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PhD Thesis Summary:

ORGANIZED CRIME COUNTERING IN ROMANIA FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE REPRESENTATIONS, ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORS OF THE SPECIALISTS INVOLVED IN THE FIELD AND OF POPULATION

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CONTENTS

KIND REGARDS	5
ABBREVIATIONS	6
FORWARD	7
PART I	8
CHAPTER 1. SCIENTIFIC CONCEPTS AND THEORIES RELATED T CRIME, ORGANIZED CRIME	
1.1. Explanatory perspectives, concepts and theories of human behavior	8
1.1.1. Biological explanations and theories	
1.1.1. Ethological explanations and theories	
1.1.3. Psychological explanations and theories	
1.1.4. Socio-anthropological explanations and theories	
1.1.5. Legal explanations and theories	
1.1.6. Philosophical approaches	
1.1.7. Theological approaches	
1.2. Human behavior between normality and deviance	10
1.2.1. Explanatory perspectives on behavioral normality and deviance. Theories	10
1.2.1.1. The theory of social anomaly	10
1.2.1.2. An approach to social anomaly in understanding social dysfunction	11
1.2.1.3. Forms of manifestation of social anomaly/anomie	
1.2.2. Perspective of deviant behavior and of the educational and axiological deficiencies	
1.2.3. The social reaction perspective	
1.2.4. The social disorganization perspective	
1.2.5. The social pathology perspective	
1.2.6 The cultural transmission or transmitting perspective	
1.3. Deviance, delinquency, crime, organized crime	
1.3.1. Deviance and delinquency: explanatory concepts and theories	
1.3.2. Crime: explanatory concepts and theories	
1.3.3. the Concepts of crime, organized crime and mafia	
CHAPTER 2. SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE ACTIVITY OF	
ORGANIZED CRIME COUNTERING AS A SPECIFIC APPLICATION	
SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS.	14
2.1. The specificity of using the observation method in investigating and analyzing organized crime.	14
2.2. The specificity of using the interview method in investigating organized crime; examples	14
2.3. The specificity of using the social documents analysis method in the organized crime investigati	ng activity 14
2.4. The specificity of using the network analysis method by complex means	15
2.5. AN integrated approach to sociological research methods	15

 3.1. General description and presentation. A short history of organized crime.
 16

 3.2. Crime. Mafia. Organized crime.
 16

3.3. The situation of organized crime in Romania, structure and dynamics.	16
3.3.1. Crime as a whole/a phenomenon in itself	
3.3.2. Organized crime	
3.3.2.1. Illicit trafficking of drugs	
3.3.2.2. Human trafficking and the traffic of migrants.	
3.3.2.3. Computer crime and crimes with credit cards.	
3.3.2.4. Corruption	
3.3.2.5. Economic-financial crime	
3.3.2.7. Crimes of terrorism and terrorism financing crimes	

CHAPTER 4. CONTEMPORARY APPROACHES TO COUNTERING ORGANIZED CRIME

 5.1.Population's representations, attitudes and behaviors in relation with organized crime and its countering, within an international and national background.
 21

 5.2. Population's level of trust in the law force and in countering organized crime
 21

 5.3. Public policies and social communication services meant to counter organized crime. The public support of the institutions involved in this activity.
 21

 5.4. Evolutions and perspectives of the crime phenomenon dynamics and in the population's relation to it ...22
 23

 PART II.
 23

 APPLIED RESEARCH: THE RESEARCH METHODOLOGICAL DESIGN AND PRESENTATION OF THE RESEARCH RESULTS.
 23

 CHAPTER 6
 23

6.1. Object and purpose of the research: Systematic identification of the representations attitudes and behaviors of the specialists involved in the field and of the population in relation to organized crime and its countering actions 23

6.2. Questions of the research and its operational objectives	23
6.3. Population under research and lots of investigated subjects	24
6.4. Methods, instruments and techniques used by the research	24
6.5. Expected results	24
CHAPTER 7	

PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION OF THE RESEARCH RESULTS 26

