BOOKLET OF ABSTRACTS
COMMON SESSION 2022 Fall, Vilnius

Opening- Closing Panels

Keith Hayward - University of Copenhagen
„Smart City Limits: Towards a Criminology of Urban Smartness "

This paper offers a brief criminological introduction to the smart city paradigm (SCP) and in particular some of the grandiose corporate and tech industry claims that regularly surround the concept of urban smartness. More specifically it outlines five putative 'smart city futures': 1) 'The smart city as sociotechnical imaginary'; 2) 'The smart city as corporate "play" space'; 3) 'The smart city as militarised tech zone'; 4) 'The smart city as cyborg city'; and finally, 5) 'The smart city as adversarial surface'. Adopting the perspective of cultural criminology, the paper poses a series of questions about the future of urban space in 'the age of the smart city'. In particular, it asks what will 'living' actually mean when urban life is ultimately defined and enforced by a network of computational systems?

René van Swaaningen - Erasmus University Rotterdam
„Cultural bias and postcolonial theory "

If we are to make some advances in international criminology, we need to face the fact that, historically, criminological knowledge has often been used as a support of colonial and authoritarian rule and acknowledge that also today international criminologists operate by and large in a culturally ill-informed vacuum in which a 'universal' validity of Western theories is implicitly taken for granted. Starting from Edward Said's famous critique of the 'orientalism' of Western academics and Achille Mbembe's notion of 'black reason', we will investigate how bottom-up ethnographies and cultural anthropological debates on cultural 'landscapes' could help to decolonise criminology. In conclusion, it is argued that a culturally informed international criminology is not based on humanitarian do-gooderism or shame over a colonial past, but that it is fundamental if we are to understand the world around us and indeed the 'glocal' questions we are confronted with.

I Panel

Maryja Šupa - Vilnius University

"It's the nineties, and anything can be hacked": the cultural contexts of online offending and beyond

Studies of online offenses to date offer a fragmented view of the cultural contexts of online offending. Academic and professional discourse tends to focus on demographic characteristics of offenders, while media narratives present stereotypical portraits of "hackers" which change in accordance to the prevailing technological and geopolitical imaginaries. My presentation will focus on the theoretical and methodological advances needed for a better understanding of the cultural contexts from which online offending emerges. These include: a) inspection of power relations in technological advances (and their relationship to emerging offending), b) the intercultural factors behind the relations between offenders, targets and law enforcement, c) the interplay of global and local cultural factors shaping offenders' motives and values, and d) the intersections between online offending and pop-cultural as well as subcultural influences. Ultimately a cultural awareness around online offending is necessary to better understand its social consequences

Jasper Janssen – Hamburg University

Vulnerable Sovereignty: A reconstructive analysis of police narratives of vulnerability on Instagram

Using the Hashtag #instacops, around 20 German police officers from the Lower Saxony State Police post content and stories about their police work and everyday lives on institutional Instagram-accounts. This new "personalized" communication strategy is based on the concept of Digital Community Policing (DCP), which aims to increase citizens "openness, sensitivity and trust" (Lower Saxony State Police 2020) towards the police and to expand the institutional presence into the digital public space. On Instagram, police officers not only show off their muscles and weapons, but present themselves from a particularly human side: they accentuate their own vulnerabilities and talk about (supposed) moments of weak- and powerlessness. They express (self-)doubts, mortality, injury, and other risks from the perspectives of a police community. Based on a qualitative dataset, I will reconstruct specific forms of police narratives of vulnerability that occur in the DCP and how they are embedded in contemporary forms of policing. I will illustrate how these police narratives of vulnerability mobilize emotions and affective resonances of sympathy and advocacy and discuss the implications for the different relationships between police officers, the police institution, and affected or addressed parts of the population.

Vytautas Kaktinas - Vilnius University

Corporate dataveillance on the Internet of Bodies in the media: social harm of datafication processes

The Internet of Bodies (IoB) merges technologies and human bodies through wearable, implantable and embedded devices. Global technological corporations use dataveillance techniques to surveil its users physically as well as on the Internet by constructing data profiles. Corporations create these profiles using IoB devices by collecting, possessing, and disseminating medical data such as health history, biometric, genetic, and other locational or social information. This practice imposes the process of datafication by normalizing and justifying consequences of stronger social control by those in power.

