of the process, I contribute to advancing the use of poetic methods in qualitative research and evidence for their value.

P062 - Main problems detected in the management of confiscated assets in Spain *Cristina Cazorla González, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain)*

Deficiencies in the management of the effects, assets, instruments, and proceeds of crime entail numerous costs for Spanish public administrations. Many of them go unnoticed due to the lack of adequate parameters for their study. But these problems are not invisible. They reflect easily identifiable chronic collapses that exacerbate dynamics that call for an urgent response. Furthermore, the absence of a national strategy results in a two-pronged situation characterised: On the one hand, by the chaotic accumulation of assets that are stored sine die in judicial warehouses across the country, with the consequent loss of their value and deterioration,

without anyone knowing what they are, what they are for or where they are going. On the other hand, and with respect to the tiny percentage that is effectively and finally managed and adjudicated, pyrrhic profits that do not meet the expectations placed in them. This poster presentation aims to summarise the main problems detected in the management of confiscated assets in Spain, paying special attention to the procedure established for the destruction of seized drugs, as well as the destination of confiscated boats and vehicles related to the phenomenon of drug trafficking, given the scale and importance it has acquired in recent years. A first approach to the legal framework approved by the Spanish legislator is presented to subsequently address the problems involved in the actual execution of confiscation and its management. Due to the scarce official information available and the absence of reliable statistics, a sample of more than 20 news published in the press in recent years (2019-2023) has been used as the main source of research. The analysis carried out is intended to serve as a diagnostic basis for the subsequent formulation of proposals for a realistic management policy, considering the particularities of the Spanish case.

P063 - Measures to protect victims of honour crimes in Spanish criminal proceedings *Andrea Planchadell-Gargallo, University Jaume I*

Honour crimes are presented as one of the most heinous manifestations of violence against women and girls. This is highlighted by a number of important international instruments, especially by the United Nations. However, these crimes face a problem of lack of definition, as they encompass a varied spectrum of criminal behaviours, which makes it difficult for states to eradicate them. These difficulties are even greater when we consider the protection measures that are envisaged for the victims of these crimes. This poster aims to offer a vision of what these measures are in the Spanish legal system.

P064 - Measuring antisocial potential within the Integrated Cognitive Antisocial Potential (ICAP) theory: The development of a new Antisocial Behavior and Beliefs Assessment (ABBA) *Matilde de Vilhena, Faculty of Law, University of Porto; Beatriz Barqueiro, Faculty of Law of University of Porto; Lara Nápoles, Faculty of Law of University of Porto; Hugo S. Gomes, Human Development and Violence Research Centre (DOVE), Federal University of Pelotas*

Background & Aim: The Integrated Cognitive Antisocial Potential (ICAP) theory is a crucial concept in the field of Developmental and Life-Course Criminology, which provides an in-depth analysis of both long-term and short-term antisocial potential. Long-term potential is shaped by several factors such as strain, modeling, and socialization, which generally peak during adolescence and diminish in adulthood. In contrast, short-term potential is primarily influenced by situational factors. As per the ICAP theory, antisocial behavior occurs due to the interplay between individuals and their environment, which are greatly influenced by cognitive processes. Originally, in the Cambridge Study in Delinquent Development (CSDD), the long-term antisocial potential was assessed using the Antisocial Attitudes (AA) scale. The present study aims to create a new instrument that will allow the assessment of both long-term and short-term antisocial potential within the ICAP framework. Methods: First, we have carried out a literature review regarding existent literature on antisocial attitudes, to inform the new instrument about the most relevant factors to include in the ABBA scale. Second, we will develop a pool of items to be reviewed by a team of experts. Third, we will develop a list of vignettes with different scenarios. Finally, we will develop validation analyses that will allow us to assess the psychometric qualities of the new scale. Results: The new ABBA scale is set to be tested in school settings, with adolescents and young adults to evaluate its validity and reliability in predicting antisocial and criminal behavior. Conclusion: The ABBA scale is going to represent an updated and reliable measure of antisocial beliefs, designed to address the central constructs of the ICAP theory. This new instrument will allow the testing of new hypotheses about antisocial potential and its impact on crime and violence. Keywords: Antisocial Beliefs; ICAP; Antisocial Attitudes (AA)

**P065 - Media Representations of Women Who Kill in Türkiye**  
*Irem Sanli, Eotvos Lorand University, Doctoral School of Sociology*

The rarity of women's involvement in crime attracts curiosity from the public, and the act becomes newsworthy. Its newsworthiness is linked to the fact that such acts challenge the stereotypical scenario where a woman is a suspect or convict, especially in violent crimes. It is observed by previous empirical studies that in media, women offenders are portrayed as either mentally incapable, inherently evil, or helpless victims who resort to crime. This discourse stimulates the predetermined power relations between men and women; noting women as weaker gender which need protection and incapable of making rational choices when it comes to committing a crime. This research aims to explore the media representations of women who kill in Türkiye. To be able to investigate the issue, the literature review will be combined with a qualitative discourse analysis. The sample for this empirical study is the news published at Sabah newspaper for four months period between November 2023 and February 2024 (included). The news where women who allegedly killed are the sole focus of this study. This empirical study plans to contribute to field of criminology by moving a bit away from the "modern" or "Western" societies of the Global North by including another region and discourse to the debate, a "non-Western" country: Türkiye. Due to the lack of criminological research on women who kill in Türkiye, this study becomes important to establish the needs for future studies.

**P066 - More Harm than Good: Examining the impact of immigration policy on non-UK nationals experiencing homelessness and exploitation within Greater Manchester**  
*Megan Hadfield, University of Manchester*

Exploitation is an abuse of human rights, when compounded with destitution, it is an intersectional issue which encompasses problems caused by austerity, political economy (greed), xenophobia, and racism. This research aims to study the effects of 'cimmigration' practices on non-UK nationals who have experienced/are experiencing homelessness in the UK and how this impacts their vulnerability to exploitation. This research developed during years of volunteering at a homeless charity in Greater Manchester, where the inequalities not only within society, but within the provision of welfare support in the homeless sector, were visible. Despite charities' best efforts to provide support to all who attend their services, they must overcome and work around additional obstacles for those affected by homelessness who have an irregular immigration status, and very often encounter barriers that do not permit them to provide much more than wellbeing support. This poster aims to provide an overview of how three key sectors of policy interact and inform one another - immigration, modern slavery, and homelessness. Drawing on the themes of - criminalisation and punishment, restriction of support, and use of rhetoric, this poster presents an in-depth exploration of complex and piecemeal policies and how they impact non-UK nationals experiencing homelessness and their vulnerability to exploitation in the UK.

**P067 - Motivations and Barriers: Understanding Al-Shabaab's Recruitment, Permanence, and Disengagement Processes in Mozambique**  
*Licínio Zitha, Rui Abrunhosa Gonçalves, & Sónia Caridade Psychology RC, University of Minho Licinio Zacarias Zitha, Psychology Research Centre, University of Minho, Portugal*

Limited attention has been given to the factors influencing the recruitment, permanence, and disengagement of the "terrorist" group Al-Shabab in Mozambique within existing terrorism studies. These studies often prioritize broader social and political issues. This qualitative study aims to comprehensively explore the factors contributing to the recruitment, retention, and disengagement of Al-Shabab members in Mozambique. Eleven participants, currently serving sentences. Three prominent factors emerged for recruitment: enticement, coercion, and false propaganda. Additionally, fear and challenges in social reintegration were identified as primary factors for permanence. Disillusionment and measures of military and political counter-terrorism were cited more frequently for disengagement. Recruitment factors were further categorized into six subthemes: a) lack of life perspectives,

b) tribal tensions/languages, c) enticement, d) coercion, e) religious manipulation, and f) false propaganda. Permanence factors included four subthemes: a) fear, b) community reprisals, c) challenges of social reintegration, and d) oath-taking. Disengagement factors comprised three subthemes: a) disillusionment, b) health problems, and c) reactions to military policies and counter-terrorism. The findings underscore coercion and enticement as primary factors for recruitment, fear for permanence, and disillusionment for disengagement. In discussing counter-terrorism measures, we advocate for the creation and expansion of essential services accessible to all, with the aim of discouraging the recruitment of human resources, as terrorism fundamentally depends on such resources. Key-words: Al-Shabaab, Recruitment, Permanence, Disengagement, Terrorism

**P068 - Neutralisation Techniques Among Curators in the Acquisition of Antiquities**  
*Claire Hanrahan, University of Glasgow*

The legal and moral responsibility of museums for unprovenanced objects in their collection is often debated, particularly for objects held in collections for a long time. Recently, surrounding the acquisition of objects being unprovenanced has been discussed with more frequency. The goal of this project is to delve further into museums acquisition practices by focusing on the behaviour and activities of curators when acquiring antiquities. These behaviours will then be placed within the larger context of the museum as an organisation and museum culture, as well as how behaviours align with ethical and legal requirements for antiquities acquisitions. This will be explored through a zemiological framework focusing on harms caused by those in positions of trust and building on white-collar/corporate crime theories. By connecting curatorial practices with harms of the illicit antiquities trade, curators within museums as an institution will be explored in relation to larger social implications of antiquities acquisition within a grey antiquities market and possible recommendations for regulation. This research looks to add to existing research on white-collar crime in the market end of the antiquities trade by focusing on behaviour, creative compliance, and neutralisation techniques of curators within the museum structure and how they may cause various social harms. The goal of this research would be to push the understanding of neutralisation techniques found in trusted individuals in museums collecting on behalf of the public good.

**P069 - New Technologies, algorithms and AI in the fight against environmental crime.**  
*Maria-Angeles Fuentes Fuentes-Loureiro, University of A Coruña*

In the last decade, the authorities in different countries have begun to develop and test new (or not so new) technologies specifically designed to detect and investigate different types of environmental crime. The use of technologies such as Remotely Piloted Aircrafts in wildfires, wildlife crime or waste-related crimes investigation has intensified. Likewise, sophisticated geo-technologies have begun to be used in the fight of illegal waste dumping, deforestation, illegal mining and forest fires. Specifically in terms of algorithmic and AI tools, the use applications to automatically retrieve data from social media and other open sources available in Internet -web scraping- is becoming an important element in the fight against specific types of organised crime. In this sense, not all types of environmental crimes are susceptible to be investigated by algorithmic and AI tools. Those committed within criminal organisations or networks will be more suitable for the successful use of these investigative technologies. This poster reflects an analysis of the technologies that are currently being used in the investigation of environmental crime, and a reflection on the possibility of applying algorithmic and AI technologies in the fight against some types of environmental crimes.

**P070 - Occupational Stress amongst Forensic Appraiser: A Chinese Perspective**  
*Huan Wan, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law*

Forensic appraisers (FAs) hold a broad spectrum of duties, with occupational stress being a significant concern that impacts their quality of life and professional performance. While this issue has gained recognition internationally, it remains under-discussed in China. Large amounts of literature extensively document the occupational stress risks faced by police and medical personnel.

However, in China, forensic appraisers often find themselves overlooked in discussions on these complex challenges due to various intricate factors. This study focuses on analyzing occupational stress among 1,000 forensic appraisers in Hubei Province, China, aiming to evaluate stress levels and identify their main sources. Utilizing a stratified random sampling method from a broader group of 2,000 forensic appraisers ensures a diverse representation across various demographics. The research methodology combines semi-structured interviews and standardized questionnaires, enhanced by psychological assessment tools to quantify and understand stress factors comprehensively. Data collection will be meticulously conducted, following a pilot test to refine the survey tools, and analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative methods to identify stress sources and their impacts. The anticipated outcome is a detailed insight into occupational stress among forensic appraisers, offering a foundation for developing targeted interventions to mitigate these stress factors, thereby contributing to the improvement of forensic professionals' well-being in China.

**P071 - Online identity theft: a close-up look at a growing phenomenon in Spain** *Iñigo Gordon Benito, UNESCO Chair for Human Rights and Public Authorities, University of the Basque Country*

Spain has consolidated its position as a European country with one of the highest rates of online impersonation. Online identity theft consists of the illegitimate acquisition of personal identifying information to create or access another person's account or profile without consent, simulating and generating, through actions to this end, confusion about the real identity behind. One of the very few criminal offences capable of integrating this fraudulent activity would be Article 401 of the Spanish Criminal Code, relating to the usurpation of civil status. In fact, from 2013 onwards, the number of criminally relevant civil status usurpations that the Spanish police forces have become aware of, either through a reported incident, preventive action or a police investigation, has continued to grow. While the number stood at 1601 in 2013, it reached 12509 in 2022, representing an increase of 681 %. Without ignoring the existence of undetected cases (dark figure), there has been a significant upward trend, possibly due to increased public awareness of crime, more effective mechanisms for pursuing, detecting and reporting the crime, etc. In clear contrast, the number of convictions has been very modest. In 2013, 92 people were convicted, precisely the same number of people that were so in 2022. The fluctuation has been minimal over the years. In short, despite the detection of a more significant number of cases, convictions of those responsible for usurpation of civil status have been rare. Moreover, the criminally relevant incidents known by the Spanish police forces have to do, in a very high proportion, with the online environment. On the other hand, as regards the data on convictions, the percentage relating to the online commission of the offence is anecdotal. This study will attempt to explain these intriguing discrepancies to understand better and deal appropriately with the phenomenon at hand.

**P072 - Organised drug trafficking in China - mechanism of the route formation and group operation** *Shujing Shi, University of Cambridge*

Chinese organised drug-related crimes have received limited scholarly attention. To address this gap, this study endeavours to comprehensively map the organised drug trafficking network within China and elucidate the mechanisms behind the formation of trafficking routes across 41 major Chinese cities from 2012 to 2022. Through analysis of court records, the research generates a drug trafficking map using a network approach. The findings reveal distinct patterns of drug flow among the cities, highlighting a clear division of roles as origin, transit, and destination points within the network. The result also identifies significant changes in the network's structure over the past decade, this is potentially due to the dramatic lifestyle changes and the development of infrastructure. Additionally, the studies explored the group operational mechanics from perspectives of transportation, payment, recruitment, and communication.

**P073 - Penal Populism: A Perspective on Social Shifts and Psychosocial Demands** *Jianxuan Hu, PhD Candidate at*

*Durham University Law School*

This paper examines the concept of penal populism. It refers to the social trend where there is radical support for harsher punishments for criminals, prioritising community and victim welfare over defendants' rights. This phenomenon has been observed in various countries since the last century and has become an increasingly pressing global issue. The rise in crime rates during the 1980s led to heightened public anxiety and a demand for more stringent penal policies. This period saw a doubling of imprisonment rates, placing immense strain on prison systems. In parallel, populism began influencing legislative processes, as evidenced by laws like the 'three strikes and you're out' policy in the US and the UK's 1991 Aggravated Vehicle Taking Act and punitive measures in the 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act. Similarly, public discourse in China often demonstrates a strong preference for the death penalty and a highly retributive attitude towards offenders. A notable example is the 2019 amendment to China's Criminal Law, passed by the People's Congress to allow prosecuting offenders under 14 years in specific cases, following public outrage over a murder committed by a 13-year-old. Entrenched and radical views on criminal justice not only impede further reform in the criminal justice system but exert significant pressure on lawyers defending offenders. Drawn in the light of the implications of this social phenomenon, this paper will delve into the conceptualisation of penal populism from a socio-legal and comparative viewpoint, understanding the emergence of penal populism from our late modernity society and neoliberal trend while contrasting the Anglo-American context with China's socialist framework. It will additionally address the psychosocial demands around penal populism to answer how populist sentiments coalesce around penal policies and transform into penal populism, and what role symbolic elements of criminal law, crime, and sentencing policies play in this intersection.

**P074 - Perceived Financial Threat and Fear of Financial Crime** *Heeuk "Dennis" Lee, Weber State University; David Kim, Austin Peay State University; Liz Homez Gonzalez, Weber State University*

The current study examines the relationship between perceived financial threat and fear of financial crime. Fear of crime has received substantial attention in the criminological literature; however, only a limited number of empirical studies are available on fear of financial crime. Also, most existing studies that measured fear of crime have relied upon young adult samples from colleges. As financial crime victimization has become an essential area of research, more empirical studies into the fear of financial crime among the general public are needed. Using an online American fear survey from a market research firm, results indicate that perceived financial threat was positively associated with fear of financial crime among participants. Limitations and future studies are discussed.

**P075 - Police responses to young people's experiences of cyberstalking** *Tahreem Tahir, University of Central Lancashire*

Young people in particular utilise digital spaces to create new connections and even initiate, sustain, and carry out part of their intimate relationships online (Lykens et al., 2019; Van Ouytsel et al., 2018). However, in our digitally interconnected world, cyberstalking has emerged as a significant concern which impacts approximately 20 to 40 percent of online users worldwide (Reyns et al., 2012; Spitzberg & Hoobler, 2002; Tokunaga & Aune, 2017). Prior research highlights technology has also provided opportunities to facilitate online monitoring of others (Verduyn et al., 2017) due to the proficiency and ease at which information can be obtained (Sheridan & Grant, 2007). Consequently, the rise of digital technologies has given perpetrators new avenues and opportunities to target victims (Brady et al., 2023; Van Ouytsel et al., 2018) resulting in a rise of cyberstalking (Fansher & Randa, 2019). However, little work to date has explored young people's perceptions and experiences of cyberstalking. With research consistently revealing very few cyberstalking victims choose to report their experiences to the police (Brady et al., 2023; Fissel 2021; Reyn and Englebrecht 2010), there is a notable research gap regarding young people's reasons not to report cyberstalking incidents. This paper will explore some of the key issues emerging

from the literature review, including prevalence and variations of cyberstalking among young people, experiences and barriers to reporting to the police and other agencies. The paper will also provide an overview of the methodological approach and methods of data collection that will be adopted. Moreover, the research aims to contribute to the improvement of victim's support, inform police forces and refine practice within the cyberstalking sector.

**P076 - Policing the Roma: Exploring Manifestations of Securitisation in the Slovak Criminal Justice System** *Barbara Krakovská, Leiden University*

Stereotypes about the Roma as criminal are widespread in European societies. Securitisation of the Roma as a "crime issue" by politicians leads to a spillover of anti-Roma racism into criminal justice systems, including fatalities due to police ill-treatment. Institutionalised racism perpetuates a culture of impunity in which allegations of police ill-treatment are not properly investigated. Although the Roma are consistently framed as a criminogenic issue, criminological interest in anti-Roma racism is low. The current study applies the securitisation framework to explore manifestations of anti-Roma racism within the Slovak criminal justice system. The study hypothesises that an act of securitisation becomes an intentional tool of reinforcing the status quo of societal classism within democratic societies. In other words, some political actors use securitisation to reinforce existing negative racial stereotypes in order to keep the general public disinterested in issues of marginalised communities, including abuses of power (i.e., police ill-treatment). This qualitative study analyses fourteen incidents of police ill-treatment, utilising comparative case study analysis conducted based on various open-source materials to test its hypothesis. The results of the case study analysis are discussed in relation to institutional racism in national jurisdictions and contribute to relevant European policies improving the protection of Roma rights within criminal justice systems.

**P077 - Prison and mental illness: the challenge of including a gender perspective.** *Cristina Palomino Jiménez, Phd Student at Universidad de Málaga*

The application of the RIMES instrument in different jurisdictions in Western developed countries has shown that a significant number of mentally ill inmates serve their sentences in regular correctional facilities. The closure of mental asylums in some countries, such as Italy or Spain, with the aim of avoiding the segregationist approach in the field of mental illness, has ended up transferring this segregation to the penitentiary sphere. Some studies, such as that produced in the "Libro Blanco sobre la Atención Sanitaria a las personas con trastornos mentales graves en los centros penitenciarios de España" (2023), indicate that the incidence of common mental disorders is twice as high in the prison population as in the general population, while serious mental disorders are four times more common in this context. Going deeper and focusing only on women, we can see that the problem is much more widespread. According to some studies, the female prison population is five times more likely to experience a decline in mental health compared to the rest of the population (BRIGHT, A.M., HIGGINS, A., & GREALISH, A., 2023). Therefore, the aim of this presentation is, on the one hand, to analyse the problem of mental illness in prison and, on the other hand, to point out the importance of applying a gender perspective to this situation in order to be able to address it with better results.

**P078 - Protocol for the detection of discrimination against poor women** *Eva Picado-Valverde, University of Salamanca; Raquel Guzmán Ordaz, University of Salamanca; Amaia Yurrebaso, University of Salamanca; Esther García-Valverde, University of Salamanca*

This research project awarded by the Ministry of Equality of the Government of Spain in December 2023 to the research team of the Human Rights Centre of the University of Salamanca aims to build a protocol for the detection of aporophobia in women living in poverty. The design is based on an intersectional analysis of the inequalities and discrimination suffered by these women. It is necessary to analyse the context of poverty through multiple axes of domination and oppression in a holistic and not separate manner, so that we can identify the victimisation suffered by these women, such as gender violence, domestic violence, institutional violence

and aporophobia. In order to propose an adequate approach in the intervention of these women, it is necessary to carry out an adequate detection of these victimisations and especially that of aporophobia, eliminating the different biases, as well as the study of public policies in terms of social services, employment, justice, health and housing. It is necessary to approach this study in an interdisciplinary way and a mixed research design is proposed, using both quantitative and qualitative methodology, although it will be mainly focused on the latter. Initially, a review of the literature on aporophobia and indicators of detection will be developed. The primary data collection will be achieved through the expert panel, interviews.

**P079 - Psychological abuse prevention: A criminological and educational perspective** *Mia Pal, London Metropolitan University*

Psychological abuse is a form of violence that involves the use of language and behaviours to harm, manipulate, or control another person. It can occur in various contexts, such as intimate relationships, family, work, or schools. Its recognition has been historically slow due to societal, cultural and systemic factors such as gender dynamics, limited legal recognition, stigma, and normalization of harmful behaviours. Psychological abuse is as damaging as physical and sexual abuse, and one of the highest risks associated with it is that victims can perceive it as normal behaviour, especially when experienced in the formative years of development. This is a significant cause of concern particularly as child exposure to abuse, including psychological abuse and neglect correlates with high prevalence of lifelong trauma, psychosis, suicide and revictimization often overlapping with truancy and the risk of school exclusion. Despite the fact of not being immediately observed, consequences of psychological abuse manifest throughout all developmental stages in life from childhood to adulthood as victims often struggle at later points in life with issues related to their core identity, self-worth and stability of their emotional world. Researchers have identified that psychological abuse can be measured through specific language and behaviours, and it can be prevented if concerns are raised early with education proposed as the primary method for prevention. However, the current policies around psychological abuse are mostly reactive addressing the issue at its latest stages, the sentencing stage, when the abuse has escalated into physical violence, or even homicide. This study makes the argument that by introducing early psychological abuse prevention programs in schools would address and fill an important gap at a policy level in our society with significant implications for social, health care and the criminal justice system as well as for the well-being of individuals and communities.

**P080 - Psychological treatments in child abuse and maltreatment: a systematic review** *Jessica Burrai, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome; Jessica Burrai, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome; Cricenti Clarissa, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; Ginevra Tagliaferri, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome; Emanuela Mari, Sapienza, University of Rome; Giannini Anna Maria, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome.*

The World Health Organization's term "child maltreatment" refers to abuse and neglect of children under the age of 18. It includes any kind of physical and/or emotional abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and exploitation for commercial or other purposes that impact on the development or dignity of the child in a relationship of responsibility, trust, or power. Data show that an increasing number of children worldwide are victims or witnesses of violence, and children are defined as "vulnerable victims" by virtue of their ongoing psycho-physical and identity development. This study is a systematic literature review of the most effective clinical interventions for abused and/or maltreated children. For this purpose, the string used for the search was: (adolescenc\* OR child\*) AND (abuse OR maltreatment OR neglect OR violence) AND (psychological support OR psychotherapy OR psychological treatment OR psychological therapy OR psychological intervention). Databases such as PubMed/MEDLINE, PsycINFO, Web of Science, Scopus and CINAHL were screened. After

removal of duplicates, 5271 articles in English and Italian were selected for screening. Based on the selected inclusion criteria (such as, for example, that the psychological intervention must have been carried out on victims under 18 years and not on adults with a history of abuse), and on screening of title and abstract, after a double-blind analysis, a total of 388 articles were included.

**P081 - Punishing Terrorism: An Exploration of Sentencing Political Violence and Extremism** *SARAH MAE LYNCH, AMERICAN UNIVERSITY (DC)*

Currently, there is a dearth of literature exploring sentencing within the terrorism and violent extremism fields. This gap is particularly notable within the United States of America. This project aims to systematically explore the current standing of the field on sentencing in terrorism and extremist crimes using the rapid review method. This rapid systematic review is currently on going, but results will be obtained prior to the conference. Additionally, this project serves as a pilot exploration of the major gaps in the literature to aid in developing further research questions. This poster will report both the findings of the rapid review as well as what major gaps this author will be taking further steps to research during the course of her ongoing doctoral studies. Presenting this pilot exploration as a poster will allow for collaboration and rich discussion that will aid in moving sentencing literature forward.

**P082 - ReachOUT: it goes both ways! How can service provides better support LGBTQ+ young people experiencing domestic abuse?** *Cait Jobson, Durham University Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse*

ReachOUT is the final product of a participatory action research project with 12 LGBTQ+ young people as co-researchers exploring domestic abuse help-seeking. Little research focuses on experiencing domestic abuse at the intersection of being both a young person and LGBTQ+. With young people's relationships often seen as naïve and unimportant and a cisgendered heteronormative public story of domestic abuse, LGBTQ+ young people who have experienced domestic abuse may struggle to see themselves within these narratives leading to a lack of recognition of their experiences as domestic abuse and lack of awareness of the support that may be available. Although many barriers prevent young people from seeking professional help, the problem is worsened by a lack of research and resources to bridge the gap from the other side – hence the title: “ReachOUT: it goes both ways!”. Through the co-analysis stage of interviews with 5 service providers and a survey of 93 LGBTQ+ young people, the co-researchers sought to compare LGBTQ+ young people's experiences and perspectives of available domestic abuse support with the support described and provided by those interviewed across sexual violence, domestic abuse and LGBT youth organisations. This approach highlights the importance of not just asking and listening but also involving young people in the analysis and dissemination of research about issues that affect them. We investigate the socio-political context and barriers faced by LGBTQ+ young people in receiving the support they deserve. We question claims of universal ‘safe spaces’ and instead argue that, through outreach, training and constant dialogue and reflection, support could and should be more intersectional and inclusive. The poster has been co-designed with the co-researchers on this project but adapted to fit this conference.

**P083 - Reframing Powerlessness in Addiction Recovery Processes: A Positive Criminology Perspective** *Sofia Shavidze, Bar Ilan University, Department of Criminology; Sofia Shavidze, Bar Ilan University, Department of Criminology; Keren Gueta, Bar-Ilan university, Israel; Natti Ronel, Bar-Ilan University*

Previous research indicates that coping with powerlessness within the cycle of change poses a significant challenge in initial recovery from addiction and long-term recovery management, especially during transitions between pre-contemplation, contemplation, and decision-making stages in the recovery process. The current study examined the various facets of the powerlessness phenomenon and its spectrum, ranging from active addiction to recovery. Qualitative phenomenological research using the triangulation method was conducted among three groups of 49 participants: individuals dealing with substance and behavioral addictions in recovery, their

family members, and addiction treatment professionals. The findings of the research demonstrate that at the core of the recovery from addiction lies a dialectical process leading to the reframing of the perception of powerlessness. Two central themes emerge from the research: 1) Negative attributions to powerlessness and 2) Stages in the reframing of powerlessness. The first reflects discourse surrounding powerlessness experience both in active addiction and in recovery, where powerlessness is perceived as a driving component, at times unconsciously, towards addiction and as a source of suffering and loss of control. Additionally, powerlessness is described as strengthening a sense of damaging self-centeredness and as a factor in the emergence of conflicts between values, principles, and actions of individuals in recovery. The second theme reveals progress towards a conscious state where powerlessness assumes a stable positive meaning, promoting recovery and benefits in various life domains. This dynamic reframing process includes several components, such as denial of powerlessness and relinquishing control, acknowledgment of powerlessness, acceptance of powerlessness as a resource, and use of creative metaphor advancing recovery. Thus, the research findings can significantly advance both a deeper understanding of powerlessness in the context of recovery from addiction and interventions aimed at addressing powerlessness in the treatment field.

**P084 - RegTech solutions for whistleblower case management: between regulatory expectations and effectiveness** *Elina Karpacheva-Hock, Anglia Ruskin University, UK*

Financial crime prevention scores high on the agenda of regulators around the world. Law enforcement relies on private policing strategies of business to prevent and control financial crime, imposing regulatory expectations and turning private companies into co-regulators (and co-investigators). While the use of new technologies for financial crime prevention is inevitable, yet it is not known how existing RegTech solutions are influencing internal processes inside the firm (compliance, data management, IT security), whether they meet the expectations of legislators, or to what extent they really contribute to crime reduction and prevention. To start with, the project explores whistleblower case management as a case study to benchmark the effectiveness of RegTech solutions towards existing regulatory expectations for security, confidentiality, operability, and collection of evidence. Secondly, the smart regulation paradigm is discussed to find out whether whistleblowing reporting solutions are able to facilitate private policing of corporate misconduct (Brand, 2020). Thirdly the author adopts organizational perspective by exploring whether whistleblower reporting solutions solve existing agency problems and costs inside compliance departments (Smaili et al., 2022). While there is a growing body of literature about private policing strategies in financial sector, just recently authors started focusing the role of new technologies in the process of economic crime prevention and control. The poster aims at setting the theoretical background for further empirical research on effectiveness of RegTech solutions for financial crime prevention.

**P085 - (Re)Integration Model for Released Prisoners** *Tereza Raszková, The Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention (IKSP); Petra Zhrivalova, INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY AND SOCIAL PREVENTION; Lucie Háková, Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention*

On the basis of the results of the „Penological research on the preparation of convicts for release“ the authors propose a new model of (re)integration of convicts for release, building on the current knowledge of criminology. They pay attention to both the person of the released prisoner and the society into which he is to be (re)integrated, and view the process of (re)integration from both perspectives. It covers all the areas that are currently considered as significant points of desistance, working with the determinants resulting from the personality of the released and the structural factors of integration.

**P086 - Reintegration of People with Sexual Convictions: Preliminary Results of the First Community Rehabilitation Centre in UK** *Nicholas Blagden, University of Derby; Nicholas Blagden, University of Derby; Eve Penford, University of Derby; Polly Delliere-Moor, University of Derby; Jade Mason,*

*University of Derby*

Re-entry into the community is a particularly challenging time for people with sexual convictions against children. Although there are multiple support services available in prison, this support is greatly reduced when the individual is released, and the stigma attached to sexual offences can create a hostile environment for re-entry, leading to isolation, shame, depression and anxiety. Further, the risk-based support system and the absence of a proactive and positive approach to rehabilitation and reintegration can contribute to recidivism. The Safer Living Centre is the only rehabilitation centre in the UK which offers specialised and continued support for individuals to lead pro-social, offence-free lives after a sexual conviction. The aim of the Centre is to provide hope, promote wellbeing, and support individuals to develop pro-social skills, assist individuals to lead positive, offence-free lives and reduce recidivism. The poster will unpack a mixed-methods evaluation on how service-users progress through the centre and how it contributes to their reintegration journey. Preliminary results suggest significant increases in wellbeing and hope, and reductions in shame, depression and anxiety. This poster will also highlight the unique challenges faced in the development of the centre, as well as an overview of recent findings, and the implications for service-user reintegration.

**P087 - Responsibility and Mitigated Punishment for Homicide Crimes – To What Extent Did the Reform Change?** *Eitan Nicotra, Director of Forensic Laboratory, Ashkelon Academic College, Israel; Judith Abulafia, Ashkelon Academic College, Ashkelon, Israel; Khalid Ghanayim, Faculty of Law, University of Haifa*

The 2019 homicide reform in Israel added a new offense of killing under circumstances of diminished responsibility, which adopted most of the conditions stipulated in the former Section 300a of the Penal Code, which dealt with mitigated punishment for murder crimes. Section 300a had been in effect for 24 years. The study examined the implementation of Section 300a over 22 years to assess whether the purposes of the section were achieved and whether the new offense is justified and could resolve issues in implementing the section while better achieving its underlying goal - determining fair punishment based on culpability, offense circumstances and background in exceptional borderline cases mentioned in Section 300a. Socially, it examined whether an appropriate solution was provided for killing an abuser by the victim. The research relied on data from three legal databases, analyzing all published criminal rulings following Section 300a discussion - 166 cases total. Analyzing Section 300a use allowed for examination of the application of mitigated punishment while maintaining criminal liability for murder, which is not accepted elsewhere. Findings show that Section 300a, based on mitigated punishment and strict prosecutorial discretion, failed to achieve legal and social purposes for its 1995 enactment. Reforms fundamentally changed Section 300a conditions by adopting diminished responsibility and a mitigated penalty threshold, fixing core issues in Section 300a, but several issues still remain unresolved. Socially, findings indicate a troubling trend whereby most Section 300a mitigation requests involved domestic violence. Mostly, mitigation was sought and granted to men killing wives.

**P088 - Smuggling along the new silk road: the role of Global Trade Hubs** *Mayya Konovalova, University of Birmingham; Sami Bensassi, University of Birmingham; Joao Araújo Marques, Aveiro University; Adam Nix, University of Birmingham; Arisyi Raz, Universitas Indonesia*

This research focuses on Global Trade Hubs (GTHs) and their role in facilitating illicit financial activities through smuggling. We define GTHs as states for which trade represents an economic activity that, in terms of value, is superior to the Gross Domestic Product of the country and/or countries where new port infrastructure able to welcome large-size containership have recently been developed. These countries/cities are essential platforms to facilitate international trade between Europe and Asia. The combination of physical assets (ports, airports, roads and/or rail connections), legal frameworks, dedicated services and institutions might also make such countries more susceptible to use by international crime organisations and rogue states. In this project,

we are first assessing quantitatively the participation of GTHs in smuggling. To do so, we will use proven methods based on mirror trade statistics. We will compare our measure to existing assessments of illicit activities and illicit financial flows. We will then explore qualitatively the perception and risk assessment of the selected GTHs in the UK and the EU in terms of their exposure to smuggling and illicit financial flows. To do this, we are conducting interviews with regulators, policymakers, law-enforcement, training-providers, and practitioners in the UK and the EU to understand how smuggling in GTHs could lead to tax evasion (e.g. issues around CP 42), money laundering, and sanctions evasion. Theoretically we build on the notion of stigma, which disqualifies the stigmatised from full social acceptance. Some of the hubs under study have been stigmatised for their involvement in facilitating illicit financial flows, while others have not. We will select a few cases guided by our quantitative investigation to understand the emergence and persistence of stigma. Finally, we will provide an analytical “toolkit” for practitioners, based on the empirical findings and managerial theory on governance and misconduct.

**P089 - Social Protection, Culture, and Lethal Violence : A cross-national study of homicide** *Junghi Ha, Universität Erfurt*

Violence, a global social problem, profoundly impacts individuals worldwide, with homicide being a tragic manifestation of lethal violence. The WHO categorizes causal factors at various levels, including the societal level on which this research concentrates. The study aims to examine the impact of social structure and culture on homicide, adopting a macro-sociological perspective by integrating institutional anomie theory (IAT) and the stream analogy of lethal violence (SALV). IAT presumes that social structure (institutions) and culture dominated by the economy affect altogether interdependently homicide rates of a society. The SALV extends this perspective, proposing that frustration arising from social structural and cultural factors serves as a force to homicide. Based on this, this research focuses on decommodification at the institutional level as a counter force to homicide and liberalism at the cultural level as a force to homicide. Using data from 40 OECD countries, the study utilizes multiple regression analysis to explore the impact of social structural factors (decommodification) and cultural factors (liberalism) on the homicide rates. Notably, the study compares the pre-COVID-19 period (2017-2019) with that during the pandemic (2020-2022), illustrating how the pandemic as a global crisis may reshape the dynamics of social structural and cultural factors, and their influence on homicide. The COVID-19 pandemic, affecting all OECD countries, adds a theoretical dimension to the research, aligning with a Durkheimian anomie perspective. The findings contribute not only to theoretical implications but also provide a nuanced understanding of how external crises, such as the pandemic, may alter the intricate relationship between social structures, culture, and homicide. The discussion includes implications, limitations, and suggestions for future research, offering a comprehensive exploration of the multifaceted factors influencing homicide rates in contemporary societies. Keywords: institutional anomie theory, decommodification, liberalism, inequality, the stream analogy of lethal violence, homicide, COVID-19 Pandemic, OECD

**P090 - Statistical Overview of Cybercrime In Croatia** *Dalibor Dolezal, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, Department of Criminology; Lea Popovic, Vocational School Koprivnica*

Cybercrime is a phenomenon whose dangers to individuals, institutions and even the country as a whole have long been recognised. Against this background, research is being carried out in different countries from different angles in order to compare the results and strengthen preventive measures. It is therefore necessary to have publicly available data in order to understand all aspects of cybercrime based on this data. The aim of this article is therefore to provide a statistical overview of certain characteristics of cybercrime and its perpetrators in order to compare and monitor this phenomenon at a national and international level. Data is presented from various official sources in the Republic of Croatia that collect data. The work itself is part of the activities carried out within the scientific project "Mapping Cybercrime in Croatia - MACCRO". Collecting the data is the first step towards gaining a better understanding of cybercrime in Croatia. The project was launched

by the University of Zagreb, Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, Department of Criminology to address identified problems related to cybercrime such as lacking research regarding criminal careers of perpetrators, victimization and information on preventive projects.

**P093 - "Terminological Challenges in Interdisciplinary Research on Treating Perpetrators of Violence: Insights from a Czech Republic Project" *Hana Preslickova, Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention***

Interdisciplinary research is essential in addressing complex issues such as domestic violence. However, it can be hindered by terminological disparities across fields. The challenge lies in the divergence of interpretations among professionals, where seemingly straightforward terms like 'perpetrator', 'intervention', and 'rehabilitation' acquire multifaceted meanings. This poster presentation explores the intricacies of terminology within the context of treating perpetrators of violence in close relationships. Based on the outputs of the research project Improving the Treatment of Perpetrators and Support for Victims in Cases of Domestic and Gender-Based Violence in the Czech Republic funded by Norway Grants, we present a visualisation of the issue that explores different perspectives of experts representing the fields of psychology, law, sociology, and related disciplines. Using examples of some of the concepts, which were discussed in the focus groups of our project, we demonstrate the complexity of the differences in terminology. We would like to emphasize the need for practice in understanding the differences in contexts that use can enhance understanding. The poster highlights terminological challenges and the collaborative effort to create a common and widely accepted terminology. The poster aims to promote clearer communication and mutual understanding among professionals working towards the common goal of reducing domestic violence.

**P094 - The effects of and treatments for measurement error in network analysis - a multidisciplinary systematic review *Ben Palfreeman-Watt, University of Manchester; Ben Palfreeman-Watt, University of Manchester***

Network analysis is an increasingly popular tool used to conceptualise and analyse relational data. Often applied to social networks, it nonetheless has applications ranging from analysing features of terrorist networks, to modelling interactions between protein complexes. A growing field within network analysis concerns the effects of and treatments for measurement error, which can present a challenge to researchers due to the interdependent nature of network data. This not only necessitates the use of different analytical methods than those seen in more traditional frequentist statistics, but also makes dealing with measurement error significantly more complex. This is problematic as measurement error can have significant consequences for network analysis, especially in cases such as highly structurally important nodes being missing. In cases such as this, measurement error concerning a single, highly connected node may be sufficient to alter the statistics of the entire network. However, whilst multiple studies have investigated various effects measurement error in a network analysis context, there currently is no systematic analysis collating these results, as well as no systematic framework detailing best practice for reporting. Furthermore, the use of graph theoretical methods is not limited to the field of social network analysis. Therefore, this review aims to: 1, Summarise findings regarding the effects of measurement error across network types. 2, discuss findings regarding the efficacy of treatment strategies across error and network types. 3, assess whether methodologies used by different disciplines may be applicable to network analysis, as used in the study of criminal networks.

**P095 - The good and bad and a tired cop: The burnout of Greek Police Officers during the interrogative process. *Lamprini NTOUNTOUMI, PhD Candidate in Criminology, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Athens, Greece & Lecturer in Forensic Psychology, Faculty of Psychology, Metropolitan College, a branch of the University of East London, Athens, Greece; Vasiliki Karpouza, BSc Psychology Graduated, Faculty of Psychology, Metropolitan College, a branch of the University of East London, Athens, Greece***

Burnout is a serious condition that results from prolonged and excessive stress in the workplace, causing emotional, physical, and mental exhaustion. Those who work in high-stress professions involving violence, decision-making, crisis management, and irregular hours are more susceptible to burnout. Burnout can also impact one's personal life, leading to a lack of desire to socialise and potential mental health disorders like depression, anxiety, or substance abuse. In the case of police officers, the interrogation process can be incredibly stressful, complicated and demanding due to the nature of their work and the lack of sufficient training. This process involves dealing with strong emotions and ethical dilemmas. Also, investigators may face false confessions, suspect deception, peer or societal pressure to solve a crime, media defamation, and even personal threats. Therefore, this research aims to study the burnout that Greek police officers may experience due to the nature of their profession, how they are trained and whether they feel that it covers them in practice. Whether they also have knowledge of mental health issues and are trained to deal appropriately with witnesses and victims during investigative interviewing. In addition, their views on their industry, the interrogation techniques used, as well as the interrogation procedures in Greece, in general, will be studied, as well as conclusions will be drawn on the working conditions in Greek police stations, as well as possible support and prevention measures against burnout in this sector.

**P096 - The Impact of Minority Representation on Police Killings of African Americans and Hispanics *Beth Bjerregaard, University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Alana Murray, Mercer University; Benjamin Branaman, Arizona State University; Devin R Carbonaro, University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Tess Geiger, University of Cincinnati; Yaniah Powell, Heidelberg University***

Police killings are a critically important public health concern, particularly for African American and Hispanic communities. Over the past decade, incidences of police use of deadly force have increased (Mora, Terrill, and Foster, 2022), even as overall crime rates have gone down. In 2022, there were only ten days that law enforcement did not kill someone in the US (Mapping Police Violence, 2023). Utilizing a conflict perspective, this research examines how systematic inequalities, along with racial and place-based threats, influence police violence against minorities. Further, we investigate how diversity within the police department might help mitigate the use of violence. Using a unique dataset created primarily from the Mapping Police Violence database (2023), we utilize negative binomial regression analysis to predict police killings of African American and Hispanic citizens in the 100 most populated cities in the United States. Our findings show that both racial threats and place-based threats (homicide rates) increase the rate of police killings. The presence of households with firearms also significantly increases the rate of police killings as well as being in the Southern region of the United States. Importantly, we also show that officer diversity reduces the rate of police killings. Implications for policy and future research are discussed.

**P097 - The impact of the prison environment on self-control: A longitudinal approach *Ilke Veeckman, Universiteit Gent; Victoria Rambaud, The Moral & Social Brain Lab, Department of Experimental Psychology, Ghent University, B-9000 Ghent, Belgium; Tom Vander Beken, Professor and director of the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP), Ghent University; Louis Favril, Ghent University; Emilie Caspar, The Moral & Social Brain Lab, Department of Experimental Psychology, Ghent University***

Prison is a coercive institution that entails a loss of freedom, autonomy, and services. Incarceration has negative psychological, social and health effects on inmates, both in the short and long terms. However, prison environments vary considerably in terms of climate and regimes – and their impact. Prior research has found that a positive prison climate is associated with better outcomes in terms of behaviour, treatment motivation and therapeutic change. Other studies have documented that a stimulating prison environment can increase a person's readiness and motivation to engage in rehabilitation efforts and can even result in more positive post-release outcomes. An important aspect of this is self-control, a

concept that has a longstanding research history in criminology, with a focus on its potential correlation with crime and recidivism. How different prison environments might affect self-control, has been mostly overlooked in this field. The current project investigates the impact of imprisonment on self-control and mental health in an interdisciplinary neuro-criminological study. The effects of different prison environments are assessed in a longitudinal design, where newly detained and released prisoners are followed for one year. At four different timepoints, using questionnaires and a semi-structured interview, people are asked to give their perspective on their current living circumstances, be that quality of life when outside or the prison environment when detained, mental health and self-control.

P098 - The mechanisms of gang homicides – a social network analysis of Swedish street gangs *Henrietta Johansson, Linnéuniversitet; Henrietta Johansson, Linnéuniversitet*

Gun homicides and explosions related to organized crime have increased significantly during the past few years in Sweden. Simultaneously, no other European country has experienced a corresponding development, and the Swedish government has declared organized crime as a serious national threat. The individuals carrying out the murders are often underaged, but few studies have examined the mechanisms (e.g. motives and incentives) behind the shootings. Gang homicides are calculated crimes – linked with the organizational structure of the gang and affected by internal rules, geographical variables, and the prospect of criminal careers within the network. Therefore, the aim of this research is to understand the organizing mechanisms in Swedish street gangs through their co-offending network's clustering – and the correlation between the network dynamics and gun homicides. Methodologically, the study combines qualitative and quantitative data through network analysis. The empirical material consists of 1) register-based individual data on criminal suspicion, 2) police records of wiretapped conversations between gang members, and 3) transcribed chat dialogues, containing the planning of several gun homicides on encrypted platforms. Methodological and ethical implications will be discussed throughout the process. This presentation is an ongoing research project, which seeks to make a valuable contribution to the research field of organized crime whilst providing insights on crime prevention and gang homicides to law-enforcement agencies and policy makers.

P099 - The Potential Use of Psychedelic-Assisted Psychotherapy as a Desistance-Focused Intervention for Offenders *Lidia M. Stoica, University of Hertfordshire*

The contemporary desistance literature highlights the role narratives play in helping offenders to cease involvement in crime. Some theories state that the most crucial cognitive change in people who desist from crime is a cognitive readiness and openness to positive change. However, the brain's ability to change decreases with age, which makes cognitive and behavioural changes especially difficult for adults. Nevertheless, psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy could be the groundbreaking intervention that might break down this barrier and provide a catalyst for positive change, and, ultimately, desistance from crime. There is a growing body of literature that strongly suggests that psychedelics can be used for their therapeutic effects. Psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy has been proven very effective in treating depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder and substance use disorder. Furthermore, qualitative results indicate this treatment improves wellbeing, mood, and many individual indicators of life quality, with long-lasting effects. Even though literature on the potential effectiveness of psychedelics for crime desistance is very limited, there are a few studies that indicate that psychedelics could be useful for reducing antisocial and criminal behaviour. These studies found that psychedelics contributed to positive changes in personality and behaviour, such as positive shifts in values, confrontation of repressed emotions and insights into how one's past experiences are related to their present circumstances. The factors relevant to crime desistance are similar to the narratives of recovery from conditions that psychedelic-assisted therapy seems to be effective for. This paper is based on an ongoing study, and the poster will go through the rationale behind why this pioneering therapy could be an effective intervention for crime desistance, and the mixed methods that will be used. This is the first study to comprehensively explore

the narratives of people who desisted from crime after using psychedelics, and it will constitute a substantial contribution to knowledge.

P100 - The production of counter-memories in the Basque Country from a Feminist Epistemology: The Case of Women Victims of Torture *Malena Rocío Maceira, University of the Basque Country*

Within the context of the peace process of the Basque Country, how do produce memory(ies)? During the process of transition to democracy in the Basque Country, many people have reported having been tortured by law enforcement agents. This reality has been questioned by part of society and is also reflected in the low number of convictions for acts of torture that exist in Spain (only twenty to date). Following the analysis carried out by the Basque Institute of Criminology, the number of verified complaints of torture does not correspond to the existing criminal proceedings, much less to the sentences. In my work I propose, from the theoretical framework offered by the intersection between collective memory studies and feminist epistemology, to rethink how women produce alternative memories to those proposed by different actors that produce official memory, such as the justice system. Who are these women? How are they observed and produced as victims? Who are their victimizers and how do they relate to the historical event in question? How is the subject "woman victim of torture" produced in the judicial process? How do these women victims (re)construct collective memory? What does the construction of an alternative memory by women respond to? How do judges produce or actively participate in the construction of memory? The feminist perspective will allow me to observe how power relations exist in the practices associated with the construction of hegemonic and counter-memories and how they are resisted by Basque women. The incorporation of the narratives that emerge from resistance and mobilization will allow the transition that Basque society is going through to carry out a truly inclusive process of pacification.

P101 - The role of the Berlin public prosecutor's office in cases of intimate partner violence against women *Laya Alizad, Freie Universität Berlin; Laya Alizad, Freie Universität Berlin*

Intimate partner violence against women is recognised as a significant problem in many countries, particularly due to the alarming number of femicides as the ultimate escalation stage. Politicians and the public often encourage women to report their violent partners or ex-partners. Nevertheless, offences of intimate partner violence go through a complex filtering process before a conviction is made. Dark field research studies show that only around 15% of victims of such violence actually report the offence. Among the German federal states, only Berlin publishes statistics on how the public prosecutor's office decides in cases of domestic violence and intimate partner violence. Findings from these statistics show that around 80% of cases are dropped due to insufficient evidence. This judicial filtering process goes even further, and the result is at odds with appeals to women to involve the prosecution authorities at an early stage. So far, the role of the public prosecutor's office as a filter has hardly been investigated in Germany. This poster presents the preliminary results of an explorative, qualitative analysis of files from the Berlin public prosecutor's office and a group interview with the public prosecutors. The aim is to show which factors can lead to charges being brought and whether a systematic approach can be recognised in the decision-making process as a whole. In particular, the requirements of the Istanbul Convention will be analysed. It is suggested that the poster be hung near Katharina Heermann's poster, which also examines the German public prosecutor's office in her research, in order to create a meaningful addition.

P102 - The role of the health psychologist in the prevention of suicides of detained people. Guidelines of Piedmont and Local Health Authority of Alessandria, Italy *Franca Bo, ASL Alessandria; Elisa Ravera, ASL Alessandria; Roberto Stura, ASL Alessandria; Paolo Casamento, ASL Alessandria; Alessandra Lugli, ASL Alessandria*

With the 2007 guidelines "Prevention of suicide in prisons", the WHO defined the causes of suicide as "complex", indicating multiple factors such as environmental, socio-cultural, psychiatric,



genetic disorders and social stress among the elements that can lead to self-harm and/or suicide attempts among prisoners. It is known that the psychological impact of arrest and imprisonment, withdrawal crises, the awareness of a long conviction or the daily stress of life in prison without work activities and cultural interventions can exceed the person's resistance threshold even in the absence of pre-existing risk factors and, even more, in the case of mental fragility. This work provides information on the complex Italian penitentiary organization in which the health psychologist works and produces examples of multi-professional interventions implemented both towards prisoners assessed at suicide risk, but also towards penitentiary police officers who are the first to intervene in cases of anti-conservative acts. The ability of prison staff to be sensitive to the unaware aspects that can lead the prisoners to suicidal behavior is fundamental for preventive purposes as the official data provided by the Ministry of Justice reports 68 suicides in Italian prisons in 2023 and already 13 in the month of January 2024. In 2022 only 11 of the 85 who died by suicide in prison were suffering from mental certified pathologies, which is why the regional guidelines involve multi-professional staff.

- P103 - The rule of law, democracy and societal trust in police oversight arrangements and police law-drafting in Finland  
*Aura Kostiainen, University of Helsinki; Aura Kostiainen, University of Helsinki*

The poster presents a design for a three-year study on decision-making regarding the police institution in Finland. The study examines the relationship of the police with the democratic society in Finland from the perspective of the development of police powers and oversight / scrutiny of the institution. The project will firstly examine the legislative drafting of the police powers, in particular the actors involved, and secondly analyse how the oversight of the police and the solutions for its organisation have come about and evolved. The analysis will be deepened by examining the threats and subjectivities that emerged in the lawmaking materials on police powers. The focus is on recent history, with a particular emphasis on the post-World War II period, and, given the emphasis on the development of legislation, especially on the 1990s and beyond. The study combines perspectives from law, criminology, political science, and history. The study examines how the high level of trust enjoyed by the police in Finland is related to the democratic control of the police institution and the powers of the police. Theoretically, the study draws on democratic theory and historical criminology. Scientifically the approach is innovative and interdisciplinary, using historical contextual thinking to understand the current legal and institutional system. In Finland, the study is a socially significant illuminator of the development of police powers and the underlying patterns of thought and trends.

- P104 - Torture victims, what are they asking from the administration? *Laura Pego, University of the Basque Country, PhD researcher; Laura Pego, University of the Basque Country, PhD researcher*

The research carried out by the Basque Institute of Criminology in recent years in Navarra - a region located in northern Spain- (2017, 2022 and 2023) has aimed to know and understand the real dimensions of the phenomenon of torture in the context of politically motivated violence. These reports, which have been financed by the Government of Navarra, make it possible to provide accurate data on the incidence of these practices in the population of Navarra, as well as to guide the relevant recognition and prevention measures. The sum of the data obtained and recorded in our database presents us with a universe that, from a quantitative point of view, yields a final figure of 1,083 cases out of 919 people affected for the period 1960-2015. The team has collected the testimony of 172 people. One of the questions asked to the victims was how would you like the State to respond to your case? The objective of the project we are carrying out this year (2024) is to analyze the response of these people and transfer it to the administration.

[https://www.ehu.es/documents/1736829/1923443/Informe+Navarra+Tortura+II\\_2023+.pdf/c7fa0ec2-caf3-683a-1faa-1c545c7aaf84?t=1707040777868](https://www.ehu.es/documents/1736829/1923443/Informe+Navarra+Tortura+II_2023+.pdf/c7fa0ec2-caf3-683a-1faa-1c545c7aaf84?t=1707040777868)

- P105 - Transatlantic criminological collaboration: Unveiling the synergy between Ghent University and Kent State University  
*Hedi Naseri, Kent State University; Wim Hardyns, Ghent University; Noel Klima, Ghent University*

This poster unveils an innovative collaboration forged between the criminology departments of Ghent University (Belgium) and Kent State University (United States). Representing a harmonious intersection of European and American academia, this collaboration is characterized by robust ties that extend into both research and teaching realms, incorporating various institutes and research infrastructures. The poster illuminates the interdisciplinary foundation of this partnership, focusing on critical areas such as terrorism, cybercrime, and policing. By delving into these complex criminological domains, the collaboration aims to foster a rich exchange of ideas and methodologies across continents. The fruitful relationship between Ghent University and Kent State University is designed to act as a catalyst, propelling advancements in diverse research fields. Beyond the academic realm, this collaboration aspires to cultivate a deepened mutual understanding and appreciation of distinct research cultures. By leveraging the strengths of both institutions, the collaboration is poised to make a meaningful societal impact through groundbreaking research initiatives.

- P106 - Trauma-Informed Practices in the Child Protection System in Portugal  
*Virginia Alves, Psychology Research Centre (CIPsi), School of Psychology, University of Minho; Mariana Gonçalves, University of Minho*

Child Protection System (SPC) professionals work with children and families with high rates of adverse and/or traumatic experiences, namely interpersonal, chronic, and cumulative violence. The trauma-informed approach, recommended and adopted by different institutions, aims to increase knowledge about trauma, its prevalence, and its impact to mitigate re-traumatization, minimize the impact of adverse experiences, promote the well-being and health (physical and mental) of all those involved (e.g., children, families, professionals) and enhance the efficacy of the intervention. This study aims to evaluate the training of professionals, the knowledge, and the adoption of trauma-informed practices, as well as the resources made available by institutions for the promotion and implementation of these practices, with children who have experienced domestic violence. Data was collected via an online questionnaire (Qualtrics) distributed by SPC Portuguese institutions through email. The sample was composed of 228 SPC professionals, representing all national districts, including islands, who performed different professional and institutional functions/positions. The participants, with an average age of 41 years, were mostly women (92%), with a degree in Psychology (72%) and academic qualifications at the master's level (55%). The preliminary results suggest that the training and implementation of trauma-informed practices among professionals were insufficient. This indicates that these practices were not fully integrated into the organizational culture of SPC. The data from this study will allow us to carry out a diagnostic analysis of the knowledge and needs of professionals and institutions regarding trauma-informed practices.

- P107 - Treatment competences: prison staff assessment and self-assessment  
*Martina Pleško, University of Zagreb Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, Department of Criminology; Irma Kovčo Vukadin, University of Zagreb Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, Department of Criminology*

According to the UNODC, there were 11.2 million people in prison worldwide at the end of 2021 (UNODC, 2023). The rehabilitative potential of prison sentences has been questioned for decades. Therefore, treatment staff with appropriate competences (values, knowledge, skills) is an important factor for the rehabilitation of offenders (MacLachlan & et al., 2011; Tadić, 2022). The aim of this study is to gain an insight into the competences of treatment staff in the Croatian prison system and to determine the differences between the required and self-assessed competences in general, but also in terms of length of service. 54 employees (approx. 36% of the total treatment staff) of the treatment department of penal institutions in Croatia participated in the study (M=47.53; SD=9.16), with an average length of service in the penal system of

13 years (SD=10.96). An instrument consisting of two parts was developed for the purposes of the study. The first part relates to competences (required and self-assessed) and the second part to socio-demographic and employment-related data. The research questions to be answered on the poster are: (1) How do treatment staff assess and self-assess treatment values, knowledge and skills; (2) Are there differences between required and self-assessed treatment values, knowledge and skills; (3) Is there a significant relationship between treatment values, knowledge and skills and length of service?

**P108 - Uncovering Gender Bias: How Legal Professionals Perceive Sexual Harassment** *Liza Zvi, Ariel University; Liza Zvi, Ariel University; Mally Shechory Bitton, Ariel University*

Sexual harassment (SH) is a prevalent form of violence affecting millions worldwide. While prohibited by law, not all countries classify SH as a criminal offense, and the laws against SH are often subject to interpretation. Legal professionals' perceptions of what constitutes SH are particularly significant, especially in jurisdictions where SH is subject to criminal law and trials are adjudicated by judges rather than lay juries. In Israel, SH is indeed considered a criminal offense, and trials are conducted by judges. The purpose of the present study was to examine Israeli lawyers' perceptions of SH and whether their interpretation of SH is affected by the sex of the perpetrator and victim. Ninety-one lawyers were compared to 120 students in their evaluations of behavior as SH and attributions of perpetrator and victim blame. The participants were presented with case descriptions of SH that were identical in all aspects but the perpetrator and victim's sex, which was alternately depicted as male/female or female/male. Results showed that both lawyers and students were more inclined to regard the behavior as SH when the perpetrator was a man (i.e., female victim) than a woman (i.e., male victim). Gender bias was also evident in the participants' blame attributions, which were higher toward a male (vs. female) harasser. Nonetheless, lawyers attributed higher perpetrator blame and were less victim-blaming than students. The results suggest that lawyers may be stereotypically biased by gender in their perceptions of SH. Training and expansion of educational systems may help change views and dispel common myths, promoting equal treatment of SH victims by the law.

**P109 - Understanding and Responding to Cybercrime in Austria: A Comprehensive Survey** *Patricia Jessner, Austrian Road Safety Board; Patricia Jessner, Austrian Road Safety Board*

In December 2023, a survey of 1,032 web-active Austrians aged 14+ revealed insights into cybercrime awareness and experiences. This representative study highlighted that 48.4% of participants rate their cybercrime knowledge as average, while a gender gap exists with 39.5% of men feeling informed versus 29.5% of women. Financial losses due to cybercrime affected 17.2% of respondents, with younger individuals (14-39) more likely to report losses than those over 60. The study found that financial damages mostly ranged between 10 to 300 euros, with 15.8% experiencing losses over 1,000 euros, primarily due to online fraud and phishing. Notably, 49.7% reported the incident to the police, although doubts about the police's effectiveness in handling such cases were prevalent. Over half of the respondents doubted the Austrian police's capability to combat cybercrime effectively, reflecting a significant skepticism particularly among younger demographics. Preventative measures taken by individuals include avoiding suspicious emails (72.5%), not sharing sensitive data online (63.6%), using antivirus software (55%), and maintaining up-to-date systems and complex passwords. Interestingly, women are more inclined to seek advice in uncertain situations, while men prioritize data backups for protection. This survey underscores a moderate level of cybercrime awareness among Austrians, with a notable portion affected by financial losses. The public's divided stance on reporting to the police and skepticism towards law enforcement's cybercrime capabilities calls for enhanced awareness and resources. Preventative strategies focus on cautious digital communication and proactive security measures, suggesting a need for broader educational efforts on cyber safety practices.

**P110 - Unlocking Potential in the study of carceral space: Lefebvre's lens to understand the social production of carceral space in secure care units for youth.** *sabrina bourget,*

*Université Laval*

In Quebec, children who need to be removed from their families for their own protection, and youth identified as offenders and sentenced to custody, all end up in the same place: rehabilitation centers. In these centers, most young people are housed in open units, but some will experience one or more stays in secure care units. These units, with their ambiguous status, where practitioners must reconcile objectives of control, rehabilitation and care, are inseparable from a concept that is too often sidelined in research: that of space, or more precisely carceral space. The very existence of the secure care units is essentially based on its spatial dimension, which makes it possible to significantly restrict young people's freedoms, sometimes in damaging ways, with the aim of changing their behavior. Despite the imminently spatial nature of these units, very few studies have addressed this dimension, most focusing instead on intervention and surveillance practices or on the subjective experience of young people and practitioners (Chantraine et al., 2012; Sallée, 2015). The present paper is based on two postulates: (1) we must take into account the dynamic and socially constructed nature of space, as supported by many studies on space in the field of human geography (Lefebvre, 1974; Harvey, 2006; Löw, 2016); (2) we cannot simply study practices or experiences while leaving aside the concept of space, or at least ignoring its dynamic and socially constructed nature. Following these two postulates, the presentation aims to propose an innovative theoretical framework in criminology, that of Henri Lefebvre's theory of the social production of space (1974), to understand how secure space is socially produced by young people and practitioners. A discussion will follow on the multiple avenues that an integrated understanding of the social production of secure space would open for criminology.

**P111 - Unlocking Realities: A Narrative Inquiry of Prisoners' Lived Experience of Navigating the Romanian Prison System during and beyond COVID-19** *Daniela Irina Stadnicu, Liverpool John Moores University*

Background: The global prison population has reached its highest level to date, with over 11.5 million people deprived of their liberty on any given day, primarily men. However, the number of women in prison has risen by 60% since 2000, compared to a 22% increase in the number of men across all regions. Systemic prison crises such as chronic overcrowding, inhumane living conditions, lack of resources, and mismanagement have been amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic, which placed a heavy toll on custodial environments, transforming them into hotspots for disease. International guidelines acknowledge the unique health vulnerabilities of people living in prisons and emphasize that prison responses to COVID-19 should not subject people in prisons to inhumane treatment. Romanian prisons face difficulties in maintaining international detention standards. In 2023, the European Court of Human Rights issued 81 judgments related to Romanian prisons, with 72 identifying various human rights violations. The World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (2023) highlighted a significant absence of data concerning the Romanian prison population demographics, pre-trial and life-sentenced individuals, and bio-behavioral data. This study aims to address the existing gap in the literature by exploring the perspectives of individuals with lived experience in a Romanian prison during the COVID-19 pandemic, with regard to: • the COVID-19 impact on mental health and wellbeing in a closed space. • access to prison healthcare and support services during COVID-19 system restrictions. • the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on inter-personal and familial relationships. • experiences of release from prison and re-entry into the community. Methods: In-depth, semi-structured interviews conducted with people who have lived experience of incarceration during the COVID-19 pandemic in Romania. Data will be analysed using Dialogical Narrative Analysis.

**P112 - Unraveling Legal Ambiguities: Critical Perspectives on EU and Greek Sex Work Legislation** *Dimitra Kalampaliki, Social Researcher, MA in Analysis & Implementation of Social Policy, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences*

This research examines the legal framework of sex work (and prostitution) within the European Union (EU), with a focus on

Greek legislation. Based on my master's thesis, the study explores the impact of laws on sex workers, including those involved in digital sex work, and the influence of ideological perspectives. The methodology includes a literature review of theoretical and institutional dimensions, an analysis of research studies and policy documents, and an examination of legal texts. Using the theoretical lenses of the Sociology of Law and Critical Criminology, the research analyzes the phenomenon of sex work, outlines conflicting approaches, and compares legal responses across EU member states. It identifies common patterns and emerging trends in the EU, and highlights the unique case of Greek Law 2734/1999, noting its deficiencies and lack of effectiveness. The findings underscore that EU legislation provides an outdated and insufficient response to sex work, exacerbating the social exclusion of many sex workers. The research argues that these laws serve as tools for moral and political control within a neoliberal context. The Greek case reveals significant legislative gaps and a failure to address the realities of sex work, further marginalizing sex workers. The study concludes with critical questions into the role of law and advances proposals from the field of Social Policy aimed at fostering more inclusive legal frameworks.

- P113 - Unveiling Awareness and Attitudes: Exploring Honour-Based Violence Perception Among University Students in Catalonia, Spain *Carolina Villacampa, University of Lleida; Marc Salat, University of Lleida; Clàudia Torres Ferrer, University of Lleida*

Honour-based violence is a manifestation of violence against women that has so far been scarcely addressed in Spain beyond forced marriages and female genital mutilation. The research presented here aims to discover what level of awareness and knowledge the university population has of this reality, what attitude it has towards this type of violence and what legal response it deserves. With these objectives in mind, an online survey was designed and completed by university students from various undergraduate, master's and doctoral programmes at 8 universities in Catalonia -5 in Barcelona, 1 in Tarragona, 1 in Lleida and 1 in Girona-, the geographical area in Spain with the highest percentage of immigrant population and where most cases of forced marriages have been reported to date. This contribution presents the structure of the instrument used to collect data, the socio-demographic characteristics of the sample and the first results obtained.

- P048 - Unveiling Corruption Tolerance Toward Bribery: Exploring Socio-Psychological Dynamics and Neutralization Mechanisms through a Behavioral Framework *Ariana Bravo, Junior Researcher UGent; Ariana Bravo, Junior Researcher UGent*

In response to the limitations of rational choice theory in explaining corrupt behavior and the ineffectiveness of anti-corruption efforts, this research proposes a behavioral framework to understand corruption tolerance towards bribery at the individual level, focusing on socio-psychological and environmental factors. Ecuador, characterized by high corruption levels, provides the context for this study. Corruption tolerance, defined as the willingness to accept deviant behaviors from ethical standards, is shaped by socio-psychological factors and the environment. The decision-making process surrounding bribery, particularly low-level corruption, warrants closer examination due to its widespread prevalence and detrimental effects. Integrating the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) and the Theory of Neutralization (TN), this research aims to elucidate the mechanisms underlying corruption tolerance. The TPB emphasizes attitudes, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control in shaping intentions and behaviors, while the TN explores cognitive strategies individuals use to rationalize corrupt activities. By integrating these theories, this research seeks to advance our understanding of corruption tolerance, considering moral, ethical, and rational dimensions. Empirical validation of the causal model using primary data and examination of neutralization techniques across different bribery shades and environments will provide insights into their efficacy and influence on corruption tolerance. This comprehensive approach responds to the fragmented nature of existing policy interventions and the scholarly call for integrated behavioral frameworks in corruption studies. By considering environmental

factors within TPB and exploring neutralization techniques, this research aims to provide a holistic understanding of corruption tolerance towards bribery. The findings hold promise for informing the design of more effective anti-corruption initiatives and behavior-change interventions, contributing to evidence-based solutions for societal issues. The study employs a causal research design, focusing on individuals aged 18 to 29 in key cities in Ecuador known for high corruption rates, and utilizes surveys and vignettes for data collection.

- P114 - ViolenceStop: developing protocols and guidelines to tackle violence against women and children in Cuba *Lior Volinz, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Yisel Muñoz Alfonso, Universidad Central "Marta Abreu" de Las Villas, Santa Clara (Cuba); Yulier Campos Pérez, Universidad Central "Marta Abreu" de Las Villas, Santa Clara (Cuba); Jenneke Christiaens, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Reinier Martin González, Universidad Central "Marta Abreu" de Las Villas, Santa Clara (Cuba); Amanda Pérez Becquer, Universidad Central "Marta Abreu" de Las Villas, Santa Clara (Cuba); Maylen Villamañán Alba, Universidad Central "Marta Abreu" de Las Villas, Santa Clara (Cuba); Alexander Martínez Castellanos, Universidad Central "Marta Abreu" de Las Villas, Santa Clara (Cuba); Mely González Arostegui, Universidad Central "Marta Abreu" de Las Villas, Santa Clara (Cuba); Ginley Durán Castellón, Universidad Central "Marta Abreu" de Las Villas, Santa Clara (Cuba)*

In Cuba, a new legal and social context has brought into light the scope of violence against vulnerable groups such as women and children, and the need for new institutional responses to tackle those. The Cuban-Belgian project "Stop Violence: Protocols for the Care and Protection of Women and Children in Cuba" aims to find legal and civil solutions to protect these vulnerable groups and provide support for potential victims. This poster presents our initial results, highlighting their significance in creating novel and transformative forms of social practices in legal procedures and among civil society. Drawing on a diverse methodology including literature review, document analysis, content analysis, interviews, surveys and focus groups, this project attempts three distinct interventions. First, a diagnostic phase delving into the social perception of violence and the mechanisms for its prevention in two urban communities are analysed, as well as the existing care services to women and children victims of violence in Cuba. The second phase involves the development of trainings and workshops dedicated to strengthening practical skills among practitioners and the development of custom-made solutions to the Cuban context. These include training and capacity building actions to stop gender-based violence and a workshop on stop violence against women and children. The third phase is dedicated to the development of new protocols and guidelines for the support and protection of women and children (potential) victims, to be implemented among institutional and non-governmental actors, such as family defence offices and non-governmental organizations.

- P092 - Preserving the Legacy of the founder of Victimology : A Journey Through the Archives of Benjamin Mendelsohn *Coscas-Williams Beatrice, Chair of the Esc victimology working Group and a Lecturer at the Academic College of the Western Galilee*

The Mendelsohn archives represent a significant collection chronicling the emergence and development of victimology. This collection comprises original materials, including Mendelsohn's extensive correspondence, seminal articles, photographs, and personal documents, that trace the discipline's evolution over its first 30 years. The archives offer a window into the mind of victimology's founding father, revealing his pioneering thoughts and the challenges he faced. This poster presents the first step in the creation of a digital archive to offer all victimology scholars access to this treasure. Initiated by the late Professor Leslie Sebba and Professor Simha Landau, the project focuses on rescuing and digitizing hundreds of documents that were at risk of being discarded. These documents, transferred to the Hebrew University's Faculty of Law library for digital preservation, provide unique insights into the development of victimology from its inception.

After Professor Sebba's passing in August 2022, the European Society of Criminology's Victimology Working Group called for the continuation of this important work. A dedicated team of international victimologists has since digitally converted more than half of Mendelsohn's extensive collection, which is now accessible online for scholarly research. The project aims to deepen our understanding of victimology's roots and foster future research and education. Our poster will show how the archive enriches our understanding of victimology's origins and development, potentially reframing current perspectives and uncovering previously overlooked aspects of Mendelsohn's impact on the field.

**P017 - COVID-19, Domestic Violence, and Shelter-Based Help-Seeking in Portugal: Unveiling Socio-Ecological Dynamics**  
*Ana Cunha, School of Psychology, University of Minho; Mariana Gonçalves, University of Minho; Marlene Matos, Psychology Research Centre, School of Psychology, University of Minho; Marlene Matos, Psychology Research Centre, School of Psychology, University of Minho*

This study examines domestic violence experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic among 103 victims recruited from shelters in Portugal. The analysis explores the association between pandemic-related violence and socio-ecological factors (e.g., sex, race/ethnicity, physical and psychological health, children, social relationships, employment, and environment) along with motivations for seeking help in shelters during COVID-19. The participants, predominantly female, unemployed during the pandemic, and ethnically diverse, shared their experiences, including different forms of violence. Results indicate that participants experienced multiple victimization, including psychological violence, physical violence, control/stalking, economic violence, and sexual violence. Nearly half of the sample perceived an increase in violence due to the pandemic. Females, those aged 18-30, and participants from minority groups (e.g., Black, Romani, Indigenous, and Hispanic) reported more victimization during the pandemic. Sexual violence was exclusively reported by females. Control and stalking behaviors had the highest frequencies reported by participants aged 18-30 years. When facing physical violence, having children present was a risk factor, and having better social relations was a protective factor. Compared to other relationships, participants in intimate relationships reported more control/stalking, with sexual violence exclusively reported in these relationships. Motivations for seeking shelter were an escalation of violence, seeking a better quality of life and well-being (e.g., due to financial dependence or mental health struggles), and reasons related to children (e.g., due to violent incidents affecting children). During the COVID-19-related state of alert in Portugal, 46 participants sought shelters. Older age and experiencing control and stalking in abusive relationships emerged as risk factors for help-seeking during the state of alert. Better psychological health and social relations were protective factors. The research highlights the importance of understanding and responding to the multifaceted impact of the pandemic on domestic violence in Portugal.

**P091 - Technological-facilitated dating victimization among Portuguese adolescents: Prevalence and ecological correlates**  
*Maria Vale, Psychology Research Centre, School of Psychology, University of Minho; Marlene Matos, Psychology Research Centre, School of Psychology, University of Minho*

**Background.** Technological-facilitated dating victimization (TFDV) describes a pattern of abusive and harmful technology-facilitated behaviors exerted by one current and/or former partner over the other: humiliation, threats, monitoring/control, and sexual coercion. **Objectives.** This cross-sectional study aimed to: (a) determine the prevalence of victimization; (b) and identify correlates within the multiple levels of the social ecology: individual (demographic, health, and behavioral), interpersonal (intimate, peers, and family), and school/community (safety, support, and norms), contrasting the victims with the non-violence group. **Method.** A sample of 1855 adolescents, aged 12-18 years, from 25 schools in Portugal's northern and central regions participated in a web-based research protocol. **Data management.** Among these, 713 adolescents who met the inclusion criteria were retained for analysis. These criteria involved having dated within the last 12 months, lacking missing information, not being

multivariate outliers, and not admitting to being only perpetrators. **Results.** The descriptive statistics indicated that 46.6% reported experiencing TFDV. Binary logistic regression analysis revealed that being from an ethnic minority, engaging in risky behaviors online (individual-correlates), participating in consensual sexting, having less social support from peers, experiencing five or more adverse childhood experiences (interpersonal-correlates), and engaging in less proactive norms to prevent TFDV (school/community-correlates) were linked to a higher likelihood of TFDV. **Conclusion.** Collectively, the results indicate several levels within the social ecology, where situational modifications could be implemented to prevent TFDV. **Keywords:** adolescents, technology-facilitated dating victimization, socioecological model

#### **184. Ice Cream Social - during Poster Session**

ESC

Social Events

6:45 to 8:00 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Other places - see the event's description*

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER, 13**

#### **185. POL Panel 15. Perceptions and impacts of self-legitimacy and trust amongst criminal justice actors**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”*

Chair:

*Steven Debbaut, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

Participants:

Drug Detectives' Self-legitimacy and its implications for Revisiting Police Culture and Police Legitimacy *Steven Debbaut, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

Drug detectives are the guardians of the drug prohibition policy and the question is raised to what extent, and on what basis, drug detectives feel their power is morally correct. Ethnographic fieldwork, which included 40 epistemic-confrontational interviews, was carried out over 10 months in two cities in Belgium among drug detectives operating at street level and in local drug investigation units. The study finds that drug detectives derive their self-legitimacy primarily from subjectivation in the eradication discourse and from endogenous elements such as identification with the professional identity of 'crime-fighter', and being good at your 'craft' and seeking validation of this from colleagues. It is argued that an endogenous construction of self-legitimacy co-produces and strengthens some (dysfunctional) core characteristics of police culture. Furthermore, drug detectives' underlying motivation is rarely fuelled by a belief in the effectiveness of their actions in reducing drug use or selling, but by the conviction that they have to take action because 'otherwise things would get out of hand'. Drawing on the analysis, suggestions are made on how police culture and police legitimacy can be influenced by facilitating a shift in officers' perception of their professional identity.

Forensic intelligence and its uses, perceptions and representations by forensic practitioners *Nathan Ballèvre, University of Lausanne, Ecole des sciences criminelles; Bertrand Renard, National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology (NICC-INCC); Olivier Ribaux, University of Lausanne (Université de Lausanne)*

Traces have been in use in investigations for decades, with mostly an evaluative purpose. Its end-use was for tribunals. However, a community of scientists have been putting forward that traces can be used for more and prone the use of forensic data for intelligence purposes. Similar to state intelligence, forensic intelligence becomes actionable when disseminated to guide decision-making, requiring accuracy, timeliness and usefulness. Therefore, there is a

need to understand the different stakeholders in order to implement a functional model in institutions. This is the reason and focus of this study integrated into the project of Be-ForIntel of the National Institute of criminology and criminalistics, which aims to examine under what conditions and how forensics intelligence can be implemented in Belgium. This presentation will focus on the different outtakes from the interview of a dozen forensic experts addressing their representations and perceptions through their trust and understanding of the concept of forensic intelligence. For example, from exploratory research, a possible outtake is that representation of utility determines transmission of information. Finally, the current practices of these practitioners will be explored to understand the challenges they are facing and what solutions they see for them.

Perceptions of self-legitimacy among civil police officers in São Paulo (Brazil) *Viviane de Oliveira Cubas, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil; Frederico Castelo Branco, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil; Renato Antonio Alves, Centre for the Study of Violence - USP*

Research on police 'self-legitimacy' or 'internal legitimacy' help to identify the reasons why authorities mobilize their political power, as well as their internal beliefs in their moral right to exercise such authority. Studies on police self-legitimacy indicate that how these agents perceive the fairness of procedures within their institutions has impact on how these officers understand their work and authority. This paper presents an analysis of a survey of civil police officers conducted in 2024 in São Paulo, Brazil. The Civil Police is responsible for serving the population at police stations, more specifically for recording and investigating crimes. The analysis explores the predictors of civil police officer's self-legitimacy using indicators related to (1) perceptions of fairness within the police, (2) quality of relationship with superiors, (3) quality of relationship with the public, and an indicator related to (4) efficacy of police work. The implications of these findings are discussed.

**186. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 13: Investigative, prosecutorial and judicial decision-making in GBV**  
Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”

Chair:

*Allison Jayne Turner*, University of South Wales

Participants:

Can Mandatory Prosecution of Domestic Violence Increase the Probability of Femicide? Evidence from Mexico *Veronica Jaso, The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)*

To date, the research on mandatory or ex officio prosecution of domestic violence is limited. It is uncertain whether this approach is actually effective or detrimental to the victims of domestic violence. It is worrisome that despite such limited evidence to prove the efficacy of this approach, more countries are leaning towards its adoption. Focusing on Mexico as a case study, a country with sub-national variations in mandatory and non-mandatory prosecution of domestic violence, alongside alarmingly high rates of violence against women, this study aims to contribute to the understanding of this phenomenon. The research uses statistics from official databases of The National Statistics Institute of Mexico, spanning from the year 2006 to 2021. It employs a Difference in Difference methodology to establish that mandatory or ex officio prosecution of domestic violence can, in fact, lead to a significant escalation of domestic violence, as measured by the rate of femicides. These findings are particularly significant as the Mexican Senate deliberates the potential implementation of nationwide ex officio prosecution for such crimes. Moreover, in European countries where the recognition of international treaties and adherence to international human rights obligations are prevalent, the adoption of ex officio prosecution has increased across various jurisdictions in response to the imperative to address domestic violence effectively.

Foundations of Judicial Decisions on Gender-Based Violence and Trans Community in Spain *Emilio-José Armaza-Armaza, Deusto University*

Spain, like many other countries, has a range of legal instruments specifically aimed at preventing and punishing gender-based violence. In fact, the Spanish Criminal Code includes a generic aggravating circumstance in Article 22 (referred to as the "gender aggravating circumstance"), as well as various specific offenses that adjust the criminal response (punishment) to gender-based violence. Naturally, the application of these tools within the framework of the Courts and Tribunals has been common in cases outlined in the Criminal Code, where it is proven that a man has assaulted a woman due to gender discrimination. However, the purpose of this paper is to present and analyze the jurisprudential trends that have emerged in Spain regarding the criminal treatment of gender-based violence in cases where the victim is a trans woman. This proposal is particularly relevant considering that less than a year ago, Spain passed "Law 4/2023 for the real and effective equality of trans people and for the guarantee of the rights of LGBTBI people," which unconditionally provides and regulates the right of citizens to self-determination of gender (Article 44).

Using Videos to Enhance Awareness of Sexism and Misogyny among Police Recruits . *Allison Jayne Turner, University of South Wales*

Recent British Governmental Reports, such as the Baroness Casey Review and the Operation Hotton Report have highlighted a culture of sexism and misogyny operating within the Metropolitan Police, based in London, UK. This presentation will highlight the findings of primary research, conducted with police recruits from England and Wales, enrolled on an Initial Police Training Course. The research aims to identify levels of understanding around sexism and misogyny, among police recruits as participants of the study and to analyse the effectiveness of video, in facilitating education around these matters. The research is longitudinal in design and involves the distribution of three online questionnaires, which will be completed by the participants, as part of their Initial Training Course. The questionnaires, will be completed before and after a training video, based upon sexism and misogyny and which has been specifically created for use in this research, is shown to the participants. The hypothesis is, that the participants general understanding of sexism and misogyny will be poor. However, the training video will be an effective resource in facilitating education around these matters.

**187. Victim Rights, Victim Values**

Topic 4: Victimology/Victims' rights (Victimology WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”

Since the 1980s victims of crime have moved up the political, legal, policy and practice agendas. Concomitantly, there has been an associated change in the cultural meaning and significance of 'victimhood'. In this panel session we will explore the relationship between the increased salience of victim rights (or entitlements) and victim culture (or status). Of particular interest is the intersection of different victim values and how they shape our understanding and response to the victims of crime and injustice. We will critically interrogate how current debates and signature events have propelled not only interpersonal, but also social group victimisation to the forefront of social and legal controversy. This panel session will prompt an important and timely discussion of a new era of victimology, in which we are witnessing the ascendancy of the victim as the new cultural icon of crime an injustice. How is this affecting our conception of justice and due process? To what extent are victim rights the product of political or geographical bias? And is the victims' movement genuinely emancipatory – giving voice to the oppressed and subjugated or an ideological tool for the continued silencing of the subaltern?

Chairs:

*Suzan van der Aa*, Maastricht University

*Simon Green*, University of Hull

Participants:

A chief concern? Victims and extraterritorial atrocity prosecution  
*Marieke de Hoon, University of Amsterdam*

Extraterritorial atrocity prosecutions are often at least prima facie legitimized by their concern with victims and victim-communities. This is visible at the ICC, as well as in domestic prosecution of international crimes, for instance relating to the wars in Syria and Ukraine and the prosecution of the downing of Flight MH17. In (some of) these cases, the prosecution increasingly invests in additional lines of communication to victim communities than merely through courtroom proceedings. Based on a case study of participation of the survivors of the victims of MH17, the paper will analyze the prosecutors' communication with victim communities and the world-at-large in light of theories of the expressive purpose of international criminal justice and of the (changing) role of the prosecutor. To what extent can victims' interests be seen as a main motivation for extraterritorial atrocity prosecution and what does this reveal about the role of the prosecutor more generally?

**Hannah Arendt and the response to victimization of international crimes** *Antony Pemberton, Katholieke Universiteit of Leuven (KU Leuven)*

The situation of victims of international crimes spotlights a number of issues with the justice response to crime and victimization: the definition of the harm done to victims as primarily a civil law matter; the narrowing of the questions raised by crime to those of guilt and responsibility; the cloaking of the role of revenge and the obfuscation of the nature of crime as a public wrong. This paper will argue that the work of Hannah Arendt can be marshalled to address these issues: this includes a novel way of understanding the difference between countering injustice and doing justice, including an understanding of the fundamentally political nature of experiencing injustice, the importance of modelling the justice response on Arendt's distinction between determinate and reflective judgement, and the adoption of key concepts - like her notion of natality and the political sphere from *The Human Condition* - to reconsider the meaning of the outcome of justice process in the aftermath of international crimes.

**Victim Rights, Power and Privilege: Is there a case for collective rights for victims?** *Simon Green, University of Hull*

Since the 1980s we have witnessed the steady growth of the victims' movement and associated victim rights (e.g. UN 1985, EU 2012, 2020-2025) that provide an international benchmark for these rights and their enactment into domestic law. Whilst there are ongoing concerns about the implementation of these 'rights' and equal access to justice for all (see SDG 16 indicators for example), these victim rights emphasize individual provision over collective rights. This well-trodden observation in no way diminishes the importance of existing instruments for delivering justice for victims. What has changed is that victim rights are increasingly referenced in relation to social group position. For example, the rights of women, transgender people, black and minority ethnic groups, faith-based groups, displaced people, LGBTQI+ people (to name but a few) are positioned in reference to historical and contemporary claims about injustice, disadvantage and the privilege of others. In some instances, social group experiences of victimisation clash, leading to anger, resentment, and the danger of further trauma and victimisation. This paper will consider whether there is a case for collective victim rights, what they might look like and how they might operate alongside existing provision.

**International victim rights and their underlying values** *Suzan van der Aa, Maastricht University*

Since the 1980s various international victim rights instruments have seen the light, impacting the position of victims in national criminal proceedings. These instruments are typically surrounded by much controversy, with critics claiming that the increased attention for victims erodes the rights of suspects, and enlarge the different levels of victim protection between countries, rather than work as a harmonizing factor, due to inter alia the various 'worlds of compliance' that states belong to and the distinction between 'hard' and 'soft' law. Others conclude that - in the background - law enforcement and political motives, rather than the best interests of victims, play a decisive role in the extent to which certain victim rights are received by the (inter)national legal community. This paper explores the relationship between international victim rights and the underlying values, public sentiments, events and other factors that contributed to the creation, implementation and further development of these rights and the changed conceptualization of

'victimhood'.

## 188. Cybercrime Working Group - Victimization & Resilience 2

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Cybercrime (Cybercrime WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 5 „Constantin Stătescu”*

Chair:

**Steven Kemp**, University of Girona

Participants:

To act or to ignore? Longitudinal effects of reacting to online harassment on victims' well-being *Magdalena Celuch, Tampere University; Iina Savolainen, Tampere University; Atte Oksanen, Tampere University*

Online harassment constitutes a pervasive problem facing modern societies. Victims often choose to actively oppose the perpetrator by blocking their profile, confronting them, or reporting them to site administrators or law enforcement. Purposefully ignoring the situation is also a common way of dealing with online abuse. However, not much is known about how victims' coping strategies influence their well-being in the aftermath of the harassment. This study uses longitudinal data collected from a nationally representative sample of Finnish adults (N = 1094) to address this research gap. Based on transactional model of stress and coping and self-determination theory, we expected that the choice of coping strategies will have long-term effects on the victims' well-being. Both within-person and between-person effects were analyzed using hybrid regression models. Results showed that those who actively opposed the perpetrator report significantly lower psychological distress overtime, and higher happiness as compared to those who didn't react to the harassment. These results confirm that the choice of coping strategy can impact long-term well-being in online harassment instances, and they provide important insights into effectively supporting the victims. The results suggest that taking action in online harassment situations can enhance autonomy and competence, promoting overall well-being.

**Victimisation in the Metaverse: Exploring the future of VR sexual interaction & risk for children** *Boglarka Meggyesfalvi, Middlesex University; Julia C. Davidson, University of East London; Elena Martellozzo, Middlesex University; Ruby Farr, University of East London; Paula Bradbury, Middlesex University*

The digital age offers numerous opportunities for sexual interactions among children and between adults and children. Loose regulations and the emergence of new platforms have enabled users to engage in both normative and deviant sexual behaviors, albeit with some level of risk mediation. With the advent of the Metaverse, there is a new frontier for human growth, but also an increased dimension of sexual risk for children. The Metaverse promises interactions that feel more realistic, stimulating, and potentially invasive (Wong & Floridi, 2023). However, the lack of age verification, knowledge, and site restrictions creates fertile ground for online harm against children, including offenses like grooming and doxing. This paper discusses children's online experiences, particularly their involvement in 2D and 3D Metaverse environments, based on the findings of recent research, 'VIRAC' (Virtual Reality Risks Against Children) funded by REPHRAIN, led by Professor Julia Davidson OBE, Director of the Institute for Connected Communities (University of East London), and Dr. Elena Martellozzo (Middlesex University), with team members Dr. Ruby Farr, Paula Bradbury, and Boglarka Meggyesfalvi. We found that while children derive enjoyment from online gaming, concerns loom large over instances of hate speech and inappropriate conduct from fellow players. Despite their awareness of risks, children continue interacting with strangers online, showcasing a complex interplay between trust and caution. In 3D virtual reality, children experience a blend of excitement and safety apprehensions, underscoring the necessity for enhanced moderation and safety protocols to safeguard their online journey.

**What are we talking about when we speak about toxicity?**  
Preliminary findings of a systematic review on harms around

videogames. *Aiala Tejada García de Garayo, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche; Mario Santisteban Galarza, UPV/EHU Euskal Herriko Unibertizitatea*

Multiplayer video games constitute different places in a broad cyberspace enabling distinct forms of interaction and experiences. Criminological research on video games is scarce, mostly limited to the pro social or anti-social consequences of exposure to this media. Nonetheless, the dynamics of interaction in video games have been extensively studied across various academic disciplines, between them, Sociology, Psychology and Law. In this sense, academia refers to the term 'toxicity', to describe a wide range of harms affecting these interactions. Apparently, toxicity covers disruptive behaviours of a very different nature; from actions that hinder the normal progression of the game (such as cheating or leaving the game) to more harmful behaviours (such as insults or hate speech). Linked to that, despite increasing concern about this issue, we hypothesize that there is not consensus in the literature on the definition of toxicity. This contribution presents the findings of a systematic review on toxicity in digital communities associated with video games. The systematic review, following the PRISMA-P model, will analyse contributions on Web of Science, Scopus and the AMC Digital Library: the AMC Guide to Computing Literature in the last 10 years. Its focuses on empirical research that has measured different aspects of toxicity (ranging from users' strategies to prevent toxicity, effects of toxicity, causes and prevalence), understanding the characterization of the dependant variable (toxic behaviour).

Where do we drop? New Forms of Monetization and Risks of Victimization Associated with Battle and Season Passes in Video Games. *Jesús Aguerri, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche; Aiala Tejada García de Garayo, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche*

The interaction dynamics between players and video games have been extensively studied across various academic disciplines. The video game industry has become the leading sector of the entertainment industry, with global profits surpassing those of the film industry since 2014. The growth in popularity of video games has led to significant changes in monetization strategies. These involve a shift from a purchasing model to a 'freemium' model. In this model, the acquisition of the video game is free, and profits are generated from in-game investments made by the player, such as 'battle passes'. Furthermore, this study analyses 40 games (20 free and 20 paid) that use monetization structures such as 'battle passes' or 'season passes', a topic that has not yet been thoroughly explored in academic literature. The use of extra content in paid games is also discussed. The prevalence and associated risks of these structures are identified and observed. The data shows that pass systems are prevalent and normalized in video games, with 48.89% of free-to-play games and 41.66% of paid games displaying some type of pass. Additionally, all the games analyzed had the option to purchase in-game currency with real money, and there was a high prevalence of loot-box systems, particularly in games aimed at younger audiences (PEGI 3 and PEGI 7).

Worry about online fraud and older adults: avoidant and protective responses *Steven Kemp, University of Girona*

Given that cyberfraud makes up the vast majority of cybercrime suffered by older adults, the impact of victimisation on this demographic group is of academic and practical relevance. This article examines the relationship between cyberfraud victimisation, worry about cyberfraud, and online avoidant behaviours and protective responses in older adults. The data comes from the 2019 Special Eurobarometer 499 and the sample is made up of 6,257 internet users aged sixty years and above. In addition to cyberfraud victimisation, we also analyse various factors, such as the respondent's sex and knowledge of risks, which have been found to be associated with fear or worry about crime in other contexts. Our findings show that the respondent's sex and having experienced prior victimisation of oneself or family and friends is related to greater worry about online fraud. Moreover, we find that victimisation, knowledge of risks, and perceived self-efficacy are associated with dysfunctional avoidant behaviours and the adoption of functional security measures. We discuss the results in relation

to gendered fear of crime socialization and in terms of interventions with older adults that aim to respond to victimisation or to combat the digital divide.

## 189. EUROC 9 – Digital Technologies and Organisational Crimes

Topic 2: Types of Offending/White collar Crime, Organizational Crime, Corporate Crime, Financial Crime (EUROC)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”

Chair:

*Ricardo Rivero*, university of Salamanca

Participants:

Assessing measures against cyber VAT fraud in the EU Member States *Denise Boriero, University of Trento; Giulia Perrone, Research fellow, Faculty of Law, University of Trento; Roberto Flor, Associate Professor of Criminal Law - University of Verona*

Cyber VAT fraud, i.e. a cyber-enabled crime that consists in VAT fraud facilitated by new technologies, is a growing threat to the financial interests of the European Union and, – as is often the case in the fight against cybercrime, national legislation and measures are struggling to keep pace with technological advances. The aim of the analysis presented here is to assess the criminal law measures put in place in EU Member States to combat cyber VAT fraud, to determine whether they provide adequate protection, to identify potential gaps and to highlight best practises for effective law enforcement strategies in Member States. This analysis is part of the project “EU CYBER VAT - Fighting cyber-VAT fraud in the EU: a comparative criminological and criminal law study”, co-founded by the EU Anti-Fraud Programme (EUF) and carried out by the Centre for Security and Crime Sciences.

Under-researched, Undervalued, Underestimated; the Impact of Insider Fraud on FinTechs. *Claire Maillet, University of Portsmouth*

Insider fraud is a major financial crime threat whereby an employee defrauds (or attempts to defraud) their current, prospective, or past employer. Insider fraud has been on the rise since the Coronavirus pandemic and shows no signs of slowing, especially given the recent cost of living crisis. The response to insider fraud varies; “some organisations acquiesce to internal fraud whilst others robustly confront it” (Shepherd, 2016, p. 3) and “prospect of tackling occupational fraud stimulates greater anxieties than the frauds themselves” (Shepherd and Button, 2019, p. 986). It is therefore likely that the victims (here, the employers) “use a variety of rationalizations to justify their inaction” (Shepherd and Button, 2019, p. 971). The objective of the research is to better understand how FinTechs are impacted by insider fraud, and therefore how to stop it. This research will make an original contribution within the financial crime field, given the timing of this research being intertwined with the cost-of-living crisis in the UK and the global Coronavirus pandemic. This research focusses on insider fraud within FinTechs specifically, as they are arguably a modern phenomenon in the financial institutions space and have cutting-edge technology at their disposal.

Conceptualizing Criminality on Cryptocurrency Markets *Csaba Györy, ELTE University Faculty of Law, Budapest /Institute of Legal Studies, Centre for Social Sciences, Hungarian Academy of Sciences*

The paper provides a conceptualization and demarcation of criminality on cryptocurrency markets. Based on the previous work of the author, the core notion of the conceptualization is embeddedness. The paper will distinguish between three different forms of embeddedness: 1. Technical embeddedness. This refers to the technological features of cryptocurrency markets that sets them apart from legacy markets and which fundamentally shape everyday transactions and investment decisions. These include a, the unalterable features of crypto markets (such as the decentralized nature of the blockchain, the modalities of ownership (wallets, keys), smart contracts, etc.) as well as b, optional technological features (decentralized and peer to peer exchanges; privacy coins;

crypto mixers and tumblers; etc.). 2. Social and cultural embeddedness. These refer to the social construction of the cryptocurrency markets, including a, the ideological underpinnings of cryptocurrency markets, such as distrust in the state and “legacy” financial systems; b, cultural and cognitive frames about investment behaviour and economic rationality; c, Everyday practices on the market. 3. Political and legal embeddedness. these refer to the various forms of state interventions (or the lack of them) that shape market institutions, and everyday market practice, those of criminal nature among them: a, the political economy of crypto: policy concepts and approaches to crypto; 2, the regulation of cryptocurrency markets and cryptocrim, including, among others: the legal status of cryptocurrencies; the definition of cryptocrim; the applicability of existing regulation such as AML or fraud statutes to crypto; the drawing of jurisdictional boundaries, etc.

Silver bullets against corruption *Ricardo Rivero, university of Salamanca*

The European Unión needs more guarantees against corruption. A new proposal of European directive offers the opportunity to improve the legislation of member states. The needs to protect financial interests also advise adopting additional precautions. This communication will analyze the priority reforms. Artificial intelligence is a tool to control corruption. Big Data helps detect fraud and overpricing in Public procurement. The new apps used to control Next Generation funds collect a lot of information. Supervisory bodies must be modernized and incorporate technological experts into their workforces. Public-private collaboration should also be studied as an alternative. If a company has information about fraud, it should share it. National anti-fraud offices should increase their resources, and the lack of collaboration with them be sanctioned.

#### 190. EXTR10 Susceptibility to radicalisation and extremist attitudes

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Terrorism and Terrorism Financing, Radicalization, Extremism (Radicalization, Extremism, Terrorism WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)

Chair:

**Garth Davies**, Simon Fraser University

Participants:

Trust in democracy in times of crisis: Trust in social justice and state institutions as precursors of extremist attitudes *Diego Farren, Universität Hamburg; Peter Wetzels, Universität Hamburg*

This article examines the influence of citizens' evaluations of key state institutions in terms of perceived fairness (i.e. confidence in social justice) and legitimacy (i.e. confidence in state institutions) on political radicalisation (in terms of lack of confidence in democracy and the development of extremist attitudes). Tyler's theory of procedural justice (PJ) provides the theoretical background for the analyses and findings presented. In particular, we examine whether the perceived marginalisation of one's own social group promotes democratic disengagement and undermines individuals' trust in state institutions. We also analyse the extent to which these relationships change in times of crisis. The data used come from three waves of a nationally representative survey of the adult population in Germany conducted in 2021, 2022 and 2023. Between these survey waves, several changes occurred that contributed to the worsening of the social and economic crisis that had already begun with the COVID pandemic: the war in Ukraine, the resulting restrictions on gas, oil and petrol supplies, and a drastic rise in inflation. As theoretically expected, the adult population in Germany tends to be more critical of the authorities and less supportive of democracy in times of crisis. Moreover, the relationships between these constructs become stronger in times of crisis. Our findings make two important contributions to the study of radical and extremist attitudes: (1) Developing a theory of political legitimacy to explain antidemocratic attitudes. (2) Examining the impact of global crises on attitudes towards

democracy and their relationship with perceptions of fairness and legitimacy.

Susceptibility to Radicalization - Developing a New Measurement Approach *Armin Küchler, Bielefeld University/ FH Münster*

The dynamics of radicalization represent one of, if not the central, threats to the fabric of modern and democratic societies. Radicalization is understood as the process by which an individual turns to an extremist ideology that rejects the central norms of society. Although there are instruments that attempt to measure radicalization systematically, they overlook key problems: 1. Radicalized individuals are by definition a minority in society, making them difficult to reach through standardized surveys of the general population. Second, many of the established scales can be expected to suffer from socially desirable response behavior. The goal of this presentation is to introduce a measure of Susceptibility to Radicalization (SuRa) that is conceptually better suited for standardized population surveys and that systematically captures perceptions prior to or at the onset of radicalization. SuRa is based on three core subscales: Forms of Discrimination, Distrust of Democracy, and Authoritarianism. These subscales comprise a total of twelve items (Cronbach's alpha = .799). They are based on theoretical assumptions and a previous qualitative study. The development of the scales was based on extensive qualitative and quantitative testing (pre-test n = 343). The final evaluation was based on a general online survey of the German-speaking population (n=2,002).

Exploring the impact of life events, social media and political leaning on extremism attitudes. *Joshua Skoczylis, University of Lincoln*

This paper is based on a survey conducted in early 2023 across three countries: Germany, the United States, and the United Kingdom, with a sample size of 951 participants. The study explores the interplay between personal life experiences, political leaning, and the use of Social Media, and their collective influence on the endorsement of violent extremism. Using this rich dataset, this paper explores how personality attributes, empathetic capacities, and political orientations intersect with lived experiences and social media use to shape an individual's propensity towards supporting violent extremist ideologies. The individual extremism scores are based on a factor analysis, synthesising responses from a series of questions that probe the perceived efficacy and moral justification of employing violence to advance and propagate ideological beliefs. Our previous research into the nexus between far-right extremism and personal experiences suggested an absence of correlation. However, the influence of gender and social media engagement emerged as significant factors. In this study, we extend our analysis to encompass all manifestations of extremism, extending the previous research. Furthermore, we integrate an assessment of personality traits into our analytical framework, an element previously omitted from our research methodology. As part of this research, we will employ cluster analysis cluster analysis, allowing for the categorisation of individuals into distinct groups based on the confluence of the aforementioned variables. Moreover, we leverage the predictive power of machine learning algorithms to analyse the data, explore the patterns that emerge from the data and test the efficacy of our predictive model about extremism. This approach not only enriches our understanding of the factors contributing to violent extremism but also enhances the predictive accuracy of our analytical model. Based on these findings, we will further explore what impact this might have on government policy to prevent violent extremism.

Inchoate Extremist Violence *Garth Davies, Simon Fraser University*

Dating back to the 1980s, the issue of ideology has always proved challenging for researchers of terrorism and extremism violence. Theoretically, ideology would seem to be a central element, distinguishing terrorism from other forms of criminal violence. In practice, the application of ideology to individuals and groups been fraught with controversy. The identification of particular ideologies as a motivational factor for violence has become increasingly difficult, as indicated by terms such as “salad bar” and “composite” extremism. In many instances, ideology has become highly individualized and idiosyncratic. At the same time, the murky overlap with mass violence such as school shooting also continues



to frustrate attempts to delimit the boundaries of extremist violence. In our work with individuals who have been identified as being at risk of radicalization, we have begun to notice a further complication: cases that have all of the trapping of extremist violence, but that have no ideological component, nor the expressed grievance(s) of individuals who commit mass violence. In these instances, which are few but rising in number, individuals are intent on committing acts of mass violence simply because they want to commit an act of mass violence. This study thus presents an exploration of inchoate extremist violence, which we argue represents the intersection of violent extremism, mass violence, and the internet-fueled desire to be famous or notorious.

### 191. Sentencing 2. Legal and Extra-Legal Considerations in Judicial Decisionmaking

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Courts and Sentencing and Penal Decision Making (Sentencing and Penal Decisionmaking WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)

Chair:

**Dominik Wzorek**, Institute of Law Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences

Participants:

**Class in the Courtroom: The Impact of Socioeconomic Status on Sentencing Decisions through the Stereotype Content Model**  
*Ronen Shehman, University of Haifa; Avital Mentovich, University of Haifa; Orna Rabinovich-Einy, Faculty of Law, University of Haifa*

A vast body of research in criminology, psychology, and law has extensively demonstrated that the identity features of the participants of legal proceedings (i.e., mainly defendants and judges) play a significant role in shaping criminal judgments, particularly sentencing decisions. Research in this domain mainly examined the effects of gender and race on criminal justice judgments and disparate outcomes. Surprisingly, the potential influence of offenders' socioeconomic status (SES) has been largely overlooked. The current novel study addresses this gap by exploring whether offenders' SES impacts laypeople's sentencing decisions. Employing the stereotype content model (Fiske et al., 2002), the study also explores how stereotypes about people from various SES backgrounds (poor and middle-class) influence and explain these decisions through perceptions of warmth (e.g., nice, friendly, etc.) and competence. Participants (n=133) were randomly assigned to read a vignette depicting a crime committed by either a poor or middle-class offender and were then asked about their sentencing decisions. They were also asked to rate their perceptions of the offender's warmth and competence. Results indicate that offenders' SES impacted sentencing decisions, such that the poor offender received significantly harsher sentences than the middle-class offender. The perceived warmth of the offender mediated the relationship between SES and sentencing decisions; the poor offender was seen as less warm (i.e., less nice, unfriendly), leading to harsher sentences. The results emphasize the need for criminological research to examine further ways in which offenders' SES, not only race and gender, impacts decision-making and leads to biases and discrimination. It also underscores the need to implement psychological models in criminological research to understand where those biases stem from. Explanations and implications of these findings to existing research about bias in sentencing decisions will be discussed.

**Culture, conscience of guilt and sentencing**  
*Ellen Vandennieuwenhuysen, University of Antwerp; Maartje Verdict, University of Antwerp*

This paper presents findings from two focus groups and 30 semi-structured interviews with magistrates and a literature review on culture, conscience of guilt and sentencing. In sentencing, judges have the difficult task of making an assessment of the offender's person, for example his conscience of guilt. This assessment is even more difficult when the offender and the judge have different

cultural backgrounds. The literature review shows that in case of cultural differences, thinking errors of judges can result in a wrong assessment of the offender's person, and more specifically his conscience of guilt ('demeanour gap in a cross-racial assessment', 'fundamental attribution error' and 'racial empathy gap'). This paper examines how Belgian magistrates deal with offenders from different cultural backgrounds and to what extent these differences affects sentencing decisions. The results show that a lot of magistrates are aware that cultural differences might influence their decisions. They confirm that it complicates the offender assessment. How judges take these cultural differences into account in sentencing is less clear. For example, some judges try to be culturally sensitive. As a result, offenders, even without conscience of guilt due to a different cultural norms and values framework, sometimes still receive a lenient punishment. Other judges do not take this into account or even see in this a reason to punish more severely (e.g. no alternative punishment is deemed adequate). The paper also provides solutions to improve the difficult assessment of offenders from different cultural backgrounds.

**"Law all the way down"?** A study about non-standardized, extra-legal parameters in sentencing behavior  
*Nina Kaiser, Hans Gross Centre for Interdisciplinary Criminal Sciences (Institute of Criminal Law, Criminal Procedural Law and Criminology, University of Graz, Austria); Ida Leibetseder, Hans Gross Centre for Interdisciplinary Criminal Sciences (Institute of Criminal Law, Criminal Procedural Law and Criminology, University of Graz, Austria)*

Iudex non calculat: judicial decisions cannot be a result of rigid, formulaic calculations. Rather, judgments are the outcome of a situation-appropriate exercise of discretion in a contingent practice (Nierhauve, 2016). Although this discretion is bound by legal requirements, prevailing opinion in Austria asserts that a subjective component should and will persist (Tipold, 2016). Against this backdrop empirical studies show significant differences in Austrian sentencing practices between the East and West (Grafl & Haider, 2018) disclosing the breadth of discretionary powers while shedding light on opaque practices. These findings indicate the necessary acknowledgment of non-standardized, extra-legal parameters in decision-making as a part of human behavior. Two facets that contribute to non-transparent, not-objectifiable, unverifiable sentencing decisions particularly pique our interest (1) legislative: aspects in substantive and procedural law (2) executive: aspects of legal application. The present study delves into this "black box" of sentencing processes examining the relevance of non-standardized considerations in Austrian practices through a mixed-methods approach.

**Portuguese Criminal Sentencing and the Principle of Free Evaluation of Evidence - Personal Truth and Consequences**  
*Sara Leitão Moreira, Coimbra Business School*

The separation of powers is one of the unavoidable liberal legacies of today. Due to its constitutional provision and social consolidation, one of the guarantees of the Democratic Rule of Law that gives us greater sense of security is that the judicial power remains impartial, and separate, both from the legislative and the executive, only owing obedience to the Law and Constitution. However, we cannot forget that judges are people, therefore not devoid of political, religious and moral views, naturally having social convictions, sometimes not compatible with the intended independence of the judiciary. But despite this, they must remain impartial in the face of the specific case and must decide, not in accordance with those convictions, but with the law and the evidence brought to the case. The criminal decision must be seen as the ex-libris of the criminal procedure, devoid of subjective interpretations and with a transposition of the evidentiary assessment, which must not offend the legal order and society as a whole, despite one of the pillars of Portuguese criminal proceedings being precisely the free assessment of evidence, as provided for in article 127 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. However, free evaluation of evidence does not mean subjective interpretation, but interpretation in accordance with criteria of reasonableness that does not offend others, under the penalty of society being faced with a decision that is, in some way, unconstitutional because it violates the trust placed in judges/courts as administrators of justice. With

this work, we intend to analyze the unavoidable legal and statutory criteria of a criminal decision, corroborating our position with the dominant doctrine at a national and European level, comparing them with rulings from the Portuguese Courts of Appeal where precisely questions were raised around the Court's reasoning and conviction, generating nullity of the first instance decision.

**Discretion in action. Judicial experiences.** *Dominik Wzorek, Institute of Law Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences*

The aim of my paper is to present judicial experiences related to the imposition of punishments such as imprisonment and imprisonment with the conditional suspension of its execution. In Poland, imprisonment is imposed in every third case, while in some cases (approx. 15%) as a conditionally suspended sentence. Given the significant role that imprisonment plays in the legal system in Poland, I would like to present in detail the diverse and often complicated dilemmas that arise in the context of sentencing by judges. In my analysis, I intend to take into account not only the course of professional careers of judges, which undoubtedly influence their decisions, but also various views they have on the application of criminal punishment. I would also like to draw attention to the circumstances that they consider when deciding on the scope of the sentence, as this is an equally important aspect and often affects the final sentence. During my presentation, I will also discuss how judges balance between theoretical principles of sentencing and practical limitations imposed by daily court practice. I will examine the specifics of the decision-making process that judges undertake, trying to look from their perspective at what factors influence their choice between different available sentence lengths. To answer the question of how personal experiences and preferences of judges influence the scope of imprisonment, I conducted individual in-depth expert interviews with judges adjudicating criminal cases in Poland at courts of various levels and instances.

## 192. Green Criminology #4 - Animal rights and animal welfare

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Environmental/Green Criminology  
Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Library - reading room 1

Chair:

**Jennifer Ann Maher**, University of South Wales

Participants:

**Animal rights or human rights? Green criminology and the problem of ritual slaughter** *Maciej Andrzej Duda, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn*

One of the contemporary challenges for green criminology is the issue of non-human victims. The dilemma between the humanitarian protection of animals and the socio-economic needs of humans, which is the phenomenon of ritual slaughter, is, therefore, part of this field of scientific consideration. This issue arouses discussions among scientists representing various scientific disciplines (law, criminology, biology, philosophy, ethics, cultural studies, religious studies, food science). At the same time, it is an issue that generates great emotion and controversy and, consequently, significant political, social, and media interest. In Poland, an attempt to ban ritual slaughter was made in 2019 but failed due to strong resistance from the food industry. Ritual slaughter mainly concerns the slaughter of animals (cattle, poultry) for religious purposes (kosher meat, halal meat) of certain religious groups (Jews, Muslims). The vast majority of meat produced in this way is exported as the above religious communities are few in Poland. However, this activity brings large profits to food producers. Supporters of ritual slaughter also emphasize that it is one of the elements of religious freedom and, thus, one of human rights. Opponents of ritual slaughter, especially animal rights activists, point out that this practice is a manifestation of animal abuse and, therefore, violates animal rights. The author of the presentation will discuss mainly green criminology issues as well as legal issues (criminal law, administrative law) and also historical, economic and ethical issues. In the debate around ritual slaughter, it is necessary to consider several arguments (e.g., financial profitability, moral acceptability, cultural tradition, religious

freedom, human rights, animal rights, animal welfare, humanitarianism).

**Criminological and criminal law aspects of domestic animal welfare abuse in Poland** *Natalia Daško, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Tor*

Statistical data indicate that the number of animals kept at home is increasing, including species that were not previously considered pets. This fact is also associated with negative phenomena, such as abuse of animals, as well as unknowingly, due to lack of knowledge of the needs of certain species, causing suffering, the development of illegal breeding, in which the welfare of animals is violated, or illegal transport threatening epidemiological safety. Abuse of animals can also cause danger to humans, this is the danger of various diseases or viruses, financial losses, or an increase in crime, especially organized crime. With the growing awareness of animal rights, this phenomenon calls for significant changes in the law, including criminal law. The Author analyzes criminal law regulations for the protection of domestic animals at the national level, especially the Law on the Animal Protection, indicate to what extent the existing regulations provide protection of domestic animals. In relation to this, the criminological aspects of animal welfare violations in Poland will also be discussed.

**Dangerous By Design? Evidencing Alternative Approaches to Responding to 'Dangerous' Dogs.** *Jennifer Ann Maher, University of South Wales; Sam Gaines, RSPCA*

The global popularity of dogs as companion animals identifies this interspecies relationship as exceptional when compared to other nonhuman animals. According to estimates, their popularity has increased considerably in the past five years. Simultaneously, dog ownership is a growing public health and safety issue and animal welfare concern, with nuisance and dangerous dog behaviour a pressing political and social agenda in the UK and elsewhere. Finding the right balance between public protection, animal welfare, and harmonious shared public spaces for dog owners and the rest of the community is a significant challenge. For UK dog owners, their responsibilities are outlined in various legislation. Section 1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 (as amended) includes the prohibition of five dog breeds (known as Breed Specific Legislation [BSL]), placing the emphasis on the dog's appearance, rather than their behaviour or that of their owners. Despite the UK Governments' recognising the need to foster responsible dog ownership, recent dog attacks and fatalities have, again, promoted a move to enhance BSL. This approach has been extremely divisive. On one hand, it is viewed as an essential enforcement tool for protecting the public from the dogs perceived to be the most dangerous. Conversely, academic and other research suggests it is not effective at reducing dog bites and is incongruent with good dog welfare. Drawing on a scoping review of dog control legislation in 45 counties and analysis of five case studies (involving a literature review and/or empirical qualitative data collection), this paper examines the efficacy of UK BSL dog control policy in line with what we know about the causes of, and approaches to dog bite reduction elsewhere. The paper highlights dog bite causes are multifactorial, and there are many ways to respond to the complexities and nuance of dog bites and safeguard dog welfare.

**Skin Deep: Unraveling the Relationship between Narcissism, Empathy, and Luxury Fashion Consumption** *Arjun Awasthi, University of Southampton*

The UK luxury fashion industry is forecasted to grow by 4% over the next four years. With products that include handbags, shoes, wallets, belts, and other accessories made from skins of exotic animals such as alligators, crocodiles, snakes, and lizards. Despite claims of ethical sourcing through captive breeding, there is concern over procurement, as many ostensibly "legal" imports may, in fact, originate from illicit hunting and poaching. It can be asserted that the purchase and consumption of luxury fashion products made from exotic skins is an ethically dubious activity. A survey was conducted to investigate consumer attitudes towards these products, alongside measures of narcissism (both grandiose and vulnerable) and empathy (towards both humans and non-human animals) to explore the relationship between these scales. It was found that there is a significant positive correlation between grandiose narcissism and favourable perceptions of luxury fashion items made

from exotic skins when perceived as symbols of affluence and social status. Individuals exhibiting grandiose narcissistic tendencies can demonstrate a predisposition towards materialism and are likely to purchase these products or hold positive opinions of them. There was no statistically significant relationship between any of the other scales, however, there was a significant and positive correlation between grandiose narcissism and empathy to animals. This suggests a nuanced interplay where some individuals with narcissistic traits may covet luxury products but also maintain positive sentiments towards non-human animals. This is an example of how humans experience cognitive dissonance and resolve it by justifying their behaviours using techniques of neutralisation. This paper argues that understanding luxury fashion consumption behaviour and underscoring the ethical, moral, and cognitive quandaries of consumption of products made from exotic animal skins can offer insights for policymakers interested in demand reduction intervention strategies to help with the conservation of wild animal species populations.

**193. POL Panel 21. Policing research, police knowledge networks and how to translate research into practice.**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)

Chair:

*Jennifer Norman*, Centre for Police Research and Learning – Open University

Participants:

Policing corruption in war time conditions: lessons from two years of a full-scale war in Ukraine. *Anna Markovska*, *PIER/ Anglia Ruskin University*; *Oleksii Serdiuk*, *Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs, Ukraine/ Head of Research Laboratory for Psychological Support of Law Enforcement*; *Iryna Soldatenko*, *Karazin Kharkiv National University*

Measuring success in policing corruption is a difficult, and often political, issue. Ukraine, as many other Eastern European countries, has struggled to contain both political and societal corruption for many years. Following the events of the 2014 Maidan protests, efforts were made to create a new institutional framework to address political corruption. Since 2014, national and regional surveys have registered a change in attitudes to corruption in the Ukrainian population. However, policing political corruption remains problematic. The full-scale Russian invasion that started in February 2022 put a different light on anticorruption measures. This national emergency also afforded unlimited opportunities for corruption. In this presentation we critically discuss the impact of the war on policing corruption, transparency and accountability of state officials. We review data from national surveys, as well as data we have collected as part of an annual regional community-based policing project that we have conducted in eastern Ukraine each year since 2013.

Charting the Knowledge Networks of Policing *Camilla Løvschall Langeland*, *University of Oslo*

This paper aims to chart the knowledge networks of policing in Norway by examining citation practices in key policy and other important documents related to the promotion of knowledge-based policing within the police organization. By conducting a thorough discourse network analysis (DNA), the study aims to gain insights into the integration of knowledge work into the goals and objectives of the police force, as well as the role of epistemic communities in shaping knowledge-driven practices within the police organization. The analysis provide a deeper understanding of the complex relationship between knowledge creation, dissemination, and implementation within policing as an epistemic community, which involves a range of actors, such as researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and other stakeholders. Moreover, the study help identify the ways in which epistemic networks may either facilitate or hinder the integration of knowledge-based practices and principles within the police organization. The study is relevant to current debates on policing and knowledge-based practices,

highlighting the importance of collaboration between researchers, practitioners, and policymakers in the implementation of evidence-based policing (EBP). Finally, this study contributes to the development of theoretical frameworks that articulate the role of epistemic communities in shaping knowledge-driven practices within the police organization.

The use of criminological theory is central to effective policing *Jennifer Norman*, *Centre for Police Research and Learning – Open University*; *Emma Williams*, *Centre for Police Research and Learning – Open University*

The drive to professionalise the police in England and Wales via education and learning is in flux. Despite recent reforms that promote the idea of formal learning for police practitioners, subsequent policy decisions have undermined the value of knowledge required for the complex role of a police officer. This paper presents findings from two long-term studies exploring the role of learning in policing. The authors will discuss the evidence base which suggests that police practitioners operate in ‘wicked’ learning environments. These environments are fuelled by the wider systems in play, both politically and organisationally. The findings from the studies illustrate the commitment and value officers' place on their learning. However, they perceive their professional development to be overlooked and their opportunity for the acquisition of specialist knowledge is limited. This, in turn, impacts on their perceived capability and confidence to deliver in their roles and their commitment to the organisation. Through the lens of organisational theory, the authors argue that the lack of value placed on knowledge and learning is detrimental and contributes to the current retention crisis in policing.

