

# Cases on Technologies for Teaching Criminology and Victimology: Methodologies and Practices

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Information Science  
**REFERENCE**

**INFORMATION SCIENCE REFERENCE**

Hershey • New York

Director of Editorial Content: Kristin Klinger  
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Assistant Managing Editor: Michael Brehm  
Publishing Assistant: Sean Woznicki  
Typesetter: Michael Brehm  
Cover Design: Lisa Tosheff  
Printed at: Yurchak Printing Inc.

Published in the United States of America by  
Information Science Reference (an imprint of IGI Global)  
701 E. Chocolate Avenue  
Hershey PA 17033  
Tel: 717-533-8845  
Fax: 717-533-8661  
E-mail: [cust@igi-global.com](mailto:cust@igi-global.com)  
Web site: <http://www.igi-global.com/reference>

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#### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Cases on technologies for teaching criminology and victimology : methodologies and practices / Raffaella Sette, editor.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

Summary: "This book is for those involved in the planning, development and implementation of different teaching methodologies of criminology and victimology in the academic field, in the police academies and in victim support services"--Provided by publisher.

ISBN 978-1-60566-872-7 (hardcover) -- ISBN 978-1-60566-873-4 (ebook) 1. Criminology--Study and teaching. 2. Victims of crimes. 3. Criminology--Case studies. 4. Victims of crimes--Case studies. I. Sette, Raffaella.

HV6024.C37 2010

364.071--dc22

2009026287

#### British Cataloguing in Publication Data

A Cataloguing in Publication record for this book is available from the British Library.

All work contributed to this book is new, previously-unpublished material. The views expressed in this book are those of the authors, but not necessarily of the publisher.

## Chapter 4

# Criminology as a Discipline in Modern Greece: Teaching, Research and Profession

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*Although in Greece the publication of books of criminological interest began in the last decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the subject of Criminology was introduced by Professor Konstantinos Gardikas first at Athens University in 1930 and, then, at Panteios School of Social and Political Sciences in 1932. Some years later, in 1938, the chair of Criminology and Penology was established at the University of Athens. The involvement of K. Gardikas along with three other European experts in the foundation of Interpol in 1923, also resulted in the creation of an important Branch of Criminological Services with many specialized research laboratories which is evolving constantly incorporating all of modern technologies. In our days, Criminology is taught mainly at the schools of Law and of Sociology. In spite of the absence of an autonomous Department of Criminology in the Greek universities, there is a special Section of Criminology in the Department of Sociology at Panteion University. In-depth concentration is obtained in the context of the postgraduate programs as well as through those for the Ph.D. Criminological research is conducted in the universities where some criminological laboratories or centers operate as well as in the National Center of Social Research and the Center of Safety Studies of the Ministry of the Interior, to name a few. The professional domain of criminologists has extended in recent years (administration of penal justice, prisons, agencies for drug addicts or juveniles and immigrants, prevention services). In spite of this, the job market is relatively limited in comparison to the needs of society.*

### INTRODUCTION

Although Greece was the second country in the world, after Belgium, where Criminology was taught

at a University Department before the Second World War (Farsedakis, 2007, p. 72), the evolution of this science was confined to teaching and it did not have the impressive post war development which was recorded internationally. The reasons for this are

DOI: 10.4018/978-1-60566-872-7.ch004

not different from the factors that influenced the overall socio-political evolution of the country. On this basis the institutional framework for higher education and scientific research was shaped as well as the conditions which criminologists are called upon to confront as professionals.

The present chapter will try to present, through brief retrospection, the structure of Criminology in contemporary Greece which consists of three dimensions: the teaching, the research and the profession. In this context, the most important difficulties which Criminology faced will be dealt with and an attempt will be made to offer a convincing interpretation for the reservation with which the professional existence of the criminologist was encountered in modern Greek reality<sup>1</sup>.

## **THE TEACHING OF CRIMINOLOGY**

Although in Greece the publication of books of criminological interest began in the last decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, (Spinellis, 2005, p. 32)<sup>2</sup>, the teaching of Criminology<sup>3</sup> began with Professor Konstantinos Gardikas (1896-1984), first at Athens University in 1930 and, immediately after, at Panteios School of Political Sciences, in 1932 (Spinellis, 1997, p. 77) where an independent Chair of Criminology and Forensic Sciences was created. Professor Gardikas was the first Professor appointed to teach this discipline (Farsedakis, 2008b). Some years later, in 1938, the chair of Criminology and Penology was established at the University of Athens and K. Gardikas was also the first who assumed its responsibility (Courakis, 2000).

It is noteworthy that Criminology was included in the first program of Panteios School of Political Sciences (3 July 1930), which was organized in five branches: (a) Political Sciences (b) Law (c) Economic Sciences (d) Sociology, Criminology and Penology and (e) Journalism, Geography and Philosophy (Twenty five years seniority- Eikosipentaetiris, 1957:15). Teaching at an academic

level evolved through different stages before reaching its present form whose major characteristics are the absence of an independent University Department of Criminology and its expansion, beyond the Schools of Law and Sociology, into different Social Sciences as well as in the Police Academy which will be noted below.

