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This timely and comprehensive collection of discussions on victimology, victims of crime and victim protection policies in the Balkans and beyond engages readers with the current state of the art of regional victimology in the Balkans and Central Europe. Original contributions from as many as ten countries of the region analyse the development of victimology, victim protection policies and practices, as well as major areas of victimological research.

The main idea of the book at hand is to provide an insight into the complex nature of victimisation in contemporary societies and a deeper understanding of the nature of, and responses to, victimisation in the context of the criminal justice system and civil society. Chapters about the recent developments of victimology in *Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, and Turkey* reflect on cultural victimology and contextualisation of victimology and victimological thought from a broader societal perspective. More importantly, the chapters thus present, for the first time, a comparative and contextual account of regional contributions to present-day victimology.

This publication is a milestone of victimological research calling for a follow-up and more comparative victimological studies in the future, improvement of practice in victim protection and more feasible victim protection policies.

“With this volume of essays, Balkan victimology is firmly put on the international map. Both governments and researchers have their work cut out for them in strengthening victims’ rights across the region.”

Jan van Dijk, winner of the Stockholm Prize in Criminology 2012
fellow of the NSCR in Amsterdam, The Netherlands

“This pathbreaking book documents how politics, culture and development matter for the status of victims in a society, and the extent to which their protection and support is a priority.”

Wesley G. Skogan, Northwestern University, USA

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Mapping the Victimological Landscape of the Balkans

BC 4

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A Regional Study on Victimology and Victim
Protection with a Critical Analysis of
Current Victim Policies

Research Series of the Max Planck
Institute for Foreign and International
Criminal Law

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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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