

## **Criminal policy and penal legislation in Slovenia today some dilemmas and the challenges of development**

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Criminal policy in Slovenia clearly does not rank among the priorities of the governing political power. This may be both good and bad at the same time. The principal strategic goals and planning ways of achieving them at the time of the harmonisation of legal order have been taken over by an external force, i. e. the European Union. This process is illustrated by the problem of corruption. In spite of the explicitly negative attitude of the Slovenian government to the introduction of any new additional legislative or institutional measures against corruption (such view was adopted 1994 in the middle of the most intensive "wild privatisation"), the Office for the Prevention of Corruption was nevertheless established after a couple of years due to the pressure exercised by "European factors" (notably the GRECO report); the Office was ultimately established and it has begun to prepare new national legislation and a national strategy.

All attempts made so far to create an integral national strategy against crime have failed, due to the fact that it was not possible to provide relatively modest financial means for its preparation. Commenting on the partial legislative reforms that took place within the harmonisation process with the EU *acquis*, the author briefly sketches some basic developmental dilemmas of various segments of Slovenian penal legislation. At the end, the author concludes that Slovenia might in a short time become a passive "object" of a criminal policy imposed by Brussels, if it does not succeed in maintaining and developing its own creativity in this area.

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