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STOCHASTIC MODELING OF THE NETWORK INTRUSION DETECTION THRESHOLD

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Purpose: The aim of this paper is to present a new approach to creating a successful system for detecting intrusions on computer networks based on stochastic modeling.

Design/Methods/Approach: In this research, we propose a novel intrusion detection system modeled with General Split-BREAK (GSB) process. Firstly, theoretical assumptions and analysis of intrusion detection system (IDS) are described, followed by a description of the stochastic model of IDS using the General Split-BREAK (GSB) process. In the proposed model, a statistical estimation of the detection threshold is obtained. Finally, the numerical simulation and analysis of the intrusion detection performance of the proposed model are discussed.

Findings: The results of the presented research clearly state that using stochastically obtained thresholds in the IDS improves their efficiency in the sense that the total number of undetected or false intrusion detections is reduced.

Originality/Value: In this paper, we present a novel, stochastic-based model of IDS where the General Split-BREAK (GSB) process is utilized. It was shown that this model can improve the efficiency of IDS, therefore initiating its practical software implementation.

Keywords: stochastic modeling, IDS, General Split-BREAK process, false detection.

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Vladica Stojanović is a full professor at the Department of Informatics and Computer Sciences of the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies. He graduated from the Mathematics Department of the Faculty of Philosophy in Niš in 1995, completed his master's degree at the Mathematics Department of the Faculty of Sciences in Niš in 2004, and received his doctorate in 2007 at the Faculty of Sciences in Kosovska Mitrovica. He does research in Statistics and Probability Theory, Data Analytics and Computational Physics. So far, he has published more than eighty articles and communications, twenty-seven of which are on the SCI list.

Mihailo Jovanović, minister of information and telecommunications, graduated from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Belgrade as one of the best students of his generation, where he also received a master's degree in electrical engineering. He finished his second PhD degree in the Department of Informatics and Computer Science, University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies, Belgrade. Since the establishment of the Office for Information Technologies and Electronic Administration of the Government of the Republic of Serbia in 2017, he has been its director. His main research interests are electronic communications and the digital transformation of public administration. The results of his work are continuously published in international scientific journals and conferences.

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COMPLICITY AMONG FEMALE PERPETRATORS OF CRIMES, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO CASES FROM THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

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Purpose: Historical teachings and attempts to understand female's overall participation in criminality have shown us that at certain moments, the idea that science had about women's participation was reduced to her inciting or helping in the commission of criminality. Namely, it is considered that the "chivalrous" behaviour of the man contributed to less and less frequent detection of the criminal behaviour of the woman. One of the characteristics that prevails in the majority of cases when a woman appears as the perpetrator of a crime is that she does not do it alone. In women, the affect prevails and she is independent in the role of a criminal when it is done in affection, especially when committing murders or serious physical injuries to an intimate partner or a close person, but when she seriously engages in criminal, recidivist, and professional activities, she is usually accompanied by other persons, so she occurs as a co-perpetrator or as an accomplice in the crime. We think that this topic is interesting to consider for the reasons that the overall statistics might be very different in relation to the total participation of women in criminality if they are left alone at any moment, and also depending on who appears in the role of a co-perpetrator. Through an analysis of the theoretical understanding of the problem and statistics in our country, we want to check whether such understandings are correct and whether we could contribute to the understanding and prevention of female crime in North Macedonia and the neighborhood.

Design/Methods/Approach: For this purpose, we will use historical methods for analyzing the developments of some theories and findings on this topic. We will use the comparative method for comparative analysis and searching for good practices; the case study method for analyzing some cases in the Republic of North Macedonia; we will present and comment on statistics and numbers of total female participation in criminal activities in North Macedonia and we will analyze cases of complicity.

Findings: Through previous research on women as perpetrators of crimes, we know that their participation in the total performance of criminality is significantly lower than men's – up to 20 percent worldwide. The reasons are diverse and related to various etiological theories and understandings of criminality, but the focus in overall criminological analyses is always placed on men, precisely because of the low representation of women. Thus, the factors that contribute to participation have actually been analyzed poorly. For those reasons, we believe that prevention methods are inadequate. One of the reasons for a woman's participation in crime is the influence of a male figure or other persons who force or recruit her for criminal acts. Since this aspect is poorly researched, especially in our climate, we want to review this etiological problem.

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Originality/Value: By connecting the previous theoretical knowledge in this area and the domestic statistics, we believe that we will contribute to paving the path for a better preventive mechanism. The subject has been researched globally, but regionally and nationally, very poorly. Through this paper, we want to contribute to enriching this field of research and learning how to handle this specific etiological factor.

Keywords: woman, perpetrator, co-perpetrator, crime, accomplice, North Macedonia.

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CRIMINALIZATION OF ASSISTING SUICIDE VIEWED THROUGH THE PRISM OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE

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Purpose: The right to life is the most fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia and a number of international treaties. It belongs to the range of human rights that cannot be derogated from. However, there are inherent limitations to the right to life. Therefore, the dilemma arises whether the right to life, one of the non-derogatory rights in which certain inherent limitations are incorporated, is of an absolute character. If deprivation of life is allowed in some situations, does that, by the nature of things, deny it its absolute character? There are numerous decisions of the European Court of Human Rights that we will deal with on this occasion and try to determine how a right that is limited by its very definition (Article 2, paragraph 2 of the ECHR) can be of an absolute nature. A special place will be taken by the analysis of the decision of the Federal Constitutional Court of Germany, in which we find that the criminalization of assisting suicide is unconstitutional. Also, of great importance is the ECtHR decision *Mortier v. Belgium*, which for the first time examined whether the act of euthanasia was in accordance with the ECHR and where the nature and scope of the state's positive obligations (material and procedural) based on Article 2 were clarified in a very specific context.

Design/Methods/Approach: The work will be divided into several parts. The first part will deal with the provisions that guarantee the right to life in the most important international sources and the provision of Article 24 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, with a special emphasis on the ECHR and the limitations of that right arising from the Convention itself. The second part opens the legal-philosophical dilemma of whether a person's right to self-determination provides an opportunity for a person to decide on his own death. In this connection, Article 119 of the Criminal Code of Serbia is being considered in particular. The third part provides an overview of the practice of the ECtHR as a basis for passing a final judgment on the character of Article 2 of the ECHR and Article 24 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia. And in the fourth part, we have a discussion, followed by conclusions. The author uses the legal-dogmatic method, the method of comparative, formal-logical analysis, and the case study method.

Findings: Proceeding from the provisions of the Constitution of the RS and the provisions of the ECHR, as well as the basic features of criminal law and Article 3 of the Criminal Code, which states that the protection of human beings and other basic social values is the basis and limit for determining criminal acts, prescribing criminal sanctions, and their application, to the extent in which it is necessary to suppress those acts, we come to a conclusion about the character of the right to life.

Originality/Value: The topic is of importance both nationally and internationally and can resolve numerous newly opened dilemmas related to criminal-law protection.

Keywords: right to life, absolute character, fundamental right, restrictions, ECHR, assisted suicide, death penalty, deadly force, abortion.

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Dragana Kolarić, PhD, is a full professor at the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies and the Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Serbia.

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EDUCATION OF MIGRANT AND REFUGEE CHILDREN IN SERBIA AS PROTECTION FROM CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES

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Purpose: Analysis of the position of migrant and refugee children in Serbia as members of a marginalized group, which might be, without governmental efforts, almost completely excluded from the entire social environment and education, on top of which is systematically exposed to violence by other migrants, smugglers, and the police. About 10 percent of them are unaccompanied children. On the so-called Balkan route, they travel to Western Europe for an average of four and a half years, not knowing the local languages; many of them do not even know any other language than their mother tongue. During that period, many remain “stranded”, unable to continue their journey between strictly guarded borders, run out of money, and become particularly vulnerable to violence and a range of group criminal activities and actions by individuals.

Design/Methods/Approach: The used data are collected by desk research of academic texts, research findings, reports of international and local humanitarian organizations, legal provisions, administration, and media in Serbian and English. These referred to the situation from the closure of the Balkan route at the beginning of 2016 until the present. By engaging educational institutions in Serbia in 2016, 98% of children from the migrant population were included in the education system. Inclusion in the education system may represent a solid barrier to further victimization of migrant and refugee children, and what is important is that what they learn here will be of practical use wherever they go.

Findings: It is pointed out that migrant and refugee children have the same right to education as any other child in the world. Although education is a basic human right, migrant children and asylum seekers during the refugee journey still face obstacles in accessing any education due to language barriers and ethnic differences, unresolved legal status, experience of wars, cumulative stress and trauma, and a lack of social adaptation.

Originality/Value: Bearing in mind that children and adolescents have the right to equal access to quality, inclusive learning opportunities, the conclusion is that governments must increase efforts to enroll migrant children in regular schools, including improving school capacity and providing language/social support to children and their guardians. It is also necessary to strengthen the child protection system in order to prevent all forms of violence, exploitation, and abuse.

Keywords: migrant children, violence, cumulative stress, schooling, opportunities for inclusive learning, language support.

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About the authors

Zorica Mršević, PhD, is a retired principal scientific fellow of the Institute of Social Sciences, author of 24 books and over 400 scientific papers in the fields of violence theory, gender equality, human rights of women and other marginalized groups, and criminology. She was the deputy of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Serbia for gender equality. She taught Comparative Feminist Jurisprudence at the University of Iowa, and Theory of Violence and Women's Human Rights at the Central European University in Budapest. She now teaches Gender Studies and Phenomenology of Violence at the Faculty of European Legal and Political Studies.

Svetlana Janković, PhD candidate, was an officer of the Serbian Army by profession, with the rank of lieutenant colonel (employed in 1989). Until her retirement, she worked at the Institute for Strategic Research of the Ministry of Defense. She was a member of the working team (twice: 2010-2015 and 2016-2020) of the Government of the Republic of Serbia for the development of the National Action Plan for the implementation of Resolution "Women, Peace, Security" 1325 of the UN Security Council. She holds a master's degree in the field of defense, security, and protection sciences and is a doctoral student at the School of Engineering Management. She is the winner of the Anđelka Milić Award in 2018 for outstanding contributions to the advancement of gender equality.

PUNISHMENT IN THE PRE-ZONE OF ENDANGERING THE PROTECTED VALUE - PRO AT CONTRA?

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Purpose: In this paper, the authors try to point out and explain the legal nature and quality of the exceptions to the general rule that the criminal justice system is only initiated at certain stages of the commission of a criminal offence. As modern serious forms of crime require a more effective criminal law response, states often seek changes in the area of substantive criminal law in order to facilitate the processes of solving and proving the mentioned criminal offences. The main purpose and goal of this paper is to determine how justified the aforementioned activities are and what the difference is between the demands of criminal policy and the accepted dogmatic solutions.

Design/Methods/Approach: The paper will be organized into three chapters, besides the introductory remarks and the conclusion. The first chapter will deal with the peculiarities of the stage in the execution of the criminal offence as a separate punishable stage in the criminal progression. The second will deal with the frequent interventions of legislators in the Republic of Serbia in the direction of punishment in the early stages of criminal progression, while the third chapter will analyse concrete examples of punishment for the preparation of a criminal offense at the level of a specific criminal offence.

Findings: Changes in the area of the special part of the Criminal Code, which are aimed at punishment in the early stages of criminal progression, in order to facilitate the proving of certain serious crimes, are not in accordance with the rules of the general part of the Criminal Code and fundamentally violate the general concept on which the Criminal Code rests. Deviations from proven dogmatic principles are not the best way to solve the issue of proving criminal offences, and should be reduced to the necessary minimum.

Originality/Value: The importance of the paper is reflected in pointing out the problematic issues of the expansion of punishment in the phase of endangering the protected value. The aforementioned tendencies are part of expansionist aspirations and the tightening of criminal repression.

Keywords: stages of criminal progression, *iter criminis*, punishment, preparation of a criminal offence.

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Ivana P. Bodrožić, PhD, is an associate professor of Criminal and International Criminal Law at the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies in Belgrade with twenty years of experience. Her special fields of interest include terrorism, radicalization, international crimes, and political offences. She is the author of numerous scientific articles in the fields of substantive criminal law and international criminal law and the book “Terrorism as a Category of National and International Criminal Law”. She has participated in scientific and research projects supported by the Ministry of Education and Science, Education, and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia and relevant domestic and international institutions and funds. She is a member of the editorial boards of two domestic and international journals. She is a member of the Council of the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies and the academic Erasmus coordinator of the UCIPS.

Mladen Milošević, PhD, is a full professor at the Faculty of Security Studies at Belgrade University. He lectures in the fields of Criminal Law, Cyber Crime, and Legal Aspects of National and Corporate Security (particularly in the areas of risk and crisis management). He is the Chief of the Department for the Study of Crime at Belgrade University, Faculty of Security Studies. Milošević has participated in scientific and research projects supported by the Ministry of Education and Science, Education and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, and relevant domestic and international institutions and funds. He has published numerous papers in the areas of criminal law, the Law of National Security, and legal aspects of risk and crisis management



PROBLEM OF ATTRIBUTION OF CYBERATTACKS: POLITICAL ASPECTS

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Purpose: In this paper, the author aims to reconsider the problem of the attribution of cyberattacks, arguably one of the most important issues in cybersecurity, from the point of view of political science. The purpose is to show what political aspects are involved in cyberattacks and in the process of attribution and why they are important, from both an academic and practical point of view.

Design/Methods/Approach: Drawing from the notion developed by Rid and Buchanan (2015) that the process of attribution is a techno-political problem, this paper will, through three chapters, consider the motivation of cyberattacks as an important criterion for classification, political aspects of the attribution process, as well as the politically important relationship between attribution and possible retribution for cyber-attacks. Starting from qualitative analysis of recent scholarly literature as well as available data on politically motivated cyber-attacks, the author will then use methods of induction and deduction, analysis, and synthesis to form conclusions.

Findings: The main findings of the paper are the identification of political aspects of the attribution process and their consequences. Unlike research that uses a cyber-security approach and focuses on technical issues, this paper identifies political actors and political issues emerging in the attribution process, as well as those political actors who are to make decisions on the follow-up actions after the process is completed.

Originality/Value: While certain political aspects of the process of attribution of cyberattacks have been considered in recent academic works, there seems to be no research focusing exclusively on this aspect or starting from the point of view of political science. Therefore, the originality of the proposed paper is both in its scope and its approach. Apart from its scientific contribution, the value of the paper consists in the production of tentative guidelines for state agencies tasked with dealing with the aftermath of cyberattacks.

Keywords: cyber-attacks, attribution, politics, retribution.

About the author

Ivana Damnjanović is an associate professor at the University of Belgrade Faculty of Political Sciences. Her research interests include relationships and intersections between politics and technology, political violence, democracy, and democratization. So far, she has authored two books as well as over 20 papers in national and international journals and edited volumes.

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THE PROTECTION OF WATER ACCORDING TO THE SERBIAN CRIMINAL CODE

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Purpose: Environmental crimes are coming into the centre of the attention of (criminal) policy due to the current global shift of the public and scientific focus to “green” issues. In this context, water, as one of the main resources highly affected by pollution, should be one of the central topics of interest. This is especially the case as its availability is limited and its quality is often insufficient. According to scientists, by 2050, every fourth person on Earth will be concerned with water restrictions (Kluth/Smeddinck, 2013, 397). In addition, due to global population growth and the following increase in pollution, these problems will only get worse.

The purpose of this paper will therefore be the evaluation of the current level of protection of water within the provisions of the Serbian Criminal Code (CC) and in the broader context of Environmental Criminal Law.

Design/Methods/Approach: Doctrinal legal research is combined with statistical data on the relevant criminal offences, enabling conclusions on the de lege lata aspects and their practical implications. The paper therefore first deals with the identification of the criminal offences that have water as their (primary/secondary) protection object. Here, especially the crimes of pollution of drinking water and food (Art. 258 CC), environmental pollution (Art. 260 CC), and pollution of livestock fodder and water (Art. 273 CC) will be evaluated. This will be done both dogmatically (regarding the elements of crime; the applicability of extreme necessity from Art. 20 CC as a justification ground) and statistically (regarding prevalence rates in general and compared to other crimes).

Findings: The statistical prevalence of the aforementioned crimes is very low to non-existent, while the relevant notions of crime are formulated mostly in a broad manner. The occurring interpretative problems regarding water protection reflect the general difficulties for the prosecution of environmental crimes in Serbian law.

Originality/Value: The originality and value of the paper lie in the analysis of one particular, pivotal, yet (in terms of crime statistics) underrated legal good and its protection through various criminal offences. The perspective is shifted from a fragmentary approach (particular offences within a certain chapter and its particular group protection object) to a holistic view on water protection within Environmental Criminal Law.

Keywords: water, environmental criminal law, pollution, statistics, Criminal Code.

About the author

Ivana Marković, PhD, is an assistant professor of Criminal Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade. She has obtained a Bachelor’s degree, two Master’s degrees (in Criminal Law and International Law) and a PhD degree (in Criminal Law) from the same faculty. Dr. Marković is a former fellow of the Carl Friedrich Goerdeler-Kolleg for Good Governance of the Robert Bosch Foundation and the German Council on Foreign Relations and a former fellow of the German Bundestag. Her research interests include Dogmatics Of Criminal Law, European criminal law, and penal populism.

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THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE IN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW

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Purpose: Throughout history, wars have been accompanied by the destruction of cultural assets and cultural heritage. With the development of the first international rules of war, the protection of cultural property during armed conflicts was also developing over time. This protection expands and improves to finally include the criminal law protection of cultural property during armed conflict. The purpose of the paper is to point out the international rules of criminal law protection of cultural property during armed conflict, as well as the practice of international criminal courts in terms of trials for the war crime of destruction of cultural heritage.

Design/Methods/Approach: After the introduction, the paper will shortly deal with the international documents and rules related to the protection of cultural heritage. Then, the international criminal law protection of cultural heritage will be analyzed in detail by using the legal dogmatic method of legal norms analysis. Finally, the case law of international criminal courts and tribunals will be analyzed using the content analysis method.

