



EUCPN

Newsletter

April 2008

Issue 16

www.eucpn.org

Dear EUCPN members,

It is a privilege for me to address you all on behalf of the Slovenian Presidency and in my current role as EUCPN chair. Looking back on the first three months of the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, we have reached some important agreements, such as the Annual Report for 2007 and Objectives – Action Plan for 2008. We had also held the EUCPN Board meeting, and have been involved in a number of crime prevention events which were widely attended, including active participation by the Member States.

In the second half of the Slovenian Presidency, we are going to enter in the external evaluation of the EUCPN activities. We hope the Member States will actively participate in this important exercise. Moreover, a considerable amount of funding is available under the Commission's 'Prevention of and Fight Against Crime' programme (also known as 'ISEC') for crime prevention projects. 30 June 2008 is the deadline for second call for proposals in 2008 for Framework Partners. I encourage all the Member States to apply for this funding.

Lastly, let me also invite the Board members to attend the second EUCPN Board meeting under the Slovenian presidency, which will be held in Ljubljana on 4th June 2008.

Tomaz PERSOLJA,
EUCPN chair

EUCPN ACTIVITIES

ECPA

The European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA) 2008 will be awarded to the best project on prevention in public spaces.

Both the Award Ceremony and the Annual Conference will take place in Paris on 17/18 November 2008.

There are three main themes:

- planning of public spaces
- video protection and
- daily actions of public spaces management.

The workshops should meet especially the following objectives:

- assessment of different methods, tools and involvement of stakeholders at the EU level as well as legal problems
- gaps and possible further developments
- effectiveness of video protection in crime prevention approach

On the basis on the research and operational results, the stakeholders are expected to exchange their practice and information in the area.

France has called for contributions and support from academics, representatives from local elected authorities, industrialists, associations etc.

Further information could be asked at: christian.irjud@interieur.gouv.fr

Experts' group on BPC

Following the initiative of Germany, representatives of France, Sweden, Denmark, Portugal, Greece and Finland will meet on 16 May 2008 in Berlin to elaborate standardised format for the

practical preparation of the Best Practice conference.

The organisation of the conference will bring an added, complement value to the considerations of the group ECPA-DEV led by Finland. Its recommendations should be presented very soon.

Research activities

The shaping of the future activities of the RVC committee is ongoing. The application to request possible financial support from the Commission is in preparation and should be finalised by June or October 2008. According to the current thinking, the project should contribute to the understanding of crime trends in Europe. Every member State is invited to appoint one national researcher to take part in the development of this project.

Further information could be asked at: ireen.friedrich@univie.ac.at

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS ON CRIME PREVENTION

The **annual Stockholm Criminology Symposium** will be organised on 16-18 June 2008 in conjunction with the **Stockholm Prize in Criminology**. This year, the Winners are: Professor David Olds, of the University of Colorado (USA) and Professor Jonathan Shepherd, of Cardiff University (UK)

The 2008 symposium will focus on three major themes: Experiments in Crime Prevention, Reforming the Prison System and Innovative Policing.

In addition, the symposium is open for seminars and panels initiated by researchers, policymakers and practitioners who would like to present and discuss results and propose measures in the field of crime prevention.

All abstracts must be submitted before May 15th 2008.

The objective of the annual symposium is to promote the development of:
- improved knowledge on the causes of crime at the individual and structural levels

- more effective and humane public policies for dealing with criminal offenders
- greater knowledge of alternative crime prevention strategies inside and outside the criminal justice system
- policies for helping the victims of crime

Further information may found on the following webpages:

www.criminalsymposium.com

The **German Congress on crime prevention 2008** as well as the **2nd Annual International Forum** will take place on 2-3 June 2008. The objectives are the presentation and exchange of current and basic questions of crime prevention and its effectiveness, bringing together partners within the field of crime prevention, functioning as a forum for the practice, helping to get into contact at the international level, discussing implementation strategies for practice, politics, administration and research.

Target groups were judiciary, health system, youth welfare, churches, local authorities, media, and policy makers, representatives from educational and scientific communities.

Further information may be found at www.gcoep.org

Connected to this years congress is the **European Workshop "Probation meets Prevention"** (June 1 - 3 2008) which is organized by the GCOCP and CEP - Conference Permanente Europeenne de la Probation. This event focuses on practitioners in the field of probation from all European countries. The language of this event will be English. For more information please visit: www.cep-probation.org

Conference on Restorative Justice in Europe will be held on 17-19 April 2008 in Verona, Italy.

One of the aims of this meeting is to promote and strengthen dialogue between legal practitioners, policy makers, researchers and practitioners in the

restorative justice field. The agenda includes also the presentation of the results of a European Commission-funded project entitled 'Restorative justice: an agenda for Europe'. This project looks at the possible role of the European Union in the further development of restorative justice on the one hand, and at the development of restorative justice in Southern Europe on the other hand.

