

GofS Research Paper Series

SOCIAL CONFLICTS, CITIZENS AND POLICING

Editors

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Intro

The governance of security has undergone profound changes over the past thirty years. Security has become a commodity in our mind-set and daily life and the governance aspect of security is more complex and expanded than ever before. Since 2007, the Research Unit Governance of Security of the Ghent University Association is a critical observer of the new developments in governance of security and addresses the complex question regarding efficient management and control (governance) of contemporary security issues. The touchstones for these observations are human rights and the implications of insecurity (policy) on human rights.

The GofS association research unit is interdisciplinary composed, consisting of three research units: (1) the Research Unit Social Analysis of Security of the Department of Criminal Law & Criminology, Faculty of Law of Ghent University (SVA) (co-directors Marc Cools, Lieven Pauwels, Paul Ponsaers and Antoinette Verhage), (2) the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy of the Department of Criminal Law & Criminology, Faculty of Law of Ghent University (IRCP) (co-directors Brice De Ruyver, Tom Vander Beken, Gert Vermeulen and Freya Vander Laenen), and (3) the Research Unit Governing and Policing Security (GaPS) of the Faculty of Business Administration and Public Administration of Ghent University College (co-directors Marleen Easton and Gudrun Vande Walle). All members of these research-units participate in the GofS Research Unit since 2007.

Within this interdisciplinary composed association research unit GofS develops three key research lines. The first research line focuses on the change of the concept of insecurity/security (the interaction between objective and subjective feelings of insecurity and the notions of nuisance, of victimisation, of mistrust in governments, ... alongside the changing areas of social relevance which the idea of insecurity has become associated with in late modern society (from traditional forms of criminality to food safety, environmental threats, corruption, terrorism).

The second research line sheds light on the administrative and judicial policies which relate to the changing paradigm of insecurity/security, paying particular attention to the problems of integration between: public versus private conduct of policy; centralised versus decentralised conduct of policy; international, rural and local conduct of policy and the development of sector specific policies in contrast to integral or integrated policy making.

The third research line concentrates on the implications for law and order and crime prevention policy execution of this evolving paradigm of insecurity/security, with a specific focus on the decreasing rigidity of organisational borders and competence displacement in its implementation with reference to police forces; administrative supervision holders; new security professions; the army; information services; inspection and detection services; private security, guarding and detection, self-regulating agencies and active citizen participation.

The *Gofs Research Paper Series* aims at disseminating the results of research conducted in the GofS Research Unit. Full research reports are published (in English or Dutch) in our *Gofs Research Report Series*. With this initiative the Governance of Security Research Unit contributes to a better understanding of contemporary governance of security by presenting recent research results and scientific reflections, by

devising new approaches and by re-evaluating criminology's heritage. It implies a new openness with regard to other disciplines and to the normative questions resulting from the commission of crime and the reaction to it by actors in the criminal justice system and beyond.

After no less than five entirely double blind peer reviewed volumes in the *GofS Research Paper Series* have been released in 2009, 2010 and 2011 the editorial board is proud to issue again a set of two more volumes comprising original and new research papers that have been proofed by international peers (name list set out in the appendix).

Volume 7 focuses on topical issues in *European criminal justice and policy*. Its table of contents is provided below the brief description of the papers comprised in the current book, which constitutes Volume ,6 providing new empirical data, theories and analyses on Social Conflicts, Citizens and Policing . Some articles in Volume 6 focus on the current manifestation of specific socially and/or legally criminalised social conflicts as being radicalisation and informal economy. Some other articles discuss new actors that are involved in governance of security in order to support the conventional actors. The authors refer specifically to citizens and private companies. A last set of articles presents the results of perception studies on trust, punitiveness and the electronic monitoring at home. The participation of students or convicts to scientific research enables a critical reflection on governance of security.

July 2012, The editorial board:

Marc Cools, Brice De Ruyver, Marleen Easton, Lieven Pauwels,
Paul Ponsaers, Tom Vander Beken, Freya Vander Laenen,
Gudrun Vande Walle, Antoinette Verhage, Gert Vermeulen, Gerwinde Vynckier.

Volume 6: Empirical data, theories and analyses on *Social Conflicts, Citizens and Policing*.

Reflections on Community Policing and citizen participation

Marleen Easton & Dominique Van Ryckeghem

Citizen participation, defined as a power issue, is a crucial constituent of democracies and has implications for policy-making in the security field. From this power perspective reflections are made on citizen participation within the field of policing in Belgium. We reflect on this issue by using the concept of citizen participation of Sherry Arnstein (1969) and by focusing on some practices developed in Belgium. We contextualize our findings from a historical perspective in which we pay attention to the influence of the traditional Belgian police model on the initiatives being observed.

