



## Third Annual ESC Conference in Helsinki

The third annual ESC conference will be held in Helsinki, Finland, on August 27-30, 2003. It will be held on the Helsinki University City Centre campus which is in the very heart of the city, only 100 metres from Hotel Helsinki and Hotel Kaisaniemi, and a few hundred metres from the Holiday Inn and the railway station. The full address is Porthania, Yliopistonkatu 3, Helsinki, Finland. The opening ceremony, the plenary sessions, and the ESC General Assembly will be held in the University's Grand Hall, an old Neoclassical building dating from 1828, while the panel sessions will be held next door in the Porthania building, a more functionalist building

dating from 1957.

The conference starts on Wednesday evening, August 27, with



registration opening at 16.00. A welcoming wine reception will be

given by the Mayor of Helsinki at 18:00 in Helsinki City Hall. The conference ends on Saturday, at 14:00.

After 14:00, special workshops and private business meetings of various organisations will take place. The tentative conference schedule is shown on page 5.

Highlights include a plenary poster session with complimentary ice cream, sponsored by the American Society of Criminology, and, on the Friday evening, a reception by the Ministry of Justice at the historical House of the Estates, the imposing edifice built for the Finnish Diet in the late 19th century. This was the first

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## Sonja Snacken Nominated for ESC President-elect

By Stefanie van Goethals

Professor Sonja Snacken of the Vrije Universiteit, Brussels has been nominated by the ESC board to be president-elect of the European Society of Criminology for 2003-2004. She has accepted the nomination and, if elected at this year's annual meeting in Helsinki, Professor Ernesto Savona, the society's president for 2003-2004, will hand over the gavel to her at next year's annual meeting in Amsterdam.

Sonja Snacken is professor of criminology, penology, and the sociology of law at the Free University of Brussels and director of its department of criminology. She also teaches comparative penology in the masters degree course in European criminology and criminal justice systems at the University of Ghent. Her chief research interests lie in sentencing, imprisonment, and community sanctions and also in human rights issues. She is particularly interested in a comparative and European approach. She participates in both English and French speaking international scientific

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## Criminology in Hungary

By Miklós Lévy

Hungarian criminologists are far better known in international circles than is Hungarian criminology. Quite a few Hungarians participate regularly in international meetings and are members of international associations and their boards. Hungary regularly hosts international conferences and seminars. However, because few outsiders read Hungarian, and its criminological journals are not available in other languages, and few articles by Hungarian criminologists are published elsewhere, Hungarian criminology remains little known.

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## Message from the President

The European Society of Criminology is about to have its third conference in Helsinki. The programme is full, varied, and innovative. For example, we will have some workshops designed to provide training in leading-edge research techniques and we hope to have an opportunity to examine the



Paul Wiles

implications for crime and criminal justice of the draft new European constitution. Innovation will continue to be central to the work of the ESC. We work in a continent which is extraordinarily varied in terms of language, culture, and political frameworks and yet at the same time has embarked on a journey to try to achieve increased integration and shared structures and institutions. These are among the issues that our conference next year, in Amsterdam, will tackle.

We are still a very young professional society and if we are going to be able to continue to be innovative,

we will have to develop our own organisation very quickly. We started with a temporary constitution that was designed simply to allow the new society to be launched and survive its first years. During this period the board has mainly consisted of people who originally created the ESC.

However, we promised that at the Helsinki conference we would propose revisions to the constitution to ensure that the society can develop a stable administrative structure whilst at the same time ensure that its board is constantly refreshed by new people elected by the ESC's members. Creating this balance between stability and a constantly changing board membership will not be easy, but the future of the ESC will depend on our doing this successfully. If you care about the future of the ESC, then it is important that you attend the General Assembly at Helsinki. That is when the constitutional changes will be discussed and decided.

The dream that led to the ESC was that we should have a European-wide society to pursue scientific research in criminology – but that this should be open to all (not only by 'invitation') and that its development should be in the hands of a board elected by its members. That dream has produced two very successful conferences, a third about to happen, and a fourth planned. However, the dream now needs to be institutionalised so that criminological research in Europe can develop effectively. I hope that my term as your President will lay the basis for this further development so that we have a strong and vibrant ESC of which we all feel a part. ■

### Travel Grant Awards Announced

The ESC board at its June 14 2003 meeting in Leiden approved student travel awards of •500 each to three Eastern European Ph.D. students or junior researchers. The winners:

**Anna Markovska**, Ukraine (University of London), *White Collar Crime*;  
**Simona Pikalkova**, Czech Republic (Charles University), *Violence in the Family*;  
**Dariusz Kuzelewski**, Poland (University of Bialystok), *Victim/Offender Mediation: an Institution of Post-industrial Society*.

The availability of the awards was announced in the March 2003 issue of *Criminology in Europe*. The board hopes each year to make a small number of travel awards to permit young scholars in Eastern Europe to attend annual ESC meetings.



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*Criminology in Europe* is published by the European Society of Criminology. Comments, criticisms, and suggestions for improvements are welcomed. The editorial office is located at The Institute of Criminology, Cambridge University, 7 West Road, Cambridge CB3 9DT, UK .  
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# The International Crime Victims Survey

By Stan C. Proband

In the year 2000, the Dutch Ministry of Justice published the findings from the fourth survey of industrialised countries carried out as part of the International Crime Victims Survey (van Kesteren, Mayhew, and Nieuwbeerta 2000). Previous surveys were carried out in 1989 (van Djik, Mayhew, and Killias 1990), in 1992 (van Djik and Mayhew 1992), and in 1996 (Mayhew and van Djik 1997). Related surveys in less developed countries have been undertaken, generally in cities, co-ordinated by the United Nations Inter-regional Criminal Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) in Rome (e.g., Zvekic 1998).

Sample sizes and response rates vary from country to country. In the 2000 survey of 17 countries, the samples were usually of 2,000 people with a response rate of 64 percent. This means that there is fairly wide sampling error and that the surveys cannot be relied upon for precise estimates on different countries. There is, however, comparative stability in rankings in prevalence and incidence rates across countries, both generally and for many particular crimes. There is considerable similarity within countries between victimisation trends as shown by the ICVS and by crime rate trends as shown by official data, indicating that the ICVS provides useful comparative information over time.

The sample sizes are sufficiently large to provide reasonable estimates of high frequency offences such as motor vehicle theft, burglary, and theft of personal property.

## Overall Victimization

The findings from the 2000 survey suggest that countries fall into three categories in terms of the overall prevalence of victimisation for the offences on which questions are asked (auto and auto-related crime, motorcycle and bicycle theft, burglary, theft of personal property, contact crimes, robbery, sexual incidents, and assaults and threats). In the highest prevalence category, consisting of Australia, England and Wales, the Netherlands, and Sweden, more than 24 percent of respondents indicated that they had been victims of one of the target crimes in 1999.

In the second category, consisting of Canada, Scotland, Denmark, Poland, Belgium, France, and the United States, 20-24 percent of respondents indicated that they had been victims.

The third category, in which less than 20 percent of respondents reported victimisation, consisted of Finland, Spain (Catalonia), Switzerland, Portugal, Japan, and Northern Ireland. See figure 1 on p.17.

The relative rankings of countries in the 2000 survey generally mirror those in earlier surveys.

## Trends and Crime 1988-99

National crime trends as shown by data from the four

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# US Prisons: What Can They Teach Europe?

By Steve Hall

The United States prison system is the world's richest source of information for prison managers. At its worst it is massively overcrowded and some institutions are dominated by violence and gang control. At its best, prisons are economical and efficient, provide decent and humane living conditions, and offer a wide range of imaginative and seemingly efficient programmes.

We can learn from both the successes and the failures of U.S. prisons. The withdrawal of smoking privileges for prisoners, for example, a punitive measure designed to take away privileges, produced health benefits for staff and prisoners, and reductions in trafficking and fire setting – with no adverse reaction from prisoners. What appears to be political expediency in states like Kentucky to balance their 2003 budgets by releasing prisoners early offers a potential source of research on the future impact on crime in these states.