Findings: The key finding refers to the insufficiency and impossibility of a wide range of international rules (outside of international criminal law) to protect cultural heritage during armed conflicts. Bearing in mind the reasons why cultural heritage is the object of destruction during almost all conflicts, the author finds that it is justified to establish international criminal law protection of cultural heritage but questions the possibilities and boundaries of this kind of protection.

Originality/Value: In light of the judgement in the Al Mahdi case before the International Criminal Court, the paper will discuss some new findings related to International Criminal Law protection of cultural heritage during armed conflicts, which can be useful for the protection of Serbian cultural heritage damaged and destroyed during a former conflict.

Keywords: cultural heritage, destruction, armed conflict, international criminal law, protection, international criminal courts.

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The author works as an assistant professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Kragujevac, where she has been employed at the Criminal Law Department since 2012. She teaches criminal law, international criminal law, and juvenile criminal law.

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UNCULTIVATED AGRICULTURAL LAND BETWEEN CRIMINAL AND TAX LAW

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Purpose: In recent years, there have been several proposals to encourage greater utilization of agricultural land through the application of tax law institutes. On the one hand, tax relief is proposed for agricultural land that is cultivated, while on the other hand, stricter taxation of land that is not used/cultivated is proposed. Such an approach completely ignores the fact that there is already an institute in the legal system of Serbia whose goal is to increase the utilization of agricultural land, and that is a misdemeanor, i.e., a misdemeanor sanction. The subject of research in this paper will be precisely these two legal institutes: a tax on agricultural land and misdemeanor sanctions for its non-use. The aim is to review their potential in order to encourage the use of agricultural land, but within the limits of its optimal use.

Design/Methods/Approach: The subject of research was processed using a synthetic method, using economic and legal methodology, and, above all, the method of tax and criminal law.

Findings: Special taxation of uncultivated land is neither economically nor legally acceptable. First of all, this would result in duplicating the instruments that are intended to encourage the use of unused agricultural land, given that there is already a system of misdemeanor sanctions. Instead of conducting a misdemeanor proceeding, the proposed property tax modifications would mean that a tax proceeding would also need to be conducted. The tax is inferior to the misdemeanor also because of its inflexibility in determining the amount that the owner of uncultivated land should pay. Finally, the question of the constitutionality of such a solution arises as well.

Originality/Value: The article represents the result of research conducted within the project commissioned by the Agricultural Land Administration of the Republic of Serbia in the process of preparing a legal proposal that would encourage the use of agricultural land. Based on it, the proposed changes to the tax regulations were abandoned.

Keywords: property tax, tax on agricultural land, misdemeanor sanctions, agricultural land, uncultivated land.

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Goran Milošević, PhD, is a full professor at the Faculty of Law in Novi Sad. He was born in 1967 in Borovac. He graduated from the University of Kragujevac Faculty of Economics in 1992. He received his Magister of Economics degree from the University of Kragujevac Faculty of Economics in 2001 (The Method of Determination of Public Revenues in Serbia – The Current Situation and Possibilities for Change). He defended his doctoral dissertation (Taxes – Mitigation of the Tax Burden and Tax Evasion – With a Focus on Economic Development) at the University of Kragujevac Faculty of Economics in 2005.

CRIMINAL LAW ASPECTS OF DIGITAL ASSETS – CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES

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Purpose: The main purpose of the article is to explain the cryptocurrency-related offenses prescribed by the Law on Digital Assets (LoDA) that Serbia adopted in 2020. and possibilities for applying existing provisions of the Criminal Code of Serbia (CC) to the abovementioned legal solutions.

Design/Methods/Approach: The first part of the article will contain a brief explanation of the normative framework that includes relevant provisions of LoDA, CC, the Law on the Prevention of Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism, and the newest European Parliament legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Markets in Crypto-assets and amending Directive (EU) 2019/1937, which was adopted in April 2023. (MiCA). In the second part, the analyses of two offenses from LoDA will be given. The third part of the article will touch on some questions about existing provisions of CC that can be related to digital assets. Method of content analysis, dogmatic method, and conceptual approach will be dominantly used for reaching the main purposes of the research.

Findings: Through the aforementioned analyses, it will be found that, theoretically speaking, we have an atypical situation by now. Namely, according to the fundamental principles, criminal law should have an ultima ratio character that includes subsidiary application and fragmentary type of goods that are protected by the criminal law. The fragmentarity is interesting for the subject of this article because it means that criminal law does not create values that protects, but finds them in other fields of law. In a wide sense, currently we have a certain vice versa example – that digital and virtual assets first appear in the criminal law context of abusing, and after that in the conceptual framework of defining terms for those institutes. Those findings have an impact on understanding cryptocurrency-related offenses under Art. 140 and 141 LoDA.

Originality/Value: The matter of digital assets gives new dimension to traditional institutes of criminal law. By adopting LoDA in 2020, Serbia became one of the first countries in the world to regulate the realm of digital assets. Among others, the aim of bringing the abovementioned law into force was to prevent the abuse of digital assets and the use of them for criminal purposes. MiCA encompasses a lot of major questions about digital assets, risks, etc. This fact increases the possibilities for creating de lege ferenda regulation of the digital realm on the territory of the European Union. The article tends to analyse criminal law aspects of digital assets, especially based on the criminal offenses prescribed by LoDA, which can be important for the future development of so-called “Digital Criminal Law”.

Keywords: digital assets, criminal law, cryptocurrencies, risks.

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About the author

Jovana Banović is a researcher in the field of criminal law and related areas with relevant professional experience. Banović has LL.B., LL.M. (master thesis “Act of Minor Significance and Deferring of Criminal Prosecution”), and LL.D. (doctoral thesis “Dual Nature of Negligence in Criminal Law”) degrees from the University of Belgrade Faculty of Law and has passed the Serbian Bar Exam from the Ministry of Justice. Jovana has work experience at the High Public Prosecutor’s Office in Belgrade, the Public Notary Office, the University of Belgrade – Faculty of Security Studies, and the Ministry of Justice of Serbia, Sector for European Integrations and International Projects. She is an assistant professor at the University of Belgrade Faculty of Security Studies.



HIGH PROSECUTORIAL COUNCIL AND JUDICIAL REFORM

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Purpose: The High Prosecutorial Council serves to protect the autonomous status of both the operation and the status of the public prosecutor's organization in the Republic of Serbia. This paper tends to explain the new powers and competences of the HPC and how they are supposed to improve the quality, efficiency, and impartiality of criminal prosecution in the Republic of Serbia.

Design/Methods/Approach: In order to thoroughly analyze the topic of this paper, comparative, normative, and exegetical methods are used. The composition of the Serbian HPC is such that it embodies both the representatives of the sovereign people (through the election of four members – “prominent lawyers”), as well as public prosecutors elected by their own colleagues from the public prosecution organization. This serves to ensure both the prevalence of the professional element as well as the connection to the sovereign people.

Findings: Constitutional amendments brought substantial changes to the system, as well as the position and authorities of the individual public prosecutors. Additionally, a wide spectrum of new means for the protection of the integrity of the particular public prosecutor is introduced. For the whole system to function properly, changes within the HPC, in the sense of its activity and proactive stance, are required. The success of such a shift from the previous ways of SCP is expected to significantly contribute to the overall success of judicial reform.

Originality/Value: This paper presents an attempt to provide a scholarly analysis of the new constitutional and legislative framework within the domain of the reformed public prosecutors' organization in the Republic of Serbia. Since the legal solutions are new and their application has just started, it is important to provide further scholarly foundations that may serve not only for scientific purposes but also as a reference for future bylaws and other normative undertakings.

Keywords: High Prosecutorial Council, Serbia, constitutional amendments, judiciary, reform.

About the author

Miroslav Đorđević, PhD, teaches constitutional and administrative law. He is Vice President of the High Prosecutorial Council, a Research Fellow at the Institute of Comparative Law, and an Assistant Professor at the State University of Novi Pazar. He wrote about 40 scientific papers, gave a series of lectures by invitation, and participated in over 50 scientific conferences in Serbia, Europe, and the USA. Đorđević was one of the authors of the Serbian Constitutional Amendments and several laws. He participated in a number of projects of the Council of Europe and Serbian ministries. In his work, he continuously advocates for structural reforms in the state and society in order to promote the protection of basic human rights and freedoms. He speaks English and German and has a basic command of Russian.

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CRIMINALITY AND ADDICTION

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Purpose: One of the features of modern criminal law is undoubtedly the fact that the perpetrators of various crimes, mostly against life, body, and property, are persons who are addicted to alcohol or psychoactive substances. The problem of criminality and addiction does not lose its topicality from year to year but, on the contrary, increasingly attracts the attention of various scientific disciplines, aiming to find an adequate solution to eliminate the cause of illegal behavior – addiction. Therefore, the author points to this consistent problem in modern criminal law with an analysis of criminal law provisions in this area in the law of the Republic of Serbia as well as judicial practice. Special attention was given to international standards in this area, the way in which this problem is solved in comparative law, and the practice of the so-called “therapeutic courts” in predominantly Anglo-Saxon criminal justice systems, where the solution is found in less formal procedures with the application of non-custodial sanctions and measures and in a multidisciplinary approach. The aim of the paper is to point out the importance of this universal problem in modern criminal law and that the existing domestic legal solutions and court practice in the case of criminal acts committed due to alcohol or drug addiction can undoubtedly be enriched and improved with a modern judicial concept that does not prioritize punishment but the application of various alternative measures with the primary goal of rehabilitating the offender.

Design/Methods/Approach: The subject of the paper implies the application of the methods of formal logic, system analysis, the comparative method, as well as the normative method.

Findings: *De lege ferenda* solutions for criminal acts committed due to alcohol or drug abuse in accordance with international standards and modern comparative practice in this area.

Originality/Value: This paper will contribute to the elaboration of this problem from the criminal law and criminological aspects and improve the practice of courts, prosecutors, lawyers, and the police in this area.

Keywords: criminality, alcohol addiction, drug addiction, non-custodial sanctions and measures, therapeutic justice, drug courts.

About the author

Olga Tešović, PhD (obtained at the Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade, in 2018), is currently President of the Basic Court in Požega and Criminal Department Judge. She is a lecturer at the Judicial Academy in Belgrade in the area of alternative criminal sanctions and probation, and she has been engaged in scientific research and donor projects in the justice sector, both at the national and international level. She has published a large number of scientific works in the field of criminal law and successfully participated in various international scientific thematic gatherings and regional and national scientific conferences.



JUVENILE PERPETRATORS AND THE (IN)ABILITY TO BE AWARE OF OWN RESPONSIBILITY

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Purpose: Recently, there has been talk at the national level about lowering the limits of criminal responsibility for juvenile offenders. In this way, it tries to increase the responsibility of minors and has a preventive effect on their awareness. Although the possibility of lowering the age of criminal liability at the national level was considered, it seems that such a procedure would be met with numerous criticisms at the international level. The goal of our research was to consider the possibility of changing the criminal legislation in terms of lowering the age limit of criminal responsibility in relation to international standards and giving recommendations for the further development of standards in the area of juvenile delinquency prevention.

Design/Methods/Approach: In this paper, we start from the assumption that it will not be possible without changing the approach at the international level, although we do not reject the position that the age of criminal responsibility of minors should be lower, but not below 12 years of age, when it comes to some particularly serious crimes, such as murder or grievous bodily harm. In the first part of the paper, we first point out the solutions prescribed by the national legislation of the Republic of Serbia, with reference to the views of the relevant authors regarding the criminal (ir)responsibility of children. The second part contains a brief review of the treatment of juvenile offenders in different historical periods as well as an analysis of international standards regarding the lower age of criminal responsibility. In the third part of the paper, solutions from comparative legislation are presented with reference to the recommendations of the UN Committee of the Rights of the Child, as well as the Manual for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child, in which its provisions and the views of the said Committee are further explained. That is why three methods were used during the analysis: dogmatic-legal, comparative law, and content analysis.

Findings: Based on the comparative legal analysis conducted, the conclusion is reached that there is a tendency to raise the lower limit of criminal liability. Any lowering of the limits of criminal responsibility at the national level, even for serious crimes, could be considered a violation of the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. We believe that this could have a negative impact on the process of European integration, given that the European Commission's special focus is on the rule of law.

Originality/Value: Instead of lowering the limit of criminal responsibility, a number of preventive measures should be applied at the national level towards minors. Such an approach would require increased attention and continuous monitoring of children's antisocial behavior both at the level of the family and at the level of the educational institution, and, of course, in accordance with the needs, to intervene with adequate measures.

Keywords: age of criminal responsibility, prevention, minors.

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About the author

Jelena Kostić is a Doctor of Legal Sciences and a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Comparative Law in Belgrade. Her areas of interest are criminal law, public finance, and prevention of corruption. She is the author of more than seventy scientific papers in the mentioned fields and two scientific monographs, a member of the editorial boards of collections or papers, and a co-editor of three collections of papers of international importance and four of national importance. Jelena Kostić is the deputy editor-in-chief of the journal “Foreign Legal Life” whose publisher is the Institute of Comparative Law from Belgrade. She was the lecturer by invitation at the Faculty of Political Sciences of the University of “Nicolò Cusano” in Rome and the Faculty of Law of the University of Salerno. Jelena Kostić participated by invitation of the Faculty of Law of the University of Perugia in D.R.A.M.P. (Diversion, Restorative and Mediation Procedures in PIF Crimes) international research project funded by the European Union’s Hercules III programme and was engaged as a lecturer at the Judicial Academy of the Republic of Serbia within the program of continuous education of judges and prosecutors in the field of prevention and fight against corruption. Jelena Kostić speaks English and Italian.

JOINT INVESTIGATION TEAMS – POSSIBLE ANSWER TO CHALLENGES OF INVESTIGATIONS OF SERIOUS AND ORGANIZED CROSS-BORDER CRIME

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Purpose: The article aims at presenting the advantages of a joint investigation team as a sui generis instrument of international cooperation, the use of which may increase the efficiency of the investigations of cross-border crime, while analyzing the legal framework for its formation and functioning.

Design/Methods/Approach: The authors are presenting and examining the legal framework and practical considerations for the formation and functioning of the joint investigation teams at the level of the European Union and in the Republic of Serbia in this area, with particular regard to the possibilities offered by the signature of the Cooperation Agreement between Eurojust and the Republic of Serbia in terms of support available to joint investigation teams set up between EU and non-EU countries.

Findings: The Serbian legal framework for setting up joint investigation teams is analyzed in light of relevant *acquis communautaire* and is the object of the critical review, taking into account comparative analyses of the legislative frameworks of several EU countries.

Originality/Value: Since the signature of the Cooperation Agreement between Eurojust and the Republic of Serbia in 2019, the relevance of this modern tool for international cooperation for the competent authorities in Serbia has been enhanced, taking into account the possible assistance Eurojust may provide to joint investigation teams formed between European Union countries and third countries.

Keywords: European Union, Eurojust, joint investigation teams, cross-border investigations, judicial cooperation in criminal matters, harmonization with *acquis communautaire*.

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Milena Manojlović Nedeljković is an advisor in the Department for International Cooperation and Mutual Legal Assistance of the Supreme Public Prosecution, holder of Master 2 in European Union law of the University Nancy 2, Centre Européen Universitaire, involved in theoretical and practical aspects of international cooperation in criminal matters for over 10 years.



LEGAL AND OPERATIONAL ASPECTS OF POLICE SUPERVISION OF PRIVATE PHYSICAL SECURITY IN SERBIA

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Purpose: The Serbian Private Security Law was adopted in 2013, and the topic of police supervision of private security has not been examined in the scientific and professional literature. The authors believe that this is a very important issue that needs to be researched primarily from the legal and operational aspects in order to remove certain doubts and provide guidelines for solving certain problems in “practical” policing.

Design/Methods/Approach: The normative method was used in the research of legal norms regulating police supervision of private security. In certain places in the paper, in order to achieve certain definitions of a general character, the method of abstraction was used. Mostly, the method of observation with the participation of one of the co-authors and observation without participation, but also the descriptive method, was used.

Findings: In the paper, the authors came up with a definition of supervision of private security and concluded that police supervision of private security is a special type of supervision (supervision sui generis). They also concluded that the Supervision Minutes are a public document that, along with other documentation, can serve as evidence in the proceedings before the competent court. In the end, two types of coercion (force) can be used as an ultima ratio in the police supervision procedure, namely administrative-legal and police coercion, but in accordance with the regulations.

Originality/Value: The value of this paper is reflected in the fact that it examines in a comprehensive and precise way the issue of police supervision of private security, which is important both from the aspect of realizing the freedoms and rights of citizens and from the aspect of the socio-economic progress of the state. Apart from the fact that in the scientific and professional literature there are no papers on police supervision of private security, the originality of the paper is indicated by the methods used and the conclusions reached by the authors. The paper can serve as a guideline in the future policing, but also for further doctrinal research in the social sciences and humanities.

Keywords: police, supervision, private security, inspection, law.

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About the authors

Branko Leštanin graduated from the Police Academy in Belgrade and the Program on Terrorism and Security Studies at the George Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. After graduating from school in 2002, he worked in various jobs in the Serbian Police, which included leadership and management in the police. He currently works as an officer for the supervision of private security in the Police Department in Kraljevo. He was awarded by the Minister of Interior in 2005 for outstanding results in the field of security. Also, he is the author of several papers for theoretical and professional journals in the fields of security, police science, and (criminal) law, as well as five books.

Željko Nikač graduated from the Faculty of Law in Belgrade. Completed specialist training for criminal operatives, a special human rights course for members of the police, repeatedly praised and awarded for the achieved results. At the beginning of 2010, he was permanently employed at the Criminal Police Academy. He was vice dean for scientific research (2009–2012) and is now a teacher at the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies. He was an external associate of the Committee for War Crimes of the Federal Government (1996–1998) and a member of several professional associations. The author of several scientific research papers was involved in several scientific projects and was a member of the editorial boards of several scientific journals. He is the author of several collections of regulations and monographs and a participant in several scientific and professional meetings with international participation.



