

## REPORT ON THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY IN SARAJEVO

The European Society of Criminology held its annual conference in Sarajevo between 28th August and 1st September. The conference entitled ‘Crimes against Humans and Crimes against Humanity’ was the 18th Annual Meeting of the Society and it can be called the international ‘feast’ of criminology, which gathers researchers, academics and practitioners not just from the continent but from outside Europe, too. Scientists represented the US, Canada, Australia and there were criminologists present from Asia (i.e. from Macao) and from South America, too.

We can proudly say that Hungarian science was also highly represented at the Sarajevo meeting, 6 researchers took part in the event from the National Institute of Criminology (Klára Kerezi, Szilveszter Póczik, Gabriella Kármán, Krisztina Farkas, Orsolya Bolyky and Eszter Sárík) but other institutes such as the University of ELTE (Miklós Lévy, Dávid Vigh, Éva Inzelt) and the University of Miskolc (Erika Váradi) were also represented at the Bosnian scientific event.

The conference provided the participants with the opportunity to choose from a rather colourful criminological ‘menu’: more than 300 sessions and 4 plenary panels were held, all in all with 1300 participants. In the following article we have chosen to describe those programs in which the authors took part and which they found in some aspect impressive and important to consider either from the content side or due to methodological reasons.

This year the National Institute of Criminology in Hungary (OKRI) participates in an international research project entitled “Balkan Homicide Study” (BHS) which is a research project led by the University of Zagreb and supported by the Max Planck Institute (Freiburg, Germany). On the ESC conference a pre-organized panel was held for the BHS working group and also to serve the public needs. The panel was chaired by *Eszter Sárík* (OKRI, Hungary).

At the meeting, we heard three presentations about the present state of the research and some preliminary findings. The Hungarian presenter was *Orsolya Bolyky* (OKRI, Hungary) who is conducting the Hungarian part of the work. She spoke about the characteristics of homicides in Hungary as she has been involved in four different homicide research

programs in the past 7 years. She emphasized that the preliminary results of the Balkan Homicide Study seemed to be very similar to the earlier ones. For instance, the most common type of homicides is domestic violence in which the offender and the victim have been living together and they are relatives of each other. They are usually alcoholics living in disadvantaged circumstances with prolonged family conflicts and it is only the matter of pure chance who becomes the offender or the victim.

The Romanian presenter, **Andra Roxana Trandafir** (University of Bucharest, Romania) reported technical issues related to the BHS research. For example, they had many problems with the access of criminal files because they had to provide the licenses from the chief court and the chief public prosecution, then from the local authorities. It took lots of efforts and was rather problematic but finally they could review the files. Just as a side note, it is important to mention that the Hungarian researchers are very lucky in this respect, as they are able to access the criminal files in their Institute due to the fact that OKRI belongs to the Chief Prosecution so they have the chance to request the criminal documents from the local prosecutors' offices.

The Croatian colleague, **Petra Sprem** (University of Zagreb, Croatia) presented the preliminary results of their research on homicides. The main difference from the Hungarian outcome lied in the school attainment of the offenders, which was significantly higher than that of the Hungarians. We assume that these results will change when they finalize the whole data-process. The most striking common feature was that alcohol played an important role in homicide cases and the most frequent motive was the so-called "last drop in the glass" situation, which could be traced back to prolonged family conflicts between the offender and the victim. The high number of female victims also characterizes these extreme violent cases.

At the ESC Conference, there was a pre-organized panel entitled "Homicides in Europe" chaired by **Marieke Liem** (Leiden University, the Netherlands), who is one of the best-known European researchers on the topic of homicide. In this panel, we heard about some new research efforts conducted on homicides by other countries.

In general, it can be stated that the main question of this theme was 'why the number of homicides decreases in the European countries'. The most common answers were related to demographic reasons: as it is well-known, the young European population has been dramatically decreasing, while violent offending peaks at the age of 15-29. We think that the decrease is not only the result of this factor but there should be other reasons too, for example, some effective crime-prevention campaigns.

**Karolina Suonpaa** (University of Helsinki, Finland) viewed the phenomenon from another perspective: she approached the issue from the victim's side. She mentioned the two laws of Veli Verkko (1933, 1951), which are the following: "1.) Static law: in countries with high homicide rates, the proportional share of female offenders and victims is small, and vice versa, when the homicide rates are low, the percentage of female offenders and victims is higher; 2.) Dynamic law: when overall homicide rate is decreasing, the change is driven by the decrease in male offending and victimization." In Finland, the drop in homicides committed by males can be traced back to the decrease of lethal violence between males. It is important to mention that among the female offenders, partner killing has decreased but other types of killing are increasing.

