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INNOVATIVE NATURE OF THE 21ST CENTURY CRIMINOLOGY

21. GADSIMTA KRIMINOLOĢIJAS INOVATĪVAIS RAKSTURS

Kopsavilkums

Rakstā tiek atsegtas atsevišķas kriminoloģijas attīstības tendences, tai skaitā Covid-19 pandēmijas apstākļos. Tiek secināts, ka tradicionālās noziedzības atsevišķas formas un veidi postmodernās sabiedrības apstākļos transformējas uz digitālo vidi. XXI gadsimtā veidojas jaunas inovatīvas kriminoloģiskās pieejas un skolas, tai skaitā neokriminoloģija, sinenerģētiskā, naratīvā, digitālā neirokriminoloģija. Autors atzīst, ka, neskatoties uz kriminoloģijas nozīmes nivelēšanu, ir nepieciešami pētījumi par jauno noziedzības formu un veidu attīstības tendencēm un to apkarošanas un novēršanas iespējām.

Atslēgvārdi: XXI gadsimts, kriminoloģija, inovācijas, noziedzība

Summary

The aim of the current article is to study the development trends of criminology, also taking into account the impact of Covid-19 pandemic. The rationale for the innovative criminological approach is related to new types of criminal threats and their consequences. Certain forms and types of traditional crime in postmodern society are transforming into the digital environment, including through the use of *DarkNet* platforms. At the same time, criminological research in Latvia is insufficiently developed, criminology study courses are not included in all law study programmes. In the 21st century, new criminological approaches and schools are emerging, including neocriminology, synergistic, narrative, digital, neurocriminology. Appropriate criminological approaches have a specific nature and content. These trends confirm that, despite the importance of criminology, there is a need for research into the development trends of organized crime, cybercrime, trafficking in human beings, drugs and arms, and the possibilities for combating and preventing them. It would also be necessary to develop specialized criminology study programmes.

Keywords: XXI century, criminology, crime, innovations

Introduction

One of the most socially unfavourable phenomena in society is crime in all its forms and types. Crime is transforming in response to changing social, economic, political, legal and other circumstances. New innovative approaches are needed to detect, investigate and respond to crime. At the same time, it is recognized that criminology, of which crime is a key element, is becoming less and less important in the field of public administration¹. It is also believed that modern criminological theories are doomed to failure in the current economic and political context². However, by new crime modifications, criminological cognition transcends the academic, as well as the law environment, and is required in the sphere of politics and politicians³. The acquisition, analysis and interpretation of knowledge, including in the field of criminology, is becoming increasingly politicized⁴.

Being aware of the new criminal realities, global and national policies, University of Edinburgh scientist Lesley McAra has addressed a very interesting topic: Can criminologists change the world?⁵ Undoubtedly, this question is difficult and even impossible to answer. Mr McAra's views, which are relevant to the perspectives of criminology, relate to the development of criminal law, political strategy and the practice of the institutions. By knowing the relationships of these components, even their dissonances can have sufficiently high capacity of influence. The criminological approach should be independent of external impacts, including political influences.

Why is criminology so important in law and social sciences study programmes in Europe and other countries (USA, Australia, etc.)? This might have a number of preconditions. Firstly, criminal threats affect international and national security. The EU Security Union Strategy, adopted by the European Commission in 2020, recognizes that Europeans face a changing security situation with new threats,

¹ Braithwaite J. The New Regulatory State and the Transformation of Criminology. *The British Journal of Criminology*, Vol. 40, No. 2, March 2000. Available: <https://academic.oup.com/bjc/article-abstract/40/2/222/611103?redirectedFrom=fulltext> [viewed 05.08.2021.].

² Winlow S., Hall. S. *Rethinking Social Exclusion: The End of the Social?* 2013. Available: <https://sk.sagepub.com/books/rethinking-social-exclusion> [viewed 15.08.2021.].

³ Goldson G., Hughes G. Comparative youth justice research and the policy process. *Criminology and Criminal Justice*, 10, pp. 117–118. Available: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/1748895810364464> [viewed 15.08.2021.].

⁴ Armstrong S., McAra L. Audience, Borders, Architecture: The Contours of Control. In: Armstrong S. and McAra L. (eds.). *Perspectives on Punishment: The Contours of Control*. Oxford University Press, 2006. Available: <http://www.jus.uio.no/ikrs/english/research/projects/networkfornarrativecrim/>. [viewed 12.09.2021.].

