

## The Situation of Security Science and Criminal Intelligence in Hungary and Slovakia<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract:** In our research we present the most important stages of the development of law enforcement in Hungary. Law enforcement as a science is not a widespread science in Europe, therefore we consider it important to show how the recognition of law enforcement as a science has been achieved in Hungary. We describe the most important milestones and the scientific foundations of law enforcement. Given that we are talking about a multidisciplinary science, we approach the definition and basic characteristics of law enforcement from several points of view. Special attention will be paid to the research areas of the Hungarian Doctoral School of Police Science that will form the basis of future law enforcement research areas. Following this, the most important points of the theory, education and practical training of criminal intelligence in Hungary will be presented.

In the other part of the research, we present the current status of security sciences in the Slovak Republic, highlighting the need to include them among the practical sciences (on the activities of police and security authorities), in the system of sciences with relevant theories that are developed in accordance with the knowledge gained from practice. We also introduce the system of criminal intelligence in Slovakia, its actual overview of its current legislative regulation and future perspectives. We point out the difference between operative-search activities and intelligence activities, as well as we touch upon the current change in the perception of criminal intelligence in the Europe union context.

The authors in the treatment of the addressed issues are based on the sources available in their countries, especially considering the history of the emergence and the current state of security sciences in a given country.

**Key words:** police science, science, criminal intelligence, law enforcement training

### 1. The situation of science and criminal intelligence in Hungary

#### 1.1. The concept of the Policing and Police Science

The Hungarian public law literature on Policing is very rich, despite we would like to highlight some in our article. According to the Police Lexicon published in 1909, the law enforcement is defined as the activity of the state's internal administration with coercive power to maintain public order and public safety. The police are independent of the other branches of administration. Police duties include prevention, deterrence and intelligence.<sup>2</sup>

The word policing has a “functional” meaning as it refers not only to the organization but also to its activities. The literature that emphasizes this “functional” side successfully summarizes the common features of the definitions developed for policing. “With regard to the definitions, the following identities can be discovered:

- the policing is not the same as the police, the police also perform other tasks,
- law enforcement activities are carried out not only by the police but also by other administrative bodies (disaster protection, civil protection, fire brigade),

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<sup>2</sup> SALLAI, J. 2015. *A magyar rendészettudomány etablációja*. Belügyi Szemle, 63/4. p.14.

- the central element of the concept of policing is public security, public order or both,
- the legal category of law enforcement, the discretionary power in the classical sense is excluded in the activities of law enforcement agencies”<sup>3</sup>

Another Policing concept: “Policing is a state, administrative activity aimed at preventing the disturbance of public safety, regulating directly disturbing behavior and restoring the disturbed order.”<sup>4</sup>

The current Police Act also distinguishes between public administration and law enforcement responsibilities: “The police act in their crime prevention, law enforcement, public administration and policing responsibilities as defined in the Basic Law, this Act and other legal acts authorized by the law”.<sup>5</sup>

When an authority performs a policing function, it is not engaged in state administration but in law enforcement administration. A public administration function is one in which the authority establishes a right or imposes an obligation by a legal act, and may also enforce this decision by an administrative sanction within the competence of the authority. The task of policing is when the law enforcement authority fulfills its obligation specified in the law by a real act presuming a presence, by enforcing the potential or actual monopoly of legitimate physical violence. The general concept of crime prevention in the Police Act summarizes for the first time an independent area of law enforcement administration, the social purpose of which is not to explore the past in order to prepare for justice, but to maintain the present public order and public security and describes the main types of law enforcement (prevention, risk analysis, information gathering and transmission) necessary to achieve law enforcement and public security objectives. Section 1 of the Police Act. according to the law, the police prevent the crime, monitor the criminal situation in Hungary, explore the risks of committing crimes, seek to commit crimes, and obtain, analyze, evaluate, control and transmit crime-related law prevention and crime.<sup>6</sup>

The 2018 law enforcement concept change considered international patterns and the Police Act in its preventive tasks in criminal intelligence uses a stepwise determination solution. In general, the law stipulates among the tasks of the police what is meant by crime prevention activities in general.<sup>7</sup> This crime prevention task does not only apply to the criminal intelligence activities of the police, but also to all types of tasks that enable the implementation of crime prevention objectives (eg detection of public order, traffic police patrols).

In order for the goal set by law to be achieved, it defines the intelligence (not just criminal) needs at the organization level, their priorities (this can be one of the tasks of the daily command instructions), and their implementation must be continuously monitored and if necessary, modified tasks needs following appropriate analysis. The general crime prevention task definition is followed by a set of criteria for the applicability of secret information gathering, which sets out the conditions under which secret information gathering may be carried out for the purpose of crime prevention.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>3</sup> FÁBIÁN, A. 2011. *Közigazgatás-elmélet*. Budapest-Pécs, Dialóg Campus, 2011. p.124.

<sup>4</sup> BALLA, Z. 2017. *A rendészet fogalmának tisztázásához*. Magyar Közigazgatás, 50/1. p.21.

<sup>5</sup> 1994.évi XXXIV. törvény a Rendőrségről 1. § (1) bekezdés.

<sup>6</sup> FINSZTER, G. 2018. *Rendészet*, Dialóg Campus Kiadó 2018. p.37.

<sup>7</sup> NYESTE, P-SZENDREI, F. 2019. *A bünygyi hírszerzés kézikönyve*. p.50.

<sup>8</sup> The secret information gathering may be continued in order to prevent the commission of a criminal offence if there is a reasonable presumption that information about the crime is expected to be obtained which, after analysis and evaluation, could attempts to commit crimes can be explored.

The final step in the regulation concerns the applicability for criminal prevention purposes of the most severely restricted means of gathering information subject to judicial authorization.<sup>9</sup>

In 2007, the Project Groupe on a European Approach to Police Science (PGEAPS) of CEPOL produced a final report on the Perspectives of Police Science in Europe in connection with law enforcement researches in European law enforcement higher education institutions. The research finds an increase of police studies all over Europe well accepted. Police research is a normal business at some Police Academies, universities and research institutions, but Police Science is in its early stages. At that time there was no established academic discipline called "Police Science" in the EU, and "police studies" seemed to be too general and not specific. Some Eastern European country's police sciences are part of "security sciences", which aim at a wide range of disciplines, such as the theory of diplomacy, military sciences and the theory of economic security. They concluded that, according to police developments in the last century, Police Science should not be founded in the context of military science. The report defined the Police Science:

„Police Science is the scientific study of the police as an institution and of policing as a process. As an applied discipline it combines methods and subjects of other neighbouring disciplines within the field of policing. It includes all of what the police do and all aspects from outside that have an impact on policing and public order. Currently it is a working term to describe police studies on the way to an accepted and established discipline. Police Science tries to explain facts and acquire knowledge about the reality of policing in order to generalise and to be able to predict possible scenarios.”<sup>10</sup>

Hungarian Police Science - as a branch of administrative law seeking independence - is now unfolding. The aim of Police Science is to provide a theoretical foundation for law enforcement practice, and policing theory is the result of law enforcement research: a system of concepts and laws explored by scientific methods to describe and develop Police Science. The doctrine of policing offers theoretical knowledge and practical recommendations by synthesizing practical experience and empirical facts:

- to build an organization;
- to create police law;
- to clarify the content of law enforcement expertise;
- to formulate, successfully plan and implement public security strategies;
- to support international cooperation.<sup>11</sup>

## **1.2.The development of criminal intelligence and views on „secret policing”**

The historical antecedents of criminal intelligence in today's sense date back to the 18th century in Europe based on the French model. During the War of Independence in 1848-49, national security activities also operated within the framework of law enforcement agencies. Minister of the Interior Bertalan Szemere took great care of gathering the secret information by the state police under his control.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> In order to prevent the commission of a criminal offense, the gathering of secret information to judicial authorization may be carried out if it can reasonably be expected that it will lead to the acquisition of information relating to organized crime or the identification of organized criminal groups.

<sup>10</sup> JASCHKE, H., BJORGO, T., ROMERO, F., KWANTEN, C., MAWBY, R., PAGON, M. 2007. Perspectives of Police Science in Europe. Project Groupe on a European Approach to Police Science (PGEAPS), Final report Münster, CEPOL, 2007. p.23.

<sup>11</sup> FINSZTER, G. 2018. *Rendészettan*. Dialog Campus Kiadó 2018. p.17.

<sup>12</sup> BODA, J. 2012. A Nemzetbiztonsági Szakszolgálat helye és szerepe a rendvédelemben. Pécsi Határőr Tudományos Közlemények, XIII. kötet. 2012. p.116.

Of course, scientific thinking at the time was influenced by the information activities established during the period of Austrian despotism, which was rightly hated. Nándor Pichler saw the secret police as a kind of „outgrowth” that should be excluded from the organization and operation of the public security police. Pichler explained that the police have the right to freely dispose of measures that effectively restrict individual liberty.<sup>13</sup> In doing so, Pichler acknowledges the legitimacy of the police’s discretionary secret policing measures by proportionately “restricting” civil rights.