Further information could be found at <http://www.euforumrj.org/>

XV World Congress on Criminology "**CRIME AND CRIMINOLOGY: RESEARCH AND ACTION**" will be held on 20-25 July 2008 Barcelona (Spain). The discussions will be focused around three main themes: transnational crime, urban crime, victims and restorative justice etc. They will raise the following questions:

1. What is the future of academic criminology given the new challenges the discipline is facing in fast changing socio-economic and political contexts?
2. How will and has criminology to find its most creative and useful expressions in research and action?
3. What is the value of answers to crime already made available in the areas selected for the congress discussions?
4. How successful are preventive social action and crime control?

The latest information and most recent version of the preliminary programme can be found at the following URL:

<http://www.worldcongresscriminology.com/index.asp?pagina=presen&idioma=en>

Interuniversity Centre Dubrovnik, Croatia, will organise on 8-14 June 2008 the 11th symposium on **social work with juvenile offenders and critical research in youth justice**. It will bring together academics in the field of youth justice and post-graduate practitioners working in youth justice systems from the international community. This year's symposium explores the important role critical research plays in understanding the

development and management of youth justice systems. Contributors are encouraged to critically explore the processes by which criminological research and knowledge is constructed and the extent to which it is meaningfully employed to inform practice in youth justice.

If you are interested, please consult the following pages: <http://iuc.hr/index.php>

INITIATIVES IN THE MEMBER STATES

Slovakia has launched a communication campaign – *Klikaj Zodpovedne.sk (Click Responsibly)*, *Volaj Zodpovedne.sk (Call Responsibly)*. Its objective is to raise awareness about **internet safety and to promote dialogue between children and adults**. We will stress the benefits of the internet and online media, as well as the importance of being a responsible and critical media user.

The project is composed of three main actions: media campaign reaching 1.5 million people of these shall be 0.5 million children and teenagers and a direct campaign through 50 trained trainers for all targeted groups. These initiatives should be complemented by educational events for approximately 50 000 children.

In addition, in February 2008 were launched also the Awareness Node web site, www.zodpovedne.sk and a Safer internet helpline 0800-500 500 , www.pomoc.sk. The Helpline will include phone and Internet based service for children and teenagers free of charge.

Project *Zodpovedne.sk* and Slovak node for internet safety awareness is coordinated by the eSlovensko NGO. The official partners of the Project are the Slovak Council of UNICEF who runs as well the Helpline and the Slovak Ministry of Interior who will implement our findings into national legislation.

GENERAL ISSUES

The EU Commission has launched a large **study on the links between organised crime and corruption** – criminal profits and associated criminal lifestyle. It should identify and review existing counter-measures and possible developments.

Among others, the study should look at specific vulnerabilities to corruption within private sector organisations and to consider how and when the link between OC and corruption can be defined.

The results of the study should also cover preventive measures at EU level and complement the work of the Commission's Expert group on the policy needs of data on crime and criminal justice, specifically on definitions and statistical indicators on corruption.

In order to discuss EU justice policies and practice, the Commission sets up a multi-disciplinary and collaborative **Justice Forum**. Following a Communication on the creation of a Forum for discussing EU justice policies and practice (COM/2008/0038 final), it will be officially launched on Friday 30 May 2008 and will meet regularly, 4 times a year.

The Justice Forum will promote a dialogue between the Commission and practitioners of the Member States who deal with the implementation, enforcement and consequences of the EU policies in civil and criminal matters. Members of the Justice Forum will be chosen from European networks of prosecutors, judges and lawyers, NGOs and other relevant organisations including the EUCPN.

The second meeting of the **European Forum on the Rights of the Child** was held on 4 March 2008 in Brussels.

The Forum was launched following the adoption by the European Commission on 4 July 2006 of the Communication entitled "Towards an EU strategy on the Rights of the Child". The role of the Forum is to advise and assist the Commission and other European Institutions, in particular as regards mainstreaming of children's

rights, and exchange information and good practice. The Forum aims to be a place allowing for children's opinions to be heard and taken into account.

Members of the Forum are Member States representatives, Ombudspersons for children, representatives of the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Council of Europe, UNICEF and NGOs. The Forum is chaired by the Commission.

The second Forum focused on the matter of Child Alert Mechanisms for missing children and on the issues of child poverty and social exclusion, with special attention to Roma children.

Further information could be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/fsj/children/forum/fsj_children_forum_en.htm

As regards the funding opportunities, three deadlines for applications for Framework partners' projects (programme "Prevention and fight against crime" have been fixed on 31 March, 30 June and 31 October 2008. The call for proposals for action grants should be launched in the coming days.

Further information could be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/isec/funding_isec_en.htm#

The award decision regarding the external evaluator for the EUCPN was taken early March and the evaluation should start very soon.

Any contributions on local or national projects, meetings, initiatives, new operational or legislative developments, research, publications etc on crime prevention are welcome. It is thanks to your cooperation that the content of the Newsletter can be as interesting and useful as possible.

Grzegorz GAJEWSKI

Secretary of the EUCPN