FROM THE EDITORS

Happy New Year! We are thrilled to present to you the Winter 2019 issue of the Division of International Criminology of the American Society of Criminology’s newsletter.

This edition contains exciting updates about the Division, as well as conversations with accomplished scholars and insights into ongoing doctoral dissertations!

The ASC DIC community wants to know how you are making a difference as international justice advocates, and we look forward to your continued interest in and contributions to the Division.

We are eager to learn about your experiences, findings, and research trips; thus, we highly encourage you to send us regular updates and short thematic pieces for future newsletters of no more than 500 words.

Please connect with us via our social media channels! Be sure to tag us on social media for a like, share, or retweet! Tell your friends to follow us as well to keep up-to-date on all things #ASCDIC!

Enjoy reading this issue of the ASC DIC Newsletter!

Jana Arsovska
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Marijana Maja Kotlaja
University of Nebraska Omaha
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Dear DIC Friends and Members,

Welcome to the 2019 Winter Newsletter! This newsletter has been edited by Jana Arsovksa, (Associate Professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York), Marijana Maja Kotlaja (doctoral candidate from the University of Nebraska at Omaha), and Jared Dmello (doctoral candidate from the University of Massachusetts Lowell). As you will soon discover, the co-editors have put together another excellent edition of our newsletter!

The newsletter is full of wonderful contributions from our DIC members. It contains insightful interviews with several prominent DIC members: Phil Reichel, Emeritus Professor from the University of Northern Colorado, USA; Leticia Paoli, Professor of Criminology at the University of Leuven, Belgium; and Michael Levi, Professor of Criminology, Cardiff University, UK. We have included an interview with Diana Rodriguez-Saphia from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, USA about her research on women and terrorism, expose on research experience on studying sensitive topics by Furtuna Sheremeti, a graduate student from the University of Leuven, Belgium, and a discussion about co-authorship by Jared Dmello, a graduate student from the University of Massachusetts Lowell, USA. The newsletter also contains interviews with the 2018 award winners: Martin Killias from Killias Research and Consulting, Switzerland, the 2018 Winner of the Freda Adler Distinguished Scholar Award; Daniel Briggs and Ruben Monge Gamero, Universidad Europea de Madrid, the 2018 Outstanding Book Award Winners; Graduate Student Paper Winners Andrew P. Davis and Michael Gibson from Arizona State University, USA and Daisy Muibu from the American University, USA; and the 2018 DIC Graduate Fellowship for Global Research Winner Valentina Pavlović from the University of Zagreb, Croatia. The newsletter also contains contributions to our regular columns (i.e., book corner, teaching column, graduate student column, traveling abroad column).

The 2019 ASC meeting will be held in San Francisco, Nov. 13-16. Although it seems that the 2019 ASC conference is far away, we have already begun to plan our activities. We will start preparing for the next DIC workshop soon, so if you have an idea for a workshop, please let us know (kutnjak@msu.edu). Please read a short description of our 2018 DIC Workshop in the newsletter.

We also need volunteers for our award committees and standing committees (please see the list on http://internationalcriminology.com/). We cannot function without your support, so please volunteer to serve on a committee (internationalcrim@yahoo.com). Also, a number of awards are cash awards, so we are looking for donations to maintain the financial obligations of our division. Finally, please consider nominating your colleagues for the awards! The information about our awards is posted on our webpage (http://internationalcriminology.com/).

Many thanks to our members who have voted on the recent ballot. During our general business meeting at the ASC on November 16, 2018, a motion was accepted by the majority of those attending the meeting to put on the ballot one Constitutional amendment and three Bylaws amendments. In February 2019, the ballot was organized by DIC Secretary Dick Bennett. Based on the unanimous vote supporting the change, we will establish the office of Vice-Chair to bring continuity to the Executive Council. The elections forthcoming later this year will provide opportunities to run for both the office of DIC Chair and the office of DIC Vice-Chair. After the 2019 election, the Chair’s position will no longer be on the ballot because the Vice-Chair will serve the two-year term and then ascend to the role of Chair for another two years. The ballot results showed that, by the overwhelming support of those who cast their votes, our Bylaws will be amended to include the Annual Workshop Committee and the Graduate Student Fellowship Committee. In addition, the Website Committee will be renamed into the Social Media Committee.

Thanks to our Social Media Committee, our webpage is very active. It is updated regularly and features job postings, conference announcements, calls for papers, and many other interesting postings. We invite you to visit it periodically or, perhaps, regularly! We also exist on several other platforms, from Facebook to Twitter. Consider sharing your new publications and any other professional news with our members via these social media platforms.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Jana Arsovksa, Marijana Maja Kotlaja, and Jared Dmello, the co-editors of the DIC newsletter, and to the members of the DIC Executive Council, Richard Bennett, Bitna Kim, Janet Stamatel, James Byrne, and Sheldon Zhang. Thank you for your hard work!

Sincerely,
Sanja Kutnjak Ivković,
DIC Chair
Jana: You have written a lot on the topics of transnational crime and comparative justice but what has been your most rewarding accomplishment in this field? Tell us about the work you are most proud of.

Letizia: My research on transnational crime and comparative criminology has been driven by a keen interest for these topics but also by personal circumstances. In 1997, after writing my PhD thesis on the Italian mafia and defending it at the European University Institute in Florence, I decided to move to Germany... because I wanted to live together with my German boyfriend (who has in the meanwhile become my husband). Once I started working at the Max-Planck Institute for Criminal Law and Criminology, in Freiburg, it was only natural to start comparing organized crime manifestations and policies at first between Italy and Germany and then across Europe. My comparative perspective was further sharpened when I moved to Belgium in 2006 and started working at the KU Leuven Faculty of Law. As I have had since then to give classes in Dutch to predominantly Belgian students, I have had to study in depth both the crime problems and the crime policies of this country. Through visiting professorships among others at the Universities of Cambridge and Manchester in the UK and Rotterdam in the Netherlands and research projects in these and other countries (for example in Russia, Tajikistan and Colombia), I have also further widened my comparative approach.

Getting to know crime problems and related policy interventions in different countries and languages has been an effort but also a very rewarding activity. Many, if not most, crimes nowadays have a transnational component. Given the harms generated by crimes as well as the harmful, intended and unintended, consequences of many crime policy interventions, it is—in my view—our responsibility as criminologists to identify the policies that are most effective in reducing crime and harms and themselves cause the least harm. Comparative, cross-national analyses are a powerful means for such an end.

Mike: As an undergraduate at Oxford, I studied Philosophy, Politics and Economics, and chose optional courses in comparative politics of Western Europe, the politics of the US and Economics of Development. So even at that time, I was always interested in comparative work, possibly influenced by having a father who had fled the concentration camp in Germany and a mother whose parents had fled the pogroms of what is now Poland (though neither of them were educated or had any explicit analytical interests). I was studying criminology at Cambridge and simply got interested in the organisation of serious crime. I decided to do my PhD on the organisation and control of bankruptcy fraud, which was a cross border crime even in 1543: this intersected the boundary also between gauger-organised crime and non-elite white-collar crime since it was committed by businesspeople without classic criminal network contacts or backgrounds. So it was an instinctive interest in comparative work and in how ‘crime’ was organised and managed by the private sector and by law enforcement, an unusually broad interest in the early 1970s.

Phil: I have two types of responses to this question. One considers my academic endeavors and the other is more social. My first comparative research was one of historical comparison rather than cross-cultural. My 1988 article on Southern Slave Patrols as an example of transitional policing was one of the early attempts to contrast the development of policing in the South with that of the more typical Northern-based histories. That article has proved to have considerable staying power and has actually had more citations in last five years than it received in its first ten.

Among my more traditionally comparative efforts I remain very proud of my comparative criminal justice systems textbook that is now in its seventh edition. I think the approach I take to presenting the material continues to be a unique and effective way to explain the various ways that legal systems can be organized and implemented.

The other “work” for which I am proud is being part of what I think is one of the most welcoming and supportive sub-fields in criminology and criminal justice. Scholars specializing in comparative crime and justice were few in number in the mid-1980s, but the folks
Phil: who had that interest were remarkably friendly and willing to share their knowledge and experience. As interest in comparative studies grew in the 1990s and 2000s, I believe us “oldsters” continued (and continue) to welcome and encourage others to teach, study, and write about transnational crime and comparative crime and justice.

Jana: What do you find the most challenging part of your research?