7.1. Perspective of the specialists involved in the field in relation with the population's representations, attitudes	and
behaviors against organized crime and its countering actions, by the structured interview method	
7.1.1. Perspective of the police officers within B.C.C.O. Cluj-Napoca	
7.1.2. Perspective of the prosecutors within D.I.I.C.O.TThe Territorial Service Cluj	
7.1.3. The opinion of a judge specialized in the field	
7.1.4. The opinion of a lawyer specialized in the field	
7.1.5. Opinions of the specialists involved in the victims' prevention and support structures	27
7.2. Population's stated representations, attitudes and behaviors against organized crime and its countering. For	cus-
group of persons of the general population of the counties of Cluj and Maramures	
7.3.1. Case study no. 1 (2006)	28
7.3.2. Case study no. 2 (2010)	28
7.3.3. A compared analysis of the case studies	28
PART III	
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	
CHAPTER 8	
GENERAL CONCLUSIONS	
8.1. Conclusions at a scientific knowledge level30	
8.2. Conclusions at the level of practical approach	
8.3. Recommendations at the scientific research level	
8.4. Recommendations to be applied at the level of the policies, programs and services dedicated to countering and fighting organized crime	d to
ANNEXES	
BIBLIOGRAPHY	

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ABBREVIATIONS

A.N.A.: The National Antidrug Agency **A.N.I.T.P.** The National Human Trafficking Countering Agency B.C.C.O.: The Organized Crime Countering/Fighting Brigade D.C.C.O.: The Crime Countering/Fighting Directorate **D.I.I.C.O.T:** The Terrorism and Organized Crime Investigation Department **D.N.A.:** The National Anticorruption Department E.E.A.: The Environment of Evolutionary Adaptedness **EUROPOL**: European Police Office F.B.I.: The Federal Bureau of Investigation G.I.S.: The Strategic Interministerial Group H.G.: Government Decision I.G.P.F.: The General Inspectorate of the Border Police I.G.P.R.: The General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police I.P.J.: The County Police Inspectorate **INSCOP:** The National Index of the Population Consumption Services **INTERPOL:** International Police Organization **ISIS:** Islamic State of Iraq and Syria M.A.I.: the Ministry of Internal Affairs M.C.V.: The Cooperation and Checking Mechanisms M.I.: the Ministry of Interior NATO: the North Atlantic Treaty Organization **ONG:** Non-governmental Organization **ONU:** The United Nations' Organization S.C.C.O.: The Organized Crime Countering/Fighting Service S.R.I.: the Romanian Information Service S.U.A. : the United States of America U.E.: The European Union U.N.G.I.F.T.: United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking **UNICEF:** United Nations International Children's Education Found

FORWARD

The present paperwork intends to be a comprehensive study of deviant conduct and behaviors from sociological, legislative and legal perspectives. Harmoniously and almost imperceptibly blending the sociological perspective with the legal perspective I have taken as starting point the crime nucleus, analyzed from a social perspective, namely from behaviors defined as deviant.

The first part of the paperwork dwells on and synthesizes a series of scientific theories and concepts relative to deviance, crime, organized crime, trying to accurately identify the issues of atypical or out of the ordinary behaviors. The second chapter of the paperwork focuses on the scientific understanding of the organized crime specialized countering/fighting activity as a specific implementation of the sociologic research methods. In the third chapter I have analyzed the organized crime phenomenon in Romania without omitting the international background against which this phenomenon must be described. We have not limited to its structure, dimensions and implications but have inclusively tried to depict an objective evaluation of the present situation of organized crime in Romania, by approaching its most familiar forms and manifestations. The climax of the legal perspective over the research topic was defined by the contents of chapter four, where we have tried to bring forward a series of organized crime countering contemporary approaches, especially in relation to human trafficking countering. The next chapter, respectively chapter five, we dwell on the perspective of the population's representations, attitudes and behaviors in relation to the activities of the structures responsible of organized crime countering attributions. Within this part of the research, the paperwork focused on the impact of the crime phenomenon and on its dynamics within the abovementioned organized crime countering institutions, also tying to blend the two together, as we aimed at identifying the way in which organized crime is perceived and the way in which the efforts of countering organized crime are perceived by the individual, as a mere member of society, related to the endorsed perspective of the professional who is part of the system.