## So what's bad?

The headlines are stark. More than two million incarcerated. High rates of re-offending (two-thirds of prisoners released are arrested within three years). Conditions in the worst prisons regularly produce exposés. Politicians regularly use fear of crime as a means of enhancing their chances of getting elected. This practice has stifled any sensible public debate about "what works." The net effect is that vast amounts of research available to policy makers and the advice of their own officials are largely ignored. Frank Wood, a former Minnesota corrections commissioner concluded: "We have continued on a spiral of incarcerating people in [the US] who simply do not need to be in prison. It has forced us to spend time and resources trying to figure out how to manage large numbers of people rather than improving what we do with those that need to be or should be in prison."

America is a country of winners and losers. This transfers into common language and into criminal justice and prisons with emphases on 'good' versus 'evil', and prisoners permanently labeled (even after discharge) as "offenders". This labeling has a profound impact. The vast majority of employers and landlords openly (and legally) discriminate against "felons". Ex-prisoners are banned from working in many businesses and trades. In many states discharged felons cannot vote, sometimes for the rest of their lives.

## So what's good?

American prisons typically are efficient and inexpensive. This is true even in the smaller states with prison populations similar to those of the smallest countries in Europe, and holds true when extensive programmes and activities are provided. One 1,200-bed medium secure Minnesota facility I visited, for example, had full-time

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## Helsinki Conference *Continued from page 1*

parliament building in Finland. An optional dinner cruise around the Helsinki archipelago on Thursday, August 28 is available on a first come, first serve basis and is highly recommended.

The conference has received much attention from Eastern European scholars in particular. More than 250 abstracts had been received by mid-June, suggesting an attendance of 330-350 participants, a bit lower than last year's attendance at the Toledo conference. Two large international meetings occurring this summer and autumn, the World Society of Victimology conference in South Africa and the International Society of Criminology conference in Rio de Janeiro, have apparently attracted participants who might otherwise have come to Helsinki.

This year's standard explanation of low attendance at international conferences, the SARS epidemic, seems to have some validity also in our case. A number of major international conferences in Europe have had to be cancelled this summer because of low international attendance, especially from the United States.

The topic of the conference is "Crime and Crime Control in an Integrating Europe". The programme includes four plenary sessions with two speakers each:

- Crime Control and Integration (Nils Christie, Paul Wiles),
- Victims of Crime (Jock Young, Annika Snare),
- Crime Trends in Europe (Marcelo Aebi, Anna Alvazzi del Frate),
- Europeanisation of Criminal Law (Ursula Nelles, Nicky Padfield).

Overall, the contributions represent a wide assortment of themes. Popular themes of abstracts submitted to date include fear of crime, victimisation and violence against women, organised crime and trafficking, prisons and prisoner issues, recidivism, juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice, violent crime, and drugs. Many presentations will relate to crime prevention or reduction. There is also an abundance of police-related papers. A number of contributions deal with historical,

theoretical, and methodological issues.

Participants are arriving from all over Europe and also from several overseas countries. The largest number of presenters registered so far are from the United Kingdom, followed by the Netherlands, the USA, and the Nordic countries. A total of 34 countries are represented.

A few "author meets reader" sessions are a new feature in the programme. These are intended to present new European books in the field. Among the books to be discussed are Adam Edwards and Pete Gill's *Transnational Organised Crime: Perspectives of Global Security* (Routledge 2003), Paul Larsson's *I lovens grenseland - translated as In the borderland of the law*, a study on white collar crime and tax crimes connected to the Norwegian banking industry (Pax 2002), and Jerzy Sarnecki's *Delinquent Networks. Youth Co-Offending in Stockholm* (Cambridge University Press 2002). There will also be training seminars on research methods in criminology by Jerzy Sarnecki (University of Stockholm) and Per-Olof Wikström (University of Cambridge) on the first day of the conference.

There are eight panel session slots, and eight panels will run concurrently during each slot. Some of the panel sessions are of a round table format, but most follow the normal routine of four presentations in each session of 75 minutes.

A variety of other meetings and workshops will take place. These will include workshops on homicide and juvenile justice, and include a planning session for a next wave of the International Self-report Delinquency Survey. In addition, meetings will be held of the editorial board of the *European Journal of Criminology* and of the statistics panel of the *European Sourcebook of*

*Criminal Justice Statistics*.

Kauko Aromaa, director of the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI), is conference organiser on behalf of a programme committee consisting of himself, Jerzy Sarnecki (University of Stockholm), Britta Kyvsgaard (Danish Ministry of Justice), and Paul Larsson (National Police Directorate, Norway).

This year's conference has four co-organisers, in collaboration with the European Society of Criminology: The Scandinavian Research Council for Criminology; the Department of Criminal Law, Procedural Law and General Jurisprudential Studies of the University of Helsinki; the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI); and the Finnish National Research Institute of Legal Policy. As a consequence, the representation of Nordic countries in this year's conference is exceptionally strong.

The conference language is English. The deadline for submission of abstracts has expired, but late abstracts will continue to be accepted for poster sessions. Please send your abstract with full contact details to the Conference Organiser, Kauko Aromaa, at [kauko.aromaa@om.fi](mailto:kauko.aromaa@om.fi).

Please take note of the conference web site: [www.eurocrim2003.com](http://www.eurocrim2003.com). This is where the revised programme will be posted in July/August.

Blocks of hotel rooms have been booked close to the conference site, at a wide range of prices. Accommodation and conference registration are being handled by Congresszon, a professional conference organisation. To register or for help with accommodation, please contact the conference bureau Congresszon at [eurocrim@congreszon.fi](mailto:eurocrim@congreszon.fi) or the conference secretary, Mr. Tuomas Finne at [tuomas.finne@om.fi](mailto:tuomas.finne@om.fi).

**DIRECTIONS FROM AIRPORT  
AND MAP OF HELSINKI  
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# EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY CONFERENCE

## HELSINKI, FINLAND ● AUGUST 27 - 30, 2003

### Preliminary Programme

#### Wednesday 27 August

- 16:00-18:00 Registration  
18:00-19:30 Welcome reception, City of Helsinki

#### Thursday 28 August

- 09:00-09:30 Opening ceremony  
09:30-10:30 Plenary session 1  
10:30-10:45 Coffee break  
10:45-12:00 Panel session 1  
*Insecurities in European cities (1)*  
*Spatial aspects of crime (1)*  
*Dating violence/rape/risk factors*  
*Prisons*  
*Juvenile delinquency (eurogangs)*  
*Policing (1)*  
*Transnational organised crime and corruption in the former Soviet Union*  
*Training seminar (1) - Research methods*  
12:10-13:25 Panel session 2  
*Insecurities in European cities (2)*  
*Spatial aspects of crime (2)*  
*Violence against women (BRÅ panel)*  
*Prison health care/Treatment in prisons*  
*Juvenile delinquency*  
*Policing (2)*  
*Organised crime*  
*Training seminar 2 - Research methods*  
13:25-14:25 Lunch  
14:25-15:40 Panel session 3  
*Fear of crime (1)*  
*Crime prevention*  
*International Violence Against Women Survey*  
*Prisoner resettlement/exclusion*  
*Juvenile delinquency and ethnicity*  
*Controlling the police*  
*Trafficking in human-beings*  
*Author meets reader (1)*  
15:50-17:05 Poster session  
17:05-17:20 Coffee break  
17:20-18:20 Plenary session 2  
Evening Dinner cruise of archipelago

#### Friday 29 August

- 09:00-10:00 Plenary session 3  
10:00-10:15 Coffee break  
10:15-11:30 Panel session 4  
*Fear of crime (2)*  
*Crime reduction - UK*  
*Violence against women*  
*Prisoner resettlement*  
*Juvenile justice (1)*  
*Police and the public*

