

Summaries

LÁSZLÓ KORINEK

Paradoxes in criminology and criminal justice

Paradoxes are usually understood as seemingly inevitable contradictions that arise in interaction with each other. They can be traced back to the problems of thinking, to the inadequacies of the representation of reality, but they can also derive from the dialectics of real processes. Eliminating them or exploiting their potential requires flexible and creative approaches. Legal thinking is particularly sensitive to seemingly irresolvable contradictions, often due to errors of theory and regulation, says the Hungarian-born Fletcher.

PETRONELLA DERES

Cybersecurity, cybercrime**– A snapshot from the period of the Covid19 pandemic**

The study attempts to outline the current international and European developments in cybersecurity and cybercrime: it discusses the latest orientations defined along the lines of the European Commission's new strategy for the Security Union; reviews, without claiming completeness, the main milestones of the pandemic period in the fight against cybercrime; and presents the provisions of the Second Additional Protocol to the Budapest Convention, touching upon the Octopus 2021 conference and some of the findings of the Internet Organised Crime Threat Assessment (IOCTA) for 2021.

ESZTER SÁRIK – SZANDRA WINDT

New forms of online training during a pandemic – lessons to learn from the CRITCOR project in the light of Covid19 pandemic

The study provides an insight into the experience gained during the organisation, preparation and delivery of the CRITCOR project's November 2021 Training on the Detection, Prosecution and Judicial Practice of Corruption Crimes. Our goal was to provide orientation points for organising an online training session, given that the Covid19 epidemic forced our professional lives into the digital world in several ways. The two-day event provided an opportunity for police, prosecutors and judges to process cases involving corruption offences jointly, in a way that will increase their knowledge of substantive and procedural criminal law, as well as their forensic and criminological knowledge.

JÓZSEF KÓ

**Indicators of acts of corruption that can be assessed
under criminal law**

The phenomenon of corruption has always been of concern to people: it has emerged at an individual level, in general, but it has also had an impact on public and political figures and later on economic actors. Nowhere has it been completely eliminated. The aim is to reduce the phenomenon instead and keep it as limited as possible. Crime statistics, which indicate the number of known criminal offences of corruption, are not in themselves a good indicator of the corruption situation in a given country, but they cannot be ignored as an essential element of measuring corruption in criminal law. In addition to official crime statistics, the degree of latency must also be taken into account: statistical and latency data must be used and interpreted together, otherwise the index for measuring corruption cannot do its job; namely to reflect the real situation.

ILDIKÓ RITTER

Covid19 pandemic and the digitalising drug market

The Covid19 pandemic and the restrictive measures surrounding it have caused an economic crisis, the likes of which the world has not seen for a long time. The drug market is part of the same global or local economy as the markets that make up the legal economy; it operates in the same economic, social and political environment, and demand-side actors buy in both the legal and illegal drug markets. The results of my previous studies have confirmed that drug market groups “copy” and adapt models from the legal market; moreover, they are affected by changes in the global or local market and social environment in the same way as legal markets. However, because they are characterised by flexible role structures and supply-side role diffusion, they operate in a very specific, multi-actor, monopolistic but fundamentally competitive and fragmented drug market, and thus adapt quickly to change. This is why it is called a restriction-resistant or Covid-resistant market. The rise of legal online trading has also made trafficking in narcotics easier. The drug market is more flexible than ever and has moved into the digital space.

GABRIELLA KÁRMÁN

The impact of the Covid19 pandemic on counterfeiting medical products

Counterfeit medicines are a threat to human life and health, affecting individuals, society and the economy. Criminal law is also playing an increasingly important role in protecting the values which are at stake. The Covid19 epidemic has only created an even more fertile environment for this type of crime to prosper on a global scale. The aim of the research initiated in 2020 at the National Institute of Criminology was to examine the criminal procedure conducted in counterfeit medicine cases in order to understand their characteristics: the typical objects of the offences, the criminal conduct of the offenders, the characteristics of the perpetrators, the difficulties in the evidentiary procedure and the penalties imposed. The research has shown the importance of cooperation between professional bodies and investigative authorities. The key to effective prosecution is the judicial authorities awareness of how to act according to the seriousness of the problem.

RENÁTA GARAI

What is the price of sin?

Experience of examining agreements in mediation proceedings

The aim of all criminal proceedings is to decide on the criminal liability of the perpetrator who committed the criminal offence, and, in Hungary, only a court can find guilt and impose a sentence. In this strictly regulated system, the possibility of active repentance may appear to be a stumbling block since, in the only purely consensual formula of the mediation procedure, if the conditions are met, the authorities step back for a while and effectively leave the fate of the suspect to the victim: they ensure his impunity with an order to terminate proceedings, or, in the absence of an agreement, decide to continue the criminal proceedings. The subject of the research conducted by OKRI was an analysis of the agreements concluded in mediation procedures in criminal cases and an examination of current practical issues. A successful mediation process (despite the commission of the criminal offence) will result in impunity for the suspect, while it may provide some reassurance for the victim. But, in reality, what is the price of sin, anyway? How much is it worth for the suspect to 'redeem' the crime? We were looking for answers to questions like these, and we have largely found them.

ANNA KISS

Victims of minor age in criminal proceedings

Starting from delimiting the concepts of minor/child/juvenile, the study presents, on the one hand, the means of leniency and protection for minor victims and the additional rights of victims under the age of 14, and, on the other hand, the interrogation method called *Barnahus*, which is not identical to the comprehensive child welfare service in the framework of regional child protection services and differs from the criminal procedure solutions of other countries. The Hungarian Barnahus method was introduced in Hungarian criminal proceedings in January 2021, as a possible method of interrogating minor victims. In essence, we can still consider this 'new' method as a procedural act, which can take place in any certified police or special court premises.

ÁGNES SOLT

The sociological background to parricide

Parental abuse became problematic in our society at a time when the number of divorces and single-parent family models that emerge from divorce has increased significantly. In the case of parental abuse, the two most common and recurrent characteristics are the following: 1) serial assault by a minor or young adult son on his mother; and 2) abuse by an adult person with a disability, often an addict and/or suffering from a psychiatric illness, against an elderly, weak, and vulnerable parent living in the same household. Parental abuse can lead to taking a parent's life, but this only occurs in extreme, tragic cases and cannot be considered typical. The research and its present results once again draw attention to the indispensable importance of prevention and the social care system, which could and should be the primary and most important means of crime prevention.

LÁSZLÓ TIBOR NAGY

On the criminology of robbery

At the National Institute of Criminology (Hungarian abbreviation OKRI), the first phase of research on robbery, a criminal offence of outstanding material gravity, was devoted to the exploration of the problems of criminal law and dogmatics, which we reported in Volume 58 of Criminological Studies, and in

the second period we aimed to explore the criminological characteristics. This study summarises the results of this second phase, drawing mainly on empirical case studies, including examples, based on the analysis of relevant data on 200 acts, 228 perpetrators and 215 victims, taking previous research and literature findings into account.