In the article on the protection and organization of the secret policing in the 43th issue of the Law Gazette of 1877, Gyula Fekete emphasized the importance of the civilian branch of the secret police. According to Fekete, it is easy to see that an agent who is unknown to criminals will notice and experience a lot that would remain a secret to a police officer appearing in uniform.

If the suspicious persons were not publicly inspected, they saw no wrongdoing in it. Secret policing was considered important primarily in the larger cities, which complemented and helped ordinary police action. Domestic and international Police Science thinkers of the era (Mohl, Stieber, Gravell) also considered it important to emphasize that secret policing is only an exceptional police tool that can be used with the utmost restraint and caution in rural areas only in particularly justified cases.

In his 1905 Politics, Győző Concha explains in detail his views on the administration, the activities and role of the police, and the role of the political police. Concha distinguished between the law enforcement, i.e. the security police, and the administrative police, which provide services to the administration and the private people.

According to Concha, the limit of policing is the rule of law, which cannot be crossed by the police and the activities of the police are determined by discretion. In order to perform the duties of a security police, it may restrict personal liberty not only on the basis of facts but also on the basis of probabilities. Political (high) policing is concerned with the security of the state or society as a whole, with the greatest discretion power of the police. Concha in *Politika II* also deals with the organization of the police, according to which the police can be divided into administrative, executive and secret police according to the operation of the police, the latter being the executive part, covering the public nature, whose task is to detect crimes being prepared or completed.

Móric Tomcsányi, like Concha, is of the opinion regarding the purpose of police operation, which he marks in the elimination of the dangers of the order and the rule of law, and in the restoration of the disturbed order. According to the security police, it can be divided into the judiciary and the public security police, the latter can be divided into two major parts: the state police or higher police and the public police.

According to Tomcsányi, it is not enough for the purpose of the procedure to be legally permissible for the lawfulness of the police operation, but the means used to achieve the set goal must be appropriate in all respects, proportionate to the goal and strictly observed.

Police measures restricting personal liberties may only be applied on the basis of a statutory authorization. According to Tomcsányi, in order to eliminate abuses of discretionary measures, the independent court has the right of review and redress, provided that it can only examine the legality of the measures.

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<sup>13</sup>KORINEK, L. 2014. Rendszerváltozás a belügyben. In. Gaál Gyula – Hautzinger Zoltán (szerk.): *Rendészettudományi gondolatok*. Budapest, Magyar Rendészettudományi Társaság kiadó, 2014. p. 35.

### **1.3. The operation of „secret policing” and the system of criminal training are set out in Annex II. until World War II**

In Hungary, the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the foundations of modern criminal intelligence were laid within the capital's police with the formation of the Detective Corps. The detective department was first organized within the Budapest-Capital Police Department in 1885. Then, in 1886, the first internal legal regulation of criminal intelligence was issued, the Detective Code (then the Second Detective Code in 1890 and the Third Detective Code in 1893).

According to the detective regulations, the detective unit was an auxiliary unit of the Royal Hungarian State Police in Budapest, with the task of supporting the work of the chief captain's office, the district captain's offices, the reporting office and the crowd control office to maintain public order and security.

The forms of task performance were observation, prevention and discovery activities, the detective inspector could not initiate an investigation independently, and the head of the criminal detention department usually gave an order to investigate. In addition to open procedures, secret police procedures have been used to prevent, deter and detect crime. The latter were not detailed in the Criminal Procedure Act<sup>14</sup>, and the implementation of the good practice of criminal investigation was aided by the investigation order<sup>15</sup> and its explanation by the prosecution. Secret police procedures included observation, use “informants,” covert interest, and decoy. Surveillance, prevention service (presence in crime scenes) and secret police procedures formed the core of contemporary criminal intelligence. *The purpose of the secret police proceedings was to prepare for justice.*

According to the practical application of the criminal procedure, “it would be wrong for the gendarmerie to act if he always waited for the municipal prefecture to inform him of everything. It has to actively gather information after events that are of interest to the gendarmerie from the point of view of public safety. The Practical Guide already focuses on *proactive crime prevention.*

The second part of the investigation, the formal investigation, which was subject to legal disadvantages, was the „finding procedure”. This procedure should be used when the suspicion is already available for order of an investigation. After that the „ascertaining investigation” consists of practical actions and a series of investigative acts.<sup>16</sup>

The practical investigative techniques and skills could be acquired in a course system (detective, gendarmerie) through training, and they could be learned from investigative manuals. During the turn of the century, the training of the gendarmerie and the capital police, which started at the Ludovika Academy, was of European standard.

The first traces of detective courses can be found in Hungary as early as the 1890s. Two types of courses and examinations were regularized, one for the detective and the other for the appointment of a detective supervisor. The usual subjects of the detective course were formal criminal law, forensics, offenses, and police justice, state policing, basic administrative knowledge, organization and service regulations, and first aid. Ordinary lectures were supplemented by special lectures and practical demonstrations according to the respective

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<sup>14</sup> 1896. évi XXXIII. törvénycikk, a bűnvádi perrendtartásról.

<sup>15</sup> MAGYAR, I. 1900. *A bűnügyi nyomozás tárgyában a nyomozó rendőri hatóságok és közegek részére 130,000/99. B.M. számú körrendelettel kiadott utasítás magyarázata.* Budapest, 1900.

<sup>16</sup> MISKOLCZY, Á - PINCZÉS, Z. 1937. *A magyar büntetőjog gyakorlati kézikönyve a m.kir. Csendőrség számára.* Budapest, Stádium Sajtóvállalat, 1937. p. 1115.

curriculum.<sup>17</sup> Most of the detective team's staff was foreign language-speaking detectives with university school diplomas.

In the period between the two world wars, international relations had already developed between various law enforcement organizations, and it was rare for Hungarian officers to study in foreign law enforcement schools (e.g. gendarmerie officers in Italy, Austria). Study trips abroad and visits by foreign law enforcement delegations also took place.<sup>18</sup>

#### **1.4. Secret operational tools and training until the change of the regime**

After the Second World War, the political system that developed for several centuries transformed the country's political system based on the civil traditions. As a result of the new, Soviet-type, ideologically based social and political transformation, the original activities and tasks of criminal intelligence have changed.

The „secret police procedures” that have been preparing for the previous judicial activity have been called secret operational activities and the state defense and state security units serving the ideological and political system have been set up on the Soviet model. The secret operational activities did not have a preparatory role for the judiciary, and the prosecutor's office supervising the legality of the investigation could not have known about them. According to the level of the regulating the secret operative activity, the secret operative activity of the Ministry of the Interior and its bodies was not supervised by the prosecution (Order 1 of 1975 of the Vice-President of the Council of Ministers).

The use of secret operational tools and methods for law enforcement purposes has become secondary to the secret operational tools and methods of state security, and secret operational activities of a law enforcement nature have focused primarily on crime against social property.

In order to detect and prevent crimes against the state (against the party, the communist ideology) and organized forms of crimes, a secret operational activities and evidence phase could be carried out before ordering criminal proceedings, which could be considered as an alternative „secret criminal procedure”.

Based on the data from the “secret criminal proceedings”, the investigators decided whether to initiate the “open” criminal proceedings (realize the secretly obtained data) or to implement them in another way (e.g., by blackmailing the suspect).

The State Security and Law Enforcement Authority decided independently on how to obtain the recorded data and information obtained by the “secret criminal procedure” later in the framework of the criminal proceedings, is the “secret result of the proceedings”. The police were part of the state machinery of the proletarian dictatorship and therefore shared its vulnerability to the monolithic center of power.<sup>19</sup>

Law enforcement education took place between 1945 and 1948 in courses with a centralized education system. An "informative officer course" was introduced with an exam, and after completing it, an officer preparatory course was 3 months for the guards and 2 months for the investigators. The 6-month Police Officer Course was launched in 1947, and

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<sup>17</sup> KESERŐ, I. 1992. *A rendvédelmi szervek tiszti utánpótlása és tisztképzése a dualizmus időszakában*. ORFK OKK, Rendvédelem-történeti füzetek, 1992. p.123.

<sup>18</sup> BODA, J. 2007. *A nemzetközi oktatás és képzés története a magyar rendvédelmi szervezeteknél*, Rendvédelem-történeti Füzetek, 2007/16. p.33.

<sup>19</sup> KORINEK, L. 2006. *A rendőrség pártirányítása 1956-1989*. Rendészeti Szemle, 2006/10. p. 55-67.

the Police Academy was established in the same year, provided small number-quality training.

Between 1949 and 1953, many officers and deputy officers left the service for political and economic reasons. The training of state defense, state security and police officers serving in the political system, was in the renewed Budapest Police Academy, took place in 1949, and the training of state defense officers in the Dzerzhinsky State Vocational School from 1950, which ensures the supply of criminal and state security intelligence. The irony of fate is that the state defense training took place in the consecrated Convent of the Congregation for the Daughters of Divine Love taken by nationalization.

