

SLOVENIAN CRIMINOLOGY: ITS BEGINNINGS, DEVELOPMENT AND STATE OF THE ART

A paper prepared for the 2009 ESC conference
CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIME POLICY BETWEEN
HUMAN RIGHTS AND EFFECTIVE CRIME CONTROL

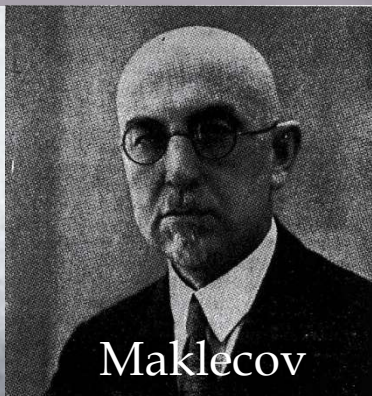
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Significant Slovenian Criminology Personalities



Fran Milčinski
The first juvenile judge
in the Austro
Hungarian Empire



Maklecov



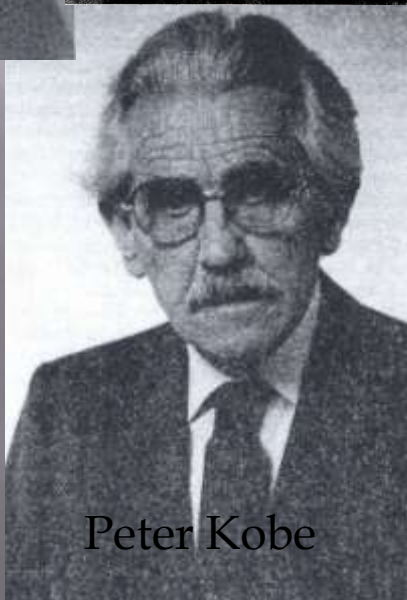
Katja Vodopivec



Janez Pečar



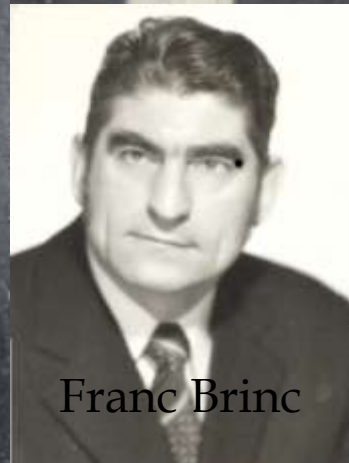
Alenka Šelih



Peter Kobe



Ljubo Bavcon



Franc Brinc

?

ALEKSANDER VASILJEVIČ MAKLECOV

Maklecov, professor of criminal law and criminology at the Faculty of Law in Ljubljana, originally from Ukraine. His essays of crime and criminality include:

1927 (protection of the neglected children as a part of social policy)

1928 (accountability in criminal law)

1929 (pedagogical aspects of juvenile justice)

1930 (crime control policy, criminal personality)

1936 (sociology of crime and ethics)

1937 (institutes of criminology)

1938 (crime patterns, typologies)

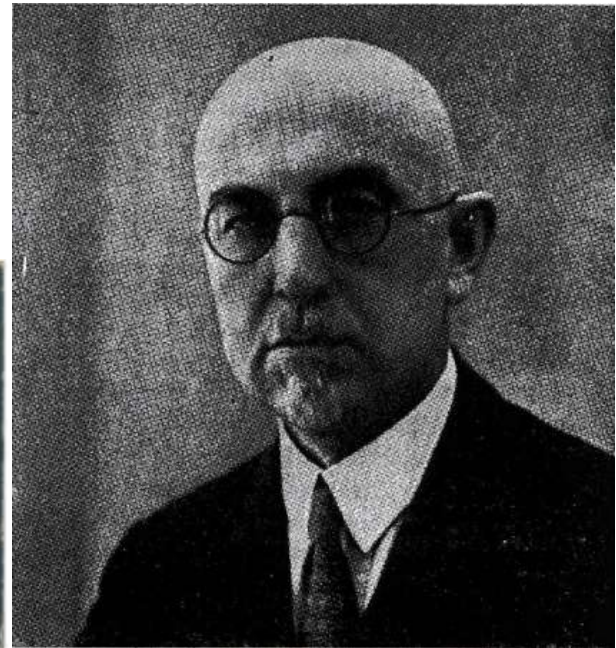
1939 (criminal geography)