POSSIBILITIES OF IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF THE REGISTER OF EXPERT WITNESSES IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA IN THE AREA OF BALLISTICS, COLD WEAPONS, AND FIREARMS

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Purpose: This paper's purpose is to point out the need for a greater number of expert witnesses in the area of ballistics, cold weapons, and firearms because of the high number of crimes committed with the use of firearms, as well as the incomplete data from the Register of Expert Witnesses in the area of ballistics, cold weapons, and firearms in the Republic of Serbia, while giving recommendations for its improvement. The quality and content of the Register of Expert Witnesses in this area are directly related to the outcome of court proceedings in criminal justice, affect the length of court proceedings, and therefore should be improved.

Design/Methods/Approach: The method of content analysis and the method of descriptive statistics were applied in the paper.

Findings: The analysis of the Register of Expert Witnesses according to various criteria (specific area of expertise, gender, age, vocation, level of professional education) showed that there is a space for improving the quality of the Register of Expert Witnesses in the area of ballistics, cold weapons, and firearms, following the example of certain developed countries. A comparative review of the UK Register of Expert Witnesses revealed differences in the organization and content of the Register. Also, there is a need to hire a large number of expert witnesses because there is an impression that the number of expert witnesses in the Register is not sufficient given that there is a large number of crimes involving the use of firearms.

Originality/Value: The analysis of the Register of Expert Witnesses is very significant from the aspect of the availability of visible data on expert witnesses in the Register for the participants of the proceedings, but it also guarantees the quality of expert testimony and the right to a fair trial and a trial within a reasonable time.

Keywords: expert witness, expertise, ballistics, quality, register.

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BANKS: THE GATEKEEPERS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST MONEY LAUNDERING IN THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

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Purpose: The purpose of this paper is to gain knowledge about the preventive role of banks against money laundering through the analysis of the laws in the Republic of North Macedonia, as well as the legal repressiveness towards banks and bank officials for disobeying the laws. Banks are financial entities that are covered by the first pillar of the System for the Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism in the Republic of North Macedonia. In the Republic of North Macedonia, money laundering is a criminal activity incriminated by the crime “Money Laundering and Other Proceeds of a Criminal Crime”, and with the same crime as qualifying elements, the status properties of officials and responsible persons – the bank officials - are provided, and criminal liability is also provided for the banks themselves as legal entities. This paper analyzes the efficiency and effectiveness of banks in the process of identifying suspicious customers and suspicious and related transactions. At the same time, a special review emphasizes the cooperation between the banks and the Financial Intelligence Unit.

The research period is 2017–2021, and the subject of analysis are reports of the Financial Intelligence Unit of the Republic of North Macedonia.

Design/Methodology/Approach: The paper is structured into several chapters, including the Introduction part, the Analysis of the role of banks in preventing money laundering – situation and trends in the Republic of North Macedonia, Conclusions, and References. The paper uses a method of comparative analysis and a method of content analysis.

Findings: Banks as financial institutions have a very important role in detecting suspicious customers and suspicious transactions related to money laundering, and therefore their actions for identifying suspicious customers and suspicious transactions are defined by law. For two decades, the Republic of North Macedonia has been working on harmonizing the national anti-money laundering and counter-financing of terrorism legislation with international standards, and visible results are being achieved, which is also confirmed by the latest Moneyval report. The paper also analyzes the procedures for the freezing of financial assets on bank accounts owned by legal and natural persons. According to the national AML/CFT law, the decision to freeze the bank accounts is made by the competent court following a previously received request from a competent public prosecutor. Initially, the request of the competent public prosecutor is based on a previously received proposal from the Financial Intelligence Unit, but also on a request for international legal assistance, which in practice is the result of established international cooperation.

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Originality/Value: The analysis included in this paper is based on the national laws that regulate the preventive role of banks in the national AML/CFT system. At the same time, the authors indicate the weaknesses of the banks that appear during the implementation of measures and actions to prevent money laundering and the financing of terrorism. According to the authors, the degree of prevention is directly reflected in the degree of repression. Or, in other words, a greater degree of prevention indicates a lesser degree of repression.

Keywords: money laundering, banks, financial assets, prevention and repression.

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SOME CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

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Purpose: Artificial intelligence (AI) and automated decision-making (ADM) systems are increasingly used by law enforcement and criminal justice authorities. These systems are often used to profile individuals, predict their behaviour, and to assess their risk of certain behaviours, such as committing a crime in the future. In such circumstances, people can be classified as criminals or considered a risk even if they haven't committed any crimes. AI can offer numerous benefits in criminal law, such as improved efficiency and accuracy, but there are also several risks and concerns associated with its use. One of the most compelling reasons to study AI is to learn how to use advances in AI technology to automate and perform tedious tasks. By utilizing AI-based solutions, businesses can streamline processes, increase efficiency, and reduce costs.

Approach: The level of preparedness for using AI in criminal law varies among states and jurisdictions. While some states have made significant progress in adopting and implementing AI technologies in their criminal justice systems, others may still be in the early stages of exploration or have not fully embraced these technologies. States need to have clear legal and regulatory frameworks in place to govern the use of AI in criminal law. This includes addressing issues such as data protection, privacy, transparency, accountability, and fairness. States with well-established legal frameworks specific to AI are generally better prepared for its use.

Findings: It is important to note that the implementation of AI in criminal law is a complex and evolving process, with ongoing discussions around its benefits, risks, and ethical considerations. Legal systems and jurisdictions are continuously adapting to incorporate AI technologies while addressing the challenges they pose.

Value: Studying artificial intelligence is an invaluable endeavour that can open many doors for those interested in technology-related fields. From automation to data analytics to ethical implications, there are countless benefits that come with studying AI.

Keywords: artificial intelligence, crimes, investigation, threat, human rights.

About the author

Gianina Anemona Radu, PhD, is a senior lecturer at the Police Faculty, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” Police Academy in Bucharest, Romania. She earned her PhD degree in criminal law from the “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” Police Academy in 2005. Her fields of expertise include criminal law, criminal procedural law, criminal enforcement law, and mediation.

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S.N. TREGUBOV – AN OUTSTANDING RUSSIAN-SERBIAN CRIMINALIST

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Purpose: In the paper, the study and explanation of the close historical (genetic) connections between Russian and Serbian criminalistics are considered on the example of S.N. Tregubov's activity in the formation and development of criminalistics (criminal technique) and his teaching in Russia (until 1920) and after his emigration to Serbia.

Design/Methods/Approach: In this study, historical-genetic (historical-descriptive), comparative-historical, historical-typological, and biographical methods were used.

Findings: Conclusions/results: Since 1910, professor S.N. Tregubov, being a supporter of A. Reiss's ideas, has stood at the origins of the formation of criminalistics (criminal technique) in Russia. He also taught at the Alexander Military Law Academy and the Imperial School of Law. After his emigration to the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes in 1920, S.N. Tregubov worked as a professor of criminal technique at the Criminalistics Institute of the Faculty of Law in Belgrade, taught criminal technique to a cadre of Serbian law enforcement bodies, and took part in international forensic congresses. In 1912, S.N. Tregubov published A. Reiss's course of lectures; in 1915, he published "Fundamentals of Criminal Techniques, Scientific and Technical

Methods: A Practical Guide for Judicial Figures"; in 1930, he published the first textbook on criminal technique in Serbian; and in 1935, he published, together with A. Andonovich, a Russian practical guide to criminal technique in Serbian language. Continuity in the content of the Russian (1915) and Serbian (1935) editions of manuals on criminal technique was established.

Originality/Value: A study of the life and work of S.N. Tregubov in Russia and Serbia contributes to the knowledge of the patterns and features of the formation and development of criminalistics in Serbia, substantiates its close connections with Russian criminalistics, and explains the features of the distribution and further development of the ideas of A. Reiss in Russia and Serbia.

Keywords: S.N. Tregubov, A. Reiss, criminal technique.

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Alexey Sokol, MSc, works at Kuban State University in Krasnodar, Russia. His fields of scientific research include criminalistics and the history of criminalistics. He earned his Master's degree in jurisprudence at Kuban State University (Krasnodar, Russia). He is the author of five scientific papers within the specialty.

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THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTIONING OF A JOINT INVESTIGATION TEAM

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Purpose: The purpose of the scientific article is to identify the legal framework for the establishment and functioning of a joint investigation team as a tool of the law enforcement unit against serious and transnational organized crime in Europe, as well as from the point of view of the conditions of the Slovak Republic.

Design/Methods/Approach: In the scientific article, methods such as analysis, synthesis, and comparison were used.

Findings: Transnational organized crime activities are increasing every year in the EU. The question therefore arises as to which of the available instruments should or should not be, at least from a purely formal point of view, intended to investigate serious and organized crime with a cross-border or transnational element. The aim of the scientific article was to find out the current state of legislation (supranational and national) relating to the creation and functioning of a joint investigation team. The current legislation on JIT issues is based on the standards of public international law, Council of Europe legal documents, EU law (EU criminal law), and the national legal order, in this case the Slovak Republic, as an EU Member State. The current legal regulation also enables judicial cooperation with the use of this special sui generis instrument between countries that are members of the EU and with those that are not members of the EU.

Originality/Value: The scientific article is an original work that has not yet been published anywhere. The status, tasks, and competences of law enforcement bodies primarily depend on legislation. The effectiveness of law enforcement bodies in relation to the detection and investigation of serious and transnational organized criminal activity also directly and proportionally depends on the legislation.

Keywords: public international law, EU law, international judicial cooperation, joint investigation team.

About the author

The author currently works at the Department of Investigation of the Academy of Police Force, where, in the theoretical part of his work, he is devoted to the field of detection and investigation of serious and organized criminal activity from the point of view of the implementation of processes of international police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters. In the years 2008–2020, the author specialized in the mentioned areas from the point of view of the practical implementation of processes of international police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters, working in various functions of the National Criminal Agency of the Presidium of the Police Force of the Slovak Republic. The author was a leader of international operations and a member of several joint investigation teams established for the Slovak Republic.

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MARIJA'S LAW: TEN YEARS LATER – (NON) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW AND FUTURE SOLUTIONS

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Purpose: The subject of this paper is the Law on Special Measures for the Prevention of Criminal Offenses Against Sexual Freedom Against Minors, which came into force in April 2013, known to the public as *Marija's Law*, which prescribes a whole series of special rules of criminal and procedural law that deviate from the general rules, which is justified by the fact that the victims of the acts covered by the provisions of this Law are minors. The paper presents and analyzes the *Marija's Law* provisions, especially the special measures prescribed by the legislator for the perpetrators of the acts covered by the Law, but also the conditions for their imposition and their duration. The paper also tries to provide suggestions on what *de lege ferenda* should be done for better and more effective protection of minors.

Design/Methods/Approach: The paper will be divided into five parts, including introductory and concluding remarks, within which a normative presentation and analysis of domestic and international legal regulation of the issue will be provided. Considering the subject of this work, comparative, historical, and normative methods were used, as well as logical methods of induction and deduction.

Findings: The paper finds that the legislator extremely tightened the penal policy with the adoption of *Marija's Law*, reaching the limit of the constitutionality of the prescribed measures, and finds that the legislator was neither wise nor consistent in regulating the role of the court in imposing special measures. In addition, the paper finds that, although it has been in force for 10 years, this Law has not been frequently and consistently implemented in practice.

Originality/Value: The issue of adequate sanctioning of the perpetrators of sexual crimes when a minor comes forward as a victim of that crime, as well as an adequate social response to such a crime, is a subject of debate in criminal and criminological theory. This paper provides a detailed, so far unrealized, review and critique of the normative solutions of *Marija's Law*, which represents the reaction of the domestic legislator to the occurrence of sexual offenses against children and minors, and provides suggestions for future action.

Keywords: criminal protection of minors; sexual offenses; Marija's Law.

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POLICE ORGANIZATION IN THE NETHERLANDS

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Purpose: The purpose of this paper is to show, through the organization of the police in the Netherlands, how the modern police force and organization are functioning in accordance with modern standards. In addition, through the example of the Dutch police, the transformation of the police structure is shown not only in the area of crime but also in other phenomena in which the role of the police is important, such as emergency situations. An additional purpose of this paper is the presentation of the development of the police structure in accordance with the needs of citizens and modern democratic standards.

Design/Methods/Approach: In the paper, the deductive-inductive method was first used in order to understand the development and structure of the police in the Netherlands. In accordance with that, the use of the analytical method in the paper served to provide insight into the transformations of its individual parts. This particularly applies to the management structure. The research went from the key premises on which the organization and functioning of the Dutch Police are based to the implementation of police powers in the field.

Findings: The paper helps to better understand how modern police should be structured and organized in a way that corresponds with the political system, public administration, and local self-government in one country. The effectiveness of the police structure rests on constant transformation in accordance with changes in society as well as the needs of citizens. New threats in the field of crime, which often have an international character, affect the expansion of police competences in order to preserve the safety of citizens, society, and the state. Threats not related to crime, such as emergency situations, force authorities to expand and modernize the structure and functioning of the police. In democratic societies, the aforementioned changes are carried out by competent institutions in accordance with democratic procedures.

Originality/Value: The police organization in the Netherlands has some specifics and characteristics that distinguish it from other countries in the European Union. Those specificities will be analyzed through the main features of the security regions established in the Netherlands. Security regions open up new opportunities for the more efficient functioning of the police system. In the paper, these possibilities will also be shown, which should contribute to the understanding of certain contemporary trends in the development of the police organization.

Keywords: police organization, the Netherlands, local self-government, safety regions.

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Aleksandar Jazić is a senior research fellow at the Institute of International Politics and Economics in Belgrade. He is a member of the editorial board of the scientific magazine “Medjunarodna politika” (International Politics), and during his work he took part in many scientific conferences and round tables. In addition, he gave lectures at the Institute and at other scientific institutions. He defended his doctoral thesis, entitled “Reform of the local self-government system in the countries of the Visegrad Group”, at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Belgrade. After that, in 2017, he finished the High Engineering School of Professional Studies “Tehnikum Taurunum”, University of Belgrade, and earned the title of Professional Engineer for Environmental Protection. His areas of research are: local self-government, civil protection, international relations, terrorism, and propaganda.

THE COOPERATION WITH THE ICC: THE ONLY POSSIBLE WAY TO JUSTICE?

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Purpose: The purpose of this paper is to present the cooperation of the states and other international legal subjects with the International Criminal Court (ICC). The Rome Statute was the legal foundation for the universal criminal court, which is supposed to punish international crimes. This task is not an easy one. Cooperation is perhaps a crucial and vital component of ICC functioning. The author would like to answer the research question of whether cooperation with the ICC is successful, and this paper will deal with the question of how to improve the current situation and in what manner. Subsequently, it might help with the overall fight against impunity.

Design/Methods/Approach: The author wishes to address this issue by analysing it from the point of view of several different aspects: legal, political, and practical. This paper will include an analysis of legal documents, including, above all, the Rome Statute, examples from court practice, and the reputation that the ICC has in the international community.

Originality/Value: The scientific value of this paper is in the legal analysis of this important aspect of tackling criminals in international criminal law. The results may be useful for the overall research on the success of the International Criminal Court.

Keywords: cooperation, International Criminal Court, United Nations, states, international criminal law.

About the author

Jovana Tijanić, PhD, is a research associate at the Institute of International Politics and Economics in Belgrade, Serbia. She received her PhD degree from the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Law. Her main research interests are public international law, international criminal law, and diplomatic and consular law.

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INDICATORS OF ECONOMIC SECURITY IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

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Purpose: The paper analyses the indicators of economic security in the Republic of Serbia in the period from 2013 to 2021. The following indicators of economic security of individuals and households were analyzed: inability of households to face unexpected financial expenses and arrears on mortgage or rent payments. In addition, starting from the fact that physical safety affects the level of economic well-being of citizens and citizens' decisions regarding various forms of economic activity, physical safety indicators: the rate of intentional homicide, and perceived crime, violence, or vandalism were also analyzed. The analysis is complete with macroeconomic indicators of economic and social development (GDP per capita, GDP growth rate, number of unemployed, unemployment rate, average salary, foreign exchange reserves, inflation rate measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), fiscal surplus/deficit as a percent of GDP, share of public debt in GDP, and foreign trade deficit as a percent of GDP). These indicators should provide a picture of the achieved level of economic development in the Republic of Serbia, which is a prerequisite for the economic security of citizens and also an important element of national security. The purpose of the paper was to examine the level of economic security of citizens in the Republic of Serbia in the observed period and to make a comparison with the member states of the European Union.

Design/Methods/Approach: Here in the paper, the Eurostat approach was applied, according to which economic security is considered a dimension of quality of life. In this approach, the measure of economic security is the risk faced by citizens in terms of facing an undesirable economic outcome. The level of that risk is expressed by indicators of economic security and physical safety. The analysis of economic security is based on the EU-SILC survey (the European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions survey), which forms part of the statistics on income and living conditions of Eurostat. The analysis of physical safety is based on crime statistics from Eurostat and also on information on the perceptions of the citizens regarding crime, violence, or vandalism in the area where they live.

Findings: The analysis showed that in the period 2013–2021, the level of economic security of citizens of the Republic of Serbia increased. The level of physical safety has also increased. In addition, indicators of economic and social development are also at a higher level than in 2013. The difference regarding the ability of households in Serbia and in the EU to face unexpected financial expenses has decreased, while in terms of arrears on mortgages or rent payments, Serbia is in a much more favorable position than the EU average. In addition, physical security indicators are at a lower level than in EU countries, and as of 2019, Serbian citizens perceive a lower level of crime, violence, or vandalism in the areas they live in than EU citizens.