**194. Political and Social Discourses about Crime and Justice Panel 3**

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Political and Social Discourses about Crime and Justice (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.10

Chair:

*Aleksandras Dobryninas*, Vilnius University

Participants:

Predicting risk: There is an 83% chance you are a criminal *Jona Zyft*, *University of Toronto*

Recollections of a previous “golden age” of the “born criminal” have led to various attempts at re-imagining the changing nature and scope of criminal prediction, in turn leading to grim forecasts over the ubiquitous use of biotechnology and emphasizing the disastrous consequences for racialized persons. While these efforts have taken multiple forms and utilized different methods, they have historically been rooted in the idea of biodeterminism. This theory is generally understood to imply the universal and innate causal influence of one’s biological makeup, and minimizes (or flat out denies) the causal effects of environmental factors on individual (and social) behaviors. By tracing the history of biodeterminism and prediction, this presentation shows how new theoretical developments and applied technologies related to criminal prediction can be linked back to that same age-old underlying logic. Some of the most contemporary technological developments in this area include the use of artificial intelligence and machine-learning algorithms based on biometric and classification systems. Through an intersectional and structural-historical approach, and while theoretically engaging with themes in science and technology studies and critical race theory, I argue that similar to 19th-century physiognomy-based practices that attempted to predict future dangerousness and criminality (e.g. Lombroso), contemporary uses of biometric and predictive technologies, such as facial recognition software, have been rooted in a particular epistemic construction of the racialized body intrinsic to biodeterminism.

Militarizing public security in Mexico, a form of penal populism *Axel Francisco Orozco Torres*, *Universidad de Guadalajara*; *Ramón Gerardo Navejas Padilla*, *Universidad de Guadalajara*

In the last fifteen years, the Mexican Government has implemented actions tending to the alleged reduction of the insecurity and the criminal conducts that has shown in the country; one of these actions, has been consisted the militarization of the public security focusing it, specifically to deal with the organized crime, however, the results that have been obtained do not reflect the long-awaited decrease, but rather flagrant violations of the human rights, violations of our constitution and violations of the international treaties with the "strong hand" imposed; all of this together represents characteristics of the penal populism category, which is why we consider that this trend of militarization of public security is a form of it. To arrive at such a conclusion, in this research, the documentary research technique based on the method of critical analysis has been implemented, also developing the deductive method, the analysis of various documents reviewed for this purpose.

Smart video surveillance in safety and security discourses:

Unraveling drivers, promises, and sociotechnical imaginaries in Brussels, Antwerp, and Ghent *Stephanie Garaglia, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Lucas Melgaço, Associate Professor - VUB; Rosamunde Van Brakel, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

Belgian urban spaces continuously transform themselves by, among other things, installing a large amount of smart video surveillance technologies. This study delves into the selection of specific video surveillance technologies aimed at addressing diverse safety and security challenges. The primary focus is on unravelling the driving forces and motivations influencing these preferences. Centered on Brussels, Antwerp, and Ghent, our analysis encompasses key stakeholders from government, police, and the tech industry. This paper critically examines the safety and security discourses of these entities concerning the implementation of smart video surveillance technologies. Using NVivo, and various sociolinguistic categories that can support analytical procedures, we perform a critical discourse analysis on policy documents, surveys and interviews. Beyond the drivers and promises related to the implementation of certain smart video surveillance technologies, we also try to identify sociotechnical imaginaries that may be at play.

Lessons from the abolition of the death penalty in Lithuania:

looking through a kaleidoscope of professional, political and public discourses *Aleksandras Dobryninas, Vilnius University*

Twenty-five years ago, Lithuania legally abolished the death penalty. This was a message that the Lithuanian state sent to citizens and international political communities about its intentions and determination to pursue a civilised and humane criminal justice policy and comply with international obligations in the field of human rights. However, it was not an easy and formal move; rather, it was a unique solution in which academic arguments, political interests, and people's feelings about the death penalty's purpose, necessity, and appropriateness were intertwined. The presentation aims to reconstruct the process of abolishing the death penalty in Lithuania, utilising social phenomenological discursive principles proposed by A. Schutz and M. Foucault. The analysis focuses on professional, political, and public discourses regarding the death penalty's retention and abolition, the coalitions and conflicts that arise, and their influence on the final decision. In addition, it examines the potential impact of this decision on the broader international abolitionist policy.

### 195. Individual differences in personality and deceptive conduct predisposing to criminal behavior and recidivism

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Biological, Biosocial and Psychological Perspectives

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11

Scholars have long been fascinated by the inherent or acquired darker aspects of human nature, particularly those traits that steer individuals towards undesirable, antisocial, and criminal behaviors. In regular social interactions, individuals tend to manifest brighter tendencies, showcasing their motivation to behave in socially desirable ways. Within the prison environment, individuals may feel justified to resort to unethical strategies (deception, violence, or vengeance) to maximize personal utility or to address perceived

harm. While the psychological research identified specific personality traits and underlying cognitive justifications for the expression of aversive or otherwise undesirable behaviors, there is a paucity of research tapping into the relationship between dark and bright personality dimensions as in prison settings, and how they translate into actual antisocial acts such as deception and aggressive behavior. Our panel brings together five papers which point to the momentary potential precursors of criminal behavior in competitive or incriminating settings (keeping secrets, misleading others for self-interest, mis-reading their mind) and to the more constant "dark" and "bright" personality correlates of crime. The data is collected across a variety of populations from different Romanian contexts, ranging from school-age children to community samples and most importantly, in four of the five papers, including a large sample of prisoners who have committed various types of crimes (from non-violent to violent or sexual offences). Overall, findings underscore the predictive power of the investigated behaviors (deception, theory of mind in action) and self-reported traits (e.g. Agreeableness, Openness, Neuroticism, and Narcissism), pointing to consistent negative correlations between Dark and Bright personality dimensions in both general and prison populations. These insights hold practical significance for tailoring intervention programs for offenders, emphasizing the enhancement of protective traits and counteracting aversive tendencies that may predispose individuals toward antisocial behaviors and towards long term recidivism.

Chair:

*Laura Visu-Petra*, RIDDLE Lab, Department of Psychology, Babes-Bolyai University

Participants:

Investigating dark and bright personality dimensions in prisoners compared to a community sample *Liliana Hurezan, (1) Research in Individual Differences and Legal Psychology (RIDDLE) Lab, Department of Psychology, Babes-Bolyai University, Romania & (2) Arad Penitentiary, Romania; Andreea Turi, Research in Individual Differences and Legal Psychology (RIDDLE) Lab, Department of Psychology, Babes-Bolyai University, Romania & Gherla Penitentiary, Gherla, Romania; Andrei Ion, Assessment and Individual Differences—AID Lab, Department of Psychology and Cognitive Science, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University of Bucharest, Romania; Laura Visu-Petra, RIDDLE Lab, Department of Psychology, Babes-Bolyai University*

A growing body of research highlights the continuum between dark and bright personality traits impacting individual prosocial or antisocial tendencies. However, the interplay between these traits and actual behavioral manifestations, particularly in vulnerable or antisocial populations such as inmates is not fully elucidated. We aimed to investigate the five Dark Factor Themes and the five Bright personality dimensions, across a general community sample (N = 282) and a large sample of inmates (N = 296) with and without criminal history while controlling for underlying cognitive abilities. Results indicated an inverse relationship between the dark and the bright personality traits across both populations. Inmates, particularly recidivists, reported overall higher levels of aversive traits such as Callousness, Deceitfulness, Sadism, Vindictiveness, and Neuroticism, compared to the general population, and lower levels of adaptive traits, such as Agreeableness and Extraversion. Surprisingly, Openness was higher in first-time offenders compared to both recidivists and community participants. Narcissistic Entitlement and Conscientiousness did not differentiate between inmates and the general population. The findings highlight the importance of the bright traits as potential protective factors against criminality while highlighting the practical relevance of considering the dark personality dimensions in the risk assessment, prediction, and reduction of criminal behavior.

Empirical measures in offender evaluation: Static-99R and the Pathological Narcissism Inventory *Roxana Andreea Toma, West University of Timișoara, Romania; Silvia Kube, Bonn University, Germany; Liliana Hurezan, (1) Research in Individual Differences and Legal Psychology (RIDDLE) Lab, Department of Psychology, Babes-Bolyai University, Romania & (2) Arad Penitentiary, Romania; Rainer Banse, Bonn University, Germany*

Empirical actuarial measures are significantly more accurate than unstructured clinical judgments in predicting recidivism risk of incarcerated populations across different cultures. In the evaluation of offender rehabilitation, it is important to take into consideration both risk evaluation and personal factors. In this regard we present a validation study on the Static99R, an actuarial measure for risk assessment and preliminary data for personal assessment using PNI measure for pathological narcissism. In a retrospective study, we examined the predictive validity of the Static-99R, the actuarial measure most used around the world for assessing the recidivism risk of persons who committed a sexual offense (PCS), in a sample of 518 male PCS in Romania. The results showed a good predictive validity for any kind of recidivism (area under the curve [AUC] = .70) and a slightly lower predictive accuracy for violent (AUC = .69) and sexual recidivism (AUC = .67). The Romanian version of the Static-99R has been shown as a valid, useful tool to predict sexual, violent, and general recidivism for Romanian PCS. Pathological Narcissism Inventory (Pincus, 2009) is a 52 items questionnaire investigating pathological narcissism with sub-factors grandiosity and vulnerability. Preliminary data for both juvenile and adult prison population, and possible applications for the rehabilitation process are discussed.

**Assessing theory of mind in relation to dark personality traits (D factor) in offenders** *Laura Opriş, Research in Individual Differences and Legal Psychology (RIDDLE) Lab, Department of Psychology, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania & Oradea Penitentiary, Romania; Liliana Hurezan, (1) Research in Individual Differences and Legal Psychology (RIDDLE) Lab, Department of Psychology, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania & (2) Arad Penitentiary, Romania; Laura Visu-Petra, RIDDLE Lab, Department of Psychology, Babes-Bolyai University*

The role of theory of mind (ToM) deficits as potential risk factors for aggressive, violent, antisocial behaviors was largely investigated across different clinical samples, but received less attention in relation to convicted offenders. We aimed to explore the associations between the Dark Factor of personality, dark traits and first and second order ToM skills, across a community sample (N = 88) and a group of inmates (N = 173), convicted for different types of offences (sexual offences, property offences, violent crimes with different levels of aggression). Results indicated that inmates, regardless of their crime, performed worse than the general population in first order ToM tasks, while no differences were observed in second order ToM abilities. Surprisingly, the total Dark Factor score was similar across both populations, and inmates reported overall higher levels of only two aversive traits (Narcissism and Sadism) when compared to participants from the community. Across both prison and general populations, we observed an inverse relationship between first order ToM abilities and the Dark Factor. Although second order ToM skills were not linked to the Dark Factor, they were inversely associated with some dark traits such as Narcissism and Sadism, as well as Crudelia (only in the general population). A more refined analysis of first and second order ToM abilities across different types of offences, while controlling for cognitive abilities of participants, revealed interesting results. While first order ToM capacities were similar in all participants, regardless of the crime they committed, sexual offenders performed worse in advanced ToM tasks than the general population and the inmates convicted for property and violent crimes. These results highlight the necessity of addressing ToM deficits in relations with various dark traits, accordingly to different types of offences, with direct impact on risk assessment and rehabilitation strategies.

**The truth about children's dishonesty: Implications for legal settings** *Narcisa Prodan, Research in Individual Differences and Legal Psychology (RIDDLE) Lab, Babes-Bolyai University, Romania; Laura Visu-Petra, RIDDLE Lab, Department of Psychology, Babes-Bolyai University*

Dishonesty is viewed as a pervasive human behavior occurring virtually in all contexts, manifesting as the disposition to conceal, deceive, or cheat. Due to its different levels of complexity (ranging from simple concealments to elaborated fabrications), dishonesty can provide a unique perspective on children's cognitive,

emotional, and social development. A growing body of research has documented the paradoxical nature of dishonesty. The developmental paradox of dishonesty relies on its progression from a normative aspect of development at younger ages to problematic adolescent behavior, which, if relied upon constantly, is associated with adverse behavioral and emotional outcomes. Therefore, understanding the extent to which a child could be motivated to provide misleading information and their ability to do so depending on their age becomes crucial in specific legal settings (e.g., children's testimonies). Across three empirical paradigms, we investigated the individual and contextual mechanisms supporting children's various types of dishonesty (from keeping a secret to fabricating statements) throughout middle childhood and the extent to which we can detect children withholding evidence through a memory-based paradigm (the Reaction Time based Concealed Information Test – RT-CIT). Our results indicated that school-age children are becoming increasingly skilled in deceiving with age in conjunction with their sophisticated socio-cognitive development (e.g., theory of mind and executive functioning). Moreover, we also demonstrated that their propensity to deceive is modulated by the motivational context and the recipient's familiarity (e.g., familiar vs. unfamiliar peers). Lastly, we provided preliminary evidence on the utility of using a memory-based paradigm (the RT-CIT) meant to discriminate between knowledgeable and unknowledgeable children engaged in mock crime scenarios. Implications for legal settings when children may be motivated to deceive will be discussed.

**Behind Bars and Lies: Personality, Lying and Deception Detection in Prison** *Andreea Turi, Research in Individual Differences and Legal Psychology (RIDDLE) Lab, Department of Psychology, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania & Gherla Penitentiary, Gherla, Romania; Mircea Zloteanu, Kingston University London; Daria Mihaela Solescu, Universitatea Babes Bolyai; Laura Visu-Petra, RIDDLE Lab, Department of Psychology, Babes-Bolyai University*

Deception is a nuanced form of manipulation employed to mislead others through the conveyance of false or truthful information. The majority of deception research has been conducted within community settings, where participants generally exhibit modest abilities in discerning truths from lies. In such contexts, deception often serves a pro-social function, fostering social bonding. In contrast, the prison environment remains under-investigated, and preliminary research shows that it is marked by elevated risks of self-serving deception, alongside prevalent traits like alexithymia, aggression, and dark personality traits, which make self-interested deception more prevalent. This study aims to address this issue and explore deception production and detection among prisoners (N = 90; 30% women), focusing on their abilities in real social interactions. We employed a modified version of the Game of DecelIT (Wright et al., 2012) and analysed the results using the Signal Detection Theory to assess deception production and detection performance. Preliminary findings did not support the anticipated significant correlation between prisoners' proficiency in producing successful lies and truths (d' Sender) and accurately distinguishing between lies and truths produced by other prisoners (d' Receiver). Replicating previous findings in the literature on community samples, participants did not demonstrate superior performance over chance, neither in deception detection nor in its production credibility. However, individual differences in other dimensions were found to play a significant role: older age, exposure to childhood violence, heightened physical aggression, alexithymia, and difficulties in identifying and describing feelings correlated with lower deception detection accuracy. In terms of deception production, inmates reporting high levels of Greed and Conscientiousness were perceived as more credible by their peers, regardless of statement veracity. Additionally, those adopting a lie-biased detection strategy were considered less credible by other participants. Implications for the psychological predictors of criminal behaviours are discussed.

**196. Crime and Covid-19 WG: Impact of COVID-19 on Crime and Criminal Justice Across Europe**

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Crime and COVID 19 (Crime and Covid 19 WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.14

Chair:

**Ezra Lampesberger**, University of Manchester

Participants:

COVID rule breakers as portrayed in Polish pandemic diaries

*Joanna Felczak, Warsaw School of Economics*

The period of the pandemic was a test of the functioning of democracy and public institutions in many countries, including Poland. Individual assessment of the risk of infection meant that the introduction of restrictions was widely commented on by the public. Some considered the threat real and the restrictions justified. Others, on the contrary, criticized the decisions of the government, considering the pandemic rules exaggerated. Yet others violated the restrictions despite the legal consequences. In our "Daily Life in the Time of Coronavirus" competition, we collected the diaries written by the members of each of these groups. We learned about the ways of breaking the restrictions, the justifications for breaking them and for complying with them. We saw attitudes change as time went by and new waves of COVID-19 rolled in. Diarist went through three phases: chaos, adaptation and exhaustion, and public policy in Poland accelerated moving to the third phase. The diaries from the pandemic period portray individual motivations of the writers, their opinions on institutions and the perceived state of democracy in Poland in 2020 and 2021.

Good solutions to handle the consequences of COVID-19 on victims of domestic violence - transforming social and legal systems in response to the crisis *Dora Judit Szego, researcher*

The paper presents the findings of an international research project, IMPROVE (<https://www.improve-horizon.eu/>) that examined the consequences of COVID-19 in the context of social and legal systems that addressed exceptional conditions of the pandemic and its consequences on victims of domestic violence. The analysis covers experiences from six EU countries: Austria, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary and Spain. The presentation reveals good solutions introduced during the pandemic (including curfews) in the six countries. Innovations that aimed at lessening the impact of the pandemic on reporting, detection, and service delivery concerning domestic violence. Good practices cover protocols, procedures, and tools, including digital solutions - to address changing working conditions -, as well as cooperation initiatives and alternatives that enhance the resilience of the frontline responders to domestic violence. Research experience is based on qualitative fieldwork: the research team conducted 110 interviews in six countries, which covered representatives of the police, criminal justice system, social sector, and health sector, as well as desk research. IMPROVE ("Improving Access to Services for Victims of Domestic Violence by Accelerating Change in Frontline Responder Organisations") is an ongoing project, started in October 2022, funded by the HORIZON Innovation Actions Grant of the European Union.

Here to Last: Local and Global Changes to Law Enforcement Cooperation after the COVID-19 Pandemic *Saskia Hufnagel, University of Sydney*

While COVID-19 was detrimental for the global economy and had negative effects on businesses of all levels, its impact on law enforcement cooperation was not similarly severe. The pandemic undoubtedly led to delays in criminal justice. Many trials had to be postponed which created a backlog of cases that some systems are still working through. However, while affected by these developments, law enforcement cooperation was not a major contributor to them. Information needed across borders to conduct trials, in particular in the areas of serious and organised crime, was still exchanged and defendants were often even extradited. This paper assesses what helped – legally and practically – to keep cooperation going throughout the pandemic in several regions of the world: Australasia, North- and South America and the European Union. It particularly focuses on what strategies were used globally to maintain cooperation during the pandemic and which were specific to each region. Finally, it is assessed which strategies might be useful beyond the pandemic globally.

Network Analysis of PPE Procurement Avenues in the UK During the Early Stages of COVID-19 *Ezra Lampesberger, University of Manchester*

The shortcomings of the UK government during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic have been much discussed in the media, however, thus far there has been a distinct lack of academic analysis of the underlying factors allowing for this. This research specifically aims to understand the social network aspects which allowed for the distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) contracts that did not have to undergo proper tendering procedures. The different avenues of COVID procurement are examined in their structure and usage. Simultaneously, key actors and their associates are identified to uncover the social structure coinciding with existing procurement processes and gaps therein to understand the interconnection between the two and explain how this systematic failure was facilitated through pre-existing conditions.

### 197. Criminology of Mobility Panel 1. Regulation and Prevention of Human trafficking

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Human Trafficking

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.22

Chair:

**Kelly Samantha Gray**, University of Suffolk

Participants:

Human trafficking and the victim-centered approach: hurdles and future prospects from the Spanish perspective *Nerea Marin, University of Alicante*

Human trafficking is a very serious criminal phenomenon with a global impact and is closely linked to organized crime. It is also linked to very serious violations of human rights since, in essence, the victims of trafficking are instrumentalized for the sole purpose of obtaining economic benefits from their exploitation, particularly affecting the most vulnerable people. At the Spanish level, the regulation of the crime of human trafficking is relatively recent, since it was introduced in the Criminal Code in 2010, in compliance with international commitments. However, the reforms of the Criminal Code did not include a joint regulation of trafficking and exploitation of human beings as would have been appropriate. Nor did it include the criminalization of forced labor, servitude or slavery, which were contemplated as a purpose of the crime of trafficking, but, in themselves, did not constitute an autonomous crime. In view of the various shortcomings of the Spanish regulation, most authors have underlined the need for the criminalization of forced labor and a more in-depth comprehensive approach. It is for this reason that the Draft Bill of the Comprehensive Organic Law against Trafficking and Exploitation of Human Beings, approved in November 2022, aims to be the legal text that responds to these needs and through which the victim-centered approach to trafficking and exploitation of human beings in Spain becomes effective. This presentation, therefore, seeks to establish an overview of the human trafficking regulation in Spanish criminal law, addressing its most salient shortcomings and highlighting the solutions proposed by the aforementioned Draft Bill in order to achieve comprehensive protection for all victims of trafficking, as well as an effective criminal prosecution of all forms of exploitation.

Migrant women and trafficking for criminal exploitation. Study of the criminal and legislative reality in Spain. *Manuel Cabezas-Vicente, Universidad de Salamanca*

Known as the slavery of the 21st century, human trafficking is a reality that deserves to be fully understood. Because trafficking is a process of recruitment and transfer for the purpose of exploitation, traffickers find migrant women to be the perfect target for recruiting their victims. However, the vast majority of efforts to prevent, prosecute, protect, and even study human trafficking have focused on trafficking for sexual exploitation. This has resulted in the invisibility of so many other forms of exploitation that, according to the most recent figures, even outnumber sexual exploitation, such as labor exploitation, trafficking for sexual purposes, and

trafficking for sexual exploitation. This paper will focus on trafficking for the purpose of exploitation for criminal activities, a modality through which the victim is recruited to be exploited for the purpose of committing criminal activities such as pickpocketing, shoplifting, drug trafficking, and other criminal activities for financial gain. Given the close relationship between human trafficking and migration, the study will take as a reference migrant women as victims of trafficking for the purpose of exploitation for the commission of criminal activities. From a criminological point of view, it will address the current situation in Spain, analyzing the essential characteristics of this criminal modality, as well as the current legislation on protection, prevention, prosecution and cooperation. Finally, the paper will focus on the new proposal for a directive on the prevention and fight against trafficking in human beings and the protection of victims, understanding that the only effective response to trafficking in human beings must come from international legislative harmonization with a victim-centered approach based on cooperation and respect for human rights.

Reflections on Multi-Agency Approaches to Organised Criminal Exploitation in Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Cases Relating to County Lines in His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service *Kelly Samantha Gray, University of Suffolk*

Multi-agency responses to Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT) are vital to improving the effectiveness of responses in targeting enforcement against those who exploit others and safeguarding the vulnerable (Andell and Pitts, 2017). However, categories of victim and perpetrator are sometimes blurred (Murphy, 2022; Andell, 2023). For some, victimhood in MSHT emerges later in criminal justice system processes (Andell, 2023), especially in prisons, which can also inadvertently provide opportunities for further exploitation. The need for better collaboration across the criminal justice system was highlighted by the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner (IASC, 2022) to provide improved analysis for safeguarding threats, reducing reoffending and increasing public protection. The paper provides a summary of findings from empirical research. It highlights that prison and probation staff can and ought to play a key role as part of multi-agency responses in addressing modern slavery in the secure prison estate and in community settings.

#### 198. Police officers' attitudes and work experience: comparing countries

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.04

Many important research questions are related to police behavior, and vividly discussed today. However, police officers' attitudes and behavior are often analyzed based on assessment by the public, and its attribution of various traits (fairness, responsiveness for example). Far less often do we find surveys of police officers themselves, with notable exceptions of course. However, police officers' attitudes and behaviors, and reflexivity about the latter is critical for understanding the dyadic relations between the police and the public. Research on police behavior and/or police subculture (including how they envisage their work and its meaning, but also what they think about the legal limitations to their powers, perception of the legitimacy of internal and external control) is a core element of policing research. The determinants of their behaviors are numerous, and notably include risks and dangers. The latter have been put forward by police as a core element of their work-culture, and also highlighted by scholars. This panel addresses, based on empirical research, several critical points. First, the various dimensions of police subculture, including organizational aspects. Second, the subjective relations of officers/ prison guards to crime, ethic code and investigating mechanisms (legal text, department rules). Third, the importance of police officers' individual exposure to danger. This panel will bring together scholars covering various angles pertaining to the study of police attitudes and behavior, in a comparative perspective.

Chair:

*Sebastian Roche*, Sciences-Po Grenoble / Université de Grenoble-Alpes

Participants:

Variations in the warriors' police sub-culture: officers of two policing forces in France *Jacques de Maillard, University of Versailles-Cesdip*

In this article, we examine the dominant conceptions of police activity (arresting offenders or preventing crime), as well as the judgements made about the causes of crime (economic and social causes, judicial tolerance, immigration) by police officers. The empirical basis is a survey conducted in the police and gendarmerie in France (DPOP, for *Déontologie et relations police-population*). We reveal predominantly repressive conceptions of the job (valuing arrests, criticising the criminal justice system), backed up by a fairly widespread mistrust of the public. We also highlight variations according to experience of the job, but also in terms of affiliation (with a difference between the police and the gendarmerie), making it possible to identify different classes of police officers and gendarmes.

Prioritization of crime preventing activities and fit to specific profiles in Colombia *Miguel Inzunza, Police Education Unit/ Umeå University*

The importance of crime prevention activities has always been at focus in police work, but if it should be a matter for the whole organization or specific units is an often-recurring question. This study presents information from police officers enrolled in two different units in Colombia where one is clearly guided by a crime preventive mission and the other with regular police work. The areas given more attention investigates how this difference of being in a specific unit is manifested in their daily activity and how their profile differs in constructs such as perspective taking. Cross sectional data was collected with a battery of instruments at different occasions from the same units and data was analyzed both descriptively and using models with latent variables. There are noted differences that will be discussed in relation to the question of fit between police mission and police profile.

Gendarmerie: attitudes and practices on the roads and villages: an ethnographic approach *Mathieu Zagrodzki, Cesdip / University Versailles St Quentin*

The Gendarmerie Nationale is the law enforcement agency in charge of small towns and rural areas in France. Based on an ethnographic research that included interviews and ride-alongs with gendarmerie patrols in the greater Paris and Lyon regions, it is possible to detect a specific approach to ethics, community relations, the use of identity checks or informal problem solving compared to the French national police, which operates in urban areas. This specificity derives from the territories and the populations the two respective forces police, but also the military status of the French gendarmerie. Nevertheless, the military tradition of discipline, rigid chain of command and solidarity is being more and more discussed internally.

Attitudinal Perspectives of Correctional Officers Towards Individuals that committed crimes: A Comparative Investigation of General and Sexual Offenses in Portugal *Andreia Castro-Rodrigues, ISPA - Instituto Universitário*

Prison guards' attitudes have an impact on offenders' rehabilitation, due to the closeness between both groups. The present study intends to investigate prison guards' attitudes towards individuals that committed general offences (ICGO) and individuals that committed sex offences (ICSO), and to verify if there are differences regarding both groups. The study also intends to understand if sociodemographic and personality variables are related to attitudes towards ICSO. Thus, the Attitudes Towards Offenders Scale, the Attitudes Towards Sex Offenders Scale – 21 and the NEO Five-Factor Inventory were administered to a sample of 90 prison guards. The findings indicated that prison guards generally hold neutral attitudes, albeit leaning towards the negative, and that there are differences between attitudes towards ICSO and ICGO, being more negative regarding to ICSO. Differences were also found in attitudes towards ICSO according to sociodemographic variables, as well as statistically significant correlations between the Agreeableness dimension and the attitudes towards offenders in general, and between the Agreeableness and Conscientiousness dimensions and the attitudes towards ICSO. These results highlight

the importance of a careful and in-depth analysis of prison guards' recruitment process, as well as the need for continuous and frequent training for these professionals that assume the first line of the resocialization of individuals that committed crimes.

The credibility of internal/external mechanisms of police across two police forces *Sebastian Roche, Sciences-Po Grenoble / Université de Grenoble-Alpes*

Studying police officers' attitudes is critical for understanding the dyadic relations between the police and their larger environment. In Europe, research on police behavior and/or police subculture has been less focused on how officers perceive the legal framework and the democratic principles but also the concrete mechanism of police oversight. This presentation will address the way police officers from two different forces (national police and gendarmerie) perceive the relevance of ethics, and the credibility or legitimacy of both internal and external control. The determinants of their attitudes are explored (such as rank, time in the force, level of education, exposure to danger, poor health, being exposed to discrimination, and type of force, i.e. civilian versus military status force). Findings suggest that it may be a major challenge for democracies when police refute the value of norms and oversight mechanisms. Additionally, military status personnel are more inclined to adhere to those oversight norms, and so do officers less exposed to strain.

### 199. Prison Working Group: Prison perceptions, experiences, and transcendence

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.05

Chair:

*Claudia Resende, DGRSP / CICS.NOVA.FCSH*

Participants:

'I never saw it as something for me before': the role of affordance perception in changes in prisoners' book reading practices in two English prisons. *Judith Gardom, University of Cambridge*

Reading is widely regarded as a valuable activity for prisoners, offering educational, therapeutic, cultural and moral benefits. However, the prison population of England and Wales is characterised by low levels of literacy and education, and made up largely of those least likely to engage in book reading as a leisure activity. In a study in two medium security men's prisons, most of the 50 habitual readers interviewed had developed the practice of leisure reading, or engaged in it as adults for the first time, only since coming to prison. Book reading is a highly complex practice, requiring forms of cultural knowledge and inclination as well as literacy and other capabilities. The idea of 'affordance perception' offers a theoretical framework for analysis of the complexity of changes in reading engagement in prison. Originally a theory of the perception of the possibilities offered by physical objects in relation to the interests of human and other animals, the concept of an affordance has since been extended within anthropology and other disciplines, providing a way of holding together the objective properties of a thing and the subjective perception of its relevance to a concern, within a social, physical and cultural setting or lifeworld. The findings showed how prisoners' perception of books shifted as their possibilities were recognised in restricted and resource-impooverished prison environments. Distinctly prison-shaped needs arising from the nature of prison time, separation from family, the desire for power, identity and status, gave rise to changes in perception of what books offered, with changes in reading engagement. The research advances understanding of an under-researched and under-theorised aspect of prison life. The findings provide a holistic account of the activity of reading in prison that reflects the complex entanglements of individual psychobiographies and prison lifeworlds.

Penitentiary Pleasures: Queer Understandings of Prison Paradoxes *Elena Vasiliou, University of Warwick*

In this presentation I draw from my previous work on pleasure in

prison settings (Vasiliou, 2020) and I argue for the application of queer and decolonial methodologies as a means of deconstructing the binary formation through which pain and pleasure in prison is understood. To do that, I explore how ex-prisoners' narratives might reveal (queer) moments of pleasure and complement existing criminological scholarship that has neglected such an issue. My starting point is Foucault's theory of pleasure as a productive force that renders it akin to power: it produces an effect. Furthermore, I draw on Edelman's concept of "futurity" and Halberstam's "failure" to bring criminology and queer theory into a productive dialogue. The research is situated in the periphery of Europe and guided by the principle of 'learning from prisons' (Vasiliou, 2019) instead of viewing prisoners only as object of interpretation. My presentation posits a question about the possibility and productivity of pleasure in conditions of resisting, failing, and suffering. I argue that this framework goes beyond normative criminological approaches to reveal how prison experience is not only a struggle between power and resistance, but a complex nexus which also involves self-destruction and pleasure.

Nonlinear Temporality and Histories of Trauma in Incarcerated People *Joanne DeCaro, University of California - Irvine*

Time in prison is a core component of the punishment and a practical and philosophical matter for incarcerated people. This paper uses data from 53 oral history interviews with formerly incarcerated lifers and long-termers in California to ask how pre-carcer and carceral trauma exposure and trauma responses influence the experience of prison time. Prison is a temporal microclimate, a space where the lack of normal ways to mark progression allows for nonlinearity to become the dominant temporal orientation. It is argued that prisons shape a new temporal reality that exists almost exclusively in the present, in a cyclical approach to time that is constrained to a weekly repetition of tasks (O'donnell, 2014; Carceral & Flaherty, 2021). But even when prisoners schedule as much programming as possible, they will always endure long stretches of unscheduled time. How does having that much empty time to live in memories that are potentially highly informed by trauma exposure lead to rumination and temporal dislocation? Two functions of nonlinearity meet in the carceral setting: the nonlinearity of confinement and the nonlinearity of trauma. Due to the nonlinearity of trauma, the traumas of the past are not bound to the past and can often surface through triggers and periods of inaction. This paper reconsiders the extent of the predominance of the "present" in prison in the light of the nonlinear time ruptures and cyclical patterns of trauma responses.

The role of spiritual dimension: The continuum between pragmatics and transcendence in the construction of confessionals within Portuguese prison settings *Claudia Resende, DGRSP / CICS.NOVA.FCSH*

The aim of this paper is to understand the balance point between the utilitarian element of a prison labor endeavor and a more spiritual dimension that could emerge throughout an unusual task in their prison lives. This presentation will exhibit first hand experiences towards a particular labor experience in order to understand its impact on a more transcendental level, namely at a religious and spiritual dimensions, and both on a practical and functional level related to prison adaptation. This analysis will highlight the testimonies of convicted male inmates who were involved within three Portuguese prison facilities in the construction of 150 confessionals used at the World Youth Days Journeys (WYD)[a religious event that took place in Lisbon, 2023]. The 16 narratives were recorded through audio support and qualitative content analyses was carried out. To give room to the participants' critical senses, it was considered interesting to collect their subjective experiences through an original empirical approach. On a methodological ground, the semi-structured interviews targeted to collect relevant testimonies during the duration of the entire project. For this purpose, a PowerPoint presentation was prepared, with videos and news broadcasted in various media related to this experience. Additionally, key words (some of them religion/spirituality related) have been introduced by the researchers in order to be chosen according to their preferences and meanings. Throughout the in-depth conversations, regarding that specific prison activity, it was apprehended their perceptions and



interpretations of the impact of this experience in civil society. Besides, the empirical battery was prepared to give full opportunity for inmates' sharing of related and interconnected experiences in their prison rehabilitation, criminal path, family ties, hopes and failures. In an unprecedented way, insiders of the Portuguese prison system conducted research with the advantage of know-how from their branches of experience.

**200. Authentic Voices: Young people and Violence. Being heard as well as being seen.**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Juvenile Crime (ISRD WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 1.09*

This panel will introduce three studies (from Northern England) focusing upon young people's involvement in violence, the response (if any) to their violent behaviour, and critically how we ensure the voice of young people is heard when we try to respond to their actions. There is considerable research which explores young people's involvement in violence, with a myriad of explanations. The panel will unpack some of the debates around youth violence, including violence exhibited by those who are victims of child criminal exploitation (CCE), as well as by a child or adolescent towards a parent/guardian. It will consider the role of case management in responding to, supporting, and protecting young people involved in violence, and will explore alternative methods for securing the young person's voice in uncovering detailed narratives of pathways into and out of crime and violence.

Chair:

**Sarah Soppitt**, Northumbria University

Participants:

Identity, territoriality, and a desire to matter: The evolving picture of serious youth violence in Newcastle *Samantha Walker*, Northumbria University

The picture of serious youth violence (SYV) is a complex one and the true extent of youth violence is often difficult to establish due to limitations with data collection and recording practices. Yet, despite a decline during the Covid-19 pandemic lockdowns, it appears that nationally SYV – particularly offences involving a knife or weapon – are on the rise. Data suggests these issues are particularly acute in large metropolitan areas with high levels of deprivation and social inequality. With the North East local economic partnership areas home to 207 of the 10% most deprived Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in England, Newcastle is not immune to incidents of SYV and exploitation – as the tragic death of 14-year-old Gordon Gault in 2022 and Operation Sanctuary in 2014 demonstrate.

Based upon the findings from across two studies, this presentation looks at the evolving picture of SYV in Newcastle and the North East. The paper aims to understand both how violence shapes the psychosocial development of children and young people and how it is shaped by the psychosocial context of their lived environment. The paper explores the physical and virtual spaces in which violence emerges and the how violence both shapes and constrains the development of young people's identities.

The role of Mesology and Respair in Case Management. *Sarah Soppitt*, Northumbria University

This paper draws on research from two projects conducted in the North East of England, and considers the case management approach offered to young people involved in serious youth violence (SYV). Both projects, while aspiring to encourage desistance, recognised that given the complexity of the young people's lives, this was unlikely. Desistance was seen to be particularly difficult for those young people who had been exploited into criminal activities, experienced grooming or where they had limited agency to safely exit such activities. Desistance was seen to be particularly difficult for those young people who were being exploited into criminal activities, experiencing grooming or where they had limited agency to safely exit such activities. Social media was seen to play a significant role in young people's involvement in crime, and most notably in more serious crime, while also making them vulnerable to exploitation and harm, yet rarely fully understood by professionals supporting them. The paper begins to unpack some of the key features of the case management approaches adopted by the projects for these young people where coercion, control, and violence were dominant

features. We ask whether respair, used to refer to a sense of fresh hope and recovery from despair and mesology that is how social institutions and organisations could help people achieve happiness and are more appropriate aspirations to underpin case management.

Muted stakeholders: Power differentials in interventions seeking to reduce child to parent violence and abuse. *Pamela Davies*, Northumbria University

Little is known about police sponsored interventions designed to positively impact upon the problem of child and adolescent to parent/guardian violence and abuse (CAPVA) and their effectiveness in helping to divert children and young people away from criminalisation. This paper draws on findings from research which focussed on one such intervention in the UK called Step Up. The aim of the programme is to deliver, through a holistic approach, parental/carer education and child coaching to reduce violence towards parents/guardians. Participation is voluntary and the aim is to provide support for the whole family. The core component of the offer is an 8-week programme for children aged 11 to 17 years. The research was designed to provide understanding of the outcomes and impact of the programme for service users and key stakeholders including funders of the provision. In this paper the focus is on the children and young people who prompt professional stakeholder referrals into the intervention. The paper explores the extent to which children and young people are seen and heard during the intervention and the extent to which they were seen and heard during the course of the research. The power differentials that predate and preface, surface and endure are such that whilst children are sometimes seen and sometimes briefly heard, their perspective is always at best muted if not invisible in the effort to punctuate abusive behaviours.

Capturing the voice of young people involved in violent crime with design-led, digital methodologies *Rebecca Oswald*, Northumbria University

A legacy perhaps of early studies into youth offending conducted by the Chicago School of Sociology, where understanding the lifeworlds of marginalised others was prioritised, many investigations into youth crime rely upon traditional social science methodologies, such as interviewing, collecting self-narratives and ethnographic work, where the face-to-face encounter is prioritised as conduit for the generation of rich qualitative data. This paper seeks to demonstrate the value of digital methods in uncovering detailed narratives of pathways into and out of crime and violence for young people. It presents findings from a study adopting a design-led methodological approach, utilised during the COVID-19 pandemic to facilitate research with young people (aged 15–17) who had been involved in crime and violence in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK. The development of an original digital workshop using interactive methods engaged criminalised youths online and gathered rich qualitative data regarding their experiences of crime and violence. The research demonstrated how digital methods can be used to empower participants, by transferring ownership of the research encounter to the participant. Furthermore, digital methods can help move away from a traditional one-directional 'interview' experience that young people involved in crime and violence might associate with unpleasant encounters with professionals (such as police, teachers, social workers) creating a safer space for more genuine accounts and narratives. Ultimately, this paper suggests that the extent to which young people have become embedded in a virtual world and the role this plays in pathways into crime and violence cannot be ignored. If researchers of youth crime and deviance wish therefore to engage with and understand the lifeworlds of the latest generations of participants it may be pertinent that they develop methods that can help uncover the virtual, rather than the 'street corner' societies to which they belong.

**201. Legitimacy of authority figures and legal socialization in adolescents across different sociocultural contexts**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Juvenile Justice and Children's Rights (Juvenile Justice WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.11*

Most studies on juvenile delinquency focus on factors that increase the likelihood of adolescents engaging in delinquent behavior. A smaller number of studies are interested in variables that may hinder/prevent this involvement. Within this scope, studies on legal socialization have become increasingly prominent. Legal socialization is the process through which individuals internalize social norms that control behavior and develop moral values that guide obedience to authority. Through the internalization of social norms, individuals become capable of inhibiting socially undesirable behaviors and acquire their own sense of "right" and "wrong." Within the realm of legal socialization, one must consider experiences and perceptions/beliefs related to authority figures, particularly the Police, during adolescence. This panel will present studies focused on this aspect, conducted in different contexts, considering elements of social vulnerability such as gender and socioeconomic status, as well as different societies where the sense of authority and, especially, the prestige/legitimacy of the police institution vary widely. The intention is to provide insights that foster discussion and reflection on improving the legal socialization processes of adolescents, considering guarantees for comprehensive protection.

Chair:

**Marina Rezende Bazon**, University of São Paulo

Participants:

Youth's relationships with legal and non-legal authorities in shaping legal attitudes and delinquent behavior: a study of legal socialization in Portugal *Patrícia Damas*, School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto; *Samuel Moreira*, CIJ (Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice) - School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto, Portugal | *CEJELA (Center for Legal, Economic, International and Environmental Studies)* - Lusitana University, Portugal; *Carla Sofia Cardoso*, Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Crime Justice and Security (CJS) - School of Criminology, Faculty of Law of the University of Porto

Legal socialization has been receiving an increasing attention in criminological research, addressing how different spheres of authority influence youth's attitudes towards the legal system and how those attitudes, in turn, shape their (non)compliant behavior with the law. Moreover, perceived procedural (in)justice of authorities when dealing with children and adolescents during their life-course is pointed as a central aspect in shaping those attitudes and behavior. Thus, the fairness of procedures during the interactions with youths should be a primary concern for a variety of authorities in different institutional contexts, given its crucial influence on young people's present, as well as future, law-abiding behavior. Although studies on the legal socialization of young people have been conducted in different countries, to the best of our knowledge, in Portugal are non-existent. Through the administration of a self-reported questionnaire to a sample of high school students in Portugal, this ongoing research aims to understand whether perceived procedurally (un)fair interactions with three figures of authority (parents, teachers, and police) influence young people's levels of legal cynicism and perceived police legitimacy, and whether these two variables explain self-reported delinquency. Specific regression models are estimated to examine the impact of each authority on legal cynicism and perceived police legitimacy, as well as delinquent behavior. The key results of this study will be presented and discussed, and the contributes to juvenile delinquency prevention will be highlighted

The legitimacy of the police: Comparing perceptions in young people from Mexico and Spain *Aurea Esther Grijalva Eternod*, University of Guadalajara, Mexico; *Esther Fernandez Molina*, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha; *Raquel Bartolomé Gutiérrez*, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha

The legitimacy of the police has been recognized as a central aspect of the functioning of the justice system in democratic regimes, and the academic debate has therefore been concerned with understanding the aspects that make the police enjoy the support of citizens for their actions. In this forum, we focus on the opinion and evaluation of this institution by young people, who are in a complicated phase of life in terms of their relationship with authority. Using the procedural justice model and the legal socialization model as analytical frameworks, we compared the results obtained with the application of ISRD-3 in Spain and

Mexico. That is, in a country where the police is one of the most valued institutions, and in Mexico, where the police institution is the least valued by the population. The results are discussed in terms of the universality of the evidence on procedural justice.

Narratives of young female offenders regarding their passage through the justice system: what about the police? *Esther Fernandez Molina*, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha; *Raquel Bartolomé Gutiérrez*, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha

In general, passage through the penal system is not comprehensible to citizens. There are several actors with different roles, formal codes of conduct, their own symbols, and technical language that is difficult to understand. This difficulty is greater for Young people. Therefore, the juvenile justice system aspires to make adaptations so that judicial experience can be understood. However, research has demonstrated that adaptation does not always occur. As a result, going through the juvenile justice system is a negative experience for many youths. According to Tyler, this could harm youths' legal socialization and normative compliance. To better understand these experiences with the penal system, the Criminology and Juvenile Delinquency Research Group at the University of Castilla-La Mancha is conducting biographical interviews with delinquent girls, which are less studied in this field. This paper presents the preliminary results of twenty interviews with girls serving judicial measures in Spain. Girls' narratives revealed that the treatment they received from the police was harsh. The police appear to be more concerned with demonstrating authority or "teaching them a lesson" than protecting the best interests of the girls. Verbal violence against juvenile offenders and disrespectful treatment were common experiences. The effects of these experiences on the legal socialization process are discussed.

Adherence to norms and respect for the police institution in judicialised and non-judicialised adolescents from socially vulnerable communities in Brazil *Marina Rezende Bazon*, University of São Paulo; *Fabio Meirelles Alves*, GEPDIP/USP

In Marc Leblanc's Theory of Social and Personal Regulation of Social Conduct in Adolescence, the concept of internal constraint refers to the adherence to conduct norms promulgated by social institutions to such an extent that the individual no longer perceives them as acquired through processes of coercion/socialization. In this theory, adherence to norms during adolescence is moderated by "the use of cognitive techniques to neutralize thoughts/feelings contradictory to deviant behavior," by "perception of the risk of sanction," and, primarily, by "respect for authority figures," operationalized in a single measure relative to "respect for the Police institution." These components of normative regulation refer to perceptions and beliefs that are built from the experiences of children/adolescents in interactions/relationships with authority figures. In Brazil, considering that the experiences of socially vulnerable segments with the police tend to be, on the whole, more negative than positive, due to contacts often marked by abuse of power, police brutality, and violations of human rights, it was questioned whether there would be significant differences between a group of adjudicated adolescents - in conflict with the law - and a control group, all from communities belonging to vulnerable social strata, regarding "respect for the police" and "adherence to norms." In addition to official delinquency, self-reported delinquency was also studied in the groups, seeking to understand how normative regulation, despite similar community experiences, is an important mechanism in the context of peripheral communities such as those existing in Brazil. The main results and discussion will be presented, considering important elements for the prevention of juvenile delinquency in contexts of social vulnerability.

## 202. Victims and the Labour of Justice at the International Criminal Court: The Blame Cascade

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Transitional Justice (Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice WG)

Roundtable

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.13

The roundtable will discuss my forthcoming book: 'Victims and the Labour

of Justice at the International Criminal Court' which will be published with OUP on 9 May 2024: <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/victims-and-the-labour-of-justice-at-the-international-criminal-court-9780198870258?q=9780198870258&cc=gb&lang=en#>

Roundtable participants: Dr Leila Ullrich, Associate Professor of Criminology, University of Oxford, Prof. Kjersti Lohne, Professor of Criminology, University of Oslo, Dr Valeria Vegh Weis, Buenos Aires University (UBA). Abstract: Victim participation at the ICC has routinely been viewed as an empty promise of justice or mere spectacle for audiences in the Global North, providing little benefit for victims. Why, then, do people in Kenya and Uganda engage in justice processes that offer so little, so late? How and why do they become the court's victims and intermediaries, and what impact do these labels have on them? Victims and the Labour of Justice at the International Criminal Court offers a response to these poignant questions, demonstrating that the notion of 'justice for victims' is not merely symbolic, expressive, or instrumental. On the contrary — the book argues — the ICC's methods of victim engagement are productive, reproducing the Court as a relevant institution and transforming victims in the Global South into highly gendered and racialized labouring subjects. Challenging the Court's interplay with global capitalist relationships, the book makes visible the hidden labour of justice, and how it lures, disciplines, and blames both victims and victims' advocates. Drawing on critical theory, criminological analysis, and multi-sited ethnographic fieldwork in The Hague, Kenya, and Uganda, Victims and the Labour of Justice at the International Criminal Court illuminates how the drive to include victims as participants in international criminal justice proceedings also creates and disciplines them as blameworthy capitalist subjects. Yet, as victim workers learn to 'stop crying', 'be peaceful', 'get married', 'work hard', and 'repay debt', they also begin to challenge the terms of global justice.

Chair:

**Ian Loader**, University of Oxford

Discussants:

**Kjersti Lohne**, University of Oslo

**Valeria Vegh Weis**, Buenos Aires University

**Leila Ullrich**, [Leila.Ullrich@crim.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Leila.Ullrich@crim.ox.ac.uk)

### 203. Data acquiring, sharing and analysing for better Criminal Policy Making

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Criminal Policy, Criminalization, Policy of Criminal Sanctions (Criminal Law Making Policy WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.17

Chair:

**Klaus Boers**, University of Muenster

Participants:

Access to justice for children in detention victims of violence: an EU mapping of practices and the development of an EU data collection and monitoring tool. *Silvia Randazzo, KU Leuven*  
In all its forms, violence against children (VAC) continues to be widespread around the globe. For children deprived of their liberty, violence is a daily reality in many EU countries, but the lack of consistent monitoring, data collection, and public access to information contribute to their invisibility. Marginalisation and discrimination further compound the risks for these children, especially concerning their intersecting identities such as gender, sexual orientation and cultural background, among others. Ensuring the safety of children in detention is fundamentally linked to understanding the extent and the features of their experiences of violence, and this is only possible through the collection of robust and appropriate data. The challenge of collecting data on VAC within the criminal justice context, and even more so in detention, is however broadly acknowledged by international research. Even when data is collected, the lack of appropriate disaggregation and the limited direct involvement of children in the processes of monitoring and reporting make the data collection incomplete and insufficient for a robust analysis that would aim at improving the system overall. This research and paper – realised in the framework of the EU project "Data for Monitoring the Safety of Imprisoned Children", led by Penal Reform International – contribute to addressing some of these gaps. It offers a mapping and assessment

of monitoring and internal data collection practices on VAC in detention across EU countries, identifying trends, methods, core improvement needs and interesting practices. This research also provided the necessary foundation to develop an EU data collection tool and guidance on how to collect comprehensive, non-discriminatory and comparable data on VAC in detention facilities. This tool and guidance have the potential to help governments, administrators and, importantly, detention facilities across Europe to take a step toward better safeguarding children from violence during criminal justice detention.

Criminal Justice Data and GDPR: how to reconcile personal data protection with scientific research purposes *Ales Zavrsnik, Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law University of Ljubljana*

The development of semantic and speech technologies depends to a large extent on the amount of high-quality data on which machine learning models are trained. The criminal justice system captures a massive corpora of recorded audio data from transcripts of judicial proceedings. However, language corpora, as a rule, contain personal data, and speech falls in the category of personal data, which is subject to special protection under the personal data protection framework in the EU. The development of semantic and speech technologies for the Slovene language is, therefore, on the one hand, hampered by the lower number of available text and speech resources compared to larger languages and, on the other hand, by the constraints imposed by the strict data protection regime based on General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and national legislation (ZVOP-2). However, in principle, GDPR does allow data to be processed for scientific research purposes, even if they were primarily collected for another purpose (derogation from the purpose limitation principle). In addition, it is permissible to limit the exercise of certain rights of the data subjects when processing data for research purposes if these rights unduly burden the research process and if the national legislation of the Member State permits it. However, in Slovenia, the exceptions applicable for scientific research purposes are not sufficiently clear, which harms the potential access to criminal justice data and, consequently, specific research projects aimed at developing semantic and speech technologies. The paper will present the process of preparing the groundwork for data acquisition, data extraction, data anonymisation, and the establishment of documentation, procedures, and rules for data processing needs.

Missing Children: A critical analysis of complex vulnerabilities in England *Lisa Calder, Sheffield Hallam University*

The UN Committee for the Rights of the Child (June 2023) concluding observations on the combined sixth and seventh reports on the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. States in section Co-ordination "12. (a) Strengthen its data-collection system with regard to both qualitative and quantitative indicators that encompasses all areas of the Convention and ensure that 4 CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 11. CRC/C/GBR/CO/6-7 4 the data are disaggregated by age, sex, disability, geographical location, ethnic origin, nationality and socioeconomic background;" To understand the lack of prevention of Child Modern Slavery and Child trafficking (CT); the preventable causes of CMS and CT; I have produced a data set spanning five years on Missing Children in England. Obtained through Freedom of information requests to all county councils and respective police forces in England, highlighting the disparate information held. By producing joined up intersectional clearly defined demographical data surrounding children; especially complex vulnerabilities such as poverty, and regional inequalities, prevention and detection of missing children as an identifier of vulnerability to CMS and CT can be achieved. The goal is to propose statutory guidance on information holding and sharing of clearly defined demographical data within practices and agencies, creating greater support in the prevention of trafficking/modern slavery of children. Demographical data, if achieved, disseminated and utilised effectively across collaborative services and local authorities could and should produce better outcomes in prevention. There is a real opportunity to aid in better information and data for agencies, information sharing practices, prevention and policy, resulting in better outcomes for vulnerable children.

From selective to total social control through data science

systems? *Klaus Boers, University of Muenster; Marcus Schaeff, University of Münster*

Selectivity appears to be the key operating principle of social control systems. Formal as well as informal social control is successful because it intervenes only in selected quantities and qualities of deviant and delinquent behaviour. The filtering process of law enforcement and strategies of non-intervention or diversion reflect this mechanism. It has evolved under conditions of limited information and limited possibilities of data analysis. Today, however, there seems to be the technical possibility of collecting all information on deviant behaviour and deviant individuals (big data) and analysing it by means of machine learning. Such an information management would open up possibilities for total control and intervention strategies, not only ex post, but also and especially ex ante. The extent to which this might be feasible will be discussed, taking into account the potential and limitations of machine learning systems in areas such as social scoring or predictive policing. And to what extent legal restrictions, such as the EU AI Act, will be reliable to resist the "seduction of totality". The main assumption of the talk is that for a successful social control system, total surveillance cannot replace the principle of selectivity.

#### 204. Science based strategies for reintegration after prison

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Penology and Theories Punishment (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.18

Chair:

*Paulina Sidor-Borek*, University of Warsaw

Participants:

Unlocking Future: Empowering Reentry Through Research *Petra Zhrivalova, INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY AND SOCIAL PREVENTION; Tereza Raszková, The Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention (IKSP); Lucie Háková, Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention*

A constant theme in criminological research is how to work most effectively with people released from prison to reintegrate them back into society. This paper presents a proposal for systematic work with convicts that begins during incarceration, culminates just prior to release, and continues in post-penitentiary care. The authors draw on extensive empirical research among prison staff, analysis of prison service statistical data, psychological assessments of inmates preparing for release, and interviews with judges and prosecutors. Although the proposed system is based on Czech realities, it is a generally applicable model working with current knowledge about desistance as well as structural problems that persons may encounter when trying to integrate.

Comparing approaches to drug use: Estimating comparative effects of diversion efforts for drug offences on system and public safety outcomes across countries *Christopher M. Campbell, Portland State University; Kelsey Henderson, Portland State University; Brian Renauer, Portland State University; Mark Monaghan, Loughborough University; Alex Stevens, University of Kent; Charlie E Sutton, Loughborough University*

Governments must strike a balance of relative impacts, while recognising that using the criminal justice system to combat drug use is problematic; be it due to social harm (e.g., conviction records and incarceration) or the fact that it is not fiscally sustainable. For instance, people interacting with the UK justice system on drug offences make up 14% of the untried population in custody and 21% of those convicted but unsentenced in custody. In the US, drug offenders make up approximately 12.5% of sentenced individuals in state prisons (127,661 people). Consequently, states, counties, and local jurisdictions have made an effort to divert some of the lowest-level offences (e.g., drug possession) away from formal justice system sanctions. While diverting drug offenders has generally been shown to help reduce social and fiscal problems, drug poisoning (overdose) rates remain high in many countries as well. The UK reports that the most recent age-adjusted, drug

overdose death rate is approximately 84 deaths per million people, while the US reports a rate is closer to 217 deaths per million. With this context, some people question if diversion promotes drug use and is a missed opportunity for the justice system to act as an avenue to treatment. In an effort to gauge the aggregate impact of pre-arrest (police-led) diversion, we employ a synthetic control design in an interrupted time series analysis examining the UK and US, among others. Relying on official data over the last 10 years, we compare jurisdictions that engaged in a systematic diversion effort (e.g., West Midlands, UK and Oregon, US) to similar areas that did not, while controlling for multiple factors on which the jurisdictions may differ (e.g., police workforce size, unemployment, population). We discuss the detectable impact of pre-arrest diversion on key outcomes and implications regarding police reported crime, arrests, and prosecutions.

Is there an Eastern European Model of Electronic Prison? The

Case of Poland *Paulina Sidor-Borek, University of Warsaw*  
Electronic monitoring (EM) is a term used to describe a growing and varied collection of technologies which remotely monitor behavior of individuals in conflict with the law. It is often perceived as an alternative to imprisonment, although its role in justice system is much more complicated and diverse. It is present in most European countries, however, its nature varies among states. Comparative studies have identified a (Western) European model and the British model (Hucklesby, Beyens, Boone 2021). At the same time comprehensive information on the use of EM in Eastern European countries is still lacking, as they have not been included in the analysis, and English-language studies are significantly limited. Meanwhile, countries in Eastern Europe are facing a problem with high imprisonment rates, so it seems crucial to analyze measures that, at least in theory, can lead to a lower number of people in prisons. One of them is electronic monitoring. In my presentation, I will attempt to explain the functioning of EM in Poland, while also addressing similarities and differences compared to the European and British systems. In doing so, I aim to answer whether there exists an Eastern European model or if maybe Poland has its own unique approach to electronic monitoring. I will also analyze how EM changed in Poland in recent years, including a statistical view of it.

#### 205. Conceptualising, Understanding and Preventing Mixed Forms of Extremism

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Critical Criminology Roundtable

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.07

In Europe and beyond, an established bank of quantitative data indicates that a growing proportion of individuals being referred to counter-extremism and de-radicalisation programmes are involved in engaging with and/or promoting extremist viewpoints that are mixed/composite, rather than singular/doctrinal. Insofar as statistics show that mixed, unclear, and unstable ideological profiles are rising in number, particularly amongst young people, there are sizeable knowledge gaps within criminology regarding the contexts, processes and experiences that may encourage and/or influence these types of radicalisation pathways. Furthermore, the expertise that exists in this area is scattered across social science disciplines and spread across diverse international contexts. The primary ambition of the roundtable is both to identify critical knowledge gaps and to explore the potentialities of creative methods and approaches that can be deployed to better understand the growing trend of individuals engaging with and expressing blended forms of extremism - such as those involving misogynistic, incel, conspiracy theory, homophobic and far right values and beliefs.

Chair:

*Gabe Mythen*, University of Liverpool

Discussants:

*Laura Naegler*, University of Liverpool

*Katrien Vanlerberghe*, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)

*Bettina Rottweiler*, UCL

*Elisa Orofino*, Anglia Ruskin University

*Jacob Astley*, University of Liverpool

#### 206. Social Networks I

### Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Crime and Social Networks

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.10

Chair:

**Tine Munk**, Nottingham Trent University

Participants:

Are we Playing It Safe? A Scoping Review of Forced Criminality  
*Michelle Poirier, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Amber Horning Ruf, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Wilson Palacios, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Joselyne Chenane Nkogo, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Rita Augustyn, Keene State College*

The term forced criminality refers to those who, through “force, fraud, or coercion, are compelled by others to engage in illegal activities” and was first mentioned by the U.S. Department of State (USDOS) in 2014. Researchers have identified common types as benefit fraud – being forced or coerced to apply for benefits, such as welfare, but never being allowed access to the money they had been paid (in 2012, benefit fraud comprised 58% of known forced criminality cases) – (Brotherton et al., 2014) and drug offenses, such as cultivating, transporting, or distributing drugs (Heys et al., 2022; Metropolitan Police, 2022). According to the USDOS (2022), 10.5% of reported global human trafficking cases are forced criminality. The extent of this type of human trafficking is unknown due to the dark figure of crime and a lack of awareness of this phenomenon by law enforcement and governments, which indicate the rates may be much higher. This scoping review aims to synthesize the literature regarding forced criminality to determine the extent to which forced criminality has been researched, the geographic regions represented, and the methodologies used. In addition, we explore whether they are sufficient in describing risk factors, prevalence, and outcomes associated with forced criminality.

Exploring overlaps of cultural property crime with organised crime in EU policy documents *Patricia Faraldo Faraldo-Cabana, Universidade da Coruña; Silvia Rodríguez-López, Universidade da Coruña*

In recent years the interrelation of the trafficking of cultural property with other forms of organised crime has gained prominence in EU policies on the protection of cultural heritage. This article analyses how the EU has conceptualized and operationalized this overlap in terms of describing the phenomenon and designing countermeasures. Through a content analysis, we evaluate the articulation and use of this connection in EU policy documents published from 1993 to 2023 that include both terms (n=58). The analysis demonstrates deficits of conceptualization and operationalization and a correspondingly weak foundation for EU policy. Misunderstandings related to the organised nature of trafficking in cultural property and its overlaps with other forms of organised crime, particularly the financing of terrorism, may result in misguided policies with the potential to undermine law enforcement efforts. Conversely, recognition of the white-collar crime nature of the illicit trade in cultural property in the anti-money laundering framework opens new opportunities to disrupt the illicit financial flow in the art and antiquities market.

Unraveling the Transmission of Violent Offending Behavior: Insights from a Belgian Co-offending Network Study *Joke Geeraert, Ghent University; Arjan Blokland, NSCR; Luis Enrique Correa da Rocha, Ghent University; Christophe Vandeviver, Ghent University*

This study builds upon existing research highlighting the influence of deviant social circles on individual behavior, aiming to deepen our understanding of the underlying mechanisms contributing to homophily in violent behavior within co-offending networks. Specifically, our focus is on the transmission of violent offending behavior over time in a Belgian co-offending network. We examine the impact of co-offending with a violent offender on an offender's future criminal behavior. Unlike previous studies mainly emphasizing the reinforcement of violent behavior through interactions, our approach considers the possibility that individuals

may distance themselves from violence after engaging in co-offending activities with violent offenders. This nuanced perspective acknowledges the complexity of co-offending interactions and allows for a more comprehensive understanding of potential outcomes. In addition, the nature of the co-offense (i.e. violent or not violent) is taken into account to distinguish between ‘learning by association’ and ‘learning by doing’ in case of transmission of violent behavior. The effect of these co-offending interactions is examined through logistic regression models, in order to assess the extent to which they predict the likelihood of engaging in violent behavior, over and above the likelihood of general offending. The results of these analyses will be demonstrated during the presentation.

Memetic warfare: Humour, Hate, and Hashtags in Political Discourse *Tine Munk, Nottingham Trent University*

Memetic warfare is information and psychological warfare that uses memes—ideas, behaviours, or styles that spread culturally—to influence public perception and manipulate online opinions. It leverages the viral nature of social media to disseminate propaganda, disinformation, or counter-information, aiming to shape political discussions and control narratives. By encapsulating complex ideas in easily shareable, often humorous or emotionally charged formats, memetic warfare can rapidly spread across the internet, bypass traditional censorship, and impact public opinion. The contrast between offensive and defensive memes illustrates a complex digital battleground where distinguishing satire from hate speech is challenging. Offensive memes often aim to provoke or demean, potentially inciting violence and spreading disinformation. In response, defensive memes are employed by online civic movements to counter such content, using humour and factual information to debunk myths and promote positive messages. Case studies in this area reveal the significant influence of memes on public opinion and societal dynamics, emphasising their role in reflecting and shaping online and offline discourse. The discussion on the psychological impact of memes, particularly their role in delineating in-groups and out-groups, adds an essential dimension to understanding their power in nurturing identity among like-minded individuals. This aspect is crucial in comprehending the broader implications of memes in collective consciousness and societal divisions. The focus of this paper is on the use of defensive memes to counter offensive online communications, particularly those linked to Russian information disorder used to infiltrate wars and conflict and cause social divisions related to Ukraine, Israel, and the US. These areas are targeted by Russian trolls, illustrating the global scale and diverse contexts in which memes operate. Based on primary data from social media platforms, the research will contribute valuable insights into the dynamics of meme culture and its implications for political communication and engagement in the digital age.

### 207. Quantitative Methods WG. Panel 2. Macro-Level Analysis of Crime & Justice Data

Topic 7: Comparative and Historical Perspectives/Cross-National Comparisons of Crime and Justice (Quantitative Methods WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14

Chair:

**Hyon Namgung**, Metropolitan State University of Denver

Participants:

A Cross-National Analysis of Emotional Temperature and Homicide Rates *William Alex Pridemore, Department of Sociology, University of Georgia; Meghan L. Rogers, University of Iowa*

There is a large literature on structural covariates of homicide rates, but fewer studies of effects of citizens' perceptions and sentiments on violence. Yet perceptions of daily life and prevailing sentiment tell us something about societies beyond official measures of economic and demographic structure, and studies show perceptions of state legitimacy, civic engagement, and consumer sentiment are associated with crime rates. Research also suggests collective emotions are associated with population-level outcomes like voting decisions, civil unrest, and prevalence of depression and anxiety.

We study effects of emotional temperature – a snapshot of citizens’ experiences – on national homicide rates. Our unit of analysis was the nation-year, 2015-2020. We obtained homicide data from World Health Organization’s Mortality Database. We gauged emotional temperature using the Gallup Global Emotions report. The survey measures positive experiences with questions about rest, respectful treatment, smiling or laughing, learning or doing something interesting, and enjoyment. It measures negative experiences with questions about physical pain, worry, sadness, stress, and anger. We estimate separate effects for positive and negative experiences with pooled cross-sectional models, using dummy variables for year and nation fixed effects and controlling for typical structural covariates. Results reveal no association with total or female homicide rates of positive or negative emotions, but suggest that for males as positive experiences increase in a nation its homicide rate declines.

**Gender Equality, Government Effectiveness, and Female Representation in Policing: A Cross-National Examination**  
*Doris C. Chu, Northumbria University*

Studies underscore the many benefits associated with recruitment of females into policing. Female representation has been found to be associated with a higher rate of sex crime reporting, better relationship with communities, higher public trust in police, and less corruption. However, most of the relevant studies have been conducted in a single country (e.g., USA). To date, very little empirical work has explored how country-level gender equality and government effectiveness are related to female representation in policing. Specifically, this study examines whether a country with a narrower gender gap in economic participation and opportunity and political empowerment (measured by the Economic Forum’s Global Gender Gap Index) will have a higher percentage of females in policing. It also investigates whether countries with higher levels of government effectiveness and control of corruption have a higher female representation in policing. Analyzing data from 70 countries in different regions of the world, I find that both government effectiveness and control of corruption were positively associated with representation of females in policing. Countries with a narrower gender gap in economic participation and opportunity and political empowerment were found to have higher female representation in policing. Policy implications and suggestions for future study are discussed.

**Temporal Analysis of Socioeconomic Factors and Private Security Industry in Hungary, South Korea, and the US**  
*Hyon Namgung, Metropolitan State University of Denver; Laszlo Christian, Ludovika University of Public Service*

The role of the private security industry has expanded over the past several decades, and its tasks are not limited to traditional complementary law enforcement functions such as crowd control, property and personal protection, and critical infrastructure surveillance, to name a few. Instead, an increasing number of companies and vendors have been providing proactive services in cybersecurity, data breaches, and other new forms of threats in society. Although prior studies have examined the scope and extent of the private security industry, little is known about how diverse socioeconomic factors might influence the industry’s growth and development over time across different countries. This comparative research aims to describe the scope of the private security industry in three countries across three continents. This study will explore the association between socioeconomic factors and the size of the private security industry over the past five years. This time series analysis uses data from the US Labor Statistics, the UCR, secondary data from the International Labour Organization, the Korea National Police Agency, and the Hungarian Police Agency to explore any factors that might affect the change in the size of private security officers. Specifically, the goal of this study is to fill the gap in our understanding of the complementary law enforcement sector by identifying patterns of employment in the field by comparing unemployment rates, crime levels, and the size of state police forces.

**208. Human Trafficking and Vulnerable Populations**  
Topic 4: Victimology/Victims’ rights (Victimology WG)  
Paper Session  
8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.20*  
Chair:

**Maarten Kunst**, Leiden University

Participants:

Deconstructing the ‘disable victim of human trafficking’: Social harm, exceptionality and ableism-care tensions *Avi Boukli, University of Southampton*

This study interrogates the construction of the ‘disable victim of human trafficking’ embedded in global anti-trafficking policy initiatives, as reflected in the annual U.S. Trafficking in Persons Report (TIPR). Using the conceptual framework of ableism, we undertake content analysis of the TIPRs 2001-2023. We show that policy interventions are still central in imposing ableist frameworks of knowledge and interventions globally and locally. Three main findings emerge from the content analysis: firstly, the references to disability have been amplified over time. Specifically, from 2003 onwards there is a gradual but clear trend towards more of these references appearing in each subsequent iteration of the Report. Thus, there is a shift from a state of silence towards both wider visibility and labelling disable victims of trafficking as extremely vulnerable. Secondly, these references portray disability in relation to human trafficking as either a factor that renders someone ‘at risk’, ‘at high risk’, ‘particularly vulnerable’ or ‘most vulnerable’. While the intersection between victimisation and disability is becoming more visible, in most instances the problem is framed as human traffickers preying on individual victims or on certain features of some victims, rather than recognising the continuous impact of ableism, as it permeates social structures. Thirdly, there is a trend to acknowledge that human trafficking violence may lead to disability and to secondary and tertiary victimisation. Based on our findings we argue that the reports are infused with an ableist conundrum both locally and internationally.

Sexual harassment in the workplace: Employee rights and protection concepts in a German police organization *Anabel Taefi, Hamburg Police University; Ulrike Zaehring, Hamburg Police University of Applied Sciences; Julia Clasen, Hamburg Police University*

Experiencing sexual harassment in the workplace is not a rare phenomenon (Ilies et al., 2003; Schröttele et al. 2019) and it also takes place in the police force (Brown et al., 2018; De Haas et al. 2009; Taylor et al., 2022). Nevertheless, little is known about the scope and extent of sexual harassment in the police force in Europe. There is also hardly any scientific knowledge about the existence, preparation and awareness of institutional protection concepts and employee rights regarding sexual harassment and sexual violence in the police context. Using data from a quantitative study of 138 police officers of a German metropolitan police organization, this presentation provides an overview on the prevalence of sexual harassment experienced in the police organization. The special focus is on the presentation of the dissemination of knowledge about rights and protections regarding sexual harassment in the workplace. It can be shown that around 30 % of the respondents had never been formally informed of their possibilities by their employer, while further 22 % were unsure about this. In contrast, 70 % stated that they knew which person they could turn to officially if they had experienced a sexual transgression. It is also discussed which preventive measures the police officers surveyed consider necessary and useful.

The Post-Homicide Experience: Families’ rights and justice engagement in the aftermath of fatal violence and homicide bereavement *Rosemary Mangan, UCD Sutherland School of Law*

Despite the increasing attention on trauma-informed practices within the adversarial justice system, the impact of homicide on those most directly affected by it, and their subsequent experiences with the justice system is under-explored in the Irish context. Family members of homicide victims are often the most traumatised individuals to enter and engage with the justice system. International research indicates that families’ experiences with justice institutions leaves them feeling marginalised and revictimised. Recent legislative developments in Ireland in terms of victims’ rights has resulted in the inclusion of families of homicide

victims within the legal definition of a victim of crime. The recent inclusion and recognition of this group in legislation is significant and speaks to an awareness of their wider needs and concerns. This study hopes to capture families' experiences as they move through the justice stages of the post-homicide journey. It will assess their recent transition from an undefined position to one which is legally recognised and allocates their rights based on their association with the deceased victim/s. This paper will layout these legislative developments in an Irish context and will discuss the avenues this study will explore to gain insight into the experiences families undergo in the aftermath of homicide. It will also outline plans for further in-depth Ph.D. research in this area.

Unpacking discourses of victim recognition. The Case of the Special Jurisdiction for Peace in Colombia. *Mina Rauschenbach, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven; Stephan Parmentier, KU Leuven*

Recognition, while central to discourses within the fields of TJ and victimology, remains an elusive and under-researched concept. It is often described as a fundamental need for victims of harm to be recognised as victims and obtain the acknowledgement of their suffering as a result of a wrongful act committed against them. But these practices are rarely unpacked and discussed in more detail. Discourses on recognition and its importance for victims also stand prominently within the Colombian Comprehensive System for Justice, Truth, Reparations and Non-Repetition defined in the framework of the 2016 Final Peace Agreement, particularly within one of its pillars, the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (SJP). An independent judicial body, the SJP incarnates the innovative nature of the Colombian transitional justice model by integrating retributive and restorative components. We propose to analyse the different discourses of recognition which exist at the SJP and examine how they shape its objectives, procedures, and institutional structure. We focus on how recognition is conceived in relation to imperatives/principles guiding the work of the SJP, such as overcoming impunity, contributing to reducing societal denial and the restoration of social ties, its victim-centred approach as well as the requirement of gender and ethnic and diversity inclusion. We conclude with some critical reflections on how these understandings of recognition are attached to particular agendas, power struggles and politics of recognition.

Victim emancipation in Dutch criminal proceedings: an oral history study *Maarten Kunst, Leiden University*

As in many other countries, in the Netherlands crime victims have been granted a number of rights to allow their participation in criminal proceedings. Examples are the right to submit a compensation claim and the right to deliver a personal statement during the court hearing. This 'emancipation' is remarkable in view of the distrustful attitude the Dutch legislator has had towards victims since the beginning of the 19th century. The academic literature mentions several factors which may explain this shift in thinking about victims. For example, a number of authors have argued that the rise in crime occurring in the last decades of the 20th century and the latest surge of the women's movement have played important roles in this process. However, none of these arguments were based on sound historical research. Therefore, there is reason to doubt the reliability and validity of the explanations provided by the literature. The aim of the current study was to start with this type of research. This was done through 20 interviews with scholars, policy makers, practitioners, and politicians who were either involved in or witnessed the legal reforms which improved victims position in criminal proceedings. During this talk the author will present the results of this oral history project. They suggest that individual figures such as Jan van Dijk and Marc Groenhuijsen have been just as important for the emancipation of victims in criminal proceedings as the factors mentioned in the literature.

## 209. Characteristics of violent offenders

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Homicide and Violent Crime (Homicide Research WG and European Violence Monitor WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22

Chair:

*Elli Anitsi*, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens

Participants:

Family victimization and youth delinquency through the life stories of ex offenders *Stelios Nikopoulos, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens; Elli Anitsi, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens*

The objective of this paper is to explore the connection between victimization and delinquency, through the eyes of ex-offenders. The research material includes life stories interviews with 23 ex-prisoners, recruited from two organizations in the field of re-entry services. The thematic analysis focuses on their experiences of family victimization and delinquency, during childhood and adolescence. The analysis highlights four main themes about the connection between family victimization and delinquency. The themes represent four different types of reaction or of coping to the victimization experienced in the family, which are delinquent in content: (a) The first theme is centered around a sense of symbolic flight from a troubled family situation. (b) The second theme is centered around behaviors of compensation. (c) The third theme is created from descriptions that are centered around the interpretation of the abusive experience as deserving. (d) The fourth theme is built from descriptions that depict delinquency as a reaction to the deprived life conditions.

Life Beyond Murder: How mandatory lifers reconstruct their lives post-release *Dan Gabriel Rusu, Lecturer at Birmingham City University*

Are the resettlement experiences of different types of homicide offenders comparatively unique based on the specifics of their crime and their criminal careers? This book aims to find an answer to this question. It explores longitudinally the resettlement narratives of 5 men who have committed different types of murder (confrontational/vengeance, financial gain, random, intimate partner femicide, and family feud) and are released into the community. The discussion is guided by the men's narratives and follows a 'tug of war' metaphor to explore how a series of 'push-pull forces' influence the men's efforts to reconstruct their lives in the years following their release. For example, the book explores the role of mandatory lifers' families, consumer culture, institutionalisation, emotions, as well as supervision. It considers whether these factors hamper or assist with their role transition from the stigmatising identity of a being 'dangerous murderers' to pro-social identities such as that of philanthropists, family men, wounded healers, and pious members of the church. It is argued that to be successful, these men have to reconcile a paradoxical situation. The most skilled mandatory lifers manage to relativize their involvement in murder whilst concomitantly showing remorse. This paradoxical situation is achieved through a Splitting Narrative that ultimately defends against anxiety, contains internal stigma, and often showcases self-flagellant remorse.

Self-justification strategies of women convicted of homicide: narrative analysis *Anna Lulikyán, Higher School of Economics*

Homicides by women have been understudied compared to those by men, despite evidence that the motives and circumstances differ significantly by gender, highlighting a critical research gap. Recent decades have seen increased interest in this area and emphasized the fact that the choice of data source is a controversial issue. Mainly, there are two options: court sentences, where a homicide is reconstructed by court, and interviews, where a homicide scenario is reconstructed only by the person who killed. Each type of source has its own advantages and limitations. Compared to interviews, court sentences are distinguished by the fact that they contain testimony from different sides of the case. At the same time, the testimony of the person who committed the homicide may be presented in a distorted form there: the judicial process is inherently associated with discursive violence. Ultimately, neither the court sentence nor the interview is a valid source of information. That is why it is beneficial to triangulate the data by combining both data sources. In addition to the typology of homicides committed by women previously built by the author based on 300 court sentences, it was decided to conduct 10 narrative interviews. Moreover, instead of the legal term "motive" for homicide, the term "self-justification" is introduced, which can include both the true motive and some self-defense strategies used in court. It is proposed to

compare the narratives constructed by women during interviews with the testimony (distorted narratives) presented in the sentences. During the interview, information will also be obtained about the legal process, the role of the lawyer in arguing in court, pressure from government officials, etc.

**Youth involvement in violent crime in Greece: Trends and interpretations** *Elli Anitsi, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens*

The Greek official statistics indicate an increasing trend in the participation of juveniles in the recorded criminality. Moreover, during the last years, an increased involvement of juveniles is evident in violent crimes (bodily injuries, intentional homicides, rapes, and robberies). The paper focuses on the phenomenology of youth involvement in violent crime, presenting qualitative and quantitative characteristics. Moreover, it discusses factors associated with the phenomenon.

**210. Meet the Critics: The Routledge Handbook on Global Community Corrections**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Community Sanctions (Community Sanctions WG)

Author meets critics

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.04*

We are thrilled to invite you to an engaging and thought-provoking "Meet the Critics" session at the upcoming European Society of Criminology conference. This session will focus on the recently published 'Routledge Handbook on Global Community Corrections', edited by esteemed scholars Ioan Durnescu, James M. Byrne, Benjamin J. Mackey, and Faye S. Taxman. About the Book: This handbook offers an comprehensive global perspective on community corrections, assessing and analysing systems from around the world. It delves into the variations in design, implementation, and impact of community corrections on policy and practice, covering probation and parole in detail. This essential resource brings together leading international experts who explore the myriad of systems developed under community corrections to manage populations under both probation and parole. Key Questions Explored: - How many people are placed in community corrections systems globally? - What are the key design features of these systems? - What do we know about the performance of community corrections across different regions? And much more. Editors: - Ioan Durnescu - Professor at the Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, University of Bucharest, Romania. - James M. Byrne - Professor Emeritus, School of Criminology and Justice Studies, University of Massachusetts Lowell, USA. - Benjamin J. Mackey - Research Associate at the Center for Advancing Correctional Excellence and doctoral student, George Mason University, USA. - Faye S. Taxman - Distinguished University Professor at the School of Policy and Government, George Mason University, USA. Join us for an intellectually stimulating session that promises to enhance our understanding of global community corrections.

Critics:

*James M. Byrne, School of Criminology and Justice Studies, University of Massachusetts Lowell, USA*

*Benjamin Mackey, George Mason University*

Book Author:

*Ioan Durnescu, University of Bucharest*

**211. Addiction, substance abuse and their effects**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Drugs and Crime (European Drug Policies WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06*

Chair:

*Stefanie Kemme, University of Münster*

Participants:

Differences in gambling addiction and substance use between people who gamble in illegal and legal settings in Israel *Hagit Bonny-Noach, Head of Addiction Research Lab, Department of Criminology, Ariel University & Board Member of ILSAM-The Israeli Society of Addiction Medicine*

Little is known about people who gamble in illegal settings, and the extent of differences in gambling behavior between legal and illegal

gamblers is unclear. The present study examines the characteristics of illegal gamblers and whether they engage in more frequent and severe gambling behaviors and demonstrate greater motivation for gambling and illegal substance use than legal gamblers. Methods: A cross-sectional online survey recruited 1,251 people who reported having participated in gambling in the preceding year, of whom 13% (N=161) reported having participated in illegal gambling. Results: The study revealed significant differences in gambling behaviors between people who gamble in legal and illegal settings in almost all outcomes examined. People who reported having participated in illegal gambling reported more frequent participation in almost all types of legal gambling, more types of "multi-bets," more severe and high-risk gambling behaviors, higher motivations to gamble, and more illegal substance use than participants in legal gambling. Conclusion Current gambling policy in Israel is sparse. It focuses on legal gambling and on individuals addicted to gambling. Almost no consideration is given to illegal gambling. A comprehensive gambling policy is needed in Israel, which would address illegal gambling as well, mostly with respect to harm reduction, treatment, and rehabilitation policies.

**Discussions on the Effect of Family Relations on Substance Abuse** *damlata tanal tatar, Akdeniz University; Meral Timurturkan, Mehmet Akif Ersoy University; Tuğçe Tunca, Akdeniz University; Bahar Özkan, Akdeniz University; Gonul Demez, Akdeniz University*

In this study, the role of the family in the process leading to addiction, the transformation in family relations because of addiction and the function of the family in terms of overcoming the problem will be discussed based on the experiences of 72 individuals on probation because of the crimes related to substance abuse. It is based on a thematic interpretation of the data of a qualitative field study conducted on this subject. These themes are organized into three categories: "The role of the family in the process leading to addiction," "the fragility of family relationships" and "the coping strategies for addiction." In the course of the interviews, it was seen that the place where the family lived, the criminal and substance abuse history of the parents, the opportunities and emotional support offered to children, unconscious parental attitude and the presence of indifferent parents at home, the lack of warm relations or any bond in the family environment, loneliness, abandonment, broken families and the presence of remarried parents were effective on the participants' interaction with the substance itself. During the addiction process, vulnerability, shame, and anger in family relations emerge prominently and have an impact on the establishment of the individual's social relationships. The findings of this study also reveal that families are both a problem and a potential source of treatment and recovery.

**The influence of alcohol and drug consumption on the decision-making process of young people at the time of committing a serious criminal act** *Camil Tanasescu, UCDC - FSJA*

The research analyzes the influence of alcohol and drug consumption on the decision-making process of young people at the time of committing a serious criminal act, as well as the individual and situational factors that contribute to the emergence of antisocial behavior. The moral decisions that precede the acceptance of the commission of the crime are altered by the use of alcohol and drugs. The mental process that predetermines the act is sensitively influenced by the state of intentional intoxication. The research also includes a meta-analysis of recent studies on the influence of drugs and alcohol on impulsivity and self-control in adolescent users, substance use disorders being associated with affective and conduct disorders. The interviews took place at the Craiova Detention Center, with the 10 participants agreeing to answer questions related to alcohol and drug use. Studies on the intergenerational transmission of violence and alcohol and drug use consider that traumatic events can sometimes become triggering events for the onset of conduct disorder and substance abuse. Most of the participants came from families with low parental control and grew up in neighborhoods with high crime risk. Young people entered criminal groups before the age of 14, a time that coincides with the use of alcohol, ethnobotanicals and marijuana, with participants stating that they experienced a criminal lifestyle with risky activities (theft from homes, at night, from uninhabited houses).



Empathy and altruistic behavior towards members of the consumer group turns into antisocial behavior towards members of society. The participants were childhood witnesses and victims of domestic violence, at least one family member was addicted to alcohol and served a sentence in the prison system. In the Detention Center young people respond well to psychological assessments, work and participate in social reintegration activities, considering that they are ready to return to society.

On the reciprocal structure of adolescent use of alcohol, cannabis and harder drugs and delinquency - results of a German longitudinal study *Stefanie Kemme, University of Münster; Jasper Bendler, Bielefeld University*

In recent years, studies have demonstrated the close relationship between substance use and delinquency among young people, although the dynamics of this relationship and its causal structure remained unclear for a long time. In particular, American studies show that bidirectional effects exist between the two behaviours (Mason & Windle, 2002; Mason et al., 2003; D'Amico et al., 2008; Merrin et al., 2016; Kim et al., 2019). To date, there are no studies in Germany that have examined the effect structure. In the current study, eight waves of data from the CrimoC study (Crime in the modern city - A longitudinal study on the delinquency of young people in Duisburg) were used, from 2002 (13 years; 7th grade; 3,411 respondents) to 2009 (20 years), to investigate the relationship between delinquency and substance use - separately for alcohol, cannabis and harder drugs. A mediation model is assumed according to which early alcohol consumption increases the probability of delinquent behaviour with subsequently increased consumption rates of cannabis and other drugs and negatively reinforcing increased delinquency. A trivariate latent curve model with structured residuals is used to investigate the causality in the effect structure at the individual level. The results are discussed.

## 212. Prison Working Group: Prison design and housing conditions: Implications for detained persons, policymakers, and the community

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”

Chair:

*Ann Marie Rocheleau*, Stonehill College

Participants:

Prison spaces in Slovenia *Alina Bezljaj, Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law Ljubljana*

There is a growing significance of the dimensions of spatiality in criminological and prison research. Studies researching the dynamics of space focus on prison layout and design, prison borders and their porosity, and place-making processes in prison. Despite such a proliferation of prison research, no such studies have yet been conducted in Slovenian prisons. Slovenian prisons fall under the umbrella of “Slovenian exceptionalism” in that they have consistently retained an explicitly rehabilitative orientation. They are typically small, cohesive institutions set in the countryside. They are also specific in the sense that many of the buildings in which they are housed were not built for this specific purpose; these are often older buildings originally built for other uses, such as castles or nunneries. In this context, building a new prison on the outskirts of the capital of Slovenia, which is currently underway, is an interesting exception. Furthermore, it brings the questions of space and its issues in the Slovene prisons to the foreground. In this paper, I will relate the various strands of spatial prison research to the specific context of Slovenian prisons. I will discuss the spatial characteristics of prisons in the Slovenian context in relation to the penal politics which have played a role in their establishment. I will present a preliminary plan for conducting empirical ethnographic research on this topic in Slovenian prisons.

The translation of humanity into prison design: How do the new, standardized prison buildings meet normative demands in Norwegian crime policy? *Aleksandra Bartoszko, VID*

*Specialized University Oslo; Berit Johnsen, Kriminalomsorgens høyskole og utdanningscenter KRUS; Elisabeth Fransson, VID Specialized University; Hilde Pape, University College of Norwegian Correctional Services*

Prison architecture reflects the ideas and values of penal policies and provides insights into punishment philosophies. In Norway, normalization, resettlement, and dynamic security norms have shaped correctional care. Based on ethnographic fieldwork, this paper examines how these norms are translated into newly built prisons called “Model 2015”. These standardized maximum-security prisons, based on a panoptic design, are allegedly the most secure and technologically advanced prisons in Europe. Despite spaces for positive prisoner relationships, the design grapples pervasive systems of control and discipline. “Model 2015” illustrates the paradoxical nature of techno-optimistic security discourses and the transformation of carceral institutions through surveillance technologies and ideologies. Architectural boundaries and technological innovations obstruct dynamic security by limiting human contact and impeding staff discretion. The staff’s involvement in resettlement is constrained, while inadequate facilities for prisoner progression and daytime activities further undermine these efforts. The paper discusses the significance of architecture in realizing humane prison conditions. It demonstrates the importance of carefully considering of how to translate humanity into prison design, even in a country known for its exceptionalism and commitment to humane prison practices.

Carceral Expansion and Private Sector Involvement: The Impact of a Mega Prison on the Local Community- The case of HMP Berwyn, Wrexham, North Wales *Emily Luise Hart, Leeds Beckett University*

This paper aims to present preliminary findings from an investigation into the impact of the opening of a mega prison on a local community. The project aims to explore the local economic and social impacts that arise directly from the establishment of a ‘mega prison’ and in particular, the increasing volume and pivotal role that private companies now have in the building and running of prisons and the consequences of this on local communities, economies and services. The project focusses on a selected site (HMP Berwyn, Wrexham, North Wales) which is a Category C adult male prison and is the largest prison in the UK and opened in February 2017. The UK ‘mega prison’ building programme has since 2012, been promoted as a fiscal stimulus opportunity to attract private investment to areas from which the state has divested (Panchami, 2012; Corcoran, 2014). However local resources and services are absorbed by the presence of prisons. There is doubt that prisons can offer viable economic and social development for rural economies, in particular those communities that are experiencing high levels of poverty and deprivation. This paper seeks to examine how local economies and services begin to reshape around the needs of such a large prison and what impact this has on the community surrounding it.

Is prison crowding related to prison misconduct, prison violence and recidivism? The results of meta-analyses *Ivana Sekol, University of Sheffield; Izabela Zych, University of Cordoba; David Farrington, University of Cambridge*

Prison violence seems to be the norm rather than the exception in many prisons worldwide. In the UK, around 80% of prisoners are victims of bullying on a monthly basis in some studies, while 74% of prisoners bully others. In Canada, the prevalence of weekly bullying is 58%, while the prevalence of victimization is 73%. In Croatia, the weekly prevalence of bullying and victimization is 40% and 55% respectively. Following the rapid increases in incarceration rates in many countries, prison crowding has been considered as a possible cause of prison violence and misconduct in many studies, but with conflicting results. By synthesizing the results of primary studies of the highest quality, our meta-analysis sheds new light on the relationship between prison crowding and prison violence, misconduct and recidivism. It discusses moderating effects of prison’s population composition (e.g. juvenile vs. adult prisons), the prison security level, inmate turnover, management style, and levels of inmate program involvement. It concludes with guidance for future research and practice.

Assessing the Nature and Use of “Restrictive Housing” (Solitary Confinement) in America *Ann Marie Rocheleau, Stonehill College*

In 2016, the National Institute of Justice of the United States Department of Justice issued a report on and solicited research proposals to study “restrictive housing.” Heretofore, practitioners and academics had referred to this type of prison housing as solitary confinement, administrative segregation, and supermax, among other monikers. This paper will examine whether the nature and use of restrictive housing has changed in the United States since 2016. One assessment will be the prevalence of the use of restrictive housing by state, by the federal government and overall. Another line of inquiry will be legislative reforms or state and federal policy changes regarding entrance, length of stay, and operational changes. Finally, outcomes of court cases regarding solitary confinement since 2016 will be reviewed. These changes will be discussed in light of current policy debates and the need for further research on issues surrounding restrictive housing.

**213. POL Panel 16. The promise and impact of changes to police education**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”*

Chair:

**Olafur Orn Bragason**, University of Iceland/National Police/UNAK

Participants:

Icelandic Police Students' Attitudes Towards Non-Legalistic Police Practice Before and After Educational Reform *Guðmundur Oddsson, University of Akureyri; Olafur Orn Bragason, University of Iceland/National Police/UNAK*

A classic theme in police research is the tension between legalistic and autonomous perspectives on police practice. With the explicit aim to educate the “long arm of the law,” the purpose of basic police education is to foster a legalistic perspective on police work among prospective police officers. However, previous research findings suggest that prospective police officers tend to adopt a more autonomous perspective on police practice during field training and, later, on the job. Moreover, one of the underlying assumptions of moving police education to the university level is that the critical reflective practice fostered by higher education should help mitigate non-legalistic police practice among police graduates. This study tests this assumption by examining Icelandic police students' attitudes towards non-legalistic police practice before and after Iceland's 2016 education reform (when basic police education was moved to the university level). The study uses survey data from the Recruitment, Education, and Careers in the Police project (RECPOL) and the sample includes responses from incoming and graduating police students from the Icelandic Police Academy (2011-2015, N=182) and the University of Akureyri (2017-2023; N=611). The findings will be discussed in the context of academization of police education, police professionalization, and policymaking.

Insights into adult learning in Canadian police recruit training *Ryan Buhrig, Simon Fraser University*

In Canada, police recruit training was historically delivered in an instructor-centered, paramilitary model that focused on developing technical skills and legal knowledge. Public expectations of police have evolved, and new police recruits must collaborate with communities, solve ethical dilemmas, de-escalate situations, and confront complex social issues. To effectively employ these interventions, police officers must possess strong communication, problem-solving, critical thinking, and teamwork skills. Various adult education, or andragogical, methods may be well suited to develop these desired competencies and higher-order thinking in police recruits. Since there is little empirical research on adult learning in Canadian police recruit training, this qualitative study was explorative and involved semi-structured interviews from six

(N = 6) Canadian police recruit administrators. Three key themes emerged from these interviews, including (1) interrelated training content, (2) andragogical methods, scenario-based training, and (4) resourcing challenges. Based on these interviews, adult learning is discussed as a strategy to enhance knowledge acquisition and critical thinking among police recruits.

Navigating New Frontiers: A Comparative Study of Educational Values Pre- and Post-Police Education Reform in Iceland *Olafur Orn Bragason, University of Iceland/National Police/UNAK; Marie-Louise Damen, The Norwegian Police University College*

Following other European countries, in 2016, Iceland conducted an educational reform in their police education, transforming from an Academy (vocational) program to a University (academic) program. Considering new knowledge paradigms emerging in policing and tensions between practice-based and research-based knowledge, it would be valuable to investigate how students and police officers value new types of content in contrast to traditional content in police education. Comparing student responses at the Icelandic National Police Academy with those of students at the new university program gives insights into how students make sense of new and traditional competences before and after the reform. The following research questions of this paper are: (1) How do police students value new types of educational content in contrast to traditional content in police education before and after the police education reform in Iceland? (2) Are the new content areas considered legitimate knowledge in police education by police students? This study compares police students' values of traditional and new competence areas in police education prior to police education reform in 2016 to university level and after the reform. In addition, comparison of different forms of competence will be examined at the beginning and end of students' education programs. Participants were police students at the Icelandic National Police Academy 2011-2016 (5 cohorts) and police students at the University of Akureyri 2017-2023 (6 cohorts). The findings will be discussed in the context of professionalization and academization of police education. This study adds knowledge to the professional education policy literature by using longitudinal data to focus on students' perceptions of new and enduring competencies during police education reform from an academy to university level.

**214. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 14: Space, place and safety**

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”*

Chair:

**Sofie De Kimpe**, Associate Professor - VUB

Participants:

Catcalling and its Spatial Distribution in Urban Space – Two Case Studies from the Czech Republic *Lucia Brisudová, Palacký University Olomouc*

Catcalling, referring to a subcategory of street harassment (Walton & Pedersen, 2022), is a pervasive issue in society and urban environments. It can be manifested as unwanted and often sexually suggestive comments, gestures, or actions directed at individuals in public spaces, primarily women. It contributes to an environment of harassment, intimidation, and objectification, making women feel unsafe and uncomfortable in urban areas all around the world. Additionally, it can escalate into more serious forms of harassment or violence, creating a hostile environment where individuals' rights to safety and dignity are compromised. Despite its widespread occurrence and the negative impact it has on individuals, catcalling is not addressed as a crime in the Czech legislation. This absence in the legal framework can lead to challenges in addressing this form of harassment and does not allow victims of catcalling to report such incidents to the police. This study unveils findings from research investigating the spatial distribution and manifestation of catcalling incidents in two cities in the Czech Republic. The results

revealed that over 70% of the participants in Olomouc and 60% of the participants in Zlín reported experiencing some form of catcalling in their city. Participants identified the most problematic hotspots for such behaviour including busy populated areas like railway stations, bus stops and urban parks as well as specified the types of catcalling they are facing. By shedding light on catcalling as a gender-based problem, this study emphasises the importance of legislative recognition, prevention, and action against this type of street harassment.

Insights into the Psychopathological Profile of Stalkers: a Systematic Review. *Giulia Moretti, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele; Emma Flutti, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele; Carolina Passani, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele; Federico Pacchioni, Vita-Salute S. Raffaele University; Guido Travaini, Vita-Salute S. Raffaele University*

Starting with the classification of types of stalkers proposed by Mullen in 1999, we have been exploring whether studying the psychopathological profile of stalkers can aid in predicting stalking behaviors, recidivism, or the escalation of violence that may lead to more serious crimes. Understanding the psychological characteristics of stalkers is crucial for structuring specific and more effective treatments aimed at preventing recidivism. In our study, we conducted a systematic review of the available literature online and selected 14 articles from a total of 200 results retrieved. Generally, the results indicated a high prevalence of personality disorders among stalkers, particularly those within Cluster B. In contrast to many other crimes, antisocial personality disorder was found to be relatively scarce, while the classification of NAS personality disorder was frequent. This suggests that a combination of several traits may contribute to the characterization of the stalker's profile, rather than a definitive categorical diagnosis. Furthermore, the co-occurrence of a personality disorder and a substance use disorder is associated with an increased risk of violence compared to the presence of either factor alone. Additionally, personality disorders are significantly linked to recurrent stalking, with problematic traits being particularly associated if they belong to Cluster B. Given the significance of this phenomenon, we believe that future research should focus on the psychological and psychopathological profile of stalkers, employing more homogeneous methodologies and possibly adopting a dimensional approach to investigate the dysfunctional mechanisms underlying pathological behaviors, moving beyond categorical diagnoses.

## 215. Victimology Working Group Panel 2 Consequences of Victimization

Topic 4: Victimology/Consequences of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”

Chair:

**Florian Kaiser**, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law Freiburg

Participants:

Giving context to the ICC's Ongwen reparations order: atrocity victims' needs in Northern Uganda *James Henry John Rischbieth, KU Leuven*

In the Ongwen reparations order of February 28th 2024, the ICC Trial Chamber ordered reparations against Mr Dominic Ongwen to the tune of €52,429,000. The ICC's Reparations Orders have repeatedly stressed that 'the Court shall take into account the needs of the victims ... (i) in all matters related to reparations'. The Ongwen award itself mentions victims' needs 40 times, repeatedly emphasising their importance. Despite this, neither the Court nor the ICC's reparations arm, the Trust Fund for Victims, have defined what is meant when ICC organs use the words "victims' needs". Furthermore, understandings of what Ugandan victims' needs 'actually are' in an empirical sense are very limited. This ambiguity is representative of broader confusion, for example, one regularly encounters ambiguous talk of victims' needs in the broader

international criminal and transitional justice milieu, while there has been very little empirical work in post atrocity contexts which has contemplated victims' real-world needs. The author has recently submitted an article for publication which presents a theory of atrocity victims needs. Furthermore, he has recently returned from fieldwork in Uganda, where he discussed with victim-survivors' how they perceive their own needs. This presentation will consider both theoretical aspects, arguing for a common understanding and definition of victims' needs in the international criminal and transitional justice spaces, and will provide insights from the field in Uganda. Both can go a long way to ensuring that Mr Ongwen's €52,429,000 is wisely spent.

Happiness, self-labeling, stress and fear of terrorism in the aftermath of national trauma *Inna Levy, Department of Criminology, Ariel University and Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Zefat Academic College; Keren Cohen-Louck, Department of Criminology, Ariel University, Israel; vered Ne'eman-Haviv, Ariel University*

The current study focused on trait-related, general happiness as well as state-related, situational happiness in the aftermath of a national trauma, and examined the inter-relationship between happiness, negative and positive self-labeling, stress and fear of terrorism. This study comprised 844 Israeli citizens (51.1% men, 48.9% women), with ages ranging from 18 to 90 [Mean = 40.34, S.D.=14.87]. Participants responded to questions regarding their demographic background, general and situational happiness, stress, fear of terrorism, and self-perception, with negative self-labeling as a victim and positive self-labeling as a survivor. A Repeated Measures ANOVA revealed a significant disparity between general happiness and situational happiness in the aftermath of the October 7th attack: general happiness levels were notably higher than situational happiness levels. Moreover, there was a significant negative correlation between fear of terrorism and situational happiness. Stress and negative self-labeling exhibited detrimental effects, while positive self-labeling positively impacted the prediction of situational happiness. The comprehensive model accounted for 29% of the variance in situational happiness. Thus, this study elucidates factors influencing happiness amidst national trauma and pioneers the examination of the self-labeling phenomenon in the context of terrorism, exploring its interplay with fear of terrorism and its influence on happiness levels. Our findings not only advance comprehension of the self-labeling process but also provide crucial insights into the nuanced dynamics shaping happiness. Understanding these factors can aid therapists in effectively supporting individuals during and post-events characterized as mass or national trauma. By bolstering happiness levels, it may serve as a robust antidote to the prevalent negative emotions associated with trauma, thereby fostering enhanced overall well-being.

1. When there's more than one assailant: understanding variations in victims' needs *Elouise Davies, Lancaster University*

Previous research into co-offending has shown that crimes with multiple perpetrators are more often perpetrated by groups of men (Van Mastrigt, 2014; Lantz, 2020), and youths (Lantz, 2021). Multiple perpetrator violent events (MPVE) are often more severe and injurious to victims than single perpetrator violent events (SPVE) (Andresen & Felson, 2010; Carrington, 2002). However, limited research has been undertaken focusing on the victims of multiple perpetrator violence, with most research focusing on the perpetrators and the group composition. This paper uses nine years of data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales to consider the profiles of victims of MPVE, comparing them to victims of single perpetrator violence, and finding that MPVE victims are more often male, younger, and belonging to a minority ethnic group. When considering victims' needs, victims of MPVE were more likely to report to the police than victims of single perpetrator violent events. They were also twice as likely to receive treatment in hospital after the event, indicating a greater seriousness of these events. These findings highlight how victims of violent events with one perpetrator may well be underrepresented in records drawn from police, health, and specialist services.

Justice Work – Sisters (having to) do it for themselves *Nancy Lombard, Glasgow Caledonian University; Katy Proctor,*

*Glasgow Caledonian University*

Scotland's record of accomplishment in tackling issues such as stalking and coercive control has been identified as an exemplar. However, it is important to recognise that the Scottish Criminal Justice System (SCJS) is not designed inherently, to meet the needs of those victimised. This research explored whether the SCJS facilitates the empowerment of the victims who access its support or exacerbates their disempowerment. The theme of 'Justice Work' was identified as a significant and common experience for the majority of participants. Women described the significant amount of practical, bureaucratic, and emotional work that they had to do to keep their cases 'live' e.g. conducting their own investigations and gathering evidence, keeping detailed records, and maintaining the visibility of their case within the system. Furthermore, women felt they must manage their communications and behaviour to maintain a sympathetic response from professionals in an effort to keep their case 'worthy' of continued investigation. Although in moderation, conducting practical elements of the 'justice work' was empowering for some, more often it was experienced as disempowering as women had no choice but to do the work if they wanted their case to progress.

**Vulnerability and coping with victimization: Do people who feel (in)vulnerable before crime suffer more from victimization?**  
*Florian Kaiser, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law Freiburg*

Research on heterogeneous consequences of victimization is vital because it provides knowledge about coping processes and success and, thus, about which victims will likely be in particular need of help. However, few longitudinal studies have systematically examined these differential consequences. The current study adds to this small body of research by exploring whether the effects of victimization on psychological well-being differ by the victim's sense of vulnerability before the crime. To answer this question, we applied weighted panel regressions to two-wave panel data collected in two German cities in 2014/2015 ( $n \approx 3,400$ ; cohort I) and 2020/2021 ( $n \approx 2,900$ ; cohort II). The preliminary findings are mixed: (1) Victimization did not alter life satisfaction. (2) Victimization increased negative affectivity, but only among those who felt fairly invulnerable before the crime in the 2020/2021 cohort. (3) Victimization generally increased feelings of vulnerability and had particularly strong effects among those who already felt quite vulnerable before the crime.

**216. Cybercrime Working Group - Youth and interpersonal cybercrimes**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Cybercrime (Cybercrime WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 5 „Constantin Stătescu”*

Chair:

*Jessica Chi Mei Li, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University*

Participants:

'I Had No Choice': Adult Neutralisation of Online Sexual Engagement with Children *Paula Bradbury, Middlesex University; Paul James Bleakley, University of New Haven; Elena Martellozzo, Middlesex University*

This paper explores the complex issue of sexual interactions between adults and minors on live internet chat platforms such as Omegle. Utilising the five-point framework of neutralization, it seeks to investigate the ways in which adult participants perceive, justify and rationalise their involvement in such behaviour. Through a rigorous thematic content analysis, the study scrutinized 100 requests for advice posted anonymously on two open-source platforms frequented by legal professionals (Bradbury, Bleakley & Martellozzo, 2024). All requests originated from unidentifiable adults, providing a candid glimpse into their perspectives and reasoning. The findings highlighted the various mechanisms of blame-shifting and neutralisation commonly employed by adults when describing their participation in sexual contact with minors on Omegle and similar platforms. Importantly, the study contributes to a deeper understanding of the dynamics of sexual interactions

occurring in live chat environments, particularly those that are harmful and illegal in nature.

**Policing online and offline honour-related violence** *Janine Janssen, Avans/OU/Police*

Although honour codes may seem old-fashioned, these traditions have found their way into virtual reality. Violent or threatening behaviour based on honour codes can be classified as either violating honour or as restoring honour. Police files of honour based violence contain examples of both types of behaviour and of individuals who use the social media to reach their goals. This contribution will deal with two key questions: how have honour codes found their way into virtual reality, and what does this imply for police practice regarding honour based violence? These questions are addressed through a description of the current method for the police to handle cases of honour based violence and the work of the Dutch national centre of expertise on honour based violence (LEC EGG), an assessment of internet use among ethnic minorities in the Netherlands, cases from the archive of the LEC EGG and some considerations on policing cybercrime in general.

**Untangling Non-Consensual Intimate Image Sharing: Exploring Legal Consciousness Among Danish Youth** *Anne Mosegaard Gravholt, PHD-student*

The proliferation of digital technologies has raised significant questions about justice in the digital era, particularly regarding the comprehension and prosecution of digital violations. However, little is known about how young people define and negotiate legal boundaries when it comes to non-consensually sharing intimate images. In Denmark, the concept of digital violence has gained traction in recent years, encompassing digital violations such as sextortion, hurtcore, and the non-consensual sharing of intimate images. Despite legal efforts to address these crimes, a growing number of young people are exposed to and guilty of digital transgressive behaviour. Previous research has primarily examined the practice of non-consensual sharing of intimate images within the context of sexual violation, abuse, and lack of self-control. This leaves little research exploring how contextual factors influence and shape young people's digital transgressive behaviour, particularly how legal boundaries regarding the non-consensual sharing of intimate images are defined and negotiated in everyday life. Drawing upon Ewick and Silbey's socio-legal concept of 'legal consciousness', this paper enables an understanding of how the practice of non-consensual sharing of intimate images depends on prevailing norms and common interpretations of the law in everyday life.

**Probing the Responses of School Personnel to Online Sexual Exploitation of Minors: A Qualitative Vignette Study** *Jessica Chi Mei Li, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University*

Children and adolescents globally face an escalating risk of falling prey to online victimization and sexual exploitation. The protective role played by school personnel is crucial in mitigating the threats of online sexual exploitation against children (OSEC). While the term 'guardianship' has been widely employed to conceptualize and propose solutions for preventing child sexual abuse, the responses of guardians to various forms of OSEC have not been systematically explored in a specific, comparative, and in-depth manner within the social context of Hong Kong. Guided by the guardianship concept within Felson's and Cohen's routine activity theory, our research team employed an innovative methodology – the qualitative vignette approach. In the initial phase of the project, we meticulously constructed and validated 32 case scenarios with varying types of OSEC, and victims and perpetrator profiles. In the subsequent phase, we conducted individual interviews with school staff, presenting them with the vignettes. The study aimed to scrutinize how various professionals, including school principals, teachers, social workers, and teaching assistants in both primary and secondary schools, recognize, perceive, and respond to OSEC. This comprehensive examination encompassed scenarios involving grooming, sexting, sexual extortion, and online child pornography and broadcasting. Employing a deductive thematic approach, we systematically analyzed qualitative data collected from 80 interviewees, leveraging the sophisticated capabilities of QRS NVivo plus (V12) software. The participants' responses unfolded into five overarching thematic categories: (a) certainty, (b)

commitment, (c) confidence, (d) capability, and (e) concerns. These findings not only contribute to the existing body of knowledge but also hold substantive implications for policymakers and school management boards in devising nuanced and effective school-based measures.

## 217. Regulation and Enforcement of Corporate Financial Crime Across Europe

Topic 2: Types of Offending/White collar Crime, Organizational Crime, Corporate Crime, Financial Crime (EUROC)

Roundtable

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”*

This panel brings together experts to examine the regulatory frameworks and enforcement strategies for corporate financial crime across diverse EU member states. Lightning talks from the speakers will offer insights into their countries' financial regulatory systems, highlighting key features and challenges. The ensuing discussion will illuminate both the commonalities and distinctions among these systems, emphasizing international cooperation, legal challenges in cross-border prosecution, and the implementation of innovative enforcement strategies, as well as perspectives on corporate liability and individual accountability within the complex realm of financial corporate crimes. A crucial facet of the panel involves extracting lessons from the showcased regulatory systems. By probing the nuances of these diverse approaches, the session aims to provide attendees with valuable insights, fostering a deeper understanding of the continually evolving landscape of corporate financial crime regulation within the European Union. Participants can expect a comprehensive exploration that goes beyond comparative analysis, offering practical takeaways for regulatory enhancement and global collaboration in combating financial crime.

Chair:

**Frederike Oberheim**, NSCR - Nederlands Studiecentrum Criminaliteit en Rechtshandhaving

Discussants:

**Joras Ferwerda**, Utrecht University School of Economics

**Michele Riccardi**, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

**Silvia Allegrezza**, University of Luxembourg - Faculty of Law, Economics and Finance

**Michele Panzavolta**, KU Leuven

## 218. EXTR1 Online radicalisation, recruitment and mobilisation

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Terrorism and Terrorism Financing, Radicalization, Extremism (Radicalization, Extremism, Terrorism WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)*

Chair:

**Elanie Rodermond**, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Participants:

Investigating Patterns of Online Recruitment among Non-Violent Extremists in the UK (2016-2021). Surveying the Islamist, Far-right, Eco-radical and Anarchist milieux *Elisa Orofino*, Anglia Ruskin University; *William Allchorn*, Anglia Ruskin University; *Mauro Lubrano*, University of Bath

Online extremism has become one of the most pressing threats in the UK. Several violent episodes occurred over the last decade - mostly perpetrated by online self-radicalised individuals. Burgeoning (though typically underappreciated) in policy and terrorism study circles, these individuals usually start their path towards violent extremism by accessing material posted by non-violent extreme groups. Using Natural Language Processing and Topic Modelling, this paper examines the online posting behaviours across different two non-violent extreme groups across 4 extreme ideological milieux to identify common recruitment strategies and ideological appeals online in the UK between 2016 and 2021. This timespan was selected for two main reasons: 1) to examine the online behaviour of vocal extremist groups after the concept of

“vocal extremism” was officially introduced by the Home Office in 2015, 2) to examine their posting behaviour in the (pre-/during/post) pandemic period, and 3) the so far neglected focus of Left-Wing, Anarchist and Single-Issue actors in terrorism and extremism studies (Farinelli & Marinone 2021).

Online Radicalization and Mental Health: Prevention of Extremism on the Internet *Per Moum Hellevik*, Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies

Research findings indicate a growing number of young men expressing sentiments of social exclusion and despair. These feelings are often linked to experiences of genuine marginalization and mental health challenges. Regrettably, studies also reveal that young men frequently underutilize available resources for addressing these concerns. Simultaneously, digital platforms serve as potent vehicles for the propagation of extremist ideologies. These ideologies are disseminated within online spaces, such as forums, where marginalized young men seek camaraderie and assistance. Mental health considerations can play a significant role in this dynamic. This presentation will showcase the outcomes of the research project "Online Radicalization and Mental Health: Prevention of Extremism on the Internet." By utilizing qualitative content analysis of interactions on 4chan, the project seeks to investigate the impact of mental health within digital extremist environments and the potential for tailored interventions to support vulnerable individuals in these settings. The data collected allows for the observation of extremist viewpoints in conjunction with discussions surrounding mental well-being as they manifest in digital extremist contexts. There is a pressing requirement for evidence-based interventions directed towards vulnerable individuals in such online spheres. These interventions aim not only to address unmet mental health needs but also to prevent individuals from causing harm to themselves or others amid feelings of hopelessness and distress. The insights gained from this project hold significant implications in this realm.

Radicalization in online gaming ecosystems - Approaches and options for prevention *Josephine Gerlach*, Agentur für Sicherheitsforschung, *Kriminalologie und Kriminalpolitik*; *Lennard John*, Agentur für Sicherheitsforschung, *Kriminalologie und Kriminalpolitik*; *Dominic Kudlacek*, Hochschule Bremerhaven

Online gaming ecosystems have brought new risks for radicalization for vulnerable groups. It is no longer just gamers who spend their time playing online games, but also radical and extremist groups that use these platforms for purposes of propaganda and recruitment. The GEMS research project is dedicated to this threat and aims to provide approaches for prevention. The project involves a consortium of European researchers, companies and experts to investigate the complex relationship between gaming platforms, user behavior and extremist ideologies. Through interdisciplinary approaches that include psychology, sociology, computer science and political analysis, the project aims to identify the mechanisms through which gaming ecosystems can be exploited for radicalization purposes. First findings, based on a literature review show, that recruitment is a two-stage process: first, the pre-selection of potential players within the game space. Then, radicalization and mobilization for violent actions are carried out through other, better-protected channels outside the gaming ecosystems.

Online extremist recruitment in the Netherlands; what happens online, stays online? *Elanie Rodermond*, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; *Charlie Stoeldraaijers*, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; *Fabienne Thijs*, Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR); *Rutger Leukfeldt*, NSCR; *Frank Weerman*, NSCR & Erasmus University Rotterdam

In recent years, it has become increasingly evident that the internet can play a significant role in disseminating extremist ideologies and recruiting members for extremist organizations, whereas it also has a large mobilizing potential. However, knowledge on this matter is fragmented, and a comprehensive overview of relevant academic and practical insights is lacking. As a result, evidence-based prevention of online recruitment remains difficult. A complicating

factor in this regard is the inconsistency in terminology and operationalization across various studies. The present study employs mixed-methods to study online recruitment for extremist organizations. Based on a literature review, a content analysis of online platforms, and interviews with various professionals in the field of preventing and countering extremism, we examine the nature and mechanisms of online recruitment and mobilization processes within different extremist organizations. Additionally, we explore the dynamics between online and offline contexts, existing approaches to combat online recruitment and mobilization, and identify potential areas for further improvement and research. Results will be discussed in light of previous studies as well as the changing extremist landscape.

## 219. Balkan Criminology: Punishment and Prisons and their Alternatives

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Non-Criminal Justice Responses to Delinquency (WG on Collateral Consequence of Criminal Records)

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)

The panel session brings together scholars of the Balkan Criminology Network and aims at discussing the current state of art in penological research and punishment policies. Special attention is given to the question how migration and ethnical diversification impact crime and its control, prisons and the criminal justice systems across Europe with a particular focus on the Balkans. The purpose of the panel session is thus to provide for new impulses and innovative approaches on recidivism research and alternatives to traditional penal sanctions. Seemingly growing penal populism across Europe and in particular the Balkans urges the panellists from Romania, Germany and Croatia to critically investigate current sentencing and recidivism trends in order to jointly discuss potentially more meaningful solutions for crime and its control.

Chair:

**Hans-Jörg Albrecht**, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law; Balkan Criminology

Participants:

Crime, Punishment and its Alternatives in Romania **Andra Roxana Trandafir**, University of Bucharest; **Daniel Nitu**, Babes-Bolyai University, Faculty of Law

The presentation will focus on the Romanian Criminal Code and the sanctioning system in this country. 10 years after its entry into force, the Code faced several modifications, out of which many of them aimed to increase the penalties or to exclude criminal offences for statute of limitation. The legal literature has criticized the numerous laws which „aggressed” the Criminal Code without a prior research in this respect. The presentation will thus show how sentences are regulated and applied in Romania, based on statistical data. We will also address whether alternatives to criminal penalties are or could be effective, especially in the context of prison overcrowding and how the Romanian legislator dealt with this issue after an ECHR pilot judgment.

Prisons Responding to Overcrowding – Migration, Human Smuggling and THB **Anna-Maria Getoš Kalac**, University of Zagreb Faculty of Law

In Croatia at the start of 2024 a total of 651 human smugglers had been held in prison, most of them detained and not (yet) convicted. Migration, human smuggling and trafficking in human beings (THB) have been a chronic challenge for all the Balkan states throughout the past two decades, but the situation has never been as dramatic as now. The challenge prisons face in terms of overcrowding due to the migration crisis in Croatia is the same as in Hungary, Slovenia, Austria, Serbia, Romania, Italy and many other European states. The question the presentation will address is how prison administrations deal with said challenge? Some states have started to drastically increase conditional and early release from prisons or to postpone imprisonment for convicted persons that are not (yet) incarcerated, thereby essentially trying to ‘make room’ for the growing number of foreigners. All prisons struggle with translation and daily practical aspects, with no harmonised or

coordinated solution in sight. The presentation aims to foster a discussion on strategic approaches to tackle the challenge of prison overcrowding in light of the migration crisis.

Immigration and Alternative Forms of Justice **Hans-Jörg Albrecht**, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law; Balkan Criminology

The growing ethnical diversification of a state’s population throughout Europe, esp. in Germany, has been going on for decades and in that sense is nothing fundamentally new. It is however interesting that there is only limited research and thus scarce knowledge to be found on how and why different ethnical minorities frequently resort to informal (self)justice, rather than to utilize the mechanisms of their host state’s criminal justice system. Thus, seemingly such informal crime control apparently has its advantages and apparently also works quite well. How come? The presentation provides for empirical findings and a first analysis on what we know thus far about such informal crime control, in order to detect whether there might be certain insights and mechanisms from which we can learn and that could find their way into the official criminal justice.

Recidivism in Croatia **Lea Feuerbach**, Central European Academy; Balkan Criminology

Recidivism, a global phenomenon, presents a multifaceted challenge for researchers and policymakers alike. Yet, the interpretation of recidivism data demands cautious scrutiny. The variations observed cannot be simplistically attributed to cultural disparities but rather serve as poignant indicators of the inherent complexities surrounding the very definition of recidivism. This presentation aims to delve into the nuanced interpretations of recidivism, shedding light on the absence of a universally accepted consensus regarding its conceptualization, definition, and scope. For the purpose of terminological clarity, this presentation will shortly present the normative construction of recidivism and how the penological perspective adds to the (mis)understanding of recidivism. The presentation will focus on the research conducted on the phenomenology of recidivism in Croatia, employing a normative approach. The study aimed to determine if recidivism occurs in Croatia, for which crimes and in what number, and what are the trends in the dynamics of its movement rates. The research drew upon data from the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, specifically examining convicted juvenile offenders according to previous offenses and criminal convictions. By delving into this empirical investigation, aim was to shed light on the intricate nature of recidivism within the Croatian context, providing valuable insights for both research and policy considerations. This presentation will further explore the challenges of international comparison in recidivism research, as attempts to compare data on recidivism rates often result in the conclusion that international comparisons lack sufficient validity. Additionally, an examination will be made into how recidivism is treated in practice at the Diagnostic Center, which operates within the prison system. By delving into these topics, a comprehensive understanding of the complexities surrounding recidivism research and its practical implications will be provided.

## 220. Green Criminology #2 - War and Environmental harms and crimes

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Environmental/Green Criminology Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Library - reading room 1

Chair:

**Nigel South**, University of Essex

Participants:

Green criminology of war - theoretical and practical challenges **Joanna Narodowska**, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn

The presentation aims to outline the contemporary scientific challenges faced by green criminology during armed conflict. The paper demonstrates the relationship between the scientific sub-disciplines of criminology referred to in the literature as “green criminology” and “criminology of war”. Subsequently, the

presentation identifies common research themes specific to both sub-disciplines. The author discusses the theoretical and legal issues addressed by green criminologists, including problems in defining terms. The presentation gives examples of green crimes committed during armed conflicts, considering the current global situation. The paper also sketches the research directions undertaken by Polish criminologists gathered in the so-called "Polish School of Ecocriminology".