⁵ McAra L. Can Criminologists Change the World? Critical Reflections on the Politics, Performance and Effects of Criminal Justice. *The British Journal of Criminology*, Vol. 57, No. 4, July 2017, pp. 767–788. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azw015>. Available: <https://academic.oup.com/bjc/article/57/4/767/2623920> [viewed 13.09.2021.].

including terrorism, organized crime, drug trafficking and human trafficking – all these are a direct menace to citizens and our way of life in Europe⁶.

Latvian legal scholars J. Teivāns-Treinovskis and N. Jefimovs also assess crime and its spread as a serious threat to national security⁷. For the protection and security of the society, the state determines what the types of crimes are, defines the responsibility for the committed crime and prosecution of offenders. Secondly, registered and latent crime cause significant and difficult to quantify economic and financial damage at the international and national levels. Thus, Professor Mark A. Koens of Vanhambilt University (USA) has estimated that the cost of crime in the US is at \$ 2.6 trillion per year. That comprises 3.2% of the US gross domestic product⁸. Jacques Bichot, a professor at the University of Lyon, estimates that crime in France costs around € 150 billion a year, or 7.5% of the country's gross domestic product⁹. Therefore, it is necessary to identify the extent of criminal damage and to improve measures to reduce it. Thirdly, the damage caused by crime also affects the social support system. This has two aspects: (a) crime reduces the potential pool of resources that could be available for social support measures; (b) victims of crime have statutory compensation and the necessary legal assistance. Fourthly, insufficient research on crime trends, their individual situations and trends indicates the lack of objectively justified measures for the development and implementation of crime prevention and control measures. At present, common (complex) crime prevention and combating plans and strategies have not been developed and implemented in Latvia. There are only plans, programmes, guidelines and strategies in individual areas (fight against organized crime, prevention of trafficking of human beings, plan to limit the use and spread of drugs, etc.). Such a fragmented approach to preventing and combating certain types and forms of crime is not rational. It is because the defining factors of crime and their specific types are common (economic, social, political, legal, etc.), as well as specific. An integrated approach is needed to address the negative effects of adverse factors. In addition, law enforcement agencies are practically involved in preventing and combating various forms of crime. Fifthly, criminological cognition provides opportunities to study, analyse and interpret crime, its determinants, criminal personality and other elements

⁶ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the EU Security Union Strategy COM/2020/605 final. Available: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1596452256370&uri=CELEX:52020DC0605> [viewed 15.09.2021.].

⁷ Teivāns-Treinovskis J., Jefimovs N. State national security: aspect of recorded crime. *Journal of Security and Sustainability Issues*: Vilnius, Vol. 2(2), 2012, pp. 43–44.

⁸ New research examines the cost of crime in the U.S., estimated to be \$2.6 trillion in a single year. Available: <https://news.vanderbilt.edu/2021/02/05/new-research-examines-the-cost-of-crime-in-the-u-s-estimated-to-be-2-6-trillion-in-a-single-year> [viewed 12.10.2021.].

⁹ Bichot J. La délinquance estimée à 150 milliards d'euros par an [Crime estimated at 150 billion euros per year]. Available: <http://www.lefigaro.fr/actualite-france/2012/02/20/01016-20120220ARTFIG00491-la-delinquance-estimee-a-150-milliards-d-euros-par-an.php> [viewed 10.11.2012.].

in violation of the fields of criminal law and even legal sciences. Criminological approach, including sociological, economic, political, socio-psychological and other scientific fields, crimes and their mechanism, criminal personality and crime have to be studied and analysed more broadly and profoundly.

1. Methodology

Descriptive, analytical, synthetic and modelling methods are used in the research. The author analyses new directions of criminology development, their innovative framework, content, concept, as well as the factors influencing it. Using the results of national and foreign research and summaries, the author reviews various criminological approaches and analyses their relationship with criminogenic manifestations facilitated by Covid-19.

2. Results

It is quite rightly acknowledged that criminology is of a changing nature, it is extremely dynamic. The process of evolution of criminology can be divided into “old” and “new” criminology¹⁰. Social, economic, political and technological processes have produced new types of crime, which necessitate the definition of their criminal law framework, as well as the development of a very specific system for preventing and combating them. According to the author, the division of criminology into the old and the new is interesting enough. The science of crime, the criminal's personality and other elements of criminology is undoubtedly evolving, resulting in new approaches for their interpretation.