There was a presentation about the Scottish trends of homicide by **Sara Skott** (Mid Sweden University, Sweden). The Swedish researcher chose Scotland because this area is mentioned as the most violent "country" in Europe. The researcher found that the different types of homicide demonstrate different trends over time. Although there has been an absolute decrease in all types of homicide, some categories have increased in relative terms. For example, while lethal public violence with the use of sharp instruments showed a fall over time, lethal domestic violence shows growing tendencies.

**Janine Janssen** (Avans University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands) spoke about a new type of homicide in the Netherlands which is related to the phenomenon of immigration and to different cultural issues, namely "dowry deaths". What are the dowry deaths? Predominantly in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, the bride's parents give a lot of values and things to the young couple, which is called a dowry. If the wife dies, the husband and his family inherit them. "Dowry deaths" mean that the husband and his family drive the wife into suicide or the wife is killed in order to obtain the dowry. In the Netherlands, more and more attention is paid to arranged and forced marriages but currently, there is no link between the start and the end of a marriage. Generally, no distinction is made between domestic violence and the honor-based violence – because the latter is strange for the modern European approach. All in all, we can say that forced marriages and the proof of dowry deaths would cause many new problems in the Netherlands and in Germany, too.

In the homicide panel, there was a presentation on a special topic of homicides, namely the phenomenon of suicide-homicide cases. **Simone Walser** (University of St. Gallen, Switzerland) and her colleagues conducted research on the aforementioned theme in the period of 1990-2014. According to their definition, homicide-suicide means that the homicide is followed by the offender's suicide within 24 hours. This definition is more or less different from the one which is created by Hungarian researchers because they added two

more important criteria. One of them is that the offender and the victim(s) should be very close to each other emotionally. The other one is that the whole act (homicide and suicide) is committed continuously and there isn't any "emotional and will pause" in the decision-execution process. The Swiss researchers' conclusions are very similar to the Hungarians': the homicide-suicides have a relatively stable trend, while the number of simple homicides is decreasing. Most of the homicide-suicides happen in the family between family members, while several simple homicides occur outside domestic circumstances even against strange victims. The phenomenon of multiple victims is more common in homicide-suicide cases than in simple homicides but the multiple offender lacks from these cases, as the offender always commits the homicide-suicide act alone. In Switzerland, the most commonly used tool for simple homicides is a firearm but in homicide-suicide acts, the firearm is even more popular. The offenders are older than the simple homicide offenders and they usually have clean criminal records (they are not "typical criminals"). Among the homicide-suicide victims there are more females, more young or very old people (less middle aged ones) but less persons are under the influence of alcohol or drugs during the incident and less persons have criminal records.

The other topic which was interesting for us was the question of sanity and insanity in criminal law, concentrated on sentencing. In connection with this topic, there were two presentations: one of them was about the "shades of sanity" and how the levels of insanity are taken into account by the court in Slovenia by *Mojca M. Plesnicar* (Institute of Criminology, University of Ljubjana, Slovenia). This examination looked at statistical as well as original empirical data from an extensive study in sentencing for homicide in Slovenia in the past 25 years. The research revealed that the experts often cross over to decision-making or the courts over-rely on experts.

The other presentation was about the effects of forensic mental health expertise on judicial decision-making in the Netherlands by *Roosmarijn van Es* (Leiden University, the Netherlands). The presenter emphasized that the role of the experts was different between the adversarial system and the inquisitorial system: while in the adversarial system, the expert is instructed by defense or the prosecution, in the inquisitorial system, the experts are court-appointed with the option of contra expertise. She also spoke about the "foggy border" between the competence of the experts and the court in sentencing.

Besides the Balkan Homicide Study, the so called 'Balkan Criminology Network' organized several other pre-arranged panels, in which Eszter Sárík, Orsolya Bolyky and Szilveszter

Póczik also took part. The first panel dealt with the issue of victimology due to the fact that the 3rd volume of the BC series will be published on the phenomenon of victimology and victim protection in the Balkan region.

The panel was chaired by **Professor Gorazd Mesko** (University of Maribor Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security), who is currently the President of the European Society of Criminology. In the opening phase of the session, he shared the state of the art of the Volume which is edited by him and Eszter Sárík, the Hungarian representative of the Balkan Criminology Network.