**Incorporating a One Health approach into the study of environmental crimes and harms: towards a One Health Criminology?** *Aitor Ibáñez Alonso, KU Leuven; Nigel South, University of Essex*

In the context of increasing intense and frequent pandemics such as COVID-19, it is evident that the current global ecological crisis poses a threat to the health and well-being of humans, non-human animals and ecosystems. In this exploratory paper, we aim to expand the existing green criminological scholarship endeavor by contending that green criminology should pay attention to, and incorporate, holistic approaches to health used by the biomedical scientific community, namely One Health. This is as a means to 1) further incorporate ecocentric and biocentric perspectives that will have Eco-justice implications; 2) contribute to discussions surrounding the concept of 'wildlife'; 3) use health as an indicator of harm as One Health may provide holistic perspective, enabling a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted health impacts; and 4) integrate scientific knowledge to better comprehend and address threats, harms and crimes to the health and well-being of humans, non-human animals and ecosystems. One Health could also benefit from integrating a green criminological perspective, namely in its task to pandemic prevention, preparedness and zoonotic disease surveillance. The potential applications to be explored from a One Health perspective within green criminology extends beyond the conventional purview of zoonotic diseases to encompass broader harms to health related to other subjects, such as climate change and pollutants.

**Peaceful Mist and the Shadow of War: Environmental Crime and the International Criminal Court** *Szymon Michał Buczyński, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Poland*

Crimes against the environment, a relatively new concept, reflect the evolution of international criminal law. These crimes are causing devastation in the communities they are affecting, and ultimately threaten the future of the planet as we know it. Though there is widespread agreement that the environment must be protected, international enforcement systems are highly ineffective. At the same time in an attempt to protect our planet, environmental movements are sweeping the world at a faster pace than ever before, with a significant momentum for the criminalisation of ecological harm. However, there is no existing international criminal tribunal with special jurisdiction over environmental crimes. International tribunals, both permanent and ad hoc, play an important role in the promotion of global justice and peace. The society also assigns preventive, educational, and documentary tasks to scientific research. The framers of the International Criminal Court (ICC) Statute limited the scope of the court's jurisdiction to genocide, war crimes, and crime against humanity. The aim of the paper is to in-depth analyses of the ways in which the ICC may effectively prosecute those who cause or contribute to the most serious environmental crimes. In his considerations, the author also took into account the doctrinal concept of ecocide, climate crimes, and crimes against future generations. The insufficiency of the contemporary legal framework and the merits of a new crime against the environment are exemplified by examples of peacetime environmental damage and the case of Russia's war in Ukraine. From a safety perspective, this study emphasizes the need to take into account the impact of these environmental crimes on the ecosystem as a whole. The research received funding from the National Science Centre (Poland) under the "PRELUDIUM-21" program (reg. no. 2022/45/N/H55/04118).

**Etiology of the environmental crime caused by the armed forces** *Silvo Grčar, PhD Student at Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security; Katja Eman, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, University of Maribor; Andrej Sotlar, Professor of Security Sciences*

Green criminology recognizes the negative impact of peacetime military activities on the environment but does not comprehensively explain the specific (governmental) perpetrators of environmental crime such as the armed forces. We present the cases of environmental harm, environmental crime, and environmental injustice caused by the armed forces with a typology and state definition of environmental crime of the armed forces. The etiology of environmental crime in the armed forces stems from the institutional (military) environment and is conditioned by political, economic, and geographical factors. Environmental crimes of the armed forces are different in developed and less developed countries and coincide with regional hotspots of environmental crime. Military commanders recognize expected and probable opposition and good cooperation with the local community. By the research done in the Republic of Slovenia, we confirmed that the geographical proximity of military installations affects the attitudes of the local population about the environmental harmful impact of military activities and increased local resistance. The members of the armed forces significantly perceive the environmental consequences of military activities (energy-chemical impacts, dangerous impacts, restriction of rights) as less threatening compared to residents of the local community or settlements outside the influence of military activities. Keywords: environmental crime, environmental harm, military, armed forces, local community

## **221. POL Panel 22. Trust, legitimacy and vulnerability: Exploring law enforcement practices and their impact**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)*

Chair:

*Stefaan Pleysier, LINC, KU Leuven*

Participants:

**Obtaining Appropriate Adults for Vulnerable Suspects in Police Custody** *Jennifer Holmes, University of the West of England, Bristol*

Code C of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 establishes that suspects who are vulnerable (juveniles or vulnerable adults) are entitled to the safeguard of an appropriate adult (AA). The role of the AA is to provide support to suspects, ensure they are treated fairly and understand their rights, and to facilitate communication (Code C, para 1.7A). The custody sergeant is normally responsible for determining whether an AA is required and then arranging for an AA to attend the police station (Dehaghani, 2019). While the identification of vulnerability may prove difficult in some circumstances, research has found that AAs are not always obtained, even when a potential vulnerability has been identified (Dehaghani, 2019). This paper will examine the findings obtained from a multiple case study which explored how vulnerable suspects were detained and interviewed by detectives on homicide investigations in England and Wales. Methods utilised included a review of custody record documentation, analysis of recorded police suspect interviews, and semi-structured interviews with detectives, AAs and legal advisors. This research identified that detectives were actively involved in deciding upon and obtaining an AA. However, while many detectives appeared cognisant of a range of factors which could result in someone being vulnerable, AAs were not always obtained when required. Furthermore, in some areas, detectives specifically chose the AA they wanted to participate in their suspect interviews, which resulted in a close working relationship between detectives and the AA. The implications for practice will be explored, noting the independence of the AA. References: Dehaghani, R. (2019) *Vulnerability in Police Custody: Police Decision-making and the Appropriate Adult Safeguard*. London: Routledge.

**Police trust amongst immigrants in Europe: police contact, discrimination, and marginalization** *Mathijs Kros, Utrecht University*

Trust in the police is important for immigrants. It may facilitate

successful integration and make immigrants less hesitant to report discrimination. Previous research uncovered a generation effect in immigrants' police trust. 2nd generation immigrants trust the police less than 1st generation immigrants. We contribute to this research by studying whether trust in police of 2nd and 1st generation immigrants is differently affected by being marginalized and discriminated. We argue that 2nd generation immigrants feel more entitled to treatment similar to natives than 1st generation immigrants. Because they compare their situation to that of natives, 2nd generation immigrants may feel more frustrated if they are marginalized and discriminated. This sense of relative deprivation can accentuate the generation effect in trust in police. The police may be blamed for confirming or upholding the marginalized position of immigrants, or for not doing enough to protect immigrants in the face of discrimination. Our results, based on 13,000 immigrants in 17 EU-countries, confirm an immigrant generation effect; and show that this is more pronounced if 2nd generation immigrants are marginalized and discriminated. We also show that the generation effect can be partly explained because 2nd generation immigrants are more likely to experience (negative) encounters with the police, such as disrespectful treatment, assault, ethnic profiling and mishandling of reports of harassment.

**The Role of Procedural Justice in Shaping Trust and Legitimacy towards Private Security Guards among Youth** *Samuel Moreira, CIJ (Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice) - School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto, Portugal | CEJEA (Center for Legal, Economic, International and Environmental Studies) - Lusitana University, Portugal; Inês Guedes, Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Crime, Justice and Security of the School of Criminology - Faculty of Law of the University of Porto; Carla Sofia Cardoso, Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Crime Justice and Security (CJS) - School of Criminology, Faculty of Law of the University of Porto*

Private security guards hold control over policing in contexts where much of young people's life takes place and that are important spaces of youth socialization, especially in contemporary urban areas. In governing these places, they implement a social order and enforce norms, that often go beyond legal norms. As such, security guards exercise power, control and regulate conduct, mostly of young people. However, little is known about youths' trust and perceived legitimacy towards these policing agents. Drawing on a survey, this study examines young people's trust and perceived legitimacy towards security guards and which factors predict that. Moreover, this study tests the procedural justice theory, which has been applied to a wide range of authorities, but scarcely tested in security guards. Findings from a sample of 631 high school students from the Metropolitan Areas of Lisbon and Porto (Portugal) show that procedural justice is the strongest predictor of both trust and legitimacy. Perceptions of security guards' role as important for the security of society, as well as of their legality of action, are also robust predictors of trust and legitimacy. In turn, performance judgments (perceived risk of detection and effectiveness) only slightly predict trust and legitimacy. The implications of these findings for policing research and for the private security sector practice will be discussed.

**The Importance of Procedural Justice and Legitimacy in Law Enforcement Practices with Vulnerable People** *Els Dumortier, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

This paper begins by exploring the theoretical concepts of procedural justice and legitimacy. Drawing from real-world examples and findings across various law enforcement areas such as police interrogations, asylum interviews, and closed youth institutions, it aims to understand why procedural justice and legitimacy are crucial, especially when dealing with vulnerable individuals. Additionally, the paper examines the circumstances under which procedural justice and legitimacy principles may be misrepresented in practice and the negative impact of such misrepresentation on these important principles.

**Walk the line. Police-youth relations in a post-pandemic era** *Stefaan Pleysier, LINC, KU Leuven*

For many reasons, public space exerts a special attraction on young

people. Related to that, we see that the regulation and control of (behavior of) young people in public space is an important focus for local communities and their police forces. New forms of regulation and 'politics of behavior' tend to organize social life in the public domain on the basis of normative definitions of public space and what is there to be considered as (un)desirable behavior. Young people do not always fit that frame and use the public domain in a different way, which regularly results in a confrontation with these norms and regulations, and potential negative contacts between youth and local police. The Covid-19 pandemic and related measures put in place in public space added to these adversarial police contacts for a large number of young people. In this paper, I depart from the above observations and the importance of procedural justice in establishing police-youth relations. Based on the Belgian Safety Monitor and European Social Survey data in Belgium, I look at perceptions of young people and police-youth relations in pre- and post-pandemic times. There are good reasons to believe police-youth relations were further jeopardized during the pandemic, the related lockdown and prevailing covid-19 measures. The paper concludes with some reflections on these denuded police youth relations in a post-pandemic era.

## 222. Political and Social Discourses about Crime and Justice Panel 2

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Political and Social Discourses about Crime and Justice (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.10

Chair:

**Zbigniew Lasocik**, University of Warsaw

Participants:

**Echoes in the Digital Arena: Contesting Concepts of Online Activism and Free Speech** *Tine Munk, Nottingham Trent University; Angus Nurse, Anglia Ruskin University*

In the contemporary digital landscape, online activism intertwined with the discourse on free speech has emerged as a pivotal arena for public engagement. The Internet has revolutionised how individuals and collectives voice concerns, mobilise support and advocate for change, providing a platform with unparalleled scope and efficacy. Social media, in particular, serves as a vibrant forum for debate, advocacy, and information dissemination, epitomising digital free speech. However, this digital milieu is fraught with complexities. The doctrine of free speech absolutism, advocating minimal restrictions on expression, ignites vigorous debate within online activism contexts. Proponents of absolutism argue it is essential for a thriving democracy, facilitating open idea exchange and authority scrutiny. Conversely, detractors and policy agendas that seek to limit dissent or criticism highlight the surge in hate speech, misinformation, and online harassment, calling for regulated expression to safeguard vulnerable groups and public safety. This tension underscores the intricate challenge of digital space governance, striving to preserve free expression and legitimate debate or criticism while curbing abuses. As online activism evolves, achieving an equilibrium that protects free speech without enabling harm remains paramount. The dialogue surrounding free speech absolutism and its impact on online activism mirrors wider societal discussions on freedom limits, digital platform responsibilities, and the evolving nature of public discourse in the digital age".

**Fifty Years of Juvenile Justice Reform: Assessing the Impact of The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974** *Alida Merlo, Indiana University of Pennsylvania; Peter J. Benekos, Mercyhurst University Professor Emeritus, USA*

In September of 1974, then President Gerald Ford, signed the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) into law. In the intervening 50 years, Congress has revised and re-authorized the law. The legislation established the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to assist local and state governments and territories in their efforts to prevent delinquency and improve juvenile justice systems. Congress prioritized two



areas for immediate attention and action-- calling for the de-institutionalization of status offenders and keeping juveniles out of adult institutions. In subsequent re-authorizations, various priorities included reducing disproportionate minority contact in the 1980s, and trauma-informed care initiatives in 2018. The juvenile justice system has been transformed in the last half century, but an ambivalence toward youth persists. It is manifest in an emphasis on accountability, less than anticipated reliance on evidence-based programs, and insufficient resources. Despite these limitations, the legislation and its subsequent revisions and re-authorizations have improved youth policies and programs in the U.S. and facilitated prevention efforts and treatment of children and youth. In reviewing and assessing the JJDPA's evolution and progress, we highlight remaining challenges.

Perceptions and biases of the international criminal justice system in handling sexual violence crimes *Iuliia Anosova, Ghent university*

The history of prosecution of the crimes of sexual violence at the international level is relatively recent, especially compared to other forms of international crimes. There are numerous reasons for this. At the normative level, there is still a lack of clear definition of sexual violence in international treaties and maladjustment of the traditional forms of liability for prosecution of this specific crime. At a more practical level, the obstacles stem from some policy considerations, sensitivity of the subject and gender biases of individual practitioners and the whole institutions. At the same time, while the international criminal justice system sets standards for the national criminal justice systems, the respective problems may be transplanted or replicated at the national level as well. The paper will focus on systematic review of the existing theoretical and empirical literature with critique of the international criminal justice system in relation to its treatment of the sexual violence crimes. A special attention will be given to the International Criminal Court and some other international courts with relevant jurisdiction. The literature will be classified on the methodology and theoretical approaches applied, as well as the major findings with regard to the identified problems. Based on this review, the conclusions will be made on the current perceptions and biases of the international criminal justice system in relation to prosecution of sexual violence crimes and their potential negative effects on the national prosecutions. The paper is intended to become a theoretical basis for the currently conducted sociolegal exploration of the interrelation between international and national criminal justice systems for prosecuting conflict-related sexual violence committed in the Russian war against Ukraine.

Is there a need for new definition of forced labor? *Zbigniew Lasocik, University of Warsaw*

Forced labor is social phenomena which is difficult to accept due to its exceptional nature. We still come across people who, ask, "Does it really exist now?" Such 'ignorance' is, in a certain sense, normal because it is difficult to imagine the total enslavement and dependence of another person in XXI Century. On the other hand the level of society's awareness about forced labor is low because in many places it is not a matter of public debate and the authorities' interest is minimal. Human trafficking but especially forced labor does not fit into the cognitive patterns of a modern person. The information that 'forced labor takes place next to us' cannot find a place in the mind of the recipient, where it can be located and internalized. Important question arises: Why is progress in eliminating forced labor negligible compared with that in sexual exploitation? The answer is difficult but no doubt that forced labor is difficult to accept, irrespective of age, education, legal knowledge, or historical experiences, because reducing a person to the commodity is contradictory to the elementary principles of people co-existing. On the other hand, among the many features of this crime described in the literature, little is said about the fact that this behavior is well hidden precisely because it is difficult to see it and to recognize it. Also for law enforcement. Maybe it is worth changing the language that is used to describe forced labor. Maybe criminological jargon not guarantee broad societal interest? That's why I propose new, a five-factor model for the description and analysis of these phenomena. In creating this tool, I departed from classic, legal definitions, instead I try to look at the problem from the humanistic perspective.

223. Understanding Crime Through the Lens of Situational Action Theory: Empirical Findings and Methodological Advancements

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Biological, Biosocial and Psychological Perspectives

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11

This panel brings together research that contributes to the empirical basis of Situational Action Theory (SAT) through a test of the Developmental Ecological Action Model in the context of Hong Kong, and a partial test of the Perception Choice Process applied to intimate partner violence. In addition, the research presented contributes to the methodological literature in two ways. First, by proposing a novel approach to gaining insights into the criminal decision-making processes. The second is an assessment of the measurement invariance of one of SAT's key concepts, personal morality, between China and the United Kingdom.

Chair:

*Kyle Treiber, University of Cambridge*

Participants:

Social Sources of Moral Education in Hong Kong: A Test of Situational Action Theory's Developmental Ecological Action Model *Katie Tu, University of Cambridge*

The present study adopts Situational Action Theory (SAT) to explore the impact of moral education on adolescents' morality that subsequently affects their involvement in rule-breaking behaviours. Specifically, this study aims to examine the influences of moral education adolescents received from three sources, including (1) family, (2) school and (3) peers, on their morality. According to SAT, there are three key sources of inputs to the process of moral education: (1) verbal or written instruction, (2) observation of others' actions, their consequences and the reactions they evoke and (3) personal experimentation (Wikström, Treiber & Roman, 2023). To tap into the moral experiences adolescents received from these three sources, a 'young person questionnaire' has been designed from modifying the one used in Peterborough Adolescent Development Study (PADS+), with the inclusion of new scales. This work looks at a sample of 14 – 17-year-olds in secondary schools in Hong Kong. The present study contributes to Criminology in Hong Kong by using a general and integrated theory to understand the impact of moral education on adolescents' crime propensities, with a hope that the findings can provide some new insights into future moral education policies. Besides, it contributes to the theory, SAT, by attempting to enhance its applicability in East Asian culture through using a modified version of PADS+ questionnaire with the inclusion of cultural elements.

Shifting Morality: the Impact of Motivation on IPV Perpetration *Sarah Carlo, University of Cambridge*

Situational Action Theory (SAT) provides a comprehensive framework for understanding human behavior, particularly in the context of intimate partner violence (IPV). This paper explores the intricate interplay between motivation and morality within the SAT framework concerning IPV through a mixed methods study in which motivation, as a central concept in SAT, is examined through the lens of the offender's perceived action alternatives and desired outcomes associated with engaging in violent behavior within intimate relationships. In the context of IPV, the motivation to commit violence may be influenced by a myriad of factors, including personal desires for power and control, emotional dysregulation, and perceived provocations from the partner, categorized into either a provocation or a temptation. The dynamics of motivation in SAT emphasize the role of situational factors that can either enhance or deter an individual's willingness to resort to violence within the intimate relationship. Morality, on the other hand, plays a crucial role in shaping the constraints on behavior within SAT. The theory suggests that individuals possess an internal morality that serves as a regulatory mechanism, influencing the likelihood of engaging in criminal acts. SAT underscores that the interplay between motivation and morality is dynamic and context-dependent, making it essential to consider the specific situational factors that influence an individual's decision-making process. This paper explores the interplay between motivation and

morality and its potential influence on the decision to engage in IPV behaviors. Understanding the nexus between motivation and morality in the SAT framework provides valuable insights for developing targeted interventions to prevent and address intimate partner violence. By addressing the underlying motivational factors and considering the moral dimensions of behavior, interventions can be designed to disrupt the causal pathways leading to IPV, fostering healthier and more respectful intimate relationships.

**Process Tracing the Criminal Decision-Making Process** *Christoph Herrmann, University of Cambridge*

Advanced theories of criminal action go beyond identifying which person and setting factors influence the decision to engage in crime, by spelling out the cognitive processes that link predictor variables to the behaviours they cause. Whereas researchers have been able to test predictions about the influence of person and setting characteristics on rule breaking and rule abidance, criminology currently lacks an accepted methodological framework to acquire data pertaining to the decision process. This paper argues that process-oriented theories require not only data capturing the inputs (person and setting characteristics and their interactions) and outputs of a decision process (intention/action), but also data that characterises the decision process itself. It further provides a novel methodological framework referred to as the virtual reality process tracing approach (VRPTA). This approach utilises real-time decision making on behalf of study participants who are immersed in experimentally manipulated virtual reality environments and process tracing techniques that will allow researchers to open the black box of decision making. To make the contribution as tangible as possible, this paper discusses the novel methodological approach by reference to a test of Situational Action Theory's perception choice process. However, with some modification it may be used for a range of other process-oriented theories in criminology and beyond.

**A Measurement Invariance Assessment of Morality between China and the United Kingdom** *Xiaoya Xun, Shenzhen University*

Morality plays a critical role in crime involvement. However, few published scales have examined the measurement invariance of different moral codes. The current study explored the measurement invariance of morality among school-attending youths in the UK (N = 707) and China (N = 588), aged between 14 and 16. The morality scale used in this research consists of 16 items, and we tested Configural, Metric, and Scalar invariance across the two countries. Employing Confirmatory Factor Analysis, the results indicated that the latent variable of morality shares the same structure in the UK and China, as well as the same factor loading configuration for 14 out of the total of 16 items, but with different item thresholds. In other words, the morality scale meets Configural invariance when additional residual correlations are included. Moreover, the morality scale satisfies Metric invariance if the loadings 2 of the 16 items are freely estimated in each group. Consequently, cross-cultural comparison is feasible with partial invariance of morality between the two countries. Moreover, this result was observed consistently at ages 14 and 16, and the items with non-invariant thresholds also remained consistent over the three years. The findings suggest that the 16-item morality scale can be used in cross-country comparisons to study the causation of crime involvement. However, the average morality score may have different implications in the UK and China. If we divide the morality scale into three sub-scales: minor morality, major morality, and substance use, we find that British young people and Chinese young people report similar results regarding major morality items. Their differences mainly lie in the areas of minor morality and substance use. Further analysis of crime and morality based on the partial invariance model indicates that morality is significantly associated with crime involvement in both countries, albeit at different levels.

**The SATNAV Project: a comprehensive school-based programme of change centred around individual morality and moral contexts** *Neema Trivedi-Bateman, Loughborough University; Beth Hardie, University of Cambridge*

The SATNAV Project is a comprehensive school-based programme of change centred around individual morality and moral contexts.

The project is guided by Situational Action Theory, the well-evidenced link between antisocial morality and adolescent crime and problem behaviour, and the increasingly apparent failings of punitive behaviour management practices in schools. SATNAV has a longitudinal, participatory, and co-produced research design and is being developed with continual practitioner collaboration. This work involves targeted individual-level moral development interventions in three UK schools to date (SATNAV Compass), being delivered simultaneously alongside thoroughly embedding prosocial moral values within the curricular and noncurricular aspects of the school (SATNAV Climate) as well as adaptations to the wider school context, such as teacher-student relationships, staff hiring and training, and community engagement (SATNAV Global). This paper presents the process evaluation from several pilot trials of the SATNAV Compass intervention programme and the SATNAV Climate work. With focus on individual morality in combination with the moral context, this work has the potential to contribute to child development and improving school climates meaningfully and comprehensively to encourage positive decision-making to give children opportunities to reach their full potential. These impacts are expected to extend outside the school context and beyond compulsory education. We discuss the potential for SATNAV to be administered in different youth settings including youth work charities, schools, and youth offending teams. Dr Neema Trivedi-Bateman is Lecturer in Criminology at the Criminology, Sociology, and Social Policy department at Loughborough University and Principal Investigator of SATNAV Compass. Dr Beth Hardie is an affiliated researcher to the Centre for Analytic Criminology at the Institute of Criminology at the University of Cambridge. Dr Hardie is Principal Investigator of SATNAV Climate and SATNAV Global and is also Managing Editor of The European Journal of Criminology. Study funding: The British Academy & Loughborough University.

**224. Hate speech in the online world and beyond**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Hate Crime (Hate Crime WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.14

Chair:

**Charlotte Korenke**, Ruhr-Universität Bochum

Participants:

Exploring Trends in Academic Research on Online Hate Speech in South Korea: A Systematic Literature Review and Comparative Analysis with European Perspectives *HongJun Park, University of Birmingham; Evelyn Svingen, University of Birmingham*

South Korea, known for its leadership in e-sports and high dependence on online platforms, also grapples with the adverse effects of hate speech spread through these channels. Consequently, discussions on legal regulations regarding online hate speech, akin to many other nations, are underway. This study examines trends in academic research within South Korea concerning online hate speech. Drawing a comparison with research conducted in European countries like the UK and Germany, where online hate speech has been legally regulated, this research aims to assess whether South Korean academic research provides sufficient data to support discussions on criminalization. Notably, while offline hate speech is also not illegal in South Korea, the study focuses solely on online hate speech, considering its detrimental impact and significant repercussions. To achieve this, a systematic literature review of 147 papers extracted using the keyword 'online hate speech' from the Korean journal databases "RISS, Research Information Sharing Service" and "KISS, Koreanstudies Information Service System" was conducted. After excluding 57 duplicate or irrelevant papers, 90 papers were analyzed, revealing that research efforts commenced in 2016 but primarily focused on legal aspects until 2018. Subsequently, research expanded to include various approaches, targets, and methodologies, such as empirical analyses, comment detection technologies, factor analyses, and qualitative studies. Additionally, women (as a gender issue) emerged as the primary targets of hate speech, followed by the elderly, racial minorities, and regional groups. However, the

limitations of existing research seem to primarily stem from the relatively short period of research, lacking sufficient volume, and predominantly focusing on legal and regulatory considerations, which means a lack of empirical examination. To substantively contribute to discussions on criminalization, further research should delve into Korean perceptions of cyber violence, analyze causal factors of perpetration, and investigate the experiences and severity of victimization.

**Researching Hate Speech Cases in Croatia – REASON project**  
*Maja Munivrana, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb;*  
*Aleksandar Marsavelski, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb;*  
*Ines Sučić, Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar;*  
*Ivana Eterović, Croatian Law Centre*

Hate speech is a widespread albeit complex phenomenon and within the project entitled “REASON - Improved Response to Hate Speech through Legal Research, Advocacy and Training”, financed by the European Union through the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme, we aim to expand the knowledge and understanding of the phenomenon of hate speech in Croatia through empirical research. Hate speech is incriminated as public incitement to violence and hatred in the Croatian Criminal Code and as several misdemeanours. Thus, within the REASON project different types of cases were analysed: cases where the prosecution did not issue an indictment for hate speech but had rather dismissed criminal charges; cases where indictment for hate speech was issued and a final verdict was reached by a criminal court (either conviction or acquittal); and misdemeanour cases derived on the basis of selection of cases from the list of records of misdemeanour cases initially flagged by the police as “hate crimes”. Cases registered by the police and/or prosecution in the period 2016 – 2021, for which the final decision has been rendered, were analysed by combining content analysis of prosecution and court decisions and focus groups with practitioners. In this paper overview of the REASON project, that introduces a novel intersectional and evidence-based approach to analysing hate speech, will be given. Moreover, preliminary data pertaining to general phenomenology of hate speech in Croatia, but also to specific bias indicators and relevant aspects of prosecution and judicial decisions in view of human rights standards will be presented.

**Social control on Discord, Steam etc.? – Legal and Criminological Factors of Hate Speech in Gaming Communities**  
*Charlotte Korenke, Ruhr-Universität Bochum;*  
*Marius Kuehne, Ruhr-Universität Bochum*

For many individuals, particularly the younger demographic, gaming communities serve as crucial social hubs. Nonetheless, communication platforms within the gaming realm, such as Discord and Steam, also serve as spaces where content is shared that would be deemed unacceptable in other contexts, extending to criminal hate speech. The acceptable boundaries of expressions are under constant scrutiny in all social contexts. The joint project, Radicalization on Gaming Platforms and Messenger Services (RadiGaMe), funded by the BMBF, aims to explore how radicalization processes unfold across diverse communication spaces and how security authorities or civil society prevention entities can respond. The presented sub-project aims to delve into the identification of behaviors considered deviant in gaming communities, examining how they are addressed, and exploring the formal and informal mechanisms of control on gaming platforms. This presentation will introduce preliminary considerations on the subject and approach of the research. It will commence with a discussion on the legal framework governing the management of criminal content by providers of digital services, particularly those pertinent to the gaming sector. Subsequently, the current state of research on gaming communities in this context will be outlined. Finally, the presentation will shed light on the research interests and the planned approach to field access.

**225. Criminology of Mobility. Panel 8. Deportation, return and undeportability**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Crime Control and the Immigration System (Immigration, Crime and Citizenship WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.22*

Chair:

*M.H. Kox, Erasmus University Rotterdam*

Participants:

**Evading the state gaze: civil society engagement with migration and forms of bordering.**  
*Bethan Loftus, Bangor University;*  
*Martina Feilzer, Bangor University, Wales, UK*

In an attempt to examine the state responses to the movement of global populations, scholars have identified the amplification of border enforcement and immigration control – the implications of which are felt long after entry into the country of destination. In this paper, we draw on data derived from a comparative study on civil society engagement with migration and forms of bordering to understand the experiences and perceptions of migrant and minority communities towards various forms of state surveillance. We draw on the sociology of policing and the metaphors of ‘depth’, ‘weight’, and ‘tightness’ (Crewe 2021) to examine how different guises of state power are felt – not only at the border, but also through interactions with the welfare state, health services, and the punitive arm(s) of the penal and criminal justice system. Our analysis highlights how migrants have experienced surveillance in their past border-crossing journeys, how they come to understand and navigate the spectre of state surveillance, and the role of civil society organisations in supporting them. We argue that the anticipated surveillance experienced by such groups can lead them to consciously evade state institutions that may bring about future punishment or a myriad of harms and, in so doing, provide an understanding of the power of the state to reach into the lives of migrants and racialised minorities even amid the rhetoric of care and vulnerability.

**Return me softly? A research on the human rights implications of forced return practices**  
*Giuseppe Campesi, University of Bari*  
*'Aldo Moro'; Elisabetta De Robertis, University of Bari "Aldo Moro";*  
*Francesco Oziosi, University of Bari "Aldo Moro"*

The Italian return policy is becoming increasingly focused on forced return practices, particularly through charter flights. This approach to the return policy is widely criticized for its ineffectiveness and the negative impact it has on the fundamental rights of migrants. This paper presents the findings of the first-ever empirical research conducted on forced return practices in Italy. Specifically, it outlines the key characteristics of the Italian approach to return and highlights the shortcomings of the existing monitoring system for forced returns currently implemented in Italy. Return policies; Forced returns; Police use of force; Human Rights Monitoring

**The limits of the law. Unravelling unauthorized migrants' legal consciousness processes.**  
*M.H. Kox, Erasmus University Rotterdam*

Nation-states turn themselves to ‘the law’ to limit the presence of migrants without a legal status on their territory. Yet, they encounter limitations that hinder them to make these migrants (forcedly) leave the country while these migrants see themselves confronted with undesirable living conditions because of the law. This raises questions on the functioning of the law for unauthorized migrants. This study offers answers to the intriguing puzzle of how law matters to these migrants and how this is of concern for the law. Drawing on multi-sited ethnographic fieldwork among 105 (former) unauthorized migrants in the Netherlands, Surinam and Nigeria as well as participant observations in the Dutch immigration system, the study portrays unauthorized migrants' legal consciousness processes over time. By doing so, it gives these people a voice in the migration debate. Moreover, it illustrates that the Dutch authorities have created a comprehensive, multi-layered system to discourage unauthorized residence. This system – which unauthorized migrants perceive as the law – is powerful given its strong constitutive effects at the migrants' everyday, social, existential and legal level. Yet, it is also powerless if seen through an instrumental lens as unauthorized migrants may continue their unauthorized residence while the authorities lack coercive measures to realize the migrants' departure. The powerful and powerless effect differently impact on unauthorized migrants, although they

are all somehow affected by it. These insights expose the legal, moral and instrumental limits of the authorities' use of the law and call for a different legal approach towards unauthorized migrants.

Behind the desk: Examining decision-making practices of immigration officials in return procedures in Belgium *Lars Breuls, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Laure Deschuyteneer, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Crime & Society)*

Many scholars have highlighted the crucial role immigration officials embody as 'street-level bureaucrats' within restrictive migration control and crimmigration policies (Aas, 2014; Borrelli and Lindberg, 2018). These officials interpret and implement immigration policies and laws through their administrative decisions, significantly influencing people's lives and shaping migration control while contributing to ongoing migration policy development. This study delves into the working and decision-making practices of immigration officials in return procedures in Belgium. Using expert interviews with five heads of departments within the Immigration Office and an analysis of the case law of the Belgian Council of Immigration Law Litigation, we describe the decision criteria and bureaucratic strategies used by these immigration officials. Our findings highlight the importance of administrative paperwork in their working practices, but also the importance of bureaucratic distancing techniques to mitigate the legitimacy concerns surrounding their decisions. Such administrative procedures, while leading to bureaucratic efficiency, seem to limit the legal safeguards and present hurdles for people seeking ways of reversing negative decisions through appeals processes.

## 226. Crime prevention and criminal justice

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Crime prevention  
Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.29

Chair:

*Megan Evans*, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research

Participants:

Is There a Gap to Bridge? Assessing the Parallel Worlds of Prosecutors' Experiential Knowledge and Scientific Knowledge on Legal Punishment *Malouke Kuiper, Erasmus University Rotterdam; Benjamin van Rooij, University of Amsterdam; Christopher P. Reinders Folmer, University of Amsterdam*

Is there truly a gap between legal practice and social science about law? Debates about the use of social science in law assume so. This study addresses this question by analyzing the extent to which prosecutorial experiential knowledge is aligned with scientific knowledge about the effects of punishment on crime. This study is based on in-depth semi-structured interviews with prosecutors on how they believe they can prevent future crime. Using a combination of inductive and deductive coding, it analyzes their answers about the effects of legal punishment on crime prevention. The study finds a surprising level of alignment between prosecutors' experiential knowledge and the existing scientific knowledge. It shows that their experiential knowledge exists as complementary collective knowledge and is not spread equally amongst individual prosecutors. This study concludes that the story about the alignment between law and social science may be more nuanced than typically assumed. Instead of a gap between social science and legal practice, we see parallel worlds between the collective knowledge of prosecutors and scientific knowledge on the effects of punishment. We draw out the implications of these findings for enhancing evidence-based practice and the debates about social science and law.

Post-penal isolation in Poland in the context of human rights standards. Cases against Poland before the European Court of Human Rights. *Agnieszka Gutkowska, Department of Criminology University of Warsaw*

Post-penal measures has been operating in Poland for over 10 years. They were introduced into Polish legal order on the basis of the Act of November 22, 2013 on dealing with people with mental disorders

posing a threat to life, health or sexual freedom of other people. The act provides for two types of post-penal measures. Isolation takes place in National Center for the Prevention of Dissocial Behavior (KOZZD). Second measure, restricting freedom without placing in the center - preventive supervision, is implemented by the Police. Both forms, both in terms of legislation and the practice of their application, leave a lot to be desired. The best proof of this are complaints against Poland awaiting to be adjudicated in the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. To date, 11 of them have been communicated to Poland. The report will present the basic allegations made in these complaints in the context of human rights protection standards.

Crime Without Punishment: Towards a New Paradigm *Amy Gershenfeld Donnella, Villanova University School of Law*

Deterrence and retribution are the two bases traditionally offered to justify punishment for crime. Both justifications rest on the belief that offenders have intentionally chosen to harm others. But the science of human behavior tells us otherwise. In the past century, we have come to understand that factors beyond one's control determine conduct. We have learned that brain tumors and trauma affect conduct in unpredictable ways, and that a condition like epilepsy is a biological disorder, not a sign of demonic possession. Recent neurobiology tells us that people with immature or damaged brains are unable to regulate their actions to conform to what they know to be right. Dr. Robert Sapolsky, esteemed neuroscientist at Stanford University, goes even further. He asserts that none of us has free will—that our good actions as well as our bad are determined by our particular brain structure, hormones, fetal environment, genetics, evolution. These physiological factors are in turn modulated by circumstances also beyond our control such, for example, as the socio-economic condition into which we are born, and the trauma, abuse or neglect to which we may have been exposed in our early lives. If we agree with Dr. Sapolsky—or even if believe that science is not finished revealing to us new biological bases for what we previously attributed to intentional malevolent choices—then maintaining a system of punishment based on culpability is not just cruel, it makes no sense. Once we overcome the age-old impulse to equate criminal conduct with a will to do evil, we snap the logical bond between crime and punishment. This, in turn, will free us to restrain offenders from doing future harm without inflicting pain on them. It will also help us re-direct resources to providing comprehensive aid to victims whom we too often neglect.

Diffusion and Displacement in the Drug and Opioid Epidemic:

The Role of Criminal Justice Deterrence *Megan Evans, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research; Corina Graif, Pennsylvania State University; Anna Newell, The Pennsylvania State University*

Recently, academics and policy makers have questioned the role of criminal justice deterrence as an effective strategy to combat opioid overdoses. While the enforcement of drug policy via arrests takes opioid users and sellers off the streets, it is unclear the extent to which it deters the misuse of opioids within a community. This study investigates the role of criminal justice deterrence practices, i.e., opioid arrests, in effectively deterring opioid overdoses in the United States. While arrests may deter opioid misuse in the focal community, it may also simply displace opioid misuse, forcing users to accommodate by going to other communities. Thus, this study also investigates whether arrests in neighboring communities leads to the diffusion or deterrence of opioid overdoses in a focal community. Combining emergency medical system data, arrest reports, and U.S. Census commuting statistics and sociodemographic data on Chicago's 77 community areas, we use random effects spatial autoregressive models to predict a community's EMS-response opioid overdose rate and age-adjusted opioid-related overdose death rate per 100,000 between 2013/14 and 2019. We find evidence consistent with a spatial network spillover of deterrence for opioid EMS-response overdoses, but not overdose deaths. These results have important implications for understanding the effectiveness of criminal justice policies in deterring opioid misuse.

## 227. POL Panel 11. Policing harmful sexual behaviour and online child sexual abuse and exploitation

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.04

Chair:

*Alishya Dhir*, The Police Foundation

Participants:

**Organizational Challenges in Investigating Online Child Sexual Exploitation** *Oscar Rantatalo, Umeå University; Alva Lindholm, Umeå University; Ola Lindberg, Umeå University; Robert Lundmark, Umeå University*

Investigating online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (CSEA) presents significant organizational hurdles for law enforcement agencies. These cases require a combination of digital expertise and knowledge about sexual offenses against children. As the modus of CSEA crime evolves with digital advancements, innovative approaches and organizational adaptability become crucial in the response. Moreover, the mental toll on investigators underscores the need for sustainable work practices. To address these challenges, this article explores central obstacles and organizational barriers related to collaborative approaches in CSEA investigations. To map current challenges, we have conducted a qualitative study of current CSEA investigation in one police region in Sweden. We have analysed audit reports (approx. 140 pages), conducted interviews with strategic police management (n=3), conducted participant observation of management meetings (n=5) and organized a workshop with CSEA investigators (n=7) where we used participant driven graphic elicitation methods to construct investigation flowcharts to identify collaboration issues. The results show that investigators face several challenges in collaborative approaches to investigating online CSEA. First, resource allocation was described as a constant problem due to varying case sizes—some cases start small but escalate quickly due to factors such as added accomplices, discovery of abuse material, and as more victims are identified. Second, while specialized CSEA investigators handle most cases, they require support from other police units. However, a widespread fear of these cases among non-specialized investigators complicates cross-functional collaboration which results in inefficient use of capacity as highly specialized investigators devote time to basic cases. Third, a longstanding culture of organizational ‘compartmentalization’ was described to hinder collaboration, as different branches of investigation remain separated. We discuss how these challenges pose serious problems to CSEA investigation practices as it hinders the use of new methods and innovative technologies, extends investigation times and affect overall results.

**The Anatomy of Online Undercover Investigations on Child Sexual Abuse** *Manon Pamar, Université de Montréal; Benoît Dupont, University of Montreal*

This presentation provides a detailed and descriptive account of online undercover investigations aimed at combating child sexual abuse. The study, based on a qualitative approach, draws from an analysis of 15 French case files and in-depth interviews with online undercover investigators from France, Belgium, Switzerland, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and other countries. Research in this area is challenging due to the sensitive nature of police operations, which makes it difficult for researchers to access information without compromising ongoing investigations. This study is novel and unprecedented, offering valuable insights into the operational mechanisms of these investigations. It explores how these inquiries fit into the broader context of the legal process, their procedural models, and the role of digital evidence in the criminal justice system. Emphasising collaboration between law enforcement, technology experts, and legal professionals, the study identifies key challenges and best practices in conducting these investigations. This presentation aims to provide insights into the significant impact of these techniques in combating child sexual abuse and offers potential perspectives for future research and practice. Keywords: cyberinfiltration, police investigation, online child sexual abuse, qualitative methodology,

interdisciplinary collaboration, digital evidence

'We work in the grey around decision-making': How 'thematic discretion' can help understand police decision-making in cases of youth image-based sexual abuse *Alishya Dhir, The Police Foundation*

Police discretion describes the individual freedom that officers have to navigate certain situations using their own judgement. Its employment in cases of gender-based abuse is of particular importance. As part of a wider mixed methods doctoral project investigating youth image-based sexual abuse - harmful image-sharing practices amongst and against young people - this research argues that a new term 'thematic discretion' can help us better understand the complexities of police decision-making. Findings suggest that police officers use their discretion extensively in cases of youth image-based sexual abuse, that subjective guidelines were created to inform their decision-making – amounting to my definition of 'thematic discretion' – with many of these guidelines being steeped in victim blaming and sexist narratives. Indeed, police discretion continues to wield power, this has implications for how youth image-based sexual abuse is responded to, and how abuse is understood.

**228. Prison Working Group: Rethinking punishment: Prison releases and alternatives to imprisonment**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.05

Chair:

*Ailie Rennie*, University of Cambridge

Participants:

What is/are the alternative(s) to prison? *Merlinda A Bajo, Welfare Organisation Loerrach Germany*

This paper is about the alternative(s) to prison as the number of people held in penal institutions throughout the world, is more than 10.2 million. Across the world the median rate looks as following: • United States has the highest prison population rate in the world with 716 per 100,000 of the national population. In England and Wales reaches the prison population rate around 178 per 100,000 people (Fair and Walmsley, 2023). • Scandinavian countries have the lowest prison population rate in Europe: in Iceland is the rate about 29, whereas in Finland with 52 per 100,000 (Fair and Walmsley, 2023). Another paramount element in the discussion of finding an alternative to prison is also the recidivism rate as it shows the effectiveness of the rehabilitation of ex-offenders into the society. Even though measuring recidivism bring certain challenges, because its definition differs from nation to nation, the figures show that the reoffending rate between one to five years varies between 15 to 45%. The recidivism rate in England and Wales varies from 46% to 76% respectively. Whereas in countries of European Union is between 25 to 50%. The statistics above show only a glimpse that one of the most important goals of prison, rehabilitation, is not only far of being reached but also increases the chances of reoffending. Prison has almost achieved a 'hegemonic status', making its function impregnable to serious criticism (Ryan and Ward, 2015). Therefore, finding alternatives to prison has become a necessity and it is a public intellectual deploying moral and political arguments to challenge hegemonic norms (Coyle and Scott, 2022). Even though, the abolitionists are often accused of naivety of ignoring the threat posed by serious offenders, the role of this paper is to open the path of alternatives solutions to the current incarceration system.

Conditional early release as an alternative to imprisonment - in the Polish perspective. *Paulina Wiktorska, Institute of Law Studies Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland*

dr Paulina Wiktorska Institute of Law Studies Polish Academy of Sciences Conditional early release as an alternative to imprisonment - in the Polish perspective. Conditional early release in the Polish legal system is one of the basic alternatives to imprisonment. It is a probationary measure applied at the stage of

imprisonment. Probation is a special form of punishment, based on pedagogical and social principles, and combines supervision and assistance. It is applied in the custodial system to certain categories of offenders selected for their personality and susceptibility to the proposed opportunity to modify their behavior and return to society. The institution of conditional early release, like conditional probation, "has a rich tradition of development and appropriate usefulness from a criminal-political point of view. It is known to all three Polish penal codes. Its main sense is to shorten the serving of a prison sentence in cases of unequivocal improvement of the offender during the serving of the sentence. The substantive premise of conditional release is based on a positive criminological prognosis, to which, with this institution, is added the element of behavior during the serving of the sentence". The principle of some penitentiary systems is that the last stage of a prison sentence is served in free or transitional conditions. The aim of the presentation is to show the criminal policy in Poland on the use of conditional early releases and its compliance with international standards.

Division of responsibility or diffusion of responsibility? Release decisions in German prisons against the backdrop of the general securitization of society. *Felix Butz, University of Leipzig*

People who serve long prison sentences have mostly committed serious offences. For the most part, these are offences that society would like to prevent from recurring. In addition to costly rehabilitation, serving a long and full prison sentence with no prospect of early release seems to many to be an easy way out for greater security. The release prospects of offenders are therefore strongly influenced by the increasing securitization of society. However, continued deprivation of liberty always requires justification, for example grave danger posed by an offender. When courts make release decisions, a prognosis of future behavior usually plays a central role. In the German criminal justice system, the court bases its release decision on the perspective of many experts: In addition to the expert opinions of psychologists and social workers from the prisons, external experts are also regularly consulted. Often, these opinions contradict each other and prevent a positive release decision by the court. The aim of this article is to examine the dynamics surrounding judicial release decisions in Germany by analyzing attorney prison files and investigating the question of whether the involvement of the various experts leads to a productive division of responsibility with regard to the pending release decision or whether an obstructive diffusion of responsibility occurs in which nobody wants to take responsibility for the decision and the offender therefore remains in prison.

The Transformative Role of Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL) For Life-Sentenced Prisoners Returning to the Outside *Ailie Rennie, University of Cambridge*

This presentation explores the release of men serving mandatory life sentences in England and Wales through an empirical short-longitudinal study. To date, the majority of research on 'life after life imprisonment' has been conducted in the United States, where the processes and experiences of release are distinctly different from how lifers experience it in England and Wales. For example, in many US states, individuals released from life sentences have limited or no opportunities to experience temporary release from custody prior to re-entry. By contrast, most lifers in England and Wales progress through the system to the lowest security level in the prison estate where they can access opportunities to leave the prison for short periods of time on Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL). Beyond acclimation to technology and spaces, this presentation reports how temporary releases enabled people to get mentally ready for their release, shifting their mindset from 'prisoner' to 'community member' prior to their eventual release. These men experienced temporary releases as a small 'taste of freedom', through which they were able to 'rehearse' their release. Practicing for their release was related to both a rehearsal of selfhood, and a rehearsal of freedom. Gradual re-entry into the community, therefore, was seen to mediate the sense that release itself was experienced as 'chaotic' and overwhelming, instead minimising any potential 'exit shock'. This presentation will demonstrate the important and transformative role that ROTLs play (beyond simply reducing recidivism) in preparing those leaving prison for their release, situating this discussion within a political

landscape where transition to open prisons and the use of temporary releases has drastically reduced in recent years.

## 229. Common and Less Common Youth Crimes: Examples from Israel, Greece, Poland, Spain & UK

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Juvenile Crime (ISRD WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 1.09

Chair:

*Simon Hackett, Durham University*

Participants:

Versatility vs specialization: Poly-perpetration in self-reported adolescent sexual offenders *Laura Pascual, universidad de Barcelona; Noemi Pereda, Universitat de Barcelona; Georgina Guilera, Universitat de Barcelona*

The dichotomy between versatility and specialization in criminal behavior is pivotal in both theoretical and applied criminology, particularly concerning the prevention of sexually violent acts. While the prevailing literature, such as Wiesner et al. (2018), suggests a trend towards versatility among youthful offenders, investigations into these patterns within the general adolescent population remain scarce. Based on the existing literature on generalist and specialized positions of criminal behavior, the objective of this study is to analyze the relationship between self-reported sexual violence behaviors and other types of violent behavior in a sample of adolescents attending school in Spain. The total number of self-reported violent behaviors was analyzed in a sample of 160 perpetrators of sexual violence aged between 14 and 17 years. Violent behavior was assessed through a questionnaire specifically designed for this study comprising 22 items, with 11 referring to sexual violence. Results indicate that 70.63% of the perpetrators of sexual violence behaviors also acknowledge having committed other forms of violent behavior, with an average of 4.3 (SD = 4.2). A closer examination of specific violent behaviors disclose that sexual violence perpetrators are also involved in child-parent violence (30.6%), physical assault on peers (26.3%), and peer harassment (26.3%). This study stands as a pioneering in Spain, aligning with international studies to underscore the complexity of adolescent violent behavior. It offers critical insights for developing targeted prevention strategies against the multifaceted phenomenon of adolescent violence.

Substance use and delinquent behavior: a case study of adolescents in the Therapy Center for Dependent Individuals (KETHEA) in Greece. *Vasiliki Petousi, University of Crete, Greece; Ioannis Zacharopoulos, Therapy Center for Dependent Individuals (KETHEA), Greece*

The extent, expressions and causality of adolescent delinquency has attracted much attention in criminological theory and research. Behaviors such as theft, violence, vandalism, gang membership, truancy, running away from home, bullying have all been studied from various perspectives and assessed differentially. Among the behaviors that are of concern is the use of illegal drugs and alcohol per se and in interdependence with other forms of delinquency. Although for some adolescents all the above can represent a stage of 'experimentation' and 'testing limits' for others leads to addiction and in turn to seeking help. In this study we report data from a group of adolescents who receive treatment in the Therapy Center for Dependent Individuals (KETHEA) in Athens, Greece. Longitudinal data for this study are collected from individuals seeking treatment at KETHEA. The Treatment Demand Indicator (TDI) questionnaires designed by the Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe, are administered to adolescents during their initial meeting. In our analysis we focus on the association between substance use and delinquent behavior of adolescents requesting treatment. Specifically, we examine the impact of age of onset of illicit substance use, family environment, school dropout, main substance of abuse, and physical and mental health history on an adolescent's potential involvement with the law and the justice system. Specific consideration is given to potential differences between pre-COVID and post-COVID period.

Juvenile identity theft in Poland *Aleksandra Stachelska, Faculty*

*of Law University of Bialystok*

The prevalence of juvenile perpetrators in cyberspace has become a relatively new trend. Identity theft is a growing concern worldwide, and this presentation aims to shed light on both the criminal and criminological aspects of this phenomenon among juveniles. The discussion will begin by presenting the legal regulations and responses to the crime of identity theft in Poland, particularly concerning juveniles. Next, the criminological aspects of the phenomenon will be analyzed based on the latest police and court statistics on juvenile perpetrators and the first nationwide study of final judgments made by district courts for the years 2012-2022, concerning Article 190a§2 of the Criminal Code. This study, conducted by the author, will provide an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the phenomenon, including the characteristics of juvenile perpetrators and their modus operandi. Additionally, it will enable an analysis of the penal policy of the justice system towards juvenile perpetrators of identity theft in Poland.

Sex crime or developmentally appropriate sexual behaviour? Responding to children and young people's (harmful sexual) behaviour. *Simon Hackett, Durham University*

Children and young people are responsible for a significant proportion of all sexual abuse both within the family, in peer group contexts and in the wider community (Hackett et al., 2013). Similarly, across many jurisdictions, reported sexual crime relating to young people now exceeds reports of adult sex offending (NPCC, 2024). Yet policies, practices and interventions designed to identify and respond to such behaviours are under-developed currently. This presentation will start by setting out the scale of the problem, as well as outlining why it is important to take both a criminological and developmental approach. Then Simon will describe the development of an initial response tool which helps practitioners to distinguish between sexual behaviours being presented by children and young people that are developmentally expected, those that are problematic and those that harmful and abusive. Extending Hackett's (2010) 'continuum model of sexual behaviour', the freely available tool offers a new approach to understanding children and young people's sexual behaviour in context. Simon will describe the development of the new model, its empirical underpinnings, and how it can be used in youth offending and child welfare contexts to ensure appropriate and proportionate responses to young people across the continuum of developmentally healthy, harmful and abusive behaviour. References: Hackett, S. (2010). Children, young people and sexual violence. In *Children Behaving Badly: Exploring peer violence between children and young people*. Barter, C. & Berridge, D. London: Blackwell Wiley. Hackett, S. and Phillips, J. and Masson, H. and Balfe, M. (2013) 'Individual, family and abuse characteristics of 700 British child and adolescent sexual abusers.', *Child abuse review*, 22 (4). pp. 232-245. National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) (2024) National Analysis of Police-Recorded Child Sexual Abuse & Exploitation (CSAE) Crimes Report Available at: <https://www.vkpp.org.uk/assets/Files/Publications/National-Analysis-of-police-recorded-CSAE-Crimes-Report-2022-external.pdf>

Just as Violent: Cyberbullying and In-Person Violence Compared Among Arab Youth in Israel *Mona Khoury, School of Social Work and Social Welfare, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Lana Jeries, University of Cambridge; Rana Eseed, The Hebrew university of Jerusalem*

This study examined similarities and differences between adolescent involvement in cyberbullying and in-person violence from a socio-ecological perspective. It explored the associations between individual (gender, age, religiosity, and impulsivity), family (parental support, monitoring, and conflict), and contextual factors (commitment to school, affiliation with delinquent peers and exposure to community violence), on the one hand, and four types of violence: cyberbullying and three subtypes of in-person violence—severe and moderate physical violence and indirect violence—on the other. The sample included 3178 Arab students in grades 7–11 in Israel, who completed a structured survey. “In-person bullying” or face-to face violence was found to be significantly and positively associated with involvement in

cyberbullying, and both bullying behaviors were found to share common predictors. Of the four types of violence, involvement in severe physical violence and cyberbullying and was the lower (28.4% and 14.1% and of students, respectively), with significantly higher rates for indirect and moderate violence (65.7% and 47.3%, respectively). The general trend found in the study was one of similarities between cyberbullying and in-person violence, especially of the severe physical type. We conclude that protecting youth against involvement in violent acts can be most effectively achieved by buffering the impact of situational and personal risk factors.

### 230. Desistance, resilience and crime prevention

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Crime prevention

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.11

Chair:

**Remco Spithoven**, Saxion University of Applied Sciences

Participants:

Exploring the Role of Marriage in Crime Prevention: A Qualitative Inquiry into Marital Dynamics and Desistance *Ronit Haimoff Ayali, Beit Berl Academic College*

Studies have shown that a prisoner's family situation influences the likelihood of recidivism. Research indicates that unmarried released prisoners have a significantly higher chance of recidivism compared to their married counterparts. This phenomenon, often referred to as the "good marriage effect" in criminological literature, underscores the potential for married life to serve as a positive influence on crime prevention. However, questions persist regarding whether it is marriage itself that makes the difference and the ancillary factors marriage must possess to encourage and maintain it. A comprehensive understanding of marital dynamics among criminals and their normative partners stands to provide invaluable insights into this matter. This line of inquiry endeavors to discern the extent to which marriage possesses the capacity to either abet or obstruct endeavors aimed at crime prevention. Therefore, this line of inquiry is important and meaningful. The present qualitative inquiry entailed the in-depth examination of 37 couples, encompassing both criminals and their normative wives. This methodological approach facilitated a nuanced exploration of the varied perspectives held by spouses regarding the significance and utility of their marriage bonds. Findings indicate that various factors, such as the nature of the relationship, levels of perceived security within it, communication, and emotional depth, have different effects on the process of desistance. Significant differences between men and women were found in perceptions of the marriage effect on desistance and crime prevention processes. While women tend to believe in the power of marriage in encouraging and maintaining desistance from crime, men often have a different perspective. Analyzing the viewpoints of both spouses serves to expand our knowledge regarding whether marriage indeed has an impact on normative and criminal behavioral patterns. By deepening our understanding of aspects of marriage and family life, we may enhance and optimize processes of change, desistance, crime prevention, and rehabilitation.

Sport Pedagogy to Prevent Crime, Judo in Colonia Constitución, Zapopan, Jalisco, Mexico. *Ramón Gerardo Navejas Padilla, Universidad de Guadalajara; Axel Francisco Orozco Torres, Universidad de Guadalajara*

This research is from an approach to prevent crime as a “dynamic process (Sahagún, 2008)”. The Dojo “Kodomo Nobasho with more than 20 years (Díaz, 2019)” is a place where Judo is studied and trained. This Dojo receives children with school problems such as “family or social community, (Sahagún, 2008)”. This Dojo is the source of this qualitative research due to its social impact, values and applied pedagogy of Jigoro Kano, founder of Judo under the constructivist approach with “knowledge, skills, attitudes and values (Government of Mexico, 2020)”, necessary soft skills for personal growth. Among one of the main conclusions, citizens can participate in public safety as Kodomo Nobasho does, he uses Judo pedagogy with a social vision to be used as crime prevention, the

main conclusion of participatory citizen action “minimize risk factors and maximize protective factors related to crime” (UNODC, 2019)”, everything from “the humanities, (Merton, 2002)” against possible threats in the community, creating a bridge between pedagogy, sport and public safety with a vision of crime prevention. Keywords: Judo, prevention, crime, perception, security.

Towards a human-centered cyber resilience *Remco Spithoven, Saxion University of Applied Sciences; Jurjen Jansen, NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences; Bruno Verweijen, Saxion University of Applied Sciences; Milou Kievik, Saxion University of Applied Sciences*

With this theoretical paper we contribute to the perspective of a human-centered cyber resilience by extending Zimmermann and Renaud’s (2019) earlier ‘human-as-solution’ approach to cybersecurity with a next step towards a human-centered cyber resilience. In this step, human actors play a crucial role in an organization’s ‘(...) ability to prepare, absorb, recover, and adapt to adverse effects caused by cyberattacks (...), with the ultimate aim for the organization to continuously deliver the intended functions or services’ (Dupont et al. 2023, pp. 3). Firstly, we will explain the persistence of the classic ‘human-as-problem’ approach by tracing its origins in societal and scientific developments back to the industrial revolution. Secondly, we will supplement the ‘human-as-solution’ approach using literature from related scientific disciplines: (I) safety sciences, (II) positive psychology and (III) positive security. Emphasis on the human contribution to cyber resilience helps grow a necessary sense of shared responsibility among employees. Of course, it is still important to learn from cyber incidents, what went wrong due to human action, and to discipline employees who deliberately cause damage to the organization. However, cybersecurity needs another, positive approach to human actors as default to reach the needed flexibility and resilience to face the contemporary digital risks of organizations. We advocate learning from what goes right in daily practice when it comes to cybersecurity: why do people make the right choices that prevent incidents from happening or escalate? We will explore our theoretical arguments and conclude by outlining future directions for theoretical and empirical work.

### 231. Atrocity Crimes: Challenges, Approaches and Impacts of Transitional Justice (ECACTJ)

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Transitional Justice (Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.13

Chair:

**Barbora Holá**, The Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR) & Centre for International Criminal Justice, VU University Amsterdam

Participants:

A Scoping Review of Attitudes Towards and Impacts of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in Bosnia and Herzegovina: A Preliminary Results *Mirza Buljubašić, The Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR); Faculty of Criminal Justice, Criminology, and Security Studies, University of Sarajevo; Barbora Holá, The Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR) & Centre for International Criminal Justice, VU University Amsterdam; Margareta Blažević, NSCR; Linda Schoonmade, Medical Library, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*

The dissolution of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the early 1990s led to widespread atrocities, including massacres, rapes, and unlawful detentions. To address the issue of impunity and ensure justice for the perpetrators, the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) was established. While the ICTY has played a significant role in shaping international criminal law and promoting accountability, its legacy remains

complex and subject to debate. This presentation seeks to examine empirical research on local attitudes towards and local impacts of the ICTY in the former Yugoslavia. Specifically, it aims to answer the question: What does empirical research tell us about these attitudes and impacts? To achieve this objective, the presentation systematically reviews and synthesizes existing empirical research on the attitudes towards and impacts of the ICTY. By evaluating the methodologies and data sources used in these studies, this presentation also identifies gaps in the current knowledge base. The preliminary results reveal that individuals and local communities in war-affected countries exhibit various attitudes towards the ICTY, influenced by factors such as traumatic experiences, and ethnicity. These attitudes also encompass various ICTY aspects such as legitimacy, and morality. The measurable changes on the ground in former Yugoslavia, resulting from the ICTY’s interventions, are closely tied to the successes and failures of the tribunal in achieving objectives: justice, peace, and historical truth. Based on the preliminary findings, it is evident that the ICTY’s impacts and local attitudes are multifaceted. The complexities of post-conflict peacebuilding and the pursuit of justice require careful consideration of the ICTY’s achievements and shortcomings. This presentation contributes to the understanding of the local perceptions towards and local impacts of the ICTY’s work and highlights the practical implications/concerns

Former perpetrators as agents of social change *Chiara Chisari, Alma Mater Studiorum - Bologna University*

In the aftermath of war and gross human rights violations, transitional justice is tasked with promoting interventions that foster social change and reconciliation. To achieve this goal, there is a growing consensus on the crucial role of involving populations affected by conflicts. However, while literature and practices often emphasize the importance of engaging victims in transitions, less attention is given to the participation of former perpetrators. This presentation advocates for a more inclusive approach to transitional justice, emphasizing the need for an active involvement of those responsible for large-scale acts of violence in its programs. This is not only to ensure the effective reintegration of ex-combatants into post-conflict societies but, more importantly, because they can make substantial contributions to the realization of positive peace. This claim is supported by evidence from a qualitative study on the Italian “dissociation movement” (movimento della dissociazione), which gathered former terrorists in the 1980s for a pacification effort. Overall, the findings suggest that former perpetrators can serve as valuable resources in transitional justice initiatives as agents of social change.

Rescuers Muted: Gendered Components of Silencing Rescuers During Commemoration Events of the 1994 Genocide in Rwanda *Anneliese Schenk-Day, Ohio State University; Hollie Nyseth Nzitatira, The Ohio State University; Nicole Fox, California State University Sacramento*

In the thirty-year period since the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, the country has grappled with how to unify its citizens, prevent reprisal waves of violence, and promote forgiveness, with the goal of rebuilding the state. One of the solutions Rwanda has created to help solve these problems is to develop and propagate a unique national collective memory of the genocide. A major component of Rwanda’s state-led collective memory comes from annual commemoration ceremonies in which communities come together to hear governmentally sanctioned accounts of the genocide from people who survived, rescued, and perpetrated. Prior research has shown that survivors’ accounts at commemorations and memorials center around cohesive narratives that fit neatly within the governments account of the genocide. This criteria for whose narrative is shared has led to concerns about if narratives of certain groups, such as people who rescued or women, are being omitted. This research examines whose stories have not been told, with an emphasis on gender and on those who risked their lives to save others during the genocide. In total, 175 in-depth qualitative interviews (Male=113, Female=62) were conducted from 2018 to 2020 with individuals who rescued during the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. Within these interviews, fifty individuals expressed having never shared their experiences of the genocide at commemoration. Over half of those individuals were women (N=27). Common reasoning given by these women for having not



shared their story included their husbands always being asked to testify instead of them, having never been asked to testify, and heightened emotional states surrounding the commemoration. These findings point towards the silencing of women's narratives, resulting in their exclusion from Rwanda's collective memory of the genocide.

**Towards Transformative Guarantees of Non-Recurrence After Mass Atrocities: At the Nexus of Justice, Peace and Social Repair** *Nikhil Narayan, Queen's University Belfast School of Law*

Last year, 2023, marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Criminal Court, the crowning achievement of a post-World War II justice cascade that engendered two parallel fields of international criminal law and transitional justice. Today, the promise of this landmark development a quarter-century ago, a new world order in which societies never again endure the atrocities of war and mass violence, has yet to materialize. Conflicts and atrocities, from Ukraine to Gaza to Myanmar, continue unabated. One reason is States' failure to tackle structural root causes of conflict – that is, those measures that transitional justice frames as guarantees of non-recurrence. Standing at the crossroads of transitional justice, international criminal law and peacebuilding, guarantees of non-recurrence are essential for genuine justice, peace and reconciliation. There is growing consensus amongst critical scholars that international law should refocus attention on this forward-looking prevention dimension. Yet, in practice, transitional justice reforms remain narrowly focused on backward-looking justice for direct harms by formal State justice and security institutions. By ignoring the complex power asymmetries embedded in informal institutions, transitional justice falls short of dismantling structures of historical injustice and inequality, instead reinforcing status quos that perpetuate systemic violence and criminality. This paper critically explores the extent to which guarantees of non-recurrence in transitional justice can more effectively advance social and political transformation and thus achieve a more comprehensive and equitable justice. Bringing together an interdisciplinary empirical study that draws on field interviews with victims and survivors of the Sri Lanka conflict, the paper explores how a core but under-scrutinized pillar of transitional justice can be contextualized in contemporary transitioning societies in Europe and beyond that are grappling with their own legacies of conflict and mass atrocity. Articulating a thicker version of justice, the paper ultimately presents a conceptual reimagining of more transformative guarantees of non-recurrence.

**232. Criminal Law Making Policy WG Panel 1. Criminal Policy Trends from a macro perspective**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Criminal Policy, Criminalization, Policy of Criminal Sanctions (Criminal Law Making Policy WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.17*

Chair:

**Roan Verwerft**, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Participants:

Continuity and change in the Spanish penal system in the 21st Century *Javier Guardiola-García, University of Valencia (Spain)*

The Spanish penal system has experienced, with the 21st century, an outstanding growth (quadrupling the number of convictions); but also important transformations, in the crimes -criminalisation of conducts traditionally excluded from the penal system, as is the case of domestic and gender violence and crimes against road safety (which went from being statistically residual to explaining up to 44% of criminal convictions)- and in the sanctions -implementation of community sentences (especially community work; experiments with discontinuous imprisonment or home confinement have had little impact) and a remarkable expansion of financial penalties. But all this without abandoning the punishment of 'classic' types of crime -property crime, surpassed only briefly by traffic offences, was and is the modal category- or renouncing imprisonment -which

in absolute figures grew during the first decade of the century and has stabilised since, but without collapsing-. And by highlighting the importance of symbolic and moralising norms, often in tension with the principles of liberal criminal law (the right not to testify against oneself, proportionality...). In these terms, it would be seriously misleading to believe that 'everything remains the same'; but also misleading to assume that 'nothing has changed'. This contribution explores the extent to which it is feasible to define subsystems of continuity and change in order to better understand the apparent contradictions of this phenomenon.

**Crimes with administrative prejudicial effect: new massive trend in Russian criminal policy** *Ekaterina Khodzhaeva, European University at Saint Petersburg*

Current political repressions in Russia are carried out via specific types of crime: some repeated administrative offences were criminalised and people are treated by criminal courts due at least the second case of the misconduct. The famous crime of this type but still not so numerous is "Dadin codex" (art. 212.1 of Criminal code). It came into operation in 2014 but firstly enforced only in 2019 against Ildar Dadin who was convicted in repeated violation of the procedure of public protest. A newly introduced in 2022 crimes related Ukrainian War (repeated discredit of Russian army, art. 280.3 and repeated claims for sanctions against Russia, art. 284.2) have also administrative prejudicial effect. They are more enforced than "Dadin codex", but still are not so numerous. The most popular crime is repeated drunk driving being criminalised since 2015 (art. 264.1): about 60000 of accusations per year. The second numerous crime is repeated non-payments of alimony (art. 157): there are about 50000 accusations per year. Taking together, 15% of all prosecuted offenders in Russia are people who are accused for crimes with administrative prejudicing, and their share has been steadily growing over the last few years. The paper will discuss this new trend that rose a wide way for law enforcement agencies to improve clear-up rate. If a person has been rendered guilty of an administrative violation more than two times during 12 or 18 months, the investigative organ very quickly (and for some crimes even automatically) opens the criminal case. Such criminal cases are prosecuted successfully in the courts because previous administrative sanction is the ultimate evidence. Moreover, such offences contradict (but not discussed) the basic law doctrine that states that a person cannot be convicted twice for the same offence.

**Legislation Introducing Imprisonment Sanction in 2005-2015 Poland: Legislative Inflation and its Impact on Sentencing** *Kamil Jonski, SGH Warsaw School of Economics; Joanna Klimczak, Institute of Justice, Poland*

Paper examines the growth of legal provisions establishing criminal sanction of imprisonment in contemporary Poland. In governance literature, the phenomenon of growing: number and volume of legal acts/provisions is referred to as "legislative inflation". In criminology, "overcriminalization" refers to legislation excessively proclaiming specific conduct illegal (defining and penalizing "new crimes"). The timespan of research (2005-2015) was defined by (i) Polish EU accession in May 2004 and (ii) Polish "rule of law crisis" in Dec 2015. Thereby, the goal was to examine period of "ordinary" criminal policy and lawmaking – as opposed to populist-authoritarian one. Research involved three stages. First involved "mapping" of the legal provisions establishing crimes with imprisonment sanctions in (i) codes (Penal Code of 1997 and Fiscal Penal Code of 1999) and (ii) other pieces of statutory legislation ("laws"). To this end Semi-Automated Data Labelling approach was employed to the "stock of law" (i.e. all laws in force at a given point of time) on Jan 1st 2005 (N=784) and 2015 (N=1139). Beyond the abovementioned codes, provisions introducing crimes with imprisonment sanctions were identified in 92 (2005) and 112 (2015) laws. Of them, 68 laws remained in force over the examined decade, and 21 "old" laws had been replaced with 16 new ones (that also contained crimes with imprisonment sanctions). Three laws containing crimes with imprisonment sanctions were repealed, while in 10 laws such provisions were added. On top of that, 18 brand-new laws containing such provisions were passed during 2005-2015 period. Second stage looked at "policy formulation" and "lawmaking" aspects of identified changes (i.e. who prepared draft law introducing crimes with imprisonment sanctions, what arguments had been developed to advocate such change and which

parliamentary majority legislated it). Third stage took “law in action” perspective and examined number of people sentenced for committing crimes introduced in abovementioned laws.

**Comparison of South American Criminal Justice Systems: A Critical Assessment** *Bertha Prado-Manrique, Universidad de Málaga*

The comparison of criminal justice systems has proven to be relevant for understanding their characteristics, dynamics, and practices. This knowledge provides an overview of the various aspects of criminal law, the effects of its application, and the institutions that exist in each penal system and where they come from. Information on the experience of other penal systems in preventing crime leads to reflection on one's own situation and can help to formulate hypotheses or proposals for improvement in other contexts. One of the strategies for contrasting penal systems is based on comparative criteria, such as those proposed by the social inclusion-exclusion dimension (Díez Ripollés, 2011), which has been implemented from the socially exclusive approach through the application of the RIMES instrument in jurisdictions in the global North (García-España & Cerezo, 2023). This paper aims to critically evaluate the results and limitations of the exploratory application of RIMES in four South American penal systems: Chilean, Peruvian, Colombian and Argentinian.

**How does crime control policy travel? Insights from the Narrative Policy Framework** *Roan Verwerft, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Kristof Verfaillie, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

Over the past 25 years, criminologists have begun to focus more explicitly on policy travel, recognizing its significance in shaping legal and institutional practices across different contexts. While this body of scholarship has shed light on some of the complexities of policy travel, persistent questions remain about the mechanisms through which transfer occurs (Jones & Newburn, 2021). In this paper, we argue that the Narrative Policy Framework (NPF) might provide a useful perspective on the diffusion and adoption of policy arrangements. NPF is a theory of the policy process that essentially points to the importance of narratives in shaping policy outcomes. We present key findings from NPF research and focus specifically on recent debates about causal mechanisms. NPF suggests that narrative persuasion and narrative attention play a crucial role in processes of policy travel.

**233. Routledge Handbook on European Penology - I. Scientific developments**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Penology and Theories Punishment (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.18

This Routledge Handbook, which is currently being prepared, aims at offering an overview of the current state of the art and of cutting-edge penological research in Europe, covering all the regions in Europe, and including research that may hitherto not have been published in English. In this first panel we discuss some specific theoretical approaches; the importance of comparative penological research; and methodological developments.

Chair:

**Sonja Snacken**, Free University of Brussels

Participants:

Penal abolitionism *René van Swaaningen, Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands*

Penal abolitionism refers to a criminological perspective that dismisses penal definitions and punitive responses to criminalised problems, and proposes their replacement by dispute settlement, redress, and social justice. This paper focuses on the last stages of this movement: the zemiological perspective, that focuses on reducing ‘social harm’; and the new wave of activist abolitionism focusing on racial violence and gendered stereotyping by the police and within the prison systems.

Risk Penology *Klara Kerezsi, Ludovika University of Public Service, Hungary; Veronika Nagy, Utrecht University*

Risk penology emphasizes prevention through targeted interventions tailored to address the specific risk factors associated

with an individual's likelihood of reoffending. This might involve providing rehabilitation programs, mental health support, education, or employment opportunities to address the root causes of criminal behaviour and promote desistance. But what is the price of this, especially with regard to proportionality, transparency, and equal treatment of suspected groups?

**Penal changes and political economy** *Ignacio González Sanchez, University of Girona; Jose A. Brandariz, University of A Coruna*

The way penal changes have been explained in Europe has been strongly influenced by the academic production around the US, by way of a constitutive other. This presentation considers the possibility of an existing European model (with differences between countries). In doing so, attention is paid to the political economy of punishment - a theoretical approach that originated in Europe -, and the important works of Cavadino and Dignan, Lacey and Lappi-Seppälä are explored. These series of empirical studies, developed during the last two decades, have sought to overcome some of the usual limitations in comparative penology, broadening the indicators studied and challenging some reductionist notions from the classical political economy of punishment. Beyond some similarities, they stress differences between regions of Europe. Attention is also paid to the debate on Nordic exceptionalism, which encapsulates some of the debates around a possible European distinctive model of punishment. It concludes by examining some limitations and pointing out some proposals for future research.

**European Recidivism Statistics** *Eric Maes, INCC - Institut National de Criminologie et de Criminologie; Luc Robert, INCC - Institut National de Criminologie et de Criminologie*

The starting point for this chapter comes from one of the leading European criminologists, Catrien Bijleveld, whose question – ‘do we actually have European data?’ - is taken on with a particular focus on criminal recidivism: ‘do we actually have European recidivism statistics?’ After a discussion about the concept of recidivism, the chapter mentions several European initiatives that have set out to produce statistics on crime and justice, so far without recidivism. Also, comparisons of criminal recidivism have proven to be very challenging, with international comparisons quickly running the risk to compare apples to oranges. As shown by the results of a 2005 survey across European countries (Wartna & Nijssen, 2006), not all countries produce national recidivism statistics. In the last part of this chapter, the first results are published of a survey sent out in 2023 to member states of the Council of Europe. The situation has changed for the better over the last two decades; most of the countries now have national recidivism statistics. Furthermore, at the time of writing, one European initiative – the European Sourcebook on Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics - has begun to gather recidivism statistics among all the member states of the Council of Europe.

**The challenges of doing comparative research on European Penology through quantitative methods** *Marcelo F. Aebi, University of Lausanne; Edoardo Cocco, University of Lausanne; Yuji Z. Hashimoto, University of Lausanne*

This entry examines the methodological challenges of conducting comparative research using criminal justice data and suggests strategies for conducting meaningful cross-national comparisons of penal statistics. Comparing prison and probation statistics is instrumental in providing context to the growing volume of international data on custodial and non-custodial sanctions and measures. For instance, establishing whether a country has high or low rates of imprisonment or probation requires either analysing long-term national trends or comparing countries with each other. Although there has been considerable progress in gathering data at the European level on imprisonment and its alternatives, several obstacles to comparability remain. These obstacles include discrepancies in the definitions and implementations of custodial and non-custodial sanctions and measures, statistical counting rules, and the frameworks of criminal justice systems across countries. Addressing these challenges requires collecting comprehensive metadata on penal statistics, standardizing definitions and data collection methods, and promoting international cooperation among both academic and non-academic experts on criminal justice statistics.

### 234. State and Political Crime

Topic 2: Types of Offending/State and Political Crime

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.06

Chair:

**Louise Victoria Johansen**, University of Copenhagen

Participants:

Criminological picture of the crime espionage in Poland *Piotr Chlebowicz, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn*

The scientific issue of espionage remains on the sidelines of criminology and criminal law. The geopolitical situation in Eastern Europe due to the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine poses a serious threat to the countries of NATO's eastern flank, including Poland. It therefore seems that the importance of the issue of crime against the state is increasing. A paper attempting to provide insight into some criminological aspects of espionage based on espionage cases detected in Poland.

Identifying Cross-National Predictors of State-Sponsored Violence *Janet Stamatel, University of Kentucky*

Cross-national analyses of state-sponsored violence have focused primarily on terrorism or political repression, with much less attention paid to the breadth of activities that constitute state violence. Using quantitative data from a number of sources, including the World Health Organization, CIRIGHTS, Global Assassination Monitor, Varieties of Democracy, and the United Nations, our research contributes to cross-national comparisons of state violence in three ways. First, we aim to describe the geographic distributions of under-researched state crimes, including assassination, extrajudicial killings, disappearances, torture, police violence against civilians, and political imprisonment. Next, we test the extent to which established predictors of interpersonal violence derived from criminological theories can explain cross-national variations in state violence. Finally, we demonstrate how economic and political factors that are largely overlooked by criminologists, such as state capitalism, praetorianism, corporate-state relationships, and elite governance, are necessary to understand the prevalence and manifestations of state-sponsored violence.

Ghetto legislation as state violence – an analysis of Danish policies criminalising vulnerable housing areas *Louise Victoria Johansen, University of Copenhagen*

This paper discusses the implementation of laws targeted at vulnerable housing areas in Denmark. Since 2010, successive governments have had a publicly formulated policy of introducing measures for socially disadvantaged neighbourhoods, which these governments have also consistently called 'ghettos'. A so-called 'ghetto list' of these areas is published annually. Several 'ghetto packages' have been adopted during this period (2010 and 2018), which have introduced shifting terminologies and criteria for when an area is a ghetto. In the Danish government's whitepaper 2018, a ghetto area is defined as a public housing area with at least 1,000 residents, where the proportion of immigrants and descendants from non-Western countries exceeds 50 per cent, coupled with other criteria. Increasingly intrusive measures have been adopted to reduce the number of ghetto areas, and to increase 'integration', including forced movement, double penalty for a range of crimes within the ghetto zone, forced public day care for children from the age of one, just to mention a few. Combining the concepts state and legal violence, I analyse how Danish ghetto laws function as the manifestation of an explicit, symbolic politics of exclusion, and at the same time as objectivised, neutral legislation. As state violence, they operate at a discursive and symbolic level through state-mandated exclusionary policies and practices against migrants, signalling a hierarchy of social worth. The implementation of ghetto laws, for its part, puts into practice structural inequalities and discrimination. This lens allows us to capture the effects of law by focusing on different kinds of economic, psychological and social harm, such as loss of income, displacement, anxiety and diminished self-esteem; and social stigmatisation, exclusion, and imprisonment.

### 235. Critical Perspectives on Policing and Criminalisation

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Critical Criminology

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.07

Chair:

**Valentina Dinu-Stăncescu**, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest

Participants:

Beyond Communities and Securitarianism: Plural Security in Central Italy *Antonino Azzarà, University of Roma Tre; Vincenzo Scalia, Università di Firenze*

Drawing on urban security research in central Italy, we develop the theoretical foundations for overcoming the military and centralised policing models typical of continental states. The data collected by the researchers show how in Umbria effective crime, both micro and macro, has recorded a decline in recent years, on the other hand the public continues to represent itself and to represent the reality it lives in as problematic and dangerous, which would need to be addressed through the implementation of repressive interventions, i.e. based on the combination of law and order, to be implemented to the detriment of the most marginal social groups and individuals. It is possible to elaborate an alternative solution, consisting in the attempt to articulate, as has been attempted in Umbria, a plural security. Rather than leaving the solution of security issues to the police alone, it is a matter of trying to introduce, also in Italy, a plural security model, which follows the community policing model implemented in Anglo-Saxon contexts. Starting from the assumption that policing does not only refer to the action of the forces of order, but to the definition of public order practices through the involvement of citizens, a plurality of actors are involved in the elaboration of shared strategies: scholars, associations, volunteers, ordinary citizens, social services, are called upon to make the effort to develop and implement a local security policy that meets the expectations of all actors, including victims, for whom a compensation program is envisaged, and migrants, a in favor of which integration projects are launched.

Plural policing strategies in combating the illicit trade in cultural objects in Latin America *Naomi Oosterman, Erasmus University Rotterdam*

This presentation discusses plural policing efforts, the phenomenon of blurring boundaries between public, private, and community actors, in combating the illicit trade in cultural objects in Latin America. Recent decades have shown steady trafficking activities from this region, with far-reaching consequences for local communities and ecologies. The presentation focuses on three-interrelated levels: 1) the intraregional networks of policing, 2) the influence of policing agents on the regulation of illicit trade crimes, and 3) the blurring boundaries between these policing agents. This research departs from the supposition that the trade in cultural objects follows an origin-transit-destination structure, where origin countries are those rich in heritage (objects), such as in Latin America, and destination countries are exemplified by market countries and regions, like those in North America and Europe. Although market countries have increased formalised public policing efforts dedicated to heritage crimes, source countries often seem to lack dedicated law enforcement, relying on ad hoc plural policing structures. Theoretically, this project brings together perspectives from the fields of policing, colonialism, and critical heritage studies.

Artificial Intelligence, Disinformation, Lethal Violence, and the Limits of Criminal Justice *Wendy O'Brien, Adjunct Associate Professor, Deakin University*

The Internet is not what it once was. Early dreams of the Internet as a neutral and affordable tool for freedom of expression, increased civic participation, and democratisation, have given way to disinformation, deepfakes, hate speech, and echo chambers that exclude, vilify, or denounce the views of all who ask questions or dare suggest a scientific or human rights-based approach. The velocity of the latest AI developments sparks concerns about the ways in which the affordances of the digital ecosystem curate and promote specific flows of information to incentivise discord, to

deride or obfuscate diverse views, and to forestall avenues for the scientific verification of facts. This paper examines cases of lethal violence that turn on dis/misinformation. Tracing the social, cultural, and technological characteristics that permit criminogenic echo chambers, the paper identifies risks to the effective functioning of rule of law institutions. The paper concludes with suggestions for legal and public policy initiatives in prevention and response. In so doing, the paper highlights the need to avoid reductive or determinist assumptions that position technology as the singular or inexorable problem and, instead, do the much more difficult work of coming to grips with the issues of social division and structural violence that manifest as rhetorical and physical harm in both the online and offline worlds.

Some considerations about the effectiveness of criminalizing the failure to take the appropriate legal measures of health and safety at work or to comply with them *Valentina Dinu-Stăncescu, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest*

In Romania, there are two criminal offences regulated in relation with work accidents, namely (i) failure to take the legal health and safety measures at work, regulated within art. 349 of the Criminal Code and (ii) non-compliance with the legal measures of health and safety at work, set forth by art. 350 of the Criminal Code. We will analyze in this study what is the meaning of the concept of legal health and safety measures at work and by whom these must be taken and observed. At the same time, we will consider the impact that the criminalization of these behaviours has on employers, considering that an administrative offence is as well regulated in this field.

### 236. Social media and crime

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Social Media and Crime

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.10*

Chair:

*Ashly Fuller, University College London*

Participants:

Constructing a New Crime for Cannabis Use in Japan: Focusing on the Relationship between the Media Coverage and Criminalization *Midori Yoshida, Chuo University (Graduate School of Law)*

In Japan, a bill was passed to legalize the use of cannabis-derived medicines while criminalizing other self-use of cannabis. As a result of the reform, cannabis is categorized as a "Narcotic" under the "Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances Control Act," and its self-use and possession will be prohibited and punished under the Act. Cannabis has been controlled by the Cannabis Control Act. Since there was no law to punish self-use of cannabis under Japan's Cannabis Control Act, and only possession was considered as a crime, this means that a new crime is being constructed. This paper focuses on media coverage of the process leading up to the construction of the new crime. Before the discussion of criminalization began, the increase in statistics on the number of arrests for violations of the Cannabis Control Act was reported, and the media emphasized the spread of cannabis among young people. Thus, cannabis use by young people became a "social problem". Even after the discussion began, arrests of students and celebrities for possession of cannabis were widely reported. I would like to explore the relationship between the construction of the new crime and its media coverage.

"People are so used to seeing it that it doesn't really bother them"

Illicit Drug Advertisements on Social Media: A Study of UK Secondary Students *Ashly Fuller, University College London*

The sale and advertisement of illicit drugs on social media is a rapidly evolving landscape. Evidence points to new drug types, novel advertising strategies, and shifts in platform usage among young people. Understanding how young people's motivations and purchasing strategies relate to their risk perceptions and reporting behaviours remains limited despite existing studies. We conduct a large-scale national online survey of UK students aged 13 to 18 (N=1014). Our objective is to explore the link between exposure to illicit drug ads and young people's attitudes and behaviours

regarding drug use. Preliminary results show that 63% of participants encountered drug-related content on social media, with 32% acknowledging seeing illegal drugs advertised for sale. Additionally, 83% of drug ads were encountered without active search efforts. Further, 89% of young people had never reported illicit drug content on social media. The main reasons for not doing so were "I can't be bothered" and "I don't believe it would make a difference." To address reporting barriers, we conduct an experiment embedded within our survey to identify effective messages to encourage reporting. Our research seeks to inform content moderation processes and promote user reporting while evaluating proactive detection techniques. Identifying effective reporting messages is crucial for future crime prevention efforts. Our work has been disseminated directly to social media platforms and Ofcom, the UK regulatory entity, to contribute towards the UK's Online Safety Act.

### 237. Quantitative Methods WG Panel 1: Innovative Measurement and Data Utilization in Criminology

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Quantitative Methods (Quantitative Methods WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14*

Chair:

*Witold Klaus, Institute of Law Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences*

Participants:

Polyvictimization: Optimal Measurement Strategies and Meta-Analytic Predictors *Ferhat Tura, Bournemouth University; David Buil-Gil, The University of Manchester; Oluwole Adeniyi, Nottingham Trent University*

Victimization is concentrated among few individuals, commonly referred to as polyvictims. Yet, there exists a lack of consensus regarding the operationalization of polyvictimization. This study investigates the impact of using different measures of polyvictimization on the identification of polyvictims and outcomes of regression models. Operationalizations used in this research are meta-analyzed using the 2019/20 Crime Survey for England and Wales. Results show that while calculating the top 10% of respondents with more victimizations as polyvictimized and applying logistic regression may lead to false positives, the preferred approaches to analyze polyvictimization are either selecting respondents who suffered multiple victimizations and applying bivariate probit regression, or calculating numbers of victimizations and applying negative binomial regression. Mental health conditions are the strongest correlate of polyvictimization.

Crime Harm Indexes – a critical assessment *Lars Holmberg, University of Copenhagen*

In 2016, Sherman et al. suggested the construction of a Crime Harm Index (CHI) based on sentencing data or on the recommended sentence length for each type of crime included in the index. Such indexes would provide a more reliable measure of the harm caused by crime than the simple crime counts that form the basis of the usual crime statistics. Since then, CHIs have been adopted in several countries including Australia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Sweden, and in different jurisdictions in the US. CHI data have been used to guide police resource management and in evaluations of different kinds of police methods. In general, the scientific literature concerning CHIs is mostly positive, and the few critics are mainly concerned about the usefulness of specific versions of CHIs, e.g. in Sweden. The present paper discusses some more fundamental questions concerning CHIs: Can such indexes be used to compare harm across crime categories, across places, and over time, as claimed by their proponents? Do the indexes actually measure harm? And if not, what is really measured?

Detail examination of court files as a source of criminological research data *Witold Klaus, Institute of Law Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences*

One of the important research methods in Polish criminological research is an examination of criminal court files. It was applied for the first time in the 1930s and further developed and improved from

the 1960s onwards. It remains an important method in the current Polish research due to the well-established contacts with courts who share their files with researchers. That type of research is not common in other countries though, with only some exceptions. It is also sometimes criticised since findings are based on highly biased information collected by courts and aimed for different purposes than research. However statistical data obtained from different public sources, including the criminal justice system, are widely used by most scholars in their analyses. In the paper, I would like to analyse this research method and elaborate on when and how it can be used in criminological research. I would argue that although such material should be analysed critically, court files gather a unique set of information and a lot could be extracted from this source and further analysed qualitatively or quantitatively. Those data could tell us more about the characteristics of people standing before the court and charged with a criminal offence, the act they committed (or are charged for committing), and the formal reaction of the criminal justice system to such offences and such offenders.

The development of internationally comparable statistics on re-offending estimates in Ireland *Felix Coleman, Central Statistics Office, Ireland*

Until recently, methods of measuring re-offending in Ireland focused on calculating a rate of re-offending for a specific population. For example, the most recent prison re-offending publication published on the CSO website in July 2023 indicates that in 2020, 61% of persons released from custody during 2020 re-offended within three years of being released. This traditional method of calculating re-offending indicators presents several limitations to users. Limitations • The poor timeliness of the published estimates has a limiting effect on their quality. This is currently due to the need to allow long periods of time after the relevant justice sanction to elapse so that the re-offending or desistance behaviors of individuals can be measured (e.g., re-offending within 3 years following release). • A lack of comparability in methodology between re-offending populations serving different sanction types such as probation, custodial sentences, fines, formal warnings, and different combinations of these sanction types. • A lack of coherent international comparisons in re-offending. Existing re-offending estimates in Ireland rely on specific characteristics that only exist in the Irish justice ecosystem and are not defined in the same way by other countries where comparison would be valuable. Solutions This submission will present re-offending statistics for Ireland that have been developed as an alternative and complimentary re-offending indicator for Ireland's existing re-offending publications. These statistics provide. • A more contemporary indicator of re-offending rates (2022) • An opportunity to develop internationally comparable estimates of re-offending. • Better national comparisons of the effectiveness that different types of justice sanctions have on increasing desistance and re-offending. 1. <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-pros/prisonre-offendingstatistics2020/keyfindings/>

Using administrative data to evaluate Action for Children's Serious Organised Crime Early Intervention Service and a Quasi-Experimental Design *Verity Bennett, Cardiff University; Nina Maxwell, Cardiff University; Zoe Bezeczyk, Cardiff University; Megan Nightingale, Cardiff University; Jonathan Ablitt, Cardiff University*

Referrals for child criminal exploitation are growing in the UK, as young people (YP) are targeted and involved in serious organised crime (SOC). Action for Children's Serious Organised Crime Early Intervention Service (SOCEIS) aims to tackle this problem via intensive 1:1 support for children and families, peer mentors and group work. We investigated the feasibility of evaluating SOCEIS in four UK cities between June 2020-January 2023, using police administrative data (offending and missing episodes), via quasi-experimental design. SOCEIS participants were matched to YP in neighbouring cities without SOCEIS. Number of arrests and missing episodes in a 12-month period before and after referral to the service were compared between groups using difference-in-difference. A high percentage (>80%) of SOCEIS participants were identified in police records for three cities, yet in one city only 52% were identified. Comparison data were available for three cities. For YP identified in police data, percentage arrested prior to SOCEIS

referral varied from 55%-96%. Across all four cities >80% of YP with a pre-referral arrest record, had been arrested more than once. Over 50% of SOCEIS YP identified in police records had a history of being reported missing prior to referral, and of these, 63%-77% YP had gone missing more than once. Sample size following matching was small, only 25-33% (n=11 to 14) included in difference-in-difference analysis, which did not produce statistically significant results. Nonetheless, findings are tentatively encouraging, in that a comparison of number of arrests episodes in the 12-months post referral to SOCEIS were lower than for the 12-months prior to referral across three cities. Extension of recruitment and follow-up periods would improve sample size, providing insight into longer term impact of SOCEIS. Coordinated classification of YP deemed at risk of SOC in intervention and comparison localities would substantially improve confidence in matching individuals between groups.

### 238. "Navigating Cyber Challenges: Adolescent Online Victimization and Its Implications"

Topic 4: Victimology/Patterns and trends in Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.20

Chair:

*Thomas Hestermann, Macromedia University, Hamburg*

Participants:

Exploring adolescents online victimization in relation to parent-child interactions *Dorit Olenik-Shemesh, The Open University of Israel; Tali Heiman, The Open University*

The digital world nowadays exposes children and youth to a wealth of information, so that parents often find themselves navigating a delicate balance between granting online freedom and ensuring children's safety. Youth Online victimization has become a noteworthy challenge and a main topic of modern parenting. At the core of this issue is the complex interplay between the nature of parent-child dynamics and the likelihood of youth to experience online victimization. The current study have explored adolescents' online victimization in relation to key characteristic of parent-child interactions: Parental involvement, parental control and parent-child relationships. The sample included 3,306 adolescents (aged 10-17) who fulfilled questionnaires regarding the examined variables. Using Generalized Estimating Equations (GEE) analyses, it was found that parents' control and parents-child relationship were relatively high, while parents' involvement in students' internet use was moderate. High levels of parental involvement were associated with a high level of online-victimization. High levels of parental involvement were also associated with student's efforts to prevent and stop the harm of the victimization, both individually, for themselves, and for other online victims. Students with stronger relationship with their parents were less involved in cyberbullying episodes as victims. Furthermore, high levels of parental control were associated with students' lower social skills and ways of coping with online risks and online victimization. Yet, strong relationships between students and their parents were related to high levels of awareness and knowledge regarding victimization on the Internet. Results are reported from the adolescents' point of view and discussed in the context of developing intervention programs for parents to cope with their children online victimization. The challenge lies in balancing the need for protection with respecting youths' autonomy and privacy online

Exploring Victimization, Perpetration, and Reporting Experiences in Video Game Communities: Development of a Spanish Survey and Preliminary Findings *Esther Nanclares González, University Miguel Hernández of Elche; Pablo Romero-Seseña, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche*

Within the "GamerVictim Project," our research aims to uncover the factors influencing individuals' vulnerability to crimes and toxic behaviors in the virtual communities surrounding video games. From hate speech to harassment, sexual misconduct, and/or identity theft, we recognize the myriad of challenges within gaming environments. To address these, we've conducted an extensive literature review and developed an ad-hoc tailored survey for the

purpose of this project. This survey, the first of its kind in Spain, aims to quantify the prevalence of victimization and understand users' experiences with reporting and content moderation processes provided by the platforms or moderators responsible for each content. By collecting quantitative data, we seek to shed light on the scope of these issues and identify areas for improvement regarding the victimization experiences that participants and users of those communities might suffer. Our presentation will outline the survey's construction, and also share some preliminary findings, emphasizing trends in victimization and reporting. Ultimately, our survey highlights the need for a collaborative action among industry, regulators, and society, in order to create safer online gaming spaces, therefore promoting a digital environment that is secure and healthy for its potential users.

**Instakids in Danger: How Child Sex Offenders Find Children's Images on Social Media** *Thomas Hestermann, Macromedia University, Hamburg*

Social media platforms have become a treasure trove for child sex offenders. Parents themselves are often unwittingly contributing by sharing nude photos of their children. The term "sharenting" describes the practice of numerous parents sharing images of their children on social media platforms, often without realizing the risks associated with it. These images, intended to showcase parental pride or seek advice, create a vast repository from which child sex offenders draw material. The use of hashtags facilitates the easy access and dissemination of inappropriate content. Our analyses show that, for example, when searching for photos of small children's butts, children in underwear, or children using the toilet with the corresponding hashtags, tens of thousands of posts are discovered. For a precise understanding, we analyzed 1000 Instagram posts on 20 hashtags that were recognized as risky. These posts contain full-body photos of a total of 810 children, 28.9 percent of whom are completely unclothed. Despite recommendations from law enforcement agencies and non-governmental organizations, parents often exhibit careless behavior online, with a substantial proportion sharing not only images but also their addresses on social media platforms. Alarmingly, our analysis of Instagram profiles shows that a considerable number of parents provide detailed location information, inadvertently facilitating potential dangers to their children: Every sixth Instagram profile with children's pictures we analyzed (16.3 percent) lists an address, e.g. home address or place of work of a parent. 45.0 percent name their place of residence. These findings underline that social media's protection against child sexual abuse is inadequate. Efforts to raise awareness and promote responsible online behavior among both parents and children are imperative to mitigate these dangers and ensure the protection of vulnerable individuals in digital spaces.

**239. Homicide in Europe**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Homicide and Violent Crime (Homicide Research WG and European Violence Monitor WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22*

This panel is organized by the European Homicide Research Group and regroups homicide research from different European countries. Overall trends and different types of homicides are presented and discussed.

Chair:

*Nora Markwalder, University of St. Gallen*

Participants:

Homicide in Denmark 2017-2021: Contemporary patterns and most prevalent types of homicide *Signe Bechmann Hansen, The Danish Ministry of Justice; Mikkel Møller Okholm, The Danish Ministry of Justice*

Like Western Europe in general, Denmark has experienced a large decline in the homicide rate from 1,5 annual homicides per 100.000 population in the early 1990s to a low of 0,5 in 2012. However, since then the decline seems to have halted and the composition of homicide in Denmark as regards to homicide types has changed over time. Whereas domestic homicides accounted for 44 pct. of all homicides between 1992 and 2016, the share declined to 36 pct. between 2017 and 2021. Conversely, homicides in the criminal

milieu (gangs, organized crime etc.) account for a larger share of the total number of homicides compared to previous periods. Drawing on detailed information on all homicides committed in Denmark between 2017 and 2021, this study examines contemporary homicide patterns in Denmark while comparing the results to other European countries. The study investigates a range of characteristics regarding the homicides, the victims and the perpetrators. Furthermore, additional analyses are conducted regarding the two most common single types of homicide in Denmark: Intimate partner homicides and homicides in the criminal milieu.

**Firearm homicide: the Swiss case** *Simone Walser, University of St. Gallen; Nora Markwalder, University of St. Gallen; Martin Killias, University of St. Gallen*

In Switzerland, firearm homicides account for 30 % of all homicides. More than half of these firearm killings happen between intimate partners, and firearms are thus more often used in intimate partner homicides than in criminal milieu cases. Despite a tightening of gun laws in Switzerland in recent years, guns are still widespread in households due to military service and an extensive hunting and shooting tradition. Based on the latest data collection of the Swiss Homicide Monitor – a comprehensive database of homicides in Switzerland based on the methodology of the European Homicide Monitor – this presentation will focus on the distribution and development of firearm homicides and examine why the “Swiss paradox” – namely a high amount of firearm ownership and a low firearm homicide rate – is only partially true.

**Substance use patterns among young homicide offenders in Finland, 2002-2022** *Miisa Törölä, University of Helsinki; Maiju Tanskanen, University of Helsinki; Sofia Malinen, University of Helsinki; Anna Raeste, University of Helsinki; Karoliina Karjalainen, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare; Janne Kivivuori, University of Helsinki*

Recent research suggests that the substance abuse link in Finnish homicide may be moving from alcohol to drugs. We draw on the Finnish Homicide Monitor (FHM) to examine patterns of substance use in lethal violence involving young (aged 15 to 29) offenders in Finland in the period 2002–2022. We describe the use of various types of substances at the time of the offense, observe possible changes in substance link profile, and probe patterns by developing a data-driven classification of substance use patterns among homicide offenders, also in comparison to adult-perpetrated lethal violence. Due to the relative lack of prior research on the role of diverse types of substance use in Finnish homicides, the findings are of critical value in term of development of both crime prevention and drug harm reduction policies.

**The Story of My Adult Child. Qualitative analysis of the life stories of homicide victims and pathways to victimhood** *Iina Sahramäki, University of Helsinki*

The aspiration of this study is to enhance criminological knowledge on homicide through qualitative analysis of individual homicide cases. Further, it adds to the previous studies on homicide by providing unique view to the life of the victim through the eyes of the parent. Data consists of in-depth interviews with parents who shared the life stories of their children who had become victims of homicide when they were 18-29 years old. The biographical reconstructions of homicide victims life exposes the turning points and crossroads where the path to possible premature death was chosen. According to previous research, the same factors increase both the risk of using violence and the risk of becoming its victim. For instance, risk factors for violence are the early-appearing substance abuse problems, school difficulties, susceptibility to aggression and crimes, as well as mental health disorders. Qualitative analysis of life stories enhances our understanding on these risk factors and how the pathways leading to victimhood might be disrupted. Study is part of research project Out of Despair, which is funded by The Strategic Research Council (SRC) in the Academy of Finland.

**240. Novel approaches to community sanctions and sentencing**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Community Sanctions (Community Sanctions WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.04

Chair:

**Madeline Petrillo**, University of Greenwich

Participants:

Between care and control : community-based supervisor practices in a hybrid institution *sabrina bourget, Université Laval; Elsa Euvrard, Université Laval*

Community supervision measures are increasingly common in Quebec and elsewhere (Phelps, 2020). These measures are often hybrid in nature, combining control objectives and social reintegration objectives. In Quebec, community-based supervisor oversees application of these measures. While their function is traditionally associated with the care sector, the implementation of community supervision measures also involves them taking on control and monitoring functions. The aim of this presentation is to understand how community-based supervisor appropriate these different functions and apply them in their day-to-day practice. Based on individual interviews with community workers responsible for implementing community surveillance measures (N=20), the presentation will address these supervisors' perceptions of the concept of social reintegration and how these perceptions influence their day-to-day practices. From the perspective of the sociology of work and institutions, the presentation will offer an analysis of supervisors' perceptions to show how the penal and correctional systems produce forms of treatment of others that blend different, even opposing, intervention styles and relational modes within the same institution (Barel, 1979; Laforgue, 2009). The tensions that emerge from their work, between their perceptions and practices on the one hand, and the demands of the institution on the other, will be explored.

Building Hope: The possibility of trauma-informed architecture in a residential alternative to custody for women *Madeline Petrillo, University of Greenwich; Alexandra Fanghanel, Greenwich University*

Hope Street is a purpose-built residential community for women and children impacted by the criminal legal system. It represents a radical rethinking of how the justice system understands offending by women and their gendered experiences within its existing structures. Hope Street has been designed and built according to principles of trauma-informed practice. It is a space that intentionally attempts to use the built environment as a tool for supporting women to heal from some of the traumatic experiences common in their pathways to crime. Rather than tinkering with the existing system, Hope Street seeks to build something new, collaboratively with justice-involved women, that has the potential to offer a viable, effective alternative to custody for women. Our paper reports on the early stages of a post-occupancy evaluation of Hope Street. Using photovoice and emotion mapping activities, this research is exploring with the women living and staff working at Hope Street the extent it succeeds as a trauma-informed space.

Drug court in Norway - Perspectives from the Convicts. *Bjørn Kjetil Larsen, Molde University College*

Background: Drug courts were initially introduced as a pilot project in the two largest cities in Norway, Bergen and Oslo, in 2006. It was later expanded to become a nationwide response to crime and a permanent component of the Norwegian Correctional Service in 2016. By January 2024, there were 288 registered convicts in drug courts in Norway, representing a 36 percent increase from the year before. This study explores the backgrounds and experiences of these convicts in Norwegian drug courts, including their main challenges and perceptions of drug court as a form of punishment or rehabilitation. Aims: This study is the first of its kind in Norway and seeks to provide an in-depth understanding of the experiences of drug court convicts from various regions of the country. Theoretical framework: The study adopts the theory of wicked problems as its theoretical framework. This theory helps to comprehend the complexity of the life situations faced by individuals dealing with challenges in multiple areas, such as mental health issues, substance abuse, housing, and employment. Method: The study utilizes in-depth, semi-structured interviews with 15 prisoners currently participating in drug court programs.

Findings: The study will present preliminary findings and analysis based on the interviews conducted. Keywords: Drug court, convicts, substance abuse, Norway

Young Adults on Probation: Lessons from an Evaluation of a Specialist Youth to Adulthood Transitions Hub *Jenni Robyn Ward, Middlesex University; Karen Duke, Middlesex University; Andrew Fowler, Sheffield Hallam University*

Young adults (18-25-year olds) in the criminal justice system are receiving focused attention across a number of jurisdictions. This is due to their particular stage of life course development and developing 'maturity'. Existing arguments state young adults should be treated as a distinct group within the criminal justice system. In England and Wales there is a range of practice and growing evidence on what age and developmentally-appropriate service provision should comprise. This paper presents findings from a two-year Ministry of Justice funded evaluation of a specialist young adult probation hub pilot in Newham, East London. The Hub was designed as a co-located, multi-disciplinary teamworking model including probation practitioners and commissioned services such as mentoring, mental health and well-being and speech and language communication support. An initial consideration of the project was that by intervening early in the lives of young adults who offend through dedicated provision in the form of the hub model, opportunities to interrupt criminality might be realised. Qualitative interviews were carried out with 60 probation and commissioned services staff and 35 young adults under probation supervision over three fieldwork phases at the beginning, middle and end of the pilot. Through analysis of this longitudinal qualitative data we highlight the key features of this bespoke young adult probation service, the ways in which staff experienced working in this specialist service and the main benefits young adults derived from it. We will reflect on the ways in which we sought to ensure the voices of young adults were present in our findings. We will conclude by considering the implications for 'rolling out' a similar model in different geographic areas and what this means for improving young adult probation practice more broadly.

#### 241. Drugs across borders: international research on drug trafficking networks

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Drugs and Crime (European Drug Policies WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06

Chair:

**Jessica Noack**, Maastricht University

Participants:

Tough Decisions on Trafficking Nodes? Shifting Drug Routes between Colombia and Italy *Emilia Ziosi, University of Oxford; Zora Lea Hauser, University of Oxford; Annette Idler, University of Oxford*

Criminal groups involved in illicit cross-border trading activities rely on a series of strategically positioned trafficking nodes that connect the various steps of networked illicit supply chains to smuggle goods. But under what conditions is a locality chosen by these groups to serve this function? While external factors like geographical positioning and pre-existing infrastructures are crucial in determining the emergence and relocation of trafficking nodes along drug routes, key factors related to the criminal groups' ability to access to these strategic locations further influence their decision-making. Specifically, we posit that the presence of a contact person and perceived security at a specific locality influence criminal groups' decision-making processes when selecting a locality as strategic trafficking node. To substantiate our argument, we conduct a content analysis of confidential police reports on one of the most important operations to date against organised crime in Italy. We create a dataset from conversations among criminal groups and individuals engaged in cocaine trafficking from Colombia to Italy to reveal patterns in their decision-making processes. In doing so, this paper reveals the dynamic and ephemeral nature of drug routes, showcasing their flexibility and contributing to the existing literature on drug trafficking as well as other forms of illicit cross-border activities and on the spatial

distribution of trafficking nodes in global illicit supply chain networks.

Expressway to illicit: an exploratory analysis of the misuse of the postal system for trafficking in drugs and other illicit goods  
*Michele Riccardi, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Phillip William Screen, Transcrime - Crime & tech / Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Mi)*

As a result of the changing habits after Covid-19 and the expansion of e-commerce, the postal system is now playing a central role in international trade. However, it has also become more vulnerable to be misused for trafficking purposes. Letters, small parcels and courier consignments are increasingly employed to move drugs across borders (especially synthetic ones, but also cocaine, cannabis, opioids), drug precursors, firearms or their components, fake or stolen medicines, and counterfeit goods. This paper, conducted in the framework of the EU co-funded PARSEC project, has a twofold objective: on the one side, it provides a literature review of the most frequent patterns and schemes in trafficking through the postal service, and of the related risk factors; on the other side, it carries out an exploratory analysis of a large dataset of parcels and courier consignments sampled from the H7 database provided by a leading European custom authority. In particular, the paper analyses anomalies in terms of parcel distribution and concentration, and highlights the characteristics of the courier consignments used to conceal drugs and other illicit goods. It eventually develops a preliminary risk assessment model which could help custom and postal agencies to detect high-risk consignments to be selected for physical inspections.

Organised Drug Trafficking Network in China and the Mechanism of Route Formation  
*Shujing Shi, University of Cambridge*

Chinese organised drug-related crimes have received limited scholarly attention. To address this gap, this study endeavours to comprehensively map the organised drug trafficking network within China and elucidate the mechanisms behind the formation of trafficking routes across 41 major Chinese cities from 2012 to 2022. Through analysis of court records, the research generates a drug trafficking map using a network approach. The findings reveal distinct patterns of drug flow among the cities, highlighting a clear division of roles as origin, transit, and destination points within the network. Furthermore, the study identifies significant changes in the network's structure over the past decade. To deepen our understanding of the mechanisms driving route formation, this research incorporates Peter Reuter's hypotheses on drug trafficking route generation by applying Exponential Random Graph Models (ERGMs) for analysis.

New Psychoactive Substances – Conception, demand, supply and responses in a cross-border context  
*Jessica Noack, Maastricht University*

The emergence and dynamic development of new psychoactive substances (NPS) has given rise to a number of challenges, both in academic as well as in the legal realms. The aim of this presentation is to provide an overview of current key issues addressed in the literature and to discuss a number of relevant questions that emerge from this. The first issue that will be explored is the challenge of how to define this large and heterogeneous group of drugs properly. The widely used UN or EU legal definitions can prove impractical for criminological research for a number of reasons. However, there are several elements that should be considered for a criminological definition of the term. Next, demand trends and supply dynamics with a focus on Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands are presented, with specific attention given to (surface web) online markets and overlap with established drug markets. Here, cultural and regulatory factors that influence demand and supply are discussed. Finally, the different response strategies of these three neighbouring countries are examined, as they all employ divergent approaches to addressing the challenges posed by NPS. The so-called 'generic bans' in Belgium and Germany are compared and contrasted with the renowned drug policy framework of the Netherlands, which tries to navigate a delicate balance between tolerance and regulation. Taken together, these issues underscore the complexity of the NPS phenomenon and set the stage for further exploration of these and related issues in future research.

## 242. Plenary 2 - Friday

ESC

Plenary Session

11:00 to 12:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Aula Magna

Chair:

**Rita Faria**, CIJ - Center for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice, University of Porto

Participants:

Desiloing Criminology: The Case of Corporate Crime  
*Sally S Simpson, University of Maryland*

Criminology has never completely embraced the subject of corporate crime despite Sutherland's admonishment to do so nearly a century ago. Today, corporate crime remains at the margins of our field. In this address, I discuss why it is essential for criminology to incorporate and build on the knowledge base that corporate crime scholars have established while also acknowledging critical epistemological challenges and literature gaps that confront this subject area. I consider what is needed to abate some of these challenges and conclude by highlighting newly emerging topical areas for corporate criminologists to consider moving forward. In particular, I suggest reciprocal engagement on the specific topics of criminal decision-making, data science/artificial intelligence, and cohort analysis.

Organising White-Collar and Corporate Crimes: Necessity, Contingency, and the Mechanisms of Crime Commission  
*Nicholas Lord, The University of Manchester, UK*

This talk presents a conceptual and analytical framework, that of an organisational perspective, for understanding and explaining white-collar and corporate crimes. This perspective encourages us to think about how we can produce and systematise knowledge on (1) how such crimes are organised, (2) why they are organised as they are and who gets involved in them, as primary offenders and as facilitators and money launderers, and (3) about the 'real' factors that shape these organisational dynamics over time within particular contexts and under varying conditions. 'Organisation' means many things: the distal/proximal social relations that create and shape crime opportunities and their structures; the mechanisms, relations, processes and conditions that are necessary for the commission, or unfolding, or for the non-commission, of white-collar crimes and how these are contingently connected to particular contexts; the people that collaborate and otherwise associate in the pursuit of criminal goals; the actual or potential skills, expertise and abilities of these people to accomplish (or resist) particular behaviours that are required of them, as well as the human, social, cultural and material antecedents that enable white-collar crimes to flourish or fade. Thinking in terms of 'organisation' has implications for explaining white-collar and corporate crimes, and in this talk I will explore some of these key issues.

## 243. The General Assembly of ESC

ESC

Plenary Session

1:00 to 2:00 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Aula Magna

Chairs:

**Marcelo F. Aebi**, University of Lausanne

**Josep Tamarit**, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

## 244. Prison Working Group: Prison reforms and policies

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”

Chair:

**Gaëtan Cliquennois**, CNRS, Université de Nantes, DCS

Participants:

A reform again? Explaining reorganisation processes and perspectives of imprisonment in Lithuania  
*Jolanta*



*Aleknevičienė, Vilnius University, Lithuania*

The presentation discusses the trends of imprisonment in Lithuania, the challenges and prospects of the penitentiary system, and the ongoing reform of sentence execution initiated in 2021. Lithuania's strategic policy documents emphasise that the system for enforcing punishment often fails to motivate convicts to alter their criminal behaviours. Instead, prison staff tends to prioritise supervision and control of offenders over resocialisation and the provision of social assistance. Drawing upon the principles of social constructionism, an analysis of Lithuanian political documents reveals that the identification and framing of imprisonment-related issues are often more influenced by obligations to international organisations and the cascading effect of Lithuania's political agenda objectives than by evidence-based conclusions from scientific research. It is suggested that the concepts of re-socialisation and social integration, which are the primary stated goals of custodial sentences, are confined within a political discourse that lacks a critical approach. Due to a perceived lack of political will to allocate resources for a comprehensive restructuring of the penitentiary system, reforms often take on a cosmetic nature, primarily focusing on administrative changes rather than objectives and measures that would significantly enhance the effectiveness of punishments, improve prison conditions, or substantially reduce the incarcerated population, among other goals. Grounded in the tenets of critical criminology, the presentation seeks to comprehend the factors contributing to the "constructed" nature of these reforms.

**The Penitentiary System In The Republic Of North Macedonia: The Need For Urgent Reforms** *Aleksandra Gruevska Drakulevski, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Iustinianus Primus Law Faculty in Skopje*

"The degree of civilization in a society can be judged by entering its prisons." Fyodor Dostoevsky ("The House of the Dead", 1862) In the paper, the author analyses the characteristics of the North Macedonian penitentiary system, the position of prisoners de jure and de facto, and the protection of the rights of prisoners through the prism of the reports of the Committee for Prevention of Torture and points to the need for urgent reforms of the penitentiary system in the Republic of North Macedonia. The author concludes that the penitentiary system in Macedonia has the features of a modern system. It is one of the penitentiary systems that fully incorporates the Nelson Mandela Rules, the Revised Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and the European Prison Rules in the Law on Execution of Sanctions. But the system de facto faces serious weaknesses. Also, the author disputes the question why prisoners in such conditions of the penitentiary system do not require judicial protection of their rights. Also, the author emphasizes the need for systematic research on the protection of prisoners' rights using legal means, such as, legal advice and legal means of convicted persons and the right to appeal to international bodies.

**Political Analysis of the New 'Imprisonment' Punishment in Japan** *Shunsuke Kyo, Chukyo University*

This presentation examines the changes in the Japanese sentencing system through the revision of the Penal Code in 2022. The newly introduced 'imprisonment' punishment (kōkin-kei) is a unification of the former two punishments: imprisonment with work (chōeki-kei), which occupies the overwhelming majority of imprisonment, and imprisonment without work (kinko-kei). Policymakers explained that the main aim of the new punishment was to prevent repeated offences. Repeat offences are an important issue in Japanese criminal justice policy because almost half of arrested criminals and more than half of new prison inmates are repeat offenders. However, there is almost no evidence presented in the policymaking process that the new punishment contributes to the prevention of repeat offences. The revision of the Penal Code changed the prison governors' and officers' legal responsibility to make prisoners work under the punishment of imprisonment with work into their discretion to make prisoners work or guide them. Based on the principal-agent theory, because the new system induces opportunistic behaviour of prison governors as agents of the public and hidden behaviour of prison officers as street-level bureaucrats, the new punishment decreases the effectiveness of correctional policy, considering the current human resources in the Japanese prison administration. Why was this new form of

punishment introduced? This presentation attempts to answer this question by adopting a political science method to focus on the interests of political actors in the process. Keywords: punishment, imprisonment, sentencing system, Japan

**Dimensions of transparency within the Spanish prison and immigration detention systems.** *Elena Algaba, Universitat de Barcelona; Quimey Martínez, Universitat de Barcelona; Pablo Pinochet, Universitat de Barcelona*

This study presents an initial exploration of the concept of transparency within the Spanish prison system (SGIP), the Catalan prison system (SMPRAV) and the Spanish immigration detention system (CIES). This exploration is part of the "Prison Transparency Project," which aims to gather comparative information on prison and immigration detention systems in Canada, Spain, and Argentina. The Spanish case was approached by examining secondary sources where the concept of transparency is mentioned in relation to the three types of carceral systems, including institutional documents, websites, regulations, journals, and books. The initial findings, systematically organized and coded for future project stages, highlight similarities on the content of transparency policies (Grimmelikhuisen and Welch, 2012) in both prison administrations, and differences with the immigration detention system. Additionally, they show that an area of interest for future inquiries may be the availability and flow of information inside-out (Cucciniello et al. 2017) in the three carceral systems. Finally, there is a focus on how transparency refers to intervened or self-governing citizens (Kosack & Fung, 2014) such as incarcerated individuals, their families, civil society organizations or academics, among others.

**How do private interest groups frame and shape European detention policies through the European jurisprudence?** *Gaëtan Cliquennois, CNRS, Université of Nantes, DCS*

The article aims to analyse the ways private interest groups shape European penal and detention policies (police stations, prison facilities, immigration detention centres and psychiatric hospitals for mentally ill offenders) in terms of either punitiveness or penal moderation through their strategic litigation activities before the European Court of Human Rights. In particular, two types of private groups, which both refers to NGOs and private foundations, seem to be particularly of interest, the conservative and the liberal ones from a scientific, political and funding perspectives. We assume that conservative groups convey 'Crime Control' values, the view that the proper role of the criminal process and criminal justice is to protect 'law-abiding citizens' from dangerous behaviours (Jones, 2010). Such "Crime Control" values would result in an increase in punitiveness and criminalisation. At the same time, the approach to penal and prison policies by conservative groups is characterised by its complexity as they promote forgiveness, reintegration and rehabilitation for certain offenders and exclusion of specific categories of offenders such as foreign terrorist fighters. In comparison, a majority of liberal groups apply a sceptical view of criminal justice that offers room for penal leniency. Nonetheless, liberal groups may well have fostered criminalisation and punitiveness to a certain extent through feminist advocacy for criminalisation of rape within marriage and harsher punishment for sexual offences; demands for specific and harsher punishment of femicide; "me-too" movement and defence of vulnerable persons in power relations leading to criminalisation and punishment of previously non-criminal "transgressive" behaviour. We forge the concept of moral entrepreneur of coercive human rights about litigation before the European Courts in the field of penal and prison policies to reflect this process.

**245. POL Panel 17. The use of technology in law enforcement: opportunities and challenges**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”

Chair:

*Valeria Abreu Minero, University College London*

#### Participants:

Police ethics committees as oversight mechanisms for new technologies in policing: the case of predictive policing  
*Jonathan Allen, University of Surrey*

Predictive systems can face significant challenges during their development, implementation, and use in policing. However, the adoption of many 'predictive policing' systems across the world has usually occurred without oversight mechanisms in place to counter such challenges. This study investigated the processes employed by the West Midlands police ethics committee (WMPEC) when developing, integrating, and using predictive analytics in policing. The research identified how WMPEC addressed the trailing of predictive analytics, examining how organisational and ethical challenges were discussed and addressed, and how projects changed over time. Employing document analysis, this research thematically analysed over 60 documents (including project reports, meeting minutes, evaluation studies). Sixteen projects that involved some forms of predictive logic were presented to WMPEC over the period studied, including place-based and person-based systems. Three projects were approved for piloting but only one was operational at the time of analysis. As projects often took several months to be considered (due to the committee meeting quarterly), documents, presentations and discussion allowed for predictive systems' ethical considerations to be highlighted and subsequently addressed. Where responses to ethical concerns were unable to satisfy the committee or technical issues occurred, projects were withdrawn. If projects were deemed suitable, emphasis was placed on piloting and evaluation, to examine the organisational implications of each system's use. Separately, WMPEC engaged in reflective practice to improve its processes, which in turn, sought to aid committee efficiency and effectiveness. This case study of how WMPEC achieves oversight of predictive systems holds implications for other PECs in England and Wales.