### 1) Panteion University

The only independent Section of Criminology is in the Department of Sociology at Panteion University, at which a post-graduate program also exists. The development of Criminology at Panteion University<sup>4</sup> set forth important events, examples of which are noted below, which proved to be turning points in the history of the science in modern Greece:

- The above-mentioned commencement of the teaching of Criminology from 1932 and the development of an independent Course “Criminalistics and Criminology with elements of forensic medicine” which was taught by Professor Ioannis Papazachariou<sup>5</sup> from 1942, who was also the vice-rector of Panteios Higher School of Political Sciences (1951-1955) (Twenty five years seniority-Eikosipentaetiris, 1957, p. 94).
- The significant contribution of Professor Alice Yotopoulos-Marangopoulos who occupied the chair of Criminology and Forensic Sciences in 1976, gave new impetus to the teaching of Criminology. Professor A. Yotopoulos-Marangopoulos brought together many new criminologists and transferred the study of Criminology to the newly created Department of Sociology which played a decisive role in the further development of the science. The Department of Sociology was established in 1983 and it constituted one of the three which were created in Panteios Higher School of Political Sciences after the legislative modification

of L.1282/1282. The other two were the Department of Political Science and International Studies and the Department of Public Administration (P.D. 462/83), (University Guide, 2003:10).

- Professor A. Yotopoulos-Marangopoulos was rector two times during the years 1979-1980 and 1983-1984 (Magganas, 2003, p. 27- 43). Her interest in Criminology was combined with her intense activity in the area of human rights since she is the permanent president of the Marangopoulos Foundation for Human Rights as well as of the Hellenic Society of Criminology (from 1978 until the present), (Magganas, 2003, p. 43).
- Professor James Farsedakis, who succeeded Professor A. Yotopoulos-Marangopoulos and directed the Section of Criminology for twenty years (1987-2007), has contributed to the enhancement of this Section especially in recent years through the selection of the teaching and research staff and the courses taught. Emeritus Professor J. Farsedakis continues to offer his knowledge in the context of postgraduate criminological studies and he remains the President of the Hellenic Center of Criminology, a Research Center that he founded at Panteion University. His contribution was decisive because of his scientific horizons and the meritocracy on which his selections were based. Thus today the Section of Criminology at Panteion University is considered scientifically pluralistic and well-grounded.
- In 1984 the Postgraduate Seminar in Criminological Studies was established by Professor A. Yotopoulos-Marangopoulos in collaboration with the late Professor and Vice-Rector Elias Daskalakis as well as with Professor J. Farsedakis. Later it evolved into the current Postgraduate Program of Studies “Contemporary criminality and its

confrontation” (2003 until today), which was created and put into effect under the scientific direction of Professor J. Farsedakis. Meanwhile, the Section of Criminology participated in the Postgraduate Program of Studies “Social exclusion and minorities” (1998-2003), attached to the Department of Sociology (in collaboration with the Department of Psychology). This program resulted in three specializations: Sociology, Criminology and Psychology (University Guide, 2003:92). The Postgraduate Program of Euro-American Consortium with the participation of three American (American University Washington, Florida State University και Sam Houston-Texas University) and three European Universities (Panteion University, University of Bologna and University of Barcelona) also operated in the Section of Criminology.

The inclusion of Criminology in Sociology affected the former’s curriculum. Thus, although the first studies in Criminology were equivalent to those of the Law School, the program of studies was gradually enriched and a wider range of courses were included from the science of Criminology and especially those of a sociological approach. The late Professor E. Daskalakis played a major role in this new direction along with the previously mentioned professors (A. Yotopoulos-Marangopoulos and J. Farsedakis).

E. Daskalakis (1937-1986), a jurist like the others mentioned previously, contributed -along with professor Farsedakis- decisively to the creation of the Section of Criminology and was its first director. Beyond teaching Criminology at Panteion University and at the Police Academy, he collaborated with the National Center of Social Research. Within this framework he organized and conducted the research on the Administration of Penal Justice in Greece as well as the research on the Prison institution. He also assumed the responsibility for the research on Drugs which

was realized in the context of the Section of Criminology (Farsedakis, 2000:19). The combination of research with theory as well as the critical approach to the main criminological issues characterized his work. His monographies on the Criminology of social reaction (Daskalakis, 1985) and the Treatment of criminals (Daskalakis, 1985), reflect a contemporary approach to criminological thought as well as to the penal-welfare model of criminal policy.