Letizia: It is hard to apply quantitative methods to study the crimes that are the core of my research agenda—that is, different manifestations of organized, serious and corporate crime—as well as the related harms and policy interventions. Data on these topics are often scarce and problems of measurement all-too-apparent so that a full quantification is often not possible—or desirable. Alas, quantitative findings are often regarded by many criminologists and other social scientists as more “scientific” than qualitative analyses and get more easily published in high-impact factor journals.

Mike: Getting and maintaining access to people, criminal case records and data—which is far harder in the UK than in the US or continental Europe—and managing to stay in reasonable relationships to people when you are criticising the limitations of what they do and their claims about it. And finding time to think and analyse, when people are always demanding lots of things from me and I am interested in a diverse range of issues, most recently cyber-enabled and cyber-dependent crime.

You have written a lot on the topic of transnational and financial crime but what has been your most rewarding accomplishment in this field? Tell us about the work you are most proud of.

My PhD was the last time I had a huge amount of time and no other distractions. I think The Phantom Capitalists (which I wrote a substantial reflection on changes about in 2008 for the second edition) remains the best work I have done. But I am also proud of having started research on money laundering and its control in 1988 and on the way I have not taken popular conceptions of it for granted and with my line of publications on this, most recently with Peter Reuter, with whom I greatly enjoy working.

Phil: That’s pretty easy to answer. I am monolingual and I very much regret not continuing my high school Spanish or my college French. I still try to practice Rosetta Stone and Duolingo German, but not with any realistic plans of ever having useful conversations with German police or Austrian judges in their native language.

I think the ability to conduct comparative research in the native language is an advantage, but it is possible to overcome the restrictions presented by being monolingual.

Jana: Tell us more about your future projects and upcoming books or articles. Are you working on anything interesting at the moment?

Letizia: Victoria and I are currently finalizing a book on harm assessment and the centrality of harm for crime and criminal policy. The book will be published before the end of the year by Oxford University Press.

With Judith Aldridge and Nicholas Lord (University of Manchester) I am also editing a new book on what we call “variably legal markets.” These are markets involving goods and services that are not always or fully criminalized. With a series of case studies, Judith, Nick and I aim to show that the criminal market segments studied by criminologists are part of broader markets characterized by variable degrees of (il)legality and that these criminal segments can only be fully understood, and the related policies assessed, if the broader markets and the overall regulatory frameworks are taken into account.

Last but on least, I am working on an article with Peter Reuter on the determinants of organized crime for Michael Tonry’s Crime and Justice series. Specifically, Peter and I intend to develop a theoretical model to explain why organized crime activities can be found in most countries, whereas large-scale criminal organization are present only in a few. I am not likely to get bored soon, I suppose.

Mike: My most immediate publication projects are an article for Crime and Justice on the money trails of organised crime, and three books. One is to finish my book on White-Collar Crimes and Their Victims, almost finished in 1992! A second is to finish a book with my former student Nick Lord on Re-thinking the Organisation of White-Collar and Corporate Crimes. And a third is to write a book with Dutch scholar Judith van Erp on the Shaming of Corporations and Elite Individuals.

In research terms, I am principal investigator on a new Economic and Social Research Council TNOC two year study of the impact of technologies on Organised Crime in malware, drugs & sex trafficking, and money laundering. I am also co-Investigator on two Home Office cybercrime projects. And I am doing more research on money laundering and how it is perceived and evaluated.

I also have a clutch of interesting PhD students working on drugs and other crime markets. As I move towards my 50th year in criminology, I think that is enough to be doing at the same time.

Perhaps I will also have the chance to study the impact of Brexit on criminal markets and their control — but I hope not because I keep hoping this reckless cultural and financial impoverishment will not happen.

Phil: Although I retired from my full-time teaching position in 2013, I remain active with the occasional online class, a very rewarding teaching gig in Costa Rica, updating my comparative criminal justice textbook, presenting guest lectures at universities across the country, and editing a handbook and an encyclopedia on transnational crime. But I am especially looking forward to my upcoming role as the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences NGO representative to the United Nations. That position, which I will hold from 2019 to 2023, will allow me to know about global trends in emerging crimes and to follow international efforts on crime prevention and education.

Upcoming Conferences of Interest!!!

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Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
March 26-30, 2019
Baltimore, MD, USA

European Society of Criminology
September 18-21, 2019
Ghent, Belgium

Policy Studies Organization’s International Criminology Conference
October 11, 2019
Washington, DC, USA

American Society of Criminology
November 13-16, 2019
San Francisco, CA, USA
I am doing my PhD on assessing, addressing and repairing the harms of state crime, by investigating bearers’ and stakeholders’ perceptions and processes in Kosovo. Using the war in Kosovo and its aftermath as a case study I intend to:

1. Map bearers’ and other stakeholders’ perceptions of state crimes and the related harms, including the bearers’ and stakeholders’ assessment of the crime types and the harms severity, overall incidence, and causes.
2. Review what has been done to address and repair the harms of state crime.
3. Map bearers’ needs and bearers’ and other stakeholders’ suggestions to address and repair harms and
4. Draw policy recommendations.

Alongside desk research, I have conducted interviews with the stakeholders but also bearers of harm (victims) in Kosovo. My fieldwork is spread in five different municipalities in Kosovo, where some of the most horrific crimes happened, and as such the interviews that I conducted in these municipalities were far from easy.

Thus far, I have interviewed women who were subjected to sexual violence, women and men who were tortured, deported women and men, former prisoners, people who were taken hostage, families of the disappeared, and families of people murdered in horrific massacres.

Being an Albanian woman from Kosovo and going back to conduct research there, had its benefits as well as difficulties. The benefits lied on the fact that this helped me a great deal to establish trust with the interviewees that were Albanians. Interviewees related to me as they considered me “one of them”. Many people, who were tired of talking about their experiences during the war, accepted my invitation for an interview only out of respect because I was a woman. Many other people agreed to talk to me because they valued immensely that a woman so young has dedicated her work to something so important. Many women decided to share their experiences with me only because I was a woman; otherwise they said they wouldn’t feel comfortable to share (this particularly was related to cases of sexual violence). But there were also difficulties that came with the fact that I was a relatively young Albanian woman from Kosovo.

The most important one was that this did not particularly help with some of the interviewees that were of Serbian decent. If anything – it made it more difficult, as some definitely did not see me as “one of them”. Additionally, different interviewees (mainly stakeholders) refused to take me seriously not only because I was a woman, but also because they thought that I was too young to deal with such an important topic.

As I was trying to navigate with all these difficulties, I reminded myself that I was 9 years old at the time of the war when we had to flee our house. Young enough to not be properly terrified with what was happening, and old enough to remember everything. Nevertheless, the truth is nobody and nothing prepares you for what to expect once you’re in the field, regardless of how similar one’s experience is to those of the participants. Talking to people, who have lost their spark – and some even the will to live – is something that cannot be anticipated properly.

The impact this had on me as a researcher was twofold: first, I felt like I reawakened people’s traumatic experiences, given that I was the one making my interviewees cry, and even though I consoled them and often cried with them, the interview still needed to carry on; second, it exhausted me both emotionally and psychologically. The first time I had three interviews in a row in one day (I had to adj

Thus came after was equally important. Learning how to deal with this and how to manage it in a way that damages me the least was a new battle. I was lucky enough to have some colleagues conducting fieldwork in similar settings, so I reached out to them. Having friends and family around, with whom I could talk also helped. Eventually I decided to distance myself from the data, thus postponing the transcription and the analysis until I went back to Belgium. Upon my return, and during the transcription period in Leuven, I experienced all the same (if not more) emotions I had experienced during the actual interviews. Being alone on my “research bubble” prolonged the recuperation process. In cases like this, it is very easy to fall into the trap of “self-blame” that can lead to procrastination and unproductivity.

So, if there were three things I would recommend to any researcher conducting fieldwork on sensitive topics and transitional settings, they would be:

**Take your time after an interview.** I know we struggle with time during our PhDs but it is better to lose some respondents than lose yourself on the way. You won’t be good for any other respondents (or yourself for that matter) afterwards.

**Do not isolate yourself** while transcribing. Talk to friends and family. Go out. Socialize.

**It is okay to cry** during an interview. This will only help you bond with your interviewee and will humanize you more in their eyes.
Engaging in collaborative research with other scholars serves as an excellent mechanism for refining your research craft by applying skills in a practical environment that extends beyond the classroom. Whether you are a graduate student just getting familiar with the research process or a senior scholar in the field, collaboration provides the opportunity to expand your knowledge and skills and to get to know others working in the field.