In this presentation, I apply the perspective of critical criminology and seek to answer this question: how global technological corporations use dataveillance techniques on users of the Internet of Bodies and what social harm do they cause? I have focused on English language online mass media publications (N = 170) dedicated to publishing information about new tendencies of biotechnology. The analysis let me identify key corporations and their use of dataveillance techniques against their users as well as social, legal, private, ethical, and economic consequences against them.

II Panel

Fernando Palazzo - Erasmus University Rotterdam
Amazon 451: An Environmental Brazilian Dystopia

Brazil hosts the largest part of the Amazon rainforest, which contains the richest biodiversity on the planet, as well as several other relevant biomes that are also important for the environmental balance on the planet. After the 1972 Stockholm Conference, the country started to promulgate laws, whose purpose was to protect the environment from a holistic perspective and to support sustainability. Over the years, significant laws were published towards these goals, and even the 1988 Federal Constitution devoted a whole chapter to ensuring these rights. Following the spirit of the conference, Brazil hosted the Earth Summit in 1992 and continued to elaborate policies to promote sustainability. Despite the lack of resources to promote these policies effectively, the government changed its posture to protect the environment, and the number of deforestation incidents decreased as a result. Nevertheless, those laws are now facing setbacks because Bolsonaro's administration has been continuously modifying and dehydrating them. By doing so, environmental harms skyrocketed in the country. Therefore, this research exposes this situation in a timeline and demonstrates the importance of the law in Brazil for sustainability and how, by contrast, the lack of it is contributing to producing severe harm in the environment.

Junia Bergers - Erasmus University Rotterdam
Master thesis on the use of multi-person cells in prisons in the Netherlands

While this conflicts with European and international guidelines, and criminological literature increasingly demonstrates negative implications of cell-sharing, the Dutch law makes the use of multi-person cells (MPCs) the rule instead of the exception. Previous research on the perceptions of prisoners of cell-sharing, as well as legal research on this issue, is scarce. For this thesis, by means of a systematic content analysis (SCA), jurisprudence on prisoner complaints has been analyzed to discover what reasons were used by prisoners to complain about cell-sharing in 2003-2021. Furthermore, it has been analyzed how these complaints (in the form of appeals or suspension requests) were adjudicated by the competent authority (the RSJ) and which factors influenced these judgments. It was found that most prisoners complained about cell-sharing because they perceived themselves to be mentally or physically unfit for placement in an MPC, followed by prisoners complaining because of their cellmate. In cases where actual harm was imposed on the prisoner by the MPC-placement and/or the prison director performed an insufficient investigation into the cell-sharing suitability of the prisoner or an inadequate matching process, the RSJ generally adjudicated in favor of the prisoner. Following the findings, several policy implications were presented, the most important one being the need to organize the cell-allocation process of prisoners as voluntarily as possible.

III Panel (Room 302)

Vassilis Gerasopoulos - Utrecht University
'To minore tou teke' : Rebetika and the malleability of social exclusion
With a long and socio-politically loaded history, rebetiko (or rembetiko) music has been a cultural landmark for modern Greece. Studied primarily from ethnomusicologists, anthropologists or historians, the relevant literature is still lacking an analysis on as a site for the manifestation of exclusive or demonizing processes – both in terms of political/intellectual discourse and of lived reality. In 1922, the arrival of 'Anatolian' Greek refugees from Minor Asia to, Greece signified a new era for – the already existing – rebetika culture. It also ignited societal divisions between several groups. The rebetes of Piraeus against the rebetes of Smyrna and Constantinople, the - already westernized - upstanding community of upper-middle class Greeks against the hashish-loving, societal pariahs of the rebetiko scene, the Greek dictators of the 1930s and 1960s against the rebetes and everything they symbolized. The urban scenery of the last century has repeatedly provided an arena where the official world of logic and conformity has come to clash with the carnival of deviance as expressed and embodied by rebetiko culture. Moreover, the history of rebetika poses as a potent metaphor for the constant struggle between the Western and the Orient in the conscience and the history of the Greek people. Simultaneously, it provides a vivid example of the diverse, malleable, absorbing – almost bulimic - alignments of societal exclusion. The aim of this article is to trace the changes and developments around the sound, the meaning and the connotations of rebetika as a site where collective, cultural identity is contested, constructed, altered and negotiated.

