

RĪGA STRADIŅŠ UNIVERSITY

7th International Interdisciplinary Scientific Conference

SOCIETY HEALTH WELFARE

Contemporary Social Dynamics and Welfare: Urban and Rural Development Perspectives

ABSTRACTS

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Mapping Method in Research of Drug Crime Regional Criminological Features (Ukrainian sample)

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Keywords: drug crime, mapping method, regional criminological features.

Introduction. General national average drug crime rates, which the contemporary criminological theory and practice is based on, do not adequately reflect regional peculiarities in the field of illicit drug trafficking as they level high quality / quantity parameters in some areas and their lower values in others. Still, consideration of only national totals in organisation of crime counteraction leads to incomplete information, neglecting its negative trends in certain areas, thus, aberrating the actual drug crime situation and using improper countermeasures. Under such circumstances, the state law enforcement agencies do not operate preemptively against the illicit drug trafficking, do not contain in due time outbreaks of drug crime in certain areas – crime donors, and, as a result, the efficiency of steps aimed at drug addiction prevention as well as crime limitation in total becomes substantively deteriorated.

Aim. The aim of this research is to reveal opportunities and determine effectiveness of criminological mapping method helping to prepare drug crime affection maps of various Ukrainian regions.

Results. It is established that criminological mapping method enables territorial police divisions to monitor and analyse the existing criminological situation, duly inform the public and other law enforcement agencies on trends and locations of drug crime expansion, and reveal the most affected areas to be able to react promptly to crime pattern changes in regions. Simultaneously, the mapping information permits to reveal connections between different criminogenic factors, follow systemic character of criminal activities, record the duration of existence on map of this or that "drug point". Whereas the average national drug crime intensity is of 68 per 100,000 population, it makes as much as 91 in Kherson Region, 119 in Dnepropetrovsk Region, 141 in Luhansk Region, 100 in Sumy Region; whereas for the Western border areas, this value is as low as 29 in Lviv Region, 31 in Transcarpathian Region, 27 per 100,000 population in Volyn Region.

Conclusions. Thus, the application of criminological mapping method enabled the evident demonstration of the fact that in Ukraine the Eastern and Southern areas were most affected by drug crime, wherein the affection factor in this part is twice higher than general national value.