

**SUMMARIES**

LÁSZLÓ KORINEK

**Criminalistics, penal law, and criminology**

The author discusses some important problems of criminalistics as they relate to other disciplines such as penal law and criminology. It is emphasized that criminalistics, as a relatively young part of the sciences, may only function within the framework of the Rule of Law. It can contribute to the reasoning of decisions using scientifically based procedures and objective pieces of evidence. However, some activities can be challenged both on constitutional and practical grounds. Polygraph, tactical bluff, and special investigative methods are measures that suppress personality rights. The difference between criminalistics and criminology is in their focus of interest. The former mainly addresses individual crimes while criminology deals with a wider scope of problems for society related to offending. A better understanding of procedural justice could bridge the gap.

Keywords: *criminalistics, penal law, criminology, constitutionality, polygraph, special investigative methods, procedural justice*

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FERENC IRK

**The sin of greenwashing – Ethics and law for the use of prevention**

The study examines the phenomenon of greenwashing, highlighting its cultural, ethical and legal connections. Greenwashing is widespread; 98% of products advertised as green may contain greenwashing elements. The aim is to explore the complex network of greenwashing and develop prevention strategies. Ethics and law are intertwined in the fight against greenwashing. Coordinated state and social action is needed to preserve biodiversity. The key to prevention is to increase consumer awareness, improve corporate transparency and adherence to ethical standards. The promotion of these can be supported by increasing legal action against greenwashing.

Keywords: *greenwashing, culture, ethics, law, prevention*

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JÓZSEF KÓ – JUDIT SZABÓ

**The personal circumstances of money laundering offenders  
and their possible role in offending**

The aim of the case file analysis presented in this paper was to explore money laundering offenders' personal circumstances and socio-demographic characteristics and their possible role in offending. Our research was based on the analysis of a national sample of criminal cases initiated for money laundering and closed by a final judgement in 2021. Our results show that the socio-demographic characteristics of Hungarian money laundering offenders differ from those of the average offender in several respects and also do not reflect the stereotypically

expected features related to this offense; offenders are usually people in an unfavourable financial situation with low educational status and a low information level who can easily be influenced into committing the crime. This fact highlights the importance of education as a possible tool, not only for the prevention of victimization but also of becoming an offender.

Keywords: *money laundering, demographic characteristics, personal circumstances, profile*

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ANNA KISS

### **Agreements with defendants in some EU countries**

The judicial systems in most European countries are working to ensure the efficiency of criminal proceedings by introducing legal instruments similar to, but different from, the US plea bargaining system in a way that many hopes will simplify and speed up proceedings. It has become commonplace in European countries' criminal justice systems that the accused can obtain a reduction in charges or sentence on condition that he pleads guilty, waives his right to contest the facts at the outset of the proceedings or cooperates fully with the investigating authorities. In the case of a plea bargain, the prosecution can close the case in a short time and with little time and effort. In continental Europe, including in Hungarian criminal proceedings, there are many consensual solutions.

Keywords: *proceeding, defendant, accused, prosecution, plea bargaining, agreement, European Union*

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LÁSZLÓ TIBOR NAGY

### **About the crime of extortion**

The study aims to present the research results into the crime of extortion. This investigation was carried out at the National Institute of Criminology as the fourth and last stage of the analysis of violent crimes against property, after self-incrimination, looting and robbery. The study briefly reviews the legal history, the criminal law and criminological aspects of extortion, based on the results of the empirical file research – also by presenting examples – the relevant questions of law application and legal interpretation, as well as the main characteristics of the acts, the offenders and the victims.

Keywords: *violent crimes against property, extortion, criminal law, criminology*

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RENÁTA GARAI

### **The rise of electronic data. Camera surveillance in the net of personal data protection**

Camera surveillance systems play a key role in proving crimes: they record events from multiple angles, whether with images or sound, they help reconstruct what happened, check witness accounts, investigate criminal cases, and identify criminals. Data management issues are constantly being brought to the surface, because the management, registration, systematization, storage and destruction of seized and non-seized electronic (and other) data, as well as the protection of personal data, in themselves pose serious challenges to law enforcement. The impact of digitization and the development of information technology tools

undoubtedly make our lives easier, but it has brought many uncertainties, contradictions and, not least, abuses to the surface.

