

Newsletter of the *European Society of Criminology*

# CRIMINOLOGY IN EUROPE



**Prague Welcomes the ESC**

**Miroslav Scheinost on Crime and Criminology in the Czech Republic**

Michael Tonry

## IS THERE, SHOULD THERE BE, A EUROPEAN CRIMINOLOGY?



The question in the title could be interpreted in a number of ways. It could mean, is there and should there be a recognisably European scholarly community of people interested in crime and the justice system? The answers are obvious. Yes and yes. From the organisation of the European Steel and Coal Community under the 1951 *Treaty of Paris* through the creation of the Council of Europe and the latest contortions of the European Union, serious efforts have been underway to fashion a geopolitical Europe that is greater than the sum of its parts. Part of that effort in every field has been to foster cross-national interactions and institutions at the European level.

Except for scholarly communities within countries or language groupings, and relatively small numbers of individuals involved in European expert groups, until recently it would have been hard to claim there was a European criminological community. The creation of one was the principal aim of the organisers of the European Society of Criminology (ESC). Both the ESC and the development of an integrated and interacting scholarly community remain works in progress, but their ambitions are clear.

A harder version of the question is to ask whether, as an intellectual matter, a “European Criminology” exists or should exist. Those answers are less obvious. In many scientific disciplines, for example, in the physical and biological sciences, it would be odd to work toward creation of distinctively European or Asian or Latin American versions. For reasons of history and language, there are national and regional societies. No doubt there are, among them, different focal interests, funding arrangements, and career structures. Even so, few physical or biological scientists would want to argue that there should be different intellectual frameworks and standards for mathematics, physics, or neurobiology on different parts of the planet. The relevant intellectual communities in DNA sequencing, neurology, and theoretical physics are global.

Much the same seems to me to be the case with most of the humanities and social sciences. Different countries have different intellectual traditions in philosophy or history or sociology. Traditions cluster geographically, because of proximity and long-standing patterns of interaction and influence. This probably means that there is some empirical validity to the idea that there are distinctively European or Latin American ways of “doing” history or philoso-

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phy. However, in most fields this does not imply there are different conceptions of philosophy or history, but only that different methodologies or cultural traditions exist. Structural settings and social psychologies vary between (and within) countries and regions, but for much social science—for example, sociologists interested in social stratification or social movements—there are important empirical differences but not intellectual ones. Here, too, the relevant intellectual communities are at least mostly global.

For applied disciplines or subject matter concentrations like criminology, education, and social administration, the situation is different. There are no overriding intellectual frameworks as in the physical sciences. Instead, individual researchers choose topics to study and intellectual frameworks to be deployed, and there are seldom objective ways to characterise some as better and some as worse.

Criminologists decide what to study and how to study it. Much more than in the natural sciences, national and regional traditions make it possible to describe “European criminology,” “American criminology,” “Scandinavian criminology,” and “English and Commonwealth criminology.” Some of the regional criminologies can be claustrophobic. Only a Brit could seriously care about or explain the differences among radical, critical, Marxist, left realist, and a host of cultural criminologies. Likewise, mostly Americans become excited by repetitive, cookie-cutter-style, statistically sophisticated, secondary analyses of large data sets.

There are, of course, huge overlaps between regions. People within each do every kind of mainstream work. Even so, I hope European criminology survives and thrives.

“American criminology,” by which I mean something primarily empirical, primarily predicated on the adoption of physical science ways of knowing, and primarily non-normative, has recently been on the march. Sub-disciplines and specialty groups that 15 years ago existed almost entirely within North America are now taking hold within Europe. That’s not a bad thing per se. Especially in the parts of criminology that border on the behavioral and medical sciences, it is no doubt a good thing if it can show better ways to enhance human life chances. However, it could be a bad thing if it is a harbinger of a movement toward a general adoption of American ways.

One measure of a good life for Montaigne was to retain one’s humanity in inhumane times. During recent

decades of wars on crime and drugs in England, the US, New Zealand, and parts of Canada and Australia, and the narrower adoption of more repressive policies in many European countries, much of American criminology abandoned humane values and shifted toward technocratic approaches to what were, in the end, deeply normative issues.

One great strength of European criminology is that its leading practitioners unembarrassedly admit normative premises. This is clear in the work of most qualitative and theoretical criminologists but also in the work of those sometimes called administrative or positivist criminologists. People working on prisons, community penalties, or youth justice generally are explicit about their goal of making them more humane, less intrusive, and either less destructive of human life chances or more effective at enhancing them. Even work aimed at reducing and preventing crime, seeks ways to do so that are humane and non-repressive—social, situational, community, and harm-reduction focused prevention over repressive law enforcement.

Much of American criminology, by contrast, is primarily non-normative. Researchers seldom choose their topics or research designs in order to foster development of more humane policies or to improve the lives of troubled people. Instead they accept recent policies as they are and look to measure their effects, or look for ways to make them more effective in narrow instrumental ways. American work on sentencing and correctional programming, for example, has tended toward single-mindedness in seeking to reduce recidivism (rather than enhance human capital). Work on crime prevention has tended to focus on the deterrent effectiveness of penalties (rather than on social prevention). Work on policing has tended to focus on reducing crime rates rather than on developing strong community relationships and strengthening community institutions.

“European criminology”, as I have described it, is more an ideal than a reality, as European friends will firmly inform me. I know that. Ideals should not be cast aside quickly, however, or underestimated. Trying to live up to them motivates us, and our governments, to look for better, more humane ways to respond to crime and the social problems that give rise to it. And, as Montaigne said, it makes us better people.

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Miroslav Scheinost

# CZECH CRIMINOLOGY: HISTORY AND CURRENT STATE

## THE ROOTS

Although the institutional foundations of Czech criminology were laid only in the 1960s, the roots of the discipline go much further into the past, namely to the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Like in other European countries, early Czech criminological thought grew out of two sources: legal science and early theoretical and empirical sociology. While this was not exceptional vis-à-vis other countries, it largely determined future debates, some of which continue to this day, about whether criminology's position in the system of scientific disciplines is closer to penal law or sociology. Anyone engaging in this discussion might want to be better informed about the founding fathers of Czech criminology. By studying criminality from the specific perspectives of their original disciplines while intricately crossing the boundaries between them, these scholars laid the foundation for criminology as an independent and chiefly interdisciplinary field.

In 1890, Josef Prušák, judge and professor of criminal law at Charles University, used the term “criminal science” to refer to studies of crime as a social phenomenon caused by various individual, social and natural factors. He distinguished between “criminal anthropology”, which investigates the perpetrator's personality, and “criminal sociology”, which looks into the social roots of crime. He also disseminated the findings of contemporary European criminology classics, such as Cesare Lombroso, Raffaele Garofalo and others.

By the 1920s, the term “criminology” was used regularly to refer to studies of crime, with a continuing distinction between the two disciplinary perspectives on criminality: the study of the perpetrator's personality and that of the social context of crime. Given its roots in legal science, one might expect criminology to favour the former perspective, namely the study of perpetrators and correction, but the Czech legal scientists who stood at the cradle of Czech criminology had a remarkable inclination towards taking a broader perspective on crime as a social phenomenon.

Prušák published two studies, one entitled *Introduction to Criminal Aetiology* in 1890 and another, *Criminal Noetics*, in 1904. Another outstanding Czech legal scholar who made substantial contributions during the

inception of Czech criminology was Vladimír Solnař, who published a study on *Criminality in the Czech Lands 1914–1922 from the Perspectives of Criminal Aetiology and Penal Law Reform*. At the same time, perpetrator personality studies were being pursued by legal scholar František Procházka, who published *Discourses on Criminals: Introduction to Criminal Psychology and Sociology* in 1925. Other important figures in Czech legal science at that time were involved in criminology as well, such as Augustin Miříčka, who saw criminology as part of a broadly defined science of penal law.

Criminology's dual view of criminality as a social phenomenon and a social problem was further emphasised by the works of important sociologists who studied social pathologies. One must mention the two classic works of Thomas Masaryk (philosopher, sociologist and the first president of the independent Czechoslovak state in 1918), *Suicide as a Mass Social Phenomenon of Modern Time* from 1878<sup>1</sup>, and *The Social Issue* from 1898. Further research on social pathologies was pursued by a number of Masaryk's students, such as sociologist Emanuel Chalupný, who organised an extensive study on capital punishment and published the results in 1923.

In other words, the budding Czech criminology of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was not represented by “genuine” criminologists; instead, criminological studies were developed by both legal scholars and sociologists. Legal criminology was pursued primarily in the form of theorising, while empirical approaches relied mainly on analysing existing statistical data. The classic works of European criminology, such as Beccaria, Lombroso, Garofalo, von Liszt, Bonger and others, were known in the Czech expert community, especially among legal scholars pursuing criminology studies. This positive development was further enhanced by the growth of related disciplines, particularly forensic psychology and forensic sciences more generally.

1 Interestingly, the book was recently cited by a study of Turkish criminologists of Uludag University entitled “Suicide behaviours: Turkish case study with a regional suicide map from 2008 to 2009” and presented at the 16th World Congress of Criminology in Kobe, 2011

## INTERMEZZO

This promising development was brutally interrupted by the Nazi occupation. Until then, criminological thought and approaches had been primarily pursued in academia; this base was lost with the shutdown of Czech universities at the beginning of the occupation. Unfortunately, shortly after the end of WWII came the communist coup d'état of 1948, which started another sad chapter. Czech humanities were generally oppressed by a vulgarised Marxism and some disciplines were completely rejected as “bourgeois pseudo-science”. Criminology, too, went through dark times, regarded as unnecessary by official ideology because crime was viewed either as a temporary relic of the previous class divisions or as a manifestation of intensified class conflict and resistance by the toppled bourgeoisie. In the first instance, it was believed that crime would vanish naturally with the evolution of a classless society and new social conditions, In the latter case, it was viewed as a political issue and thus not an appropriate academic discipline. As a result, criminology ceased to develop as a field, access to statistical data on crime was restricted and some data were even made confidential.

However, it soon became obvious that an ideological approach could not resolve the problem of crime. Of course, crime had not disappeared from the brand new so-called socialist society, and it could no longer be ignored, downplayed or outright denied. Ideological slogans were not the solution, and practical evidence-based approaches were necessary. The necessity for new/different strategies helped renew interest in the study of crime. One might say that, paradoxically, criminology was resurrected by the totalitarian regime, which ideologically deformed or completely negated most of the humanities. Nevertheless, the establishment of a small institution, the Research Institute for Forensic Sciences (*Vědeckovýzkumný ústav kriminalistiky*) was the result of a reality check, rather than the regime's benevolence. The institute was soon renamed as the Research Institute for Criminology (*Výzkumný ústav kriminologický*) and started pursuing multidisciplinary empirical criminological studies.

The Research Institute for Criminology, however, was not the only forum in existence for criminological thought and research at the time. There was a Criminology Unit in the Department of Penal Law, jointly established by the Faculty of Law at Charles University in Prague and the Institute of State and Law at the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.

The Research Institute for Criminology was originally established jointly by the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Interior and the Office of the Attorney General. In 1966, it was placed under the auspices of the Attorney General alone. In spite of ongoing ideological restrictions, under the leadership of its founding director, Ladislav Schubert, and especially later under Oto Novotný, the Institute was active in both reflection on theoretical developments of criminology in Western Europe and the USA, and the pursuit of original empirical research focusing on youth crime, recidivism, crime trends, prison aftercare and many other topics. The Institute's strong empirical profile also proved useful, as it enabled the researchers to move beyond the narrow confines that social sciences had been forced into by the regime's ideological orientation.

It was, and perhaps continues to be, the fate of Czech criminology that its journey could not avoid periods of hardship. The Prague Spring of 1968 and its abrupt ending by Soviet invasion resulted in the “normalisation” era of the 1970s, when ideological and political controls were once again tightened. The evolution of criminology was interrupted, ideological pressures rose, the Research Institute for Criminology was criticised for “non-Marxist deviations” and some of its researchers were forced to give up research and even leave academia.

Criminology survived under these conditions, even if its actors were more or less forced to submit to ideological control. In 1971, the Criminology Unit at the Department of Penal Law published a book entitled *Czechoslovak Criminology*, edited by Alfréd Kudlík, Jiří Nezkusil and Gustav Přenosil, which dealt with both the general foundations of criminology and with the major forms of criminality. In 1978, the first Czech criminology textbook was published by a collective of authors led by Research Institute for Criminology director Jiří Nezkusil—yet its message was distorted by the ideology imposed by the regime. The Institute continued its empirical tradition and achieved interesting findings, for example with regard to perpetrator personality, youth delinquency and group criminality. Criminology courses at faculties of law—temporarily removed from curricula after 1968—were also resumed.

Between 1966 and 1980, the Prison Service also ran a small Penology Research Institute led by Jiří Čepelák, which studied penal theory and practice. Unfortunately, this Institute was shut down as “redundant” in 1980.

Thus, while the institutional foundation of criminology survived the 1970s and 1980s, albeit in reduced form, quality in the field was maintained primarily through the efforts of individual professionals.



## BREAKING THE WALLS

Profound social changes after 1989 opened up new horizons for criminology studies. The Research Institute for Criminology also transformed its activities. Some of its former researchers, who had been forced to leave in the 1970s, were able to return. One of them, Otakar Osmančík, became the Institute's first post-transition director.

Criminology's development appeared to be no longer restricted. Ideological barriers broke down at last, and Czech criminology quickly began adapting to international theoretical currents and establishing contacts abroad. High-quality criminological research seemed clearly necessary, especially given the major increase in recorded crime rates and the fact that crime had become one of the primary concerns of the population and with that, a highly visible (and political) issue.

Accordingly, empirical research was given high priority. Unfortunately, this emphasis on empirical study of crime together with the practical needs of policymaking and penal legislation, left little room for theoretical reflection.