The first presenter **Nikolić-Ristanović Vesna** (University of Belgrade, Serbia) talked about the features of Serbian victimology in which she detailed the legal regulation of the position of the victim and also described the position of the science branch itself in academic context in Serbia. She talked about the Serbian development of the science in the 1980s and 1990s and emphasized that besides the strong influence of the feminists during 1990s, the influence of other factors was added: initiatives of human rights organizations, development of victimology as an academic discipline, increase in crime, ethnic conflicts on the territory of the former Yugoslavia and related humanitarian initiatives. **Suncana Roksandic Vidlicka** (University of Zagreb, Croatia) and **Zoran Buric** (University of Zagreb, Croatia) held a presentation on Croatian victimology: besides the legal and scientific aspects, they drew a picture on the media and public reflection of the victim. In the last couple of years, media and public discourse has been strongly focused on victims of domestic violence, especially women. The Croatian presentation underpinned the assumption that there is a lot in common in the region not just in legal, political and historical aspects, but also in the approach of the every-day people.

**Suncana Roksandic Vidlicka** formulated criticism on the phenomenon of victim blaming, which is extremely typical when it comes to the issue of sexual crimes.

The last presenter of the session was **Eszter Sárík** (OKRI, Hungary) who drafted a new structure for the analysis of victimology relying on the work of Tihamér Tóth. The Hungarian researcher drew attention to the thin ice on which researchers have to 'survive' in terms of victimology as the various topics and methods of this branch of science may (mis)lead experts to out-science areas, namely to the field of politics. There are so many different topics and areas of this scientific branch that researchers should be very cautious when drawing conclusions from either of them. The victimological morphology, the interdependence of the victim, the position of the victim need other tools, methods and sources in order to make a clear understanding of them.

The Balkan Criminology Working Group held a panel which gave a general overview on its past and drew an outline of the possible and potential future activities. The Working Group, which was established in 2013 by the Zagreb University of Law and operated under the aegis of the Max Planck Society, would finish up its work in its original (and current) financial and scientific form.

The panel was arranged to make a clear evaluation of the project and to see the new pathways to be followed. The first speech was held by *prof. Hans-Jörg Albrecht* (Max Planck Institute, Germany), who stated that despite the minor loopholes in the planned results, the working group proved to be very successful and instructive in many aspects. It was able to bring experts together from the region, it provided the criminologists from the Balkan with the opportunity to learn about the legal and criminological map of Eastern-European criminological research and knowledge, it helped the members to establish smaller networks, too. Prof. Albrecht praised Anna-Maria Getos Kalac for the fruitful and creative idea as well as the successful realization.

*Prof. Michael Kilchling* (Max Planck Institute, Germany) also expressed his appreciation for the idea and execution of BC-activities in the past five years. Besides grabbing the advantages and results of the Working Group, he also detailed its professional and academic values. He drew attention to the Volumes, listed the participants and writers, highlighted the importance of the Annual Conferences, which were held in Zagreb in the first two years, then in Sarajevo, in 2016 in Bucharest and last but not least in 2017 in Budapest, organized by the National Institute of Criminology. This latter conference was unique in terms that the Max Planck Gesellschaft could not add any financial contribution to that, so Hungary was the member of the Balkan family which could prove the attractiveness of BC relying only on the financial help of the host country (and the host institute, namely with the help of the Chief Prosecution) and on its human resources.

Last but not least, *Prof. Anna Maria Getos Kalac* (University of Zagreb, Croatia) also drew the conclusions from the 5-year joint job. As the mother of the idea of bringing the scientific field of the Balkan region together, Prof. Getos Kalac also expressed her dissatisfaction with the past 5 years, formulating self-criticism besides talking about the positive aspects. She said that the network was quite productive in the networking tasks, in building personal and academic relations, in joining international projects and also in drawing attention to this geographic area in terms of criminology. It should be stated that the joint research efforts and the promotion can be called very successful, which is also supported by the fact that the current head of ESC is also a well-known expert of the Balkan region,

namely Prof. Gorazd Mesko. She summarized the other personal successes, too, such as the finished PhD dissertations of those Croatian students who could finalize their job under the umbrella and with the help of the Freiburg Max Planck Institute. Prof. Getos Kalac also shared her self-critical thoughts on the fact that her plans seemed to be unreasonable in terms of joint publications, as it turned out that the four Volumes for five years with more than 15 experts (usually with university background and overwhelmed with university tasks) proved to be an over-ambitious plan. At the end of the panel, the presenters formulated their ideas regarding the future plans, mainly in the form of international projects (such as the aforementioned Balkan Homicide Study) and expressed their hope that the common work and cooperation would not come to an end with a changing financial and institutional background.

Besides the BC panels, the Hungarian participants also visited sessions which provided the researchers with the opportunity to gain knowledge on hot research topics in international terms, such as the topic of extremism and the issue of migration.