2.1. Elements of criminology

One of the most important elements of criminology is crime. There are several approaches to its interpretation and identification. First, there is the classical approach, which includes a definition of what crime is – a set of offenses (activity or inactivity). Undoubtedly, we still define crime in this way today. However, there is also a completely inappropriate concept of crime. Thereby, crime is understood and identified as a separate offense. For example, “crime” is a set of characteristics that make an act criminal¹¹. Second, crime is identified as a public and state response to the types of offenses for which criminal liability is established. At different stages of the development of society, there is not only a legal, but also a strong political

¹⁰ Matthews R. New Times, New Crimes: Notes on the Depillarization of the Criminal Justice System. Available: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10612-020-09489-2#citeas> [viewed 18.10.2021.].

¹¹ Noziedzibas definicija [Crime definition]. Available: <https://lv.facts-news.org/noziedzibas-definicija> [viewed 20.10.2021.].

will to criminalize or decriminalize certain types of offenses. Louk Hulsman, a spokesman for critical criminology, acknowledges that crime is an arbitrary construction and can be challenged or transformed¹². It is also argued that crime is a myth and can be replaced by the all-inclusive concept of “harm”.¹³ This approach is based on the fact that crime and criminality are too narrow concepts compared to all-inclusive harm.

It is also necessary to note the new approaches in the investigation of the criminal's personality. It is acknowledged that the model of an individual's criminalization process is formed on the basis of socially negative heredity, which is included in the information at the genome level¹⁴. Genetic traits such as selfishness, aggression, passivity, greed for revenge, negligence are genetically inherited. Children, from the period of antenatal (prenatal) development to the fixed criminal activities, develop in accordance with the programmed genetic information. The social environment that could bring adjustments in the process of individual formation is not sterile and highly prosocial. Neurocriminological studies suggest that just the brain activity, passivity of control mechanisms, increased dependence on instincts and external irritants, emotionality are the factors to contribute to unmotivated and increased aggression, which can form a “criminal brain”. The issue of the personalized guilt and criminal liability of these individuals is debatable in perspective. Neurocriminology and neurolaw could play an increasingly prominent role in crime prevention, and neurocriminologist A. Raine predicts that by 2034, crime prevention will be based on a neurocriminological approach. By eliminating pathologies in the psychophysiological components of an individual, it would also be possible to prevent crime¹⁵.

2.2. Criminology study programmes

By exploring the Internet resources on specialized criminology studies, we can obtain data that criminology specialization is possible in more than 200 European educational institutions and more than 700 study programmes¹⁶. Thus, the undergraduate programme at the University of Cardiff focuses on the study of the criminalization process, victimization and the social response to crime and other offenses¹⁷. The study programme offers an opportunity to explore sociological

¹² Hulsman L. Critical criminology and the concept of crime. *Contemporary Crisis*, 10(1) 1986. Available: <https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/BF00728496.pdf> [viewed 19.10.2021.].

¹³ Hillyard P., Pantazis C., Tombs S., & Gordon, D. *Beyond criminology: Taking harm seriously*. London: Pluto Press, 2004.

¹⁴ Fischman J. *Criminal Minds*. Available: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/Can-This-Man-Predict-Whether/127792> [viewed 03.09.2021.].

¹⁵ Raine A. *The Anatomy of Violence: The Biological Roots of Crime*. New York, NY, US: Pantheon/Random House, 2014.

¹⁶ Criminology Educations. Available: <https://www.educations.com/search/criminology> [viewed 24.10.2021.].

¹⁷ Cardiff University. Available: <https://www.educations.com/study-abroad/cardiff-university/criminology-894397> [viewed 24.10.2021.].

and political approaches to criminology. Oxford Brook University also offers a three-year bachelor's study programme in criminology¹⁸. The content of the study programme includes a study of the historical development stages of crime, changes in crime in the process of evolution of society, analysis of the current criminal law and crime prevention policy. The University of Malmö is implementing a master's degree programme enabling to obtain a master's degree in criminology in one year, or a master's degree in criminology after two years of studies¹⁹. The substantiation is that the study programme includes a multidisciplinary approach and is based on multidisciplinary.

2.3. Innovative criminologies

Corporate criminology

In criminology, we are increasingly confronted with organized groups that may be involved in such forms of economic activity as limited liability companies (LLCs), joint stock companies (JSCs such as *Trasta komercbanka*), etc. Consequently, one has to face a specific object of criminological cognition – the criminality of legal persons. The Committee of Experts on the Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (Moneyval) in its 5th round evaluation report on the technical compliance of the anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing system with the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) concluded, that insufficient criminal liability of legal persons for money laundering is applied²⁰. On 15 November 2000, the United Nations adopted the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (the Convention)²¹. Article 10 of the Convention, entitled “Liability of legal persons” provides that each State Party shall take such measures as may be necessary, in accordance with its legal principles, to establish the liability of legal persons for participation in serious crime involving an organized criminal group.