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Originality/Value: Here in the paper, qualitative progress has been made in the analysis of economic security in relation to the existing state of art because, so far in the literature, economic security for Serbia has been analyzed on the basis of traditional, macroeconomic indicators of economic and social development such as GDP, rate of unemployment, average earnings, standards of living indicators, etc. Research on economic security in the Republic of Serbia here is directed towards the analysis of individual economic security and is based on indicators developed by Eurostat as well as on an understanding of the broader concept of economic security, which in the Eurostat approach is viewed as a dimension of quality of life.

Keywords: economic security, physical safety, SILC, crime statistics, Republic of Serbia.

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FINANCIAL REPORTS – AN INSTRUMENT OF PERPETRATION AND DETECTION OF FRAUDULENT ACTIONS

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Purpose: Financial reports constitute one of the foremost deliverables of the accounting function within a business entity. They serve as an indispensable source of information, aiming to present an objective and transparent depiction of the company's state. Nonetheless, they can be manipulated or misused with the aim of benefiting specific individuals in an unlawful manner. Specifically, financial reports can assume a dual role: they can be employed as instruments for perpetrating fraudulent actions, while simultaneously serving as highly efficacious means for their detection.

Design/Methods/Approach: In this paper, the focus will be on fraudulent activities in which financial statements appear as a means to conceal or commit fraudulent activities. In addition to the detection of fraudulent actions in financial statements, the subject of this work is also protection against such frauds and other illegal actions. The methodological framework of the work includes analysis, synthesis and description with the use of relevant literature by foreign and domestic authors.

Findings: One of the goals of the paper is to point out the importance of truthful and objective presentation of financial statements and the damage that results from the use of creative accounting. Also, one of the goals is to offer a wider range of information and knowledge about fraudulent actions in financial reports. Emphasis in the paper is on the importance of methods and analysis of financial reports in forensic accounting investigations of fraudulent actions in financial reports, all with the aim of better understanding of the activities and role of the accounting profession in suppressing fraudulent actions and manipulations.

Originality/Value: This study provides a solid foundation for future research, as the addressed topic remains relevant on both a local and global scale.

Keywords: financial reports, instrument, fraudulent actions, fraudulent action detection, forensic accounting investigation.

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Zvezdan Đurić, born in 1971, in Belgrade, is a distinguished professor at the Belgrade Business and Arts Academy of Applied Studies. Previously, he held the position of Associate Professor at the Faculty of Economics, University of Pristina. With a Ph.D. in Economics, Dr. Zvezdan Đurić is renowned for his extensive contributions to the field, both as an author of numerous professional and scientific papers and as a prolific writer of several books, including insightful monographs like “Grey Economy and Corruption – as a Global Problem.”

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ANALYSIS OF DISCIPLINARY OFFENSES AND DISCIPLINARY PUNISHMENT IN THE CLOSED PENITENTIARY IN ZENICA IN THE PERIOD FROM 2020 TO 2022

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Purpose: Contemporary penological principles of rehabilitation emphasize rehabilitation as the goal of serving a sentence. In practice, rehabilitation work is mostly based on one aspect of behavioral therapy, which is conditioning, which means that it is based on punishment and reward. The theory of transaction puts special emphasis on these relations. They are the main method of rehabilitating and socializing efforts and their final aim. Taking this fact as the starting point, we approached the analysis of disciplinary violations and implemented disciplinary measures in the above-mentioned prison in the period between 2020 and 2022. The purpose of the study is to establish what the tendencies are in disciplinary behavior in the aforementioned prison, or, in other words, whether the disciplinary situation is improving or getting worse.

Design/Methods/Approach: The main method we used was the analysis of the Book of Disciplinary Reports. We discuss the relationship between the committed disciplinary offense and the ensuing disciplinary measure, as well as the objections of the inmates to the imposed disciplinary measure and the time of the year when the offense was committed. All these relations were statistically processed in all three years separately and in total, with accompanying correlation relations, trends, t-ratios, and other aspects of descriptive statistics. The total sample is n=771 offenses. There was an average of 810 prisoners serving their sentences in the aforementioned period. Additionally, an opportunity presented itself for comparative analysis with a similar rational for research.

Findings: The frequency of disciplinary violation rates and reports, as well as the severity of the ensuing disciplinary measures, were different at different times of the year, which points toward variable discipline within the prison and can have serious implications for treatment goals, primarily re-socialization.

Originality/Value: The research indicates which types of disciplinary violations are stable and, indirectly, which types of deprivations are actualized through the prism of inmate disciplinary breaches. Additional significant findings include determining the tendencies in the changing frequency of particular disciplinary violations in the course of the observed timespan, determining whether there are critical periods of the year or months during which there is an increase in disciplinary violations, as well as determining the type of conflicts that occur between inmates and inmates and prison staff.

Keywords: prison, inmate, disciplinary violation, disciplinary measure, treatment.

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POLICE PROFESSION NOWADAYS

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Purpose: Due to technological development, modern society is more than ever characterized by variability and evolution. The police is one of the primary social institutions in charge of crime prevention, crime control, and public safety. Accordingly, in the police profession, there are changes as the requirements of society change. The purpose of the paper is to provide unique insights into the police profession in the modern world, as well as the challenges and future of the police profession.

Design/Methods/Approach: The paper will primarily review and analyze literature, both domestic and foreign. Application of the content analysis method will provide information about the police profession in contemporary society.

Findings: The author will point out the changes in modern society that challenge and influence the police profession. Contemporary society requires changes in professional skills and professional ethics, as well as professional education and training. Innovations, smart policing, and community policing are some of the current trends in policing. The paper provides sufficient information about the current characteristics of the police profession and its development trends for the coming time.

Originality/Value: The importance of studying the police profession is unquestionable. This paper provides information about the course of police profession development, its role, and its limitations in modern society. The research community and the police both benefited from the information provided in this paper. The findings may enhance police profession development, efficiency in dealing with modern forms of crime, and appreciation of the police profession in modern society.

Keywords: police, profession, innovations, smart policing, community policing.

About the author

Ivana Luknar is a sociologist with a PhD in political sciences. She is a research associate at the Institute for Political Studies in Belgrade and a professor at the Higher Security and Defence Studies, Ministry of Defense, Republic of Serbia. Also, she was part of various research projects and conferences and was a professor at the College of Vocational Studies in Criminology and Security in Niš. She is the author of “Cyberterrorism Countermeasures and Prevention” and many articles.

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CREATION OF THE DIRECTORATE FOR ANALYTICS AS A PREREQUISITE FOR EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE ILP IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

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Purpose: The aim of this research is to identify, scientifically describe, classify, and partially explain the organizational changes in the organizational structure of the police, which preceded the formation of the Directorate for Analytics in the Police of the Republic of Serbia at the national and regional level, by using scientific and research methods. By conducting theoretical research, the problems of a structural nature have been identified and can be classified as follows: 1) organizational structures; 2) human resources; 3) material resources. The tasks of analytics were institutionalized in 1967, and throughout its long history, they have changed organizational forms, starting with the Department with the establishment of the Directorate for Analytics, which was a part of the then Department of Public Security, i.e., later the General Police Directorate, until September 2009, when it became a part of the Sector for Analytics, Telecommunications, and Information Technologies and changed its organizational form to a Department. In the General Police Directorate, the Service for Criminal Analytics was established together with several individual analytical workplaces under different names, including individual organizational units in the Sectors at the headquarters of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Design/Methods/Approach: The research was carried out as a theoretical-empirical one, where the methods of theoretical and empirical research (attitudes and opinions of police officers in the Police of the Republic of Serbia) were used in its realization, that is, general scientific, logical, and empirical methods. In this research, the position that the condition for efficient and effective work in the Police of the Republic of Serbia is the formation of the Directorate for Analytics, which will coordinate police-intelligence work at the central, regional, and local levels, is confirmed theoretically and empirically. In this way, the analytical functions would be unified, which would be performed by the employees assigned to adequately named analytical positions, which would contribute to the creation of better-quality analytical products (strategic assessment of public security, operational assessments of public security, strategic police plans, police operational plans, profiles of security problems, and profiles of security interesting person/group). Establishing the educational need for a standardized and comprehensive process of training analysts and the establishment of a unique information and communication database would contribute to the improvement of data collection, faster search, and availability of operational data in one place, which would affect the more efficient, effective, and economical performance of police work and tasks.

Findings/Originality/Value: The scientific justification of the research derives from its expected

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results, which can: 1) contribute to the deepening and expansion of scientifically verified knowledge in the fields of criminal-police, security, and organizational scientific disciplines, 2) indicate the directions, areas, and topics of future scientific research, and 3) enrich the methodological practice of scientific research of the organization and the proactive functioning of the police in modern conditions.

Keywords: Directorate for Analytics, organizational structure, efficiency, effectiveness.

About the authors

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Nenad Radović, PhD, is a full professor at the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies, where he teaches Criminal Operations and Criminal Investigations Management. He defended his doctoral dissertation at the University of Belgrade Faculty of Law in 2008. He actively participated in the CARDS regional project (Development of Reliable and Functional Police Systems in the Suppression of Criminal Activities and Establishment of Police Cooperation), which was held in Rome, Budapest, Brussels, and Belgrade. He also participated in numerous domestic and international conferences. He has published more than 25 scientific papers, a textbook “Criminal Operations” (co-authored with Prof. Zoran Đurđević, PhD), and a monograph “Prevention of Organized Crime” (co-authored with Prof. Slaviša Vuković, PhD).

EVIDENCE-BASED POLICING IN SERBIA: EVALUATING DETERRENT EFFECTS OF FOOT PATROL IN ONE HOT SPOT OF CRIME

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Purpose: This research evaluates the effects of police foot patrols in one crime hotspot of incidents recorded by the police. It promotes evidence-based policing and contributes to the knowledge of hot spot policing.

Design/Methods/Approach: The study applies a quasi-experimental method using data on shift-length foot patrols and recorded incidents within one police station in one of the major Serbian cities. The police previously recognised the area as a permanent hot spot for crimes and calls for service. This has been confirmed in the crime analysis at the police station level, using clusters of events on the map. Statistical tests have been applied to evaluate the effects of police foot patrol on the number of all incidents, violence and public order, and property-related incidents: during the presence of a patrol officer, during the time when there has not been a foot patrol, during the same day when foot patrol has been conducted, during the day without foot patrol, during the usual time of foot patrol (7 AM to 3 PM) in foot patrol and non-foot patrol days, and during the unusual time of foot patrol (3 PM to 7 AM) in foot patrol and non-foot patrol days.

Findings: Although reductions in incidents on almost all levels have been observed during the presence of foot patrols and during the days when foot patrols have been conducted, the results are statistically non-significant.

Originality/Value: This study suggests that hot spot policing prevents crime and disorder, but further studies should be conducted to create stronger evidence about hot spot policing in the region. The study calls for an evidence-based approach in policing by developing a suitable methodology for police managers when evaluating foot patrols, hot spot policing, and perhaps some other crime prevention strategies.

Keywords: crime mapping, hot spot policing, foot patrol, crime prevention, evaluation.

About the author

Dušan Stanković is a former police officer from Serbia, a PhD candidate in criminology at the University of Malmo, and an associate of the Belgrade Centre for Security Policy. He graduated from the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies and worked as a frontline police officer and police sergeant. He completed master's studies in criminology and social research methods at Lancaster University and law at the Faculty of Law, University of Nis. His interests are in crime trends, spatiotemporal analyses of crime, and prevention. His research is published through scientific articles, reports, and policy papers.

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INTEGRITY – HUMAN NARRATIVE OF CORRUPTION PREVENTION AND/OR AI-BASED LEGAL PROTECTION

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Purpose: The present article focuses on a change of perspective in the field of anti-corruption actions. It examines the new tools and possibilities the perspective of integrity can offer in order to eradicate corruption, with special regard to its effects on strengthening public trust. It advances the thesis that integrity management can help create a value-conscious system, which progressively becomes the true condition of eliminating corruption. The study examines the possibilities of information technology in the fight against corruption.

Design/Methods/Approach: The article offers a multidisciplinary overview of relevant international literature on the subject. Corruption is approached as a collective action problem in the first place. As we examine corruption in the human ethological approach, at the same time, in the AI environment, the methodology is based on scoping review, which differs from systematic review or meta-analysis since neither the literature search algorithm nor the summarizing aspects at the time of conclusion are able to be formulated exactly, nor are they known in advance.

Findings: It is important to gain familiarity with the distinctive qualities of human behavior in order to prevent corruption and reduce the risks of integrity violations. The controlling systems of societies can be analyzed with the help of human ethology. This is an extremely important aspect when the AI is still being taught and trained by humans.

Originality/Value: The article promotes the creation of a new educational program and the formation of specialists (integrity experts) who can identify and analyze the risks of corruption and the integrity of societies/organizations. Their work can strengthen society's ability to resist corruption.

Keywords: corruption, integrity, human ethology, prevention, trust, AI.

About the authors

Gyöngyi Major is an associate professor, has a PhD in economic science, and is a member of the Public Body of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. She was a collaborator at the Institute of Economic Sciences in Belgrade and the Institute for Strategic Research in Budapest, as well as a member of several international projects. At present, she is working on establishing a research institute to be headquartered in Budapest under the name Forum for Contemporary Female Reflection.

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REFLECTIONS ON THE LIMITS OF THE HUNGARIAN PLEA AGREEMENT

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Purpose: The paper aims to show Hungary's legal institution of the plea agreement and its limitations. Another aim is to show the characteristics of plea agreements in other European countries and how they differ from the American plea bargain.

Design/Methods/Approach: The paper reviews domestic and foreign literature and analyzes domestic legal norms. It also illustrates the application of plea agreement through practical experience.

Findings: In Hungary, the plea agreement will be applied with the entry into force of the new Criminal Procedure Act in 2018. The plea agreement has been introduced into practice on the Slovenian model. The legislator would expect this legal instrument to speed up criminal proceedings on a broader scale. In contrast, the number of criminal cases in which the legal tool is used is below 1%. The many limitations of a plea agreement mean that it is rarely used at the investigation stage. This paper describes these constraints on the side of the prosecution, the accused, the defence, and the judge. The legal instrument of plea agreement itself is good in criminal proceedings, but its current practice in Hungary needs to be changed to make it more common. The paper also presents practical solutions that the prosecution uses instead of a plea agreement but that fulfil its purpose.

Originality/Value: The paper could contribute to changing the application of plea agreement. The monitoring of changes could be the subject of further papers.

Keywords: plea agreement, plea bargain, criminal procedure, investigation, confession, trial waiver.

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LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL ASPECTS OF ILLEGAL DUMPING IN HUNGARY

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Purpose: The paper reviews the current criminal and law enforcement issues of the ecological crime of waste management in Hungary. It seeks answers to the question of what legal and enforcement obstacles weaken more effective action by the authorities, where, and what solutions could lead to a more effective enforcement regime.

Methods: Because of the research objectives, the study primarily reviews domestic and foreign literature and analyses domestic legal norms. Primary research examines and analyses the legal environment related to the waste management regime. The primary focus of the study is on criminal law regulation in the subject area and the investigative findings of the investigative authorities' professional management. As a priority, the processing of internal police material is considered. In addition, the statistical data on waste management offences, such as the number of crimes registered and the investigation and detection success rates, are also examined. Based on the findings, criminal and law enforcement-related indicators have been identified that are relevant to the fight against illegal dumping.

Findings: The amendment promised more effective and efficient action by the authorities. The average annual number of prosecutions under the offence ranges between 300 and 500 offences. This result is shallow, given that hundreds of thousands of tonnes of rubbish are dumped on streets, land, and forests every year. The fight against illegal dumping has many difficulties on the part of law enforcement. These include anomalies in the organisation of the police as an investigating authority regarding jurisdiction and competence. This fragmented and often difficult-to-interpret legislative environment gives many authorities overlapping powers. Also, sanctions by law enforcement are incapable of effectively deterring offenders. There is also the complexity and cost of proving this type of offence. And last but not least, there is a need for more professionalism among police staff. In this paper, the author presents the criminal situation and recommendations to improve the effectiveness of enforcement action.

Value: The findings may be helpful for policymakers, crime prevention practitioners, and policy management. The study has the potential to inform the broader scientific community about the complex dangers of illegal dumping. The study can be an essential starting point for further research into waste management crime, which is the most irritating of ecological crimes to the public. The study also indicates that the changed circumstances imply new criminal, organisational, and law enforcement reforms.

Keywords: waste management, illegal dumping, environmental protection, ecology crime, municipal waste.

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THE CAUSES OF THE EMERGENCE OF FAILED STATES

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Purpose: The paper starts with the genesis of the emergence of failed states in the period after the Cold War, which resulted in their weakening and transformation. One of the biggest challenges for the state is the threat of sovereignty as its most faithful guardian since the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648. Sovereignty will no longer be an inviolable guarantee for states, especially smaller and weaker ones, to rule over their territory and population. Namely, great powers and alliances will very often violate the principle of non-intervention from the UN Charter through unilateral military interventions against sovereign states, while the academic circles that support this will seek justification through an alternative to national sovereignty. In light of these changes, a new categorization of states will appear, where their strength is determined according to qualitative characteristics and not according to traditional quantitative ones (by size, population, military power, and GDP).

Design/Methods/Approach: Basic and general scientific methods will be used in the paper for the purposes of conducting research. Of the basic scientific methods, analysis, induction, and generalization will be used the most. The upcoming research will be based on the basic principles and postulates of the axiological theoretical-methodological direction in the methodology of the social sciences.

Findings: The aim of the paper is to shed light on the causes of the emergence of failed states after the Cold War, as well as to look at the relationship of the international community towards failed states.

Originality/Value: Through the importance of the work, it will be seen how much the international community embodied in the United Nations Organization, major powers, and regional organizations has the capabilities, mechanisms, and motives to prevent the emergence of failed states as well as to provide support to states facing serious internal problems.

Keywords: security, great powers, failed state, international community, Cold War, sovereignty.