The most impressive research projects were conducted in the aforementioned topics and they were to describe various phenomena related to these issues. The Swiss examination had the broadest scope which examined the correlations of right-wing, left-wing and Islamist extremist attitudes among juveniles.

The study assessed extremist attitudes and behaviors of right-wing, left-wing and Islamist extremism among more than 8000 juveniles (about 17 years old) from Cantons of all language regions by means of a standardized online questionnaire administered in school classes in Switzerland. The study included various types of questions on “classical” predictors such as personality characteristics, school and family socialization characteristics, socio-economic status, peer-group and media use but besides that, it was profound content-wise, too. The questionnaire was not only developed to gain knowledge on the behavior of these juveniles but asked about their approach, testing their political and philosophical standpoints, including in-depth questions on their knowledge on left and right wing philosophy (the main statements and guidelines of Marxism as well as e.g. social Darwinism on the other side of the coin). The study also measured the influence of extremism on the development of identity.

That part of the assessment was presented by **Dirk Baier** (Zurich University of Applied Sciences, ZHAW) and based upon the findings of a common research effort of Sandrine Haymoz (HETS-FR) Maria Kamenowski, (ZHAW) and Patrik Manzoni (ZHAW). According to Erik Erikson, identity development is part of the psychosocial development and

partly takes place in adolescence, though it accompanies the mature (or prone to grow) personality through their lives. In comparison to adulthood, one's own identity is less stable in adolescence, which makes, among other factors, especially young people more receptive to extremist ideologies. The cause of this attraction may lie in the fact that these ideologies often offer simple and clear answers to fundamental questions of life and thereby offer an answer to potential identity diffusions. The presentation intended to throw a glance at the proportion of the different factors which might influence (or determine) extremist attitude. Besides the factor of age and gender, it calculated with the importance of adolescents' social background factors such as social integration, discrimination experiences, political attitudes and extremist attitudes of the social environment.

The study also analyzed issues which may have looser links with extremism but can still influence the approach of youngsters to such ideologies. One of them was the topic of religion, on which *Anna Isenhardt* (Zurich University of Applied Sciences, ZHAW) conducted a deep analysis. In her presentation, she doubted the basic statement of criminology regarding religion, namely that the religious attitude operates as a protective factor for violent behavior or any kind of criminality. She presumed that the development of world religions has always been closely connected to violence, one reason for this lies in the fact that each religion claims absoluteness. That is why the presenter suggested examining the relationship between extremist approach and behavior, as well as religious commitment.

She has conducted her research among adolescents (in the aforementioned sample) with the presumption that teenagers are considered to be particularly receptive, as far as social and thus extremist interpretations are concerned, especially for disadvantaged or deprived adolescents, turning to a religious community can compensate social exclusion and provides a sense of belonging.

According to the research findings, there were huge differences in respect of extremism among the different denominations and religions. The smallest proportion of persons with extremist attitude could be detected among youngsters with Buddhist emotional affiliation and the largest was measured among those who joined the church of Evangelical Episcopalians. These two extremes seemed rather logical if we consider the fact that Buddhism represents an approach based on acceptance, patience and tolerance, whilst the so-called small churches (such as the Evangelical Church) usually design and develop very strict rules for the community in order to keep members together, as well as to gain control over them. In line with the strict relationism, the members of the sect-like small churches tend to feel and express more prejudice against unknown people (namely towards foreigners or people belonging to other churches) than members of the so-called historical churches

(i. e. Catholics, Lutherans or Calvinists). Muslim youngsters represented a special research-cluster in this examination, and the presumption of the former religious background of the radicals was not underpinned by the results of the survey. Thus, especially in consideration of radical Islamist extremism, the question arises what kind of role religious elements play in this form of extremism.

The presentation lacked the information on the measurement of religiosity, though it represents crucial importance in this field. The session was extremely interesting and important not just due to the results of the presented study but also because it had fuelled an intensive dispute on science theory dilemmas, too. Questions were drafted in connection with the choice of subject and in respect of the question framing in the research. The participants' remarks suggested that researchers and academics should be very cautious and careful in drafting an examination, as the assumptions, as well as the conclusions may generate prejudice against certain groups. These criticisms were mostly formulated regarding the extremism of youngsters belonging to Islam groups.

The presentation of *Rivas Lorena* (Griffith University and Griffith Criminology Institute, Australia) also dealt with immigration-related issues but outside Europe, particularly in Australia. The qualitative research of the young researchers (PhD student) was curious about the circumstances in the Australian Immigration Detention, and it was to explore a special group: the female detainees.