¹⁸ Criminology Oxford Brookes University. Available: <https://www.educations.com/study-abroad/oxford-brookes-university/criminology-911653> [viewed 24.10.2021.].

¹⁹ Criminology Malmö University. Available: <https://www.educations.com/study-abroad/malmo-university/criminology-852144> [viewed 24.10.2021.].

²⁰ Eiropas Padomes Noziedzīgi iegūtu līdzekļu legalizācijas un terorisma finansēšanas novēršanas pasākumu ekspertu komitejas (Moneyval) Latvijas 5. kārtas novērtēšanas 2018. gada 23. augusta ziņojums [Report of the Expert Committee of the Council of Europe on the Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (Moneyval) 5th Round Evaluation of Latvia, 23 August 2018]. Available: https://www.fid.gov.lv/uploads/files/Dokumenti/Moneyval%20zi%C5%86ojumi/MONEYVAL20188_5th-Round_MER-Latvia_LV.pdf. [viewed 02.08.2021.].

²¹ United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. Available: <https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNTOC/Publications/TOC%20Convention/TOCebook-e.pdf> [viewed 12.08.2021.].

2.4. Innovative criminology

On 24 October 2008, the European Council adopted Framework Decision 2008/841/JHA on the fight against organized crime²². Article 5 of the Framework Decision sets out the liability of legal persons: Each Member State shall take the necessary measures to ensure that a legal person can be held liable for any of the offenses referred to in Article 2 (offenses relating to participation in a criminal organization) the structure of a legal person, by any person who holds a senior position in that legal person on the basis of one of the following powers: (a) to represent the legal person; (b) an authority to take decisions on behalf of the legal person; or (c) to exercise control within the legal person. For the purposes of this Framework Decision, “legal person” means any entity having legal personality under the applicable law, except for States or public law entities exercising state power and international public organizations. Article 6 of the Framework Decision, on the other hand, sets out the sanctions that may be applicable to legal persons.

In Latvia, the liability of legal persons was determined on 5 May 2005 with amendments to the Criminal Law, which enters into force on 1 October 2005. The Criminal Law contains Chapter VIII1, which provides for coercive measures applicable to legal persons²³. According to the information of Prosecutor M. Jansons, 17 criminal proceedings have been initiated in Latvia against legal entities that have been subjected to coercive measures. Criminological aspects related to criminal offenses of legal persons, their types, damage and applied coercive measures have not been studied in Latvia. This could be related to the fact that the institute of criminal liability of legal persons has been introduced into the Latvian legal regulation relatively recently and sufficient legal practice has not been established either. However, it can be assumed that the criminality of legal persons can also have a high level of latency. Corporate criminology is sufficiently developed in foreign criminology.

However, it can be assumed that the criminality of legal persons can also have a high level of latency. Corporate criminology is sufficiently developed in foreign criminology²⁴.

Corporate crime is also called “apartment crime”. The essence of corporate crime is that in many cases the line between a criminal offense, an offense and the success or failure of a business is difficult to determine, resulting in the high latency of that crime. However, corporate crime causes great financial and material damage. Corporate crime covers ever new areas: financial lending in construction; service and catering; environmental crime, etc.

²² Council Framework Decision 2008/841/JHA of 24 October 2008 on the fight against organised crime. Available: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/LV/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32008F0841>. [viewed 02.08.2021.].

²³ Criminal Law. Available: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/88966> [viewed 02.08.2021.].

²⁴ Almond P, Erp v J. Regulation and governance versus criminology: Disciplinary divides, intersections, and opportunities. 2018. Available: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/rego.12202> [viewed 22.08.2021.].