In our days, the four-year undergraduate program of studies<sup>6</sup> of the section of Criminology includes a wide variety of courses in Criminology which allow students to continue at a post-graduate level in Greece or abroad. The only compulsory course, Introduction to Criminology, is taught in the first semester of studies. All the rest are optional courses which cover a wide range of theoretical and practical approaches to Criminology as well as special aspects of the criminological phenomenon, namely:

History of Criminological Theories, Criminological Theory I, General Part of Penal Law and Elements of Penal Procedure, Social Control of Crime I, Empirical Criminology I, Drugs: Legislation and Politics, Criminological Theory II, Social Control of Crime II, Empirical Criminology II, Criminological Approaches of Penal Law and of Institutions of Penal Justice, Criminality and Social Control of Minors, Comparative Criminology, Critical Criminology, Criminological Approaches of Penal Law and of Institutions of Penal Justice II, Organized Crime, Criticism of the Practice of Crime Social Control I: Interrogation and Penal Trial, Penology- The Treatment of the Offender, Sociology of Law, Stage in Criminology, Aspects of Criminality I: Computer Technology and Crime, Criminal Policy, The Criminological Contribution of International Organizations, Criminology and Literature, Criminological Aspects of European Integration, Financial Criminality, The Criminal Issue and its Scientific-Criminological Administration.

Criminological courses are also taught in the

Department of Psychology, in the Department of Media and Communication as well as in the Department of Social Anthropology of Panteion University. The objective of the two-year MA program "Contemporary criminality and its confrontation" is the study of contemporary aspects of crime, its generating factors and procedures, the explanatory theoretical and empirical approaches as well as the analysis of the trends of criminal policy. In this context the following courses are included:

- Contemporary Aspects of Criminality. General approach.
- Organized Crime and Economical Criminality. Phenomenology, Aspects, Factors.
- New Technologies and Crime.
- Urban Crime, Feeling of Insecurity and Punitiveness in Contemporary Greek and European Reality.
- Contemporary International Trends of Criminal Policy, especially in the European context and Human Rights.
- Crime Prevention. Strategies, Programs, Agencies in Greece and in E.U. Victims Assistance.
- Epistemological and Methodological Issues of Criminology.
- Methodology of Criminological Research.
- Master's Dissertation.

The teaching of Criminology, mainly at the postgraduate level, is supplemented with presentations of distinguished professionals from Greece and Europe who, at the request of the professors, cover current and vital criminological issues. The section of Criminology at Panteion University is already on the way to becoming an independent University Department. A decision of the Senate of the University on this point has been taken, but its approval is still pending at the Ministry of Education.

2) Law Schools

- i.- At the Faculty of Law of the University of Athens, the instruction of Criminology is assumed by the Section of Penal Sciences of the Department of Law<sup>7</sup>. As was previously mentioned, Professor Gardikas<sup>8</sup> first started teaching Criminology in Greece at this university in 1930. Because of the pleasure he found in learning, he was able to complete his doctoral thesis “Homicide in Ancient Greece and especially in Attica” in 1918 at the age of 22 at the University of Geneva. He continued further to analyze the influence of Plato and Aristotle in penal philosophy as well as in the penal-philosophical ideas which are found in ancient Greek tragedy<sup>9</sup> (Courakis, 2000, p. 39) The three volumes of 2600 pages which were published between 1936 and 1955 (volume 1: Criminology: The general and the individual causes of crime, volume 2: Police Science, volume 3: Penology) became a classic and have been reprinted many times (Spinellis 1997, p. 79; Courakis, 2000, p. 42). Additionally, Professor Gardikas was the first director of the Office of Criminological Service which, from 1929, took on the scientific research of crimes, (Spinellis, 1997, p. 79). The above department followed the founding of the International Organization of Criminological Police which later developed into the International Police Committee of Prosecution which was recommended after the Conference of Vienna in 1923 by four European experts, one of which was Professor Gardikas, (Farsedakis, 1984, p. 70).

Criminology continued to be taught in the framework of the penal sciences in the Faculty of Law of Athens University. The courses taught today at the undergraduate level are:

- a. Compulsory Courses: Criminal Law I: General Principles, Criminal Law II: Crimes of the Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure, Applications of Criminal Law-Criminal Procedure
- b. Optional Courses (obligatory option): Criminology, Penology, Judicial Psychology and Psychiatry, Special Criminal Laws, Law of Economic Criminality, International Criminal Law (intersectional with Section of International Studies)
- c. Optional Courses (Free Option): Juvenile Justice, Criminalistics, Criminal and Criminological Approach of Gender.

At the postgraduate level, a MA of Penal Studies with two specialization in Criminal Law, and Criminal Procedure and Criminology has been offered the last 15 years. In this context, the Compulsory Courses are: Criminal Law I & II: Special Issues, Criminal Procedure I & II: Special Issues and Methodology of Criminology (only for the direction of Criminology).

The Optional Courses are: Criminal Justice System, Theory of Penalties, History of Criminal Institutions, Theoretical Criminology, Crime Policy, Human Rights and Criminal Law, from classical to administrative Criminology.

At Athens University, there are also courses on Criminology in the Faculty of Communication and Media Studies (The construction of violence and crime in the media, Criminal policy, Communication and security, The “image” of the criminal), at Theological School as well as in the postgraduate program “Political Science and Sociology” of the School of Political Sciences<sup>10</sup>.

- The Alma Mater Thessalonicensis was the second Greek University which founded

in 1925 in Thessaloniki (law 3341/1925). By virtue of law 3108/1954 (art.7) it is renamed Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. The Law Department was established in 1930-1931 and the organization of studies was realized by the law 1262/1983 on the "Structure and function of Higher Education establishments". Finally, by virtue of the ministerial decree B1/809/1993, the postgraduate program of Penal and Criminological Sciences was approved<sup>11</sup>.