#### Friday, 29 August, cont'd

- 10:15-11:30 Panel session 4 (cont'd)  
*Prostitution*  
*Author meets reader (2)*  
11:30-11:45 Coffee break  
11:45-13:00 General assembly  
13:00-14:00 Lunch  
14:00-15:15 Panel session 5  
*Fear of crime (3)*  
*Crime and media (1)*  
*Victimisation*  
*Recidivism/reconviction, desistance*  
*Juvenile justice (2)*  
*Police and research*  
*Transnational organised crime and contraband in the former Soviet Union*  
*European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics panel session*  
15:25-16:40 Panel session 6  
*New governance of public safety in Europe (1)*  
*Crime and media (2)*  
*Victim support*  
*Criminal careers, recidivism*  
*Juvenile justice workshop (J. Junger-Tas)*  
*Confidence in the criminal justice system*  
*Drug policy*  
*European Journal of Criminology editorial board meeting*  
18:00-20:00 Reception, Ministry of Justice

#### Saturday 30 August

- 09:00-10:15 Panel session 7  
*New governance of public safety in Europe (2)*  
*Crime control policy perspectives (1)*  
*Historical criminology*  
*Mediation/non-prosecution*  
*Homicide workshop (M. Killias)*  
*Courts, sentencing*  
*Drugs/drug-related crime*  
*Author meets reader (3)*  
10:25-11:40 Panel session 8  
*Crime and economy*  
*Crime control policy perspectives (2)*  
*Comparative studies*  
*Community sanctions and electronic monitoring*  
*Cybercrime/computer crime*  
*Resource management in the criminal justice system*  
*Drugs (and crime)*  
11:40-11:55 Coffee Break  
11:55-12:55 Plenary session 4  
13:00-13:30 Closing ceremony

## UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



### INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY

The Institute of Criminology has a strong international reputation for academic excellence. The Institute has a distinguished senior faculty which includes Sir Anthony Bottoms, Manuel Eisner, David Farrington, Loraine Gelsthorpe, Alison Lieblich, Shadd Maruna, Michael Tonry, Per-Olof Wikström, and Andrew von Hirsch. Its multi-disciplinary staff have backgrounds in criminology, sociology, psychiatry, psychology, philosophy, geography, history, and law.

#### Radzinowicz Library

The Institute's library has one of the world's pre-eminent criminology research collections, including a wide selection of books, papers, periodicals, and historical materials. The library holds over 50,000 books and 18,000 pamphlets, receives nearly 300 periodicals, and has an aggressive acquisitions policy.

The Institute offers a wide range of graduate programmes:

- M.Phil. Degrees in Criminology or Criminological Research (the largest full-time graduate criminology courses in the UK)
- Ph.D. in Criminology

Students come from around the world, with strong undergraduate records in law, or social or behavioural science subjects, or extensive professional experience in the criminal justice system. The Institute admits approximately 40 M.Phil. students and 4-8 Ph.D. students each year. A number of awards and studentships are available from the University of Cambridge, including the recently established Gates Cambridge Scholarships for non-UK citizens, and other funding bodies.

#### For UK Students

Arts and Humanities Research Board, University of Cambridge Domestic Research Studentships, Millennium Scholarships, ESRC Studentships, Newton Trust Fellowships

#### For International Students

Cambridge Commonwealth Trust, Cambridge Overseas Trust, Cambridge European Trust, Gates Cambridge Trust, Institute of Criminology Wakefield Scholarships, Lopez-Rey Scholarships

Further information is available from:

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## ESC WORKING GROUP

# Juvenile Justice Working Group

I would like to start an ESC Working Group on Juvenile Justice with a concrete objective: the production of a trend report addressed to the European Commission (Directorate *Justice and Home Affairs*) and to member states.

Trend reports are not unusual. They are regularly produced in the United States for the US Congress. The *International Union for Health Promotion and Education* recently produced a report for the European Commission on 'Evidence based programmes in the field of the Prevention of health problems and Promotion of (mental) health'.

The idea for this working group arose because of widespread concerns among those working in the field about developments in juvenile justice in many countries, pointing towards ever more repressive, but not necessarily more effective, systems. What can be done about this trend? What should be done? Are there other more effective ways to prevent and reduce juvenile crime?

In order to assemble a number of realistic, preferably tested, innovations in juvenile justice procedures and interventions, I would like to bring together a group of expert colleagues willing to collaborate on a trend report on juvenile justice:

- Global overview of delinquency trends in Europe
- The prevention of delinquent behaviour
- Police interventions and police diversion
- Prosecutorial interventions
- Sentencing options
- Innovations in juvenile justice interventions
- Recommendations for research-based policy improvements

Of course other perspectives may come to the fore, such as differences in systems (The Scandinavian model, the Scottish model), age limits, and different packages of sanctions. That is something we should work out together.

The proposal is that each topic or domain be treated by one or several experts. They should first describe the state-of-the-art in a number of countries and then discuss recent — tested or promising — innovations, which may lead to recommendations for improving the system. The report should be as cross-cultural as possible, discussing the diversity in juvenile justice systems in Europe, but also emphasising fundamental similarities.

Our first meeting will take place in Helsinki at the coming ESC conference at the end of August 2003. The meeting place and time will be announced in the Conference programme. Juvenile justice experts who are willing to undertake such an effort, please contact Josine Jungert-Tas on [Jungertas@xs4all.nl](mailto:Jungertas@xs4all.nl).

# Second International Self-report Delinquency Study (ISRD)

The International Self-report Delinquency study (ISRD), which was launched in 1992 by the Research and Documentation Center of the Dutch Ministry of Justice was based on self-reported delinquency data collected in 13 countries, most of which belong to the European Union [Finland, Great Britain, The Netherlands, West Germany and East Germany, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Switzerland, Northern Ireland, Greece, New Zealand, and Nebraska (US)].

A first volume containing national reports was published by the Dutch Ministry of Justice and Kugler publications in 1994 (Josine Junger-Tas, Gert-Jan Telouw, and Malcolm W.Klein, *Delinquent Behavior among Young People in the Western World – First Results of the International Self-report Delinquency Study*).

A second volume, based on the merged dataset from eleven countries, contains comparative analyses and will be published later this year by Criminal Justice Press and Kugler Publications (Josine Junger-Tas, Ineke Haen Marshall and Denis Ribeaud, *Delinquency in an International Perspective – The International Self-report Delinquency Study*).

A second ISRD study is under consideration for several reasons:

- The interesting outcomes of the first survey, and the methodological lessons learned concerning comparative self-report measurement;
- Repeat studies will investigate trends in juvenile delinquent behaviour over time;
- Both the UN and the EU have shown interest in such a development. However, since the UN would require world-wide survey coverage, concentrating first on European countries, including the new EU member states, seems preferable. Other western states would be welcome to join.
- Many countries now regularly collect self-reported information on (types of) juvenile delinquent behaviour. As a consequence the methodology of self-report surveys has greatly improved.
- Comparisons between countries will show country differences in juvenile delinquency, but also similarities (as in the first ISRD);
- Cross-cultural comparison will be an invaluable tool to investigate stable correlates of crime and test criminological theories;
- Intra-country comparisons over time will allow policy makers to maintain, improve, or change national youth policies.

