

Economic crime in criminal law

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The starting point of this paper is the multidisciplinary nature of the theoretical concept of (economic) crime, arising from the fact that not all possible new forms of harmful conducts emerging in practice can be anticipated by law. Resourceful perpetrators, whose knowledge of legal regulations and the practical operation of the economic system is more than good, can commit an act that actually belongs to the sphere of *malum* but does not meet the criteria of criminal offence provided for by law. Criminality as such exists even before it has found a corresponding reflection in (criminal) law, but is labelled as crime only *postfestum*, i.e. after the criminalisation of certain acts in the criminal code. However, such conduct can first be perceived as a problem by social sciences, such as sociology and criminology. This paper focuses on the criminal law concept of economic crime, in which the central defining element is the commission of an act within the performance of economic activity or in relation to it.

Key words: criminal law, criminal offences, economic crime, incrimination, economic criminal law

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