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Hatidža Beriša, PhD, was born on April 22, 1961, in Pristina, Republic of Serbia. She is a lecturer at the Military Academy, National Defence School, Department of Strategy. She finished her basic academic studies at the Faculty of National Defense in Belgrade, Belgrade University, and gained her title as a defence and protection professor. She completed her master's degree at Union University in Belgrade, defending her master's thesis titled "Strategic Planning and Information Systems for the Defense System", and obtained the title of Master Manager. She completed her master's degree program at the Faculty of Protection and Defense at the University of Belgrade, defending her master's thesis titled "The Defense and Security Effects of Narcotics and Narcotics in Kosovo and Metohija" and earning her Master's Degree in Defence, Protection, and Security. She completed her doctoral studies at the Belgrade University Faculty of Political Science, defending her doctoral dissertation entitled "Political Violence in Kosovo and Metohija from 1945 to 2003", and obtaining the title of Doctor of Political Science. From 1987 to 2013, she was engaged in the service of the Army of the Republic of Serbia. Now she is a teacher at the Department of Strategy, National Defence School, Military Academy. She is the author of numerous expert and scientific papers, mainly in the fields of security, diplomacy, and geopolitics.

Katarina Jonev Ćiraković, PhD candidate, was born on April 21, 1987, in Belgrade, Republic of Serbia. She finished her basic academic studies at the Faculty of Political Science in Belgrade, Belgrade University, and completed her master's degree at the Faculty of Law in Belgrade, defending her master's thesis titled "Cyber Security in International Relations". At the moment, she is a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Political Science. She is one of the leading experts in the field of protecting children and youth on the Internet. Also, she is the author of numerous expert and scientific papers, mainly in the fields of cyber security, cyber terrorism, and geopolitics.

Aleksandar Ćiraković, PhD candidate, was born on April 21, 1983, in Loznica, Republic of Serbia. He finished his studies at the Military Academy. Also, he completed his basic academic studies and master studies at the Faculty of Political Science in Novi Sad. He is a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Political Science in Belgrade. He is the author and coauthor of numerous scientific papers, mainly in the fields of security, AI, and geopolitics.



MODEL OF REDESIGN OF FIELD TRAINING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION AND POLICE STUDIES BASED ON STUDENT EVALUATION

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Purpose: To develop, in addition to institutional evaluation, the need for summative evaluation as one of the elements of improving the didactic-methodical standard of teaching in higher police education, a student evaluation model has been designed to systematically and in an organized manner monitor the implementation and project measures for improving field training as a form of special forms of teaching at the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies.

Methods and Findings: From 2016 to 2019, 416 students participated. Men (229) were statistically significantly higher ($\chi^2=4,240$; $df=1$; $p=0.039$) than women (187). The level of acquired knowledge was rated at 3.73 ± 0.68 . The overall impression of field training was 3.68 ± 0.67 . The formation of an assessment of the level of acquired knowledge and acquired skills and the overall impression of field training statistically significant ($p<0,001$) has a common influence on the way of studying and years of training. The distribution of the relative frequencies of the most common open response groups is: 124 students (29.8%) declared for the longer duration of the training; objections to poor personal equipment were made by 70 students (16.1%); 58 students suggested more practical exercise (14%); 30 students proposed the introduction into training of new technical means of the police (7.2%); 21 students proposed preparatory training in Belgrade (5%); etc., while only one student replied that he was not interested in field training (0.2%).

Value: Based on the analyzed results, a redesign of the field training for the academic year 2022/2023 was carried out, which included almost all the suggestions of students. The results of this redesign have yet to be recorded and analyzed, but it is already clear that the model of a redesign of program contents at the UCIPS based on the evaluation of both students and training contractors, as well as the future employer (the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia), is the right way to model the optimal study program.

Keywords: redesign of the study program, field training, student evaluation, optimal study program.

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About the authors

Boban Milojković, PhD, (1964) is a full professor at the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies in the scientific field of police and security topography. For several decades, he has been engaged in the organization and implementation of special forms of teaching at the UCIPS, especially field training of students. The scientific fields in which he contributed are topography, thematic cartography, methodical-didactic standards of higher education teaching, and emergencies.

Saša Milojević, PhD, (1969) is a full professor at the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies in the scientific field of police organizations. For over 25 years, he has been engaged in the organization and realization of special forms of teaching at the UCIPS. The scientific fields in which he contributed are police tactics, the methodology of scientific research, and the methodical-didactic standards of higher education teaching.

Bojan Janković, PhD, (1976) is an associate professor at the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies in the scientific field of police organizations. For over a decade, he has been engaged in the organization and realization of special forms of teaching at the UCIPS. The scientific fields in which he contributed are police tactics, emergencies, and methodical-didactic standards of higher education.

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MISUSING THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM – THE ANALOGY BETWEEN THE “WITCH-HUNT” AND THE “GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR”

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Purpose: The topic of this paper is related to the analogy between “global war on terror” (with a special emphasis on foreign terrorist fighters) and “witch-hunt”, which as a social phenomenon shaped European medieval and early modern history. And the purpose of this paper is to shed light on some of the relevant aspects of counter-terrorism that are related to the (possibility of) misuse of the fight against terrorism.

Design/Methods/Approach: The research approach in this paper included a few different techniques, from literature review to analysis of documents and official announcements. However, the greatest emphasis is placed on the use of analogy as an intellectual tool that may be useful for inferring mutual characteristics among different social phenomena.

The paper highlights the main possibilities or concrete examples of misuse of the fight against terrorism and interprets it through the prism of the “witch hunt” to highlight the common traits of these two phenomena.

Findings: By exploring the analogy between “global war on terror” and “witch-hunt”, this paper sheds light on the complex interplay between counter-terrorism and political power. Findings revealed a strong likelihood of misuse in the fight against this contemporary crime, which primarily refers to the possible violations of the human rights of persons accused of crimes related to terrorism.

Originality/Value: In addition to the distinct conceptual vagueness and great fear that these phenomena cause, five key mutual characteristics are identified.

Keywords: “witch-hunt”, contemporary crime, terrorism, foreign terrorist fighters.

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MECHANISMS OF PSYCHOSOCIAL PROTECTION AND SUPPORT TO PROTECTED PERSONS IN THE PROTECTION PROGRAM WITH REFERENCE TO FAMILY AND CHILDREN AS CLOSE PERSONS OF PROTECTED PERSONS

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Purpose: One of the basic means of evidence in criminal proceedings, in addition to material evidence, is the testimony of witnesses. A protected witness (protected person) is a person who has received the status of a witness in a criminal proceeding by a court decision and whose life, health, property, and those close to them are at risk, and therefore enter the Protection Program. The protection program is one of the newer ways of supporting and helping protected persons within the framework of out-of-process protection. In addition to physical protection, it is necessary to provide the protected person in the Program with adequate psychosocial, economic, and legal assistance. This paper will discuss the psychosocial mechanisms of support and protection for protected persons and children as close persons. Also, a summary of the comparative legislation of the family in the protection program in South Africa and the Republic of Italy will be presented.

Design/Methods: Coordinates in which this work will move: Is the current psychological support for witnesses in the Program adequate? Does our Law on the Protection Program contain sufficiently elaborated provisions on psychosocial protection? Are efforts necessary to improve the current situation in practice and through positive legislation? What is necessary to do for the feeling of trust of the protected persons towards the police and judicial authorities? Does this target group live in a world of trauma? How to treat children as relatives of protected persons? The paper will use historical method, analysis method, comparative method, philosophical method, and modeling method.

Results: The goal of this work is the basic strengthening of the psychosocial system, which will result in more efficient processing of cases in the criminal justice system. In addition, the purpose is for the psychosocial approach to be a model for psychological support for protected persons in the Protection Program (witnesses and victims) in general, but also for those who have experienced extreme stress, then to manage to preserve their mental health completely, or at least to a sufficient extent, and in this connection, prevent their traumatization before, during, and after the end of the criminal proceedings. In this work, a review will also be made of children who have a greater chance of manifesting disorders (transgenerational transmission of trauma) that are connected to increased stress due to the role of their parents in the Protection Program.

Value: This work will provide a good starting point for future research because the topic is current in our country, at the global level, and, to an enormous extent, unexplored.

Keywords: Protection Program, vulnerable person, victim, psychosocial mechanisms and support, family, children as close persons.

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ONE APPLICATIONS OF ANALYTICAL HIERARCHICAL PROCESS IN FORENSICS AS A METHOD FOR RISK ASSESSMENT

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Purpose: The goal of this paper is to confirm the interaction of the application of system analysis and risk management methods with forensic engineering. System analysis and risk assessment methods represent the basis for building a fire protection system; one of those events is discussed in this paper. This is the basis for considering the scope of consequences from the forensic point of view, as shown in the form of air pollution that occurs on that occasion.

Design/Methods/Approach: In this paper, the Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method is chosen as a method of multi-criteria analysis for the purpose of group or individual decision-making. The method was applied for the purpose of identification from the perspective of forensic engineering and assessment of the effect of polluting substances. The assessment of the concentration of polluting substances was carried out on the basis of data from the National Network of Automatic Stations for Air Quality Monitoring in Belgrade.

Findings: In the paper, it was confirmed that forensics and systemic risk analysis are connected. It was done by using the example of the consequences of the fire in the Chinese shopping center in New Belgrade on August 12, 2021. The AHP method was applied to data related to the conception of air pollutants. The chosen locations where pollution was considered are Omladinskih brigada, Vračar, Zeleno brdo, and Vinča. It was confirmed that there was a correlation between the location of the fire and the concentration of the air pollutants, as well as contribution to the event analysis from a forensic point of view.

Originality/Value: With respect to general trends in the application of system analysis and forensic engineering, an attempt has been made to show correlations between these two approaches. In consideration of one specific case of a fire accident, it was shown that the results of systematic analysis are aligned with the forensic point of view. The surveys were carried out regarding measured data on air quality measurements at chosen stations in Belgrade.

Keywords: forensics, risk, system analysis, AHP method, fire, air pollutant.

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ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY INDICATOR TRENDS IN SERBIA AND EUROPE

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Purpose: The purpose of this paper is to determine the trends of various road safety indicators in order to identify the position of the Republic of Serbia in relation to other countries, especially bearing in mind that in the next strategic period, Serbia is planned to be among the 10 best-performing countries in Europe.

Design/Methods/Approach: Data for the analysis were collected from the national database on traffic accidents for the Republic of Serbia and from the annual road traffic safety reports based on the database on road traffic accidents for the European Union (CARE) and the International Road Safety Database (IRTAD). Trends were established using statistical analysis, and benchmarking techniques were used for comparison.

Findings: Serbia is increasingly lagging behind the best-performing EU countries.

Originality/Value: The paper is original, and its value is reflected in the assessment of Serbia's progress in improving road traffic safety as well as in finding countries from which to learn how to successfully manage road traffic safety in the long term.

Keywords: road traffic safety, indicator, trend, benchmarking, performance.

About the authors

The authors are traffic engineers, teachers, and scientists with long experience in researching traffic safety problems and finding solutions.

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IS THE THREAT POSED BY AIR WEAPONS UNDERRATED: ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT OF A PROJECTILE FIRED FROM AN AIR RIFLE ON A SANDY SUBSTRATE

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Purpose: The current Law on Arms and Ammunition (“Official Gazette of the RS”, nos. 20/2015, 10/2019, 20/2020, and 14/2022) allows the free acquisition of air weapons by persons over 18 years of age and even possession without any report to the competent authorities. With this paper, we want to point out that, although less dangerous than firearms, air weapons are also unsafe and should not be available to anyone with the sole requirement of having an ID.

Design/Methods/Approach: For the research described in this paper, optical methods for analyzing the impact of a projectile on a surface fired from an air rifle were applied. First, the shooting was monitored by a high-speed camera. Afterwards, the obtained recordings were analysed using the image analysis method ImageJ.

Findings: The impacts on the ground - sand during shooting from two different angles were observed. An air rifle, Steyer LG 110, 4.5 mm, with a projectile speed of 100 m/s, was used. It was observed that despite the fact that the applied kinetic energy is less than 10 J, penetration is evident, as is the power of deformation, i.e., the destruction of the substrate.

Originality/Value: In the direction of the discussion of the obtained results, measurements related to the dimensions of the projectile penetration trace, penetration depth, and surface deformation will be presented. In accordance with current events in the world, especially in Serbia, it is very important to take into account all the dangers that different types of weapons bring. The presented research is based on a real simulation of events and analyzed using a scientific approach.

Keywords: air weapons, projectile impact, security, high-speed camera.

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Darko Janković, a PhD student, is employed at the Military Academy, where he is the head of the Teaching Department. He specialized in mechanical engineering and, at one time, was a squad leader in various services.

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Maja C. Pagnacco, PhD (maiden name Milenković), has 15 years of experience in investigation, monitoring, and modeling complex nonlinear chemical systems (particularly oscillatory reactions and their subsystems).

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Aca Randelović, PhD, is a long-time teacher at the military academy. He is specialized in the field of military sciences. He performed all teaching duties at the military academy.

Prof. **Darko Vasiljević**, PhD, has 20 years of experience in developing complex optical and optoelectronic systems at the Military Technical Institute, Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Serbia. He has 18 years of experience in holography, holographic interferometry, biophotonics, and biomechanics.



INNOVATIVE AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES IN DETECTING BIOLOGICAL AGENTS USING CONTEMPORARY TECHNOLOGIES

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Purpose: Biological agents, such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and toxins, pose a significant threat to public health, so the timely and accurate detection of these agents is essential for effective response and mitigation. The traditional methods for detection are usually time-consuming, enable the detection of unknown or emerging pathogens, typically require skilled personnel, and suffer from inherent limitations such as limited sensitivity and low specificity.

Design/Methods/Approach: The systematic literature review and content analysis methods were applied along with comparative assessment and secondary data analysis.

Findings: The implementation of contemporary technologies has significantly increased sensitivity, specificity, speed, portability, and generally improved traditional methods for the detection of biological agents. Portable and real-time monitoring capabilities were achieved through innovative approaches like biosensors, which use bioreceptors and nanotechnology. Genomic sequencing enables fast identification and characterization of different biological agents, including unknown and emerging pathogens. Machine learning-based algorithms are used to analyze large datasets, identify patterns, and rapidly classify and identify new agents with high accuracy. Finally, multidisciplinary approaches that combine knowledge and techniques from different disciplines display encouraging possibilities to transform the landscape of biological warfare, optimize early detection of bioagents, reduce response times, and improve decision-making processes.

Originality/Value: Overall, the originality and value of this paper lie in its integrating and systematic approach to methods and techniques from diverse disciplines into a comprehensive, comparative, and multidimensional study of contemporary technologies used for the detection of biological agents.

Keywords: biological agents, bioagents detection, biosensors, nanotechnology, genomic sequencing, machine learning.

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Ana Todorović, PhD, is a senior research associate at the VINČA Institute of Nuclear Sciences – National Institute of the Republic of Serbia. Her primary research focus is in the field of biomedicine. Since 2019, Ana Todorović has been actively involved in conducting courses organized by the CBRN Center at the Institute VINČA, and since 2020, she has been a guest lecturer for the international course “The Basic Course of Bio Weapons and Toxicology” organized at the Chemical-Biological-Radiological-Nuclear Centre, Serbian armed forces, Kruševac, Republic of Serbia. Ana Todorović has published over 40 scientific publications and two book chapters with more than 400 citations.

Katarina Bobić, MSc, is a junior research assistant at the VINČA Institute of Nuclear Sciences – National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade. She is a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, module Translational Research in Neurobiology and Biomedicine. She is a highly engaged and motivated professional with a deep interest in innovative biological and biochemical methods and scientific alliance promotion.

Dunja Drakulić, PhD, is a senior research associate at the “Vinča” Institute of Nuclear Sciences – National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade (Institute VINČA). She is the PI of a bilateral project and a team member on several national and international projects. She is a guest lecturer on Master and PhD studies as well as on the course “The Basic Course of Bio Weapons and Toxicology” at the Chemical-Biological-Radiological-Nuclear Centre, Serbian Armed Forces, Kruševac, Republic of Serbia. She is engaged as a demonstrator in biological courses organized by the CBRN Center at the Institute VINČA. She has published more than 40 scientific papers.



THE INFLUENCE OF TIME ON OXIDATION PROCESS OF FLUORESC EIN-CHITOSAN POWDER CONJUGATES USED TO DEVELOP LATENT FINGERPRINTS ON DIFFERENT SUBSTRATES

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Purpose: The application of fluorescent powders is of great significance for the development of latent fingerprints on some unconventional substrates, such as firearms, skin, multicolored surfaces, etc. Therefore, researchers are constantly improving these formulations in order to increase their sensitivity and obtain adequate contrast.

Design/Methods/Approach: This paper deals with chitosan-based powder systems conjugated with fluorescein and crosslinked with sodium-tripolyphosphate, obtained by a simple ionotropic gelation process. Prepared powders were used to visualize latent fingermarks deposited onto non-porous (glass), semi-porous (varnish paper), and porous (wood) surfaces, with the aim of enhancing the quality of the developed fingerprints by fluorescence assisted by ultraviolet (UV) light. The effect of time on the oxidation of fluorescein in the conjugates used to develop traces was also investigated in order to determine whether the color change appears as well as whether it affects the quality of the visualized fingerprints over time.

Findings: Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR) analyses confirmed interactions between components of the system and the formation of conjugates. Optical microscopy indicated that the prepared powder showed uniformity in shape and size, supporting binding to the sweat and lipid fingerprint residues.

Originality/Value: The prepared powder showed good fluorescence under UV light and satisfying development of latent fingerprints deposited on different substrates. The results indicated that the prepared bio-based powder system could complement some of the routinely used fluorescent systems, particularly due to its relatively low price and non-toxic (eco-friendly) properties.

Keywords: chitosan, itaconic acid, fluorescein, sodium-tripolyphosphate, fingerprints, forensics.