Consequently, I have considered useful that the last part of the paperwork, be represented by a specific research, a practical study of the issues therefore addressed: the population's representations, attitudes and behaviors in relation to organized crime and population's opinions concerning the activities developed by these institutions specialized in combating organized crime, specifically identified in the activity of professionals of the law field. Within the research thus conducted we have chosen a special methodology, trying to combine more than one scientific research methods, both quality and quantity methods, of the methods analyzed within the theoretical part.

PART I

THEORETICAL-METHODOLOGICAL FUNDAMENTALS OF THE RESEARCH CHAPTER 1. SCIENTIFIC CONCEPTS AND THEORIES RELATED TO DEVIANCE, CRIME, ORGANIZED CRIME

1.1. Explanatory perspectives, concepts and theories of human behavior

Sociology studies human behavior from its multiple perspectives, not only as a process but also as a phenomenon and this is the reason why a series of approaches have been used and developed along time, so as to simplify this complex process of deciphering and understanding human behavior. Sociology, as one of the fundamental sciences among modern sciences, which forms the very foundation of the process of understanding the nowadays social reality, could not remain indifferent of this factor represented by the human behavior, reason for which sociologists of all times have paid special attention to human behavior. A synonym of the noun *conduct*, human behavior includes every method and manner of acting or reacting in certain situations.

1.1.1. Biological explanations and theories

Biological theories according to which physiological criteria become a reasonable, justifying basis of human behavior. According to these theories, a certain type of behavior must always have at least a psycho-physiological dysfunction, without excluding the possibility of various interactions with other determining factors. From the perspective of the anthropology (a theory of biological nature itself) human behavior is analyzed from the point of view of the body, not of the mind.

1.1.1. Ethological explanations and theories

The ethological theory human behavior is a theory of biological inspiration, which, in its development, has interacted sufficiently enough with elements of sociology and anthropology to be analyzed separately. The theory is explained by human ethology in itself, described as being that branch of modern sciences tightly connected to anthropology. C. Darwin (1809-1882) is considered the precursor of comparative behavioral research, being the one who offered a premiere of the ethological visions which explains human behavior and which has influenced modern by the development of the natural selection theory, theory which laid the foundations of his book *The*

*Expression of Emotions in Humans and IN Animals*¹ dated 1872, a paperwork which dwells on a fine and careful observation of human reactions as compared to those seen in some animal species.

1.1.3. Psychological explanations and theories

According to these theories, human skills resulting from the psycho-social process of interaction and learning are the main factors justifying psychosocial behavioral changes. According to social psychology, the human behavior pattern, especially the behavioral pattern deviating from the generally recognized and ascertained normality, can be identified, first of all, by the process of thinking, and in the second place, by the emotional coefficient, that personal print of each of us, which actually depicts an individual's way of reacting and of answering to certain situations.

1.1.4. Socio-anthropological explanations and theories

Within the category of socio-anthropological explanations we shall specify a series of theories worth quoting:

The frustration-aggressiveness theory is one of the logical, average explanations according to which deviated behaviors are generated by frustration.

The theory of associated differentiations, issued by E. Sutherland, according to which deviated behavior is based on two main coordinates as uncontested milestones. First of all these types of behavior can be learnt and are basically acquired of the models and patterns observed within the social environment in which the subject leads their life. Secondly, they are grafted onto a history of behavioral problems, not necessarily a genetic problem, although its existence would not remove the theory applicability, but rather any pre-existing factor which could determine behavioral anomalies. (1927, p. 234).

1.1.5. Legal explanations and theories

Social norms differ from legal, procedural regulations. The legal, procedural regulation shall be defined as the totality of rules imposed by the state, whose applicability is most often ensured by the use of coercive force. The notion of regulation is given, from this perspective, the meaning of mandatory, compulsory rule, generally valid and accepted by the majority of the members of a society. From the legal sciences perspective, human behavior is fundamentally understood from the perspective of the relationship legal-illegal, conformist-nonconformist, allowed-forbidden, subject or not to sanctions. What remains as a background of legal explanations of human behavior is the concept of

¹ Volum disponibil online la următoarea pagină de internet http://ro.scribd.com/doc/236976578/Charles-Darwin-Expresia-Emotiilor-La-Om-Si-Animale-Ed-Academiei-RSR-1967#scribd, consultat periodic începând cu data 03.01.2015.

justice and the difference between good and evil, presented under specific terms, nevertheless derived from philosophy and theology.