Laura Reyes Pollak – Hamburg University
Layers of Protest Policing
While governments are failing to find appropriate responses to the severity of climate crisis, many groups related to the climate justice movements (CJM) have become more radical. During and after several recent climate justice actions in Germany, particularly those involving acts of civil disobedience, activists, parliamentary observers, human rights organisations, and lawyers observed that the policing and legal persecution of climate activists are getting increasingly repressive. As I am not only a Master's student of International Criminology in Hamburg but also an activist, I am tremendously interested in such developments.
Currently, I am working on an ethnographic research project on this subject. My methodology follows the premises of action research and participatory observation. In my presentation, I focus on the different layers of policing I observed during the Climate Action Days 2022 in Hamburg, where I took part as an activist/researcher. The layers I identified so far can be categorised as 'police violence on-site', 'police framing the protest on social media' and the phenomenon of 'self-policing' during the weeks before the protest. A hypothesis deriving from my field research is that protest policing already takes place before the actual protest in the form of self-policing.

Alice Pomfret - Utrecht University
Myanmar's Meth Boom: Public Enemy or Backbone of the Economy?
Since the turn of the 21st century, a radical drug market transformation has taken place in Myanmar, from a market previously dominated by opiates to the production and consumption of methamphetamine. While much is known about the opium trade, comparably less is known about the methamphetamine economy.
This presentation explains how the shift from opium to meth has coincided with a major shift in the actors involved. While rebel ethnic armed organisations (EAOs) were previously considered the main drug-producing culprits, it appears that state-aligned militias are now heavily involved in the production and supply of methamphetamine. This exposes the complicity of the ruling military

government – the Tatmadaw, who not only condone this illicit economy, but use it as a strategic means of self-finance, counterinsurgency, and state consolidation.

Contrary to most drug-producing regions where drugs and violence go hand in hand, the market structure in Myanmar appears to be largely conducive to peace, highlighting the unique role of drugs as a pacifying tool in Myanmar. Furthermore, there has been a shift in narrative among organisations like the UNODC and news media, from what was previously the scapegoating of EAOs to a more recent fixation on the emergence of foreign organised crime.

IV Panel

Bram Emmen - Erasmus University Rotterdam

Dealing with the Dark: The handling of tor use in Dutch criminal investigations

The use of Tor as a means of obfuscating the real life identity of a perpetrator creates large difficulties for the (Dutch) police when dealing with crimes on the darkweb. This presentation will go in to how the Dutch police manages to link a digital identity to a real life identity during a criminal investigation and what evidence is presented in court.

Anna Saito – Hamburg University

Is it all in our heads? Unwrapping the link between human trafficking and the exploitation of mental, behavioural and neurodevelopmental disorders

The UNODC has advanced the concept of "vulnerability" to refer to pre-existing individual and structural factors that may increase the susceptibility of an individual to trafficking. One of the key pre-existing individual risk factors noted to be taken advantage of are mental, behavioural and neurodevelopmental (MBN) disorders. Aside from this alarming observation, however, surprisingly little has been written about the trafficking of persons with MBN disorders.

Addressing the conditions of vulnerability to trafficking starts with reviewing who is being identified as a (potential) victim of trafficking and how. In examining UNODC's trafficking in persons court case summaries, the spectrum of victim profiles with MBN disorders will be explored, as well as the respective context of their exploitation. The aim is to discuss what we can learn from the limited empirical specifics available on trafficking in persons with MBN disorders. How does recruitment and exploitation take place? Are victims targeted on the basis of their MBN disorders? Are the disorders a unique factor to exploitation, or do we need to consider the intersection of multiple vulnerability factors? What remains undetected? The aim is not, at this stage, to attempt to identify (or construct) causal patterns of trafficking but rather to identify elements that require further investigation in order to understand an often neglected dimension of human trafficking.

Kellie Luiken - Erasmus University Rotterdam

Exploratory research into the role of general practitioners regarding the access to healthcare for undocumented migrants in Amsterdam

In the Netherlands all authorized residents and people who work or pay taxes are obliged to have health insurance that gives them access to a 'basic package' of healthcare. For undocumented migrants it is not possible to have health insurance, however they do have the legal right to access 'medically necessary' healthcare (art. 12:1 IVESCR). What is deemed 'medically necessary' is determined by the general practitioner on a case-by-case basis. To guarantee this legal right there is a financial arrangement that can reimburse unpaid services to the provider when an undocumented migrant is unable to pay.

Although it is well organized on paper, in practice it appears that access to healthcare is not always equally accessible to all undocumented migrants. Earlier research implies that general practitioners might play a role in this since they have a gatekeeper's function. They are the ones to determine if and what kind of care someone will get which gives them some degree of discretionary power.