From 1957 until the establishment of the Police Officers' Academy (1959), the Dzerzhinsky Officer Training School of the Home Ministry provided for the training of state defense, criminal and public order officers. From 1960 was 2 years of full-time and 3 years of part-time training of Police Officers (corresponding to his high school diploma) in political investigation, criminal investigation, public order, transport, material and financial law, and penitentiary. Then, in 1971, the College of Police Officers began operating with a 3-year full-time and 4-year correspondence course, which was internalized until the 1980s.<sup>20</sup>

### **1.5.Modern criminal intelligence from regime change to the present day**

After the change of regime, in order to regulate the activities of the secret services and law enforcement agencies after the so-called Danube-gate scandal the National Assembly enacted Act X of 1990 on the temporary regulation of the licensing of special secret service tools and methods. The title of the law also shows that it basically wanted to regulate the tools used by the secret services (state security headquarters). In 1989, the proportion of orders from security and police state agencies was as follows: state security agencies 95%, law enforcement agencies 5%.<sup>21</sup> There was still no legal regulation on the use of secret means and devices for law enforcement (and state security) purposes other than those subject to an external license.

An attempt was made to define the concept of criminal intelligence already in 2001 at the Police College, which one hand has considered an umbrella term of offensive intelligence-gathering activity and its narrow's concept was the infiltration of law enforcement personnel into criminal positions, groups and objects to obtain the information needed for intelligence and investigation<sup>22</sup>. This notion was in keeping with the requirements of the age, but was essentially limited to the activities of the covert investigator.

The definition of modern criminal intelligence, including the sectors (strategic, tactical, investigative), came into existence only a few years ago.<sup>23</sup>

Modern criminal intelligence has been carried out in order to achieve the law enforcement and criminal objectives set out in the Basic Law (protection of public security, public order and state border order, prevention and detection of criminal offenses), involving restriction of the right to respect for private and family life, private residence and

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<sup>20</sup> BUDAHÁZI, Á. 2011. (szerk.) *Jubileumi évkönyv 40 éves a Rendőrtiszti Főiskola 1971-2011*, Budapest, Rendőrtiszti Főiskola, p.17-24.

<sup>21</sup> PALATIN, J. *A nemzetbiztonsági Szakszolgálat változásai a rendszerváltozástól napjainkig*. p. 8. <https://docplayer.hu/4488018-Nemzetbiztonsagi-szakszolgalat-15-eves-a.html>.

<sup>22</sup> BARTA, E., BORSZÉKI, GY. 2001. *A titkos ügynökök alkalmazása az európai országokban*, Rendőrtiszti Főiskola, 2001.p. 13.

<sup>23</sup> NYESTE, P. 2016. *A bűnüldözési célú titkos információgyűjtés története, rendszerspecifikus sajátosságai, szektorális elvei*, PhD értekezés, 2016.

correspondence, and the right to freedom, which can be characterized as a proactive intelligence and analytical activity.<sup>24</sup>

After a lengthy preparatory work, Act XXXIV of 1994 on the Police was adopted, with a special chapter (VII) regulating the system of possibilities previously known as secret service means and methods, under the summary name of secret information gathering. Thus, from now on, the system of possibilities for procedures previously referred to as secret police procedures and secret operational tools, officially called secret information gathering, is adapted to the current legal framework.

With this, the prevention, detection and proof of crime have gained new, familiar, legally regulated external possibilities with little control. However, the secret practice of intelligence and proof of crime similar to the logic of the previous dictatorial system has been partially preserved.

Criminal proceedings did not regulate but allowed the use of secretly obtained information in criminal proceedings despite little external control. "Although this activity has been authorized by law, this has been regulated in detail in internal standards and instructions. The open and secret components of the knowledge have rightly given rise to a kind of segregation, as the collection of secret information as an option is not secret from the public but the detailed regulation and the specific application remained secret, and this was accompanied by restrictions on confidentiality."<sup>25</sup>

According to internal, classified standards, the secret information gathering procedure, like the change of regime procedure, was divided into a section on the secret control and secret investigation of information. It continued to allow the investigating authority to order and execute a secret investigation in order to establish existence and whereabouts of evidence without external control. Given that the criminal intelligence branch of law enforcement agencies has classified the gathered information for criminal purposes, it could later be decided, as a classifier, whether to share it with the prosecutor's office or otherwise use it to perform its other tasks of the information obtained. The results of the secret information gathering could only be used in criminal proceedings after a lengthy procedure following the decision of the qualifier. The use of the results of data acquisition regulated in criminal proceedings has already been used in a more flexible procedure but the recording of the obtained classified data in a summary report and the attached material evidence could be used in criminal proceedings only after a declassification decision. The secret information gathering was a separate procedure from the criminal proceedings, only part of the information was used and only the results disclosed to the prosecutor's office were used in the criminal proceedings.

In order to ensure the continuity of detection and investigation and to avoid the loss of information, the process and procedural framework of information gathering and control had to be rethought. The continuity of information indicating a specific criminal offense and the applicability of special investigative activities<sup>26</sup> based on the verified data had to be created at all stages of the investigation.

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<sup>24</sup> NYESTE, P., NAGY, I. 2021. *A bünygyi hírszerzés az elméletben és a gyakorlatban*. Rendőrségi Tanulmányok 2021/1. p.5.

<sup>25</sup> SZENDREI, F. 2020. *A rendészeti célú titkos információgyűjtés*. Rendőrségi Tanulmányok III. évf. 2020/3. p. 62.

<sup>26</sup> NYESTE, P. 2016. *Speciális nyomozási tevékenységek az Európai Unió egyes tagállamaiban*, Belügyi Szemle 2016/3. p.16-43.

The purposes and means of criminal intelligence and investigation are also different. The criminal intelligence assumes that the crime has not yet begun, that crime must be known and prevented, and the dangers of crime must be known as a current threat.

The investigation is aimed at getting to know the suspicious behavior that took place in the past, reconstructing the facts, and establishing the identity of the perpetrators. The main tools of the investigation are the open means of proof, the purpose of which is to reveal the illegal acts that have taken place in the past, to reconstruct the facts, and to gather evidence.

In order to interrupt and prevent current and foreseeable crimes in the future, covert investigative means can provide a lot of help, which enriches the catalog of means of proof.

The new Criminal Procedure Code<sup>27</sup> has fully integrated the rules on the secret gathering of information for the detection and proof of criminal offenses into the Criminal Procedure Code.

This has made it possible to avoid the practical problem of law enforcement arising from the separation of the regulation of secret information gathering out of criminal proceedings and in the framework of criminal procedure. And the acquisition of secret and other data in the framework of criminal proceedings was in different rules than the secret information gathering of law enforcement agencies.

The established system of procedures ensures the possibility to apply proactive prior detection in a short period of time before ordering an investigation but already in the framework of criminal proceedings in order to establish or exclude the suspicion of criminal offenses.<sup>28</sup>

With limited facilities, law enforcement (or law enforcement support) and crime prevention purposes, the regulation of sectoral laws still allows for the secret information gathering. The Police Act defined the concept of secret information gathering: the secret information gathering is a special activity carried out by the police without the knowledge of the person concerned, involving the restriction of the fundamental rights to privacy, the private home and the secrecy of correspondence and the protection of personal data.

This concept is compatible with the European Union's recommendation, according to which, „Special investigation techniques are techniques applied by competent authorities in context of criminal investigations for the purpose of detecting and investigating serious crimes and suspects, aiming at gathering information in such a way as not to alert the target persons. As the name suggests SIT's are proactive investigative methods that give the opportunity to the investigator to detect, ascertain or exclude the suspicion.”<sup>29</sup>. And the domestic concept compatible with the „Criminal Asset Recovery Project in Serbia” of the Council of Europe according to SIMs are those means or techniques used to gather evidence and/or intelligence and information in such a way (covertly) that they do not alert those being investigated. Invariably their deployment will involve a breach of the right to a private life, which will have to be justified by those carrying out/authorising the operation.<sup>30</sup>

Pursuant to the Police Act, the possible purposes of collecting secret information are: - crime prevention, - sting operation, - circling procedure, - provision of personal protection, -

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<sup>27</sup> 2017.évi. XC.törvény a büntetőeljárásról.

<sup>28</sup> NYESTE, P., SZENDREI, F. 2019. *A büntügyi hírszerzés kézikönyve*. Dialog Campus Kiadó, Bp. 2019. p.88.

<sup>29</sup> Recommendation Rec (2005) 10 of the committee of Ministers of member states on „special investigation techniques” in relation to serious crimes including acts of terrorism. p.3.

<sup>30</sup> Council of Europe Office in Belgrade: Deployment of special investigative means, Belgrade, 2013. p. 12-13.

preparation and implementation of the Protection Program, - personal protection and facility insurance tasks, - to place and remove technical equipment or data used in the application of covert means subject to judicial authorization, - in the framework of cooperation with a Member State of the European Union or a third country under the law or international agreement on international law enforcement cooperation, - in order to protect a covert investigator or covert organization, - recruiting and protect an informant.

