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**"MIGRANTS AS VICTIMS: VICTIMOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES OF
HUMAN SMUGGLING AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING"**

Summary:

The 'refugee crisis' in Europe touches on fundamental issues of international law, criminal policy, criminology – and victimology. Public perception of and opinions on human trafficking, human smuggling and the situation of migrants in general is in a state of flux. Political, public and even academic debates are often polarizing and characterized by stereotypical arguments. In the course of such debates, distinct phenomena such as trafficking and smuggling of humans are often mixed to the point that differences between the two become increasingly blurred. It seems that neither the international legal framework nor the statutory provisions implemented in major jurisdictions in Europe do reflect the victimological reality of migration. The distinction made between trafficking and smuggling creates a significant divide in the treatment of the victims. The same is true in regard to public, political and academic discussions which tend to neglect the reality of migration, which is characterized by the fact that not only victims of human trafficking but migrants in general are explicitly vulnerable and exposed to a multitude of victimization risks. These will be explained and analyzed in more detail in the presentation.