Graduate students can engage in collaborative research in many different capacities. For some projects, students may be asked to lead the research, taking on the responsibility of moving the project forward. Collaborating can provide a great opportunity to develop project management skills and to learn how to better communicate with colleagues. In leading research projects with my advisor and other students, I have gained valuable experience in learning how to navigate the peer-review process. The skills I developed in maintaining open communication with team members in these projects were also helpful during my time as a Research Analyst at the United States Government Accountability Office, an organization that strongly emphasizes conducting research in a large-team environment. Working with senior researchers, particularly those who we idolize as role models, can be overwhelming, but these experiences will help in preparing manuscripts for submission in a more efficient manner. This experience proved helpful for when I navigated the submission process for my own single-authored paper. For other projects, students may be brought on to contribute to a very specific component, such as for reviewing the literature or for their expertise in a specific methodology. Because faculty know that I enjoy quantitative methods, I have been approached to collaborate on projects by applying my skills to their work.

The best piece of advice I received from a senior scholar has been to openly discuss responsibilities and project involvement from the onset with all relevant parties. By clarifying tasks early in the research process, all team members can move forward understanding the expectations and general timelines. Having these conversations early also sets expectations so team members know where they will likely be placed in authorship order. While these conversations are beneficial, it is also important to remain fluid. The research process is highly dynamic, and projects inevitably tend to evolve; maintaining open communication with all team members makes for a much more positive experience!

Engaging in collaborative research can be a great way for learning new techniques. A project exploring the impact of civil gang injunctions on community terrorization, in which I collaborated with scholars from the California State University at San Bernardino, served as my first exposure to social network analysis (SNA) in a research context. The pilot study for this project was published in Crime and Delinquency. The curiosity first sparked from that project inspired me to learn new, more advanced networked techniques. SNA has since become a very central methodological approach utilized in my research. This project has also prompted several follow-up studies with colleagues that would not have been possible had it not been for Dr. Gisela Bichler inviting me to assist her and others with that initial project.

Beyond providing invaluable experience conducting discipline-relevant research, an unanticipated benefit to working as a co-author is the discovery of new research interests! In 2018, I was asked by Dr. Kimberly Kras, a faculty member in my department, to conduct the multilevel modeling analyses for a project on organizational commitment and cynicism in a juvenile justice agency, which resulted in a paper published in Criminal Justice & Behavior. When first joining the project, the subject area seemed like a foreign concept and I focused on the data, relying on other team members to inform me of the constructs and theory driving our approach. By project’s end, I had developed a genuine interest in organizational structure, and I plan to incorporate this into my own future projects.

The benefits of collaborating with other scholars, both faculty and students, cannot be overstated. These experiences have been extremely influential in the development of both my ability and identity as a researcher and scholar in the discipline. The projects I have collaborated on have also strongly strengthened my curriculum vitae, resulting in three peer-reviewed publications in top-ranked journals, with additional manuscripts either under review or in development, and multiple academic conference presentations! I have truly enjoyed these experiences and, in starting to look for positions in the post-PhD space, I am extremely excited to continue collaborating on research with others in my field and to serve as a mentor to graduate students on my own projects. My experiences through collaborations helped spark my interest in research, curiosities in new methodological approaches and topic areas, and ultimately, a joy and passion for seeking new knowledge to answer puzzles in our field!

New #InternationalCrim publication, presentation, or field experience you want to share?
Tag us on Twitter at @ASCDIC for a like and retweet!

THE DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINOLOGY OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

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As a newly minted doctoral student several years ago, I was ready to dig my heels into the literature on women and terrorism to develop my dissertation study. Throughout the course of my research, I came to the startling realization: there was very little written on female terrorists. What little research does exist on females terrorism addresses mostly motivations for women perpetrating terrorism. It is also almost a decade old. One of the most consistent findings in the existing research is the undertone of surprise that women can of their own accord perpetrate terrorism– they do not always follow gender expectations and norms of being coerced or acting stand-ins for their men.

Deeper research into reports of female terrorism revealed that it is a growing trend and has been for a number of years- not only in the United States, but globally. News articles recount horrifying stories of women in Nigeria and Israel committing suicide bombings, falsifying pregnancies or often including toddlers or babies with them to evade the suspicions of law enforcement at security checkpoints. Young girls in Palestine have created suicide and recruitment videos simultaneously shaming men and calling them to action. News stories also indicated that radical groups such as Al Qaeda, which had historically barred entry to women, are now actively recruiting them realizing that women can much more easily evade law enforcement because they are so unexpected. Another thing I noticed is that despite their growing numbers around the world, news stories did not sensationalize female terrorists quite as much as their male counterparts and would often trivialize or explain away attacks and attempts. Revered international terrorism scholars such as Edna Erez have noted that terrorism is erroneously conceived as a masculine crime, and the more I read, the more I was certain that I needed to design my own research that would fill a gaping hole in the literature and in the public conceptualization of terrorism.

On the one hand, women are perpetrating terrorist acts in unprecedented numbers, and have been doing so as far back as the Algerian War. On the other hand, there is a dearth of literature examining anything else other than motivations of female terrorists. To complete the trifecta, there is a global hesitance on the part of both policymakers and law enforcement to believe that women can, in fact, be terrorists. All three elements make for antiquated homeland security policies. My doctoral research therefore tested whether those employed in law enforcement and security fields were susceptible to the same gender roles and expectations that so many subscribe to: that women simply are unlikely to be terrorists because they are supposed to be mothers, healers, and nurturers, not terrorists and murderers. Results indicated moderate support for the fact that law enforcement and security officers are in many ways not different from everybody else- despite awareness that women can perpetrate terrorist attacks, they also to some extent believe the gender roles and expectations we have been taught since birth. Some countries such as Israel have had to learn the hard way- through tragedy and disaster- that women are increasingly likely perpetrators they should be vigilant of and have accordingly updated their homeland security policies. However, here in the United States, participants of my study indicated that most who receive any training or instruction on terrorism do not discuss gender of perpetrator during such trainings. This leaves our most important line of defense, especially men, unsure of how to approach the rising problem of female terrorism and training requires immediate updates to reflect the modern threat to homeland security.

ANNOUNCEMENT
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Event

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is now working with the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Development. To advance this collaboration, a special event entitled “Spirituality for Justice” is being organized during the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice which will be held in Vienna from May 20 – 24. Four working groups have been established to prepare a document setting out the practical linkages and opportunities for cooperation. This document will be finalized in San Francisco on November 13, and will be passed on to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Congress to be held in Kyoto, Japan from April 20 – 27, 2020. Anyone interested in participating in this process or attending these events should contact Michaelkplatzer@yahoo.com.
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECT
Strengthening of Teaching and Research in Latin America
Hugo Morales
The Pontifical Catholic University of Peru

The South American (SA) region experiences high levels of crime and violence. Although many countries invested significant financial resources to fight crime, results have been insufficient, and crime has been expanding. From common crime to organized crime, the capacity of public institutions to prevent and control crime has been limited. These weaknesses can partly be explained by a weak tradition in training in criminology & public security sciences, as well as a restricted offer of undergraduate and postgraduate programs. At the same time, with exception of Venezuela, no SA University offers a degree in Criminology, and there are few professional teams trained abroad in this scientific discipline who hold positions of authority within SA Governments security agencies. Research in the field of criminology is also of heterogeneous quality in SA and lacks interdisciplinary approaches.

Crime and violence are a permanent problem in Peru. This manifest itself both in the perception of insecurity and in the concrete evidence of high rates of certain types crimes. Hence, the perception of insecurity in Peru is one of the highest in the SA region. Most of the urban population states that insecurity and crime have been the country’s main problems for much of the last decade (exceeded in a few years by corruption). Thus, crime, violence and insecurity are a public problem recognized and evident in the national agenda.

In this context, criminal policy and citizen security policies are a relatively new response and with a limited professional specialized body. Peruvians Universities have tried to contribute to change this scenario, however, these efforts are at an initial stage and there is still severe resistance to implement evidence-based policies, more accurate instruments for measuring crime and violence, and less punitive measures. All of the above requires the strengthening of the educational offers and research in the area of Criminology, which is the central objective of this project. The main problem is that there is no specialization in criminology, and the researchers and professors who are dedicated to the subject have had to do their training abroad and on top of this the current solutions lacks a multidisciplinary approach.

