

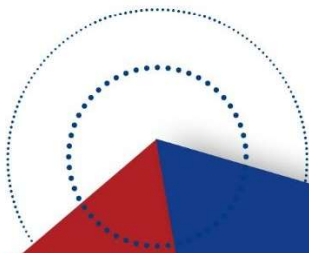


EUROCRIM2025
LOGOS OF CRIME & PUNISHMENT
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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS V1

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structures, activities, and power dynamics that characterize these forms of organized cybercrime. By relying on selected case studies, the presentation will highlight these two evolving trends within organized crime that raise new conceptual and analytical challenges. Ultimately, the goal is to offer critical reflections on traditional concepts of organized crime in the context of ongoing digital transformations.

398. Euroc - State Crime

Topic 2: Types of Offending/State and Political Crime

Paper Session

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Deree | Classrooms: DC 503

Chair:

Revital Madar, European University Institute

Participants:

The espionage in Poland. **Piotr Chlebowicz**, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn

The scientific issue of espionage remains still on the sidelines of criminology and criminal law. The geopolitical situation in Eastern Europe due to the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine poses a serious threat to the countries of NATO's eastern flank, including Poland. It therefore seems that the importance of the issue of crime against the state is increasing. A paper attempting to provide insight into some new criminological aspects of espionage based on espionage cases detected in Poland including diversion and sabotage issues.

Overcriminalisation and Legal Diversion in Türkiye **Veysel Dinler**, Hitit University Department of Political Science and Public Administration

A penal reform was implemented in Türkiye in 2004. In this reform, the basic penal code, procedural, and execution codes were thoroughly revised. The legislation that had been in force since 1926 was comprehensively revised, considering new developments in the global context, contemporary understandings of penal law, and prevailing social values. At the time of the penal code's initial implementation, certain criminal categories were not widely prevalent. Indeed, the sheer number of articles designed to protect individual freedom led to questions regarding their practical application. Turkey has witnessed an escalation in authoritarian tendencies in recent years. The instrumentalization of penal law is one of this shift. The government is intimidating and suppressing opposition through the implementation of punitive measures and precautions. Two methods are employed in the instrumentalization of penal law. The first of these is overcriminalization. A wide range of acts are encompassed within the purview of the penal code, including those that are not generally considered criminal in contemporary society. In recent years, religion and belief have come under the protection of criminal law, with the emergence of legislation that criminalizes blasphemy. The second method is legal diversion. In instances where the accused is a dissident, the prevailing criminal law norms are interpreted expansively, effectively nullifying the principle of legality's prohibition of comparison. This study aims to elucidate how criminal law has evolved into a tool of oppression and authoritarianism in Türkiye, through overcriminalization and legal diversion. It is imperative to emphasize the significance of the uncompromising application of the law, particularly the principles of criminal law, in the pursuit of safeguarding human rights.

When States Try Their Own: A Reductive Approach to State Criminality **Revital Madar**, European University Institute

This paper examines the potential of reductive models of state criminality, transcending the dichotomy between law's exclusionary or inclusionary drives. While traditional approaches to state criminality have expanded definitions of crime to account for injustices the state does not consider violations of its law, this research takes a different path by focusing on what I term "Trials of Repudiated Violence." Based on the case of Israel/Palestine, I analyze trials that adjudicate acts of physical violence committed by Israeli state security agents against Palestinians as those the state has long considered its emblematic enemies. By tackling state criminality through moments the state formally acknowledges as violations of its laws, the paradigm of trials of repudiated violence stresses that beyond legal charges, sentences, and national contexts, attention to these elements allows capturing the event at the heart of formal state accountability processes. The focus on physical

violence stems from the understanding that it is this kind of violence which challenges the sovereign right to kill and as such can shed light on other forms of state criminality. I argue that to understand state criminality better, we must begin by examining what constitutes rarity—trials of state security agents that enable focusing on states' conditions of possibility—rather than producing all-encompassing models. The reductive approach represents a necessary first stage, allowing us to see how legal categories erase the event's political meaning for specific groups, before examining what is left out. The paper analyzes trial proceedings, legal documents, and contextual materials related to cases where Israeli security forces faced prosecution. This empirically informed theoretical model's effectiveness lies in its double movement: turning inwards to specific form of state criminality, then outwards to offer a more nuanced analysis of the logic of state criminality.

399. Transactional Sex and Victimization in Spain: Risk Factors, Experiences, and Public Perceptions

Topic 4: Victimology/Consequences of Victimization (Victimology WG)

Pre-arranged Panel

5:00 to 6:15 pm

Deree | Classrooms: DC 601

Transactional sex remains a complex and often contested phenomenon, intersecting with issues of victimization, agency, and public policy. This panel presents findings from a Spanish national research project titled "Victimization of Individuals Involved in Paid Sex: Risk Factors, Consequences, and Criminal Justice System Response" (Ref. PID2023-151355NB-I00), aimed at examining the experiences of individuals engaged in transactional sex in Spain, focusing on victimization patterns, risk and protective factors, and societal attitudes towards sex work. Drawing on both quantitative and qualitative data, the studies discussed in this panel explore the prevalence and nature of victimization among individuals engaged in transactional sex, shedding light on experiences of violence, coercion, and exploitation. They also examine the social, legal, and economic factors that shape vulnerability and resilience in this context. Additionally, public perceptions of sex work in Spain are analyzed to understand dominant narratives and their implications for policy and intervention strategies. Together, these findings offer a comprehensive view of transactional sex, contributing to broader discussions on regulation, harm reduction, and the rights of the individuals engaging in these activities.

Chair:

Pablo Romero-Seseña, Universitat de Barcelona

Participants:

Navigating Violence and Stigma: Exploring Victimization and Its Consequences in Male Sex Work **Marc Balcells**, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya; **Pablo Romero-Seseña**, Universitat de Barcelona; **Patricia Hernández-Hidalgo**, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

This research project delves into the understudied area of victimization among male sex workers (both cis and transgender), aiming to understand the various challenges faced by this group. While academic literature predominantly focuses on female sex workers, this study addresses the scarcity of information on their male counterparts, who account for only 10% of relevant publications. Moreover, the few existing studies in this field often rely on stereotypical assumptions and lack empirical grounding in the research context. For instance, the notion that potential violence between men is equal, and therefore victimization is unlikely, remains largely unexamined. Focusing on the city of Barcelona and collaborating with various social organizations working in this field from different perspectives, this project seeks to unravel the complexities of male sex work. Using a qualitative methodology through in-depth, open-ended interviews, the study aims to investigate the social, health, lifestyle, and risk-related challenges that male sex workers face in Barcelona.

Detecting indicators of victimization and sexual exploitation in online sexual services ads: a mixed-methods study **Josep Tamarit**, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya; **Marc Balcells**, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya; **Pablo Romero-Seseña**, Universitat de Barcelona

Public perceptions of sex work, prostitution, and transactional sex are deeply influenced by cultural, ideological, and political contexts, shaping societal attitudes and policy debates. Online platforms like Reddit provide a unique space where these concepts are actively discussed, reframed, and contested. Therefore, this study examines