After framing the legal and political status of immigration detention and formulating sharp criticisms from human rights, international law and ethical points of view on the institution, the presenter showed the results of the reports that she had conducted with 11 women, mostly wives incarcerated in immigration detention. It examined the effects of immigration detention on their mental, physical and social well-being.

The study results reflected a very gloomy reality, as besides the everyday struggle of the detainees, they were to confront harsh and severe problems within their families, too. The most difficult emotional task for the detainees is to cope with the unpredictability of the length of the incarceration, although no criminal act had been committed by them. The long-term period of being cooped together generates frustration, especially because no constructive activity can be done in these camps. This frustration may (and does) lead to conflicts between the detainees but not just between the locked-up males but among family members, too. Frustration often ends up in acts of domestic violence. Despite the experts, psychologist and doctors represented in high numbers on the territory of the camp there are still urging problems to be solved.

As a conclusion, the author suggested that there are lessons for European detention policies which could be drawn from the Australian policy experience.

A special approach and attitude research was conducted by **Nir Rozmann** and **Sophie D. Walsh** (Bar-Ilan University, Israel) in Israel in respect of the 'Perceived Threat and Punitiveness in Inter-Group Crime: The Role of Victim Ethnicity and Blaming Attribution.'

The study was designed to test the Integrated Threat Theory (ITT; Stephan & Stephan, 2000), which states that people are more likely to support harsh punitive sanctions toward out-group members than towards those who are similar to them and belong to their social, ethnical and racial group (in-group members).

The study presented showed the outcomes of a research project in which the attitudes of legal students were measured. The study included 230 Israeli-Jewish participants, who received a vignette describing an Israeli-Arab perpetrator of crime and either an Israeli-Jewish or Israeli-Arab victim. Participants were to answer questions regarding perpetrator blame and the deserved punitive sanction. The results underpinned the assumption that the ethnic similarity between the observer and victim moderated the relationship between threat perceptions and punitiveness. The examination may give a clue in understanding labeling theories and also the differences in punishments in respect of ethnicity. It is important because it raises the attention of lawyers (practitioners and also academics) to the phenomenon of bias in sentencing, which means that the sensitization and awareness in such issues are inevitable in order to make clear and just decisions.

One of the most impressive presentations was interpreted by **Richard Staring** (Erasmus University of Rotterdam, the Netherlands) from the Netherlands upon his research done on the issue of radicalization, among juveniles of Turkish origin living in the Netherlands. Qualitative research was conducted in the period of 2014-2016 among 150 youngsters which measured several social background factors besides their educational attainment, their attitude and their socio-cultural domain of incorporation. These Turkish-Dutch youngsters proved to be very diverse, yet simultaneously very much focused on their own ethnic group.

The presentation showed several examples of their diversity. There were young people very much involved in the issue of their origins but there were personal quotations from interviews which proved the other side of the coin. There are many young Turks who are not at all interested in their Turkish culture as their orientation is not in any terms past-focused; they keep their eyes on building a Dutch future. Despite all these differences, it can be stated that these youngsters have to suffer a lot of prejudice and cultural discomfort.

They cannot really belong to either of the Dutch communities and they often have to interpret their individuality and personal ideas in the crossfire of comments overwhelmed by bias. Although many common academic explanations for radicalization and extremism such as deprivation, exclusion and a strong internal orientation are present among these Turkish-Dutch youngsters, they are not attracted to Islamic radicalism, nor extremism.

**Dr. Szilveszter Póczik** (OKRI, Hungary) held a presentation on an international project, the so called PoMigra – “Politically motivated crime in the light of current migration flows”, which is a separate project group of the European Expert Network on Terrorism Issues (EENeT) – a European expert community dedicated to multidisciplinary and multi-agency analysis and research, providing comprehensive insights into the phenomenon of terrorism.

The PoMigra project is an international cooperation project funded by the International Security Fund (ISF) of the Terrorism/Extremism Research Unit at the German Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) and managed by the latter organization. PoMigra intends to support the prevention of extremism and de-radicalization, as well as to improve the protection of people from politically motivated crime. The 8 countries participating are Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Greece, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Hungary.

The project contains five particular research fields: a) comparative analysis of immigration and emigration, b) migration-oriented concepts by the political parties, c) interpretation of migration by public and social media and d) comparative examination of migration-related criminal data. The outcome should be a comparable overview based on the final country reports, which allows general conclusions on migration in terms of the European political atmosphere and politically influenced criminality.

In the afternoon session, the PoMigra issue was interpreted in details by **Eszter Sárík** (OKRI, Hungary), who also chaired this panel. She talked about the legal and statistical part of the project, focused on the problem of data gathering and the issue of hate crimes.