Therefore, this study aims to provide more insight into how general practitioners use their discretion and which decision-making processes precede this. To do so, in-depth interviews with general practitioners working in Amsterdam are being conducted and will be analyzed. Thereby building on theoretical insights from Lipsky's Street-Level Bureaucracy and other theories about discretionary powers. Ideally, the results of this study would contribute to improving the access to healthcare for undocumented migrants.

V Panel

Daniel Sailofsky- Middlesex University

White-Collar Deviance and Violence Against Women in Racial Capitalist Sport

From a zemiological perspective, organizations causing harm in their pursuit of profit is a form of white-collar deviance. In the case of professional sport and violence committed by athletes outside of the field of play, the structures of professional sport and the decisions made by organizations can impact not only the athletes involved, but the victims, potential victims, and society at large. Interviewing NBA and NFL front office members and journalists, I explore how teams in both leagues make player evaluation decisions regarding players who have been accused of criminality and violence against women, and assess sport organizations and leagues' role in the violence of athletes. Interviewees noted that the talent of the player, their ability to produce value for the organization, and the potential backlash from fans and media play a pre-eminent role in organizational decision-making. Paired with professional sport's privileging of dominance and aggression by athletes, this talent and production-based sanctioning of players accused of VAW illustrates organizational, league, and racial capitalist sport structure's complicity in continued acts of violence by athletes. Implications for contemporary conceptualizations of deviant leisure and white-collar crime are also discussed.

Konrad Erben – Hamburg University

Stigma, projection, and the pedophilic desires of others

Few crimes garner such unanimous loathing as those directed against the sexual self-determination of children. Studies show that this is also reflected in the general perception of pedophiles. Whether they are offenders or not, they experience massive and dehumanizing stigmatization. At the same time, institutionalized forms of pederasty can be found throughout many historical eras and cultures across the globe. The contradiction of the widespread stigmatization pedophiles face in contrast to the cultural embeddedness of sexualizing children leads to the question of the function of this phenomenon.

Based on data from German surveys on stigmatizing attitudes towards non-offending pedophiles and pedophiles' self-assessment of the stigma they face, the presentation will look at how pedophiles are perceived by others as well as themselves. Considering those findings, the presentation examines several examples of formally or informally legalized forms of pederasty in various countries in Europe and Asia, starting from ancient times, through the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, up to modern times. Additionally, research will be taken into consideration, that suggests, that fare more people are susceptible to pedosexual arousal then self-identify, to establish the general embeddedness of child sexualization in society.

Considering this the presentation compares Goffman's insights from stigma research with an approach, that borrows from Horkheimer and Adornos understanding of hatred and stigma as tools of projection. Thus, the presentation argues, that rather than simple stigma, the demonization of pedophiles serves the purpose of barbaric punitive needs and societal self-absolution.

Elise Maes - Erasmus University Rotterdam

Hegemonic masculinity in criminology: on a feminist limbo of conceptualizing agency

Female agency is a complex concept, introduced in feminism during the third wave. As feminist criminological scholars have been using it in different ways, different meanings are attached to it, creating different narratives on the roots of female behavior. As each meaning forms a tension with one another, internal discussions and differences within feminist criminology are embodied. Accordingly, some conceptualizations are said to contradict the socio-political goals of intersectional feminism. This research links examples of such discursive cases, to the dominance of a culture of judgment, rejection and punishment. Accordingly, the complexity of such concept

in engaged spaces, can be explained by a masculine domination in criminology, through several levels. Drawing on theory of hegemonic masculinity, the centrality of violence in masculine dominated spaces is ought to be a plausible explanation for internal tensions in feminist criminological spaces. This linkage is contexualized by subcultural examples of activism and theory, in which masculinities are strived to be explicitly deconstructred.

VI Panel

Amr Marzouk - Erasmus University Rotterdam
How to research authoritarian contexts?

The new wave of authoritarianism all over the world casts its shadow on academic research. However, due to culture bias many phenomena are misinterpreted or ignored altogether due to a lack of appropriate methodological solutions. Various methods and concepts need to be reworked to facilitate effective and safe research. In this presentation, I will reflect on the limitations and possibilities of different methods and approaches to methodologies for researching authoritarian contexts.

