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New Format of the Serbian Public Database of Crime including Corruption

Boris Begović Centre for Liberal-Democratic Studies Belgrade, 22nd May 2013



Basic features of criminal statistics

- Statistics of criminal offenders or statistics of perpetrators
- Police statistics and judicial statistics
- Police statistics are confidential and judicial statistics are public
- A multiple perpetrators offence and a multiple offences perpetrators
- Magnitudes and dynamics of crime cannot be disclosed with the number of perpetrators





Comparison of data

Year	Number of offenses (Mol)	Number of suspects (the judiciary)	Difference	Difference (expressed as %)
2000	106.020	87.601	18.419	17,4%
2001	121.672	97.071	24.601	20,2%
2002	95.638	107.302	-11.664	-12,2%
2003	90.419	98.148	-7.729	-8,5%
2004	99.866	91.573	8.293	8,3%
2005	102.093	103.481	-1.388	-1,4%
2006	99.244	108.742	-9.498	-9,6%
2007	104.862	102.136	2.726	2,6%
2008	106.031	105.808	223	0,2%





Outcomes

- No public data on magnitude and dynamics of crime and corruption
- No information about the efficiency of law enforcement (especially police)
- Only the numbers of known/unknown perpetrators is known
- No information on the legal fate of the suspect is disclosed
- No link between a specific crime and suspect
- No way to evaluate penal policy of the country: are we doing a good job or not in corruption and other crimes





New format of the public database on crime: basic features

- Criminal offences must be recorded and number disclosed
- Numbers should be organized according to the crime (Penal code classification)
- Data must be provided on clearance rate (solved crimes)
- Necessary condition: suspects are identified and criminal complaint is submitted (justified exceptions)
- More than 50% perpetrators in the case of multiple perpetrators offence must be processed
- Sufficient condition: criminal complaint must not be rejected due to the lack of evidence





Clearance rate: efficiency of police

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Judicial statistics: efficiency of judiciary

- Legal process must be disclosed for each criminal offence and each suspect.
- Punishment policy and its enforcement must be disclosed.
- Only rearrangement of existing public databases.
- All the data must be available all the time in the electronic form.
- There must be change of legislation. A think tank cannot do it.
- No signs of collaboration for MoI and MoJ have been seen yet.





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