The criminological courses included in the undergraduate program of the Section of Penal and Criminological Sciences at the Law School of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki are only courses of general option: Criminalistics, Penology, Criminology, Juvenile Law, Forensic Psychology, Stage in Criminology and Penal Sciences.

The postgraduate program organized by this Section grants both a master's degree and a Ph.D. in penal and criminological sciences. The courses included in the specialization of Penal and criminological Sciences are: Penal Law, Penal Procedure, Criminology-Penology, Penal Philosophy, Special Penal Laws, Financial Penal Law, International Penal Law, Juvenile Penal Law and Comparative International Penal Law.

- Criminological courses are also taught in the Law School and the Department of Social Administration of Democritus University of Thrace<sup>12</sup>. This University was established in July 1973 and the Department of Law Studies was founded in 1974 and started to function in the same year. The Department of Social Administration is established by the P.D. 304/1994 and its function started in the academic year 1996-97.

Among the criminological courses taught in the Section of Penal and Criminological Studies is Penology (compulsory course) as well as Crimi-

nology, Specific Criminology, Criminalistics, Victimology, Juvenile Law (optional courses). In the context of postgraduate studies, the criminological courses are classified in two unities: Criminal Policy and Special Criminological Issues.

The criminological courses taught, respectively, in the Department of Social Administration are: Criminology and Criminal Policy, Police-Policing, as well as courses on Social Exclusion, Minorities, Immigration etc.

### 3) Other Universities

In recent years, the number of Universities in Greece has increased and thus the teaching of criminological courses has expanded. They are now included not only in Law faculties and Sociology but also in programs of Political Science, Psychology, and Anthropology. However, as was mentioned earlier, an independent Department of Criminology does not exist, only the Section of Criminology at Panteion University.

In this context, Criminology is taught in the Departments of Sociology of the Aegean University and of the University of Crete but mainly from the viewpoint of the Sociology of crime or of deviance.

- The criminological courses taught in the Department of Sociology of Aegean University<sup>13</sup> are limited to Deviance Sociology and Criminal Policy, while the interest is mainly focused on the sociological approaches of immigration, minorities, gender, everyday life and so on. In contrast, the Criminological Approaches of Crime and its Confrontation is a compulsory course of the postgraduate program "Research for the local social development and cohesion". The course on the Research on Deviance, Criminality and Criminal Policy is included among the optional courses of this program.
- At the University of Crete<sup>14</sup>, the teaching

of Criminology is included in the programs of the Departments of Sociology and of Philosophy and Social Studies. The optional course of Sociology of Law and the optional seminar of Special Issues of Criminology are taught in the context of the Department of Sociology. Respectively, Sociological Theories of Deviance, Sociology of Deviance and Social Control, Collective Youth Deviance, Subculture Theory and Cultural Processes and Deviant Behavior are included in the undergraduate program of the Department of Philosophy and Social Studies. Criminological courses are also taught in the context of the postgraduate program Culture and Human Development of this Department as well as of the joined postgraduate program on Bioethics of the Departments of Biology, Medicine, Sociology and Philosophy and Social Studies of the University of Crete.

- The teaching of Criminology is included also in the program of the Department of Social and Educational Policy of the University of Peloponnese<sup>15</sup>. This Department was established with the Presidential Decree 118/2003 and is part of the Faculty of Social Sciences located in Corinth. The particular undergraduate courses taught in this context are: Introduction to Criminology (the only compulsory course), Juvenile Delinquency and its Social Control, Criminal Policy, Penology, European Criminology, Theories of Social Control and Victimology. At a postgraduate level, the teaching of criminology is included in the master of “Social discriminations, immigration and citizenship” and the special criminological courses are: Immigration law: European and National Dimensions and Immigration, Integration Policies and Deviance.
- Although the above account is not complete since Criminology is part of many

educational programs at various university departments, it is worth noting that it is included in the program of studies of the Institute of Social Studies at the Technological Educational Institute (TEI) of Messolonghi. Finally, various criminological courses are taught in the context of the Police Academy and especially in the School of Police Officers, which has equal status with the rest of the universities in the country. However, it is worth noting that no course of Criminology is taught at the National School for Judges. The expansion of criminological education has led also to the production of an increased number of Ph.D.’s dedicated to criminological topics, which will be dealt with below.

## **CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH**

In contrast to the increase in the teaching of Criminology at different universities, research in this area is limited. In fact, only a few national research centers exist and they rarely deal with pure criminological research. Some research centers or laboratories have been established and function at universities. A first general assessment of criminological research in Greece suggests that it is under-funded and it lacks the interest of the State.