Keywords: Civilian participation, democracy, community policing, Napoleonic police system, Anglo-saxon tradition.

Explaining support for vigilantism and punitiveness: assessing the role of perceived procedural fairness, ethnocentrism, authoritarianism and anomia

Anjuli Van Damme & Lieven Pauwels

The purpose of this study is to investigate the interrelationships among ethnocentrism, authoritarianism, anomia, the lack of confidence in the criminal justice system, punitiveness and support for vigilantism in a cross-sectional sample of 1,078 Belgian university students enrolled at Ghent University during the academic year 2009-2010. The emphasis lies on confidence in procedural justice or perceived procedural fairness, a specific type of organisational justice perception that reflects how fairly organisational procedures of the criminal justice system are perceived. First, it is assessed to what extent ethnocentrism, authoritarianism and anomia can equally explain individual differences in perceived procedural fairness of the criminal justice system, punitiveness and support for vigilantism. Ethnocentrism, anomia and authoritarianism are from a theoretical point of view hypothesised as exogenous variables that especially (but not exclusively) have indirect effects on public support for vigilantism mainly because of their effects on perceived procedural fairness in the criminal justice system and punitiveness. Finally, it is investigated to what extent punitiveness can be seen as the key mediator of the effects of all exogenous mechanisms (ethnocentrism, authoritarianism, anomia) and perceptions of procedural fairness as an endogenous mechanism on public support for vigilantism. Direct and indirect effects between latent variables are assessed using a structural equation modelling approach (full LISREL models).

Key words: support for vigilantism, punitiveness, procedural fairness/confidence in the criminal justice system, structural equation modelling, the confidence hypothesis

The Belgian informal economy. Some conceptual and methodological considerations on investigating the case of seasonal work in the fruit farming in south-Limburg.

Dominique Boels

The informal economy can be considered as an ubiquitous phenomenon. Various quantitative and qualitative researchers argue the presence of informal economic activities in the everyday life in most European countries and, even broader, around the world. The existing research in Belgium is primarily characterized by a quantitative approach, pointing to a considerable share of the informal economy in the gross domestic product. Qualitative research on the Belgian informal economy on the other hand is rather scarce. We try to fill in this lacuna by conducting an in-depth analysis of three Belgian employment sectors (seasonal work, street trade and sex work) by means of three case studies, in which the presence of informal activities, their relations with formal activities and with the current policy are investigated. This article thoroughly describes and reflects on the methodological choices and issues encountered in our first case study, being the seasonal work in the fruit farming in south-Limburg. More specifically, it explores to what extent comparable methodological issues are experienced as in preceding research in this case. In addition, as such methodological literature on this specific topic is limited, this article aims to

offer practical insights that might serve as a handle for future qualitative research in this area.

Key words: informal economy, qualitative, case study, seasonal work, Belgium

Electronic monitoring: convicts' experiences in Belgium

Delphine Vanhaelemeesch & Tom Vander Beken

As one of the upcoming alternatives to prison sentences, the electronic monitoring of convicts at home is assumed to generate less harmful side-effects and to be more humane than imprisonment, while popular media and the public generally perceive it as unduly lenient. Research on electronic monitoring primarily focuses on financial or technical implications for penal policy, or on numbers and recidivism. This article analyses the experiences with electronic monitoring of 27 convicts living in the greater Ghent area (Belgium). It is concluded that electronic monitoring cannot necessarily be considered a "softer" alternative to imprisonment.

Key words: community-based sanctions, electronic monitoring, experience of convicts, Belgium

The process of radicalization: an exploratory empirical study

Jannie Noppe, Antoinette Verhage & Marleen Easton

From October 2010 until September 2011 the research group Governance of Security (GofS) has carried out a study 'Polarization and radicalization: an integral preventive approach' commissioned by the federal public service of internal affairs. Four phenomena of radicalization were objects of study: (far) left inspired radicalism, (far) right inspired radicalism, Islamic inspired radicalism and radicalism inspired on the rights of animals. The scope of this project was the detection of signals and triggers that could reflect a process of radicalization. First of all we developed our own dynamic, pyramidal model, existing of three stages (radicalism, extremism and terrorism), built on a breeding ground. By means of interviews with experts, a case-study of two Belgian cases and a meta-analysis of international research reports, we tested our theoretical framework. Based on the results of this study we discuss a number of recommendations for developing a preventive framework for the inhibition of (violent) radicalization in Belgium. In these recommendations we focus on the role of civil society on the one hand and the police on the other.

Key words: process of radicalization, extremism, prevention, civil society & policing.