Cybercriminology

Cybercriminology includes the analysis of the state and trends of cyber threats, the modulation of new types of threats, as well as the identification of opportunities to eliminate them. Data from the Europol Cybercrime Centre show that the number of cyber-attacks continues to increase²⁵. Not only are cyber threats increasing quantitatively, but they are modifying and becoming more complex. Cyber threats are carried out from different regions of the European Union and beyond. In some cases, the target is critical digital infrastructures, including major cloud providers. Major service providers had to mitigate massive DDoS attacks, such as the attack on Amazon's web services in February 2020. Cybercrime has become a very significant threat to the financial system. The International Monetary Fund has estimated that the annual loss from cyber-attacks is 9% of global net income, or around € 100 billion²⁶. US cybersecurity venture Cybersecurity Ventures, one of the most professional and skilled cyber defense companies, has estimated that the cost of cybercrime will increase by about 15 percent a year²⁷. Experts predict that the cost of cybercrime in 2021 could reach \$ 6 trillion in 2021, and the cost of cybercrime in 2025 will reach \$ 10.5 trillion a year. It is acknowledged that cybercrime will cost the world \$ 11.4 million a year in 2021²⁸. Cybercrime will become the third largest economy this year. The indicators mentioned by experts refer only to the visible and fixed part of the cybercrime network. The damage caused by cybercrime on the "black Internet" cannot be determined at all. It is estimated that the size of the shadow network (which is not indexed and remains inaccessible to search engines) is 5 thousand times larger than the size of the official Internet. The high effectiveness of cybercrime far outweighs the potential risks and stimulates investment in this area and the constant updating of the tools used in criminal activities.

In 2020, RAND Europe conducted an analysis of future technology trends to identify those that could be used to commit cybercrime²⁹. Analysis of possible trends in cybercrime is important in alerting them. The intensive development of artificial intelligence (AI)/machine learning (ML) can make cybercrime more effective, targeted and widespread. The new capabilities of AI/ML will make it more difficult to track and detect criminal and abusive activities. This can increase the attractiveness of cybercrime ventures and increase the burden on law enforcement.

²⁵ ENISA Threat Landscape Report, 2018. Available: <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/publications/enisa-threat-landscape-report-2018> [viewed 04.08.2021.].

²⁶ Estimating Cyber Risk for the Financial Sector (2018). Available: <https://blogs.imf.org/2018/06/22/estimating-cyber-risk-for-the-financial-sector/> [viewed: 05.09.2021.].

²⁷ Morgan S. Cybercrime To Cost The World \$10.5 Trillion Annually By 2025, 2020. Available: <https://cybersecurityventures.com/hackerpocalypse-cybercrime-report-2016> [viewed: 05.08.2021.].

²⁸ Morgan S. Cybercrime Vs. COVID-19: Which Will Inflict More Financial Harm? 2021. Available: <https://cybersecurityventures.com/cybercrime-vs-covid-19-which-will-inflict-more-financial-harm/> [viewed 05.08.2021.].

²⁹ Technological developments and the future of cybercrime. Available: <https://www.rand.org/randeurope/research/projects/technological-developments-and-the-future-of-cybercrime.html> [viewed 07.08.2021.].

More powerful, easier-to-use and cheaper technologies may be available in the future. This can encourage a wide range of people to use new technologies, potentially exposing themselves to cyber threats. At the same time, powerful technologies can stimulate the spread of cybercrime by engaging young vulnerable individuals tempted by rapid financial gain. Intentional or accidental cyber security incidents can seriously disrupt essential services, as well as economic and social activities.

The development of sophisticated new technological solutions and capabilities can enable hackers and organized groups to carry out complex attacks and activities that result in higher proceeds of crime than to cause great harm to individuals and organizations. New technologies will increase the speed and coverage of communications, which will significantly reduce the impact of geographical distance on the telecommunications used by cybercriminals. Advances in computing and data storage technologies, together with the increase in the number of devices, will contribute to an increase in possible criminal and malicious activities, including the development of new methods of criminal activity.

Technological developments in autonomous devices and systems will facilitate the expansion of access to premises and environments that were previously inaccessible. This can be used to disguise criminal activities, develop new criminal methods or carry out large-scale and automated attacks. The development and widespread use of computer and storage technologies can lead to the theft or unauthorized dissemination of data, as well as the disclosure of illegal data.

The development of telecommunications infrastructure can be used to increase anonymity, speed up criminal activity, and steal personal and confidential data. Telecommunications infrastructure can also cause large-scale disruption.

The growing amount of data collected on Internet of Things (IoT) devices can be used to steal and extort personal data. IoT devices can also increase the scale of attacks on cyber-addicts and introduce new vulnerabilities in complex IT systems and environments.

User Interface Privacy (PET) attackers can be used for anonymous and covert illegal activities, making it more difficult to detect and investigate criminal activity. Attackers can also target PET to gain access to confidential or private information.

In Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technologies (DLT), digitized transactions are performed using DLT, which can be manipulated for malicious purposes, such as to prevent transaction processing. DLT can also be used to store destructive or inappropriate content, making it difficult to remove.