- a. When E. Daskalakis assumed the responsibility for criminological research at the National Center of Social Research, the two important research projects mentioned previously were conducted on “Administration of Penal Justice in Greece” as well as the research on the “Prison Institution”. He was also in charge of the criminological part of the research on “Drugs in Greece” which was conducted by the Section of Criminology of Panteion University (Farsedakis, 1991, p. XI). In fact, E. Daskalakis balanced the

theoretical and the empirical in his professional efforts, as becomes obvious in his documents. After 1985 when the law 1514/85 for the development of scientific and technological research was passed and put into effect, the National Center of Social Research was restructured into Institutes (Lambropoulou, 2003, p. 837). Thus, the Institute of Political Sociology has taken on the research in the field of delinquency, xenophobia, and law and justice.

- b. B. In the context of the Research Center for Gender Equality (KETHI), some important criminological empirical studies are carried out<sup>16</sup>, as for example: “Women and Homicide: Research on Women’s Prisons of Korydallos”, “The Sexual Harassment against Women in the Workplace”, “Domestic Violence against Women: First Epidemiological Research in Greece”, “A Bibliographical Review regarding Violence against Women by their Partner and the Supporting Structures in Greece”, “Gender and Social Exclusion”.
- c. The Center of Safety Studies (KE.ME.A.), created under law 3378/12-9-2005, is a research, advisory and decision-making body which is governed by the Ministry of the Interior and undertakes issues of criminological interest too. However, its existence is very recent for it to have notable research experience.
- d. Research is also conducted in the framework of university research laboratories and criminological centers.
  - i. At the Law School of Athens, the Laboratory of Criminological and Penal Research was the first to be created by the late I. Daskalopoulos. It was later reestablished under the presidential decree 535/1991 (Spinelli, 2005, p. 34)<sup>17</sup>. At this time, the first director was Professor C. D. Spinelli and

then, from 2001 until today, Professor N. Courakis<sup>18</sup>.

The activities of the laboratory have included: *free educational seminars* (e.g. judicial graphology) and *screenings/discussion of crime movies* (in cooperation with the Panteion University and the center of Social Studies of the Technological Educational Institute of Messolonghi), *more than ten already completed scientific surveys* on a wide range of topics, such as the condition of and the problems faced by female inmates (1994-1996), adolescent inmates from Greek prisons (1993-1995), including repeated observations of their progress (1992-2002), the delinquent behavior in adolescents and adolescent gangs in contemporary Greece (2002-2004), euthanasia (scientific coordinators Professors N. Kourakis and K.D. Spinellis, 2005-2007), domestic violence (ed. F. Milioni), the relationship between insecurity, punitiveness and criminal policy (scientific coordinators Professors Ch. Zarafonitou and N. Courakis). Furthermore, the Laboratory has organized a series of *scientific events and conferences*, among which the first Conference of Criminology for Students (in cooperation with the center of Social Studies of the Technological Educational Institute of Messolonghi), has published several criminology books in its book series\*, has *evaluated drug treatment programs* applied in prisons, and has published the first Greek *on line journal of Criminology* (<http://www.theartofcrime.gr/>).

- ii. The Hellenic Criminological Center at Panteion University, which was founded in 1990, conducts research and trains researchers in the field of Criminology. Director of the Center and its founder is Emeritus Professor J. Farsedakis. Several research projects are included in the activities of the Center; for example, “Subcultures and Deviance in the Western Suburbs of Athens” (Astrinakis, Stylianoudi, 1996), “Petty Criminality in

Attica”, (1998) under the scientific responsibility of Professor D. Kalogeropoulos and “Restructuring of the Services of the Greek Police”, under the scientific responsibility of Professor J. Farsedakis (2003).

Criminological research is also carried out on a personal initiative by the teaching staff of the Section of Criminology, mainly in the post graduate program of studies or in the context of European Programs. Examples of such work are the research studies on “Social values of delinquents and non-delinquents” (Magganas, Lazos, 1997)<sup>19</sup>, three research studies on Fear of crime among Greek and immigrant inhabitants of Athens” (Zarafonitou, 2002, 2006; 2006a), the research on “(Un)safety, punitivity and criminal policy” (Zarafonitou, Courakis, 2009) as well as the European Research Program “The cultural dimensions of corruption - The importance of attitudes about corruption for its prevention” (Lambropoulou, 2008). Numerous important criminological topics have been researched also for doctoral dissertations at the Section of Criminology at Panteion University. Here, also, distinguished criminologists from Greece and abroad have been invited to conferences and other professional activities, as in the International Congress “Contemporary criminality, its confrontation and Criminology”, in honour of Professor J. Farsedakis, organized by the Section of Criminology, in June 2008.

iii. In 1974, upon the foundation of Democritus University of Komotini, the Laboratory of Criminology and Judicial Psychiatry was also established at the Section of Penal and Criminological Sciences of its Law School. The laboratory was later re-named “Laboratory of Criminology” by its director and current professor at the Department of Media Studies of the University of Athens, Yannis Panousis (Spinelli, 1985, p. 36). It has been functioning under this new name

since 1986 first under the directorship of Professor Panousis and, since 1997, under Professor Ch. Dimopoulos. Its activities include research on issues such as penal reform, participation in the European program AGIS which deals with trafficking, educational seminars, lectures and conferences, and the publication of the criminological review “Chronics” under the directorship of Professor Panousis. Many of these activities are conducted in cooperation with the post-graduate program of the Section of Penal and Criminological Sciences of the University’s Department of Social Administration.