Police Use of Twitter During a Sporting Mega-Event  
*Adam Aitken, University of Salford; Liam Ralph, Northumbria University; Paul Robinson, Northumbria University*

There exists a range of sporting mega-event security case studies from respective Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, International Association Football Federation (FIFA) World Cup, and Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Championships. This literature tends to focus on outlining the policing and physical security arrangements at respective Games and the social consequences of these. Two gaps exist within the respective mega-events and police social media literature that our paper attempts to address: first, there are no studies within the mega-event literature that examine police social media use. Second, police social media use is mostly conducted within the context of everyday police work as opposed to the exceptionality of a mega-event. Our study analyses the combined 400 X (formerly Twitter) posts of 19 social media accounts from police forces and units connected to Glasgow and London before, during, and after the 2020 UEFA Championship in men's football ('Euro 2020'). The article makes an empirical contribution to the mega-events and policing literature by identifying that the police used X in five strategic ways: as a form of security spectacle, to demonstrate effective partnership working with other police and non-police agencies, to promote citizen responsabilization, to facilitate public feedback and reporting, and as a form of real-time crowd management. Such findings have important implications for the use of social media by police practitioners at future mega-events, and for football policing more specifically through the inclusion of a template for police social media tactics.

Technology-informed protest management practices: an empirical look into Belgian police command posts  
*Donatella Van Biervliet, KU Leuven*

The use of internet sources by protesters has several implications for public order policing, as mobilisations scale up more quickly and the crowds are more likely to take the form of non-hierarchical structures and unstable relations (Tarafdar & Ray, 2021). Partly in response to these changes, the police have adopted technologies to try and 'reboot' their public order policing: CCTV, body-worn cameras, drones, facial recognition technology, automatic number plate recognition and phone tracking. Criminological research until

now has focused on the emergence of protests or on the risks of those technologies (e.g. privacy, discrimination and freedom of movement concerns). The way in which command posts operators (e.g. police executives, dispatchers, and government officials) manage such (mediatised) protests and the role played by technologies in those practices of protest management, however, has remained understudied. This study will address these gaps by an empirical research consisting of case studies of Belgian protests. Those case studies will be analysed using the crisis management framework of Boin et al. (2016). Specifically, the study aims to understand how command post operators implement the five tasks of 'sense-making', 'decision-making', 'meaning-making', 'ending and accountability' and 'learning', and what role technologies play in those practices. To this end, the case studies will combine interviews, observations in the command post and document analysis.

Towards a Smart Digital Forensic Advisor to Support First Responders with At-Scene Triage of Digital Evidence Across Crime Types  
*Mark Warner, University College London; Valeria Abreu Minero, University College London*

Over 90% of reported crime involves a digital element, with most digital evidence being seized by non-specialist front-line officers who often lack digital forensic awareness and training. Both academic research and government reports highlight the significant backlog in digital evidence processing, with current approaches recognised as being insufficient and in need of modernisation. Although digital device triage may help to alleviate digital device processing backlogs, low digital awareness amongst non-specialist officers means triage decision-making lacks consistency. This study presents findings on the first step of a wider Economic and Social Research Council-funded project aiming to lay the foundations for developing a smart digital forensic advisor tool to support first responders conducting digital evidence triage at-scene. The research aimed to enhance our understanding around the process of search and seizure of digital evidence across homicide and stalking and harassment cases from a policing and non-policing perspective. A total of 50 semi-structured interviews across five distinct user groups (i.e., digital forensic investigators; non-specialist officers; digital media investigators; senior policing staff; and private practice digital forensic practitioners) across three police agencies. Through our analysis, we explored the practices, resources, challenges and user needs across crime types and crime scenes in relation to multiple police operating models. Findings support the development of the theoretical underpinning of digital evidence search and seizure. This study contributes to our understanding of the context in which an evidence-based triage tool may be used and the requirements that may inform a solution.

#### 246. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 15: Contextual variants in domestic abuse (II)

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”

Chair:

**Fernanda Chacon Onetto**, Durham University

Participants:

Chinese Women's Socio-economic Status and Intimate Partner Violence Victimization: The Mediating Effect of Patriarchal Ideology  
*Carrie K. W. Li, The University of Hong Kong, Department of Social Work and Social Administration; Xuan Wang, The University of Hong Kong, Department of Social Work and Social Administration; Jianhong Liu, Faculty of Law, University of Macau; Xuan Chen, Zhejiang Sci-Tech University*

Abstract: Prior research explored how women's socio-economic status influence their intimate partner violence (IPV) victimization. However, less is known about the mechanism of it. We examined patriarchal ideology, which is deeply embedded in Chinese culture, to see if and how it may have a mediating effect. The current study

used structural equation modeling to analyze self-reported data from 600 adult women in China. Results indicated that women who have lower socio-economic status are more likely to endorse patriarchal ideology and justify the use of IPV, which then are more likely to experience victimization of IPV. These findings suggest that patriarchal ideology plays a distinct role in the relationship between women's socio-economic status and IPV victimization, highlighting the potential for to mitigate women's IPV victimization through prevention and intervention focusing on women's patriarchal ideology. Keywords: Financial Status, Education Level, Intimate Partner Violence Victimization, Patriarchal Ideology, Justification of IPV, Chinese Women

**Changing the story in responding to domestic abuse perpetrators:**

What can be learned from the language use of criminal justice stakeholders? *David Rowlands, University of Leeds; Larissa Engelmann, University of Leeds; Öznur Yardimci, University of York; Nicole Westmarland, Durham University Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse; Sandra Walklate, University of Liverpool; Kate Fitz-Gibbon, Monash University; Adam Crawford, University of York*

This paper reports on interviews with a range of service providers and stakeholders involved in the response to domestic abuse in a major city in the northwest of England (Greater Manchester). It is part of a larger project within the Vulnerability and Policing Futures Research Centre seeking to compare practice in Australia (Victoria) with that of Greater Manchester. The paper will highlight the different and often competing language used among stakeholders in their depiction of perpetrator intervention; including 'trauma-informed', 'evidence-based', risk and protective factors, and vulnerability based approaches. Whilst these different language uses serve to illustrate the increasing recognition on the part of these service providers to recognise the complex factors underpinning and driving domestic abuse perpetration they simultaneously speak to the challenges in changing the story for perpetrators and criminal justice. These findings echo the ongoing challenges being faced in implementing such changes post the Royal Commission on Family Violence in 2016 in the State of Victoria and point to the ongoing lessons to be learned for the Greater Manchester 10-year Violence against Women and Girls Strategy.

**The influence of policy design and implementation on the quality of Domestic violence perpetrator programmes: Insights from a Chilean Case Study** *Fernanda Chacon Onetto, Durham University*

This paper reports on the findings from an ethnographic study focused on a domestic violence perpetrator program in Chile. It draws upon observations made during group work sessions and interviews conducted with various stakeholders, including men in the program, staff members, and experts in the field. The analysis in this presentation delves into the links between the program structure, the content and delivery of group sessions on a diverse service user demographic, and the broader context of policy development in Chile. We reflect on how the design and implementation of public policy significantly impact the intervention, practitioners' well-being, and men's engagement.

**247. Victimology Working Group Panel 4 Consequences of Victimization**

Topic 4: Victimology/Consequences of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”

Chair:

**Pamela Kerschke-Risch**, University of Hamburg

Participants:

Caught in the Web: Exploring Victim Experiences of Online Rental Scams Among University of Edinburgh Students *Daniela Andrea Mardones Bravo, University of Edinburgh & University of the West of Scotland; Oana Petcu, University of Glasgow & University of Edinburgh; Leo Kritikos, University*

*of Edinburgh*

This presentation will discuss the problem of 'online rental scam victimisation' within the University of Edinburgh student community. We define this as the fraudulent extraction of funds from individuals navigating the online rental market. Despite being recognised as an 'emerging' type of fraud by the Sentencing Council for England and Wales as early as 2013, there remains a significant shortage of insight and research into this issue even a decade later. Within the specific geographical context of our study (Edinburgh, Scotland), there have been several reported instances of students falling victim to online rental scams. However, no prior research has systematically compiled these accounts or quantified the frequency of such victimisation, leaving the full extent of the issue largely unknown. We will present our preliminary findings to comprehend how victims, including near-victims, respond to such victimisation. Specifically, we investigate their post-victimisation actions, such as reporting to authorities or seeking support, and the practical and emotional consequences they endure. We have adopted a mixed methods approach, comprising an online questionnaire distributed among the University of Edinburgh student body and focus groups. These focus groups provide a platform for students who have experienced victimisation or have been targeted as potential victims of online rental scams to share their experiences. Enhanced understanding of the scale and nature of online rental scams in Edinburgh could empower current and prospective students with knowledge on identifying early warning signs of such scams and equip them with strategies to safeguard themselves against falling victim better.

**Navigating violence and stigma: exploring victimization, identity, and their consequences in commercial sex among male sex workers in Barcelona (Spain)** *Marc Balcells, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya; Pablo Romero-Seseña, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche*

This research project delves into the understudied area of victimization of male sex workers (cis and transsexual), aiming to understand the diverse challenges this group encounters. While academic literature predominantly focuses on female sex workers, this research addresses the scarcity of information on their male counterparts, constituting a mere 10% of relevant publications. Moreover, the few previous studies in this field have relied on approaches riddled with clichés and assumptions with little to no empirical basis regarding the research context. For instance, the notion that potential violence among men is equal and therefore, victimization is unlikely. By focusing on the city of Barcelona and through the collaboration with several social organizations working in the field, the project seeks to unravel the complexities of male sex work. By employing a qualitative methodology through the conduction of open in-depth interviews, the study aims to investigate the social, health, lifestyle, and risks faced by male sex workers in Barcelona.

**Recognising the true victims of dog 'theft': The impacts of abduction and recovery on stolen dogs through the words of their caretakers** *John Walliss, Liverpool Hope University; Melanie Flynn, Liverpool Hope University; Daniel Allen, Keele University*

In the UK in recent years, there has been growing attention paid to dog 'theft', from both a policy and legislative perspective and a small but insightful body of academic research. However, this focus has been on sentencing, statistics, and the impact on pet caretakers ('owners'). There has been little consideration of the impact of abduction on the dogs themselves. Taking a nonhuman victimological perspective, this paper presents what we believe to be the first research dedicated to exploring these impacts. We present the findings of qualitative research undertaken with the caretakers of companion animals who were abducted and subsequently recovered. The research focuses on what would be currently categorized as dog theft (although we use the term abduction), reporting on the findings of unstructured interviews undertaken to explore the circumstances of the abduction and recovery and, crucially, the perceived impact of the experience on the dogs themselves. We discuss the physical and behavioural effects reported by the participants and, in so doing, seek to elevate the abducted dogs to the status of 'victim', rather than mere

property, whilst acknowledging the limitations of ‘giving voice’ to victim animals through their human companions.

The relationship between violent victimization, social support and mental health for women and men *Erla Katrín Jónsdóttir, Reykjavík University; Rannveig Sigurvinsdóttir, Reykjavík University; Bryndís Björk Ásgeirsdóttir, Reykjavík University*

Victims of crime frequently experience poor mental health, although this varies by victimization type and mental health aspect. Research indicates that sexual violence and domestic violence generally have strong relationships with adverse mental health outcomes, particularly among women, and that social support is an essential protective factor for mental health. This study aimed to examine the relationships between various forms of victimization and mental health, including anxiety, stress, depression, PTSD, and well-being. Furthermore, we examined differences based on biological sex and social support as a moderator of these effects. We conducted a phone survey with a nationally representative sample of 1766 Icelandic adults. The analysis included seven forms of victimization: weaponized attacks, emotional abuse, sexual harassment, captivity, and domestic, sexual, and physical violence. Emotional abuse (39.3%) was the most prevalent type of victimization, followed by physical violence (36.0%) and sexual harassment (24.4%). Physical violence and attacks were more common among men, and women were more likely to have experienced sexual harassment and sexual, domestic, and emotional violence. Victimization was significantly associated with all aspects of mental health outcomes, especially PTSD. Emotional abuse and sexual violence were most strongly associated with adverse mental health outcomes. While sexual violence and sexual harassment had similar impacts on mental health among men and women, other forms of victimization disproportionately affected women. Women reported more social support, and social support moderated some of the relationships between victimization and mental health. Social support could, therefore, be a target for mental health interventions following victimization.

Uncertainty – Consequences of food fraud from a victimological perspective *Pamela Kerschke-Risch, University of Hamburg*

Food fraud is a worldwide problem and it is assumed that it has existed since ancient times. Presumably, almost all consumers have already been affected by this and will continue to be in the future. Nevertheless, there is very little research that addresses victimological issues in connection with food-related offenses. The aim of the presentation is to show how consumers react to this potential threat. For this purpose, the results of an online survey conducted in Germany will be presented. The participants were asked amongst others about their experiences regarding food fraud in the broadest sense. The results show that food fraud can lead to a loss of trust, which in turn can lead to a change in purchasing behavior. While some consumers try to avoid potential risks associated with food fraud, others ignore them. The main focus is on meat, as it is relatively often affected by food scandals and manipulations. An important finding of the study is that the lower the level of trust, the more consumers tend to reduce their meat consumption, change their purchasing habits or even eliminate meat from their diet. This is particularly true for women, which can be explained by the attempt to reduce risk. These reactions can be interpreted as consequences of victimization. Keywords: food fraud, victims’ reactions, loss of trust, reduced meat consumption

## 248. Hacking Beyond Boundaries: Exploring the World of Digital Disruptors

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Cybercrime (Cybercrime WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

2:00 to 3:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 5 „Constantin Stătescu”*

This panel delves into the multifaceted realm of hackers, addressing critical dimensions including sexism, typologies, hacktivism, turning points, and qualitative insights. By bringing together diverse perspectives and expertise, this panel will dissect the various typologies of hackers, examining the motivations, tactics, and ethical considerations that shape their activities in cyberspace. We will discuss the different hacker typologies, as well as compare hacker activists, or hacktivists, to their non-hacktivist counterparts. Additionally, we will discuss pivotal moments that could reshape the hacker

landscape, whether through technological advancements, legal crackdowns, or ideological shifts. Further, this panel will examine the complex interplay of sexism and gender dynamics in the hacker community. Finally, qualitative interviews with hackers will provide firsthand accounts and nuanced perspectives on their lived experiences, shedding light on the complexities of hacker culture, identity, and community dynamics. By synthesizing these diverse topics and perspectives, this panel aims to deepen our understanding of hackers and their evolving roles in the digital age, while also fostering critical discourse on the ethical, social, and political implications of hacking practices.

Chair:

*Katelyn Smith, University of South Florida*

Participants:

Hacking with purpose: A comparative analysis of hacktivists and non-hacktivist *Katelyn Smith, University of South Florida; Roan Ali, University of South Florida*

In the ever-evolving landscape of cyberspace, the actions of individuals and groups shape the discourse and dynamics of online activity. This project specifically focuses on malicious hackers that use their skills for activism, otherwise known as hacktivists. This is a comparative analysis of hacktivists and non-hacktivist and the strategies and attack vectors they employ. Additionally, we delve into the divergent motivations and ethical considerations these groups report. This research will contribute to the nuances of digital activism and those that use hacking as a tool for socio-political change.

Turning points in cybercrime: Exploring desistance in the hacking community? *Christian Jordan Howell, University of South Florida; Kaylee Eckelman, University of South Florida; Mubashshira Haque Rithee, University of South Florida*

Cybercrime research has become increasingly prominent in the field of criminology, with a particular focus on malicious hacking emerging as a central area of academic investigation. However, despite this growing interest, there remains a notable absence of systematic investigations utilizing data directly gathered from active malicious hackers. This study pioneers in shedding light on various turning points that may encourage hackers to cease their illicit activities, aiming to enrich our understanding of desistance in cybercrime. To better understand the relationship between potential turning points and desistance from illicit hacking, we conducted the first-ever survey targeting verified and actively engaged malicious hackers. Recruitment efforts involved posting advertisements on the Zone-H homepage, the largest hacking archive in existence. A total of 238 malicious hackers completed the survey. The findings of this study reveal unprecedented insights into potential turning points that can lead a malicious hacker to a life of conformity. We demonstrate how these turning points might vary based on different underlying hacking motivations. By integrating quantitative insights with qualitative data from interviews with a subset of respondents, we offer an in-depth view of hackers' journeys towards desistance. This study not only maps potential pathways out of cybercrime for malicious hackers but also offers valuable guidance for advancing criminological theories and crafting more effective cybercrime prevention strategies.

Unveiling Gender Biases: A Comprehensive Exploration of Sexism in the Hacker Community *Roberta Liggett-O'Malley, University of South Florida-Sarasota; Katelyn Smith, University of South Florida; Aida Ozuni, University of South Florida*

The increasing prevalence of cybercrime and the need for cybersecurity has in turn increased our need to understand those that perpetrate these attacks. Thus far, research on hackers has been limited to open-source data and proxy samples in the form of college students. The current study is the first that we know of to survey and interview active malicious hackers. We employ an interdisciplinary approach in an effort to examine the intricate realm of sexism within the hacker community, shedding light on the often-overlooked gender dynamics prevalent in this tech subculture. Through this research, we seek to unravel the multifaceted nature of gender bias and discrimination in this domain. Ultimately, this research contributes to a broader understanding on gender inequality in technology.

## 249. EUROCRIM 6 – Corruption and Public Institutions

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Corruption (EUROCRIM)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”

Chair:

**Anna Sergi**, University of Essex

Participants:

Asset and Interest Disclosure (AID) systems in EU Member and Candidate States: an assessment *Gabriele Baratto, Faculty of Law, University of Trento | Centre of Security and Crime Sciences, University of Trento and University of Verona; Andrea Di Nicola, Associate professor of criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Trento, and director of the Centre of Security and Crime Sciences (University of Trento and University of Verona); Beatrice Rigon, Department of Law, University of Verona | Centre of Security and Crime Sciences, University of Trento and University of Verona*

Asset and Interest Disclosure (AID) systems are an important multipurpose tool to prevent corruption, promote transparency and overall trust in public officials and the civil service. Despite the worldwide introduction of such systems, there are still significant differences in their functioning and implementation standards. The effectiveness of these systems is particularly important for Member States to strengthen the fight against corruption, as well as Candidate States, as curbing corruption is a key prerequisite for the accession process. However, a clear picture of models, strengths and weaknesses and best practises is not yet available. The presentation will provide an assessment of the AID systems in EU Member and Candidate States, focusing in particular on: i) their main features; ii) the verification systems implemented; iii) the risk analysis mechanisms in place; iv) the impact assessment methods. The data was collected as part of the EU project “qAID - Towards contemporary knowledge and innovative tools for assessing and enhancing effectiveness of Asset and Interest Disclosure (AID) systems in EU Member States and Candidate States” (co-funded by the European Commission – DG Home Affairs and Migration under the International Security Fund – ISF) through an online survey administered to anti-corruption bodies.

Modus Operandi of Corruption: Examining Drivers, Actors, and Financial Flows in Three Typologies *Caterina Paternoster, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Matteo Anastasio, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Giovanni Nicolazzo, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Laura Ventre, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Giorgia Cascone, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Francesco Venturini, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Michele Riccardi, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore*

The paper analyses the new forms and modi operandi of three typologies of corruption: public procurement corruption, border corruption, and conflicts of interest involving politically exposed persons. Based on the qualitative analysis of 50 cases drawn from judicial records and open-source media, the study identifies the key drivers, actors, and assets associated with each type of offence. The research uncovers the operational strategies of the corrupt practices, including the flow of funds and the jurisdictions involved in both the illicit enrichment and money laundering processes. The paper contributes to the current understanding of corruption in criminological discourse, while providing insights for policymakers and law enforcement agencies to combat such illicit activities. The paper is based on work and preliminary research carried out as part of the EU co-funded project FALCON, "Fighting Corruption & Organised Crime".

Searching for Smurfs: Testing if Money Launderers Know Alert Thresholds *Rasmus Ingemann Tuffveson Jensen, Aarhus University; Joras Ferwerda, Utrecht University School of Economics; Christian Remi Wewer, Aarhus University*

To combat money laundering, banks raise and review alerts on

transactions that exceed confidential thresholds. But these secret thresholds can be leaked to criminals, through e.g. corruption, an insider job, or extortion. This paper presents a data-driven approach to detect smurfing, i.e., money launderers seeking to evade detection by breaking up large transactions into amounts under the secret threshold. The approach utilizes the notion of a counterfactual distribution and relies on two assumptions: (i) smurfing is unfeasible for the very largest financial transactions and (ii) money launderers have incentives to make smurfed transactions just under the threshold. Simulations suggest that the approach can detect smurfing when as little as 0.1-0.5% of all bank transactions are subject to smurfing. An application to real data from a systemically important Danish bank finds no evidence of smurfing and, thus, no evidence of leaked confidential thresholds. An implementation of our approach will be available online, providing a free and easy-to-use tool for banks to check whether their secret thresholds were leaked.

Capturing Calabria: ‘ndrangheta, corruption and malpractice in state institutions in Southern Italy *Anna Sergi, University of Essex; Alberto Vannucci, University of Pisa*

The ‘ndrangheta is the collective name of mafia-type groups which originated in Calabria, Italy. Some ‘ndrangheta clans, often appearing as family dynasties, are successful drug importers while maintaining control of territory through intimidation, extortion and “bad” reputation in their places of origin. Their ability to influence public institutions in Calabria has been largely based on personal connections, systemic corruption, electoral influence, hidden exchanges, blackmailing power, and “elitarian hand-shakes” (e.g. masonic ties). While the ‘ndrangheta clans are mostly non-violent today, their past violence constitutes a reputational capital, as much as it acts as an echo that still intimidates. Since mafias have a wide time-horizon and a reputational capital - including the possibility for violence - to affirm and sustain, they have a long-term interest in “capturing” the authority of the state’s institutions to gain profits, impunity, and more generally a dominant position in the resulting balance of power with the “legitimate” state. In this paper we will highlight the process of state capture enabled by ‘ndrangheta clans at local level, showing how the covert influence of the clans oriented policy outputs and implementation, as well as the identity of decision-makers, in Calabria. Sources will include judicial documents, decrees of dissolution of Municipalities due to mafia infiltration, media articles, and interviews with magistrates and public administrators.

## 250. EXTR6 Right-wing and jihadist extremist attitudes; comparative approaches

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Terrorism and Terrorism Financing, Radicalization, Extremism (Radicalization, Extremism, Terrorism WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)

Chair:

**Carl Philipp Schröder**, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony

Participants:

Cast in the same mold? A comparison between right-wing extremists in South America and Europe *Oscar Palma, Universidad del Rosario, Colombia*

Literature on right wing extremism is flooding the study of global terrorism and crime. An increase in violent events in the United States and Europe, especially during the last decade, has strengthened an interest in the analysis of this type of radicalism. Such study is based on a notion of an ‘extreme right’ as experienced by western-liberal democracies in the developed world, with global reach. However, such notion does not fully explain realities in other regions, particularly in South America. Based on the idea that an understanding of ‘the extremes’ is a context-dependent and subjective construct based on each society’s characteristics, evolving through time, this paper compares notions of extremism in western democracies and South America to explore similarities and differences. It explains that even though there is a common

doctrinal background, it is more difficult to define what right-wing extremism in Latin America is, and the agendas that fuel extremists on both sides differ. Extremist agendas in the 'global north' are fueled by white supremacy, neonazism, anti-immigration, islamophobia, and antisemitism. Many of these have no impact on South America, given social and political configurations. The platform is based on a renewed vision, reminiscent of the Cold War, of socialism or Marxism-Leninism as a threat, which includes an objective to transform the traditional values of societies, including new imposed social norms on sexuality, abortion, indigenism and environmentalism, which intend to destroy catholic conceptions of family, and which threaten capitalism.

Far-right violent radicalization profiles of youth in the Netherlands *Hanne Duindam, Utrecht University; Rogier Verhoef, Utrecht University; Alithe van den Akker, University of Amsterdam; Jessica Asscher, Utrecht University*

The prevalence of far-right violent radicalization is increasing, with young people being more at risk. This research aims to identify distinct profiles of far-right violent radicalization in a sample of Dutch youth (N = 1167, ages 15-26) using a person-centered approach. This approach allows for a nuanced understanding of the diversity in youth radicalization tendencies, which is crucial for developing targeted prevention strategies. Data were collected through online surveys and in schools. Latent profile analyses were employed to detect potential subgroups based on the participants' far-right nativistic and violent radical attitudes. Next, we examined the relationship between profile membership and various demographic and radicalization risk factors, including perceived injustice, government illegitimacy, aggression, limited intergroup contact, perceived group threats, and feelings of superiority. Four distinct profiles were found, named: Far-right violent radical (n = 75), violent experimenter (n = 287), low-violence (n = 386), and no-violence (n = 419). Profile membership correlated significantly with certain demographic characteristics (e.g., younger age, male gender) and all examined risk factors. In sum, these results highlight the significance of considering youth's behavioral issues and their perceptions of injustice, government illegitimacy, and feelings of superiority, in preventing far-right violent radicalization.

Identity, Inequity, and Ideology: Exploring the Impact of Multiple Identities on Right-Wing Extremist Attitudes in Germany *Rebecca Endricht, University of Hamburg*

Identity-based populism justifies the devaluation of minorities by arguing that societal and political 'elites' prioritize these groups over the 'actual' population. This leads to a growing sense of injustice and marginalization among the majority population in many European countries. Such perceptions, based on group memberships, can be seen as threats to ingroup status within Social Identity Theory (SIT; Tajfel & Turner, 1979). They trigger coping mechanisms such as outgroup devaluation, which aims to protect ingroup status by identifying scapegoats. These manifestations include xenophobia and the rejection of elements of the democratic system – both key dimensions of right-wing extremism. Populism studies often emphasize nationalism rooted in ethnicity and culture, yet social identity research underscores the multiplicity of identities and their interconnectedness, including ethnicity, culture, region, language, and skin color. This study extends the number of considered identities to include these five identity dimensions mentioned in a cluster analysis approach. The aim is to demonstrate how these diverse identities collectively influence threat perceptions and extremist attitudes. Focusing on the interrelations among these five identities, the research proposes that identities amplify each other in specific constellations, leading to stronger identity-based threats and right-wing attitudes than single measurements. Based on data from a 2022 representative German survey (N = 4,319), it examines the role of social identities and identity threats in fostering right-wing extremist attitudes. The findings suggest that complex identity configurations are stronger predictors of such attitudes, highlighting identity's multifaceted role in shaping societal views, norms, and values. The critical role of diverse social identities in shaping political attitudes and behaviors, underlying the discourse on populism and identity politics, will be discussed.

Risk and Protective Factors for Islamist and Right-wing Extremist

Attitudes Among Adolescents: Recent Evidence From Germany *Carl Philipp Schröder, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony; Yvonne Krieg, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony; Leonie Dreißigacker, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony*

Radicalization, as the process of how people become extremists, often starts early in life. Risk and protective factors for extremism are well researched, but the question remains as to what extent the younger generation reproduces extremist attitudes and what factors play a role, particularly during adolescence. Based on Beelmann's (2020) radicalization model and meta-studies, a large number of potential risk and protective factors were included in the study. The database consists of a sample of 7,779 seventh-graders from Lower Saxony, Germany and was conducted by the Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony in 2022. This random sample was used to examine extremist attitudes as well as risk and protective factors for both Islamist and right-wing extremist attitudes. Preliminary results indicate that, among Muslims, parents' receipt of social assistance, feeling marginalized as a Muslim, authoritarianism, and a lack of self-esteem are related to Islamist attitudes. For right-wing attitudes, the strongest relationship is found for authoritarianism, lack of law-abidingness and poor school grades.

### 251. Sentencing 3. Alternative Sanctions

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Courts and Sentencing and Penal Decision Making (Sentencing and Penal Decisionmaking WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)

Chair:

*Daniel Nitu, Babes-Bolyai University, Faculty of Law*

Participants:

Challenging Parole Decisions in England and Wales: Reconsideration and Set Aside *Stephen Cameron Shute, University of Sussex*

Criminal justice reform can often be triggered by a single traumatic event. This was true of parole in England and Wales when the Parole Board took the decision in late 2017 to direct the release of the so-called 'Black cab rapist', John Worboys. Once news of that decision entered the public domain there was an immediate strong negative reaction across the political parties and in the media. The Government responded by introducing a raft of measures designed to restore public and political confidence in parole through greater accountability and transparency. Probably the most significant of these reforms was the creation in 2019 of a reconsideration mechanism. It allowed the Board to take a second look at provisional parole decisions after they had been made. In 2022 this was supplemented by a sister scheme which permitted final parole decisions to be set aside. By the end of December 2023 judgments on 1,002 applications – 889 reconsideration and 113 set aside – had either been issued or were (in a few cases) imminent. By March 2024 more than 800 of these judgments had been published. The time is therefore ripe for a comprehensive review of the way the two schemes have operated. This paper considers the fruits of the author's analysis – the first of its kind – of all published reconsideration and set aside judgments as at March 2024 as well as some unpublished decisions about which information was provided to the author by the Board. The paper opens a window not just onto how the two review mechanisms have been working but onto parole decision-making generally.

The Driving Ban for Non-Traffic-Related Offenses *Tim Nicklas Festerling, University of Leipzig*

The additional sentence of a non-traffic-related driving ban exists in Germany since 2017. Since then, it has been possible to sentence not only road traffic crimes with a driving ban, but any type of crime. The introduction has been criticized as there is no longer a connection between the type of sanction and the crime. It was also criticized that the driving ban cannot be applied to everyone. At the same time, it was argued that the introduction of the non-traffic-

related driving ban was meant to close a gap in the system of sanctions. This should be done in such a way that people can be additionally sentenced with a driving ban, for whom the fine in particular does not have the intended effect. This talk is to illustrate the acceptance of this reform in practice. The official prosecution statistics do not provide enough information about non-traffic-related driving bans in Germany. Therefore, all judges and public prosecutors throughout Germany were asked about the frequency of use of the non-traffic-related driving ban. At the same time, reasons for or against the use of the ban were asked. This means that the practical relevance of this type of sanction in the German system of sanctions can be explored for the first time. In addition, the opinion of those actors in the criminal justice system who can use the non-traffic-related driving ban can be presented with regard to the arguments for and against its use.

**Understanding parole success after release from prison in England and Wales** *Tim McSweeney, Anglia Ruskin University*

Parole is a mechanism by which some prisoners in England and Wales (E&W) may be released from custody under probation supervision and subject to conditions ('on licence'). It is the responsibility of the Parole Board to conduct independent risk assessments of eligible prisoners to determine whether they can be safely released into the community or should remain in custody for the protection of the public. This independent study – the largest of its kind to date – describes this cohort and reports on the extent and nature of post-release rates of recall, custodial reconviction, and proven serious further offending by parolees in E&W between 2011 and 2023. It also identifies risk and protective factors associated with these outcomes. Funded by the Dawes Trust, this exploratory research is among the first to emerge from a ground-breaking data-linkage initiative, led by the Ministry of Justice, supported by ADR UK, and hosted by the Office for National Statistics in the United Kingdom. It enables accredited researchers to access and link de-identified, individual-level, research-ready administrative data from across the criminal justice system for research purposes. The unique insights from the research will be used to inform a better understanding of how the implementation, development, and delivery of parole arrangements can shape post-release outcomes for prisoners. Given the considerable social and economic costs associated with reoffending - recently estimated at over £GBP 18 billion annually in E&W, the project will generate public benefits by informing strategies for the effective supervision of prisoners and parolees.

**Community Sanctions. 10 years of the new Criminal Code in Romania** *Daniel Nitu, Babes-Bolyai University, Faculty of Law*

The judicial individualization of the execution of the punishment represented one of the institutions fundamentally revised in the Code of 2014. In an attempt to provide legal mechanisms that would allow the court to choose the most appropriate form of criminal liability, the Code proposed a new regulation in this matter. Two new institutions were regulated, namely the waiver of punishment and the postponement of the application of the punishment, and the institution of suspending the execution of the punishment under supervision was rethought. The institutions are thus designed in a progressive sequence determined by the seriousness of the crime committed, the dangerousness of the criminal, the degree of intervention to correct the convict and the consequences on him. More than 10 years after the entry into force of these institutions, the courts have already become familiar with them, overcoming some initial syncope. The interventions with the power of law of the Supreme Court, through the mechanism of rulings in untangling some legal issues, as well as recent amendments of the law will be thoroughly analyzed.

**252. Green Criminology #3 - Responding to Environmental harms and crimes**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Environmental/Green Criminology  
Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Library - reading room 1*

Chair:

*Valeria Vegh Weis, Buenos Aires University*

Participants:

**Civic Activism as a Tool in the Fight against Crimes against Animals - the Example of a Non-Governmental Organisation Operating in Poland** *Diana Dajnowicz-Piesiecka, University of Bialystok*

The animal protection system in Poland involves various actors and institutions operating at different levels, from local to national. These include state institutions such as courts, prosecutors' offices, veterinary inspections, police, municipal and communal guards, as well as non-governmental organizations. This paper will focus on the activities of the latter group of actors. The paper aims to examine the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Poland in fighting crimes against animals. It focuses on the effectiveness of their activities and methods in protecting animal rights and preventing animal abuse. The main hypothesis is that civic activism, through the actions of NGOs, is an effective tool in combating crimes against animals in Poland. To test this hypothesis, we conducted research using various methods, including analyzing literature on the subject, reviewing reports and publications from non-governmental organizations that work to protect animal rights, analyzing statistical data on animal crimes in Poland, and conducting interviews with representatives from pro-animal organizations. The conclusion drawn is that civic activism is crucial in safeguarding animal rights in Poland. It contributes to raising public awareness, influencing legislative changes, and aiding in cases of animal rights violations. However, organizations face challenges such as inadequate funding, limited legal and institutional support, and the necessity for better cooperation with law enforcement agencies.

**Networking of environmental activists with an empowerment approach: In the case of 'collecting shell project' in Minamata, Japan.** *Orika Komatsubara, Tohoku University*

The aim of this study is to provide a theoretical framework for networking environmental activists in an empowerment approach. Environmental activists often have mental health problems in the face of daily information about environmental crises and severe environmental harm. In addition, some sensitive young people flee environmental activism to escape environmental anxiety. I therefore suggest that there is a need for networking, with the aim of empowering people to confront the environmental crisis. I conducted a case study on 'collecting shell product (CSP)' in Minamata, Japan in 2023. Minamata disease, a serious pollution hazard, occurred in Minamata in 1956: 2998 people suffered severe neurological disorders and a huge number of citizens suffered health problems. At the CSP, participants learnt about the history of Minamata disease at the Minamata Municipal Museum, walked along a formerly contaminated beach guided by a family member of a victim, and picked up shellfish. Finally, they sat in a circle and engaged in dialogue. Through analysis of the case studies, I found two points. First, through their work on the beach, the CSP participants learnt that not only humans but also fish and birds are victims of environmental harm. Second, participants swam, played music, and shared their feelings on the beach. Third, after the CSP, some young people spontaneously started a study group on Minamata disease. These three points are characterised by the fact that participants communicate not with environmental policies and slogans, but by sharing deep feelings and compassions for non-human beings. In conclusion, I extract the practical skeleton of the CSP and propose a theoretical framework for empowering environmental activist networking.

**Prosecuting Individuals for Environmental Crimes Under The U.S. Clean Air Act** *josh ozymy, University of Nevada, Reno; Melissa Jarrell Ozymy, University of Nevada, Reno*

Air pollution crimes involving significant harm or culpable conduct may be remedied through criminal prosecution. Yet we know very little about how individuals have been prosecuted historically for such crimes under the U.S. Clean Air Act. We utilize content analysis of 2,728 environmental crime prosecutions stemming from U.S. EPA criminal investigations, 1983-2021 and select out all Clean Air Act prosecutions of individuals for analysis. Our findings show that 253 prosecutions or 65 percent of total Clean Air Act prosecutions involve individuals exclusively, who were

cumulatively sentenced to pay \$327 million in monetary penalties, serve 386 years of incarceration, and 709 years of probation. Monetary penalties are heavily weighted towards outliers, with 86 percent of the monetary penalties ascribed to five large-penalty cases and 62 percent of these prosecutions centered on asbestos crimes. We conclude with suggestions to increase resources in order to broaden the scope of criminal enforcement to deter environmental crimes.

**Southern perspectives on Wildlife Crime. Non-punitive responses to IUU in Argentina** *Valeria Vegh Weis, Buenos Aires University*

Based on the study of regulatory instruments and open-ended in-depth interviews, this chapter focuses on the innovative work of the Prefectura Naval Argentina (PNA) in addressing IUU through non-punitive solutions. Specifically, the chapter analyses the PNA's intervention in the Huali 8 case, which the PNA described as a "paradigm shift" in the control of IUU in the EEZ. Bridging green and blue criminologies, this chapter highlights a case in the Global South that shows how a law enforcement agency destined to exercise punitive power sought to explore alternative courses of action that have served as an example in other parts of the world.

**253. POL Panel 20. Criminal Justice and AI: Bias, public perception and ethics**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)*

Chair:

*Anastasia Kordoni, Trilateral Research*

Participants:

Public perception of the use of 'AI' in the policing of marginalised communities *Martina Feilzer, Bangor University, Wales, UK; Bethan Loftus, Bangor University*

This paper will draw on recent research completed on public and stakeholder perceptions of the use of AI technologies in policing. It will focus specifically on public views on the use of such technologies in relation to marginalised communities and shed some light on the concerns raised. We conducted research exploring the benefits, challenges and ethical concerns raised by the use of various computational technologies proposed for use in policing with the public, police representatives and other relevant stakeholders. We drew on survey research, focus groups discussion and interviews for this study and found a significant lack of awareness of the various technologies proposed for use in policing. Regardless, a significant concern was expressed about privacy and that concern was higher among young and ethnic minority respondents. We also saw support for retaining a 'human-in-the loop', concern about 'mission creep' and accuracy of the technology. In this paper we will focus specifically on how the use of these technologies is seen to impact marginalised communities and consider the importance of such concerns for policing in England and Wales.

**Research based evaluation of body-worn camera (BWC) footage as evidence in criminal proceedings.** Preliminary findings *Jędrzej Radosław Kupczyński, University of Warsaw (Poland)*

Body-worn camera (BWC) became a common tool in modern policing. Law enforcement agencies all over the globe tend to use such devices hoping to reinforce police accountability and 'cool down' interactions between officers and members of the public. If it comes to the effectiveness of BWCs' calming effect, already conducted research shows mixed results (e.g. Ariel, Barak, William A. Farar, and Alex Sutherland. 2015. "The Effect of Police Body-Worn Cameras on Use of Force and Citizens' Complaints against the Police: A Randomized Controlled Trial." *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* 31 (3): 509–35 shows significant calming effect of BWCs while Yokum, David, Anita Ravishankar, and Alexander Coppock. 2019. "A Randomized Control Trial Evaluating the Effects of Police Body-Worn Cameras." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United*

*States of America* 116 (21): 10329–32 indicates contrary). But still the argument is made that BWCs provide reliable source of evidence. The author conducts research that aims to evaluate actual evidentiary value of BWCs footage in Polish criminal procedure. Preliminary findings show that BWC footage is used extremely rarely in criminal procedure in comparison to the global amount of produced recordings. The evidentiary value of BWC footage is subject to case file analysis, which already shows some procedural and substantive problems with such evidence. The research is currently ongoing, yet this paper aims to present preliminary findings.

**Same old story? Revealing Discrepancies Between Promises and Realities in CCTV and Body-Worn Cameras for Crime Prevention, Investigation, and Trial.** *Paweł Waszkiewicz, Faculty of Law and Administration*

At the start of the 21st century, Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) was introduced as a revolutionary tool for enhancing crime prevention. The rationale for extending CCTV coverage was to aid in investigative work and provide evidence for trials. Fifteen years later, Body-Worn Cameras (BWC) were introduced and also hailed as a game-changer in this field. Especially to address excessive use of force by police officers, outcomes often fail to meet expectations despite promises. This presentation examines the landscape of surveillance technologies, highlighting the discrepancies between the assurances made and the outcomes delivered. We critically examine empirical evidence and case studies to reveal the limitations and challenges associated with CCTV and BWC in their intended roles. This presentation addresses issues related to privacy infringement and the complexities of evidence admissibility when navigating the intricate terrain of surveillance technologies in the criminal justice system. It prompts a reevaluation of the efficacy and ethical implications of CCTV and BWC in contemporary criminology by highlighting the recurring issue of unmet promises.

**Unfolding Biases in Law Enforcement AI: A Scoping Review of Systematic Biases and Mitigation Strategies for Investigative Technologies** *Anastasia Kordoni, Trilateral Research*

Law enforcement is increasingly adopting new technologies, including forensic AI tools, to investigate crimes and improve operational practices. These technologies have been criticised for embedding and potentially exacerbating different kinds of biases that can have broad social ramifications, such as discrimination, injustice, and unfair targeting. However, there is a lack of consensus on what kinds of biases can systematically occur across the development process of law enforcement AI systems and how these biases can be mitigated. In this review, we explored the systematicity of biases, the development stage in which they may occur, and mitigation practices in the domain of law enforcement technologies. The review included empirical evidence from various disciplines, such as criminology, computer science and information technology, psychology and policing. The results summarize the various types of biases through a de-biasing framework and provide insights into potential mitigating measures along three dimensions: technical, socio-technical and behavioural. Addressing aspects of bias will contribute to better-informed decision making, facilitating the relationship between law enforcement and the public and ensuring more effective community safeguarding.

**254. Crime and Cinema**

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Media and social construction of crime

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.10*

Chair:

*Michiel van der Wolf, University of Groningen*

Participants:

**50 Shades of Media? Depicting Domestic Violence in Modern Movies.** *Natalie Koepsel, natalie.koepsel@dhp.de; Catharina Vogt, Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei*

How does a public picture of DV influence its perception and reality in the off-media world? Which depictions are chosen to catch the



attention and emotions of the audience- and which stigmatisations are triggered by this? Presented is a workshop, developed within the IMPROVE project (Improving Access to Services for Victims of Domestic Violence by Accelerating Change in Frontline Responder Organisations, funded by HORIZON Innovation Actions Grant Agreement No. 101074010). It is designed for (young) filmmakers to reflect and plan the inclusion of violent scenes as part of the story, to raise awareness on the situation of victim-survivors. Included are results of interviews that were conducted during the IMPROVE project with victim-survivors of DV and law enforcement practitioners as well as film makers' demands on producing modern movies that help fighting stereotypes of partnership violence and offer alternatives via a display of constructive conflict management, help seeking behavior and simple movie techniques, that allow the viewer to be in a neutral or victim-positive position instead of always seeing a person affected by DV as helpless victim or idealizing violent behavior through "love stories". The aim of this presentation is to open the room for a discussion on the knowledge transfer from criminological research into modern media and thus opening a higher social impact of research results.

**Cinema Behind Bars: the consequences of violent cinematic representations of prison upon inmates *Eric Cano Cobano, UPF***

Criminologists have long underscored the significance of cinema as the primary medium through which a substantial part of society gains insights into the workings of prisons and the events that unfold within them. Notably, this encompasses many of those who eventually become imprisoned. Within this context, through the largest content analysis on prison cinema to date, this research has established that cinematic depictions tend to be rigid, repetitive, reductionist, stigmatizing, and notably violent in portraying both the prison environment and its associated actors. This representation is presumed to exert a profound influence on the broader public's perception of penal institutions. Despite this acknowledgment, there has been a dearth of research exploring the social ramifications engendered by this phenomenon, particularly concerning the experiences of inmates during imprisonment. Aligned with the theoretical framework of visual criminology and seeking to address this gap, the present study employs an innovative visual elicitation method involving numerous former inmates. Within this context, the research delves into how fictional representations of prisons shaped participants' expectations regarding the dynamics of imprisonment and its associated actors as well as impacted the attitudes and behaviors of the former interns in their initial weeks within the prison.

**Sex, Scandal, and the Creation of Victimhood in User-Generated True Crime *Cassidy Victoria Smith, University of Glasgow***

In the presentation, I will explore how true crime content creators on YouTube, TikTok and Spotify interact with the key themes of sex, scandal, and sensation. I will show primarily how the producer's individual perception of what true crime is, what it should be, and what role these themes should (or, in some cases, should not) play, ultimately shapes how they present victims in the content that they create. To do so, I will investigate the role that the traits of gothic sensationalism has long played in the genre – heightened emotion, black-and-white morality, scandalous love affairs, and a lascivious delight in the gore and horror of other people's suffering. From *In Cold Blood*, to *My Favourite Murder*, the desire to entertain and inspire horror, after-all, have played far more of a role than any great commitment to the facts of the homicide. However, as more and more of society reckons with the consequences of its ideals, is that still the case? Drawing upon my PhD thesis, I will use data from recent interviews with high-profile creators to highlight a growing conversation within true crime about moral responsibilities to the murdered and, for the first time, show how content producers play an active role in both the recent growth of "ethical true crime" and its moves away from overt, heavily fictionalised sensationalism. I will present an individualised look at the decision-making and creative processes involved in user-generated true crime and by doing so, show how a greater consideration of socio-political structural theorems like rape culture, gender-based violence and necropolitics, brushes aside the scandal to look far more closely at the reality.

Too nuts to walk loose. The image of forensic care, professionals

and patients in Dutch fiction, films and series *Eleni Georgaki, Leiden University; Michiel van der Wolf, University of Groningen; Joni Reef, Leiden University*

A forensic patient develops a relationship with his therapist, which allows him to escape from the clinic and reoffend, after which he will once again be detained in the clinic. This is a common plot in Dutch fictional films and series depicting forensic care, while in reality such stories are highly exceptional. Therefore the image of forensic care becomes skewed, negative and sensationalist, which is of importance as American research shows that the impact of drama on public opinion may be higher than that of news media. The portrayal of patients, professionals and the system of forensic care as a whole in fictional films and series can be classified in frames, which are known from research on (social) media or research on fiction abroad. This study aims to answer the question what frames are used for forensic care in Dutch fictional films and series. Sixteen productions from the last twenty years have been found and analyzed on the basis of general characteristics, including the plot, as well as the frames used to portray forensic care. Most of the frames used are negative and based on exceptional cases. Patients are portrayed as a 'wild beast' or 'master manipulator' who have committed capital crimes and/or serious sexual offenses. Most professionals are portrayed as naive, incompetent 'cuddlers' and 'seducible'. Because of this combination the system is portrayed as having 'more holes than a Swiss cheese' with a lack of attention for victims. Influencing this image is more important than ever for creating societal support. The escaped forensic patient should make room for the patient who will no longer reoffend after successful treatment, which fortunately is a much more frequent character in reality.

**255. Evolutionary Criminology and Cooperation: Retribution, Reciprocity, and Crime (E. Svingen)**

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Biological, Biosocial and Psychological Perspectives

Author meets critics

2:00 to 3:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11*

This book develops an evolutionary theory of crime, the Retribution and Reciprocity Model (RRM), and discusses biosocial criminology's role in solving criminology's theoretical crisis. Both evolutionary theory and neurocriminology are growing fields that are attracting more and more interest for criminologists and wider fields alike. This book summarises important readings related to retribution and punishment and presents some neurocriminological findings. In addition, the book introduces a new methodology for the study of crime: a game theory experiment adapted from the field of behavioural economics. Overall, the book synthesises the key crime literature, presents a new theory of crime in a new field of evolutionary criminology and its methodology, and provides empirical results supporting the theory.

Critics:

**Kyle Treiber**, University of Cambridge

**Manuel Eisner**, University of Cambridge

**Timothy Edgemon**, University of Birmingham

Book Author:

**Evelyn Svingen**, University of Birmingham

**256. Hate crime victimisation**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Hate Crime (Hate Crime WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.14*

Chair:

**Eva Maria Groß**, Hochschule Polizei Hamburg

Participants:

A Victimization Survey on the Topic of Hate Crime - A Web Probing Pretest of a Questionnaire Battery for the National Survey "Safety and Crime in Germany" **Tabitha Vos, Hamburg Police Department**

For the 2024 wave of the nationwide survey "Safety and Crime in

Germany” a new battery question regarding hate crime victimization was developed. The goal was to better understand the experiences that are reported as hate crime by the respondents. Precise wording is crucial to avoid over-reporting, as vague questions could lead to misidentification of hate crimes, potentially inflating prevalence rates. While the overall survey has been tested for comprehensibility, the new set of hate crime questions hasn't been specifically tested on people who have been victims of hate crimes. Therefore, this additional pretest is relevant as it provides insight into the perception of the question by relevant victim groups. For this purpose, the method of web probing is used to realize the cognitive pretest of the new question set. The analysis of the participants' answers shows that the current wording of the questions in the survey is imprecise and therefore misleading. In addition, the evaluation of the pretest shows that certain characteristics (age, gender and social status) were answered very ambiguously by the participants. The value of this research can be seen in the generation of possible approaches for improving the wording of hate crime question sets derived from the pretest. This is presented by explaining the reliability and validity problems of the new hate crime question set. Accordingly, new possibilities for reducing the complexity of the question wording will also be presented.

Fear of crime, avoidance behavior and loss of trust in institutions following hate crime victimization in minority groups *Lukas Boll, State Office for Criminal Investigation Lower Saxony; Thorsten Garrels, State Office for Criminal Investigation Lower Saxony; Alexander Gluba, State Office for Criminal Investigation of Lower Saxony (LKA Niedersachsen), Germany; Viktoria Bosold, State Office for Criminal Investigation of Lower Saxony*

Hate crime, understood as crime motivated by prejudice, has become increasingly important in science, media and political discourse in Germany in recent years. However, empirical research on the extent of hate crime and its consequences in Germany is rare. To expand empirical data on this topic, the State Office for Criminal Investigation of Lower Saxony conducted a large-scale crime victimization survey focusing on hate crime in Hanover. We examined how different groups are affected, how hate crimes are dealt with and the consequences of what had been experienced. In total, our data contains  $n = 7,411$  observations. We will present descriptive analyses on hate crime victimization in minority groups. Those findings reveal that hate crime victims show lower trust in institutions, higher levels of cognitive and affective fear of crime as well as increased avoidance behavior and spatial sense of insecurity. To further examine these possible consequences of hate crime, we propose multivariate analyses to explore the general structural relationship of the measured and latent variables and to estimate the effect of hate crime victimization on the aforementioned factors. The multivariate results differ from descriptive results, suggesting mediation effects. These findings will be discussed, providing an important empirical basis for discussions about consequences of hate crime victimization that are relevant not only in a scientific but also in a societal and political context.

Social psychology of online hate and harassment: Victimization and offending in six EU countries *Atte Oksanen, Tampere University; Magdalena Celuch, Tampere University; Janne Vepsäläinen, Tampere University; Markus Kaakinen, University of Helsinki; Iina Savolainen, Tampere University*

Online hate and harassment are a significant concern worldwide. The spectrum of online hate and harassment encompasses aggressive and antagonistic behaviors directed at both individuals and groups. New theories are needed to explain the phenomenon. This paper was based on social psychological self-determination theory that underlines relevance of basic psychological needs of autonomy, competence and relatedness for human motivation and wellbeing. We used longitudinal Self & Technology EU-6 data that was collected in 2022–2023 from Finland ( $n=1,541$ ), France ( $n=1,561$ ), Germany ( $n=1,529$ ), Ireland ( $n=1,112$ ), Italy ( $n=1,530$ ), and Poland ( $n=1,533$ ). Participants were aged 18–75 years, and their demographic profile matched the target population of each country. Victimization to online hate and harassment was measured

with a 9-item scale. Online hate and harassment offending was measured with a single-item question. Predictors included basic psychological needs which were based on the Basic Psychological Need Satisfaction and Frustration Scale, metacognition (MSAS), psychological distress (MHI-5), and social media addiction (BSMAS). Models were run using hybrid multilevel regression enabling the separation of within-person and between-person effects. Male gender and younger age were associated with victimization and offending. Fulfilment of basic psychological needs decreased victimization in Germany (relatedness) and offending in Finland (competence), Germany (autonomy), and Poland (competence). Social media addiction had a within-person effect on victimization in all countries and on offending in France, Germany, Italy, and Poland. Between-person effects showed that social media addicts had higher rate of both victimization and offending than others. For metacognition we found only some evidence (between-person effects in Finland, Germany, and Poland). Psychological distress was consistently associated with both victimization and offending. The study indicated that social psychological measures deriving from the self-determination theory are promising in explaining cybercrime. The strongest and most consistent results, however, concerned social media addiction.

Reporting behavior in the context of hate crime victimization. The role of trust in and discrimination experiences by the police within mechanisms influencing reporting behavior. *Eva Maria Groß, Hochschule Polizei Hamburg; Joachim Häfele, Police Academy of Lower Saxony/Institute for Crime and Security Research; Armin Küchler, Bielefeld University/ FH Münster*

Hate crimes or prejudice-related acts are motivated by the ideology of inequality between different population groups. Victims often feel particularly powerless due to the fact that they cannot change the characteristics that motivated the attack. This feeling of powerlessness is typically accompanied by particularly low reporting rates. Accordingly, in Germany, as well as in other European countries, a very high number of unreported cases must be assumed in this field ranging between 50% and 90%, (e.g., Church & Coester, 2021; Fröhlich, 2021; Groß, Häfele & Peter 2024). According to Article 14 of the European Convention on Human Rights and the EU Directive on Victims' Rights, member states are obliged to make prejudiced actions visible and comprehensively document them statistically. Thus, the high level of under-reporting of hate crime victims is a serious problem not only for society in general, but also for the police in particular, as they are responsible for protecting all citizens. Building on existing research on hate crime victimization and reporting behavior, this study empirically examines the role of trust in police and experiences of discrimination in contact with the police within the social mechanisms that influence reporting behavior. The analyses are based on the Hate Town project, which aims to record how different minority groups are affected by prejudice-based victimization. The data basis consists of  $n = 4577$  individuals from  $N = 96$  districts in Hamburg (Germany).

## 257. Criminology of Mobility. Panel 9. Changing landscapes of immigration detention

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Crime Control and the Immigration System (Immigration, Crime and Citizenship WG)  
Roundtable

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.22

This roundtable will present the Special Issue 'Changing Landscapes of immigration detention' published in the journal *Punishment and Society*. The issue brings together different geographic locations and empirical cases to provide a set of tools for analyzing the complex landscape of immigration detention today. For over a decade, the study of immigration detention has captured the attention of punishment and society scholars, who have emphasized its role in expanding the penal landscape and transforming traditional punishment. Existing research has revealed the mutable character of immigration detention regimes compared to other forms of penal power, highlighting their flexibility and enduring nature. Despite this wealth of scholarship, a gap remains in conceptual tools and empirical explorations to comprehensively understand subregional and country variations in immigration detention systems. This roundtable seeks to contribute to filling

this gap by discussing diverse case studies and practices that illustrate the nuanced aspects of immigration detention systems and the varied forms this practice takes. Our objective is to showcase the dynamic contexts shaping detention, resulting in national systems influenced by unique combinations of socioeconomic, political, and legal trends historically configured and connected to countries' post/neo/colonial histories. Additionally, we will explore influential forces that significantly impact the establishment of detention regimes, including immigration and refugee models and the influence of specific penal traditions on immigration detention technologies. Our aim is to overcome challenges in engaging in multidisciplinary and international conversations due to the singularities of different cases, diverse disciplinary approaches, and the prevalence of methodological nationalism.

Chair:

**Cristina Fernandez Bessa**, University of A Coruna

Discussant:

**Giulia Fabini**, University of Bologna

Participants:

Analytical Dimensions for exploring the Changing Landscapes of Immigration Detention *Ana Ballesteros-Pena, Complutense University of Madrid; Cristina Fernandez Bessa, University of A Coruna*

In this introductory presentation, our aim is to establish analytical dimensions that will serve as a framework for future research in the field. These dimensions are addressed in diverse ways by the various contributions to this Special Issue. They should be viewed as a continuum within which specific detention practices can be situated and examined within their respective contexts. These dimensions not only aid in capturing the contextual nature and unique characteristics of various detention practices but also facilitate international dialogue and comparative analysis of immigration detention phenomena. Moving beyond overarching global narratives that often focus on a select few countries, we propose the following "situated" dimensions to be explored within their respective contexts, enabling the identification and comprehensive understanding of both commonalities and nuances: spatial and temporal considerations, the presence of violence and living conditions, the roles, nature and subjectivity of involved actors, and the balance between punitive measures and humanitarian considerations in detention practices.

Multiple functions of immigration detention: Police measures in the governance of mobile populations *Jukka K on onen, Institute of Criminology and Legal Policy, University of Helsinki*

Notwithstanding punitive implications, immigration detention as an administrative deprivation of liberty represents a characteristic police measure, targeting deportable noncitizens with limited rights and protections. Drawing on an analysis of the detention system in Finland, I discuss different functions of immigration detention, focusing on police powers in the governance of mobile populations. In Finland, immigration detention is separated from the criminal justice system and delegated to the police, who possess broad powers to impose coercive measures for the enforcement of immigration decisions and social control in the absence of effective judicial supervision. Despite being affiliated with the removal of rejected asylum seekers, immigration detention also is intertwined with crime prevention and control of irregular migration. In addition to deprivation of liberty in the first place, police measures support removal procedures that continue during detention, as well as other administrative strategies to control deportable people and deter unauthorized residency, involving varying degrees of coercion. Though connected with criminal justice and manifestations of penal power in border criminology discussions, immigration detention can arguably be better understood as a coercive police measure, which can be employed alongside other administrative means for immigration enforcement outside of the criminal justice system.

Border control within Spanish prisons? Intersections between immigration control and imprisonment at the southern border of Europe *Cristina G uerri, Universitat Pompeu Fabra*

Recent scholarship has highlighted that, for many foreign nationals, Western European prisons function as 'places of crimmigration' where non-citizens are over-represented, often excluded from rehabilitation efforts, sometimes held in segregated prisons, and

where it is common for incarceration to lead to deportation. However, this literature has mainly focused on north-western European countries and has neglected countries on the EU's southern border, where different dynamics may be at work. This research aims to provide a broader understanding of how border control shapes imprisonment in Western European prisons by including Spain, a Southern European country, in the picture. To this end, this article examines prison regulations on foreign inmates and original statistics on their release and expulsion from prison. In doing so, this paper demonstrates that the aims of border control have permeated Spanish prisons, making imprisonment into an exclusionary punishment for certain non-citizens and introducing a new role for prison staff. The findings of this study also indicate that expulsions are used selectively on a small proportion of incarcerated noncitizens. This result is consistent with previous research suggesting a discrepancy between crimmigration discourse and practice, while also revealing the existence of hierarchies of belonging.

The obsolescence of detention: Versatility, expendability and plasticity in the field of immigration confinement *Jose A. Brandariz, University of A Coruna*

Studies on immigration enforcement and bordered penalty frequently depict immigration detention as a system of confinement enforced in closed, relatively opaque facilities geared towards the expeditious deportation of non-citizens. This notion is actually a synecdoche of the diverse forms of containment and the varying, more or less dispensable roles played by detention practices within immigration enforcement systems. This paper challenges this perspective by considering prominent changes taking place in the detention field across Europe, which can be seen as signals of a gradual detention crisis. In this respect, it explores the versatility of detention practices, which have made the detention system particularly resilient. Despite this resilience, though, the paper unveils and maps the obsolescence of detention centric models of immigration enforcement, which manifests itself in the jurisdictions in which detention systems either are largely irrelevant or have been shrinking in the recent past. Additionally, the paper examines the consolidation of the hotspot archipelago in Mediterranean Europe, which has expanded the containment capacity of the border control apparatus and made it increasingly plastic. Yet the hotspot system is in itself an additional manifestation of the obsolescence of detention-centric models of enforcement. After having scrutinised these different dimensions, the paper concludes by exploring the promises and pitfalls of a changing detention landscape and suggesting directions for future research.

## 258. Media and social construction of crime I

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Media and social construction of crime

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.29

Chair:

**Stuart Taylor**, The Open University

Participants:

Canadian News Media Construction of Intimate Partner Femicide *Jordan Fairbairn, Kings University College at Western University; Myrna Dawson, University of Guelph; Ciara Boyd, University of Guelph*

News media have an important role to play in preventing intimate femicide, defined as the killing of a woman by her current or former intimate partner. Media representations are a key space for understanding and shaping attitudes surrounding violence against women, an elusive area of primary prevention work, but critical to social change. Internationally, researchers and advocates are increasingly vocal about the invisibility, downplaying, and/or misrepresentation of femicide in the media and among society, and news media are increasingly recognized as not only information sources, but as active participants in social change. As such, this work approaches media (including social media, digital platforms, and journalists) as powerful institutions and actors that must be included in critical and feminist criminological work on violence.

This paper analyzes Canadian news media response to intimate partner femicide with a view to increasing media capacity to operate as an agent of primary prevention. Situated in critical criminological, constructionist, and intersectional feminist approaches to analyzing media, we share research findings from our ongoing study of news representations of cases of intimate partner femicide in Canada. In analyzing approximately 1500 news articles to date, our focus is on how intimate partner femicide is described and what causal factors are identified. We consider the potential implications of these news constructions, as well as the pivotal role that journalist collaboration, education, and training plays in increasing the capacity of news media to operate as a site of primary prevention.

**Challenging media representations of drugs from the inside: Reflections of being an academic consultant on the BBC's Drugs Map of Britain series.** *Stuart Taylor, The Open University*

It is one thing to critically analyse and bemoan how dominant constructions of drugs bolster the wider reductionist drugs discourse (see Taylor, 2008, 2016, Ayres and Taylor 2020, 2022, 2023) but quite another to challenge these. This paper draws on recent experiences which have highlighted how media framing of drugs, drugs use and drug related issues continue to 'force the facts of social life through the sieve of dominant ideology' (Reinarman and Duskin, 1992: 15). It foremostly focuses on my recent role as academic consultant on the BBC produced Drugs Map of Britain series, which provided an 8-part insight into emerging patterns of drug use among young people across the UK. Overall, this proved a steep learning curve and by engaging in this process it remains unclear whether I influenced things for 'the better' or was complicit with the very structural circuits surrounding drugs and their use that critical drugs scholars bemoan. That said, more was certainly learnt more about those circuits and there is a story to be told about how they are continuing dominant – and harmful – constructions of drugs and drug use. Whilst as academics we may not win the war against such powerful structures - the reluctance of producers to explore aspects of drug related pleasure and their disproportionate focus on drug users drawn from marginalised communities typifying this – we can win the odd battle by encouraging a more nuanced portrayal of key social issues. That said, this series largely failed to step outside of convenient and conventional stereotypes and the fact that so many of the individual case studies were in the midst of serious health/wellbeing problems appeared deeply problematic and questions whether we, as criminologists, should understand such engagement as value adding and/or ethical.

**Exploring the Societal Construction of Deviance: A Media Framing Analysis of Prostitution in Germany** *Robert Küster, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony (KFN); Nicola Döring, Ilmenau University of Technology*

Background: Prostitution has been a controversial topic of public debate and legal regulation in many countries, including Germany, for centuries. One main position sees prostitution as a deviant behaviour that should be suppressed by criminalization (deviance frame with different lines of argumentation in terms of subframes). Another main position sees prostitution as a legitimate form of work that should be decriminalized (conformity frame with different lines of argumentation in terms of subframes). Research Aim: Based on the labelling approach (Howard Becker, 1963) and the theoretical concept of media framing (Robert Entman, 1993), the current study aims to investigate the prevalence of the deviance and conformity frames and their subframes in the current press coverage on prostitution in Germany. Methods: A sample of prostitution-related press articles from high quality and tabloid newspapers in Germany was drawn and coded using a reliability-tested codebook derived from the literature. Results: The results show a relatively broad prevalence of the deviance frame and its subframes, while the conformity frame and its subframes are less visible. Discussion: Press coverage of prostitution draws on the deviance frame while the academic literature broadly questions deviance and criminalization. Implications of the findings for current debates on prostitution regulation are discussed.

## 259. Cultural Criminology

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Cultural

Criminology

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.04

Chair:

**Froja Storm-Mathisen**, Department of Sociology and Human Geography, University of Oslo, Norway

Participants:

**Conspiracy Criminology: Crime, Disorder, and the Conspiratorial other in Online British Conspiracy Sub-Cultures.** *Joseph Patrick McAulay, University of Oxford, Centre for Socio-Legal Studies*

What is the relationship between conspiracy theories and crime? To answer this question, this paper will examine how the increasing number of conspiracist sub-cultures in the United Kingdom understand, and sometimes justify criminal acts by their own members. Conspiracist crime has dramatically increased in the past decade as conspiracy theories have moved from the fringes to the political mainstream, yet we currently lack an understanding of how conspiracist sub-cultures conceptualise crime. This paper will consider the potential relationship between conspiracy theories and crime through presenting data drawn from online British conspiracist sub-cultures across a variety of social media platforms such as Twitter/X, Instagram, and Telegram. From analysing these sources, this paper will argue that conspiracy theorists articulate a type of popular criminology which seeks to explain, understand, and sometimes justify criminality through a master-narrative of what I call the "conspiratorial other." These narratives blame crime and other social ills on an external alien force which has invaded society and then suggests the only means of rectifying this problem is for this "other" to be purged. In my analysis, I then highlight the way these narratives eerily accord with more dominant neo-liberal forms of criminology previously identified by theorists such as David Garland and Jock Young. This may suggest that rather than representing a new or deviant form of criminological thought conspiracy criminology could instead be conceptualised as a radicalisation or degradation of previous trends in the politics of crime and punishment put under strain by the disorder of this time of global, cultural, and political turmoil. The paper then concludes by outlining potential future directions for research in this area along with highlighting the need for a cultural criminological engagement with conspiracy cultures as they continue to grow and intrude into normal political life.

**Conventionalism in offenders? A Chilean case review from the perspective of cultural criminology** *Diego H Padilla-Lobos, Universidad San Sebastián (Chile)*

Cultural criminology is an approach that investigates the interplay between individual experience, cultural meanings, and the social power present in transgression and social deviation. From this viewpoint, the idea of offenders as essentially deviant subjects devoid of any affiliation with open society is questioned, proposing the possibility of thinking about blurred cultural boundaries, mainstream practices and shared understandings about social reality. Thus, the notion of conventionalism becomes relevant, which is observed in behaviors and attitudes consistent with established norms. From the point of view of cultural criminology, this article explores the notion of conventionalism in offenders, for which the account of a young man imprisoned during covid-19 is presented as a case study, collected through an semi-structured interview in which the following topics were addressed: identity, family and couple, politics and social position, consumerism, and perception of the future from a conventional perspective, to conclude with a discussion dedicated to social control and crime. This review allows to establish humanizing bridges with the phenomenon of "common crime", thus allowing to understand it from different perspectives.

**The mitigation of protests and activism in our museums** *Kim Covent, Lokale Politie Gent*

Museums are a popular venue for protests and activism, as evidenced by a long history on a variety of topics. Last year a flood of climate protesters chose the world's most famous art pieces to

draw attention to the devastating results of climate change. To make their case and emphasize urgency, they threw all sorts of liquids on the most prominent of paintings by Van Gogh, Monet, Vermeer, and several others. Our session will start with the shortest of overviews on recent events and insights on (climate) activism in museums. Though our presentation will leave room for a philosophical view on the role of museums and the impact of freedom of speech, we will quickly focus on the challenges for museum security personnel. We will report on our own experiences: the Ghent Museum of Fine Arts in collaboration with the Ghent Local Police provided a tailor-made training for museum guards on how to prevent, predict, and mitigate any damaging attempts of activists inside the institution. In April of 2023 we organized a training session, a TTX and an FTX to raise awareness among security guards, to provide additional resources, and to strengthen their position as safekeepers of our mediagenic works of art. From this training we will highlight a best case scenario (where the guards were able to predict and prevent such an attack) and a worst case scenario (where the activists succeeded and their pictures flooded the media). We then show what we believe are the most valuable preventive and protective measures that can be taken to avoid the worst case scenario. And finally, we close this presentation with some recommendations that cultural institutions can take into account when implementing in the short or medium term.

The street's embrace: Caregiving in the shadows of crime and marginality *Frøja Storm-Mathisen, Department of Sociology and Human Geography, University of Oslo, Norway*

Love conjures up different images to different people, and manifests differently for the same people across varying situations. Perceiving love as a resource thus oversimplifies its essence. Rather, love is renewable; it spreads, ebbs and flows, and above all, love is shared. This ethnography delves into the often-overlooked significance of love and care within criminal street culture. Drawing from four months of fieldwork and 24 in-depth interviews with young men entrenched in a violent street culture in Oslo, the study explores how these individuals navigate and express care and love amidst adversity. By emphasizing the relevance of caretaking practices, the paper seeks to move past the shame-pride dyad and delve into the intricacies of collective and affective emotion work within this distinct social context. In doing so, the article contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of the emotional dynamics within street cultures, offering valuable insights into alternative forms of social support, challenging previous theories and stereotypes, and aims to pave the way for future sociological and criminological inquiries into the transformative power of human connection amid crime, hardship, and marginalization.

## 260. Prison Working Group: Social work in prison and innovative approaches to rehabilitation

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.05

Chair:

**Kim Reising**, University of Lincoln

Participants:

Building Trust in a Distrustful Setting: Social Work at Prison *Maruta Herding, German Youth Institute*

Prisons are places strongly shaped by distrust. Neither the structural framework of the institution nor everyday prison life promote trust as part of everyday culture. Punishment and rehabilitation are linked to control, security and the deprivation of freedom. Control measures such as detention, body searches, urine sampling or cell searches are often performed and perceived as displays of hierarchy and power. Circulating private information poses a danger to prisoners in the subculture of prison life and in the detainees' hierarchy. This constitutes an unfavourable starting point for building trust. In this situation, something is supposed to take place that strongly requires trust: social work at prison. It aims at supporting detainees to develop a positive life plan and to reprocess the criminal past. This only works in a professional relationship

built on trust. This paper will address the problem of trust in distrustful prison culture drawing on extensive field material (and in-depth qualitative analysis) on social work by external projects, working at German prisons with the mandate of preventing political and religious extremism. How is it possible to build trust in prison, given the contradiction between a required trustful work relationship and the distrustful prison culture? What individual meaning do prisoners, officers and social workers associate with trust? The findings suggest that – although the topic of radicalisation further aggravates the situation –, external projects are able to advance in building trust, e.g. by accentuating their role of being outsiders to the system, but also by a person-centered pedagogical approach.

Effective social work practices and interventions during reentry from prisons to the community: a literature review *Mari Katriina Suonto, University of Eastern Finland*

This presentation is based on a literature review (a sub-study of an ongoing research project "Multi-agency social work to support clients released from prison in a digitalizing society"), that seeks to find social work practices and interventions that have been proven effective. Data consists of peer review international scientific articles and the literature review follows the PRISMA statement. The databases that have been used are Web of Science, Scopus and SOCIndex. A theory-driven realistic synthesis has been used and it is based on the hypothesis of desistance and well-being theories. A hypothesis for the analysis is that social programs are embedded in complex systems. Also, social work and social services are seen broadly in this study. The data is selected by the tasks and meaning of social work, and how it is implemented in the criminal justice with releasees. As the preliminary results, a strength-based social work seems to be an emphasized approach when working with releasees. When it comes to the desistance and reentry to the society, it is important to support family and intimate relationships as well as housing and employment issues. When assessing releasees needs for support and planning the pre- and post-release, individualized plans based on individual needs are critical for the successful reentry. In addition, ensuring that post-release social services are equal and equitable with other social work and social services clients, seems also to be important for desistance.

Voices behind bars: Rehabilitation processes among broadcasters in prison radio *Irit Adamchuk, Bar Ilan University and Ashkelon Academic College; Tomer Einat, Department of Criminology, Bar-Ilan University*

Multiple studies have indicated the highly stressful nature of prison life, whether due to the prisoners, most of whom have had a troubled life before incarceration, or due to the prison environment, and its negative effects on the inmates' physical and mental well-being. Radio Focus – a station operated by and for prisoners – was launched by the Israeli Prison Service in 2017 in a maximum-security prison facility. The station broadcasts 24/7 on a closed circuit to all criminal prisons in Israel, with contents including news and current affairs, economics, sports, health, and music. All programs are produced and edited by the prisoners employed at the station, with the help of external experts. Its objectives are to promote cognitive and behavioral processes among its listeners and enable prisoners who work on the radio to express themselves creatively and practice normative social skills. The present study is a qualitative-interpretive study in which 28 broadcasters prisoners were interviewed at two points: in the first month of their entry into the project and after about 10 months of working within the radio station. Main findings: Broadcasters prisoners report changes they have undergone since their involvement in the radio in three aspects: a. internal change - positive self-concept, b. behavioral changes - persistence, increased participation in treatment programs, and avoidance of physical and verbal violence, c. interpersonal change - improvement in communication and relationships with family members, other prisoners, and prison staff. Main Conclusions: The involvement in producing and broadcasting programs helps to deal with the pains of imprisonment and to improve perceived mental well-being. The current presentation will display the initial findings and conclusions from the analysis.

Feeding Justice: Rethinking Rehabilitation through Food in

Prisons in England and Wales *Kim Reising, University of Lincoln*

Background: The significance of food in correctional settings extends beyond basic nutrition, touching upon dimensions of well-being, inmate autonomy and rehabilitative outcomes. Despite acknowledged importance, investigations into prisoners' food experiences, especially within a European context, are limited. This study addresses this gap with a secondary data analysis of the HM Inspectorate of Prisons for England and Wales (HMIP) survey data spanning over two decades. It aims to explore the dynamics of food provision and its implications for inmate rehabilitation. It also addresses the broader social and cultural significance of food in prison. Results: The analysis provides a comprehensive overview of the prison food landscape across all of England and Wales for over twenty years and reveals an interesting interplay between food quality, the level of care provided by the institution and the nature of the relationship within prisons. The study's extensive temporal and geographical coverage allows for a unique exploration of trends, variances and consistencies in inmates' food-related experiences and perceptions across different facilities. Hypotheses suggest that disparities in food satisfaction could significantly influence inmates' perceptions of their environment and potentially affect both their day-to-day experiences and their rehabilitation process. Variances across different facilities in England and Wales offer insights into the broader implications of prison food on inmate-wellbeing and institutional dynamics. Conclusions: Overall, the study aims to contribute to a more profound understanding of how food practices in prisons relate to broader criminological and rehabilitative themes. The exploration identifies key areas where food provision intersects with cultural identity, social bonding and coping strategies within the constrained prison environment. It highlights the potential for prison food policy reforms to prioritise dietary quality, cultural sensitivity and the integration of food-related rehabilitative programmes.

## 261. Children as Victims: Theoretical and Empirical Considerations

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Juvenile Crime (ISR D WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 1.09

Chair:

**Gilda Santos**, CIJ - Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice; School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto

Participants:

Exposure to community violence and children's aggressive and delinquent behaviors: how are they related? Results from the SUCCEED project *Gilda Santos, CIJ - Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice; School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto; Margarida A. Santos, CIJ - Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice; School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto; Josefina Castro, CEJEA, Lusíada University, Porto, Portugal; Carla Sofia Cardoso, Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Crime Justice and Security (CJS) - School of Criminology, Faculty of Law of the University of Porto; Diana Almeida, School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto; Hugo S. Gomes, Human Development and Violence Research Centre (DOVE), Federal University of Pelotas; Inês Guedes, Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Crime, Justice and Security of the School of Criminology - Faculty of Law of the University of Porto; Samuel Moreira, CIJ (Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice) - School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Porto, Portugal | CEJEA (Center for Legal, Economic, International and Environmental Studies) - Lusíada University, Portugal*

Children's aggressive and delinquent behaviors have become objects of intense research seeking to understand which conditions might contribute to their emergence and further development. Previous studies have highlighted the crucial role adverse childhood

experiences, such as exposure to violent behaviors, might play in the explanation of such behaviors alongside other individual, familiar, and contextual factors. Thus, this ongoing project seeks to expand previous research by exploring how exposure to community violence is related to and able to influence the development of children's aggressive and delinquent behaviors. Furthermore, it aims to analyze the indirect effect that individual (e.g., executive functioning, sex, age, substance use, deviant peer association) and contextual (e.g., perceptions of social disorder and incivilities, collective efficacy, neighborhood attachment) features might exert in this relationship. Using a national sample of middle-school, non-referred children aged between 12 and 15 years and attending the 7th, 8th, and 9th grades in public schools, this study followed a quantitative approach, using an online self-report survey directed at the participating children. This paper seeks to present and discuss this study's key findings and highlight the importance of exploring these relationships with samples with different social and cultural backgrounds to enhance comprehensive and informed juvenile delinquency prevention efforts.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Juvenile Violent Delinquency in Multiple Successive Birth Cohorts *Noora Ellonen, Research director; Taina Laajasalo, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare; Joonas Pitkänen, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Helsinki; Mikko Aaltonen, Faculty of Law, University of Eastern Finland; Pekka Martikainen, Population Research Unit, University of Helsinki, Finland*

Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) typically refer to a set of physical, sexual or emotional abuse, neglect, and exposure to a dysfunctional household environment, such as parental substance abuse, domestic violence, or the presence of mental health issues. Research indicates that ACEs increase the risk of several short- and long-term negative life outcomes. One of those negative outcomes is involvement in criminal behaviour. According to literature ACEs are associated with both initiation of a criminal career and its chronicity and severity. Some studies suggest that the disparity in problem behaviors between those with the most and least adversities has widened in time. It has been proposed that this reflects a Western societal trend of social polarization of the overall well-being of youth. However, one could also argue that the association between ACEs and violent crime may have just evolved or intensified over time. Although, longitudinal studies have significantly increased in the field of ACE-studies, these hypotheses remain untested. Existing longitudinal ACE research are mainly single-cohort designs, which are unable to capture the impact of history and societal change. In this research the aim is to examine whether the association between ACEs and violent juvenile delinquency has remained stable or changed over time, across multiple successive birth cohorts. We examine changes in police reported violent crime and its relations to ACEs among Finnish adolescents born between 1986-2003, followed until 2020.

An Examination of the Primary Determinants Influencing Juvenile Delinquency in Taiwan *Pi-Tsui Yeh, tracy@mail.cpu.edu.tw; YING KAI CHEN, Central Police University,*

From 1996 to 1998, we conducted the 'Early Prediction of Juvenile Deviant Behavior' three-year longitudinal survey, and based on its results, we tracked 807 respondents for a total of 25 years, until 2021. The study participants comprised 415 junior high school pupils in the "general group" and 392 juveniles under protective supervision (crime group). This study aims to investigate the progression and transformation of juvenile to adult criminality, as well as the predictive value of early life experiences and structural variables. The research outlines the primary discoveries below: The researchers divided the sample into two categories based on the frequency and quantity of police arrests over a 25-year period: individuals with a criminal record (455, 56.4%), and those with no criminal record (352, 43.6%). A total of 52 individuals, representing 6.44% of the sample, committed 20 or more offenses and were classified as chronic offenders. These individuals were responsible for 2,043 crimes, or 53.89% of the total number of crimes, which demonstrates the crime concentration characteristics. (2) An examination of data extraction revealed that "recreational lifestyle" exerted the greatest impact on adult crime. A decision tree

analysis showed that four factors—"negative deviant peers," "recreational lifestyle," "early deviant behavior," and "low academic achievement"—had the most significant effect on the likelihood that teens and young adults would have criminal records as adults. In other words, their propensity for early deviant behavior and negative deviant peers increases in tandem with their preference for a recreational lifestyle during childhood. Furthermore, a decline in academic performance during that period further increases their likelihood of developing deviant or criminal tendencies as adults. Drawing upon the empirical findings, this research endeavors to establish efficacious adolescent prevention strategies and put forth pertinent recommendations. Keywords: longitudinal research, early life experiences, chronic offenders, and decision tree analysis are all

## 262. Juvenile Justice 4. Novel Approaches in Juvenile Justice

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Juvenile Justice and Children's Rights (Juvenile Justice WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.11

Chair:

**Katrine Barnekow Rasmussen**, University of Copenhagen

Participants:

Politics and Lasagna: Political Education in prisons – a qualitative empirical approach *Lisa Katharina Tölle, Universität Siegen*

Whereas political education was largely dethematised in the German discourse - especially in prisons - a few years ago, the discipline is currently experiencing a renaissance. Today prisons are increasingly being considered as a field of action for political education. The qualitative study presented dealt with the interactions between total institutions and political education. Within an exploratory field stay in a juvenile detention center in Germany, various forms of data were collected, including group discussions, participant observations, files, photos and workshop discussions. Data was analysed according to the Grounded Theory Methodology of Strauß and Corbin (1996) and, building on this, with the situation analysis of Clarke (2008). The results indicate that the young people are interested in politics and follow the (prevailing) media discourse. They also have political concerns that are largely oriented towards the inadequate provision of their (basic) needs - here, among others, the right to (sufficient, clean) food, the right to privacy, to human and physical closeness. Young people are able to articulate these concerns as genuine political concerns. At the same time, the institutional and (inter-)personnel design of the coercive context of juvenile detention as a total institution offers little room for political education oriented towards the development of maturity and critical faculties. Instead, various institutionalised strategies of prevention can be reconstructed for the context of prisons. The results should be discussed in the light of a critical and hegemonic analysis, which also asks why these conditions are exactly like this and not different. The results of the study contribute to the discourse on the inpatient and closed placement of young people and the design of these as places of education as well as to the self-image of the profession of political education.

The methodological challenges of exploring questions of ethnic disproportionality within youth justice *Anne-Marie Day, Manchester Metropolitan University; Joseph Alexander Kiff, University of Bedfordshire; Isabelle Brodie, University of Bedfordshire; John Pitts, University of Bedfordshire; Timi Osidipe, University of Bedfordshire*

This paper reflects on the methodological implications of current research into the relationship between ethnicity, disproportionality and diversion in the youth justice system in England and Wales. It draws on emerging findings from a national study focusing on processes of decision making that inform whether young people receive formal sanctions or are diverted out of the system. There is an extensive methodological literature examining interviewer/interviewee dynamics, variously within positivist, feminist and intersectional frames but sharing a concern with the effects of interviewer characteristics on the research process and

experience. This paper takes a sideways step from this, focusing specifically on the researcher experience of undertaking qualitative research interviews with youth justice practitioners and other professionals. These interviews focus on the significance of ethnicity in decision making processes relating to young people in the youth justice system, and have presented the research team with several challenges, expected and unexpected. A core issue has been how best to open these conversations and to create a space where participants feel able to reflect on individual practice, local systems, and reflect on questions of inequalities and bias. The paper will argue that engagement with these thorny issues is essential in evaluating the quality of evidence emerging from the project, but more crucially in understanding the lack of progress regarding disproportionality within the youth justice system.

## Restorative Justice in the Danish Youth Crime Boards? *Katrine Barnekow Rasmussen, University of Copenhagen*

Launched in 2019, the Danish Youth Crime Boards were part of a political strategy aimed at "fighting and preventing" youth offending. The target group comprises offenders aged 10 to 17 years, with those under 15 years falling below the age of criminal responsibility. However, these boards have faced professional criticism and concern, particularly in relation to the UN Children's Rights Convention. Within the legislative framework, it is recommended that the boards' verdicts should possess a "restorative character to the extent possible." A novel category of verdicts, termed "instant reactions," has been introduced in this context. These verdicts are expected to align with the principles of restorative justice. The author of this study examines the restorative aspect of the legislative framework governing the boards. Additionally, the study looks into how this aspect is put into practice by the boards and perceived by board members. Notably, the legislative framework lacks clarity on this matter and does not fully mirror internationally recognized definitions of restorative justice, which the boards' verdicts should ideally reflect. As of now, "instant reactions" are rarely applied by the boards. The study identifies key reasons for this limited usage, including a lack of understanding and recognition among municipal caseworkers (who make recommendations for the boards' decisions) and board members regarding the potential content and purpose of such reactions. At the Danish political level, there is dissatisfaction with the infrequent use of instant reactions. Initiatives are underway to address this issue. However, the author questions whether the proposed approaches will genuinely steer the boards toward a more restorative direction. Instead, the author suggests drawing inspiration from Norway's practices in this regard.

## 263. Atrocity Crimes: Spandau, Sugamo, and Landsberg – The Origins of Sentence Enforcement in International Criminal Law (EACTJ)

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Transitional Justice (Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.13

Chair:

**Nandor Knust**, UIT Arctic University of Norway

Participants:

Introduction to the Project "Spandau, Sugamo, and Landsberg – The Origins of Sentence Enforcement in International Criminal Law" *Florian Knauer, Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, Germany*

The project "Spandau, Sugamo, and Landsberg – The Origins of Sentence Enforcement in International Criminal Law, and their Relevance for the International Criminal Justice System of Tomorrow" examines in three individual studies the penal system of persons convicted of international crimes after the Second World War in Spandau Military Prison, Sugamo Prison in Tokyo and War Criminals Prison No. 1 in Landsberg from a legal and criminological perspective. These case studies close existing research gaps in contemporary history on the origin of international criminal law. From a systematic perspective, Spandau, Sugamo and Landsberg will also be understood as examples of a model of a

centralized penal system for criminals under international law according to special rules and examined for their relevance for an alternative design of the penal system under international criminal law in the present and future. The presentation gives an overview of the research project, which is funded by the German Research Foundation. The speaker will provide information on the most important objectives, the central questions, the methodological approach and the three individual studies of the project. In this way, it prepares the audience for the subsequent lectures on two of these individual studies (on Spandau and Sugamo).

**The Enforcement of Sentences under International Criminal Law in Spandau Prison after the Nuremberg Trial** *Natascha Larissa Stolze, German*

The speaker will report on her research into the penal system in Spandau prison after the Nuremberg War Crimes Trial. In her dissertation, the speaker examines the special features of the Spandau prison, which resulted in particular from the joint management of the institution by the four Allies. Accordingly, the legal basis and prison practice were strongly influenced by the Cold War and for this reason alone were highly politicized. In addition to the international references, the German public played an important role in the organization of the prison in Spandau. Another characteristic of the prison in Spandau was that only seven prisoners were held there. The speaker will inform the audience about the legal basis, legal practice and the historical background of the prison system in Spandau. In this way, she will provide the basis for a subsequent comparison of the prison in Spandau with those in Landsberg and Sugamo.

**The Enforcement of Sentences under International Criminal Law in Sugamo Prison after the Tokyo Trial** *Elif Dilek, Philipps University Marburg, Germany*

The speaker will report on her work on a monograph on the execution of sentences under international criminal law in Sugamo Prison after the Tokyo Trial. The presentation is limited to the period in which Sugamo Prison was under American control (from 1945 to 1952). In her study, the speaker examines both the law and the practice in Sugamo Prison. With regard to the law, the prison regulations on the one hand and international law such as the Geneva Convention on the other are presented. In terms of prison practice, the study focuses, for example, on the areas of everyday prison life and education. The material analyzed includes a wide variety of documents, ranging from legal documents to prisoners' newspapers.

**264. Criminal Law Making Policy WG Panel 2. EU Policy Evaluation**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Criminal Policy, Criminalization, Policy of Criminal Sanctions (Criminal Law Making Policy WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.17

Chair:

*Jacob Oberg*, University of Southern Denmark

Participants:

Criminal policy and Sentencing Trends towards Corruption Crimes in Republic of North Macedonia *Aleksandra Deanoska Trendafilova, Professor, University Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Faculty of Law "Iustinianus Primus" - Skopje*

The fight against corruption in the Republic of North Macedonia is one of the crucial social issues. At the same time, it became a horizontal element in the Negotiations framework with the European Union as part of Chapter 23: Justice and Fundamental rights within Cluster 1: Fundamentals. The Criminal Code of North Macedonia systematizes these crimes in the chapter "Crimes against official duty". According to the statistical data, the most prevalent crime is Abuse of official position and authority. Although declaratively, the fight against corruption is in the focus of the state, with amendments to the Criminal Code in 2023, the prescribed penalties for the above-mentioned crime were reduced, which enabled many perpetrators to reach statute of limitations in

respect of the criminal prosecution or to have the opportunity to receive "lighter" sanctions. With that, instead of getting stricter, the criminal policy became more lenient. The reflections of these amendments will become visible in the following years. For the purposes of this research, an overview was made of these crimes trends in the period 2018-2022, as well as of the sentencing policy for this type of offences. The initial results show that the number of reported persons is generally decreasing, especially in the last 4 years, but the number of accused and convicted persons, increases. As for the imposed sanctions, over 70% are alternative measures, and less than 30% are penalties (imprisonment or fine). More specific data will be presented for individual corruption crimes, but the initial research results so far show a mild punishment policy and an increase in the number of convicted people. This means that in the period covered by the analysis, prevention and reduction of this type of crime has not been achieved.

**Extended confiscation and fundamental rights in the European Union** *Elzbieta Hryniewicz-Lach, Adam-Mickiewicz-University in Poznan, Poland*

The paper presents the results (relevant observations and recommendations) of the research project: "Extended confiscation and its justification in light of fundamental rights and general principles of EU law". The project, which has been carried out in 2021-2024 by a group of academics from 16 EU Member States, focused on the relation between various instruments of extended confiscation (understood as confiscation of assets, based on presumption that they derive from criminal conduct) and fundamental rights of affected person. The research was funded by the National Science Centre, Poland (the reference number: 2020/39/D/HS5/01114). More about the project can be found on the project website: <https://konfiskata.web.amu.edu.pl/en/> The paper will be presented by the Principal Investigator.

**Normative justifications of EU criminal law: European public goods and transnational interests** *Jacob Oberg, University of Southern Denmark*

EU policy-making in criminal law is a matter of significant public concern for EU citizens and the Member States. The exercise of EU public powers in the fields of criminal law and law enforcement have tangible and adverse consequences for the liberties and well-being of individuals. Furthermore, EU cooperation in the area of criminal law touches upon core functions of statehood including 'core state powers' such as the safeguarding of internal security and law enforcement. This raises several questions regarding the rationale underpinning EU criminal policy and its legitimacy within the context of a multi-level polity. This paper sketches out a normative argument for legitimate justifications for criminalisation in the field of EU law on the basis of the notions of public goods, the harm principle and transnational interests. The article claims that there is a compelling justification for EU criminalisation to protect European public goods and other key transnational interests.

**265. Routledge Handbook on European Penology – II. European Penalty – Developments in Penal Practices**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Penology and Theories Punishment (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.18

This Routledge Handbook, which is currently being prepared, aims at offering an overview of the current state of the art and of cutting-edge penological research in Europe, covering all the regions in Europe, and including research that may hitherto not have been published in English. In this second panel, we discuss some common developments in penal practices across Europe, such as the increased use of information technology in prison and probation systems; the impact of old age and gender on penal policies; the resort to many invisible, collateral forms of punishments; and the paradoxical meanings of 'community' in community sanctions and measures.

Chair:

*Elena Larrauri*, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Participants:

The avalanche of technology – Digital penology *Ioan Durnescu*,



*University of Bucharest; Kristel Beyens, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

Technology and information technology have become integral components of the criminal justice system for several years now. They are utilized in various aspects, from crime mapping and analysis in police stations to monitoring suspects and convicts in prosecutors' offices and courts. These technologies are also employed in prison and probation services to monitor and support individuals through a range of digital means, including telepresence devices, virtual reality, computer-assisted programming, and mobile applications. This presentation will primarily focus on the use of information technology within the prison and probation context, highlighting the different types of technologies currently in use, their impact, and their potential. While global tech developments will be discussed, particular attention will be given to advancements taking place within Europe. Additionally, it will address the main challenges that arise from the implementation of technology in this specific sector of the criminal justice system. Furthermore, it will outline the potential future of technology in penology science and practice.

*Ageism Diète Humblet, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

The European continent has one of the highest proportion of older adults globally, yet it also struggles with a significant presence of ageism. Ageism can take many forms including prejudicial attitudes, discriminatory acts, and institutional policies and practices that perpetuate stereotypical beliefs. Ageism permeates different sectors of society, but its potential implications within the penal system have been underexplored. The increasing number of older prisoners especially poses a significant challenge for European jurisdictions, as the prison structure primarily caters to younger inmates, often neglecting the unique needs and interests of older individuals. Similarly, European penology has yet to fully incorporate (old) age as a focal point in research agendas. This presentation aims to shed light on how ageism infiltrates the penal system by addressing existing knowledge (gaps), sharing some of the lived experiences of ageism that have been overlooked, and identifying promising areas for future research.

*Gender and penal policy across Europe Loraine Gelsthorpe, University of Cambridge; Andreia de Castro Rodrigues, ISPA & WJCR; Ester Blay Gil, University of Girona*

This presentation reviews current trends, policies and practices regarding gender and sentencing, highlighting both concerns and possibilities, steps forwards and steps backwards. The presentation includes attention to sentencing, community penalties and imprisonment, noting developments in regard to the implementation of the Bangkok Rules in different European countries and positive developments such as the introduction of a presumption against short prison sentences (in at least one country) which has positive effects regarding the sentencing of women; we will also discuss 'problem-solving courts'. The presentation will outline deficiencies in regard to the implementation of the Bangkok Rules in different countries, and will also touch on the treatment of trans-people caught up in the criminal justice system.

*Invisible punishments Michael Kilchling, Max Planck Institut (Freiburg)*

Criminal penalties seldom come alone. A criminal record can have severe collateral consequences. A variety of additional legal consequences may be imposed on convicts which can result in the (temporary or permanent) restriction or revocation of a wide range of civil and political rights. Historically, they can be rooted back to honour-related forms of punishment which were common in past centuries. With their expressive and stigmatizing nature, they had the purpose to outlaw deviant individuals and exclude them from (full) participation in society. Such sanctions are, in some form or another, still prevalent today. In recent years they even re-gained significance in the context of the growth of the preventative orientation of (criminal) law and (criminal) policy, now hidden in administrative dress or disguise. In most European jurisdictions such measures are available. Notwithstanding their close connection to criminally relevant behaviour, they are rarely imposed by criminal courts. Instead, they have been 'exported' into other areas of law. Labelled as non-punitive in nature, they can have severe consequences for those affected. Such measures may

include, for example, the restriction of voting rights, limited access to legal professions, employment bans in the public and a wide range of private business sectors, restrictions on commercial activities, leisure or voluntary activities, the loss of honorary positions, educational constraints, withdrawal of licenses, permits and ownerships, residency or movement restrictions, loss of pension and constraints on social aid, and last but not least, constraints related to immigration and asylum. This paper aims at identifying and analyzing the various types of such sanctions and the rules of application which differ on a variety of parameters, including the type and legal character of measures, the conditions for imposition, their scope and impact, procedures, enforcement, and judicial control.

*The paradoxes of supervision - Towards more community in community sanctions Miranda Boone, Leiden University; Fergus McNeill, University of Glasgow*

After mentioning both the complexities of defining penal supervision, and the evidence about its significant growth and intensification, we will focus on three paradoxes. Is supervision a form of liberation or a deprivation of liberty? Is supervision punishment or is it not? Is the lack of public support for supervision an obstacle to its development, or has it been critical in its development and diversification? In important senses, the meanings of 'community' in community sanctions and measures lies at the heart of all three paradoxes. For example, in relation to the first and second paradoxes, it is often assumed that to be in the community is to be at liberty, and remaining in and of the community is not consistent with (really) being punished, however punishing it may be. In relation to the third paradox, perhaps the question is whether supervision can be for the community and with the community. We will argue therefore that if community sanctions and measures are to fulfil their aspirations to reduce the damage that punishment does and to enhance social reintegration, then we will need to pay more careful attention to precisely when and how we involve the state, and when and how we involve the community, in their design and in their implementation.

## 266. WG-PLACE 6: Neighbourhoods and Crime

*Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Neighborhoods and Crime (WG on Space and Crime)*

*Paper Session*

*2:00 to 3:15 pm*

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.06*

*Chair:*

*Jon Bannister, Manchester Metropolitan University*

*Participants:*

*Has there been a spatial reordering of crime in the post-pandemic era? Mark Ellison, Manchester Metropolitan University*

As society returned to normal following the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns, so too did the volume of crime return to pre-pandemic levels. To date, most research exploring the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic on crime has focused on describing and accounting for this temporal trend. Less attention has been paid to whether the geographic distribution of crime at the neighbourhood level has returned to pre-pandemic patterns. This paper seeks to question whether the post-pandemic geographical patterning of crime has served to reshape inequalities in the exposure to crime at the neighbourhood level. This paper utilises spatially fine-grained police recorded crime data from 2018 to 2023, across several offence categories, to explore this issue via a series of case studies. Both spatial analyses and multi-level models are deployed to investigate the existence of changes in the spatial patterning of crime between the pre-, during and post- pandemic periods, and the underlying socio-economic characteristics of neighbourhoods associated with these changes. This enables us to identify the types of neighbourhoods that have benefitted or lost out in the spatial ordering of crime.

*Lifting the Lid on the Perceptions of Public Violence in Skegness a UK coastal town from a Professional Lens. Scott Kidd, University of Lincoln; Carina O'Reilly, University of Lincoln*  
Skegness, a coastal town in Lincolnshire, England, renowned for its beaches and vibrant tourism industry of 2.3 million visitors per year, has been experiencing a disturbing increase in public violence

incidents. Reports indicate a 386% rise between 2012 and 2022, with a significant spike of 159% post-COVID-19 era (Skegness Standard, 2023; Brighton Analytics, 2023; UKCrimeStats, 2023). This study delved into the escalating issue of public violence in Skegness, elucidating the experiences and perceptions of professionals deeply rooted within the community. Employing Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis (IPA), insights were garnered from nine participants holding diverse roles, ranging from police officers to youth workers. The research aimed to understand the multifaceted determinants of violence, its intensification amidst the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the broader socio-economic implications while also seeking potential interventions from those familiar with the ground realities. Four superordinate themes emerged: Resources and Infrastructure, which shed light on funding constraints and systemic challenges; Social and Economic Dynamics, underscoring local opportunities, youth engagement, and the implications of external influences; Health and Well-being, emphasising the intertwined nature of mental health, substance misuse, and the necessity for multifaceted interventions; and Community Relations and Engagement, highlighting the significance of proactive community collaboration over merely reactionary measures. The findings not only provide a deep dive into the specific challenges faced by Skegness but also resonate with the broader struggles of coastal communities. The perspectives of the professionals underscore the urgency of addressing both the surface symptoms and the root causes of violence. Through the lens of Skegness, this research contributes to the broader discourse on public violence in coastal towns, laying a foundation for future research and policies.

Spatial patterns of crime during COVID-19 pandemic in Czechia: ex-post analysis of natural experiment *Martin Šimon, Institute of Sociology of the Czech Academy of Sciences; Jana Jichová, Charles University, Faculty of Science*

The coronavirus restrictions on society present an unprecedented and unique opportunity to better understand the connections between crime, society and space. The population spent far more time at the places of residence and far less time at the places of work and consumption. Daily routines of residents have changed, number of people in places has changed, and economic situation has changed. These rapid changes in a society could both limit and create new opportunities for crime to occur. However, did this 'natural experiment' led to a novel understanding of crime patterns? In general, crime levels tended to drop significantly with the introduction of anti-pandemic measures. Crime related to public space decreased, especially thefts committed from persons. Crime related to cyberspace has increased, which is related to the shift of many human activities to the online space. Later on, after a mitigation or a cancellation of lock-downs, crime levels returned relatively quickly to the previous 'normal' level. The key outcome of the covid-19 pandemic seems to be an acceleration of some already existing trends in the development of crime. This contribution aims to summarize the lesson learned from COVID-19 lock-downs on spatial patterns of crime by analysis of crime open data for Czechia from 2017 to 2023. Local specific features as well as international similarities will be highlighted.

Understanding Community Tolerance of Crime – the Influence of COVID-19 Pandemic *Monsuru Adepeju, Manchester Metropolitan University, M15 6BH, United Kingdom; Jon Bannister, Manchester Metropolitan University; Karolina Krzemieszewska-nandwani, Manchester Metropolitan University, M15 6BH, United Kingdom*

To strengthen urban resilience and to improve community policing, it's essential to understand how urban neighbourhoods respond to and tolerate crime. This investigation delves into the patterns of tolerance towards violence and nuisance crimes, over three distinct periods: pre-pandemic, during the pandemic, and post-pandemic. Employing a novel dataset, this study exposes significant temporal shifts in community tolerance and dissects the factors shaping it. Amid the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, our analysis scrutinizes how extraordinary circumstances have either intensified or mitigated community tolerance towards crime, reflecting broader societal evolutions. Our findings indicate a notable variance in tolerance levels across the examined periods, with a discernible

decrease in tolerance for both types of crimes during the pandemic, attributed to heightened societal stress and altered community dynamics. Interestingly, the post-pandemic phase showed a partial rebound in tolerance levels, yet they did not fully return to pre-pandemic norms, suggesting lasting impacts of the pandemic on community perceptions and tolerance of crime. Contributing to the academic discourse on urban crime tolerance, this research elucidates the mechanisms through which neighbourhoods mediate and come to terms with the presence of violence and nuisance. The insights gleaned from this study hold considerable implications for policymakers, law enforcement agencies, and urban planning professionals, laying the groundwork for strategic interventions aimed at fostering community cohesion and enhancing safety within the ever-changing urban fabric.

## 267. Critical Perspectives on Victims and Perpetrators

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Critical Criminology

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.07

Chair:

*Jane Ngan*, University of Manchester

Participants:

America's First Memorial Honoring Survivors of Sexual Violence  
*Alexa Sardina, California State University Sacramento; Nicole Fox, California State University Sacramento*

The Survivors Memorial, located in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in the United States, is a sexual violence survivor-led, public space dedicated to elevating public discussion on sexual violence and harm worldwide. To date, the Survivors Memorial is the first physical space dedicated to all sexual violence survivors and stating the importance of public acknowledgement of sexual violence for victims and community members. Through the Memorial's location in a public park, the space is simultaneously a passive, sustained sexual violence awareness effort for those passing by and a space for intentional critical community dialogue and private reflection. To better understand how memorials generally and the Survivors Memorial specifically function as sites of awareness, education and prevention in communities, the authors surveyed over 80 visitors to the memorial site and conducted follow-up in-depth interviews with 20 of those visitors. The data provides insights into how one community utilizes a memorial as a site of healing for survivors of sexual violence and as a tool for awareness, education, and prevention for the broader community in which it is located, shedding light on a global crime that all nations struggle to find a just response to.

Perpetration-induced trauma in gang members: defying stereotypes and understanding (another) barrier for rehabilitation *Filipa Godinho Duarte, Nottingham Trent University*

The concept of Perpetration-Induced Traumatic Stress (PITS - MacNair, 2002) suggests that the act of inflicting harm on others in itself may constitute a traumatic event for the offender. It has been applied in contexts where the act of inflicting harm is "justified" and accepted by society in general, as in the case of war veterans, police officers, executioners, and medical practitioners. Only recently has research began looking at criminal offences as a source of trauma in offenders. In the case of gang members, this is a population that is in a unique position for polytraumatization, where individuals are much more likely to witness violence, perpetrate, and be at the receiving end of such violence, in comparison to their non-gang related counterparts. This specific environment poses a higher risk for the normalization of traumatic experiences, however, their effects linger on, impacting individuals both mentally and physically. A rapid review of the literature on gangs and trauma was conducted across three databases, alongside a qualitative study using multiperspective IPA to frame perpetrator trauma within the context of gang membership. Perspectives from different groups were analysed, namely: family members of people associated with gangs; friends/ associates; and professionals who had worked with people involved in gangs. The findings are discussed in light of the rehabilitation process for people who were involved in gangs,

discussing how a trauma-informed practice in the treatment of perpetrators may yield better results. Additionally, results from this study fuel the important discussion on social stigma and current policy.

The lads who didn't make it: A view from the stands *Nick Gibbs, Northumbria University; Daniel Briggs, Northumbria University*

This presentation shares preliminary findings from a series of interviews with professional football practitioners concerning the social harms attached to the English youth academy system. This piece of research is part of a wider project examining youth academy players' experiences through a critical zemiological lens. Early findings include the professionalisation of youth football, the process and effects of release, the allure and seduction of the elite game, sacrifices made by players and their families, and the impact on friendships and relationships. Interviewees include academy coaches, youth player care officials, senior figures in the sport's various professional bodies, those working in the charity sector supporting player transitions, and practitioners employed by several elite clubs' charitable foundations. We hope to highlight the need for critical sports criminology to engage with elite English youth football and add to a growing exploration of the embedded, normalised social harms in professional sport. Ultimately, we will argue that, despite both being enraptured by the beautiful game of football, the industry that scaffolds it is ripe for critical attention and honest dialogue with academics and practitioners alike.

“The View from Below”: Consumer Resistance in Authorised Push Payment Fraud *Jane Ngan, University of Manchester*  
Regulatory discourses on Authorised Push Payment Fraud (“APPF”), through which a victim is deceived into authorising fund transfers to a fraudster, often converged on normative questions of victim negligence and liability. These norms were typically deployed by financial institutions to deny redress for victims, and to resist scrutiny of systemic weaknesses in fraud prevention and enforcement. The UK’s recent establishment of a new mandatory compensation scheme for APPF victims, to be funded by financial institutions, marked a perceptible change in the normative evaluation of fraud liability. This paper traces the emergence of APPF in the UK within a broader socio-economic arc, which promoted values of market rationality and individual liability influential in shaping regulatory responses to APPF: acceleration of payment speed due to competitive pressures in e-commerce, and the devolution of crime control from state to non-state actors under the “responsibilisation” agenda. Mobilising critical theory and Habermasian discourse analysis, this paper evaluates the dominance of these values in the speech acts from institutional actors “above”, contrasted with victims’ retelling of experiences “below”. It is contended that the potential for normative change could be found in the personal accounts of fraud victimhood, which resisted systematic abstraction by centring painful accounts of loss, institutional indifference, and a recognition of shared precarity and mutual interdependence upon which social life depends.

## 268. Opportunities and challenges for early career researchers in criminology

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Teaching Methods

Roundtable

2:00 to 3:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.10*

There are several challenges that can affect the academic and professional development of early career researchers in criminology. This raises the question of whether researchers in South and Eastern Europe share the same concerns regarding criminology research and establishing themselves as researchers. Additionally, what strategies can young researchers use to enhance their profile? To answer these questions, it is important to provide opportunities for discussion that make visible the needs and challenges faced by young researchers in the field of criminology. The objective of this round table is to promote dialogue among international young researchers and share strategies to deal with the obstacles they encounter. It focuses on exploring lines of research and innovative approaches, as well as promoting collaborative networks for future projects. The goal is to bring new perspectives to the criminological debate.

Chair:

*Bertha Prado-Manrique, Universidad de Málaga*

Discussants:

*Debora Ginocchio, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia*  
*Mariana Sebastião Machado, School of Criminology, Faculty of Law - University of Porto / Doctoral research fellow, FCT [2021.04650.BD] /CIJ - Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice*

## 269. Quantitative Methods WG Panel 2: Experimental, Quasi-experimental, and Evaluative Approaches in Criminological Research

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Quantitative Methods (Quantitative Methods WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14*

Chair:

*Irena De Greef, Vias Institute*

Participants:

Measuring decision-making behaviour, point-of-gaze, and physiological responses in a cyber crime context using the Cyber Resilience Lab *Ynze van Houten, Saxion University of Applied Sciences; Remco Spithoven, Saxion University of Applied Sciences; Thijs van Beek, Saxion University of Applied Sciences; Nick van der Klok, Saxion University of Applied Sciences*

The Cyber Resilience Lab at Saxion University of Applied Sciences has been developed for researching human behavior in an online crime context. Participants in this lab are presented with simulated, but realistic environments in which, for example, they are subjected to social engineering techniques such as those used by cybercriminals (e.g. authority, urgency and financial loss). Actual behaviour is measured (e.g. click/choice behaviour in phishing emails) in combination with point-of-gaze (measured by eye trackers) and physiological responses like arousal (using sensors for measuring heart rate variability and skin conductance). The lab facilitates to bridge the gap between reported and actual behaviour. It can provide insight into the decision-making process around situations where people run the risk of falling victim of cybercrime. As such, this lab can also be used as a (pop-up) training facility, in which the aforementioned measurements are used as a basis for targeted feedback (for example, participants can be given feedback on relevant information they may be ignoring in phishing emails). The lab can also be used to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions aimed at increasing cyber resilience. The lab is mobile, and can be placed near relevant target audiences (workplaces, schools, retirement homes, festivals, et cetera). As the lab is still under development, the authors open to discussion of their plans and pilot-studies as well as additional ideas for the useful application of such a lab in an online crime context.

Probing the causal pathways between police procedural justice and perceptions of police legitimacy using experimental vignettes in the Netherlands *Amy Nivette, Utrecht University; Isabelle van der Vegt, Utrecht University*

According to procedural justice theory, when police treat people in a fair, respectful, and neutral manner, individuals are more likely to perceive the police as legitimate and comply with directives. Despite the growth in use of experimental vignettes to test PJ theory, there has been little to no attention to assessing the underlying causal assumptions, mechanisms and possible confounding pathways between police treatment and attitudinal outcomes. This study contributes to methodological knowledge by promoting recent best-practice recommendations (e.g., placebo tests, open text responses) for evaluating causal pathways between treatment and outcome in experimental vignettes. In order to assess these causal mechanisms, this study will field a between-subjects vignette with a 3x2x2 factorial design. The content of the vignette will aim to replicate similar interactions as reported in previous research (i.e., a traffic stop by police) adapted to the Dutch context. Follow-up placebo questions will ask respondents about the

likelihood of certain background attributes within the scenario. To investigate the theoretical mechanisms (e.g., respect, neutrality), respondents will also be asked to what extent they would rate the interaction in terms of PJ elements. The inclusion of open-ended questions allows participants to mention reasons that led to their selections, including those that have not been explicitly prompted in the follow-up questions. The addition of computational linguistic analysis of these responses will add to the growing body of research utilizing mixed methods to gather insight on human states, traits, and attitudes through different modalities. The results will highlight these best practices, as well as shed light on the mechanisms that are driving the relationship between PJ and perceived legitimacy.

Quasi-experimental methodological strategy to assess changes in social attitudes and representations in the debate surrounding prostitution. *Rocio Martínez Almanza, Phd Student UMH, Researcher CRÍMINA Centre; Braulio FIGUEIREDO Da Silva, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais*

The present study aims to introduce a quasi-experimental methodological strategy designed to analyze changes in attitudes and social representations regarding different political discourses associated with the phenomenon of prostitution in Spain. Specifically, this methodology was designed to study these changes in students at the Miguel Hernández University in Elche. The methodological strategy consisted of several phases: in the first, literature review, development, and validation of study instruments were carried out; in the second, the experimental study was implemented and conducted. This phase began with the completion of a questionnaire (pre-test) aimed at establishing a baseline for attitudes and perceptions regarding different political debates, essential for the formation of the study groups. The study comprised two groups: a control group and an experimental group. Both groups received news about prostitution for 3 weeks and completed various questionnaires on the subject. The difference was that the experimental group received information with political news on the topic, while the control group received neutral news where political discussion was absent. Changes in attitudes and social representations were measured once the exposure stage to each stimulus concluded, using the same questionnaire used to establish the baseline.

Courtesy lights for Belgian firefighter volunteers? An evaluation of a legislative proposal by means of a pilot-project. *Irena De Greef, Vias Institute*

This Belgian pilot project evaluated the feasibility of a Belgian draft law concerning courtesy lights for firefighter volunteers. These green flashing lights aim to make the vehicles of firefighter volunteers more recognizable in traffic and as such invite other road users to give them priority. The vehicles of firefighter volunteers remain non-priority vehicles. The firefighter volunteers must obey traffic rules at all times. Courtesy lights can only be activated when called out for an urgent intervention. Due to the other road users' courteous behaviour, the firefighter volunteers would arrive faster at the fire departments. The pilot project explored the impact of courtesy lights on (1) firefighter volunteers' journey times; (2) other road users' behaviour; and (3) firefighter volunteers' safety feelings. The pilot project ran for 8 months: 4 months of baseline measurement (driving without courtesy lights) and 4 months of effect measurement (driving with courtesy lights). The pilot project used a multi-method approach: - Participants' journey times were recorded by a black box (quantitative analysis); - The behavior of other road users was recorded by GoPro cameras installed on the dashboard of the participants (qualitative analysis); - Participants' feelings of safety were surveyed through a questionnaire and focus group (qualitative analysis). The analysis shows a cautiously positive result. Firefighters volunteers arrive at the location of the intervention no slower and sometimes faster whilst driving with courtesy lights compared to their journey times driven without courtesy lights. Fire service volunteers feel safe whilst driving with courtesy lights. Other road users are willing to provide the firefighter volunteers priority. However, both the other road users as the firefighter volunteers sometimes commit traffic violations whilst providing or accepting the priority. This evaluation of the Belgian draft law appears to be rather positive. However, multiple conditions (law, practice) should be met in order to implement courtesy lights.

## 270. Sexual Violence in Various contexts

Topic 4: Victimology/Patterns and trends in Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.20

Chair:

**D Scharie Tavcer**, Mount Royal University

Participants:

Bystander Intervention during Public Harassment: Exploring Incidence, Influencing Factors and Impact *Thijs Hauspie, Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP), Department of Criminology, Criminal Law and Social Law, Ghent University; Janneke M. Schokkenbroek, imec-mict, Department of Communication Sciences & IRCP, Department of Criminology, Criminal Law & Social Law, Ghent University; Koen Ponnet, imec-mict, Department of Communication Sciences, Ghent University; Wim Hardyns, Ghent University*

Preventing criminal behavior and social rule violations through bystander intervention has gained considerable attention in the literature in the past decade. Especially during public harassment (PH), also defined as a range of intrusive and unwanted sexual and non-sexual behaviors in the public space (Fileborn & O'Neill, 2021), encouraging bystander intervention seems appropriate and valuable. In this context, bystanders are more likely to be present while an incident of harassment is taking place, enabling them to intervene more directly (e.g., confronting the perpetrator or supporting the victim) not just after, but also during the fact. Research on bystander intervention during PH is scarce, however, resulting in a knowledge gap regarding not only its occurrence, but also the influence of key factors that may facilitate or inhibit bystander intervention during PH. Previous studies that have discussed those topics mostly focused on other contexts (e.g., workplace sexual harassment or domestic violence), were mainly conducted in the US, and primarily relied on student samples. In the present study, we seek to address these gaps by examining bystander intervention experiences among Belgians living in various cities across the country. Data were collected from March to June 2023 and were obtained through the digital 'Safer Cities' platform (established by the NGO Plan International), where individuals could report incidents of harassment they experienced in urban public areas. In total, 1075 reports were collected, of which 560 included information about bystander intervention. Specifically, we examine the incidence of (different forms of) bystander intervention during PH, explore the influence of several individual and situational variables on bystander intervention and discuss the impact of bystander intervention on the experienced consequences of the PH incident. Limitations of this study as well as recommendations for future research will also be discussed.

Adolescents and children attending Sexual assault Care Centres in Belgium: characteristics of victimization and challenges *Clio Lambrechts, National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology; Caroline Stappers, Researcher at the National Institute for Criminalistics and Criminology; Bertrand Renard, National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology (NICC-INCC)*

Sexual violence (SV) is a growing public health, societal and judicial concern. In order to mitigate the negative consequences for victims of SV, Sexual Assault Care Centres (SACC) were developed to provide holistic patient-centered care to victims of sexual violence in Belgium. Trained professionals, including forensic nurses, psychologists and police officers, work as part of one team to provide victims with medical care, forensic examination, psychological care, the possibility to file a complaint and aftercare. From October 2017 to December 2023, 10 SACCs have opened progressively throughout Belgium. The current presentation focuses on underage victims, who make up an alarming 30% of all victims attending a SACC. In some districts, this rate even reaches up to 45%. Data on victims presenting at the centers were routinely collected in electronic patient records by the

SACC personnel. We examine the individual characteristics of the 2621 children and adolescents, their admission at the center, their assailants, and the type of the sexual violence. Additionally, we look at the victim's acceptance of medical care, forensic examination and follow-up provided by forensic nurses. Finally, we explore the challenges and limitations related to the use of administrative data to evaluate the epidemiology of sexual violence.

**Sexual violence during the armed conflict of Ukraine: A hierarchy of harms?** *Colleen T Moore, Anglia Ruskin University; Anna S. Politova, Mariupol State University; Liubov M. Kniazkova, Mariupol State University*

Both sexual victimisation and war are traumatic, life-changing and contested, especially for those who lose: on the battlefield or in the courtroom. The conflict in Ukraine has ravaged the country, displaced millions and caused over 25,000 deaths. By March 2024, 283 conflict-related cases of sexual violence have been recorded and are under investigation. However, sexual violence is not limited to conflict. This paper examines sexual harm in Ukraine during peacetime 'domestic' settings and during armed-conflict. The discussion considers the impact of what Sellers (2002) termed the 'legal hierarchy of rape' under international humanitarian law, juxtaposed with domestic laws, and the re-presentation and treatment of the victim. Applying recorded crime and conviction data, we argue that the so-called 'iconic rape victim' of war is just as unlikely to find justice at court than her or his domestic counterpart. The authors consider how sexual harm can be addressed in a meaningful way when we juxtapose four paradigms: prevalence of sexual harm; the re-presentation of sexual violence in armed-conflict and domestic settings; the application of legislation in war and peace; and whether 'hierarchies' of sexual harms exist. Despite important aspirations of laws, in practice it appears to be successfully applied to perpetrators of sexual violence, whilst barely acknowledging its victims. Sellers PV (2002) Sexual Violence and Peremptory Norms: the legal value of rape. *Case Western Reserve Journal of International Law* 34(3): 287-304.

**Sexual Violence in Canada: Statistics, Policies, Sexual Consent Education at Canadian Universities** *D Scharie Tavcer, Mount Royal University*

In North America one in three women over age 15, has experienced sexual violence during her lifetime. Although one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted during their stay at a post-secondary institution, more than 90% of those victims do not report to school authorities. The lack of reporting by students is consistent with the lack of reporting with the general population where only 1 in 10 sexual assaults is reported to police. More importantly, 98% of perpetrators are male and none of these statistics has changed in over 30 years. As a result of these facts, I ask what can be done differently – what can universities do to reduce the numbers of victims and potential perpetrators? Over the course of three years, I used a multi-method approach to explore sexual consent education at over 120 universities across Canada. I also gathered students' perspectives who consistently reported that more sexual consent education is needed, that everyone should complete this education, and it should be mandatory. I developed a sexual consent education module that applies a prevention and education approach. It is accessible, online, and could be added to the existing repertoire of prevention and education programming already available. I challenge universities to also consider making such a consent education module mandatory for students, staff, and administration. If universities require mandatory completion of cybersecurity training, then they should also require mandatory sexual consent education and violence prevention training.