Keywords: *information technology, personal data, camera surveillance system, criminal procedure*  
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ORSOLYA BOLYKY – ESZTER SÁRIK

### **The criminological characteristics of crimes against property resulting in violence committed against the elderly**

In the course of our research, we analyzed the police and prosecutor's files – a total of 104 files – of crimes that began without violence but turned violent, aimed at acquiring property, and that harmed elderly victims. We primarily conducted our research in order to find the situational and psychological reasons for the change in the perpetrators' behavior. In the end, the crimes committed in this way are typically classified as robbery and, in the event of the victim's death, as murder for profit. The offenders were typically young men with a low socio-economic status and a criminal record. The most endangered group included elderly people who were clearly slow, clumsy, and unsteady in their movements. Another category of victims was elderly people who lived alone and were alone in their homes. Acts that started as theft typically turned into violent acts when the victims showed physical resistance, which usually meant not letting go of the bag or wallet they were carrying. The most common form of abuse was pushing or pulling to the ground.

Keywords: *violent crimes against property, elderly victims, the pathway to violence, criminology*  
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SZANDRA WINDT

### **The Phenomenon of Human Trafficking in the Shadow of the COVID-19 Pandemic**

The Covid-19 pandemic challenged everyone between March 2020 and autumn 2022. We have sought to examine the impact of the pandemic from two perspectives: firstly, on the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings (given its complexity) and, secondly, on the fight against it: by looking at the experiences of those who help victims and those who enforce the law, which often involved different aspects. These were explored through several methods: conducting in-depth victim interviews in shelters for victims of trafficking, expert interviews with managers of these institutions and with law enforcers in 2022, and two focus group discussions with prosecutors and police officers in 2023. The results of the expert interviews and focus groups with law enforcement officials are summarised below.

Keywords: *victim, trafficking in human beings, Hungary, pandemic*  
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ILDIKÓ RITTER

### **“Package switching” in a different way – the characteristics of the online drug market**

The modern world is now unimaginable without digital commerce: although it may be not well known, e-commerce however began in the early 1970s with the sale and purchase of marijuana. Today's retail drug market is dominated by open and dark web markets, with the

ancillary tools of social media and encrypted communication applications. The online drug trade is a digital imprint of the drug market, but at the same time it embodies the marketplace that the offline market is not capable of providing: it brings the broad spectrum of the supply market within the reach of buyers. While the digital drug trade offers many co-benefits for consumers, buyers and sellers, the authorities face serious difficulties in detection. The market has become more “ethical”; buyers and consumers are not at the mercy of dealers, and the additional criminal portfolio of trade (violent crimes and crimes against life that are connected to the drug phenomenon) loses its meaning in the digital space. For now, digital marketplaces seem to have tamed the drug market.

Keywords: *drug, drug market, e-commerce, dark web*

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ÁGNES SOLT

### **Apathy, crime and punishment. The story of the youngest LWOP inmate**

In March 2011, a long-term, 12-year study was launched, focusing people sentenced to life imprisonment without parole. These are the prisoners who remain in prison for the rest of their lives. We looked at the coping strategies of the offenders and the possible changes in mentality that might occur over the years. Over the years, we have been able to draw certain typological traits and distinguishable coping strategies among the prisoners, but also found strikingly contrasting and divergent attitudes to their crime. This study tells the story of the youngest male LWOP inmate, who was 25 years old at the time of his sentence. I quote from our conversations over ten years. This helps us to see both his mentality and the evolution of his fate during his years in prison. It shows the perspective of a man who lived differently, in a sense without inhibitions.

Keywords: *life imprisonment without parole, murder, imprisonment, emotionlessness*

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JÓZSEF KÓ

### **Some methodological problems in file research**

In many cases, criminological research involves the examination of criminal records (files). This paper reviews the main methodological problems that researchers face when conducting file research. It provides an overview and comparison of qualitative and quantitative research methods to help in the selection of the most appropriate research method. The presentation of issues related to sampling will help researchers and readers of research findings to assess the reliability and validity of research results.

Keywords: *research, file research, qualitative, quantitative, sampling*

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