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About the authors

Nemanja Vučković, M.Sc., earned his master's degree in Technology Engineering in 2019 from the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies, at the Department of Forensic Engineering, where he currently works as a teaching assistant. Since 2014, he has been actively engaged as a demonstrator at educational events/fairs, where he demonstrated the capabilities of routinely used methods as well as novel approaches for developing latent fingerprints. Since 2016, he has been an active member of the Forensic Polymer Section, where he conducts research on the synthesis, characterization, and application of various types of polymers in the field of forensic trace analysis.

Nevena Prlainović, Ph.D., graduated from the Department of Biochemical Engineering and Biotechnology and obtained her Ph.D. from the Department of Organic Chemistry of the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade, where she is currently employed as an Assistant Professor. Her research interests encompass the synthesis of organic compounds with potential biological activity and elucidation of the structure-activity relationship, enzymatically catalyzed syntheses, enzyme kinetics, and immobilization of enzymes. A specific part of her research represents the modification of nanomaterial surfaces, their characterization, and their use as a support for enzyme immobilization. Nevena Prlainović has co-authored 35 scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals.

Nikola Milašinović, Ph.D., is a Chemical and Material Science Engineer who earned his doctorate degree in 2011 from the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade. He has been working on several long-term projects covering the syntheses of different types of polymer matrices/devices suitable for the encapsulation/immobilization of various active substances. Since October 2016, he has held the position of Head of the Forensic Polymer Section. His research covers the synthesis and characterization of natural/synthetic polymer-conjugate powders that could be used in the detection and enhancement of latent finger/palmprints as substitutes for commercially available system applied in police everyday practice.



SURRENDERING BIOLOGICAL DATA TO THE POLICE: PUBLIC PERCEPTION ON THE MANDATORY BIOMETRIC IDENTITY DOCUMENTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

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Purpose: As of recently, a growing number of European Union states are launching new biometric identity documents with the goal of increasing security and preventing fraud. In light of collecting large amounts of citizens' biological information (fingerprint, facial image, signature) by the government, numerous questions and concerns must be considered, including the invasion of privacy and freedom of expression, the possibilities of misuse, unregulated and unauthorized use, and the accidental loss of such sensitive personal data. The Serbian national identity card, a biometric personal document obligatory for all civilians above the age of 16, has been issued since 2008 – a process operated and managed by the police. Considering the absence of prior referendum or public debate on this complex topic, the goal of this work was to initialize the assessment of public knowledge and opinions on various aspects surrounding surrendering their biological information to the government.

Design/Methods/Approach: In order to collect and statistically analyze the data presented in this manuscript, an anonymous survey was administered by the snowball sampling method to 620 participants who took part in the study voluntarily. The survey comprised thirteen questions focusing on basic comprehension and attitudes towards the use of biometric data in identity documents, as well as socio-demographic characteristics.

Findings: The results of this study demonstrated general acceptance of biometric identity documents among the interviewed public, with permissive views on chipped ID cards and overall familiarity with the type of data stored on the biometric chip. However, these views were contrasted with concerns regarding privacy and surveillance issues, as well as potential misuses of the technology. Such a dichotomy is discussed with respect to the relevant social context and its role in shaping public perspective on often contrasting concepts – public security and individual privacy.

Originality/Value: Only a few studies globally have examined the public's acceptance of the employment of biometric documents, currently a highly relevant and disputed topic in Europe. Therefore, this work not only sets, for the first time, a baseline for the Serbian public but also expands the limited international body of knowledge on the topic. Given the impact biometric identities have on the entire society, consideration of the public's voice is a prerequisite to designing or improving operational and legal frameworks for the responsible use and management of personal, biological data by the police.

Keywords: biometric identification, identity documents, public opinion.

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About the author

Smilja Teodorović, PhD, is a full professor at the Department of Forensic Engineering, University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies. She has been teaching Biometric Identifications course for the past thirteen years. She also teaches Genetics and Genetic Engineering, as well as Forensic DNA analysis. One of her research tracks focuses on the social, ethical, and legal aspects of biobanks and the use of biological data by the police and the government.



INDIRECT FORMS OF TORTURE IN PRISONS: THE CASE OF NORTH MACEDONIA

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Purpose: The purpose of the paper is to analyze the material conditions in Macedonian penitentiary institutions and detect ongoing problems that are not new. Also, the detected problems will be connected to international documents from the area, and possible solutions will be recommended.

Design/Methods/Approach: For the goals of the research, we've used analysis of content (the reports of CPT, the National Preventive Mechanism, and the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights) and the comparative method (comparing the progress or regress of the material conditions and respect of the rights of the incarcerated population in penitentiary institutions in North Macedonia).

Findings: Although there is certain progress in improving prison's conditions, most Macedonian penitentiary institutions still have wards with inhumane conditions contrary to international basic standards.

Originality/Value: Although the paper includes content analysis of published reports by international and national organizations and also NGO's, it still has importance because it synthesizes the most notable and important reports regarding the situation in North Macedonia's prison system.

Keywords: CPT, material conditions, North Macedonia, penitentiary institutions, torture.

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Ice Ilijevski, Ph.D., was born on June 29, 1986, in Bitola. He has finished security studies, defended his Master thesis titled “Sources of financing terrorism – criminalistics, criminological and criminal-legal characteristics” and defended his doctoral thesis titled “Control and oversight of the security system in the Republic of Macedonia – with particular reference to Ministry of Interior” at the Faculty of Security – Skopje, University “St. Kliment Ohridski” in Bitola, and gained the scientific title of doctor of sciences in the field of security. Ice Ilijevski has worked at the Faculty of Security – Skopje for 10 years. Now he is an associate professor at the Faculty of Law, University “St. Kliment Ohridski” in Bitola.

Ivona Shushak Lozanovska, Ph.D., has been part of the team of the Faculty of Law – University “St. Kliment Ohridski” – Bitola for many years, currently as an Assistant Professor in the scientific fields “Criminology” and “Juvenile Delinquency”. She completed her PhD studies in 2020 at the Faculty of Security in Skopje and her undergraduate and master studies at the Faculty of Law “Iustinianus Primus” – Skopje. As part of her professional development, she passed the bar exam and participated in numerous scientific conferences and gatherings in the country and abroad. She has published her papers in foreign scientific journals and participated in the realization of several projects.

THE USE OF MODERN PRINCIPLES OF POLICE MANAGEMENT BY POLICE OFFICERS IN COMBATING CRIME

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Purpose: The practical work of police officers in combating crime is based on several characteristics, such as risk, unpredictability, and time constraints. The use of modern principles of police management as a set of rules based on legally, theoretically, and experientially confirmed views is of great importance for the efficiency and effectiveness of the work of police officers. The main purpose of this paper is to point out the practical use of modern principles of police management in combating crime and how they serve police officers in making risk assessments, plans of action, and right decisions in limited time.

Design/Methods/Approach: This paper is report one and presents different literature views relating to the use of modern principles of police management by police officers in their practical work on combating crime. Moreover, the paper will present the advantages and disadvantages of the practical use of modern principles of police management based on the practical experiences of police officers and other research.

Findings: Police officers, in their practical work on combating crime, sometimes unconsciously use the modern principles of police management in order to delegate authority, make orders, control, etc. There are examples of police organizations that clearly define the use of modern principles of police management through instructions or guidelines for the work of police officers. On the other side, the Law on Police defines something similar to modern principles of police management that should be used by police officers when combating crime. For example, the Serbian Law on Police defines professionalism, depoliticization, cooperation, economy and efficiency, legality in work, and proportionality as some of the principles that direct the work of police officers.

Originality/Value: The primary results of the paper are to focus on the advantages of the use of modern principles of police management by police officers in combating crime, primarily during the decision-making process, risk assessment, and allocation of resources. In addition, the paper presents the disadvantages of the use of modern principles of police management by police officers in combating crime.

Keywords: police management, crime, principles, police officers.

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Dalibor Kekić, PhD, is an associate professor at the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies, Belgrade, whose narrower scientific speciality is police management. He published dozens of scientific papers, especially in the area of police management. He is also interested in emergency situations, especially regarding the participation of the police.

Miloš Milenković, MA, is a chief of section in the Sector for Emergency Management of the Ministry of Interior, Belgrade Republic of Serbia, whose narrower scientific speciality is emergency management. He is the author and co-author of several scientific papers, especially in the area of emergency management. He is also interested in police management.



IMPROVEMENT OF PHYSICOCHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF CARBON MATERIALS FOR USE IN PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT BY NOVEL PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES

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Purpose: In order to prevent injuries, illness, or lethal effects from exposure to chemical warfare agents or toxic industrial chemicals, appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) should be used. As main PPE parts, both the protective mask and protective suit can utilise activated carbon as absorbent material for the removal of toxic gases and vapours from breathable air. Durability, weight, selectivity, efficiency, and lifespan of PPEs are directly dependent on the active area and adsorption properties of the applied active carbon materials. These can be enhanced through the modification of carbon by “impregnation” with a variety of chemical compounds or metals or by the application of different production procedures.

Design/Methods/Approach: In this paper, qualitative research design has been applied, which includes a literature review, qualitative content analysis, and comparative analysis.

Findings: “Impregnation” of active carbon with metals (such as Fe, Cr, Cu, Ag, and Ni) improves selectivity and effectiveness due to additional catalysis of an agent’s decomposition reaction. A positive effect on the adsorption properties of activated carbon can also be achieved by thermo-chemical conversions (pyrolysis, gasification, hydrothermal carbonization, etc.) of carbonaceous biomass at high temperatures (300–900 °C) and under oxygen-limiting conditions. The physicochemical characteristics of activated carbon obtained in this manner are strongly dependent on the feedstock type and operating conditions. Additional modification, e.g., by exposure to gamma radiation, can also result in improvement in adsorption properties.

Originality/Value: In this paper, different active carbon preparation and modification techniques have been summarised, analysed and compared. This comprehensive review points out innovative approaches in PPE development and design and gives a basis for future R&D activities.

Keywords: activated carbon, PPE, chemical agents, impregnation, thermo-chemical conversion, modification.

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Đurica Katnić is a research assistant at the “Vinča” Institute of Nuclear Sciences – National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade. As part of his scientific research, Đurica Katnić deals with the development of chromatographic and instrumental detection methods for the determination of organic pollutants. In addition, he deals with the synthesis, characterization, and modification of carbon materials obtained from waste biomass, as well as the application of synthesized carbon materials for the adsorption of organic and inorganic pollutants. Đurica is also engaged in the development and improvement of materials and methods for CBRN protection and detection. He is the author/co-author of six scientific international papers.

Ivana Perović, PhD, is an associate researcher at the “Vinča” Institute of Nuclear Sciences – National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade. She is a research professional skilled in material science, chemistry, and electrochemistry. Her main focus is on developing new materials for electrolytic hydrogen production and hydrogen fuel cells, as well as materials related to CBRN protection and detection. She is the author of more than 30 scientific international papers and proceedings, with around 200 citations.

Mina Seović, PhD, is a research associate at the “Vinča” Institute of Nuclear Sciences – National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade. The emphasis in her research is on increasing the energy efficiency of alkaline electrolyzers, finding economically more favourable electrode materials whose catalytic activity is better or comparable to standard electrodes that are in use in industrial plants, and developing new procedures for their synthesis. Also, she worked in the Department for the Application of Chromatographic Methods of the Laboratory for Physical Chemistry. In this area, she was engaged in the development, optimization, and validation of analytical methods for the identification and quantification of organic pollutants from various environmental media. Additionally, she has comprehensive knowledge of materials associated with CBRN protection and detection.



INTERNATIONAL LEGAL REGULATION AND PROSECUTION OF CRIMES OF AGGRESSION

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Purpose: In the contemporary fragile international geopolitical environment, there is a tendency to constantly question the international legal meaning of aggression as a “leadership crime” against international peace. In this regard, the paper discusses the progressive development of the rule on the prohibition of aggression in international public law and its incrimination under international criminal law.

Design/Methods/Approach: The work is conceptually designed to follow the evolution of the legal regulation of aggression. Considering the various forms of manifestation of this criminal act, its meaning was examined by determining the content of the definitions accepted in international public and international criminal law through the use of legal-historical, comparative, and teleological methods.

Findings: The subject paper finds that the international legal determination of aggression after the Second World War was a long and arduous task with unpredictable consequences. The previous solutions were not satisfactory, which is why the work on defining aggression lasted until 1974, when the UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 3314 on the definition of aggression. This definition of aggression was the model for determining the definition of aggression in international criminal law that allows the International Criminal Court to prosecute individuals responsible for this crime against peace.

Originality/Value: The value of this scientific work derives from the historical and comparative legal analysis of the most important international legal acts that determine the meaning of aggression in international and international criminal law. In contrast to the international legal definition of aggression, which concerns the establishment of a peremptory rule, i.e., the prohibition of violations of *ius ad bellum*, the criminal law definition of aggression refers to determining the legal responsibility of individuals. Taking into account these differences, the author also pointed to the demarcation of competences between the UN Security Council and the International Criminal Court.

Keywords: aggression, crime against peace, UN, International Criminal Court.

About the author

Duško Dimitrijević is a professorial fellow at the Institute for International Politics and Economics in Belgrade. During his career, he paid particular attention to research in the fields of international law and international relations. He is a member of the editorial boards of the American and Moscow Yearbook of International Law and is the Editor-in-Chief of the scientific journal European Legislation and the Yearbook of the Serbian Association of International Law. From 2009 to 2014, he also served as the director of the IIPE, and on several occasions, he was the leader of several national and international macro-scientific projects.

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CONTROL AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES, GOOD PRACTICES IN THE LEADERSHIP

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Purpose: Managerial work is a process consisting of many components, the implementation of which requires highly trained and motivated managers. The study systematizes control within the elements of the management process. It processes the management science research results related to the audit, the content elements, methods, principles of the audit, the appropriate order of its implementation, and good practice.

Design/Methods/Approach: The study processes the available relevant literature on the subject. After a brief discussion of the management process and the implementation of the management function in the system, good control practices are presented during the presentation of the topic, which help managers make their work even more effective.

Findings: The study conveys useful methods, findings, and good practices for law enforcement professionals. The findings of the study are based on the processing of the relevant literature and the experience of good management practices. Good management practices of control are highly adaptable to all types of management control work.

Originality/Value: The topic has not been processed from this point of view before, despite the fact that there is significant literature on managerial work. The author discusses control as a management function in a new approach. The conclusions drawn from the processing of the topic and the recommendations can be effectively used in everyday management practice.

Keywords: management process, control, efficiency, cooperative control, control process.

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UTILIZATION OF RAPID IMMUNO-BASED AND NUCLEAR ACID-BASED DETECTION TECHNIQUES IN BIOSAFETY AND BIOSECURITY

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Purpose: There are a number of pathogens and toxins that can be used as biological warfare agents or as “weapons of choice” in terrorist attacks. Once released, deliberately or by accident, those agents pose a severe threat to human lives and public health. If they result in epidemics or pandemics, they can have overwhelming effects on the health system and economy. An extensive history of such events has emphasized the need for rapid and accurate identification of a biothreat event and proper monitoring of subsequent effects on public health through the implementation of well-known biochemical techniques in both biosafety and biosecurity procedures.

Design/Methods/Approach: In this paper, qualitative research design has been applied, which includes a literature review, qualitative content analysis, and comparative analysis.

Findings: Immuno-based and nuclear acid-based detection techniques identify the agent very precisely, but they are more complex, expensive, and time-consuming compared to fast, cheap, and easy-to-use nonspecific tests, such as protein or ATP detection kits. Different immunoassays give the possibility of simultaneous screening on larger number of bioagents; they are cheap, fast, and easy to perform. PCR techniques have great sensitivity and selectivity but lack the inability to distinguish between live and dead agents, and multiplexing is limited to 4–6 targets. Recently, ultrafast rtPCR detection (in a few minutes) was carried out with the same efficiency and sensitivity as conventional PCR techniques, which makes it really promising for application in portable detection kits.

Originality/Value: In this paper, advanced, specific identification techniques based on immunological and genetic reactions, such as ELISA and PCR, implemented in various detection equipment, kits, or biosensors have been compared in terms of sensitivity, selectivity, complexity, time consumption, and cost.

Keywords: biosafety, biosecurity, biological agents, immunoassays, PCR, ELISA.



About the authors

Gvozden Tasić, PhD, is a research associate and head of the CBRN Center at the “Vinča” Institute of Nuclear Sciences – National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade. His main research focus is on CBRN protection and green energy. He is a research team leader for the subject “Development and implementation of novel materials, methods, and protocols in prevention, protection, and efficient response to potential CBRN incidents”. Prior to that, he was the project manager on a project called “Hydrogen Energy – Research and Development of New Materials: Electrolytic Hydrogen Production, Hydrogen Fuel Cells, Isotope Effects,” funded by the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia. He is the author of over 30 scientific papers (over 750 citations, with an h-index of 13).

Miloš Mitić, PhD, is a Research Associate at the “Vinča” Institute of Nuclear Sciences – National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade, at the Department of Molecular Biology and Endocrinology. His research field is molecular neuropsychopharmacology, with a focus on preclinical models of psychiatric diseases and understanding the mechanisms of various pharmacological treatments. Beside academia, Dr. Mitić is engaged in CBRN training at the CBRN Center at the “Vinča” Institute. During his career, he has published more than 35 papers in international peer-reviewed scientific journals with around 660 citations and an h-index of 13.

Snežana Brković, PhD, is an associate researcher at the “Vinča” Institute of Nuclear Sciences – National Institute of the Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade. She is a highly skilled research professional in electrochemistry, chemistry, and material science. Her primary area of focus lies in the development of novel materials for electrolytic hydrogen production, hydrogen fuel cells, and supercapacitors. Additionally, she has extensive knowledge of materials associated with CBRN protection and detection. Her work has been published in more than 40 scientific international papers and proceedings. These publications have been cited more than 300 times, indicating the impact and recognition of her work within the scientific community.



ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF BIMETALLIC PLASMONIC METAMATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR FORENSIC APPLICATIONS

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Purpose: Plasmonic biochemical sensors, as a subgroup of optical refractometric sensors, are a topic of rapid research and development due to their ability to detect trace amounts of biochemical agents, even allowing detection of a single molecule. As such, plasmonic sensors find wide applications in forensic engineering, medicine and clinical diagnostics, food processing, environmental protection, and many more. Additionally, the use of plasmonic metamaterials is not limited to sensing, and they can be used in various fields paramount to forensic sciences, such as enhanced microscopy and spectroscopy, photodetector enhancement (entire optical range – UV, VIS, and IR light), signal processing, etc.

Design/Methods/Approach: In this experimental and numerical analysis, we present heterometallic multilayers consisting of alternating nickel and copper layers as a multipurpose metamaterial. Composite structures of nickel and copper films on a conductive substrate were fabricated by the electrochemical deposition (ED) technique using the dual-bath method. Optical properties were modeled using a 2D finite element method (FEM) with realistic material parameters in COMSOL Multiphysics® software. The mechanical properties of the laminate structure were determined using the microindentation method.

Findings: Based on the obtained results, we determined an increase in the composite hardness value of the laminated structure, and through numerical simulation, we confirmed the rich spatial and spectral optical behavior favorable for use in biochemical sensing and photodetector enhancement.

Originality/Value: In addition to rich optical behavior due to plasmonic effects, our proposed structure is also a metamaterial with improved mechanical and corrosion resistance properties. Copper possesses excellent plasmonic properties in conjunction with its low cost, especially when compared to other plasmonic materials such as gold or silver. Thus, improvements in mechanical properties not only increase the general robustness of the structure but also translate directly into achieving high optical functionality at a low cost.

Keywords: electrodeposition, dual-bath, composite hardness, plasmonics, finite element method, metamaterials.

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About the authors

Ivana Mladenović, PhD, focuses on experimental and theoretical research in the fields of material science and composite structures. Her main research fields are electrochemical deposition and characterization of metallic composite structures, with particular focus on metallic laminates and thin solid films and their structural-morphological and mechanical characterization. Since recently, she has been involved in the optimization of synthesis parameters for electrodeposition using various optimization software tools and the prediction of material mechanical responses via artificial neural networks.

Marko Obradov, PhD, focuses on theoretical and experimental research in the fields of photonics and plasmonics. His work includes the design and development of broadband optical superabsorbers and antireflective structures, the utilization of novel and alternative plasmonic materials, the application of plasmonics for enhanced light harvesting, and plasmonic structures for biochemical sensors. He participated in both national and international projects.

Milena Rašljčić-Rafajilović, PhD, focuses her research on the fields of microfluidics and TiO₂ nanoparticle synthesis. She is an expert in the design and fabrication of microreactors from Si/Pyrex glass and PDMS materials for nanoparticle synthesis. Dr. Rafajilović's skills also include the design and fabrication of various types of sensors and actuators, piezoresistive pressure sensors, photodiodes, and the integration of graphene with PDMS-based polymers.

Zoran Jakšić, PhD, is a retired principal research fellow. More than 35 years of research experience. The fields of interest are nanooptics and nanophotonics (including plasmonics and metamaterials), sensors, infrared photodetectors, MEMS (including microreactors), and NEMS. He led several international projects and subprojects, including EU-funded projects. He actively pursues his research work in spite of being physically disabled.

Olga Jakšić, PhD, has more than 25 years of research experience. Her fields of interest are research and development of micro/nanosystems (MEMS and NEMS), adsorption and desorption processes in plasmonics, metamaterials, MEMS and NEMS characterization, AI-assisted MEMS/NEMS design, and multiscale modeling.

Dana Vasiljević Radović, PhD, has more than 25 years of research experience. The fields of interest are research and development of micro/nanosystems (MEMS and NEMS) sensors and platforms (including microreactors), optics and plasmonics, and also AFM characterization of materials, surfaces, and MEMS/NEMS components. Within the many national and international projects she led, more than 10 PhD students completed their theses.

Jelena Lamovec, PhD, focuses her interest in the field research and application of microelectronic technologies in the manufacture of semiconductor components, research in the field of chemical and electrochemical applications, deposition of thin films on metal and semiconductor substrates, examination of the micromechanical properties of materials and MEMS structures as hybrid composites, and research in the field of mechanochemical methods for obtaining nanoparticles of various materials by application of the high-energy planetary mill. Newer research also includes the application of materials for forensic purposes.



DETECTING AND PROVING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT

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Purpose: This article will show how domestic violence could be influenced by digital technology and digital violence online, in the virtual world, causing real suffering and damage. People now more often start making different kinds of relationships using modern technology, different devices, and web applications. It is very easy to become a victim of that kind of person, especially if the victim often uses social platforms and does not have friends and relatives willing to listen and help. We could freely talk about digital domestic violence sui generis. He or she can always say that his or her intention was not to hurt anyone but to express feelings. The vulnerability of the victim, with its high level and intensity, will help the offender break even the last attempt to fight. The public prosecutor is involved in this procedure from the beginning and helps victims to be protected from a possible offender, to be more powerful psychologically and economically, and to live freely from violence.

Design/Methods/Approach: Analytical approach, comparative method, legal-friendly, without difficult explanations and theoretically complex approach.

Findings: We started making a vision of the world without violence as much as possible, without domestic violence, and without gender-based violence, creating the initiative and web platform "Report-Stop" (the author of the abstract is the author of this initiative). Digitalization could be used against digitalized offenders in this (in)humanly digitalized world.

Originality/Value: Researching and presenting subject and challenges connected to domestic violence in digital surroundings, new sort of legal challenges and empowered approach.

Keywords: domestic violence, digital surroundings, criminal liability, victim.

About the author

Jasmina Krštenić has been a Public Prosecutor since 2003. She is a PhD candidate with more than 30 published and presented articles in domestic and international publications and conferences. For two subsequent years, she presented articles at the international conference "Archibald Reiss Days".

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THE MECHANISM FOR CIVIL CONTROL WITHIN THE OMBUDSMAN – MACEDONIAN CASE

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Purpose: The paper shall focus on the authorizations that were granted to the Macedonian Ombudsman by the 2018 amendments to its law. As noted in the 2018 Draft Law, the new provisions will help the Ombudsman be promoted as an additional corrective to the investigation system in cases of criminal acts committed by employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs when exercising police powers, as well as by members of the Prison Police. In order to achieve such a task, a special organizational unit was established, the so-called “Mechanism for Civil Control”.

Design/Methods/Approach: The paper shall pay attention to the relevant literature, international and domestic legal acts, and practices that address the issue of human rights being violated by officials entrusted with police powers. Furthermore, the paper shall analyse the work of the Mechanism for Civil Control as a new unit within the Ombudsman.

Findings: From the references used, the paper shall be able to determine whether the legal acts comprehensively regulate the authorizations given to the Ombudsman – the Mechanism for Civil Control – and how they are applied in practice.

Originality/Value: The paper shall give an answer to the question of whether the new unit formed within the Ombudsman has justified its establishment, i.e., whether the protection of human rights is strengthened in accordance with the standards of the Council of Europe and other international standards, as well as whether support and protection are provided to the victim/s and their interests.

Keywords: human rights, police powers, civil control, Ombudsman, Macedonia.

About the author

Katerina Krstevska Savovska has finished law studies (graduated lawyer, 2001), has defended her Master thesis titled “The legal limitations of the police powers in relation to the protection of human rights and freedom” (Master’s degree in legal sciences – Criminal Law, 2007), and has defended her Doctoral dissertation titled “The Role of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture in Protecting Persons Detained by the Police” (PhD in Legal Sciences, 2011) at the Faculty of Law “Justinianus Primus” – Skopje within the University “Ss. Cyril and Methodius” – Skopje. She currently works as a Professor in the scientific area of criminal law at the Faculty of Security – Skopje within the University “Ss. Kliment Ohridski” – Bitola. She conducts lectures for the subject “Criminal Procedure Law” on first cycle of studies. Also, she conducts lectures on the second and third cycles of studies. She has published more than 70 publications (papers, reports, researches, etc.), as a lecturer, moderator, or participant, has attended numerous events in the field of criminal justice system, police powers, and human rights (conferences, seminars, trainings, workshops, etc.), and has been a member of several working groups, committees, and projects.

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CONTEMPORARY MIGRANT CRISIS ON THE BALKAN ROUTE: CRIME CHALLENGES FOR SERBIA AND NORTH MACEDONIA

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Purpose: The Balkan route has caused security challenges for Serbia and North Macedonia. A huge number of refugees over time turned out to be a security issue. In the case of the mentioned states, it is important to point out that the Balkan route influenced the increase of criminal activities related to human trafficking and illegal transit routes. The purpose is to analyze movements through the Balkan route and define in which security domains this route has contributed to the disruption of existing security.

Design/Methods/Approach: Research relies on analysis, where content analysis, functional analysis, comparative analysis, and structural-functional analysis will be applied. It is also planned to use synthesis, abstraction, deduction, and induction in combination with rational choice techniques. The classification will be used when creating a typology of effective and ineffective state mechanisms in the period observed in the research, in accordance with the previous analysis.

Findings: Analyzing the mechanisms used by Serbia and North Macedonia in the fight against criminal activities on the Balkan route, we have found that the institutions of the mentioned states were effective during the migrant crisis. In the “cross-section” chapter, we are presenting the failures of the national mechanisms of Serbia and North Macedonia during the migrant crisis. In the third chapter, we are proposing practical options that could contribute to the process of facing Balkan route threats. The findings are valuable in the science of security in the context of small states and the necessity of the integrated cooperation of small states in dealing with modern security challenges and threats.

Originality/Value: Analyzing the Balkan route through the prism of crime explains the worth of the paper in the scientific sense, i.e., how much this crisis has contributed to the increase of criminal activities in the region and how the authorities of these states are dealing with it.

Keywords: migrant crisis, Balkan route, Serbia, North Macedonia, criminal activities.

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About the authors

Marjan Gjurovski, PhD is an associate professor for the scientific fields of Integral Security at the Faculty of Security at the University of “St. Kliment Ohridski”. Before his employment at the University of “Sts. Cyril and Methodius” – Skopje, he made a professional academic engagement at the Faculty of Security at the University of “St. Kliment Ohridski” – Bitola.

Mitko Arnaudov, PhD, has been engaged at the Institute of International Politics and Economics as a research associate since March 2022. His main research interests are international relations, Serbia’s relations with its neighbors, regional relations in the Balkans, neighborhood relations in the Western Balkans, contemporary Balkan history, European and Atlantic integration processes in the Western Balkans, and the Western Balkans’ relations with the European Union. In October 2021, Arnaudov received his PhD from the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Belgrade, defending his doctoral thesis “Foreign Policy Strategy of the Republic of Macedonia from 2006 to 2015”.



INVESTIGATION OF CRYPTOCURRENCIES CRIME

Milana Pisarić, PhD

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Purpose: The purpose of this paper is to recognize adequate investigation methods and techniques that tackle the characteristics of cyber financial crime involving cryptocurrencies.

Design/Methods/Approach: By analyzing study cases of successful cyber investigations, insight will be gained into the methods and techniques that proved to be effective in cryptocurrency-related crime investigations.

Findings: Financial crime involving cryptocurrencies is increasingly being committed over cyberspace, and cybercriminals are using a combination of hacking and social engineering techniques that are bypassing current individual, financial, and corporate institution security. A rise in the use of various forms of cryptocurrency in wide-ranging types of criminal activities urged law enforcement agencies to find a proper method, techniques, and tools in order to find, collect, and analyze electronic evidence.

Originality/Value: The same as machine learning and deep learning methods are widely used in financial domains to support trading activities, mobile banking, payments, and making customer credit decisions, they could be used in combating cyber financial crime, especially cryptocurrencies-related forms. Also, other techniques of digital forensics may be customized for the collection and analysis of electronic evidence.

Keywords: cybercrime, cyber financial crime, cryptocurrencies, cyber investigation, digital forensics.

About the author

Milana Pisarić defended her doctoral dissertation in 2016 on the topic “Specificities of Proving Cybercrime” at the Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade. Her areas of scientific interest include criminal procedure, digital forensics, electronic evidence, high-tech crime, and information security. She is employed as an assistant with a Ph.D. at the Faculty of Law, University of Novi Sad.



CHILD VICTIMS AND MEDIA IN SERBIA: FAILURE TO PROTECT

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Purpose: Triggered by the prolongedly serious situation in Serbian media concerning the reporting on crimes committed against children, this paper aims to shed light on the contemporary challenges regarding the protection of child victims in media discourse, but also on the relevant international standards, normative frameworks, and practices in the subject field, and to provide some of the *de lege lata* and *de lege ferenda* solutions.

Design/Methods/Approach: In developing this paper, the author applied the triangulation of the research methods, including, but not limited to, comparative, legal, and statistical analysis, accompanied by case studies of the recent media reporting on cases involving child victims. The methodological approach also included longitudinal qualitative analysis of several cases where the continuous breach of the rights of child victims was identified.

Findings: The findings show that the present normative framework ruling the media reporting on children who are crime victims, even solid in general, does not provide full protection, and its implementation in practice remains weak and inconsistent, including a failure of the media self-regulatory bodies, the prosecution service, and the judiciary to ensure accountability for breaching the rights of the child victims through secondary victimization and stigmatization.

Originality/Value: This paper contributes to the actual discussion regarding the role of the media in the development and implementation of public policies on the state reaction to the growing violence against children in Serbia, attempting to provide scientific evidence as a starting point for opposing populism-based policymaking.

Keywords: child victims, child rights, media, the right to privacy, the right to human dignity.

About the author

Milica Kolaković-Bojović, PhD, is a senior research fellow at the Institute of Criminological and Sociological Research, Belgrade, the Vice President of the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances, and a member of the Advisory Committee on Nominations of Judges of the International Criminal Court. Her research interests and fields of expertise are focused on criminal justice, justice system reform, human rights, and harmonization with international standards. She is also a former lecturer and associate professor at several universities in the Western Balkans. From 2018 to 2022, she was Editor in Chief of the *Journal of Criminology and Criminal Law*. So far, she has published two books and more than 90 research papers, articles, and book chapters in English and Serbian.

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PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA – VICTIMOLOGY REVIEW

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Purpose: To present the most significant problems identified during the harmonization of the criminal legislation of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the legislation of the European Union in order to exercise the rights of victims of criminal offenses and prevent secondary and tertiary victimization. The goal of the paper is to emphasize the facts and try to present different types of secondary victimization of victims of criminal offenses according to positive regulations but also according to the work of institutional mechanisms for the protection of not only the rights of victims but also the human rights of all the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Design/Methods/Approach: Through the rights related to the “right to a fair trial”, they strive to propose changes to the corresponding provisions of *de lege lata*, as well as the adoption of special laws. In doing so, several different scientific methods, both general and special, are used. Content analysis, the analytical-synthetic method, the method of abstraction and concretization, and the observation method are the most represented.

Results/Findings: The general conclusion refers to different forms of secondary victimization of victims of criminal offenses that must be suppressed and prevented in order to establish the rule of law.

Originality/Value: The actuality of the topic and the problem of protecting victims of criminal offenses. Knowing this problem is the first step in its analysis. The second step of the analysis is inevitably directed towards the critical disclosure of the basic issues that are proposed to be regulated by a special law in order to successfully reform the system of protection for victims of criminal offenses in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Keywords: victimology, protection of victims, secondary victimization, rule of law.

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Miodrag N. Simović is an academician, a full member of the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a full professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Bihać, and a professor emeritus.

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Marina M. Simović is Secretary at the Ombudsman for Children of the Republic of Srpska and Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law of the Apeiron University in Banja Luka, BiH.

CHILDREN AS THE MIRROR OF SOCIETY

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District Court in Celje, Slovenia

Purpose: Almost two decades ago, the first discussion about peer violence in Slovenia was accompanied by surprise when it was problematised, as it was understood as normal. Nowadays, the perception of the situation has improved, and not only in Slovenia, because we are all aware of the consequences of such behaviour and cannot ignore it.

Design/Methods/Approach: For the purposes of preparing the article, the media of public information were reviewed and compared, an overview of research in this field was carried out, and programmes and instructions were published.

Findings: Objective comparisons between countries is provided by international research, which covers the issue of peer violence (PEV). The results of the WHO research support the thesis that the issue of PEV is dealt with more in the lower grades of primary school and that more should be done in this regard, especially in the upper grades of primary school. Comparable results on the prevalence of PEV can also be found in the report of UNICEF and UNESCO. The International Reading Literacy Survey PIRLS 2011 identified the presence of PEV in school among 4th grade students and showed that approximately 32% of students are victims. In Slovenia, it appears that we have significantly fewer bullies and victims among 11-year-olds than the average in other countries; the number of bullies and victims among 13-year-olds rises to the level of the average of other countries and remains the same even among 15-year-olds. In any case, the deceased victims of recent events in countries nearby should not be neglected.

Originality/Value: As a society, we have a problem that we have stopped looking each other directly in the eye because of computer screens. Those responsible neglected to observe the development and functioning of children, taking into account the changes in society. The research results are an indication that it is necessary to pay more attention to the balanced development of children.

Keywords: peer violence, research, legislation.

About the author

Mojca Rep is an associate judge at the District Court in Celje and a mediator in criminal cases at the Higher Court in Ljubljana.

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LEGAL LIABILITY IN A SELF-DRIVING CAR ACCIDENT

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Purpose: The goal of researching this issue, which is set as a hypothesis in the title of the paper, represents an area that has not been considered in domestic scientific circles, and there is no legislative perception of this issue, which certainly cannot be ignored, even though it is not currently a burning issue. But it is undisputed that it is necessary to start on time with theoretical consideration in order to create basic ideas that could represent the basis of future legislative regulation.