1941 (crime in newspapers)

1944 (women and crime)

1945 (juvenile delinquency)

1947 (Introduction to Criminology – the first Slovenian textbook on criminology)



Death and Rebirth of Criminology Teaching

Professor Maklecov died in 1948. After his death criminology was not taught as a subject at the University of Ljubljana until 1964 (Vodopivec, 1996:294).

Criminology has been as an optional subject on undergraduate and postgraduate courses at the Faculty of Law and a core subject at the School of Internal Affairs (1973 -) (later College of Police and Security Studies and now Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, UM), and at the Faculty of Education at the UL since the 1980s (Vodopivec, 1996: 294; Meško & Tičar, 2008: 286)

Research Unit of the Ministry of the Interior

1950 – The Ministry of the Interior – Research
Unit

MINISTRSTVO ZA NOTRANJE ZADEVE LJUDSKE REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE

KRIMINALISTIČNA SLUŽBA

Št. 1 – Leto I

Strogo poverljivo

Ljubljana, 1. avgusta 1950

1950 – “Criminal Investigation Service” later
“Journal of Criminal Investigation and
Criminology” (publisher: The Ministry of the
Interior)

First numbers of the journal were published
as “Highly confidential material”!

An Early Definition of Criminology (1951)

- ▣ Gorjup (1951,) stated that “criminal law criminology” consisted of general theory, history, dogmatic, comparative criminal law, and crime control policy. In addition, criminology also comprises criminal phenomenology, biology, psychology and sociology. Other criminology related disciplines are as follows: forensic medicine and forensic psychiatry, criminalistics/criminal investigation, penology and criminal pedagogy, and crime prevention.

The Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law (1954 –)

1954 – Reflection about a need to establish the Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law in Ljubljana supported by President of the Executive Council (Government) of the Republic of Slovenia, Boris Kraigher. An initiative committee was established and their efforts led to the establishment of the Institute of Criminology in late 1954. The establishment of the ICFL in late 1954 was a step forward to independent scientific research on crime and delinquency.

The Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law (1954 –)

- ▣ A different look on crime, criminality, punishment and prevention of crime.
- ▣ Awareness that an academic discussion of crime, criminality, punishment and prevention of crime was needed.
- ▣ Soon the IC became one of the most active social science institutes in Slovenia and maintained this tradition up to the present time.
- ▣ Early inclusion in international comparative research (Vodopivec, Kobal, Šelih, Skaberne, Bayer) in the 1960.

Early Criminological Research

- ▣ **First 10 years of the Institute (Vodopivec, 1964)**
 - Experiences from the first 13 research projects:
 - ▣ Two kinds of research – theoretical & applied
 - ▣ Theoretical: causes of crime
 - ▣ Applied: practice and policy making
 - ▣ Dilemma about quantity and quality of research
 - ▣ Social context – almost impossible to be a pure scientist service is more preferred (service for policy makers and pedagogical activities – teaching criminology)
 - ▣ What is the value of criminological research – who can understand criminological theory and what is the value if applied research?
 - ▣ Questions about research methods and limitations of social research?
 - ▣ Required research ethics and integrity of researchers

The 1960s – 24 Research Projects

- ▣ Assaults and battery in the community of Slovenska Bistrica (Šelih, 1963) – first victimological research
- ▣ The way of dealing with juvenile delinquents in Poland and Yugoslavia (Skaberne, 1964)
- ▣ Re-conciliation boards (Pečar, 1968) – restorative justice
- ▣ Evaluation of probation in Slovenia (Skaberne, 1969)
- ▣ Criminology - a textbook (Vodopivec, Kobal Bavcon, Skalar (1966, in Croatian)