## TRENDS IN CRIME

The period between 1990 and 1993 was marked by a steep and rapid increase in crime rates in the Czech Republic (although Czechoslovakia was dissolved only January 1st 1993, here I only use data from the Czech Republic). Subsequently, rates continued to rise, but at a slower pace, until 1999, when the number of registered

crimes peaked at 426,000 per year. Despite a moderate decline in the years that followed, the general level of registered crime has never decreased to the pre-transition level. This development can be seen on figure 1.

Also the structure of crime changed, with the growth of property crimes being the most remarkable—the percentage of property crimes within the overall crime rates increased from approximately 50% in 1989 to 82% in 1993. In 2000 it was still at 73%. We may say that property crimes served as the primary basis for the overall growth of the crime rate. As far as economic crime is concerned, comparison with the pre-transition period is not possible due to the differences in the economic systems, which recognised entirely different economic crimes. Nevertheless from the beginning of 1990s, their proportion of the total crime reported did not exceed 5% until 1995; it reached 7.5% and 8.5% in 1997 and 1998, respectively. The relative proportion of violent crimes to the overall crime rates decreased during the post-transition decade, but their absolute number doubled between 1989 and 1998. This development is shown on figure 2.

It is true, though, that the crime rates reached in the Czech Republic by the end of the 1990s were not an extraordinary when compared with Western European countries. However, there is still a question of why we in the Czech Republic reached this level of crime so quickly, when other indicators of economic and social development were hardly comparable to those in Western European countries.

Figure 1. Crime rates in the Czech Republic

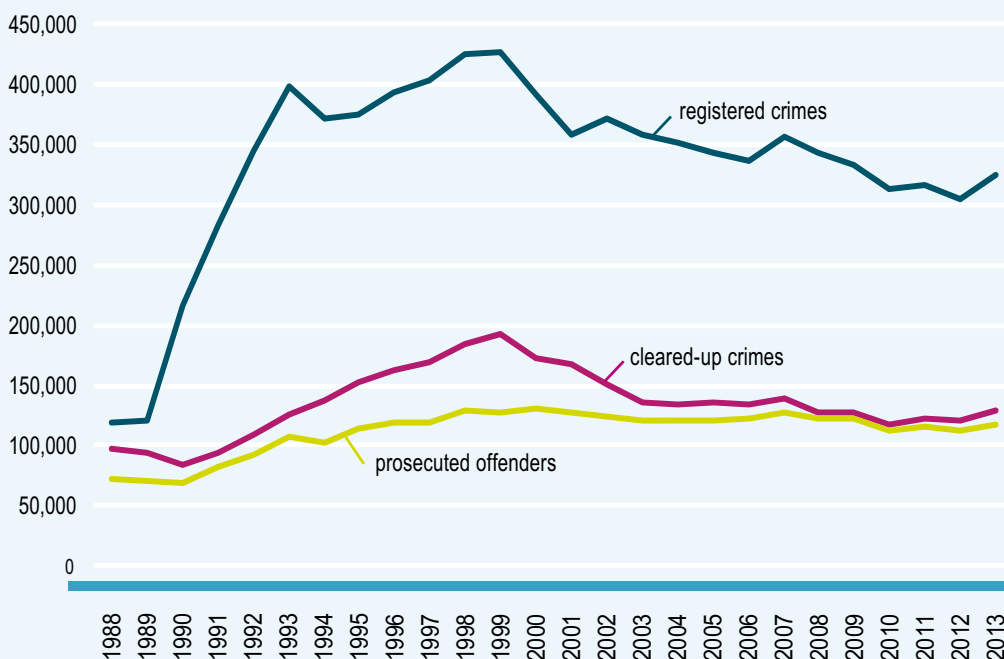
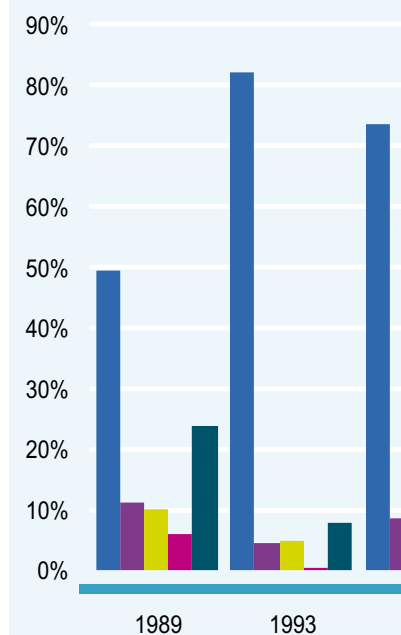


Figure 2. Structure of crime





There were many factors which, without any doubt, played their role. Most of these were connected to the quick and profound transformation of the society. The basic transformation of the economic system was connected to enormous shifts in ownership due to a sweeping and rapid privatisation of state property, as well as to its restitution to original owners or their descendants. The market economy was formed, and capital from privatisation was accumulated and redistributed at such a frantic pace that legislation could hardly keep up. Legal reforms acted more to acknowledge what took place than to actively shape economic developments. The transformation of law enforcement and the criminal justice system—already overwhelmed by the increase in crime rates—, also contributed to inefficiency in these areas and increased case lag at the courts. An additional factor might have been that the unusually large cohort born in 1974–1975 reached the age of criminal responsibility (15 in the Czech Republic) around this time. While the opening of the borders and removal of travel restrictions was, of course, the condition *sine qua non* for democratic changes, it also facilitated penetration by criminal activities and criminals from abroad.

Apart from these factors, all of which can be measured quantitatively, there are many others of equal importance which can only be grasped through qualitative methods, such as the influence of social consciousness and effects of changes in the patterns of social behaviour and values.

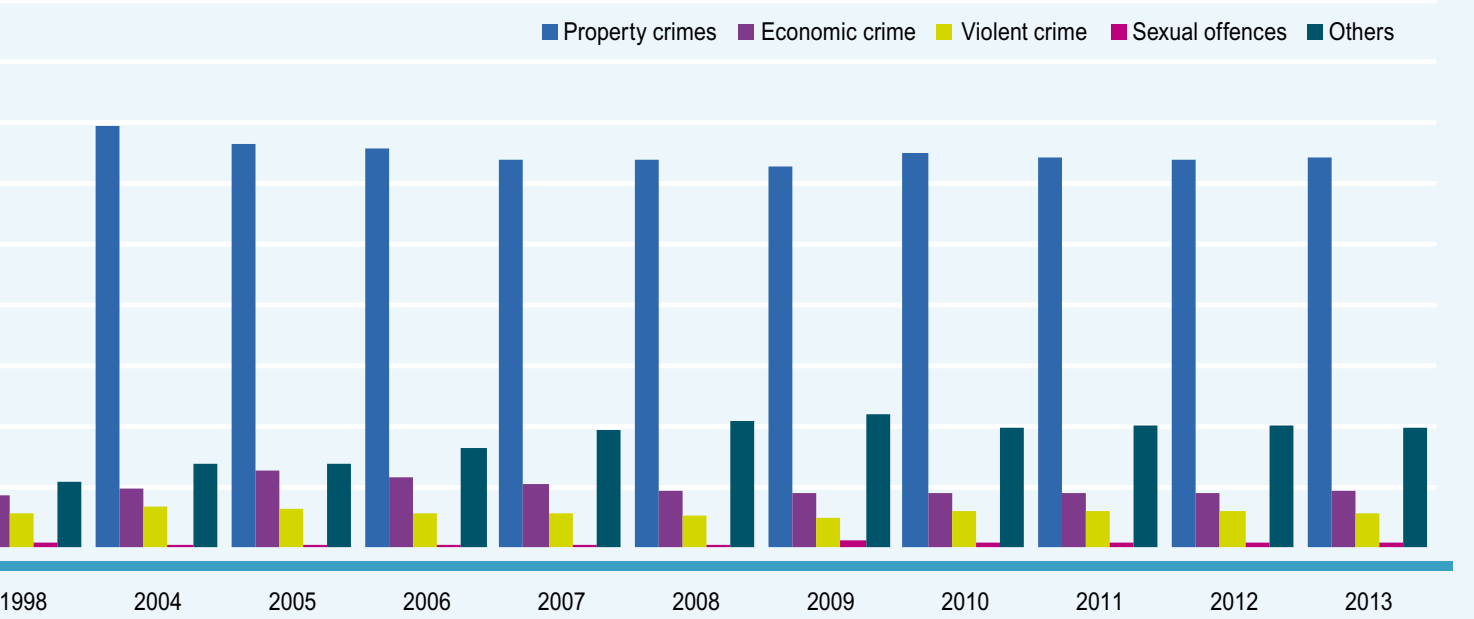
These shifts seemed to have little to do with the disappearance of official ideology towards which a very substan-

tial part of the population has always maintained a reserved attitude. It would be more accurate to say that the referential frames of daily life collapsed. The, personal everyday experience and rules of practical behaviour were no longer valid. New social harmony was thought to spontaneously materialise on the basis of assertion of individual interests.

Knowledge based on research findings shows that the state of social consciousness in the first phase of radical transformation contained elements that might have contributed to an individual's drift towards asocial behaviour. These included, among others, the high level of positive expectations about the speed of transformation into a Western European-style welfare state with corresponding levels of wealth, models of consumption and quality of life, and the resulting impatience, eagerness and weakened moral norms when those expectations were left unfulfilled in the short term. This state was further exacerbated by rising social inequalities and the disappearance of the social safety net—such as full employment—provided by the socialist state. In this radically new, and in many senses much less secure environment, partly fuelled by the new concept of success as the pursuit of self-interest, it might not come as a surprise that many people resorted to crime in order to fulfil the expectations society had given them.

**PRESENT/CURRENT SITUATION**

Today, the major research institution of Czech criminology continues to be the former Research Institute for Criminology, which was renamed as the Institute for Criminology



and Social Prevention in 1990. Since 1994, the Institute has been under the auspices of the Ministry of Justice. It studies primarily the manifestations and causes of criminality and related social pathologies; it conducts research in the fields of law and justice, penal policy and crime control from the perspectives of criminal justice and prevention; it gathers and archives criminological, legal and related information; and it publishes the results of original research, as well as translations of theoretical and empirical writings of international significance in its own publications, which have approximately 10 volumes per year.

In 2000, it expanded its activities to include penological research, because the specialised penology institute that shut down in 1980 was never re-established, and the field had largely been abandoned except for a few professionals with part-time involvement in penological research at the Department of Corrections Education Institute.

The Institute for Criminology and Social Prevention is a member of a wide range of research cooperation and institutional networks. It is a member of the International Society for Criminology (SIC), the International Association of Penal Law (AIDP), the World Society of Victimology (WSV), the European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN) and the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations (ISPAC). Furthermore, it maintains regular contacts with the European Society of Criminology (ESC) and other international expert organisations.

The Department of Criminology at the Police Academy of the Czech Republic is another criminological institution. Its primary mission involves education.

With the exception of the Police Academy, criminology is not taught as a core course in any BA or MA programs. Typically, it is included in introductory courses to forensic disciplines at faculties of law, or it can be studied as an elective course. Several faculties also teach criminology as part of their sociology, social work, social policy and security studies curricula. Criminology is gaining some traction, however, as criminological approaches are reflected in the research projects and publications of other, non-criminological institutions, focusing on issues like drug use, public attitudes toward crime, domestic violence, and victimisation.

Therefore, as in the past, criminologists are recruited from the ranks of legal science, sociology, psychology or other disciplines. Criminology continues to evolve as a typical interdisciplinary field. This makes the existence of a specialised criminological research institute even more important, just like the involvement of professionals with different backgrounds in the implementation of criminological

projects at other institutions. This institutional setting allows for a smooth and informed process of gradual transformation of experts from different fields into criminologists.

Increased interest by undergraduate and graduate students in criminology and related topics can be observed. At the same time, criminology has been taught at a growing number of educational institutions beyond the traditional ones, such as law schools or faculties of social sciences, sometimes under different names; further, new MA and BA programs that include criminology in their curricula have been accredited.

Now, as a result of combined efforts and cooperation between various research institutes and university departments, comprehensive textbooks and handbooks of criminology are also available. In addition to shorter educational texts, two modern criminology textbooks have been published: one by a collective of authors from the departments of penal law in Brno and Pilsen, led by Josef Kuchta and Helena Válková, and another by a collective from the Faculty of Law at Charles University in Prague, the Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention and the Police Academy, led by Oto Novotný and Josef Zapletal. Papers and journal articles with the results of empirical research conducted in the Czech Republic also abound, and a small dictionary of criminology and several books on criminological research methods have been published. Criminology studies have provided empirical material for lawmaking, as well as systematic policy measures in areas like alternative sentencing, crime prevention programs and many other fields.

While there is no specialised criminological journal in the Czech Republic, criminology studies and research results are regularly published in scholarly journals on forensic sciences, penal law, public prosecution or security studies (*Kriminalistika*, *Trestněprávní revue*, *Státní zastupitelství*, *Bezpečnostní teorie a praxe* etc.).

For many years, issues of criminality and social pathologies have been addressed by the Social Pathology Section of the Masaryk Czech Sociological Society. At its annual seminars, researchers and academics meet with criminal justice professionals and social workers. Thus, the Section provides the field with not only a broader professional background but also practical reflection on research findings.

Increased interest in criminology at academic institutions and among students also motivated the establishment of the Czech Criminology Society in 2012, with a surprisingly large number of members for such a small scientific community. The Society's more than 150 members are recruited from among academics and college students





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### Professor Paul Knepper

International crime; historical criminology; crime and social theory

### Professor Joanna Shapland

Victimology; restorative justice; informal economy; desistance

### Dr Matthew Bacon

Police and policing; drug control policy; informal economy

### Dr Cormac Behan

Punishment and prison; penal history

### Dr Andrew Costello

Socio-spatial criminology

### Dr Matthew Hall

Victimology; procedural justice; court procedure; green criminology

### Dr Gwen Robinson

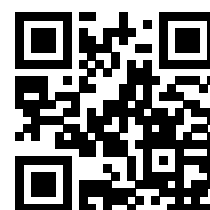
Community sanctions; offender rehabilitation and management; restorative justice

### Dr Gilly Sharpe

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#### Research Performance

The Institute for Criminology and Criminal Justice is located in the School of Law. The School of Law received an impressive top-ten ranking in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, finishing 7<sup>th</sup> in the UK. The School of Law was also ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in *The Guardian* University Guide 2014.

