

THE METHOD OF “TWO-RAY” AND THE PERSPECTIVES OF CRIMINAL POLICY AND CRIME PREVENTION (2014)

Researcher: Svetlana Justickaja

This study is part of scientific research which was carried out together with the scientists of Mykolas Romeris University (A. Kiškis, R. Uscila, V. Justickis) since 2010. In the first stage of the research authors investigated the problem of assessing crime by the data of registered crime statistics and victim surveys. Also they created the model of integration of these data which is adapted to investigate and evaluate the crime problem in Lithuania (*by implementing the project “The development of “Two-ray” model and its’ application on investigation of registered and latent crime in Lithuania”, funded by Research Council of Lithuania (No. SIN-08/2010)*).

The method of “Two-Ray”, as any other method of knowledge, cannot pretend to the absolute perfection and to the absolutely adequately reflection of any changes in criminality. However, it is quite significant jump in the accuracy of crime data. In this sense it can be assumed that, contrary to the official statistics or data of victim surveys, this method shows more accurate picture of crime and also the data which is gathered by using this method reflects the situation of crime and the prevailing trends much better. There is a real opportunity to move towards the evidence-based criminal policy and crime prevention, to accept principal decisions on the basis of more reliable crime data by applying contemporary methods of data processing.

Thereby the system of integrated crime data monitoring raised another even bigger problem – the effectiveness of impact of crime. The opportunity to get more accurate data on crime situation (which turned out to be much worse than registered crime statistics showed) raised another problem – the need for more effective system of criminal sanctions. How much benefits will bring a new more accurate data of crime statistics depends on how successfully this problem would be solved. Thus, the creation of a new system of crime data is a necessary (but only the first) step towards effective system of crime prevention and control.

This study “The Method of “Two-Ray” and the Perspectives of Criminal Policy and Crime Prevention” (which is a part of scientific research) aimed to discuss the major challenges which should be resolved while implementing such a system and to summarize the practice of Lithuania and other countries in addressing these challenges.

This study examined the importance of “Two-Ray” method and generally the importance of more accurate data on the practice of crime prevention. Also this study covered the problems of effectiveness of crime prevention and control in Lithuania. Afterwards, a more detailed examination of separate domains of effectiveness of crime prevention and control is presented. The analysis of the hearings regarding the criminal legal drafts showed that the adoption of the laws in most cases was based on the pseudo-arguments, political or other form of rhetoric. The effectiveness of impact of criminal legal drafts was not considered at all or it was done passingly. This study also examined the problems of effectiveness of both national and local crime prevention programs in Lithuania. Also the organizational, psychological, methodological and other types of problems which impede the progress of crime prevention in Lithuania were identified.

The results of research (in Lithuanian): *Kiškis A., Justickaja S., Uscila R., Justickis V.* Nusikalstamumas Lietuvoje ir jo prevencijos perspektyvos: monografija. Vilnius: Mykolo Romerio universitetas, 2014, 467 p. ISBN 9789955196877 (e-book)