The 1970s – 25 Research Projects

- ▣ Relationship between scientific research and criminal policy (Vodopivec, 1970) – impact of criminology on social policies
- ▣ Maladjusted youth. An experiment in rehabilitation (Vodopivec, 1973) – new direction in treatment of juvenile delinquents
- ▣ Concentration of deviant phenomena in Ljubljana (Pečar, 1975) – before computerised GIS
- ▣ Selection, training and professional efficiency of police cadets (Skalar, 1976) – a piece of research locked in a vault for the next 15 years

The 1980s – 34 Research Projects

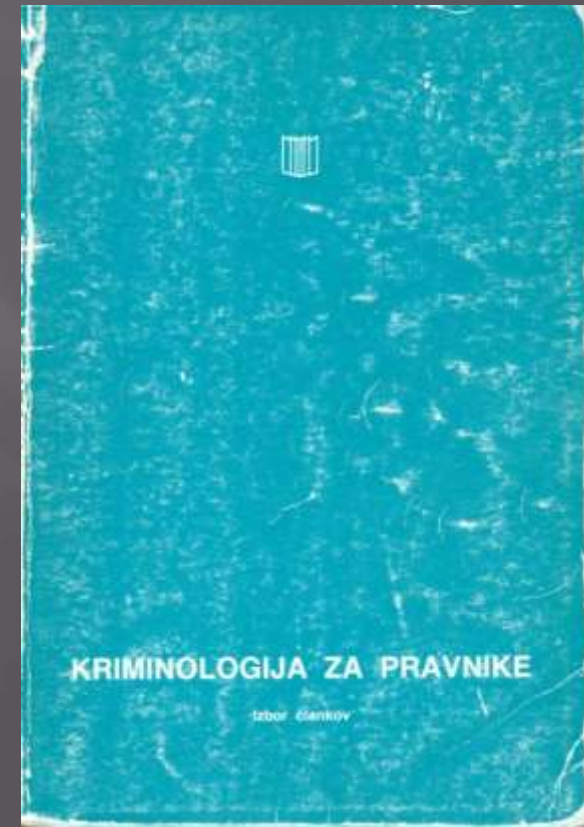
- ▣ Situational Crime Prevention (victimological aspects) – Thefts in Supermarkets
- ▣ Domestic Violence
- ▣ Children's Rights
- ▣ Juvenile Delinquency
- ▣ Penology (especially social climate in prisons)

Visiting Scholars/Fellows before 1991

- ▣ Vodopivec – Social care services/Washington D.C., USA
- ▣ Pečar – Philadelphia, USA
- ▣ Šelih – Cambridge, UK; Max Planck, Freiburg, GER; Wisconsin, USA
- ▣ Bavcon – Nancy, FR
- ▣ Pavlović – Kalamazoo, USA
- ▣ Brinc – Paris, FR
- ▣ Maver – Leningrad (St. Petersburg), RU

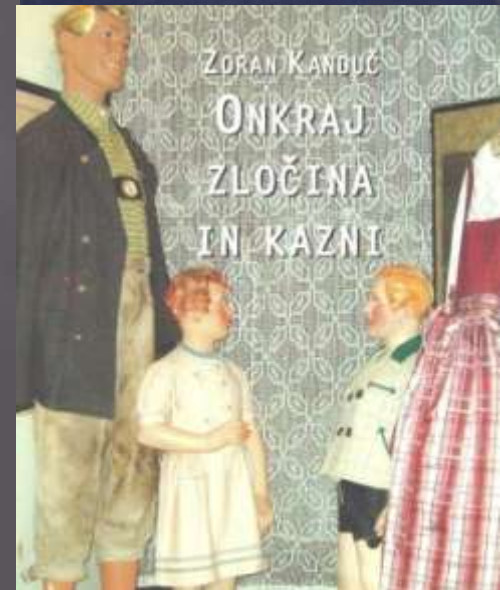
The 1990s – 41 Research Projects

- ▣ Criminology and social work (scientific field, Slovenian research agency)
- ▣ Crime Control and Criminal policy
 - An Review of Literature on Crime Control and Crime Prevention, National Crime Control and Prevention Programme – first reflections
- ▣ Victims of Crime (ICVS)
- ▣ Criminology for Lawyers – selection of articles (Vodopivec, Šelih, 1990)
- ▣ New Criminal Code (1995)



