17th Annual Conference of the European Society of Criminology, 13-16 September 2017 Cardiff, UK



Challenging 'Crime' and 'Crime Control' in Contemporary Europe

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

P1.21 - 83 Beyond Flatland: When smart cities make stupid citizens

Michael McGuire (University of Surrey)

The 'smart city' – insofar as the concept has any definitive purchase – is really what I termed in my book (2008) a 'hyperspatial' city. That is, its social world is not just connected, but hyperconnected. This means that the risks it generates are not just those of an everyday physical space, or even what was once termed a 'cyberspace', but perils with multidimensional properties - ones which go far beyond mass data-veillance, or the hacking of a home hub by tech-savvy burglars. For as McLuhan once warned, when citizens are multiply interconnected, the second order nervous system which emerges risks generating debilitation as much as facilitation, deformation rather than information and insecurity rather than security. In this paper I address the nature of this risk from two angles. First the way the advent of the smart city concept has also revealed a striking level of unpreparedness for managing everyday life and security within hyperconnected urban space. Given that cities have always been technologies rather than merely technologized, there are profound questions to be asked about why this latest evolution of our most successful tool for enabling mass proximity social organisation has been perceived to be so different from previous transitions.

P1.22 - 84 Did Nonviolent Resistance Fail in Kosovo?

Aleksandar Marsavelski (University of Zagreb / Max Planck Partner Group for Balkan Criminology)

Furtuna Sheremeti (Leuven Institute of Criminology)

John Braithwaite (RegNet, Australian National University)

A standard narrative is that nonviolence failed in Kosovo: the Milosevic regime was ended by a NATO bombing campaign. This essay exposes errors in this narrative. Nonviolent resistance inside Kosovo succeeded in unifying the Kosovar masses against the Milosevic regime. That solidarity was crucial to victory. A distinctive innovation of Kosovo's nonviolence was that it built solidarity by decisively reducing violence. In particular, it reduced murders in blood feuds. Kosovo emerged from war with a comparatively low rate of violence for a post-conflict, post-communist society with a large organized crime problem. We contrast Kosovo with post-conflict societies where more people are killed by criminal violence after their peace agreement than were killed in the war. Learning to reconcile blood feuds restoratively as part of Kosovo's nonviolent campaign for freedom contributed to this accomplishment. Nonviolent resistance campaigns can be evaluated through a criminological lens whereby averting war is just one means to reducing death rates from intentional violence.

P1.22 - 85 Researching perpetrators of international crimes: accounting for reflexivity and ethical challenges

Mina Rauschenbach (University of Lausanne)

This paper takes stock of experiences gained through a research project on the perspective of individuals accused by the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY). Using interviews, we analysed the discourse of eighteen individuals accused of having indirectly (i.e. ordered, planned, not prevented) or directly (i.e. personally committing a crime) participated in international crimes. Taking as a point of departure the controversial and marginalised nature of a research perspective focused on perpetrators' perceptions, it