Editorial

This issue of the Journal of Criminal Justice and Security covers discussions on contemporary criminal justice and security issues in Central and South-eastern and Eastern Europe.

In the first paper, Stojanka Mirčeva, Vesna Stefanovska, and Bogdančo Gogov address victim-offender mediation in the juvenile justice system in Macedonia. More specifically, they examine the extent to which procedural rights of the various parties in the juvenile justice process are practiced given the multicultural character of the community. Relying on secondary data that included court documents and interviews, the authors examine the extent to which the various players are aware of the institutional capacity and the willingness to accept reforms in the juvenile justice system.

The second article, by Ksenija Butorac, Marijan Šuperina, and Ljiljana Mikšaj Todorović, examines the incidence of elderly missing persons in Zagreb, Croatia, with the goal to assess a plan for the police to help track missing persons. The authors used original data from a survey of 170 elderly persons in Zagreb in which they gathered data on various demographic characteristics, the place and duration of disappearance, the methods employed to find the missing persons, and outcomes. The findings suggest that the elderly persons with Alzheimer’s disease and those who are suicidal because of depression are at high risk of going missing. This study helps develop strategies for police to better plan searches for missing persons, especially for the elderly. The third and the fourth paper in this issue focus on terrorism. That by Renato Matić, Anita Dremel, and Mateja Šakić examines origins and variations in the interpretation of events connected with terrorism with emphasis on causes and consequences of terrorism. They conclude that the solutions employed to deal with terrorism are unsuccessful because the logic applied to discern the causes of terrorism is the same as the one used to solve the problem. The second paper related to terrorism focuses on jury trials in terrorism-related cases in Russia. Anna Gurinskaya, in what she refers to as the “gradual encroachment on the constitutional right” related to jury trials of offenders accused in terrorism cases, highlights the gradual withdrawal and reversal of judicial reforms related to these matters introduced in the 1990s. She suggests that the initial argument of the primacy of “state security” in terrorism cases made it possible to limit availability of jury trials.

The final paper, by Jasna Fedran, Bojan Dobovšek, and Branko Ažman, elaborates on the effectiveness of incorporating anti-corruption measures into public-sector undertakings in Slovenia. More specifically, the authors focus on the data drawn from secondary resources and interviews with integrity planners and producers, highlighting the latter’s reluctance to participate in the study. Their findings also suggest that participation by employees in integrity plans is limited and that the current concept of the integrity plan should be partially upgraded.

We hope you will find the papers interesting, instructive, and useful. On behalf of the editorial board, we also invite potential writers to submit their articles for publication in the Journal of Criminal Justice and Security.

Mahesh Nalla & Gorazd Meško
Guest Editors