#### Staff Research Interests

Clare Dwyer – Penal policy; prisoners; transitional justice

Graham Ellison – Policing & police reform; community safety; sex trafficking & prostitution

Shadd Maruna – Desistance; psychosocial criminology; prisoner reintegration

Anne-Marie McAlinden – Child sexual abuse; sex offenders; restorative justice

Kieran McEvoy – Restorative justice; truth recovery; transitional justice

Marny Requa – Truth recovery; human rights; transitional justice

Phil Scraton – Deaths in controversial circumstances; criminological theory; prisons

Pete Shirlow – Segregation and violence; ethno-sectarianism; political violence

Yvette Russell – Feminist legal theory; gender & crime; sexuality

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#### Further Information

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in the fields of law, sociology, psychology, social work, pedagogy and others. The second largest category of members is comprised of research staff, not only from the Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention but also other research institutes of the Academy of Sciences. About one-tenth of members are crime control practitioners from the police, courts, public prosecutor's offices and correctional facilities, while other members come from NGOs and local governments. There are also representatives from a number of institutions, such as the Czech Statistical Office and private businesses, and other sectors, such as the mental health field, counselling psychology, attorneys-at-law, the Czech School Inspectorate, the Ministry of Interior and others. Overall, experts from over 50 different institutions came together in the Czech Criminology Society in 2013. The Society promotes expertise through seminars and conferences. In 2014, it will work with the Faculties of Law and Arts at Charles University in Prague, to organise the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the ESC in Prague.

While the roots run deep, Czech criminology arguably does not yet have sufficiently stable foundations. It would be helpful to be able to more comprehensively respond to a range of crime-related problems, both old and new; to address crime tendencies and trends and to current theories about them; and to promote sufficient development of applied criminology to help evaluate the effects of legislative and other measures of criminal policy in the fields of crime control and prevention.

On the one hand, the small domestic foundation and limited capacity of Czech criminology does not prevent it from covering the majority of topics studied internationally, including the globalisation of crime, organised and cross-border crime, drug trafficking, human trafficking, effects of social change on crime and victimisation; it partially also addresses social exclusion and its effects. In addition, criminology strives to investigate developments in political extremism and its manifestations. On the other hand, the field undoubtedly has to devote more attention to other issues surrounding the coexistence and conflicts between cultures, multiculturalism, migration and related ethnic and social conflicts, and their frequent manifestations through criminal behaviour.

## THE CHALLENGE

Czech criminology, despite the progress made in the post-transition decades, is still in the process of becoming more profoundly involved in international scientific life. The upcoming 2014 ESC conference in Prague in 2014 should be helpful in this regard. It is an opportunity to strengthen

the position, authority and foundation of Czech criminology in the Czech and international contexts.

Notwithstanding the lack capacity to reflect on a wider range of issues, and notwithstanding the necessity to prioritise, Czech criminology should keep striving to answer the following questions regarding the field's orientation:

1. How is the subject of our attention changing? How is it affected by crime, social pathologies, and criminogenic factors in today's globalised world, with its mass migration, social and ethnic differences, ideological and cultural conflicts, terrorism, global economic and organised crime, and global economic processes and their social pathological effects? How are these global phenomena and effects shaping crime and criminal justice in the Czech Republic?
2. How can we split our attention between these global threats and their repercussions, on one hand, and traditional criminology issues in the Czech Republic, on the other? In other words, how can we divide and allocate focus between the above-mentioned new social risks and traditional forms of crime, such as regular property and street crime, that are undoubtedly perceived by people as the most immediate sources of threat and harm?
3. What kind of conceptual framework and theoretical background can we form to better generalise and interpret existing empirical evidence? How can we contextualise concrete findings that have been and will continue to be the primary result of Czech criminologists' work in order to draw a more accurate picture of crime and criminogenic factors in our society? To what extent can existing criminological theories explain findings about the evolution of crime in a society that in many respects is still under transformation?
4. How can we enhance our ability to measure the effectiveness of different legal and other institutions, as well as policy choices on a wide range of issues, such as alternative sentencing, mediation and crime prevention programs? How can we determine their impacts on crime?

Most of these are, of course, concerns not only for Czech criminology but European criminology as well. The 14<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the European Criminological Society this year in Prague will provide a unique chance to discuss these topics, as evidenced/suggested by the meeting's title: "Criminology in Europe: Inspiration by Diversity". To this we could add: "Diversity in theoretical approaches, methods, and even in topics, but not in problems and challenges".

**Miroslav Scheinost** is the director of the Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention, Prague, the Czech Republic

Jiri Burianek

## TOWARDS THE 14<sup>TH</sup> ESC ANNUAL CONFERENCE “CRIMINOLOGY OF EUROPE – INSPIRATION BY DIVERSITY” IN PRAGUE

The main purpose of most conferences is to offer a chance to meet colleagues, share knowledge and to do some „networking“, as it is usually said. Consequently, the location is probably more important than the theme. After a successful conference in Budapest, however, with more than 1,000 participants, we all feel the obligation to provide for all the needs and expectations of visitors not only in respect of Prague sights or the famous Czech beer, but also concerning intellectual excitement and stimulation. That is why we would like to start this invitation—a bit conventionally—with the idea, with the logos...

### THE IDEA OF THE CONFERENCE

Despite the continuing efforts toward European integration, European countries remain unique—be it through their cultural traditions, social policies, ethnic composition, or their criminal laws, criminal justice systems and criminal policies. This diversity represents a great challenge for European criminologists, but it can also be utilised as a vital source of inspiration. Europe could be taken as unique laboratory for testing relationships between various policies, crime and changing societal conditions. Nevertheless we can also ask a different and hopefully stimulating question: Has the time arrived when we can speak about a (pan-)European criminology? Are there any common features between the way crime rates move, causes of crime, and between policies across Europe as the whole? We are looking forward to discussing these issues, comparing both continental and overseas perspectives.

The upcoming Prague conference will offer ample opportunities for such an exchange of ideas and of research results in all areas of criminology. Besides the traditional orientation toward criminology, victimology, penology, sociology and criminal justice, we would like to attract the scholars in psychology, addictology, and policing. Comparative research studies should play an essential role in this exchange of ideas because they create an ideal platform for:

- looking for a general “European” perspective on problems which can also lead to both the European-level

formulation and the co-ordination of criminal policy and crime prevention,

- sharing of theoretical and methodological knowledge among European countries,
- improving quality standards in criminological research.

The conference will follow the typical structure, including, for example, plenary sessions, panel sessions (with about 20 panels running simultaneously at any given time), poster sessions, round tables and working group meetings. It will also include social events.

### PRAGUE – A PLACE WITH GENIUS LOCI...

The event will be hosted by the Czech Society of Criminology (CSC) and Charles University in Prague. The Czech Society of Criminology was only recently established in 2012, but it has about 160 members and its activities are expanding each day. Even at this very young age, the Society has organised two annual conferences. The current president of the CSC is dr. Miroslav Scheinost.

While the CSC is surely one of the youngest criminological societies worldwide, the other organising partner, Charles University, founded in 1348, is one of the oldest universities in the world. It is counted among the most eminent educational and scientific institutions in the Czech Republic and is recognised as a leading institution of higher education and research both in Europe and worldwide.

The conference will take place at Charles University, located directly in Prague’s historical town center and will be hosted in the main buildings of the Faculty of Law and Faculty of Arts, situated at the banks of the river Vltava. These two facilities offer ample space for all the meetings and are within a 5-minute walking distance from each other; the walk passes through the old Jewish Quarter near to Old Town Square.

Apart from the Jewish Quarter, the historical city center of Prague, which is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Europe and a UNESCO world heritage site, is also a short walk away from the conference venue. Prague has always been a cosmopolitan city, and it is not a surprise that in recent decades it has started to draw at-

attention from those looking for extraordinary and attractive conference or congress venues.

### THE HOST: CHARLES UNIVERSITY

The University in Prague was founded by a charter issued on 7 April 1348 by Charles IV, King of Bohemia and King of the Romans, as the first *Studium generale* north of the Alps and east of Paris. It was modelled on universities in Bologna and Paris, and within a very short time it achieved international renown. It had four faculties: theology, liberal arts, law and medicine. The academic community was comprised of local teachers and students, as well as those coming from other areas, predominately Central Europe. Charles's son and successor Wenceslas (Václav) IV exercised his influence over the University; in 1409 he issued the Kutná Hora Decree, through which he strengthened the status of the Czech members of the academic community at the University.

Soon thereafter, the University underwent significant transformation due to the impact of the Hussite reformist movement, which preceded the European Reformation. The then Rector, the religious reformer Master Jan Hus, exerted a very strong influence over the University at that time. During the social and political revolution that followed, the University was reduced to a single faculty—the Faculty of Liberal Arts.

A remarkable period in the University's history came with the rule of Rudolf II, who turned Prague into a cultural metropolis where university life flourished side by side with the court (and its scholars Johannes Kepler and Tycho Brahe).

The Thirty Years' War of 1618–1648 and the subsequent defeat of the revolting Czech Estates led to fundamental changes at the University. In 1654 the victorious Roman Emperor and King Ferdinand III attached the *Studium generale* to the Jesuit University (dating back to 1556), located in the Clementinum

compound in Prague, and renamed the institution as the Charles-Ferdinand University (a name which continued until 1918). Following the reforms of 1848–1849, the University began to assume the form of a modern institution of higher education. It was gradually transformed into a state-owned institution, primarily aiming at educating the intellectual professional classes. In 1882, at the culmination of the Czech national political movement, Prague's Charles-Ferdinand University was divided into two institutions—Czech- and German-speaking ones.

The academic staff of the Czech University included respected figures who had played a prominent role in the process of national emancipation—most notably Professor Tomáš G. Masaryk, who became the first President of the Czechoslovak Republic in 1918.

Charles University—the name given to the Czech university after independence—took advantage of these new post-war circumstances to develop a strong research profile, achieving results that placed it on par with the world's most prestigious academic and research institutions. The occupation of the Czech Lands by Hitler's Germany brought much hardship and great losses. On 17 November 1939, all Czech higher education institutions were closed in response to student demonstrations and during the funeral of a medical student; this was followed by the widespread persecution of university students and teachers.

The renewal of free academic life at Charles University was interrupted by the communist coup of 1948. For many years to follow, the regime subjected education and research to tight ideological and political control; this naturally had a detrimental effect on establishing international ties and research opportunities. Students, loyal to their tradition of academic freedom, demonstrated on 17 November 1989 against the totalitarian regime, eventually initiating its fall.

## FROM THE NEXT ISSUE

> *New Series on European Criminology*

> *Klára Kerezsi on Crime and Discrimination of the Roma Minority in Hungary*



Modern university life began to thrive, drawing strongly from newly found international cooperation. Aware of its mission, Charles University continues to nurture academic partnerships and plays an active role in wide range of European and global programs. It remains the largest and most renowned Czech university, and is also the highest-ranking Czech university internationally.

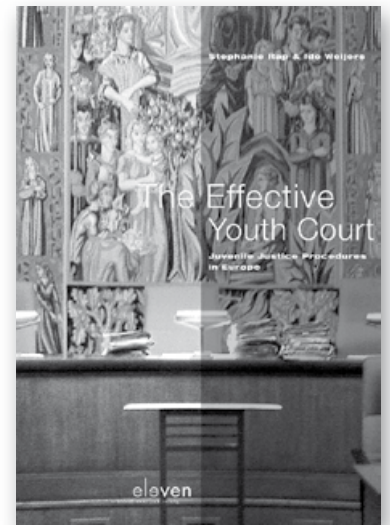
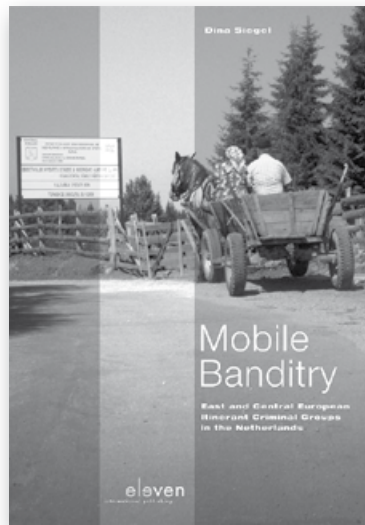
The top priority of Charles University is to enhance its prestigious status as a research university. The creativity of the University's staff and students is reflected in a huge range of research and applied projects. Charles University has over 53,000 students—roughly a sixth of all students in the Czech Republic—enrolled in more than 300 accredited degree programs that offer over 642 different courses. There are currently 17 faculties at the University (14 in Prague, 2 in Hradec Králové and 1 in Plzeň). The University has more than 7,900 employees, and of this number, almost 4,500 are academic and research staff.

## CRIMINOLOGY AT CHARLES UNIVERSITY

*The Faculty of Law* at Charles University is a traditional center where the lectures on criminology and social deviance are given. One of foundational textbooks used after 1989 was even written by a team incorporating professionals from the Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention headed by Professor Oto Novotný.

Some issues in social policy and security risks studies are embedded in the focus of the Center for Social and Economic Strategies, a research center in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

The **Clinic of Addictology**, headed by Professor Michal Mioviský, is a scientific and clinical workplace of the First Faculty of Medicine at Charles University in Prague and the General Faculty Hospital in Prague. It was established on 1 January 2012, combining the Centre for Addictology of the Psychiatric Clinic First Faculty of Medicine and the Unit for Addiction Treatment of the General Faculty Hospital. The department represents a unique merger of two separate workplaces that incorpo-



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rate both clinical and paramedical professionals and that have been involved in the recently established field of addictology. The Department of Addictology is focused on research into substance abuse and activities which may lead to the development of addiction, as well as the investigation and development of innovative approaches to the prevention of addiction and treatment and social reintegration of those affected by such behaviour. The Department comprises a multidisciplinary team of professionals representing different branches of science and research. Its staff has wide and varied experience with quantitative and qualitative research in the field of substance abuse. The main research priorities are: drug policy, the treatment of substance users, the prevention of drug use and addictive behaviour, law enforcement and the penal system, and the risk behaviours of substance users. In addition, the Clinic also conducts educational and development projects, the main objective of which is to contribute to the development of an integrated system of continuing education in the field.