A first meeting of those interested in participating in the second ISRD study will be organised at the ESC conference in Helsinki (27-30 August 2003) where we will discuss such matters as methodology, funding, and coordination of the study. If interested, please contact one of the following: Jungertas@xs4all.nl, Martin.Killias@ipsc.unil.ch, Denis.Ribeaud@ipsc.unil.ch, IMarshall@mail.unomaha.edu

Scarman Centre



## Postgraduate Courses

**Campus Based -  
Full/Part Time**

**Commencing September 2003**

**MSc/PgD in:**

- Applied Criminology
- Clinical Criminology
- Criminology
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- Security & Organisational Risk Management
- MPhil/PhD by Research

**Distance Learning over  
two years**

**Commencing March & September  
each year**

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- Community Safety
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- Emergency Planning Management
- Forensic Investigation
- Health & Safety Management
- Police Leadership & Management
- Policing & Public Order Studies
- Risk, Crisis & Disaster Management
- Security & Risk Management
- Security Management

(Each module on the Security courses earns 3 CPP credits towards recertification and are accredited by ASIS)

**Foundation Degree in:**

- Security & Risk Management

**Certificate and Diploma in:**

- Security Management

**Scarman Centre  
Open Afternoons:**

**Friday 11 April, 16 May  
and 6 June**

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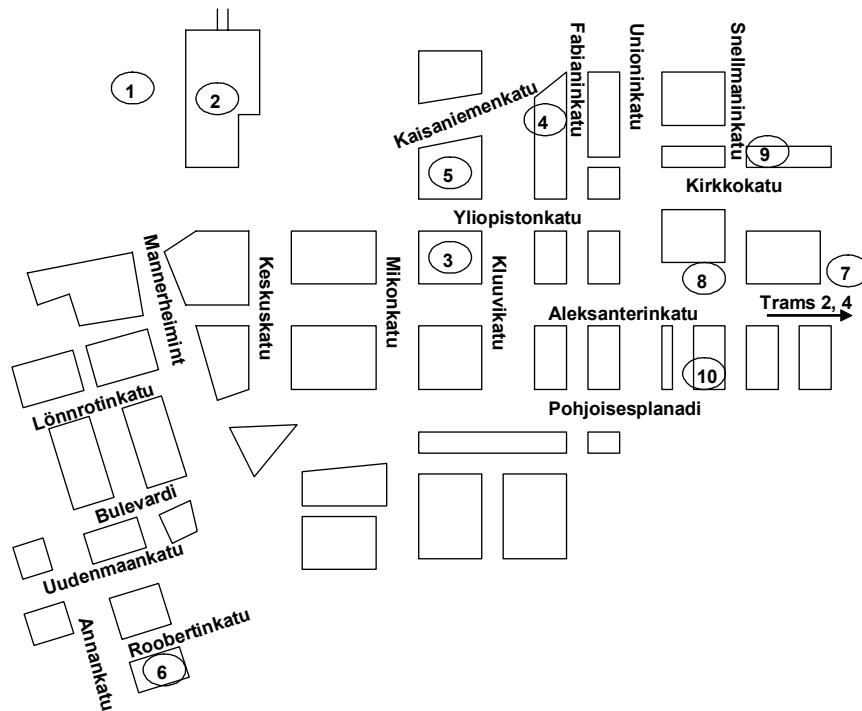
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## EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY CONFERENCE HELSINKI, FINLAND ● AUGUST 27 - 30, 2003

### Map of Conference Venue and Hotels

1. Holiday Inn City Centre
2. Central Railway Station
3. Sokos Hotel Helsinki
4. Cumulus Kaisaniemi
5. Porthania Building
6. Hotal Anna
7. Eurohostel
8. Senate Square
9. The House of Estates
10. Helsinki City Hall



### Travelling from Helsinki Airport to the Town Centre

#### By Bus

Take the Finnair bus (• 6.00 or 7.00) or a local bus no. 615 or 615T (around • 3.00) from in front of Helsinki Airport. Any of these will drop you in front of the city's main railway station. All the hotels recommended by the conference bureau are a short walk from there.

#### By Taxi

Taxis charge about •27.00-30.00 to go from the airport to the town centre. Group taxis are available for a flat fare of about • 18.00. It would therefore be more economical for groups of three or four people travelling to the same address to use these rather than the Finnair bus. This service is called 'The Yellow Line Taxi' and their booth is just outside the arrivals hall.

Finnish taxi drivers are generally exemplarily honest. The only exceptions are entrepreneurs driving unmarked 'unofficial' taxis. Stick to marked taxis.

### ESC Scientific Advisory Board

Proposals have been made for formation of an ESC Scientific Advisory Board that might perform a number of functions including (1) surveys of knowledge on European policy topics, (2) provision of scientific advice to the EU, (3) development of lists of subject-matter specialists to serve as reviewers for EU grant-making programmes, (4) development of research agendas on pressing European topics.

Precisely what functions might be performed, and how, and with what resource implications, are matters to be worked out.

The ESC board at its June 14 meeting in Leiden asked Josine Junger-Tas to chair a working committee that will consider the advisability of establishing a Scientific Advisory Board and formulate recommendations for consideration of the membership at the August 2004 annual meeting of the ESC in Amsterdam.

Anyone interested in participating in the working group should contact Josine <jungertas@xs4all.nl>.



## **CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE (CNRS) ADVANCED RESEARCH IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

At

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# European Journal of Criminology

## Summary of Main Points at the Board Meeting held on 20 May 2003

By David J. Smith

The first issue of the journal will appear in January 2004 and plans are well-advanced for the next few issues.

Georgios Papanicolaou, the new editorial assistant, is now on board and providing important and effective support.

The cover was finalised some time ago and can be seen (in black and white) on this page.

### Journal policy

The editorial board settled on the following statement of general principles of journal policy.

1. The scope of the journal should be broad. For example, it should cover both theory and policy, and both qualitative and quantitative methods.
2. The journal should make a particular effort to include contributions from the widest possible range of European countries.
3. Articles that simply describe policies adopted in particular countries should be excluded.
4. Submissions from outside Europe would be considered if they touched on issues of universal significance, or specifically European concerns.
5. Where appropriate, authors should be pressed to make clear the implications of their arguments or findings for policy.
6. The essential message of each article should be stated towards the beginning, and as far as possible reflected in the title.
7. The journal has a particular mission to support, encourage, and facilitate comparative research.

### International advisory board

The current membership of the advisory board is set out in table 1. The main function of the advisory board is to review submitted articles. Occasionally articles will be sent to outside referees.

### Referees

Reviewers will be given a short

period—normally three weeks—in which to provide a review, and will be asked to indicate immediately whether they can complete the review to that deadline. Care will be taken to avoid having articles reviewed by close associates or enemies of the author. In general an effort will be made to avoid using a reviewer from the same country as the author, although in some cases only a compatriot will have the relevant knowledge.

### Country surveys

Six country surveys have been commissioned so far: Republic of Ireland, France, Switzerland, Poland, Spain, and Greece. Drafts have been received for France and Poland. The guidelines to authors are strongly prescriptive. Authors indicate that firm guidance of this kind is welcome.

### First two issues

The first two issues will be around 50,000 words each, considerably shorter than originally expected. The layout will be much less cramped than

the model that was used as the basis for the earlier estimates. The editor has encouraged a number of longer

articles. The early issues will contain only four articles each, including a country survey.

### The editorial board

The editorial board should have five members (including the editor) but at present is one member short. The ESC board, which will take the final decision, has asked the EJC board to nominate someone,

and will probably accept the person nominated.

Once the full complement of members has been established, one member of the board will be replaced each year to maintain both turnover and continuity. The editor has been appointed for five years.

### Book reviews

For the time being the EJC will not include a conventional book review section. However, as an alternative, the editor will invite four scholars to choose a book that they consider important and each write a short review of it (around three pages).



**Table 1. European Journal of Criminology - Advisory board members**

|                        |                    |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Freder Adler           | Frieder Duenkal    | Terrie Moffitt     |
| Marcello Aebi          | James Finckenauer  | Eric Monkkonen     |
| Malin Åkerström        | Naryanan Ganapathy | David Nelken       |
| Anna Alvazzi del Frate | Uberto Gatti       | Greg Newbold       |
| Richard Bennett        | Henriette Haas     | Leitizia Paoli     |
| Mahesh Bhardwaj        | John Hagan         | Alenka Selih       |
| Catrien Bijleveld      | Janet Jackson      | Wesley Skogan      |
| Michel Born            | Martin Killias     | Per Strangeland    |
| Paul Brantingham       | John Laub          | Mercer Sullivan    |
| Adam Crawford          | Alison Liebling    | Andromachi Tseloni |
| François Dieu          | Jaques de Maillard | Hiroshi Tsutomi    |
| Jaqueline Domenach     | Cheryl Maxson      | Per-Olof Wikström  |
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Research and teaching in the Department is inspired by a broad concern with the study of crime and the connected issues of social cohesion and social justice. The Department is home to a number of internationally renowned scholars working on all aspects of crime, criminal justice and crime prevention from a broad social science perspective. Members of staff come from several countries across the EU and speak a number of European languages. Together with the Graduate School of Social Sciences we offer a wide range of courses and training programmes for young researchers. The beautiful rural campus of Keele University is situated between the cities of Manchester and Birmingham in the heart of the English Midlands, and offers all the advantages of a flourishing academic community of students and teachers.

