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Criminogenic Manifestations of Football Fans and Prevention: Latvian and Foreign Experience

Summary of the Doctoral Thesis
for obtaining a doctoral degree (*Ph.D.*)

Sector – Legal Science
Sub-Sector – Criminology

Riga, 2020

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Abbreviations

FIFA International Federation of Association Football

FC Football Club

LFF Latvian Football Federation

NFIP National Football Information Point

UEFA The Union of European Football Associations

Introduction

Criminology is a branch of science that includes joint research. It is characterised by the emergence of new directions (separation) and this characteristic, which has a fundamental meaning, demonstrates the openness of criminology for active collaboration with other sciences. Critical awareness of new scientific areas implies presence of real social problems, the study of which requires a comprehensive interdisciplinary approach. Hence, the widely known problems with sports of criminal expression and the criminogenic potential, indicate timeliness and regularity of the scientific identification of the criminology of sport.

Sports criminology is a new field of criminology that studies criminological aspects of sports industry: development of crime and other offenses in sports; factors influencing crime and other offenses in the field of sport; personality of the offender (athletes, sports specialists and employees, visitors); peculiarities of victimology in the implementation of sports events; criminological policy in the field of sports.

The main task of sports criminology is to study criminalisation processes in the field of sports and develop measures for their prevention.

Contents of sports criminology:

1. theories and methods of sports criminology research;
2. offenses in the field of sports and limits of their criminological research;
3. determinants of offenses in the field of sports;
4. personal characteristics of a person committing a crime or other offense in the field of sport;
5. mechanism of interaction between the offender and his victim in the commission of crimes or other offenses in the field of sports;
6. prevention of crime and other offenses in the field of sports.

event and when visitors leave the sports facility at the end (or interruption) of the sport event:

2.1. equipment of the sports facility with a sufficient number of exits (evacuation) branches (aisles) that prevent crowd formation;

- a) create sports entrance/exit technical structures and provide logistics aimed at reducing the risk of excessive accumulation of sports fans or the formation of a moving crowd at the entrances/exits of a sports facility;
- b) the sport event is held at such a time that visitors (viewers) arrive and their departure would not occur during rush hour.

3. Technical measures to prevent unlawful behaviour by visitors of a sport event:

3.1. steps to distinguish potentially conflicting fan clubs from competing sports clubs (teams):

- distribution of visitors – rival fans of the sport event in different zones of spectators of the sports facility, separated by irresistible or difficult to overcome physical and technical structures;
- increased delimitation (isolation) of spectator areas for the riskiest “fans”;
- distribution of fans of sports events who enter the spectator area to watch a sports event, as well as those who leave the spectator tribune after the end (or interruption) of the event, into a different pedestrian and evacuation vector and sports facility branches, are separated from each other by insurmountable or physically impenetrable technical constructions, uninterrupted route tracking for the purpose of transporting such visitors by bus to the sports facility and returning them to the buses;

- imposing a prohibition (hereunder on liability for non-compliance) on unauthorised entry into a prohibited (foreign – rival team) spectator territory (spectator area), another spectator area than specified in the purchased ticket;
 - each spectator seat must have its own number, which would be indicated on the ticket and spectators would take seats according to the purchased tickets;
 - in order to ensure safety in stadiums, an audience registration system at each entrance also plays an important role in detecting and preventing potential congestion.
- 3.2. determination of the prohibition of unauthorised entry into the playing field (game area) and into the space (zone) intended for the referees or arbitrators of the sport during or just before the start of the sport event, as well as in the technical and other premises and areas of the sports facility where the prohibition of unauthorised entry is imposed;
- 3.3. a ban on bringing alcoholic beverages into a sports facility (and adjacent areas), where the sporting event is taking place, distributing or consuming alcoholic beverages at that facility;
- 3.4. introduction of a ban on entry into a sports facility (including adjacent areas) where the sport event is taking place (specifying appropriate equipment to identify the following items):
- firearms and cold weapons;
 - firecrackers, smoke candles, lights, noise and other devices and pyrotechnics, containers with flammable, burning, corrosive or stinking substances;
 - powerful laser “pointers” (radiators), other objects that endanger athletes, sports referees or arbitrators, spectators or others, or may interfere with the proper conduct of a sport event;