## FACULTY OF ARTS AT CHARLES UNIVERSITY

The Faculty of Arts is currently the main venue for promoting criminological research in psychology and sociology.

The **Department of Sociology** was founded for the empirical study of crime in the mid-1990s. At the beginning, it was involved with the survey on fear of crime and security issues in the context of social transition. The original Central European comparative framework consequently led to the department's involvement in regular surveys for the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic. In recent years, this continuing study on fear, victimisation and trust in institutions was extended with a new survey on corruption perception. In 2011 the department joined the *EUROJUSTIS* project and it completed a representative pilot study in the Czech Republic. In 1999 the regular survey on security risk was focused for the first time on domestic violence as an additional topic. In 2003 the team participated in the International Violence Against Women Survey, and it carried out representative research in the Czech Republic followed by dissemination of results with direct impact on practice policy in this field. In 2006 the team assisted with the survey on violence against men at South Bohemia University. Presently, the department is funded by the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic (GACR) for a project "Intimate Partner Violence: Follow-up Research to IVAWS 2003" (2012–2014). It covers two waves of surveys focused on

men and women and it implements some new topics (e.g. stalking).

The focus on international comparative studies resulted in the department's participation in the International Self Report Delinquency Study (ISRSD) project as well. This valuable international co-operation has been extended in form of the European *AAA PREVENT* project. Last year the data collection for ISRSD 3 was finished and the first findings will soon be presented. For such a small group of teachers (J. Buriánek, Z. Podaná) and doctoral students, this project is a great accomplishment.

The **Department of Psychology** at the Faculty of Arts also offers some courses on forensic psychology, which combines practical and research goals. Some related have become a part of the department's research profile. Additionally, under the auspices of this department, Professor Hedvika Boukalová conducts the project (GACR; 2012–2014) "*Characteristics of people who are successful in distinguishing truth and lie at the basis of non-verbal expressions*".

Interest in social problems and penal law are demonstrated at the Department of Social Work as well. The prevalence of criminology across departmental divides means that there is a chance to establish criminology as a separate post-graduate doctoral program at the Faculty of Arts. We hope that the upcoming Prague conference will bring strong support to this effort.

## CONCLUSION

The present state of criminology in the Czech Republic seems to be flourishing because the discipline made use of the opportunities opening after Velvet Revolution in 1989, and it continues to deepen its integration into the international scientific community. It is a confirmation of the high professional status of the discipline that Professor Helena Válková became a Minister of Justice this year. However, this also brings with it a much greater responsibility—an obligation to educate the new generations of professionals and help young scholars to cross the national boundaries, both in terms of research and the sharing of knowledge. The upcoming Prague conference should represent an important step on this path. At least from a Czech perspective, it could be a milestone and the organisers keenly feel both this sense of honor and responsibility. Let us invite you to this conference, taking place in the heart of Europe. You are most welcome.

**Jiri Buriánek** is Associate Professor of Sociology at the Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, and the Head of the Organisational Committee

Marcelo F. Aebi and Grace Kronicz

# ESC EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT ANNUAL REPORT 2013

During the first 12 conferences of the European Society of Criminology (ESC), a clear trend could be observed: the number of participants increased whenever the conferences were held in Mediterranean countries. Hence, Bologna 2007 and Bilbao 2012 held the records for attendance, with 806 and 792 participants, respectively. Then, along came Budapest.

In 2013 the 13<sup>th</sup> ESC Annual Meeting held in the capital of Hungary from 4 to 7 September, received the maximum number of participants registered to date: 1,025. Among them, there were 281 students (27% of the total), as well as 287 participants (28%) who were not members of the ESC. Participants came from 52 countries around the world. During the conference, Martin Killias, one of the

founding members of the ESC and its first president, received the 2013 European Criminology Award in recognition of his lifetime contribution to criminology. In the same ceremony, Nerea Marteache received the 2013 ESC Young Criminologist Award for her recent article on sex offenders in Spain. The ESC also awarded Liljana Stevkovic a fellowship to attend the conference. Details on the composition of the committees that granted the awards and the fellowship, as well as the rationale for their selection of recipients, can be found in a separate box. The conference also hosted the General Assembly of the ESC, which chose Gerben Bruinsma as its new President-Elect. The day following the General Assembly meeting, Michael Tonry took office as President of the ESC, replacing Vesna Nikolic-Ristanovic until the end of the next conference, which will take place in Prague from 10 to 13 September 2014.

Figure 1: Participants in ESC conferences and members of the ESC (2004–2013)

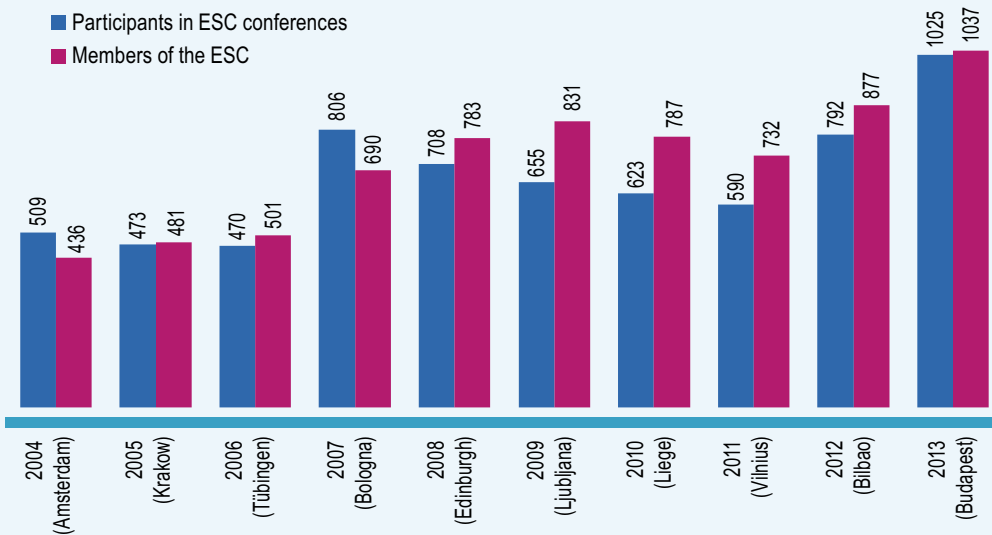
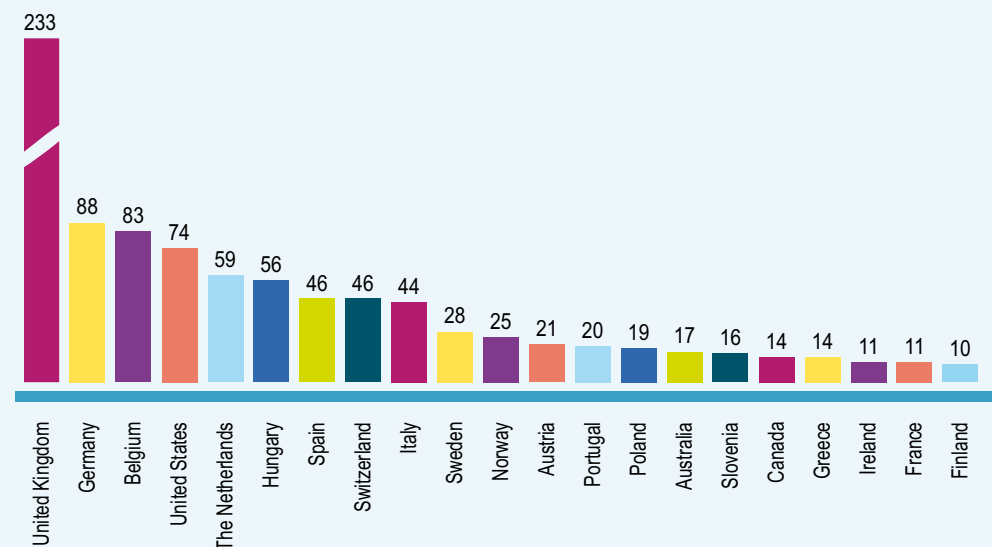


Figure 2. 2013 ESC members by countries with at least 10 members





The number of participants at the conference usually has a strong impact on the membership figures of the Society. The 2013 Annual Meeting was no exception to that rule, and, consequently, the ESC reached 1,037 members! This is the highest number of members since the creation of the ESC in 2000. Figure 1 shows the evolution of the ESC membership from 2004 to 2013. The last year, among the 1,037 ESC members, there were 230 students, representing 22% of the total. This percentage has remained stable since 2008. If one takes into account both the members of the ESC and the participants at the Budapest conference who were not members, the total number of criminologists linked to the ESC reached 1,324

in 2013, which is also an absolute record and tangible proof of the rise of criminology in Europe.

In 2013 ESC Members came from 54 countries (57 if figures for the United Kingdom are broken down by nations), covering five continents. The United Kingdom remained the most well-represented country with 233 members, followed by Germany (88 members), Belgium (83), the United States of America (74), the Netherlands (59), Hungary (56), Spain and Switzerland (each with 46 members), Italy (44), Sweden (28), Norway (25), Austria (21), Portugal (20), Poland (19), Australia (17), Slovenia (16), Canada and Greece (14), France and Ireland (11), Finland (10), Denmark (9), the Czech

Republic and Lithuania (8), Japan (7), Turkey (6), Brazil, Russia and Serbia (5), Israel and South Africa (4), Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland and Malta (3), Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, the FYRO Macedonia, Latvia, Luxemburg, Nigeria and Romania (2), and Chile, Colombia, Iran, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Slovakia, Taiwan and Ukraine (1).

Figure 2 presents the countries with at least 10 ESC members. Among the nine countries with the highest number of members, all but the United States have organised an ESC conference. From

that perspective, the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the ESC will take place in Porto, Portugal, from 2 to 5 September 2015, while the 16<sup>th</sup> will be organised in Muenster, Germany, from 21 to 24 September 2016. Proposals for organising future conferences of the ESC are always welcome and can be sent to the Executive Secretariat preferably before the annual May meeting of the ESC Executive Board.

Figures 3 and 4 show the evolution of ESC membership by countries which, on average, had at least 30 members from 2004 to 2013. The United Kingdom is not included in Figure 3 but presented alone in Figure 4 because its elevated number of members would make Figure 3 difficult to read. Figures 3 and 4 suggest that

Figure 3. Countries with at least 30 ESC members

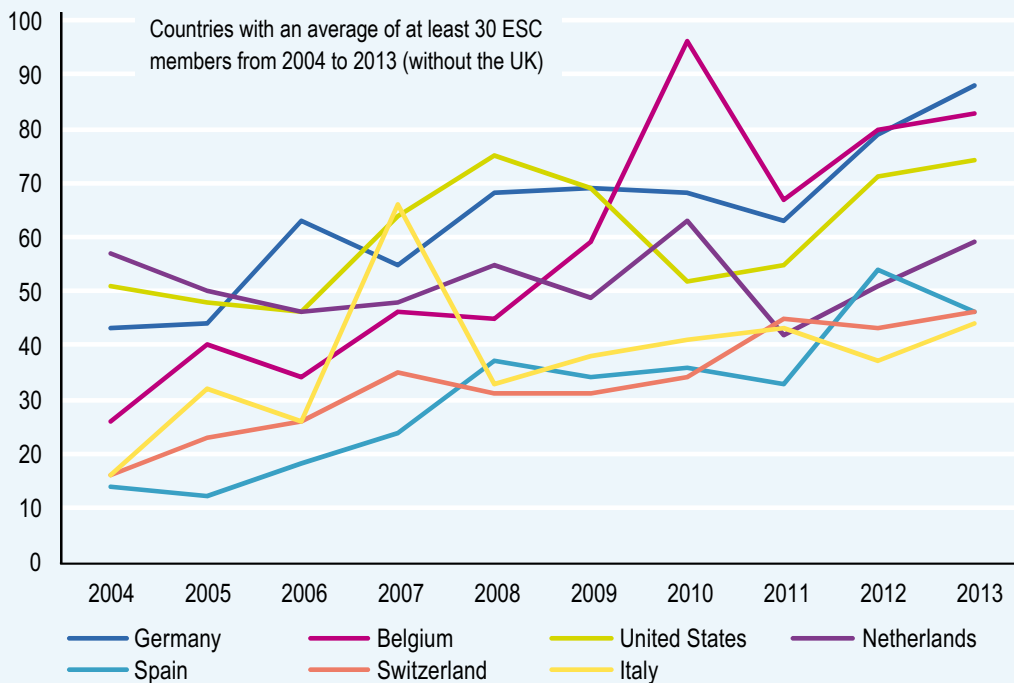
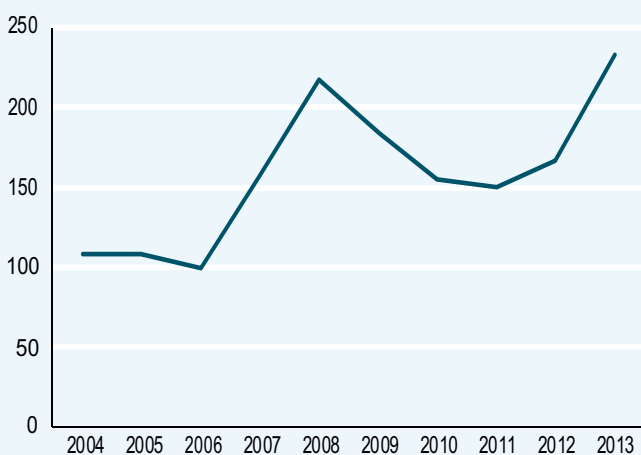