## 271. Challenges in qualitative research II

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Qualitative Methods (Qualitative Methods WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22

Chair:

*Donna Arrondelle, University of Southampton*

Participants:

Enhancing Community-Engaged Research with PWUD: Insights

from Imagine Safe Supply *Jack Farrell, Simon Fraser University*

This study explores the impact of centering relationships in the methodological approach of Imagine Safe Supply (ISS) - a quasi-national community-driven research project that explored the perspectives of PWUD & frontline workers on current and ideal forms of safe supply in Canada. The research team was made up of three researchers and five people with lived expertise of drug use or frontline work across Canada. Community-engaged research is a burgeoning approach in criminology that strives to enhance the participation of marginalized populations in research production. Yet serious problems persist, with some CER criticized for perpetuating tokenization and mis-aligning research interests with the needs and goals of community-members. This study offers a framework for conducting CER that overcomes these limitations by prioritizing relationship-building in the research process. Our findings reveal that a relational approach to community-engaged research can enhance the goals of CER, including deeper participation, the development of research skills and the alignment of outputs with the interests and needs of community-members. One key finding underscores the significance of addressing individual needs and translating these individual needs into group dynamics. Our research highlights that while initial stages of a relational approach involve identifying and meeting individual needs, the progression towards collective concerns is an ongoing, iterative journey that can be best achieved through prioritizing relational needs throughout the project. Moreover, our study sheds light on how a relational approach redefines research outputs, emphasizing the significance of personal skill development and leadership opportunities. A relational approach to CER aligns the research process with the unique needs and objectives of team members and cultivates deep commitment, ownership, and collaborative decision-making. This study contributes to the growing literature on CER with PWUD by emphasizing how prioritizing relationships in CER can enhance research outcomes, team dynamics, and individual growth within community-engaged research settings.

**Living criminology research methods: a forgotten lens?** *Paula Harriott, Prison Reform Trust; Paula Harriott, Prison Reform Trust*

In this paper Paula Harriott will reflect on her experience of being a lived experience activist and of being the researched whilst a serving prisoner in traditional research methodologies, exploring the impact of being the researched and the challenges of current ethical frameworks and informed consent. She will argue how such practices are extractive, and painful; and consistently comply with and mirror the power dynamics in prison and cloak moral and ethical concerns that need surfacing. In contrast she will reflect on current experiences of research outside of prison of being a co-author involved in research praxis grounded in knowledge equity principles; a praxis that confronts power, ethics, control and ownership of knowledge as a collective in dialogue. She will reflect on why such approaches matter in criminology and the benefits for all concerned.

**Walking the tightrope of change: co-produced academic writing collaborations** *Donna Arrondelle, University of Southampton*

In this paper Donna Arrondelle will talk about the two projects employing a knowledge equity methodology, co-writing an academic book chapter and a criminology journal article with two co-author adult experts by experience of incarceration. The paper considers these collaborations through the lenses of discursive and productive power, exploring them as sites of contestation. The two projects examined different substantive topics, i) friendships in prison and ii) imprisoned work and prison leadership. Donna will reflect on how the principles of knowledge equity were enacted in practice, questions and tensions that emerged as the work evolved, and the opportunities and complexities afforded by these type of collaborations.

## 272. Evaluating community sanctions and measures

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Community Sanctions (Community Sanctions WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.04

Chair:

**Anna Marie Vansteenkiste**, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

Participants:

Findings from a realist process evaluation of three police-led Drug Diversion (PDD) schemes in England and Wales: mapping mechanisms of change in varied contexts. *Helen Glasspoole-Bird, The Open University; Rivka Mostol Smith, The University of Sheffield; Charlie E Sutton, Loughborough University; Matthew Bacon, University of Sheffield; Nadine Hendrie, University of Kent; Mark Monaghan, Loughborough University; Alex Stevens, University of Kent; Emma Williams, Centre for Police Research and Learning – Open University*

The UK Government's 10 year drug strategy aims to 'cut crime and save lives,' (UK Government, 2021) through harm reduction approaches to the policing of drugs. In tandem with efforts to shrink the illicit drugs market, the UK Parliament Home Affairs Committee's report on drugs (August 2023) recommended that the UK Government adopt a broader range of health-based harm reduction methods. Central to these methods are an expansion of diversionary schemes, often referred to as out of court disposals or community resolutions. These are intended to channel people who use drugs away from the criminal justice system and into treatment, education and support. Most police forces now use diversionary approaches to drug possession offences and/or drug-related crime, but only some areas have formalised policy and practice. This paper adds to the evidence base which establishes the merits of diversion. We present key findings from the process evaluation strand of a large-scale, multi-site, realist evaluation of PDD schemes. This project, funded by the UK Cabinet Office, involved conducting over 200 interviews with police officers, staff working in various partner agencies that deliver diversionary interventions, and people who have been diverted. The findings focus on mechanisms that are pertinent to understanding the implementation and outcomes of PDD, including (i) police partnerships and multi-agency working, (ii) the timing and purpose of needs assessments and (iii) an individual's motivation and engagement. Our conclusion considers the policy and practice implications by reflecting on what works, for whom, under what circumstances and why.

'From being a mouse to being a lion': Understanding the role and necessity of community-based Safer Living Foundation centres for men who have a sexual conviction *Kirsty Teague, University of Derby*

The expectation that the carceral estate in England and Wales will reach 94,400 by next year (March 2025) is just one stain upon an already flawed 'justice' system. Characterised by populism and punitivity in the name of 'public protection', the penal estate is – and has been for generations – failing those trapped within the system. Peddled by politicians and the tabloid media, vindictive discourses coalesce to fuel a distain towards those with a conviction, especially those for a sexual crime. Whilst the causes of sexual (re)offending, e.g., social isolation make for tough reading, the antidote to societal ills lie within the community itself. Working with those who have committed sexual crime to understand their lived experiences and traumas can be hard but is needed if (re)offending is to reduce, and in turn the size of the penal estate also. This paper will discuss the work of the Safer Living Foundation (SLF) charity, which plays a unique role in the community by supporting the rehabilitation and reintegration of people who have offence-related thoughts through to those who have a sexual conviction. In particular, the paper will discuss the role and development of SLF community-based centres which operate in agreement with probation to support the desistance of sexual crime. In doing the above, the paper will draw upon the authors' longitudinal qualitative research interviews to explore and appraise the role that these centres have for those who engage with them. The author situates the research in a wider discussion around the need for evidence-based practices in criminal justice, and the challenges of doing charitable work in this area. Public criminology will frame recommendations due to its commitment in making a difference and bringing about positive change which compliments its overall theoretical potential for the development of holistic-

focused policy and practice in criminal justice.

"Just raise that awareness, drop those seeds...": Findings from qualitative interviews with Project CARA workshop attendees, partners and professionals across England and Wales. *Steph Scott, Newcastle University; Hayley Alderson, Newcastle University; Rachel Armitage, University of Huddersfield; Ruth McGovern, Newcastle University; William McGovern, Northumbria University; Gary Pankhurst, Newcastle University; Jessica Roy, Bristol University; Sara Morgan, Southampton University*

Project CARA is an out of court disposal used across police force areas in England and Wales as an alternative to a simple caution or prosecution for lower risk, alleged first time Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) offenders. It comprises two awareness raising workshops, taking place 4-5 weeks apart, with supporting opportunities for self-disclosure, self-reflection, and promoting access to additional support. As part of a broader mixed method evaluation study which aimed to evaluate the impact of Project CARA following its wider rollout nationally, qualitative interviews and focus groups were conducted with workshop attendees (N=15), current/ex partners of workshop attendees (N=12) and a range of professionals including police, commissioners, VCSE workers and CARA facilitators (N=32) in order to explore perceptions and experiences of taking part in and/or delivery of CARA. Findings from reflexive thematic analysis indicative high levels of support for the implementation and rollout of CARA across different geographical areas and across different participant groups including workshop attendees, police, facilitators and commissioners. In particular, facilitators identified the importance of early intervention and education. They saw their role as providing individuals and couples with the 'building blocks' or tangible tools through which to understand and manage their behaviour going forward. However, current/ex partners of workshop attendees highlighted that they were not always consulted or followed up across the entirety of the intervention, which they felt they would have benefitted from. Further suggestions for improvement and change to Project CARA centred upon differential assessment of risk, training and implementation across police force areas, as well as the need to explore how the intervention is perceived and framed by voluntary sector organisations. Findings from this qualitative arm of the study will be triangulated with concurrently collected quantitative and health economics data, and utilised in ongoing intervention logic model development.

Personality and Childbearing Motivation - A discourse of justifications *Saray Harel, Ashkelon Academic Collage, Bar Ilan University*

The motivations leading to parenthood or childlessness (life without children by choice) are numerous, diverse, and formulated according to various social, cultural, and psychological considerations. This study assumes that there is a significant personality structure at the base of these considerations. In Israel – a pronatalist country, life without children by choice, is considered to be a social deviance. The study examined the relationship between the individual's personality dimensions according to the Eysenckian Big 3 model, sensation seeking, cognitive style, and childbearing motivation (negative and positive). The participants were married couples and single women with children, as well as married couples and single women without children, using a "snowball" sample. The initial research findings present a personality profile of women without children by choice significantly higher on P (Psychoticism) scale and on ES scale of Sensation Seeking, with low positive and high negative childbearing motivation, compared to women with children. It appears that P scale is most significant regarding the type and intensity of one's childbearing motivation. A further examination of the research population was made throughout a content analysis of a Childlessness Blog. The analysis shows women without children by choice, to be centralistic and self-focused. In their eyes, children symbolize loss of freedom, loss of identity, loss of time and lack of self-fulfillment. Children are perceived as a threat to their way of life because they consume time, financial resources, and emotional energy. This discourse of losses aligns with personality traits such as egocentricity, impulsivity, emotional

coldness, and impersonal attitude – all key traits within P scale.

Transformation in probation: the implementation of RNR in Flemish probation services *Anna Marie Vansteenkiste, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium; Hanne Willemen, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium; Lars Breuls, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Kristof Verfaillie, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Kasia Uzieblo, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, The Forensic Care Specialists*

Within the Flemish probation service, there was a clear policy intention to introduce a working method based on the Risk-Need-Responsivity-Model of Bonta & Andrews (2017, 2024). The aim is to better support the professional judgment of probation officers and integrate risk management strategies in probation work. Although the effectiveness of RNR-focused parole work in reducing recidivism has been demonstrated (e.g. Eisenberg et al., 2019), implementation often proves to be challenging given that it requires a shift in mindsets of probation officers and in the way they practice their profession. The implementation of such a new way of working cannot simply be imposed in a top-down way. Damschroder et al. (2009, 2022) developed a model to facilitate implementation processes and emphasized the need to test new innovations on a small scale first. For this reason, it was decided to test the innovations at one probation service in Belgium. In this presentation, we describe the main challenges encountered during this implementation process and how we dealt with them as well as the main results of the evaluation of this implementation process.

### 273. Cannabis and cannabinoids

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Drugs and Crime (European Drug Policies WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06

Chair:

*Joe Price*, Lancaster University

Participants:

Cannabis use among adults in Iceland and public attitudes toward alternative drug policies *Helgi Gunnlaugsson, University of Iceland*

Public opinion surveys conducted in Iceland consistently highlight drug use to be the most serious crime problem and alcohol and drug use as leading contributors to local crime. While studies on cannabis consumption among Icelandic students are relatively common, research among adults is less frequent, leaving a gap in understanding the progression of drug use from youth into adulthood. This paper presentation examines cannabis use patterns among adults 18+ in Iceland. The study investigates the prevalence of lifetime cannabis use over time, how many admit usage more than ten times, and finally recent usage within the six months leading up to the survey. Furthermore, the presentation sheds light on public perspectives regarding decriminalization of drug possession for personal use. Key findings reveal lifetime prevalence of cannabis use in Iceland exhibiting an upward trajectory until 2017, after which it has stabilized. Notably, there has been a discernible increase in support for alternative drug policies in Iceland. A significant development is evident, as most respondents in both 2021 and 2023 expressed a favorable stance towards drug decriminalization in Iceland. Concluding remarks include evaluation of the current status of the local drug situation and possible future directions.

Explaining medical cannabis diversion among medical cannabis license holders- a moderation model *vered Ne'eman- Haviv, Ariel University; Ron Paz, Ariel University*

Prescription drug diversion, a recognized issue within the medical and legal spheres, involves directing regulated medications into illegal markets. This study explores cannabis diversion and its associated factors through the lens of procedural justice theory and deterrence concepts. A quantitative research survey was conducted among 202 medical cannabis license holders in Israel to assess the prevalence, frequency, attitudes, trust in the healthcare system, and fear of punishment related to medical cannabis diversion. Our findings revealed that 60% of license holders engage in medical

cannabis diversion, primarily driven by altruistic motives. Attitudes toward diversion were found to act as mediators between trust in the healthcare system, fear of punishment, and the act of diversion. The widespread occurrence of medical cannabis diversion underscores its significance and warrants focused attention. The disparity between criminal law and practical realities necessitates policy revisions concerning medical cannabis.

Understanding the Cultural Significance of Cannabidiol in the United Kingdom *Joe Price, Lancaster University*

Background: The rapid growth of the industry has caused confusion over the legal and regulatory status of the substance in the UK. This raises questions over the cultural understanding of CBD and cannabis. Previous research has shown a clear medicinal and pharmacological benefit for CBD but has lacked any understanding of the social and cultural aspects of consumption. By understanding the reasons, patterns, and barriers of consumption, this will produce a clear understanding about the environment and purpose of CBD consumption. Therefore, the project is investigating the history and cultural significance of CBD and the demographics of consumption within the UK. Specifically, analysing the relationship between CBD, cannabis, health, and wellbeing cultures. Methods: Online anonymous questionnaires and interviews will assess the culture around CBD, by asking consumers about the environment, reasons, and ways they learnt about the substance. Participant observations and ethnography in the CBD stores will evaluate the environment and the feelings that customers experience when purchasing the substance. Results: The presentation will give the findings of the research project. An extensive literature review of cannabidiol culture, the legal framework for CBD and the pharmacological literature on CBD will be outlined. In addition, the data from the online survey of CBD users and CBD store owners will be reported to show the trends and findings. The results from the participant observations of CBD users around CBD stores in Manchester and Birmingham will also make part of the presentation. Conclusions: A clear link has been identified between CBD culture and other cultures, most notably cannabis culture and health and wellbeing culture, with tension evident between different cultures. There is also significant association with CBD and medicinal cannabis as well as an association with the wider cannabis legalisation movement

### 274. Prison Working Group: Recidivism trends and consequences

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”

Chair:

*Flaviu Ciopec*, Law Faculty West University of Timisoara Romania

Participants:

Reincarceration of former sexual delinquent *Annie Kensey, CNRS/CESDIP*

To date, the results on recidivism have not considered the nature of the new offence. This presentation is an analysis of the results based on the follow-up of persons released from prison in 2002 who had been imprisoned for at least one sexual offence and whose case had been examined by a judge in 2008. Although these data are 15 years old, no further surveys covering a five-year observation period have been conducted since then. A new quantitative study, commissioned by the Ministry of Justice, followed the same methodology, using two computerized data sources: the Genesis penal file and the national judicial statistics file. The results obtained after three years of observation show almost identical overall recidivism rates.

Electronic Monitoring System versus imprisonment - comparison of recidivism rates *Joanna Klimczak, Institute of Justice, Poland; Pawel Ostaszewski, University of Warsaw and Institute of Justice, Poland; Justyna Włodarczyk-Madejska, Institute of Law Studies Polish Academy of Sciences and Institute of Justice, Poland*

The Electronic Monitoring System (EMS) in Poland is intended for short-term prisoners sentenced to up to 18 months imprisonment which constitutes about 1/3 total convicted prison population. This system aims to enable sentenced prisoners to serve their sentences in conditions close to freedom. While preserving the severity of the sentence, convicts can simultaneously stay with their families or work. By reducing the pains of imprisonment, it is assumed that convicts will find their place in society more easily at the end of their sentence, thereby increasing their chances for desistance from crime. Do the quantitative data support this hypothesis? To answer this question, in the last years at the Polish Institute of Justice, we undertook this first large-scale study of recidivism among convicts who had been sentenced to imprisonment but with the possibility to serve the sentence in EMS. We analysed two groups. One of them was convicts who from 2018 to 2019 had been sentenced to imprisonment and which penalty was served in EMS. The second one (control group) was convicts who at the same time had been sentenced to equal short-term imprisonment and served them in prison. In total, we surveyed nearly 10,000 convicts. Our findings show that there are differences in recidivism rates in both groups. We also correlate the results with data such as gender, age, and type of crime committed.

Front door, back door or revolving door? Where to in Romanian prisons? *Flaviu Ciopec, Law Faculty West University of Timisoara Romania*

Romania's prison system is under severe pressure. After the pilot judgment of 25 April 2017 (Rezmiveş and others v. Romania), two objectives had to be assumed, exhaustively motivated by the Strasbourg Court: solving overcrowding and improving poor detention conditions. With regard to the first objective, the European court's judgment was based on the reductionist model of policy, masterfully theorized by Rutherford, and involved two strategies. The first (front door strategy) concerns the initiative to limit prison admissions through decriminalization, encouraging the use of prison as a last resort and through the effective application of non-custodial sanctions and measures. The second (back door strategy) aims to keep convicts in prison as short as possible, using various means of early release from prison. Romania has successfully applied the second approach, but only in the short term, experiencing now an upward trend in the size of the prison population. The first strategy has been timidly pursued and has met with strong resistance from a neo-retributivism perspective, which advocates increasing the importance of deprivation of liberty as a crime control solution. This study analyses some initiatives aimed at optimizing the functioning of the Romanian penitentiary system in terms of reducing the number of prisoners. These initiatives apparently operate only at a minimal level, as there is a strong residual component generated by the revolving-door syndrome (prison recidivism) that causes overcrowding to return after a while.

## 275. POL Panel 18. Police identity, culture and change

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”

Chair:

*Jan Terpstra*, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen

Participants:

Cultivating Sacrifice, Forging the Nation-State: the police 'military character' within the Chilean Carabineros. *Pascual Cortes, LSE*

This work examines the concept of "military character" within the Chilean police, based on qualitative research conducted with serving and retired members of the national police, the "Carabineros". While existing literature often associates militarised policing in Latin America with the construction of internal enemies, authoritarian legacies, tactical changes and expanding firepower, this study adds some complexity to the picture. The research identifies the military character as a dominant element in the historical institutional identity of the Carabineros, emphasizing values of sacrifice and discipline. The Carabineros conceive of

themselves as a powerful and efficient machine at the service of the state, mobilised through obedience, tenacity, dedication and even a stated willingness to die for the fatherland. Based on my ongoing doctoral research, this work aims to expand the understanding of the military imprint of police forces such as the Carabineros by examining the interplay between historical traditions and institutional narratives shaping police identity.

Developing a Rights-Based Policing Model: The Role of Ethical Leadership *Angela Workman-Stark, Athabasca University*

Extensive criticisms of the police have focused on abuses of human rights, including gender- and race-based violence perpetrated against women and members of minority communities. However, these abuses are not restricted to the external environment; various investigations and reports have highlighted these same issues within police organizations in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, and in other international jurisdictions. To date, there is limited understanding of the factors that contribute to human rights abuses within police organizations or how they might be reduced. To address these gaps, data were collected from two police organizations in North America: one mid-size and one large (N=339; 3,779). Through data from both civilian and sworn police personnel, the findings illustrate how police organizational cultures that promote dominance over others, along with the failure of organizational members to speak up about rights abuses and the dismissal of those who do speak up, cause internal rights abuses to persist. The findings further illustrate the role of ethical leadership as a potential point of intervention. Specifically, the findings suggest that police leaders who communicate expectations for ethical behavior, model ethical behavior themselves, and hold people accountable for their actions, can influence the actions of followers, thereby mitigating the negative effects of police culture and a climate of silence. In other words, rights-based abuses within police organizations can be reduced through ethical leadership. Following from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Human Rights Standards for Law Enforcement, and the results from these two studies, this paper next explores how ethical leadership can help influence a policing model that promotes and upholds the rights of all people, including police personnel and the communities they serve.

Navigating transitions in detective work *Anouk van Schaik, Radboud University Nijmegen (the Netherlands)*

Detective work has undergone significant transformations over the years in response to various societal changes. This study explores how these shifts have affected detective work and how detectives have navigated these transitions, drawing on data from interviews and observations in three Dutch detective teams. The primary transformation stems from digitalization, which has revolutionized investigation techniques and information gathering. Also, the professionalization of crime – which can for example be seen in the utilization of encrypted communication systems like Encrochat – has further shaped detective work. These changes have not only led to an increase in desk work, it also demanded enhanced digital and analytical skills among detectives, consequently driving a demand for detectives with higher education or specialized expertise. A final development in detective work relates to reduced personal contact, that has altered the dynamics among suspects, citizens, and detectives. The research highlights that not all detectives have seamlessly adjusted to these new techniques and tasks. Moreover, certain traditional values held by detectives may conflict with these changes, leading to their own set of challenges. For instance, despite the opportunities presented by digitalization, many detectives continue to prioritize traditional methods such as fieldwork, reflecting their commitment to cultural values like action orientation. Similarly, despite the diminished significance of interrogations and witness interviews, many detectives still place value on interpersonal skills and prioritize these interactions as vital investigative methods. In summary, these societal changes have introduced new roles and skillsets that may not align with detectives' traditional cultural values, potentially hindering their efficiency and adaptability.

Police, police identity, and fragmentation: new dividing lines in the police *Jan Terpstra, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen*

In this presentation the police identity and police mission are primarily seen as a social construction that has been created,



objectified and internalized by police officers and other relevant stakeholders. A main, often implicit, assumption is that despite important differences in police work and between police units, all police work is based on this shared and collective police mission or identity. Police officers often describe this as a common blue feeling or identity that is being shared by all police members. The main issue of this presentation is that this often taken-for-granted police identity is now increasingly under pressure. This is not only because of external social developments, as has often been assumed (the often mentioned, increasing complexity of the social world). More recent internal developments in the police are at least as important for understanding the rise of new forms of fragmentation in the police. This presentation concentrates on three of these internal developments. First, the digitalization and datafication of the police, resulting in the rise of new (data)professions in the police organization. Secondly, changes in the dominant institutional logics in the police, less reactive and incident-driven and more proactive and risk- and data-driven. Thirdly, the introduction of new social-cultural contradictions because of an increasing diversification in the social (class) and educational backgrounds of police officers. Each of these changes has created new conflicts and contradictions in the police organization, or what may be called new fracture lines. One of the main consequences is that it has become much more difficult to maintain an integrated identity or a shared feeling of a collective 'blue' mission among police officers. This raises still another question of why an integrated police identity and mission might still be important, even in times of individualization, cultural fragmentation and social differentiation.

## 276. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 1: Emotions work in gendered violence

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”

Chair:

**Brigitte Dragsted-Mutengwa**, University of Copenhagen

Participants:

**Fear, Helplessness, Pain, Anger: The narrated emotions of intimate femicide perpetrators in Latin America** *Martin Hernán Di Marco*, University of Oslo; *Sveinung Sandberg*, Department of Criminology and Sociology of Law, University of Oslo

While studies of femicide perpetrators have focused on background factors, such as criminal history and mental health conditions, little attention has been paid to their individual experiences. Perpetrators emotions and sense-making have often been overlooked and even dismissed. With a micro-sociological approach to violence, we identify the narrated emotions involved in the perpetration of intimate femicide. The data gathered is based on 33 open-ended interviews with convicted male perpetrators from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Honduras, Mexico, and Venezuela. We identify four main emotions reflecting participants' experiences of femicide: Fear, expressed through stories of women as threats to self, family and community; helplessness, expressed through stories of men being trapped, judged and persecuted; and pain, connected to stories of jealousy and belittlement. These lead to anger, expressed through stories of bodily reactions and losing control. The findings indicate that intimate femicide perpetrators resort to lethal violence to regulate self-worth and remediate actions they feel were disruptive. Our research demonstrates the importance of embodied and narrated emotions to understand femicides. We argue that viewing femicide as a product of a shared pervasive emotional economy highlight the role of emotions in maintaining a gendered social order.

**Gender-Based Violence and Narratives of Male Perpetrators of Violence** *Hale Nur Tunçay*, *Akdeniz University*; *Gonul Demez*, *Akdeniz University*

There are many dimensions of violence including physical, psychological, economic, and emotional. When violence against women is taken into consideration, it is worth investigating the

impact of the definitions of the social position of women, the social meanings of femininity and masculinity, and the tension created by the roles of femininity and masculinity on individuals, especially with the effect of gender roles and behaviour patterns. In particular, the impact of the perpetrator of violence on the meanings and definitions that men attribute to femininity and masculinity, their attitudes, and perceptions towards gender roles in terms of the legitimization of the act of violence is a matter of curiosity. In addition, the dimensions of the tension created by changing social life and transforming gender roles on men are also worthy of research in this context. In this framework, the impact of socio-cultural and economic changes/transformations on the agenda of violence against women is important. Another area needed to be discussed is whether the change in traditional roles and expectations caused by the changing status of women has led to a new crisis of masculinity or not. It is discussed how images of femininity are shaped in men's narratives, their definitions of violence, and the dynamics that create and sustain violence against women. Also, how images of femininity are shaped in men's narratives, their definitions of violence, and the dynamics that create and sustain violence against women are examined. The main question of the study is: "What are the perceptions of masculinity and definitions of violence against women by men who perpetrate violence?" The study consists of 30 male perpetrators of violence. The findings were obtained through qualitative research method in which face-to-face interviews were analysed and discussed thematically.

**The phenomenon of misogynistic online hate speech: analysis and characteristics of a new form of gender-based violence.** *Gaia Calcini*, *università degli studi di Milano-Bicocca*

A 2015 report by the Broadband Commission highlighted that 73% of women and young girls worldwide have been exposed to some form of online violence (Broadband Commission, 2015). Research examining this phenomenon emphasizes that the numbers are likely underestimated, as hate comments and offensive expressions on online platforms can be removed by moderators and users themselves. Also for this reason, a part of the literature argues that internet and social media, often portrayed as free and democratic spaces, are actually strongly discriminatory and have contributed to amplifying sexism and hostility towards women, and, in general, towards underrepresented categories. The research analyzes the phenomenon of online misogynistic hate speech, highlighting its main characteristics and framing it as a new form of gender-based violence. Specifically, the phenomenon is examined from approaches that view gender-based violence as a social construct and from Bourdieu's perspective of symbolic violence, demonstrating how this contributes to perpetuating dynamics of differentiation between genders and to re-establishing the gendered hierarchies threatened by recent social and economic changes. The domination and violence against women, in particular, translate into an attempt to maintain and validate a historical virility that appears to be in decline. The patriarchal hierarchies of hegemonic masculinity coexists now with the ambivalent ones of a new gender order that violates the traditional male-female dichotomy. Indeed, as Connell and Messerschmidt (2005) argue, hegemonic masculinity is not fixed but rather represents a contestable position in gender power relations. The aspects related to the heterogeneity of victims, the intersectionality of the phenomenon, and the issue of the dark number are also highlighted. In the conclusions, attention is focused on possible solutions, both legal and extralegal, to curb these behaviors, with a particular focus on the measure of the so-called counterspeech.

**Prosthetic empathy: Emotion work across time and place in the criminal justice system** *Brigitte Dragsted-Mutengwa*, *University of Copenhagen*

This paper contributes to recent theoretical discussions around the practice of empathy by professional legal actors within the criminal justice system. Drawing on the field of emotion-sociology, empathy has been used as an analytical frame to inquire into various types of work performed by legal actors ranging from the interpretation of police reports to the managing of witness testimonies. The present paper builds on this work and suggests, furthermore, that some types of professional empathy might be conceived of as emotion work across time and place aided by prosthetic devices. Empirically, the paper explores the work of evidence evaluation by

Danish public prosecutors in rape cases. In evidence evaluation, a prosecutor goes through the material collected by police investigators to decide whether to press charges. Based on 20 qualitative interviews, 5 focus groups and 11 case studies with prosecutors, the paper shows how text messages via SMS or social media between the alleged victim and perpetrator have gained new significance as evidence in rape cases since Denmark adopted a new rape legislation in 2021. With the new legislation, premised on the requirement of voluntariness, witness statements and evaluations of credibility increasingly become the subject of complex qualitative interpretation. In this context, text messages perform what might be termed a prosthetic extension of the empathy of legal actors across time and place, seemingly allowing legal actors access to 'immediate' and 'spontaneous' emotional reactions of alleged victims and perpetrators close to the time and place of the reported incident. The paper draws on Haraway's notion of the cyborg to open up discussions around the temporal dimension to legal evaluations of credibility as well as around mediating devices in the emotion work of legal professionals.

### 277. Victimology Working Group Panel 3 Consequences of Victimization

Topic 4: Victimology/Consequences of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”

Chair:

**Ellen Reeves**, University of Liverpool

Participants:

An explorative study on consequences of abuse on decision-making in Gender Based Violence victims. *Giulia Lausi*, Faculty of Law, Vilnius University; *Cricenti Clarissa*, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; *Benedetta Barchielli*, Department of Dynamic, Clinical Psychology and Health, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; *Stefano Ferracuti*, Department of Human Neuroscience, "Sapienza" University of Rome.; *Giannini Anna Maria*, Department of Psychology, "Sapienza" University of Rome. The issue of gender-based violence has been a public health problem for years. Considering its systemic nature, the possible consequences at the individual level on the psychological and cognitive well-being of victims have been examined. The present research aims to explore the differences in the various types and forms of violence. A non-probability and convenience sample was used; a total of 513 participants joined the research. Inclusion criteria were minimum age of 18 years, female gender, and knowledge of the Italian language. Two nonparametric One-Way ANOVAs (Kruskal-Wallis) were performed according to the type of violence experienced and the type of self-reported abuse (i.e., no victimisation, single victimisation, complex victimisation). Results showed that victims of violence scored higher overall than non-victims on all subscales of the Depression, Anxiety, Stress Scale. Analyses among the three groups-no violence, single violence, and complex violence-showed no differences in any of the dimensions between those who experienced single and complex violence, while differences emerged between the "no victimisation" group and the other groups. The results were discussed in relation to the existing literature on the topic, highlighting the limitations and future applications of the collected data.

Motivators of sexual violence disclosures and gender *Karen Birna Þorvaldsdóttir*, Reykjavík University; *Rannveig Sigurvinsdóttir*, Reykjavík University; *Erla Katrín Jónsdóttir*, Reykjavík University; *Bryndís Björk Ásgeirsdóttir*, Reykjavík University

Disclosure of sexual violence victimization is important to mobilize resources for survivors of sexual violence. Survivors report multiple barriers to disclosure, but less is known about factors that motivate survivors to tell others about their experience. The decision to disclose may also vary by gender, as men and women face different levels of stigma around sexual violence. The purpose

of this study was to examine what factors survivors of sexual violence identify as disclosure motivators, in their own words. We conducted a telephone survey among a nationally representative sample of the Icelandic population (N = 1766). Participants who reported sexual victimization (22.6%) were asked whether they had disclosed that experience to anyone, and what motivated it, with an open-ended question. A qualitative analysis identified seven facilitator themes, some of which were strongly related to the social context and broad social movements around sexual violence ("social connections," "survivor solidarity," and "socio-cultural change.") Other themes reflected recovery from sexual violence ("shock and suffering" and "hope for healing"), but other disclosure facilitators were more related to the violence itself ("stop the violence" and "could not hide it."). For the most part, themes were similar for men and women, although "survivor solidarity" was more common for women, and "shock and suffering" among men, though these differences were marginally significant (p = 0.078 and p = 0.069, respectively). The results show that diverse factors motivate disclosures and that these may be impacted by general societal discussions of sexual violence.

'There are too many women with love brains': Domestic Violence and Victim Blaming in China *Lihan Miao*, Durham University; *Nicole Westmarland*, Durham University Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse

While there exists increasing awareness and legal remedies in relation to domestic violence in China, victim-blaming still exists - especially in online discourse. This research investigated public reactions to domestic violence in China, using comments made by women on Weibo - China's largest social media platform. Thematic analysis was used to analyse 500 comments related to four extremely high-profile domestic violence cases. The analysis reveals that victim-blaming is manifested in six overlapping ways, blaming victims for: 1) choosing the wrong partner, 2) not resisting abuse, 3) failing to leave the relationship, 4) having 'weak personalities', 5) lacking rationality, dignity, and self-love, and 6) being overly influenced by love - known as 'love brain'. The findings not only shed light on the complexities of victim-blaming on social media in China but also illustrate the ongoing clash between modern feminist thought and entrenched patriarchal values within contemporary Chinese culture.

Safe spaces? Women's use of online domestic abuse support groups *Ellen Reeves*, University of Liverpool

Emblematic of the shortcomings of formal responses to domestic abuse and the acute social isolation experienced by victim-survivors, women who have experienced domestic abuse are increasingly turning to online spaces for support. The use of private Facebook domestic abuse support groups in particular has accelerated in recent years, with some boasting tens of thousands of members. In a society where domestic abuse continues to be silenced, many women have found critical support in online spaces. However, experiences of these groups are also shaped by judgement, threats to anonymity, unsafe advice and a significant labour burden on moderators, who are often victim-survivors themselves. Unlike previous research that has largely employed content analysis methods to interpret posts on public domestic abuse support forums, this paper draws on in-depth interviews with women who use private domestic abuse Facebook groups in the United Kingdom. As such, the paper moves beyond what victim-survivors post to these online spaces, to a broader consideration of how and why they use the spaces. The paper reflects on the role of online spaces in creating 'counter-publics' and in making space for innovative justice initiatives outside of formal responses to domestic abuse.

### 278. Image-based sexual abuse: victimization, perpetration, prevention, and policing.

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Cybercrime (Cybercrime WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 5 „Constantin Stătescu”

Image-based sexual abuse (IBSA) and other manifestations of digital sexual abuse are increasingly prevalent. Simultaneously, there is a rise in research, as well as normative and preventive actions being implemented at both

national and international levels. While most research focuses on the non-consensual sending of intimate images (NCII), new trends are emerging made possible through developments of artificial intelligence. This panel will focus on current research related to NCII and new forms of abuse such as deepnudes: AI-generated realistic-looking but fake sexual images of a victim. Increasingly, the easy access and use of apps to generate deepnudes lower the threshold to generate these images. Therefore, research on deepnude app use and the apps' terms of service, will be presented. Additionally, new research focuses on the motivations and characteristics of app users. The tools used, the targeted individuals, and the motivations of perpetrators will be discussed. Next, research on the mental, emotional, and social impact of NCII on victims will be shared, along with factors that influence victims to report or not to the police. Further, the policing of IBSA will be presented. This includes also the benefits and risks associated with diverse policing responses involving actors from the profit, social-profit, and governmental sectors. Next to prevalence, consequences, and policing, how prevention through education could be shaped, will be shared. Focusing on practitioners' and researchers' experiences, recommendations for education on sexting and image-based sexual abuse will be presented.

Chair:

*Michel Walrave*, University of Antwerp

Participants:

Deepnudes among Belgian youth: how AI-apps do have it all. *Aurelie Gilen*, University of Antwerp; *Catherine Van de Heyning*, University of Antwerp; *Michel Walrave*, University of Antwerp; *Mona Giacometti*, University of Antwerp; *Nina Dakota Szyf*, University of Antwerp

Artificial Intelligence (AI) can be used for beneficial technological purposes but it also fuels several types of abuse and inflicts harm. AI has access to your personal information circulating on the Internet e.g., your personal photos. These can be easily manipulated by various AI techniques and used for malicious intents. Deepnudes or the creation of a realistic-looking nude by using AI is one of these malicious ends. A survey was conducted (N=2819) among Belgian youth (15- to 25-years). In this study, 12.8% indicated to know at least one tool to create deepnudes and 7.8% have ever tried to create them. How deepnude applications are built and the Terms of Service (ToS) they apply, contribute to the complexity of this phenomenon. A deepnude app market analysis (N=25) showed that the majority of apps do not warn against the potential creation of non-consensual content and even do not prohibit that kind of behaviour. Paradoxically, these deepnudging tools do not use this smart technique for controlling prompts and thus the images being created. Another anomaly hidden in apps' ToS: the anonymity of the user is almost always guaranteed whilst the same tool produces fake nudes based on images published online of which consent was not given to use it for this purpose. When facial characteristics are visible, this will be a violation of the General Data Protection Regulation. As long as the victim is identifiable and thus the images are partially edited, the Belgian legislator believes that this behaviour falls within the ambit of voyeurism. Full deepnudes - where the victim is not identifiable, is not covered by Belgian Criminal law, at least when the victim represented is an adult and the deepnude is not distributed. The outcomes of this paper will contribute to insights to enhance prevention initiatives, policy, and future research.

Engaging in Sexualised Deepfake Abuse: Findings from an International Qualitative Study of Perpetrators in Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States. *Asher Flynn*, Monash University; *Anastasia Powell*, RMIT University; *Asia Eaton*, Florida International University; *Adrian J. Scott*, University of Goldsmiths

The expansion of Artificial Intelligence in illicit contexts has facilitated an increase in the development of technologies that can create realistic nude or sexualised fake imagery of a person, generally without their knowledge or approval. Often described as 'deepfakes' or 'deepnudes', such behaviours may include editing or altering an image or video using AI, digital tools or software to create a sexual image or video of another person known (e.g. friend, colleague) or unknown (e.g. celebrity, stranger) without their knowledge and/or approval; distributing an image or video of another person that has been edited or altered in a sexual way using AI, digital tools or software, without their knowledge and/or

approval; threatening to create and/or distribute an image or video of another person that has been edited or altered in a sexual way, using AI, digital tools or software, without their approval; and/or sending someone an image or video without their approval (such as a dic pic) that has been digitally edited or altered in a sexual way, using AI, digital tools or software. Research data on victimisation and perpetration rates of deepfakes is relatively sparse, as is data on motivations and the contexts of perpetration (such as characteristics, drivers, tools used, people targeted etc.). In this paper, we present findings from qualitative interviews conducted with adults who have engaged in deepfake perpetration in Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States. We focus on the motivations, drivers and characteristics described by perpetrators, and consider what might be needed to help intervene, prevent and respond to this growing and problematic form of sexual violence.

Non-consensual dissemination of intimate images: Impact on victims and their willingness to report. *Silke Van den Eynde*, LINC, KU Leuven

Non-consensual dissemination of intimate images (NCII) is a phenomenon that has increased in prevalence and intensity in the last decades. With the digitalisation of society, the offence seems to have become widespread. According to different scholars, NCII has a significant impact on the victims in different ways. For these reasons, a number of legislative changes have been made in recent years to provide better protection for victims and stricter punishment for perpetrators. However, in order to achieve this, it is important that victims report the offence to the police. This presentation focuses on the impact of NCII on victims and their willingness to report this offence. The findings presented are based on two empirical studies. The first study was conducted using an online survey (N = 543; 69.61% females; Mage = 20.07, SD = 2.30) distributed through Facebook. This was an exploratory study of NCII among young people with the aim of better understanding the consequences for victims and their reporting. It involved online in-depth interviews with Flemish, young female victims of NCII (N = 6, ages: 20-27) on the consequences they experienced. Some of these young women reported the offence to the police. From the studies it can be concluded that NCII is associated with mental, emotional, and social consequences. In addition, we see that the reporting rates are quite low, as victims face various barriers. Some of these barriers appear to be specific to (the impact of) the offence itself. A number of other barriers and difficulties relate to the police and the reporting process.

Who's policing? A nodal governance perspective on the policing of image-based sexual abuse in Japan. *Charlotte Bekkers*, KU Leuven; *Jeroen Maesschalck*, Leuven Institute of Criminology, KU Leuven; *Dimitri Vanoverbeke*, University of Tokyo

In the last decade image-based sexual abuse (IBSA), or the non-consensual creation or (threatened) distribution of nude or sexual images, has become a problem on a truly global scale, leading many countries to introduce criminal statutes and corresponding sanctions. Despite the existence of such legal frameworks, it is often unclear whether and, if so, how and by whom crimes of IBSA are being policed, as extant criminological research has predominantly focused on the predictors, the prevalence rates, and the consequences of this type of cybercrime. One notable exception is Japan, where actors as diverse as police forces, law firms, detective agencies, non-profit organizations, internet helplines, and government bodies are all actively, yet often independently from each other, responding to and managing cases of IBSA. Drawing on the plural policing literature, this presentation will discuss the theoretical risks and benefits associated with such diverse policing responses based on a preliminary examination of the (inter)actions of actors from the public, private, and voluntary sectors in Japan. In doing so, it contributes a non-Western perspective on cybercrime prevention and response strategies to the growing body of literature on the policing of cybercrime.

Sexting education and prevention of image-based sexual abuse: A qualitative study of expert opinions. *Joris Van Ouytsel*, Arizona State University

Sexting, the exchange of self-generated sexually explicit content via digital platforms, is a normative behavior among adolescents. While consensual sexting can be considered a normal behavior

within adolescence, image-based sexual abuse and abusive forms of sexting should be prevented. Despite efforts by organizations to initiate sexting education and prevent image-based sexual abuse, there is currently no consensus on program content and delivery. To address this gap in the literature, this ongoing study aims to assess what experts from diverse fields believe that sexting education should look like. We are engaging practitioners and researchers from diverse fields including criminology, police work, psychology, social work, sexual education, media literacy, and relationship studies. Interviews are being conducted over Zoom with experts from around the world, with a target of 40 international participants. Thematic analysis will be used to analyze the data. The results will focus on expert perspectives regarding the ideal structure and delivery of sexting education and image-based sexual abuse prevention. Data collection and analysis will be completed by the time of the conference and during the conference we will present the final results of the study. Preliminary findings, based on ongoing data collection, suggest a need for sexting education to move away from traditional gender roles (depicting girls as victims and boys as perpetrators), and instead, emphasize broader discussions on healthy relationships and resilience. The study's outcomes will contribute to formulating effective strategies for sexting education and prevention, promoting digital well-being and safe online behavior among adolescents.

## 279. The Criminology of Regulation: Special Issue of Regulation & Governance

Topic 2: Types of Offending/White collar Crime, Organizational Crime, Corporate Crime, Financial Crime (EUROC)

Roundtable

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”

In this lightning round table, participants will highlight, in six minute presentations, how their criminological work contributes to the theory and practice of regulatory governance. Contributors' papers are targeted for a special issue of Regulation & Governance. Discussion will be led by special issue co-editors (Simpson and Van Rooij).

Chairs:

**Benjamin van Rooij**, University of Amsterdam

**Sally S Simpson**, University of Maryland

Participants:

Regulating White-Collar and Corporate Crimes: An Organisational Perspective *Nicholas Lord, The University of Manchester, UK; Mike Levi, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University*

This article presents a conceptual and analytical framework, that of an organisational perspective, for informing the regulation of a range of white-collar and corporate crimes. This perspective encourages us to think about how we can produce and systematise knowledge on (1) how such crimes are organised, (2) why they are organised as they are and who gets involved in them, as primary offenders and as facilitators and money launderers, and (3) about the 'real' factors that shape these organisational dynamics over time within particular contexts and under varying conditions. In the context of white-collar crimes, we mean many things by 'organisation'. We mean the distal and proximal social arrangements and relations that create and shape emergent white-collar crime opportunities and their structures; we mean the mechanisms, relations, processes and conditions that are necessary for the commission, or unfolding, or for the non-commission, of white-collar crimes and how these are contingently connected to particular contexts; we mean the people that collaborate, connect and otherwise associate, whether ephemerally or for longer periods, in the pursuit of criminal goals, and the actual or potential skills, expertise and abilities of these people to accomplish (or resist) particular behaviours that are required of them, as well as the human, social, cultural and material antecedents that enable white-collar crimes to flourish or fade. In this article we probe the following questions: what does a structural analysis alongside a situational analysis imply for regulation and enforcement? How can we re-envision what these sorts of white-collar and corporate crimes might have looked like in a different regulatory and criminal

justice setting? What are the implications of an organisational perspective and an analysis of the white-collar crime commissioning processes for reducing such offending and/or the associated harms?

Risk-Profiling Corporations: Patterns and Trends of Organizational Characteristics of Corporate involvement in Atrocity Crimes *Wim Huisman, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; Susanne Karstedt, Griffith University; Annika van Baar, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam; Rebecca Endtricht, University of Hamburg*

Since WWII, numerous corporations have been involved in genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. As these crimes only recently have entered the criminological canon, they also have been largely ignored within the area of white collar and corporate crime. As the involvement in atrocity crimes of transnationally operating corporations has become a major concern worldwide, criminological contributions, in particular from a corporate crime perspective are more important than ever. With the development of hard law and soft law instruments that require corporations to conduct human rights due diligence and to prevent becoming involved in the most serious human rights abuses, criminological theorising and research offers a wealth of preventive and regulatory mechanisms. This contribution starts from a criminological perspective and explores corporate characteristics that are conducive to corporations' engagement in situations where they are at risk of becoming involved in atrocity crimes. As such, we are looking at 'motivational factors' as risk factors and identify trends and patterns that are both persistent and related to specific time and space contexts. Our analyses are based on a data set with more than 200 cases of alleged corporate involvement spanning the time since 1940. We use latent cluster modelling to explore patterns of branches of industry, corporate structures, business activities and characteristics of the crimes, in order to establish risk profiles of corporations across time and space. We identify six risk-profiles across the decades from 1940 – 2020 that are conducive to corporate engagement in massive violence and discuss these results both in terms of criminological and regulatory theory and potential interrelations between the two.

Rule violating corporations, specialists or generalists? *Marieke Kluin, Leiden University; Arjan Blokland, NSCR; Wim Huisman, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*

Detailed knowledge on substantive patterns of regulatory violations based on large and representative samples of corporations would greatly benefit inspection agencies in allocating their limited resources. Taking an innovative life-course perspective on corporate crime, this paper uses rich, longitudinal data on patterns of environmental, occupational health and external safety regulation violations taken from an inspection database of 567 Dutch Seveso corporations. While life-course criminology is one of the discipline's main explanatory frameworks, it has only recently been applied in corporate crime research to study longitudinal trajectories of corporate rule violation. The present research builds on this budding literature, by examining corporate patterns in the frequency and nature of rule violations. The database used in this research consists of (bi-)annual inspection reports from 2007 until 2022 for all Dutch corporations covered by the Seveso directive. First, this study describes the prevalence of violations of different types of regulations among Dutch Seveso corporations. Second, it examines whether different types of regulatory violations often occur together in the same corporation, and whether distinct patterns in the nature of regulatory violations can be discerned using Latent Class Analysis (LCA). Latent classes of regulatory transgressions, are then associated with corporate characteristics, to provide the basis for a typology of Dutch Seveso corporations, which is contrasted to categorizations available from the extant – qualitative – literature. The current study contributes to ongoing discussions on regulatory strategies to best combat corporate non-compliance. Examining potential clustering of certain types of regulatory violations speaks on the underlying drivers of non-compliance and allows enforcement agencies to focus on certain topics within the inspections, enhancing the effectiveness of their enforcement activities.

Environmental regulation and recidivist companies: When best to

intervene? *Ben Hunter, University of Greenwich*

Considerations of environmental regulation have developed along existing paradigms when it comes to the regulation of companies. These include concerns for managing risk, emphasising command and control approaches, and considerations of ‘smart’ regulation. To date, however – and particularly in England and Wales – such approaches, while having much to say about how to approach regulation, have made little use of available data to explore when to intervene following regulatory violations. This article represents a first step towards informing regulatory practice with data, focusing on whether companies that violate environmental regulations for the first time are more similar to those who offend multiple times or to non-offending companies. Data include companies pursued by the Environment Agency for England and Wales between 2010 and 2021. The multinomial logistic regression compared one-time offenders (n = 1821) with repeat offenders (n = 446) and a non-offending sample (n = 4460). Results suggested that one-time offenders differed from non-offending companies on various financial measures but differed from repeat offenders on several company descriptors. Increases in the logs of assets and net income, and the return on common equity and the Zmijewski score (which measures bankruptcy risk) predicted a greater chance of being a non-offender. Decreases in the logs of current assets and current liabilities, return on assets, and return on common equity predicted the same. Conversely, being a utilities company was predictive of being a repeat offender, while small and medium sized companies, and trade and transport companies were associated with a reduced chance of being a repeat offender. The results suggest important considerations for where environmental regulators should direct their efforts. Financial difficulties in particular may serve to be an important indicator of whether a company that offends for the first time is at risk of recidivism. Implications for regulatory practice are discussed.

The price of prosperity. How regimes of permission emerged and enabled corporate environmental harm. A historical account of state corporate crime in the Netherlands *Lieselot Bisschop, Erasmus University Rotterdam; Karin van Wingerde, Erasmus University Rotterdam; Sammie Verbeek, Erasmus School of Law*

Both the regulatory governance and the state corporate crime literature examine interactions between governments and companies to understand corporate harms. Despite this shared substantive focus, both fields have increasingly diverged and failed to integrate each other’s insights (Almond and Van Erp 2020). One explanation is regulatory governance’s usual focus on questions of institutional architecture” rather than causes and consequences of corporate harm: Another explanation is state corporate crime’s predominant focus on singular events, so called ‘moments of rupture’ which impedes theorization and generalization. This paper answers to Almond and Van Erp’s (2020) call to integrate these perspectives, by analysing how so called regimes of permission emerged and developed over time and ultimately enabled corporate environmental harm. This question is answered by means of a historical analysis of two Dutch industrial facilities: (1) Hoogovens/Tata Steel, a steel factory founded in 1918 and accused of emitting toxic substances that cause a higher prevalence of cancer in the proximity of the factory; (2) Dupont de Nemours Chemours Dordrecht which has used the now infamous chemical substance PFOA (or C-8) - part of the PFAS a.k.a. ‘forever chemicals’-family – in its production processes since 1967, polluting the surrounding water, air and soil. This historical analysis of the two cases is based on government and corporate documents retrieved via archives, FOIA requests court case dockets and media publications since 1918/1967 Computational methods and qualitative content analysis are combined, going beyond specific ‘moments of rupture’, providing a longitudinal understanding of the historical, political-economic, institutional, and cultural dynamics that created these regimes of permission. In this way, this paper contributes to both corporate crime and regulatory governance literature, by analysing how certain institutional architectures have emerged and developed over time and thereby shedding light on the systemic drivers of corporate harms.

## 280. EXTR7 Crime-terror nexus and terrorist networks

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Terrorism and Terrorism Financing, Radicalization, Extremism (Radicalization, Extremism, Terrorism WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)

Chair:

*Hamid Azizi*, Flinders University

Participants:

Understanding Reintegration Experiences of Youth Returning from Terrorist Groups Through the Lens of "Guilt" *Arpita Mitra, Doctoral Candidate, Department of Criminal Law and Criminology, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam*

The working paper is an ongoing research and draws from previous publications of the author, exploring holistically the experiences of youth who have previously been associated with armed groups and terrorist groups, and are returning to civilian lives. In doing so, it explores the concept of guilt in shaping post-return reintegration experiences from the perspective of individual, institutional and community perceptions. Guided by Agnew’s General Strain theory on Terrorism, the paper highlights an inverse relationship between individual guilt and young returnees’ perception of strain or victimization, including but not limited to material deprivation, exposure to high degree of harm and the inability to achieve certain goals through legitimate means. Socially, young returnees’ guilt is contingent upon a range of factors such as community’s own acceptance of the terrorist group, or community proximity to either the group membership (greater acceptance) or to experiences of loss or insecurity caused by the group (greater distance). Finally, mechanisms such as blanket amnesties, peace agreements and deradicalization programmes superimpose institutional labeling of guilt depending on the young returnees’ participation to, and avoidance from, these processes, without adequate reference to individual experiences. The research is presently set in Colombia, but shall make comparisons with other contexts with similar reference to youth reintegration.

Recidivism among convicted terrorists: A survival analysis based on Belgian Central Criminal Records *Michaël Vande Velde, INCC-Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie; Benjamin Mine, INCC - Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie; Eric Maes, INCC - Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie; Patrick Jeuniaux, INCC - Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie; Luc Robert, INCC - Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie*

Several individuals with previous terrorism convictions have been involved in recent violent offenses, leading to casualties in European cities (e.g., Paris, 2023). These incidents have raised public and political concerns about the risk of new terrorist acts and reoffending within this population. However, scientific research on this topic remains limited, leaving room for misrepresentations and unfounded fears. Drawing on national conviction data for people convicted of terrorism in Belgium between 2006 and 2020 (N=463), our study aimed to: 1° Describe the characteristics of this population (demographics, criminal careers); 2° Quantify figures related to the recidivism (e.g., prevalence, time to recidivism, type of offense); 3° Investigate the time to recidivism and factors influencing it through a survival analysis including Cox’ proportional hazard models. Findings show that the majority of the offenders were male and affiliated with a terrorist group. Half of them had prior convictions, generally within a narrow range of offenses. General recidivism prevalence was low (10%), and reconviction for terrorism was extremely rare (1%; n=5). Survival analysis on general recidivism revealed that the criminal history, and the number of prior convictions in particular, influence the time to recidivism. Impacts of the methodological choices, limitations of the study and research perspectives are presented.

The Criminal Activities and Operational Roles of Australian Neo-Jihadists: A Network Perspective *Phillip William Screen, Transcrime - Crime & tech / Università Cattolica del Sacro*

*Cuore (Mi); David Bright, Deakin University; Alberto Aziani, Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca*

Despite the significant global repercussions of terrorism, and many examples of cooperation with criminal organisations, research on its relationship with crime has been focused on group-level analyses. That is, research has yet to focus on how individuals contribute to the crime-terror nexus, and furthermore, how criminal activities of individuals can contribute to terrorist operations. To address this research gap, this study examines the individual criminal activities of Australian Neo-Jihadists via positional social network analysis and their relationship with operational roles. Judicial documents and newspaper articles are analysed to determine the criminal activities and operational roles of network actors. Findings suggest a prominence of criminal activities throughout the wider network, and a significant relationship between market based criminal activities and the facilitation of terrorist operations. It also highlights a significantly negative relationship between violent crime, and the terrorists that commit the final, violent acts. The study concludes with suggestions for future research, emphasising the potential for disrupting terrorist networks by focusing on the new crime-terror nexus and better understanding these relationships through dynamic network analysis.

The Taliban's involvement and profit from the drug trade- pre and post regime change *Hamid Azizi, Flinders University*

Over the last two decades, Afghanistan has been the leading global producer, contributing to over 70% of the world's heroin consumption- a key revenue source sustaining the Taliban. Despite a substantial 95% reduction in opium cultivation in 2023 and a surge in methamphetamine production, a notable gap exists in understanding the implications of the regime change on Afghanistan's drug market. This research aims to understand the extent of the Taliban's involvement in the drug trade from 2017 to August 2021, examining its taxation system and relationship with drug trafficking networks. It explores how the regime change and transition from insurgency to de facto authority have impacted the group's link with the drug trade, and further investigates changes in trafficking routes and modes, along with the impact of the opium ban on methamphetamine production and trafficking in Afghanistan. The research utilises six semi-structured questionnaires to interview 100 poppy and non-poppy cultivating farmers, 35 drug traffickers, 25 Islamic scholars, and 25 village headmen. Fieldwork is conducted across 10 rural districts and 5 provincial centres in Badakhshan, Farah, Nimroz, Helmand, and Nangarhar during December 2023 and January 2024. Ethics approval for the study was granted by Flinders University. By collecting firsthand information from key actors directly involved in the illicit drug market, this study shows the major developments in Afghanistan's drug market since the regime change. It identifies socio-economic and political implications of the opium ban and the rise in methamphetamine production within Afghanistan, potentially influencing the wider region and main consumption markets supplied by drugs produced in Afghanistan.

## 281. Sentencing 5. Sentencing of Specific Crimes and Specific Offenders

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Courts and Sentencing and Penal Decision Making (Sentencing and Penal Decisionmaking WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)

Chair:

*Teodor Manea*, Faculty of Law, Bucharest University of Economic Studies

Participants:

Sentencing serious sex offenders: How judges decided when discretion is wide. *Diarmuid Griffin, University of Galway*

This paper examines the sentencing of serious sex offenders and the factors that influence judges in their assessment of seriousness. Sentencing practice in Ireland is notable for its highly discretionary

nature and, until relatively recently, could be described as adopting a fairly unstructured approach to imposing punishment. Addressing a lack of high-quality sentencing information in Ireland, this paper combines legal and criminological methodologies in analysing 106 serious sexual offences cases. More specifically, it looks at sentencing outcomes of 15 years imprisonment up to, and including, life imprisonment. The analysis provides an opportunity to explore judicial perspectives on the assessment of seriousness at trial level as well as examining the influence of appellate decisions. The findings indicate that there are specific fact patterns and aggravating factors that result in the imposition of long-term imprisonment. Defendants were often being sentenced for multiple offences and in some instances, there were also multiple victims. In addition to the assessment of the offending itself, factors such as previous criminal history and the risk of reoffending played a significant role in the imposition of long-term imprisonment.

Sentencing the multiple offender: between deserv and proportionality? *Julia Castro Sánchez, University of Alicante*

This presentation examines a problem that arises in all modern legal systems where the principle of legality and proportionality prevails: prosecution for multiple offences. Two institutions are essential in such cases: sentencing multiple crimes and recidivism. First, the difference between the multiple offender (in same sentencing hearing) and the serial offender (in separate sentencing hearings), with the treatment primarily beneficial to the former. Second, the difference between simultaneous offences (committed at the same time with a single action) and sequential offences (committed on different occasions without unity of action), the former being generally better treated. The presentation will analyse the reasons for the difference in treatment at both levels by reference to an common law country and a continental country and will question both its rationale and its practicality.

Two strikes you're out? Punishing repeat offenders of violent crimes in Dutch criminal courts *Sonja Meijer, Radboud University; Masja van Meeteren, Radboud University*

Several proposals have been made in the Netherlands in recent years to introduce high minimum sentences for offenders repeatedly convicted of serious violent crimes. In response to the latest proposal, the question has been raised to what extent criminal courts already impose heavier sentences for recidivism in serious violent and sexual offences compared to first offenders. Specifically, what does the increase in punishment entail of and to what extent does it result in long(er) detention? To answer this question, we draw on a literature review, a quantitative and qualitative analysis of case law of 766 court judgments (2020-2023), a content analysis of 32 court files and 7 focus groups with 27 participants, including judges, lawyers, public prosecutors, and policy officers of probation organisations. Our results indicate that criminal courts generally impose heavier sentences on repeat offenders than on first offenders after finding recidivism in serious violent and sexual offences. Furthermore, the results provide insights into judges' motivations behind punishments. During the workshop we aim to present the results of our study and to address the normative question of whether recidivist offenders should be sentenced to higher (minimum) sentences.

How the criminal law literature has been reinforcing the culture of impunity regarding domestic violence in Romania *Teodor Manea, Faculty of Law, Bucharest University of Economic Studies; Cătălin Nicolae Constantinescu-Măruntel, Faculty of Law, Bucharest University of Economic Studies*

The criminal law literature has been shaping directly and indirectly public policies, institution responses, jurisprudence and mentalities in general for decades. This is a normal phenomenon which has clear benefits, as the theoretical study of criminal law has enriched the general understanding of this field in ways which are impossible to achieve in the everyday practice. The objective of this paper is to explore how the formation of a monolithic way of thinking in the criminal law literature has negatively impacted the way domestic violence has been approached by the legislator, by the courts and by the Public Ministry in Romania in the last thirty years. In order to analyze this topic, the paper relies on two main sources of information. Firstly, it uses the data already gathered by the authors in a previous study, which explored how the criminal law

courts approaches cases of domestic violence. Secondly, it compiles the conclusions of an analysis of the Romanian criminal law literature from the last thirty years. By comparing and interpreting the two sets of data, one can draw several useful conclusions, which are to be presented at the end of this paper.

## 282. Legal and illegal wildlife crimes

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Environmental/Green Criminology

Pre-arranged Panel

3:30 to 4:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Library - reading room 1*

This panel is about legal and illegal wildlife crimes committed against endangered and vulnerable species. Despite the existence of many international conventions aiming to protect the natural environment and its nonhuman inhabitants, such as the convention on biodiversity, CITES and the Bern convention that have been transposed into the legislation of very many countries, the ecocidal tendencies of the Anthropocene proceed. These include the consistent killing of free born animals that should enjoy protection under both national and international law. The papers in the panel discuss on basis of empirical work both the character and consequences of such harms, as well as efforts to stop them through international conventions and the judicial system.

Chair:

**Ragnhild Sollund**, University of Oslo

Participants:

Legal and illegal trophy hunting **Ragnhild Sollund**, University of Oslo

While the world, as we know it, is rapidly changing through the deterioration of the natural environment and species loss, this crisis is poorly addressed. Rather than pushing the alarm button, a widespread practice that includes the deliberate killing of animals in their natural environment still proceeds, even though the species are at risk of extinction. Hunting for leisure is an activity that is banned in several countries, while most countries in the world still allow such killing of wildlife either for economic profit, for sustenance or under the umbrella of wildlife management. This paper explores trophy hunting through data collected in Norway that concern the legal and illegal import of trophies from abroad to Norway and the motivations hunters have for partaking in hunting, both of endangered species and those not yet endangered. It provides an insight into Norwegian hunting culture through assessing import data concerning legal and illegal import of trophies to Norway, information from the Norwegian fisher-and hunter association's website, and how hunters of endangered species present themselves with their kill.

The illegal trade in Barbary macaques after the CITES-uplisting **Daan van Uhm**, Utrecht University

The illegal trade in Barbary macaques is not a new phenomenon. Barbary macaques have been victims of illegal trade for many years. Mainly young monkeys are targeted from Morocco and Algeria, fuelled by the exotic pet market in Europe. This has led to the species declining drastically in recent decades, with only 8,000 to 10,000 individuals left in the wild. Since the uplisting of the Barbary macaque to the highest protection level within CITES in 2017, the question arises whether the uplisting has actually had an influence on the protection of the Barbary macaque. For instance, what is the nature of poaching and trade in Barbary macaques after the uplisting, what changes have occurred within the criminal networks involved in Barbary macaques and what are the side effects of uplisting the Barbary Macaque? From a green criminological perspective, this presentation focusses on the current illegal poaching and trade of Barbary macaques and new dynamics and harms embedded in the illegal monkey business based on analyses of confiscation data, observations and interviews with respondents directly or indirectly involved.

The duality of protection: unravelling non-natural deaths of wolves in Spain **Patricia Puente-Guerrero**, UNED

Traditionally viewed as pests and a threat to farming necessitating eradication, wolves have long faced persecution in Spain. In the past, such persecution was not only sanctioned but actively encouraged by public authorities, leading to wolves being on the brink of extinction by the 1970s. However, in recent decades,

policies aimed at their conservation and facilitating coexistence between humans and wolves have gained prominence, although this coexistence remains far from peaceful. In September 2021, the Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge (MITECO) included all the populations of *Canis lupus* in Spain in the List of Wildlife Species under Special Protection Regime (LESRPE) —previously, only populations south of the Douro River were included—, a decision that has sparked considerable controversy. Nonetheless, a regime of exceptions exists that allows for the legal killing of wolves under the guise of ‘population management’, provided certain conditions are met. Illegal killings, mainly through shooting, trapping, or poisoning, also pose a significant threat to wolves. This paper explores the available data on the non-natural deaths of wolves in Spain and critically examines the dimensions and implications of such practices, aiming to contribute to the development of more effective conservation strategies and to enhance the understanding of human-wildlife conflicts within the framework of Green Criminology.

The “desperate hope”: Strategic litigation to save Norwegian wolves **Martine S.B. Lie**, University of Oslo; Dept. of Criminology and Sociology of Law

Norwegian wolves are hunted regularly with the Government's blessing, even though the wolves are critically endangered and protected by international law. The hunts are meant to reduce a heated “wolf conflict” in Norway, by protecting hunters', farmers' and forest owners' interests. Legal scholars have found the practice to be unlawful (Trouwborst, Fleurke, and Linnell 2017), and animal and environmental protection NGOs have contested several hunting decisions in court with varying results. I explore the NGOs' motivation and expectations for the “wolf litigation” and whether they achieved what they were hoping for, through in-depth interviews with the plaintiffs and analysis of the verdicts and their political aftermath. Was the “wolf litigation” a worthwhile strategy? What are the prospects of strategic litigation to promote animal and nature protection in the Anthropocene?

## 283. POL Panel 1. Police-academic Partnerships

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)*

Chair:

**Marleen Easton**, Universiteit Gent

Participants:

Managing Police Relationships: Affinities Between Police Researchers and Crime Journalists **Cian O Conubhair**, Maynooth University

Criminological scholarship in the fields of crime reporting and police-media relations is reasonably well-developed. Yet, despite a number of studies over the decades examining the practices of crime reporters and their management of police source relationships, scholars have not paid much attention to the congruities between researchers and reporters. During several years of fieldwork researching crime reporting, police communications and police-media relations, I observed how policing researchers—particularly police ethnographers—and crime reporters shared many methods, values and objectives. For example, both seek to cultivate relationships with informational sources within policing, using both formal and informal channels. Both provide some types of police sources with confidentiality. Both wish, in their own ways, to describe the ‘policing world’. A notable affinity between police ethnographers and crime reporters is the often-precarious nature of their relationships with police sources and police forces. This paper explores personal observations and analyses of these affinities based on nearly a decade of research on police-media relations in England and Ireland. It describes common tactics and methods in developing source networks, and strategies for managing source relationships of different kinds. The paper also interrogates the frailties in scholar/journalist relationships with policing, particularly attempts to balance access-management with professional integrity and the intellectual and ethical need to

criticise and challenge policing. In this regard, the paper also examines the sanctity of confidential source protection, common to both journalists and scholars, and some of the legal challenges that face both professions.

**Partnerships between police and science in Belgium: fragile alliances?** *Marleen Easton, Universiteit Gent; Jasper De Paepe, Leiden University & Ghent University*

20 years of police reform seems to us to be an excellent moment to look back and find out what we can learn about partnerships between police and science in Belgium. Our contribution is based on (inter) national literature on the one hand and observations based on our experiences within the Centre for Policing and Security and the Innovation Network 'Iungos' on the other. Our analysis shows that both partnerships have not been strengthened since the police reform in 1998 but, on the contrary, appear to be weakened. Indeed, both are subject to cultural tensions, a vulnerable institutional setting and fluctuating funding streams. Facing this reality in the Belgian context and naming the partnerships as fragile alliances provides a starting point to further reflect on how partnerships between police and science can be strengthened in our country in the future.

**Non-Institutionalization of Police Research in Germany – Problems and Solutions** *Daniela Hunold, HWR Berlin – Berlin School of Economics and Law*

Police research in Germany dates back to the 1970s. The first studies were characterized by a sociological view of police practices. These were perceived as too critical by the police, which led to a defensive attitude towards police research. While in other countries, such as Great Britain, conflicts between citizens and the police led to political demands for problem-oriented research on the police and promoted the expansion of Research infrastructure, there were no such developments in Germany. This is why German police research is still not established and institutionalized. There is also still a rather distanced attitude towards research by the police. Therefore it is not uncommon for research requests to be rejected, especially when they want to shed light on critical topics such as racism in the police. The contribution presents the current situation of police research in Germany and discusses approaches that could lead to its better establishment and more constructive cooperation between science and the police.

**Moving beyond police-academic partnerships: Organisational and structural challenges and opportunities for police learning** *Larissa Engelmann, University of Leeds*

Policing reviews have highlighted the importance for the police organisation to ensure their response to contemporary policing problems is evidence-based and addressed by adequately trained and educated police officers and staff. Some police forces have responded to this through the development of stronger police-academic partnerships and the establishment of police universities based on the professionalization agenda, seemingly bridging the gap between policing practice and academic research forming the evidence-base for 'good' policing. However, the pathway to competent and confident police officers is not as straightforward as recommendations and supporters of the professionalization agenda like to portray. This paper will utilise findings from a PhD thesis exploring the role, value and culture of learning in Scottish policing and reflections from the field over recent years, to discuss the ways in which different drivers for change in the police learning landscape (professionalization, police-academic partnerships, degree entry, commitment to become a learning organisation) have advanced but not fundamentally overhauled the police organisation's relationship with knowledge and learning. This paper will argue that factors beyond science and learning need to be focussed upon to develop accurate scaffolding for effective, sustainable and long-term police-academic partnerships that will advance not only policing practice but also recognise internal talent and capacity for change.

## 284. Punishment and social context

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Attitudes about Punishment and Criminal Justice System

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.10*

Chair:

*Amy Gershenfeld Donnella, Villanova University School of Law*

Participants:

**Catalyzing Legal Reforms Through the Innocence Project: Insights and Innovations from Croatia** *Suncana Roksandic, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia; Andrej Bozhinovski, Faculty of Law University of Zagreb*

The Innocence Project in Croatia has emerged as a catalyst for positive change within legal systems globally, demonstrating significant potential for correcting wrongful convictions through comprehensive project research and the implementation of DNA evidence. This presentation delves into the extensive project research conducted in Croatia, focusing on wrongful convictions, the collection, utilization, and storage of DNA materials, and the pivotal role of Innocence Projects in fostering legal reforms. Identified challenges within the Croatian legal framework demand urgent attention, ranging from the initial handling of DNA data to the critical issue of compensating wrongfully convicted individuals. Our project not only highlights these hurdles but also showcases strategies for overcoming them through strategic legal amendments and continuous training for judicial stakeholders. The dynamism of this theme underscores the necessity for persistent and efficient efforts in addressing these issues in practice, which includes improving DNA data processing and ensuring fair compensation for the wrongfully convicted. Key project recommendations include adopting the university model of the Innocence Project, fostering collaboration with international and regional Innocence Projects, enhancing support from domestic institutions, establishing training programs for young lawyers and law graduates, continuous education for police and judicial representatives, regular research and publication, advocating for legislative reforms, and considering effective rehabilitation programs for the wrongfully convicted. This presentation aims to share the Croatian project's journey from initiative to reality, highlighting its tangible contributions to the field, protecting the rights of wrongfully convicted individuals, and recommending strategies for legal and procedural enhancements. Through international cooperation, domestic institutional support, and continuous legal education, the Innocence Project in Croatia stands as a beacon of hope and a model for legal systems worldwide.

**Social and cultural context of punitiveness in Lithuania** *Aušra Pocienė, Vilnius university*

The presentation reviews the time of modern independent Lithuania (1990-2023) and analyses the institution of punishment in the Durkheimian sense - as a social fact determined by social and cultural facts coexisting at the same time. Trends and structural changes of crime are overviewed; how the former affect the public perception of the crime issue and the sense of safety in society. Attention is also paid to the economic changes (standards of living, etc.): how much they affect public attitudes towards offenders, victims and institution of punishment. Also, attention is paid to the change of society's values (traditional vs modern), emphasizing the aspects of tolerance and homophobic attitudes.

**What does punishment communicate?** *Fernando-Guanarteme Sánchez-Lázaro, La Laguna University*

According to recent case law, the conception of criminal law as a means of communicative prevention confers on punishment the function of transmitting different messages to the different actors affected by the commission of a crime: "the convicted person, the victim and the community. The convicted person is told that the crime is an act for which he or she is responsible, that it is disapproved of and that the rule that was broken is restored. The victim is told that he or she has suffered unjust harm and that he or she has the right to be compensated for it. The community is informed that the rule is a valid and valid guideline for regulating social coexistence". Thus, a communicative process is outlined in which the sender: the judicial body that imposes the punishment, the message: the punishment itself and, in particular, the recipients of the punishment: the convict, the victim and the community. However, despite the role attributed to communication in the



justification of punishment, it is striking how, in fact, this communicative process is completely ignored. Thus, the forms of reception described above are advanced, but the actual recipients of the punitive message are ignored in their determination and justification. This makes such forms of argumentation evident, as fallacies that expose as fact what is no more than a mere assumption, an assumption about the effective ways in which the addressee receives the message that also supposes punishment. In practice, these fallacious arguments lead to a discourse of application that is also fallacious and, consequently, illegitimate. In the face of this, this contribution will offer a first approach to the way in which the first of the three aforementioned addressees, the convicted person, understands the punishment that has been effectively imposed.

*We Who Know Killers, and the Way They're Killed, Best Amy Gershenfeld Donnella, Villanova University School of Law*

Our colleagues on the Law Faculty of the University of Bucharest have recently surveyed Romanian law students and learned that more than 30% favor re-introduction of death sentencing. These students, not just in Romania but throughout Europe—born a generation or more after capital punishment was abolished—may know little of its real-life application, of its deep flaws, or of the human experimentation it involves. In the U.S., those with the most comprehensive knowledge of people who commit murder and the operation of the legal systems used for prosecuting them are their post-conviction lawyers—we who are assigned to represent clients after they have been sentenced to death. In hopes of changing this fatal outcome, it falls to us to learn everything about their life stories, which we accomplish by collecting every record that mentions them, by interviewing every person with whom they have interacted, by having them examined by mental health experts, and by spending countless hours talking with them, often over the course of a decade or more. We challenge the legality of their convictions and sentences at every level of court and, if we fail in our mission, we sit with them as their execution approaches. We are a unique resource and it is our responsibility to share our knowledge both at home and abroad with those who wrongly imagine that murderers are the embodiment of evil, or that death sentencing deters crime, salves victims' families, or maintains the social or moral order.

## 285. Interplay of personal and environmental factors and criminal behaviour

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Biological, Biosocial and Psychological Perspectives

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11

Chair:

**Mariana Sebastião Machado**, School of Criminology, Faculty of Law - University of Porto / Doctoral research fellow, FCT [2021.04650.BD] /CIJ - Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice

Participants:

Assessing the role of hostile attribution in linking anger to aggressive behavior in driving context **Mariana Sebastião Machado**, School of Criminology, Faculty of Law - University of Porto / Doctoral research fellow, FCT [2021.04650.BD] /CIJ - Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice; **Cândido da Agra**, Emeritus Professor, University of Porto / Center for Juridical, Economic and Environmental Studies (CEJEA), University Lusitana; **Carla Sofia Cardoso**, Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Crime Justice and Security (CJS) - School of Criminology, Faculty of Law of the University of Porto

Aggressive behaviors have serious social, economic, and emotional consequences. Prior research has highlighted the heterogeneous nature of aggression and its situational stability. Within this scope, aggressive driving behavior is understood as a specific manifestation of aggression, and in a dynamic environment as driving, cognitive processes, such as attribution, may play an

essential role in adopting aggressive responses. Different Social Information Processing (SIP) models have been developed to explain individual differences in aggressive behavior, empathizing the central role of hostile attribution bias (HAB) – tendency to interpret the intent of others as hostile when social context cues are ambiguous. Nevertheless, only a limited number of studies have examined the link between Hostile Attribution Bias and aggression among adults, with even fewer focusing in driving context, and how the relationship between anger and aggressive driving behaviors can be mediated by HAB. Given this background, and using Social Information Processing as framework, this study, conducted with 278 drivers, aims to analyze i) the link between anger, hostile attribution and aggressive behavior within driving context; and ii) the mediating effect of hostile attribution in the relationship between anger and driving aggressive behavior. Results demonstrated a positive association between Hostile Attribution Bias, anger, and enactment of an aggressive responses. Moreover, hostile attribution partially mediates the relationship between anger and the display of an aggressive responses. Results will be discussed considering the literature of the domain, namely Social Information Processing and the integration of negative emotions in this Model, emphasizing the importance of cognitive behavioral interventions to prevent aggressive driving behavior.

Is Psychopathy Related to Exposure to Violent Scenes? An Exploratory Study **Fabio Delicato**, *Criminiseriali Association*

While studies show a link between exposure to violence and violent behavior (Baskin and Sommers 2014; Durant et al. 1994; Gaylord-Harden et al. 2011; Hawkins et al. 2000; Spano et al. 2006), not everyone exposed to violence will act violently. Personality factors can shape how exposure to violence translates into violent behavior. For instance, previous research indicates that psychopathy, a condition marked by emotional insensitivity, impulsivity, antisocial tendencies, and a lack of guilt or empathy (Paulhus & Williams, 2002), can mediate this relationship (Estrada et al., 2020). Psychopathic traits can lead to notably violent behavior, and clinicians often use the concept of psychopathy to predict violent tendencies in criminal offenders. This study aims to explore whether exposure to violence predicts psychopathic traits in adults. We ran an anonymous online survey with an Italian sample, using the Psychopathy subscale of the SD3 questionnaire and the Callousness subscale of the LSRP questionnaire, both in their Italian versions (respectively: Somma, et. al., 2020; Somma et al. 2014). This allowed us to investigate the potential link between being exposed to violent scenes and psychopathic traits. We also differentiated between those directly exposed to violence and those who experienced it indirectly (for instance by media or social media). We analyzed the collected data using SPSS v25 software and will discuss the results in the context of a personality traits model.

Psychological Strains and Sexual Assault Perpetration: Investigating Psychologically-Informed General Strain Theory **Gaetan Dore**, *Coventry University*

Although GST traditionally emphasizes ecological strains, previous research has evidenced the saliency of various personality traits in sex offenders, including those related to sex offenders' psyche and decision-making. Furthermore, it has previously been demonstrated that multidisciplinary theoretical integration, through the incorporation of dispositional factors, can be beneficial to GST. This study investigated the adequacy of a revised, psychologically-informed version of GST for the study of sexual crimes.

The role of distress in bystanders during street fights: A behavioural-based video-analysis on real-life conflict events **Laura Pighini**, *NSCR (Nederlands Studiecentrum Criminaliteit en Rechtshandhaving)*; **Ivan Norscia**, *University of Turin*; **Marie Rosenkrantz Lindegaard**, *NSCR and University of Amsterdam*; **Virginia Pallante**, *NSCR (Nederlands Studiecentrum Criminaliteit en Rechtshandhaving)*

Extensive research has been carried out on the role of bystanders during conflict situations. Recent research in criminology, based on real-life observations of public fights, documented that bystanders have an active role in de-escalating violence. However, it remains yet unclear what are the triggering factors in interventions. Although it has been suggested that distress plays a role. While

studies on non-human animal species suggests that the surgency of stress caused by witnessing a conflict situation promotes intervention, research on human samples highlight that distress tends to inhibit intervention. However, such studies have been limited to simulated conflicts in artificial settings, lacking a suitable methodology for the observation human distress in real life situations. This study explores how people respond through emotional expressions when witnessing a street fight. It focuses on an analysis of emotional responses of bystanders observed with CCTV cameras in 30 incidences of street fights in Amsterdam. We draw on a systematic video analytical method inspired by behavioural biology to evaluate the emotional state of bystanders and defines the possible mediating function of distress, such as social interaction, affiliation with other bystanders and intervention. In conclusion, the study offers a novel approach to the research of the bystanders' role by introducing a combination of real-life and behavioural-based analysis in the study of emotional drivers, contributing to underpin the importance of decision-making in public spaces, and seeking to deepen the understanding of the social dynamics of violence and interventions.

## 286. Preventing and investigating hate crimes

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Hate Crime (Hate Crime WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.14

Chair:

**Krzysztof Worek**, University of Warsaw

Participants:

Preventing Hate Crime: A Holistic Approach *Tore | Bjørge*, Center for Research on Extremism (C-REX), University of Oslo

Hate crimes are acts of crime motivated by bias or hatred against certain categories of people, such as religious, racial, or sexual minorities or people with disabilities. General principles of crime prevention may also work against hate crimes. This paper will present a generic model of crime prevention, discussing nine preventive mechanisms and measures that may be applied to activate these mechanisms to reduce hate crimes. Preventive mechanisms are simple theoretical explanations of how a measure is causing an effect, in this case, reducing hate crimes. Measures are the means implemented to activate a mechanism to achieve a specific outcome. A measure is what we do; the corresponding mechanism is how it works. The nine preventive mechanisms, applied to hate crime, are: 1) Building normative barriers against hate crime; 2) Reducing recruitment to hate groups and activities; 3) Deterring hate crimes; 4) Disrupting hate crimes; 5) Incapacitation of perpetrators of hate crime; 6) Protecting vulnerable targets of hate crime; 7) Reducing harm from hate crime; 8) Reducing rewards from hate crime; 9) Exit and rehabilitation from hate crime. A preventive strategy should be based on a holistic approach with a variety of interventions, involving a multitude of preventive actors with different measures at their disposal. This comprehensive approach can activate a broad range of preventive mechanisms that together can reduce hate crime and take well care of victims.

Understanding Hate Crimes in the Canadian Context: Exploring the Role of Offense Collaboration and Use of Violence in Hate Crime Incidents *Sara Doering*, Simon Fraser University; *Garth Davies*, Simon Fraser University

Many areas of Canada, as well as globally, are experiencing increases in hate crimes. To date, there has been a lack of studies empirically examining hate crime in the Canadian context. Statistics Canada has recently released the Hate Crime Police Incident Profiles (HCP/IP) dataset that has been created through the Canadian-Sweden Research Collaboration on Organized Violent Threats. This dataset includes incident and individual-level information on police-reported hate crimes in Canada between 2011 and 2018. A series of logistic regression models were conducted, and significant differences were found between incident characteristics perpetrated by violent and non-violent hate crime perpetrators, as well as between offences perpetrated alone compared to offences with co-offenders. This study provides

insight that can inform official responses and strategies intended to target the growing threat of hate-motivated offences and form a comparative basis for cross-national studies.

## Hate Crime in Sheffield: Understanding Trigger Events and How They Impact *Christina Verousi*, Northumbria University

To date, existing studies into the phenomenon of 'trigger events' almost exclusively focus on high profile events and the increase in hate crimes that typically ensue (Allen & Nielsen, 2002; Disha et al, 2011, Allen, 2021, Pickup et. al., 2021; Gray & Hansen, 2021; Moore, 2022). New research, however, suggests otherwise; that a much broader array of events at the local, national and international levels serve to function as 'trigger events', some triggering an increase in inter- and intra-community tensions either instead of or in addition to increases in hate crimes. This paper presents new empirical data to support this. More specifically, it examines how certain local incidents and events acted as 'triggers', leading to a temporary surge in hate crimes, expressions of hate, or exacerbation of inter-/intra-community tensions in the city of Sheffield. Accordingly, it examines what these phenomena looked like in the city and, importantly, how they were responded to at all levels. Drawing from a qualitative study involving more than 120 stakeholders across the city, it unveils a spectrum of 'trigger events', both planned and unplanned, ranging from geopolitical conflicts to local controversies, sparking targeted hate crimes and community discord. In doing so, this paper discusses the interconnectedness of 'trigger events' with broader societal issues, including socio-economic disparities and cultural tensions and considers whether in the current climate, increases in hate crimes and community tensions are inevitable. Directly responding to a known gap in the existing literature around triggers of hate, this paper stands as a pioneering scholarly investigation that seeks to better understand the role, function and impact of the former: events that span the social, political, cultural and economic and function to catalyse a sharp increase in levels of hate that typically target groups or communities of blame as a means of 'revenge' or 'retaliation'.

## Hate crime investigations and social media evidence *Krzysztof Worek*, University of Warsaw

Social media has been in constant flux since its inception. These changes have also occurred over the past few years, offering new and expanded opportunities and attracting a growing number of users. Becoming a part of people's everyday life, social media have not only brought something new to it, but have also taken over negative phenomena that previously occurred only in the offline world. Hate crimes and hate speech more broadly have quickly become a typical part of social media reality. This has also contributed to a growing interest in the subject among researchers representing various scientific disciplines. Hate acts on social media, especially the most serious ones that constitute crimes, have also become a subject of interest from the perspective of legal sciences. This is because, on many occasions, these cases have found their way to the courts, which have had to face a completely new type of evidence - evidence from social media. This paper will present the results of court file research covering Polish criminal cases completed in recent years. Exploratory research, covering cases completed in 2017-2019, will be compared with research conducted in recent months, which shows a picture of recent cases. Quantitative analysis of court records will be dedicated to the characteristics of social media evidence in hate crime cases. Of particular interest will be the characteristics of the parties to the proceedings, how social media evidence was introduced and used in criminal proceedings, as well as the reaction to the introduction of this type of evidence and its importance for the course of the proceedings. An attempt will be made to describe the role that social media evidence plays in criminal proceedings involving hate crimes, in particular by identifying possible differences in the assessment of the issue of this event occurrence and its circumstances.

## 287. ERADICATING: social, financial and security impacts of trafficking in human beings

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Human Trafficking

Pre-arranged Panel

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room

0.22

Trafficking in human beings (THB) is one of the EU's priorities in the fight against serious and organised crime as part of the EU Policy Cycle EMPACT 2022 – 2025, but it remains significantly underreported. New and serious risks of trafficking have emerged linked to the war in Ukraine and worsening economic conditions, especially to vulnerable groups such as women and children. As regards to Ukraine war, as of 1 June 2022, some 4.7 million individual refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe, with 2.9 million registered under Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe. As regards to the economic conditions, the rising prices of energy, oil and gas since late 2021 have brought inflation up and thus made life difficult for many individuals who will be likely find low-quality jobs and thus be more vulnerable to falling victims of traffickers. The session discusses the results of the needs and risk assessment conducted in Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Poland, Romania and Slovenia with LEAs, prosecutors, labour inspectors, and first-line practitioners, in the framework of the projects ERADICATING and ERADICATING II. The session highlights the gaps, challenges, good practices and trends in trafficking for the purpose of labour and sexual exploitation. The session focuses also on practical training instruments developed for practitioners to better tackle THB.

Chair:

**Radu Nicolae**, ASOCIATIA PENTRU COOPERARE SI DEZVOLTARE DURABILA

Participants:

Backing into the abyss: Romania's struggle with THB in the context of the war in Ukraine **Radu Nicolae**, ASOCIATIA PENTRU COOPERARE SI DEZVOLTARE DURABILA; **Andreea Gusa**, ASOCIATIA PENTRU COOPERARE SI DEZVOLTARE DURABILA

THB is underreported and unacknowledged in Romania. The official statistics show a decrease in the number of registered victims, cases and perpetrators in the last 10 years while civil society and international organisations have concerns over the capacity of the government agencies to adequately monitor the situation. According to recent surveys, 75% of the citizens are dissatisfied by the results in combating THB. As a response to domestic and international recommendations, new policies have been adopted by the government and new shelters for victims were reported in 2023. Nevertheless, the THB risks already present multiplied after Russia invasion of Ukraine. More than 3 million Ukrainian citizens entered Romania in 2022, mostly women and children. Also, in 2022, Romania doubled the threshold of foreign new workers admitted on the labour market from 50,000 to 100,000 persons. The THB patterns are becoming more complex; online recruitment grew from 1,44% in 2012 to 3,57% in 2014, 8,70% in 2018, 10,32% in 2019, 16,44% in 2020 up to 21% in 2021 and dropped to 18% in 2022; almost half of the registered victims each year are underaged; the labour trafficking and exploitation through begging is raising. The presentation focuses on the major challenges Romania faces in detecting and prosecuting human trafficking as well as victim protection and assistance.

THB in Bulgaria: gaps, challenges, good practices and recommendations **Atanas Rusev**, Center for the Study of Democracy

Situated at the vital crossroads between Europe and Asia, Bulgaria is acknowledged as a significant hub for both the transit and source of victims of human trafficking. This complex problem predominantly manifests in the forms of sexual and increasingly labour exploitation, causing significant harm to a diverse range of individuals, including both adults and children. With the advent of Russia's latest aggression on Ukraine, Bulgaria saw hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians, mostly women and children, entering the country as refugees and asylum seekers. Currently, about 70,000 Ukrainians are based in Bulgaria, a highly vulnerable group at risk from human trafficking for labour and other forms of exploitation. The ERADICATING II Project launched in December 2023, with the aim of building upon the achievements of its previous edition and specifically targeting labour trafficking. The collaboration comprises a consortium of LEAs and civil society organisations from six countries, one of which is Bulgaria. ERADICATING II seeks to enhance the capabilities of law enforcement, labour inspectors, and first-line practitioners in combating labour trafficking. An outstanding feature of this project is its focus on the

Ukrainian crisis and the risks encountered by Ukrainian refugees. The project places emphasis on cross-border collaboration, victim-focused strategies, and reducing the occurrence of repeated victimisation. This presentation will outline the findings of the needs assessment phase of ERADICATING II in Bulgaria but also in the other partner countries, focusing on gaps, challenges, good practices and recommendations, especially vis-à-vis Ukrainians as vulnerable group.

Combating THB in modern, democratic and inclusive societies:

Education and systematic training of first line professionals **Antonia Pothoulaki**, Center for Security Studies (KEMEA); **Asimina Gkontolia**, Center for Security Studies (KEMEA)

Considering that human trafficking thrives on the vulnerability of vulnerable groups, the impunity of perpetrators and the demand for cheap labour, service and sex trade, as well as protracted conflicts and instability in various parts of the world have caused extraordinary movements of migrants and asylum seekers, human traffickers have taken advantage of migration flows to recruit and exploit vulnerable people. The ERADICATING consortium took into account the Ukrainian crisis as well as the main trends of human trafficking, and produced a series of policy recommendations, which were discussed with important stakeholders, during the final event of the project. The policy recommendations consist of four key points: 1) Enhancement of interagency/multisectoral cooperation between co-competent authorities, 2) Education and training of the police officers, 3) Enhancing the support and aid system, and 4) Strengthening intercultural communication and ensuring the right to interpretation and translation. Based on the successful implementation of ERADICATING and its research and awareness activities, the needs that have arisen and emerged from the final recipients of the proposed solutions and tools, upon the completion of the project, the baton is handed over to ERADICATING II project, which aims to improve on the findings of its first iteration. The presentation will include the key points of the policy recommendations as well as how the two projects aim to improve the capacities of professionals in the fight against THB.

Living Lab: ideas and innovative solutions against THB **Max Hausner**, University of Applied Sciences for Public Service in Bavaria; **Andreea Gusa**, ASOCIATIA PENTRU COOPERARE SI DEZVOLTARE DURABILA

ERADICATING's Living Labs created a participatory environment, involving experts and practitioners from various professional background, having a two-fold objective: First, the Living Labs were utilised to pilot, validate and evaluate the Footprint Material in ERADICATING, utilising the exchange of views of the multidisciplinary participants. With the same approach, second, the LLs served as a platform for identification of problems and solutions, through sharing of experiences, open discussion on the basis of a specific use case and junction of different perspectives and views. The Digital Child Manual increased the awareness among students about the issue of trafficking in human beings (THB), with a focus on the various forms of exploitation experienced by minors. Living lab used case scenario based on real-life cases of human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

## 288. Media and social construction of crime II

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Media and social construction of crime

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.29

Chair:

**Fernando Miró-Llinares**, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche

Participants:

Gendering mass media perception of murders: cases on revisable permanent prison **María del Mar Martín Aragón**, Universidad de Cádiz; **Raquel Pastor Yuste**, Universidad de Cádiz

The media's construction of criminal acts and the portrayal of those

who commit them play a crucial role in shaping public opinion and perceptions of justice. In this context, the gender of the convicted person has proven to be a determining factor in the way information is (re)presented and interpreted by the public. This study focuses on analysing the media construction of the first two persons sentenced to revisable permanent imprisonment in Spain, who also have a relevant similarity: both involve the murder of minors in the family environment. Specifically, they are the first man and the first woman sentenced to this penalty in the country, whose crimes involve their own daughters and their partner's son, respectively. The objective of this research is to examine how the media narrative differs according to gender and how these (re)presentations may influence the public perception of crime. This study is part of the research project "Muerte y delito: estudio integral e interdisciplinar de los asesinatos y homicidios cometidos y enjuiciados en España" (PID2020-113262GB-I00), funded by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation. To achieve these objectives, an interdisciplinary analysis will be carried out combining legal and sociological tools, together with the collection and exhaustive analysis of media material, including news, reports and expert opinions. Furthermore, this data will be contrasted with the judgments, to identify possible discrepancies between the media coverage and the legal process. The analysis of the media construction of the cases of the first two persons sentenced to revisable permanent imprisonment in Spain reveals distinctive patterns in the way the crimes are presented and represented. In both cases, there is a marked difference in the narrative according to the gender of the convicted persons. The press tends to use differentiated approaches, highlighting stereotypical elements associated with traditional gender roles.

**The Impact of True Crime Podcasts and Television Engagement on Anxiety, Fear, and Perceptions of the English and Welsh Criminal Justice System** *Josh Bullock, Kingston University London; Mircea Zloteanu, Kingston University London*

There has been a marked uptick in the production and consumption of true crime media, such as documentaries, TV shows, and podcasts. In this pre-registered study, the impact of engaging with true crime podcasts and TV show on anxiety, fear, and perceptions of the Criminal Justice System (CJS) was investigated. Unlike prior research exploring motivations and consumption frequency, this study delves into the content itself, aiming to understand if different true crime genres and cases have distinct socio-psychological effects. Examining the "Netflix effect" and the vlogging/podcast space, the study explores whether various true crime shows and podcasts contribute to heightened anxiety, fear, or altered perceptions of the CJS. We question if consuming content related to miscarriages of justice, serial killers, or fraud relates to trust in the CJS, fear of being murdered, or fear of becoming a fraud victim. Using a large representative UK sample (N = 800) we explore several research questions, including how different mediums relate to fear and anxiety, and perceptions of crime. This research considers the possibility of true crime consumption acting as a coping mechanism, potentially decreasing anxiety and fear by providing a sense of understanding and control over existential threats. Using a Bayesian estimation and testing framework, we explore both potential negative and positive effects. The research contributes valuable insights into the nuanced relationship between true crime media engagement and individuals' psychological well-being.

**The Influence of Social Media on Crime and Criminal Justice Perception: A Study through a Survey** *Raquel Botía López, Miguel Hernández University*

The role of the media in shaping public opinion on crime and crime policy remains a subject of ongoing debate, primarily driven by the popularisation of social media. These platforms, characterized by their unique features and dynamics, have significantly transformed the communication landscape, emerging as one of the primary information medium. Nevertheless, both the phenomena of disinformation and polarization are pivotal in comprehending the impact of these platforms on public opinion, particularly in the realms of criminal law, justice, and crime. Some studies caution that discussions on these issues within social networks often involve ideologically opposed groups, leading to simplified content that tends to be more political than legal. Consequently, the objective of

this study is to gain insight into how social networks influence perceptions of crime and the criminal justice system. To achieve this, a survey was conducted among adults residing in Spain. The survey encompassed inquiries about the use, exposure, and participation in social networks, perceptions of the rising crime rates, punitive attitudes, and opinions on specific criminal measures, among other aspects. Additionally, the study places emphasis on the legal modifications that certain specific crimes have undergone in recent years in Spain, sparking public debates on social networks. Finally, as a result of the quantitative data collected, the study aims to answer the question of whether perceptions of crime and the criminal justice system vary according to the use and participation of social networks by the population.

**The Portrayal of Statutory Rape in Albania: A Survey of Mass and Social Media** *Brunilda Haxhiu, University of New York Tirana*

In January this year, the story of a 13-year-old in Divjaka was reported by the media, and the photos from her 'weeding' to a 35-year-old became viral. This story became the starting point for this study that aims to research the representation of statutory rape in the Albanian media. The focus of the research is to examine how traditional mass media portrays statutory rape and how this delicate issue is discussed in social media platforms. The research will be based on an in-depth analysis of news articles, opinion pieces, and social media interactions that aim to explore the narratives, perspectives, and public responses regarding statutory rape cases in Albania. This content analysis of media and discourse analysis will evaluate how the media frames cases of statutory rape and will reveal cultural attitudes to sexual violence, but will also underline practices of victim-blaming and sensationalism. In addition, the study will analyze social media responses and discussions and will draw conclusions on types of public discussions, victim advocacy in the public discourse, as well as the occurrence of victim shaming or any other minimization of violence. This research is envisioned as a qualitative study that explores the issue of statutory rape portrayed in Albanian media and how the public perceives it in general. The results of this study will bring light to some of the societal attitudes towards sexual violence, advise the media for further improvements on their coverage of such cases, as well as remind the public about the need for understanding and support in dealing with sexual abuse and rape.

## 289. Cultures of suspicion

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Cultural Criminology

Roundtable

3:30 to 4:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.04*

What is suspicion? What are we suspicions of? What makes some things evoke suspicion and not others? And how are practices and technologies of suspicion formed and put to use? These are the central questions discussed at this roundtable – a discussion focused on both general and everyday “cultures” of suspicion as well as specific instantiations of it. Drawing on a variety of empirical examples and theoretical perspectives, the roundtable's participants consider cases such as drug trafficking, environmental crime, police work, covert investigations, private eyes, graffiti subculture, as well as the futuristic technologies of suspicion and surveillance embedded in the utopia/dystopia of the crime free “smart city”. Indeed. We live in an age of suspicion (Bakir and Barlow 2007). And the future looks no less circumspect. Come join us for a critical discussion of why and how that is – and what the implications are for criminological fieldwork and theory.

Chair:

*David Sausdal, Lund University*

Discussants:

*Henrik Vigh, University of Copenhagen*

*Erik Hannerz, Lund University*

*Keith Hayward, University of Copenhagen*

## 290. Reintegration after imprisonment as a human right – but what does that mean in practice?

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.05

This panel comprises four presentations revolving around the problem of reintegration of prisoners in the community after release. The point of departure is reintegration as human right and one of the main aims of punishment by imprisonment in continental Europe. While granting every prisoner the right to reintegrative or resocializing measures looks fine on paper, the practice of the criminal justice and the experience of stakeholders is not as clear-cut. We will look at experiences and attitudes towards reintegration in prisoners, prison staff and judges with four papers from Belgium and Germany. Two papers will address the perspective of the prisoners: What are their problems before, during and after release? How does the experience of access to treatment, work and education as well as to prison leaves and furloughs influence the social climate amongst prisoners in an institution? The third paper will look at staff attitudes to relationships with and care for prisoners as a means to support reintegration efforts. The fourth paper will look at an outside group of stakeholders – judges in chambers for the execution of sentences who are responsible for early release decisions. How do they conceptualize resocialization efforts of a prisoner and weigh this against public safety?

Chair:

**Kirstin Drenkhahn**, Freie Universität Berlin

Participants:

Examining reintegration challenges from prison in Belgium: A study across various life domains focusing on perspectives before, during and after detention *Leen Vandeveldt, Vrije Universiteit Brussel/University of Antwerp; Dorien Brosens, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Louis Favril, Ghent University; Peter Raeymaeckers, University of Antwerp*

The nearly 11,000 individuals annually leaving Belgian prisons face various reintegration challenges related to subsistence, support, and intrapersonal conditions (Graffam & Shinkfield, 2012). This study employs a multi-method design, including a prison survey (N=777) and 14 life story interviews to investigate the challenges and how they evolve over time. People experience challenges already pre-detention, but also during incarceration and post-release. Based on the survey, challenges include pre-detention experiences of homeless- or rooflessness (29.1%) and poverty (37.3%). During detention, many people have debts (71%) and high psychological distress (25.3%). Concerning post-release, they have great concerns about discrimination (31%), finding employment (28.6%) and housing (25.3%). A supportive social network for financial, emotional, and practical support is underscored during and after detention. The narratives unpack these challenges, highlighting their interconnectedness, illustrating how they often coexist and mutually impact each other in both positive and negative ways. This research illuminates pervasive inequalities and exclusions across various life domains throughout the life course, emphasizing their interconnectedness and impact on reintegration. Insights gained contribute to a nuanced understanding of the complexity of post-detention challenges, informing potential policy interventions and support mechanisms for successful reintegration into society.

The Role of Resocialization for the Social Climate of Prisons from Prisoners' Perspective *Kristina Lewandowski, University of Berlin*

German prison law names resocialization as the main aim of the German prison system, which shapes and influences many facets of the regime. This is mostly evident in the organizational aspects like the general provision of work, rehabilitative measures, and specialized staff to deal with addiction, debt, or mental health issues for example. Beyond that, prisons are supposed to grant permissions for prison leaves and furloughs as a specific preparation for release. While these measures are supposed to exist in all German prisons, their actual availability and perceived impact and meaningfulness vary greatly between individual prisons, especially from the prisoners' point of view. This on the other hand can influence their quality of life and the social climate of the prison, impacting the prisoners' assessment of fairness, bureaucratic legitimacy, and chances for personal development among other things. This paper will present how prisoners from

two German prisons perceive the implementation of resocialization measures and its impact on their imprisonment experience. The paper draws on recent quantitative and qualitative findings from the German and Swiss MQPL+ exercise (MQPL-D). The MQPL-D project aims to test the MQPL+ method in German and Swiss prisons with an additional focus on the concept of resocialization and its impact on the social climate of prisons.

Approaches to care among prison officers in Germany *Deborah Kant, Universität zu Köln*

Although Germany is a federal republic comprised of sixteen discreet states, the German constitution mandates that the legal right to resocialisation constitutes the primary aim of imprisonment (Lazarus 2004; Neubacher, Liebling & Kant 2021). Yet prison research has also established that practice within the prison walls can be removed from legal aspirations and instead run on its own practical logics (Brown 2023). This paper is the result of a joint research project from the Universität zu Köln, Freie Universität Berlin, and Universität Bern titled: 'Worauf es im Gefängnis wirklich ankommt: What Really Matters in Prisons? Measuring the Quality of Prison Life in Germany and Switzerland'. The project constitutes an in-depth examination of the cultural and moral climate of two German and one Swiss prison and combines the collection of both quantitative and qualitative data. It involves the administration of the MQPL (Measuring Quality of Prison Life) prisoner survey, and the SQL (Staff Quality of Life) staff survey developed at the Prisons Research Centre at the University of Cambridge, combined with 'semi-ethnographic' data collected through interviews and observation. The paper draws on data from the two German prisons and explores staff attitudes to relationships with and care for prisoners.

Judicial decision making and prognosis – The conflict of security and resocialisation in matters of early release *Ronja Maria Ahlers, University of Berlin*

In Germany, a prisoner can be released early after two thirds of the sentence. In the decision, the public interest in safety and the prisoner's prospects after release have to be taken into account. These requirements are the same in all federal states. Still, the number of early releases in Berlin is consistently and significantly lower than in the other federal states even though the Berlin prison estate is proud of a high proportion of the prison population serving their sentence in open conditions. Where does this difference between Berlin and the other federal states stem from? Since the prison population in Berlin does not differ in socio-demographic characteristics from that of the other federal states, the question is if the reason lies with the decision-makers, the judges in the chambers for the execution of sentences. Our research project examines the decision-making process of these judges at the Berlin Regional Court on early releases. The early release decision requires judges to make a "genuine" and, above all, case-by-case decision: they must form a prognosis about the prisoner's future legal behavior. Various aspects are taken into account in this assessment, including the resocialization measures carried out in prison, the prisoner's personality and also the situation in which the prisoner would be released. However, all information must then be evaluated and weighted by the respective decision-makers in relation to the prisoner and, above all, in relation to the general security interest. This marks the main part of the judges' individual decision-making process. The paper will present first findings regarding the judges' views on the relation between security interests and the requirements they place on a positive legal prognosis.

**291. Improving Justice for Youth (?): Case Studies from Belgium, Greece, Hungary & UK**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Juvenile Crime (ISRD WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 1.09

Chair:

**Karolina Balogh**, Eötvös Lorand University; HUN-REN Centre for Social Sciences

Participants:

"Is Restorative Justice Greek to Me?": Exploring Its Applicability

in Greek Youth Detention Centres *Nikolaos Stamatakis, Mid-Sweden University, Sweden*

Justice systems around the world are constantly working to balance reform/rehabilitation/re-entry and punishment in response to juvenile delinquency. In recent years, there has been a strong emphasis on the notion of restorative justice as an alternative approach to criminal justice, yet there continues to be a dearth of information on the interrelation between restorative justice, religion and imprisonment, especially among youth. The present research seeks to explore the applicability and possible future implementation of restorative justice programmes for late adolescent and young adult male offenders (18–21 years old) held in the Special Detention Institutions of Greece. It also aims to identify any links between restorative justice and religion in youth custodial settings among the large migrant population hosted in these institutions. A self-administered quantitative study was distributed to achieve this aim. The data analysis provided no statistically significant relationships between the inmates' willingness to meet with their actual/surrogate victims and ask for forgiveness/restore relationships with them. Equally insignificant was found the inmates' eagerness to get involved in restorative mediation with their capacity to acknowledge the harm that their illegal actions inflicted on others, and to make amends.

**How peer mentoring can transform Youth Justice Services? An exploration of Benefits and Challenges** *Anna Bussu, Edge Hill University; Jayne Price, University of Chester; Dr Sean Creaney, Edge Hill University; Dr Samatha Burn, Edge Hill University; Kierra Myles, Health Gov Jersey (UK); Martin Smith, Edge Hill University*

Peer support interventions in Youth Justice involve young people being recruited and trained to undertake mentor roles and support children and young people through Youth Justice Services. This paper is based upon a qualitative research study using data obtained through interviews with peer mentors and peer mentees. A reflexive thematic analysis was carried out to explore the participants' experiences and perceptions of mentoring or being mentored and to elicit suggestions for supporting participants more effectively. Peer mentors are likely to have lived experiences and which can make their interactions with mentees feel meaningful and empathetic and reduce power imbalances common within youth justice settings. This can be transformative for both groups, with evidence of trust (that may have been lacking previously) established through informal support within these relationships. Peer mentoring has personal and professional benefits for mentors, enabling them to develop their own pro-social development along with that of mentees. The mentors may be seen as 'experts' who can offer guidance and support to professionals who are working with children and young people too. However, there is evidence also of power imbalances continuing for mentors whereby professionals have an over reliance upon the positive relationship mentors hold with young people. Clarity of the role and responsibilities and professional buy-in is vital to the success of peer mentoring. This paper explores the benefits and tensions within peer mentoring and sets out some key principles to progress this transformative approach.

**Evaluating youth justice legislation - The role of the (youth) public prosecutor** *Johan Put, ISL & LINC, KU Leuven*

In 2019, the Flemish government opted with the implementation of the Youth Justice Decree for a new approach to tackle juvenile delinquency. At the same time, the legislator provided for an evidence based evaluation after three years. In order to enable a more differentiated and effective approach to juvenile delinquency, the possibilities to react to juvenile delinquency at the level of the (youth) prosecutor's office were expanded. The objective is (1) to have a sufficiently fast response to juvenile delinquency, (2) to maximize restorative justice reactions to these crimes, and (3) to facilitate a possible connection with youth care. Currently, an evaluation study is looking at the decrees' objectives with a focus on the role of the prosecutor's office. The evaluation is based on (1) online questionnaires with prosecutors, youth judges and restorative justice practitioners evaluating the objectives of the prosecutor's office, and (2) the analysis of registration data from the prosecutor's office. Next, these quantitative data are deepened and nuanced

through qualitative interviews and focus groups with (youth) prosecutors in Flanders, youth judges and the restorative justice staff. This presentation includes the insights regarding as well the methodology of evaluation as the concrete evaluation of the decrees' objectives based on the experiences of the involved actors.

**Youth Justice in Wales: Ending the 'draconian' system and moving towards a progressive, preventative and human rights-based approach to justice for children?** *Anthony Charles, Swansea University; Aaron Brown, Independent Scholar*

In 2023, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child's Concluding Observations for the United Kingdom stated that the UK has a punitive and draconian youth justice system. Especially due to the forthcoming UK General Election, an opportunity exists for policy makers to reflect on what the Committee said in 2023. Notably, given that many public services which benefit children have effectively retreated (due to austerity and 'efficiencies'), there remains a political toxicity associated with human rights in Britain and harsher narratives around justice are emerging, a keen focus on 'justice for children' is needed. In Wales, as a result of devolution, an emphasis has been placed on social welfare, communitarianism, 'child first' approaches and the importance of universal rights and entitlements for children. Yet, squeezed financially by London, the ability of the Welsh Government to make a difference is currently limited. Yet against this depressing political back drop, innovative activity is being pursued in Wales to: promote prevention; re-align public services so that non-traditional justice agencies are playing a key role in tackling anti-social behaviour and criminogenic factors; and an arguable re-awakening of neo-welfare. Core strategies such as the Wales Youth Justice Blueprint, Future Generations, Rights of Children and Young Persons and family inclusion, rather than pulling children into systems, have the capacity to deploy appropriate interventions, identify and address need and to protect, not punish. This paper, reflecting upon diversionary measures, non-traditional justice agency initiatives and the progress of child rights implementation in Wales will consider findings from empirical research and understand how local policy and practice, operating within a distinctly Welsh ethos, is advancing the cause for progressive justice for children. Through this paper, the views of practitioners, policy makers and children will be shared, with what they considered to be best practice being highlighted.

**Different trends in offending by juveniles in foster care and children's homes in Hungary** *Karolina Balogh, Eötvös Loránd University; HUN-REN Centre for Social Sciences*

The results of international and Hungarian research also confirm that the group of children growing up in Alternative Care of Children is a well-defined and significant group among juvenile offenders (Pap 2007; Solt 2012; Berger et al 2016; Malvaso-Delfabbro-Day 2017). Both child protection and judicial statistics show that the participation of children in Alternative Care of Children in juvenile delinquency is significant compared to their ratio in the total population. It is also notable that children living in children's homes are overrepresented among them. In my exploratory qualitative research, I seek to answer the question of what differences are observed in the involvement of children in Alternative Care of Children in delinquency from the perspective of the child protection institutional system. I conducted interviews with different professionals (N=15) working in child protection institutions. This research is embedded in a larger research project on the crime prevention potential of the child protection system. The results of the present research shed light on anomalies in the functioning of the institutional system, which are determinant for the different delinquency tendencies of children in the Alternative Care of Children.

## 292. Atrocity Crimes: New Challenges and New Approaches of Transitional Justice (EACTJ)

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Transitional Justice (Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.13

Chair:

**Kjersti Lohne**, University of Oslo

Participants:

**ECO-CRIM-NET: Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes against Ecosystems - the use of new technologies in international environmental crime control in large scale conflicts** *Nandor Knust, UIT Arctic University of Norway*

Environmental crimes in combination with large-scale corruption have a hugely destructive impact on ecosystems and the climate and undermine the rights of communities, local populations, and indigenous peoples. Crimes like illegal unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU fishing), illegal mining, waste trafficking, and climate and pollution crimes are causing great harm to the environment, the climate, and the people. However, events in the current armed conflict also demonstrate that crime against ecosystems poses a severe threat to the international community as well. Establishing criminal responsibility for these kinds of crimes involves immense challenges for national and international law enforcement agencies due to the high complexity of these crimes and their connection with networks of transnational organized crime. This paper will present new approaches to address the immense complexity of such crimes against ecosystems through the integration of new technologies such as AI, satellites, etc. into the system of international and transnational criminal investigation and prosecution. This approach will overcome the fragmentation of different approaches of crime control to provide new knowledge about the design and modus operandi of crimes against ecosystems and how these crimes can be addressed by legal means with the support of new technologies. In taking the “Realpolitik”-approach, this project left the purely legalistic dimension by integrating computer science, political science, sociology, biology, anthropology, and criminology into the project and therefore presents a new and unique approach for the development of new models of crime control by integrating new technologies into the monitoring, investigation, and prosecution of crimes against ecosystems.

**Police Aid: Unpacking the dynamics of police exports in development aid** *Kjersti Lohne, University of Oslo; Randi Solhjell, University of Oslo*

This article engages with criminological literature departing from the penal state (Garland, 2013), operating at the borders (Barker, 2017b; Aas & Gundhus, 2014), and traveling from one place to another, especially to the Global South (Lohne, 2020). Garland (2013, p. 22) states that penal policy is often “located within the problem environment in which it operates.” Brisson-Boivin and O’Connor (2013, p. 516) discuss ‘penal aid’, connecting flawed penalty with global security and attempting to solve these problems through a particular kind of security-development penology. Sending police officers to other countries, such as through UN peace operations, gained momentum after the collapse of the Soviet Union (Blaustein, 2015). This paper explores how the export of police officers and police training in recipient countries is considered aid, and how these practices look from a Global North position in Scandinavia. This analysis is based on a large dataset of development aid from Norway, Sweden, and Denmark between 1990-2021 that directly mention or relate to crime or the criminal justice system.

**Increasing Support for Reconciliation in Settler Colonial Societies** *Andreea Zota, Université de Montréal; Jo-Anne Wemmers, Université de Montréal; Marco M. Aviña, Harvard University*

In Canada, profound inequalities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous individuals stemming from the country’s history of settler colonialism persist to this day. Reconciliation requires collective acknowledgement of past harm and reparative measures to redress it. However, such a process can prove challenging among the mass public due to misinformation and anti-Indigenous animus. We field a survey of 3000 non-Indigenous Canadians to assess whether information on the ongoing consequences of past settler colonialist policies can promote inclusion and motivate support for policy reforms. We assess two distinct interventions for achieving this goal: corrective information and perspective-getting narratives. We find corrective information results in factual updating only, whereas narratives succeed in changing minds as well. Neither strategy enhances the effectiveness of the other. Our findings contribute to the study of reconciliation and pave a way forward for

advocates of reparations.

**Reparations for colonial crimes in Latin America** *Valeria Vegh Weis, Buenos Aires University*

Claims for financial reparations for colonial crimes have been discussed in several countries, including the struggle of the Mau Mau in Kenya against England and the ongoing claims of the Herero and Nama communities in Namibia against Germany. In the same vein, various actors within the UN have advocated the use of transitional justice for colonial crimes. In Latin America, the debate on historical justice is now beginning. In terms of concrete policy proposals, it is noteworthy that at the end of 2002, Francia Marquez, Vice-President of Colombia, proposed the possibility of demanding historical reparations from the colonising powers, albeit specifically for Afro-descendants, which means that the broader discussion on the crimes of colonisation other than slavery (plundering of natural resources, trafficking, exploitation and killing of Indigenous Peoples) is still pending. Upon this background, I will examine previous experiences of reparations for colonial crimes to analyze if/how they can contribute to the nascent discussion in Latin America. Based on the comparative overview, the article will explore key questions that have yet to be addressed. These include: Are there experiences of restitution and reparations claims in Latin America? Who would be the legitimate actors to advance the claim? Who would be the actors to whom the claim would be addressed? What is the most feasible way to claim reparations? Are there specific objects still in the hands of the former colonial powers that could be returned to their rightful owners? Could a claim be made at Community, national or Latin American level? Overall, the study will expand the discussion on decolonizing transitional justice by focusing on the colonization of Latin America and the still to come discussion on historical reparations.

### 293. Digital Criminology: Control and organized chaos in a ‘digital world’

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Criminal Policy, Criminalization, Policy of Criminal Sanctions (Criminal Law Making Policy WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

3:30 to 4:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.17*

This panel contributes to innovative crime and justice scholarship within an emerging field of ‘digital criminology’. Instead of positioning technology as separate from society more broadly, digital criminology takes up the idea that all technologies are embedded in social structures and that all societies are embedded in technological infrastructures. More specifically, digital criminology examines the incorporation of digital technologies, media, and networks in our everyday lives, including in crime control, forensic science, and criminal justice (Stratton, Powell and Cameron, 2018; Wood, 2020; Kaufmann and Lomell forthcoming, Van Brakel and Govaerts, forthcoming). This digitalization implies a more significant role for non-state actors, from increasingly powerful private actors to novel forms of political resistance, and demands new understandings of concepts such as control, chaos, harm, and resistance. This panel aims to address these themes concerning the use of bodycams by police, surveillance used for environmental crime prevention, genetic forensic evidence, programmable DNA, and criminalization of online activities challenging authoritarian regimes.

Chair:

**Rosamunde Van Brakel**, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Participants:

**On digital realities and offline shackles** *Amr Marzouk, Erasmus University Rotterdam*

This paper explores how authoritarian and illiberal regimes attempt to exert control over the digital realm. Economic limitations make shutting down the Internet for a long time impractical while implementing advanced surveillance systems unattractive for these regimes. Instead, they rely on the criminal justice system to instill fear and suppress digital political mobilization. Using Egypt as a case study, this analysis combines legal doctrinal research and secondary data analysis to explore the use of the criminal justice system to promote self-censorship and discourage online activities challenging the regime. This paper provides insights into state control in the digital era and contributes to the current discussion

regarding control and resistance within digital criminology.

DNA as forensic evidence and a commodity in the light of cultural criminology *Silje Bakken, University of Oslo; Mareile Kaufmann, University of Oslo*

DNA has long been considered the golden evidence in crime case. Despite being a biological trace, research and practice shows that there are several social and cultural elements to DNA that affects its stand as evidence. A recent development is the massive growth of consumer genomics. Companies like 23andMe, Ancestry, MyHeritage, and FamilyTree offer direct-to-consumer genomic testing and have millions of people worldwide registered in their databanks. These companies play a massive role in today's use and development of DNA use and related technology, but they also form people's understanding of DNA. These developments are impacting the way the police are using DNA as an investigation tool. So called "forensic genetic genealogy" is growing in popularity across the globe, where the police are using commercial databases are using commercial databases to do familial searches in crime or missing cases. This presentation takes on a cultural criminology perspective to discuss DNA as evidence in connection to the commodification of DNA and its role in recent development of forensic genetic genealogy within the police. The rise of private DNA companies has led to a commercially driven cultural ideology of the role of DNA in crime cases. It has also created an online mediated construct of individuals' role and responsibilities in crime control as "genetic witnesses". Another related discussion is the development of public-private partnerships between the police and private DNA companies, where the police are heavily depended on the will and local regulations of the company to get access. A controlling factor to the use of such databases is the national context of legal culture as well as of the general public in relation to DNA, which in several countries is slowing down the development of forensic genetic genealogy.

Surveillance or safeguard? Police officers' perceptions and expectations on the use of bodycams *Julie Caluwaerts, Vrije Universiteit Brussel; Lucas Melgaço, Associate Professor - VUB*

In the contemporary digital landscape, the introduction of bodycams represents a pivotal shift towards enhancing transparency, accountability, and legitimacy within law enforcement agencies. This study, conducted in a Belgian police zone, explores the perceptions and expectations surrounding the deployment of bodycams through a pilot project initiated in November 2022. Through an analysis of thirteen interviews with police officers, this research underscores the complex duality of bodycams. While bodycams may protect officers from unfair complaints or violence by citizens, they can also increase officers' feeling of constant surveillance, potentially compromising their discretionary power. Our findings contribute to the ongoing discourse on the role of surveillance technologies in shaping contemporary policing strategies, offering insights into the delicate balance between surveillance and civil liberties in the digital age.

Coding life: The ethics and perils of programmable DNA *Stefano Mazzilli Daechsel, University of Oslo*

Recent scientific and technological innovations in molecular biology have enabled the rise of molecular computing, a multidisciplinary field that seeks to program molecules such as DNA and RNA to perform novel tasks. Combining biological materials and computational processes has already yielded innovative applications, particularly in medicine and agriculture, but this combination also poses many ethical challenges and potential threats to humans and other lifeforms. Based on an ethnographic study of the field of molecular computing, this paper explores the ethics and perils involved in these emerging interfaces between biological and bio-technological systems.

Rhizomatic dreams and nightmares: An exploration of rhizomatic harms and imaginaries of environmental surveillance for crime control *Rosamunde Van Brakel, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

The escalating climate crisis and subsequent implementation of new legal measures, that criminalize environmental harms, have encouraged surveillance applications in natural environments for crime control. Apart from novel applications of surveillance these developments also imply new forms of algorithmic crime control

appearing and a whole new market for surveillance technologies. Starting from the premise that the harms of algorithmic surveillance should be understood as rhizomatic (Van Brakel and Govaerts, forthcoming), this paper aims to provide a thicker understanding of the harms of the use of surveillance technologies for environmental crime control. Based on this analysis and drawing inspiration from positive criminology (Schuilenburg, van Steden en Oude Breuil, 2014) and relational ethics (Van Brakel, 2022), the paper aims to identify avenues to reflect on and reimagine environmental crime control and as such contribute to new avenues of research within digital and green criminology.