After 2000 – 33 Research Projects

- Analysis of the effectiveness of police investigation of crimes from the aspect of development of crime investigation and standards of evidence in criminal procedure (Jager, 2006)
- Computer and cyber crime (Peršak, 2006)
- Crime and punishment in literature (Šelih, 2007)



After 1991 - CPSS/FCJS-UM

- ▣ Intensified research on police and policing
 - Police Ethics, Police Deviance, Police Cynicism, Police Professionalism (1995 -)
- ▣ Interethnic conflicts, migration and refugees (Pagon, 1999)
- ▣ Crime prevention in Western societies (Meško, 2002)
- ▣ Police and Private Security (Sotlar, 2006)
- ▣ Job satisfaction in the Slovenian police (Meško, 2006, Umek 2009)
- ▣ Corruption (Dobovšek, 2008)
- ▣ Stalking, (Meško & Bučar 2007)
- ▣ Crime, media and fear of crime (Meško, 2009)
- ▣ Crime policy, crime control and crime prevention (Meško, 2009)

Trends in Criminology and CJ Research in the last 55 Years

- ▣ Criminology – from literature review to reflection – empirical research – literature review and reflection
- ▣ Penology – efforts for better conditions in prisons, treatment, rehabilitation
- ▣ Victimology – from blaming the victim to victim protection, instrumental use and abuse of victims and witnesses in CJ process – victims' rights
- ▣ Crime Prevention – from social prevention to situational prevention
- ▣ Social Control – informal, formal and plural
- ▣ Policing – from criminal investigation to critical reflections on police and policing

Present Slovenian Criminology – Back to Maklecov...



Recent Challenges

- Recent changes in demands for heads of research projects (SSCI and WoS) - joining international criminological community
- Recent changes in university promotion criteria (international impact)
- Publish (in English) or perish! (I. Sket)
- More empirical research expected but less financing
- Inclusion of Slovenian criminologists in international projects (CRIMPREV, etc.)

An Incredible Opportunity – CRIMPREV

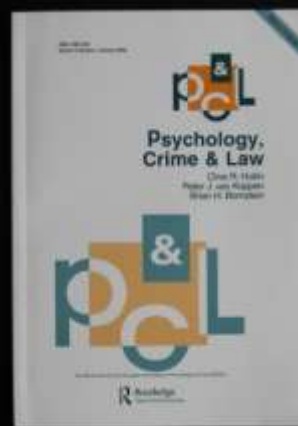
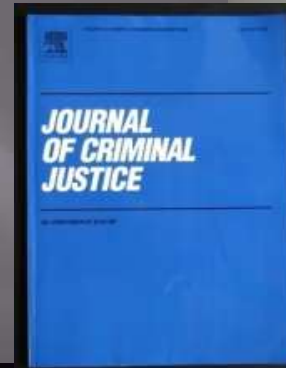
- ▣ CRIMPREV – *Assessing Deviance, Crime and Prevention in Europe (FP6, 2006-2009)*
- ▣ Catching up with the state of the art in criminological research
- ▣ Learning about each other – exchange of ideas
- ▣ Learning about cultures outside English language – support to developing criminologists and criminologies
- ▣ An opportunity to publish internationally and transfer knowledge to a national level (national impact)

The State of the Art

- ▣ Research institutes: Institute of Criminology and Institute of Criminal Justice and Security
- ▣ Programmes in criminology: FL-UL (criminology), FCJS-UM (CJ and security), FE-UL (social education)
- ▣ (Text)books after 1990: Vodopivec & Šelih, 1990; Meško, 1998, 2006, 2008; Kanduč 1999, 2007.
- ▣ Libraries and cataloguing
- ▣ Journals