Some means of secret information gathering (that is not linked to a specific crime).Not subject to judicial authorization:

- use of informant;
- collect and verify information by keeping the real purpose of the proceedings secret and by using a police officer or undercover detective;
- secretly observe a person, an apartment, another room, a place open to the public, or a vehicle, collect information about what has happened and record what has been detected by technical means;
- replace a person with a police officer if necessary in order to protect his or her life and physical integrity;
- obtaining the data necessary to establish the fact of communication by an electronic communications device or information system, to identify the electronic communications device or information system or to establish its location;
- requests for data from service providers designated with the permission of the public prosecutor

Subject to judicial authorization:

- secret search,
- secret surveillance of a private home,
- confidential access to the consignment,
- wiretapping,
- secret monitoring of an information system.

Special investigative means in criminal proceedings are those related to the detection and proof of criminal offenses, which are carried out without the knowledge of the person concerned are partly similar to the secret information gathering means. Techniques whose existence presupposes a suspicion of a criminal offense can only be used in criminal proceedings etc. decoy or investigative bargain. Under previous regulations, the trap could also be used in secret information gathering procedure, for example.

## **1.6. Development in Hungarian Police Science and criminal training**

In Hungary, the training of police officers was at the college level in the 1990s, so it was possible to admit doctoral dissertations on law enforcement and obtain a doctoral degree in the research field of national security and law enforcement at the Miklós Zrínyi University of National Defense.

In 2003, the IX.th Department of Economics and Law of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences accepted dissertations on police sciences and law enforcement at the initiative of András Szabó, who was convinced that police science and law enforcement contained theoretical knowledge about the police organization and the operation of the police organization.

Subsequently, the Hungarian Police Science Society was established in 2004. In 2007 established the IX.th Department of Police Science Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, which since 2012 has been transformed into the Police Science Subcommittee of the Committee on Political Science and Law.

In 2012, the Hungarian Higher Education Accreditation Committee recognized Police Science as a discipline but considered it important to develop some content and formal requirements, such as setting up a department dealing with Police Science theory and history and starting research work.

Credit system training was introduced at the College of Police Officers in 2002 and the Specialization of Criminal Administration was established with a specialization in criminal, economic protection and financial investigation. Since 2006, the Bologna training cycles (BA, MA) were introduced in the college. Since 2008 the master's degree in leader of law enforcement had been launched. For post-graduates, police training has been renewed and has been in place since 1995.

On 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012, the National University of Public Service was established by the merger of the College of Police Officers, the MiklósZrínyi University of National Defense and the College of Public Administration, which is the general legal successor of the College of Police Officers.

In 2016, the Hungarian Higher Education Accreditation Committee accredited the Doctoral School of Police Science, which started operating at the National University of Public Service. Research areas of the Doctoral School of Police Science:

- *general Police Science theory, Police Science history, national security and law enforcement*
- *specialist police forces, EU and international aspects of policing*
- *legal, criminological, criminalistics and social science aspects of policing*

In 2021, the first doctoral student in Police Science obtained the doctorate.

In 2015, the Institute of Criminalistics was established with the integration of the Department of Criminal Intelligence and Economic Crime Protection, the Department of Criminal Strategy and the Department of Criminal Tactics and Methodology. The Department of Cybercrime was later integrated into the Institute's specialist departments. On the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019, the Institute was closed down and the Department of Criminal Intelligence, Economy and Cybercrime were established with the integration of the Department of Criminal Intelligence and Economic Protection and the Department of Cybercrime.

In accordance with the technical-scientific development and the expectations of the University maintainers, the Criminal Intelligence Specialisation launched in 2013 within the basic course of Criminal Administration Specialisation, for which only students with national security clearance belonging to the police staff can apply. Some special subjects of the specialization are: Secret File Management, Secret Supply Management, Technical Criminal Intelligence, Criminal Cooperation, Secret-and Data Protection, Covert Human Information Source Handling I-II., Criminal Intelligence Analyst Support, National Security Knowledge.

The subject of Criminal OSINT has been introduced in all criminal specialties, given the fact that the proportion of crimes committed online is increasing year by year and the possibilities for detection in this area are also expanding. From 2020, the field of IT investigation was launched in the field of crime, in addition to the field of criminal investigation, criminal intelligence, economic protection investigation and financial investigation.

Some characteristic subjects of the IT investigation specialty: infocommunication tools, basics of information security, infocommunication networks and telecommunication systems, criminological characteristics of cybercrime, criminal law features of cybercrime, cyber investigator work in the field, open and secret information gathering in cyberspace, aggression and sexual deviances in cyberspace, investigation of intellectual property crimes in cyberspace, investigation of financial crimes in cyberspace, organized crime in cyberspace.

### **1.7. Hungarian criminal intelligence organizational models**

The organizational solutions of the police dealing with criminal intelligence show a very diverse picture. In Hungarian practice, different professional-specific intelligence organizational models are used both within the framework of the previous legal regulations and on the basis of the current legislation.

At the Criminal Directorate General of the National Tax and Customs Administration, their criminal intelligence model has been developed for many years according to the specialties of the field and considering international experience (e.g. employing a controller, employing only occasional informants at local level, etc.).

Within the organisation established for the performance of general police tasks (the National Police Headquarters), the National Investigation Bureau of the Rapid Response and Special Police Service and the Budapest Police Headquarters, as larger units performing concentrated criminal tasks, use mainly integrated and specialized integrated intelligence units (human intelligence, analysis, case processing).

The secret information gathering tasks of criminal intelligence are carried out by the police's intelligence units, but the use of covert devices of the Criminal Procedure Law is already carried out by other organizational elements in the territorial police bodies (e.g. the Department of Economic Protection, Criminal Department) and other organizational elements. There are organizational solutions that regional police forces execute the criminal intelligence needs of local police forces but there are also examples of larger asset and human resource-intensive operations being carried out jointly by local and regional criminal intelligence units. In other words, there is no unified integrated crime intelligence model that is also in line with local specificities.

There are efforts to issue methodological guidelines in the Hungarian criminal intelligence system but comprehensive, practice-oriented guidelines for criminal intelligence detectives and investigators have not yet been prepared. The fact that final court rulings based on exemplary crimes detected and proven in the new criminal intelligence system are not yet available makes it difficult to formulate appropriate methodological recommendations.

## **2. The situation of science and criminal intelligence in Slovakia**

### **2.1. Identified issues in the constitution of security sciences**

In the Slovak Republic, the need for explanation of police-security practice stems from the very philosophical understanding of the relationship between practice and theory. Its definition depends not only on the philosophical school or philosophical current that interprets it but also on what significant formations and connections dominate their definition. If this conception is based on the primary of practice and the secondary of knowledge, then the need

for scientific knowledge in contemporary police practice is determined, dictated, and limited by police practice itself.<sup>31</sup>

The source of the development of knowledge in police-security practice and the development of its theory is the permanent resolution of the philosophical contradiction between theory and practice, with police practice being the defining aspect of this contradictory unity. Thus, the need for and areas of scientific knowledge of police activity are ultimately determined by police practice.

The task of scientific knowledge of contemporary police-security practice is to serve the practice itself. If scientific knowledge must fulfil this task, it must resolutely eliminate all elements of dogmatism or practiciness still manifested by some police 'experts'. Both practiciness and dogmatism distort the dynamic relationship between knowledge and practice, theory and experience, and are objectively harmful not only to police theory, but above all to police practice itself.<sup>32</sup>

In objectifying these statements, we consider it appropriate to state that security sciences are constituted for the needs of practical projecting of activities of police-security bodies, which are purposefully implemented in ensuring the protection of rights and freedoms of persons. In doing so, we acknowledge that this process is not yet complete and the legitimacy of the question:

"Why is this so?"

We are aware that in answering this seemingly simply formulated question, there are a number of answers. In this regard, in the discussion carried out by experts, we register contradictory opinions about the complexity of defining the basic categories, starting points, object and subject, up to the systemic structure of the theories of security sciences, in which specific interactions (internal and external links/biding) arise and exist. On the positive side, the creation of these forms of knowledge, theories in the security sciences is constantly being refined, is in constant evolution. In this process, the term theory is generally used to refer to a set of statements, axioms, postulates about the object of investigation that are considered true at a given stage of knowledge. This means that this set should not contradict previous experience and the consequences of experiments and should be internally consistent. In terms of structure, a theory is an internally differentiated but integral system of knowledge characterized by the logical dependence of some elements on others, the creation of the content of a theory from a certain set of statements and concepts from a given domain.<sup>33</sup>

Starting from the analysis of scientific outputs processed so far, which show a specific added value in the system of constitution of security sciences, we state that each theory is specified by attributes that form a kind of basis for understanding its whole and therefore it is necessary to define them consistently. In this systematic approach is respected their basic attribute "security" and the related categories as risk, threat, vulnerability, not least their identification and possibilities of elimination.

In the Slovak Republic (from a societal perspective) security is also a frequently used term. Its meaning is considered from different aspects and it is natural that many people try to

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<sup>31</sup>ERNEKER, J., PORADA, V. a kol. 2006. *Poznávání potřeb a transfer vědeckých poznatků do policejní praxe*. Praha: Policejní akademie České republiky, p. 15.