Brazil is also suffering with high crime and violence rates. Policies set in place are primarily of a repressive nature and have been ineffective. There is little investment in prevention policies. Brazilian universities, through the teachers who work in this area, try to influence this policy, as well as public opinion that, unfortunately, calls for more repression. However, studies and knowledge about criminology & public security is fragmented, due to the inexistence of a network of researchers with the same interests, but also because each one approaches subjects of interest from an isolated scientific discipline: sociology, psychology, anthropology, law, medicine, etc, and this phenomenon requires a multidisciplinary approach.

Colombian society has been exposed to multiple criminal acts (authority of criminal organizations and groups) that drastically changed opinions about the criminal investigation system, given the high rates of impunity. This combined with the change in living habits brought social tensions related to lack of job and general feeling of insecurity. Higher Education offers in Colombia are directed to judicial exercise and criminal investigation, privileging theory in detriment of practical and multidisciplinary approaches.

The leading occupations in the field of public security have been criminal lawyers and professionals trained in the police or armed forces. The offer of postgraduate training in Criminal Law is not widespread and has generated in practice an approach to the problems of insecurity through the strengthening of penalties (reform of penal codes as “good” solutions for the insecurity and violence problems). This has contributed to criminal populism, despite the null results that this type of measure produces. By other hand, criminal and citizen security policies are fundamentally built and led by lawyers, which has hindered the design and implementation of effective policies based on scientific evidence, as well as their subsequent impact evaluation. The participation of social sciences professionals is still reduced.

Nevertheless, SA countries such as Brazil have developed a postgraduate training offer in public security and crime prevention policies, in which government officials responsible for crime prevention and control agencies have participated through universities such as those participating in this initiative. The universities have produced some academic research evidence contributing to the development of public policies in the field, as well as to the development of evidence on the effectiveness of some of them. In the case of Peru, the offer of postgraduate training in these subjects is much more reduced, basically identifying short courses on quite specific security problems: organized crime, drug trafficking, juvenile justice, etc. In Colombia, the gaps are pretty much similar and the creation of Master’s in Criminology is seen as essential to train professionals that can act in the prevention and combat of crime and insecurity and thus respond to the high rates of criminality.

Considering the significant progresses in cooperation and training in the International Criminology field, this project aims: to promote cooperation and knowledge transfer between the European and SA universities (with the goal of contributing to improving training of the professionals in SA to perform at higher standards in areas such as crime prevention, crime control, public security and social reintegration of ex-convicts, etc.) and to establish the formation of an International Network for South American Interuniversity Cooperation in Criminology for professional training and the exchange of applied criminological knowledge.

This Project is lead by the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, jointly to partnership of twelve Ibero-American Universities; with a duration period for 3 years, since 2020. If you want to obtain more information about this Project, or if you wish to contribute and participate on it, please contact to Prof. Dr. Hugo Morales e-mail: hmorales@pucp.edu.pe
Mock trials, simulations of actual criminal trials, go beyond the traditional lecture-oriented teaching and evoke two aspects of active learning: problem-based learning and team-based or cooperative learning (Farmer, Meisel, Seltzer, & Kane, 2013). The mock trial experience has been identified as supporting higher-order learning by moving beyond rote memorization to comprehension and application (Shepelak, 1996). Analytical and critical thinking skills are sharpened by asking students to examine critically both sides of an issue and to make a thoughtful, supported attempt to resolve a multifaceted problem (Kravetz, 2001). In addition to providing opportunities to employ critical learning skills in an active learning environment, mock trials can increase student involvement in the classroom and encourage group engagement and cooperative learning (Ambrosio, 2006; Kravetz, 2001). In criminal justice classes, students improve their understanding of the adversary process and gain valuable insight into the roles and actual functions of the major trial participants (Kravetz, 2001).

While frequently used as a teaching tool in some disciplines, mock trials are rare in criminal justice (e.g., Kutnjak Ivković and Reichel, 2017). To complement traditional teaching methods and enhance students’ understanding of the adversarial and inquisitorial criminal procedures, we introduced mock trials into our classrooms. We have selected the U.S. rules as the example of the (modified) adversarial procedure and the French procedure as the example of the (modified) inquisitorial procedure (Kutnjak Ivković and Reichel, 2017). The students try the Williams case from Paul Robinson's book Would You Convict? Seventeen Cases That Challenged the Law (1999; pp. 132-142) and receive the handout with the description of the case and the procedural rules. They play all the roles in the trial (e.g., professional judges, jurors, defendants, expert witnesses). To experience the difference between the two types of procedures, students are required to play the same role in both types of trial. Unlike the law-school classes, in which students are required to write various legal documents throughout the semester, students in the comparative criminal justice class are neither required nor expected to write any legal documents.

Our empirical analyses of the data we collected through the pre- and post-trial questionnaires over the course of several semesters (see Kutnjak Ivković and Reichel, 2017) show that, while the students’ knowledge of both adversarial and inquisitorial procedures improved after participating in the mock trials, the improvements in their familiarity with the procedures was more pronounced for the inquisitorial trials than for the adversarial trials. Such results are not surprising; for the students living in a common-law country that utilizes a modified version of the adversarial procedure, the basic level of familiarity with the procedural rules was higher for rules of the adversarial procedure. The students liked the trials overall; they also emphasized that it was a fun learning activity (“I learned a lot but also had a lot of fun”). According to the students, one of the best aspects of participating in the mock trial exercise is its active learning component (“Learning through doing—I learned a lot more”).

The results of our study clearly show that the students perceived that the mock trial exercise helped them understand both the adversarial and the inquisitorial procedures much better. If you are interested in learning more about the mock trials, we would be happy to share our materials and experiences with you (kutnjak@msu.edu).
Tips about mock trials

Setting up the mock trials:

- Incorporate it in the class as a required-class activity or an extra-credit activity. Schedule it as part of the unit on comparative procedure or as a comprehensive learning activity at the end of the course.
- Select the case that is controversial and that potentially has a comparative component (e.g., immigrants as victims or offenders, human trafficking).
- Budget about 1 hour for each trial and include sufficient time for decision-making in the hallway.
- Require students to dress up for the trials.
- Rearrange the classroom to look like a courtroom.

Familiarity with the facts of the case and legal procedure:

- Provide a written description of the facts of the case and a summary of the procedures.
- Require students to have a good grasp of the facts of the case.
- Consider showing videos about the two criminal procedures ahead of time.
- Expect the students to know the basics, but not the details of both criminal procedures.
- Do not allow plea bargaining in the adversarial procedure.
- Do not ask the students to take an oath unless it is modified to reflect the mock trial.

Student roles:

- Keep the students in the same role for both trials.
- Assign roles that require more work (e.g., professional judges, defense attorneys, prosecutors) to pairs of students, while keeping the less demanding roles (e.g., expert witness, neighbor) for single students.
- Start with the preset number of roles critical for the operation of the trials and release new roles as the number of students increases.
- Reserve the roles critical for the operation of the trial (e.g., professional judges, defense attorneys, prosecutors) for stronger students in the class.
- Grade on the pass/fail basis.

References:


This Year’s Book Editors:
Tom Sutton, Routledge
Judith Newlin, Springer
Maura Roessner, University of California Press
James Cook, Oxford University Press
Ilene Kalish, NYU Press
Joise Taylor, Palgrave Macmillan
Martin Gill, University of Leicester
Stephan Farrall, University of Sheffield (UK)

Book Editors Ask: Whom are you writing the book for? Is the book moving the conversation forward? Can you crystalize your dissertation into two sentences? Are you looking at books other authors are publishing? If so, is there a series of what you want to publish? Can you get book editors excited on the onset?

Key Takeaways from Book Editors: Ability to write clearly and succinctly is very important. You should never say that there is nothing out there like your book, or that something similarly has never been done. Before you publish a book, you must write a 5-7-page book proposal. Instead of striving for the mythical unicorn of perfection, strive for a reality-based, “as good as this book can be.” Social media is becoming a requirement to publishing, thus learn how to create a dialogue and gauge reader interest.

Themes of Interest to Book Editors: Me Too Movement, Sexual Assault on Campus, Impact of Technology, Globally Race and CJC, Race, Class, Gender, Sexuality and the Environment.