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MCTS fellowships are funded by the European Union with the aim of giving doctoral students the opportunity to spend some time away from their home institutions at selected sites with proven excellence in research and research training. Between 2003 and 2005 the Department of Criminology at Keele offers a number of Marie Curie Fellowships to doctoral students from all over the EU, and Associated States, who want to pursue their studies in a broad range of topics related to community crime prevention. Fellows must not be UK nationals and must be registered on a doctoral programme at a non-UK university. They may study in the department for periods of between six months and a year. All fellows are welcome to take advantage of courses on the Department's taught MA programmes and to undertake research training in the Graduate School of Social Sciences.

**Your application is welcome at any time.** Applicants should contact the **MCTS Co-ordinator, Professor Susanne Karstedt** by email ([s.karstedt@crim.keele.ac.uk](mailto:s.karstedt@crim.keele.ac.uk)) or by post at the address given below.

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**Department of Criminology, Keele University, Keele Staffordshire, ST5 5BG, UK**  
[www.keele.ac.uk/depts/cr](http://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/cr)

# Criminology in Hungary *Continued from page 1*

## Origins of Hungarian criminology

Criminology developed in Hungary in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The following factors facilitated its development:

- The growth of criminality in the 1870s and 1880s.
- The collection and publication of statistical data, including a criminal database, began in 1872. Crime statistics were extended in 1904 to include the most important social factors, including education and literacy, and perpetrators' family circumstances.
- The influence of scientific developments of the time, in particular the work of Emile Durkheim, Gabriel Tarde, Cesare Lombroso, and Franz von Liszt.

Several influential criminal law professors, including Rusztem Vámbéry, Albert Irk, and Jenő Balogh, urged changes in responding to crime and treating criminals. They stressed that crime is not merely a legal, but also a social phenomenon. Prevention of crime was understood to involve institutions beyond criminal justice. Criminology, as a discipline separate from criminal law, became a recognised speciality.

## Main features of Hungarian criminology

*The positivist paradigm, particularly the sociological approach, is dominant.* The sociological view that crime is a form of human behaviour determined by various factors prevails. The positivist approaches that explain criminal behaviour as a socially determined act – that is, biological, psychological, or social approaches – receive less emphasis. Psychological or criminal-anthropological views are also less influential.

Hungarian criminological thought can be described in the same way during the so-called Kádár-regime, from the late 1950s to 1989. Crime was regarded as one among other social problems. Criminals were not seen as abnormal creatures or as enemies of socialism, and crime was not classified as a phenomenon alien

to the existing society.

A range of theories have been particularly influential since the 1970s: cultural deviance, Merton's anomie theory, and social interactionist views. Control theories have been less influential and consideration has only lately been given to environmental criminology, situational crime prevention, or opportunity theories. Alternative approaches, such as critical criminology, feminist theories, left realism, and peacemaking criminology, are discussed in academic settings, but do not play much of a role in explaining crime.

*Most Hungarian criminologists hold law degrees.* There are no separate criminology faculties or programmes and therefore there are no criminology degrees. Most university teachers and other specialists have law degrees. One may be classified as "criminologist" if the subject of one's Ph.D. or research interests focus on criminological issues or if one gives academic courses and lectures in criminology. My own professional life is typical. I am a Hungarian "criminologist". I have a law degree and I teach criminology and criminal law in the Faculty of Law at the University of Miskolc. My thesis focused on the relationships between drugs and crime. I supervise Ph.D. students conducting research in criminology.

This pattern exists because those who encouraged the recognition and establishment of criminology both originally and during its renaissance in the 1960s were criminal lawyers. Consequently, criminology, until recently, was offered only in law faculties and at the Police Officers' College.

The situation is changing. From the 1990s on, criminology courses have been offered to students of sociology and social work, and increasing numbers of students with degrees other than law participate in criminology Ph.D. programmes. This change is necessary and appropriate because of the inherent tensions between the dominance of the

sociological approach and the features and content of legal education.

Research on crime as a social phenomenon determined primarily by social factors presupposes knowledge of sociology and research methods. Sociology forms part of legal education in Hungary, but there is little time or space in law curricula for training in quantitative and qualitative research methods.

Criminologists' training influences the functions of criminology. 'Sociological criminology' aims at understanding, interpreting, and explaining the phenomenon in question. As Philippe Robert has explained, 'lawyers' criminology' strives primarily to contribute to the fight against crime and embraces the scientific tools of crime control policy. Hungarian 'lawyers' criminology' follows this pattern.

The content of lawyers' criminology is quite homogeneous. Hungarian criminologists generally try to influence the government to adopt a criminal policy that incorporates an inclusive image of society and emphasises humanity, the *ultima ratio* nature of criminal law, differences among perpetrators, and the rehabilitation of delinquents, and also includes preventive measures.

In the case of the socialist-liberal government in power since May 2002, this effort seems to be fruitful, as the government put an end to the 'get tough' criminal policy of the previous government. The minister of justice, Péter Bárányi, who earlier was a defence lawyer, is one of the founding members and a member of the board of directors of the Hungarian Society for Criminology. The high commissioner in charge of criminal policy and crime prevention, Professor Katalin Gönczöl, is an internationally recognised and respected criminologist.

Studies of society's reaction to law-breaking have been few in number. Several, however, have been carried out in legal sociology and the sociology of criminal law. Recognition of criminal justice as a research speciality in criminology, or as a new

*Continued on next page*

# Criminology in Hungary *Continued from previous page*

discipline, will require some time.

## *The development of Hungarian criminology is intermittent.*

Criminology deals with unpleasant and troublesome issues including breaking of laws, disorganised communities, frustrated and deprived social groups, unsuccessful persons, social tensions, critics of criminal policy and the criminal justice system, and the absence of state guarantees for personal safety as a civil right. Many people in power, especially those of authoritarian inclination, are not willing or able to face the seamy sides of society. To them it seems obvious to “break the mirror”, to limit and prohibit research on unpleasant facts, or to set obstacles in front of criminology and sociology.

During the last hundred years, authoritarian and dictatorial regimes were not rare. Consequently, Hungary could not produce a continuous development of criminology, or of generations of criminologists.

During the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy (1867-1918), freedom of speech and science was respected. Hungarian criminology reached a high level in a short period and was in harmony with international trends in theory and empirical research. Between the two world wars, development ceased. Crime became seen primarily as a legal phenomenon, and its social aspects and its study as human behaviour received little attention. After the end of the Second World War, the works of István Schäfer, in particular on drug problems and white-collar crime, revived criminological research. This stopped after 1948 when the proletarian dictatorship took power.

During the proletarian dictatorship, criminology became a victim of the theory of vulgar Marxism. The regime, calling itself socialist, was superior to capitalism, since the main characteristic of capitalism, the exploitation in the production of goods, was absent. “Speculative criminology” (Szabó 2003) in the Soviet Union claimed that criminality was extraneous to socialism, as the social reasons for it were absent. Any

remaining criminality was explained by residual capitalism in the consciousness of the people and, crime, it was asserted, would become

## **During the proletarian dictatorship, criminology became a victim of the theory of vulgar Marxism.**

extinct with the spread and flowering of socialism.

Accordingly, until the 1950s, criminology was proscribed and, as a result, disappeared from legal education. Subsequently, István Schäfer left Hungary and, as Stephen Schafer, became a well-known and respected expert on victimology at Northeastern University.