- iv. Significant professional meetings and conferences have been organized by the Section of Penal and Criminological Sciences of the Law School of the University of Thessaloniki. Examples of such events are the “Professional meetings of the Penal and Criminological Sciences of the Universities of Thessaloniki and Thrace”, the “Greek-German conferences”, and the conference in honor of Professor I. Manoledakis.
- v. Correspondingly, the professional events of the Section of Social and Educational Policies of the University of the Peloponnese are of high quality as those organized by *Groupe Européen de recherches sur la justice pénale* under the professional auspices of Professor Th. Papatheodorou and the Common Studies Sessions which are organized by Professor V. Karydis. Greek and foreign criminologists attend the above-mentioned functions and their work is often published<sup>20</sup>.
- vi. Professional and research activities in the area of Criminology are also conducted by the remaining university sections of Social Sciences of the University of the Aegean, where the first Meeting of Greek Criminologist was organized in June 2006, as well as by the Technological Educational Institute (TEI) of Messolonghi where a

Laboratory of Social Studies has been founded and operates under the directorship of Professor Ch. Tsouramanis.

Generally, empirical research on Criminology is not adequately developed in Greece, both quantitatively and thematically. The funding of such research is rare and, when it does occur through European programs, the information is not distributed since it does not materialize under organized research bodies. It is noteworthy that in most cases, with few exceptions, departments of the State do not show an interest in the funding of criminological research nor in the utilization of the conclusions reached by the research which have been published in professional or scientific publications.

## **CRIMINOLOGY AS PROFESSION**

At the XXIX International Course of Criminology in Pamplona, which took place between the 15-22<sup>nd</sup> of June, 1980, Professor A. Yotopoulos-Marangopoulos (1981, p. 124) made the following statement in regards to Greek reality at the time:

Criminal policy is the work of practitioners, and “tough” laws are considered, generally, the most appropriate measures in dealing with criminality. Criminal policy is drawn up by high ranking civil servants of the ministries of justice and public order under the direction of the ministers and in cooperation with some “qualified” individuals, usually penologists, and judges. If criminologists do participate, it is rarely.

After 29 years, the situation has barely changed. Especially in the field of criminal policy, a “scientific culture” continues to be absent and, as a result, the selection of the ministers’ advisers and of applied policies is made, in most cases, using political not scientific criteria. Indicative of such methods is the “Report on the situation in Greek prisons and the possibilities of amelioration of the penitentiary system” which was drafted in 1994

by the Parliamentary Committee on the examination of the penitentiary system and of the living conditions of the inmates (scientific collaborators: Professors J. Farsedakis and N. Courakis). According to its co-author N. Courakis (2005, p. 298), this report was submitted to Parliament four years later (Session KZ’, 23-11-1998). The findings and proposals of the committee were widely approved and accepted. However, political interest in applying the findings was not parallel to the enthusiasm that was expressed initially (Courakis, 2005, p. 298; Alexiadis, 2004, p. 110).

However, even in the cases where the contribution of criminologists is present in the formation of legislation, as in the case of correctional legislation, it is not present at the stage of enforcement because of the lack of appropriate criminological education of the specific agencies. For example, in the case of the enforcement of criminal legislation, it is worth noting that in Greece judges are not specialized in penal justice, for they alternate posts and may undertake penal cases concurrently. In addition, apart from their university education in Criminology, the National School for Judges does not include lessons in Criminology in its curriculum. However, many judges hold a master’s degree in Criminology and express a personal interest in participating and attending professional activities in Criminology.

In the case of the police force, specialization of its members is not offered despite the varied courses available because the Greek police is one body which is concerned with many different areas such as traffic control, crime prevention, repression, market inspection, and many more. Thus, a specialized body of judicial police does not exist as in other western countries with the exception of forensic sciences experts. As in the case of the judges, some police officers have undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. However, this does not mean that this education will be put into practice.

Finally, in reference to the penitentiary personnel which is divided into the administrative

staff, the guards for the interior, and guards for the exterior (Alexiadis, 2001, p. 199), courses in Criminology are included only in the intensive training of the guards for the interior who attend the School for Correctional Officers in order to be made permanent employees (Courakis, 2005, p. 318). On the contrary, the guards for the exterior are selected based on their “physical and psychological suitability” (Courakis, 2005, p. 319).