This Year’s Journal Editors:
James Byrne – Victims & Offenders
Mona Lynch – Punishment and Society
Stephen Farrell – British Journal of Criminology
Chad Posick and Michael Rocque - International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology
Mahesh Nalla – International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice
Dr. Joanna Shapland –International Review of Victimology
Jianhong Liu – Asian Journal of Criminology
Bonnie Fisher and Martin Gill – Security Journal
Stephan Farrall, University of Sheffield (UK)

Journal Editors Ask: Journals differ in the types of articles they publish. Some are fairly broad and open, while others are very narrow and topic specific.

Themes of Interest to Journal Editors: Integration of Method and Theoretical Approach; do not publish evaluations, systematic reviews (British Journal of Criminology); scholarship accepted from many parts of world, broad interests (Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice); qualitative and quantitative pieces, doesn’t have to be Asia focused (Asian Journal of Criminology); Transnational Justice, International Justice, Restorative Justice, Abuse and Survivors (International Review of Victimology); qualitative and quantitative pieces that are theoretically based (Punishment and Society); publish original pieces, meta-analyses and program evaluations (International Journal of Offender Therapy and Criminal Justice).
2018 OUTSTANDING BOOK AWARD WINNER
Dead-End Lives: Drugs and Violence in the City Shadows
Daniel Briggs and Ruben Monge Gamero
Universidad Europea de Madrid, Spain

Jana: How did you start in this field, and how did you become interested in this topic?
Daniel: Towards the end of my Criminology and Media and Cultural studies degree, I got lucky and got a job through a girlfriend at the time entering data at the Institute of Psychiatry. Then, aged 21, I was offered a job at Imperial College on a research project interviewing prisoners about their drug problems. I had surveys with me and into the cells I went to meet ‘criminals’; supposedly ‘different’ people who had somehow ended up on the wrong side of everything. Over the course of the four months, I visited 25 prisons, administering over 100 interviews with similar people. I hated the injustice of it, the fact that many of them were born into objective conditions which rendered slim their opportunities and quite quickly in some cases cascading towards problems with family, homelessness, lack of education and as a result poor job options. Thereafter the story for most had been criminal careers.

Thereafter, I applied to study a Master’s in Criminology at Middlesex University. With my contract ending at Imperial College, I was encouraged by the offer of some work about the perceptions of jury service and a fear of crime project in a poor, suburban area of London. This secured my entry into the university system as a part-time researcher and I paid my way through my studies. As I took on courses about qualitative research, I quickly found my preference for more open-ended conversations and observation. My Masters dissertation was an ethnographic study of rural drug use/markets in a poor area of the UK and I started to make field notes when I went to prison for quantitative interviews with drug-using offenders.

When I asked approached two different criminology departments in two different universities about the prospect of doing an ethnographic study with crack cocaine users for my PhD study, they told me it was impossible because it would not get ethical clearance and because of the high risk to the researcher. I then approached nine high-crime district councils of London where crack cocaine was prevalent and none wanted to fund my study. When the tenth district agreed, and funded me, no university would take me on decisions can be subjectively perilous. I signed an insurance liability waiver meaning I was responsible for myself and did the research through a private alcohol and drug company: the irony being that having spent a year living with these drug users, when I approached the University of London with my data already gathered, they had no problem of offering me a place for PhD study.

From then onwards, there was little turning back. I went on to continue to study in an effort to represent vulnerable and/or misunderstood social groups; gypsies, youth gangs, hedonistic holidaymakers, economic migrants, illegal immigrants, refugees, prostitutes, terminally-ill patients, activists and protestors. I am fortunate to have this ability to listen, observe and be with different people in various situations. While there have been dangerous moments, I regret nothing or would do anything otherwise. Living in a parallel life of hypothesised, imagined decisions can be subjectively perilous.

Its best to not think too much about those sort of things and I don’t too much when I embark on a study; only of how I overcome the barriers to actually undertake it.

Jana: Tell us about the methodology you applied to conduct the research. What did you find to the most challenging part of your research? Anything that you would have done differently if you had a chance?
Daniel: The methodology is not distinct as I’m sure all the readers are familiar with ethnography. I guess that given that it can be quite lonely as an ethnographer – in that, it is certainly not common to find a researcher who would immerse themselves to such depth in confictive and problematic situations as well as you tend to enter these sorts of circumstances on your own. So I think it means that ethnographers personalise their research and the result therefore very much depends on who they are. I suppose I mean that you look for your own techniques which can help you get data and for this you need to be aware of how you are interpreted, what people may think/say/act at a given time, how your decisions influence what takes place in the study context, your choice of words, tone of voice, body language, even positioning in the space under study and how that positioning relates to where, what and the type dialogues are already underway. You need to be aware of these dynamics but not completely passive to them. Neither can you be too active to them as you risk over-influencing what goes on. The trick is to be present but not have too much presence. You cannot dominate the field you study and your interjections must be strategic at all times.

I haven’t really read anyone’s work which has told me these things; I guess it has just been something which I’ve worked out myself and adjusted according to the particular social group under study. In the case of this study in Valdemingómez, where we were among 5,000 other drug consumers per day, in and out of gypsy-run drug dens, among the rats and rubbish, we had to have a lot of patience. As you can imagine, many of the people we were with had lost their homes, friends and families and were homeless, had amounted numerous mental health and physical problems and were very mistrustful of other people given that they often had to fight among each other to get money altogether for a hit of cocaine and heroin. Many were violent and unpredictable. The whole site was also a massive health risk as there were discarded rubbish and used syringes everywhere.

These dynamics, as well as the potential violence from the gypsies and the police raids, made the research environment – from start to finish - a constant challenge to research. We were in fact stopped several times by the police as they suspected addicts themselves.

This was because we wore the same clothes every time we went over the two-year period. I would have done it no other way.

Jana: What are some of your most important findings and lessons learned?
Daniel: I would like to think the book will be widely read and people can learn from how society, perhaps even be inspired to research like this. I have a distant and unrealistic hope it will lead to change but this is more because of the complexity of what I studied. I think the most important finding - which was also the biggest lesson learned - was that one can do dangerous studies and help people at the same time. Here is a segment from a poem I wrote for invited keynote I did at a conference in Denmark recently; it is about the experience of the fieldwork during Dead End Lives: Drugs and Violence in the City Shadows:

So what do I take from this?
In pink, she rested sleeping. 
So those two years were, 
If I am honest, 
Meant to meet and help her.

Jana: What should young researchers interested in this area of study focus on? Any advice? 
Daniel: While my passion has not subsided, my scepticism has increased towards established academia and the general lack of focus on real people, real lives and real situations. We are headed for dark times as businesses interests dominate universities, the research process and the construction of knowledge in general. Even in my short career, I have seen these things worsen. By commodifying what we do as academics, we lose sight of our real moral purpose as social scientists and become subservient to economic pressures to generate income, do administrative duties and write in the supposedly best journals.

Young researchers should be aware of how universities – and the mechanisms which govern the potential for knowledge construction (such as ethics committees) – stifle the possibility for studies such as mine to take place. I did this study with a student who had no ethnographic experience after having three projects began by chance and are a reflection of established academia. This is because I did these projects for a wider benefit, not just to participate in the confines of academia. My interest over the last few years, however, has been in book publishing – a type of world because I have been into the dark depths of society. My interest in this area of study focus on? Any advice? The chance to tell you totally, 
Which has kept sane my sanity? 
Was a baby I was seeing. 
It was so frustrating, 
And felt the head of the baby, 
I placed my hand on her tummy, 
And working for gypsies, 
Continued with cocaine, 
For she denied it at best, 
To persuade her to take tests, 
That I helped someone get clean, 
Remember Julia from previous, 
This pregnant woman, 
Living precarious and devious, 
I changed to tell you totally, 
As that in seeing all this bad, 
And writing to the authorities, 
About their woeful policies, 
Did nothing to make them priorities… 
And I wrote a book, 
In my hand, take a look, 
For these are atrocities, 
Crimes against humanity, 
That happen in urbantiy, 
While in commercial centres, 
We feed our vanity, 
On Instagram pages, 
We browse for ages, 
And far from our conscience, 
Is this suffering that rages. 
And the only cure from this, 
Which has kept sane my sanity? 
Has the simple fact been, 
That I helped someone get clean, 
Remember Julia from previous, 
This pregnant woman, 
Living precarious and devious, 
I placed my hand on her tummy, 
And felt the head of the baby, 
Soon she was to be mummy, 
To this I was witness, 
So I made it my business, 
To persuade her to take tests, 
For she denied it at best, 
Continued with cocaine, 
And heroin and all the rest. 
Working for gypsies, 
Days without rest. 
It was so frustrating, 
For there was a baby waiting, 
So I went into the drug den, 
With a worker who was my friend, 
Once again, we tried, 
So otherwise Julia could decide. 
But to no avail, 
And more time passed until. 
By some miracle she left, 
With the Red Cross she progressed, 
And three months later, 
She looked much better, 
And the baby she was feeling, 
Was a baby I was seeing. 
In pink, she rested sleeping. 
And me Julia named,
Incarceration as Ethno-Political Resource: The Role of Colonial Legacy and Ethnic Political Exclusion in Cross-National Incarceration Rates

Tell us little bit about your research interests and your work.