The focus was on the methodological lessons of PoMigra which could be learnt not just by the participants but also by academics and practitioners who take part in criminological projects on an international level. The legal differences between the countries make all comparative research difficult, which is made even harder by the fact that the statistical data are gathered based on diverse logical principles.

The intrinsic dilemma of criminology was also highlighted by this research project, namely the fact that criminology as a social science thinks in terms of the ‘phenomenon’,

whilst law should deal with certain crimes which are necessarily the post-construction of reality. As regards hate crimes, it has turned out that there are similarities between some countries both in legal and statistical terms (i.e between Germany and Austria or Hungary and the Czech Republic) but in order to make the common understanding more valuable, the Criminal Codes should be harmonized more which would need at least common definitions for certain criminal acts.

The panel “Migration, Civic Education and Criminology” was particularly interesting from the Hungarian point of view, as far as it was actually the presentation of the newly published study book “Refugees and Migrants in Law and Policy. Challenges and Opportunities for Global Civic Education” (ed. by Helmut Kury&Sławomir Redo, publ. by Springer).

The study “Law and (B)Order: Will border fence and transit zones stop the asylum seekers’ wave on the Balkan route?” (pp. 75-109) written by *Szilveszter Póczik* and *Eszter Sárík*, both researchers at the Hungarian Institute of Criminology and as such, team members of the General Prosecution Office, presented the philosophical, historical, sociological and political roots of the Hungarian migration policy. *Prof. Redo* (Vienna Liaison Office, Vienna, Austria), chair of the section underlined the values of this study and welcomed the Hungarian authors individually.

In the panel “Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Central European Countries: Reality, Politics and Creation of Fear Societies” chaired by *Helmut Kury* from the Max-Planck-Institute, Freiburg, other representatives of the V4 countries explained the migration-related situation in their countries.

*Miklós Lévy*, Professor of Eötvös Loránd University described the Hungarian situation in the context of migration in respect of legal changes.

The well-known Polish criminologist *Irena Rzeplinska* and *Klaus Witold* (both from the Institute of Law, Polish Academy of Sciences) explained how the migration “crisis” in 2015-2016 affected the Central European Countries and the attitudes of Poles towards refugees, as well as the prejudice-motivated crimes against migrants.

*Miroslav Scheinost*, the reputed director of the Institute of Criminology in the Czech Republic drew a historical picture concerning various migration waves in and out of the Czech Republic now and before, underlining the fact that there had been little need to adapt to different cultures and ways of life in the country until the so-called Velvet Revolution (1989) and the subsequent transformation of society and politics when the borders opened for people coming from different parts of Europe and the world in growing numbers. Immigration from Asian countries where Islam is the dominant religion, or from

African countries has been irrelevant so far. As a consequence of the migration crisis, the attitudes to migrants changed and the fear of crimes became significant.

In the Sections “Immigration, crime and citizenship”, **Leerkes Arjen** (WODC, Maastricht and Erasmus University, the Netherlands) reported on the research “Asylum Seekers and Neighbourhood Crime”. The perception of asylum seekers is frequently accompanied by protests from local residents fearing an increase in crime. The research sought answers to some unanswered questions. The analyses on the period of 2010-2015 using micro-data, found that asylum seekers are overrepresented among crime suspects. Their overrepresentation is due to several factors, i. e. to their age and sex composition, which differs from those of the majority society, as most of them are young men and they are in a weak socio-economic situation. Asylum-seekers suffer from disadvantages in respect of the family structure, as a larger percentage of them live outside a family. Asylum-seekers from ‘safe’ countries become crime suspects more often than asylum-seekers from ‘unsafe’ countries.

**Miriam Wijkman** (Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, the Netherlands) stated in her presentation entitled “Female Perpetrators of Human Trafficking” that female offenders are seldom studied by criminologists. However, the number of women suspected of being a perpetrator of human trafficking should not be underestimated: worldwide, 38% of the suspected perpetrators are females. Perpetrators who have their origins in Central Europe and Eastern Asia are even twice as much (68%) a suspect of human trafficking than their male counterparts (32%) (UNODC, 2014).

**Ioannis Papadopoulos** (Institute of Criminal Justice Studies, University of Portsmouth) held a presentation under the title ‘How protective is custody for unaccompanied minors in Greece? Detention through the eyes of a child, under the scope of the UNCRC’. The number of unaccompanied minors (uam) is increasing on the European level. Due to the lack of appropriate shelters and safe zones in Greece, these minors are put in detention centers as a form of a protective custody, however, this procedure is a potential violation of human and children’s rights.

