

*Marešová, Alena et al.*

**Analýza criminality v roce 2009 a v předchozím dvacetiletém období  
Analysis of Crime in 2009 and over the Previous Twenty-year Period**

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***Summary***

The study by the Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention (ICSP) entitled "Analysis of Crime in 2009 and over the Previous Twenty-year Period" is a certain way of taking stock of the twenty-year phase of crime development in the Czech Republic. The year 2009 became the last year of a single, relatively long era of police crime statistics. This is because as of 2010, a new Penal Code came into force, which practically terminates the continuity of statistical data on crime in the CR, the compilation of which was methodically designed back in 1972 in relation to commencement of computer compilation of police statistics. And twenty years have gone by since 1990, when radical reshaping of social conditions began in the CR. This affected all spheres of public life and significantly influenced formation of the Czech legal environment. In a certain aspect, the new Penal Code is an outcome of these social changes. For these reasons, the year 2010 appears to be the optimum year to balance the trends in crime for the last roughly twenty-year period, which is a period sufficient in length even from the viewpoint of criminology for assessing the changes that have occurred.

And although 2009 alone does not diverge from trends starting in 2000, characteristic for their slight, but constant decline in the number of registered crimes, it is a meaningful year as one that marks the end of a relatively continuous series of statistical data on crime in the CR.

From 1990 to 2000, registered crime grew fourfold in the CR in comparison with the roughly twenty-year period prior to that. Already in the mentioned year 2000, a new trend had started – a gradual drop in crime in our country, but even in 2009 it remained significantly far from original numbers in the 1960s and 1970s.

In Chapter 1 of the submitted publication, changes are discussed in the development of crime over the entire twenty-year period, but special attention focuses on the last decade and 2009 as an end of a certain phase in crime assessment.

Other chapters deal in detail with certain selected areas of crime.

In the second chapter, M. Cejp discusses the state of organized crime within the Czech Republic in 2009, and offers a recapitulation of its development since 1993. Part of the research results derived from researching organized crime are presented here. It focuses on the basic quantitative data, indicating the structure of criminal groups operating within the Czech Republic and on the composition of their criminal or possibly support activities. It lists statistical data on the numbers of persons investigated, prosecuted and convicted for participating in criminal conspiracy. The expertise used as a starting point is mainly comprised of the qualitative type of research: experts mostly formulate their own opinions, positions and arguments. If experts express themselves through numbers or percentages, this always concerns rather an expression of opinions and overall trends, from which the numerical data may not be understood as absolute, but rather as a means for capturing the structure and development trend.

M. Martinková compiled chapter three, which deals with crime victims. All quantitative indicators in this chapter were gained from police statistical data. Though these only concern crime victims registered by the police, they are still an important and indispensable source of summarized information on crime victims in the entire country. With certain limitations, one may deduce certain development trends in the given area within out nation's territory.

The last chapter deals with application of the mediation method in the Czech Republic. Compiled by J. Tomášek, it described mediation from both a wider perspective and interpretation of lesser-known terms, and from the perspective of research performed in 2009 by the Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention, inspired by available research from abroad. By means of anonymous questionnaires, it was possible to map the opinions and experiences of fifty victims and thirty-nine offenders. The Probation and Mediation Service performed mediation for the latter group. The gradual development of mediation in the Czech Republic gives hope that despite the fact that the annual number of implemented mediations is not staggering, it is possible through their help to resolve part of crime in general. Of course, this is only true for those suited to such an approach, either from the aspect of their actual nature or from the aspect of a personality conflict between the offender and the victim.

An important part of the publication is formed by its appendices – tables capturing continual development of crime in general, and development of individual types, and the lesser accessible information gained upon resolving other tasks in the ICSP, but which relate

to the issue of assessing crime in the CR in a wider sense (ex. statistical data on the number of incarcerated persons in the world).

### **Appendices 1-8**

Appendix no. 1 Overall Crime in the Czech Republic since 1973

Appendix no. 2 Crime in the Czech Republic in 2009 by Districts

Appendix no. 3 Crime since 1987 from the Perspective of Police Statistics and Statistics  
of Public Prosecutors and Courts

Appendix no. 4 Overview of the Number of Murders in the Czech Republic since 1974

Appendix no. 5 Overview of the Number of Burglaries Registered by the Police since 1973

Appendix no. 6 Development of the Status of Accused and Convicted Persons in the CR in  
1999-2009

Appendix no. 7 Indexes of Representation of Prisoners in Selected Countries (proportion of  
the number of incarcerated persons to the individual country's overall population)

*Translate by: Marvel s.r.o.*