



Max-Planck-Institut
für ausländisches und
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A Criminological Research Agenda for the Balkans Copying from Western Europe or Taking Innovative Approaches?

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Copying From Western Europe or Innovation?



- Of course, innovation is always more attractive than copying
- However, the question supposes that in fact something can be copied from Western European criminology
- And this again is based on the assumption that a Western European criminology exists which has developed a research agenda which can be copied

Criminology in Europe – European Criminology?



- is the title of a volume published in 1994 at the Max-Planck-Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law (at the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the late Professor Günther Kaiser)
- Unanimous opinion
 - A European criminology does not (yet) exist
 - Various (national) criminologies: British criminology, Belgian criminology, French criminology etc.
 - European political frameworks
 - Council of Europe
 - European Union
 - OSCE
 - Political and economic agendas (including criminal justice)

What Criminological Agendas in Europe?



- Evidence based policy approaches and quantitative research on crime and victimization
 - How much crime, trends in crime, causes of crime
- Critical research agendas
 - Punishing the poor, Gulags Western style, postmodern cultures of control
- Global bads agenda
 - Corruption, transnational crime, money laundering, human trafficking etc.
- Standards/value driven agendas
 - Victims, gender, minorities, sexual abuse/domestic violence
- Security related research agendas
- Abundance of low profile research agendas

Re-Mapping European Criminology



- The picture of research agendas has become more complicated
- More disciplines deal today with questions once a monopoly of criminology
 - Economy and game theory: sanctions, compliance, deterrence, retaliation
 - Brain sciences: trust, control, anger, emotions
 - Psychology: retaliation, mediation, self control
 - Political sciences: Security becomes a central issue in general policies
- Social integration and social solidarity are again seen as presenting major challenges in European societies
 - Old models of integration, developed in the 19th century do not work anymore (the Republican Ideal, Federalism, Community Orientation)
- New architectures of security, security sector reform (SSR), failed states and state building etc. point to new fields of research and policy making as well as re-arrangements of sciences vis-a-vis such new research fields

European Regions Crime Indicators 2010



Region	Property Crime	Lethal Violence	Corruption	Opiate Consumption	Cannabis Use
West	High	1,1	7,6	Medium	Medium
North	High	1,1	8,9	Low	Medium
South	Low	1,8	4,3	High	High
East	Low	6,1	3,9	Low	Low
Balkans	Low	2,4	4,1	Low	Low

Criminal Justice Indicators 2010



Region	Prisoner Rate	Pretrial Detention %	% Immigrants Prison	Prison Occupancy %
West	114	26	33	103
North	66	22	21	100
South	104	29	28	130
East	273	19	3	94
Balkans	119	21	4	119

Regions General Indices 2010



Regions	Democracy	Human Development	GDP Capita US\$	State Fragility	Effectiveness	Legitimacy
West	8.6	952	32.627	.36	0	.36
North	9.6	963	34.640	.50	0	.50
South	7.2	891	16.720	2,6	1,2	1,4
East	6,1	834	10.600	4,4	2,4	2,0
Balkans	6,8	848	9.729	3,9	1,9	2,0

Formation of a Region?



- Balkan identity
- Balkan mentalité
- Homo balcanicus

Neither Homo Europaeus nor Homo Balcanicus



- Nor a Balkan (or European) identity
- However, particulars as regards
 - history of state building and related conflicts
 - location (periphery)
 - social and religious heterogeneity
 - minorities

Balkan as a Western (European) Construct



- Imagining the Balkan
 - Balkan otherness
- Balkanisation (Balkanisierung)
 - Alienation between society and the state
- Resistance to modernisation
- Proneness to violence and cycles of violence
- Space of ethnic and religious heterogeneity
 - Internal and (neighboring) external minorities

A View on the Balkan from Europol



- „Formation of a Balkan axis“ (Europol, OCTA 2011)
- Drugs (connecting Asia and Europe)
- Smuggling
 - Licit (untaxed) goods, immigrants
- Trafficking
 - Arms, humans



- Balkan region
 - Relatively low crime countries
 - Compared to Western or Eastern Europe
- This creates a strong contrast to the (criminal) „Balkan axis“



- Integrationist agenda
 - Adopting generally accepted research lines
 - Victimization surveys, self-report surveys
 - Adopting and building state of the art methodology and theory
 - Balkan criminology is characterized by two traditions
 - » Strong affiliation with criminal law (Continental European concept of criminology)
 - » Strong affiliation with state/criminal justice agencies
- Independent (Balkan focused) research agenda
 - State, society and crime (and concepts of organized crime)
 - Peripheries, smuggling and criminal markets
 - Perceptions of otherness and differences
 - A laboratory for research on state building, peace building