The noted criminologist from Switzerland, **Martin Killias** (University of St. Gallen, Switzerland) reported the results of a research project under the title “Migrants Are Not the Problem, but Migration Remains a Challenge. Comparing Juveniles in Switzerland and Ex-Yugoslavia”. In his research, he and his colleagues compared self-reported delinquency and victimization (including those through parental violence) among more than 10,000 juveniles with and without foreign origins in Switzerland with the same experiences among their peers in ex-Yugoslavia. The findings suggest that migrants do not “import” problems

from their countries of origin but migration remains a stressful experience both for juveniles and their parents. Further, substantial differences exist across family constellations.

In the double section of the project called 'One Belt–One Road' (OBOR), which is an international net of trade routes from the Far East to Western Europe initiated by China, serious skepticism was expressed. All presenters stressed the criminal risks linked with such large-scale international economic concepts.

Professor **Scheinost** showed in his presentation (entitled "Organized Crime in the Country in Transition and the Possible Impact of Obor – Czech Republic Case") that due to the political, economic and social changes after the Velvet Revolution in the Czech Republic in 1989, new forms of organized crime and new criminal groups from abroad appeared. He analyzed the nexus between economic and organized crime.

**Emil Plywaczewski** (University Bialystok, Poland), one of the most prestigious Polish criminologists explained the main political and organizational changes since the beginning of the 1990s and the consequences of the transformation in Central Europe. In his presentation entitled "Organized Crime and Its Control from a Central European Perspective", he talked about the transforming of policing and the changes in the structure of crime, as well as fear of crime and migration. He described the process of creating the system of combating organized crime. Due to this, the most threatening criminal groups in Poland related with the organized crime of other states were neutralized. Prof. Plywaczewski stressed the importance of international cooperation in fighting organized crime, the role of Interpol, Europol and the Schengen Agreement.

The Russian **Yakov Gilinskiy** (Pedagogical Institute, St. Petersburg), respectable for his age and high academic rank, reported about "Organized Crime in Contemporary Russia." He detailed the phenomenon of organized crime as a form of business, which set up a system of protection against public control by means of corruption. Criminal organizations, like other social organizations, strive to exert influence on the state power and to exercise control over it.

**Aleksandras Dobryninas**, professor at Vilnius University described "Corruption and Anticorruption Policy in Lithuania". He explained that over the last 20 years, Lithuania has made considerable progress in building an institutional anti-corruption network, prosecuting corrupted individuals, strengthening corruption prevention measures, and supporting anticorruption values in society. However, corruption stays persistent in Lithuanian society. The negative attitudes toward corruption among business elites and public at large in Lithuanian society were, and still remain high. The practical aspects of the im-

plementation of the anticorruption policy in the country can be assessed by the analysis of decisions of the Lithuanian courts in criminal cases on corruption offences.

**Lo Wing** from the City University Hong Kong stated in his presentation entitled “Triads on One Belt One Road” that China enters a new age of improved social security combating corruption, particularly that of officials as well as the activity of organized economic criminal groups intensively. Triad criminals will be forced to leave and continue their operations elsewhere. The political and social instability of the One Belt One Road (OBOR) countries will create demands for protection services from Chinese investors. Transnationalization of triads tends to occur where triad networks are capable to develop social capital, acquiring criminal resources and opportunities embedded in the structural networks for organized crime operations.

According to the presentation “Organized Crime in Kazakhstan” by **Siegel Dina** (Utrecht University, the Netherlands), the geographic position and relatively high economic development make Kazakhstan attractive for economic cooperation but it also makes it vulnerable to transnational criminal organizations such as the Russian mafia and Chinese triads, as well as some local criminal groups. Drugs trafficking and other criminal activities and widespread corrupt relationships were tolerated long enough in the country. However, the increased number of prosecutions against corruption demonstrates the government’s interest in making Kazakhstan a more transparent and reliable business partner. The significant economic investment flowing to Kazakhstan could encourage the effective addressing of corruption and organized crime.

In his presentation entitled “Chinese Criminal Wildlife Networks along the Silk Road”, **Van Uhm Daan** (Utrecht University, the Netherlands) addressed a very hot topic, namely illegal wildlife trade as a global criminal enterprise. China is one of the major players in illegal wildlife trade, in particular in the illegal trade in traditional Chinese medicine with parts of endangered species (tiger bones, rhino horn sand pangolin scales). Therefore, the criminal investigation on the national and international levels has to focus on criminal networks involved in wildlife trafficking along the terrestrial and maritime Silk Road.