The first years of consolidation, after the 1956 revolution, allowed a rebirth of Hungarian criminology. It became a discipline with gradually extended freedom from the early 1960s, and has expanded since the end of the 1980s owing to the lack of ideological limitations.

The rebirth was based on several things:

- Gradual elimination of dictatorial power, and discontinuation of the voluntarist social aspect of the proletarian dictatorship during the 1950s.
- Proponents of the vulgar Marxist theory of crime became less influential. Scientific debates considered to which discipline the study of crime and criminality belonged.
- Other disciplines, such as criminal law sciences, sociology, and psychology revived.
- A common police-prosecutorial statistical database on recorded crime was introduced from January 1964.
- Criminology was introduced as a required course in law faculties.

By the mid 1960s crime was generally accepted as an indispensable social phenomenon relating to “socialist relations”, determined primarily by social factors, and the

study of crime was seen as the *raison d’être* of criminology, a separate discipline. Criminological research developed from the late 1960s, comprising “discovering criminality in Hungary” (as expressed by András Szabó) and critical analysis of the social and economic structure. These analyses did not question the “socialist” regime itself, but examined its controversies, tensions, and problems.

During the Kádár regime the statistical database on registered crime, excellent even by international comparisons, became accessible for experts, and data could be cited in publications. The Prosecutor General issued a yearly press release on crime trends and patterns. However, no regular national victim surveys were conducted nor have been since.

Changes in the regime since 1989 have encouraged the improvement of criminology, through the broadening of freedom and pluralism, and also because of the increase in criminality. The rate of registered crime per 100,000 inhabitants was 1748 in 1988; 2129 in 1989; 4326 in 1992; 5926 in 1998; and 4566 in 2001. Explanations for the sharp increase, immediately after political changes, and its stabilisation at a much higher level, represent great challenges (e.g., Miklós Lévy 2000; Ugljesa Zvekcic and Imre Kertész 2000). The need for “re-discovering criminality in Hungary” and critiques of the social and economic structure have again emerged. These developments and updating of education and training in criminology assured the development of the Hungarian criminology.

*Openness and intensive international relations strengthen Hungarian criminology.* Participation of criminologists in international meetings has played an important role since the 1960s. This participation was not confined to relations with the respective institutions of other “socialist countries.” Scholarships and support from foreign research institutes and experts enabled Hungarian researchers to participate in seminars and research in western

countries. Denis Szabó, the Hungarian-Canadian Professor at the School of Criminology, University of Montreal, gave especially valuable support to Hungarian criminology and criminologists for three decades.

Since the early 1980s, Hungary has hosted many criminology seminars. The most important was the XI World Congress of the International Society for Criminology, organised jointly by the International Society of Criminology and the Hungarian Society for Criminology, on 22-27 August 1993, in Budapest.

However, there remains room for improvement in building international relations. Most vital would be to increase participation of Hungarian research groups and criminologists in cross-national research and comparative studies.

### Education and research

Although there are no separate degree programmes, criminology is offered as a required course in law faculties and at the Police Officers' College. There are eight law faculties. Three are in Budapest: (1) ELTE (Eötvös Loránd Egyetem) Law Faculty, (2) Catholic Law Faculty, (3) Protestant Law Faculty. The others are in (4) Pécs, (5) Szeged, (6) Miskolc, (7) Győr and (8) Debrecen. A separate department of criminology exists only at Eötvös Loránd University. The founder was Prof. József Vigh, now an emeritus professor. The current head of department is Dr. István Tauber. Other teachers are Professor Katalin Gönczöl and Dr. Klára Kerezsi. The main research fields are restorative justice, non-custodial sanctions, crime prevention, minorities and crime, and social change and crime. The department offers a Ph.D. programme on victims of crime and the criminal justice system.

The department of criminal law and criminology at the University of Miskolc, under the umbrella of the Institute of Criminal Sciences, is responsible for the courses in criminology (see also [www.uni-miskolc.hu/law](http://www.uni-miskolc.hu/law)). I direct the institute. Dr. Ilona Görgényi, head of department, and Dr. Erika Váradi, deputy head, also contribute actively. The main research subjects include

democratisation and crime, drugs and crime, organised crime, victims of violent crime, restorative justice, juvenile delinquency, regional crime surveys, and crime prevention in the European Union and the EU member states. The Institute of Criminal Sciences offers a Ph.D. programme in the listed areas.

At the University of Pécs, the department of criminal law and criminology offers criminology courses. Criminology was introduced by Dr. József Földvári, professor emeritus. Professor László Korinek, an authority on dark figures of crime, is responsible for the criminology courses and the Ph.D. programme. The main research comprises architectural crime prevention, victim

of the Chief Prosecutor's Office. Its expenses are borne by the chief prosecutor's Office, and the head and researchers are appointed by the Chief Prosecutor. Its research concerns the activities of the prosecution service, but other issues are investigated. The head of the institute is Professor Ferenc Irk (previous heads were Dr. József Gödöny and Dr. László Pusztai), and the deputy head is Dr. György Virág. The 24 researchers include not only lawyers but also sociologists, psychologists, economists, and historians. There are two units: the department of criminology under the direction of Dr. Klára Kerezsi, and the criminal law department under the direction of Dr. Géza Finszter.

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## The most significant research fields of the National Institute of Criminology include criminality within the Roma community, corruption, crime prevention theories and strategies, organised crime and criminality in Central-Eastern Europe ...

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surveys, and dark figures of crime.

Criminology instruction, but no Ph.D. programme, is offered by the criminal law departments of the other law faculties.

Criminology is presented as a two-semester course in two faculties, the ELTE Law Faculty and the Catholic Law Faculty, and is offered as a one-semester course at the rest. Criminology lectures are enhanced by small group seminars, required at the ELTE law faculty, and optional at others. Finally, criminology is an obligatory two-semester course at the Police Officers' College.

As required curriculum, only textbooks by Hungarian authors (Vigh 1992; Gönczöl, Korinek és Lévy eds., 1996) were available until the publication of a Hungarian translation of an American textbook in 2000 (Adler, Mueller, and Laufer 1998).

### *National Institute of Criminology.*

The sole institute in Hungary expressly devoted to criminological and criminalistic research was established in 1960 (see also [www.okri.hu](http://www.okri.hu)). It is under the umbrella

The most significant research fields include criminality within the Roma community, corruption, crime prevention theories and strategies, organised crime and criminality in Central-Eastern Europe, crime and violence within the family, victims of rape and sexual harassment, and traffic crime. The institute has been involved in an international comparative study on insecurities in European cities organised by the University of Hamburg with financial help from the European Union. The Institute boasts a 10,000 volume library. The Institute's annual journal, 'Kriminológiai Tanulmányok' (*Essays in Criminology*), is published in Hungarian, and has 40 volumes in print.

Criminological research is also conducted at the Institute of Legal Sciences at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and at the Law Enforcement Research Institute, under the umbrella of the Ministry of the Interior. Most articles appear in the periodical 'Belügyi Szemle' (*Law Enforcement Review*) published by the Ministry.

*Continued on next page*

## Criminology in Hungary *Continued from previous page*

The most interesting and important are gathered into a 'Best of...' volume, which is published annually in English (see [bszemle@bm.gov.hu](mailto:bszemle@bm.gov.hu) for more information). The periodical of the Institute of Criminal Sciences of the University of Miskolc, 'Bűnügyi Tudományi Közlemények' (*Proceedings of Criminal Sciences*) also includes work in criminology. However, no Hungarian journal is devoted solely to criminology.

Despite all the research conducted at diverse places there are no strongly distinctive approaches in Hungarian criminology. One is more likely to find differences in the interests of individual departments and institutes.

