

Dr. *Maryam Abachi*, who was born in Tehran, Iran, and studied in Tehran and Freiburg, Germany, has been a member of the law department at Islamic Azad University (IAU) since 2006. She is currently an assistant professor in the field of criminal law and criminology and head of the Research Unit at IAU. For many years, Dr. Abachi worked as a senior researcher in Iran's judiciary, where she directed several research projects and revised a number of judicial bills. In 2007, she was appointed head of the Children's Rights Department of the UNESCO Chair for Human Rights, Peace and Democracy at Shahid Beheshti University in Tehran. In 2017, she earned her doctoral degree at the University of Freiburg's Faculty of Law in cooperation with the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg, where she spent two years as a Max Planck fellowship holder. Dr. Abachi is the author of several articles and books in the fields of juvenile justice, human rights, criminal law, and criminology.

Juvenile delinquents have always been of special interest to legal practitioners and scholars of law and law-related disciplines, such as criminology, striving to determine how they should be protected by law. Enacting a differentiated law in both substantive and procedural criminal law can be the first step in protecting them. If juvenile substantive criminal law, as the normative section of criminal justice, is defective, then justice cannot be recovered by means of procedural criminal law and through due process. Furthermore, in recent decades, respect for basic rights of juveniles and the importance of criminological research in this field have become major themes in international discourse, initiating a movement toward the recognition and implementation of common, minimum standards of juvenile justice. Germany has recognized these international standards, and Iran has recently paid more attention to such measures in the formulation of its juvenile justice rules. Due to a number of clashes between Islamic Law, customary law, and international obligations, however, Iran has not yet found a definite, integrative strategy for the treatment of juvenile delinquents. The theoretical part of this book investigates – historically and comparatively – the criminal law governing juvenile delinquency in Iran, Germany, and the United Nations. It introduces a model for reforming the structure of Iran's juvenile criminal law, which has lost touch with the country's social realities. The empirical part of this study analyzes the public attitudes of the elites toward juvenile justice in Iran, which generally prove to be supportive of international standards.

ISBN 978-3-86113-286-8 (Max-Planck-Institut)  
ISBN 978-3-428-18510-8 (Duncker & Humblot)



## Maryam Abachi

# Criminal Law Governing Juvenile Delinquency in Iran, Germany, and the United Nations

With an Empirical Survey on Attitudes of Elites to Juvenile Criminal Law Conducted in Iran

Schriftenreihe des Max-Planck-Instituts  
für ausländisches und internationales  
Strafrecht

Kriminologische Forschungsberichte  
Herausgegeben von Hans-Jörg Albrecht  
und Günther Kaiser

Band K 190

The Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg is part of the Max Planck Society, an organization dedicated to the advancement of basic research. The Institute is composed of a Department of Criminal Law, led by Prof. em. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Ulrich Sieber, and a Department of Criminology, headed by Prof. em. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Hans-Jörg Albrecht. In addition to the study of basic questions of criminal law, comparative law, and criminology, the Institute's research agenda focuses primarily on three central challenges, epitomized by the terms "global society", "information society", and "new risk society". As crime becomes more global, it makes increasing use of international data networks; through the employment of technology and organization, its consequences for society as a whole – even in seemingly isolated cases – can be significant. Thus, the Institute's research program encompasses the goals and methods of comparative legal research and legal harmonization, model criminal laws, European criminal law, international criminal law, Internet and information law, money laundering, organized crime, terrorism, crime in post-conflict societies, as well as empirical studies on criminal procedure, alternative methods of crime prevention, reactions to dangerous offenders, and victimology.

