Summary

The “Crime in 2004” collection of papers is another annual Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention publication which examines the state of crime in the preceding year and whose section of tables is an update to the statistical data from previous volumes on the same matter. The articles collected in the volume seek to offer a deeper insight into the serious problems linked to crime and rarely debated elsewhere. Specifically, these refer to victims, organised crime and economic crime.

In the tradition of IKSP volumes on crime, the first paper, by the head of the authors’ team, contains a commentary on basic statistical indicators on crime in 2004. The sources for the statistics are both the standard and non-standard compilations of statistics from the Czech Police and the data processed by the Ministry of Justice and the Supreme Public Prosecutor of the Czech Republic. There is an analysis of changes in trends compared with the previous period and a commentary on features characterising crime in 2004.

The next paper, by Ing. Baloun, looks at the current state of economic crime and its differences in comparison with previous years.

Dr. Cejp examines the issue of organised crime, its situation in 2004 and its long-term development.

Dr. Martinková’s paper looks at the issue of victims of crime in the Czech Republic in 2004 and is the most extensive material providing aggregate information on victims not published anywhere else in the CR. Its value is augmented by the many detailed tables containing statistical data on victims in the maximum possible categorisation.

An important part of the annual volume is the section of appendices – tables recording the continual development of crime both in general and according to specific types. It also contains less accessible information obtained through other IKSP projects which nevertheless relate to the study of crime in the Czech Republic in a broader sense (e.g. statistical data on the number of prisoners in the world).