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VIOLENT CRIME IN SLOVENIA

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Introduction

- The purpose is to present the overview of the recorded violent crime in Slovenia:
 - meaning of violence and violent crime as defined by Slovenian authors;
 - Slovenian legislation, regulating violent crimes;
 - conducted studies on violence in Slovenia;
 - statistical data on violent crime in Slovenia since 2001;
 - conclusion.

About Slovenia

- The Republic of Slovenia:
 - parliamentary democracy and a former socialist state, which gained its independence in 1991;
 - country is 20,273 km² big and has 2,064,188 people (an average age of 42.7 years);
 - 1,040,855 female and 1,023,333 male;
 - 107,766 foreigners are currently lives in Slovenia (5.2% of the population);
 - dominant religion in the country is catholic (57.8%);
 - from 1945 to 1991, Slovenia was a part of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;



About Slovenia

- The Republic of Slovenia:
 - the national growth of the population in Slovenia for the year 2015 was positive (807 people);
 - Slovenia has 104 urban areas out of which 67 have a status of a town, but only in two, population exceed 50,000 (Ljubljana – 279,756 and Maribor – 95,589);
 - Key economic indicators classify Slovenia into the group of developed countries. GDP per capita is 18,093 €;
 - in 2008, economic crisis started in Slovenia and its affects are still seen today – 105,453 unemployed people in 2016 (unemployment rate of 11.5%) (approximately 21,000 young people is currently unemployed);
 - Slovenian criminal justice system consists of police, state prosecution, judiciary and prison administration.

Definition of violence and violent crime

- Violence can be defined as a (Filipčič, 2015: 279):
 - 1) violation of the rules of safe and quality coexistence of people;
 - 2) violation of human rights and personal boundaries; and
 - 3) the abuse of power at the expense of another.
- Violence takes many forms: ideological, cultural, ecological, psychological, physical, sexual and economic (CNK, 2010; Filipčič, 2015).
- Lešnik Mugnaioni, Koren, Logaj and Brejc (2009: 22) emphasise that the definition of violence depends on social and cultural contexts.
 - They change over time; therefore, understanding of violence and social reactions on violence change over time and place

Definition of violence and violent crime

- Meško (2010) defines the most common violent crime as acts in which offenders take victim's life, endanger them, or cause them bodily injury.
 - Such acts of violence include murder, manslaughter, various physical injuries, sexual violence, domestic violence and robbery.
- National legal act that regulates violent crime in Slovenia is Criminal Code (2012). Description of violent offences, their basic statutory elements and sentences are provided in the second part (special part) of the Criminal Code (KZ-1, 2012):
 - chapter 14: crimes against humanity,
 - chapter 15: crimes against life and limb,
 - chapter 19: crimes against sexual integrity,
 - chapter 21: crimes against marriage, family and children,
 - chapter 23: crimes against property and
 - chapter 29: crimes against public law and order.

Table 1: Sentences for violent criminal offences

Criminal offence	Minimum sentence	Maximum sentence
Manslaughter (Art. 115)	10 years	15 years
Murder (Art. 116)	15 years	Life imprisonment
Voluntary manslaughter (Art. 117)	1 year	10 years
Negligent homicide (Art. 117)	6 months	5 years
Infanticide* (Art. 118)	/	3 years
Solicitation to and assistance in suicide (Art. 120)	6 months	10 years
Illegal abortion (Art. 121)	6 months	15 years
Actual bodily harm (Art. 122)	fine	3 year
Grievous bodily harm (Art. 123)	6 months	5 years
Aggravated bodily harm (Art. 124)	1 year	10 years
Exclusion of the offense in bodily harm with the consent of the injured person (Art. 125)	Not punishable	Not punishable
Participation in brawl* (Art. 126)	/	1 year
Endangering life by means of dangerous instruments in brawl or quarrel (Art. 127)	fine	6 months
Exposure of another person to danger* (Art. 128)	/	2 years
Abandonment of helpless person* (Art. 129)	/	2 years
Failure to render and (14th 130)	/	1 year

Past studies on violence and violent crime in Slovenia

- A literature review shows that since 1991 more than 30 studies focusing on violence have been conducted in Slovenia to the date.
- Studies are classified in eight different categories:
 - 1) domestic violence,
 - 2) youth violence,
 - 3) sexual violence,
 - 4) hate crimes,
 - 5) institutional and state violence,
 - 6) victims of violence,
 - 7) media and violence and
 - 8) other types of violence.