- items intended to offend and humiliate athletes, referees or arbitrators, spectators, or others (including banners, transparencies, flags, clothes with inscriptions, or images of such content);
 - items capable of producing noise above the permissible limits (for example, objects capable of producing noise above 85 dBA);
 - means that interfere with the identification of the visitor to the sport event (for example, wearing face shields: balaclavas, etc.);
 - attributes and symbolism of another team (if the introduction is reasonably believed to be provocative).
4. **Informing the visitor of a sport event** about the security measures to be taken and the rules of conduct for the visitor:
- 4.1. displaying text or pictograms on visitor behaviour rules on the ticket of a sport event (on the part that remains in the hands of the visitor);
 - 4.2. a loudspeaker announcement at a sports facility of the security measures to be taken and of the behaviour of visitors (before, during and after a sports event);
 - 4.3. displaying relevant text or pictorial announcements on sports facility constructions in locations accessible to the visitor for viewing and reading, including advertisements on multimedia screens displayed at the sports facility.
5. **Prevention of attendance at a sporting event** for persons who have committed serious offences during sport events in the past and who have been brought to justice for it by the following methods:
- 5.1. control measures at the entrance to the sports facility:
 - implementation and maintenance of a personalised ticketing system (ticketing), ticketing and sales control systems that allow the notification and identification of the person purchasing the tickets;

- personal non-admission to a sports facility where a sport event takes place, to persons against whom the judicial authority, or the Minister of the Interior, or the organiser of the event has taken a decision on their non-admission to such or similar sport events for a fixed period;
- personal non-admission of persons who are under the influence of alcohol or narcotic substances to the sports facility where the sporting event takes place;
- vandal-safe equipment for spectators' seats and other sports facilities (the advantage of this equipment is enhanced protection against vandals; most of this equipment are made of high-strength steel, which is difficult to damage, break or even cut), which has access to or can be accessed by visitors to a sport event;
- provision of a sport event with a sufficient number of security personnel who are properly trained and instructed to respect the human dignity of the fans and techniques for managing the flow of people, preventing, mitigating and suppressing conflicts, as well as proper coordination of sport events and police services;
- provision of a sport event with properly functioning (i.e. regular inspection) alarm systems, fire alarm, fire extinguishing systems;

5.2. implementation of prognostic analysis of the types and weight characteristics of risks of violence, riots and other mass offences at organised sport events – to make a decision on how to reduce such risks and prevent delinquency (including analysis of closed forums, internet portals of football fans).

C. Socio - political measures

1. Within the framework of the instructions of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 1 “Procedures for Law Enforcement Cooperation in Preventing and Combating

Crime”, to provide increased attention to preventive work with the registered elements (leaders and members of informal football fan associations), which have a tendency to illegal group actions.

2. In order to carry out, in accordance with Article 58 of the Law on the Protection of the Rights of the Child, the constant supervision of adolescents who are on preventive registration and who are members of informal football fan associations with an asocial orientation and who consider themselves as football fans, there is a need to make the following amendments to Regulations No. 157 of 25.03.2014 "Regulations of the Juvenile Support Information System":

- to supplement 5.6. sub-paragraph with sub-paragraph 5.6.1.¹ in the following wording: “5.6.1.¹ involvement in the subculture of football fans”;

In addition, it should be noted that ongoing monitoring involves explanatory work with minors and their parents in order to isolate minors from criminal groups, prevent offenses and identify adults involved in crime and anti-social activities.

3. Based on the foreign experience of creating a culture of sports events, informal youth associations with a positive entertainment direction should be formed in Latvia. For example, to form youth club “Football Friends” in each of the regions of Latvia. The aim of mentioned club will be systematic, educational influence. Members of the club "Football Friends" will have the opportunity to attend: football club trainings; educational meetings with representatives of LFF, football clubs, scientists, psychologists, law enforcement agencies; friendly football matches both between regional clubs, between the team of regional clubs and the team of LFF, scientists, law enforcement agencies. In addition, it should be possible to envisage such sporting events at EU level, such as a football match between a Latvian team of regional clubs and a

selection of similar informal youth associations with positive entertainment from another countries.