<sup>32</sup>ŠKROVÁNEK, J. 2004. K niektorým problémom vzťahu policajnej teórie a praxe. In. *Policajná teória a prax*, č. 1/2004, p. 81, 82.

<sup>33</sup> HOFREITER, L. 2019. O potrebe a význame teórie pre bezpečnostné vzdelávanie. In: *Krízový manažment*. 2019.roč. 10, č.2, p. 86.

define it in the most precise way. We agree with its definition as a phenomenon that is complex, multifactorial and hierarchical, and whose content, structure and functions go beyond the boundaries not only of one scientific discipline, but of several scientific fields.<sup>34</sup> Security is the absence of threats to fundamental values, which include human rights and freedom. The term security refers to a set of measures to protect and develop people and society, i.e. to protect and develop protected interests.<sup>35</sup>

Threats represent certain factors that act on a specific protected interests either in an intentional (human factor) or non-intentional form (natural factor), can undermine security or cause imminent danger.

A menace, like a threat, is a specific phenomenon (object, event, or process) characterised by its ability to cause harm in a causal context. This means that, in terms of its functionality, the very existence of a source that can cause harm and thus realistically threaten the protected interest in the form of causing an undesirable consequence is necessary. In general, vulnerability represents a certain characteristic of an object (protected interest) to lose its functionality due to the actuation of external or internal threats.

The risk consists in the possibility of causing harm or achieving another consequence, the manifestations of which may be positive or negative in terms of impact. In this context, risk is dualistic (positive/negative effect), ambivalent (threat/opportunity) and amphoteric (different objects/different impact).<sup>36</sup>

With these facts, we have chosen to highlight that several requirements are placed on the creation of theories in security sciences. In addition to what has already been mentioned, in relation to the search for answers to the question we have posed, this concerns in particular:

- the object - its system must consist of coherent and consistent statements about its properties,
- the subject - the optics through which, in accordance with existing and emerging needs (practice, theory), the object can be realistically examined, evaluated, and explained,
- objectivity - verifiable from a legislative, institutional, and methodological point of view, with respect for the independence of facts from theory, in the dynamics of their development.<sup>37</sup>

In accordance with our knowledge, in these terms, based on the formulated scientific hypotheses, it is the ambition of the experts to move to the level of application of theoretical knowledge in practice. In this sense, to realize the transfer of scientific knowledge from research for the needs of a specific addressee (specifically for police-security practice). We note that this is a complex process, because when evaluating the relationship between theory and practice, two approaches generally appear in the literature: the detachment of science from practice - the so-called "exaggerated scientism", and the denial of scientific approaches - the so-called "exaggerated empiricism".

Based on the synthesis of the above, we would like to suggest that one of the answers to the question we have posed is that the relationship between scientific theory and examined practice constitutes a problem which identity is reflected in the transfer of scientific

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<sup>34</sup> HOFREITER, L. 2019. O potrebe a význame teórie pre bezpečnostné vzdelávanie. In: *Krízový manažment*. 2019. roč. 10, č.2, p. 85-86.

<sup>35</sup> ERNEKER, J., PORADA, V. a kol. 2006. *Poznávání potřeb a transfer vědeckých poznatků do policejní praxe*. Praha: Policejní akademie České republiky, p. 53.

<sup>36</sup> PORADA, V. a kol. 2019. *Bezpečnostní vědy*. Plzeň: Aleš Čeněk.

<sup>37</sup> HOLCR, K., PORADA, V. a kol. 2011. *Policejné vedy. Úvod do teórie a metodológie*. Plzeň: Aleš Čeněk.

knowledge into practice. This is particularly evident in relation to ensuring the security of citizens and the state in the taking and implementation of measures that are purposeful oriented:

- addressing the security strategy (an element of the organization and management of police-security activities - prevention, repression, and reduction of consequences from criminal activities, ...),
- tactics and methodologies in the ensuring of security (to provide the implementers (police-security bodies), through various situational themes, with guidance on the "correct and appropriate to the possibilities of action),
- creating the conditions and implementation of preparation, training, and education.<sup>38</sup>

We see this problem in the acceptance of the positions and roles of theory and practice, namely in the systemic approach in the constitution of security sciences. This is also because the subject of security sciences has not yet been specified, as its definition is a complex theoretical and practical issue at present.

On the positive side, in the Slovak Republic security sciences are (so far) defined as an emerging system of scientific knowledge about police-security activities, conditions, means and methods of their implementation. Accepting this intention, they examine, evaluate and explain the legality of the functionality of police-security activities to develop effective methods of prediction, design and implementation of adequate measures and actions aimed at monitoring, prevention and elimination of security threats and hazards.

The object of security sciences is the police-security actions implemented in relation to the ensuring of external and internal security. We understand this action as a synthetic concept for a holistic grasp of the activities of its implementing subjects.<sup>39</sup> The activities of police-security bodies represent professional services to the state, municipal and commercial organisations and, finally, to citizens. Their content is a set of executive, organisational, managerial and other activities, which have the character of service interventions (measures), acts and other service activities. In the Slovak Republic, they are carried out in accordance with the legal order and the ethical principles of a civil democratic society, using preventive and, where necessary, repressive methods of work. Their aim is to protect the fundamental human rights and freedom of persons, especially against criminal and other anti-social activities.<sup>40</sup>

Based on the above, the objects of security sciences are currently categorized into the following basic areas:

- implementing subjects (police-security bodies) - security history, organization and management, position and role, mindset (ethos, credo, career path, professional preparation and training, ..., working style), etc.
- policing-security activities - system of specific activities (genesis, elements and interactions), effectiveness and efficiency, legality and legitimacy, repression and prevention, etc.

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<sup>38</sup> BUZALKA, J. a PORADA V. 2017. Vedecké poznanie bezpečnostnej praxe a rozvoj teórie bezpečnostných rizík, významná súčasť konštituujujúcich sa bezpečnostných vied. In: *Forenzní vědy, právo, kriminalistika*.

<sup>39</sup> HOLOMEK, J. a ŠIMANOVSKÁ, T. 2002. Úvod do metodológie praktických vied. Policajné vedy ako vedy praktické. Bratislava: Akadémia Policajného zboru, p. 86.

<sup>40</sup> FILÁK, A. a kol. 2006. *Základy teórie policejnej bezpečnostní činnosti II*. Praha: Police history, p. 65.  
ŠIMON, L. 2016. *Policajno-bezpečnostná činnosť*. Bratislava: Akadémia Policajného zboru, p. 94-95.

Security sciences contain theories that mutually support and complement each other in a systemic way. This confirms that they also form separate coherent knowledge on a specific issue (security theory, police-security theory, intelligence theory, commercial detective security theory, object protection theory, expert commercial security theory and project security, security risk theory).<sup>41</sup>

The structure of security sciences itself has been established for several years, more precisely one of the possible variants:

- internal security sciences,
- police-justice sciences - police sciences, legal sciences, penology,
- environmental sciences,
- civil defence theory,
- fire protection theory,
- emergency services theory,
- external security sciences
- military sciences,
- theory of diplomacy,
- economic security theory.<sup>42</sup>

We mention this fact mainly because security sciences are included in the list of fields of study in which universities in the Slovak Republic can provide higher education.<sup>43</sup>

## 2.2. Theory of criminal-police cognition in the structure of police sciences

We, in the position of a university lecturer (an employee of the Academy of the Police Force in Bratislava, Department of Criminal Police), participate in the constitution of police sciences. In this activity we accept that police sciences are practical sciences, it means, they examine, evaluate, explain and predict specific actions related to the performance of tasks by police officers. Consistent with our understanding, police sciences subsume in their content an emerging system of scientific knowledge about police realities.<sup>44</sup>

Police reality is an objectively occurring reality in human society in which the processes of police action are realized and their constructs are formed and function.<sup>45</sup>

By an analogical interpretation of the above, it can be stated that the object of police sciences is police action. The subject is police reality.

There is no dispute that various arguments can be used in explaining and projecting police activities and justifying the legitimate acceptance of this subject 'police reality'. Thus, as we have already stated, we consider it crucial in this respect that police theory must be linked to police practice, which its systemic knowledge is primarily intended to improve, develop and innovate its functionality. Police practice is the summary of the processes of

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<sup>41</sup> PORADA, V. a kol. 2019. *Bezpečnostní vědy*. Plzeň: Aleš Čeněk, p.232.

<sup>42</sup> HOLOMEK, J. a ŠIMANOVSKÁ, T. 2002. *Úvod do metodológie praktických vied. Policajné vedy ako vedy praktické*. Bratislava: Akadémia Policajného zboru, s. 120. Rovnako uvádza PORADA, V. a kol. 2019. *Bezpečnostní vědy*. Plzeň: Aleš Čeněk, p.232.

<sup>43</sup> Vyhláška č. 244/2019 Z. z. Vyhláška Ministerstva školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu Slovenskej republiky o sústave študijných odborov Slovenskej republiky. 2021. Dostupné [online] z: <https://www.zakonypreludi.sk/zz/2019-244>.