Maria Seeligmüller – Hamburg University
"Her mit dem schönen Leben!": Micro-Practices of Resistance among the Bausoldaten of Prora

Confronted with thousands of refusals of conscription into compulsory military service just two years after its introduction, the SED leadership felt compelled to create an alternative "establishment of work units or work battalions for conscientious objectors or those who evade military service" (BA-MA VA 01/17778): the Baueinheiten. Anything but an option for civilian alternative service, the Baueinheiten resembled a total institution. Affiliated and yet strictly separated from the National People's Army, the members of the Baueinheiten - so called Bausoldaten–, were forced to toil and endure harassments as well as comprehensive surveillance, well beyond their service and beyond the public eye. Yet "where there is power, there is resistance" (Foucault 1983). Drawing from Holocaust studies, and de/anti-colonial and abolitionist theories and practices, this research intends to deal precisely with this resistance in its smallest forms: the micro-practices of resistance. Voice, exit, body politics, as well as media events and acts of witnessing are regarded as practices that are distinct but inextricable from the macro-politics of revolutionary (self-)liberation. For this project, former Bausoldaten of the most notorious site, Prora on the island of Rügen, will be interviewed and first-person documents will be evaluated.

Gediminas Šataitis - Vilnius University
The Act of Crime: A Crossroads of Two Approaches to Conceptualizing Criminal Action

There are two related ways of analyzing criminal action. One is directed inwards and means asking what must be happening or have happened within the person to allow claiming that they have acted. It is the way of such disciplines as the philosophy of action and moral psychology. The other approach asks how events should be perceived and defined externally to allow for recognizing them as acts of crime. This direction is often taken by legal theorists and criminologists. Both ways of analyzing action are ultimately concerned with the conditions of holding someone responsible and criminally liable for something. And both provide their own set of challenges when attempts to conceptualize normative requirements for criminal law are made. A conceptual crossroads where internal and external understandings of actions intercept might be a good place for meeting these challenges.

VII Panel

David Brotherton - The City University of New York
Eddie Ellis, Credible Messengers and the Neo-Liberal Imagination of Anti-Violence

I trace the socio-historical pathway of the concept of the credible messenger and related youth anti-violence interventions from the 1930's to a more radically imagined iteration by Eddie Ellis in the 1980s. The focus shifts to its present-day iterations as I review two widely adopted anti-violence programs. I conclude that today credible messengers and anti-violence interventions are: (i) primarily imagined within a framework of neo-liberal possibility; (ii) valued for their contributions on individual and/or group behavioral change; and (iii) conceived in programs outside of any discourse on the structural roots of crime, collective agency, or the historical struggle for social change and empowerment

Rasita Adomaitytė - Vilnius University
Attitudes of Criminal Law Towards the Freedom and Inviolability of a Person's Sexual Self-determination

The national position of a country in relation to criminal acts is formed through many different elements. Criminal law sources are among the most important of such reflections of the state's national attitude. However, the decisions made during the trial and their further execution are also strong communicators to the public. Although sanctions for these offenses presupposes a generally strict approach to this type of crime, there are still negative aspects that can distort public perception of the offenses and undermine trust in law enforcement. The aim of this presentation is to review, how the national position of the Republic of Lithuania, on the issue of criminal acts on the freedom and inviolability of a person 's sexual self –determination, is constructed and to highlight the problematic aspects that are rooted in it.

Målin Grünberg – Hamburg University
No one is safe! How alarmist Crime-Reporting and Resilience are connected

Resilience has been a much-discussed topic in social sciences for some time. The benefits of being able to prepare for and react quickly to threats regarded as inevitable show clearly when looking at issues like the climate crisis. There is, however, also discussion about the disadvantages of resilient threat assessment and danger management. This presentation will focus on these potential disadvantages, specifically concerning crime and criminality. Brad Evans and Julian Reid's understanding of Resilience as a nihilistic policy overlaps strongly with David Garlands concept of High-Crime-Societies, as a critique of political discourse normalizing danger and advocating for adaptive behavior is at the heart of both theories. Both theories also emphasize how the media played an important role in changing the publics notion of danger by conveying a high vulnerability to threat. To see if this argument could be empirically supported, an analysis of SPIEGEL-magazine cover articles was conducted, which showed a steady increase in reports about the emanating dangers of crime over the last 60 years. In presenting the findings of this media analysis and connecting them to Garland's as well as Evans & Reid's derivation of Resilience, this presentation will try to showcase how a negative view of the world and resilience are intertwined.