Andrew is interested in political and social violence and the ways that global and transnational processes contribute to violence. Michael is interested in punishment and labor, and particularly in how they interact to generate or reify inequalities along the lines of race, ethnicity, and class. The topic for this paper (incarceration rates across the world) was natural point of coming together for these interests.

How did you get interested in these specific topics (list the topics of your interest here please)?

Andrew has a background in International Relations, which inspired his interests in global society once he began studying sociology. Michael had studied work and the prison independently and eventually honed in on the overlap between those two areas of study. This particular paper came about after sessions of discussing the various stages of our own work at our department's Friday happy hour. Over time, more and more shared questions began to emerge, one of which we explored in this manuscript.

What were some of the most significant findings in your award-winning paper? Were there any surprising findings? What did you find to be the most challenging part of your research?

Our findings contribute to our understanding of the role of ethnicity in incarceration rates across the world. Quantitative scholars studying this have typically used diversity indices - which attend to the ways that multi-cultural societies experience more ethnic-based tension that stems from such diversity. On the other hand, we use alternative measures that capture the role of ethnic domination in the process, as well as historical colonial processes that can shape punitive cultures across the world. The most challenging portion of this type of research is in assembling cross-national datasets, especially in cases where data are rare and difficult to find.

Are you working on anything interesting at the moment? Any other papers or projects?

We are both completing our dissertations at the University of Arizona. Aside from this focus, Andrew is involved in several ongoing projects considering terrorism on a cross-national level, as well as working on teams to develop new methodological tools to model "rare events" in a logistic regression context. Michael is currently drafting a book manuscript with Oxford University Press following his 18-month ethnography of the on-the-ground dynamics of penal labor within one US state prison. Together, we are in the very early stages of a new paper project looking at cross-national differences in treatment of Prisoners of War (POWs).

What are your next steps and future plans?

Michael will begin next year as an assistant professor of sociology at the University of Denver. Andrew expects to begin next year as an assistant professor of sociology at North Carolina State University. We both plan to be active members of the DIC going forward and look forward to contributing to this community of scholars.
“Rogue” Actors and Discretion: Street-Level Bribery and its Impact on Obligations to Obey Police and Public Confidence in Ruling Government

How did you get interested in these specific topics (list the topics of your interest here please)?

- I am interested in police legitimacy and how it is conceptualized and motivated in post-colonial contexts
- I am also interested in law enforcement responses to terrorism in East Africa
- I also examine the influence foreign fighters have on local terrorist organizations

My interest in these topics was sparked by my experiences growing up in Kenya. How I and those around me perceived the police seems to conflict with the perspectives help by the friends and colleagues I met and lived with while working and living abroad in Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. As a researcher, these variations in views interested me and have continued to do so until now.

What were some of the most significant findings in your award-winning paper? Were there any surprising findings? What you find to be the most challenging part of your research?

There are two significant findings in my study. First is that ethnicity moderates the impact that unfair police practices have on individuals’ willingness to obey the law. Second it that, compared to majority ethnic group members, members of the minority ethnic group (Somalis) who are exposed to unfair police practices are more likely to agree with the obligation to obey the law. This last finding is important because it is contrary to the dominant perspective in the literature that argues that obedience is inextricably linked to police legitimacy and only motivated by positive normative considerations, such as procedurally fair treatment. Instead, as this finding suggests, obligations to obey the law can be motivated by negative experiences. Obedience in this case could be the result of fear of the consequences of disobedience or feelings of powerlessness that no feasible alternative is available but to obey. This obedience is vastly different than one motivated by a recognition that the police have a normatively valid claim to exercise their authority.

The most challenging part of my research has to be access to secondary data I want. Most of the questions I am interested in are based on the African continent and short of collecting my own data require secondary datasets that are hard to come by or do not exist.

Are you working on anything interesting at the moment? Any other papers or projects?

Yes, I am working on a project that investigates ethnic and regional variations in perceptions towards government and law enforcement following terrorist attacks.

I am also working on another project that investigates the rejection of foreign fighters from local terrorist organizations that once welcomed them.

What are your next steps and future plans?

I am about to begin writing my dissertation in the next few months, and so my immediate next steps will be to begin field work in Kenya and neighboring countries as part of my research. Long term, my ambition is to complete my PhD, become a professor, and continue with my research work.

ANNOUNCEMENT
19th World Congress of Criminology
Doha, Qatar, October 27-31

Special competition for 10 roundtrip airfares from anywhere to Doha for Ph.D. students and post-docs.
For more information: https://www.intercrim.com/2019Congress
PHOTOS FROM ASC
Atlanta, Georgia 2018
How did you start in this field, and how did you become interested in comparative and international criminology?

When you are living in a small country and on a continent with rather small nations, you will be more interested in looking how things you know might differ in other contexts. Another reason was that I started being involved in survey research. Surveys are a formidable tool to compare nations!

Over the years, you have written on so many different topics, from gun ownership and wrongful convictions to juvenile delinquency, homicide, and victimization. Which specific topics are of particular interest to you, and do you have any “favorite” research field?

Again, in a small country, you are like a village doctor who cannot choose his patients according to whatever might be his preferred narrow specialization. In the same vein, I had to take up issues that made it on the political and, therefore, on the research agenda.

What do you consider to be your most significant research over the years, and what are some of your most significant findings?

I guess the most important things, in the very long run, will be the randomized controlled trials comparing different sanctions (prison, community service, electronic monitoring) with respect to their effects on later outcomes (including reconvictions). These studies have answered, in very clear terms, important policy questions.

You have conducted extensive studies on gun ownership in Switzerland. What are some lessons learned from your study? What were some challenges when conducting this research?

May I say first that I am not particularly interested in guns? To make it clear, I have no problem with guns and with people who own them. My interest was in situational factors (an interest I had learned from my Albany teacher Leslie T. Wilkins), and so I thought that access to guns might be a factor with some potential in the explanation of fatal events. The first international crime victimization survey offered the opportunity to measure gun ownership in a wide array of countries. The study got immense attention because the rates of gun ownership and homicide/suicide differed so tremendously across countries. The American debate on gun violence is still today much too focused on US data. The lesson from Switzerland and Europe? Well, it is as if you speak to a heavy smoker whom you cannot stop smoking. The best you can say to him is: try to smoke less. In the same vein, having less guns in America might be an important step to a solution.

Can you please tell us more about your current research? What are you working on at the moment?

I have just finished proof reading an article on self-reported delinquency among young people in Switzerland compared to young people in Balkan countries. As it turns out, juveniles from Balkan countries who live in Switzerland commit more offences than their mates of Swiss background, but also than their cousins who remained in their parents’ home-countries. It is as if not migrants, but the experience of migration as such that might cause problems.

Do you have any advice for new scholars interested in international and comparative criminology?

Try to establish contacts with young people of your age from different countries. Why not through the ASC international division or by attending European Society of Criminology meetings? My most reliable partners in research projects are friends whom I had met 40 years ago abroad in some conferences.
Tell us little bit about your research (Research on Frequency and Readiness of Students in Post-Socialist Countries of Southeast Europe to Report Criminal Offenses). How did you get interested in these specific topics and international/comparative criminology in general (please list the topics of your interest here and tell us how you got interested)?

Reporting crime is the first step towards solving and fighting crime. In addition, the role of victim, i.e., witness reporting the crime can also be crucial in fighting and, directly, in preventing crime. So-called victimisation research, in which respondents are asked whether they have been victims of a specific crime and whether they have reported it to the police, is common in Western countries, whereas such research is scarce in Eastern Europe. What I’m researching in this project, besides reporting crime and willingness to report, are socio-demographic characteristics, trust in police, as well as social values of individuals in relation to reporting crime.

