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In 2020, he was awarded the Otto Hahn Medal by the Max Planck Society for this doctoral dissertation as an outstanding scientific achievement.



How criminal sentences are enforced is of fundamental concern for the legitimacy of any justice system. However, fairly little is known about the practice of enforcing the prison sentences imposed by the international criminal tribunals.

This volume offers a unique interdisciplinary lens – including international criminal and human rights law, penology, (supranational) criminology, transitional justice and terrorism studies – through which the policy and practice of enforcing the sentences of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) are analyzed. It is the first scientific work to comprehensively explore the significance of penal rehabilitation for the perpetrators of international crimes and its implementation in the prison treatment of the ICTY convicts.

The analysis is informed by rich and systematically collected empirical data, including indepth interviews with the ICTY/MICT officials, national prison officials, imprisoned ICTY convicts and released ex-prisoners. It shows comparatively – and in previously unseen detail – the trials and tribulations the practice of enforcing the ICTY sentences in different European prisons faces and offers necessary recommendations for the improvement of the vertical system for enforcement of international sentences.

“‘Imprisonment for International Crimes’ could not be more topical. [It] reveals the disturbing deficits still plaguing the performance of international criminal justice, both with regard to the concept behind the aims and purposes by which sentencing should be guided and with regard to the effects on enforcement of the less than equal practices of the various national prison systems. The lessons to be learned from Vojta’s empirical findings and his recommendations for improvements deserve the widest possible notice, not only among theorists and practitioners of international criminal justice but among politicians as well.”

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Albin Eser, M.C.J., Director Emeritus at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law, and former Judge at the ICTY

“Using the ICTY as his stencil, Vojta offers a tour de force analysis of the enforcement of the international sentences. Based on a sophisticated interdisciplinary methodology, the findings are not only interesting but represent a unique and important contribution to the field of international criminal justice. The discussion contributes richly to both Balkan-oriented and supranational criminology as well as to the discourse around the prospective merits of the developing sentence enforcement practice of the ICC.”

Prof. Dr. John Winterdyk, Mount Royal University

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## Imprisonment for International Crimes

An Interdisciplinary Analysis of the  
ICTY Sentence Enforcement Practice

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The Max Planck Partner Group for Balkan Criminology (MPPG) is a Zagreb-based research division jointly established by the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg (MPI) and the University of Zagreb’s Faculty of Law. It is headed by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anna-Maria Getoš Kalac. The MPPG promotes, conducts and facilitates scientific research in the field of criminology and criminal justice and hosts the Balkan Criminology Network. Since 2020 the MPPG has been operating independently as the Balkan Criminology research platform.

The MPPG’s research programme focuses on three main research areas, specifically targeting criminal phenomena that are of particular relevance to the Balkan region, or that may threaten its future security and stability: I. Violence, Organised Crime and Illegal Markets; II. Feelings and Perceptions of (In)Security and Crime; III. International Sentencing.

The MPPG’s main goals are to foster criminological research on Balkan-relevant topics including the dissemination of findings to the broader scientific community, capacity building for young academics from the region through training and PhD research, creation of a sustainable network of criminological experts throughout the Balkans, and positioning Balkan Criminology in the European research arena and beyond. The Balkan Criminology publication series provides a forum for the presentation of the MPPG’s scientific output; it also connects the research potential present in the Balkans with the research agenda of the MPI, thereby ensuring cutting edge criminological research of the highest quality.

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