<sup>44</sup> The term 'reality', in conjunction with a particular scientific entity (category), is used relatively frequently, for example in pedagogy — PRŮCHA — Educational reality; in sociology — MACHONIN, TUČEK et al. — social reality; and others.

<sup>45</sup> LIŠOŇ, M., VAŠKO, A. a kol. 2019. *Teória kriminálno-polícijného poznania*. Bratislava: Wolters Kluwer s.r.o., p. 21.

police activities. It is a complex of purposeful activities of all its components, aimed at ensuring the statutory tasks that the police perform in society. If theory did not contribute to the improvement of police practice, it would be considered illegitimate. This confirms that we perceive police reality as a system whose structure consists of processes, determinants and constructs of concrete purposeful activities that are subsumed in police action.

In particular, the processes of police action consist of situations in which methods and means (activities) are applied in the performance of tasks in a purposefully structured manner. Constructs of police activities are made up of generalised scientific knowledge in the form of legal norms, strategies, tactics, methodologies, systems of work organisation and management, professional training of their implementers, etc. Although this is not expressed "expressis verbis", it confirms that the role of police science is not only to support police practice, but also to deeply understand and explain police reality.

Police science is a system of knowledge about policing that is purposefully developed (constituted) by explaining and projecting police reality in accordance with societal needs.<sup>46</sup>

### **2.2.1. Criminal-police knowledge**

In the structure of police sciences we have offered to include the theory of criminal-police cognition, which we create in accordance with their needs and the needs of police practice.

In the systemic understanding, the theory of criminal-police cognition in accordance with the social needs examines and explains the goals, purpose, procedure, content and conditions of the systemically implemented intelligence activities, operative-search activities and investigations in the cognition of crimes. Based on the identified functional regularities and the gained experience, it creates the conditions for their projecting and further development.<sup>47</sup>

The purpose of the work of our collective at the Department of Criminal Police is to create the conditions for the establishment of a scientific discipline based on research carried out in natural conditions and the aim is, among other things, to define the subject of research and the forms of research, including its methodology, and these subsequently transfer to police practice. In order to fulfil these aims, the theory of criminal-police knowledge:

- specifies theoretical-methodological starting points,
- analyses the factors determining knowledge,
- defines principles, properties, structure and realization possibilities,
- defines organizational-tactical forms,
- provides information prerequisites.

In our scientific activity we respect that the set of specific activities carried out in the cognition of crimes represents in the police practice a systemic model, which we have denoted by the term - criminal-police cognition. The validity of this approach is confirmed by the need and the achieved information outputs in practice in the performance of police tasks in the field of identification of selected crimes. These are particularly situations in which police officers through this activity:

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<sup>46</sup> LIŠOŇ, M., VAŠKO, A. a kol. 2019. *Teória kriminálno-polícajného poznania*. Bratislava: Wolters Kluwer s.r.o., p. 22.

<sup>47</sup> LIŠOŇ, M., VAŠKO, A. a kol. 2019. *Teória kriminálno-polícajného poznania*. Bratislava: Wolters Kluwer s.r.o., p. 35.

- gather information for law enforcement authorities, who use it for the purposes of criminal proceedings,
- collect information and penetrate in the structures of criminal groups in order to increase the effectiveness of the fight against crime and to establish criminal liability.

With these intentions in the performance of tasks in specific situations, criminal-police cognition constitutes:

- saturation of needs (practice),
- a specific subsystem (of police action),
- problem solving (cognition, identification of the features of criminal offences),
- creation of information networks (conditions for the implementation of intelligence activities, operative-search activities and investigations),
- regulated procedures (by law and acceptance of responsibility),
- specific activities (related to the position and role of the participating entities - members of the Intelligence Service, the Police Force, who are authorised to carry out operative-search activities and investigations),
- managed activities (intentional activities, justified by an identified need).<sup>48</sup>

By analysing the above, it can be concluded that the specific activities in this system are carried out purposively in compliance with certain principles, which represent fundamental ideas. We classify these principles into two groups:

- **universal** - the principle of democracy and humanism, the principle of legality, the principle of science, the principle of proportionality and subsidiarity, the principle of unity of prevention and repression, the principle of secrecy;
- **specific** - the principle of purposefulness, the principle of objectivity and the principle of planning, the principle of preparedness and the principle of operatives, the principle of public relations.<sup>49</sup>

The Slovak Republic is a State governed by the rule of law, in which intelligence, operative-search activities and investigation (criminal-police knowledge) are carried out by legally designated entities exclusively on the basis of and to the extent provided for by law, with strict respect for human rights and freedoms. These are activities in which these bodies use specific methods, means and forms in order to fulfil the tasks laid down by law in their areas of activity.<sup>50</sup>

## 2. 2.2. Intelligence activities and operative-search activities

Intelligence, intelligence activities, are carried out in the conditions of the Slovak Republic by several police-security bodies with different objectives.

We do not find a legal definition of intelligence activities in the legal order of the Slovak Republic, however, in the literature we can find several definitions of intelligence activities, which are partly different depending on the approach and opinions of individual authors. We, in fulfilling our ambition in this paper, have decided to accept the

<sup>48</sup> LISOŇ, M. a DUBEŇ P. 2021. Teórie kriminálno-polícajného poznania v systéme bezpečnostných vied. In: *Projustice*. Dostupné [online] z: <https://www.projustice.sk/bezpecnostne-vedy/teorie-kriminalno-policajneho-poznania-v-systeme-bezpecnostnych-vied>.

<sup>49</sup> LISOŇ, M., VAŠKO, A. a kol. 2019. *Teória kriminálno-polícajného poznania*. Bratislava: Wolters Kluwer s.r.o.

<sup>50</sup> Zoznam kritérií právneho štátu. 2018. Dostupné [online] z: <https://www.ustavnysud.sk/documents/10182/42829548/CDL-AD%282016%29007+Zoznam+kriterii+pravneho+statu+%28SJ%29.pdf/dd9a0faa-6028-4646-9a2d-a81bf582014c>.

characterization of this activity developed by the members of the Academy of the Police Force in Bratislava. They use the term intelligence activity to tag a purposeful, systematic cognitive activity by which competent state administration bodies (members of the Slovak Information Service, military defence intelligence, the Police Force and others), using specific methods, means (techniques) and forms, covertly, in a planned manner, acquire (collect), classify, analyse, store and distribute (share) information for specific users (addressees) in order to increase the level of their knowledge necessary for the performance of their activities.<sup>51</sup> It is obvious from the above characterisation that the content of intelligence activities is the procedural work with information, which the competent authorities carry out on purpose for the intended addressees in an intelligence (cognitive) cycle, structurally made up of phases:

- planning and management,
- collection,
- processing,
- analysis,
- delivering the result.<sup>52</sup>

In the conditions of the Slovak Republic, the state administration bodies, which are competent to carry out intelligence activities are:

- **Slovak Information Service** - is a state body, general security and intelligence service of the Slovak Republic and performs tasks in the matters of protection of the constitutional system, internal order, security of the state and protection of foreign policy and economic interests of the state within the scope defined by the Act on the Slovak Information Service<sup>53</sup>.
- **Military Intelligence** - is an intelligence service that performs the tasks of intelligence provision for the defence, defence capability and security of the Slovak Republic within the scope of the Ministry of Defence of the Slovak Republic<sup>54</sup>.
- **The Police Force** - is an armed security corps which performs tasks in matters of internal order, security, the fight against crime, including its organised forms and international forms, and tasks which result for the Police Corps from the international obligations of the Slovak Republic.<sup>55</sup>

When comparing the legal definitions of individual entities, it can be stated that the legislator, when defining the Slovak Information Service and the Military Intelligence Service, strictly defines that they are state bodies which are intelligence services. In contrast, this explicit designation is absent in the definition of the Police Force. In fulfilling the purpose of Act no. 171/1993, as amended (the Law of the Police Force), are authorised to carry out operative-search activities, the content of which generally consists of a system of covert, intelligence measures for the purposes of preventing, detecting and documenting criminal activities and identifying their perpetrators, providing protection of designated persons and guarded objects, technically protected objects, providing and rendering protection and assistance to endangered witnesses and protected witnesses, protection of the state border and

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<sup>51</sup> STIERANKA, J., VAŠKO A. 2021. *Odhaľovanie trestných činov (nová stratégia a prístupy)*. Praha: Leges, 2021, p.52.

<sup>52</sup> STIERANKA, J., VAŠKO A. 2021. *Odhaľovanie trestných činov (nová stratégia a prístupy)*. Praha: Leges, 2021, p. 54.