*Hungarian Society for Criminology.* This is the most significant society in the field of criminal sciences. It was established on May 26, 1983. The society gathers experts of criminology, victimology, and other areas concerning criminality, crime prevention, and criminal policy (see also [www.kriminologia.hu](http://www.kriminologia.hu)). The society has nearly 400 members, including not only university teachers and researchers, but also police officers, correctional officers, judges, prosecutors, defence lawyers, sociologists, and social workers. The president is Dr. András Szabó, retired judge of the Constitutional Court, member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and professor of criminology at the Protestant Law Faculty in Budapest. The general secretary is Dr. Katalin Gönczöl. Previous presidents were Dr. Tibor Király and Dr. József Gödöny.

The society's activities are diverse. They include organisation of regular professional debates on criminal justice bills, criminal policy plans, and crime prevention programmes. It bi-annually organises national meetings, and provides a forum for criminal policy makers and heads of law enforcement agencies. Generally, the papers presented are published in the 60-volume-strong 'Kriminológiai Közlemények' (*Proceedings of Criminology*).

During its 20 years of existence, the society has organised several

international meetings, the latest being the ISC 65<sup>th</sup> Seminar on the *New Tendencies in Crime and Criminal Policy in Central and Eastern Europe*, organised jointly with the institute of criminal sciences of the University of Miskolc, held in Miskolc between 11-14 March 2003. Papers presented will appear in English in a special issue of *Proceedings of Criminology* in Autumn 2003.

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*Professor Miklós Lévay is director of the Institute of Criminal Sciences and dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Miskolc, Hungary.*

## President-elect *Continued from page 1*

networks and editorial boards (*Punishment and Society, Déviance et Société*) and has been Editor in Chief of the Dutch language scientific



Sonja Snacken

journal *Panopticon*. She has written several books and international publications on sentencing, penal

inflation, prison overcrowding, prisoners' rights, criminal and victim-oriented policy. She acts as an expert to the Council of Europe, having been elected to the Criminological Scientific Council (1996-1999) and the Council for Penological Cooperation (2001-2004). In addition, she has participated in inspections of places of detention throughout Europe for the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT).

She has been a consultant to the Belgian Ministry of Justice on prison matters since 1994 and is actively involved in the training of judges in Belgium and France. She has published many books and articles in Dutch, French, and English.

Besides Professor Snacken's obvious status and suitability for the job, her nomination will enable the society to pursue its aim of rotating the presidency among different areas of Europe. ■



## What Can U.S. Prisons Teach Europe *Continued from page 3*

programmes for about two-thirds of its prisoners, and other work and education for all but 10 percent of the population. It provided extensive substance abuse and sex offender therapy at rates of around \$80 per day. Savings are achieved through reductions in security staff and by the use of technology. There are few successful prison escapes, and only limited use is made of armed perimeter guards. Institutions often have a single armed vehicle patrolling the perimeter, and one or two members of staff controlling entry and exit.

Size matters. Most prisons I visited had larger work and classroom areas than I have seen in Europe, and higher ratios of instructors and tutors. Prisoners are free to move around most facilities and there is little escorting of prisoners. Access to areas within prisons is usually controlled by a series of control rooms where prison officers sit in front of huge panels of flashing lights which control upwards of two hundred locks.

A smaller jail in Hennepin County, built in 2001 for 900 prisoners, primarily pretrial detainees, but operating at about 550 prisoners with an annual throughput of 45,000, was able to maintain a \$135 per diem. This involved extensive use of cameras, good building design, and "direct supervision" in which one officer had sole responsibility for 64 prisoners on a unit.

Technology has provided significant savings, especially for security. Even medium security establishments make extensive use of cameras. This may not mean reductions in safety. In one newly built establishment, I watched managers review the automated recording of an incident which had passed unseen by the officers on the unit, identify the assailant, and remove him from the unit. Even with much higher ratios of staff to prisoners, a similar incident in the UK would be less likely to be resolved as decisively.

In one establishment a finger print recognition system accounted for all staff on duty and helped guard against escapes. The huge US corrections

market makes this sort of technology easily accessible. The equipment had been provided as a free add-on to the existing e-mail system.

A local jail gave each of its 43,000 receptions an indestructible plastic identity bracelet with a photograph and bar code storing details of their personal account at the prison shop.

Attention to costs results in constant "questioning" of custom and practice – a jail I visited did not routinely strip search prisoners as part of its entry process, having decided there was little security gain. Similarly, chemical irritants have largely replaced the use of other forms of force, resulting in fewer staff and prisoner injuries.

In Washington State, cost-benefit analysis has become a science and signals a more constructive legislative approach. The legislature funded research on the relative effectiveness of each dollar spent on 400 US and Canadian programmes. Therapeutic programmes (particularly those emphasizing family involvement) produce the highest overall gains for victims compared with programmes that are purely surveillance-based. The latter produced neither crime reductions nor gains for victims. Although juvenile boot camps provide value for money to tax payers they produce no long-term benefits in reducing victimization.

Probation and prison services are managed in some states by a single 'corrections' agency, leading to much greater cooperation and integration. This is particularly effective in the management of sex offenders on discharge. In Minnesota a three-tier risk assessment system provides a balanced response between community safety and successful re-entry through the use of extensive community notification and education programs. High-risk offenders are required to have their photographs posted on a special website and attend community meetings alongside department officials who educate the public about the benefits of the system. Despite the strong emotions that these meetings provoke, released offenders have not suffered the

vigilante attacks that occur in the UK.

The use of 'civil commitment' for released offenders deemed to be a grave risk to the public allows confinement to day care or secure hospital until the former prisoner successfully completes a period of treatment, providing a sensible response to management of risk when there has been limited response to treatment measures.

### Continuing Problems

The huge prison population has collateral effects - especially the management of 635,000 discharges every year from state and federal systems. In general the system is getting worse. As prison populations increase, funds have been shrinking. Many successful prison and re-entry programmes have been cut, including, in Minnesota, the first department to create a restorative justice division and other measures which contribute to the lowest incarceration rate of all US states. Prisoners released under supervision have lower rates of recidivism. However, an increasing trend, driven by a public perception that prisoners should serve their entire sentence, is to replace supervision with longer periods in custody.

### Conclusion

Crime rates have been rising sharply in the UK at a time when they have fallen in the US, yet both countries have almost doubled their prison populations over the last 10 years. Rising prison populations in the U.S. have drawn resources away from other crime reduction measures and have coincided with the increasing use of punitive measures towards offenders in custody and on release. Because criminal justice policies are driven by political motives, they often take little notice of evidence about what best reduces crime victimization. American prisons are becoming cheaper to run as greater efficiencies are introduced, but successful programmes are being eliminated.

Minnesota has for a long time stood out from the crowd: it has the

*Continued on next page*

# The International Crime Victimization Survey Continued from page 3

surveys broadly parallels those shown in official data for the individual countries and follow a broadly similar pattern across countries (Nieuwbeerta 2002). Overall ICVS data suggest that crime rates in most countries rose

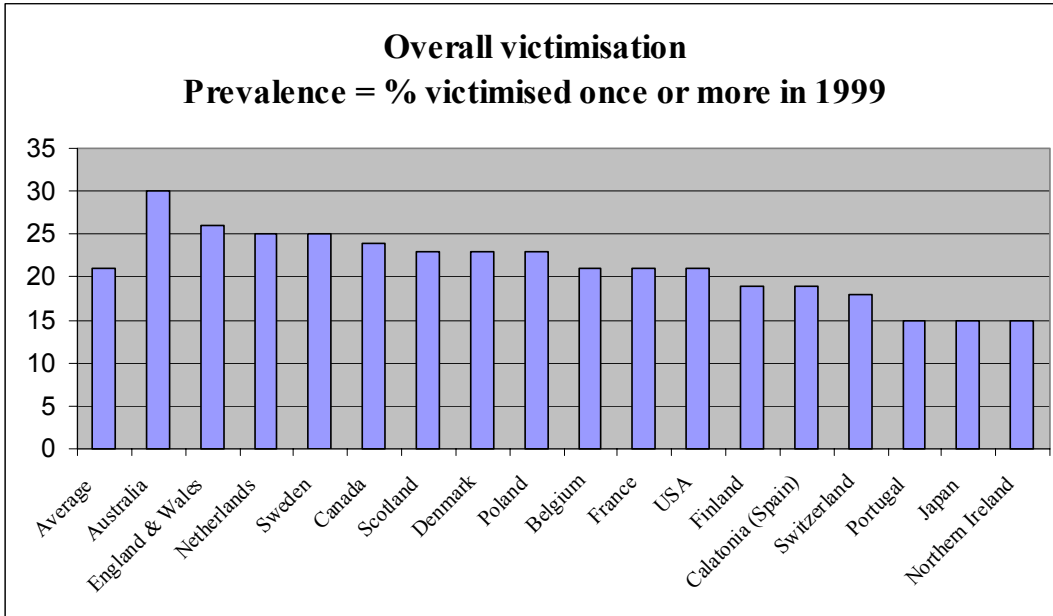
Canada and the United States have changed position markedly beginning with comparatively high crime rates in 1989 but, after falls in the 1990s, having comparatively low rates in 2000.