Design/Methods/Approach: Analysis of international legislative regulations that are important for the field of research and their comparative consideration, and the deductive method will certainly be used. Bearing in mind the raw nature of this research topic, the approach will certainly be critically perceived and not just based on presentation and hypothetical determination.

Findings: The conclusions of the research will be formulated at the end of this paper. Because of everything presented so far, it is difficult to list them in a concise list, but they will certainly represent not only the author's position but also a presentation of some of the already partially stated positions of foreign authors who dealt with this field.

Originality/Value: The development of technology, especially in the fields of information and computers, led to a stage in which the improvement of the auto industry also followed. In recent years, more and more car companies have installed technologies in their vehicles that enable partial or even complete autonomy when moving; that is, to a certain extent, a driver is no longer needed in cars in the form known until now. Given that legislation is always one step behind, it is the same here. From a practical point of view, the hypothesis of this paper refers to misdemeanor or criminal liability in the event of a traffic accident caused by, or participated in by, a vehicle that was in autonomous driving mode at that moment.

Keywords: misdemeanor responsibility, criminal responsibility, legislative issues, modern form of responsibility, autonomous vehicles.

About the author

The author is an academician of the International Academy of Sciences and Arts and an associate professor at the Faculty of Law, with 15 years of active scientific and academic experience in the field of criminal and misdemeanor law, which is not only based on theory but also through many years of work in the High Court in Novi Sad as a judicial associate.

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APPLICATION OF THE KNOWLEDGE BASE GRAPH OF THE NEO4J BASE IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS CAUSED BY THE COVID-19 VIRUS

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Purpose: The presence of the disease caused by the Corona virus in the twenties of this century certainly meant a risk to the health of citizens and the security of the state. Starting with the COVID crisis that has faced the whole world, solving a possible future emergency situation is of vital importance to protect vulnerable communities. The presence of a security risk requires thorough research and consideration of the place and role of the information system in the function of contributing to mitigating and preventing the spread of infectious and other diseases. Information architecture is key in helping potential users of an information system understand their environment and easily find what they are looking for. Information architecture means creating a structure of info pages that allows the user to understand the necessary information. Information architecture deals with the principles of organizing information and moving through it to help people successfully find and process the data they need.

Design/Methods/Approach: Graph databases are a category of NoSQL databases that are increasing their presence on the market every day and whose popularity among users is growing. Thanks to their ability to manage a large amount of simple as well as complex data, this category of NoSQL databases is used in well-known social networks. The most famous graph databases are: Neo4j, FlockDB, InfiniteGraph, and OrientDB. The subject of research in this paper is the study of the possibility of applying intelligent information systems in risk management, as well as the presentation of Graph databases that can be used in various areas of society, especially in conditions of increased risk.

The basic methodological requirements will be met: reliability, reality, accuracy, and systematicity. In this sense, during the research, the following will be used: mathematical methods, comparative method, methods of analysis and synthesis, and methods of induction and deduction.

Findings: Bearing in mind the increasing possibilities of applying intelligent information systems in management, the research of this topic required setting the following goals:

- The scientific objective refers to the possibility of applying Graph databases in risk management in the most diverse sectors, but also with ordinary users.
- The practical goal consists of showing the application of intelligent information systems in management in various circumstances that require the need to collect and process data from various devices (from the field of information technology), their analysis, and their application.

Originality/Value: The research will use secondary sources of data, among which relevant academic and professional literature in the field of intelligent information systems, as well as data from relevant scientific institutions, are available.

Keywords: risk, COVID-19, information technology, database, information architecture, Neo4j Base Graph.

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About the authors

Predrag Milošević, MSc, graduated from the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies, Department of Informatics and Computing. In 2021, he obtained the title of Master of Information Science at the aforementioned University. He is a doctoral student at the University of Pristina, with temporary headquarters in Kosovska Mitrovica, Faculty of Technical Sciences. He is employed in the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia, Sector for Analytics, Telecommunications, and Information Technologies.

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USE OF DRONES IN POLICE COUNTER-TERRORIST ACTIONS IN URBAN AREAS

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Purpose: The purpose of this paper is to analyze how drone capacities are used in police counter-terrorist actions in urban areas and could be used in these activities in the future, bearing in mind that drone proliferation is having a strong momentum.

Design/Methods/Approach: The authors describe and enlist the most common and significant characteristics of terrorist actions in urban environments, characteristics of police special tactics in the same environments, and analyze how, based on the aforementioned characteristics, drone capacities are and can be used to improve police tactical responses in these crises.

Findings: The authors conclude that drones are a potent tool in police special tactics, highlight the best practices, and point out the most important deficiencies. Additionally, the authors give projections on how they could be used in the future, both in police prevention and reaction.

Originality/Value: The paper's value is reflected in the fact that it connects a very significant topic, that is, drone proliferation, with a very specific, but not so well documented, area, that is police counter-terrorist actions in urban areas. The findings, especially the projections given by the authors, could serve as a base for further research to improve proactive law enforcement responses and preventive special tactics.

Keywords: drones, police counter-terrorist forces, police tactics, security.

About the authors

Radojica Lazić is a professor and dean at the Faculty of Diplomacy and Security. He received his doctorate at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Belgrade, in 2013. He had been carrying out professional duties in the security sector and participated in establishing the National Security Academy, where he had been conducting lectures in several security subjects. He has published several monographs, textbooks, and scientific papers, participated in international scientific conferences, and is a reviewer in domestic scientific journals and magazines.

Miloš Jevtić is a teaching associate at the Faculty of Diplomacy and Security. His main areas of research are emerging and disruptive technologies and police and military special tactics, gear, and forces. He has published expert articles and research papers, with those published in *Military Technical Courier* and *Vojno delo* being the most significant. He participates in domestic and international scientific conferences, seminars, and workshops and engages in tactical demonstrations of Serbian special forces.

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SOME CHALLENGES TO THE ROLE OF THE POLICE IN THE RULE OF LAW

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Purpose: The purpose of this work is to analyze all the challenges that the police face in modern society, especially those that concern their role in preserving the rule of law. In order to achieve this goal, the paper will explain what the rule of law entails, then move on to the analysis of the role of the police in its preservation and the key challenges that stand in the way of it.

Design/Methods/Approach: Different research methods will be applied in the work. First of all, content analysis, both literature and court practice, which refer to the defined standards of police behavior in the rule of law. In addition, for the purposes of the work, an analysis of the results of empirical research on the attitudes of the Serbian police towards some issues that are of key importance for understanding the role of the police in the rule of law will be done.

Findings: The results of this research should help provide a clearer insight into the basic challenges for the role of the police in the rule of law, the key causes of the inadequate response of the police to the demands and expectations that the rule of law sets before the police, and the ways in which this can be eliminated.

Originality/Value: In the existing literature, there are numerous analyses and works on the topic of the rule of law, as well as the role of the police in a democratic society. The original value of this work is primarily reflected in the focus on the key challenges that the police are facing in this modern moment, with special reference to the situation in Serbia.

Keywords: rule of law, police, challenges, human rights, legality.

About the author

The author is a full professor at the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies, where he teaches the following subjects: Introduction to Law, Police and Human Rights, Human Rights, and Police Subculture. He is the author of a large number of monographs and works in which he primarily deals with the issues of the rule of law, human rights, and the role of the police in a democratic society.

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MINOR INTENSIVE OFFENDERS – INDEPENDENT CRIMINOLOGICAL TYPE OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

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Purpose: The purpose of this paper is to re-examine the Anglo-American and German criminological concepts of intensive (chronic, persistent) criminal behavior of minors based on the results of longitudinal studies of individual criminal careers of minors in Russia. Justify the need for a targeted and systematic criminological study of juvenile offenders who commit a large number of crimes at a minor age and continue their criminal career after the age of majority in Russia.

Design/Methods/Approach: The study was carried out within the paradigm of comparative criminology and comparative law with a study of the personal and criminal cases of minor offenders, their biographies, and individual criminal careers, including interviews and surveys.

Findings: In the Krasnodar region, minor offenders who committed five or more crimes and also had a negative forecast of the continuation of a criminal career in the future were identified. The provisions of T. Moffitt's dual taxonomy theory about the existence of different etiologies in different types of juvenile offenders, as well as the important role of biopsychological and social factors in explaining the causes of intense (chronic, persistent) criminal behavior of minors, were confirmed.

Originality/Value: The study of minor intensive offenders as an independent criminological type of juvenile offenders will allow us to uncover the unique etiology of their criminal activity, describe the development of their criminal career trajectories, and increase the reliability of the forecast of further criminal activity. This will allow us to develop and implement special crime prevention programs focused on the characteristics of this target group.

Keywords: minor intensive offenders, juvenile crime.

About the author

Yulia Sokol, PhD, works at the Civic Chamber of Krasnodar City, Krasnodar, Russia. Her fields of scientific research include comparative criminology, recidivism, juvenile crime prevention, and intensive (chronic, persistent) criminal behavior of minors. She earned her Master's degree in "Jurisprudence" at Kuban State University (Krasnodar, Russia) in 2018. She received her PhD degree at the Baltic Federal University named after I. Kant (Kaliningrad, Russia) in 2022. The title of her dissertation is "Prevention of intensive criminal behavior of minors: foreign experience". She is the author of 41 scientific papers.

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THE CHARACTERISTICS OF AN INVESTIGATION BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

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Purpose: This paper aims to analyze normative and practical aspects of the investigation process before the International Criminal Court (ICC), including relevant jurisprudence of the ICC. The ICC is based on the provisions of the Rome Statute (Statute), which are of a hybrid legal nature. Namely, there are institutes and provisions relying on the civil law system, as well as those derived from the common law system. Further to that, the Statute is an international treaty, and it implies certain compromises by itself. Certainly, such an approach can be found in relation to both the material and procedural provisions of the Statute. Therefore, the purpose of the paper is to provide an adequate systematic interpretation of applicable provisions of the Statute, in light of empirical research encompassing the ICC's decisions on authorization of the investigations.

Methods/Approach: In order to achieve the above-mentioned purpose, the research uses a combined theoretical and practical approach, including comparative legal method, linguistic interpretation, and contextual analysis of the relevant judicial decisions. Also, it inevitably includes a reference to the relevant rules and principles of public international law, international relations, criminology, victimology, etc.

Findings: The preliminary examination phase preceding an investigation, as well as investigating activities themselves, last for a long period of time in the practice of the ICC. The issue of an investigation provides a variety of issues to be analyzed because the investigation phase of the proceedings before the ICC is complex and includes various procedural subjects, such as victims, NGOs, states, etc. It also refers to allegations about grave crimes committed and includes high-ranking state officials as suspects. Admittedly, there are significant jurisdictional and practical issues regarding the effective realization of an investigation, especially if an investigation includes nationals of non-party states to the Statute.

Originality/Value: The value of the paper is embodied in the results of multidisciplinary research on investigations conducted by the Office of the Prosecution of the ICC. In respect to the focus of the investigation, both aspects of gravity – qualitative and quantitative – must be satisfied. Individuals that are likely to be the object of an investigation should bear the greatest responsibility for the alleged crimes. The originality of the paper is to be found in its contextual dimension – putting the actual outcomes of the investigations in relation to the normative requirements set out in the Statute and/or defined by the ICC in its practice.

Keywords: International Criminal Court, investigation, preliminary examination, grave crimes.

About the author

The author is a teaching assistant at the Law Faculty of the University of Novi Sad. He is a Ph.D. candidate in the field of public international law. He has successfully defended a project of a doctoral dissertation, "Jurisdiction of International Criminal Courts". Together with international criminal law, his fields of academic interest are state responsibility and international relations. He is the author/co-author of 15 scientific papers, a participant at 20 scientific conferences, and a researcher on three scientific projects.

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EFFECTS OF COMMUNITY SANCTIONS AND MEASURES IN REDUCING THE OVERCROWDING OF THE SERBIAN PENITENTIARY SYSTEM

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Purpose: The amended Serbian criminal legislation presented a series of new community sanctions and measures. Their introduction is the result of the need to apply a different, alternative approach to punishment to perpetrators of lesser crimes in order to reduce the empirically confirmed negative consequences of short-term imprisonment as well as the number of persons deprived of their liberty in the prison system. The purpose of the paper is to determine, after a decade and a half since their introduction, the effects of new community sanctions and measures on reducing the overcrowding of the Serbian penitentiaries.

Design/Methods/Approach: Using statistical methods, the authors tried to establish a correlation between the application of new alternative criminal sanctions and measures and the reduction of the number of persons deprived of their liberty.

Findings: Optimal occupancy of the penitentiary system is a prerequisite for the successful functioning and achievement of the goals of the execution of prison sentences. The results of the research show that there is no significant impact of the application of alternative criminal sanctions and measures on the reduction of the number of persons deprived of liberty in penitentiaries, although there is an obvious increase in the application of certain new alternative criminal sanctions.

Originality/Value: The value of the research is a critical analysis of data that shows an increase in the number of applied community criminal sanctions and measures but also the inefficiency of their application in reducing the problem of prison overcrowding. Such results are significant in promoting a different concept of applying alternatives to imprisonment, both before formal social control bodies and in the general public.

Keywords: community sanctions and measures, penitentiary system, prison overcrowding.

About the author

Zdravko Grujić, Ph.D., is an associate professor at the University of Priština in Kosovska Mitrovica, Faculty of Law, in the scientific field of criminal law. At the basic academic studies, he teaches Criminology, Penology, and Criminal Policy, as well as several criminal law subjects at master's and doctoral degree studies. He is the author of over fifty scientific papers in the field of criminal law sciences and a reviewer of numerous scientific journals in the country and abroad. Currently, he holds the position of Vice-Dean for Scientific Research and International Cooperation at the Faculty of Law University of Priština in Kosovska Mitrovica. <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7433-1468>

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TYPES OF ISLAMIC EXTREMISM IN NIGERIA

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Purpose: Nigeria is a complex society with a large number of different ethnic groups, within which religion has an extremely powerful influence. The author's intention is to examine the thesis that, when it comes to Nigerian politics, the influence of religion is a direct consequence of the colonial rule of Great Britain and that the exact same influence of religion on politics in Nigeria has produced religious violence and political insecurity in the country.

Design/Methods/Approach: In this paper, the methods of analysis, synthesis, hypothetical-deductive method, methods of generalization, and concretization will be used.

Findings: Religion plays an important role in Nigerian society as a complex and multidimensional phenomenon, with each religion proclaiming its belief to be the only right and true one. Hence, every religion aims to spread faith and protect religious identity, and as a result, a defensive attitude among members of the religious community appears, which can take the form of fundamentalism, extremism, or religious violence.

Originality/Value: Given that the purpose of this research is the analysis of fundamentalism, from which extremism arises, in the paper, the authors analyze in detail the types of Shia and Sunni extremism, the extremism of the Ahmadiyya religious community, and the extremism of the Koranists in Nigeria. The authors conclude that with the help of an inadequate interpretation of sacred texts, fundamentalist groups appeal for general mobilization and seek support at the domestic and international level in order to achieve their aspirations, which are often manifested in the form of violence, sometimes against another religious or ethnic group, and sometimes against the state.

Keywords: fundamentalism, extremism, Sunnis, Shiites, Ahmadiyya Quranists, Nigeria.

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Boris Bursać was born in 1989 in Belgrade. He graduated from the Faculty of Business in Belgrade. He earned his master's degree from the University of Belgrade (majoring in Terrorism, Organized Crime and Security). He completed specialist studies at the Faculty of Political Sciences in Belgrade. He earned his PhD degree from the Faculty of Political Science, majoring in International Relations and European Studies. He is actively involved in scientific research and publishes scientific papers on the topic of terrorism and terrorist organizations. At the session of the Belgrade City Assembly, held on June 20, 2022, he was elected a member of the Belgrade City Council.

Predrag Terzić was born in 1984 in Kraljevo. He graduated and completed his master's studies at the Faculty of Political Science in Belgrade. In December 2015, he defended his doctoral thesis titled "The Influence of European Liberal Thought on the Political Modernization of Serbia from 1878 to 1903". He is employed at the Institute for Political Studies as a senior research fellow. By invitation, he taught at the State University in Samara and the University of Maribor. He published one monograph and over 40 scientific papers. Among domestic journals, he publishes his works in "Srpska politička misao", "Baština", "Kultura polisa", "Godišnjak Fakulteta političkih nauka", "Politička revija", and "Medjunarodna politika".

DUŠAN ALIMPIĆ'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTRODUCTION OF "BERTILLONAGE" IN SERBIA

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Purpose: In this paper, Alimpić's contribution to the introduction of Bertillon's method of registration and identification in Serbia will be analyzed. Thanks to him, in 1904 the Law for Measuring, Describing, and Identifying Criminals was passed, by which the generally accepted modern method at that time, bertillonage, was introduced in Serbia. Thereby, Serbia fulfilled the previously undertaken international obligation, and while using this method, the Serbian police ranked among the developed European police forces.

Design/Methods/Approach: In this paper, historical, comparative-historical, and biographical methods will be used, as well as dogmatic legal and content analysis methods.

Findings: Dušan Alimpić is a historical figure of the greatest importance for the Serbian police. He laid the foundations for the work of the modern Serbian police, to which he dedicated his entire professional career. One of his main merits was introducing bertillonage into the practice of the Serbian police, for which Alimpić undertook numerous activities: he translated the study on bertillonage from the French language, adding his own clarifications, he spent some time at the institute of the Minovići brothers in Bucharest training the practical application of bertillonage, he drafted the Law for Measuring, Describing, and Identifying Criminals, which was adopted by the Serbian Assembly in 1904, and as a chief of the Anthropometric Police Department established in 1905, he acquired the necessary equipment and trained police officials in the application of bertillonage.

Originality/Value: A study of the work of Dušan Alimpić in introducing bertillonage in Serbia contributes to the knowledge of the development of criminalistics in Serbia and reveals Alimpić's work as one of the reasons why the Serbian police was modernized in a relatively short time.

Keywords: Dušan Alimpić, Alphonse Bertillon, bertillonage, criminal technique.

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