




# BALKAN CRIMINOLOGY

## Imprisonment of Juvenile Offenders in Croatia and the Balkans

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# Imprisonment of Juvenile Offenders in Croatia

Juvenile justice:

- Laws taken from former Yugoslavia that refer to juvenile criminal legal matter
- Juvenile Courts Act, 1998
- Juvenile Courts Act, 2011 (2012, 2013, 2015...)

Age of criminal responsibility: 14-18/21






# Imprisonment of Juvenile Offenders in Croatia

## Age and Criminal Responsibility

| Country    | Age of criminal responsibility |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| Albania    | 14-18                          |
| BiH        | 14-18                          |
| Croatia    | 14-18/21                       |
| Greece     | 15-18/21                       |
| Montenegro | 14-18                          |
| Serbia     | 14-18                          |
| Slovenia   | 14-18/21                       |






# Imprisonment of Juvenile Offenders in Croatia

- Special Juvenile Courts:
  - established in 1998
  - regular courts as independent departments for minors
  - no possibility for minors to be prosecuted under the general criminal law in the regular criminal courts BUT
  - Exception - the proceedings against a minor may be merged with the proceedings against adult and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Proceedings Act






# Imprisonment of Juvenile Offenders in Croatia

## Types of Sanctions:

- Correctional Measures: juveniles between 14-18/21 years
  - referral to a reformatory:
    - at least six months, but not more than three years
    - Two: Reformatory in Turopolje (male) and Reformatory in Požega (female)

| Age   | During 2013 | At the end of 2013 |
|-------|-------------|--------------------|
| Total | 150         | 83                 |
| 14-16 |             | 2                  |
| 16-18 |             | 34                 |
| 18-21 |             | 42                 |
| 21-23 |             | 5                  |





# Imprisonment of Juvenile Offenders in Croatia

## Types of Sanctions:

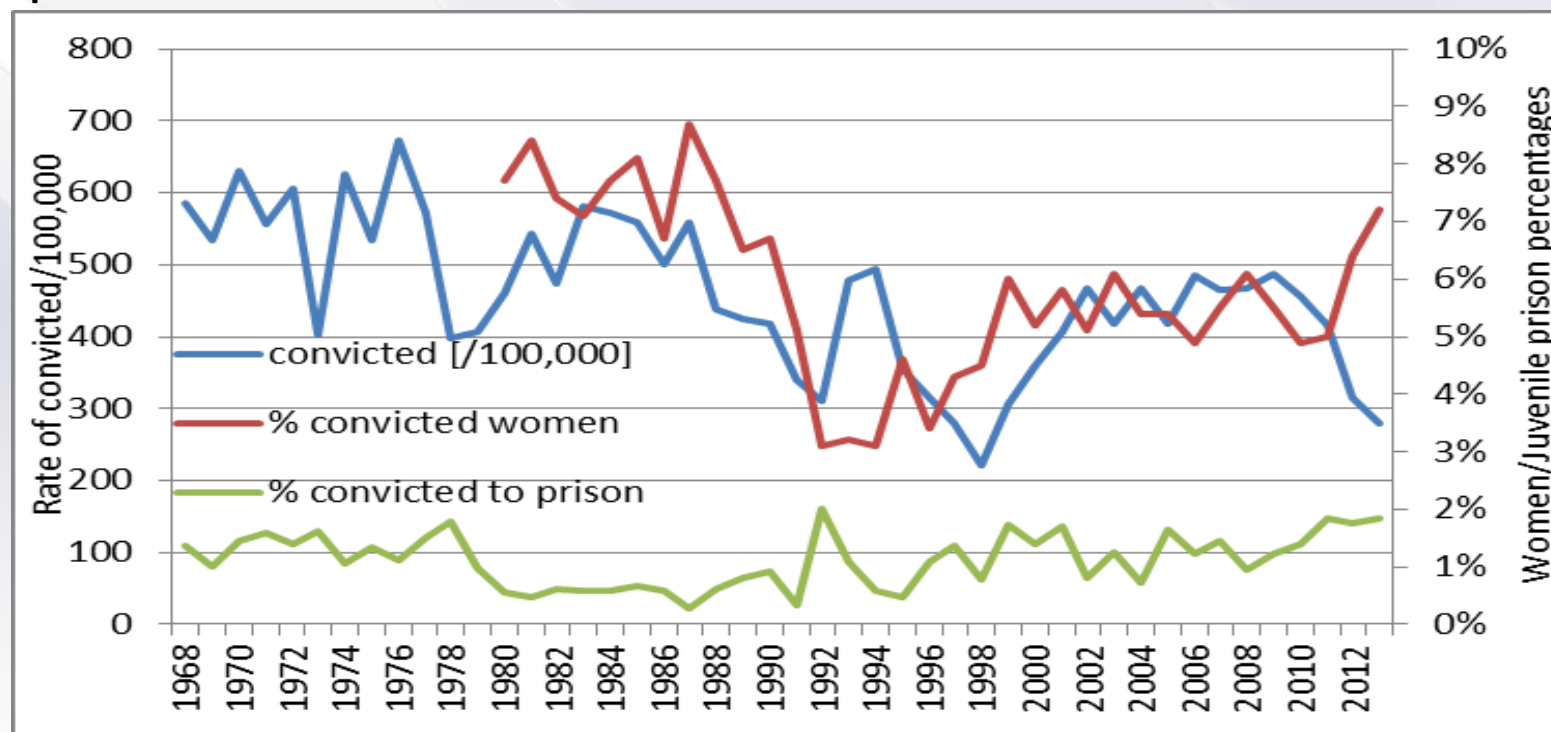
- Juvenile Imprisonment : juveniles between 16-18/21 years
  - at least six months, but not more than five years (ten years - punishable with long-term imprisonment, two concurrent criminal offences)
  - Two: Prison in Požega and Prison in Valtura


| Age   | During 2013 | At the end of 2013 |
|-------|-------------|--------------------|
| Total | 32          | 16                 |
| 16-18 |             | 0                  |
| 18-21 |             | 9                  |
| 21-23 |             | 6                  |
| 23-27 |             | 1                  |



# Imprisonment of Juvenile Offenders in Croatia

- Rates of convicted juveniles per 100,000 of population and percentages of convicted women and convicted to juvenile prison:






# Imprisonment of Juvenile Offenders in the Balkans

|          | Custodial institutions/units for juvenile offenders |                      | Number of inmates under 18y | Number of inmates from 18 to 21y | % of inmates under 18y | % of inmates from 18 to 21y |
|----------|---|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Country  | How many?   | Under the age of 18y |                             |                                  |                        |                             |
| Albania  | 107   | 0                    | 107                         | 438                              | 2.1                    | 8.8                         |
| Croatia  | 83  | 47                   | 36                          | 121                              | 0.8                    | 2.8                         |
| Greece   | 673   | 166                  | 502                         |                                  | 3.8                    |                             |
| Serbia   | 239   | 162                  | 77                          | 129                              | 1.0                    | 1.7                         |
| Slovenia | 2   | 0                    | 11                          | 32                               | 0.8                    | 2.4                         |







# Child and Juvenile Delinquency in Croatia

- More than 50 % of reformatory population are young adults
- 100 % of juvenile prison population are young adults
- Publication of results
- It is necessary to be really careful with processing and interpreting data
- Hope that it will play a role in developing of criminal policy



# Thank you for your attention!



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