#### 294. Roundtable: Routledge Handbook on European Penology – III. Transversal European developments

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Penology and Theories Punishment (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Roundtable

3:30 to 4:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.18*

In this roundtable, we look into some transversal European developments that are linked to the European institutional framework – the European Union and the Council of Europe – which have had a major impact on both European penal policies and European penology: the criminalisation of migrants; the resurgence of terrorist attacks; and the increased impact of human rights as both a shield against and a motor for increased punitivity. Each topic is dealt with through an individual presentation, followed by a reaction on the three topics by a discussant and a discussion with the participants.

Chair:

*Gaëtan Cliquennois, CNRS, Université de Nantes, DCS*

Participants:

Criminalisation of migrants in Europe *GEORGE NIKOLOPOULOS, PANTEION UNIVERSITY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES*

In the process of European integration the issue of immigration was put at the heart of the EU control policies by reducing it to a matter of criminal risk, thus resulting in a correlation between criminality and non-European citizenship as well as in the redefinition of European borders as places of social control, in order for the European society and labour market to be protected from undesirable immigration inflows. In this respect, a peculiar synergy has been established between the administrative procedures and the penal justice system, expanding the scope of the criminalization process and leading to the instrumentalization of repressive measures by a multiplicity of actors, far beyond the rule of law safeguards, with the invocation of serving deterrent and regulatory purposes. These developments certainly require the emerging European penology to broaden its epistemological horizons and renew its methodological apparatus, so that it can uncover the rationales underlying and the purposes served by these unprecedented couplings of the means of exercising social control over migration.

Reintegration of terrorism-related convicts *Nicolas Amadio, University of Strasbourg*

In this presentation, we describe the counter-terrorism policies in Europe and analyse the official responses to the social reintegration issues. In the first part, we focus on how the EU has addressed the issue of social reintegration, and how member states have (or have not) done so. The second part analyses how the articulation between judicial and administrative action impacts the issue of counter-terrorism and social reintegration in different ways across the EU. The third part provides a concrete example of these issues through a critical analysis of the adoption and implementation of an administrative surveillance measure in France, the MICAS. In a conclusive section, we highlight the need for the emergence of a common assessment policy for the management of violent extremism on a European scale (Costa et al., 2021) and in conjunction with international scientific consortia (Horgan, Braddock, 2010).

Human rights and European penology *Gaëtan Cliquennois, CNRS, Université de Nantes, DCS*

In this presentation, we scrutinise two opposite trends that have



been endorsed by the criminological and socio-legal literature on human rights and European penalty. First, we analyse the ways human rights can tame punitiveness. Second, we put emphasis on how human rights could contribute on the contrary to punitiveness through coercion and litigation. In this regard, we make the assumption that both trends coexist in Europe and could explain the existing penal contradictions and even the so-called penal volatility. Future research should investigate both these movements in a balanced way and should study the contradictions to which these human rights protections lead.

## 295. WG-PLACE 7: Neighbourhoods and Crime

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Neighborhoods and Crime (WG on Space and Crime)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.06

Chair:

**Matt Ashby**, UCL

Participants:

Examining the relationship between mortgage investment and neighborhood crime across investor characteristics *Lyndsay N Boggess, University of South Florida; Alyssa Chamberlain, Arizona State University; Thomas Stucky, Indiana University Indianapolis; Lexi Gill, University of South Florida*

External investment into communities is consistently linked to lower crime. Research has examined different types of investment (e.g., mortgage loans, public grants, or renovation loans) across different types of neighborhoods (e.g., disadvantaged, minority-dominated), but less attention has been paid to who is investing. Research has shown that investment into minority or disadvantaged neighborhoods is particularly impactful, but this may especially be the case when the homeowners' characteristics align with the community, as their social connections, and consequently social control, may be stronger. In this study, we investigate whether characteristics of the investors such as income or racial/ethnic composition moderates the relationship between investment and crime. To do so, we use panel data on home purchase loans and violent and property crime incidents in Cleveland, OH, and assess whether increased investment through home loans affects crime over time. Importantly, we disaggregate by characteristics of the home purchasers, such as income-level or racial/ethnic composition, and explore whether the investment-crime relationship is conditioned by characteristics of the buyers.

Gambling related harm and gambling provisioning *Oluwole Adeniyi, Nottingham Trent University; Ferhat Tura, Bournemouth University; Andy Newton, Nottingham Trent University; John McAlaney, Bournemouth University*

The gambling landscape in the UK has significantly changed since the Gambling Act 2005. One of the major channels of participating in gambling activities is through physical betting shops. From the recent UK White Paper, licensing authorities across the UK highlighted the need for further powers to manage gambling premising especially in deprived communities to reduce gambling related harm. Therefore, critical analysis is required to develop appropriate policies to adequately manage harms linked to presence of betting shops. As such this project seeks to understand gambling related harm by investigating the relationship between betting shops and crime across different local authorities in England. This study adopts geospatial and multilevel modelling approaches to unravel the relationship between betting shop establishments and crime using the police recorded crime data and UK Census data and point of interest data (POI). The research adopted a longitudinal approach by collecting data on betting shop outlets, neighbourhood characteristics and crime for 3 time points (i.e. 2015, 2019 and 2022) to provide a critical and nuanced relationship between the location of betting shops and crime while controlling for the effect of different neighbourhood characteristics. Preliminary spatial analysis reveals a co-location of betting shops and crime in similar areas across the different local authorities. Modelling results highlighted a strong relationship between betting shops and different crime categories (e.g., burglary, anti-social behaviour, public disorder and all crimes) across the different cities.

Additionally, there are also subtle differences in the effect of neighbourhood characteristics on the relationship between betting shops and crime. These differences clearly provide a strong justification for this research which extends the results of previous studies (regional studies) on betting shop and crime in England by focusing on multiple local authorities (urban areas).

Unpacking relationships between major sports events and violent crime *Alina Ristea, Assistant Professor Department of Security and Crime Science, University College London; Matt Ashby, UCL*

Existing research shows there can be relationships between holding major sports events in cities and the frequency of violent crime. However, previous studies have typically studied a single type of sporting event in a single city, leaving open the questions of how relationships vary between sporting types and across cities, as well as the question of how events influence crime differently in the areas around event locations, in the wider city and in city centres. This paper uses detailed data on the times and locations of violent crime across 12 large cities in the United States that host multiple different sports events to understand (a) how the differences in violence between event days and comparable non-event days varies between cities, (b) how the relationship between violence and major events differs between sports types, and (c) how the relationships vary between the event area and the city centre. The results of this study are likely to be useful to city governments in deciding whether to support the hosting of major sports events, and contribute to the debate about the extent to which event organisers should contribute to the cost of policing not only inside and immediately around events, but also in the wider city.

## 296. Theoretical Advances in Critical Criminology

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Critical Criminology

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.07

Chair:

**Ian Loader**, University of Oxford

Participants:

Charting a place for islands in criminology *John Geoffrey Scott, Queensland University of Technology*

Too often, criminological theories are developed through testing in one environment, typically urban. Drawing on our recent book *Island Criminology* (2023, BUP) in this paper, we seek to chart the place of islands in criminology with respect to both their place- and space-based attributes. Drawing on insights into criminological practices in rural places, we explore the possibilities of island criminology through a small but growing body of work that has emerged in Europe, especially the Scandinavian countries. The distinct attributes of islands give presence to what has been termed 'islandness'. We argue that islandness can be associated with characteristics that are associated with ideal *gemeinschaft* settings and as such can be crime preventative. Indeed, these may be considered as mostly positive attributes and present islands as places of social capital, but there is potentially also a criminogenic side to island experience informed by the politics of place and belonging. As such, there is a need for criminology to consider islands as places of production (agriculture, industry), consumption (tourism, retirement sites) and exclusion (detention centres, prisons).

Conflict, Crime and Criminology; history of a criminological idea *James Sheptycki, York University, Toronto, CANADA*

Where there is conflict, there is power. Where there is power, there is control. Where there is control, there is crime. At such a high level of abstraction this might seem trite, but this train of thought is the foundation for the conflict perspective in criminology. Historically speaking, the conflict perspective in criminology has been discontinuous and erratic, jostling for place and recognition amidst other approaches. Perspectives on conflict and crime have changed over the years in keeping with changes in social organization. The contemporary period is one of great social, political and cultural conflict. Even at the psycho-social level experienced by individuals conflict seems to be greatly exacerbated

as compared with even the late 20th century. It is therefore useful to spell out the history of ideas about conflict, crime and criminology, laying out some of its past incarnations, and to consider the philosophical grounds upon which the conflict perspective in criminology rests. The need to consider the conflict perspective seems very likely to gain ground in criminological theorizing in the coming decades.

**Ecofeminist and decolonial contributions to the debate of the crimes of the powerful** *Marília de Nardin Budó, Federal University of Santa Catarina (Brazil)*

The paradox between the insatiable search for profits in the capitalist system and the limits of reproduction of nature has been addressed by many authors from a Marxian perspective when researching on environmental harm and crime. This work intends to contribute with this debate from a decolonial and feminist perspective. For doing that, we analyse the case of the chemical industry, especially the use of pesticides and herbicides in Brazil, and its relationship with the double patterns of safety used by global North companies in global South territories. The role attributed to peripheral economies to provide commodities at low cost to industrial nations is also discussed. Subsequently, the relationship between structural violence, human rights violations, and the destruction of nature by transnational corporations are studied in a political sense, examining the support of authoritarian governments in the Global South by Northern companies and States. The chapter presents data demonstrating that these corporations have historically been active in political persecutions, disputes for territory, and collusion with local massacres. Beyond the economic perspective, the global flows of toxic substances are discussed through the concepts of coloniality and racism. Moreover, the poisoning of the land is studied from a southern eco-feminist perspective, mostly when we address the resistance and activism of indigenous, black and peasant women's movements in Brazil.

**Interrogating the Arguments Against Defunding or Abolishing Police** *Nathan W. Pino, Texas State University, USA*

There has been significant growth in social movements acting at the local, national, and international levels to defund and ultimately abolish policing. We have also seen a relatively recent increase in academic scholarship from both the Global North and South in support of police defunding and abolition. This growth in academic and larger societal support for defunding and abolishing police has been met with fierce resistance from policy makers and academics. The arguments against defunding and abolition from policy makers, and academic collaborators and apologists, include that there are evidence-based policing reforms and programs proven to be effective; that police are a public good and are needed to protect the public from violence in general and gender-based violence in particular; that those in favor of defunding and abolition are naïve and primarily from privileged backgrounds; and that defunding and abolishing the police would lead to societal disorder or even collapse. From a decolonial, feminist, and abolitionist perspective on policing, this paper debunks these various arguments often made against defunding or abolishing police. The paper also explores the motivations behind the arguments against abolition, including the social class and other interests of academics and policy-makers.

**Concerning cars: Automobility and the contours of control, order and harm** *Ian Loader, University of Oxford*

Criminology has been coincident with the motor age. The history of automobility is in part a story about changing patterns of crime and social control. The contours of crime and control are bound up with the rise of hegemonic automobility. Yet the car has remained in relative obscurity as a focus of criminological attention – often present, sometimes investigated as a niche topic, but at the same time somehow absent. Against this backdrop, this paper describes some key elements of the mutually constitutive relation between automobility and the changing contours of control, order and harm, and offers some preliminary conceptual resources for identifying and investigating the criminological resonances of that most pervasive and mundane of modern objects: the automobile. By treating auto-dominance as a form of 'slow violence' we can, I argue, make the car into a vehicle for rethinking how to practice criminology in the face of climate breakdown.

**297. Roundtable on open research practices: pre-registration and**

**registered reports**

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Teaching Methods

Roundtable

3:30 to 4:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.10*

This roundtable brings together researchers with experience in open research practices to provide an introduction and discuss the benefits of pre-registration and registered reports. As criminology begins to adopt more open research principles, it is important to facilitate discussion about what these practices entail and how we can best incorporate them into our own research processes. This roundtable will focus on two key practices that aim to increase transparency and enhance the quality of research methodology as well as results: 1) pre-registration and 2) registered reports. Pre-registration refers to the time-stamped (online) registration of hypotheses/research questions, research designs, data collection, and/or analyses prior to collecting or analysing the data. Registered reports are a new publication format whereby researchers submit their planned hypotheses/research questions, design, and analyses for peer review prior to data collection. Following peer review, journals may conditionally accept a paper regardless of the results if the authors follow through with the planned study. During the roundtable, experts will be invited to share their perspectives on these practices, as well as offer tips and guidance for researchers interested in adopting these practices. Stijn Ruiter (NSCR) will share his expertise on pre-registration, and Sandy Schumann (UCL) will share her expertise on registered reports. The roundtable is open to anyone who is interested in learning more about pre-registration and registered reports, as well as those with experience who would like to contribute to the discussion about implementing these in practice. This roundtable is organised by the European Network for Open Criminology. Chair: Amy Nivette, Utrecht University

Chair:

*Amy Nivette, Utrecht University*

Discussants:

*Sandy Schumann, University College London*

*Stijn Ruiter, NSCR*

**298. Rigours Testing in Criminological Research**

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Quantitative Methods (Quantitative Methods WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

3:30 to 4:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14*

While theories in criminology are (often) quite explicit about their causal models, tests of these models could often not mimic the theoretical precision. In the worst case, this leads to questioning whether the results speak at all to the assumed model. Besides all other challenges for empirical research, we aim to question and, at best, to improve the match between models and actual tests regarding, e.g., research designs and statistical modeling. Each presentation shows an approach to improve tests by aiming for a more rigorous fit between theoretical assumptions and implications for testing. The presentation by Yastrebov/Trinidad/Leopold disentangles the relationship between age, period, and cohorts (APC) regarding public concerns about crime in Germany. Becher/Mehlhop/Sattler test with a scenario-based 2x2 design the General Aggression Model (GAM) while recognizing a mediated moderation between provocation, internal state, and social status. Hasselhorn tests the often overlooked aspect of motivation within Wikstöm's Situational Action Theory (SAT) while focusing on and testing for different statistical modeling strategies. Ernst/Trinidad recognize the systematic selection of people into different settings and the following implications for testing the interplay between crime propensity and settings criminogeneity in a simulation study.

Chair:

*André Ernst, Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Cologne*

Participants:

Identifying Period Trend in the Public Concerns about Crime in Germany *Gordey Yastrebov, University of Cologne; Alexander Trinidad, Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Cologne; Thomas Leopold, University of Cologne*

In this paper, we ask whether broader societal changes in Germany since reunification warranted a secular rise or decline in public concerns about crime. Although some studies have already focused

on related topics, we argue that they do not attend well enough to the fundamental problem of age-period-cohort (APC) analysis. We revisit the question using data from the German Socioeconomic Panel and the bounding approach of Fosse & Winship (2019), which remains somewhat unpopularized in social science research. We show that the identification of the period trend, within a reasonable interval, is possible even with a very undemanding set of reasonable assumptions. The overall trend is negative pointing to a steady decline in public concerns about crime in Germany, thus challenging the assumptions and conclusions of some previous studies. At the same time, we point out that more precise identification of age and, in particular, cohort effects is more challenging and may require more demanding substantive assumptions. Our analysis is also a popular demonstration of Fosse & Winship's approach, which we believe should be exercised more broadly for similar inquiries.

**Understanding Aggression: The Role of Provocation, Internal State, and Provocateur's Social Status in a Scenario Based Experiment** *Lea Becher, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony; Guido Mehlkop, University of Erfurt; Sebastian Sattler, University of Bielefeld*

By testing an extended General Aggression Model, this study aims to better understand the reaction process to a provocation. It examines how provocation affects the internal state of the provoked person and the conditioning role of the provocateur's social status. Based on assumptions from the Social Organizing Process, we expect that the provoked person forms different expectation states based on provocateur's status characteristics. These expectation states influence the provoked person's perception of the provocation, their internal reaction, and the likelihood of choosing a particular reaction. Using a scenario-based experiment (2-by-2 between-subjects design) within a representative sample of the German working population, provocation, and social status (indicated by different occupations) were experimentally manipulated. Three indicators of the internal state, and three intended reactions were measured. Results show that a provocation decreased the likelihood of not responding to the situation and increased the likelihood of a verbally or physically aggressive reaction. These effects were mediated by the internal state. The effect of the provocation on the internal state was moderated by the social status of the provocateur. A higher status resulted in a stronger increase in the internal state. In addition, only the verbal reaction to the provocation was significantly less affected by the internal state when the provocateur was of high status.

**Understanding Motivation's Role in Deviant Behavior: Methodological Reflections** *Fabian Hasselhorn, University of Bielefeld*

Motivation's role on deviance has been largely overlooked. Situational Action Theory offers insights into how motivation influences the perception and choice of deviant behavior. It suggests that temptation and provocation can lead to deviance, particularly when personal morality is weak, and the moral norms are deviant. This Germany-wide vignette study (N=2,214, offline recruitment) tests these processes using the example of using prescription drugs without a prescription to enhance performance. Motivation and moral norms were experimentally manipulated in a 3x2 between-subject design, with personal morality measured. Contrary to expectations, regression analysis with interaction effects reveals that temptation increases willingness to engage in deviance regardless of personal morality or setting's moral norm. To assess the potential impact of statistical modeling on the findings, we employed equivalent double hurdle and multi-group structural equation models. While the results from the double hurdle model were consistent with those obtained from the linear models, the multi-group structural equation models unveiled that motivation influences deviance in non-deviant settings, particularly among individuals with weak personal morality. This underscores the substantial impact of the chosen statistical approach on the outcomes, as variations in results with identical data under different statistical methods can ultimately lead to differing falsifications of theories.

**The Relation between 'the Selection of kinds-of-people into kinds-of-setting' and 'the Interplay between person and**

**setting' in the explanation and investigation of rule-breaking** *André Ernst, Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Cologne; Alexander Trinidad, Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Cologne*

Rule-breaking could be disentangled into two mechanisms: the selection mechanism and the action-generating mechanism. The action-generating mechanism is well regarded in theories of action, e.g., Situational Action Theory, and explains on a situational level how a person's crime propensity and a situation's criminogenicity interact in the occurrence of rule-breaking. This strand of explanation assumes that people with high- and low crime propensity could be observed while they are exposed to situations characterized by high- and low criminogenic. However, some combinations between crime propensity and criminogenicity are rarely or never observed, challenging prior findings on the interaction between crime propensity and the setting. The allocation of kinds-of-people in kinds-of-exposure is due to the selection of people into different situations. People and situations match e.g., due to their preferences for different leisure-time activities and friends, or their exposure to different neighborhoods. We investigate the relation between selection factors, which connect the person with the situation, and a person's crime propensity by assuming that they are associated, f.e. due to common causes. Our simulations show the connectedness between selection factors and crime propensity and the threshold from which a situational explanation must give way in favor of a selection-based explanation.

## 299. Victimization and Support: Diverse Perspectives and Interventions

Topic 4: Victimology/Policy and Prevention of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.20

Chair:

*Clare Wiper, Northumbria University*

Participants:

Victim/survivor views about Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA): Findings from a mixed methods study *Kelly May Richards, Queensland University of Technology; Jodi Death, Queensland University of Technology; Michael Chataway, Queensland University of Technology; Christopher Emzin, Queensland University of Technology; Carol Ronken, Bravehearts Foundation; Rebekah Chapman, Bravehearts Foundation*

Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA) - a community-based, volunteer-led post-custodial measure for people with convictions for sexual offending - are now part of the criminal justice apparatus in much of the western world. Despite promising results about their ability to reduce sexual reoffending, CoSA have received inflammatory media attention (Richards & Biron, 2022) and community backlash (Richards & McCartan, 2018), often due to the belief that CoSA undermine the interests of victim/survivors of sexual violence. However, very little previous research has investigated victim/survivors' views about CoSA. Understanding the views of victim/survivors about CoSA is an important undertaking. Victim/survivors hold unique knowledge about sexual violence (Clark & Quadara, 2010) and are an "overlooked resource" (Herman & Wasserman, 2001: 429) that may contribute to shaping policies and practices that can reduce sexual reoffending. As such, our research sought to investigate victim/survivors' views about CoSA using a "convergent parallel" mixed methods design (Creswell, 2015) comprised of an online survey (n = 193) and semi-structured qualitative interviews (n = 26) with victim/survivors of sexual violence. This presentation will report key findings from the study, with a focus on the reasons victim/survivors offer for endorsing or resisting CoSA, as well as their reasons for stating that they would (or would not) volunteer in CoSA. Findings will be useful to organisations that deliver CoSA programs around the globe and will enable these organisations to deliver CoSA in ways that better meet the needs of victim/survivors of sexual violence.

The gamblification of digital leisure: analysis of the monetisation mechanisms of the most popular mobile games in Spain. *Elena Beatriz Fernández-Castejón, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche; Jesús Aguerri, CRÍMINA Center, University Miguel Hernández of Elche; Sara Sampayo Sande, Universidad Miguel Hernández de Elche*

The introduction of gambling dynamics in new areas such as video games (gamblification) has been a cause for alarm because it can expose individuals to a wide range of harms resulting from this activity. The design of video games is therefore increasingly questioned by public opinion on the basis of certain commercial practices, such as micropayments or loot boxes. Given the impact of these techniques, especially on vulnerable groups such as minors, this research has been carried out by reviewing the regulatory framework of loot boxes, as well as a study of the 50 most downloaded mobile games in the PlayStore in Spain, with the aim of observing their forms of monetisation, identifying their prevalence and form of implementation. This made it possible, based on the study of current legislation, to propose specific measures for the prevention of cyber victimisation in this environment.

The Factors that are Associated with Re-Victimization Experience of North Korean Refugees *YOUNOH CHO, DONGGUK UNIVERSITY*

Due to the vulnerability that North Korean (NK) people faced, NK refugees are more likely to be attractive targets of various types of crimes including human trafficking and interpersonal violence from potential offenders. However, little is known about factors that are related to the re-victimization of NK refugees. This study examined the prevalence of victimized experience of NK refugees in both North Korea and South Korea considering the critical factors that might impact on the revictimization. The current study utilized the data of "Survey on Human Right Violation and Trauma toward North Korean Refugees in 2017 (KOSSDA data number A1-2017-00)" that was conducted by the National Human Right Commission of the Republic of Korea. 139 NK refugees who consist of approximately 46.3% of total participants had experienced interpersonal crime victimization in North Korea. Only 8 NK refugees (2.8%) had experienced the interpersonal violence in South Korea after they adjust to South Korean society. Further policy implication will be discussed.

The role of banks in enabling, addressing and preventing economic abuse *Clare Wiper, Northumbria University*

There is growing evidence that economic abuse is on the rise in the UK, with the COVID-19 pandemic and cost-of-living crisis exacerbating all forms of domestic abuse. As providers of everyday financial products, banks have an unrivalled ability – and responsibility – to close down opportunities for perpetrating economic abuse, and were recently added to the list of relevant stakeholders in the Domestic Abuse Act (2021) statutory guidance. However, very little academic attention has been given to the role of banks in enabling, addressing and preventing economic abuse. This presentation draws on data from interviews with victim-survivors of economic abuse and banking professionals to explore the strengths and limitations of banking responses to economic abuse.

### 300. Homicide and violent crime: Risk factors and weapon use

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Homicide and Violent Crime (Homicide Research WG and European Violence Monitor WG)  
Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22

Chair:

*Jonathan Reid, Texas A&M University*

Participants:

Characteristics of the direct environment and its association with homicide concentration in micro places in Latin American Cities *Catalina Mellado, University College London, UK*

Aim Despite Latin American (LA) high and persistent homicide rates, research mainly focuses on macro-level covariates, relying on global north theoretical and empirical referents. The present

research aims to further a multilevel, placed-based understanding of homicide in LA cities, addressing the micro-level features, that are associated with homicide concentration and to what extent are these different to those from cities in the global north. Methods A comparative case study of Medellín, Mexico City, and Chicago for 2019 to 2022 analyses those variables from the opportunity theory framework, such as characteristics of the direct environment, crime generators and crime attractors, with the concentration of homicides over a small proportion of micro-places of these cities. Quantitative analysis is conducted using police records and open street maps data. Results Preliminary results show that there is no unique set of features associated with homicide concentration for micro-places for all cities. The premise that those cities in Latin America have common features that differ from the global north referent cannot be proven. Instead, the analysis showed that each city requires their own tailored model to understand homicide concentration in micro-level units of analysis.

Heat and Violence, What is the Connection? Assessing Routine Activities as a Mediator in the Relationship between Temperature and Violent crime *Kevin T. Wolff, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Christopher Thomas, Rutgers University, Camden; Jinuk Jeong, John Jay College of Criminal Justice*

Existing research has demonstrated that warmer temperatures are associated with increases in violent crime. These findings are usually explained by two theoretical mechanisms: first, the theory of heat and aggression, and second, the theory of routine activities. Importantly, however, very few empirical tests of these mediators exist to date. The current study utilizes administrative records on public transportation usage, outdoor leisure activities, and other public activities in the five boroughs of New York City from 2015 to 2019 to assess whether a measure routine activities mediates the relationship between temperature and violence. Findings suggest that a modest proportion of the temperature's total effect on violence in NYC can be explained by its effect on the volume of routine activities. The theoretical and policy implications stemming from these results will be discussed.

Perpetrators' Pre-offence Behaviour in Cases of Post-separation Intimate Partner Homicide: Risk Indicators and Precursors of Homicidal Offending *Thomas Görgen, Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei/German Police University; Catharina Vogt, Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei; Stefanie Horn, Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei/German Police University*

Separation conflicts and post-separation periods are known to be high-risk times for intimate partner homicide (IPH). In a file-based study in Germany (files originating from years 2012-2020 from public prosecutor's offices in the states of Baden-Wuerttemberg and North Rhine-Westphalia), the emergence of attempted and completed homicides was analysed with a particular focus on the later perpetrator and his pre-homicide behaviour. Based on the file data, the relevance of the history of violence in the pre-separation relationship, the significance the later perpetrator's behaviours related to the separation process, especially suicide threats or attempted suicides, the role of threats and intimidation, of stalking behaviour and of planning and preparatory actions for the homicide are analysed. Results point to windows of opportunity for recognising and responding to increased risks of impending post-separation IPH. In many cases, IPH after a separation has a significant history and does not arise more or less spontaneously from an escalating situational conflict. This results in intervention and prevention options for the (ex-)couple's private social network, for authorities and support organisations concerned with the (ex-) couple / family and - at least in case of previous relevant incidents and interventions - also for the police. The results are discussed with regard to corresponding awareness-raising and training needs among relevant professional groups and organisations.

When the murderous fantasy is fulfilled: Transference and countertransference in psychotherapy with patients who committed murder in a state of psychosis *Hanny Farkash, Bar ilan University; Prof. Yael Idisis, Bar ilan University; Prof. Sophie D. Walsh, Bar ilan University*

Research shows that, as compared to the general population, people

with schizophrenia are at an increased risk of being convicted of murder. While research and theoretical debate regarding individual psychotherapy for those suffering from psychotic states exists, there is no specific frame of reference regarding transference and countertransference in patients that commit murder in a state of psychosis. The present study strives to fill this gap, by addressing the subjective experiences of both patients who committed murder while in a psychotic state, and of their therapists in long-term psychodynamic therapy. The study was conducted within a qualitative-phenomenological framework, using a purposeful sample. To trace the characteristics of transference and countertransference, we sampled therapist-patient pairs: 31 participants were interviewed, 17 patients and 14 therapists, including 15 therapist-patient dyads. The patients that participated were all men, who were hospitalized in several psychiatric hospitals after having committed murder while in a psychotic state, and were therefore found not guilty of first-degree murder or imprisoned. The patients had been treated in psychodynamic psychotherapy, for at least a year. Study results showed four themes: Aggression and its place in the therapy; Projective identification, during which the therapists felt "attacks on linking" and experiences that they were "going crazy"; Transference and countertransference; Therapy as a possibility of repair. It was striking that the subject of aggression remained outside the therapeutic discourse. We suggest that this is because of the characteristics of the transference and countertransference, their intensity, and the nature of the way that murder limits the space for aggressive fantasies. The importance of the study is in deepening theoretical understanding regarding psychotherapy among this unique patient population which can help therapists in understanding unconscious dynamics between the therapist and patient, and increase the effectiveness of the therapy for the patients.

**The Spatial and Temporal Dimensions of Repeat Criminal Gun Use** *Jonathan Reid, Texas A&M University; Jennifer Clausen, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office; William King, Boise State University; Yan Zhang, Sam Houston State University; William Wells, Sam Houston State University*

High rates of lethal gun violence in large American cities have inspired a growing body of empirical research on the etiology of gun crimes, guns in crime hotspots, and the spatial and temporal factors of gun violence. This study contributes to this literature by leveraging National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) data to explore the spatial and temporal dimensions of repeat criminal gun use. We use ArcGIS mapping and NIBIN hits from 1156 pairs of gun crime cases in a large Texas city to answer three research questions: 1) How far do repeat-use firearms travel? 2) How many days elapse before a gun is used again in a crime? 3) Is there a relationship between time and distance for repeat-use guns? The results of our analysis have direct implications for research, policy, and practice.

### 301. Punishment and rehabilitation: balancing competing goals?

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Community Sanctions (Community Sanctions WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.04

Chair:

*Kerstin Svensson, Lund University, Sweden*

Participants:

**Coercion in Probation: A Study of Ideas in Swedish Legislation.**

*Kerstin Svensson, Lund University, Sweden*

This study focusses on how legislators in Sweden express ideas of punitiveness, coercion, and control when amendments to legislation for probation are suggested and decided upon. The empirical material consists of preparatory works at the governmental level and discussions in parliament. This material is publicly available and shows how aspects of control and coercion are understood by the legislators. The presentation will include an introduction with a brief overview of the construction of probation legislation in Sweden and contemporary practice guidelines. Sweden has experienced a shift from a managerial focus to a punitive one, which has influenced criminal policy. During the managerial era,

probation primarily relied on strict manual-based contacts with probationers. However, this approach is not aligned with the legislative bodies, which express demands in other ways. This apparent gap between policy and practice frames the presentation. Three themes will be highlighted: ideas of change, ideas of probation work, and ideas of the probationer. Ideas of change encompass how legislators express the role of control and coercion in facilitating behavioural change. The discussion of probation work will focus on the controlling and coercive tasks intended for implementation. The portrayal of the probationer will serve as a conclusion, depicting them as both a punishable object and a change agent responsible for their own life.

**More probation, more prisoners? Community sanctions and mass supervision in Lithuania** *Simonas Nikartas, Law Institute of the Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences*

The paper will examine Lithuania's probation practice as a mass supervision phenomenon. While the high imprisonment rate is often portrayed as a prominent feature of Lithuania's criminal justice system, it's noteworthy that Lithuania also has one of Europe's largest populations under probation supervision. Within the spectrum of non-custodial sentences, probation takes precedence and is considered the most stringent, particularly regarding control intensity and legal consequences for probation rule violations. Over the past fifteen years, numerous legal and institutional reforms have been implemented within the probation system. The stated objectives of these reforms are to reduce the prison population and enhance the resocialisation of offenders. However, the chapter delves into the presumption that the probation system and its reforms foster conditions for expanding criminal control within the community, a phenomenon often described as "net widening." The paper also presumes that the wide use of control measures such as electronic monitoring has a desocialising rather than socialising effect on offenders.

**Probation Violations and Process-Based Punishment: How Front-End Inefficiencies Contribute to Back-End Punishments** *Benjamin Mackey, George Mason University; Loveline Phillips, George Mason University; Lamont Pyykkonen, George Mason University; JoAnn Lee, University at Buffalo; CJ Appleton, George Mason University; Faye S Taxman, George Mason University*

Typically comprised of prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, and probation staff, the courthouse workgroup administers criminal courts in the U.S., where judicial processes are often termed punishments in and of themselves (Feeley, 1979). The degree to which these processes serve as punishments is theorized to depend upon how many an individual experiences—how much "law" they are subject to (Black, 1976). However, little research has examined how some individuals experience more or less law in judicial processes due to courthouse workgroup operations. Drawing upon data from 72 interviews and focus groups with 94 staff in a statewide U.S. probation agency, we examine probation staff's role in the courthouse workgroup and how this relates to the process of punishment. We find lack of cohesion among the courthouse workgroup, which precludes probation from having a substantive voice—particularly when supervision conditions are set through plea negotiations during "front end" dispositional processes. To be heard, probation staff issue violations to bring clients back to court for noncompliance, when the courthouse workgroup will be more amenable to their input. Relying on these "back end" violation processes, probation is able to modify conditions they were unable to offer or alter at the front end. Thus, front-end inefficiencies may subject clients to more law on the back end, increasing the degree to which the processes of punishment serve as punishments themselves.

**The 6-Form Model of Re/integration** *Alejandro Rubio Arnal, UPF/UFV*

Driven in part by the advent of 'mass incarceration' and 'mass supervision' in some late-modern societies, there has been growing interest about life after punishment in academic, policy and research circles all around the globe. In spite of that, after punishment people face significant adversities. This situation may be at least partly due to our limited knowledge about life after punishment and to the lack of a thorough conceptualisation of it to guide policy and practice.

Bearing this in mind, the aim of this paper is to present the six-forms model of post-punishment re/integration and to explore its origins, development, and dimensions. I will end up discussing the main implications and uses of this model.

### 302. Drugs, crime and criminal justice

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Drugs and Crime (European Drug Policies WG)

Paper Session

3:30 to 4:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06

Chair:

**Oana Petcu**, University of Glasgow & University of Edinburgh

Participants:

Drug trafficking and drug consumption – the perspective of the ultima ratio principle *Bogdan Liviu Pănoiu, University of Craiova*

The principle of minimum intervention – ultima ratio is a procedure that requires that the intervention of the criminal law should take the form of a normative act that respects the conditions of clarity and predictability, be imposed by the existence of an explicit or implicit mandate to ensure the criminal protection of a social value and proportional to the restriction of the rights of the individuals. In the present study, taking in consideration the substantive and formal conditions that are imposed by the ultima ratio principle, we will analyze, the criminalization of drug trafficking and drug consumption. Firstly, the drug trafficking will be analyzed from the perspective of the so-called condition of form, from the point of view of the excess of criminalization, caused by the multitude of normative variants of committing, to which are added the use of legal analogy clauses and the assimilation of the preparatory acts to the attempt. On the other hand, the drug use will be analyzed from the perspective of the so-called substantive condition of the ultima ratio principle, determining whether the criminalization is necessary.

Drug consumers in the Criminal Justice system: sentencing and punishment *Iakovets Iryna, The Scientific Research Institute of Intellectual Property; Maryna Rudnytskykh, Ph.D. in Law, Legal adviser of the CLIR initiative of the project "Support of government reforms in Ukraine" (SURGe); Liubov Vladimirovna Sorokina, researcher at the Scientific research institute of intellectual property National academy of legal sciences of Ukraine*

The research is devoted to improving the State drug policy in Ukraine by analyzing the practice of sentencing by courts for acts under Article 309 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine and serving sentences for persons with drug use experience. Particular attention is paid to the criminological characteristics of persons with drug use experience who have been prosecuted. The article emphasizes that approaches to the organization of registration of such persons in the Criminal justice system lead to a lack of proper monitoring to characterize the drug situation concerning convicts objectively. It has been proven that the practice of punishing “drug offenses” related to one’s consumption leads to an inappropriate increase in the prison population at the expense of drug consumers.

Cannabis-Related Criminal Offenses in Slovenia: Trends and Patterns *Dean Lipovac, Institute of Criminology*

This study provides a comprehensive analysis of cannabis-related criminal offenses in Slovenia over a fourteen-year period (2009-2022), leveraging an extensive dataset from police records. Utilizing variables such as time and location of offenses, offender and incident characteristics, this research uncovers temporal trends, spatial patterns, and demographic profiles associated with the offenses. Our analysis starts with an overview of cannabis-related offenses. This includes offender demographics, recidivism rates, intoxication status during police detention, ties to organized crime, cannabis type involved in each offense, and the specific nature of the crime (e.g., cultivation of cannabis). The study then examines changes over time while considering offender and incident characteristics. It also looks at the frequency of offenses across Slovenia's regions and the physical settings where these offenses typically occur (e.g., recreational spaces). Preliminary

findings suggest notable trends and patterns. Most of the offenders were young adult males. More than a third of offenders were recidivists with a prior offense. A large majority of offenses were unrelated to organized crime. Distribution of cannabis emerged as the most frequent offense, ahead of cultivation and possession. Offenses most commonly involved the cannabis plant, with only a small proportion of cases pertaining to various cannabis extracts. Residential locations were the primary sites of the offenses, followed by the traffic setting. The number of offenses was relatively constant for about a decade, with a marked drop in the most recent years. This analysis can be used to inform strategies of policymakers, law enforcement, and public health officials dealing with these incidents.

Policing drugs in rural Scotland: an exploration of policing practices at the intersection between environmental demands, resource challenges and technological development. *Oana Petcu, University of Glasgow & University of Edinburgh*

Rural areas have historically been associated with remoteness and difficult access, which when presented in the context of drug markets, have been described as areas with little drug trafficking. Nonetheless, emerging research is pointing out that remote areas in Scotland are experiencing an unexpectedly high volume of incoming drug parcels. Although we are now starting to learn more about the drug market, there is very little research out there on the factors that have led to such changes in recent years. In this presentation I will bridge this knowledge gap by discussing how parcels containing illicit substances are policed in mainland and island communities in Scotland. I will be discussing the picture of current drug markets through the perspective of policing of drugs, and thus outline the current practices and narratives that Police Scotland hold in relation to crime in rural areas. I will also be discussing policing challenges and opportunities while providing an answer to questions around the ways in which police interventions shape drug access and drug supply in rural areas of Scotland.

### 303. Prison Working Group: The intersection of family and incarceration: Mental health, parenting, and family dynamics

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”

Chair:

**Lynne Haney**, New York University

Participants:

Prison Visitation and the Mental Health of Incarcerated Women: A Structural Perspective *Timothy Edgemon, University of Birmingham*

Past research on the mental health of incarcerated women has indicated that not receiving visitation from children and other family members has severe negative consequences for mental health outcomes. However, these past studies have yet to consider how the effects of visitation and family contact on the mental health of incarcerated women operate at the aggregate level. Using data on 1,490 women nested within 60 U.S. state prisons, I consider how the proportion of women in each prison that receive visits is associated with mental health outcomes across the prison, net of individual factors. Hierarchical linear regression models find that a higher proportion of incarcerated women who are mothers and whose children did not visit is associated with higher levels of depression for all women in the prison, even those without children. These results hold true even after controlling for the individual effects of family visitation for each individual woman. These results emphasize the importance of family visitation for the mental health of incarcerated women and further reinforce the idea that receiving visitation creates a positive environment in the prison. Additionally, this is one of the first studies that considers how the mental health of incarcerated women might be expressed through aggregate analysis of prison data.

Parenting Programs for Incarcerated Mothers: A Scoping Review *Pauline K Brennan, University of Massachusetts Lowell*

Many women who are incarcerated in prisons across the United States have children under the age of 18 years old. Most of these women were the primary caretakers of their children prior to their incarceration and most plan to reunite with their children once they are released from prison. Incarcerated mothers report that their separation from their children is one of the most painful aspects of imprisonment. These women fear that the relationships with their children will deteriorate over the course of their incarceration or that they will lose their identity as mothers. Therefore, parenting programs exist in prisons to provide participants the chance to learn about child development and appropriate disciplinary methods while also allowing enhanced visitation opportunities. Despite their use, these programs differ in length, depth, and content, which may make it challenging for one to determine their effectiveness. The purpose of this scoping review is to synthesize peer-reviewed research on prison-based parenting programs. This scoping review followed the evidence-preferred reporting for systematic reviews and meta-analyses (PRISMA) process. Both qualitative and quantitative studies were identified. This paper provides descriptions of programs studied, how these programs were evaluated, and findings about their effectiveness. The implications related to interventions for incarcerated women are discussed, along with recommendations for further study.

**‘You’ll never understand until it happens to you’: Exploring the impact on children and young people (CYP) of having a household family member in prison** *Naomi Griffin, Newcastle University; Steph Scott, Newcastle University*

Background: Approximately at least one child in every UK school is affected by parental imprisonment. Less is known about the proportion of children and young people (CYP) impacted by imprisonment of a wider family member (such as siblings or grandparents). By taking a child-centred and rights-based approach to health, this paper presents findings from a two-year project aiming to understand the long-term impact of familial imprisonment on CYP’s mental health, emotional wellbeing and relationships. Methods: 19 CYP in Northern England and Scotland who have a family member in prison have taken part in a series of longitudinal interviews (up to three over the course of 1 year). Within interviews, creative approaches (including narrated drawing and ‘worry mapping’) have been used to explore experiences of family imprisonment and its effects on the lives and wellbeing of CYP. Findings: CYP described the impact of concealment and associated stress on their physical and emotional lives, and the techniques they employed to avoid and navigate stigma around proximity to the criminal justice system. CYP put forward a number of recommendations for: improving experiences of familial imprisonment, and how CYP could be better supported at all stages of contact with the criminal justice system and prisons more specifically. We will share creative outputs including comic strips and a film, both of which were co-created with CYP with lived experience of familial imprisonment. Conclusions and next steps: Our work highlights the importance of including the voices of CYP and families when we focus on the impact of imprisonment, and strengthening of family ties should have a broader remit than simply to reduce re-offending. Findings and creative outputs from this project will be used to create a suite of resources including a co-produced a rights-based manifesto advocating for a child and family focused prison visiting system.

**Who Pays: The Familial Debt of Incarceration** *Lynne Haney, New York University; Lynne Haney, New York University*

An abundance of research has exposed the complex ways that the carceral state extends outside prison itself, drawing in families and communities in consequential ways. One of the most consequential ways is through carceral debt, as families and kin provide an array of support to loved ones in prison. Particularly in the U.S. context, the carceral state relies on these forms of familial support to sustain itself. In doing so, it reconfigures relations of care and parents’ identities as caretakers, while also draining them of much-needed resources. This paper explores the resources that flow from families into the penal system--and the racialized and gendered dimensions of this financial extraction. Based on U.S. data collected across New York state, the paper analyzes the many forms of financial support that families and communities provide to loved ones in prison. These data were drawn from an original survey carried out with

over 500 New Yorkers with incarcerated family members and 200 qualitative interviews with a subsample of them—all carried out by NYU’s Prison Education Program Research Lab. Guided by a distinct conceptualization of the social webs of debt, the paper analyzes the concrete ways familial debt draws coveted resources away from kin networks. It documents the different streams of resources that flow from families into penal institutions: from commissary costs to telecommunication expenses to legal fees to child support to visitation costs. It quantifies these debt streams, revealing that New Yorkers spend an average of \$21,000/year to support incarcerated loved ones. And it explores the reciprocal effects of carceral debt on family and community life, tracing how debt is managed in familial networks and is entangled in familial relations of care. It concludes by drawing out the larger implications of familial debt for understandings of the afterlives of incarceration.

#### **304. POL Panel 19. Opportunities and challenges for local and community policing models**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”

Chair:

**Larissa Engelmann**, University of Leeds

Participants:

Are community policing groups a good alternative to inefficient state police? A case study of Nigeria. *Leighann Trudy Spencer, University of Melbourne*

The Nigeria Police Force (NPF) have long been criticised as inefficient and ineffective at providing community safety and security. They are notoriously corrupt and do not have the manpower nor resources to effectively combat the myriad of issues throughout the country; for instance, armed robbery, kidnapping, gender-based violence, and terrorism. Consequently, communities have increasingly turned to forming their own policing groups. This paper analyses whether these groups are good alternatives to the state police, utilising a media analysis and interviews throughout the South West, North West, and North East regions. It was found that community alternatives are more efficient in fighting crime. They hold greater knowledge of their localities and are often viewed as more trustworthy and ‘brave’. However, they also tend to replicate issues found within the NPF. Member of community policing groups do still indulge in corruption and have been found to collaborate with criminals. They also struggle with resources, which plays into corruption. Numerous members have also been injured or killed in the pursuit of their activities. Finally, it was found that these groups mirror the same structural injustices as the state, namely, ethnic profiling and toxic masculinity. This is exacerbated when the state ‘captures’ the community groups in attempt to control their activities. As such, this paper concludes that community groups should be independent from the state and should seek to be representative of all ethnicities and genders. Moreover, a focus should be placed on community governance rather than community policing.

Co-operation in local police work: on the complexities of boundary spanning in local police units the Netherlands *Remco Spithoven, Saxion University of Applied Sciences; annemarijn Walberg, Saxion University of Applied Sciences; Nick van der Klok, Saxion University of Applied Sciences*

Co-operation between the local police and its partners is inevitable. Therefore, police units and their partner organisations work together in both their policy and operations to realize local security. But how do professionals of very different disciplines get to work together? In our research in two police units in the Netherlands we have followed four initiatives of local co-operation, by observations of meetings and interviews with participants of the local initiatives. From the theoretical perspective of boundary spanning (e.g. Williams, 2012) we have gained insights into the complexities of both participating and chairing local partnerships of the police and its partner organisations.

The infralegal system of order maintenance in Santiago streets and the pains of policing *Paz Irrarrazabal, Universidad de Chile*

I have been researching the messy and complex legal framework that bans certain behaviors in public spaces and provides legal power to police for order maintenance (Irrarrazabal 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022). However, the state regulation of this social sphere goes far beyond this legal straitjacket. Using a normative social-legal methodology (Lacey 1996), in the current work I explore the existence of “informal” tools and state-like actors which appear to be the prevalent mechanisms of order control of daily life in Santiago streets. Bringing together the legal framework and those informal mechanisms I aim to gain understanding of the penal actualities of everyday policing (Duff and Garland 1994) and the pains it provokes (Newburn and Jones, 2022 and Harkin, 2015), broaden our comprehension of punitive state power. After describing the “legal system of the streets”, I will share the results of a fieldwork developed in 2023 in Santiago, Chile, in which several informal mechanisms of order maintenance were examined. I will describe the existence of actors exercising coercion whose relation with the state is obscure, such as the so-called “agentes de copamiento” (space-filling agents) who walk around public spaces dressed in black with their faces covered and wearing devices for personal protection. I will also describe the consistent use of indeterminate methods of control by those actors such as space occupation, seizure of belonging, questioning, and “retentions”. I will further my analysis by focusing on a case study regarding the persecution of street sellers and sex workers. I will conclude by showing that when looking from the point of view of those citizens subjected to these control mechanisms, a different authoritative system of urban order control arises. This is an opaque system and very questionable from the rule of law standards which anyway is experienced as compulsory.

Using Data of the nation-wide Survey „Safety and Crime in Germany“ (SKiD) for Community-oriented Policing efforts *Judith Hauber, Hamburg Police Department; Henriette Madita Thiele, Hamburg Police Department; Ella Elena May, Hamburg Police Department; Oliver Kipke, Hamburg Police Department*

The key ingredient of Community-oriented Policing (COP) is the interaction between policing organisations and communities to achieve a common co-production of social order. Often, these interactions take place in forums or meetings where only a small group of self-appointed residents air their specific problems and expectations of the police whilst efforts to encourage a wider participation proved to be difficult. The nation-wide victim survey ‘Safety and Crime in Germany (SKiD)’ is a combined PAPI/CAWI survey with more than 8 000 respondents in the city of Hamburg. 1 118 of these people answered the open-ended question ‘What should the Hamburg Police Department pay more attention to in your neighbourhood?’. We can now present the findings of our qualitative content analysis regarding the most prevalent public order and safety concerns in Hamburg (e.g. traffic and dog feces) as well as for specific groups. The insights from this question can be useful to identify recurring themes and patterns of public order and safety concerns for a wider and more diverse part of the residents. Therefore, we want to discuss the practical implication of survey data for COP measures.

Segregation and Policing in the Global East: Uncovering the Racial Divide within Marginalized Communities in Postsocialist Czechia *Petr Kupka, University of West Bohemia; Václav Walach, University of Ostrava*

This research investigates the policing of marginalized populations in Czechia, focusing on segregated areas officially recognized as „socially excluded localities“. Utilizing a quantitative survey with 2,566 residents of these areas, the study examines predictors of police control, fines, Child Protection Service interactions, and threats of child removal. Emphasizing the experiences of both Roma and non-Roma residents, the research sheds light on potential racial divide in law enforcement practices. Key factors influencing these outcomes are explored, providing insight into the dynamics of policing within marginalized communities. The study aims to highlight any systemic biases or inequalities, particularly concerning the treatment of different demographic groups.

Considering the dearth of knowledge on policing practices within Global East countries in global criminology, this study contributes to filling crucial gaps in understanding and addressing systemic issues of policing and marginalization in these regions. Furthermore, given the historical migration of Roma people from Czechia to the UK due to racial discrimination, understanding and addressing the policing dynamics within marginalized populations in Czechia holds particular significance for the UK, where these communities have sought refuge from such injustices.

### 305. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 2: Interventions in GBV

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu“

Chair:

*Nancy Lombard*, Glasgow Caledonian University

Participants:

Assessing the effectiveness of motivational strategies in intervention programs for intimate partner violence perpetrators: goal setting *Manuel Roldán-Pardo, University of Valencia; Cristina Expósito-Álvarez, University of Valencia; Marisol Lila, Universitat de València; Viviana Vargas, University of Valencia; Faraj A. Santirso, University of Valencia*

Participants in intervention programs for intimate partner violence (IPV) perpetrators often present significant challenges: high resistance, dropout rates, and low motivation to change. However, research has demonstrated that intervention programs incorporating motivational strategies tailored to the risk and needs of participants achieve better intervention outcomes. Among these strategies, goal setting has shown promising results. The objectives of the study were: to assess the differences between participants who set a goal and those who did not at intake in relation to sociodemographic variables (e.g. age, immigrant), proximal outcomes (e.g., stage of change), and final outcomes (e.g., risk of recidivism); and to assess the differences between both groups at the end of the intervention in proximal and final outcomes. The sample consisted of 349 men who attended an intervention program for IPV perpetrators between 2017 and 2022. Results showed that participants who set a goal at intake were younger, with a higher average annual income, and employed. They also reported higher levels of motivation to change their violent attitudes and behaviors towards women, a higher rate of self-reported physical violence, and were in a higher stage of change. After the intervention, participants who set a goal showed higher levels of motivation to change their violent attitudes and behaviors towards women, active participation, and attendance at group-based sessions. They were also in a higher stage of change and reported lower dropout rates. These results suggest that goal setting may be an effective motivational strategy for IPV perpetrators in intervention programs. It could help reduce resistance to the intervention and increase motivation to change and treatment adherence. Further research is needed to explore the impact of tailoring goal setting to participants risk factors and needs, as well as participants’ commitment to the change process on intervention outcomes.

Evaluating Primary Situational Crime Prevention Strategies: A Systematic Review of Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence Intervention *Yijun Liu, University College London; Alina Ristea, Assistant Professor Department of Security and Crime Science, University College London*

Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence (DIPV) is a notable human rights violation, severely affecting individuals on a global scale, with women being particularly vulnerable. It constitutes a substantial risk factor, impacting not only the health and well-being of victims but also shaping the socialisation of future generations and threatening societal cohesion. Current DIPV preventive methods predominantly emphasise secondary and tertiary-level designs, concentrating on the identification of high-risk individuals



and the incapacitation and rehabilitation of repeat offenders. This systematic review shifts focus towards primary-level situational crime prevention (PSCP) techniques in deterring DIPV. 13 articles were identified and subjected to a qualitative synthesis, examining their theoretical underpinnings, practical applications, socio-demographic moderators, and evaluative outcomes. We classified the interventions into two overarching categories: direct and indirect opportunity-reducing measures. Our analysis concludes that PSCP strategies exhibit potential in diminishing DIPV occurrences, elevating public consciousness, and reforming detrimental societal norms that sustain DIPV. Nonetheless, practitioners should recognise that universal solutions are ineffectual; tailored interventions must be predicated on empirical evidence, insights from prior research, and an intricate understanding of contextual nuances. This encompasses socio-demographic elements that may affect the implementation, reception, and accessibility of programmes, the diverse socio-cultural obstacles faced, and the specific needs of the target population to ensure optimum impact. The establishment of strong partnerships with local governance, the criminal justice system, academic entities, and broader community stakeholders is indispensable for developing and executing PSCP initiatives that are congruent with the local context.

Tailored motivational strategies for participants with alcohol and drug use problems: effectiveness in intimate partner violence perpetrators *Cristina Expósito-Alvarez, University of Valencia; Manuel Roldán-Pardo, University of Valencia; Marisol Lila, Universitat de València; Raquel Conchell, University of Valencia; Elena Terreros, University of Valencia*

The results of meta-analyses on the effectiveness of intervention programs for intimate partner violence (IPV) perpetrators in reducing IPV recidivism have shown small or moderate effect sizes. The main challenges are related to the high resistance of participants, high dropout rates, and the need to tailor interventions to the risk factors and needs of participants. Men with alcohol and drug use problems (ADUPs) require special attention as they are highly resistant and show a higher risk of dropout and recidivism. The aim of this randomized controlled trial was to evaluate the effectiveness of a new motivational strategy for men with ADUPs who have been convicted of IPV. Participants (n=140) were randomly assigned to one of the two conditions: 1) control group, consisting of a standard intervention with IPV perpetrators which includes the individual motivational plan (IMP), and 2) experimental group, consisting of a standard intervention with IPV perpetrators which includes the IMP adjusted to ADUPs. Data were collected pre and post intervention on proximal outcomes (i.e., active participation, stage of change) and final outcomes (i.e., risk of recidivism, alcohol, cannabis and cocaine use). The experimental group reported significantly higher rates of participation, greater progress in the stage of change, and reductions in alcohol use compared to the control group. Importantly, both groups showed a decrease in the risk of recidivism after the intervention. The results of this study suggest that addressing ADUPs in intervention programs for IPV perpetrators may help increase participants' treatment engagement and motivation to change, and reduce alcohol use. Thus, tailoring such intervention programs to address the specific needs and risk factors of highly resistant participants, such as those with ADUPs, may enhance the effectiveness of intervention programs for IPV perpetrators in reducing IPV recidivism.

The use of a chatbot to support victim-survivors of domestic abuse *Kate Butterby, Glasgow Caledonian University; Nancy Lombard, Glasgow Caledonian University*

The use of mobile-based technology to support victim-survivors of domestic abuse is becoming more prevalent, with the 24/7 availability and ease of use reported as positives. We report on developments of ISEDA, (Innovative Solutions for Eliminating Domestic Abuse) a Horizon Europe project involving 14 partners from 9 European Countries which aims to tackle and eliminate domestic abuse using multi-sector expertise via modern technological tools and practices. One of the key tools to be deployed by the project is a chatbot which victim-survivors will use to seek help and find information alongside being able to store and record evidence to be used in court. Primarily, it will give women

access to supportive technology in countries where services are not always commonplace, for example, countries where women's services lack consistent funding, or where police training on domestic abuse is sporadic. In this paper we explore whether technology such as the chatbot should be integrated within women's services as a complementary tool available to support victim-survivors, and explore whether this can be done without adding to the workload of the already under-funded and overworked domestic abuse sector. We also highlight ethical issues surrounding the use of technology within the development of the chatbot specifically, and in the field of domestic abuse more broadly, and consider how these issues can be addressed.

### 306. Victimization Working Group Panel 1 Consequences of Victimization

Topic 4: Victimology/Consequences of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”*

Chair:

*Ane Viana Salinas, UPV-EHU*

Participants:

Adolescent happiness and (fear of) cyber-victimization: the role of self-control and parental supervision *Eva Krulichová, Institute of Sociology of the Czech Academy of Sciences*

Despite the growing body of literature on the relationship between quality of life and crime-related factors among adults, little attention has been given to the influence of crime on adolescent subjective well-being. However, youth victimization prevalence is high and its consequences can be severe. This is especially true for cyber-victimization, which is often challenging to detect. Additionally, existing research suggests that (fear of) cyber-victimization is likely to be determined by individual self-control on one hand and the level of parental supervision on the other. Using data from the Urban Youth Victimization Survey conducted in the Czech Republic, we employ regression analysis and structural equation modelling to examine the relationship between youth happiness and (fear of) cyber-victimization while assessing the effect of self-control and parental supervision. The results show that cyber-victimization, which occurs more frequently with increased time spent on social networks and engaging in risky internet behaviour, as well as related fear significantly decrease youth happiness. The effect of self-control on happiness is mediated through cyber-victimization, frequent time spent on social networks, and engaging in risky internet behaviour, whereas the effect of parental supervision is limited.

Children's experiences and use of violence in the home - a national Australian study *Silke Meyer, Griffith University*

Drawing on national survey data from over 5,000 young people living in Australia, this presentation examines children's experiences of domestic and family violence and other forms of maltreatment along with related impacts on children's social and emotional wellbeing. Findings highlight the overlap of childhood experiences of domestic and family violence and other forms of maltreatment, the intergenerational transmission of violence and other adverse outcomes. Recognising children as victims in their own right with their own, unique recovery needs is critical in generating better outcomes for children and families affected by domestic and family violence and disrupting the intergenerational transmission of violence in domestic settings.

Role perceptions of educators of preschoolers regarding community violence and sociocultural trauma in Arab-Palestinian society in Israel *Malak Mofeed Ganayem, M.A graduate - Hebrew University Of Jerusalem; Iris Zadok, The Hebrew university of Jerusalem*

The past two decades have seen a sharp increase in the rates of crime and violence in the Palestinian society in Israel. This trend has broad negative consequences for the Palestinian community. It turns individual extreme events into a daily collective experience of all Palestinians in Israel – a sociocultural trauma which affects the

sense of community and produces new patterns of experiences and attitudes. The present study addresses the perceptions of early childhood educators regarding community violence and sociocultural trauma in Palestinian society in Israel. This qualitative phenomenological study was based on 15 semi-structured in-depth interviews with educators of 3–6-year-old children in Palestinian society. The analysis of those interviews raised four main themes. (1) educators' encounter with community violence in two contexts: outside and inside the preschool. (2) dilemmas of Palestinian preschool teachers following their encounter with community violence. (3) participants' perceptions of their challenges as Palestinian teachers (4) participants' perceived role as early childhood educators. The discussion addresses the four themes while moving from the past through the present to the future. This movement paints a broad picture of the participants' perceptions and experiences, representing the relation between community violence and the Palestinians' sociocultural trauma. The discussion focuses on the following issues: fear and hypervigilance as teachers and citizens; perceiving the preschool teacher's role as a "compassion ambassador" and as promoting education for values; an ongoing collective trauma rooted in the events of 1948; and othering and as expressions of individual and collective resilience. This study is exploratory in that it addresses violence in Palestinian society in Israel as both a present-day individual and collective trauma and as part of an ongoing collective trauma. In that, it contributes to narrowing the gap in the literature regarding the work of Palestinian preschool teachers in the context of collective trauma.

**Voices Amidst Active Warfare: Gaining Insights from Ukrainian Children Impacted by War via Chat Data** *Laura Mielityinen, Faculty of Social Sciences, Tampere University; Venla Iina Josefina Hakala, Tampere University; Taina Laajasalo, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare; Kirsi Peltonen, University of Turku; Elina Stenvall, SOS Children's Villages Finland; Noora Ellonen, Research director*

During times of warfare or military violence, children are especially vulnerable. Living in areas affected by conflict poses various challenges that can have long-lasting effects on their development, mental health, and overall well-being. Our study delves into the discourse surrounding the theme of war within Ukrainian children's anonymous chat conversations on the Let's Chat platform, a support service catering to Ukrainian-speaking children aged 7-17, provided by SOS Children's Villages Finland. We examined 201 anonymous conversations between children and chat workers, aiming to unravel the nuanced ways in which war manifests itself in the narratives of children. Using a thematic analysis approach, we identified various themes where war interweaves with the children's experiences and narratives. While a previous study by Peltonen et al. (2024) found that only 5% of Let's Chat's conversations focused on the topic war, our research reveals a more pervasive influence. Approximately a quarter of the conversations, despite not being explicitly war-related, demonstrate the omnipresent impact of war in the children's narratives, highlighting the subtle yet profound ways in which the current conflict affects their lives. This study contributes to a deeper understanding of the subtle undercurrents of war in the lives of Ukrainian children. It emphasizes the importance of recognizing and addressing these indirect effects conflicts have in the lives of developing young citizens.

**Crossing vulnerability: a study on the experiences of victimisation of unaccompanied adolescent and young migrants in the Basque Country** *Ane Viana Salinas, UPV-EHU*

This research delves into the victimization experiences of unaccompanied foreign minors within the protective care systems of the Basque Country. Employing semi-structured interviews with minors aged 12 to 18 in diverse residential facilities across the region, the study comprehensively explores primary victimization in their countries of origin, during transit, and in the destination country. Beyond singular instances, the research delves into the concept of polyvictimization, acknowledging the cumulative impact of multiple forms of victimization across various contexts. Additionally, the study scrutinizes cases of police and institutional victimization, offering a nuanced understanding of the intricate challenges faced by these vulnerable individuals. The findings

underscore the pervasive and interconnected nature of victimization, emphasizing the urgent need for targeted intervention and prevention measures to address not only individual incidents but also the cumulative effects of polyvictimization in the lives of unaccompanied foreign minors.

**307. Do not look the other way: a roundtable discussion of the effectiveness of anti-corruption measures in European countries.**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Corruption (EUROC)

Roundtable

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”*

Ukrainian efforts to fight corruption have always been limited (Chornovil, 2015). Lack of effective control and corrupt judiciary create 'on-paper' anti-corruption efforts. Since 2014, as a result of international pressure, Ukraine completed a series of anti-corruption reforms to establish an anti-corruption infrastructure to effectively prevent, protect, prosecute, and where applicable confiscate, the corruption-related assets. While on paper these institutions present a fully-formed, anti-corruption mechanism, measuring the effectiveness of these institutions remains to be problematic. A better dialogue between practitioners and data analysts is needed to, firstly, understand the effectiveness of anti-corruption system within Ukraine and, secondly, to consider the learnings from Ukraine in a broader European context. This roundtable discusses the issues of contextualisation of corruption control (Lord, et al, 2021), trend to 'individualise' corruption problem (Campbell and Lord, 2021) and questions what further input is important for productive European dialogue on corruption control. [This presentation is part of the study supported by The British Academy Grant].

Chair:

**Oleksii Serdiuk**, Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs, Ukraine/ Head of Research Laboratory for Psychological Support of Law Enforcement

Discussants:

**Iryna Soldatenko**, Karazin Kharkiv National University  
**Anna Markovska**, PIER/ Anglia Ruskin University

**308. EXTR8 Extremism in times of uncertainty**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Terrorism and Terrorism Financing, Radicalization, Extremism (Radicalization, Extremism, Terrorism WG)

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)*

Chair:

**Sara Rubini**, University College London

Participants:

**Climate Change and Political Violence: The Impact of Rising Sea Temperature on the Security of 108 Coastal Nations** *Gary LaFree, University of Maryland; Bo Jiang, University of Macau; Madisen Placzkowski, University of Maryland*

Environmental change assessments suggest that the impact of anthropogenic climate change will increase in intensity and frequency, leading to climate disasters such as extreme weather, famine, drought, rising sea levels, water scarcity, and glacial retreat reaching unprecedented extremes. Although researchers have begun to link climate change to a variety of violent and criminal outcomes, few researchers to date have studied the impact of global warming on terrorism and political violence. We argue that climate change may exacerbate strains rooted in religious, political or socioeconomic frustrations and lead to violence through direct (physiological and/or psychological factors and resource scarcity) and indirect (economic output and migration) pathways. We measure the impact of a specific type of climate change—rising sea temperature (SST)—on terrorism and political violence by analyzing geocoded events recorded for the past 30 years in databases on terrorism (Global Terrorism Database) and Armed Conflict and Location Data (ACLED). Our goal is to develop evidence-based models of the effects of climate change on terrorism and political violence. If we can better understand the link between SST and political violence, we will be able to estimate more

accurately the severity and nature of future threats and provide policy recommendations for the most effective responses. Our multivariate analysis shows that rising SST is systematically related to increases in terrorism and political violence among the world's 108 coastal countries. We explore the implications of the results for theory, policy and future research.

**Going Underground: Excitement and Edgework in Violent Extremism.** *James Hardie-Bick, University of Sussex; Suraj Lakhani, University of Sussex; Susie Scott, University of Sussex*

This paper explores the emotional reactions of violent extremists as they undertake various backstage performative acts. Deception and evasion tactics are sometimes implemented by violent extremists in order to avoid detection and protect their networks or plans. This demonstrates the agentic power of negative (background, missing, latent or hidden) phenomena in driving social change: actors can exercise resistance while apparently 'doing nothing'. On the other hand, empirical research, although scant, demonstrates that alongside some of the traditional considerations around terrorism, there also needs to be reflection of the phenomenological foreground and the existential attractions that often govern peoples' emotions. Building on the work of Simmel, we consider excitement to examine the increased existential attractiveness, fascination, and allure of social activities that are held out of reach. We argue that this could encourage people to engage in what Lyng describes as edgework, whereby members perform in highly dangerous, transgressive, and violent activities. This paper explores the fascination, mystery, and seduction of remaining undetected and aims to provide insights into the complex interplay between edgework, excitement, and violent extremism. Alongside theoretically developing a highly under-researched academic topic, this paper has wider real-world implications for counter-terrorism policy and practice.

**Excavating the Challenges Faced by Practitioners Working to Prevent Mixed Forms of Extremism: Conflicts and the Conflicted** *Jacob Astley, University of Liverpool; Gabe Mythen, University of Liverpool; Laura Naegler, University of Liverpool*

Recent statistics reported by Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE) programmes across several European countries indicate a rise in 'mixed' forms of extremism. While the threat of Far-right and Islamist extremism is well understood, less is known about non-doctrinal types of composite extremism that may involve blends of militant, misogynistic, conspiracy theorist and incel beliefs. Acknowledging the proliferation of emergent extremism, the UK's counter-radicalisation programme Prevent recently reclassified the reporting category of 'mixed, unstable and unclear' ideology to 'conflicted', ostensibly to better differentiate between a melange of extremist ideologies that individuals may be engaging with and promoting. Given that counter-radicalisation programmes were designed primarily to address doctrinal modes of extremism prescient at the time of inception, the growth of composite extremism presents tangible knowledge gaps and practical challenges for PVE practitioners, policy-makers and academics tasked with identifying drivers, assessing risk and harm reduction. Illuminating these challenges, this paper presents qualitative interview data from a large-scale study focussing on extremism and radicalisation in contemporary Europe. Drawing on participant reflections and experiences, we elucidate key issues that working with and within PVE infrastructures designed in previous eras present for practitioners seeking to gain insight into and tackle the problem of composite extremism.

**Tackling Extremism in the Digital Realm: Analyzing Content Features and Behaviors of Jihadists and Far-Right Extremists** *Clara Rondani, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Caterina Paternoster, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Marina Mancuso, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore*

The dissemination of terrorist content online has emerged as a major concern in recent years, with extremist groups exploiting digital spaces to propagate their messages and recruit new members. This paper aims to analyze online content features and behaviors associated with jihadist and far-right terrorism. The analysis relies on both desktop and empirical qualitative research,

identifying an array of indicators to assess the risk that specific online content is related to terrorism. The preliminary results shed light on: a) evolving techniques used by terrorists, who exploit loopholes in platform moderation algorithms to disseminate content; b) the presence of common narratives and elements in the content disseminated by jihadists and far-right terrorists; c) the different challenges in enforcing Regulation (EU) 2021/784 in relation to jihadist and far-right terrorist content. The study is conducted under the EU co-funded ALLIES project, "AI-based framework for supporting micro and small Hosting Service Providers (HSPs) on the report and removal of online terrorist content".

**Ideological Motivated Cybercriminals: a Systematic Review** *Sara Rubini, University College London*

Background: As online extremism increasingly spills into offline violence, a critical gap in scholarly research pertains to the systematic examination of ideological cybercrime. This scoping review aims to address this lack by synthesising the literature relating to the topic. Methods: I inclusively considered peer-reviewed papers published in English, without imposing date restrictions. Adhering to the PRISMA protocol, I based eligibility criteria on publication type, evidence quality, and topical relevance. After screening 2321 articles, 518 met eligibility criteria, and ultimately, I included 170 in the review. I carried out the search between October and November 2023. Results: The academic literature identified four main threat agents in relation to ideological cybercrime. Right-wing extremists were the most discussed across the literature. The majority of the paper centres on the Internet's role in propaganda and recruitment. Conclusions: This scoping review highlights the evolving landscape of ideological cybercrime, emphasizing the need for future research to broaden its scope and incorporate a more diverse sample.

**309. Sentencing rape: How to navigate and guide public discourse?**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Courts and Sentencing and Penal Decision Making (Sentencing and Penal Decisionmaking WG)

Roundtable

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)*

Sentences imposed for rape are discussed throughout Europe. No other sentencing topic fuels public debate in Spain, Czechia, Finland, Germany, Slovenia and many other European countries as rape. This is mainly due to it being one of the most serious offences, yet suspended prison sentences are often imposed for it. This often-raised disproportionality of sentences is presented not as a simple fault of a sanctioning system but as a deliberate ignorance of female victims resulting from a patriarchal conception of society. Discussing principled sentencing concerning sentencing rape becomes difficult within such a setting, as the debate sometimes becomes devoid of principles. Additionally, those arguing for penal restraint against the frequently raised demand for harsher sentences face a surprising alliance of progressivists and conservatives. Contributing to such debates can be very challenging for sentencing scholars. Having experiences with public debates over sentencing rape in the last years (and engaging in them), we want to discuss and share our experiences – disclosing examples of good and bad practices and of ethical dilemmas sentencing scholars face when entering the public arena. Experts from Czechia, Slovenia, Spain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary and Romania will firstly outline how a debate over sentencing rape was waged in individual countries, who were the actors and in what aspects the debate was different from other sentencing debates. Secondly, those scholars who personally engaged in the debates will present strategies they have taken and ethical dilemmas they faced.

Chair:

**Jakub Drápal**, Charles University; Institute of State and Law of Czech Academy of Sciences

Discussants:

**Mojca M. Plesničar**, Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law Ljubljana

**Patricia Faldal Faraldo-Cabana**, Universidade da Coruña

**Mirza Buljubašić**, The Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR); Faculty of Criminal Justice, Criminology, and Security Studies, University of Sarajevo

**Csaba Győry**, ELTE University Faculty of Law, Budapest /Institute of Legal Studies, Centre for Social Sciences, Hungarian Academy of Sciences

### 310. Green Criminology #5- Environmental crimes and economic activities

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Environmental/Green Criminology  
Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Library - reading room 1

Chair:

**Julie Nygaard Solvang**, University of Copenhagen

Participants:

A green criminological perspective on the criminalisation of corporate environmental harms: an empirical assessment from the Italian legal landscape *Federica Montanaro, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies*

The ongoing environmental and climate crisis is a complex phenomenon with economic mechanisms and social organization as primary factors. Market profit sustains the persistence of environmental crimes, and corporations are the primary agents. In response, legal systems worldwide have implemented environmental crimes, following an administrative model and, more recently, a more harm-focused one. The EU has intervened on several occasions, encouraging the protection of the environment also through criminal instruments. However, the offenses introduced this way often fail to tackle the root causes and are criticized for their ineffectiveness and lack of respect for guarantee principles. This research examines the effect of the criminalization model on the persistence of corporate environmental crime, focusing on Italy as a case study. The analysis proposes a comprehensive study of the criminal legal framework using green criminology and socio-legal frameworks. This extensive empirical legal research includes a detailed examination of approximately 300 cases judged by the Court of Cassation concerning crimes against the environment in the Italian Criminal Code. The study investigates the perpetrators of the crimes, their geographical location, the severity of the environmental damage, the identity of the person responsible, the economic context, and the sentencing. This research empirically substantiates critical issues discussed within the criminal law scholarship, such as the lack of prevention capacity and enforcement issues. It highlights how criminal law backfires efforts to fight corporate environmental crimes by contradictorily creating a crime-facilitating environment. Ultimately, the research will facilitate a critical assessment of new developments in environmental crime and their potential impact on enhancing corporate criminal responsibility for the environment. Precisely, it provides a criminological background study to better assess the relevance of current EU legal initiatives to directly and indirectly contrast/tackle corporate criminal responsibility for environmental damages. (e.g., EC Directive, Regulation n.2023/1115, the long-discussed CSDD Proposal).

Exploring the intersections between illegal logging and environmental injustice in Romania *George Iordachescu, Universitatea Lucian Blaga din Sibiu; Wageningen University*

This contribution aims to unpack the environmental justice dimensions of illegal logging in Romania by bringing together approaches from green criminology and a long-term commitment to the political ecology of Eastern Europe. Illegal logging and timber trade (ILTT) is a global problem with substantial negative economic, environmental and social impacts. Romania stands out as a country where ILTT seems out of control. In recent years, activists, politicians and elected representatives started to call ILTT a serious organised crime referring to mafia-like operations as a transnational phenomenon. At the same time, research exploring the Romanian dimensions of ILTT exposed issues of corruption, lack of compliance with EU's environmental legislation and the challenges of policing and enforcement, but gave scant attention to the harms associated with forest crime. Although the most visible harms are environmental, the phenomenon has wreaked havoc on rural livelihoods bringing about multiple forms of environmental injustice. In Romania, these new realities have dramatically

affected the forestry sector, created numerous timber shortages and led to an increase in violence across the Carpathians. These interrelated processes led to a precarity of the workforce, energy poverty and further marginalization of many vulnerable groups such as Roma or unemployed people. Moreover, the unsteadiness of legal frameworks related to forest management and protection (Drăgoi & Toza 2019) have maintained legal loopholes and contributed to the development of an overwhelming bureaucracy, which made compliance ever more challenging for economic operators, forcing some to operate at the border of legality. Civic participation in monitoring and reporting cases of illegal logging has often aided enforcement efforts but also contributed to the unfolding of forest crisis narratives and scapegoating forest-dependent communities. The paper combines expert interviews done between 2019 and 2024 with follow-the-policy methods, and is part of the EcoJust project which explores environmental conflicts in Romania.

Ports of (non)-risk and the trickle through of toxic trade *Julie Nygaard Solvang, University of Copenhagen; Leonora Kleppa Starfeldt, PhD Fellow, Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen*

Environmental crime is frequently described as low risk, high reward. To engage with this pervasive perception, this paper explores the case of illegal trade in electronic waste (e-waste) between Europe and Ghana. The illicit movement and informal management of discarded electronics is an ongoing environmental threat, which persists despite increased attention and legislative developments targeting the transboundary movement of toxic waste. While the environmental costs of e-waste management are externalised from Europe when e-waste is smuggled out, Ghana becomes end-of-line for the toxic fractions of this waste stream. The risk and responsibility are transformed and transported alongside the electronic appliances in the supply and value chain. Through a focus on risk perceptions, this paper explores the complex nature of illegal transnational flows of e-waste. The article draws on ethnographic fieldwork from Ghana and Germany, where semi-structured interviews have been conducted with importers, exporters, retailers, agents, and government officials. In addition, the article incorporates cross-cutting legal analysis as we sketch out the contours of the transnational organisation of e-waste trade and the bypassing of the legal landscape and port governance. The findings highlight the importance of multiple perspectives on non-compliance as it pertains to environmental crime and the unequal distribution of "reward" as well as environmental harm that follows illicit e-waste movement.

The 'Timber Mafia' in Romania: comparing the public discourse and law-enforcement perspective *Alexandra Neag, Anglia Ruskin University*

Illegal logging was a central concern in some of the largest public protests in Romania in the 2010s. With exposés on 'the timber mafia' and its links to high-level corruption in the country, the media stoked the flames of public alarm arising from persistent illegal logging in Romania's forests since the collapse of communism. Reports indicate that as part of the country's communist legacy, the extensive logging of illegally restituted forest lands by opportunistic groups of criminals and canny entrepreneurs is enabled by corrupt forest administrators and state officials at various levels. At the same time, the phenomenon is associated with a high level of violence, primarily targeting foresters and some environmental activists. Meanwhile, academic research on the topic describes timber barons, exploitation and clientelism, corruption, fiefdoms, clans and organised crime groups involved in illegal logging in Romania. And yet, as indicated by primary research, law-enforcement tends to frame the issue as a localised matter of environmental management, rather than an organised crime problem. Where criminalisation does take place, it primarily affects those who already find themselves vulnerable and exploited. This paper examines the perspectives of law-enforcement on the seriousness of illegal logging in Romania, and the extent to which a heavily Westernised conceptualisation of organised crime has become entrenched in policing practice and discourse. The preliminary findings indicate a) a reshaping of the alien conspiracy theory; b) the excessive criminalisation of the vulnerable individuals involved in the harvesting stage; and c) the

lack of a concerted response to those creating the illicit demand and the ones who enable them. Together, these elements reflect the same paradigm which dominates the global policing of other, more stereotypical forms of organised crime, like drug trafficking and trafficking in persons.

### 311. POL Panel 23. The impact and experiences of use of force and the promise of control mechanisms

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)

Chair:

**Debora Piccirillo**, University of São Paulo

Participants:

Gun control in contemporary Ukraine: control over the means of force in a conflict society *Matthew Light, University of Toronto; Anne-Marie Singh, Toronto Metropolitan University; Aaron Erlich, McGill University*

Like other post-Soviet states, Ukraine inherited from the USSR a tradition of strict regulation of civilian possession of firearms. While long guns were permitted for hunting and recreation, short-barreled guns were basically prohibited. Before the full-scale Russian invasion of 2022, proposals for liberalization of this policy met with strong resistance from the Ministry of Interior and other government bodies and found little support with the public. In contrast, since the full-scale invasion, the government of Ukraine has moved toward legal ownership of more categories of firearms. Building on the co-authors' earlier research in other post-Soviet countries, the paper analyzes the sources of stability and evolution in Ukraine's gun control policy. It also presents original public opinion data that suggest the Ukrainian population has developed a more positive attitude toward the role of weapons in civilian society, while not endorsing total deregulation or vigilantism. The paper contributes to understanding of debates about control over force and the means of force in conflict societies, and the extent to which laws and public opinion in relation to gun control evolve as a result of major political shocks.

Mayors matter: local political determinants of police use of deadly force in the Philippines under Duterte *Peter Michael Kreuzer, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt*

Thousands of suspects killed in Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's war on drugs illustrate the role a determined national chief executive can play concerning police use of deadly force. This paper analyzes whether and how local chief executives (mayors) were willing to and could make a difference in local law enforcement practice in the face of strong top-down pressure on the local police to submit to national directives. It argues that variations in mayors' personality traits were crucial in explaining variations in their reaction to the war on drugs. A combination of certain loadings of personality traits (belief in the ability to control events, need for power, self-confidence, and task-related focus) was highly conducive to mayors' actively using their leverage over the local police for violence control. Other loadings resulted in local chief executives' distancing from local security governance, leaving it to the local police. The latter group of "disengagers" was less able to positively impact local police use of deadly force than the group of "engagers." Put simply, police violence tended to be reduced when mayors claimed to "own" local security governance and a strong voice in local law enforcement. Their actual capacity to positively impact police use of deadly force rested less on their formal powers over the police, but on the linking social capital they had established in the course of their intensive engagement with the local police leadership.

The influence of selected community and agency characteristics on the variable rate of the use of lethal force across U.S. law enforcement agencies. *Christopher D Maxwell, Michigan State University; Joel H Garner, Unaffiliated; Weiwei Li, NORC at the University of Chicago; Jackie Sheridan-Johnson, NORC at the University of Chicago; Bruce Taylor, NORC at the*

*University of Chicago*

In the U.S., there is a longstanding and deepening concern about the number of police homicides and their variation across areas and critical demographics. This concern has led to hundreds of studies testing hypotheses about the difference in police homicide rates by jurisdictions. Our literature review of more than fifty studies has identified various samples, methods, and measures used in these studies and a lack of consistent findings for any of the tested hypotheses. This study seeks to address some of these limitations and, by using newly collected data provided by a nationally representative sample of law enforcement agencies [LEAs], brings an alternative view to the debate. A key item provided by the LEAs was their annual count of subjects shot at and hit by an officer, regardless of whether the shot resulted in injury or death. Using these data, this study tests for the impact of 15 frequently tested and supported hypotheses selected from our review. We examine the influence of social conditions and agency characteristics on variations in the rate of police use of lethal force per resident as well as the rates of lethal force targeted at White and Black civilians. The analyses use multivariate, multi-level regressions to produce models that explain the variations in the frequency of the use of lethal force. The results will show the impact of the tested factors on the overall lethal force rate and how these factors vary across demographic-based-dependent measures.

"They beat the shit out of me": adolescents' understanding of police violence and its implications for police legitimacy *Debora Piccirillo, University of São Paulo*

There is a rich literature demonstrating how police legitimacy is influenced by the quality of treatment officers provide during their interactions with the public. This study aimed to assess adolescents' comprehension of police stops and the behavior of officers during these encounters. We examined the interpretations adolescents give to stop-and-frisk actions. Twenty adolescents, aged 14 to 16, were interviewed in two different Brazilian states: 11 from pre-trial juvenile detention centers in Rio Grande do Sul and 9 with no prior offending history in São Paulo. The results reveal police stops are a common experience for young citizens, particularly black males. Adolescents in both contexts recognize police approaches as legitimate, provided they adhere to certain standards. In general, both groups understand a "normal" police stop as a situation that involves some sort of violence, such as a slap on the face. However, court-involved youth reported more severe physical violence, death threats, and humiliation during stops. The perception of what is normal for officers to do may impact the way adolescents see the institution itself while also undermining their sense of citizenship. These results shed light on our current understanding of the importance of procedural justice during citizen-officer encounters, once the usual targets of police actions expect that police stops involve not only the use of force but also the use of violence or degrading treatment. The adolescents' experience informs that the picture they have of the police is already outside of the ideal definitions of a procedurally fair institution.

### 312. Political and Social Discourses about Crime and Justice Panel 1

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Political and Social Discourses about Crime and Justice (Crime, Science and Politics WG)

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.10

Chair:

**Donna Peacock**, University of the West of Scotland

Participants:

Collaborative Dynamics and Transformative Impacts: Insights from Applied Crime and Security Research in Europe *Dagmar Heinrich, University of Salford; Caroline Davey, University of Salford; Andrew Wootton, University of Salford*

Active participation of stakeholders, including research partners and practitioners, throughout the research process is critical to ensuring the outcomes of action research are relevant, appropriate

and meaningful to end-users and their operational contexts. This paper examines issues associated with the collaborative delivery and implementation of security action research projects with public agencies. Drawing upon two EU Horizon 2020-funded research and innovation actions completed over the previous five years, the authors explore the complex interaction between academics and practitioners, and discuss how municipal authorities and law enforcement agencies perceive, engage with, and contribute to the process of action research — from investigation; problem analysis; outcome definition and development; to validation and implementation. Considering engagement in two multinational consortium projects, the paper examines the transformative potential of research collaborations to shape working practices and organisational dynamics within partner contexts. It critically highlights instances where such collaborations encounter tensions, challenges and problems, offering insights into potential risks and areas for improvement. Analysing the roles and participation of non-academic partners, the paper explores the function of trust and respect within collaborative research projects and public sector partner organisations. The literature acknowledges that stakeholders' lack of engagement or commitment to the process of action research can reduce the implementation and practical impact of outcomes. This paper provides insight into the consequences of engagement deficiencies — including: restricted understanding of problems; resistance to insights; decreased ownership of solutions; and suboptimal implementation. This limits benefits of the collaborative research and innovation process to partners and negatively impacts trust between participants. Examining the complexities inherent in fostering and sustaining collaborative research relationships, the paper highlights key challenges for academics delivering action research in the politicised governance domain of security, underscoring the imperative for researchers to navigate these dynamics while upholding their commitment to critical inquiry.

**Crime and Justice in Deglobalizing Times** *Claire E Hamilton, Prof. Claire Hamilton*

After decades of seemingly growing interdependence and greater global integration, a process often referred to as globalization, observers now point to increasing signs of 'deglobalization' or 'a movement towards a less connected world, characterized by powerful nation states, local solutions, and border controls rather than global institutions, treaties, and free movement' (Komprobt and Wallace, 2021). Developments cited in support of this trend include declines in foreign direct investment, the rise of Trumpism, Brexit and authoritarian governments, and the tech protectionism and other developments associated with the US-China trade war. In criminology, processes of deglobalization have not been the focus of systematic attention, or at best have been examined tangentially in debates where the focus is predominantly on globalization. Against this background this paper poses two sets of questions. First of all, how did the backlash against globalization take place? What is the role of crime and security within this? If, as some scholars contend, issues around crime and insecurity are in fact constitutive of authoritarian populism and its focus on 'dangerous Others', what does this mean for Criminology? Secondly, how should we assess the various trends against globalization? What do deglobalizing dynamics do to the liberal international order? If, as several scholars contend, the criminal law remains central to transnational governance (Palmer, 2021), then does its weakening inevitably result in a greater differentiation of justice systems? Will a weakening of hard and soft law instruments inducing policymakers to adopt tougher penal responses to transnational criminality give rise to greater penal moderation? Or will the unpicking, or 'insidious twisting' (Neuman, 2020) of international human rights instruments lead to harsher criminal justice systems?

**Democratic expectations in complaint procedures against non-prosecution: between penal populism and penal elitism** *Sophie Koning, Leiden University*

Traditionally, democratic citizenship has played a minor role in the Dutch criminal justice system. This could be illustrated by the monopoly position and discretionary power of the Public Prosecution Service which is based on the 'principle of opportunity': a non-prosecution could be grounded in the public interest. Nevertheless, the so-called 'complaint-procedure' enables citizens

to request a chamber of independent judges to prosecute their case. This presentation focuses on the expectations citizens hold when this complaint-procedure handles cases with underlying social conflicts. Through four case studies—the prosecution of politician Geert Wilders, the case concerning Pedophile Association Martijn, and the cases following the Libor scandal and the fatal arrest of aruban citizen Mitch Henriquez—this presentation provides a framework for conceptualizing these unique claims on the Dutch criminal justice system. Using a combination of media analysis and in-depth interviews with citizens and their attorneys involved in these cases, it will be illustrated that the expectations of these citizens and attorneys can be conceptualized as democratic expectations. However, in the four mentioned cases, these expectations were not conceptualized as such, by both the media and various powerholders. Instead, they were redefined within the liberal defendant-victim paradigm through which the Dutch criminal justice system has traditionally been understood. Therefore, this research not only aims to address an empirical gap but also a normative one in the debate concerning the relationship between the criminal justice system and our democratic society: the democratic vocabulary constructed from the case studies provides a democratic middle ground, between both penal populism and penal elitism.

**Dis/ableist Criminology: The missing intersections in Criminology and Disability Theory** *Donna Peacock, University of the West of Scotland; Stephen J Macdonald, Durham University*

This paper is a call for the discipline of criminology to begin to re-engage with the marginalised voices of disabled people who have been excluded, pathologised and silenced within this field of study. Until recently the concept of disability has been absent from within the studies of criminology and victimology. This is because disability is typically (mis)understood as a health issue that impacts offenders' or victims' experiences within the criminal justice system. Yet, within Disability Studies, disabled people are conceptualised as an oppressed minority population, that is structurally vulnerable to criminality and victimisation. This paper will trace the parallel developments of criminological and disability theory, as it becomes clear that there were several historical and contemporary points at which the disciplines could and should have intersected. Yet they failed to do so, neglecting to comprehensively understand the lives and perspectives of disabled people who are victims, perpetrators, or who otherwise encounter criminal justice organisations. This theoretical paper argues that to fully understand the nexus of crime/victimisation and disability, the discipline of criminology must develop and incorporate dis/ableist spaces and approaches whereby individual, cultural, and structural ableism and disablism can be examined, challenged, and critiqued.

### 313. Implications of psychological and biological factors for personal and criminal justice outcomes and experiences

**Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Biological, Biosocial and Psychological Perspectives**

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11

Chair:

**Florin Cosmin Bobei**, University of Bucharest

Participants:

**Parental Incarceration and Offspring Violent Victimization: A Finnish Total Population Study** *Ilona Nissinen, Institute of Criminology and Legal Policy, University of Helsinki, Finland; Antti Latvala, University of Helsinki; Karoliina Suonpää, University of Helsinki; Pekka Martikainen, Population Research Unit, University of Helsinki, Finland*

Parental incarceration is associated with adverse offspring outcomes such as poorer educational achievement, physical and mental health problems, and criminal behavior. Whether these relationships are causal is still unclear. Prison sentenced parents are a highly selected group, which must be accounted for when studying possible effects of incarceration on offspring. In an earlier

register-based study from Finland, we found elevated risks for offspring criminality after adjusting for family SES, co-residence with parents and the severity of parental criminality. Because victimization is often found to overlap with criminality, we assessed whether children of prison sentenced parents are at an elevated risk of violent victimization. Using Finnish nationwide longitudinal data on children born 1987-2003 (N=1,017,072), we found that 1.73% and 0.18% of children to have fathers and mothers who were respectively sentenced to prison before the child turned 18 years. We subsequently used linked medical and cause of death records to study the relationship between parental prison sentences and offspring violent victimization, separately in childhood, adolescence, and early adulthood. Preliminary results of the analysis will be presented.

**Parental violent offending and offspring suicidal behavior: A nationwide register-based study from Sweden** *Aurora Järvinen, Institute of Criminology and Legal Policy, University of Helsinki, Finland; Antti Latvala, University of Helsinki; Ralf Kuja-Halkola, Department of Medical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden; Paul Lichtenstein, Karolinska Institute*

Research has linked parental offending with a number of adversities in the offspring, including poor physical and mental health. While the overall picture of health and wellbeing of children of offending parents is becoming clearer, knowledge of more specific outcomes such as suicidal behavior is more limited. We conducted a longitudinal population study on the association between parental violent offending and offspring suicidal behavior. The study population consisted of over three million children born in Sweden between 1963 and 2003, and their parents. We first studied the association at the population level and found that parental violent convictions were associated with an increased risk for offspring suicidal behavior, with the highest risk in children whose both parents had been convicted (HRs 1.81 and 2.59 in offspring with one and two convicted parents, respectively). To examine the role of family history of mental disorders, we further conducted analyses stratified by parental psychiatric disorders. We found that the risk of suicidal behavior was highest among those whose parent had both a violent conviction and a psychiatric diagnosis, but parental violent offending was associated with offspring suicidality even when the parent had no history of psychiatric illness. Finally, to examine the role of familial factors in the intergenerational association, we applied a genetically informative children-of-siblings design, with results suggesting that the association is partly due to genetic influences. Our results can help to identify groups at elevated risk of suicide. A better understanding of the underlying mechanisms is essential for the development and implementation of preventive actions.

**Punishment in the age of neuroscience: old paradigms and new approaches** *Florin Cosmin Bobei, University of Bucharest*

In recent history, there has been an important progress in brain sciences. Despite the new discoveries in contemporary neuroscience, particularly in the role of the frontal cortex in the control of behavior and emotions, the traditional paradigms of the criminal justice system remained unchanged. In this paper, I will analyze some recent theories in the subject of free will, specifically Robert Sapolsky contribution to the matter, and the way this contribution can be used for a better understanding of the criminal act. Furthermore, I will focus on the concept of punishment in the light of these theories.

**The Evolution Of Biological Theories Of Crime: Neurocriminology In The Criminal Trial** *Konstantina Romvota, Durham University*

Until the 20th century, the biological theories of crime were the spotlight of criminological discourse. By the end of World War II, when the population recognised what the Nazis had done in the name of biology, biological theories of crime were determinedly rejected. Subsequently, criminology focused on the sociological rationalisations of criminal behaviour, asserting that larger social conditions might influence individuals' behaviour and enlarge the likelihood of offending. However, in recent times, there is a growing interest in the nexus of biological and environmental causes of criminal behaviour, the 'biosocial model', which

endeavours to explain how parallel environments have different influences on different individuals, and contrariwise. During the 21st century, innovative technological discoveries in molecular biology, genetics and neuroscience offered a background for the emergence of neurocriminology. Neurocriminology utilises the object of neuroscience, the brain's study, to interpret antisocial/violent behaviour. Academics argue that this developing sub-discipline will alter how individuals assess crime and blameworthiness. This prediction is grounded on whether neurocriminology can challenge the long-established idea that criminals come to (or not) an ethical decision to transgress. This paper examines the role and the impact of neurocriminology in criminal trials by evaluating how neuroscientific evidence was used in law cases to provide a foundation for comprehending the correlation between brain functioning/structuring and criminal behaviour. In sum, although neurocriminology has an enlightening function in the criminal trial context, such as explaining mitigating elements such as the effect of traumatic brain injury on blameworthiness, there are some areas in the criminal trial where neuroscience has characteristically been ignored, for instance, the age of criminal responsibility. Hence, this paper concludes that neurocriminology, in time, will forge new paths in explaining criminal behaviour; nevertheless, nowadays, human ideology may be overly embedded in sociocultural theories of crime to be dethroned by science.

**Trauma, Self-Criticism and Life Meaning in a formally incarcerated sample: Preliminary results** *Valeria Saladino, University of Cassino; Danilo Calaresi, University Magna Graecia, Catanzaro; Valeria Verrastro, University "Magna Graecia" of Catanzaro; Melissa D. Grady, The Catholic University of America*

The association between trauma and adverse psychological effects is well established, while mechanisms shaping meaning in life, especially in correctional settings, remain understudied. This research bridges this gap by investigating the connection between symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), disturbances in self-organization (DSO), self-criticism (SC), presence of life meaning (PoLM)/search for life meaning (SfLM), in formally incarcerated individuals. The study involved a sample of N=64 incarcerated individuals (100% men) aged 22-73 (M=42.88, SD=12.33) recruited from Italian correctional facilities. Participants completed the International Trauma Questionnaire (ITQ) to assess PTSD and DSO, the Inadequate Self Subscale of the Forms of Self-Criticizing/Attacking and Self-Reassuring Scale (FSCRS) to evaluate SC, and the Meaning in Life Questionnaire (MLQ) to assess PoLM and SfLM. Correlation analysis highlighted significant links between trauma and self-criticism ( $r=.52, p<.001$ ), trauma and SfLM ( $r=.31, p<.01$ ), complex trauma and self-criticism ( $r=.56, p<.001$ ), complex trauma and SfLM ( $r=.31, p<.01$ ). The current study provides preliminary insights into the complex interplay between trauma, self-criticism, and life meaning in correctional facility settings. Identifying self-criticism as a potential link between trauma and life meaning underscores the importance of addressing negative self-evaluations in interventions targeting meaning-making processes among individuals with a history of trauma.

### 314. The Global Phenomenon of Hate Crimes: Perspectives from Individual Protected Groups

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Hate Crime (Hate Crime WG)

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.14

Chair:

*Sophie Litvak, University of Helsinki*

Participants:

Beyond borders: A conceptual framework for the adoption of global hate crime policies *Piotr Godzisz, University of Leicester*

While hatred knows no borders, research into hate crimes often remains limited by national perspectives, lacking in both theory and empirical evidence. The rapid increase in hate crime laws and

policies in recent years, alongside changing global governance structures, underscores the need for a nuanced understanding and empirical evaluation of hate crime policymaking beyond national confines. This paper introduces a conceptual framework for the global adoption of hate crime policies, focusing on their spread through internationalisation. This framework identifies three key processes: diffusion (across states), adjustment (to supranational norms), and delegation (of authority to supranational institutions), offering new insights into the global-local dynamics in policy formation. It sheds light on the legislation's spread, the challenges of adapting in non-Western contexts, and the evolution of transnational governance. Leveraging preliminary data, including a dataset on European hate crime policies and interviews with elites and experts, the paper moves beyond state-centric theories inadequate for non-Western contexts. Initial findings indicate policy adoption is shaped by both internal pressures and international trends, highlighting the significance of democracy and civil society. This method aims to fill existing research gaps, charting a new course for hate crime policy study.

Exploring the Social, Political and Cultural Influences of Anti-immigration Vigilantism in Lesvos, Greece. *Maria-Christina Galanaki, Bangor University and Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research and Data Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research and Data*

Vigilantism that targets migrants is a prominent phenomenon in the Greek islands that host immigrants and refugees. Evidence indicates a potential link between vigilante activities and far-right groups that function in the country such as the former far-right political party and now designated criminal organization: The Golden Dawn. However, vigilantism in this location has not yet received academic attention. In this paper I discuss the findings of my PhD study on anti-immigration vigilantism on the island of Lesvos, Greece. Two broader research questions underpin this study: "What are the social, cultural and political influences of anti-immigration vigilantism on the island of Lesvos?" and "To what extent is there evidence that those responsible for vigilante activities in Lesvos share and endorse far-right views?". The research is based on the qualitative content analysis of the websites of two far-right organizations with an established involvement in anti-immigration vigilantism in Lesvos and semi-structured interviews with victims and witnesses of anti-immigration vigilante activities. This paper will discuss how perceptions of immigrants as ethnic, religious, and criminal threats as well as perceptions of state and police illegitimacy normalize and legitimize vigilante violence. Through the employment of Vigilante Rituals Theory, Strain Theory and Differential Association Theory, this paper provides a cultural explanation of anti-immigration vigilantism focused on the ways in which righteous anger and strain resulting from perceived violations of the moral imperatives of the Greek far-right influence vigilante violence in Lesvos.

Faith, Fear, and Intervention: Unravelling Dynamics in Religiously Motivated Hate Crimes through a Factorial Survey *Sophie Litvak, University of Helsinki*

Religious hate crimes, particularly those motivated by religious factors, severely impact young victims, increasing their vulnerability to depression and suicidal tendencies. The sizable underreporting of these incidents underscores the need for thorough investigations, including diverse methodologies like self-reported surveys and experiments. While current research mainly focuses on victims, offenders, and law enforcement, religiously motivated hate crimes often occur in public spaces, necessitating an examination of bystander dynamics. This study, comprising surveys and vignette experiments across four countries with 1000 respondents each (N=4000), has three main objectives: understanding attitudes toward hate crime sanctions, analysing bystander behaviour in simulated hate crime scenarios, and investigating how victim characteristics influence intervention willingness. Specifically, the presentation will focus on the third objective (N=2000), exploring the 'who, why, and for whom' in hate crime scenarios, with a focus on the victim's religion. The discussion will unveil preliminary results, address unexpected findings, and outline implications for future research. Through this analysis of attitudes, bystander behaviour, and victim characteristics, the study aims to contribute to hate crime prevention efforts and provide insights into the

decision-making of potential helpers.

### 315. Human Trafficking: Victim Compensation, Forced Criminality, and Responsible Interventions

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Human Trafficking

Pre-arranged Panel

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.22*

This panel includes the latest efforts on several critical topics in current research and intervention on human trafficking, including how justice process favors the "iconic victim" narrative in providing assistance to survivors, continued involvement and desistance in forced criminality by trafficking, as well as how anti-trafficking efforts are carried out and assessed. Authors in this panel are heavily oriented towards primary sources for data analysis and exploration of best strategies to move the field forward.

Chairs:

*Sheldon X Zhang, University of Massachusetts Lowell*

*David Okech, University of Georgia, School of Social Work*

Participants:

Examining (Un)Fairness in Awarding Victim Compensation to Human Trafficking Victims in the Netherlands *Masja van Meeteren, Radboud University; Fallon Cooper, Leiden University; Ieke de Vries, Leiden University; Rosa Koenraad, Criminology, Leiden University, the Netherlands*

Extant research has examined the challenges in the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking, including studies that have begun to illuminate the factors that influence legal procedures in human trafficking cases. However, few studies have focused specifically on the outcomes of legal procedures for victims. Therefore, this study focuses on victim compensation in human trafficking cases and aims to generate new insights about the factors impacting it, and how much victim compensation is awarded. To that end, a total of 246 court rulings in victim compensation claims in the Netherlands were collected and coded. Next, a series of regression analyses were used to assess if case characteristics, victim characteristics, and exploitation characteristics explain whether or not (and how much) victim compensation is being awarded. Preliminary results indicate that besides case characteristics, victim characteristics are associated with legal decisions to award victim compensation, potentially because of dominant "iconic victim"-narratives. These findings advance the broader literature on victim compensation as well as on human trafficking: Whereas previous work has demonstrated that legal outcomes can be biased against certain groups of offenders, this study illuminates potential unfairness in awarding victim compensation in human trafficking cases. Recommendations for practice and policy will be discussed.

Sex Market Facilitators' Social Networks: Description and Relationship to Coercive Tactics *Amber Horning Ruf, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Loretta J. Stalans, Loyola University Chicago; Mena Whalen, Loyola University Chicago*

This study describes sex market facilitators' (SMFs') social networks and examines how their social networks are related to their economic and interpersonal coerciveness toward sex workers. Empirical studies have found that the nature of social networks contributed to persistence in illicit gun selling (Papachristos, Meares & Fagan, 2012) and juvenile delinquency (Giordano, Cernkovich & Rudolph, 2002). We interviewed 183 SMFs in Chicago and New York City. Our findings suggest that the social networks of those who quit versus those who persisted were similar, and this is counter to the idea that deviant networks contribute to persistence in deviant behavior. Similarities and differences in the density and deviance of social support are also examined across participants' gender identity and sexual orientation and site location. We found when participants' social networks had multiple members who were previously arrested, they were more likely to be economically coercive (i.e., taking over 80% of their profits). Social support indicators, however, did not predict being physically violent or untruthful with sex workers. Implications for social learning theory and the role of SMFs' social network in their persistence and management strategies will be discussed.



**Reducing Root Causes in Human Trafficking—A Randomized Controlled Trial in India** *Meredith Dank, New York University*  
 More than 60 million people in India belong to the Denotified Tribes (DNTs), the lowest of all social castes in India. Historically criminalized, DNTs continue to face stigma, marginalization, and poverty, thus significantly vulnerable to forced labor and sex trafficking. A randomized controlled trial is being funded by the US Department of State to explore ways to reduce the root causes that force members of the community into sex trade or other illicit enterprising activities. The intervention takes on a participatory approach with a focus on community health, education, and alternative livelihood development. Although none of the intervention activities are extraordinary, the use of RTC will help us understand the extent to which these conventional intervention activities can make a difference. The paper presents the procedures and challenges in implementing anti-trafficking activities in DNT communities.

**Use of Randomized Controlled Trials in Evaluation of Anti-Trafficking Interventions** *Sheldon X Zhang, University of Massachusetts Lowell*

A whole social service industry has emerged in various corners of the world claiming to fight against various forms of human trafficking, forced labor, or modern slavery. Billions of dollars have been poured into various social services and intervention programs to counter human trafficking around the world. But we know little about the efficacy of any type of intervention in what duration or configurations. Randomized controlled trials (RCTs) have become the most dominant evaluation strategy in development economics, a closely related field. But RCTs are the exceptions in anti-trafficking program evaluation. This paper makes an argument for using RCTs not only as an ideal evaluation strategy but a moral imperative to establish treatment efficacy before widely applying any interventions to trafficking survivors.

### 316. From “what works” to “making it work” in reducing recidivism: A focus on knowledge transfer

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Crime prevention

Pre-arranged Panel

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0,29*

In response to advocates of a repressive approach as promoted by the Nothing Works movement (Martinson, 1974), research on the effectiveness of criminal policies has been systematized for the past forty years. This effort has led to the development of Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) in reducing recidivism. The conducted studies demonstrate the failure of punitive policies (Pratt et al., 2006), highlighting that criminal policies explicitly focused on social reintegration can reduce recidivism by approximately 17 to 35% (Bonta & Andrews, 2017). Despite the endorsement of EBP by the scientific community, their implementation in daily practices is slow. Various obstacles faced by organizations, such as management challenges, financial concerns, lack of familiarity with scientific literature, availability of human resources, and training issues, contribute to this situation. Additionally, the lack of focus on the implementation of EBP and issues related to knowledge transfer play a role. The overarching goal of this panel is to discuss the impediments and facilitators to the implementation of evidence-based practices in the field of recidivism prevention. Presentations will provide illustrations focusing on: (1) The implementation of a structured risk assessment tool – the LS/CMI – among French probation officers (Dr. Massil Benbouriche’s presentation). (2) The potential use of AI to provide practice opportunities and promote EBP (Dr. Jean-Pierre Guay’s presentation). (3) The relevance of placing (back) individual interventions, rather than collective ones, at the heart of professional practices to foster the implementation of EBP (Elliot Louan’s presentation). (4) Preventing and countering violent extremism in France (Dr. Nicolas Amadio’s presentation). Given the significant human and social consequences of recidivism, EBP cannot be ignored. A better understanding of knowledge transfer mechanisms is therefore crucial to transition from a “what works” perspective to “making it work” in daily practices.

Chair:

*Massil Benbouriche, University of Lille*

Participants:

Implementing a Structured Risk Assessment Tool in French Probation: When a Good Training Falls Short *Massil*

*Benbouriche, University of Lille*

In France, the organization of a consensus conference on the prevention of recidivism in 2013 has been a significant moment for promoting evidence-based practices. However, more than ten years later, evidence-based practices (EBPs) continue to be marginal in professionals’ practices in France, especially concerning the assessment of recidivism risk and criminogenic needs. Evaluation still primarily relies on the use of unstructured professional judgment, making difficult to adequately (a) appreciate the level of recidivism risk, (b) identify criminogenic needs requiring priority intervention, and (c) identify protective factors that could be used as leverages for effective intervention. In response to this, the LS/CMI was introduced into a probation service in the Center of France in 2021 to study its impact on the content of assessment reports and case management. This initiative also aimed to gain a better understanding of the barriers and facilitators associated with deploying the LS/CMI nationwide. Despite receiving training considered more than satisfactory and acknowledging the LS/CMI’s value for case management, the results reveal its very limited use by probation officers post-training. On one hand, professionals continue to use unstructured professional due to a perceived lack of time to use the tool and a heavy workload. On the other hand, even with a high ability to complete the majority of the instrument’s items, significant challenges arise in incorporating this information into the assessment report. Even when criminogenic needs are correctly identified, they are not consistently prioritized in the intervention plan, and the intervention’s intensity rarely aligns with the level of risk. The implications of these findings will be discussed, especially in the context of the ongoing LS/CMI implementation in France. Emphasis will be placed on the risks of failure if training is not accompanied by appropriate management and a genuine consideration of daily challenges, including heavy workload.

Risk assessment training and evidence-based practices: the possible use of AI to provide practice opportunities. *Jean-Pierre Guay, University of Montreal*

Over the past 40 years, Canada has developed its knowledge of evidence-based practices (EBP) used with offenders. However, these EBPs, although endorsed by the scientific community, are slow to be implemented in correctional practice. Training issues constitute a major obstacle to their implementation (Cook et al., 2009). Indeed, teaching EBPs is complex and implicit (Delany & Golding, 2014), and experience alone is not sufficient to master them (Gigante, 2013). Therefore, it is necessary to combine quality initial training with systematic and consistent assessments and feedback on performance. Traditionally, knowledge of risk assessment techniques is learned through traditional small group sessions, and the technical aspects are acquired with case studies, videotaped interviews or role playing. However, such learning techniques present numerous limitations: they have poor ecological validity, are generally passive and rarely provide systematic feedback to the trainees. Recent technological advances in the simulation of virtual characters, coupled with advances in artificial intelligence, have permitted the development of virtual patients, or autonomous virtual agents (AVA). The AVA can be used to simulate structured interviews of a clinical nature. Such technological advances provide numerous benefits (Cook et al., 2011): systematic and instant feedback on participants’ performance, high levels of customizability, dematerialization allowing distance learning and flexible training schedules, interactions with multiple users, and reduced costs. Given the complex and delicate nature of cases in the domain of youth and adult, delinquency, AVAs offer multiple learning opportunities with a variety of people dealing with complex issues, which may be particularly useful to strengthen traditional learning techniques. This conference will discuss in more detail the advantages and limitations of the AVA to promote evidence-based practices.

The relevance of placing (back) individual interventions, rather than collective ones, at the heart of professional practices to foster the implementation of EBP *Elliot Louan, IERDJ (Institute for Studies and Research on Law and Justice)*

The use of core correctional practices (CCP) in routine probation supervision has shown positive effects to reduce recidivism. Many training initiatives designed for probation officers (PO) were

developed in the early 2000 in North America (STICS, EPICS, STARR). European countries have shown limited interest in these programs, despite encouraging results. The CHANGES training (based on the STICS program developed in Ontario, Canada) was implemented in France as part of a small-scale experiment with two probation departments, on the initiative of the National School of Corrections (ENAP). In a landscape favoring collective interventions, this is the first attempt to provide officers with an evidence-based cognitive-behavioral strategy for supervising offenders face-to-face. The program includes a 5-day initial training plus a two-year clinical supervision with PO. After a brief description of the CHANGES program, the presentation will discuss the relevance of placing (back) face-to-face supervision, rather than group supervision, at the heart of professional practices as a means of fostering the implementation of EBP. The reluctance of administration to support the implementation of evidence-based initiative for individual supervision vs group supervision will also be discussed. The levers and brakes to implement individual strategies will be discussed, as well as the future of this small-scale experiment

**Evidence-Based Practices in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism: Barriers, Facilitators, and Implementation Challenges** *Nicolas Amadio, University of Strasbourg*

Although in a differentiated manner, violent extremism is a problem that affects virtually all regions of the world. While terrorism was long conceived as an issue of external defense, the resurgence of forms of violent extremism now calls for the articulation of issues of defense and security with socio-cultural, legal and political, psychological, and medical concerns. Prevention and countering violent extremism (P/CVE), through deradicalization, disengagement, and/or social reintegration programs, thus constitute a major criminological topic. However, in the criminological field, evidence-based practices tend to establish themselves as a reference perspective in the criminal justice system, prompting questioning of its scope and implications of implementation. The aim of this contribution is to examine the factors likely to act as barriers and facilitators to evidence-based practices in P/CVE. The impacts of how characteristics specific to violent extremism prevention programs are implemented in practice will be discussed, for example, the types of indicators that can be used to assess clients' needs, the method of evaluating programs and identifying indicators of success, adaptation to local socio-cultural and political contexts, the structuring of funding mechanisms and the use of management tools, as well as variability in content and implementation.

**317. Open Science in Criminology**

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Quantitative Methods (Quantitative Methods WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.04*

Open science in criminology promotes integrity, collaboration, innovation, and societal impact, contributing to a more rigorous and inclusive approach to understanding and addressing crime-related phenomena. This panel presents reflections on advances and challenges related to open access, open data and open research partnerships with the goal to inspire the broader adaptation of open science principles within the discipline.

Chair:

**Katharina Krüsselmann**, Leiden University

Participants:

Co-creating a national open research partnership in criminal justice: restorative and design approaches *Ian Marder, Maynooth University; Patrice McCormack, Maynooth University*

Criminal justice research partnerships typically involve a small number of universities and partners and last only as long as the single research project to which they relate. What would be needed to establish a research partnership involving virtually every university in a jurisdiction, alongside dozens of criminal justice policymaking, practice and oversight bodies, non-state justice services, civil society groups, and members of the research

ecosystem? How might those partners be facilitated to explore the principles and purposes of this partnership? This presentation explores the establishment of the Criminal Justice Open Research Dialogue (CORD) Partnership. Funded by the National Open Research Fund in 2023/24, CORD aims to embed a culture of open research in criminal justice in Ireland. The presentation explores the process by which partners used restorative practices and design thinking to build relationships and understanding, consider the Partnership's principles, purposes and priorities, and co-author an article through an open authorship process. The literature on successful research partnerships indicates that establishing strong relationships and a shared purpose at their outset is essential, but that partnerships too often fail to do so. The lessons learned and techniques used in CORD will be of interest to all those with an interest in open research, research impact, knowledge exchange and partnership working.

**How open is criminological research? A study of Open Access practices** *Matt Ashby, UCL*

Criminology studies topics that are relevant to policy makers, practitioners and the public. But material published in criminology journals (often the main output of crime-related research) is typically accessible only to readers who are associated with elite universities or who can afford to pay expensive fees to access articles. Open-access publishing has the potential to create wider, more equitable access to criminological knowledge, but previous research has shown that criminology journals (and authors) have lagged behind journals in other fields in adopting open-access practices. This paper will update previous research to identify how widely open-access publishing has been adopted by criminology journals and authors. It will also identify clusters of good and poor open-access practice in different countries, journals, types of open access, and topics within criminology.

**Open Access Hubs: An Exploratory Study on Their Barriers and Enablers** *Jessie Sheppard, University of Manchester; David Buil-Gil, The University of Manchester*

Open access hubs are increasingly common across academic fields, including platforms such as ArXiv, REPEC, SocArxiv, and CrimRxiv in criminology and criminal justice, as well as institutional repositories of open access publications in many higher education organizations. Open access hubs are public repositories of preprints and postprints approved for publishing after light-touch moderation processes, without the need to go through peer review processes. Such platforms aim to facilitate free access to academic literature worldwide, while also speeding up the process of academic publishing. While open access hubs are growing in users and number of submissions, they are not yet widely used across many fields, including in criminology. This study aims to illuminate the legal, ethical, and technical challenges inherent in creating and sustaining online repositories for open access to academic literature. By leveraging lessons learned from similar efforts, the aim of the study is to inform and inspire the development and growth of open access hubs within criminology and the social sciences. The study makes use of semi-structured qualitative interviews with a set of participants with extensive experience in open access hubs, including individuals involved in the creation and ongoing maintenance of open access hubs, academic librarians, and key figures within the open science movement; and a thematic analysis of recurring themes. We explore the legal challenges faced by open access hubs, key ethical considerations and issues, as well as technical challenges and general acceptability and usability across academic disciplines. Importantly, the study also illuminates approaches to mitigate the barriers to the widespread use of open access hubs.

**Open data in criminology: a case for synthetic data generation** *Katharina Krüsselmann, Institute of Security and Global Affairs, Leiden University, the Netherlands; Marcel Haas, Leiden University Medical Centre; Marco Spruit, Leiden University Medical Centre & Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Science; Marieke Liem, Leiden University*

Data sharing in criminology is crucial for collaborations amongst criminologists, cooperation with stakeholder, and the societal impact of criminological research. In addition, data sharing is crucial to enhance trust in research, in that it enables replication of

empirical studies that form the basis of policies related to national security issues. However, issues such as privacy concerns, legal restrictions, and reluctance of stakeholders to share sensitive data often hinder comprehensive data sharing. In response to these challenges, we propose the adoption of synthetic data as a viable response to these challenges. Synthetic data generation involves creating artificial datasets that mimic the statistical properties of real data while ensuring individual privacy and confidentiality. Thus, synthetic data can closely resemble real-work dataset without compromising sensitive information. In this presentation, we aim to demonstrate the potential of synthetic data for the field of criminology by discussing its advantages and pitfalls and presenting a proof-of-concept, using a synthetic version of the Dutch Homicide Monitor. Through this presentation, we aim to foster more open and collaborative research in the discipline of criminology.

### 318. The Basque prison model: achievements and pending challenges

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.05

The devolution of penitentiary matters to the Basque Country has taken place in a context that presents major challenges, but also great opportunities. The politically motivated violence during the years of ETA's activity delayed the devolution and, once it has taken place, it has influenced some of the challenges faced by the Basque Country in the management of the same. The panel aims at explaining the context of the Basque penitentiary model, which is focused on favouring a dignity-centred prison model guided by the aim of reintegration and the fostering contacts with the outside world through different measures such as open prison. In this context, the specific situation of ETA prisoners needs to be addressed, considering the stringent serving conditions applied to this collective, namely the policy of dispersion, solitary confinement and the specific reintegration requirements for open prison and conditional release. Furthermore, the reality of women prisoners will be tackled both in relation to the lack of women-only facilities and the unresolved issue of imprisoned mothers. Lastly, the critical issues affecting prison officers will be covered, such as the lack of staff and demands for improving their working conditions.

Chair:

**Enara Garro Carrera**, University of the Basque Country

Participants:

The path towards a Basque prison model: a general overview

*Enara Garro Carrera, University of the Basque Country*

The devolution of penitentiary matters to the Basque Country has taken place in a context that presents significant challenges and great opportunities. The politically motivated violence during the years of ETA's activity delayed the devolution, and once it had taken place, it influenced some of the challenges faced by the Basque Country in the management of the same. The presentation aims to explain the context of the Basque penitentiary model, focusing mainly on the situation of Basque prisons in terms of infrastructures, inmates' profiles, and treatment-related challenges, emphasising the particular problem of women prisoners. This overview will also address the particularities concerning the civil servants working in Basque prisons. In the case of convicts and civil servants, the intervention will be accompanied by the provisional results obtained after administering the survey on the quality of prison life to both groups, all these aspects being subject to further development by the rest of the panel members.

Offender reintegration in the Basque prison model: practical challenges *Mikel Anderez Belategi, University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU)*

The assumption of prison administration competencies by the regional Basque government in 2021 followed a powerful declaration adopted almost unanimously by the Basque Parliament, which favoured a dignity-centred prison model guided by the aim of reintegration and the fostering contacts with the outside world through the critical measures of prison leave, open prison and conditional release. However, the promotion of open prison and other alternatives to closed conditions is constrained by legal and

practical limitations requiring close scrutiny. At a normative level, the optimism towards the principle of resocialisation based on individualised treatment has turned, in the last two decades, into an ever-increasing legal "obstacle race" every prisoner must face in order to access any form of regime relaxation. On the other hand, as there is only an effective reintegration with the engagement of prisoners, implementing these rehabilitative measures should not be an up-to-down process but consider their voices. In this line, the research on the quality of life in Basque prisons conducted by the UNESCO Chair for Human Rights identifies different aspects of the prison regime that potentially hinder the individual rehabilitative path, especially in the field of offence-focused treatment. Identifying and addressing these key challenges would help increase the current use of open prison and other alternatives to closed imprisonment, in line with the legislature's rehabilitative and individualised prison model.

Current challenges of the Basque penitentiary system concerning ETA prisoners *Eneko Etxeberria Bereziartua, University of the Basque Country*

ETA prisoners have been the determining factor that has conditioned the transfer of prisons to the Basque Country, produced only after the definitive cessation of the armed activity of the organization. The transfer has meant the end of the dispersion policy applied by the Government to this group (who had been serving their sentences in prisons far from the Basque Country) and their transfer to the penitentiary centres closest to their places of origin. Today, these prisoners represent one of the most striking aspects of the Basque penitentiary reality. Although the Prison Administration aims to end any hint of exceptionality to actively promote their reintegration, this is a controversial issue. This is because broad political and social sectors are opposed to an ordinary penitentiary policy concerning those convicted of terrorism, which makes this problem one of the most significant challenges for the Basque authorities in their new attributions over prisons.