Violent crime in Slovenia in figures

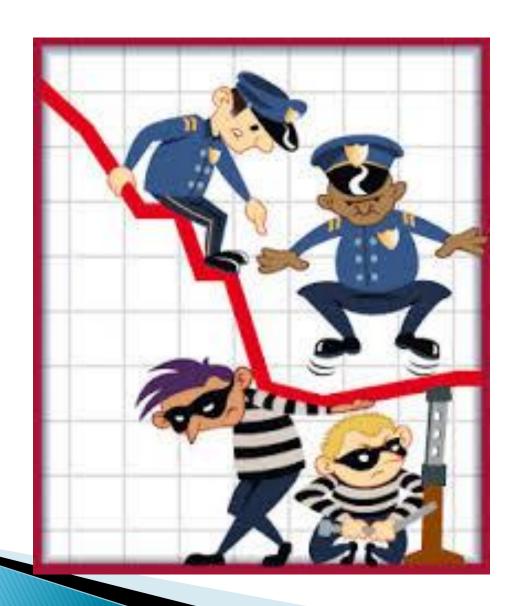


Table 2: Crimes against life and limb in the period 2001 – 2015

Crime/Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Manslaught er*	50	71	46	63	58	69	39	25	35	26	32	25	25	18	21
Murder**	75	78	57	76	66	12	24	5	16	15	18	19	15	15	25
Aggravated bodily harm	18	21	18	8	14	21	19	21	8	10	11	8	6	8	9
Grievous bodily harm	398	389	295	322	304	245	260	187	204	206	176	207	166	174	155
Bodily harm	1,734	2,049	2,087	2,049	1,986	2,165	2,203	1,927	1,965	1,966	1,787	1,817	1,677	1,476	1,376
Other forms of crime against life and limb	346	298	387	322	234	210	247	221	174	156	155	134	95	87	74
Total number of crimes against life and limb	2,621	2,906	2,844	2,777	2,604	2,717	2,776	2,386	2,402	2,379	2,179	2,210	1,984	1,777	1,660
Total number of crime	74,794	77,218	76,643	86,568	84,379	90,354	88,197	81,917	87,463	89,489	88,722	91,430	93,833	87,474	68,810

Table 3: Rate of violent crime in the period 2001–2015

Crime rate /Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Manslaughter*	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	1.2	1.7	1.3	1.6	1.2	1.2	0.9	1.0
Murder**	3.8	3.9	2.9	3.8	3.3	0.6	1.2	0.2	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.7	1.2
Aggravated bodily harm	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.4	0.7	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4
Grievous bodily harm	19.9	19.5	14.8	16.1	15.2	12.2	12.9	9.2	10.0	10.1	8.6	10.1	8.1	8.4	7.5
Bodily harm	87.1	102.8	104.6	102.6	99.4	108.1	109.6	95.1	96.7	96.0	87.2	88.4	81.5	71.6	66.7
Other forms of crime against life and limb	I I	1.5	1.9	16.1	11.7	10.5	12.3	10.9	8.6	7.6	7.6	6.5	4.6	4.2	3.6
Total number of crimes against life and limb	I I	145.7	142.6	139.1	130.4	135.6	138.1	117.8	118.2	116.2	106.3	107.5	96.4	86.2	80.5
Total number of crime	3,758.3	3,872.5	3,841.7	4,336.1	4,224.0	4,510.1	4,387.1	4,043.6	4,303.5	4,371.8	4,327.5	4,448.1	4,557.6	4,244.1	3,335.6

Table 4: Crimes against life and limb in the period 2001-2015 committed by juveniles

Crime/Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Manslaughter *	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	1	3	1	1	3
Murder**	3	4	3	2	4	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1
Grievous bodily injury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grievous bodily harm	44	33	27	24	22	16	21	15	11	19	14	12	10	9	10
Bodily harm	157	161	138	144	134	154	166	154	141	127	105	109	98	75	69
Other forms of crime against life and limb		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total number of crimes against life and limb	204	198	168	170	160	175	187	172	156	146	120	124	111	85	83
Total number of juvenile crime	1	4,007	3,308	3,349	2,847	2,527	2,596	2,352	2,316	2,150	2,007	1,827	2,026	1,909	1,308
Total number of crime	74,794	77,218	76,643	86,568	84,379	90,354	88,197	81,917	87,463	89,489	88,722	91,430	93,833	87,474	68,810

Table 5: Rate of juvenile violent crime in the period 2001-2015

Crime/Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Manslaughter*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Murder**	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Grievous bodily injury	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grievous bodily harm	2.2	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.1	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5
Bodily harm	7.9	8.1	6.9	7.2	6.7	7.7	8.3	7.6	6.9	6.2	5.1	5.3	4.8	3.6	3.3
Other forms of crime against life and limb	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total number of crimes against life and limb	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4
Total number of juvenile crime	218.3	200.9	165.8	167.7	142.5	126.1	129.1	116.1	113.9	105.0	97.9	88.9	98.4	92.6	63.4
Total number of crime	3,758.3	3,872.5	3,841.7	4,336.1	4,224.0	4,510.1	4,387.1	4,043.6	4,303.5	4,371.8	4,327.5	4,448.1	4,557.6	4,244.1	3,335.6

Conclusion

- Slovenia is the country with a low number of crime (68,810 crimes in 2015), and even lower number of violent crime (1,660 in 2015).
- Results show that number of violent offences is decreasing all forms of violent crimes have decreased in the last 15 years.
- In 2015, 90.1 % of all violent crime was successfully investigated.
- If we focus on murder and attempts to commit murders, as the most violent crime, we can see that police has recorded 25 cases in 2015, out of which only one crime was committed by a juvenile.
- Crime rate for murder in 2015 was 1.2, which place Slovenia between countries with the lowest rate of murders in Europe (the average murder rate in Europe in 2015 was 3)

Slevenian murder rate is the lowest in the European Union)

Conclusion

- Slovenia takes into account the fact that statistics on crime and criminal justice are indispensable for the creation of evidence based policy at state and international level:
 - Resolution on National plan on the Prevention and Combating of Crime and
 - different programs of the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities
- Family Violence Prevention Act (2008) a positive example of more efficient and professional work towards prevention of family violence, which started with cooperation between police and specialists (social service, medical staff, various experts etc.).

Thank you for your attention.