4. Preventive measures should also include key aspects such as strengthening fan relationships with clubs, building trust with law enforcement, raising the level of fan culture and morale. Continuous communication would improve the quality of dialogue and mutual understanding:

- a) to establish a non-governmental organization (e. g., the Latvian Football Friends Association - LFFA). The main aim of this organization will be to facilitate meetings between football fan groups, to carry out in-depth research with local administrations and to organize events aimed at involving fans in the following areas: fan rights and obligations; violence and racism in stadiums; football marketing;
- b) all safety measures to be taken before, after and during sports events should mainly be explained in easy-to-understand language (conversational language) to the leaders of the fan groups, as they are the ones who should ensure the communication function.

The author believes that everything in this world, including illegal actions, is like the painting “Ambassadors” (1533) by the outstanding German artist Hans Holbein der Jüngere, in the creation of which for the first time the technique anamorphosis was used, that is, a deliberate distortion of the shape, so that the object acquires the necessary shape only if one looks at it from a certain angle. The truth depends on where the viewer is. The viewer has to step back and look at things from a different angle. Each time the angle is changed, the perception of the research question and the expected solutions change. Consequently, the author is confident that the conclusions and recommendations made by her will contribute to the further improvement of preventive measures aimed at eradicating the considered negative social phenomena and creating the conditions necessary for maintaining law and order.

Publications and reports on topics of the doctoral thesis

1. Scientific papers in publications included in international databases (Web of Science, SCOPUS, ERIH plus):

- 1.1. K. Zalcmane (2016) Football and Family Violence: Learning from the Experience of Great Britain. SHS Web of Conferences, DOI: 10.1051/shsconf/20163000015. Iekļauts Web of Science/Clarivate Analytics datubāzē.
- 1.2. K. Zalcmane (2018) "New Principles of Football Security in Europe". Rīga Stradiņš University, Faculty of Law. Electronic Scientific Journal of Law "Socrates", 120 – 127. p. ISSN: 2256-0548 Iekļauts ERIH PLUS datubāzē. Pieejams: https://www.rsu.lv/sites/default/files/imce/Dokumenti/izdevumi/Socrates_10_2018.pdf
- 1.3. K. Zalcmane, M.Kamenecka-Usova (2019) "The Cost of Policing Football Matches in Latvia". Proceedings of the 33rd International Business Information Management Association Conference (IBIMA), 2019 – 6633–6642pp. ISBN: 978-0-9998551-2-6 Iekļauts Web of Science/Clarivate Analytics, SCOPUS datubāzē.

2. Scientific papers in publications included in international databases (EBSCO host):

- 2.1. K.Zalcmane (2014) "Hate Speech or Unacceptable Words and Phrases in the World of Football". Daugavpils universitātes 56. Starptautiskās zinātniskās konferences rakstu krājums. C. daļa. Humanitārās zinātnes – Daugavpils: Daugavpils universitāte. 151. – 158. lpp. ISBN 978-9984-14-703-1 Pieejams: https://dukonference.lv/files/proceedings_of_conf/978-9984-703-1_56%20konf%20kraj_C_Hum%20zin.pdf Iekļauts EBSCO Host datubāzē.
- 2.2. K.Zalcmane (2016) "Futbola fani kā neformālā fanu apvienība ar kriminogēnām izpausmēm Latvijā un ārvalstīs". Daugavpils Universitātes 57. Starptautiskās zinātniskās konferences rakstu krājums. B. daļa. Sociālās zinātnes. - Daugavpils: Daugavpils Universitāte. 138. –145. lpp. ISBN 978-9984-14-752-9 Pieejams: https://dukonference.lv/files/proceedings_of_conf/978-9984-14-752-9_57%20konf%20kraj_B_Soc%20zin.pdf Iekļauts EBSCO Host datu bāzē.
- 2.3. K.Zalcmane (2017) "Criminological Characteristic of an Eastern Football Fan Personality Committing an Administrative and/or Criminal Offense". Proceedings of the 59th International Scientific Conference of Daugavpils University. Part B "Social Sciences". 123–129 p. ISBN 978-9984-14-833-5, ISSN 2500-9842, ISSN 2500-9869 Pieejams:https://dukonference.lv/files/proceedings_of_conf/978-9984-14-833-5_59_konf_kraj_B_Soc%20zin.pdf Iekļauts EBSCO Host datubāzē.