Confidence in new technologies and related products and services may be undermined by certain sections of the public, which may increase the vulnerability and disruption of all these elements. These effects can also have cascading consequences that are difficult to predict. In this context, the development of potentially latent crime cases can lead to much wider negative impact.

Narrative criminology – research of products of literature, cinema, art and other fields that are related to criminogenic manifestations and identification of

their role in individual and group active and/or passive criminal behaviour model³⁰. Let us note the dual influence of cultural objects and products on the individual and general social level. First, cultural messages shape public opinion and attitudes towards elements of the legal system: laws and regulations; law enforcement agencies; institutional practices. Second, narrative criminology studies cultural objects with criminal features and the impact of these objects on the possible criminalization of individuals. Some films and serials hyperbolize criminals and organized criminal groups by promoting criminal socialization. It must be acknowledged that the media, including the Internet, are flooding the cultural environment of modern society with articles, information, discourses and images on crime and crime control³¹. According to G. Tard's theory of imitation and training, members of society successfully learn patterns of behaviour from movies, books, theatre performances, musicals, etc. colourful type. Descriptions of crime, various offenses and the activities of law enforcement agencies are essential elements in building public confidence and feelings about the legal and social order. The work of law enforcement agencies is widely covered in art and film documentaries, television series and book themes. Appropriate cultural and informational sources influence what people think about these structures and their employees. Narrative criminology provides a specific methodological approach to better understand the mechanisms of public loyalty and trust in law enforcement agencies – the police, the opinion and understanding is undoubtedly more influential than personal contacts with the police. prosecutor's office and the courts. It is acknowledged that the influence of the media on public is undoubtedly more influential than personal contacts with the police³².

In 2016, a research group on the development of narrative criminology was established at the European Society of Criminologists³³. The working group of narrative criminology has planned to promote the development of theoretical and empirical approaches to the mentioned criminology, to stimulate the development of a new methodological approach. The working group has set up its own website³⁴, where the results of narrative research are published. Narrative criminology has promising development prospects. The study of literature, cinema, works of art and other products with criminal content and the assessment of their impact on individuals' value systems and behavioural patterns are important in theoretical and practical terms. No less important is the correct coverage of the activities of law enforcement agencies.

³⁰ Presser L. Narrative Criminology. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190264079.013.556> [viewed 12.09.2021.].

³¹ Ibid.

³² Perlmutter D. Policing the Media: Street Cops and Public Perceptions of Law Enforcement. In: Policing the Media: Street Cops and Public Perceptions of Law Enforcement, David D. Perlmutter, Google Books, 2000.

³³ ESC Narrative Criminology Working Group. Available: <https://www.esc-eurocrim.org/index.php/activities/working-groups/59-narrative-criminology> [viewed 12.09.2021.].

³⁴ Narrative Criminology Research Network. Available: <http://www.jus.uio.no/ikrs/english/research/projects/networkfornarrativecrim/> [viewed 12.09.2021.].

Conclusions

1. One of the most important elements of the subject of criminology is crime, which is transformed according to the changing conditions of the social environment. New types and forms of criminal threats, the movement of certain parts of them to the digital environment determine the need to apply an innovative approach in criminological cognition. The place and role of criminology in legal science and the use of its research results in the activities of state and law enforcement institutions can be assessed in various ways.
2. Despite the relative decline in the importance of criminology, bachelor's and master's degree programmes specializing in criminology are being implemented in higher education institutions in many European and other regions. There is a sufficient political and legal basis for the development of criminology as a science and also as a study programme.
3. In the process of development of criminology, a distinction is made between “old” and “new” – neocriminology. In the context of the “new” criminology, there is an innovative interpretation of the treatment and cognition of crime and the offender. Neurocriminology and neuroscience could play an increasingly prominent role in crime prevention (neurolaw).
4. In recent years, a special place in the structure of crime is occupied by criminal offenses committed by legal persons, whose liability in accordance with the amendments to the Criminal Law of the Republic of Latvia has been only since 2005. Foreign legal regulation on the liability of legal persons has longer experience and richer legal practice.
5. Corporate (legal personality) crime determines the creation of a new field of criminology – corporate criminology. Criminal offenses committed by legal persons cause significant damage to the public interest and have a particularly high latency. Corporate criminology has significant prospects for further development.
6. Cybercrime is playing an increasingly important role in the trend of crime. It can be described as a crime of the future, the scope of which will become larger and the damage caused more extensive. Prognostic models suggest that the types of cyber threats will change.

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