Nieuwbeerta, Paul, ed. 2002. *Crime Victimization in Comparative Perspective*. The Hague: Boom Juridische Uitgevers.

Van Dijk, Jan, Pat Mayhew, and Martin Killias. 1990. *Experiences of Crime across the World: Key findings from the 1989 International Crime Survey*. Deventer: Kluwer.

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van Kesteren, John, Pat Mayhew, and Paul Nieuwbeerta. 2000. *Criminal*



between 1988 and 91, had stabilised or fallen by 1995, and had fallen some more by 1999. Detailed patterns vary from country to country but this is the dominant pattern (see table 1 on facing page).

Table 1 shows findings on prevalence rates for all eleven crimes combined plus for the individual offences of car theft, burglary, personal theft, and assault for the ten European countries that participated in three or more of the surveys and for the United States.

Paralleling official data, the decline in crime rates for the U.S. began in 1989 and continued in the ensuing surveys. The more general pattern, however, is for declines beginning in the second or third surveys.

Throughout the course of all four surveys the countries that have typically ranked highest in overall victimisation rates have been Australia, the Netherlands, and England and Wales. Those typically ranking lowest have been Japan, Northern Ireland, and Finland. Only

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Mayhew, Pat, and Jan van Dijk. 1997. *Criminal Victimization in Eleven Industrialised Countries: Key findings from the 1996 International Crime Victims Survey*. The Hague: WODC.

*Victimisation in Seventeen Industrialised Countries: Key findings from the 2000 International Crime Victims Survey*. The Hague: WODC.

Zvekic, Ugljesa. 1998. *Criminal Victimization in Countries in Transition*. Rome: UNICRI. ■

## U.S. Prisons Continued from previous page

lowest incarceration rates, the highest levels of regime provision, and countless examples of innovative and resourceful programs within its corrections system. Here too ground is being lost as budget cuts have led to increased use of double cells and whole programmes being lost.

This one small state provides a potential example not only to the rest of the US, but also to European managers seeking ways to improve regime provision without additional expenditure and without loss of public confidence in prison safety.

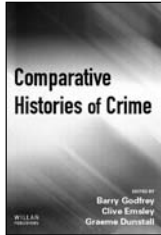
Ultimately all criminal justice systems should be judged by the outcomes they produce in reducing further offending and protecting victims, and by their cost. ■

*Steve Hall is a governor, England and Wales Prison Service, spending a year in the United States on a Fulbright Fellowship.*

**Table 1. Victimization in the Years Preceding the 1989, 1992, 1996, and 2000 Surveys.  
(percent of Respondents Victimized Once or More)**

|                            |      | All crimes | Car theft | Burglary | Personal theft | Assault & threats |
|----------------------------|------|------------|-----------|----------|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Belgium</b>             | 1989 | 17.7       | 0.8       | 2.3      | 4.0            | 2.1               |
|                            | 1992 | 19.3       | 1.0       | 2.1      | 3.1            | 1.8               |
|                            | 2000 | 21.4       | 0.7       | 2.0      | 4.1            | 3.2               |
| <b>England &amp; Wales</b> | 1989 | 19.4       | 1.8       | 2.1      | 3.1            | 1.9               |
|                            | 1992 | 30.2       | 3.7       | 3.0      | 4.2            | 3.8               |
|                            | 1996 | 30.9       | 2.5       | 3.0      | 5.0            | 5.9               |
|                            | 2000 | 26.4       | 2.1       | 2.8      | 4.6            | 6.1               |
| <b>Finland</b>             | 1989 | 15.9       | 0.4       | 0.6      | 4.3            | 2.9               |
|                            | 1992 | 21.2       | 0.7       | 0.6      | 3.4            | 4.4               |
|                            | 1996 | 18.9       | 0.4       | 0.6      | 3.2            | 4.1               |
|                            | 2000 | 19.1       | 0.4       | 0.3      | 3.3            | 4.2               |
| <b>France</b>              | 1989 | 19.4       | 2.4       | 2.4      | 3.6            | 2.0               |
|                            | 1996 | 25.5       | 1.6       | 2.3      | 4.0            | 3.9               |
|                            | 2000 | 21.4       | 1.7       | 1.0      | 3.0            | 4.2               |
| <b>Netherlands</b>         | 1989 | 26.8       | 0.3       | 2.4      | 4.4            | 3.3               |
|                            | 1992 | 31.3       | 0.5       | 2.0      | 4.6            | 4.0               |
|                            | 1996 | 31.5       | 0.4       | 2.6      | 6.8            | 4.0               |
|                            | 2000 | 25.2       | 0.4       | 1.9      | 4.7            | 3.4               |
| <b>Northern Ireland</b>    | 1989 | 14.9       | 1.6       | 1.1      | 2.2            | 1.8               |
|                            | 1996 | 16.8       | 1.6       | 1.5      | 2.5            | 1.7               |
|                            | 2000 | 15.0       | 1.2       | 1.7      | 2.2            | 3.0               |
| <b>Poland</b>              | 1992 | 27.0       | 0.7       | 2.1      | 8.1            | 4.2               |
|                            | 1996 | 22.9       | 0.9       | 2.0      | 5.6            | 3.7               |
|                            | 2000 | 22.7       | 1.0       | 2.0      | 5.3            | 2.8               |
| <b>Scotland</b>            | 1989 | 18.6       | 0.8       | 2.0      | 2.6            | 1.8               |
|                            | 1996 | 25.6       | 1.7       | 1.5      | 4.5            | 4.2               |
|                            | 2000 | 23.2       | 0.7       | 1.5      | 4.6            | 6.1               |
| <b>Sweden</b>              | 1992 | 21.5       | 1.7       | 1.4      | 4.2            | 2.7               |
|                            | 1996 | 24.0       | 1.2       | 1.3      | 4.6            | 4.5               |
|                            | 2000 | 24.7       | 1.3       | 1.7      | 5.8            | 3.8               |
| <b>Switzerland</b>         | 1989 | 15.6       | 0.0       | 1.0      | 4.5            | 1.2               |
|                            | 1996 | 26.7       | 0.1       | 1.3      | 5.7            | 3.1               |
|                            | 2000 | 18.2       | 0.3       | 1.1      | 4.4            | 2.4               |
| <b>USA</b>                 | 1989 | 28.9       | 2.1       | 3.8      | 4.5            | 5.4               |
|                            | 1992 | 26.1       | 2.6       | 3.1      | 5.3            | 4.7               |
|                            | 1996 | 24.2       | 1.9       | 2.6      | 3.9            | 5.7               |
|                            | 2000 | 21.1       | 0.5       | 1.8      | 4.9            | 3.4               |

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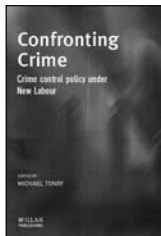


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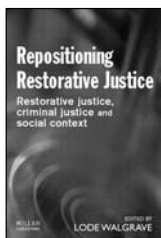


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