3. Scientific articles in peer-reviewed publications published in Latvia:

- 3.1. K.Zalcmane (Matvijčuka) (2014) "Football Hooliganism as a New World Phenomenon: Definition". The Baltic States in the European Union: Ten Years as Member States. Proceedings of the International Conference, 25–26 April 2014. Riga, , – 110 –117 p. ISBN 978-9934-837-37-1.
- 3.2. K.Zalcmane (2018) "The Subculture of Football Fans and Its Place in the Delinquent Subculture. International Scientific "Emerging Trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities" (etECH2018). Conference proceedings. Ekonomikas un kultūras augstskola: Rīga, 29. – 36.lpp. ISBN 978-9984-24-217-0

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Iekļauts Google Scholar datubāzē.

4. Presentation at an international scientific conference with an oral report or thesis:

- 4.1. 25.04.2013. International scientific conference "Current problems of innovative jurisprudence", "Law and Order or how to kick hooligans out of football. European experience". Riga, Rīga Stradiņš University.
- 4.2. 09.04.2014–11.04.2014. The 56th International Scientific Conference of Daugavpils University. Report "Hate speech or unacceptable words and phrases in the world of football". Daugavpils, Daugavpils University.
- 4.3. 16.04.2014–17.04.2014. LSPA International conference. Sports Science Section "Sports Management". Report "The prevention of football hooliganism: European experience". Riga, Latvian Academy of Sports Pedagogy
- 4.4. 23.04.2014. International practical conference "Legal Policy for Development of Society". Report "The prevention of violence in football: EU legal policy". Riga, Rīga Stradiņš University.
- 4.5. 25.04.2014–26.04.2014. International Scientific conference "The Baltic States in the European Union: ten years as Member States". Paper "Football Hooliganism as a New World Phenomenon: Definition". Riga, Latvian Academy of Science.
- 4.6. 26.11.2014–28.11.2014. 5th International interdisciplinary scientific conference "Society Health Welfare". Report "Football and Family Violence: Learning from the Experience of Great Britain". Riga, Rīga Stradiņš University.
- 4.7. 24.03.2015. LSPA International conference, Sports Science Section "Sports Management". Report „Augstam nekārtību riskam pakļauto futbola spēļu plānošana un organizēšana” (Eng. Planning and organisation of football games at high risk of disorder). Riga.
- 4.8. 16.04.2015–17.04.2015. The 57th International Scientific conference of Daugavpils University. Report „Futbola Fani kā neformālā fanu apvienība ar kriminogēnām izpausmēm Latvijā un ārvalstīs” (Eng. Football Fans as an