Croatia, where I come from, as well as other countries included in the research (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Hungary, Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia) are young democracies, meaning that it’s a real challenge to conduct research on such societies, which are still insufficiently explored, in particular based on large-scale research conducted in the West.

My motivation for criminology emerged during the Safety and Development Module that I attend as part of the Sociology graduate study programme at Croatian Studies, University of Zagreb. It consists of diverse subjects related to safe and sustainable communities. My supervisor, Associate Professor Dr Irena Cajner Mraović is exceptionally competent and motivated, with extensive research, as well as professional experience in police reform, which makes it almost impossible not to take an interest in criminology. My motive and role models are also many successful students that the professor has supervised so far, and who are already now renowned researchers, recipients of numerous awards and authors of research papers. The motivation for this research project on reporting crime emerged during the course Sociology of Social Control and Police in Croatian Society, where we, as students, had the task of writing a seminar paper on this topic. After reading the literature, I wanted to find out more about the situation in Croatia in this regard. I first conducted a small-scale research among students of the University of Zagreb, then, at the suggestion of my supervisor, I decided to apply for this award, which I was fortunate to receive, and now I’m conducting research in 7 countries!

In addition to everything stated so far, the most important motive is researching my own society and comparing it to other, different cultures, in order to contribute to its success and progress. As for this particular research, the most important motivation is to prevent crime and to encourage victims to report in order to be able to determine exact crime figures and to be able to act adequately.

What do you find to be the most challenging part of your research? What were some of the most significant findings? Were there any surprising findings?

Given that the project is still on-going (it started on 1 September 2018 and lasts until 30 August 2019), I can’t talk about the final results, however, I’m certain that there will be significant findings, especially in the area of social values and reporting crime since such research has not been conducted so far.

A noteworthy finding of the research conducted on Croatian students indicates that trust in police plays a significant role when deciding to report crime, which can be useful when developing preventive measures, especially for young people whose behaviour can still be influenced.

As for challenges, given that I’m still a student and a novice researcher, there are many. For instance, translating the questionnaire into 6 difference languages and 2 different scripts – Latin and Cyrillic, finding respondents (1200 students), establishing contacts in all of the countries (fortunately, social media made things easier!), creating and piloting a questionnaire, surveying, statistical data processing, registering for conferences and writing research papers... All of this is new to me, however, it also represents a rewarding challenge because I learn something new.
Tell us more about your future projects (next steps and future plans). Are you working on anything interesting at the moment?

Currently, I’m a student in my final year. My priority is to successfully finish this project and to adequately present its results – so far, my abstracts have been accepted for two international conferences, and my plan is to publish a few more articles in domestic and foreign journals by the end of the academic year. In addition to the project, I’m currently working on my diploma thesis devoted to how trust in police is related to social values.

After graduating, I’m definitely planning on continuing doing research in the area of criminology. What particularly interests me is the topic I’m currently working on, and what also interests me are the penal system and the treatment of female prisoners, corruption, trust in institutions and methodology of social research in general. All in all, I remain open-minded to all opportunities, including a PhD study programme in criminology – which one in particular and where, in Croatia, in some other European country or in the US, depends on the options available to me.

THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS INITIATIVE
James Byrne
University of Massachusetts Lowell

Researchers in the School of Criminology and Justice Studies at the University of Massachusetts Lowell, in conjunction with researchers at George Mason University’s Center for Advancing Correctional Excellence (ACE), announce the creation of the Global Community Corrections Initiative. For details on this new initiative, go to www.globcci.org.

The primary purpose of the Global Community Corrections Initiative (GCCI) is to document how community based sanctions are being utilized globally. We will also examine the role of community corrections agencies at both the pre-trial stage and the reentry stage. Just as countries vary in the design and utilization of their prison systems, the design and utilization of community corrections systems also varies—both within and across global regions—in ways that are critical to document and analyze. Currently, there is no “one-stop shopping” resource that provides information on a global scale about community corrections systems. While researchers and policy makers have access to country-level data on prison populations and prison capacity in each global region due to the efforts of researchers at the Institute for Criminal Policy Research (ICPR), we know much less about the design, implementation, and impact of community corrections systems globally. A few unanswered questions are:

How many offenders are placed in community corrections systems around the globe? What is the total corrections population globally (i.e. prison plus community corrections population total)?

And what do we know about the effectiveness of community corrections?

The Global Community Corrections Initiative will provide answers to these questions. The first step in this effort is to assemble a global consortium of community corrections experts representing each global region. Because ninety percent of the world’s prison population currently reside in only 50 countries, we will target our data collection efforts on these countries in the first year of the initiative. The top 50 countries based on current prison population include 9 countries from Africa, 12 from the Americas, 16 from Asia, 10 from Europe, 2 from the Middle East, and 1 from Oceana.

We are currently identifying key community corrections experts in each country and global region, and with the help of our global consortium members, we will begin to build a country level data base profiling community corrections systems, populations, staffing, and performance in each global region. Our profiles will allow us to compare countries across the following three dimensions:

- Pre-trial alternatives
- Sentencing options
- Reentry alternatives

Are you interested in getting involved? If you are interested in joining our Global Community Corrections Initiative as a country-level subject matter expert, please contact us:

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ANNUAL MEETING
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
NOVEMBER 13 – 16, 2019

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE
DIVISION’S ANNUAL LUNCH-EON & BUSINESS MEETING
#ASCSF2019:
Friday, November 15!!
We hope to see you there!

DIC GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP FOR GLOBAL RESEARCH
New DIC Award
Funded by generous donations from DIC members and the ASC
Eligibility: This award is available to students enrolled in a graduate program. It is not limited to United States applicants. Students need not be members of the DIC to apply.
Study: The award is to support a research project that addresses an international or cross-national criminology or criminal justice issue.
Timeline: Applications are due each year by July 1. The DIC award committee chairperson will notify recipients by September 1.
Budget: The award maximum is $1,000. Funds cannot be used as salary or wage for the investigator or other persons. Funds are intended to support the research effort, such as travel expenses for data collection, research supplies, participant incentives, and foreign language translation services.
Request for Proposal: In a maximum of four pages, typed, double spaced, Times New Roman size 11 font or larger, describe the intended international research project. Be sure to include: Title of the project; name and affiliation of the investigator; a statement of the research question/s; statement of why the topic is important; literature that supports the study; description of the research design and analysis plan; dissemination plans; budget; study timeline. In an appendix include references, a letter of support from a research mentor and the investigator’s curriculum vita.

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DWC AWARD/GRANT CALL
The DWC’s Aruna Jain International Travel Grant ($2500) is particularly designed for scholars from outside the US. They need to have a submission into the ASC abstract system by March 8, 2019. The application is due by April 1, 2019.

DWC’s Feminist Criminology Graduate Research Scholarship (One $5000 winner and two $500 honorable mention awards) accepts applications from international graduate students.

THE DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINOLOGY OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY
WORLWIDE SURVEY OF LAY PARTICIPATION IN CRIMINAL CASES

Valerie Hans from Cornell University and Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovich from Michigan State University are conducting the first comprehensive worldwide survey of lay participation in criminal trials. When people think about courtrooms and trials in criminal cases, they typically envision professional judges. Yet, most of the countries in the world involve regular citizens in the decision-making processes as well. Depending on the legal system, ordinary citizens may serve as jurors, lay assessors in mixed tribunals, lay magistrates or justices of the peace, or judges in lay courts.

We are surveying experts—scholars like you—who have previously published about lay participation in a country and/or about the criminal justice system in that same country. The English and Spanish versions of the questionnaire have been posted on Survey Monkey. However, while some countries are well represented in published scholarly works (e.g., Australia, Spain, Sweden, UK, USA), we have been struggling to identify scholars who know about the criminal justice in many countries less frequently represented in published scholarly works (e.g., Algeria, Bhutan, Cuba, Gabon, Libya, Madagascar, Nauru, Somalia, Tuvalu). To date, we have experts from about 50 countries participating in the study and need your help identifying scholars who would be familiar with the criminal justice systems in another 150 countries.