Figure 4. ESC members from the United Kingdom





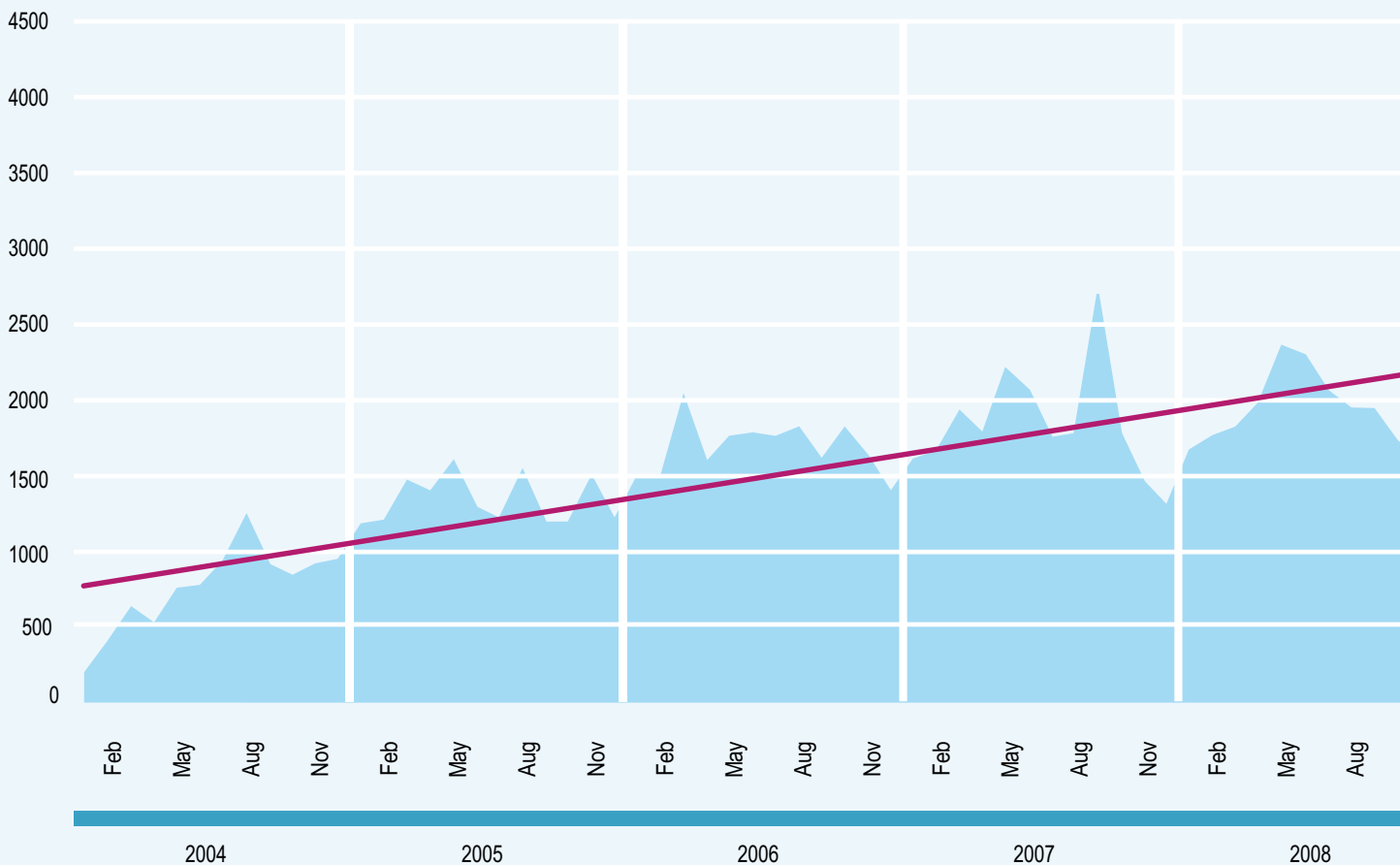
(1) the organisation of a conference increases the number of members from the organising country during the year of the conference; (2) when the distance between the city where the conference is organised and a neighbouring country is short, the number of members from the latter also increases; and (3) in general, after the organisation of a conference, the number of members from the organising country remains at a higher level than before the conference.

As examples of the first conclusion, one can see the elevated number of members from the Netherlands in 2004 (when the conference was organised in Amsterdam), from Germany in 2006 (Tuebingen), from Italy in 2007 (Bologna), from the United Kingdom in 2008 (Edinburgh), from Belgium in 2010 (Liege), and from Spain in 2012 (Bilbao). As an example of the second conclusion, one can see the increase in the number of members from Switzerland when the conference was organised in Bologna in 2007, and from the Netherlands when the conference was organised in Liege in 2010. In both cases, the cities where the conferences were organised could easily be reached by train from

the related neighbouring countries in a few hours. Also, in both cases, the countries also shared at least one of their national languages, and this effect can also be seen in 2008, when the conference was organised in Scotland and the number of members from the United States of America showed a peak. Finally, as examples of the third conclusion, one can see that the number of members from Spain (where an ESC conference was organised in Toledo in 2002), Switzerland (where the first ESC conference was organised in Lausanne in 2001), Germany, Belgium, and Italy show an overall constant increase. This trend is somehow less visible for the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. The difference may stem from the fact that criminology was well-established in these two countries – in terms of the number of criminologists and their publications in peer-reviewed journals – well before the creation of the ESC. On the contrary, for the rest of the countries, the presence of the ESC accompanied the development of criminology, which can also be measured by the growth in the number of students and criminologists from these countries participating in international meetings



Figure 5. Visitors to the ESC website per month from January 2004 to December 2013



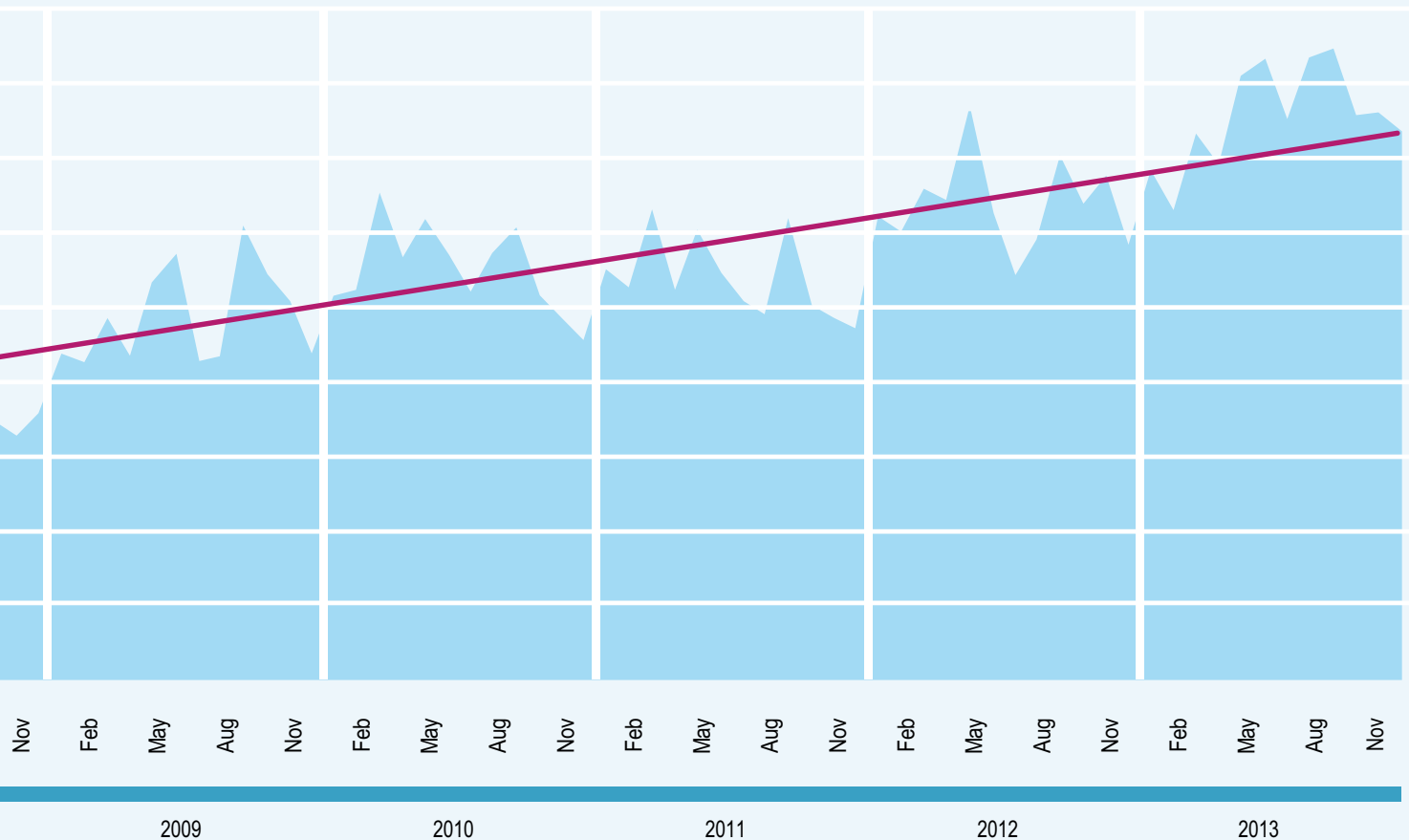


and of publications by them in peer-reviewed journals. Of course, no causal conclusions can be drawn, but we would like to think that the contact with the ESC has encouraged this development.

Next year, we will concentrate our analysis on the development of ESC membership in Central and Eastern European countries. For now, let us mention that the ESC website received 45,198 visits during 2013, which represents an average of 3,767 visits per month or 124 per day. Neither the visits to the Newsletter website, nor the visits to the websites of the annual conferences, are included in these figures. Indeed, the number of visitors to the ESC website has continuously increased since the organisation's creation in 2004 (see Figure 5). This trend is quite impressive when one takes into account that, since 2011, the Newsletter has its own website (<http://www.escnewsletter.org>) and the issues of the Newsletter—which can now be found on both websites—were one of the documents most frequently downloaded from the ESC website. The top month for website hits was September 2013, when it received 4,226 visits. During that month, the most downloaded document was the final

programme of the 2013 Budapest conference, followed by the programme from the 2012 Bilbao conference, the book of abstracts of the 2010 Ljubljana conference, the July 2013 Newsletter, and the programmes from the 2010 Ljubljana conference and the 2007 Bologna conference. The 20 countries where most web visitors came from were the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, China, Belgium, Hungary, Japan, Ukraine, the Netherlands, Spain, Italy, France, Canada, Portugal, Sweden, the Czech Republic, Australia, Finland, Ireland and Norway (see Figure 6). Finally, according to the latest Journal Citation Report, published in 2013 by Thomson Reuters and referring to the year 2012, the *European Journal of Criminology* ranked 25<sup>th</sup> out of the 52 journals included in the Criminology and Penology category, with an impact factor of 1.017.

In short, 2013 was a year of records for the ESC, seeing the highest numbers of ESC members to date, participants at an ESC conference, visits to the ESC website and, inevitably, e-mail exchanges between the Executive secretariat and the members and conference participants. It was definitely a year to remember.





## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS GRANTED BY THE ESC IN 2013

### European Criminology Award

Martin Killias (currently at the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, and former Professor at the Universities of Lausanne and Zurich) received the 2013 ESC European Criminology Award in recognition of his lifetime contribution to criminology. The award committee, composed of former ESC presidents Sophie Body-Gendrot (chair, University Sorbonne-Paris IV, France), Miklós Lévay (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary) and Henrik Tham (University of Stockholm, Sweden), considered that:

‘Martin Killias is—without in any way belittling his international contributions—a truly European criminologist. He is a most European criminologist in his engagement in European criminological associations, journals, comparative projects, and expert committees. He is a founding member of the *European Society of Criminology* and he served as the first President of the Society. He has been an associated member of the board of the *European*

*Journal of Criminology*. He took the initiative to start the *European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics* and served as chair for the first four editions. He has been on several experts’ commissions in the *Council of Europe*. He speaks six European languages and has regularly published in German, French, and English.

Besides his different positions at Swiss universities, he has been a visiting professor/fellow/lecturer at Genoa, Oxford, Cambridge, and Leiden. Outside of Europe, he has been affiliated with universities in Canada, USA, China and Indonesia. These engagements have hardly made him Eurocentric.

He has served on the boards of six international criminological journals. He has been an expert to the UN, and is a member of the steering committee of the Campbell Collaboration Criminal Justice Group. He has been most active in a number of international research projects, like the *International Crime Victim Survey*, the *International Self-reported Delinquency Study*, the *International Violence against Women Survey*, and the book project *Wrongful Conviction: International Perspectives on Miscarriages of Justice*.

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**John Hutson**  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy, retired

He has written some 20 books, several as editor or with co-authors. He is the author of a standard textbook of criminology in French and German.

His publications demonstrate a remarkable breadth. He has written on such varied topics as youth and crime, drugs and drug policy, immigration and crime, penal law, homicide and the use of firearms, economic crime, violence against women, crime trends and crime waves, fear of crime and wrongful convictions. Of particular note are his controlled experiments in two areas: The effects of imprisonment vs. community service and community service vs. electronic supervision, and the effects of heroin prescription. His research is clearly marked by a comparative approach.

Martin Killias' contributions to several European and international databases, his comparative approach, his breadth of research, his substantial contributions to the effects of sanctions and drug policy and his active engagement in creating a European criminological community makes him, according to the jury, a well-deserved recipient of the ESC Criminology Senior Award 2013.'