The reality of women in Basque prisons *Bertha Maria Gaztelumendi Caballero, University of the Basque Country*

Achieving equality between men and women in our society is still a task that will take time, but in the case of women in prison the challenge is even greater, the walls that make them invisible keep them in oblivion and marginalisation. The aim of this presentation is mainly to raise awareness of the situation and day-to-day conditions of women in prison. Many of these realities are a consequence of the lack of women-only facilities. In the Basque penitentiary system, women are housed in modules located inside men's prisons which have been conceived and designed to be inhabited by men. In this way, the organisation of the space in the prison allows men to have more activities and longer opening hours than women, even the use of the sports centre is less for women prisoners. Women's units usually offer precarious and unsuitable facilities for paid works, spaces for treatment programmes or places reserved for mothers with minor children. This has had a negative impact on their quality of life and the possibility of reintegration. On the other hand, motherhood in prison is an unresolved issue that generates existential suffering for women. The separation of imprisoned women from their children has a very detrimental impact on the emotional and psychological health of the prisoners. Such separation jeopardises the cohesion of the family unit, which often breaks down in the absence of the mother's care.

Prison officers working in the Basque penitentiaries *Iñigo Gordon Benito, UNESCO Chair for Human Rights and Public Authorities, University of the Basque Country*

The lack of staff and their working conditions have been the most critical issues in the Basque penitentiary reality since the devolution of the prison management to the Basque Government by the end of 2021. Many prison officers came to the Basque Country lured by possible improvements in their working conditions and salaries. Providing prison officers with the necessary human and material resources to carry out their work in optimal conditions is, indeed, an ongoing priority. As the motivation of prison officers directly influences prisoners, the supportive and caring roles of the former and the pro-social view that they can radiate on the latter have an enormous impact on prison life and the path towards reintegration.

With all the above in mind, an attempt has been made to explain the profile of the prison officers who agreed to participate in the study, shedding light on their needs and expectations. The conducted research will offer an empirical approach to the working life of prison officers in the Basque Country's three prison centres. As we will see, there was also some reluctance on the part of some prison officers to participate in the study, which explains the small final sample obtained about this group. At the same time, we will mention the complaints and demands voiced by those finally interviewed. To design appropriate prison policies, it is necessary to understand the reality of prisons and their problems, and this cannot be done without considering the point of view of prison officers.

### 319. Who Looks Out for the Children: Parents, Youth Services, or Educators?

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Juvenile Crime (ISR D WG)

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 1.09

Chair:

*Johan Put*, ISL & LINC, KU Leuven

Participants:

Punishing parents?! The responsibility of parents when their child commits an offence *Ninne Menten*, KU Leuven

Parents have the primary responsibility for the upbringing of their child. When children commit an offence, parents are more often seen as 'co-responsible' and are expected to be involved in the solution, e.g. by hearing them, involving them in the reaction towards the child, or even being punished themselves. In recent years we observe a growing trend towards more responsibility and more punitive action towards these parents in both political debate and legislation. However, it is far from clear what exactly is meant by (parental) responsibility, what the aim is, and to what extent legislation could or should involve parents in the response to their children's offences. In my PhD I will address these questions and evaluate the Flemish juvenile delinquency law and law regarding administrative sanctions, taking into account requirements and limitations following from human and children's rights instruments and findings from empirical research. For this presentation the focus is on the concept of parental responsibility (when children commit an offence) and the limitations and requirements that can be derived from human and children's rights instruments for states' juvenile delinquency laws and laws on administrative sanctions (when applicable to minors). The Flemish juvenile delinquency law will be used as an illustration.

The effectiveness of custodial educational measures in the social reintegration of young offenders *Roxana Ungureanu*, West University of Timisoara; *Mihaela Alida Tomita*, West University of Timisoara

This paper is dedicated to the analysis of custodial educational measures, a category of sanctions applicable to minors and youth who have committed crimes. The institutionalization of juveniles and young offenders who perform a custodial educational measure in an educational centre raises a number of challenges both economic and social with direct consequences in terms of the effectiveness of their resocialization and reintegration into society after release. This is why it was felt necessary to make an important change in the criminal and social policies for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency in Romanian society. Also, the prevention, intervention and post-intervention modalities carried out by the institutions with a role in the socialization, adaptation and social control of young people have been considerably diversified. The research participants are professionals (educators, social workers, psychologists and administrative staff) who works in an educative centre in West of Romania and who participated in two focus groups. The intervention of specialists, focused mainly on education, work, religion and cultural, recreational and sports activities, must respond to the principle of individualization, must be modulated by the personality needs of each, based primarily on the individual resources of each. Our research demonstrates that all these results can be achieved only through continuous and adequate training of professionals working with juvenile delinquents. The

research conclusions show us that the educational measure of intermment in an educative centre must activate processes of responsibility, favoring the change of personal lifestyles and social and family relations. Conclusions will also be drawn regarding the request for special treatment of young offenders and the need for integration and reintegration. The institutions must respond to requests for a special treatment consistent with the personality of juveniles and individual education needs.

Academic frauds; criminological considerations *Guido Travaini*, Vita-Salute S. Raffaele University; *Palmina Caruso*, University of Milan; *Emma Flutti*, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele; *Giulia Moretti*, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele; *Carolina Passani*, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele

Fraud, a crafty act designed to deceive and undermine the rights of others through deceit, constitutes not only a legal transgression but also a breach of ethical conduct. In the academic sphere, fraud casts its shadow over students right from the outset of their educational journey, permeating classrooms and faculty offices alike. In sectors such as healthcare, a deceitfully obtained degree could confer eligibility for professional practice. This presentation delves into the intricate labyrinth of academic deceit, illuminating its historical origins and contemporary manifestations. From the advent of digital technologies to the evolving motivations behind fraudulent behavior, this exploration navigates through the dynamic landscape of academic fraud. It dissects the roles of age, gender, ethnicity, and individual characteristics in perpetuating such misconduct. As the repercussions of academic fraud extend far beyond the individual, affecting entire communities, the need for effective preventive strategies becomes paramount. Drawing upon criminological insights and harnessing the potential of modern artificial intelligence, we explore the potential for combining educational interventions with state-of-the-art technological solutions.

### 320. Paper Borders. Children and young people inside the Belgian asylum procedure. By Marijke Van Buggenhout (Owl Press, 2024)

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Juvenile Justice and Children's Rights (Juvenile Justice WG)

Author meets critics

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.11

In this author meets critic session, we delve into the book "Paper Borders. Children and young people inside the Belgian asylum procedure. A multi-voiced and performative study." The author, Marijke Van Buggenhout, engages with esteemed critics who will offer their insights, reflections, and perspectives about the work. The book under discussion results from a Ph.D. study addressing the tension between a (children's) rights-based approach and the imperative to ascertain the veracity of claims in asylum processes, specifically in asylum interviews. Drawing on narrative interviews with professionals and co-creative visual research with young newcomers in Brussels, this work unravels the daily intricacies of the asylum procedure. The primary focus is on the pivotal moment where children heavily rely on their voice, story, and institutional performance to determine their fate. The results, echoing multiple voices, reveal the challenges young people face to meet institutional requirements in a system not set up with children in mind. Notably, the narratives of the young participants in the project underscore that an understanding of asylum hearings cannot be isolated from experiences of injustice before, during, and after the hearing itself. As such, the results depict the complex interaction between waithood, time, and existential uncertainty and shed light on experiences of procedural injustices that permeate the asylum process. Yet, beyond mere exposition, this work ventures into the realm of a provocation, posing a profound and incisive query: can procedures be fair and "just" in a system that is experienced as inherently violent? The critics bring their own unique expertise to the table, allowing for an interesting exchange about immigration control, juvenile justice, children's rights as well as a profound discussion on doing criminological science off the beaten path in a hard to research field.

Critics:

*Stefaan Pleysier*, LINC, KU Leuven

*M.H. Kox*, Erasmus University Rotterdam

*Valeria Ferraris*, University of Turin

Book Author:

*Marijke Van Buggenhout*, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**321. Perpetrators of mass atrocities: terribly and terrifyingly normal?**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Transitional Justice (Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice WG)

Author meets critics

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.13*

There are many different types of perpetrators involved in mass atrocities such as genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and terrorism. We can distinguish the Criminal Masterminds at the top of the chain of command, the Fanatics and Careerists as their close associates and the Devoted Warriors as their loyal, obedient main executions. Lower ranking perpetrators can be driven by a number of different motives: ideology such as the True Believers and Holy Warriors; by material gain such as the Criminals and Profiteers. They can be very normal and ordinary otherwise law-abiding citizens such as the Followers and Avengers or have mental deficiencies such as the Deranged and the Predators. Or they can be put under tremendous pressure such as the Compromised perpetrators. In periods of mass atrocities the various types will influence each other and together they form an atrocity producing triangle. In this presentation the recently published book by Alette Smeulers called *Perpetrators of mass atrocities: terribly and terrifyingly normal?* (Routledge 2024) in which the above is described, will be discussed with two distinguished scholars in the field.

Critics:

*Mina Rauschenbach*, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

*Andy Aydın-Aitchison*, University of Edinburgh

*Kirsten J. Fisher*, College of Arts and Science, University of Saskatchewan

Book Author:

*Alette Smeulers*, University of Groningen

**322. EU-Confiscation System Failure: An Incentive for the Internationalisation of Organized Crime?**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Criminal Policy, Criminalization, Policy of Criminal Sanctions (Criminal Law Making Policy WG)

Roundtable

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.17*

Transcrime ongoing research as partner of the EU project RECOVER (GA 101091375), coordinated by the University of Catania, is showing that between 2021 and 2022 the number of requests of freezing and confiscation among EU countries, pursuant to the Reg. (EU) 2018/1805, ranges between fifty and eighty. This is in stark contrast to the thousands of freezing and confiscation orders taken at a domestic level. The data, which are scarce and collected by the EU Commission in a non-standardized format, pose significant challenges to analysis. A preliminary examination of the available data for 2021 suggests that the European landscape of seizure and confiscation is a failure. If countries are seizing criminal assets at the national level (the Directive 2014/42/EU has had a good impact in approximating national legislations), they are not doing the same when a country requests to another country to seize and confiscate criminal assets abroad. Is this an incentive to the internationalisation of organized crime? The round table will discuss the data collected by Transcrime in EU Member States answering to this question.

Chair:

*Ernesto Savona*, Transcrime / Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan)

Discussants:

*Matteo Anastasio*, Transcrime – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

*Edward Kleemans*, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

*Mike Levi*, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University

**323. Empirical Research and Theoretical Debates on Plea Bargaining System in Chinese Criminal Justice**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Prosecutorial Decision-making and the Prosecutorial Process, Alternatives to trial

(Sentencing and Penal Decisionmaking WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.18*

The panel demonstrates the Chinese plea-bargaining system from various perspectives. Such a system was introduced by the Chinese Criminal Procedure Law in 2018 as a basic principle of criminal procedure and all types of cases can be addressed through plea bargaining. As a consequence, more than 80 percent of criminal cases are solved with plea-bargaining in China. Therefore, the reform on plea-bargaining system in Chinese criminal procedure law has significant and long-term impacts on the arrangement of its criminal justice system. The five papers in this panel will give a close examination on the Chinese plea-bargaining system from both an empirical and theoretical perspectives about the role of duty lawyers to safeguard the voluntary confessions, the sentencing in individual crime, the role of prosecutors, the sustainability of the current practice, and the judicial effect of sentencing recommendations under the Chinese plea-bargaining system. The titles of the five papers are as follows in a speech order. 1. The Guarantee of Voluntary Confessions under the Chinese Plea Bargaining System: Mechanism and Practice 2. Empirical Study on the Application of the Chinese plea-bargaining system in the Crime of Helping Information Network Crime Cases 3. Reconsideration of the Role of Prosecutors in the Chinese Plea Bargaining System: A Comparative Perspective 4. Is China's Practice of Leniency for Admission of Guilty and Acceptance of Punishment Sustainable? 5. Sentencing Recommendations in Chinese Plea Bargaining System: Empirical Studies and Theoretical Reconsideration The papers disclose the advantages and disadvantages of the Chinese plea-bargaining system and aim to improve the plea-bargaining system for a better Chinese criminal justice. The authors in this panel presents a few ideas for the reform to be considered in the future and hope to exchange ideas and thoughts with scholars from all over the world.

Chair:

*Shi Jiahui*, Sichuan University School of Law

Participants:

The Guarantee of Voluntary Confessions under the Chinese Plea Bargaining System: Mechanism and Practice *Wu Hongyao*, *China University of Political Science and Law*

Voluntary confession forms the foundation of the entire Chinese plea-bargaining system where the voluntary nature of confession is confirmed through a written statement during the charging process. Once a suspect signs and confirms the written plea-bargaining statement, the sentencing recommendation recorded in the statement has a semi-binding effect on the first-instance court according to Article 201 of the Chinese Criminal Procedure Law. A lawyer must be present when a suspect signs the statement. However, given the empirical study, the vast majority (approximately 75%) of suspects do not hire their own defense counsel and rely on duty lawyers for legal assistance, therefore, the duty lawyer system is one of the most important safeguards for the voluntary nature of confessions under the Chinese plea bargaining system. The paper uses the following defense activities as technical indicators to analyze the participation of duty lawyers in plea bargaining cases: duration of involvement in cases; frequency and duration of meetings with suspects; whether they review case files; and whether they present substantive defense opinions. By comparing plea bargaining cases of similar nature, the paper aims to argue the following proposition: the involvement of duty lawyers neither safeguards the suspects' right to be informed nor helps them make informed decisions. This indicates that relying on duty lawyers to safeguard the voluntariness of confession exhibits significant flaws. Therefore, given the critical importance of voluntariness in plea bargaining, it is necessary to establish a diversified mechanism to assure voluntariness. Specifically, this includes: Firstly, establishing a system where lawyers are present during interrogation. Secondly, based on the reform of "separating serious and minor cases," to implement a mandatory defense system in plea bargaining cases where a sentence of more than three years of imprisonment is possible. Thirdly, establish an independent voluntariness review mechanism.

Empirical Study on the Application of the Chinese plea-bargaining system in the Crime of Helping Information Network Crime Cases *YUNXIAO LIU*, *China University of*

### *Political Science and Law*

As noted by Weigend (2001), "The majority of offences are resolved in a simplified form of litigation", in response to the surge in crime, systems such as plea bargaining and criminal negotiation have been widely adopted in criminal proceedings around the world to optimise crime governance. The Chinese plea-bargaining system that China has adopted conformed to this world trend. At the prosecution stage, the application of discretionary non-prosecution is an important way of procedural leniency. The crime of helping information network crime refers to the serious act of providing technical support, advertising, payment and settlement to others despite knowing that others are committing information network crimes. This offence is the third most prosecuted offence in China, and there is a need to expand the application of discretionary non-prosecution to the defendant who pleads guilty and agree upon recommended punishment in order to reduce the number of cases entering trial, improve the efficiency of litigation and safeguard the defendant's litigation right. This study collected 2986 samples of indictments and 583 samples of non-indictments of this crime and conducted a regression analysis of the discretionary sentencing circumstances for discretionary non-prosecution to explore the role of plea bargaining and other circumstances in influencing discretionary non-prosecution. The coefficients showed that the plea bargaining had little influence on discretionary non-prosecution, and the influences of other circumstances were, from smallest to largest, illegal gains(0), repentance(0.886), occasional offenses(1.238), voluntary surrender(1.335), self-confession(1.503), return of illegal gains and compensation(1.804), first offender(2.777) and the defendant's student identity(5.143). The study explained the reasons for the limited impact of the plea bargaining on discretionary non-prosecution, and gave advice for expanding the role of plea bargaining in the governance of the crime with a view to provide possible solutions for misdemeanor governance in the world.

### Reconsideration of the Role of Prosecutors in the Chinese Plea Bargaining System: A Comparative Perspective *Shi Jiahui, Sichuan University School of Law*

According to the Chinese Criminal Procedure Law, the Chinese plea-bargaining system follows neither the German nor the U.S. models of plea bargaining, instead, it embodies characteristics of both models. On the one hand, in a similar way to the German model, the burden of proof on prosecutors remains the same in plea bargaining cases as in normal ones, and the judges have to follow the same standards on the discovery of truth in plea bargaining cases, as in cases with normal processes. On the other hand, the organization of plea bargaining follows the U.S. model, where prosecutors take leading roles during the negotiations, namely, they have power to initiate the plea bargaining, and give sentencing recommendations which judges shall in principle follow. To transplant such an arrangement from the U.S. model into an inquisitorial system, however, causes various problems. Fairness and justice cannot be entirely guaranteed under the wide-ranging practice of plea bargaining. For example, without much support from defense lawyers during plea bargaining, suspects/defendants are in a more vulnerable position and their procedural rights cannot be well guaranteed when prosecutors dominate plea bargaining without any supervision from outside. Moreover, the function of trials is derogated and undermined; and the decision-making process on core issues is moved forwards to the pre-trial period. It is doubtful, therefore, whether it is advisable to encourage prosecutors to seek plea bargaining whenever possible, as the ongoing reform of the Chinese legal system currently does. With a brief introduction of an inquisitorial model based on the German plea-bargaining system where German judges play a central role and prosecutors are "safeguards", the role of Chinese prosecutors in plea bargaining is urged to be reconsidered and their authority should be restricted in order to ensure that judges are guaranteed the judicial power to make final decisions.

### **324. Labelling and Interactionist Perspectives**

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Labelling and Interactionist Perspectives

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.06

Chair:

**Luke Roach**, Bath Spa University

Participants:

Navigating identity disruption: The criminalisation of children in care *Anne-Marie Day, Manchester Metropolitan University; Neal Hazel, University of Salford, UK; Andrew Clark, University of Greenwich*

The over-representation of care experienced children in the youth justice system is an enduring problem globally. Established policy explanations either focus on the shared background of 'risk factors' for offending and being taken into care, or by the readiness of care staff to involve police for misbehaviour. Academics have alternatively highlighted elements of care administration, environments and relationships that may have negative effects on children's outcomes, more recently highlighting how care can be depersonalising and stigmatising. As yet, however, the literature has not identified the process by which these may contribute to children's criminalisation. The current research examines the criminalisation process through an interpretative analysis of depth interviews with children in residential care homes in north-west England about their journey into the youth justice system. Framed within Goffman's (1963) concept of 'spoiled identity'; we present a typology of the different ways that children respond to the depersonalisation, labelling and stigma that they experience in care; each presenting as behaviours that get them into trouble with the law. The typology of responses to the stigmatisation and depersonalisation of the care experience ranges from reacting against stigma, reflecting negative label, defending identity, reinforcing pre-care identity and constructing a new identity. Consequently, we reconceptualise the over-representation of care experienced children in youth justice as resulting from children's navigation of the spoiling their identity (the 'Criminalising Care Model'). This novel understanding of the process by which the care system actively promotes offending behaviour necessitates a reworking of the policy narrative around the over-representation of care-experienced children in youth justice. It requires policymakers and practitioners to consider both how to reduce the stigmatising effects of the care system and how to more appropriately address children's responses to it.

Testing the Persistence of Interpersonal Exclusion: Adolescent Arrest, Institutional Exclusion, and Peer Relationships in Emerging Adulthood *Wade C Jacobsen, University of Maryland; Guyu Sun, University of Maryland, College Park; Cassie McMillan, Northeastern University; Nayan G Ramirez, California State University Northridge*

Legal system involvement in adolescence is associated with declines in close friendships, an important source of social capital in the transition to adulthood. Interpersonal exclusion theory (Jacobsen 2020), an extension of labeling theory, explains these findings by articulating the micro-level processes by which legal system involvement weakens normative peer relationships (i.e., rejection, withdrawal, separation, homophily). These processes are thought to alter both the structure and composition of the peer networks of arrested youth. Our objective is to extend interpersonal exclusion theory to examine the consequences of adolescent arrest for early young adulthood. We expect adolescent arrest to be associated with smaller friendship networks (structure) and greater involvement with delinquent or arrested peers (composition) in early young adulthood. We propose that these outcomes are driven by two key mechanisms. First, fewer opportunities for network transition may occur as a manifestation of institutional exclusion. In particular, young adults who were arrested as adolescents may have limited access to education or employment, leaving them with fewer opportunities to escape the context in which the stigma of their arrest history is perceptible, resulting in fewer friends and more deviant networks (i.e., peers who are involved in antisocial behavior or have been similarly stigmatized by an arrest). Second, greater maintenance of ties from high school to early young adulthood may occur as a result of fewer opportunities for network transition and because deviant peers tend to be "sticky," meaning that when youth become embedded in deviant networks, they do not escape them easily. We test these propositions using PROSPER, a study of adolescent peer networks in the United States, followed

from early adolescence to emerging adulthood.

Urban Marginality, Neighborhood Dynamics, and the Illicit Drug Trade in Mexico City *Piotr Chomczyński, University of Lodz; Roger Stephen Guy, State University of New York at Oswego*

This presentation explores independent street-level drug dealers in the socially and economically marginalized neighborhood of Tepito in Mexico City. Research presented here is based on ongoing ethnographic work, and in-depth biographical interviews with drug dealers involved strictly in marijuana sales (17), those offering multiple illicit substances (39), and community members (8) in a neighborhood historically known for sales of contraband. We find that dealing is an adaptive strategy to resist criminal organizations encroaching on the drug market, and efforts by developers at gentrification; both of which would displace the residents from the neighborhood. Our results highlight the pivotal role of the illicit economy in marginalized communities and argues for a more nuanced interpretation of survival strategies among the urban underclass. More work is needed that approaches criminal activity as resistance among the economically dislocated.

The Construction, Maintenance, Weaponization, and Defence of Migrant Identities on Social Media *Luke Roach, Bath Spa University*

Online spaces, with the inevitable lack of prosodic features and physical feedback, provide opportune arenas for the creation, maintenance, and weaponization of identity work. Particularly with those spaces more conducive to anonymity (such as Reddit, 4chan, X/Twitter) identities are created in situ, designed for the moment, and deployed both in the explicit and the implied. In a post-Brexit, post-Trump era, discourse around migration propels political and popular speech. Anonymised, temporally collapsed, and physically distant online spaces provide ground for interactants to create, label, categorise, and hierarchise presumed migrants, as well as themselves. Anti-migrant online speakers are able to illustrate their normative status in opposition to the othered subject they denigrate. This in turn creates an identity, and a motivation tied to that identity, for both the legitimised ingroup and the other, with a great deal of illocutionary power. Similarly, online activists who seek to protect and defend migrant identities from the stereotyping and slander are able to manipulate and re-orient the identities projected in novel ways, tailored by the constraints of the platforms they inhabit. This paper will utilise the interactionist lenses of Goffman (1959, 1967), Cooley (1902), Blumer (1986), and Mead (1934) to interrogate threads of online “tweets” to elucidate the ways in which online speakers create and weaponize identity. It will unpick the ways in which speakers use “directive speech” (Hernández and Mendoza, 2002) to project an identity onto the viewers of anti-migrant speech and the inference rich categories (Sacks, 1995) deployed to create a totalising account of the othered group. Additionally, this paper will explore the invocation of gestalt structures of knowledge as an intertextual means to construct a weaponised identity. These work to inform an alternative, combative self-identity created and maintained for the assumed audience, ingratiating them into the ingroup, and against the designed outgroup.

### 325. The Criminalisation of Environmental Activism

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Critical Criminology

Pre-arranged Panel

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.07

This thematic panel focuses on the control and criminalisation of environmental protest and activism in recent times, with compelling case studies stretching from Brazil to the UK, Belgium, Germany and Italy.

Chairs:

*Valeria Vegh Weis*, Buenos Aires University

*Anna Di Ronco*, University of Essex

Participants:

The Politics of Dissent: Policing Environmental Activism and the Criminalisation of Environmental Protest *Angus Nurse, Anglia Ruskin University*

This paper explores recent criminalisation of environmental protest explicit in attempts to stifle dissent via public order policing

legislation in the UK and in wider policy ideological battles on environmental protest. Freedom of expression and freedom of assembly are protected by the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) with European states broadly adopting laws allowing police/security service interferences with these rights only for certain specified purposes, only where necessary and requiring proportionality. Yet far from adopting an approach of the minimum interference necessary, in the UK new police powers specifically designed to crack down on environmental activism are being introduced while the attorney general is also attempting to remove the so-called ‘consent’ defence available under the Criminal Damage Act 1971. This defence, relating to criminal damage only, allows a defendant to argue they had an honest belief that the owner of the property damaged would have consented if they had known the reasons why the action had been taken. This defence is used by climate protesters and has been the subject of an appeal by the AG in the recent case of defendant ‘C’, after a string of acquittals by juries of defendants for acts of criminal damage involving non-violent graffiti/paint damage to buildings. Elsewhere in Germany, France, Italy, Sweden, the Netherlands, and the UK (again), the policy response to climate protests has been mass arrests, the passing of draconian new laws, imposition of severe sentences for non-violent protests and the labelling of environmental activists as saboteurs or eco-terrorists. This paper argues that the response to environmental activism is ideologically driven and arguably represents a disproportionate response to environmental protests. Through analysis of police action and legislative change it contends that European interferences with environmental protest risk being non-compliant with the ECHR and represent an attempt to criminalise environmental protest.

Tightening the grip of control: eco-justice activists’ experiences of repression during the pandemic *Roxana Pessoa Cavalcanti, University of Brighton; Anna Di Ronco, University of Essex*

This paper focuses on the experiences of repression, policing and state-corporate control of activists fighting for eco-justice during the COVID-19 pandemic – both from across Brazil and from a specific Italian city (Trento). Drawing on two qualitative studies conducted by the two authors during the pandemic and using analytical insights from critical and green criminology and political ecology, this paper unveils activists’ experiences of repression and control during the COVID health crisis, which they saw as further tightening.

Criminalisation of environmental protest in Germany – abuse of accelerated trials in the case of activists of “Letzte Generation” *André Bohn, University in Kiel, Germany; Benedikt Ehrlich, Lawyer from Leipzig, Germany*

In these days climate activists around the world are under pressure. Activists in Germany are no exception. Many of the criminal proceedings against climate activists take place in Berlin, Germany. This is where the movement “Letzte Generation” have had the focus of their protests. The German justice system seems at least in Berlin heavily overwhelmed by dealing with thousands of protest actions, most of which were roadblocks prosecuted under the criminal offence of coercion. As a way of dealing with this overload and due to political pressure, the public prosecutor’s office of Berlin started to request “Accelerated Trials” against the activists. This type of trial is normally used for uncomplicated petty crimes. The law requires a simple factual situation or the clarity of the evidence which makes the case suited for an immediate hearing as stipulated in section 417 of the German Code of Criminal Procedure (StPO). This special proceeding is criticized by a lot of scholars, not just because there is a great danger of restricting the rights of defendants in court unlawfully. There has recently been a massive increase in indictments against climate activists, in which accelerated trials were requested. While some judges refuse to take part in the abuse of accelerated trials, most of them summons the activists before court. The discussion aims to address the problem behind accelerated trials in general and the misuse of this possibility to get easy and fast convictions against climate activists.

“We feel that warm breath in our necks”: Experiences, impact, and meaning of criminalisation of environmental activism in Belgium *Bram Visser, Vub; Brunilda Pali, University of Amsterdam*

Increasingly, environmental groups have developed repertoires of action that can be viewed as non-violent civil disobedience. Frustrated with the exclusion from political decision-making processes and the ineffectiveness of what can be considered more traditional or regulated forms of protest - such as petitions, demonstration, advocacy campaigns and so forth - environmental movements claim their space in the conversation by resorting to more contentious forms of protest that challenge the boundaries of the law, causing tension and conflict among movements, governments, corporations, and citizens. This article draws on research conducted on the case of the 14 Greenpeace activists trialled for non-violently occupying a gas terminal in Belgium in April 2023. By interviewing trialled activists, representatives of Greenpeace and supporters, experts, and lawyers involved in the defence, attending the hearings, and analysing the judicial decision, and legislative developments, the article shows that the process of criminalisation was experienced as intimidation and was deemed to have a “chilling effect” on future engagement with environmental activism. In addition, the harsh response by actors in the criminal justice system in this case was attributed to both regional differences within Belgium and to increasing European trends in criminalisation of activism. Our research reveals a rich qualitative account of the effects criminalisation can have on the right to protest which is particularly concerning in the context of the climate crisis.

In the aftermath of repression: Exploring the consequences of criminalisation through the experiences of NoTap environmental activists *Anna Di Ronco, University of Essex*

In recent years, critical perspectives within criminology have paid increasing attention to the repression and criminalisation of dissent and activism – a topic which had for long been neglected in the discipline. This scholarship has so far provided insightful critical analyses of the policies and practices that criminalise dissent and protest. It has, however, left the aftermath of repression and criminalisation relatively under-studied. Through a thematic analysis of interviews with NoTap environmental activists in the Puglia region of southern Italy, who have been targeted with heavy repression and criminalisation for their opposition to the Tap pipeline, this paper addresses this gap by specifically focusing on the effects of repression and criminalisation on activists, as well as on activists’ individual responses to them.

### 326. Virtual reality, smartphones and social media: The potential of novel methods for the study of crime

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Experimental Methods (Quantitative Methods WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.10*

Novel technologies such as social media, virtual environments and smartphones are quickly becoming an increasingly influential part of our daily lives. Although being highly accessible, widely available at low cost, and despite their significant potential for increasing our understanding of crime, these technologies are still underutilized in criminology. Their ability to radically change the way we do criminal research is unquestionably high. Contributions in this panel highlight and demonstrate some of the possibilities that novel technologies offer for criminologists.

Chair:

*Jean-Louis van Gelder, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law*

Participants:

Fraud prevention stakeholders’ use of social media in reducing fraud *Manja Nikolovska, Dawes Centre for future crime at UCL*

Social media is increasingly used by the police for public engagement and to aid in investigations. Previous research in this area has examined the utility of social media data to predict crime trends including those that take place on social media platforms (e.g. hate crime and cyber bullying). Research concerning ‘what works’ in terms of social media crime prevention campaigns, or that examines insights from user interactions with police-posted content is limited. Here, we focus on posts by 224 UK fraud prevention stakeholders (including law enforcement, government, industry and voluntary sector) and their interactions with users. We analyse a

large X dataset (148,984 posts) that includes original stakeholder posts and those from users who respond to them. Using qualitative analyses and natural language processing, we explore what types of fraud prevention content stakeholders post, the types of fraud most commonly discussed, and user posts. The analysis of semi-structured interviews conducted with stakeholders involved in social media outreach (n=17) provides insight into their day-to-day tasks, and social media outreach strategies intended to reduce fraud. Preliminary findings show that the most commonly discussed types of fraud are online frauds such as phishing. Across the different stakeholders posts we find a concerning variety of reporting mechanisms. This likely confuses the public in terms of where to report fraud, creates a fragmented picture of the scale of problem and the forms it takes, and leads to under-reporting in official police statistics. In terms of user posts, while the level of detail provided varies, the descriptions provide valuable insight for uncovering contemporary methods used by offenders. Our findings contribute to a relatively small literature on the use of social media by stakeholders to prevent fraud and cybercrime, and what types of messaging might work best to reduce crime and incentivise reporting.

Creating my tomorrow: The reciprocal relation between the future self and goal-setting *Tiffany Tettero, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security, and Law; Esther Mertens, Leiden University; Aniek Siezenga, Max-Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law; Jean-Louis van Gelder, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law*

Individuals who engage in criminal behavior often fail to consider the long-term consequences of their actions. A focus on the long-term consequences may be increased by strengthening the connection with the future self, allowing potential (negative) consequences to be taken into consideration before making decisions. According to the literature, the connection with this self can be strengthened by setting concrete goals. At the same time, more concrete goals can be set when there is a stronger connection with the future self. Thus, there appears to be a reciprocal relation between the connection with the future self and goal-setting. Understanding this reciprocal relation can offer valuable insights for the development of effective rehabilitation programs. I investigate the relation between the connection with the future self and goal-setting by means of a Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT), conducted among first-year university students (N = 321). All students set goals. In addition, students in the intervention condition interacted with a future version of themselves, i.e., their future self, either in virtual reality or in a smartphone application. Data collection has been completed, and the qualitative data on students’ goals is being coded. In my presentation, I will discuss the reciprocal relation between the connection with the future self and goal-setting, how the connection with the future self can be manipulated through a behavioral intervention, and the opportunities that these results offer for the forensic population.

I am Here to Make Friends: Examining Peer Selection and Peer Influence on Cheating Behaviour using VR *Yikang Zhang, Maastricht university; Jean-Louis van Gelder, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law*

Although the statistical association between peer delinquency and adolescent delinquency is robust, causal evidence is still limited and proposed psychological mechanisms untested. Further, despite its theoretical importance, peer selection is understudied and often treated as a nuisance. In this study, we will utilize Virtual Reality (VR) to address the above gaps. Participants will be recruited for an experiment supposedly focusing on how VR gaming influences friendship formation. The core task is a VR quiz game, in which participants (with their peers) compete against a ‘victim’, with the side answering more quizzes correctly taking the prize of each round. Participants will have 10 seconds to decide their answer and keep it in their mind. Then the correct answer will be shown and participants need to indicate if the answer they have in mind is correct, which allows dishonest behaviour. The questions are difficult so high scores would indicate more cheating behaviour at the group level. After measuring baseline attitude toward delinquency, participants will complete the first round of quizzes alone (no peer). Then they will play three rounds of joint quizzes



where they play the game in the presence of a peer (VR avatar) exhibiting either high or low delinquent tendencies. In the first round of the joint quiz, they will be randomly assigned with one partner and complete the quiz (active peer influence). At the end of each round of the joint quiz, participants will report their satisfaction and perceived similarity with their partner and decide if they want to change partners for the next round (selection). After the joint quizzes, participants will again complete a solo quiz and their attitude toward delinquency. With this design, we aim to examine how delinquent peers influence at-the-moment cheating behaviour and attitude toward delinquency as well as the mechanisms of peer selection

**Virtual Reality to Train and Teach** *Clay Driscoll, UC School of Criminal Justice*

Virtual reality (VR) is quickly becoming a popular tool not just for entertainment, but for training and educating as well. The current study is a systematic scoping review focusing on characteristics of 120 VR trainings that are being used and reviewed in peer-review journals. Our evidence suggests that an increasing number of articles have been published on these VR trainings in the past five years. Additionally, these trainings are largely by routine scenarios within the medical and educational fields.

**FutureU: A smartphone and virtual reality intervention to increase future orientation** *Jean-Louis van Gelder, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law*

Short-term mindsets are associated with self-defeating behaviors, such as delinquency and alcohol use. In contrast, people who consider the longer-term consequences of their decisions tend to report positive outcomes, like feeling more competent and enhanced goal achievement. We evaluate an intervention, FutureU, that aims to stimulate future-oriented thinking, increase goal achievement, and reduce self-defeating behavior, by strengthening people's identification with their future self. The intervention will be delivered through a smartphone application (app) or immersive Virtual Reality (VR). We test the effectiveness of FutureU for both delivery methods, examine working mechanisms, and identify potential moderators of intervention effects.

**327. Theory-testing and relevant methodologies in criminological research**

Topic 8: Methodologies in Criminology/Advances in Quantitative Methods (Quantitative Methods WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14*

Criminological theories offer insightful and detailed explanations about the social world, with different theories relying on different social dimensions to explain crime and deviance. For example, life-course approaches tend to focus on the development of certain attitudes and behaviours over time; ecological theories often highlight the spatial relationship between area-level attributes and the effects of ecological context on individual values and behaviours; rational-choice and socio-psychological approaches usually emphasise micro-level mechanisms that explain individual behaviour. Some theories premise causal mechanisms, some theories premise micro-macro links, some theories premise reciprocal relationships. Empirical researchers then attempt to assess the degree to which those theoretical claims have empirical validity using a variety of empirical strategies: randomised control trials, longitudinal surveys, ethnographies, ecological studies, in-depth interviews, social network analysis, among others. Yet, sometimes empirical research is conducted without careful attention to the assumptions and nuances. In this panel, we discuss advances in quantitative methodologies that allow for appropriate empirical and analytic strategies for theory-testing. Our goal is to highlight how theory informs methods, how certain methods are appropriate to test certain theories but not others, and the implications of inappropriate methodological choices in theory-testing. The panel features papers discussing the challenges in causal inference from a selection-on-observables perspective and the threat of bad control variables, the use of cross-lagged panel models to test criminological theories that suggest reciprocal causal relationships, and the wide range of theorised causal mechanisms that offer theoretical explanations to the potential effects of traffic calming initiatives on antisocial behaviour.

Chair:

*Thiago Oliveira, University of Manchester*

Participants:

The good, and the bad, and the ugly: selecting control variables when testing criminological theories *Nicolas Trajtenberg, University of Manchester; Thiago Oliveira, University of Manchester*

This paper demonstrates how adjusting for the wrong control variables can be deleterious for theory-testing using observational data. Several criminological theories are founded on the premise that certain variables are causally related to an outcome. For example, deterrence theory posits that certainty of punishment prevents criminal behaviour, social disorganisation theory sustains that neighbourhood disorder is linked to higher crime rates, and procedural justice theory premises that legitimacy beliefs can foster public compliance with the law. Due to common ethical and logistical impracticalities of experimental designs, empirical research aiming to assess the empirical validity of causal relationships is often limited to observational data, and in most applications, not even quasi-experimental designs are realistically viable. In such circumstances, criminologists usually rely on a selection-on-observables approach and estimate statistical models that adjust for several control variables. However, selection of controls is often overlooked. With the goal of adjusting for confounding variables that block all backdoor paths between the treatment and the outcome and compute unbiased estimates, past research has often also inadvertently adjusted for "bad controls". In this paper, we explore how adjusting for bad controls can introduce collider bias, mediation bias, overcontrol bias, bias amplification, among other issues. Drawing on graphical tools that permit the visualisation of causal paths, we first use simulation to assess the degree to which adjusting for bad controls introduces bias. Then, we replicate results of three criminological studies that might have incurred in collider bias, mediation bias, and overcontrol bias. We conclude with a discussion on the importance of thorough considerations of theory in empirical research. Given that the data generating process is unknown in observational studies, theoretical premises should inform the empirical strategy, including the selection of control variables. Without careful consideration, statistical models are bound to fail in their theory-testing goals.

Reciprocal relationships, reverse causality, and temporal ordering: testing theories with cross-lagged panel models *Thiago Oliveira, University of Manchester; Charles C Lanfear, University of Cambridge*

Reciprocal causal relationships are a common feature of criminological theories. For example, police forces tend to use force more often in areas where crime concentrates, while at the same time legal cynicism theory suggests that cumulative exposures to police use-of-force can foster criminal activity. When multiple observations over time are available, cross-lagged panel models are commonly used to estimate these reciprocal effects. This is often done without careful attention to the assumptions that must be satisfied to produce valid estimates, such as correctly specified temporal lags, sufficient inter-temporal variation, and proper accounting for unobserved heterogeneity. Failure to satisfy these assumptions can produce severe issues including spurious associations and parameter estimates that are biased or even reversed in direction. In addition, reciprocal relationships violate causal assumptions based on graphical tools; criminological theories that suggest reciprocal causal relationships usually have an underlying macro-micro mechanism often not accounted for in empirical models. We provide guidance on how to align theory, model specification, and choice of estimator and illustrate this using an empirical example. We use data from Chicago at the census tract level and model the potential reciprocal relationship between police use-of-force and violent crime between 2004 and 2016. We finalise highlighting the importance of criminological theory and careful attention to empirical implications of theoretical premises when investigating reciprocal relationships.

Theorising the effect of traffic calming initiatives on antisocial behaviour *Jose Pina-Sánchez, University of Leeds*

This article seeks to theorise the different causal mechanisms that could be impacting on the prevalence of antisocial behaviour as a result of the adoption of traffic calming initiatives. To do so we rely on causal diagrams and a wide range of criminological theories,

such as: routine activities theory, crime prevention through environmental design, broken windows theory, collective efficacy, and procedural justice. We also use data from OpenStreetMap and data.police.uk to explore the association between traffic intensity and police recorded antisocial behaviour at the LSOA level in London across the last decade. To eliminate time-invariant confounders we employ fixed effects models. We have also pre-registered a range of parameters to explore the possible bias resulting from differential measurement error affecting police recorded antisocial behaviour. This is because many of the causal mechanisms posited to reduce antisocial behaviour after traffic calming initiatives are adopted, are also expected to increase the reporting of crime to the police.

Reassessing 'The Effect of the Seattle Police-Free CHOP Zone on Crime': A counteracting critique *Charles C Lanfear, University of Cambridge*

Piza & Connealy (2022) use a microsynthetic control approach to estimate the effect of a 24-day withdrawal of Seattle Police Department (SPD) from a section of the city following extended protests and clashes with law enforcement. They conclude this withdrawal resulted in a significant increase in crime and interpret this as strong evidence that police abolition would compromise public safety. Using counterfactuals and a graphical causal model, we demonstrate that their study does not answer the stated key question: whether levels of crime would have been lower had SPD not withdrawn. Rather, Piza & Connealy instead estimated how much crime increased due to a compound treatment consisting of both the large-scale protest against police and the resultant withdrawal of law enforcement that was conducted with the intent to de-escalate protest-related conflict. The resulting estimates thus do not provide an estimate of the effect of a police withdrawal on local crime rates. We discuss the implications of this analysis for researching the effect of police deployments on crime rates.

### 328. Victimization and Urban Insecurity: European Perspectives

Topic 4: Victimology/Patterns and trends in Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.20

Chair:

*Jose Becerra*, Institute of Criminology. University of Malaga

Participants:

Perception of (in)security in city of Funchal (Madeira), Portugal:

A Diagnosis of Local Security (DLS) *Ana Isabel Sani, University Fernando Pessoa (UFP); OPVC-UFP; CIEC-UM; Laura M. Nunes, Universidade Fernando Pessoa*

We present a study of Diagnosis of Local Security (DLS), developed in 2021 in the city of Funchal (Madeira), which was carried out under the coordination of researchers from the Observatory Permanent of Violence and Crime (OPVC) of University Fernando Pessoa in partnership with the Municipality of Funchal (CMF). This cooperation resulted in a community assessment that aimed to deepen the specificities of the city of Funchal, the local population's perception of (in)security, suffered and occurred victimization, police forces and their action, and citizens' involvement in solving their community's problems. The sample consisted of 3390 participants aged between 18 and 90 years old ( $M = 44.0$ ,  $SD = \pm 16.7$ ). Data collection took place through a survey supported by the questionnaire technique. The overall results showed that around 83% of participants reported living in a safe area. Possible crime-enhancing/enabling factors were related to illegal or legal drug use (alcohol) or the existence of poverty rates. 9.1% of the sample ( $n = 307$ ) reported being a victim of crime in recent years, such as robbery, residential or commercial burglary, mainly resulting in property damage. 25% of respondents reported that police officers never or almost never did everything to ensure safety in the city, alleging reasons related to insufficient patrolling/police presence. The increase in security could be due to the increase in policing/video surveillance/more effective justice and decreased phenomena such as prostitution /illegal begging/homelessness/drug trafficking; urban rehabilitation/more and better equipment. It is imperative to attend to urban spaces'

condition, as well as buildings themselves, and formal social control, police.

Intersectional Analysis of Vulnerability among Homeless Women in Spain *Raquel Guzmán Ordaz, University of Salamanca; Eva Picado-Valverde, University of Salamanca; Amaia Yurrebaso, University of Salamanca; Esther García-Valverde, University of Salamanca*

This presentation delves into the intricate web of intersectional risk factors influencing the vulnerability of homeless women in Spain to various forms of violence. Through an ecological lens, we explore the different levels of social interaction, from the microsystem of personal relationships to the macrosystem of broader social and cultural structures, in order to deeply understand the complexities surrounding social exclusion and gender-based violence. Our analysis reveals that homeless women face a range of interconnected challenges that increase their risk of victimization. These factors include age, ethnic-racial differences, perception of citizenship, and social class. These axes of inequality do not operate in isolation but rather interact in complex ways, exacerbating the difficulties these women face in their daily lives. We emphasize the importance of adopting comprehensive and gender-sensitive approaches to effectively address the issues faced by homeless women. This involves not only recognizing the diversity of experiences and challenges they face but also developing public policies and services that address these complex intersections of inequality in an inclusive and effective manner.

Migrants, Foreigners, Criminals and Victims *Francesc Guillén Lasierra, Department of Interior*

Public debates use to relate migrants with crime. Their high representation among police detainees or prison inmates favours that discourse. But there is no/few public debate about how often migrants become victims of crime. It's true that the issue of foreigners with high levels of victimisation is raised when we talk about tourism, but that has no link to migration. In 2011, after the end of the most massive immigration wave in Catalonia, when a lot of migrants had already brought their families with them and there was a well-established population of people from migrant ascent, we decided to explore the relationships between migrants and crime and victims. Results showed that, yes, there was a hiperrepresentation/overrepresentation of migrants among police detainees, but there was also a quite high percentage of victims that could be identified with nationalities related to migrant movements. We repeated the study with data from 2017 and the same tendency was confirmed. Now we have repeated the same study with date from 2023, trying to include more parameters that allow us to ground both correlations (about the first one, migrants as criminals, there is a wide literature that focus mainly on racial profile and high presence in public spaces, however there is much less research about the second one, migrants as victims of crime, further than those related directly to racism or discrimination, and foreign tourists as criminals or victims). Results provide us with new grounds to work with.

Tourists surveyed in Malaga: victimization, safety perception and opinions on crime prevention strategies. *Jose Becerra, Institute of Criminology. University of Malaga; MARÍA IZCO, UNIVERSITY OF MÁLAGA*

This presentation discusses the results of a survey on tourist victimization administered in Malaga city (Spain) along the year 2023, a work carried out by the COPO Network (University of Malaga). Due to the inaccessibility of official data and the scarce research on this topic, the COPO Network's aim was to gather information on tourist victimization using a broad concept of tourist, which includes national and international visitors to the city. Tourists were inquired on their victimization experiences, their safety perception and fear of crime, their self-protection strategies, as well as their effectiveness perception about different crime prevention public strategies in place, such as the police presence in public spaces or the office for tourist assistance managed by the police. Geocodification of reported crimes along with the rest of the results will be discussed.

### 329. (re)Conceptualising Homicide in England and Wales

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Homicide and Violent Crime

(Homicide Research WG and European Violence Monitor WG)  
Pre-arranged Panel  
5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22*

Our panel will consider findings from four separate studies using data from the Homicide Index which is collated by the Home Office and pertains to England and Wales. The papers will illustrate trends spanning multiple decades, specific periods (the Covid-19 pandemic), and novel subgroups (non-intimate femicide, patricide, matricide and wider domestic). The panel will further explore how long-term homicide trends are shaped by, and interact with broader social, cultural, and economic forces, as well as patterns in non-lethal violence. Notably, homicide in England and Wales has not replicated the recent shifts in lethal violence observed elsewhere in the industrialized world and cannot be explained (as yet) by the same theoretical or empirical frameworks. While the Homicide Index is considered one of the most detailed and robust datasets on murder and manslaughter, the panel will critically explore the limitations of the data and the implications for theoretical specification and policy development.

Chair:

**Emily Gray**, University of Warwick

Participants:

Conceptualising and measuring non-intimate femicide: Analysing the Homicide Index as a source of femicide data in England and Wales *Caroline Miles, University of Manchester; Elizabeth Cook, City, University of London; Merili Pulleris, City, University of London*

There is broad consensus in scholarship on femicide that systematic recording, collection, and disaggregation of data on all types of femicide is urgently required for prevention. In the UK, there is a wealth of literature on domestic homicide, yet non-intimate femicide (NIF) (defined here as all killing of women and girls aged 10 and over by a non-intimate or domestic relation), has received very little attention from criminologists. This paper draws upon a British Academy/Leverhulme funded project exploring NIF, including how it is conceptualised in existing research and evidence, the nature of media coverage of NIF, and how definitions are operationalised in administrative data. The focus in this paper is our analysis of the Homicide Index (HI) (2002-2022), which collates data on all police recorded homicides across England and Wales. We examine what definitions of NIF are currently captured in official homicide data, what administrative data can tell us about NIF, and what limits and challenges exist when employing administrative homicide data to measure femicide. This is the first national analysis of femicide using official homicide data from the HI in England and Wales, and the first to disaggregate femicide by the victim-perpetrator relationship beyond an intimate partner relationship.

The effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on domestic homicide in England and Wales 2014-2024 *Valeria Abreu Minero, University College London*

The Domestic Homicide and Covid Project was created in December 2021 to share knowledge on the prevalence of offences recorded as domestic homicide in England and Wales in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. The project aims to contribute to a more detailed understanding of the short-, mid- and long-term effects of Covid-19 and related restrictions on sub-types of domestic homicide. In contrast to official national statistics, the project uses data relating to the date in which the homicide occurred, rather than the date in which the incident was recorded. The project also adopts a broader definition of domestic homicide to include child deaths in a domestic setting. This wider definition has enabled a more comprehensive analysis of domestic homicide trends to investigate differences in victimisation risk during the pandemic. The project involves analysis of the Home Office Homicide Index data covering the period 2014-2024. We have presented papers at two ESC conferences and contributed to the most recent UN Women Femicide Report. Evidence from the project has shown that domestic homicides remained within expected levels during the pandemic, with 154 recorded in the year ending March 2021. Still, the project has found both fluctuations in levels of domestic homicide subtypes, and changes in the composition of domestic homicide during and post-pandemic. So far, results suggest

domestic homicide victimisation risk during Covid differed according to victim type; with parent and child victims found to be at greater risk.

Using Homicide Index data to examine the contexts of parricide in England and Wales *Rachel Condry, Centre for Criminology, University of Oxford; Caroline Miles, University of Manchester*

Parricide, the killing of parents by their children, is a relatively rare but persistent phenomenon in the UK. Criminological literature on parricide in the UK is sparse, and the contexts are poorly understood. Using Homicide Index data for England and Wales covering a period of 13 years, our analysis revealed that parricide is a gendered form of homicide, with women over-represented as victims (compared to homicide per se) and men overwhelmingly the perpetrators. The Homicide Index data also indicate that patricide (the killing of fathers) and matricide (the killing of mothers) are contextually distinctive phenomena. However, there are important limitations in the Homicide Index data, including poor recording of mental illness, which render important characteristics invisible, particularly of matricide. Although this national source of data is valuable, the limitations (evidenced by alternative data sources) highlight the need for more accurate administrative data on homicide and matricide, which we argue is a hidden form of femicide. Through a full contextual understanding of patricides and matricides, lessons can be learned, and prevention strategies can be developed to begin to address these complex forms of homicide.

Examining the long-term relationship between lethal and non-lethal violence, and socio-political processes in England and Wales 1977-2022 *Emily Gray, University of Warwick; Stephen Farrall, University of Nottingham; Andromachi Tseloni, Nottingham Trent University*

This paper presents findings from a new study seeking to understand the drivers of homicide trends in England and Wales over the last forty-five years (1977-2022). Drawing on over-time exploratory analysis it will disaggregate the data by homicide subtypes (drawing on Homicide Index) and compare these cleavages with over-time patterns of non-lethal violence (utilising the Crime Survey for England and Wales). This study presents a unique opportunity to develop 'real world' knowledge to assess if the homicide rate in England and Wales has fallen consistently across socio-demographic sub-groups; whether patterns in circumstantial characteristics of homicides have changed over time and which factors have driven recent homicide trends up, and how these patterns interact with other long-term social, economic and cultural processes.

### 330. Technology and control in community sanctions

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Community Sanctions (Community Sanctions WG)

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.04*

Chair:

**Ian Brunton-Smith**, University of Surrey

Participants:

Electronic Monitoring in Portugal *Rafaela Granja, University of Minho*

Electronic monitoring has grown in scale, scope and application in several Western countries over the last few decades. It is a highly versatile technology because it can be used at all stages of involvement with the criminal justice system, namely as a pre-trial measure, as a condition for the suspension or enforcement of a prison sentence, and as a pre-release measure for prisoners. Electronic monitoring can also be used for victim protection. The (alleged) benefits of electronic monitoring are widely promoted through political and media discourses that emphasise the potential reduction of prison overcrowding and associated costs, the maintenance of social ties and the reduction of recidivism. Such overly optimistic expectations have therefore led institutions such as the Council of Europe to recommend the use of electronic monitoring across jurisdictions. In Portugal, the use of electronic

monitoring has increased significantly. However, 20 years after its introduction, there is a lack of studies exploring its impacts. In this paper, I critically examine the paradoxes that characterize its application based on ongoing empirical work.

**The effectiveness of Electronic Monitoring: Evidence from UK administrative data** *Ian Brunton-Smith, University of Surrey*  
Despite the widespread use of Electronic Monitoring (EM) as a Criminal Justice response to offending across the world, there remains comparatively little evidence about its effectiveness (Belur et al., 2020). This study contributes to this evidence gap, drawing on administrative data covering more than 100,000 tagged offenders collected by the Ministry of Justice to construct a quasi-experimental evaluation of EM effectiveness as part of community-based sanctions. As well as assessing impacts on reoffending after a tagging order has ended, this study expands on existing work by considering the effectiveness of EM whilst the tags are being worn, as well as the impacts on compliance with other sanctions.

**The Impact of AI on Risk Decision-Making** *Beth Weaver, University of Strathclyde; Fern Gillon, University of Strathclyde; Gavin Heron, University of Strathclyde*

Actuarial risk assessments are a core practice in criminal justice. Critical thinking and levels of uncertainty are crucial to professionals' reasoning in this context, yet concerns remain about practitioners a) engagement with the uncertainty that the risk assessment and management of complex cases requires and engenders b) exercise of appropriate reflexivity and discretion, and c) use of critical thinking when assessing risk (Heron 2020; 2023a&b). The exponential growth of interest in Artificial Intelligence presents opportunities, challenges and dilemmas to practitioners across a range of professions. There remains, however little evidence about the value and impact of Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing AI in justice contexts. This paper reports on the findings from an experimental study with 20 justice social workers in Scotland, exploring the extent to which the use of ChatGPT enhances or detracts from uncertainty when completing complex risk assessments; and, whether it supports or limits practitioners critical thinking when examining risk of serious harm, and to what effect.

**Understanding the experience of home detention: the presentation of the first results of a qualitative investigation in Naples** *Andrea Procaccini, University of Naples "Federico II"*

The Italian legislator has intervened on multiple occasions since 2010 to expand the possibilities of access to probation and community measures in order to counteract the issue of prison overcrowding. What distinguishes this new phase of Italian probation is not only an increase in the quantitative terms of the beneficiaries but also a profound qualitative change. In fact, the number of beneficiaries of home detention has significantly increased (over 30% of the total probation). This strategy has had the merit, for political and decision-making actors, of protecting them from security judgments by a portion of the public opinion that would not have supported structural reforms of the system with a decarceration perspective. In the Italian field of sociological and criminological studies on probation, the area of home detention is still relatively unexplored. The idea of this investigation, therefore, arises from the need to explore the needs of home detention beneficiaries, a hybrid measure between prison and probation, in order to provide reflections and empirical evidence that can contribute to the knowledge of professionals operating in this field. This exploratory research aims to analyze the perception of home detainees regarding certain challenging aspects of the measure through a series of in-depth interviews. This contribution will present the initial results of an investigation conducted on a sample of home detainees monitored by the probation agency of Naples (10/15 subjects). The sample includes a certain heterogeneity concerning various socio-demographic variables (gender, education level, nationality, residence) and legal variables (coming from freedom or detention, use of electronic monitoring bracelet, type of offense, type of prescriptions).

### 331. Online Markets, drugs, treatment and harm reduction

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Drugs and Crime (European Drug Policies WG)  
Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06  
Chair:

**Kristina Cufar**, Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law Ljubljana

Participants:

**Decoding cryptomarkets: An analysis of socio-political influences and global dynamics** *Meropi Tzanetakis, University of Manchester; Matias Dewey, University of St. Gallen*

This paper addresses a notable gap in the expanding field of cryptomarket research, which has predominantly focused on the social organisational dynamics of these platforms, neglecting essential socio-political factors influencing their emergence. Our study introduces a political-economic perspective to illuminate the intricate interplay shaping the ecosystem of cryptomarkets, particularly those utilising encryption technologies to circumvent drug control policies. While cryptomarkets are not globally ubiquitous, their prevalence in Global North countries (North America, Europe, Australia) raises questions about the socio-political underpinnings that contribute to their formation. Drawing on the political economy of illicit markets, our research explores macro-conditions facilitating the proliferation of cryptomarkets. The analysis underscores the complex nexus involving government policies, drug markets, digital technologies, socio-economic factors, geographical location, and power dynamics. By exploring unintended consequences of government interventions, reliable postal services, fintech payment systems, technological literacy, trust, and social relationships, our study reveals how these elements contribute to the social order within cryptomarkets. Notably, the paper sheds light on why cryptomarkets are less prevalent in traditional drug cultivation and production countries in Asia or Latin America. By adopting a political-economic lens, this paper connects the dots between cryptomarket actors, infrastructures, and broader societal structures. The examination of darknet-based drug markets as a global phenomenon concentrated in the Global North underscores the significance of profit opportunities and existing infrastructural capabilities in shaping these markets. Understanding the political economy of cryptomarkets is imperative for formulating effective policies that address both the root causes and manifestations of illicit online activities within a broader societal context.

**Adaptation of marketing techniques for the sale of legal goods to the illegal drug trade in the Polish online drug markets** *Adam Stasiak, Polish Academy of Sciences*

In this paper I will present on matters related to online drug trafficking in Poland. As part of my research, I look at drug trafficking on social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and Telegram. Although the research looks at many aspects of the online drug trade, in this presentation I will focus on the marketing techniques that are used by drug traffickers. It is possible to see immediately that they draw substantially from the legal trade in goods. Drug sellers do this in multiple ways, adapting shipping solutions, prices and promotions that consumers who buy items online are used to. Interestingly, it is possible to observe a very fast process of learning and making changes by sellers, who introduce constant improvements to their business and their offers. This is particularly important in the context of both crime prevention and harm reduction policies related to drug use which need to adapt themselves to the ever-changing drug market.

**Defining quality of life: the case of the Norwegian opioid substitution treatment program** *Tara Matilde Soderholm, VID Specialized University*

The Norwegian opioid substitution treatment (OST) program is, despite being considered one of the most successful measures for treating opioid addiction, a contested practice. The program's official aims are to increase the patient's quality of life and decrease mortality. This is sought by giving people with a diagnosed opioid addiction a substitution medication in a highly controlled environment. The illicit drug use that the policy is aimed at, has long been situated within the crime-health-nexus. Today, OST is the only specialist health service in Norway with its own regulation. Although those who are given treatment were afforded patients'

rights in 2004, patients have long complained about inhumane treatment regimes, lack of involvement in their own treatment plan, and a general lack of trust both in and from the OST system. Some developments have been seen in the policies regarding OST. Still, the underlying conditions that inform and shape the treatment, especially the disagreement about the treatment quality and goals, have not been adequately investigated. This paper explores how patients understand and engage with OST through qualitative in-depth interviews. The study takes a broad and exploratory approach to how OST affects the patients' lives, using an epistemic injustice framework. Reoccurring themes in the analysis are experiences of infantilization, and differing views of "good health" and "quality of life". Especially the latter is defined as qualities that are highly personal and mostly hard to measure quantitatively – in contrast to quality of life as defined in official regulations and guidelines. This highlights the different paradigms that inform OST specifically, but also situates the treatment in the broader crime-health-nexus.

**Unofficial psychedelic-assisted therapy and shamanic rituals in Slovenia** *Kristina Cufar, Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law Ljubljana*

The recent resurgence of interest in psychedelic-assisted therapy coincides with a massive mental health crisis, sensationalist media reporting, and shifts in public perceptions. Classic psychedelics (like LSD, psilocybin, DMT, and mescaline) are classified as the most dangerous illicit substances without medical application. Yet, they are often described as posing little risk to physical health, low potential for development of chemical addiction, and huge (if insufficiently researched) potential to treat a variety of ills. Against the backdrop of such narratives, psychedelics are no longer confined to the psychonautic niche and are attracting new groups of users. In the context of restrictive legislation that precludes clinical trials with psychedelics and an unregulated psychotherapy market in Slovenia, a variety of unofficial psychedelic therapeutic and shamanic practices is taking place. While providing positive experiences for some, these clandestine practices also present various risks. Such psychedelic practices remain undetected in the official statistics and thus merit an investigation that takes into account the particular experience, risks and motivations for engagement in, as well as general societal attitudes towards shamanic and therapeutic use of psychedelics. The paper will present the initial results of an ongoing project investigating the societal attitudes towards classic psychedelics, their regulation, and their use in therapeutic and shamanic contexts in Slovenia.

### 332. Prison Working Group: Understanding prison officers: Roles, composition, and attitudes toward detained persons

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

6:30 to 7:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”*

Chair:

*Thomas Akoensi, University of Kent*

Participants:

Becoming a Prison Officer, through the lens of Bourdieu's field theory *Emilie Gossye, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

In Belgian prisons, efforts are underway to redefine the role of prison personnel. Through role differentiation, the responsibilities of the prison officer are separated into the job of safety assistant and detention supervisor. This development is put into practice by, amongst other things, changes in the recruitment and training of newcomers. In this presentation, I focus on the onboarding of new prison officers into an organisation undergoing change. How can we understand the socialisation process when the organisational conditions are in flux? How can newcomers develop a feel for the game while the rules of said game are being rewritten? This presentation offers a case study using Bourdieusian insights (such as those related to habitus and hysteresis) to grasp the complex nature of socialisation processes in a dynamic environment. I do so by using an interdisciplinary perspective informed by the extensive body of literature integrating Bourdieu into managerial, organisational, and criminological studies.

Exploring the approachability and accessibility of prison officers:

A comparative analysis of dynamics in Belgian and Dutch Prisons *Lorenz Robert Pardon, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

The centrality of prison officers to life in prison has long been acknowledged (Home Office, 1984; Liebling, 2011). Therefore, Belgium's recent convergence towards the Dutch prison officer model, introducing a differentiation between security and supervisory roles, requires a better understanding of working practices in both countries. While some officers prioritize maintaining a professional distance for security reasons, others strive for a more approachable demeanor to foster positive relationships with incarcerated persons. However, the degree of prison officer accessibility varies, influenced by factors such as architecture, staffing levels, institutional policies, prison layout and regime. Understanding how prison officers navigate these dynamics sheds light on the complexities of their role and its impact on prison life. This presentation delves into the perceptions and experiences of prison officers regarding their accessibility and approachability within different carceral settings by using an ethnographic approach, consisting of participant observations and in-depth interviews with prison officers in two Belgian and two Dutch prisons.

Supervision of requests and complaints procedures: are penitentiary judges an effective remedy? *Cristina Güerri, Universitat Pompeu Fabra; Elena Larrauri, Universitat Pompeu Fabra*

The purpose of this research is to find out how prisoners' right of access to requests and complaints procedures is implemented in Spain. Although one can find many systems throughout Europe to guarantee the proper functioning of these procedures (van Zyl Smit-Snacken, 2009), several countries (such as Spain and Romania, for example) have developed a specific penitentiary judge as a supervisory mechanism. In our research, we assess how penitentiary judges develop these supervisory functions through visits, recommendations, and responding to individual requests and complaints. By examining official records, we aim to provide information on what aspects of daily life are brought to the attention of the penitentiary judge and what decisions they make. In addition, through interviews with these judges, we will examine the obstacles they face in responding to these requests and complaints. Finally, through this analysis we aim to contribute to the discussion of what constitutes an effective remedy (Article 13 ECHR) for the rights and legitimate interests of prisoners.

Predicting procedural justice treatment of prisoners by prison officers *Thomas Akoensi, University of Kent*

Treating prisoners with humanity, dignity and respect has been enshrined in several international prison conventions especially the Nelson Mandela Rules (2015). The literature on procedural justice has emphasized its role in maintaining discipline and order in prisons and fostering the rehabilitation of prisoners and subsequent desistance from crime. However, we have limited knowledge about what predicts prison officers' treatment of prisoners with procedural justice. In this paper, we assess the extent to which recruit prison officers' attitudes to treating prisoners with respect changes overtime – before mandatory training (T1) and after training (T2). Using panel survey data of prison officers in Ghana, we discovered that prison officers' attitudes towards procedural justice treatment of prisoners remained stagnant between Time 1 and Time 2. On the predictors, we found that officers who reported high job stress and having an authoritarian personality undermined officers' procedural justice treatment of prisoners whilst officers' self-legitimacy and perceived audience legitimacy enhanced officers treatment with procedural justice. We discuss the implications of our findings.

### 333. POL Panel 4. Police officer belonging and cultural narratives

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

6:30 to 7:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”*

Chair:

**Rok Hacin**, University of Maribor

Participants:

“Feeling like a quitter” when you’re a ‘traitor’ not a ‘faithful’:

Role exit and the experiences of voluntary resigners from policing in England and Wales. *Jemma Tyson, University of Portsmouth; Sarah Charman, University of Portsmouth*

The existing literature on role transitions focuses predominantly upon role entry rather than role exit and the literature on police leavers focuses predominantly on retirees rather than voluntary resigners. With the rate of police voluntary resignations now at its highest level since records began, there is a need to understand this specific group and their lived experience of role exit. Using Ebaugh’s (1988) four-stage model on voluntary role exit as a framework, this presentation takes on this knowledge gap, presenting unique findings from a qualitative analysis of interviews with officers who voluntarily resigned between 2021 and 2022, from the police service within England and Wales. In doing so, it evidences the applicability of Ebaugh’s role exit model to voluntary police resigners, in terms of process and stages. However, the model falls short in understanding the impact of police organisational cultures on leavers and the leaving process and the very clear differences experienced between those who retire from the organisation - the ‘faithfuls’ - and those who voluntarily resign - the ‘traitors’. This presentation therefore provides important evidence both about when potential interventions are more likely to have an impact but also how reactions from supervisors and line managers can potentially influence this decision-making.

Police Specialism in England and Wales: an Exploratory Review

*Arianna Barbin, University of Suffolk*

Specialism can broadly be intended as any task that go beyond the traditional day-to-day duties of police officers and is routinely used to handle specific types of crimes, victims, and perpetrators. Despite this, there is lack of clarity around what police specialism should look like. The absence of validated criteria, tailored for a policing context, creates confusion and misunderstandings. As a result, there is little understanding of how police specialism affects officers’ wellbeing, perceived competence, and performance. Improving the clarity around police specialism is becoming increasingly relevant. Especially, as emerging needs for further professionalisation have been clashing with the localist structure of police forces. Thus, frequently results in diluted expertise and unnecessarily duplicated resources. The study links together evidence from the literature and the first-hand experiences of specialism among police officers in England and Wales. The study’s aim was to establish what police specialism looks like in practice, adding valuable insights towards academic and police knowledge on the topic, but most especially giving a voice to police officers. This preliminary investigation highlighted some of the socio-cultural, policy-based, and historical information that contributed to the development of specialism in the police in their contemporary form. A scarcity of original studies published on the topic, showed a consistent lack of appropriate terminology of how specialism is defined in practice and implemented across forces. Overall, common patterns have been identified as for how and why specialist units have been instituted in England and Wales over time. There is also evidence that specialism might impact on police efficacy, and that the specialist knowledge of officers working for within specialist units is frequently inferred – rather than measured. Potential advantages and the perceived challenges of specialism within policing were investigated, in the attempt of shaping what specialism should look like based on policing needs and concerns.

What Drives Them? The Antecedents of Police Officers’ Pro-Organizational Behaviour *Gorazd Meško, University of Maribor; Rok Hacin, University of Maribor*

Pro-organizational behaviour is a form of prosocial behaviour. Such behaviour within the police organization is reflected in police officers’ volunteer work, which presents a benefit to the organization. The study aims to identify antecedents of police officers’ pro-organizational behaviour. A national sample of police officers (n = 375) was collected in 2022. First, factors related to self-legitimacy were tested. The results of multivariate statistical analysis show that relations with colleagues, audience legitimacy, and gender correlate with police officers’ self-legitimacy. Second,

the influence of police officers’ self-legitimacy on pro-organizational behaviour was examined. The results of regression analysis show that relations with colleagues, and age influenced police officers’ pro-organizational behaviour, while self-legitimacy had no effect. Findings highlight the importance of collegiality between police officers enhancing their sense of loyalty and influencing behavior that is beneficial to police organization.

### 334. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 9: Developments in understanding and responding to GBV

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

6:30 to 7:45 pm

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”*

Chair:

**VASILIKI STATHOPOULOU**, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences

Participants:

Casting a wide net. Spain’s criminal policy on gender violence after twenty years *Dyango Bonsignore, University of Alicante*

Spain has provided one of the earlier and most complete examples of a criminal policy directed at combating gender-based violence. In so doing, it has provided food for thought and experiences to examine from other countries and legal systems. After twenty years of activity in this realm, results have been significant. Nevertheless, the accumulated experience allows for a characterization of the strategy employed, as well as critical examination of its main results and challenges. In this sense, the Spanish intervention on gender violence has followed mostly a “net widening” approach that is clearly visible in official statistics. This strategy has been supported by a strongly legalistic approach that has minimized the role of case-by-case analysis in favor of a risk-minimization approach. Based on official statistics, the main merits of such approach must be recognized, but its shortcomings are nonetheless significant. An overview both aspects, twenty years on, is offered hoping to provide useful information to researchers from different legal contexts.

Is a sociological analysis of domestic violence and coercive control in family courts possible? Presentation of an experimentation in France *Pierre-Guillaume Prigent, University of Western Brittany; Gwénola Sueur, University of Western Brittany*

Studying the strategies of violent fathers in the context of parental separation involves analysing procedures relating to the residence of the children (Prigent, 2021). Experts appointed by the family court judge can give their opinion on the family situation. They are chosen from a list of legal experts, mostly psychologists or psychiatrists, drawn up by the courts of appeal. In France, psychoanalysis has a strong influence on their training (Biland, 2023). Our research on the social use of the theory of “parental alienation” suggests that experts may resort to this scientifically unfounded notion, which tends to conceal domestic violence (Sueur and Prigent, 2022). In this paper we describe our protocol for analysing the stories of female victims of domestic violence, identified using the coercive control model (Stark, 2007), based on a semi-structured interview and the use of a scale to measure domestic violence. Our presentation will be based on fifteen cases in which we intervened privately, from March 2022 until today. In the reports we document the behaviour of the aggressors and the victims, the context in which it occurs and the consequences of this behaviour, adopting a social and systemic entrapment framework (Tolmie, 2024; Ptacek, 1999). More broadly, it is a critique in action of the psychologisation and concealment of domestic violence (Romito, 2008), a defense of evidence-based practice, and an attempt to bring sociology into an institution that seems reluctant to do so.

The contribution of administrative data from Antiviolence centers and Shelter Homes to the study of VAW in Italy *Francesco Gosetti, Italian National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT); Lucilla Scarnicchia, Istituto Nazionale di Statistica of Italy (ISTAT); Alessandra Battisti, Italian National Institute of Statistics*

(ISTAT)

Considering that violence against women remains highly underreported, victimization surveys represent a fundamental source for the study of its prevalence and characteristics. Particular aspects that seem to be further explored, both for their scientific and operational relevance, are those related to the help-seeking behavior of survivors and the protection system implemented. In this regard, administrative data coming from anti-violence centers and shelter homes can provide pivotal insights into several aspects of the phenomenon, ranging from the number of victims who turned to specialized services, their characteristics as well as those of the perpetrators, the victimization experiences, the need for specific services among women. But they can also reveal the structural and financial organization of anti-violence centers and shelter homes as well as their role in promoting and communicating initiatives to protect women, the identification of unmet needs and the ways to further improve the protection of women survivors of violence. Nevertheless, given their administrative nature, these data are not immediately usable for statistical purposes. Istat, in collaboration with the Department for Equal Opportunities, has developed a system of three data collection initiatives that was able to enhance the statistical value of these data and, thus, build and populate, on a regular basis, a dataset on the protection side of the phenomenon. The aim of this paper is to provide 1) the main methodological steps toward the implementation of the dataset – with emphasis on the phases of implementation, coordination, data collection, training and analysis; 2) the main results in terms of data analysis and further perspective in this regard, also in terms of data integration with other sources.

The evolution of domestic violence in Greece during the last five years: Spatial distribution *VASILIKI STATHOPOULOU, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences*

The purpose of this presentation is the study of the phenomenon of domestic violence in Greece within the last five years, taking into account the spatial distribution of its districts, , thus concluding, in this way, the existence of a relationship between incidents and population density. It is important to be mentioned that the research was carried out during the course of the master's thesis with the significant contribution of my supervisor and also aims to find the existence of a probably change in the number of incidents as a consequence of the pandemic, while an attempt is also made to highlight a possible typology of perpetrators, victims and acts, through the comparison of the two main statistical sources (Police and General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights), even if the methodological difficulties, mainly resulting from the different recording, making this task impossible for all the studied factors. The findings from the data comparison of the given years (five) show the ascendancy of such cases in mostly urban environments while the results for the temporal appearance of the influence of the pandemic on the two vectors are ambiguous. At the same time, specific characteristics of the parties involved in the phenomenon are also highlighted, capable of contributing to a targeted crime policy of prevention, reduction of the opportunities for crime and proper response. In conclusion, the aforementioned methodological difficulties of the comparison of the statistical data, due to the different recording, reveal the more general approach of the two services towards the phenomenon, but this does not negate the importance of their actions, nor of the data of the present research effort.

### 335. Child Protection and Victim Support

Topic 4: Victimology/Victims' rights (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

6:30 to 7:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”

Chair:

**Beatriz Martínez**, Universitat de Girona

Participants:

A Spanish orphanage in the sixties. A quantitative perspective on the victims. *Laura Arantegui Arràez, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya*

Around 500 care leavers and some of their mothers were either born

or admitted annually to the Maternity of Barcelona-Les Corts, a Spanish orphanage. The Maternity provided refuge for the economically disadvantaged for an entire century, until the late 20th century. Mothers were compelled to serve as in-house workers if they wished to retain custody of their children; failure to comply could result in the child being subject to eventual adoption. The Franco era represented a challenging period for the foundlings, who not only endured harsh living conditions but also faced societal stigma due to the majority of their mothers being unmarried. Due to the historical proximity of the 1960s or the sensitive nature of the subject matter, no prior research had been conducted. For the first time in Spain, over 5000 manual records pertaining to children and their mothers from 1960 to 1970 have been gathered and subjected to statistical analysis. This initiative seeks to provide scientific substantiation for previously speculative claims. The forthcoming presentation will unveil the research findings, which include socio-demographic data on the institutionalized individuals, insights into the operational aspects of the Maternity (e.g., adoption processes), and an enhanced understanding of the contextual framework wherein the victimization of the children and mothers transpired.

Assessing the Impact of the Barnahus model for the protection of child victims in Criminal Justice *Núria Torres-Rosell, University Rovira i Virgili - Spain; África Cruz, Universitat Rovira i Virgili; Juan Angel Maccagno, Universitat Rovira i Virgili; Alba Marsol, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya*

This paper presents the outcomes of a methodological evaluation aimed at assessing noteworthy changes in Criminal justice subsequent to the implementation of the Barnahus model. Employing the inaugural pilot of the Barnahus model in Spain, established in 2020 in Tarragona, as a case study, the analysis examines potential enhancements in the access of child victims of sexual abuse to the criminal justice system, as well as the mitigation of revictimizing practices for children and their families. To achieve this objective, a longitudinal analysis spanning five years, from 2018 to 2022, was conducted within the Province of Tarragona. Following an agreement with the Spanish Public Prosecutor, data were gathered from case files within the Public Prosecutor's Office in Tarragona, facilitating the identification of changes in the process durations, the utilization of preconstituted evidence, the assessment of child credibility, and the sentencing of cases. The study employed a quantitative methodology, founded on a systematic examination of judicial records regarding cases of sexual violence by adults against children and adolescents under 16 years old. Additionally, the research features an ecological comparison between two judicial regions: one with the adoption of the Barnahus Model (Tarragona) and another without the Model, situated in the province of Lleida, and over the same 5-year period. Cases incorporated in the study are those concluded with some form of judicial resolution, whether it be case dismissal (27.94%), sentencing (8.45%), or provisional qualification by the Public Prosecutor (8.99%). In total, 1,124 records underwent scrutiny, with 45.37% of cases being included in the study. The findings of this study are expected to not only assess the initial cases handled by Barnahus in Catalonia and Spain but also to establish an analytical methodology conducive to monitoring changes over time and applicable beyond regional borders to other territories and countries.

Protecting child victims? Just barely. The loopholes of the pre-recorded evidence in child abuse proceedings in Spain *Beatriz Martínez, Universitat de Girona*

The general rule in Spanish criminal proceedings establishes that the testimonial evidence must be practiced in the presence of the sentencing judge and the defendant at the oral trial. This requirement, however, is one of the procedural moments most likely to generate serious damage on the well-being of the underage victim. The European Union has devoted part of its efforts to developing the victim's right to protection during their intervention in criminal proceedings in a full range of legal instruments, highlighting Articles 2, 3 and 8 of Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA, and Articles 23 and 24 of Directive 2012/29/EU, which contain protection mechanisms such as the recording of the child's statement made during the investigation for its subsequent introduction in oral proceedings as valid evidence. The use of the victim's pre-recorded testimonial evidence in Spanish law has

always been a controversial issue, but the efforts promoted by the European Union, the change in the jurisprudential criteria of the Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court and the legislator's efforts to introduce new reforms in this matter have ensured that the standards of protection of minors through the use of this type of evidence have been raised. However, it is still far from a perfect and harmonious solution, as its regulation at the national level has a series of loopholes that make it difficult to provide a guaranteed level of protection. The purpose of this proposal is to expose the regulation concerning the practice and admission pre-recorded evidence, as well as to identify the main difficulties that require a response in order to guarantee its effectiveness on a legal and victimization level in processes concerning underage victims.

### 336. ROUNDTABLE Exploring new approaches to the study of corporate crime

Topic 2: Types of Offending/White collar Crime, Organizational Crime, Corporate Crime, Financial Crime (EUROC)

Roundtable

6:30 to 7:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”

Corporate and white-collar crime have garnered increased attention in recent years due to their pervasive impacts on economies, societies, and individual lives. Understanding corporate crime is crucial in a contemporary landscape where traditional (criminological) models may fall short in capturing the multifaceted dimensions of these offenses. In this roundtable, the participants will engage in a discussion regarding fresh approaches in the examination of white-collar and corporate crime. The session brings together a dynamic group of young scholars dedicated to exploring novel theories, methodologies, and approaches in the study of white-collar and corporate crime. Each discussant will present their unique contributions, offering insights into the latest developments in the study of corporate crime. This includes the application of developmental theories, the intersection of research and practice of corporate compliance, and the utilization of new methods and concepts to study old issues. Further, the discussion will focus on the interconnectedness of various fields including sociology, psychology, and business studies. Through the adoption of a multidisciplinary perspective, our aim is to further untangle the complexity of white-collar and corporate crime and advance the boundaries set by current frameworks.

Chair:

**Nina Tobsch**, University of Amsterdam

Participants:

New concepts in corporate crime research *Diana Berzina, Maastricht University*

A complexity approach to corporate misconduct *Malouke Kuiper, Erasmus University Rotterdam*

Trajectory analysis of corporate offending *Jelmar Meester, VU Amsterdam*

Longitudinal patterns of corporate non-compliance *Frederike Oberheim, NSCR*

### 337. Sentencing 6. National and Comparative Perspectives

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Courts and Sentencing and Penal Decision Making (Sentencing and Penal Decisionmaking WG)

Paper Session

6:30 to 7:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)

Chair:

**Ida Leibetseder**, Hans Gross Centre for Interdisciplinary Criminal Sciences (Institute of Criminal Law, Criminal Procedural Law and Criminology, University of Graz, Austria)

Participants:

Confronting imperfections: A study of judicial responses to sentencing disparity in Slovenia *Mojca M. Plesničar, Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law Ljubljana*

The paper explores the intricate dynamics of judicial decision-making by presenting the challenges judges face within an

imperfect sentencing framework. Drawing on empirical data from three distinct studies involving legal practitioners in Slovenia, it starts with the unavoidable disparity uncovered through the dual prisms of hypothetical vignettes and case-law analyses. However, the paper does not focus on said disparities but seeks to explore the undercurrents of judicial sentiment and strategy when confronted with evidence of systemic disparities. It explores their reactions, gathered through observations and interviews, and posits them in a context where they can be understood and further explored. The paper's central theme revolves around the subjective experiences of judges, the personal ethos of sentencing they develop, their reliance on prosecutorial input and peer consultation, and their attitudes towards potential reforms. By shedding light on the subjective experiences of judges grappling with an imperfect system, this study offers a critical insight into understanding the personal dimension of sentencing and its interrelation with sentencing as a systemic process.

Judges' perceptions on regional sentencing disparities in Finland *Tiina Malin, Institute of Criminology and Legal Policy, University of Helsinki*

Sentencing research has repeatedly reported between-court disparities, while some studies have managed to link this variation to sentencing judges. However, it has been proposed that theories and empirical research on court communities are imbalanced: most studies have focused on statistical outcomes instead of the processes. Further, focus of the prior studies have been excessively in common law jurisdictions. The aim of the current study is to examine courts as communities through experiences of Finnish judges. The substantial discretionary power of judges combined with the lack of sentencing guidelines makes Finland an interesting ground to study judges' views of sentencing disparities. Interviews with 14 district judges are analysed using thematic analysis. The findings presented in the seminar shed light on judges' own perceptions on regional sentencing disparities. Implications of the findings are discussed in the presentation.

Rape myths vs. the not proven verdict: what is influencing conviction rates in rape trials in Scotland? *Lee John Curley, The Open University; James Munro, The Open University*

Background: The Scottish verdict system includes three verdicts: 'guilty', 'not guilty' and 'not proven'. Politicians propose that the three-verdict system is partially to blame for the low conviction rate of rape, whereas research suggests that rape myths may be having a larger impact. Potential alternatives to the current verdict system would be a general system of guilty and not guilty verdicts or a verdict system which used special verdicts like proven and not proven. Objectives: To test the effects of varying verdict systems (Guilty, Not Guilty and Not Proven; Guilty and Not Guilty; a series of Proven and Not Proven verdicts) and rape myths on juror verdicts. Design and Methods: 180 participant answered questions regarding their acceptance of rape myths using the Acceptance of Modern Myth and Sexual Aggression (AMMSA) scale. They then watched a staged rape trial filmed in a real courtroom and reached a verdict(s) Results: The main findings are (1) the special verdict system leads to a higher conviction rate than the other systems when rape myth acceptance is controlled for. (2) The higher the rape myth acceptance, the more favourably the accused was perceived and the less favourably the complainant was perceived. Conclusions: Through a combined reform of juror selection and a special verdict system conviction rates may increase in rape trials.

Perpetual Incarceration: The Role of Mandatory Minimums and Guidelines Departures in Federal Life Sentences *Cassia Spohn, Arizona State University; Brian Johnson, University of Maryland*

Life sentences without the possibility of parole (LWOP) are an important feature of the modern American penal system, but relatively little research examines the factors that shape the imposition of these sentences. In the federal system, life sentences—all of which are LWOP sentences due to the abolition of federal parole—often result from mandatory minimum sentencing statutes that require life imprisonment. We use USSC data from 2010 to 2017 to investigate the use of mandatory LWOP sentences in federal court. We consider the role of structural inequalities in defining who is convicted under statutes requiring



life sentences and who ultimately receives these sentences, and we examine the role that discretionary departures play in contributing to patterns of racial inequality in life imprisonment.

The prognosis of recidivism and the legal framework: MIVEA - a way to bridge the gap. *Ida Leibetseder, Hans Gross Centre for Interdisciplinary Criminal Sciences (Institute of Criminal Law, Criminal Procedural Law and Criminology, University of Graz, Austria); Nina Kaiser, Hans Gross Centre for Interdisciplinary Criminal Sciences (Institute of Criminal Law, Criminal Procedural Law and Criminology, University of Graz, Austria)*

Theories of punishment serve as the guiding principle of criminal law, as they also inherently enable an assessment of the legitimacy of individual judicial acts. Modern criminal justice systems, that neglect retributive theories of punishment and focus on a preventive justice approach aim at preventing individual recidivism. This can be achieved when the sentence is based on a prognosis that covers all current and relevant aspects of the individual case. Also, Austrian Criminal Law demands sentences that serve specific deterrence. For this reason, all measures responding to crime must meet the following requirements: Individuality, topicality, and completeness. In contrast to conventional actuarial methods of psychological prognosis, which lack the necessary individuality due to their nomothetic research logic, as well as topicality due to the frequently observable deficiency of dynamic items, and completeness due to the limited number of items, the Method of Ideal-Typical Comparative Case-By-Case Analysis (in short: MIVEA) meets these requirements. Building upon the Tübingen Young Offenders Comparative Study (TJVU), this genuine idiographic method offers an analysis based on empirically generated "ideal types" allowing complete, individual and topical assessments. Consequently, it not only offers the chance for personalized prognosis but also provides concrete clues for expedient interventions during the process. Evolving from the specific context of interdisciplinary work in courtrooms, MIVEA thus serves as a bridge between disciplines, allowing a critical examination of the currently predominantly tech-oriented developments in the field of risk prognosis.

### 338. Perspectives on Education, Sexual Violence, and Victimization

Topic 4: Victimology/Policy and Prevention of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

6:30 to 7:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.20

Chair:

*Joanna Weronika Wójcik*, University of Warsaw

Participants:

Landmarks from the History of Victimology in Romania *Aura Marcela Preda, "Spiru Haret" University*

The main aspects that will be highlighted and analyzed : personalities who influenced the emergence and evolution of this discipline in our country, the most representative volumes in this field (with a short description), the state of art of Victimology at the academic level, the main surveys in victimization, governmental and NGO key actors involved in victims protection, after '90th.

Iran's preventive criminal policy against the victimization of children and adolescents (with emphasis on the law on the protection of children and adolescents) *Neusha Ghahremani afshar, assistant professor in Department of law, Islamic Azad university, Urmia branch, urmia, Iran*

One of the most important tasks of any legal system is to identify vulnerable platforms for victimization and design a suitable model to apply the most appropriate action in this direction. Since children and adolescents can have a higher rate of victimization depending on their age, it is necessary to systematize preventive criminal policy in this regard. Iran's legal system in its legislative criminal policy with the approval of the law on the protection of children and adolescents in 2019 while being precise and sensitive to this matter it has taken into consideration psychological, sociological compatibility and formal and substantive support as well as relevant international documents and conventions in this field. As it can be

applied in the types of delinquency prevention, precocious or developmental delinquency for most children and sometimes teenagers. In the process of preventing victimization, we can also mention preventive measures such as announcing special telephone lines to inform about cases of violence and victimization of children and social measures such as holding training courses for parents with violent behaviors or vice versa for parents who have aggressive children. This article aims to examine Iran's general preventive policies against child abuse, and to focus on the approach of the Law on the Protection of Children and Adolescents and the interpretation of some of its articles in this regard. Key words: preventive criminal policy, children and adolescents, child protection law, victimization

Addressing Sexual Violence in Polish Higher Education: Final Results of a Nationwide Survey *Joanna Weronika Wójcik, University of Warsaw; Weronika Rosa, University of Warsaw*

The 'Antigone' project was established to create the first comprehensive report on the phenomenon of sexual violence against students at selected universities across Poland, preventive measures and the awareness of students on the subject. During EuroCrim 2023, the methodology of the research and preliminary findings were presented. A year later the study is completed therefore we would like to present its results. Since the research focused on many detailed aspects of the problem of sexual violence, the presentation will center upon the criminological parts. The study identified not only the main profile of the victim but also of the perpetrator. Additionally, it investigated the relationship between intra-university procedures, including the disciplinary ones, with criminal proceedings, since national law does not regulate this issue clearly. The most important findings are the opinions of the interviewees on the possible reasons why students do not report cases of sexual violence to university's authorities and the role of preventive measures. Universities are an important actor in shaping the social change in the sphere of combating sexual violence that has been neglected under Polish law and has just started to emerge as a crucial part of academic environment. The dissemination of the results of the research aims to facilitate discussion on the measures universities may take so as to prevent sexual violence among students and at the same time address the needs of the victims.

### 339. Farewell Dinner - 8PM-12AM

ESC

Social Events

8:00 to 10:00 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Other places - see the event's description

We are excited to invite you to the Farewell dinner on Friday 13 September at 20:00. You are invited to taste typical Romanian food, delicacies and drinks. The dinner takes place at the Caru' cu Bere restaurant in the Old Town. The price for one person - 55 EUR Please note that you can only buy one ticket at once. If you wish to buy more tickets, you have to start the purchase process again. In case you want to buy more than 5 tickets and pay via bank transfer, you may contact us at [eurocrim2024@drept.unibuc.ro](mailto:eurocrim2024@drept.unibuc.ro) for the payment details. Payments made will not be refunded. More info: <https://www.eurocrim2024.com/farewell-dinner-and-party>

### 340. Cocktail Party - 10 PM - 04 AM

ESC

Social Events

10:00 to 11:55 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Other places - see the event's description

Cocktail Party We are excited to invite you to the Cocktail Party on Friday 13 September at 22:00. You are invited to enter the atmosphere of a famous Bucharest club, located in the basement of a historic building - the former Galleries Lafayette. The party takes place at the INTERBELIC Club in the Old Town The price for one person - 14 EUR For access to the club, you will receive a voucher that will be collected from the Faculty, when you check in at the conference, from a desk specially set up for this purpose. The purchased voucher will ensure access to the club, one alcoholic and one non-alcoholic drink from the menu. Until 23.00 there will be a street party on Lipsicani Street, and from 23.00 the party will move indoors. Cocktail Party vouchers can be bought until 10 September 2024. Please note that you can only buy one voucher at once. If you wish to buy more vouchers, you have to start the

purchase process again. In case you want to buy more than 5 vouchers and pay via bank transfer, you may contact us at [eurocrim2024@drept.unibuc.ro](mailto:eurocrim2024@drept.unibuc.ro) for the payment details. Payments made will not be refunded. More info: <https://www.eurocrim2024.com/cocktail-party>

key issues relating to the format and delivery of interventions, as well as the impact of the broader prison context on rehabilitation. Findings from this study have informed practical recommendations for how best to work with autistic individuals with sexual offence convictions in prison-based interventions.

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER, 14

### 341. Prison Working Group: Assessment and intervention among vulnerable populations in prison settings

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”

Chair:

**Luke Vinter**, University of Derby

Participants:

Assessing the implementation of correctional treatment of Young Adult offenders in the state of Odisha, India *Swati Mohapatra, KIIT Deemed to be University*; *Sonali Swetapadma, School of Law, KIIT Deemed to be University Bhubaneswar, Odisha.*; *Dr Bhavani Prasad Panda, KIIT Deemed to be University*

The minimum age of fixing criminality is set at seven years old under the Indian criminal law. According to the Juvenile Justice Act of 2015, children who are in conflict with law and between the ages of 7-18 years are treated as juveniles, distinct from adults, with the express purpose of reformation. On the other hand, adolescents (Young Adults) in the age group of 18-30 years are treated as adults by the criminal justice system without taking emotional maturity as a consideration. The Indian criminal justice system does not take this development into account, even though recent studies suggest that people between the ages of 18 and 30 are more like juveniles than adults. Official statistics in India show that this age group has a higher representation in the total arrests made by the police and a higher stake in the prison population as compared to the other age groups. This research presents the results from the responses of the Prison Officers from a cross sectional study conducted in the state of Odisha in India to see their approach in the treatment of Young Adult offenders. The findings show that despite the presence of a legal mandate for treating the young adult offenders separately, there are no mechanisms for the implementation of the same.

Exploring experiences of autism in UK prison-based offending behaviour programmes to address sexual offending *Luke Vinter, University of Derby*

Research indicates that autistic people are no more likely to engage in crime than neurotypical people. However, in the minority of autistic people that do engage in crime, evidence has suggested that sexual crime is one of the more common forms of offending behaviour committed by autistic individuals. Moreover, increasing evidence suggests that autistic individuals have qualitatively different experiences of prison, compared to other neurotypes. Despite this, very little research has investigated how to approach prison-based rehabilitation for autistic individuals who have sexually offended. The small body of literature that does exist suggests that interventions to address sexual offending may not be sufficiently adapted for this group, but there is a need for further empirical research. The present study (i) explored how prison-based interventions to address sexual offending are experienced by autistic individuals with sexual offence convictions and the staff who work with them, and (ii) identified the features of prison-based sexual offending interventions that can be challenging or beneficial for autistic individuals with sexual convictions, from the perspective of those involved in those interventions. The presentation summarises a multi-perspective phenomenologically-informed thematic analysis of interviews with autistic men with sexual convictions and prison staff working with them, which identified three themes of ‘Feeling overwhelmed’, ‘Out of comfort zone’, and ‘(Dis)connection’. These themes highlight some of the

### 342. POL Panel 24. Police training: Gendered practices, new technology, competency development and use of force

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”

Chair:

**Vlad Niculescu-Dinca**, Leiden University

Participants:

Are assessment processes in initial police training gendered? A qualitative exploration of gender roles and the crime-fighter paradigm. *Lola Valles, Institute for Public Security of Catalonia*

This research was prompted by the fact that, following an increase in the number of female police candidates as a result of the adoption of targeted measures, gender differences were observed in the pass rates of the selective course to become a police officer in Catalonia (Spain). Women were more likely to fail the course. This study explores whether this can be explained by women being effectively excluded from policing by a subculture that reinforces characteristics consistent with the crime-fighting paradigm, as the existing research suggests (Brown et al, 2020). The study uses qualitative data from observations of simulations in initial police training, which involve role-playing in which students act out scenarios to improve their problem-solving skills at the Police School of Catalonia. The findings suggest that there is a gender bias within the evaluation process of basic police training, which suggests that the traditional way in which evaluation is carried out should be reviewed and a gender perspective should be included.

The evolution of police officers’ competencies during police training *Anse Stevens, Ghent University*

This presentation aims to provide insight into the evolution of basic police officer competences during the basic training period. Previous panel research has found police officers’ competencies can change during the police socialisation process. Therefore, the present study set out to explore the extent of changes in a number of competences during the training period. The competences were derived from the competence profiles that are used in the selection procedure of police officers in Belgium. Data were collected as part of a PhD study via a panel survey among 570 police recruits (348 recruit inspectors, 165 recruit chief inspectors and 57 recruit commissioners) from December 2020 to September 2022. During this presentation the results are discussed and possible explanations for the evolution of competencies are reflected on.

The Impact of Officer and Supervisor Training in Police Use of Force Incidents *Hyeyoung Lim, The University of Alabama at Birmingham*; *Brian Lawton, John Jay College of Criminal Justice*

Egon Bittner (1970) defined the responsibility to use force as a defining characteristic of the American Police Officer. Since then, the responsibilities of sworn officers have increased while the use of force remains a unique responsibility. Agencies’ efforts to prepare officers for these encounters and in response to problematic encounters have often been to require additional training. While all officers within an agency may be required to take specific training, larger police agencies often have additional training that officers can take, or new training that was not previously available. This study seeks to examine the impact of these discretionary training, in addition to accounting for the training obtained by the officers’ immediate supervisors. This study examines the impact of these trainings both on the officer’s decision to use force, as well as the resistance of the citizen during these interactions.

Exploring VR and Deepfake Technology in Police Training. A Study on the Impact of Racist Stereotypes on Dutch Police

Officers' Behaviour in Stop-and-Search Scenarios *Meret Paululat, University of Twente; Vlad Niculescu-Dinca, Leiden University; Bas Boing, University of Twente; Peter de Vries, University of Twente. Behavioural, Management, and Social Sciences*

This paper investigates the role that virtual reality (VR) technology and deepfake innovations can play in police training programs. In particular, it explores the potential of these technologies to recreate highly realistic scenarios that enable the research and training on sensitive themes and topics in policing. The paper is based on a study that investigated the behaviour of Dutch police officers in simulated stop-and-search scenarios. By employing a 2x2 experimental design, officers were exposed to racist stereotypes and ethnic minority deepfake manipulations within the VR environment. Notably, while participants' stop-and-search behaviour was not significantly impacted by the activation of the racist cop stereotype, they tended to avoid selecting ethnic minorities for stop-and-search in the deepfake condition. These results hint at potential avoidance behaviour after all, due to concerns to confirm to the racist stereotype, emphasising the relevance of concepts such as the Ferguson-effect and de-policing. Regarding the potential of VR technology, reflections on user experience within the VR environment revealed a complex blend of immersion and detachment. Our findings illuminate the remarkable acceptance of VR technologies as research and training instruments within the policing context and confirm the deepfake's imperceptibility during VR scenarios. Intriguingly, we unearth a novel form of mediation, one that simultaneously bridges individuals, technology, reality, and simulation. Wherein, participants reported a dual experience, oscillating between immersion in the simulation and moments of grounding while engaging with the technology. This disconnect poses challenges when applying VR research and training in real-world contexts, underscoring the imperative to maintain a robust virtual-to-real-world connection in VR and similar technologies. Concluding, we highlight the transformative potential of VR and deepfake technology in policing research and training but call for more research of the interplay between technology and human perception.

### 343. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 3: Femicide

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”

Chair:

*Martina Althoff*, University of Groningen

Participants:

Estimation of Prevalence of Family-Related and Intimate Partner Femicides in Russia Using Text Analysis of Court Decisions *Svetlana Zhuchkova, HSE University*

In this research, we propose using texts of court verdicts as a potential source for estimating the prevalence of domestic and intimate partner femicides in Russia. The lack of a definition of gender-based violence in Russian law means that there are no reliable statistics available, and therefore the actual proportion of women murdered by their partners or family members in Russia is unknown. This makes it impossible to develop adequate policies for addressing the problem of domestic violence. For our research, we collected all the available texts of court verdicts from 2011 to 2021 (N = 92,311). We obtained the texts by web scraping of two official websites: Mos-Gorsud.Ru, which contains cases heard by the Moscow City Court, and SudRF.Ru, which aggregates information from all other courts in the country (excluding the Moscow City Courts). We analyzed cases that fall under Article 105 (“Murder”), Article 107 (“Homicide Committed in a State of Temporary Insanity”), and Article 111 Part 4 (“Intentional Infliction of Grievous Bodily Harm Resulting in Death by Negligence”) of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation. We used both rule-based techniques and machine learning to analyze the texts and identify relationships between the perpetrators and victims. The results

showed that, on average, in each year from 2011 through 2019, 65% of female murders in Russia were committed by women's partners or family members. Out of these family-related homicides, 81% were intimate partner homicides during this period. We also detected an increase in this proportion during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the years 2020–2021, these shares increased to 71% and 93%, respectively. We conclude by discussing the limitations of using court verdicts as a source of data for empirical legal studies in general and the use of new computational methods in studying social problems.

Femicide: disturbing figures, media stories and the need for gender-sensitive policy *Martina Althoff, University of Groningen*

The term femicide has recently been on the rise in the Netherlands. Media reports on murders of women increasingly refer to femicide to describe the phenomenon. In doing so, femicide is often associated with disturbing figures about the Netherlands in terms of numbers of female murders. Experts and politicians are now calling for the introduction of specific policies (including specific criminal law) on femicide. However, the term femicide is confusing and suggests a new phenomenon. The UN has introduced various indicators to determine femicide, such as the presence of a history of violence by the perpetrator. However, the UN indicators are still so open to discussion that even the UN itself recognizes that data collection on femicide are impossible. EIGE is following this perspective. This lack of clarity affects the data on femicide, which consequently seem to involve different types of violence and are misinterpreted by media. The first question is whether specific femicide policy makes sense without elaborating on the concept of femicide and a gendered motive. The second question is of the recent public discussion contribute to the aim of feminists making femicide visible.

Femicide in Germany – Data and characteristics *Paulina Lutz, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony, Germany*

In the contemporary criminological discourse, femicide and its defining features are under intense discussion. One aspect of this discourse concerns the delineation of which instances of homicide and related acts should be classified as femicide. Furthermore, there persists a notable scarcity of statistical data concerning the prevalence of femicide. Consequently, reliable empirical data regarding the frequency of femicides are largely unavailable for most countries. In an effort to shed light on this debate, the Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony, in collaboration with the Institute of Criminology at the University of Tübingen, initiated the project “Femicide in Germany”. This project undertakes the analysis of killings involving female victims with the aim of scrutinizing gender-based violence. We present preliminary data from our research project. Through this presentation, we provide initial insights into both the quantity and characteristics of femicides within the German context.

Femicide in Poland Project 2017-2023 – case study results and conclusions *Alicja Eva Serafin, University of Warsaw*

The paper focuses on the topic of gender-based homicides against women in Poland – aka femicides. The author will discuss the results of the six years of her PhD study on the phenomenon of femicides. Femicide in Poland Project forms a part of her doctoral thesis in which she states that the lack of legal recognition of femicide in Poland contributes to underrecording and underreporting of female homicides increasing in this way the dark figure of crimes against women. The project's mission is to fill the femicide gender data gap in Poland demonstrate the need for legal and structural changes in the field of counteracting gender-based violence in accordance with the provisions of CETS210 Convention.

### 344. Addressing Violence Among Vulnerable Populations

Topic 4: Victimology/Policy and Prevention of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”

Chair:

**Giulia Perrone**, Research fellow, Faculty of Law, University of Trento

Participants:

**Freedom from Oppression: Empowering Persons with Disabilities Survivors from Violence** *Nattakarn Noree, Chulalongkorn University; Unisa Lerdtomornsakul, Chulalongkorn University; Vijita Rachatanantikul, Mahidol University*

Access to justice is a fundamental right of every human being. Some groups of people face difficulties in accessing the justice system due to physical, mental, and intellectual limitations. Disability is part of humans' life. Almost everyone has experienced a temporary or permanent disability at some stage in their lives. There are more than 1.3 billion people with disabilities or about 16 percent of the world's population, and the number is constantly increasing. Persons with disabilities (PWD) are vulnerable to violence. Children and women with disabilities are more likely to be targeted by violent perpetrators. The overlapping of social identity or intersectionality is the main factor that affects the oppression and empowerment of PWD survivors. This doctoral dissertation has employed a mixed methods research approach, elucidating the empowerment of PWD survivors in the aftermath of violence within the contextual framework of Thailand. On the quantitative component, 559 respondents are service providers from Government and civil society organizations' disability service centers. Multiple Linear Regression (MLR) and descriptive statistics are applied as data analysis tools. On the qualitative component, Key informant interviews (KIIs) are conducted with 25 individuals, including executives, specialists, academics, and policy-level officials from various sectors and ten (10) case studies are conducted with PWDs and caregivers who are survivors of violence and have successfully undergone the empowerment process, enabling them to transcend the impact of violence and live fulfilling lives within society. The objectives of this presentation are to present the situation of violence against PWD survivors, to examine challenges encountered in empowering PWD survivors, and to propose preventive and remedial measures enhancing the empowerment of PWD survivors by using the "6Ps Strategy" to tackle the oppression.

**Protecting People with Mild Intellectual Disability Against Online Crime Victimization** *Nick van der Kloek, Saxion University of Applied Sciences; Remco Spithoven, Saxion University of Applied Sciences; Milou Kievik, Saxion University of Applied Sciences; Tina Bellemans, Windesheim; Julia Klopman, Saxion UOAS*

People with mild intellectual disability (MID) have an IQ between 50 and 70. As a result, they often struggle with assessing risks and understanding information and risk communication they receive. This disability can become problematic when they participate on the internet due to the increased risk of victimization of online crime (e.g., fraud, theft, online violence, and obscenity). The current research focuses on finding the right balance between online autonomy and safety for people with MID. In our study, we looked at the digital behaviour of the MID group by (1) administering a questionnaire to measure the risk perception and current protection measures of the (professional) network of care providers, and (2) applying a creative method (research box), tailored to the MID group, to assess their daily online activities. Our data provides insights into the specific vulnerabilities of persons with MID regarding online crime. Subsequently, a tailored and evidence-based intervention will be developed specifically aiming at these vulnerabilities to decrease the likelihood of victimization of people with MID in the digital space; and to increase the cyber resilience of these individuals.

**Safe and inclusive spaces for persons with disabilities and families in the community** *Vijita Rachatanantikul, Mahidol University; Nattakarn Noree, Chulalongkorn University*

The concept of promoting and developing the quality of life for individuals, including persons with disabilities, living together in a society, aligns with the World Health Organization (WHO) framework for Community-based Rehabilitation Metrix (CBR Metrix) framework, to enhance the quality of life for persons with disabilities in 5 key areas: (1) Health, (2) Education, (3) Livelihood,

(4) Social, and (5) Empowerment. Persons with disabilities are currently facing significant concerns regarding physical and mental health deterioration. The WHO has identified that globally, for every eight individuals, there is one person living with mental health issues. Addressing these challenges involves creating safe and inclusive spaces for individuals within communities and families. Research suggests that when persons with disabilities, the elderly, and community members are in a supportive environment, it contributes to positive physical and mental development. The study has the following objectives: (1) To establish models for safe and inclusive spaces in the community and (2) To empower persons with disabilities have a happy life alongside everyone in the community. The study focuses on 3 target groups: persons with disabilities, caregivers of persons with disabilities, and community leaders or local experts. The research is conducted through qualitative research, including in-depth interviews with a total of 15 individuals and group interviews with 30 individuals. Additionally, quantitative research is conducted by collecting data from 225 individuals within the target groups. The study is guided by the CBR Metrix framework, aiming to establish systems for managing safe and inclusive spaces for persons with disabilities and families in the community. These systems include: (1) Operational system, (2) Rehabilitation and recovery system, (3) Monitoring and prevention system, (4) Promotion and development system, and (5) Monitoring and evaluation system.

**Conversational AI to support victims of crime: the case of usury** *Giulia Perrone, Research fellow, Faculty of Law, University of Trento; Andrea Di Nicola, Associate professor of criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Trento, and director of the Centre of Security and Crime Sciences (University of Trento and University of Verona); Gabriele Baratto, Faculty of Law, University of Trento | Centre of Security and Crime Sciences, University of Trento and University of Verona*

Conversational AI is gaining more and more acceptance in the field of mental health and especially in the context of crime. This technology is playing an increasingly important role in supporting victims in situations where direct access to help is limited. This presentation will explore the role that conversational AI can play with potential victims and victims of usury. The research presented here focuses on the criminological and psychological "profiling" of usury victims and potential usury victims to feed a conversational AI algorithm aimed at 1) recognising potential usury victims in a risk situation, including by detecting clues about the victims' mental health status (possible problems and/or mental disorders) typical of usury victims, and facilitating their connection with protection networks; 2) urging victims to apply for access to economic support; 3) facilitating reporting by victims. The research is part of a larger project on usury carried out by the University of Trento in collaboration with other Italian universities.

#### 345. Exploring horizons of sentencing research with new data and methods

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Courts and Sentencing and Penal Decision Making (Sentencing and Penal Decisionmaking WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 5 „Constantin Stătescu”*

Availability of new forms of data enable us to study issues which we were previously unable to properly explore. This panel presents three types of such data and preliminary results from using them. Firstly, we present possibilities of using full-text court decisions containing case facts to create typified behaviours and their attributes. Large language models enable the creation of bottom-to-top classification of criminal behaviour, making it possible to go beyond legal classification; this, in turn, allows new approaches to sentencing – both in analyzing it and developing measures to structure sentencing discretion. Another presentation within the panel uses this approach and studies whether perceptions of offence seriousness are more influenced by typified case stories or quantifiable attributes. If typified main stories play an important role, we need to properly define and analyze them and starting points and sentence orientations are necessary. Suppose quantifiable attributes strongly influence the perception of seriousness. In that case, we need to pay

detailed attention to identifying aggravating and mitigating factors in sentenced cases and the role they should play. Secondly, we present preliminary results regarding prosecutorial sentence recommendations, a topic that has never been empirically analyzed in continental Europe. Hand-collected data on sentence recommendations might signal to what extent prosecutors play a role in sentencing. Thirdly, we employ detailed criminal records data to analyze dimensions of criminal history; likely due to limited data, such research has not yet been carried out in continental Europe, disabling proper discussion over the role of previous convictions at sentencing. We thus link cutting-edge theoretical research – the horizons we can see – with empirical findings – exploring the horizons.

Chair:

**Jakub Drápal**, Charles University; Institute of State and Law of Czech Academy of Sciences

Participants:

Generalizing case facts from verdicts using LLMs: New horizons for sentencing research? *Jakub Drápal, Charles University; Institute of State and Law of Czech Academy of Sciences; Hannes Westermann, University of Montreal - Cyberjustice Laboratory; Jaromír Šavelka, Carnegie Mellon University*

Criminal behaviour has been long described using legal classification. This has, however, resulted in a loss of information regarding within-offense variation. Using other data was long impossible due to full-text decisions - containing case facts describing the behaviour - being unavailable and the difficulty of creating typical crimes and subsuming individual verdicts within them. Large language models (LLMs) are designed to understand, summarize and subsume text. We employ LLMs to create typified crimes and to subsume individual verdicts within them. Using 785 facts and descriptions from criminal court opinions regarding thefts, we show that human-guided LLMs can produce typical crimes similar to those produced by a thematic analysis employed by humans. Similarly, LLMs can subsume verdicts within the categories. We suggest that typical crimes might be used to capture further details of offences that went unnoticed. We discuss the conclusions for sentencing scholarship and the new avenues it opens.

What determines offense seriousness: Typified story or quantifiable attributes? *Tomáš Knap, Charles University; Institute of State and Law of the Czech Academy of Sciences; Jakub Drápal, Charles University; Institute of State and Law of Czech Academy of Sciences*

In analyzing criminal behaviour, we can distinguish between a typified main story and the attributes of such a story. Understanding the extent to which they influence the perception of offence seriousness is crucial when we analyze and suggest how to structure sentencing. If typified main stories play an important role, we need to properly define and analyze them and starting points and sentence orientations are necessary. If quantifiable attributes strongly influence the perception of seriousness, we need to pay detailed attention to identifying aggravating and mitigating factors in sentenced cases and the role they should play. Using different typified cases of theft as sentenced in Czechia and conjoint analysis, we examine the role of typified story and quantifiable attributes in determining offence seriousness, and we compare it with the assessment of offence seriousness using living-standard analysis suggested by von Hirsch and Jareborg (1991).

Prosecutorial Sentence Recommendations: Preliminary Results *Alena Žibřidová, Faculty of Law, Charles University*

European sentencing researchers have focused primarily on judicial sentence imposition in the last several decades. Yet, sentencing is a complex and dynamic process influenced by the judge and other actors and interactions between them. Recent studies suggest that the sentence the prosecutor recommends significantly influences the judges' sentencing decisions. Moreover, with continental prosecutors gaining more power and discretion, including prosecutors in the sentencing discussion is increasingly pertinent. This paper explores the role of the public prosecutor in the sentencing process. Specifically, it addresses the prosecutorial power to recommend sentences and how these recommendations influence the criminal process and the sentence imposed. Given this area is largely understudied, I first explain the theoretical

background and the process of recommending a sentence. I then analyze this process at two prosecutor's offices in Czechia using empirical data manually coded into a unique dataset. The preliminary findings (i) focus on the type and severity of sanctions recommended in different procedural stages and for different crimes, (ii) discuss the relationship between sentence recommendations and sentences imposed, and (iii) analyze the sentence "discount" in the case of a plea bargain. I aim to explore the yet-understudied topic of prosecutorial sentence recommendations and offer empirical evidence from central Europe.

Not all repeat offenders are made alike: Dimensions of criminal history in practice *Martin Košatka, Charles University, Faculty of Law*

Criminal history in empirical research is often reduced to a binary (recidivist/first offender) or a simple number of previous offences. Dimensions of history represent more complex ways to understand criminal history while remaining possible to operationalize. In non-guideline systems in particular, the adjudicator has great discretion in interpreting criminal history when sentencing. By mapping dimensions of criminal history, future sentencing research could overcome current limitations when considering past convictions. Inspired by Wasik (2010), we define the following general dimensions: (i) multitude of previous offences, (ii) recency of previous offences, (iii) relative seriousness to the current offence, (iv) similarity to the current offence, and (v) previously incurred punishment. Several alternative ways of defining these dimensions are explored. The magnitude of each dimension is then identified for individual cases. This is done by utilizing an extensive dataset of Czech criminal records spanning several decades combined with relatively detailed case-level data from the past two decades. Archetypal criminal histories are identified based on the dimensions of criminal history (e.g. penitentiary recidivists, single-offence "specialists", escalating offenders) for different offences. The final result is a first-of-its-kind case-level dataset enhanced by detailed data regarding the offender's criminal history.

### 346. EUROCRIM 7 - Corruption and the Private Sector

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Corruption (EUROCRIM)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”

Chair:

**Tomáš Diviák**, University of Manchester

Participants:

Commercial Bribery in China: Deterrence and Compliance *Jing Wei, The University of Manchester*

This paper aims to evaluate the effectiveness of intervention measures in deterring commercial bribery in China. Deterrence describes that in the decision-making process of committing a crime, individuals typically weigh the perceived costs and benefits. If the perceived costs of the crime exceed the benefits, then the likelihood of committing the crime would decrease. At least theoretically, increasing the costs of crime should effectively deter most offenders. However, empirical findings in the fields of white-collar and corporate crime deterrence show that, with a few exceptions, the support for the deterrence hypothesis reported in the literature is limited and conditional. This hypothesis is also often criticized for ignoring the complexity of decision-making, as individuals might choose not to commit the crime for various reasons, with deterrence being just one factor. Therefore, if an intervention measure can effectively reduce the intention to bribe, considering various factors that may inhibit or enable the likelihood of engaging in bribery, then it might be interpreted as having a deterrent effect. Overall, this study focuses on exploring to what extent people's intentions to engage in bribery are reduced by interventions after controlling for various personal and situational factors that might affect an individual's intention to engage in bribery. Particularly, at the level of personal factors, we explore an aspect rarely examined in deterrence research—people's emotional reactions. Specifically, our data come from employees and managers of private enterprises in China. We use a vignette-based

factorial survey to investigate what factors or specific combinations of factors influence the likelihood of individuals engaging in bribery and to assess the impact of different intervention measures on bribery intentions. Furthermore, by using interviews, this study aims to understand how these factors inhibit or enable people's intentions, and how people perceive the intervention measures.

**Comparative Narratives of Transnational Corporate Bribery: Corporate Offenders in Focus** *Melody Bozinova, Neuchâtel University*

Enforcement against transnational corporate bribery is increasingly carried out through abbreviated, out-of-court criminal procedures known as non-trial resolutions (NTRs). By approaching NTRs as storytelling sites, this article employs a narrative analysis to understand how corporate offenders are depicted within two distinct NTR frameworks: Summary Punishment Orders (SPOs) in Switzerland and Deferred Prosecution Agreements (DPAs) in England and Wales. The study reveals divergent portrayals of the corporate offender that hinge on the legal employment of conviction in SPOs as opposed to that of deferred prosecution in DPAs. SPOs tend to present the corporation more distinctly as a defendant, whereas DPAs often cast corporations in the role of collaborative partners in law enforcement. Despite these contrasting narratives, an examination of the corporate offender's trajectory throughout the NTR story reveals a common endpoint: both SPOs and DPAs serve as transformative stages, recasting the corporate offender from a negligent entity to a reformed corporate citizen.

**Shedding light on the representation of corporate corruption: Results from a Swiss study on the corporate offenders' communication** *Franziska Hohl Zürcher, University of Neuchâtel*

The representation or framing of corporate corruption varies across different stakeholders such as the media, civil society organizations, and law enforcement authorities. However, little empirical evidence exists regarding how corporate offenders themselves portray corruption. This study employs a quantitative-qualitative content analysis to investigate the communication of corporations implicated in transnational corruption cases investigated by Swiss criminal justice authorities, resulting in non-trial resolutions. The corporations under scrutiny operate globally within the engineering, commodity trading, or construction sectors. Analysis of press releases and annual reports indicates a predominantly minimalist communication approach adopted by these corporations. They rarely disclose details regarding their involvement in transnational corruption. Instead, they often trivialize their corrupt actions, framing them as mere accounting challenges. Furthermore, they portray legal proceedings as burdensome tasks with little relevance to their current corporate culture. The implications of these findings will be discussed in relation to the prevailing frames regarding economic crimes and the significance of unspoken aspects in communication.

**Understanding the Mechanisms that Drive Relational Events Dynamics in Corruption Networks** *Tomáš Diviák, University of Manchester*

Recent advances in collecting and storing criminal network data allow us to examine their dynamics with considerable granularity – at the level of relational events. In relational event data, every single interaction between actors has a specific time-stamp indicating when it was formed. Utilising publicly available data on three dynamic corporate corruption networks from Deferred Prosecution Agreements in the UK, we test the mechanisms that drive their evolution by modelling the sequence of relational events that gave it rise with recently developed relational hyper-event model, an extension to relational event models (RHEM) for polyadic events (i.e., events containing more than two actors). In RHEM, events are modelled as hyperedges in a hypergraph allowing to connect multiple nodes simultaneously. We focus on two broader research questions. The first one concerns the macro-level structure of the networks and their overall evolution over time. Specifically, we test core-periphery structure fit and measure temporal escalation. Using the RHEM, we test the relational micro-mechanisms that bring about these structures. We include attribute-related mechanisms (selection, heterophily), hyper-event-specific endogenous mechanisms (interaction repetition, subordination), and general

endogenous mechanisms (triadic closure, reciprocity, tie accumulation). Our results show that all three networks display strong signs of both core-periphery structures and temporal escalation. Furthermore, we find evidence for the effects of attribute-related mechanisms and interaction repetition in all three networks, yet not for triadic closure regardless of its theoretical prominence. We conclude by highlighting the usefulness of RHEM for vast array of (criminal) network data that is frequently recorded as hyperevents. We also discuss potential practical implications in monitoring and dismantling corruption networks by emphasizing transparency during the periods of temporal escalation, more complex disruption targeting the cores in their entirety, and using the information about the underlying mechanisms to avoid negative unintended consequences.

**347. Legitimacy**

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Attitudes about Punishment and Criminal Justice System

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)

Chair:

**Claire Ruth Silverstone**, University of Sunderland/ Renovare CIC

Participants:

Compliance and police and legitimacy in Iceland *Rannveig Þórisdóttir, National Police Commissioner of Iceland*

Previous research indicates a correlation between perceptions of police legitimacy and willingness to cooperate with law enforcement. Socio-psychological factors, including gender, age, education, fear of crime, and past interactions with the police, also play a significant role in shaping attitudes towards law enforcement agencies. In Iceland, victimization surveys consistently reveal high levels of legitimacy, trust, and satisfaction with the police. Leveraging longitudinal victimization survey data, this study explores the evolving dynamics between attitudes towards the police and reporting behavior. Additionally, it investigates how demographic characteristics, fear of crime, and past interactions with law enforcement contribute to variations in attitudes towards the police and reporting behavior over the past 16 years. Such research holds immense value for law enforcement agencies as it provides valuable insights into how trust and legitimacy affect their ability to perform their duties effectively. Understanding the factors influencing public perceptions can help police departments tailor their approaches, policies, and community engagement efforts to foster positive relationships with the communities they serve.