According to the Internal Regulation of Operation of General Prison Establishment (Ministry of Justice, Num. of Reference 58819/7-4-2003), “Specialised Scientific Personnel” are employed like social workers, psychologists, criminologists, sociologists and teachers who are under the administrative monitoring and control of the director of the prison. According to Article 55 of the above mentioned decision:

“The criminologist examines the law and the real situation of detainees with the aim to harmonise, according to the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights, the means and methods of serving of sentences, the recommendations and elementary rules of international organisations. For this purpose, he or she studies the archival data, communicates with the detainees individually, or by team, collaborates with the relevant prison services of the Ministry of Justice, the police, the judicial administrations, and any other related public services. More specifically the criminologist:

1. maintains regular collaboration with the public prosecutor-supervisor by providing legal help for the detainees, informing him or her about all institutional problems in serving sentences and in attributing penal justice.
2. watches the tendencies and the developments of theory and (case law) jurisprudence with regard to temporary detention, serving of sentences and security measures.
3. studies and evaluates the application of institutions that involve:

- i. the reduction of sentences within the prison, the beneficial calculation of work days, the conditional discharge of inmates, the detainees leaves, the incorporation of temporary detention as a part of the overall sentence, and
  - ii. differentiations of the rules of incarceration, especially regarding the detainees’ work and employment, their discipline, their committal in a prison establishment or in a high security ward.
4. communicates with the police, the juridical and public services, the institutions of legal help, the authorities of serving of sentences and also the other native or non- native prison establishments, for the examination of cases of detainees with regard to their legal situation.
  5. communicates with institutions of higher education, governmental and non-governmental organisations, academicians, research institutes and centres in order to examine the modern tendencies and developments in the implementation of sentences and the organisation of prison establishment.
  6. participates in scientific events in order to be informed constantly, utilises his experience to hand over penal justice and the execution of sentences”.

The above impressive duties of the criminologist which are mentioned in the regulations of the prison establishment cannot possibly be adhered to even if all sides were in agreement because of one basic difficulty; that is, in the Greek prisons only one criminologist is employed even though the Ministry of Justice has made provisions for thirteen such positions (Coulouris, 2008, p. 144). The basic requirements are a University degree in Law, Political Science, Economics or Social Sciences, and a postgraduate degree in Criminology. It is obvious that many candidates have these standard requirements which would make

it possible to choose the most appropriate ones if the positions were announced. There are many pressing *intra muros* needs, an example of which is described by the above-mentioned criminologist of Korydallos Prison (Coulouris, 2008, p. 145):

In recent years, from the year 2000 until the first half of 2007, the number of inmates on a daily basis fluctuates between 1850 to 2350, whereas the number set by the official records of the Ministry of Justice is 640. The population of the prison is made up of males over 21 years of age, some of which are awaiting trial as well as those who have been convicted. They are cramped into six wards without any further division according to their crime, sentence, or penal history.

It is worth noting, also, that the Penitentiary Code (law 2776/1999) does not explicitly allude to the participation of a criminologist in the prison staff, but mention is made of a “legal” or “specialized” professional (Coulouris, 2008, p. 150).

It is obvious that the role of a criminologist in the penal system is unacknowledged. However, it is worth noting that in recent years a series of regulations concerning the execution of sentences has been put into effect. One such case is the function of adult probation officers into whose ranks social professionals and criminologists can be included. The Probation Officers Service was established by law 1941/1991, was modified by N.2207/94 and put into effect by PD 195/2006 (FEK 199/12-9-2006), namely after 15 years (Papathanassopoulos, 2006, p. 1069; Mavris, 2008). According to Article 1 of PD 195/2006, the probation officers mission is:

- a) to assist and oversee persons whose sentences have been suspended and who are under probation (art. 100A Penal Code) or whose sentences have been diverted to social service (art. 82 Penal Code),
- b) to carry out social research on temporary inmates or on persons who have been given restraining orders (art. 282 Code of Penal Procedure).

One more agency was put into effect in the area of social integration of ex-detainees for which the role of the criminologist may be significant. It concerns the “Epanodos” (Return) under Article 81 par. 1 of the Penitentiary Code (Law 2776/1999) which is activated in post-penitentiary care under the supervision of the Minister of Justice. The general purpose of “Epanodos” is the “occupational training and rehabilitation, the financial support and the gradual social reinstatement of ex-prisoners”. In order for this agency to be formed, it was necessary for a presidential decree to be issued which was published four years later (PD 300/2003, FEK A’ 256). Neither at this time was the “Epanodos” put into effect because one more decision from the Minister of Justice was required for the formation of its board of directors. It took another four years (1.3.2007) for this to occur while a reorganization of the board took place on 29/10/2007 (Courakis, 2008). Nevertheless, the president of the board of directors is Professor of Criminology N. Courakis and its members include some criminologists.

Criminologists are also employed as probation officers for minors, a social service under the Ministry of Justice (Zagoura, 2008, p. 74). According to article 9, par. 1 of the PD 49/1979 “On the operation of the minor’s probation officers service”, the minor’s probation officer “guides and assists the minor in his social life, making every effort to bring about a smooth social readjustment” (Zagoura, 2008, p. 75). His role is significant even after the reformation of the penal legislation for minors (law 3189/03) which refers to this service as “the main agency for the reception and treatment of the minor offender” while at the same time pointing out its role in prevention, guidance and control during all the stages of the penal process (Zagoura, 2008, p. 74).