#### *Young Criminologist Award*

Nerea Marteache (from Spain, currently at the California State University, San Bernardino) received the 2013 ESC Young Criminologist Award in recognition of her article 'Deliberative processes and attitudes towards sex offenders in Spain' published in 2012 in the *European Journal of Criminology*. The award committee, composed of Anabel Cerezo (chair, University of Málaga, Spain), Dina Siegel-Rozenblit (Utrecht University, The Netherlands), and Paul Knepper (University of Sheffield, United Kingdom) considered that:

'The article by Nerea Marteache offers a very well-crafted research report that addresses a significant issue in criminology. She has selected an important topic. In the present age, when the public agenda seems to be driven by impressions and stereotypes, she offers conclusions grounded in empirical study and informed by the scholarly literature. In addition, and from our point of view, the most valuable aspect of the article is its methodological innovation. She has built on earlier work in the area, and by enhancing the research methodology, has increased understanding. She includes a thoughtful discussion that weighs the significance of her findings against limitations. Her approach offers a new strategy for research that will encourage further study and promises even further contributions to this field of research in European criminology.'

#### *Fellowship to attend the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the ESC*

Ljiljana Stevkovic (Serbia) received a fellowship to attend the 2013 annual conference of the ESC in Budapest. The panel that awarded the fellowship was composed of Krzysztof Krajewski (chair, Jagiellonian University, Poland), Aleksandras Dobryninas (University of Vilnius, Lithuania), and Jaime Waters (Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield, United Kingdom).

**Marcelo F. Aebi** is Professor of Criminology at the School of Criminal Sciences, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

**Grace Kronicz** is the Secretary of the General Secretariat of the European Society of Criminology

## Nominations and Applications

Please remember that nominations and applications for the ESC Awards and ESC Fellowships should be submitted by 31 January of each year. They must include the documents required in the rules for Awards and Fellowships available on the ESC website:

<http://esc-eurocrim.org/news040211a.shtml>

Susanne Karstedt and Nandor Knust

# THE EUROPEAN CRIMINOLOGY GROUP ON ATROCITY CRIMES AND TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE (EACTJ)

## WHY THIS GROUP?

Europe, as a region, has witnessed unspeakable mass atrocity crimes and genocide, and Europeans have been involved as perpetrators in mass violence across the globe. However, Europe was also the site of the Nuremberg Trials, where for the first time perpetrators of such crimes were brought to justice. Europe has played a decisive role in the proliferation of legal instruments and procedures ever since then, including International Criminal Tribunals and the International Criminal Court. The world also owes the term ‘genocide’ to Raphael Lemkin, a Polish immigrant in the US.

It is only recently that these crimes have become the object of systematic criminological research. Criminology is particularly well-prepared to address the changing landscape of mass atrocity crimes and to study the mushrooming strategies and mechanisms of transitional justice, given its multiple theoretical and conceptual frameworks and extensive methodological toolboxes. These include micro-level analyses of collective violence and the contextual analysis of state and organisational crime, as well as perspectives from victimology. Criminologists are well-equipped to study the aetiology of such crimes, measure their magnitude, with victim surveys, for example, and evaluate the impact of criminal justice on perpetrators, victims and the wider public during post-conflict and transitional periods.

These crimes are equally challenging for criminologists. If ‘ordinary men’ commit such crimes, our theories and tools do not fit. If mass atrocities are part of deep-rooted conflicts, the institutions and instruments of justice might hardly work or not work at all. Is deterrence of such crimes a useful concept in studying international criminal justice instruments, and is it a sensible claim at all? What can we make of the rehabilitation of offenders in such a context of crime and conflict? Criminological engagement with these crimes will not only make a valuable contribution to the field, but also cross-fertilise our own theories and concepts of violence, state crime and victimisation, or of criminal justice more generally. Much can be gained for domestic criminal justice by scrutinising international criminal justice, and vice versa.

Within international legal discourse this has triggered the fundamental debate as to whether international criminal law should develop its own concepts and principles rather than relying on the concepts and principles derived from national criminal laws, which deal with ordinary crimes. In addition, international criminal justice is a field that brings together the different disciplines in our field—law and jurisprudence, forensics, psychology, sociology, political science and international relations, history and (forensic) archeology—and engages them in dialogue. The European Criminology Group on Atrocity Crimes and Criminal Justice promotes a criminological perspective and, as such, a genuinely interdisciplinary one. The Group is linked to other initiatives in the field, such as Supranational Criminology, started by Professor Alette Smeulers and her colleagues (<http://www.supranationalcriminology.org/>).

European criminology can draw on a wealth of historical and contemporary research on mass atrocities committed on its soil. European diversity, therefore, provides unique opportunities to contribute wide-ranging comparative perspectives to the global engagement with research on these crimes and transitional justice. European criminologists can rely on numerous in-depth case studies, and they can span the whole range of criminological inquiry, from situations, perpetrators and victims to criminal justice procedures and institutions in the field. Members of the Group work on all aspects of atrocity crimes and their causes and consequences, as well as regulations and reactions to atrocity crimes. Widely differing approaches to transitional justice offer unique insights, as well as the possibility to contrast different practices of criminal justice in dealing with the crimes of the past.

The European Criminology Group on Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice provides a network for European criminologists who are engaged in research on atrocity crimes and transitional justice whether in and on Europe, or globally. The aim of this ESC-Working Group is to enhance the contribution of criminology and criminologists in this field, to stimulate research in and on Europe and to promote exchange between European and international researchers. The group collaborates

with other networks and research groups in the field. The Supranational Criminology Network is represented in the group by its founder, Professor Alette Smeulers, Tilburg University, Netherlands.

### PAST AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

The core of the Group's activities is the organisation of thematic sessions at the annual ESC meetings, as well as at other international meetings. At the 2013 European Criminology Conference in Budapest, the group got off to a great start with three panels organised by group members and under the aegis of the group, which attracted a considerable audience and instigated lively discussions. We also recruited a number of new members. The panel 'From Atrocity to Transitional Justice: Perpetration and Prosecution' was organised by Jon Shute from Manchester University and brought together presenters from Germany, the Netherlands and the UK. This panel aimed to showcase emerging socio-legal scholarship from England, Scotland, the Netherlands and Germany. Themes at the panel included police and war crimes, sexual violence and international criminal justice and addressed legal components in the system of transitional justice. The panel 'Catastrophes, Transitions and the Law: Life after Justice' was organised by Joris van Wijk, VU University Amsterdam, and brought together three presenters from the Netherlands and the

UK. The panel addressed the question of what happens 'after justice is done' and the verdict is passed. The three presentations covered the history of transitional justice from WWII to Rwanda, and considered post-Nuremberg Germany, the Netherlands after WWII and the ICTR. Stephan Parmentier, KU Leuven, organised a session in which two recent publications on international crimes and transitional justice from the Intersentia Series on Transitional Justice were presented. Estelle Zinsttag presented her edited book (with Martha Fineman) *Feminist Perspectives on Transitional Justice*. Josep Tamarit presented his book *Historical Memory and Criminal Justice in Spain*.

At the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the European Society of Criminology in Prague, the European Criminology Group on Atrocity Crimes and Transitional Justice will continue with five different panels which will be under the aegis of the ECACTJ-Working Group. The panels span across the range of criminological and criminal justice issues in this field. The panel 'International, Regional, National and Local Mechanisms of TJ: Conflict or Added Value?' (organised by Nandor Knust, Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law) will focus on different transitional justice mechanisms, and the interaction between them. It addresses the complex problems that arise from the diversity of TJ mechanisms, and provides an overview of this multilevel system of



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Contact: [info.esc@unil.ch](mailto:info.esc@unil.ch)

transitional justice from the perspective of different cases and procedures. The panel ‘International criminal justice: problems of the Past and Challenges Ahead; (organised by Susanne Karstedt, Leeds University) will address the complexities of victimhood in such crimes, the role of emotions and the challenges of legal pluralism. The panel ‘Policing, Law and Socio-corporal Consequences of (Mass) Violence’ (organised by Jon Shute, University of Manchester) emphasises the complexity of perpetration and victimhood in peacetime and conflict, and explores these issues through the lens of the body of victims of lethal atrocity crimes. One focus in this session will be on the exploration of the experiences, roles and uses of campaigning organisations formed by the family members of victims of lethal mass violence. In the panel ‘International Crimes: Etiology & Criminal Law Reaction’ (organised by Barbora Hola, VU University Amsterdam), both etiology as well as reaction to international crimes will be discussed and contrasted.

This year’s book review panel will discuss Nandor Knust’s book *Criminal Law and Gacaca: The Development of a Pluralistic Legal Model Using the Example of the Rwandan Genocide* (organised by Susanne Karstedt, University of Leeds).

In addition to these activities, members of the Group have organised a number of conferences and workshops in their fields. Susanne Karstedt, Chrisje Brants, Katrien Klep and Lauren Gould, all from Utrecht University, or-

ganised an international workshop on ‘Engagement, Legitimacy, Contestation: Transitional Justice and its Public Spheres’ at the International Institute of the Sociology of Law in Onati, Spain.

The Group further aims to establish networks between established and young researchers, in particular doctoral students, and to promote exchange between institutions for research and teaching. In the past most criminological research projects on mass violence were highly fragmented and mainly operating on their own. The ECACTJ-Working Group aims connect scholars, their research projects and institutions. The Group will, in particular, promote the inclusion of doctoral projects and young researchers. The Group also aims at facilitating joint research projects and linking researchers in different European countries and globally. This includes exchange for teaching, short research stays at other institutions or seminars. Members of the Group will support doctoral students from across Europe to visit libraries for research purposes, work with renowned experts in the field and develop networks with other doctoral students and senior researchers at partner institutions.

Finally the Group aims beyond European academia and facilitates outreach and collaboration with international criminal justice institutions, international bodies and NGOs that are active in the prevention of mass atrocities, in the provision of transitional justice, and in peacekeeping. Within such exchange, the ECACTJ-Working Group is not limited to European institutions. It will join and facilitate a global network for gathering and distributing information on researchers and institutions. We will, in particular, establish a web-based exchange platform allowing researchers to provide and receive information about recent developments, events and future collaborations. For further information, please contact us under [ECACTJ@mpicc.de](mailto:ECACTJ@mpicc.de) or visit our panels at the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the European Society of Criminology in Prague.

The ECACTJ-Working Group is chaired by Susanne Karstedt (University of Leeds, United Kingdom), Nandor Knust (Max-Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law, Germany), and Joris van Wijk, VU University Amsterdam, Netherlands



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**Susanne Karstedt** is Professor of Criminology, University of Leeds, United Kingdom

**Nandor Knust** is Senior Researcher and Head of the International Criminal Law Section at the Max-Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law, Freiburg, Germany



Judith van Erp

## EUROPEAN WORKING GROUP ON ORGANISATIONAL CRIME (EUROC)

The European Working Group on Organisational Crime (EUROC) of the ESC aims to stimulate research in the field of white-collar crime and organisational crime in Europe, and to promote exchange and collaboration between the various European researchers and research groups working in this field. Established in 2010, the Working Group now consists of over 60 members and has been organising a stream of panels in the consecutive ESC conferences in Vilnius, Bilbao and Budapest, as well as in Prague in 2014. In addition to the panel sessions, we always organise drinks or dinner in order to facilitate informal exchange between researchers.

A specific initiative originating out of the Working Group is the ongoing production of an edited volume on European aspects and case studies of corporate and white-collar crime. The background is that many European scholars have published on white-collar crime in their own language. This has led to a predominantly American and Anglo-Saxon literature on white collar

crime, while specific European manifestations, explanations, and case studies have not been available to the international academic community and students.

The Routledge *Handbook of White-Collar and Corporate Crime in Europe* will consist of 30+ chapters on topics ranging from the Icelandic Banking Crisis to White-Collar Crime in Portugal, and from Willem Bongers as the unrecognised pioneer of the study of white collar crime to contemporary cases as the Siemens case, illegal e-waste trade and white-collar crime in professional football. David Friedrichs and Hazel Croall provide afterwords. Edited by Judith van Erp, Wim Huisman and Gudrun van de Walle, the handbook will be published by Routledge in 2015.

Those wishing to join the Working Group are cordially invited to email to [euoc.esc@gmail.com](mailto:euoc.esc@gmail.com)

**Judith van Erp** is Associate Professor at the Erasmus School of Law, Rotterdam, the Netherlands

Marieke Liem

## EUROPEAN HOMICIDE WORKING GROUP

This has been an exciting year for the European Homicide Working Group on many fronts:

First, a number of our members contributed to the Special Issue of the *European Journal of Criminology* on Homicide in Europe. This Special Issue, scheduled to be published this fall, comprises work concerned with various aspects of homicide and aspects of other types of serious violence to highlight recent developments and the growing diversity of this research area. The articles included range from theory-based contributions, to empirical work making use of macro-level or national data to data related to specific types of homicide.

Another Special Issue featuring our members' work is the forthcoming issue of *International Criminal Justice Review*, focusing on international and cross-national studies of homicide and violence. It will contain articles on domestic violence, punishment of homicide across Europe, the World Homicide Survey, the association

between police performance and homicide rates and the unimportance of the proportion of a nation's population that is young in explaining homicide rates within and between nations. The Special Issue is guest edited by William Alex Pridemore, who will soon take over as Editor of this journal. He now invites submissions of theoretically framed, methodologically rigorous, and carefully written manuscripts on international or cross-national criminology and criminal justice. These Special Issues together represent yet another cornerstone to the growing field of European homicide research.

Third, following the launching of a joint database—the European Homicide Monitor (EHM)—by Finland, the Netherlands and Sweden, other European partners are now in the process of joining this exciting initiative. This Monitor enables comparisons and analyses among European countries, filling a long-existing lacuna when it comes to the comparability of homicides between



European countries. A homicide measurement project like this is fundamental for further research that will provide evidence-based knowledge on topics such as the social factors that foster lethal violence, effective violence prevention, and setting rational parameters for punishment, sentencing policy and the treatment of offenders.

It is worth noting that the increased scholarly attention on European homicide is also reflected in studies and initiatives on sub-types of homicide. Of these sub-types, intimate partner homicide appears to be among those drawing the most attention in Europe. This is also shown by the recent establishment of a European COST Action on Femicide, which aims to establish the first pan-European coalition on intimate partner homicide with researchers—including those in our Working Group—who are already studying the phenomenon nationally. The

Action intends to advance research clarity, agree on definitions, improve the efficacy of policies for intimate partner homicide prevention and publish guidelines for the use of national policymakers.