Determinants of Legal Cynicism in Germany. A multilevel analysis *Joachim Häfele, Police Academy of Lower Saxony/Institute for Crime and Security Research; Sebastian Kurtenbach, FH Münster; Fee-Elisabeth Bertram, Universität Kiel - Fachbereich Psychologie; Armin Küchler, Bielefeld University/ FH Münster*

The role of the legal system is to define the basic rules of social interaction. It is particularly problematic for the functioning of the legal system if it is denied legitimacy by part of the population. According to Sampson and Bartusch (1998), this kind of "anomie", in which the authority of the law to define rules of conduct and norms is not recognised and is perceived as psychologically non-binding, is called Legal Cynicism (LC). LC can be understood both as a cultural framework in which scepticism towards the law, the legal system and the police is expressed, and as part of a social system that is determined not only by individual but also by social or contextual circumstances (McCarthy et al., 2020). When LC increases in a society, this poses a threat to the functioning of the state and democracy. In order to understand the concept of LC and influence its levels in the population, it is essential to identify individual and contextual factors that promote or inhibit LC (Bertram et al. 2024). There is a well-established international debate on which individual, social and spatial factors influence LC, but this has hardly been taken up in German-speaking countries. Furthermore, most existing studies have measured LC as an individual-level characteristic (Oliveira & Jackson, 2022). The data base consists of n = 1900 individuals from N = 37 City districts in

Dortmund (Germany).

What do people really want from policing (and do they think they get it)? *Ben Bradford, University College London; Christine A Weirich, University of Leeds; David Rowlands, University of Leeds; Adam Crawford, University of York*

Opinion surveys have been probing public views of the police for more than half a century. In the UK, especially, a wealth of data generated over many years has demonstrated the waxing and waning of ‘trust and confidence’ in police. Yet, many of the survey questions currently used to measure these and related constructs are essentially legacies of earlier efforts. This has benefits in maintaining consistent time series, but risks missing developments in the way people think about police. In this paper we present results from a representative survey of England, Scotland and Wales that fielded items, developed through a series of focus groups, that define a ‘minimum policing standard’ – a set of services to local communities people think police simply should, under normal conditions, be able to provide. We show, first, that few respondents felt police are meeting these standards. Public views of policing are currently marked by high levels of uncertainty, disappointment, and disillusion. Second, scales developed from these items prove to be very strong predictors of key indices of public opinion used in policing studies, and indeed in police performance management, including trust, confidence and legitimacy. Third, we are able to show how different aspects of police performance – or at least people’s judgements of it – feed into these indices. In particular, visibility and ‘presence’ seem to be more important for confidence in police, while fairness and proportionality are far more important for legitimacy.

The Impact Of Deficient Societal Acceptance Following Carceral Experiences Within Closed UK Communities *Claire Ruth Silverstone, University of Sunderland/ Renovare CIC*

Quinn-Hogan (2021) states “Deficient societal acceptance” after prison as the biggest barrier to successful rehabilitation. When a citizen with carceral experience identifies as a member of a particular community, how simple is the transition back, which could, in many cases may provide greater opportunities for support than traditional family ties. Consideration will be given to two instances based on experiential evidence of the Orthodox Jewish Community, and will also draw on epistemological research done within the deaf community, (Kelly-Corless and McCulloch 2023). How do people maintain their commitment to desistance whilst being rejected from the place they once called home and what is the effect on recidivism? The answer lies in preparation. The first step of preparation being taking ownership, the next steps being education, education and education. Education must inform the practical courses which are provided and should be delivered by practitioners with Lived Experience. In this way, an offender can prepare their rehabilitative imago with tools and experience which are tried and tested. Resilience, is a critical part of the rehabilitative imago, as described by Warr (2020), it is almost a pathway to move on, and gives a feeling of acceptance in society – in families, in work environments, in social communities. But what is the effect, when it transpires that the forgiveness is conditional, that the freedom carries terms and conditions.

### 348. Sentencing 1. Race, Ethnicity and Sentencing

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Courts and Sentencing and Penal Decision Making (Sentencing and Penal Decisionmaking WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)

Chair:

*Janosch Kleinschnittger, Universität Hamburg*

Participants:

Ethnicity, Crime and Criminal Prosecution *Christopher J Ferguson, Stetson University; Sven Smith, Stetson University*

Recent meta-analytic results have found that, contrary to public concerns, the United States criminal justice system appears to be largely egalitarian with regards to race/ethnicity and criminal

justice sentencing. However, fewer studies have examined this in the context of European criminal justice systems. The current paper details results from a meta-analysis of studies regarding the impact of ethnicity (including race, religion and culture) on criminal justice outcomes in Europe. Distinctions between the US and European results are noted, with practical suggestions for how criminal justice scholars ought to communicate data on ethnicity and sentencing to the public and policy makers.

Racially Determined Case Characteristics: Precursors of Ethnic Disparities in Sentencing Outcomes? *Eoin Guilfoyle, Brunel University; Jose Pina-Sánchez, University of Leeds*

There is now well documented evidence of ethnic disparities in sentencing outcomes in England and Wales, however, we still do not understand how these disparities come to be, and consequently, how to address them. In this paper, we argue that disparities in sentence outcomes could stem from how cases are constructed. Specifically, we hypothesise that case characteristics determined through a high degree of judicial discretion and an assessment of the offender, have a high risk of being racially determined, and therefore, operate as precursors of ethnic disparities in sentencing. To test this, we use data from the Crown Court Sentencing Survey combined with data on offenders’ ethnicity from the Ministry of Justice Court Proceedings database. We identify three sentencing factors (remorse, good character and ability to rehabilitate) that are clearly imbalanced in favour of White offenders. We contextualise the operation of each factor using existing literature and argue that all three should be classified as racially determined and likely sources of ethnic disparities in sentencing. We conclude by setting out targeted policy approaches to address ethnic disparities stemming from each factor.

Sentencing Equity: Addressing Racial Disparities within the Framework of Article 6 of the ECHR *Khadijah Yvonne Manasseh, Kingston University*

This paper delves into the urgent issue of racial disparities present in sentencing practices, set within the legal framework outlined in Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). Despite Article 6’s foundational principles of equality and fairness, research consistently uncovers troubling inequities within the criminal justice system, particularly in terms of their disproportionate impact on racial and ethnic minorities. Through a comprehensive examination of case law, legislative provisions, and empirical studies, this paper sheds light on the multifaceted nature of sentencing disparities and explores potential avenues for achieving greater equity. At the core of the discussion is the examination of Article 6 of the ECHR as a vital legal instrument for safeguarding the right to a fair trial and ensuring equal protection under the law. Through an analysis of pertinent jurisprudence from the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), this paper elucidates the evolving interpretation of Article 6 within the context of racial disparities, highlighting significant decisions and emerging trends. Additionally, this paper puts forth practical strategies for promoting sentencing equity within the framework of Article 6, including improved data collection, standardised sentencing guidelines, and diversification of judicial decision-making bodies. It also stresses the need for robust accountability mechanisms to monitor compliance with human rights standards and address instances of discriminatory sentencing practices. In conclusion, this paper advocates for a paradigm shift in sentencing policies and practices to uphold the principles of equality, dignity, and justice enshrined in Article 6 of the ECHR. By fostering a more inclusive and rights-based approach, it aims to contribute to the realisation of a fair and equitable criminal justice system that reflects the diverse societal values and aspirations of the European community.

The influence of offender nationality on individual punitiveness: Empirical evidence from Germany *Janosch Kleinschnittger, Universität Hamburg*

The punishment of offenders is not only a matter for criminal courts. Rather, it is a highly political issue that is controversially discussed by the German society in media and politics. Virulent terms in the German debate on crime, especially in the context of increasing migration movements, such as "Ausländerkriminalität" (crime explicitly committed by foreigners) or "Clankriminalität" (gang crime by members of large families of Arab descent), show

that for some social actors the origin of perpetrators is of particular importance in the question of how society should deal with crime and offenders. Using data from a German population survey (N = 1,461), my contribution examines punitive attitudes in the German population and addresses the link between the rejection of people who have immigrated to Germany and the individual need to punish harshly. Using an experimental vignette design, punitive attitudes are operationalized as the respondents' individual desire for punishment in response to a fictitious criminal case committed by a German, Syrian, Congolese or Ukrainian asylum seeker. The analyses show that people in Germany are significantly more in favor of harsher penalties for offenders who are characterized as asylum seekers than for German offenders. A closer look reveals that the most severe sentences are imposed on Syrian offenders, while the average sentence level for Ukrainian offenders does not differ significantly from that of German offenders. Possible backgrounds are explored and the social implications of the findings, in particular the significance for judicial sanctioning practice, are discussed.

### 349. POL Panel 2. How do police represent themselves, what do they think and how does this influence policing?

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)

Chair:

**Jana-Andrea Frommer**, University of Applied Sciences for Police and Public Administration in North Rhine-Westphalia

Participants:

Association between dark triad and aggressive traits among police officers *Emilie Telle, University of Mons; Audrey Vicenzutto, University of Mons; Thierry Pham, University of Mons*

Dark Triad (DT) is composed of three personality traits: psychopathy, narcissism and machiavellianism. Although different, these traits share common aversive and offensive features such as the lack of empathy, callousness, or manipulation. In organizational contexts, these traits are found at a sub-clinical level which is less challenging than among clinical populations (Paulhus & Williams, 2002). While these traits are particularly well documented in organizational contexts (counterproductive behaviors, leadership...), they are insufficiently studied within law enforcement (LeBreton et al., 2018; Thapar & Brar, 2022). Yet, police officers' missions are to protect, serve, and, if necessary, resort to using force. Using a broad survey data protocol, this paper investigates DT (DTDD) and aggressive traits (BPAQ-SF) among 183 police officers (72.7% policemen; MeanAge = 43.75; SD = 9.82; MeanLength of professional experience = 19.38; SD = 10.55) from several Belgian police departments. Main descriptive results indicate that police officers display relatively low scores on both scales, whereas their highest scores are in verbal aggression (BPAQ-SF) and psychopathy (DTDD). Compared with a community sample (n = 108), police officers overall exhibit significantly lower aggressive traits but higher physical aggression. They also report higher psychopathy and lower narcissism for DT. Further investigation of police demographics highlights that policewomen exhibit higher aggressive traits than policemen, particularly for anger and hostility, but no difference was found for DT. Furthermore, higher-ranking officers present more verbal aggression than all lower-ranking officers and lower-ranking officers display less narcissistic traits than other officers. Finally, correlational analysis highlights negative associations between age and aggressive or DT traits, particularly anger tendency, psychopathy, and narcissism ( $p = -.17$  to  $-.26$ ). Aggressive and DT total and subscales scores are positively correlated ( $p = .23$  to  $.45$ ). These results will be discussed considering their implications for leadership and organizational management (Lainidi et al., 2023).

Elite Police: the construction of the institutional image of the Federal Police in Brazil and positioning in the field of symbolic disputes *Carla Campos Avanzi, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) and State University of Londrina (UEL); Cleber da*

*Silva Lopes, Universidade Estadual de Londrina; Lucas Melgaço, Associate Professor -VUB*

The positioning of police institutions can represent strategies in the different fields of power within the State. Thus, communication is one of the tools used to increase police legitimacy, with the intention of reinforcing its symbolic power. The Federal Police (PF) in Brazil is the investigative police institution responsible for investigating federal crimes, such as embezzlement of public resources and international drug trafficking, similar to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in the United States. Recently, the mega operations against corruption carried out by the Federal Police have gained prominence, such as the Lava Jato operation, in parallel with the relevant growth of its institutional capacity. This study investigates the construction of institutional image by the Federal Police, as a strategy in disputes for power within the State. How is the institutional image of the Federal Police constructed by the institution itself? If a communication strategy exists and is coordinated, in what sense does this image construction occur? Documents made available by the institution on its official channels were analyzed, such as annual management reports, documents on institutional communication guidelines, social media content and news published on the organization's official website from 2011 onwards. It was found that the communication strategy is plural, aimed at different audiences, in documents, website and social media, depending on institutional characteristics and demands. Furthermore, the communication strategy occurs differently in order to increase symbolic power in the different fields in which the PF can act, specifically, the field of public security and the field of criminal justice, as well as possibly a transnational field of policing.

Police perspectives on the policing of sex work in London, UK *Jyoti Belur, UCL; Ella Cockbain, UCL*

This paper presents police officer perspectives on what the policing of sex work means for them as individuals and for the police organisation. The research, based on interviews with 24 police officers, explores how officers make sense of the complexities of street and brothel work, as a small but very visible part of the broader landscape of sex work in a global city like London. It highlights the varied and often contradictory aims that the police are striving to achieve simultaneously, whilst responding to the demands of various stakeholders such as the community, the senior leadership team, outreach and third sector organisations, sex workers themselves, as well as, officers' own priorities. Interviewees seem to be aware of the low levels of trust and confidence in the police but displayed a certain guilelessness about whether and how their actions (or lack of) might have an impact on sex worker wellbeing. The research identifies a lack of strategic vision at the organisational level and ambiguity around local ownership of the police response to sex work. It reveals consequent uncertainty about what the policing aims should be, how should they be prioritised, how should scarce policing resources be allocated, and how should conflicting expectations of the police be resolved. The paper proposes that sex workers' deep distrust of the police might therefore result from, not only experience of individual officers' actions (or inaction) and historical suspicion of the police as an institution, but be rooted in broader organisational and structural factors that frame the policing of sex work in a democracy.

Understanding Police Perspectives on Antisemitism: Insights from Interviews with German State Police *Jana-Andrea Frommer, University of Applied Sciences for Police and Public Administration in North Rhine-Westphalia; Jakob Baier, University Bielefeld; Sarah Jadwiga Jahn, University of Applied Sciences for Police and Public Administration in North Rhine-Westphalia; Marc Grimm, University Bielefeld*

The growing menace of antisemitism poses significant challenges for law enforcement agencies globally. In Germany, recent societal polarizations, spurred by events such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the massacre of Israeli civilians on October 7, 2023, by Hamas terrorists and their supporters, have heightened tensions and led to a worrying surge in antisemitic incidents. Given these circumstances, it is essential that police officers are educated to identify different forms of antisemitism across various communities. Our research, involving detailed interviews with 39



participants from different divisions within the North Rhine-Westphalia State Police, delves into the complex aspects of recognizing antisemitism in law enforcement. This includes insights into the understanding, perception, identification, and handling of antisemitic incidents. Our research reveals a significant knowledge shortfall within law enforcement agencies concerning the identification and contextual understanding of antisemitism. This gap highlights a need for specialized training and educational programs aimed at providing police officers with the essential skills and comprehension required to more efficiently combat antisemitism. In reaction to these insights, the collaborative research initiative EMPATHIA3 is creating specific training modules. These include a core curriculum as well as scenario-based exercises, all designed to elevate law enforcement personnel's awareness of the complexities surrounding antisemitism. Our presentation will illustrate the critical findings from our study. Moreover, it will examine the wider implications for improving police training and cultivating a more robust response to antisemitism within the German law enforcement framework.

### 350. Criminal Incompetence: Why Criminal Organizations and Markets Work so Poorly

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Rational Choice Perspectives

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11

A number of scholars have made similar observations, in discussions of their reading of raw materials on criminal conversations: senior members of criminal organizations don't seem very good at their job. They are poorly educated and lack curiosity. They are also poorly informed even about their own environments and sometimes even about their own organizations. Their decision making is impulsive rather than strategic. They are far from the masterminds of popular legend, as so often reported both in novels and the press. Yet they often make large sums of money and stay out of prison for long periods of time. If the hypothesis of a high level of incompetence is correct, then we should be able to offer some explanation. What kinds of individuals choose to enter occupations characterized by high levels of risk, both physical and liberty, given the opportunities available in highly developed countries for capable individuals? What is the selection mechanism that leads individuals to rise up in these organizations? This would not involve quantitative hypothesis testing but perhaps a small number of case studies of how successful illegal entrepreneurs/managers began their careers (backgrounds, choices made) and what seemed to be the significant factors in their success. Why does offender competence matter? It may explain the patently inefficient configurations that illegal markets sometimes devolve into. Our theories about how markets and organizational forms should respond to policy interventions may be misleading because of an assumption of competence. There may be social benefits from incompetence; illegal products are more expensive than they would otherwise be both because of poor selection of organizational forms and vulnerability to enforcement.

Chairs:

*Zora Lea Hauser*, University of Oxford

*Peter Reuter*, University of Maryland

Participants:

The Implications of Criminal Incompetence for the Behavior of Illegal Drug Markets *Peter Reuter*, University of Maryland

A plausible model of who chooses to go into illegal markets and the selection mechanism for success would argue against prominent criminal entrepreneurs being of high intelligence. A tolerance for a variety of risks (legal, reputational and physical) is a requirement for entry into these trades. For promotion to the higher levels of the trade these have to be accompanied by the capacity to command contingent violence i.e. to acquire the reputation for being able to deliver on a contingent threat. In a modern Western society these capabilities are unlikely to lead to high educational attainment, as indeed is reflected in the backgrounds of the most prominent illegal entrepreneurs. Nor can they substitute for their own limited capacities by hiring highly skilled professionals. First class criminal lawyers are available to defend them; the legal system makes that a profitable and respectable, even glamorous, speciality.

But being the financial or legal advisor for a major narcotics dealer or human trafficking don is to acquire all the risks of the crime with only a few of the rewards. Thus models that assume strategic behavior on the part of illegal entrepreneurs may mislead. Drug trafficking is probably an extreme amongst illegal markets in terms of risks of long prison sentences and violent victimization but it is by consensus considered the largest illegal market. This paper examines discrepancies between theoretical predictions reflecting conventional economic theory and observed drug market behaviors. It provides an early statement of an alternative theoretical approach based on Evolutionary Economics that might provide a strong analytic framework for understanding the behavior of illegal markets.

Organised Chaos: Criminal Incompetence in Drug Markets *Zora Lea Hauser*, University of Oxford

Every year, thousands of tons of cocaine are produced and sold around the globe. From production to distribution, the supply chain is populated by a variety of criminal actors including armed groups, gangs, and mafias. Brokers facilitate transatlantic deals, professional transporters move the product, and money launderers channel profits back into the legal economy. Drawing on confidential judicial and police files of a series of major investigations into drug trafficking operations between Latin America and Europe, this paper investigates efficiencies and inefficiencies of drug markets. On the one hand, incompetence seems pervasive. Looking at individual transactions, the picture is one of mis-coordination, poor decision-making and irresponsible financial management, resulting in constant conflict. In the absence of contract enforcement and formal dispute-settlement mechanisms, the impact on business should be detrimental. On the other hand, the research reveals a functioning market that, despite hiccups and conflict, increases in size every year. If criminals are generally "incompetent", they still seem to be competent enough for the business to flourish. Investigating why and how is the main contribution of this paper.

Deception, misunderstanding, and incapacity. Why organized crime cooperation fails and offenders get arrested *Edward Kleemans*, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

This paper involves an empirical exploration of the environment as a risk factor and why main suspects in organized crime are vulnerable to the risk of arrest. First, we look at the problems that the illicit environment creates for offenders involved in organized crime activities and how they deal with these problems. It discusses the virtually 'unavoidable' risks and uncertainties as well as problems which are more intentionally caused by other offenders. Everyday risks and uncertainties pose a problem for criminal collaboration, as it is difficult for offenders to distinguish between deception, misunderstanding, and incapacity. Furthermore, mutual distrust is more difficult to curb than is the case with legal activities. When there is disagreement, not only is it difficult to determine the cause but it is also impossible to resort to arbitration or justice. As a result, latent distrust can easily be given free rein, especially in cases where large monetary interests are at stake. Second, we examine at what points the prime suspects of the analyzed cases proved vulnerable to detection: through unnecessary, necessary, and/or enforced involvement. Next to unnecessary involvement (which can be avoided), we find necessary involvement in monetary acts. Main suspects appear to be more than incidentally involved in handling financial payments. They also seem to remain less in the background when exchanging, transporting, and laundering money. Furthermore, communication with business partners is a point where they necessarily come into view. While some precautions can be taken, there are limits to the possibilities of shielding such communications from detection. Finally, enforced involvement puts offenders at the risk of arrest, when problems arise. At that very moment, there is little left for the prime suspects to delegate, they are forced to take action themselves, and their indispensability turns from a strength into a major weakness.

### 351. Economic Crime and Property Crime

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Economic Crime and Property Crime Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room

0.22

Chair:

**Marilyne Ordekian**, University College London

Participants:

Developments in the Market for Stolen Goods *Peter Kruize, Center for Crime Analysis*

Stolen goods may be intended for personal use, but a significant portion of these items are often sold. Conducting surveys is one method used to gain insight into the market for stolen goods. The underlying assumption is that individuals may become aware when offered stolen merchandise. In such cases, citizens may provide information about the goods offered and the channels through which they are being sold. Although respondents are asked whether they have purchased the item, the reliability of their answers is questionable. In Denmark, such surveys among random citizens were conducted in 2016, 2020, and 2024. By employing a consistent set of questions across these surveys, it becomes possible to identify trends and changes within these markets. This includes determining whether certain products have become more or less popular over time and if there have been shifts in selling channels. In this presentation, these questions will be addressed and analyzed in relation to criminological theories about the market for stolen goods (Clarke, 1999; Sutton, 2010).

Elder Financial Abuse in Switzerland: Results of a second national survey *Olivier Beaudet-Labrecque, Institut de lutte contre la criminalité économique, HEG-Arc, HES-SO // Haute école de Suisse occidentale; Cristina Cretu-Adatte, Institut de lutte contre la criminalité économique, HEG-Arc, HES-SO // Haute école de Suisse occidentale*

With the aging population, financial abuse against seniors emerges as an issue warranting attention from researchers and society alike. In Switzerland, a pioneering national prevalence study was conducted in 2018, revealing the previously underestimated magnitude of the phenomenon. A follow-up national study was undertaken in 2023 to track the evolution of this issue. It became evident that the pandemic and the surge in digitalization among this particular demographic have significantly reshaped the landscape of financial abuse. The presentation will delve into the findings of this subsequent study, focusing on prevalent forms of abuse, their frequency, and the repercussions for victims. Additionally, it will address methodological challenges, limitations, and complexities inherent in a multilingual country.

Lost in Translation?: “International” Romance Fraud in Japan *Yutaka Yoshida, Cardiff University*

Research into romance fraud has been expanding as victimisation in fraud emerges as a significant social issue across both Western and Eastern societies. This study aims to shed light on the role of culture in the dynamics of romance fraud. While existing research has offered valuable insights into fraudsters’ techniques (Whitty, 2015; Cross and Dragiewicz, 2018; Carter, 2021) and the financial and emotional toll on victims (Whitty and Buchanan, 2016), the influence of cultural elements, particularly those concerning gender norms and intimate relationships, on fraudsters’ compelling narratives remains unexplored. This gap is addressed by examining the life stories of thirteen Japanese women who fell victim to romance fraud using the psychosocial method devised by Hollway and Jefferson (2000). The study uncovers the varied struggles they face, partly exacerbated by Japan’s gender inequality, which make irresistible the allure of a desirable life that the fraudsters present. The analysis underscores the importance of understanding the interplay between societal structures and the individual psyches of victims to fully comprehend the workings of romance fraud. Moreover, this study highlights the influence of national identities in transnational financial crimes. The perception of foreignness seems to affect victimization, as evidenced by the Japanese term for the crime, ‘international romance fraud’ (kokusai romansu sagi), and victims’ observations that affirming and romantic behaviors of fraudsters are uncharacteristic of Japanese men. Building on discussions of the construction and perpetuation of the perceived uniqueness of ‘Japaneseness’ (Befu, 2000; Yoshino, 1992), the analysis demonstrates how the entrenched dichotomy between Japanese and non-Japanese in Japanese society facilitates the

projection of hopes onto the constructed foreignness by the fraudsters.

Investigating Wrench Attacks: Physical Attacks Targeting Cryptocurrency Users *Marilyne Ordekian, University College London; Gilberto Atondo-Siu, University of Cambridge; Alice Hutchings, University of Cambridge; Marie Vasek, University College London*

Cryptocurrency wrench attacks are physical attacks targeting cryptocurrency users in the real world to illicitly acquire their cryptocurrencies by conventional means. This is an unusual offending method in the cryptocurrency ecosystem where the typical offenders are cybercriminals only targeting possession. With no prior work on wrench attacks, the purpose of this in-depth explorative study is to investigate and better understand this shift from the cyberworld to the physical world, the different stages and attack methods, and the actors involved. First, we devise a legal definition and crime elements for wrench attacks. Then, we take an interdisciplinary approach and triangulate three data sources using a crime script analysis. We draw from interviews conducted with victims and/or cryptocurrency experts, incidents reported in the media, and use natural language processing approaches to detect posts relating to these attacks on online forums. We identify diverse groups of attackers, various modi operandi, and nine forms of wrench attacks ranging from violent crimes such as murder to crimes against property like burglary. We find that wrench attacks, though have existed since Bitcoin’s early days, are underreported as victims fear revictimization. Unlike all other cryptocurrency (cyber)crimes where certain groups are more likely to be victimised, the findings of this research indicate that motivated attackers can attack any cryptocurrency user. The study reveals actionable recommendations for cryptocurrency users, and potential interventions for regulators and the computer security community to improve methods for crime prevention and cryptocurrency user safety.

Offences related to the Value Added Tax (VAT) in judicial practice in Poland. *KONRAD BUCZKOWSKI, Institute of Law Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences*

Offences related to VAT fraud significantly reduce revenues to the State Treasury, violate the certainty of economic turnover and the principles of competition. Combating it and sealing tax law are therefore important tasks of the state. In Poland, these tasks were pursued, inter alia, through such legislative changes in tax law. In the opinion of the legislator, it was also necessary to introduce new provisions on the grounds of criminal law. In this paper, it is analysed in detail the content of the provisions introduced into the Criminal Code regulating the material and intellectual falsification of a VAT invoice, the statistical picture of the crime of invoice falsification and the results of a court case-file study of 194 cases of the analysed offences completed between 2017 and 2022. On the basis of such extensive research material, information was sought on the size and characteristics of this phenomenon, the perpetrators of these crimes, the state’s response to them and the answer to the question: have the new regulations fulfilled the assumed reduction of VAT crime?

### 352. Approaches to crime prevention

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Crime prevention

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.29*

Chair:

**Andrii Biletskyi**, University of Zurich

Participants:

A contemporary meta-analysis of social justice approaches to crime prevention *Rick Sarre, University of South Australia*  
Governments all over the world are constantly endeavouring to make their communities safer and the lives of their citizens less fearful. Pleasingly, the research outputs on this subject are voluminous and growing, especially with regard social crime prevention. But too often the research work is ignored by policymakers because they are wary of social justice initiatives in

the crime reduction equation. Too often they resort to quick fix ‘solutions’ that do not fix anything, cost an enormous amount, and often make matters worse. This paper provides an up to date meta-analysis of social crime prevention research outputs that prove that a safe and secure community is best built on the pursuit of economic and social justice, equality of opportunity, and the development of strong social capital that builds and rebuilds people’s lives in constructive ways. The paper is designed to highlight for policymakers and their political masters that they can put their trust in social crime prevention initiatives and not threaten their credibility, effectiveness or political careers.

**Travel Intelligence to Prevent the Exploitation of Air Transportation for Criminal Purposes** *Deborah Manzi, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore – Transcrime*

Globalization has revolutionized the movement of goods and people, presenting both opportunities and challenges for border security. While facilitating trade and travel, this interconnectedness also amplifies the risk of illicit activities crossing borders undetected. Border Guards (BGs) and Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) play a pivotal role in screening passengers and goods to proactively identify potential threats. In this process, adopting a risk-based approach is essential to identifying high-risk passengers while minimizing human and economic costs for both authorities and economic actors. Although passenger data provides a rich source of information, effectively distinguishing passengers based on the risk they pose requires advanced intelligence-based profiling. Moreover, BGs and LEAs often lack the necessary technical skills and tools, and they may overlook the importance of coupling passengers’ data with information about transnational crime patterns related to various forms of serious crime. The Horizon Europe TENACITY Project addresses this critical gap by pioneering advanced intelligence-based risk assessment models. These models leverage passenger data alongside comprehensive insights into criminal actors, transportation methods, and common routes associated with illicit activities. The project aims to estimate the probability of specific passengers exhibiting behavior patterns potentially associated with criminal involvement. This facilitates the development of precise risk profiles, enabling the early detection of high-risk individuals and enhancing travel intelligence practices.

**Unveiling the Swiss Shield: Countering Strategic Corruption in Ukraine through Swiss Intervention** *Andrii Biletskyi, University of Zurich*

Corruption is a dangerous phenomenon that threatens any country in the world. Recently, there has been growing attention to a new type of corruption, in particular, strategic corruption, which poses an even greater threat to global stability and security. Strategic corruption is corrupt practices organized by representatives of one state against another as part of a broader national strategy. As a rule, the perpetrators are individuals who accumulate significant capital and secretly seize control over the economic infrastructure of another country, often through illegal means. Given the growing attention to the phenomenon of strategic corruption, it is necessary to study its mechanisms and manifestations. Having this in mind, the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation in 2022 stands out as a vivid example illustrating the mechanisms of strategic corruption. In this case, Russian oligarchs were actively involved in destabilizing the economic situation in Ukraine, using not only direct military intervention but also tactics such as information campaigns and economic destabilization measures. In the context of the ongoing Russian invasion, the fight against strategic corruption is becoming a key strategy to deter the aggressor. Understanding the dynamics of this type of corruption will allow, in particular, the external partners whose financial systems within their jurisdictions are widely used by the oligarchs of the aggressor country to preserve their capital to build a proper and effective corruption prevention system. Switzerland, which is a prime example of such a financial hub, reportedly possesses approximately 150-200 billion CHF belonging to Russia. Exploring options such as asset freezes, asset transfers to the country affected by the aggression, and other innovative strategies are becoming necessary to understand how Switzerland can contribute to countering strategic corruption, particularly in mitigating the influence of Russian oligarchs in Ukraine.

**353. The interconnections between prisons, risk, rehabilitation and welfare**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.05*

This panel brings together scholars who are interested in the multi-fold ways in which the penal welfare state shapes understandings, experiences, and practices around punishment, rehabilitation, and risk. Using rich empirical data from a study comparing prison practices and experiences in England & Wales and Norway, data from fieldwork in Danish prisons, archival studies, as well as analysis of Norwegian rehabilitation policies and practices, the authors address issues that are rarely discussed empirically, and concepts which hitherto have been explored rather vaguely. Taken together, the panel analyzes the ways in which the prison and the welfare state are intertwined, and with what effects for the men and women who has spent time in Norwegian prisons; the different way risk affects the experience of imprisonment for men who are serving indeterminate sentences in two similar yet contrasting penal contexts (Norway and Denmark); the (problematic) ways in which rehabilitation has been invoked in discussions about ‘Nordic exceptionalism’, and finally how youth crime control is one of the most key examples of the deep and historically embedded intertwining of punishment and welfare in the Nordic region. Hopefully, the panel will add new ideas to discussions in prisons scholarship on the relationship between punishment and welfare, risk and rehabilitation, and Nordic penalty more broadly.

Chair:

*Kristian Mjåland, University of Agder*

Participants:

**Welfare and punishment: A longitudinal analysis of entry into and release from prisons in Norway** *Kristian Mjåland, University of Agder*

In *Punishment and Welfare*, David Garland (1985: viii) argued that “penal institutions are functionally, historically and ideologically conditioned by numerous other social relations and agencies, which are, in turn, supported and conditioned by the operation of penal institutions”. If we are to understand modern punishment, Garland contended, we must explore its relationship to welfare. The aim of this article is to follow this advice, by offering a qualitative and longitudinal analysis of people’s carceral journeys through the Norwegian prison system. The debates over the ‘Nordic exceptionalism’ thesis have highlighted the significance of the Nordic welfare states in sustaining more moderate and humane penal practices. However, the literature on the relationship between punishment and welfare in the Nordic context often lacks empirical specificity. By careful analysis of people’s subjective experiences over time – made possible by interviews with 45 men and women shortly after entering prison, shortly before leaving prison, and then in the community two-three months post-release – this article empirically interrogates the relationship between punishment and welfare. The longitudinal research design allows for an investigation of the interconnected influences of the prison and the welfare state on people’s lives – before, during and after imprisonment.

**Risk and the indeterminate sentence: An interview and ethnography-based comparison of Norwegian and Danish practices** *Julie Laursen, University of Copenhagen*

Indeterminate sentences (‘forvaring’) in Denmark and Norway share a range of similarities; they are experienced as confusing, psychologically demanding, and heavy. Based on interview data (N:50) with prisoners serving indeterminate sentences, I aim to shed light on the ways in which soft power plays out in these two otherwise similar jurisdictions. This paper thus illuminates the experiential texture of indeterminate imprisonment with a particular focus on tightness (Crewe 2011). Prisoners in both countries were essentially expected to prove in the present that they would not be risky in the future, but the degree of self-monitoring, and suspicion towards officers created a particularly distrustful climate in the Norwegian prisons. In Denmark, indeterminately sentenced prisoners also felt monitored by staff, but their main preoccupations

were directed at staff at a higher level. Because of the ways in which power flowed in both jurisdictions, indeterminately sentenced prisoners in both countries shared a feeling of powerlessness in the face of psychological power as well as confusion and resentment about being subjected to a form of risk-thinking that felt vague or irrational.

**Searching for Rehabilitation in All the Wrong Places: Understanding (Allegedly) Exceptional Penal Systems** *Thomas Ugelvik, University of Oslo; Kristian Mjåland, University of Agder*

Much has been written about the Nordic model of punishment and about how the penal systems of these countries are exceptional (as in exceptionally good and humane) from an international perspective. The concept of rehabilitation, and the more significant role it is supposed to play in Nordic penalty, is often used to support claims about 'Nordic exceptionalism'. However, the very concept of rehabilitation, and what it means in practice, remains vague in much of this scholarship. Drawing on recent attempts to clarify and unpack the concept of rehabilitation, this paper interrogates what rehabilitation looks like in Norway, and what that might tell us about Nordic exceptionalism. We argue, drawing on the terminology offered by Raynor and Robinson (2009) and McNeill (2012), and in contrast to what is implied in some of the literature on Nordic penalty, that the type of rehabilitation that characterizes Norwegian penal practice is less correctional, personal and psychological, and more concerned with social and legal dimensions: The rehabilitation approach in Norwegian prisons works more through principles than programmes. The paper concludes that the most significant feature of the Norwegian approach to rehabilitation is that offenders are treated as citizens, and retain their rights to welfare during and after their imprisonment.

#### 354. Quantitative Methods WG. Panel 3 Comparative Analyses of Criminal Justice Policies and Systems

Topic 7: Comparative and Historical Perspectives/Cross-National Comparisons of Crime and Justice (Quantitative Methods WG )

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14

Chair:

*Janet Stamatel*, University of Kentucky

Participants:

Balance of the RIMES application: insights for comparative criminal policy *Elisa Garcia-España, University of Malaga; Anabel Cerezo, University of Malaga; Pablo Rando, University of Sevilla*

In this paper we shall provide the results of the application of RIMES in several countries like California, England & Wales, Germany, Italy, New York, Poland and Spain, as regards the level of social exclusion caused by those European and American criminal justice systems, as well as comparisons among them. The aim of this paper is to make a more general political-criminal comparison and to place each jurisdiction on a continuum from least to most social exclusion. By doing so, we fulfil the objectives set by the RIMES and AP-RIMES projects: to operationalise the theoretical model of Díez-Ripollés (2011, 2013) through the design and implementation of an instrument that allows to compare criminal policies from the perspective of the social exclusion caused by penal systems on suspects, defendants, offenders and ex-offenders.

**Contrasting imprisonment dynamics: a comparative analysis of Portuguese and Swiss imprisonment trends between 2010 and 2020** *Mélanie M. Tiago, University Lusófona, Lisbon, Portugal; Daniel Fink, University of Lausanne, Switzerland*

This study delves into a comparative analysis of imprisonment trends in Portugal and Switzerland from 2010 to 2020. Through an examination of prison population rates, prison density, proportion of overall sentenced prisoners, proportion of sentenced prisoners for specific types of offenses (homicide, assault and battery, rape, other sexual offenses, robbery, and drug offenses), and length of imposed sentences, this research aims to better understand the

disparities in sentencing practices and their implications on the overall imprisonment dynamics in both countries. Key findings indicate constant differences between Portugal and Switzerland in several aspects: Portugal systematically registers higher rates of prison population and density, as well as higher proportions of overall sentenced prisoners, despite Switzerland having higher proportions of prisoners sentenced for more serious crimes, such as homicide and assault and battery; Switzerland leans toward shorter sentences, while Portugal tends to impose longer ones, even if the prison time effectively served in Portugal may be shorter comparing to Switzerland due to parole provisions. Besides pointing out to marked differences in sentencing practices between the two countries, these findings shed light on the complexities of the criminal justice systems in Portugal and Switzerland, highlighting the need for further research on the effectiveness and fairness of sentencing practices.

**A comparative analysis of workload and staffing dynamics in Swiss Public Prosecution Offices between 2010 and 2022** *Christophe Koller, ESEHA, Switzerland; Mélanie M. Tiago, University Lusófona, Lisbon, Portugal*

Security and criminal prosecution are at the heart of regalian activities. In Switzerland, the work of the Public Prosecution Offices is essentially the responsibility of the cantons. This research aims to analyze the workload of Public Prosecution Offices concerning criminal cases in a comparative and longitudinal perspective. Using data and indicators published by the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ-STAT) and data from a similar online survey conducted among 26 Swiss cantons between 2010 and 2022, the study seeks to explore the relationship between Public Prosecutors workload in terms of incoming and resolved cases, and the dotation of Public Prosecutors. Additionally, it aims to contextualize Swiss results within the cantons and with other similar countries, building regionalization and providing a comparative perspective on the subject. The findings shed light not only on legal systems workload management in criminal matters, but also on the impact of judicial personnel on the system efficiency. The conclusions offer valuable insights that can inform policy and practice within the field of criminal justice, and highlighting impact of different practices that vary from region to region.

#### 355. Eurogang WG Session

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Gangs (Eurogang WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22

Chair:

*Paul Andell*, University of Suffolk

Participants:

**To gang or not to gang? The role of perceived costs and benefits in the procedural justice and gang membership relationship** *Robert Geibler, The University of Texas at Dallas; Jun Wu, Angelo State University; Arthur Vasquez, The University of Texas at Dallas; Andrew Krajewski, The University of Texas at Dallas*

Objective: Procedural justice has been linked to several outcomes such as conformity and violence. In this research, we explain how procedural justice affects the perceived costs and benefits of gang membership. We argue that the procedural justice and gang membership relationship can be explained by self-help behaviors. Data and Methods: Using data from the Gang Resistance Education and Training evaluation (G.R.E.A.T.; Esbensen et al., 2016) (n=2643), a broad sample of youth nested in 31 schools across seven cities, we use structural equation modeling to examine the procedural justice and gang membership relationship through perceived costs and benefits. Results: Our results suggest there is a positive association between procedural justice and gang membership, but the direct effect of this relationship becomes nonsignificant when the perceived costs and benefits of gang membership are in the model. We also find an indirect effect of the procedural injustice and gang membership relationship through these perceived costs and benefits. Conclusions: The results indicate that youth who perceive police as uncourteous, disrespectful, and

unjust may discount the perceived costs of gang membership and embrace the perceived benefits. We discuss future directions for how low levels of procedural justice may enable self-help behaviors in individuals who feel the need to fend for themselves.

**Urban Gang Dynamics: Exploring the Impact of Criminal Governance from London Gangs** *Fanqi Zeng, University of Oxford; Federico Varese, Sciences Po*

Not all urban gangs are created equal, nor do they behave identically. Recent studies suggest that some urban gangs establish criminal governance within local communities, leading to complex crime patterns. This paper leverages a novel survey conducted among London police officers, combined with official Census and Deprivation data from London, to reveal crime patterns at various community levels. Initially, we identify the spatial distribution of gangs in London, differentiating between those involved in governance and those that are not. We then employ a matching comparison to evaluate the heterogeneous effects of governance-type gangs and non-governance-type gangs on selected crime types. Our findings indicate that communities with governance-type gang presence generally show lower crime rates compared to matched communities with non-governance gangs. We also examine the socio-economic and demographic factors associated with these divergent crime patterns.

**Co-production in Addressing Criminal Exploitation** *Paul Andell, University of Suffolk*

The paper utilises data from three sites to examine the actions and responses to criminal exploitation and modern slavery. The research was sponsored through a British Academy Innovation Fellowship, which adopted an “action research” methodology encompassing stakeholder views to co-produce knowledge to make changes in policy and practice. The project conducted semi-structured interviews and focus groups with 79 participants. 55 participants were practitioners and policymakers from the statutory and voluntary sectors and 24 participants were young people and vulnerable adults who were impacted by modern slavery through county lines drug dealing networks. As part of an “action research” methodology, ongoing co-production activities with stakeholders were facilitated to explore understandings and responses to criminal exploitation, modern slavery and human trafficking. Participative activities included co-facilitation for youth involvement and research advice and training for young people attached to an existing project. Criminal Justice and health personnel also benefitted from reflective practice sessions and Advisory Boards to allow participant reflections to identify gaps in policy and practices. These sessions included CPD training events, “reflective practice” sessions utilising “Hydra” technology, and Advisory Boards for Criminal Justice personnel to identify gaps in policy and practices. The paper provides an analysis that describes the trajectory of some criminal groups that have evolved from street drug supply towards more embedded and, in some cases, diverse activities, which arguably can be viewed as local organised crime.

**356. Violence and Victimization: Cross-Cultural Perspectives and Case Studies**

Topic 4: Victimology/Patterns and trends in Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

8:00 to 9:15 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06*

Chair:

*Margrét Valdimarsdóttir, University of Iceland*

Participants:

*Near Repeat Victimization Theory in a Post-Soviet City: Insights from Theft and Violent Crime Patterns in Almaty, Kazakhstan* *Bekzat Bulatov, Nazarbayev University; Dmitrii Serebrennikov, Institute for the Rule of Law at the European University at Saint-Petersburg; Maqsut Narikbayev Institute for Network and Development; Kazakhstan Sociology Lab*

Near Repeat Victimization Theory (NRVT) is a prominent concept in spatial criminology, examining the propensity for repeat victimization within spatial-temporal clusters. In other words, it investigates the likelihood of subsequent crimes occurring in close

proximity to the initial offense within a brief timeframe. While extensively validated in numerous cities across North America and Europe, NRVT remains untested in post-socialist urban landscapes with their distinct spatial configurations. This study pioneers the application of NRVT in Almaty, the largest metropolis in Kazakhstan with a population approaching 2.5 million. Analyzing data from 2023, we scrutinize spatial points of two categories of recorded crimes: non-serious thefts (14,007 incidents, comprising 21% of national theft occurrences) and a diverse spectrum of violent incidents (1,366 crimes, constituting 14% of similar cases nationwide). Employing the Knox test, we explore variations in crime clustering across different incident types and locations (such as residential versus outdoor areas). Using the Knox test, we show how crime clustering differs for different types and locations of incidents (residential buildings or outdoor spaces). We also assess the NRVT more complexly, adding information on urban morphology. We believe that the different specifics of spatial development determine the conditions for confirming the theory. Using data on the functional zoning of space provided by the city authorities, we cluster the city's territory into several groups, within which we conduct testing of NRVT. Our findings reveal NRVT's confirmation in Almaty, albeit with a notably diminished effect compared to European counterparts. Notably, this effect is more pronounced for thefts within specific spatial clusters than for violent crimes.

**Aggression and violence against politicians in Germany - First results of a qualitative interview study** *Philipp Müller, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony*

In recent years, the number of media reports about violence and aggression against politicians in Germany has significantly increased. Previous research on the situation in Germany has focused on small samples and single levels of political representation. A research project conducted by the Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony (KFN) addresses these research gaps. In the study, different research methods are combined. First, qualitative interviews with politicians of state, federal and local level (n=20-25) will be conducted regarding their experiences of violence and aggression. Subsequently, politicians of the three different levels will be questioned in a representative quantitative survey (n=22.600) about their experiences of aggression and violence, how they deal with them, and the consequences for their political work and commitment. This presentation will focus on the qualitative interviews with politicians. First, the different types of victimization will be identified, including the various forms of violence and the situational context of those incidents. Another focus is on the target of the experienced violence: whether it was the politics of the respective party or the person themselves, e.g. their political views, gender or appearance. Finally, initial findings are presented on how politicians deal with the violence and what influence it has on their political participation or how they carry out their political work.

**Victimization Experiences of GNR Military Officers in Portugal** *Laura M. Nunes, Universidade Fernando Pessoa; Ana Isabel Sani, University Fernando Pessoa (UFP); OPVC-UFP; CIEC-UM; Sara Gonçalves, University Fernando Pessoa*

This study focuses on an urgent and pertinent topic, being a theme that presents itself as highly worrying. We are talking about victimization of Guarda Nacional Republicana (Republican National Guard - GNR) military in Portugal. It pretends to describe experiences of victimization by the Portuguese GNR military officers, and their perception of (in)security in their urban areas of operation, as well about their (un)safety working conditions. The study had a sample of 92 GNR military officers, who answered to a questionnaire survey, developed by using a questionnaire that was purposely designed to question police officers about issues related to their work, including those relating to experiences of victimization (see Sani, & Nunes, 2013). Generally we aim to identify the prevalence of victimization through the experience and perception of GNR military officers during the performance of their duties. More specifically, we sought to: a) Identify the possible existence of a pattern of victimization; b) Capture the perception of the participants regarding the possible relationship between the victimization experienced and the levels of insecurity and crime in their area of work; c) Identify any association between the

victimization experienced and the conditions/circumstances of occurrence; d) Identify any association between the victimization experienced and some sociodemographic characteristics. The results made it possible to identify around 34% of those military officers who had been victims while they developed their duties. Almost 60% considered that crime in this area has increased, particularly due to conditions that increase crime and violence, such as drug and alcohol abuse. These and other results allowed us to achieve the proposed objectives, and to infer practical measures to prevent the victimization of these security professionals. Keywords: Military officers; Police victimization; Security; Crime and violence.

**Violent victimization among youth in Iceland: The role of immigrant background** *Margrét Valdimarsdóttir, University of Iceland*

Migration, driven by various factors like economic opportunities, conflict, and globalization, has led to an unprecedented level of cultural diversity in many societies. Over the past two decades, Iceland has experienced a 250% increase in its foreign-born population, making immigration studies increasingly important. It is particularly important to examine the multifaceted realms of adolescents with an immigrant background, who are in a formative stage of development and social integration. The study uses a large randomly selected sample of 13 to 17-year-old students living in the greater capital area in Iceland to examine the effects of multiple factors on violent victimization among immigrant youth (ISR4D4). The results indicate that while immigrant youth do not face higher odds of physical violence than native youth, both first- and second-generation immigrants are more likely to experience prejudice-motivated violence (hate crimes) than native youth. The study also found a noteworthy interaction: the impact of being a first- or second-generation immigrant on hate crime victimization varies based on the proportion of non-native students in the classroom. For instance, first-generation immigrants in classes with more fellow immigrants have a lower likelihood of hate crime victimization compared to those with fewer immigrant classmates. The lecture will discuss these findings from the perspective of criminological theory, future research needs, and policy implications.

**357. Purgatory Citizenship: Reentry, Race, and Abolition (University of California Press, 2023)**

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Author meets critics

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 1 „Paul Negulescu”*

Reentry after release from incarceration is often presented as a story of redemption. Unfortunately, this is not the reality. Those being released must navigate the reentry process with diminished legal rights and amplified social stigmas, in a journey that is often confusing, complex, and precarious. Making use of life-history interviews, focus groups, and ethnographic fieldwork with low-income urban residents of color, primarily Black men, Calvin John Smiley finds that reentry requires the recently released to negotiate a web of disjointed and often contradictory systems that serve as an extension of the carceral system. No longer behind bars but not fully free, the recently released navigate a state of limbo that deprives them of opportunity and support while leaving them locked in a cycle of perpetual punishment. Warning of the dangers of reformist efforts that only serve to further entrench carceral systems, Purgatory Citizenship advocates for abolitionist solutions rooted in the visions of the people most affected.

Critics:

*Sanna King, Mississippi State University*

*Lynne Haney, New York University*

*Andrea Leverentz, North Carolina State University*

Book Author:

*Calvin John Smiley, Hunter College-CUNY*

**358. Green Criminology #6- Causes and consequences of environmental crimes**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Environmental/Green Criminology  
Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 2 „Nicolae Titulescu”*

Chair:

*Mònica Pons-Hernandez, Universitat Rovira i Virgili*

Participants:

**In denial: An exploratory comparison between climate change disinformation and online messaging around the farming crisis in the Netherlands** *Jessica Hill, VU University; Marleen Weulen Kranenbarg, Vrije Universiteit (VU) Amsterdam*

Since 2019 the Netherlands has been in the grip of a ‘nitrogen crisis’. We have seen at times violent farmer protests in response to government proposals to tackle excess ammonia emissions from livestock farming. Some of the online messaging from critics of proposed policies is clearly a form of disinformation, stating, for example, that the government wants to acquire farmland to build homes for immigrants. We present empirical work comparing online messaging around the Dutch nitrogen crisis with climate change disinformation, both environmental issues, which have been adopted by right-wing, populist politicians. A literature review on climate change disinformation reveals categories of actors involved in funding, producing and spreading disinformation, as well as the strategies and arguments they use to spread disinformation. We are able to identify many of the same categories of actors involved in questioning the nitrogen crisis. Analyzing online messaging from these actors, we identify strategies and arguments used. Whilst we do find evidence of denial of the scientific basis of the nitrogen crisis, many of the arguments are more nuanced. Key differences between climate change disinformation and questioning of the nitrogen crisis include, for climate change, a focus on spreading doubt about science versus, for the nitrogen crisis, more focus on flawed policy and the use of weak science in determining this policy. The victims in the messaging also differs, in the case of climate change, this being the general public, and for the nitrogen crisis, the farmers. We discuss the criminological implications of our exploratory study, drawing on the harm principle, often used in green criminology, and on the link between online polarization and offline violence.

**Negative consequences of climate change: from mental health challenges to violent behavior** *Carolina Passani, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele; Palmina Caruso, University of Milan; Giulia Moretti, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele; Guido Travaini, Vita-Salute S. Raffaele University*

It is widely accepted that climate has an impact on mental health. Seasons, light, darkness, and the environmental conditions in which one lives all play a significant role in mood. Climate change, encompassing environmental and meteorological changes, from extreme natural events to gradual climate variations, is leading to direct or indirect consequences, both short-term and long-term, on psycho-physical balance and the facilitation of violent behavior. Analysis of the literature suggests that the impact of climate change on mental health ranges from mild to moderate stress symptoms to psychiatric disorders, particularly anxiety disorders, sleep disturbances, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Furthermore, in accordance with data in the literature, there is emerging evidence of a relationship between climate change, aggressiveness, and violence in a more strictly criminological context: indeed, according to the GAAM model, there is a relationship between rising temperatures and increased irritability, which can elicit more aggressive and even violent responses in those exposed to extreme weather conditions. Analyses are still somewhat unclear and highly heterogeneous, as there are multiple different factors contributing to this scenario. The presentation will provide an overview of the current state of the art regarding the subject matter and possible preventive strategies.

**Using Crime Script Analysis to Understand Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing of Glass Eels: A Case Study From Spain** *Mònica Pons-Hernandez, Universitat Rovira i Virgili; Gohar A. Petrossian, John Jay College of Criminal Justice*

The exportation of glass eels, driven by the global demand for eel meat, is contributing significantly to the declining populations of the species, pushing them towards the brink of extinction. To better

understand glass eel trafficking, we employed a crime script analysis framework to examine the process by which glass eels are poached in one of the world's major exporting countries—Spain. Through our analysis, we demonstrate that the (illegal) fishing of glass eels is a specialized activity that requires a specific set of skills and tools. Our findings underscore the need for tailored intervention strategies to address the illegal and unreported fishing of glass eels at each phase of the crime script, from preparation to post-activity. By understanding and addressing the intricacies of this criminal activity, we aim to contribute to the conservation efforts necessary to protect the species from the approaching threat of extinction.

**Who will be who into the climate migration regime quiz? Refugees, Migrants and static victims: an irresolvable quiz for green criminologists** *Ascensión García Ruiz, Complutense University of Madrid*

One of the most visible consequences of ecocide is eco-migration, i.e. migration owing to disparate environmental factors. They may be indirectly produced and at times be due to environmental practices by transnational corporations or distinct issues closely related to disorganisation and inequality on accessing natural resources. The international criminal justice system does not include detrimental effects of ecocide or of social harm resulting in forced migration flows as a genuine crime or as a basis for claiming refugee status. However, a recent landmark United Nations Human Rights Committee decision claims that people should not be returned to their place of origin if climate change appears to constitute a threat. The United Nations Refugee Agency also welcomes such a pioneering ruling since it lays the ground for potentially effective international protection. This work examines the contemporary loophole regarding eco-displacements and ecocide from the green criminological perspective and clamours for both legal and criminological international conceptualisation at ensuring the rights of eco-migrants, considering the future number of eco-migrants is unforeseeable.

### 359. Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group Panel 4: Online violence and abuse

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Gender and Crime (Gender, Crime and Justice WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 3 „Mihail Eliescu”

Chair:

**Faye Mishna**, University of Toronto

Participants:

Exploring the interplay between misogyny, hypermasculinity, and incel traits in the acceptance of intimate partner violence: a cross-sectional study of a forensic psychiatric population *Benedetta Barchielli, Department of Dynamic, Clinical Psychology and Health, “Sapienza” University of Rome.; Silvia Bernardini, Department of Mental Health, ASL Rome 1, Rome, Italy; Giulia Lausi, Faculty of Law, Vilnius University; Cricenti Clarissa, Department of Psychology, “Sapienza” University of Rome.; Giuseppe Ducci, Department of Mental Health, ASL Rome 1, Rome, Italy; Michele Procacci, Department of Mental Health, ASL Rome 1, Rome, Italy; Dario Carrus, Department of Mental Health, ASL Rome 1, Rome, Italy; Silvia Fraticelli, Department of Mental Health, ASL Rome 1, Rome, Italy; Giannini Anna Maria, Department of Psychology, “Sapienza” University of Rome.; Stefano Ferracuti, Department of Human Neuroscience, “Sapienza” University of Rome.*

This research explores the complex interrelations between misogyny, hypermasculinity, and the characteristics of involuntary celibates (Incels) in relation to the acceptance and perpetration of intimate partner violence. The rationale for this study stems from established literature indicating that men who exhibit violent behavior often show a higher conformity to masculine norms (Amato, 2012), with their perceptions of masculinity significantly influencing their attitudinal and behavioral processes (Tennant &

Hughes, 1998). Despite the prevalence of men who have committed violent acts within forensic psychiatric care, research focusing on the role of masculinity in this context remains scarce (Kumpula & Ekstrand, 2009), even though maladaptive perceptions of masculinity are known to be reinforced in secure settings (Searle et al., 2017). Further, established empirical research highlights how misogynistic attitudes and strict adherence to patriarchal beliefs underlie various forms of gender-based violence, such as intimate partner violence and sexual assault (Casey et al., 2017; Munsch & Willer, 2012). This body of evidence suggests a common psychology of male violence, characterized by shared hostility and grievances against women, perceptions of threat, and a sense of victimhood, all underpinned by mechanisms involving revenge desires and hypermasculine norms (Rottweiler et al., 2024). Our study aims to contribute to this discourse by providing empirical evidence on the role of misogynistic belief systems as a possible risk factor for different types of male violence in a forensic psychiatric population. The research is ongoing in collaboration with the Territorial Mental Health Department (ASL Roma 1), and preliminary data will be presented. The study could provide useful indications in the prevention and especially in the treatment of psychiatric patients who are offenders entrusted to the mental health department, to avoid recidivism and ensure a positive outcome of the treatments.

**From Private to Public: Exploring the Gender Dynamics of Non-Consensual Sexes among Youth in the Digital Age** *Faye Mishna, University of Toronto; Shannon Brown, University of Toronto; Lana Jeries, University of Cambridge; Mona Khoury, School of Social Work and Social Welfare, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

This study explores the gender dynamics, feelings, and responses to nonconsensual sharing of sexts. We define consensual sexting as the consensual sending of sexually explicit content, images and videos, and non-consensual sharing as disseminating content, images, or videos to a third party without consent. Echoing emerging norms in legal approaches to youth sexting, a normalcy approach suggests that consensual involvement with sexts aligns with adolescent sexual development and considers non-consensual sharing as a distinct problematic and deviant behaviour. Quantitative surveys were administered between May and August 2023 to a Canadian sample of adolescents who experienced (n=74) or engaged in (n=40) the non-consensual dissemination of sexts. This research is part of a larger mixed methods study (n=1009) exploring sexting behaviour in relation to gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation. Findings indicated that white, heterosexual males in their late teens are more likely than females to both have their sexts shared non-consensually and non-consensually share others' sexts. Of participants that had their sexts shared without consent, a majority had negative feelings, such as shame. Most told someone outside of school about this experience, which a higher proportion of females found helpful. Males were significantly more like than females to share others' sexts without consent. A higher proportion of males felt positive and reported experiencing no harm because of engaging in sexting. The research highlights the gendered perception of the non-consensual sharing of sexts. Despite being at risk of having their sext shared with their consent, males often receive social rewards, in contrast to females. This double standard both echoes patriarchal norms and reinforces heteronormative and traditional gender constructs. This fits with a culture in which males and females are conditioned in distinct ways that influence how they react when their sext is disseminated without consent or when they non-consensually share another's sext.

**Gender-based cybercrime: Main challenges faced by professionals who care for victims through a qualitative study in Catalonia** *Cristina Vasilescu, University of Girona*

The digital sphere is no stranger to the different forms of violence against women. Given characteristics such as anonymity, it reproduces or creates new models of domination that are rooted in gender inequality, stereotypes, and socially imposed gender roles. Cyberviolence is a growing problem worldwide that has a disproportionately negative impact on women and girls, especially in the most serious cases of cyberviolence and those of a sexual nature, such as the digital distribution of images without consent or

by any other means of sexual digital gender violence. There is quantitative research into cybercrime both nationally and internationally. However, there are few qualitative research on cybercrime related to gender-based violence and the few that exist are about women who have been victims of this type of crime, and who often underscore the lack of confidence in professionals to report or not knowing how to do it. There is no research on how the other crucial part, such as the professionals who care for women victims or are in contact with them, are responding to this type of violence, what challenges they encounter, what needs they present and what proposals for improvement they make. For this reason, 22 in-depth interviews have been carried out with Catalan professionals who have had direct contact with victims of gender-based cyberviolence in both the social, police, judicial and community spheres. The results presented are based on the analysis from a gender perspective of the attention to victims by these professionals, the main challenges they encounter and the proposals for improvement they make.

### 360. Victimology in Context: Historical Insights, Cultural Impacts, Cybercrime, and Polyvictimization

Topic 4: Victimology/Patterns and trends in Victimization (Victimology WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Amphitheater 4 „Vintilă Dongoroz”

Chair:

**Lisa Tompson**, University of Waikato

Participants:

Proposing a Victimology Model for the Trade in Cultural Objects  
*Emiline Smith, University of Glasgow; Marc Balcells, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya*

The quest for repatriation of foreign-held cultural heritage has recently intensified, leading to a paradigm shift in the narratives around access to, agency over and ownership of cultural objects. It is now widely recognized that many cultural objects were looted through colonial or other exploitative practices, and that, if the communities of origin so desire, these should be repatriated. However, during the repatriation process, many stakeholders can lay claim to the cultural objects in question or to the intellectual property that surrounds them. Terms like ‘victim’ and ‘justice’ are often used, yet rarely unpacked in this context. This paper reconsiders scholarship in the field of cultural heritage crimes by applying a victimology lens, linking this to different forms of potential justice (restorative or transitional, among others). Previous research has focused primarily on furthering the crime and punishment agenda, for example by framing the illicit trade in cultural objects as a white-collar or organized crime. Focusing on the victims rather than the offenders in cases of illicit trade or transfer of cultural objects offers an opportunity to platform their needs and priorities and recognize their agency, rather than negating these voices and repeating the deeply embedded ideologies of othering, colonization, and exploitation that the trade in cultural objects – and its research – is based on. This paper ultimately proposes a victimological typology model that can assist in understanding the harms caused by the commodification of cultural objects.

Who are the Victims? A Study on the Cybercrime Victimhood Construction  
*Egor - Shkurko, Saint Petersburg State University; Anna Lulikyan, Higher School of Economics; Lika - Kapustina, HSE; Irina Krylova, Higher School of Economics; Dmitrii Serebrennikov, Institute for the Rule of Law at the European University at Saint-Petersburg; Maqsut Narikbayev, Institute for Network and Development; Kazakhstan Sociology Lab*

A critical argument against traditional positivist victimology is that victimization goes beyond the scope of criminal law. Thus, interactionist approach argues that victims are those who perceive themselves as such based on their personal interpretation, even if they have not suffered any material harm. So, the image of the victim is socially constructed through reporting the experience of

victimization in each communicative act. However, existing research has typically used this approach within a qualitative paradigm, it would also be beneficial in quantitative research, for example, to study cybercrime, the number of which is growing. The feature of cybercrimes is that they are often not completed, because the success of the crime depends on whether the potential victim cooperates. However, regardless of whether the crime was completed, the criminal’s target can position themselves as a victim. Therefore we posed a question: what characteristics of offenders’ targets determine whether they will report being a victim when they have not suffered harm. The empirical basis of the study is Russian Crime Victimization Survey (2021). Using regressions and text mining, we analyzed the narratives in which the respondents described the last victimization they faced, and identified 4 types of cybercrimes (both finished and unfinished): phone fraud, Internet fraud, illegal use of personal data, online theft. The result of this comparative study is revealing differences between victims of unfinished and finished cybercrimes of each type in terms of their socio-demographic characteristics and the peculiarities of their victimization experience.

Understanding polyvictimisation in New Zealand: who experiences it and what combination of crime types are most common?  
*Lisa Tompson, University of Waikato; April Jolliffe Simpson, University of Waikato*

Polyvictimisation, whereby a person experiences multiple types of victimisation, has been found to be associated with negative health outcomes. Due to the harm often caused by polyvictimisation, it is desirable to better understand victimisation patterns among this acutely victimised group for the optimal alignment of victim support services. In this presentation we present the results of a study into polyvictimisation, using five waves of data from the New Zealand Crime and Victims Survey. We first present the intersectional profiles of groups who experience high levels of polyvictimisation, produced using the method of Conjunctive Analysis of Case Configurations. We then present regression models that discern which intersectional characteristics are statistically significantly related to victimisation. We contextualise these results by presenting latent class analysis that reveals what combinations of crime types polyvictims tend to experience, and how this relates to their social characteristics. We finish by drawing out the implications of the findings for policy and victim-oriented support services.

### 361. Cybercrime Working Group - Trends in cybercrime 1

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Cybercrime (Cybercrime WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 5 „Constantin Stătescu”

Chair:

**George Zlati**, Faculty of Law and Social Sciences, University "1 Decembrie 1918", Alba-Iulia

Participants:

Organized cybercrime: to be or not to be? Definitions of organized crime on the test bench of the digital society  
*Andrea Di Nicola, Associate professor of criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Trento, and director of the Centre of Security and Crime Sciences (University of Trento and University of Verona); Gabriele Baratto, Faculty of Law, University of Trento | Centre of Security and Crime Sciences, University of Trento and University of Verona*

Many researchers applying scholarly definitions of organized crime to cybercriminal groups have concluded that these groups are not “organized criminal groups”. In doing so, these authors have adopted a mafia-centric operational definition that follows criminological literature which states that for organized crime to exist, elements such as the use of violence, corruption, and the ability to infiltrate the economy must be present in addition to criminal association, the commission of serious crimes, duration and stability over time. However, one could argue that if our way of defining organized crime, which we use as a benchmark, and the characteristics we look for were different, we could probably find



them in cybercrime groups. For example, if we use paradigms from the criminological literature that define organized crime using the concepts of “enterprise”, “network”, “governance” and “criminal organizing”, we might arrive at different answers. At the same time, however, it is also possible – as recently pointed out by other authors – that more ‘classical’ definitions of organized crime, when reconsidered in light of the numerous and pervasive changes of digital societies, are also easily applicable to these groups. To build on this academic debate, in the research presented here, the authors have put the definitions of organized crime to the test of the digital society: the constituent elements of key definitions of organized crime from the criminological literature are identified and operationalized, and their presence or absence is examined in a number of relevant cases committed by cybercrime groups.

Particularities of cybercrime in Romania *Ionita Gheorghe Iulian, Romanian-American University*

Cybercrime has presented and presents a hard-to-ignore “opportunity” for individuals willing to make substantial illicit income, with little effort, in a relatively short period of time and with the assumption of relatively little risk. The analysis of the forms of manifestation of this phenomenon, at the national level, we allowed us to observe some particularities and formulate some conclusions. Regarding the forms of manifestation of the cybercrime phenomenon, we have noticed that (apparently) every five years (approximately), some substantial evolutions/transformations have been registered. Thus, (a) in a first stage (the first three periods, until the year 2006), the phenomenon of cybercrime appears, consolidates, and grows, (b) in the next stage (the next three periods, until the year 2021), this the phenomenon registers constant growth and important transformations and (c) in the current stage (current period, from 2022), the phenomenon manifests valences/mutations grafted onto artificial intelligence. As for the perpetrators (authors of cybercrime acts), we found that they show a permanent concern through: (a) effective financial investment in new technologies (computer technology/communication equipment), (b) subordination or co-interest of young people with skills in to use computer systems, (c) creating/purchasing criminal schemes, (d) fragmenting general criminal activity, (e) buying influence, and (f) even developing counterintelligence activities. At the opposite pole, regarding users (victims of cybercrime acts), we found a lack of information, vigilance and an insufficient and ineffective investment in the protection of the informatic systems they use. Finally, regarding the policies and measures to prevent and combat the phenomenon, we found the need for a close collaboration (national and international) between legislative and law enforcement bodies for the development and dissemination of knowledge regarding the recognition, tracking and investigation of these crimes, respectively to the seizure and recovery of money and goods acquired as a result of their commission.

Illicit financial flows of cybercrime in West Africa *Cristina Cretu-Adatte, Institut de lutte contre la criminalité économique, HEG-Arc, HES-SO // Haute école de Suisse occidentale; Olivier Beaudet-Labrecque, Institut de lutte contre la criminalité économique, HEG-Arc, HES-SO // Haute école de Suisse occidentale*

Cyberfraud cannot take place without operations involving the receipt and expenditure of criminal proceeds, using money laundering strategies. A two-month field study conducted in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, led by the Institut de lutte contre la criminalité économique, aimed to investigate these operations in cases of cyberfrauds and is presented in this contribution. Researchers conducted semi-structured interviews with various actors from the Ivorian cybercriminal milieu, through which they explored group dynamics and roles assigned within criminal organisations, resources used for their activities, and mechanisms for transferring and spending illicit funds. The knowledge gathered describes operational methods that have rarely been investigated and can inform international institutions combating cybercrime and money laundering of cybercriminal assets to devise targeted countermeasures.

An Overview of Emerging Cybercrime Trends in Romania *George Zlati, Faculty of Law and Social Sciences, University*

*“1 Decembrie 1918”, Alba-Iulia*

More than two decades after the Convention on Cybercrime, new trends in cybercrime have emerged. The adoption and evolution of social networks, blockchain technology, IoT devices, and artificial intelligence have significantly influenced the perpetrators’ modi operandi. From identity theft using deepfake technology to cryptojacking, counterfeiting crypto tokens, or manipulating smart contracts at the blockchain level, these new methods underline the necessity for a systematic review of the current legal framework, literature, and jurisprudence. This paper analyses the most relevant emerging modi operandi in Romania from a substantive criminal law perspective. In this context, offences such as illegal access to an information system, computer forgery, and computer fraud are scrutinised to determine whether the scope of the criminal provisions is adequate to attract criminal liability.

**362. EUROCRIM 5 Corruption and the Police**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Corruption (EUROCRIM)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Amphitheater 6 „Nicolae Basilescu”*

Chair:

**Zeljko Karas**, College Professor, Police University College, Croatia

Participants:

Corruption Crime Reported to the Police in Finland 2007-2023  
*Vesa Muttilainen, Police University College, Finland; Carita Lundqvist, Police University College, RDI, Tampere, Finland*

Corruption is a complex criminal phenomenon that has serious consequences for society. This paper examines bribery and other forms of corruption reported to the police in Finland. To identify instances of corruption, criminal records were searched using relevant crime titles and key words. The current data covers three periods spanning from 2007 to 2018, but it will be complemented until 2023 during the summer of 2024. Between 2007 and 2018, bribery cases accounted for only 11-12% of all the 400-500 corruption cases reported during each period. These cases typically comprise the misuse of funds or confidential information. The parties involved are usually two private companies or a private individual along with a public sector organization. The suspects are often men, middle-aged, white-collar workers, and Finnish citizens. The corruption cases, especially those not involving bribery, are often complex and difficult to identify. It might also be challenging for the police to gather evidence for the prosecution and the court process. Less than 60 % of suspected bribery and other corruption offenses are referred for consideration of charges. The results of this study are valuable for analyzing the content and development of corruption. These outcomes benefit the public debate, the scientific community, the police, and other organizations engaged in combating corruption. The data does not cover all cases of corruption reported to the police (e.g., secret cases). Furthermore, it does not provide a comprehensive description of all forms of structural corruption present in society. Keywords: corruption, bribery, police, registry data

Prevention of Corruption, Information Leaking and Conflict of Interest in the Post-employment of Police Officers *Zeljko Karas, College Professor, Police University College, Croatia*

After leaving police units, police officers who worked on certain types of jobs with the access to sensitive or classified data, may have the opportunity to use those data for the post-employment in private sector that conduct business with police (revolving door concept). The question is whether former officers maybe use privileged information for an illegal personal gain. There could be various forms of direct and indirect gains that could fall within corruption or other type of irregularity such as leaking of information on criminal investigations, exploiting former subordinate colleagues for lobbying activities, making advantage in supplying some services needed by police units, etc. The paper contains analysis of preventive measures which serve to combat irregularities such as corruption, information leaking and conflict of interest that may occur among former police officers (not top officials only). A survey of the employment of former police

officers in Croatia was conducted with the aim to determine frequency and risk on the new workplace. In the research, the author used quantitative methods for collecting data and finding out fluctuations in the workplace, as well as structured interviews. The analysis also included cases and preventive measures from comparative police systems. The results show that currently there is no big flow of employees from police force to the private sector in Croatia, but possible problems in the future could be prevented by monitoring such departures and adjusting the legal system if necessary. Preventive measures could range from exit interviews, "cooling-off" period, declaration of conflict of interest and other.

### 363. Prison and post-prison experiences

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Attitudes about Punishment and Criminal Justice System

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Constantin Dissescu Room (0.01)

Chair:

**Eszter Kovács Szitkay**, Centre for Social Sciences Institute for Legal Studies, Budapest, Hungary; University of Public Service Doctoral School of Law Enforcement, Budapest, Hungary

Participants:

Helping to turn the page: exploring the lived experiences and barriers encountered by civic sector workers engaged in prisoner-based interventions. *Daniel Williams, Cardiff Metropolitan University*

The importance of a service user's professional interaction with a healthcare or other appropriate professional in making interventions, such as bibliotherapy, successful, is well documented (Cox, Andrew, & Brewster, Liz, 2020; Brewster, 2011). When the healthcare professional is more involved in the design and implementation of a planned and structured bibliotherapeutic intervention they work better to promote positive and sustained outcomes for the service user (Maunder et al., 2009). Staff buy-in is also vital to the intervention's success (Lai, et al., 2022; Turner, et al., 2022; Maunder et al., 2009). Therefore, it is necessary to examine the staff decision-making processes that govern how specific interventions are planned, implemented, and evaluated. This research will develop the understanding of the mechanisms that govern why certain interventions succeed and others do not. Using interpretative phenomenological analysis, this research explores the lived experience of practitioners working within civic sector roles. The success of interventions aimed at supporting prison leavers and current prison inmates is impacted by factors that include, staff motivations, staff buy-in, the availability of appropriate materials and literature, and the other associated barriers and challenges faced by staff developing these interventions. Using a social constructivist lens, the rebranding of specific terminology relating to those who have experienced incarceration will be discussed. A change in terminology from prisoners, and associated terms (ex-prisoner, etc.) to a more inclusive set of terminology will be proposed. The intention is to aid in the reduction of harmful stereotyping caused by secondary prisonization of the children and other family members of people who have been incarcerated.

"It's no use reporting, they don't even investigate rape." A qualitative thematic analysis of Norwegian young adults' expectations to report non-consensual sexual image-sharing to the authorities. *Roya Denise Haugen, University of Agder*

According to self-report victimization surveys, approximately 8.7% of young people (aged 16-19) and 5.3% of young adults (aged 20-24) in Norway have experienced victimization of a form of digital sexual violence. However, few cases go to trial, which might indicate that few cases are reported to the police. In this paper, I explore young adults' attitudes and expectations to report non-consensual sexual image-sharing to the authorities within a focus group context. In total 14 focus group were conducted with people ages 18-24. Each focus group consisted of 3-4 research participants. The interview data are thematically coded. A key theme is that there exists a defeatist narrative when it comes to reporting non-consensual sexual image-sharing, as the research participants

express distrust in the authorities that reporting can lead to a trial and conviction of the perpetrator. They also highlight that reporting could result in negative social sanctions from their peers and parents, and they expressed that it would be less emotionally- and socially taxing to "just let it go". The paper explores these findings through concepts such as: 'trust', 'peer groups' and 'stigma' in an attempt to gain a further understanding of young adults' reluctance to report victimisation of digital sexual crimes.

Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse: Pros and cons of Prevent It Program according to the Voices of Portuguese Criminal Police *Vanessa Mourão Ferreira Sampaio Azevedo, Faculdade de Psicologia e de Ciências da Educação da Universidade do Porto; Claudia Rodrigues, Faculdade de Psicologia e de Ciências da Educação da Universidade do Porto; Joana Carvalho, Universidade de Aveiro*

In Portugal, data from official crime statistics showed that child sexual abuse and consumption of child sexual abuse material are the most common crimes in the category of crimes against liberty and sexual self-determination (RASI, 2023). Based on Portugal Justice Statistics, in 2022, 964 crimes of sexual abuse of minors were registered by police authorities. Currently, the criminal justice system addresses child sexual abuse (CSA) based on the investigation of allegations, protection of victims, punishment of people who offend, and prevention of recidivism. However, there are increasing efforts to decrease the probability of CSA occurring in the first place. Criminal police play a central role in the criminal justice system, being the first justice professionals to encounter people who (potentially) sexually abuse children. We aimed to understand their perceptions and beliefs about preventing CSA by implementing an online program called Prevent It. Therefore, we implemented two focus groups with the Portuguese criminal police, involving 9 participants (5 female, mean age = 51.6 years old) who work in the field of CSA. The focus group session includes a presentation of the program and a time for Q&A, followed by a discussion of the program. After transcription, the focus groups were analyzed according to thematic analysis, and under the major theme 'Prevent It' advantages, participants stressed its characteristics (e.g., well-structured and theoretically grounded, innovative), the provision of help for people who offend, and the improvement in awareness and knowledge. Our findings suggest that Portuguese Criminal Police seem to be aware of the value of the Prevent It program and the relevance of the prevention of CSA, being available to collaborate in those efforts.

Access to Justice – Conceptualization for a Substantive Approach *Eszter Kovács Szitkay, Centre for Social Sciences Institute for Legal Studies, Budapest, Hungary; University of Public Service Doctoral School of Law Enforcement, Budapest, Hungary*

The presentation will examine the conceptual framework of access to justice. The term's vagueness or narrow interpretation can create barriers to resolving access issues, making it difficult to understand and address the problems citizens face in their daily lives. The purpose of this presentation is to introduce various interpretive frameworks for access to justice theory and highlight the outlines of an initial step towards substantive access to justice. The presentation will follow a logical progression, moving from the formal to a possible substantive, and will also include the limitations, formulated by Andrew Pilliar. Furthermore, as a possible substantive approach for access to justice, Pilliar's 'person-centred conception of access to justice' is introduced and discussed. This approach differs substantially from the ones presented earlier in the presentation as it places citizens at the centre. Finally, the presentation discusses the potential applications of indicators as a measurement tool in social sciences and legal studies, with a particular focus on measuring access to justice. The aim is to formulate and apply indicators as a first step towards implementing substantive access to justice – building on Pilliar's concept –, which relies heavily on citizens' experiences and perceptions regarding access to justice.

### 364. Understanding punishment preferences in the public: New findings from the Central European Social Survey

Topic 6: Perceptions of Crime and Justice/Attitudes about

## Punishment and Criminal Justice System

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Constantin Stoicescu Room (2.24)*

Ever since the 1909 study by Otto and Sharp, scholars have sought to understand how the public would punish criminal offenders if they were the judge. To shed a new light on this question, our panel will discuss sentencing vignettes included in the criminological module of the Central European Social Survey (CESS). Drawing on repeated-measure data representative of six jurisdictions, our presentations will delve into the levels of public punitiveness, its socio-political predictors and the stability of punishment preferences across time.

Chair:

*Johanna Nickels, Freie Universität Berlin*

Participants:

Punitiveness in six European countries *Pawel Ostaszewski, University of Warsaw and Institute of Justice, Poland; Dagmara Woźniakowska, University of Warsaw; Andrzej Uhl, University of Cambridge*

The countries of Central Europe are home to diverse penal cultures, but there is limited understanding of how the punishment preferences of their inhabitants compare. To address this gap, we turn to CESS - an interdisciplinary research project aimed at continuously tracking social change in Austria, Czechia, Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia. As part of the criminological module, 11,383 respondents were presented with five crime scenarios involving acts of physical, sexual, and economic violence. They were then asked to recommend suitable sentences for each crime from a list of statutory penalties. We consider this approach a significant improvement over traditional methods of measuring punitiveness in large population surveys, such as questions about the death penalty or judicial leniency. This introductory presentation outlines the survey structure, details the data collection process, and presents descriptive comparisons across countries and crime scenarios.

Religion, religiosity and harsh attitudes toward offenders *Alexander Fürstenberg, Heidelberg University; Andrzej Uhl, University of Cambridge*

Criminologists have long established religion as a major driver of punitive attitudes. They mainly conclude that this effect is contingent on the image of God conveyed by particular denomination as well as fundamentalism in beliefs. However, these insights come with several limitations: 1) Most research remains clustered in the US, with little European data available, 2) Research seldom makes distinction between religion and religiosity, and 3) comparisons between the embeddedness of religion in different country-specific environments are scarce. We thus use CESS data to examine whether the role of religion in one's life (religiosity) is more important than religious affiliation when it comes to explaining punishment preferences. Special attention is paid to the interactions between religious denominations and religiosity as well as country-specific effects.

Punitive authoritarians? Challenging the dual-process model of punitiveness *Malia Marks, University of Cambridge; Andrzej Uhl, University of Cambridge; Pawel Ostaszewski, University of Warsaw and Institute of Justice, Poland*

Right wing authoritarianism (RWA) and social dominance orientation (SDO) are routinely used to predict punitiveness and believed by some to form the dispositional basis of punitive attitudes towards offenders. However, the measures of punishment preferences employed in this line of research have been discredited in criminology as vague and biased. Moreover, there is a significant conceptual overlap between the scales measuring authoritarian personality and popular punitiveness items. Using sentencing vignettes instead, this paper first examines an underlying assumption of this line of research — that there is a single underlying punishment trait. We then test whether that trait is accounted for by RWA, its subscales, or SDO. In particular, we provide an examination of the dual-process model of punitiveness, according to which RWA and SDO positively predict unique variance in punishment preferences.

On the stability of individual punishment preferences: A longitudinal, cross-national study *Andrzej Uhl, University of Cambridge; Justin T. Pickett, University at Albany, SUNY*

Scholarship on public punitiveness mostly breaks down into one of two areas: 1) research on aggregate trends, or 2) research on the correlates of individual attitudes. What is missing is research on the stability of individual punishment preferences over time. Are punitive attitudes stable at the individual level? If not, what factors predict changes in individuals' punitiveness? The current study answers this question using a unique data source: a longitudinal and cross-national survey, in which sentencing preferences were measured identically in multiple waves. Applying methods from discrepancy score research, this paper quantifies the within-person agreement in punishment preferences on two dimensions: quality (or type of punishment) and quantity (or the amount of punishment). We also examine whether greater time consistency can be found in particular crime scenarios and among certain types of individuals (e.g., authoritarians).

## 365. POL Panel 3. Police legitimacy and Trust around the world

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Policing and Law enforcement (Policing WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Petre Antonescu Room (1.30)*

Chair:

*Frederik Kohler, Endowed Professorship of Crime Prevention and Risk Management, University of Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany*

Participants:

Digitalizing the police: the use of digital devices within police organizations and the impact of them on police legitimacy and police-public relations *Lies Vande Meulebroucke, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB); Lucas Melgaço, Associate Professor - VUB; Sofie De Kimpe, Associate Professor - VUB*

Preliminary findings of one of the objectives of the DIGIPOL research project, funded by Belgian Science Policy, will be discussed. The project aims to study how the process of digitalization – through technologies like body-worn cameras, multi-tenant platforms and analysis software – affects the everyday work of the Belgian local police. During this presentation, preliminary findings on the use of these technologies, and their impact on police legitimacy and police-public relations will be discussed. The first period of fieldwork has been done. Activities of frontline police officers and executive officers (supervisors) of two Belgian local police zones (one in Flanders and one in Brussels) were studied in situ. Qualitative methods – such as (policy) document analysis, participant observations and semi-directive interviews were used to fill in the objective. The observations focused on neighborhood police officers, patrol officers of the intervention team, the direct supervisors of these actors, i.e. middle management, and more. The semi-directive interviews were focused on management, middle management and some frontline officers. The observed use of aforementioned technologies, and their impact on police legitimacy and police-public relations will be discussed and will be compared to literature.

Procedural Justice, Police Legitimacy, and the Legacy of Precolonial and Colonial Policing in the Global South: A Normative Assessment of Nigeria *Oluwagbenga Michael Akinlabi, Northumbria University*

This research delves into the complex relationships between procedural justice, police legitimacy, and the historical accounts of policing in Nigeria, thereby offering a window into broader challenges faced in the Global South. Focusing on Nigeria as a case study, it investigates the current state of procedural justice in policing and its impact on police legitimacy, all while acknowledging the profound influence of precolonial and colonial policing practices. The study first assesses the contemporary landscape of procedural justice within Nigerian law enforcement, scrutinizing elements of transparency, fairness, accountability, and equitable treatment in interactions between the police and the

public. Additionally, it examines the perceptions of police legitimacy among Nigerian citizens and investigates how these perceptions influence cooperation with police and compliance with the law. This research, however, extends beyond the present-day scenario to explore the historical backdrop of law-abiding behaviour and adjudication of justice. It delves into the precolonial era, uncovering traditional policing methods and systems that existed before the advent of colonial rule. This investigation sheds light on the enduring influence of these precolonial policing practices on the current law enforcement apparatus in Nigeria. Furthermore, the study critically analyses the impact of British colonial rule on the development of policing in Nigeria. It investigates how colonial policies, structures, and practices have shaped the contemporary law enforcement system, affected perceptions of justice, and left an enduring legacy that continues to influence policing in the post-colonial era. The insights gained from this study not only contribute to an enhanced understanding of procedural justice and police legitimacy in Nigeria but also hold relevance for police reform and innovation efforts in Nigeria and other countries within the Global South.

**What Do Suspicious Transaction Reports Actually Capture? Evidence from Italy** *Alberto Aziani, Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca; Mirko Nazzari, Università Cattolica - Transcrime (Milan)*

The negative effects of money laundering on society have led to the creation of a comprehensive global anti-money laundering framework. Despite extensive discussion on the efficacy of this framework and criticism of its foundational principles and operational methods, the role of suspicious transaction reports—a key element of this framework—has received little attention. This study utilizes data from multiple institutional sources to evaluate the Italian anti-money laundering system, specifically examining the impact of suspicious transaction reports on criminal investigations. Findings indicate that, on average, one in every 16 reports provides valuable information for existing cases, while one in every 100 reports contributes to the initiation of new criminal investigations. Suspicious transaction reports are responsible for starting 15% of all money laundering probes. Notably, approximately 85% of the criminal cases initiated by these reports involve offenses other than money laundering, such as fraud, loansharking, and tax evasion.

**Who Trusts Security Actors in Times of Crisis? –Findings from a Vignette Study** *Frederik Kohler, Endowed Professorship of Crime Prevention and Risk Management, University of Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany*

Crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic have troubled the population for the last years. During the pandemic, the state's emergency measures implemented restricted fundamental rights to an unprecedented extent. These restrictions, which have lasted for a long time, raise questions of acceptance among the population: why and under what conditions do citizens comply with such emergency measures? Although, according to empirical studies on procedural justice, the fair treatment of citizens by the police has a strong impact on perceptions of legitimacy in “normal” times, which in turn affects cooperation with the police and compliance, this impact remains largely unexplored in times of emergency. The research team conducted an online vignette study with about 8,000 respondents in Germany at the beginning of 2024. Key findings of the study towards the acceptance of police emergency measures during the pandemic will be presented.

**366. Rational Choice Perspectives**

Topic 1: Perspectives on Crime and Criminal Behavior/Rational Choice Perspectives

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.11

Chair:

*Filippo Andrei*, University of Trento

Participants:

Cognitive intervention against speeding – examining theoretical

mechanisms *Kim Moeller, Aalborg University; Mette Møller, DTU*

Speeding in traffic is a key factor in road deaths and accidents. A largescale randomized controlled trial of an online intervention against speeding offenses in northern Denmark is ongoing. Preliminary quantitative results were presented at ESC 2023 and the final results will be ready by 2025. This study aims at improving our understanding of the theoretical mechanisms that influence speeding behavior. To improve the effectiveness of the intervention, we interviewed potential future participants about underlying beliefs related to speeding as part of the development of the intervention as well as people who had completed the intervention. Pre-intervention study consists of 24 semi-structured interviews, evenly distributed on sex, severity of speeding violation (over/under 30% of legal limit), and geography (town/country). Post-intervention study consists of 32 semi-structured interviews, selected from 240 participants in the intervention, oversampling the most serious speed offenders, in terms of their assessed likelihood of speeding again. Using directed content analysis, we examined participant's motivations for speeding, highlighting the mechanisms in the theory of planned behavior, in terms of costs and benefits. The pre-intervention interviews assessed behavioral beliefs on the advantages of speeding concerned saving time, avoiding boredom, while the shame of potential criminal sanction was a cost. Normatively, participants believed almost everyone speeds, and that it is mostly unacceptable in urban areas, particularly in the vicinity of schools. Speed limits were seen as guidelines, necessary to curb “idiots”. Control beliefs pertain to work-related stress, low risk of apprehension, and habits. The perceived costs of speeding increase with age, and when (others) children are in the vehicle. The post-intervention interviews were generally favorable to the intervention design, particularly the surprising information of lack of efficacy of speeding. Interviewees generally expected to reduce their speeding following the intervention.

**Cooperation, Surplus sharing and Punishment in Criminal Settings** *Alae Baha, University of Oxford; Zora Lea Hauser, University of Oxford*

Violence is neither omnipresent nor constant in the criminal world. Levels of violence vary across types of illicit markets, activities, segments of the supply chain, geographies, and time. Under which conditions do we observe a cooperative as opposed to a violent illegal environment? This paper provides a comprehensive framework to study the dual relationship between cooperation and violence in settings where no legal dispute settlement and contract enforcement mechanisms are available. It is organised as follows: first, a theoretical model is developed, followed by a discussion of its empirical implications. We consider a repeated version of a two-players anti-cooperative game in which players can choose to either cooperate, defect, or exert violence. When payoffs from cooperation are high for both players relative to their outside options (defection), the threat of a relational breakdown is sufficient to sustain cooperation. Otherwise, violence is necessary. We conclude the theoretical analysis by studying the interplay between the cost of violence and the ability to extract more value from the relationship. The empirical discussion draws on previous research and discusses concrete case-studies to illustrate the mechanisms at work. We use the framework to explain why in high-value-generating activities such as intercontinental drug trafficking, cooperation is sustained without violence, whereas rent-extraction activities, such as criminal governance, rely on threats of violence. The paper contributes to the literature on violence and cooperation in extra-legal settings, thereby enhancing our understanding of the functioning of criminal markets and the relationships among criminal actors.

**Social Influence and Opportunistic Behaviour in the Darknet Market: The Role of Escrow, Reputation, and Cheap Talk** *Filippo Andrei, University of Trento; Giuseppe Alessandro Veltri, Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento*

The emergence of a social order within the darknet markets poses a particular puzzle for social scientists. These markets operate beyond the conventional realm without legitimate institutions

overseeing operations to protect users from opportunistic behaviour. While much of the existing literature on the darknet focuses on the effects of reputation and escrow systems— where payments for online purchases are processed through the market platform and released only after the transaction is completed – on sales, less attention has been paid to the role of reputation and escrow systems and the use of ‘cheap talk’ in preventing opportunistic behaviour by sellers. This study fills this gap by analysing the factors influencing opportunistic behaviour on one of the largest known darknet platforms to date, AlphaBay, which operated from December 2014 to July 2017. Using two generalised additive models (GAMs), the results suggest that sellers with good reputations are negatively associated with fraud on the darknet market. Conversely, the use of ‘cheap talk’ in item descriptions is positively associated with opportunistic behaviour. This study makes both empirical and theoretical contributions. By illustrating the effects of escrow, reputation, and cheap talk on sellers’ opportunistic behaviour, it underscores the significance of the modality of social influence in reducing opportunistic behaviour in high-uncertain context.

### 367. The Criminalisation of Unaccompanied Migrant Minors - Voices from the Detention Processes in Greece

Topic 3: Crime Correlates/Immigration / Migration (Immigration, Crime and Citizenship WG)

Author meets critics

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.22

In times when migration flows are increasing considerably on a global level, Greece has become a focus as a key entry country into the European Union for significantly high numbers of asylum-seeking individuals, including unaccompanied migrant minors escaping unsafety and aiming for international protection abroad. Between 2016 and 2020, upon irregular entry into the country, unaccompanied children were by Greek law to be temporarily placed in a protective environment, pending referral to suitable accommodation. However, in practice, they were being subjected to detention procedures that could not be understood as protective or in line with the requirements of the national framework and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Greece is a signatory. This raised crucial questions in the field of children’s rights and migration policing, given that the reality that unaccompanied minors experienced in detention had remained highly under-researched. One of the first books of its kind, this recently published monograph introduces the use of Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis in socio-legal studies and reveals unexplored areas with respect to the conditions of detention for unaccompanied minors in Greece. Towards understanding said conditions, voice is given to migrant children and professionals throughout, as the author combines a legal analysis with criminological approaches and provides a rich in detail picture of the context that detained minors were experiencing at the time. The research findings demonstrate that unaccompanied children in Greece are criminalised through detention processes, while being deprived of the right to be heard. Hence, by assessing the lived experiences of participants, emphasis is placed on the discrepancy between the law and practice. As a result, this project makes a meaningful and novel contribution to contemporary knowledge with a view to safeguarding the fundamental rights of unaccompanied migrant minors experiencing detention upon arrival in European host countries.

Critics:

**Rita Faria**, CIJ - Center for Interdisciplinary Research on Justice, University of Porto

**Marijke Van Buggenhout**, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Book Author:

**Ioannis Papadopoulos**, Directorate of Social Sciences; University of Salford, Manchester, UK

### 368. Prevention of sex crimes

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Crime prevention

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Basement - Room 0.29

Chair:

**Giovanna Laura De Fazio**, Università di Modena e Reggio

Emilia

Participants:

Preliminary findings of a therapist chat study to STOP-CSAM  
*Marek Navrátil*, National Institute of Mental Health CZ; *Lucie Krejčová*, National Institute of Mental Health; *Thuy Nguyen Vo*, Universitat Internacional de Catalunya (UIC)

The recent years have witnessed an unprecedented increase in the availability and distribution of child sexual abuse materials (CSAM). One of the direct consequences of such proliferation of CSAM is the expansion of demand, and accordingly the continuation of child sexual abuse (CSA). However, at least about 80% of CSAM use offenses remain undetected, due to the ever-advancing technological development, in addition to the limited resources for criminal investigation and prosecution. Therefore, causer-related prevention and health care has become more instrumental in addressing the overarching goal of fighting CSAM, and consequently CSA altogether. An online text-message based therapist chat service (TCS) was launched in October 2023 as part of an EU-funded project, STOP-CSAM, placed within the well-established network of the Prevention Project Dunkelfeld (PPD) and the online self-help platform Troubled Desire. This study is a prospective, multicentered, stratified, parallel-group superiority study conducted in languages, namely English, German, Czech, Spanish and Portuguese. Participants are randomized to an intervention group or a four-week waiting list, i.e., control group, followed by the same intervention. The latter is an adaptation of the Berlin Dissexuality Therapy Manual to an appointment-based, free, and anonymous intervention delivered in a structured 4-weeks live chat format to high-risk CSAM users who are seeking help voluntarily. Assessments are conducted at baseline (pre-intervention) and on a bi-weekly basis post-intervention, including self-reported severity and frequency of CSAM use, as well as risk factors for the latter, and psychological well-being. Preliminary findings of the study will be presented at the conference. This aim of the present study is to test whether the TCS intervention is effective in terms of CSAM use reduction and increase of mental well-being. The first learnings on the provided intervention will be discussed within the current knowledge on CSAM use, providing a forward-looking perspective on that innovative solution.

Preventive Empowerment: Innovative Online Mental Health Support for Minor Attracted Persons (MAPs) *Laura Sibret*, University of Portsmouth

This research project aims to address the mental health needs of individuals who experience sexual attraction to minors, referred to as Minor Attracted Persons (MAPs). Despite pervasive societal stigmatisation and misconceptions, MAPs represent a diverse group, including those who actively seek support to manage their attractions and avoid engaging in harmful or illegal behaviour. The project proposes the development of an innovative online platform, providing anonymous forums for MAPs to access mental health professionals and peer-to-peer support networks. Through a series of studies, the project seeks to understand the specific needs of MAPs, explore challenges faced by therapists in supporting this population, and develop a functional prototype of the online platform. By fostering a supportive and non-judgmental environment, the project aims to empower MAPs to navigate their attractions, address mental health issues, and reduce the risk of harmful behaviours. Ultimately, the research contributes to destigmatising discussions surrounding MAPs and promotes the provision of empathetic and effective mental health support for this marginalised population.

Looking for a preventive approach for sexual harassment in academia *Oriana Binik*, Università degli studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia; *Debora Ginocchio*, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia; *Giovanna Laura De Fazio*, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia

A systematic review (PRISMA) on sexual harassment (SH) in academia was conducted with the aim to direct updated research findings toward an effective prevention perspective. The results were collected in order to guide preventive interventions in Italy, where a #metoo movement in Academia is taking place. The findings confirm that academia is a breeding ground for SH due to power imbalances and that vulnerabilities related to the macro-

dynamics of power, social and cultural inequalities are risk factors for SH. It is recommended that SH prevention interventions in academia 1. adopt a socio-ecological perspective; 2. include evidence-based programs; 3. are integrated with each other through valuable networking and multistakeholder involvement and 4. pay attention to support complaints, victim listening and intake activities. Interventions should act at the cultural level fighting structural inequality and a greater enhancement of evidence-based programs is required. Of the latter, bystander programs are currently one of the most widely used strategies for reducing sexual harassment: they focus on recognizing early signs of sexually harmful behavior and developing skills to intervene. In light of these indications and the first data from a survey conducted in Italian universities, an analysis of the measures against sexual harassment in academia introduced in the Italian context is proposed. Strengths and weaknesses in the path needed to adapt them to international standards of effectiveness will be discussed.

### 369. The Social Ecology of Violence and Safety in Prisons

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor Ground floor - Room 1.05

This session brings together papers from the projects ‘The Social Ecology of Violence in Prisons’ and ‘Safety in Women’s Prisons’. Both projects are multi-site investigations of experiences of safety and violence in prisons in the Netherlands. The first project (2023 – 2027) focuses primarily on men’s prisons. It addresses questions such as ‘why do violent prison incidents occur?’ So far, interviews have been held with 46 prison managers, 24 (formerly) incarcerated men, and 23 prison employees. The second project (2023 – 2024) focuses on safety in women’s prisons. It draws from observations in 3 prisons and 124 interviews with incarcerated women and members of staff. Together, the findings from these projects yield new insights in the multiple meanings of violence and safety for different actors, and contextual factors that contribute to experiences of safety and incidents of violence. While a comparison between prisons for men and women is not the main aim of this session, the presentations will bring to light interesting differences and commonalities. This also raises questions about normative assumptions and expectations about men’s and women’s behaviour.

Chair:

*Esther van Ginneken*, Leiden University

Participants:

Making sense of violence in men’s prison *Rozalie Lekkerkerk*, Leiden University; *Esther van Ginneken*, Leiden University; *Dante Hoek*, Leiden University

The incidence of physical fighting in men’s prisons is widely acknowledged as a significant concern for the safety of both incarcerated individuals and staff. While a substantial body of literature exists on the individual and institutional factors contributing to what is often labelled ‘misconduct’ and ‘victimisation’ in men’s prisons, research attention to violence itself remains limited. Specifically, there is a lack of understanding regarding the nature, meaning, and specific dynamics—the on-the-ground realities—of violent incidents in prison. Moreover, the assumption that violence inherently poses a safety threat has not been adequately examined from a critical perspective. The primary objective of this paper is to examine this assumption, questioning if and to ‘whom’ violence ‘is’ a safety problem in prison environments. To achieve this aim, we analyse empirical data gathered from interviews conducted with (formerly) incarcerated individuals and staff members across various prisons in the Netherlands. Our findings reveal that violence in prison encompasses multiple, sometimes contrasting, meanings and functions. While it poses a threat to safety (for some), it can also serve to establish and maintain order within the institution (for others). While staff may view fighting as a dangerous, fundamental breach of social order, incarcerated individuals themselves sometimes perceive their fighting as competitive and even ‘entertainable’. In light of these insights, this paper challenges prevailing (normative) assumptions and proposes a new lens for understanding the meaning-making processes related to violence in prison.

The meaning of safety and experiences of boundary violations in women’s prisons *Yara Abbing*, Leiden University; *Esther van Ginneken*, Leiden University

The literature on women’s imprisonment has grown substantially in the last few decades. This has yielded important insights into how imprisonment is experienced in unique ways by women. However, little is still known about experiences of safety and safety threats in women’s prisons, in particular in relation to boundary violations in the interaction between staff and incarcerated women. In this paper, the meaning and experiences of safety are studied from the perspective of people living and working in women’s prisons. For this purpose, information was collected using observations and interviews with staff and incarcerated women in three prisons in the Netherlands. Findings reveal that experiences of safety and boundary violations should be understood in the context of dynamics around gender, power and culture. Moreover, staff experience safety – and threats to safety – very differently from incarcerated women. This also has implications for behaviour and interactions between staff and incarcerated women. Relevant individual and institutional similarities and differences are discussed. Overall, this contributes to a better understanding of the concept of safety in prisons in general, and experiences in women’s prisons in particular.

A situational approach to understanding violent conflicts among men in prisons *Dante Hoek*, Leiden University; *Ard Barends*, Leiden University; *Esther van Ginneken*, Leiden University; *Maarten Kunst*, Leiden University

Conflicts between incarcerated people arise in a setting of discord. However, not every disagreement necessarily brings about conflict, not to mention a violent conflict. While much attention is given to important personal factors that increase the risk of violence, relatively little attention has been paid to the role of situational factors in prison violence (Goossens et al., 2023). While personal characteristics are relevant, explanations of violence remain incomplete without the addition of contextual factors that affect situation perception. Therefore, this exploratory study takes a situational approach. The goal is to contribute to existing explanations for prison violence with relevant characteristics of situations as perceived by incarcerated people. In this presentation, we will focus on interpersonal conflicts between incarcerated persons in which violence was (or was not) enacted. The data was collected through semi-structured in-depth interviews with 24 incarcerated men in 3 Dutch prisons. The results from the thematic analysis show three unique situational dimensions (the Situational 3 S’s) in the underlying patterns of violent interactions, relating to conflicting (social) goals in prison: i) Status, ii) Self-protection, and iii) Social connection. We will provide examples of conflict situations with corresponding situational factors that trigger and inhibit violent escalation. The findings underline the importance of situational information to better understand the nature of violent interactions in prison.

Serious and organized crime from prison: A new security paradigm in prison management? *Esther van Ginneken*, Leiden University

There is growing attention in the Netherlands to the phenomenon of serious and organised crime committed from prison. This includes, for example, the orchestration of threats and killings by incarcerated persons. New legislation is proposed in the Netherlands to increase surveillance and limit the freedom in prison of people who are linked to criminal networks. International collaboration is also intensified to gather intelligence. The aim of this paper is to describe this phenomenon and make sense of the consequences experienced by prison managers and prison staff. Analysis of interviews with 46 prison managers in all Dutch prisons reveal concerns about the threat of serious violence and a high risk awareness. The perceived threats have consequences for the behaviour of managers and frontline staff, and the security measures pose challenges to the goals of humane incarceration and rehabilitation support. It is questioned whether the Dutch experience with and perception of this phenomenon signals a (European or even global) paradigm shift.

### 370. Quantitative Methods WG. Panel 4. Emerging Issues Related to AI, Surveillance, and Data Protection

Topic 7: Comparative and Historical Perspectives/Cross-National Comparisons of Crime and Justice (Quantitative Methods WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.14

Chair:

**Marc Schuilenburg**, Professor Digital Surveillance Erasmus University Rotterdam

Participants:

The Law Enforcement Implications of Global AI Regulation *Alex Murphy, Trilateral Research; Joshua Hughes, Trilateral Research*

Artificial intelligence is causing significant changes across civil society, science and industry, and governments are beginning to respond to the practical, economic, and democratic challenges of these emerging technologies. In the domain of law enforcement, concerns about the threats of AI for fundamental rights are especially salient. This paper offers an overview of the trends in AI regulation in three major international spheres, the European Union, USA, and China, and how these pertain to future law enforcement. It presents initial comparative analysis on the legislative frameworks indicated in these zones, highlighting the differing stances towards human rights, innovation, and the preservation of state power adopted by these legislatures. With law enforcement capacities particularly controversial, these diverging approaches will reshape international coordination on public safety and operational policing.

Sex offenders public register of the Republic of Poland: problems that require solutions *Georgii Sibirtsev, Gdańsk university*

During my presentation I would like to dwell upon the experience of one of the very few Publicly available crime registries in the European Union- The Polish Public Sex offenders registry, which is currently functioning on the base of the Act of 13 May of 2016 on countering sexual crime threats. Current registry could be checked from any device from any part of the globe (which make it similar to some USA public registries). How such restrictive regulations correlate with General Data Protection Regulation of the European Parliament and if this type of crime prevention could be considered as a sufficient? Could we consider this registry enacting as a human rights violation (for instance, right to be forgotten, principle „Ne bis in idem“)? These are the questions which I would be tremendously happy to discuss while my short speech.

AI Predictive Policing and 'Smart' Surveillance Systems: Optimising Policy and Legislation between the UK and Italy *Janos Mark Szokolczi, University of Glasgow; Annalisa Costabile, Università degli studi di Roma, Sapienza*

This study offers a desk-based comparative analysis of the advances in artificial intelligence (AI) technologies and their application in different areas of criminology related to crime prevention and control in the UK and Italy. The recent expansion of AI has raised concerns among policymakers and legislators, presenting both opportunities and potential risks, in terms of data management, privacy awareness and ethical issues concerning human 'agency' and 'function creep'. The analysis focuses on the UK and Italy as case studies, focusing on developments from 2023 to the present, emphasising the distinct approaches of the two countries and their use and prohibitions in the use of AI and surveillance technology. While recognising the prudence in implementing such technologies in mundane circumstances for the administration of law and order, the two countries took significantly different approaches, highlighting various facets of an issue of international prominence. Overall, the two countries as case studies show differentiated approaches to the integration of AI in crime prevention and control. Our analysis of their unique strategies and extensive use of surveillance technologies aims to provide an in-depth insight into the wider implications.

### 371. Types of homicides: A global perspective

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Homicide and Violent Crime (Homicide Research WG and European Violence Monitor WG)

Paper Session

9:30 to 10:45 am

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 1st floor - Room 2.22

Chair:

**Laura Schmitz**, University of Münster

Participants:

Characteristics of Filicide-Suicide in Korea *YOUNG-OH HONG, Korean Institute of Criminology and Justice*

Objective: In the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia, killing children is mainly caused by domestic abuse or child abuse, while in Korea, Japan, and Taiwan, children are often killed out of pessimism about their living conditions or their situation. In particular, in the case of murdering children and committing suicide, most of them are pessimistic about their lives or their situation. In the case of killing a child by domestic violence or child abuse, there are few cases of suicide in Korea. This study explored the characteristics of the case of murdering children and committing suicide (filicide-suicide) in Korea. Data/Method : The current study examined the media reports (i.e., articles of newspapers, news, etc. 231 cases) from 2000 to 2022 describing filicide-suicide. Of 231 cases, 110 cases were initiated by the children's mothers. Results : Depending on the gender of the perpetrator who led the murder of a child, there were differences in the motive for the offence, the method of the offence, the place of the offence, and whether or not to commit suicide after killing the child. Regardless of the gender of the parents who killed their children and committed suicide, the main motives were overwhelmingly hardships and pessimism about their situation. There was only one case of resentment or retaliation. In the case of mother-initiated cases, there were more cases due to emotional problems such as depression than in cases in which father-initiated cases were initiated (14.4% vs. 2.0%). Discussion/Implications : Risk factors were identified in the case of killing children through domestic violence or child abuse, but risk factors for perpetrators were not clearly studied in the case of suicide after killing children. Based on the characteristics of the filicide-suicide, policy implications to prevent filicide-suicide and provide high quality services were presented.

Intimate Partner Homicide and Honor Family Homicide — The Similarities and Differences *Judith Abulafia, Ashkelon Academic College, Ashkelon, Israel; Limor Yehuda, Ashkelon Academic College*

Homicide means taking another person's life, with similar outcomes across types. Homicide against women is frequently studied by scholars while creating a division Between Honor killings in the family and intimate partner homicide IPH, due to a rather popular preception of cultural vs. personal background of the two types of murders, that dictates the persistent research approach. This article aimed to examine similarities and differences between honor-based family homicide and IPH, based on thorough review of 50 scientific articles on order to deepen the understanding of the nature of each homicide and in order to discuss weather these are indeed two different phenomenon. A multi angel analysis was implemented in the current review and findings indicate the main similarity of a basic patriarchal need to control female behavior - though the source of control (social, personal) may differ. Differences between tge two phenomena were most evident regarding perpetrator identity, offense planning phases, justifications provided, underlying motive. An interesting finding relates to existing literature which was found to implement social preception in regard to the nature of each phenomenon rather than chalange its declared nature by conducting proper investigations that refer to the victim and preparations per se regardless of the declared and acceptable approach towards the two phenomenon. Further findings will be presented in rthe conference.

Juvenile Homicide in Belgium: A review *F. Jeane Gerard, University of Westminster*

Limited studies are available on juvenile homicide in Belgium, which is partly attributable to challenges in accessing reliable information. The Belgian justice system for juveniles is centred on a protective model, where individuals below the age of 18 are not held criminally responsible for their crimes. This study outlines some of the concerns related to definitional issues, and the lack of

uniformity and coherence across various Belgian databases. Twenty-three cases of homicides committed by youths under 18 years old and extracted from the original study by Gerard et al (2017) are analysed, describing offender, victims and crime-scene characteristics. Prosecution and disposition of juveniles handled in the justice system are discussed.

**How to get away with murder? Cold cases in sexual homicide** *Eric Bearegard, Simon Fraser University; Julien Chopin, Simon Fraser University, University of Montreal*

Cold cases are characterized as criminal investigations that have been thoroughly investigated without a resolution, remaining open due to insufficient evidence to support prosecution. These investigations can linger indefinitely without resolution, with the potential to be archived and possibly neglected. The phenomenon of cold cases raises pressing concerns about the ability of offenders to elude capture and calls into question the effectiveness of the criminal justice system in addressing serious crimes. Although the issue of cold cases is not new, only a few studies have looked at sexual homicide specifically – a type of homicide particularly challenging to investigate. This study examines sexual homicide cases, considering how some remain unsolved and transition into cold cases using a non-discretionary perspective. Using data from the Sexual Homicide International Database, the research delves into the dynamics between offender actions, victim profiles, and the circumstances surrounding the crime. Using a combination of sequential logistic regression and Artificial Neural Networks, the study pinpoints primary predictors that influence whether a case is solved. The findings highlight the profound impact of factors such as victim intoxication, engagement in high-risk activities, and the discovery site of the victim's body on the likelihood of solving a case. Additionally, insights into the importance of offender forensic awareness and the nature of crime scenes reinforce their contribution to the complexity of sexual homicide case resolutions. This study thus accentuates the intricate web of elements encompassing victim attributes, offender behaviors, and crime context, underscoring their collective significance in the resolution of these serious cases.

**The use of firearms by the police in Europe** *Laura Schmitz, University of Münster*

The use of firearms by the police as an ultima ratio of the state's monopoly on the use of force is a little researched area with different perspectives, especially in Europe. Research deals with police training with questions of firearms training, the situation in which a firearm is used and the person against whom the firearm is used. In some cases, the police officer is also included as a subject of the analysis. International research interests focus in particular on possible links between personal factors of the person against whom the firearm is used, such as ethnic origin or mental health, and the use of firearms. A sound understanding of the dynamics of the situation and the people involved is an essential building block for the prevention and training of such extreme situations, especially for potentially involved professional groups (e.g. police officers, psychologists). This presentation will therefore first present and analyze the current state of research in Europe with a focus on the data available in Germany. With reference to international, primarily Anglo-Saxon research on fatal and non-fatal firearm use incidents, research gaps will be identified and finally conclusions will be drawn and discussed with regard to the prospects for future, in-depth research.

### 372. **Sticking to the script? Innovations in organised crime reduction**

Topic 2: Types of Offending/Transnational Crime (Organized Crime WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

9:30 to 10:45 am

*Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Floor 2nd floor - Room 3.06*

Twenty years on from Levi and Maguire's seminal article transposing script analysis into debates over the prevention of organised crime, this panel considers the continued relevance of this approach. How has script analysis, concerned with the multiplicity of actors and activities implicated in the organisation of serious crimes, fared in shaping both research and policy agendas on the reduction of organised crime? Relative to the predominant preoccupation with core nominals in 'Organised Crime Groups' (OCGs),

what impact can script analysis have on understanding the multi-faceted organisation of serious crimes? How has the shift in analytical focus from actors to scripts reframed the explanation of serious crime? In turn, how does this shift open-up further fruitful avenues for policy and research on serious crime 'scenes' (the conditions enabling or frustrating scripts) and 'scenarios' (the prospects for forecasting improvisations on scripts in conditions of accelerated social change)? These issues are considered within the frames of presentations on the UK's Joint Intelligence Programme - an in-prison scheme for organised crime offenders; Countering electronic surveillance; maritime piracy; and 'organised white-collar crimes'.

Chair:

*Mike Levi, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University*

Participants:

**From offender management to serious crime reduction: lessons from the Joint Intelligence Programme** *Adam Michael Edwards, Cardiff University; Mike Levi, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University; Bronwen Frow-Jones, Cardiff University*

This paper reports findings from an evaluation of an innovative multi-agency approach to the prevention of serious organised crime that has been piloted by HM Prisons and Probation Service in Wales: The Joint Intelligence Programme (JIP). Central to the innovation of this programme is a recognition of the role that mismanagement of offenders by police and criminal justice agencies can play in the reproduction of criminal networks and the associated organisation of serious crimes. Having recognised this potential, the JIP promotes a multi-agency approach to the reduction of serious crime that is underpinned by joint intelligence from police, probation, and prison services about nominals during their terms of imprisonment and whilst released on license. The paper reports on key findings from an evaluation of this multi-agency process, informed by 15 focus groups with officers involved in the programme and 46 hours of structured observation of the multi-agency case conferences (MACCs) in which intelligence was exchanged between these and other authorities responsible for organised crime reduction. In these terms, the JIP provides a case study of how the actors, scripts, scenes and scenarios of serious crime can be rendered thinkable through joint intelligence and the implications of this for shifting the policy response beyond offender management to strategies of crime reduction that encompass other actors and activities than those of the nominals themselves.

**Countering surveillance: Using actor-network theory to understand how organised criminals subject to electronic monitoring avoid detection to commit new offences** *Carl Berry, UWE; Mark Berry, Bournemouth University*

Criminal justice sanctions, like electronic monitoring (EM), use surveillance to monitor and control the behaviour of offenders. Claimed to represent a new era of crime control, research indicates that EM can sometimes promote desistance from crime. Nevertheless, data concerning how specific offenders, such as members of organised crime groups (MCGs), are impacted by EM are exceedingly rare. This paper examines ethnographic data from an article that shows how MCGs serving EM sentences adapt to being visibilised and continue organised narcotic distribution, leading to worse harm as their offending is displaced. It uses actor-network theory: an approach which asserts that objects have agency and can achieve/frustrate socio-technical goals to show that despite increased odds of detection, surveillance can become negotiable.

**Crime scripts as basis for harm assessment: The case of piracy** *Letizia Paoli, KU Leuven Faculty of Law and Criminology; Bryan C Peters, KU Leuven, Faculty of Law and Criminology*

Since Cornish's formative papers, crime script analysis has grown considerably and has since been applied to numerous crime-types, simple and complex. Crime scripts are also used by policymakers and private entities to identify possible intervention points to disrupt the crime commission process. Applying this approach to piracy, we first construct the scripts—or business models—of piracy. To do so, we use quantitative and qualitative data from our previous work on Nigerian piracy as well as newly collected data concerning piracy in other parts of the world and particularly in the Singapore Straits. Second, we show how crime scripts can serve as the basis for assessing the harms of criminal activities in a



systematic and empirical way, using piracy as a case. For such an assessment, we rely on Greenfield and Paoli's harm assessment framework. Following its steps, we 1) identify possible harms arising from piracy and affecting individuals, private and public sector entities or the social and physical environment; 2) assess the incidence of piracy and its harms in the selected regional contexts; 3) assess the severity of these harms; 4) prioritize the harms on the basis of their combined incidence and severity; and 5) investigate their causality, in particularly considering to what extent such harms arise from the policy environment and associated interventions. While the analysis of the newer data is still ongoing, the case study of Nigerian piracy has already produced interesting and policy relevant findings, proving the merits of both script analysis and a systematic harm assessment. In fact, such analysis showed that affected individuals – especially local fishermen and seafarers – and small-scale fishing businesses suffer the most serious harm and hence questioned the current policy focus on the financial harms suffered by large-scale shipping companies.

**Not Keeping to the Script: the case of organised white-collar crimes** *Nicholas Lord, The University of Manchester, UK; Mike Levi, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University*

In this paper our storyline deviates slightly away from the panel focus, to consider the 'scripts' of white-collar crimes. Sutherland (1983) recognised white-collar crimes as 'organised crime', not in the contemporary sense where organised crime discourse is associated with illegitimate, external criminal gangs and criminal enterprise, but in the need to understand the formal and informal 'organisation' of such white-collar crime activities. White-collar 'offenders' may organise their behaviours collaboratively, through varied structures and mechanisms, and over time for individual/organisational gain, with a significant point of difference between the white-collar criminal and the 'professional thief', being their self- and public perception. Following this, the paper examines a theme central to analysing how white-collar and crimes are organised: the breaking down of the elements of criminal organisation into its component parts, a process that has been operationalised through 'script analysis'. We consider the importance of investigating the nature of how people identify and collaborate with others, organising their behaviours to realise some white-collar crime opportunities; the routine activities or 'scripts' through which they must go to accomplish (or not) their intended behaviours; and the conditions or preconditions (necessary, sufficient, or contingent) that link the motivations of individual offenders to the legacies of modern political economies. Crucial to understanding white-collar crimes is a comprehensive and detailed understanding of these scripts, or procedural dynamics, of the white-collar crime commissioning or unfolding processes, and their interaction with specific opportunity structures. The 'scripts' of context-specific white-collar crimes are a product of deeper underlying structures and routinised patterns of business activities. In our view, this framing is useful for developing a fuller theoretical account of the fundamental aspects of white-collar crimes and for gaining insight into the organisation of these crimes

### 373. Plenary 3 - Saturday

ESC

Plenary Session

11:00 to 12:15 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Aula Magna

Chair:

*Anna Di Ronco*, University of Essex

Participants:

**Femicide: The Role of Gender in Patterns of Lethal Violence**  
*Marieke Liem, Leiden University*

Recent years have witnessed an increase in attention to femicide, or the killing of women because of their gender. In current political and policy debates, this term has been loosely applied to refer to female homicide victimization. In such debates, female homicides are frequently equated with intimate partner homicides, resulting from long-term abuse, control and misogynistic motives. In this presentation, I delve deeper into the role of gender in female homicide in Europe by examining individual-level data in six European countries: Denmark, Finland, France, the Netherlands,

Sweden, and Switzerland. In addition, I question to what extent female homicide victimization in Europe constitutes a unique phenomenon, by comparing it to male homicide victimization. The heterogeneity of female homicide victimization forces us to re-think female homicide prototypes and associated interventions.

**Post-prison trajectories among Roma women** *Ioan Durnescu, University of Bucharest*

This presentation emanates from the European project "Between Inclusion and Re-Inclusion: Navigating Post-Prison Trajectories of Roma Offenders" (ROMA OF-IN), which endeavors to elucidate the roles ethnicity and gender play in shaping post-incarceration life courses in Romania. The study meticulously tracked 30 individuals of Roma origin —comprising an equal number of men and women—over a six-month period following their release from prison. The research methodology was fundamentally ethnographic, immersing the researchers in the lived experiences of the participants through a combination of ad-hoc conversations, in-depth interviews, observational visits, and other qualitative engagements. The findings reveal the profoundly intricate intersectionality affecting the trajectories of Roma women, marked by a nexus of abuse, trauma, maternal distress, both intra- and extra-familial discrimination, mental and physical health challenges, severe poverty, educational and vocational deficits, unemployment, and a pronounced lack of social services. These factors collectively funnel Roma women into a state of intense dependence on the already strained familial resources. Moreover, the absence of effective state intervention and the failure of public support systems perpetuate a cycle of precarity that transcends generations. This study not only provides a comprehensive academic analysis of these dynamics but also advocates for actionable measures to ameliorate the conditions faced by the Roma in contemporary society.

### 374. Closing Ceremony

ESC

Plenary Session

12:15 to 12:45 pm

Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest: Aula Magna

Chair:

*Josep Tamarit*, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

Discussants:

*Marcelo F. Aebi*, University of Lausanne

*Andra Roxana Trandafir*, University of Bucharest

*Effi P. Lambropoulou*, Panteion University of Social & Political Sciences

*Michele Jane Burman*, University of Glasgow