- informal fan association with criminogenic manifestations in Latvia and abroad). Daugavpils.
- 4.9 23.04.2015. International practical conference “Topical Problems of Security Reinforcement: Political, Social, Legal Aspects”. Report “Political protests with participation of football supporters’ groups”. Riga.
 - 4.10 06.10.2015. Valsts policijas koledžas IV Starptautiskā zinātniskā konference „Moderno tehnoloģiju izmantošana tiesībsardzības institūciju darbā un to darbinieku izglītošanā”. Referāts „Moderno tehnoloģiju izmantošana sporta pasākumos, lai nodrošinātu sabiedrības drošību Latvijā un ārvalstīs.” (Eng. IV International Scientific Conference of the State Police College “Use of modern technologies in the work of law enforcement institutions and in the education of their employees”. Report “Use of modern technologies in sports events to ensure public safety in Latvia and abroad.”) Riga.
 - 4.11 “Sports Criminology”. Abstracts of the 58th International Scientific Conference of Daugavpils University.– Daugavpils: Daugavpils University, 2016 – 126. lpp. ISBN 978-9984-14-760-4 Pieejams: https://dukonference.lv/files/2016_978-9984-14-760-4_DU%2058%20starpt%20zinatn%20konf%20tezes.pdf
 - 4.12 09.11.2016–11.11.2016. The 22nd Congress of the International Association of Sports Law (IASL) and RIOU’s inaugural international conference “Mega Events in Sport: Legal Environment”. Report “Illegal use of pyrotechnics (flares, smoke bombs, fireworks) on football grounds in Latvia.” Russia, Sochi.
 - 4.13 06.04.2017–07.04.2017. Daugavpils University 59th International Scientific Conference. Report „Криминологическая характеристика личности восточно–европейского футбольного болельщика, совершающего административное или уголовное правонарушение (Eng. Criminological characteristics of the personality of an East European football fan committing an administrative or criminal offense)”, Daugavpils.
 - 4.14 20.06.2017–23.06.2017. 2nd World Association for Sport management world conference “Global Issues and new ideas in Sport Management”. Report “New Principles of football security in Europe”. Kaunas, Lithuania.
 - 4.15 04.10.2017–06.10.2017. The 23rd Congress of the International Association of Sports Law (IASL) “Responsibility in Sports Activities: Law, Jurisdiction and Ethics”. Report “Criminogenic Manifestations of Football Fans”. Rome, Italy.
 - 4.16 25.04.2018. Starptautiskā zinātniski praktiskā konference „Tiesiskās problēmas Latvijas simtgadē: retrospektīva un perspektīva”. Referāts „Pētījumi starptautisko sporta tiesību jomā” (Eng. International scientific–practical conference “Legal Problems in the Centenary of Latvia: Retrospective and Perspective”. Report “Research in the field of international sports law”)

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- 4.18 02.04.2019. Rīga Stradiņš University International Interdisciplinary Conference on Social Sciences “PLACES” “Powers of Police and Various Authorities Preventing Violence at Football Matches: Settlement of Mutual Relations between fans, clubs, police and Society in Latvia and abroad”. Riga.
- 4.19 24.04.2019–26.04.2019. International Scientific Conference “Emerging Trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities” (etECH2019), Report “The “Black-out Rule” of the UFFA in Latvia and Abroad”. Riga.
- 4.20 13.12.2019–14.12.2019 25th IASL International Sports Law Congress. Report “Sports Criminology, crime prevention, research”. Greece, Athens
- 5. Presentation at a local scientific conference with an oral report or thesis:**
- 5.1 10.04.2014–11.04.2014. 13th Scientific Conference of Rīga Stradiņš University. Scientific work “Football-related Offences”. Rīga, Rīga Stradiņš University.
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Acknowledgement

Todo para familia...

I would like to thank the Faculty of Law and the Doctoral Department of Riga Stradiņš University for their responsiveness, support and cooperation during the preparation of the Doctoral Thesis. Special thanks to Professor Andrejs Vilks, Dean of the Faculty of Law, for teaching me to research on a topic through different angles within the study course “Criminology” in year 2006.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the supervisor of my Doctoral Thesis, Associate Professor Aldis Lieljuksis, for his cooperation in this exciting scientific journey: for advices, interest, encouraging words, as well as for patience and support during the development of the Doctoral Thesis.

Thank you to the wonderful and responsive colleagues and friends for a never-ending dose of optimism.

I have been brought up with love and a clear understanding that the most important thing in this world is the family! My family was always nearby, without their support the dissertation would probably not have been completed. Therefore, a huge thank you to my husband Jānis, daughter Anna Maria, mother Alla, father Jurijs, grandmother Anna and grandfather Leonīds for encouraging words, support, and faith in my strength in moments when I can no longer believe in myself.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported the development of this
Doctoral Thesis.