Libraries

- ▣ Library at the ICFL
- ▣ Library at the FCJS-UM
- ▣ Library at the Ministry of the Interior





Journals

- ▣ **Revija za kriminalistiko in kriminologijo (Journal of criminal investigation and criminology)** 1950-, published by the Ministry of the Interior (articles in Slovene, abstracts in English; SSCI expanded, 60th anniversary)
- ▣ **Varstvoslovje (Journal of Criminal Justice and Security)** 1999 – published by the FCJS-UM, 2 issues per year in Slovene, 2 in English (CJ abstracts, soc. abstracts, ww psc. abstr., 10th anniversary)
- ▣ **Socialna pedagogika (Social education)**, Published by the Society of Social Education/Pedagogy (sociological abstracts)



Maklecov Revisited... Evergreen Topics



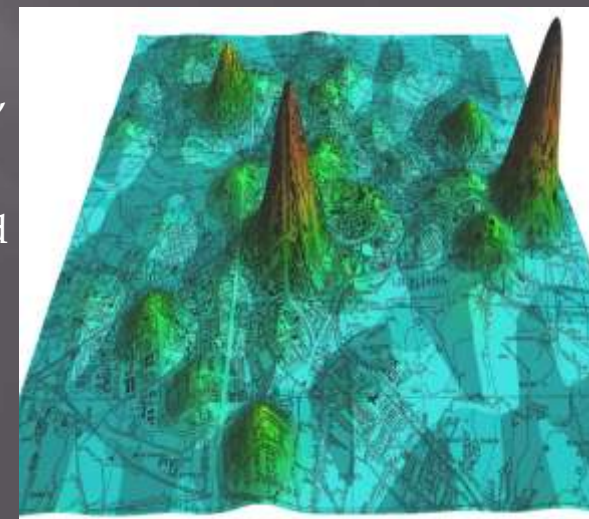
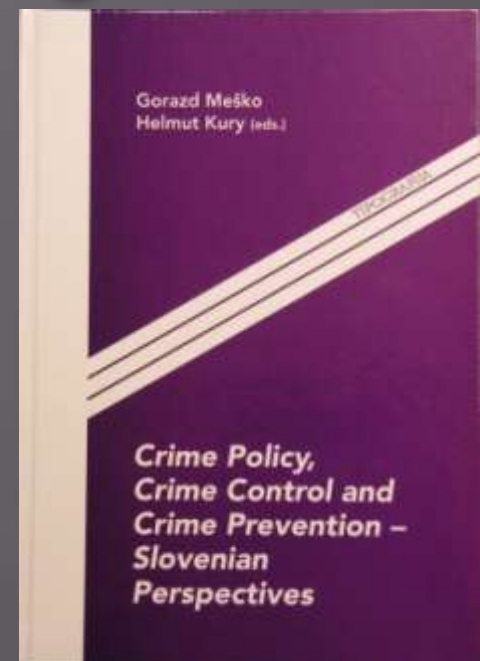
1930 (crime control policy) – Crime Policy, Crime Control and Crime Prevention – Slovenian Perspectives (Meško&Kury, eds., 2009, in English)

1936 (sociology of crime and ethics) Ethics in policing and criminal justice (Pagon, ed., 2002, in Slovene and English)

1938 (crime patterns, typologies) Burglary – Dvoršek et al (2007, in German)

1939 (criminal geography) – Distribution of crime in Ljubljana, Meško et al (2006, 2008, in English)

1941 (crime in newspapers) – Crime, media and fear of crime (Meško, et al, 2009, in English)



What is Criminology?

- **Bavcon and Šelih (1996, 2003) – the longest, the most profound...**
 - Criminology is an adequate name for a discipline which deals with crime as an individual and societal phenomenon. Criminology cannot ignore criminal law like criminal law cannot ignore criminology...penal law...
- **Pečar (1998) – the shortest**
 - Criminology is a discipline for a better understanding of crime and its curbing.
- **Kanduč (2000) – the most intriguing**
 - Criminology is a discourse in which everything is questionable, including what criminology is or what it is supposed to be.



Thank you for your attention

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