Exploring the factor structure of measures of confidence in procedural justice and performance of the criminal justice system by actor. A latent-variables approach

Anjuli Van Damme, Lieven Pauwels & Nicole Haas

It is commonly acknowledged that many survey measures of confidence in the criminal justice system suffer from a number of measurement problems. A major criticism is the use of single-item questions to evaluate the criminal justice system in general.

In this article we contribute to an existing knowledge of measures by assessing two theoretical dimensions of confidence in the criminal justice system: (1) procedural justice or fairness and (2) performance of the criminal justice system. The innovative part of this study is that it explicitly tests to what extent we can measure these dimensions by type of actor (the police, the public prosecutor, judges and the criminal justice system in general). Items that are highly similar in content, but different by type of actor, were presented to a sample of students enrolled at Ghent University. A latent variable modelling approach was used to test the reliability and correlational validity of our multiple-component instrument. Confirmatory factor analyses were conducted on a battery of items that measure procedural justice and performance of three actors within the criminal justice system and the criminal justice system in general. Special attention is paid to the existence of non-random error between indicators that result from question wording. Our analyses suggest that it is possible to distinguish between procedural justice and performance by actor. We tested and found that items that refer to the same actor have correlated error and we propose a way of dealing with it.

Key words: Reliability, correlational validity, measurement error, attitudes towards the criminal justice system, procedural justice and performance of the criminal justice system, latent variable approach

Anti-corruption policies in private companies: a new business trend or a real concern and for whom?

Gudrun Vande Walle

Public corruption is a crime that involves at least two parties, the public officer or politician who is offered or asks for a bribe in exchange for an irregular act in the course of his or her professional activities which favours a private actor, a citizen, or a company. Most research in criminology on corruption and anti-corruption is limited to the public sector partner in corruption. Recently, due to pressure from American and British anti-corruption legislation, companies have started to worry about their policy. In this contribution we present the results of an empirical study of the perceptions of corruption and anti-corruption policy in the private sector. The research is based on interviews with key figures from the Belgian business world and a quantitative questionnaire of company lawyers working for companies located in Belgium. These results form part of a research project on the tipping points of anti-corruption policy in the public and private sectors that has been set up in 2008.

Key words: corruption, private sector, anti-corruption policy, UK-bribery Act

Variance in avoidance behaviour between residential neighbourhoods – context or composition? A multilevel approach

Caroline Mellgren, Lieven Pauwels & Marie Torstensson Levander

Area differences in crime, victimisation and fear of crime have repeatedly been shown to co-vary with structural characteristics such as economic disadvantage, ethnic heterogeneity and residential instability, as well as with social cohesion processes in the community. Since 1997 'collective efficacy', as a macro-social process, has been studied extensively in

sociological and criminological research. Studies in the United States have shown that high levels of collective efficacy predict low levels of crime, victimisation and fear of crime. Research has also shown that fear of crime impedes individuals from engaging in everyday activities, women in particular, such as going by bus and visiting restaurants. This study analysed data from the 1998 Malmö Fear of Crime Survey. We combined official data on neighbourhood socio-economic structure with survey data in order to investigate whether there are unique effects of neighbourhood disadvantage, disorder, and collective efficacy on neighbourhood differences in avoidance behaviour, controlling for individual level demographic background characteristics. Results show substantive differences between neighbourhoods with regard to the number of people avoiding to engage in activities that are related to avoiding victimisation. The support for unique neighbourhood effects was however modest and results indicate that the area differences can be explained by area differences in composition, i.e. individual differences in vulnerability.

Key words: collective efficacy / neighbourhood disorder/ avoidance behaviour / multilevel analysis / neighbourhood effects

Volume 7: European Criminal Justice and policy

To implement or not to implement? Mutual recognition of judgements in criminal matters imposing custodial sentences or measures involving deprivation of liberty
Peter Verbeke, Wendy De Bondt & Gert Vermeulen

Drugs in Figures III. Study of public expenditures on drug control and drug problems
Delfine Lievens, Freya Vander Laenen, Jonathan Caulkins & Brice De Ruyver

From a diversified present to a coherent future: Ne bis in idem applied to immunity from prosecution and double prosecutions
Charlotte Ryckman, Gert Vermeulen & Wendy De Bondt

Private Security in Europe: towards a European private security model for the future
Veerle Pashley & Marc Cools

Considerations for a future: EU policy on disqualifications
Charlotte Ryckman, Gert Vermeulen & Wendy De Bondt

Cultural Relativism and Universal Fair Interrogation Standards in Europe and China
Wei Wu

Liability of legal persons for offences in the EU: Outstanding policy decisions
Wendy De Bondt, Charlotte Ryckman & Gert Vermeulen

Criminalisation of demand-side actors of trafficking in human beings, forced labour and labour exploitation. Paving the way for assessing the feasibility and added value of a criminal justice response.
Yasmin Van Damme & Gert Vermeulen