All in all, these developments constitute further evidence that European homicide research is expanding. At last year's *European Society of Criminology* conference, our Homicide Working Group was well represented with two full panels devoted to homicide. We are hoping to welcome you again to our upcoming panels in Prague this year, to jointly advance the breadth and depth of ideas in European homicide research.

**Marieke Liem** is Associate Professor of Criminology at Leiden University, Leiden, the Netherlands, and Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Boston, USA

## WORKING GROUP REPORTS

Heinz Leitgöb and Daniel Seddig

# REALIGNMENT OF THE EUROPEAN WORKING GROUP ON QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN CRIMINOLOGY (EQMC)

As of March 2014, the European Quantitative Criminology (EQC) Working Group has been reorganised as the European Working Group on Quantitative Methods in Criminology (EQMC), with Heinz Leitgöb and Daniel Seddig as chairs. The initial step to further strengthen the idea of an active working group on quantitative methods came from the robust participation and positive feedback concerning a series of self-organised sessions at the ESC conferences in 2012 and 2013.

The basic intention of the EQMC is to facilitate the exchange and cooperation between criminological researchers focusing on survey methodology, research designs, statistical analysis, interpretation, simulations and programming. Besides regular meetings and organised sessions at the annual ESC conferences, the Working Group aims to offer thematic workshops for applied criminologists on special methodological topics (e.g. structural equation models, modelling of interaction effects, latent curve analysis and software introductions). A joint conference on 'Equivalence in Quantitative Research' is already being planned in cooperation with the Research Network on Quantitative Methods from the European Sociological

Association (ESA). The conference will take place at the end of October 2014 in Mannheim, Germany. Persons interested can obtain the Call for Papers from the EQMC chairs. Further, potential activities as well as organisational issues will be presented and discussed on a constituting meeting at this year's ESC conference in Prague.

A mainstay of the working group's activities will be the organised sessions at the annual conferences of the ESC. For this year's ESC conference in Prague, a Call for Papers can also be obtained from the EQMC chairs.

Persons who want to join the EQMC may send an email with name, affiliation, and research interests to [heinz.leitgoeb@jku.at](mailto:heinz.leitgoeb@jku.at) and [seddig@soziologie.uzh.ch](mailto:seddig@soziologie.uzh.ch). Please include 'EQMC' in the subject field of your email message. Persons who are already listed as members of the (old) EQC Working Group are kindly asked to rejoin in case of continued interest in order to update the member list.

**Heinz Leitgöb** is Research Assistant at the University of Linz, Austria

**Daniel Seddig** is Research Assistant at the University of Zurich, Switzerland

Anja Dirkzwager

## ESC WORKING GROUP PRISON LIFE & EFFECTS OF IMPRISONMENT

The ESC Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment Working Group was established in 2010. Starting with just 15 members, the Working Group has been growing through the years. Currently, 65 members from 20 different countries have joined. Last year, a new co-chair – Kirstin Drenkhahn – was welcomed. The aim of the ESC Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment Working Group is to encourage and facilitate contact between European researchers involved in prison research, and to establish international collaborations between the various research groups working on prison-related topics.

As part of our activities, we organise thematic panel sessions at each ESC annual conference, which always attract a large audience, and are a great opportunity to meet. For the last two years, we have also organised our own symposium. In March 2014, we organised the second symposium, which was held in Brussels. This meeting was a huge success. We had interesting presentations and discussions on a diversity of topics, like adaptation to life in prison, the role of sports and physical activity in prison, food in prison, mental health problems in prison, staff-prisoner relationships and prison guards' values. In addition, this meeting was a great opportunity to get to know each other and each other's work well and to discuss possibilities for collaborations.

To further achieve our goals, the Working Group launched a new website in 2013 with the aim of facilitating the exchange of information: <http://effectsofprisonlife.wordpress.com>. On this website you will find information on the Working Group's activities, including meetings and publications. All members of the Working Group are invited to contribute. So, please take a look at the website!

For the upcoming ESC Annual Conference in Prague, the Working Group has organised six thematic sessions on different prison-related topics, like: adaptation to prison life (including adaptation of young offenders, misconduct, participation in treatment, and staff perspectives); release from prison and life after imprisonment; the role of food in prison and judicial control of the execution of prison sentences. We hope to welcome a broad audience interested in prison research at these panel sessions.

We always welcome new members. So, all ESC members with an interest in prison-related issues are invited to join us. If you are interested please contact Anja Dirkzwager ([adirkzwager@nscr.nl](mailto:adirkzwager@nscr.nl)).

**Anja Dirkzwager** is senior researcher at the Netherlands Institute for the Study on Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR), Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Barry Goldson

## THEMATIC WORKING GROUP ON JUVENILE JUSTICE (TWGJJ)

Further to a very well-attended meeting at the European Society of Criminology Conference in Budapest in September, 2013, the Thematic Working Group on Juvenile Justice (TWGJJ) was re-launched and it is currently chaired/co-ordinated by Professor Barry Goldson, Department of Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology, University of Liverpool, UK and Professor Jenneke Christiaens, Law School, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium (VUB, Free University of Brussels).

In addition to organising specialist juvenile justice sessions at annual European Society of Criminology conferences, the two principal objectives of the TWGJJ are to:

- provide an arena for information exchange, critical analysis and debate across the European research, policy and practice communities and
- advance knowledge, understanding and research of juvenile justice issues across Europe and beyond.

To achieve the above, the TWGJJ has four key aims:



- to organise and host conferences, seminars and symposia;
- to disseminate information through its networks and via scholarly publications;
- to explore and facilitate opportunities for collaborative research and publication projects and
- to respond to policy consultations and/or requests for information.

Since the Budapest conference, the TWGJJ has established a Wiggio-group *escjuvenilejustice* in order to facilitate electronic communication and information exchange. The platform can be found at <http://wiggio.com/> and can be contacted via email at: [escjuvenilejustice@wiggio.com](mailto:escjuvenilejustice@wiggio.com)

Members of the TWGJJ will be convening/presenting papers at the upcoming ESC conference in Prague in September 2014, including three special sessions:

- a panel entitled 'Young Offenders, Juvenile Justice and the Transition into Adulthood', convened by

Professor Jenneke Christiaens from Vrije Universiteit Brussel;

- a panel entitled 'Children's Rights in Juvenile Justice' convened by Professor Els Dumortier from Vrije Universiteit Brussel and

- an 'Author Meets Critics' session focusing on 'The Effective Youth Court: Juvenile Justice Procedures in Europe', authored by Prof. Ido Weijers and Dr Stephanie Rap.

If you are interested in joining the TWGJJ, please send your name, institutional affiliation and research interests to the chairs/co-ordinators:

Professor Barry Goldson at: [b.goldson@liv.ac.uk](mailto:b.goldson@liv.ac.uk)

Professor Jenneke Christiaens at: [jenneke.christiaens@vub.ac.be](mailto:jenneke.christiaens@vub.ac.be)

**Barry Goldson** is the Charles Booth Chair of Social Science at the Department of Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology, School of Law and Social Justice, University of Liverpool, UK



## WORKING GROUP REPORTS

Lorraine Gelsthorpe

# GENDER, CRIME AND JUSTICE WORKING GROUP

The idea for the Gender, Crime and Criminal Justice Working Group, as a forum for sharing and debating ideas on gender, crime and criminal justice, emerged at the ESC conference in Ljubljana, Slovenia, in September 2009. Approval was sought from the ESC Executive, and the Working Group was launched at the 2010 conference in Liege.

Gender issues are central to the very conception of crime insofar as there has tended to be gender blindness or confusion about gender in both the construction of the law and in criminological theorising. Gender issues are also important in considering pathways both into and out of crime, and they are pertinent to patterns of resilience and desistance. There are also important gender-related issues to consider in relation to social regulation and conceptions of criminal and social justice, including both procedural and substantive dimensions. Gender considerations are also key to understanding the processes and experiences of victimisation. Gender is thus an important consideration in the creation, implementation and operation of the law.

At the forthcoming conference in Prague, there will be three full panels showcasing some of the work being carried out by members of the Working Group. The first

panel focuses on 'Methodological and conceptual challenges of researching gender, crime and justice'; the second (joint) panel with the Spinhuis Centre takes as its theme 'Punishment and its impact', whilst the third panel is focused on 'Young women/girls and justice'.

Over the forthcoming year, the Working Group will be developing plans for a bid to edit a special issue of the *European Journal of Criminology* and the papers forming these three panels will be important to consider in the shaping of such a volume, alongside papers submitted last year, where these have not already been published.

A key aim of the Working Group is to encourage networking and interaction amongst academic researchers, practitioners and students with an interest in any aspect of gender, crime and justice. The membership of the Working Group has grown year to year, and there are currently 54 members drawn from 14 countries. Membership in the Gender, Crime and Justice Working Group is open to any member of the ESC, and we are particularly keen to welcome early career researchers to join us. *Please look out for notices about the annual working group meeting which we are holding during the conference and please do come if you can.*



**Contact:** Loraine Gelsthorpe, University of Cambridge, England lrg10@cam.ac.uk  
 Michele Burman, University of Glasgow, Scotland  
 Michele.burman@glasgow.ac.uk

**Loraine Gelsthorpe** is Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice and Director of the Centre for Community, Gender and Social Justice at the University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

▼ WORKING GROUP REPORTS

Cyrus Tata

## SENTENCING AND PENAL DECISION-MAKING: THE ESC WORKING GROUP

In late 2010 the new Sentencing & Penal Decision-Making Working Group was launched. Its aim is to develop academic and policy-oriented thinking, as well as to encourage new European collaborations. In just four years, the Working Group has expanded to over 70 members coming from 25 different European countries. The Working Group is composed of a blend of well-established academic scholars and new emerging scholars (e.g. post graduate students), as well as a healthy sprinkling of practitioners (lawyers, judges, probation officers etc.) and policy officials.

### AIM

The aim of the Working Group is to bring together scholars working in the field of sentencing and penal decision-making, as well as judges, practitioners, policy officials and others in order to share research; generate ideas and encourage interest in the field across Europe. The Working Group seeks to foster discussion and fresh thinking; stimulate research; encourage theoretical development of the field; and engage in critical as well as comparative European work.

### WHAT DO WE MEAN BY 'SENTENCING AND PENAL DECISION-MAKING'?

Because of its broad focus on sentencing as an exercise in decision-making, the Working Group's remit extends well beyond those issues connected solely with the judicial selection of punishment. Many other decision-making processes, which either affect or are affected by judicial sentencing practices, are also included. So-called 'back-door' decisions, such as the grant of remission, parole or other early release to sentenced prisoners, clearly fall within this category. But so also do other decisions, at earlier and later stages of the overall criminal process, including prosecution charging practices, plea decision-making and, where it exists, plea bargaining, which may have a significant impact on the sentence ultimately imposed.

*A non-exhaustive list of indicative areas of interest to the group include, for example:* influences in the sentencing decision process; the politics of sentencing and penal policy-making; judicial discretion; the use of non-executive penalties; pre-trial processes; judicial and penal cultures; victims and sentencing; public opinion, public attitudes and knowledge of sentencing and punishment; multi-disciplinary courts; sentencing reform structures; penal aims and justifications; (in)equality and punishment; consistency and disparity in sentencing and penal decision-making; legitimacy and decision-making; release from custody; plea-bargaining and inter-professional relationships. In all of these areas the Working Group attempts to bring comparative perspectives and a focus on changes in European law, policy and practice.

### THE ANNUAL SPRING SYMPOSIUM

In the spring of each year we hold a round-table symposium on a specific theme. Each symposium is hosted in a European city by a member of the Group. Thanks to our hosts, each year it has been possible to avoid any registration fees.

**2011:** Oxford University, England (hosted by Julian Roberts): Researching the Judicial Role in Sentencing

**2012:** Università dell'Insubria, Como, Italy (hosted by Grazia Mannozi): Towards a European Sentencing Identity?

**2013:** The King's Inn, Dublin, Republic of Ireland (hosted by Tom O'Malley and Niamh Maguire): The Nature and Contours of Trust in Sentencing and Penal Decision-Making

**2014:** Université de Reims, France (hosted by Martine Herzog-Evans): Inter-Professional Dynamics in Sentencing and Penal Decision-Making

**2015:** Barcelona (to be confirmed)

These round-table symposia are rather different to larger conferences. Typically with 15–30 participants, a smaller number of papers are presented but with rela-



tively generous time for discussion and debate about the implications. Papers and recordings of presentations are available at the Group's website: (see below). In addition, the Group normally arranges a 'stream' of consecutive pre-arranged panels at the ESC conference.

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone with a scholarly interest in European aspects of sentencing and penal decision-making and who would like to be active in the group.

The Group warmly welcomes new members, especially emerging scholars, practitioners, policy officials and, in particular, individuals from countries whose sentencing and penal decisionmaking is less well-known internationally. See the website for a list of current members and activities.

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/sentencingeurope/>

**Dr Cyrus Tata** is Professor of Law and Criminal Justice at Strathclyde University, Scotland

## CANDIDATES FOR ESC OFFICES



### CANDIDATES FOR THE ESC PRESIDENCY



## FRIEDER DÜNKEL

Many, probably most, ESC members knew of Frieder Dünkel, professor of criminal law and criminology at the University of Greifswald, even before he was nominated for the presidency of the European Society of Criminology. Professor Dünkel has been a regular participant in ESC conferences since its beginning and has long been active at the European level. If elected at the 2014 annual meeting in Prague, he will serve for three years on the ESC board as president-elect, president, and past president. He would be the second ESC president from Germany: Professor Hans-Jürgen of the University of Tübingen was elected in Amsterdam in 2004.