Clearly, this is a large undertaking and we need your help in identifying such scholars. PLEASE email Sanja (kutnjak@msu.edu) with any suggestions for scholars whom we should ask to participate in the study. Thank you!
CRIMINOLOGISTS WITHOUT BORDERS
Jay Albanese
Virginia Commonwealth University

ASC United Nations Liaison
Criminologists Without Borders is an NGO with consultative status with the United Nations. We are a group of criminologists, researchers, professors, and those working in the field who seek to apply scientific findings and “best practices” to the policies and operations of crime prevention and criminal justice systems. See us at http://www.criminologistswithoutborders.org/

UN Commission on the Status of Women
The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. The UN ECOSOC established it in 1946. The CSW promotes women’s rights by documenting the reality of women’s lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The American Society of Criminology attained UN consultative status in 2018, so it can participate in relevant UN meetings as an NGO. Criminologists Without Borders is working with the ASC Division on Women & Crime, and DWC chair, Sheetal Ranjan, to organize several panel sessions during the CSW, which will be held at UN Headquarters in New York. The organizing committee for this event includes DWC Vice-Chair Elaine Arnell, ISA and CWB UN Rep Rosemary and WSV UN Rep Dawn Beichner.

Planned panels include:
- The Status of Women and the Policing of Conflict & Post-Conflict Areas
- The Safety of Women: Penal Mediation in Greek Domestic Violence Legislation
- Empowering Girls & Women Facing Violence in Family Settings
- The Safety of Women & Girls in Educational Settings
- Women, Re-Entry, & Social Protection
- Access to Justice for Women and Girls: The Role of Women in Law Enforcement & Peackeping

UN Crime Commission
The theme of the 28th UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (to meet in Vienna, Austria in May 2019) is: The responsibility of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems in preventing and countering crime motivated by intolerance or discrimination of any kind.

This broad theme can include laws, police practices, judicial decision-making, sentencing practices, or crime prevention methods that document, or are aimed to reduce, intolerance or discrimination against anyone on the basis or race, gender, ethnic identity, social class, or other non-legal factor that might be used in applying the rule of law.
Criminologists Without Borders is composing our annual global literature view, we are looking for links to any source materials of the subject of “intolerance and discrimination” for the UN Crime Commission in May. We are especially interested in including research and evaluation work from all world regions.

**Updates:**

*UN Commission on the Status of Women (March 2019)*

*UN Crime Commission (May 2019)*

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**WINNERS FROM THE 2018 SOCIAL MEDIA CONTEST**

**JOIN US FOR THE 2019 CHALLENGE AT #ASCSF2018**

**“Favorite Quote at ASC”**

Brittany Hood @BHood_Crim · 10h

“Review unto others as you would have them review unto you.”

@ASCWomenCrime Reviewer training

@ASC_Meetings ascdic #DICPhoto #DICATL18

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**“Most Memorable Sighting”**

Danielle Slakoff-Mc @dslakoff · 3m

Atlanta, you’re kind of pretty! #Dicphoto

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**“Photo with Favorite Scholar at ASC”**

Weng Fong Chao and Yi-Chien Ku with Robert Sampson
I’ve never been a big fan of two-, three-, or any number-year plans. I could see some benefit in having faculty goals for evaluation purposes—although knowing academic administration would likely change before those goals were evaluated made them more frustrating than helpful. But my preference has always been to have a career that allows for flexibility as opportunities arise. Most of the interesting, exciting, and career-advancing events in my almost 50 years in academia were opportunities I could not have anticipated, and they certainly didn’t appear among my “goals” for the upcoming evaluation periods.

One example was an email I received in 2015 while on vacation after attending the European Society of Criminology meeting in Porto, Portugal. The email heading was something like “Come and teach in Costa Rica!” Equating it to an email that might say “Last chance to buy property in a Florida swamp” I didn’t read it closely (and luckily didn’t delete it) until returning home. It quickly became apparent that the invitation was not only legitimate, but also very intriguing. The University for Peace (UPeace), a United Nations mandated university, was building curricula for their MA in International Peace Studies (IPS) and one of the faculty was familiar with some of my publications on transnational crime. They were also aware that I had recently retired and might be available to teach during a time when others might be committed to their home university’s semester schedule.

For three weeks each in 2016, 2017, and 2018 I had the great pleasure of teaching Transnational Organized Crime to students in the IPS program at the University for Peace (www.ipeace.org) near Ciudad Colón in Costa Rica’s Central Valley. A change in administration and program orientation resulted in removing the course from the curricula in 2019, so my services were no longer needed. But it was a great run. The course was mandatory for students in the IPS program but was sometimes taken as an elective by students in such programs as International Law and Human Rights, Environment Development and Peace, and in Media, Peace, and Conflict Studies. Many of the students were planning careers as diplomats, working for NGOs, or seeking additional study to supplement current occupations.

Two aspects of this experience had significant impact on me. The first was the diversity of students I was privileged to teach and the second was the opportunity to expand my own education and knowledge by learning from those students. My smallest class was about 12 students and the largest had more than 20. Each year the number of different countries represented was a close match to the number of students in the class. You can imagine the questions asked, experiences shared, and topics discussed when one classroom includes students from Canada to Argentina and from the Netherlands to East Timor. From those students I came to understand and appreciate cultural perspectives on transnational crime that I could not have gotten from most readings or media accounts.

My only regret—and I am appropriately embarrassed to suggest there is anything to regret when one is given the opportunity to spend 3 weeks in Costa Rica—is that I did not get to see as much of the country as I would have liked. My wife and her sister, unconstrained by work obligations, were able to enjoy several tours while I was teaching, and they have tales of beautiful cloud forests, volcanos, and beaches. But even the 30- to 40-minute bus ride between my hotel in San José and the campus presented wonderful views of coffee plantations, rushing rivers, swinging monkeys, and valley panoramas. I am very thankful for the opportunity provided to me and to my own career plan that allows the door to be opened when opportunity knocks.
**BOOK CORNER**


This book offers a scholarly introduction to comparative criminal justice. It examines and reflects on the ways different countries and justifications deal with the main stages in the criminal justice process, from policing, to systems of trial, to sentencing, and punishment. This popular bestseller has been fully updated and expanded for the new edition.


Why would anyone commit a mass atrocity such as genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, or terrorism? This question is at the core of the multi-disciplinary field of perpetrator studies, a developing field which this book assesses in its full breadth for the first time. Perpetrators of International Crimes analyses the most prominent theories, methods, and evidence to determine what we know, what we think we know, as well as the ethical implications of gathering this knowledge. It traces the development of perpetrator studies whilst pushing the boundaries of this emerging field. The book includes contributions from experts from a wide array of disciplines, including criminology, history, law, sociology, psychology, political science, religious studies, and anthropology. They cover numerous case studies, including prominent ones such as Nazi Germany, Rwanda, and the former Yugoslavia, but also those that are relatively under researched and more recent, such as Sri Lanka and the Islamic State. These have been investigated through various research methods, including but not limited to, trial observations and interviews.


This book presents a comprehensive analysis of personal participation in criminal proceedings and in absentia trials. Going beyond the accused-centred perspective of default proceedings, it not only examines the consequences of absence in various types of criminal proceedings, but also the fair trial safeguards allowing personal contributions during trials, as well as in pre-trial inquiries, higher instances and transborder procedures. By pursuing an interdisciplinary approach and employing comparative-law methodologies, the book presents a cross-section of twelve European criminal justice systems with regard to the requirements set forth by constitutional, international and EU law. approach and employing comparative-law methodologies, the book presents a cross-section of twelve European criminal justice systems with regard to the requirements set forth by constitutional, international and EU law.


Life imprisonment has replaced capital punishment as the most common sentence imposed for heinous crimes worldwide. As a consequence, it has become the leading issue in international criminal justice reform. In the first global survey of prisoners serving life terms, Dirk van Zyl Smit and Catherine Appleton argue for a human rights–based reappraisal of this exceptionally harsh punishment. The authors estimate that nearly half a million people face life behind bars, and the number is growing as jurisdictions both abolish death sentences and impose life sentences more freely for crimes that would never have attracted capital punishment. The central question—can life sentences be just?—is straightforward, but the answer is complicated by the vast range of penal practices that fall under the umbrella of life imprisonment. Van Zyl Smit and Appleton contend that life imprisonment without possibility of parole can never be just. While they have some sympathy for the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights, they conclude that life imprisonment, in many of the ways it is implemented worldwide, infringes on the requirements of justice. They also examine the outliers—states that have no life imprisonment—to highlight the possibility of abolishing life sentences entirely.
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