The above reference is only indicative of the most significant services of the Ministry of Justice where criminologists are employed as social scientists. Criminologists need to be added to the administrative personnel of the above mentioned

ministry as well as to those of the Ministries of the Interior and Public Order along with their role as professional advisors in other bodies and ad-hoc committees. Distinguished criminologists have, on occasion, served as presidents or members of the Central Professional Council of Prisons which formulates penitentiary policy (D.D.Spinelli, A.Magganas e.g.). Professor Y. Panoussis, who served as president of this council, reports:

*“...even in its capacity as an advisory board, it can perform a significant role since it can propose to the Minister of Justice measures of penitentiary and criminal policy and training of penitentiary personnel, set regulations for the functioning of detention centers and committees for social support, or propose the creation of new centers or new categories of detainees” (Panoussis, 2008, p. 124).*

The Central Council for the Prevention of Delinquency, which operates at the Ministry of the Interior, plays an equally important role in formulating and implementing preventive criminal policy. Under the direction of Professor of Criminology N. Courakis, it coordinates the function of the Local Councils for the Prevention of Delinquency (art. 13 of the law 3387/2005), (Courakis, 2006, p. 11).

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TEI of Messolongui: [www.teimes.gr](http://www.teimes.gr)  
University of Crete: [www.uoc.gr](http://www.uoc.gr)  
University of Peloponnese: [www.uop.gr](http://www.uop.gr)

## ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> The purpose of this paper is not to proceed in the exhaustive description of all the existing criminological courses, research or publications but to present the context in which Criminology is evolved in Greece and its main characteristics.
- <sup>2</sup> According to Professor C. Spinellis (2005, p. 33), more than 12 books and many papers on Penology/Criminology have been published before 1900 (see S. Anagnostakis, 1964, p. 71).
- <sup>3</sup> About the teaching of Criminology in Greece, see especially Yotopoulos-Marangopoulos, 1981; Panoussis, 1988, 1994; Spinellis, 1997, 2000, 2005; Lambropoulou, 2003, 2005; Alexiadis, 2004, Farsedakis 2008a, 2008b.
- <sup>4</sup> Panteios School of Political Sciences was founded in 1930 and in 1937 it was renamed

Panteios Higher School of Political Sciences. Two years later (1939) the School was once again renamed Panteios Higher School of Political Sciences and Public Administration. By virtue of Law 540/1943 the School reassumed its old name of Panteios Higher School of Political Sciences under which it operated until 1989 when the School acquired its current name, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences (P.D. 377/1989), see the University Guide, 2003.

- <sup>5</sup> Along with M. Bakatsoula, associate of Gardikas mainly on issues of Penology (Spinelli, 2005, p. 35).
- <sup>6</sup> <http://www.panteion.gr>.
- <sup>7</sup> National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, founded on 3 May 1837, was the first University not only in the modern Greek State but also in the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean in general ([www.uoa.gr](http://www.uoa.gr)).
- <sup>8</sup> The information which is found at this point comes from Courakis, 2000.
- <sup>9</sup> The significant contribution of the ancient Greeks in the history of Criminology is described analytically in the work of J. Farsedakis, 1990, p. 15s.
- <sup>10</sup> The seminar “Social control and penal repression: criticism and comparative approaches”.
- <sup>11</sup> <http://web.auth.gr/law>.
- <sup>12</sup> <http://www.law.duth.gr>.
- <sup>13</sup> The Aegean University is established in 1984 (<http://www.aegean.gr>).
- <sup>14</sup> The University of Crete is established in 1977. Courses in Criminology are taught in the School of Philosophy of the University of Crete (<http://www.uoc.gr>).
- <sup>15</sup> The University of Peloponnese is founded with the P.D. 13/2000 and started operating in 2002 (<http://www.uop.gr>).
- <sup>16</sup> The Research Centre for Gender Equality (KETHI), a Legal Entity under Private Law, was founded in 1994 and functions centrally

in Athens and regionally in Heraklion, Kalamata, Komotini, Patras, Preveza, Thessalonica and Volos. KETHI is supervised and funded by the General Secretariat for Equality of the Ministry of the Interior (<http://www.kethi.gr>)

<sup>17</sup> About this laboratory see C. D. Spinellis, Center for Penal and Criminological Research, Section of Penal Sciences, University of Athens, in *European Journal on Criminal Policy and Research*, 1995, pp. 100-103.

<sup>18</sup> About its aims and a report of its activities, see N. Courakis, *The Laboratory of Penal and Criminological Research of Athens University*, <http://www.law.uoa.gr/crime-research/ergastirio.htm>

<sup>19</sup> See also the research studies included in Magganas, 2004.

<sup>20</sup> As for example the collection of social and Educational Policy of the European Group of Research on Penal Justice and of the University of Peloponnese (Papathéodorou, M. (Ed.), 2006).

<sup>21</sup> The last issue of this review was V.11-16/1993-95. It is worth to mentioning also the recent establishment of the *Association of Greek Criminologist of Panteion University*.

<sup>22</sup> See Lambropoulou (2003, p. 838).

<sup>23</sup> Greece participated only in the last European Victimization Crime Survey which was funded and transpired by the European Union (see Zarafonitou, forthcoming 2009).

\* The series is published by A. Sakkoulas publications, Athens-Komotini, and edited by Professor N. Kourakis.