

Marešová, Alena – Baloun, Vladimír – Cejp, Martin – Martinková, Milada – Zeman, Petr:
Kriminalita v roce 2005
Crime in 2005
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Summary

The volume “Crime in 2005” is another IKSP publication annually devoted to assessing the state of crime in the preceding year, and which in its tables refers to the statistical data contained in previously published volumes on the same subject. Also, the focus of the specific papers means that it can give a deeper insight into serious problems relating to crime and rarely discussed elsewhere – specifically the issue of victims, organised crime, economic crime and drug-related crime.

In line with the tradition of IKSP volumes devoted to crime, the first contribution by the head of the author’s team comments on the basic statistical indicators on crime in 2005, their sources being standard and non-standard sets of statistics from the Police of the Czech Republic and statistical data processed by the Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic and the Supreme Public Prosecutor’s Office. It analyses changes in trends compared with the previous period and comments on the phenomena characteristic of crime in 2005.

The contribution by Ing. Baloun is another in a series of articles concerning the phenomenon of economic crime, a subject we’ve looked at over the long-term in the Criminality Year-Book. Due to the fact that the boom in this form of criminal behaviour has already passed, and that its incidence has now to all intents and purposes stabilised at around 9-10 %, it is obviously interesting to monitor how the specific forms of crime that it involves are changing in time (structure according to the amount of damage). The findings make it possible for us to deduce that economic crime is developing towards more sophisticated forms and that in this area, as elsewhere, we are “catching up” with the economically advanced states.

Judicial statistics (if we only take statistical data – in a specialised case such as this we obviously can’t look at specific cases) demonstrate the complexity of the whole issue: judging by the “regional” length of sentences the judicature is not sufficiently streamlined in this area. It is however apparent that certain “territorial” differences exist in the incidence of this form of crime.

In his research into organised crime Dr. Cejp regularly provides basic data on the structure and activity of organised criminal groups in the Czech Republic. He obtains the data

in question from qualified estimates anonymously expressed in questionnaires by experts from specialised Police departments. The thirteenth such form of research took place at the end of 2005. Dr. Martinková's contribution looks at the issue of victims of crime in the Czech Republic in 2005 and is the most extensive material providing aggregate information on victims in the Czech Republic not published elsewhere. Its importance is augmented by a mass of detailed tables containing statistical data on victims broken down according to the greatest possible degree of categorisation. A special note on the method for recording victims by the police is provided by Dr. Kulíšek, an employee from the department of police system management.

Dr. Zeman's chapter on drug-related crime deals with the state and development of this type of criminal activity in the Czech Republic from both a quantitative and qualitative perspective. Periods for selected drug-related crime indicators are described and analysed for the years 1995 – 2005. The qualitative section then describes the characteristics and trends of drug-related crime on the basis of relevant official documents and expert research among law enforcement officials dealing with this type of crime.

A considerable part of the volume is made up of appendices – tables covering the continual development of crime in general and the development of specific types and less accessible information obtained in solving other tasks in the IKSP which nevertheless are linked to the assessment of crime in the Czech Republic in a broader sense (e.g. statistical data on the number of prisoners in the world).