Professor Dünkel studied law at the Universities of Heidelberg and Freiburg in Germany, receiving his PhD in 1979 and completing his habilitation in 1989, both in Freiburg. He was a research fellow in the Max Planck Institute of Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg from 1977 to 1992. Since 1992 he has taught criminology, penology, juvenile justice, criminal

procedure and criminal law at the University of Greifswald. He has overseen Greifswald's Criminology and Criminal Justice master's degree course since 2006. He has served as Dean of the Faculty of Law (1995–1997) and Vice-Rector of the University of Greifswald (2010–2013).

Professor Dünkel has conducted research and published extensively on a wide range of subjects, including prisons and prisoners, youth crime and youth justice, restorative justice and criminal justice policy. Major recent books include *Les prisons en Europe* (with Sonja Snacken, L'Harmattan, 2005); *Reforming Juvenile Justice* (with Josine Junger-Tas, Springer, 2009); *Release from Prison and European Policy and Practice* (with Dirk van Zyl Smit and Nicola Padfield, Willan, 2010).

Much of Professor Dünkel's work in recent decades—as the books just listed attest—has involved multinational collaborations and comparative and cross-national subjects, making him an especially appropriate and well-qualified nominee for ESC president.



He is highly active cross-nationally in teaching and in research. He co-ordinates Erasmus exchange programmes with 35 universities in Western and Eastern Europe. As a visiting professor, he lectures in German, English, and French at the Universities of Nottingham, Pau, Aix-en-Provence, Bern, and Krasnojarsk.

Professor Dünkel has long played a leading role in research at the European level. He is currently coordinating a survey of legal issues and practices relating to restorative justice initiatives in 37 European countries, with funding from the Criminal Justice Programme of the European Union. Since 1994 he has co-ordinated several EU-funded Tempus Projects on the reorganisation of legal education

in Siberian law faculties (Krasnojarsk, Irkutsk, Barnaul, Omsk, and Tomsk). He has organised numerous international conferences inside and outside Europe on juvenile justice, prison research, and restorative justice.

The European Society of Criminology is fortunate that Professor Dünkel has allowed himself to be nominated. Elections for the presidency of the ESC take place at the ESC General Assembly. It is held during the annual meeting.

**Michael Tonry** is McKnight Presidential Professor in Criminal Law and Policy at the University of Minnesota Law School and the President of the ESC



## CANDIDATES FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERSHIP



### MAY-LEN SKILBREI

May-Len Skilbrei is Professor at the Department of Criminology and Sociology of Law, University of Oslo, Norway. Skilbrei's empirical work has taken her to Sweden, Denmark, Estonia and Russia, in addition to Norway, and she has been a guest lecturer at universities in Estonia, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and the UK, and a visiting scholar at Lancaster University, UK.

Her research concerns on Nordic and European policy developments around prostitution and human trafficking, sexual violence, marriage, labour, asylum, irregular migration and return migration. She has published extensively on these and other issues, mainly in English, but also in Norwegian, Swedish and Estonian. Her recent publications count articles on the relationship between criminal justice and welfare approaches to prostitution in *Crime & Justice*, on gender and class in crime reporting in *Crime, Media, Culture*, and on court proceedings in human trafficking cases in *Women & Criminal Justice*, as well as an Ashgate monograph on Nordic prostitution policies. She is further an experienced editor, with four special issues to her name,

including a special issue on European prostitution policies of *Sexuality Research and Social Policy* together with Isabel Crowhurst and Joyce Outshoorn.

She is currently heading a multi-disciplinary research project funded by the Research Council of Norway with partners in Norway, Sweden and Thailand on social and health services for women who sell sex and victims of trafficking. Further, Skilbrei is the vice-chair of the COST Action Proposal Comparing European Prostitution Policies: Understanding Scales and Cultures of Governance that will run until 2017, a member of the National Committee for Research Ethics in the Social Sciences and the Humanities (NESH) in Norway, and the head of the Board of the Centre for Women's and Gender Research, University of Tromsø, Norway.

At the University of Oslo, Skilbrei teaches criminological theory and methodology and gender, sexuality and violence at the BA, MA and PhD levels, and she supervises PhD students in Norway and Sweden in criminology, sociology and cultural studies.



## EDWARD KLEEMANS

Prof. Dr. Edward R. Kleemans is Full Professor at the Vrije Universiteit (VU) School of Criminology, Faculty of Law, VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands (chair: Serious and Organised Crime and Criminal Justice). He is programme leader of the research project 'Empirical and Normative Studies at the Faculty of Law and conducts research into organised crime, including drug trafficking, human smuggling, human trafficking, fraud and money laundering, social organisation, embeddedness, and the interaction between offenders and the criminal justice system. Until 2013, he was—in addition to being professor at VU University Amsterdam—the Head of the Crime, Law Enforcement and Sanctions

Research Division (CRS) of the Research and Documentation Centre (WODC) at the Hague in the Netherlands. From 1996 to 2013 he coordinated the Dutch Organised Crime Monitor (OCM), a systematic, continuing research programme of WODC, Erasmus University Rotterdam and VU University Amsterdam into the nature of organised crime in the Netherlands, based on intensive analysis of 150 large-scale police investigations. He graduated in public administration and public policy (with the highest possible distinction) and earned a PhD (with the highest possible distinction) from Twente University, the Netherlands, after carrying out research into strategic crime analysis, urban crime patterns and offender behaviour.



## ANNA-MARIA GETOŠ

Dr. Anna-Maria Getoš is Assistant Professor at the University of Zagreb, Faculty of Law in Croatia, where she has taught courses in criminology and victimology with criminal law basics since 2005. In 2012 she was appointed Head of the Max Planck Partner Group for 'Balkan Criminology', which is a group of PhD researchers conducting scientific research and building up a regional network of experts in the field of criminology and criminal justice in Southeast Europe ([www.balkan-criminology.eu](http://www.balkan-criminology.eu)).

Her fields of research interest and expertise include: general criminology and victimology, Croatian crimino-

logical history, phenomenology of (political) violence (in the Balkans), 'criminal law and criminology under one roof', fear of crime and punitivity, crime statistics, and process analysis of criminal law creation and (d)evolution. She heads the Croatian components of several international research projects (e.g. ISRD3, TRAFSTAT, Restorative Justice at Post-Sentencing Level-Supporting and Protecting Victims), worked on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> editions of the *European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics for Croatia*, and participated as a researcher and/or national expert





in several European projects (e.g. Fear of Crime and Punitivity, Development of Monitoring Instruments for Judicial and Law Enforcement Institutions in the Western Balkans, HUMSEC—Human Security, Terrorism and Organised Crime in the Western Balkans and The Punishment of Serious Crimes).

Dr. Getoš studied in Zagreb and at the University of Freiburg’s Faculty of Law, where she acquired her LLM (2004) and her Dr jur (2010). She worked for the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of Croatia and for the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law. In 2006, she received the Annual Award for the Best Young Scientist in Social Sciences from the Society of University Professors and

other Scientists of the University of Zagreb. She holds several scholarships (Max Planck Society, ESC scholarship, DAAD, Croatian Ministry of Science, Robert Bosch Foundation), the most recent one being the Fulbright Visiting Research award for 2014–2015. Besides being a member of the ESC, she is a full member of the Croatian Academy of Legal Sciences and executive editor of the Academy’s Yearbook.

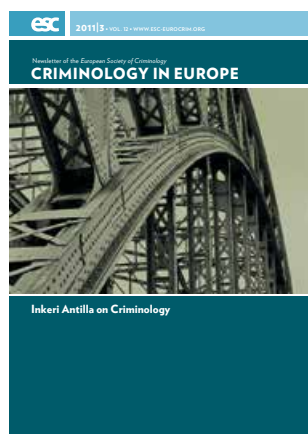
Dr. Getoš is author of two books, three book chapters, five journal articles, and co-author of one university textbook, two book chapters and six journal articles (full publication list with English abstracts: <http://bib.irb.hr/lista-radova?autor=264086&lang=EN>). She is fluent in English, German and Croatian. [e-mail: [agetos@pravo.hr](mailto:agetos@pravo.hr)]

▼ EDITOR’S REMARKS

Csaba Györy

## COVER STORIES

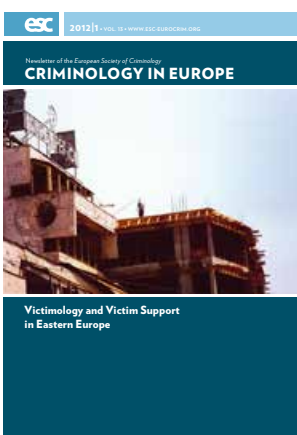
Interestingly one of the things that really grip the attention of readers of the Newsletter are the cover pictures. I receive a lot of feedback: some are liked, some are not, some are not really understood. Some people living at the location of the Annual Meeting do not like the cover because it does not represent their ideas of their own city; others find some of them “thematically too American”, which is deemed to be inappropriate for a European scholarly society; others just think they are randomly chosen. Well, they are not, but true, the connection to the essays in the issue behind the cover is not always straightforward. In the following, I want to explain in short why and how some of them were selected.



### Bridge (2011/3)

The cover depicts part of the iron structure of the second oldest bridge in Budapest, the Szabadság-Bridge. The cover was selected to reflect on one of the main points of the message by the recipient of the European Criminology Award, Inkeri Antilla, about the necessity for criminologists

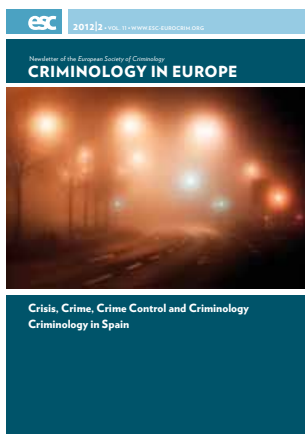
to constantly bridge theoretical work, empirical basic and practical, policy-oriented research.



### Mostar (2012/1)

This is actually a picture I took myself. I was looking for a cover picture for Vesna Nikolic-Ristanovic’s article on victimology in the Balkans. What I had in mind was a war-damaged building that is being rebuilt to refer to the long and deep scars the war left in those societies, but—following the

essay’s cautiously optimistic outlook—I also wanted to add some positive note to it (hence the renovation). The symbolism of war-damaged buildings is a tricky business in the Balkans: it is easy to pick the wrong ruins or the wrong towns, and one can easily find himself taking sides in the war of competing historical narratives without even knowing it. To avoid this I was very specifically looking for buildings in the South Bosnian town of Mostar, one of the few places where the cultural heritage of all warring groups was seriously damaged, and all of them suffered. The building is an old hotel that stands on the edge of the old town; while most of the old town was rebuilt, this shell-damaged building stood there, dark and abandoned for almost a decade, as the tourist strolled by on their way to the Old Bridge. Now it is renovated and again serves as a hotel.



### Fog (2012/2)

The picture was chosen for the first articles in the series of crisis and crime. These deal with the social change and its effects on crime in the two European countries hit most hard economically by the crisis (Sappho Xenakis and Leonidas Cheliotis on Greece, Jorge Rodriguez and Elena Larrauri on Spain). The

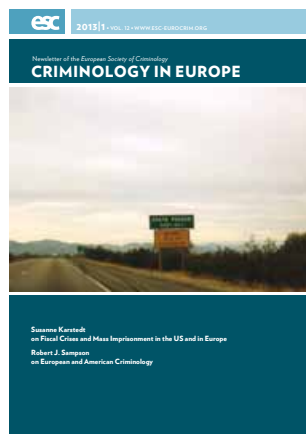
situation in these two countries cannot be more different, but one common element of both analyses is the uncertainty as to how fundamental the changes in the political system, political economy and other indicators of social change—crime rates among them—will be as a result of the crisis. The cover intends to depict this uncertainty by showing a road in a fog so thick, that not even whether the traffic lights are green or red is visible.



### Objects in Mirror Are Closer Than They Appear (2012/3)

This is one of the cover pictures criticised for being “American”. Indeed: it might sound familiar to everybody who has ever driven a car in the US (actually, not only there but also in Canada or India): US federal law mandates that this warning be engraved on every side mirror in every car.

This cover I chose for Wim Huisman’s essay on corporate crime and the financial crisis. One of the most shocking developments for scholars of financial regulation and corporate crime in the aftermath of the crisis was how quickly things went back to business as usual in the world of finance (this is also discussed in the article). With the exception of a few countries, the once envisioned great restructuring of the regulatory framework was quickly forgotten, and criminologists awaiting a wave of prosecutions and further evolution of financial crimes were soon better advised to go back to their traditional fields of study. While its economic repercussions are still being felt both in the US and Europe, a mere couple of years after the financial system of the world almost collapsed, the crisis appears to be a story from a distant past. The cover picture intended to reflect on this sorrow state of affairs.



### Do Not Stop for Hitchhikers (2013/1)

This cover I selected to accompany Susanne Karstedt’s article. She reviews recent political developments in some US states with excessive imprisonment rates and contemplates the idea whether the neoliberal drive to cut state expenditure, along with a realigned

conservative ideology that is less susceptible for law and order rhetorics, as well as the budgetary pressures stemming from the economic crisis could herald the end of the punitive state. This is one of those pictures which was occasionally criticised for being “American”. It is: in some American states you can still see these signs along the highway. They came to my mind when thinking about the cover picture because they looked ridiculously obsolete in an era of Supermax prisons, where under the watchful eyes of cameras filming every corner 24 hours a day, and behind a multitude of fences, security systems and an army of guards armed to the teeth, segregated prisoners are policed by prison guards in Robocop-style riot gear. The American prison system has many problems, but prison escapes are not one of them. They also represent the current American criminal policy fairly well by protecting the public from dangers that simply do not exist. Meanwhile, the signs are actually remnants of another era of US criminal policy: the 1960s and 1970s, with its extensive network of prison camps and relatively liberal prison regimes, where prisoners worked on the fields and could indeed simply walk away. I also liked the message of the picture: this is the American prison system, do not stop here, just drive past as fast as you could, without even slowing down.

**Csaba Györy** is a Researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg, Germany, Research Fellow at the Institute for Legal Studies, Centre for Social Sciences, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary, and the editor of the Newsletter.



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