<sup>53</sup> § 1 Zákona č. 46/1993 Z. z. o Slovenskej informačnej službe v znení neskorších predpisov

<sup>54</sup> § 1 Zákona č. 198/1994 Z. z. o Vojenskom spravodajstve v znení neskorších predpisov

<sup>55</sup> § 1 Zákona č. 171/1993 Z. z. o Policajnom zbore v znení neskorších predpisov

searching persons and things (§ 38a). In fulfilling the purposes of this Act, the following are authorized under § 39: the use of means of operative and search activities - surveillance of persons and things, monitoring of persons and means of transport, controlled delivery, criminal intelligence, use of cover documents, decoy and security equipment, the use of persons acting for the benefit of the Police Force, objects and places used under a legend, and pretended transfer of things. According to Law of the Police Force, as amended, the Police Force is entitled to use the means of operative and search activities to detect intentional crimes and to identify their perpetrators, to protect the legalite and the agent, to ensure the protection of designated persons, the protection of guarded objects, the protection of the national border and in the cases referred to in § 36 and the special rule. At the same time, the means of operative and search activities, in connection with the activity of criminal intelligence, are authorised to be used by the Police Force when carrying out security checks under a special regulation. For the purposes of the Police Force Act, the monitoring of persons and means of transport means ‘ the processing of information on persons and means of transport to the extent of the data referred to in the Schengen Convention obtained by the services of the Police Force in the performance of their tasks.’<sup>56</sup>

It follows from the analogical interpretation of the above that in the system of operative-search activity the Police Force is entitled to implement covert, intelligence measures. Measures for the needs of the implementation of the operative-search activity are carried out in order to ensure its functioning (intervention, action to secure something) and the achievement of the set objectives by systematically obtaining (collecting), analysing and sorting, storing and distributing information.<sup>57</sup> Measures are informal, oral or written decisions of a technical-organisational or operative nature.<sup>58</sup> This confirms that operative-search activities, as described above, have broader functional implementation dimensions than intelligence activities.

In this context, the Financial Administration and the Prison and Judicial Guard Corps may also be included in the list of state administration bodies competent to carry out intelligence activities for the purpose. The Financial Administration Act similarly defines operative-search activities. According to the Law of Financial Administration, as amended, the operative-search activities are a system of classified intelligence measures carried out by the financial administration for the purpose of preventing, detecting and documenting intentional criminal activity in the field of detection of offences committed in connection with the violation of tax provisions in the field of value added tax and customs or customs duties<sup>59</sup>. In addition, the means of operative-search activities are exhaustively defined in this legal norm.<sup>60</sup> These are also defined separately in the Act on the Prison and Judicial Guard Corps.<sup>61</sup>

It is evident from what has been said so far that the means of operative-search activities are exhaustively listed in special laws for the Police Force, the Prison and Judicial Guard Corps and the Financial Administration to the extent necessary for the fulfilment of their tasks. In contrast to these entities, the laws regulating the activities of the intelligence services contain information-operative means, which are surveillance of persons and things,

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<sup>56</sup> § 39 Zákona č. 171/1993 Z. z. o Policajnom zборе v znení neskorších predpisov

<sup>57</sup> LISOŇ, M., VAŠKO, A. a kol. 2018. *Teória kriminálno-polícajného poznania*. Bratislava: Wolters Kluwer s.r.o., 2018, p. 123.

<sup>58</sup> § 10 ods. 8 Zákona č. 301/2005 Z. z. Trestný poriadok v znení neskorších predpisov.

<sup>59</sup> § 15 Zákona č. 35/2019 o Finančnej správe v znení neskorších predpisov,

<sup>60</sup> § 16 ods. 1 Zákona č. 35/2019 o Finančnej správe v znení neskorších predpisov.

<sup>61</sup> § 26 ods. 1 Zákona č. 4/2001 Z. z. o Zbore väzenskej a justičnej stráže Slovenskej republiky.

persons acting for the benefit of the Information Service/Military Intelligence, legalization documents (and legends), substitution of things and pretended transfer of things.<sup>62</sup>

In addition to the means mentioned above, all the hitherto mentioned State administration bodies may use information-technical means, which are in particular electro-technical, radio-technical, photo-technical, optical, mechanical, chemical and other means and devices or sets thereof used in a covert manner for searching, opening, examining and evaluating mail and other transported items, obtaining the content of messages transmitted via electronic communication networks, including the interception of telephone communications, and the making of visual, audio, video-audio or other recordings.<sup>63</sup>

The competent state administration bodies carrying out intelligence and operative-search activities may use the above means to fulfil their statutory tasks. In this context, it is worth noting that the final product of their activities is intelligence information or criminal information. In the conditions of the Slovak Republic, these information outputs serve in certain cases as a basis for criminal proceedings. These information is not obtained in the framework of criminal proceedings. For the purposes of criminal proceedings, means of operative-search activities and information-technical means are regulated separately in Act No 301/2005 Coll., the Criminal Procedure Code, as follows:

Information-technical means shall be understood to mean electrotechnical, radio-technical, phototechnical, optical, mechanical, chemical and other technical means and devices or sets thereof used in a classified manner in the interception and recording of traffic in electronic communications networks, visual, audio or video-audio recordings or in the search, opening and examination of parcels, if their use interferes with fundamental human rights and freedoms.<sup>64</sup>

Means of operative-search activity shall be understood as controlled delivery, substitution of the contents of consignments, agent, pretended transfer, tracking of persons and things.<sup>65</sup>

### **2.3. Criminal intelligence**

Criminal intelligence is a means of operative-search activity and its legal definition is defined in the Police Force Act, namely in Section 39a. It is understood as an activity by which information about crimes and their perpetrators is obtained, concentrated and evaluated in a covert manner and conditions are created for the use of an agent. A police officer-legalizer acting under a permanent legend or a temporary legend may be used to carry out criminal intelligence tasks. A police officer acting under a permanent legend or a temporary legend may be used as an agent in the performance of criminal intelligence tasks, under the conditions laid down in a special regulation.<sup>66</sup>

In relation to subject matter jurisdiction, the activities related to the use of this agent may be carried out by the Police officers assigned to the Office of Special Services and Operations of the Presidium of the Police Force, which is established by the Regulation of the Presidium of the Police Corps No. 53/2015 on the Organisational Regulations of the Presidium of the Police Force, which:

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<sup>62</sup> § 11 ods. 1 Zákona č. 46/1993 Z. z. o Slovenskej informačnej službe v znení neskorších predpisov a § 11 ods. 1 Zákona č. 198/1994 Z. z. o Vojenskom spravodajstve v znení neskorších predpisov.

<sup>63</sup> § 2 ods.1 a 2 Zákona č. 166/2003 Z. z. o ochrane súkromia pred neoprávneným použitím informačno-technických prostriedkov v znení neskorších predpisov (zákon o ochrane pred odpočúvaním).

<sup>64</sup> §10 ods. 20 Zákona č. 301/2005 Z. z. Trestný poriadok v znení neskorších predpisov.

<sup>65</sup> §10 ods. 21 Zákona č. 301/2005 Z. z. Trestný poriadok v znení neskorších predpisov.

<sup>66</sup> § 39a Zákona č. 171/1993 Z. z. o Policajnom zbore v znení neskorších predpisov.

- carries out tasks in the field of criminal intelligence and the use of agents,
- carries out tasks in the field of ensuring the specificities related to the performance of the service of intelligence officers, establishes and provides the necessary temporary or permanent legend,
- ensuring the direct performance of operative-search activities in the field of detection of organised crime, corruption and terrorism,
- obtains, collects, evaluates, analyses and forwards information related to the detection of organised crime, corruption and terrorism to the relevant units of the Police Force,
- cooperates with law enforcement authorities.

It is obvious from the above that criminal intelligence is a specific police activity. It represents complex processes in which competent state administration bodies implement police operations for the achievement of partial aims and specific forms of work with information. It is an activity that is long-term and requires a certain sequence and continuity of steps, which at the same time do not contradict each other from the initial step to the last step. It is carried out through the methods, means and forms of criminal intelligence.

The methods of criminal intelligence are a certain system of steps containing established procedures, techniques, means and police operations by which the relevant facts in the processes of this specific activity are purposefully learned.

It is the operations that constitute an essential ingredient for the achievement of the purpose of criminal intelligence. Police operations consist of multi-purpose, time-coordinated actions and measures that are purposely aimed at discovering and fixing facts of criminal-police interest or creating a suitable environment (situation, conditions) for further action in a purposely implemented process of this specific activity.

Police officers use operations at the stage before, during and after the use of criminal intelligence. Regardless of the completeness of their use:

- they learn about what has taken place in the past or what is currently taking place;
- determine the future direction of the task;
- make decisions on the application of preventive or repressive measures and then implement them effectively and efficiently;
- create appropriate conditions for the effective and efficient implementation of criminal intelligence;
- provide information or other protection and control in the implementation of criminal intelligence;
- ensure appropriate conditions (situations) for the effective and efficient deployment (use) of other means - specifically the operative-search activities;
- create suitable conditions for the application of methods (criminal-police operation is an element in the system of their application), etc.<sup>67</sup>

To the above it is appropriate to add that the implementation (use) of police operations is conditioned by the emerged and emerging situation (their cognition). They are implemented especially in the creation of the necessary logistics of criminal intelligence. Especially in the creation and use of legends, secrecy, organization and management, not least control in stages:

- preparation of implementation,
- actual implementation,

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<sup>67</sup> LISOŇ M., VAŠKO A. a kol. 2018. *Teória kriminálno-polícajného poznania*. Bratislava: Wolters Kluwer s. r. o., 2018, p. 313.

