



EUROCRIM2025

LOGOS OF CRIME & PUNISHMENT

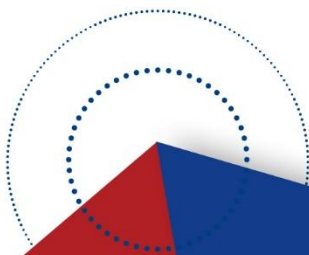
25th Annual Conference
of the European Society of Criminology

Athens, Greece • 3-6 September 2025

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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS V1

03.09.2025
(to be updated)



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physical activity promotion, and improved shift schedules have shown positive effects on well-being and job satisfaction. Conclusion: The work environment for patrolling police officers is complex and challenging to control. Known risk factors such as high job demands and lack of control impact their health and well-being. Protective factors like social support and employee influence can be enhanced through organizational interventions. The study highlights the need for evidence-based strategies to mitigate risks and promote a supportive work environment for police officers.

The role of individual and organisational factors in understanding trauma misperceptions among police officers *Elise Sargeant, Griffith University; Henrietta Taylor, Griffith University; Margo Van Felius, Griffith University; Christine Bond, Griffith University; Silke Meyer, Griffith University*

The way police perceive a victim's behaviour, emotions and recollections can have important implications for the way a criminal case is processed and can impact upon the likelihood of secondary victimisation. Recent research has therefore begun to measure the correlates of trauma misperceptions among police officers. The current study draws on data collected from police officers in an Australian jurisdiction to better understand the predictors of trauma misperceptions. We extend prior research by incorporating individual as well as organisational predictors. Our findings provide practical guidance around how police organisations can best reduce trauma misperceptions among police officers.

Trauma Training for Police: The beginning of officer and community wellness *Lorenzo M. Boyd, University of New Haven*

As we try to re-imagine American policing, we must address issues inside of policing such as officer suicide. Following the lead of Pillar six of 21st Century policing, officer wellness is paramount for the police to effectively do their jobs. As we teach them about vicarious and community trauma, we must also address individual officer trauma. This presentation is an overview of an 8-hour trauma training for police and how to normalize asking for help as well as officer responses to the training.

317. PWG - Prison climate, well-being, and quality of prison life

Topic 5: Social Control and Criminal Justice/Imprisonment, Prisons, Prison Life and Effects of Imprisonment (Prisons WG)

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:15 pm

Communications Building (CN): CN 2114

Chair:

Ineke Regina Pruin, University of Bern

Participants:

Unlocking Realities: The Romanian Prison Experience *Daniela Irina Stadniciuc, Liverpool John Moores University*

Background: The global prison population has reached its highest level to date, with over 11.5 million people deprived of their liberty on any given day, primarily men. Systemic prison crises such as chronic overcrowding, inhumane living conditions, lack of resources, and mismanagement have been amplified since the COVID-19 pandemic. The Romanian Penitentiary System operates at a 120.6% occupancy rate, with 24,106 people living in prison across 45 institutions, including 33 prisons for males and one for females. The Romanian Penitentiary System faces challenges upholding various international normative standards of detention. In 2023, the European Court of Human Rights issued 74 judgments related to Romanian prisons, with 58 identifying human rights violations. There is a significant absence of data concerning the Romanian prison population demographics, pre-trial and life-sentenced individuals, and bio-behavioural data. This study uniquely contributes to understanding the custodial experiences in Romania, an area underrepresented in research with limited theoretical exploration. Research Aim: to address the existent gap in the literature by exploring the custodial experiences of people living in prison in Romania. Research Objectives: to explore the Romanian prison experience with regard to • living conditions. • social dynamics. Methods: In-depth, semi-structured interviews conducted with people who have lived experience of incarceration in Romania. Narrative data analysis approach with embedded reflexivity. Preliminary results: The Romanian prison experience is a loyal reflection of Romanian society, where the prison environment not only replicates but also intensifies broader social inequalities, corruption, and class struggles. Prison narratives

highlight the lack of internal equity within Romanian prisons and illustrate the ways in which prisoners contest penal power — whether by resisting, challenging, subverting, or rejecting it. Romanian prisons continue to exist in a state of tension, caught between their communist past and their present capitalist reality, where prison harm is bypassed only by prisoners with enough capital.

Prison Climate and Inmate Well-Being: Preliminary Findings on the Role of Environment, Health, and Social Dynamics *Milena Miličević, Institute for Criminological and Sociological Research*

To understand the experience of prison life, it is important to study prison environments and their impact on inmate well-being. We examined the relationship between prison climate and prisoners' individual quality of life (QoL), focusing on how physical and psychological health, social relationships, and environment (measured by the WHOQOL-BREF questionnaire) predict well-being aspects of the prison climate (assessed by the Measuring the Quality of Prison Life–MQPL framework: personal development, autonomy, well-being, distress), controlling for prison regime (closed/semi-open). A sample of 525 male prisoners from Serbia's four largest penitentiary facilities (M age=40 years, SD=10.18, range=20–73; average sentence=8 years 3 months, SD=8, range=1–40 years) participated. Multiple regression analyses were conducted with the prison regime entered as a control variable, followed by prisoners' self-rated QoL as predictors. Both prison regime and individual QoL significantly predict well-being outcomes. Environmental Health was the strongest predictor ($\beta=.46-.69$), followed by Physical ($\beta=.10-.29$) and Psychological Health ($\beta=.11-.26$). Social Relationships had a small but negative impact across several dimensions ($\beta=-.09-.11$). The prison regime remained a significant predictor even after QoL was introduced ($\beta=.09-.13$), with semi-open settings positively influencing all well-being-related scores. While pain and discomfort were reported in both closed and semi-open facilities, prisoners in semi-open wards perceived these challenges as less severe and more controllable, confirming that prison environments and conditions shape subjective experiences of well-being and development. Findings reinforce prior research suggesting that improving prison environments can enhance prisoners' well-being. Targeted interventions in safety, healthcare access, and personal development opportunities may yield significant benefits. The negative impact of social relationships highlights the need to address social dynamics, foster positive interactions, and provide support systems to mitigate social isolation and enhance well-being. This research is a part of the PrisonLIFE project (No. 7750249, Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia).

Prison climate in the context of job differentiation in Belgium (2nd wave) *Elodie Schils, NICC - National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology; Elien Goossens, National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology; Luc Robert, INCC - Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie; Eric Maes, INCC - Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie*

The Law of 23 March 2019 provides for the introduction of a new surveillance method in Belgian prisons. This new working method is aimed primarily at prison staff responsible for surveillance. It defines a differentiation of tasks between security assistants and detention supervisors. Currently, this new working method is only being established in some prisons, before being extended more widely. Prior to the extension of this new working method, an evaluation of the practice is being carried out in four Belgian prisons (two applying the differentiation of tasks and two not yet applying it) through a study of the living climate of inmates and the working climate of prison staff. The aim of this study is to compare the experience of these two groups of prisons in order to determine: how living conditions in prison are perceived by inmates in prisons with and without job differentiation. To achieve this purpose, a repeated measure of living climate has been carried out in 2024 and 2025 within the four prisons. A comparison between the two measures will be presented. The research started in November 2023 and will run until end 2025.

The Impact of Incarceration on Self-Control: Longitudinal Evidence from Neuro-Criminological Data *Victoria Rambaud, The Moral & Social Brain Lab, Department of Experimental Psychology, Ghent University, B-9000 Ghent, Belgium; Ilke Veeckman, Ghent University; Louis Favril, Ghent University;*