In Panel I entitled “Cultural criminology”, the British **Laura Naegler** (University of Liverpool, UK) gave her presentation on “Riots, Cat Killers and Regulated Vices: Collective Anxiety and the Management of Danger in Two Neighborhoods in Singapore”, on how political, media and public debate make certain neighborhoods ‘high-crime’ and dangerous. Yishun is a low-income neighborhood with relatively low crime rates. A number of media reports on cases of, for example, animal abuse, a blog claiming the neighborhood

being 'cursed' and several social media memes playing on this image led to a perception of Yishun as a high crime area. The collective anxieties are driven by the ambivalences of life and politics in Singapore, such as the state's need to maintain the image of a low-crime nation, whilst at the same time they make it appear like the threat of crime is ever present.

**Inger-Lise Lien** (Norwegian Center for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies, Norway) showed in her presentation "Cases of Female Genital Mutilation within the System of Law in Norway" that female genital mutilation is a migration-related crime amongst Muslim immigrants but only 53 cases have been reported to the Norwegian police during the last 10 years. 20 out of 53 documented cases in the Norwegian police register have been analyzed, and 20 policemen have been interviewed. The study demonstrates the dilemmas that the police have to face when investigating a case, because it leads to a very critical moral question: is it better for the minor who was cut if their parents are also accused?

**Jianhong Liu** (University of Macau, China) emphasized in his report entitled "A Theory of Relationism: A Cross Cultural Perspective" that until now, culture has not been in the center of criminology theories. However, in comparative criminology, cultural differences are a major explanatory variable. Mr. Liu Jianhong outlined a theory of relationism that puts culture in the center of the theory to explain criminal behavior and responses of criminal justice across different cultures. In this theory, the cross-cultural comparison is integrated into criminological theory, rather than assumes a "universality" of a theory like in most existing criminological theories. The theory also integrates the explanation of criminal behavior with the cultural explanation of differences in criminal justice, particularly between the West and the East, extending the theory of Asian Paradigm and relationism theory.

In this paper, we intended to draft a summary on a 4-day long scientific event, which proved to be very instructive in several aspects. Besides the experiences of a foreign country, the novelty of an unknown region, the kindness of Bosnian people and the beauty of the landscape, participants could bring home lots of lessons to learn in scientific terms, too.

Even the title and topic of the conference, which was formulated by the organizers, was very symbolic: 'The Sarajevo Conference, in addition to dealing with the usual topics that criminologists are working on that one can broadly and generally define as "crimes against humans", simply has to tackle "crimes against humanity" as well. It is so because at the beginning of the 20th century, World War I started with the event that took place in Sarajevo (assassination of Franz Ferdinand, the Royal Prince of Hungary and Bohemia).

And, unfortunately, the very same century ended with war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Thus, it does not come as a surprise that Bosnia and Herzegovina and Sarajevo have unfortunately been synonymous with “mass atrocity crimes” in Europe in recent history. We therefore find the title “Crimes against Humans and Crimes against Humanity: Implications for Modern Criminology” fitting for the ESC 2018 Sarajevo conference.

The conference could cover a broad scope of criminology both in respect of the aforementioned topics and in methodological terms, too. The participants could benefit a lot from the various presentations held by the different presenters with very diverse cultural and scientific backgrounds. But we have some lessons to learn, too. It has turned out from this broad range of presentations that there are spectacular differences between Eastern and Western European thinking. We can say that in some terms, researchers in our region tend to rely on much more traditional rules and patterns, which may influence both the results and methods used in criminological research. Eastern European researchers (mostly from Poland or Russia) eagerly use the historical perspective, deal with the topic of the change of the regime or feel anxiety about the new social (or economic) tendencies, whilst colleagues from Western countries (or from the Central Eastern European region, including Hungary) tend to be bolder both in the choice of topics and in the selected methodology, too.

It can be seen that the current criminological studies do not necessarily venture into in-depth analyses, case studies prove to be sufficient for underlining basic statements, methodology is not controlled by all classical principles of science. We can state that the postmodern ways of interpretation have reached criminology too, and this science branch, which is intrinsically interdisciplinary and colourful, is becoming even more flexible. But if we are absolutely correct, the other side of the coin should be interpreted, too. However, criminology, especially in Western Europe, seems to look like a patchwork science sometimes, and it should be also admitted that most of the research programs are really well-founded, including huge sample sizes with thorough hypotheses, profound methodology and well-supported conclusions (see, for instance, the Swiss research about extremism, with 8000 persons having been interviewed).

All in all, we can conclude that Hungarian criminology can be called a very successful branch of science, which stands comparison with other countries in all respects, but there are lessons to learn and ways to develop both in courage and self-esteem, and in terms of methodological profoundness.