- evaluation,
- termination of criminal intelligence.

For the above reasons, practice permanently confirms that the successful implementation of criminal intelligence operations is directly determined by the outputs of the analysis of the operative situation and the ability of competent government authorities to apply intuitive methods in identifying their needs.

The forms implemented in relation to the use of criminal intelligence are very variable in the conditions of the Slovak Republic. This is also because the form represents a typical functional manifestation of purposely implemented processes (the manifestation is reflected in the relations of the system of activities, which are purposely and purposefully implemented by competent subjects by using their abilities and possibilities). Thus, forms are templates in the elaboration of a certain comprehensive plan that is usable in the use of criminal intelligence. The application of the forms depends on the actual needs, capabilities and abilities of the competent government bodies to perform a specific function in a purposeful manner. This is because the form characterises the outward manifestation of the functionality of the processes that are implemented in the use of criminal intelligence. In the given context, the form of criminal intelligence:

- is the outward manifestation of a particular functional system,
- has its specific content,
- is a specific manifestation of the activities by which a competent criminal intelligence body constructs its knowledge,
- in the process of application it shows the characteristic features of systemic work with information,
- it is a solution for problem,
- it is a process of selection of new information and creation of information networks based on previously processed information,
- it is a manifestation of purposefully applied activities,
- it is an organised and managed activity,
- it performs the function of methodology in the process of purposeful implementation of criminal intelligence,
- has an informational, social, security, police and operative (intelligence) character <sup>68</sup>.

In police practice, forms of criminal intelligence are coordinated activities. Due to the purpose pursued, the objectives and the nature related to the potential possibility of interference with rights and freedoms (the need for control), they are carried out by a narrow circle of police officers in a specialised unit. It is obvious that this is a purposeful implementation of processes within the framework of detection of crimes and detection of their perpetrators - form - operative detection of crimes and detection of their perpetrators (crime clarification).

In presenting this statement, we respect the limits on the use of criminal intelligence defined by law. If criminal intelligence in our conditions is similarly used as in other EU countries, namely if it is translated into the European model of criminal intelligence, then other functions would be achieved, for example, also on:

- preventing, limiting and preventing the commission of crime - form - tactical, operative and strategic crime prevention,

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<sup>68</sup> LISOŇ M., VAŠKO A. a kol. 2018. *Teória kriminálno-polícajného poznania*. Bratislava: Wolters Kluwer s. r. o., 2018, p. 330.

- control of persons of interest - form - operative control of persons of interest,
- carrying out evidence, proving - form - operative-information and operative-technical documentation,
- ensuring the protection of designated persons and objects - form - operative protection of designated persons and objects,
- ensuring the protection of State borders - form - operative protection of State borders,
- providing witness protection - form - operative witness protection,
- ensuring search for persons and objects - form - operative search for persons and objects, etc.<sup>69</sup>

With these facts we have tried to indicate that in the conditions of the Slovak Republic criminal intelligence is used minimally and has a very narrow specification compared to the European Union and Europol, which have a broader concept of it and use it mainly to learn about organised and transnational crime. In this context, the European Criminal Intelligence Model (ECIM) is a standardised system for dealing with, collecting, processing, analysing and subsequent processing and usage of information. The main product of the model is the organised crime threat assessment, which is at the same time a tool for the implementation of intelligence management of law enforcement and, consequently, of the intelligence management of police units.<sup>70</sup> It is a set of activities aimed at detecting crimes and their perpetrators, clarifying criminal activities and controlling crime. This system has two levels:

- **strategic level of the ECIM** - it explores the general object (crime and its threats), it is also referred to as the European Union policy cycle,
- **the operative level of the ECIM** - detection of specific crimes implemented through specific EMPACT projects.<sup>71</sup>

On 12th May 2021, the Council of the European Union set the following European Union priorities for EMPACT in the fight against serious and organised crime for the years 2022 to 2025:

1. high-risk criminal networks,
2. cyber-attacks,
3. trafficking of human beings,
4. sexual exploitation of children,
5. smuggling,
6. drug trafficking: production, distribution and trafficking of cannabis, cocaine and heroin; production, distribution and trafficking of synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances,
7. fraud, economic and financial crime: internet fraud, excise fraud, fraud based on the absence of a commercial entity, intellectual property crime, counterfeiting of goods and currency, financial crime, money laundering and recovery of criminal proceeds,
8. organised property crime,
9. crimes against the environment,
10. illicit trafficking in firearms.<sup>72</sup>

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<sup>69</sup> LISOŇ M., VAŠKO A. 2018. *Realizácia policajných operácií vo formách kriminálno-policajného poznania*. IN: *Bezpečnostní teorie a praxe*. Praha: Policejní akademie České republiky v Praze. roč. 2018, č. 3, p. 9 – 12.

<sup>70</sup> MÁLIK, J., JARABÁ, A. 2018. *EÚ cyklus politik, národný empact koordinátor, cosi - ich úlohy a postavenie vo vzťahu ku kriminálnemu spravodajstvu*. IN: *Aktuálne otázky aplikácie kriminálneho spravodajstva v kontexte nových trendov v Európskej únii*. Bratislava: Akadémia Policajného zboru v Bratislave, 2018, p. 30.

<sup>71</sup> STIERANKA, J., MARKO, M. 2019. *Kriminálne spravodajstvo (Nový koncept odhalovania trestných činov v Slovenskej republike)*. Bratislava: Wolters Kluwer s.r.o., 2019, p. 27-46.

For some of these crimes it must also be taken into account the current growing trend of profiting from such crimes in the form of virtual currencies. These are in particular the sale of illegal goods through darknet markets. In addition, perpetrators also use virtual currencies in general in these modus operandi of criminal activities: blackmail, fraud, ransomware and payments for the purchase of fake loans.<sup>73</sup>

To fulfil these priorities, it is essential that the legal regulation of criminal intelligence in the Slovak Republic would be changed and used not only to obtain, concentrate and evaluate information on crimes and their perpetrators, in order to create the conditions for the use of an agent but also to control crime, taking into account in particular the most serious forms of crime such as organised crime and terrorism.

### Summary

In Hungary the analysis of the views of 19th-20th century Police Science classics on Secret Policing also serves as a useful guide for modern criminal intelligence.

The presentation of the professional history development and legal framework of criminal intelligence confirmed that with the establishment of the detective body within the capital's police in the 19th century. At the end of the 19th century, the germs of criminal intelligence developed in Hungary. Law enforcement education was of a high standard, mainly through a system of courses during this period.

The purpose of secret policing was a preparation for justice before World War II, in contrast to the secret operational procedures and means created by the Soviet-style social order to provide information to the political system and to operate violent organizations. Until the change of regime, party politics and ideology left their mark on law enforcement education.

Following the change of regime, the possibilities for secret information gathering were enshrined in law, but initially with little external control, and from 2018 onwards, the criminal intelligence system was fully integrated into criminal proceedings, with the possibility of law enforcement prevention.

From 2006, law enforcement higher education switched to the Bologna system and the development of the steps of Police Science began, culminating in the launch of the Doctoral School of Police Science in 2016. The creation of new criminal specialties and subjects followed the technical and scientific development of society.

The practical models of criminal intelligence show a varied picture, methodological guidelines are currently being developed, to which the Criminal Intelligence, Economic and Cybercrime Department of Faculty of Law Enforcement of University of Public Service Ludovika can contribute with the theoretical knowledge of domestic and foreign countries and the presentation of good practices.

The situation is different in the Slovak Republic, where security sciences are still being built. Taking into account the current state of affairs, it can be concluded that there are still extensive discussions among experts in this field with the intention of stabilising the theoretical foundations of this complex system and thus completing the process of building these sciences. The theory of criminal-police cognition, which describes intelligence and operative-search activities, is a part of this.

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<sup>72</sup> RADA EÚ. 2021. *Návrh záverov rady, ktorými sa stanovujú priority EÚ v boji proti závažnej a organizovanej trestnej činnosti pre platformu EMPACT na roky 2022 až 2025*. [cit. 2021-10-12]. Dostupné [online] z: <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-8665-2021-INIT/sk/pdf>

<sup>73</sup> JURISOVÁ, M. a NIKOLAJOVÁ KUPFERSCHMIDTOVÁ, E. Virtual Currencies versus Crime in the Context of the Slovak republic. In: *Bezpečnostní teorie a praxe*. 2020, č. 4, p. 45.

The current legal regulation of intelligence, operative-search activity and the theoretical definition of intelligence requires updating, especially with the intention of legally specifying the categories used. The overlapping definitions of intelligence and intelligence-gathering activities should be abandoned and the aim should be to unify them, in particular with a view to bring them closer to foreign terminology. At the same time, there is a need for criminal intelligence to be legislated and to be brought up to an international standard, to the extent that the European Union's priorities in the fight against serious and organised crime can be met.

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