1.1.6. Philosophical approaches

From a philosophical perspective on human behavior, the human being and their methods of acting in certain circumstances are directly influenced by the worldwide admitted values of : good and justice, fairness, honesty, beauty, the truth, equity.

1.1.7. Theological approaches

Within the theological explanations background, human behavior is understood from the perspective of the relationship man - divinity, such as the divine is understood in various religions. In this respect, human behavior is subject to clear classifications, divided between good and evil, by rules specific to each cult or religion.

1.2. Human behavior between normality and deviance

Deviant behavior has come to be considered by sociology as a key concept, as a social issue of major importance for the entire society, which has determined, as otherwise expected, the creation of a new branch within this science, respectively the sociology of deviance.

1.2.1. Explanatory perspectives on behavioral normality and deviance. Theories

Deviance shall be defined as the equivalent of breaking the social order, by any deviation from the rules which create social order. The line between normality and deviance is an extremely thin line, which generates not only the complexity of deviance but also its rather unpredictable nature.

1.2.1.1. The theory of social anomaly

Social anomaly shall be understood as a disorder over time, in relation with the values, the norms and also with social conduct and manifestations. The theory of social anomaly applied in order to explain deviant behavior has its etymological origin in even the word anomaly which rather refers to the absence of social regulations and values at the level of the individual or of society. Social anomaly forms the basis of deviant behavior, especially when there are sudden alterations of social or even political background.

1.2.1.2. An approach to social anomaly in understanding social dysfunction

Unlike Durkheim but in the same direction of explaining deviant behavior by the theory of social anomaly, R. K. Merton himself conducted an ample research (1957), considering more version of the anomaly and developing a different approach. R. K. Merton intended, all along his research, to formulate a purely sociologic explanation of deviance, therefore to underline not only its negative aspects and implications but also its positive features, sustaining that social structures and cultural values which exercise pressure towards compliance also generate fractures and contradictions which turn social deviance in a necessary evil.

1.2.1.3. Forms of manifestation of social anomaly/anomie

Social anomie manifests broadly as deviations from normality, in the sense presented above. According to S. M. Rădulescu and to the great majority of sociologists who have more intensely debated the topic of social anomy, initially anomie was characterized by (1998, p. 42), the disruption of the social system functionality, the absence of limitations required for human action and behavior, which become, without object or finality, the lack of the rational character of an individual's personal regulations and norms, the contradiction between regulations and norms, which might be caused by the succession of norms in time or by the concomitant, real contradiction of two norms and provisions which distinctly regulate a certain situation.

1.2.2. Perspective of deviant behavior and of the educational and axiological deficiencies

From an objective point of view, anomie shall be defined as the absence of common social rules, the lack and the absence of rules which should guide a society. Therefore, at a subjective level, it shall be translated by human behavior disorientation, as a reflection of the lack of organization of society of a certain period of time.

1.2.3. The social reaction perspective

The center of gravity of this theory is given by the *social reaction*, or, in other words, by the role played by the others' reaction to deviant behaviors, by their answer, or by their counter-answer, therefore atypical behavior, deviant, by any of its forms of manifestation, for example delinquency, shall be defined by the painful, sometimes unfair ,,labeling" of a group or of an individual by society. From the perspective of this theory understanding deviance means first understanding the reasons for which certain persons react against certain forms of behavior.

1.2.4. The social disorganization perspective

The starting point of this theory is given by the study of the *"social disorganization"* tradition by sociologists belonging to the famous School of Chicago, whose worldwide representatives are C. Shaw and H. McKay (1942). According to this perspective, deviant behavior is generated by certain defect of the sensitive environment, sizable not only at a micro social level but also at a macro-social level by analyzing certain patterns which may determine deviant behaviors.

Finally, social disorganization generates effects on society and on the individual. At the level of the individual social disorganization is translated by stress, mental disease, alcoholism, crime.

1.2.5. The social pathology perspective

Sustainers of this theory define any deviant behavior as a result of "*social pathology*". From the perspective of this interpretation, deviant resembles to a sickness of the organism transposed at a behavioral level. In compliance with this theory, society should transmit to its members values and concepts subject to social regulations, which would be the equivalent of an immune system the purpose of which would be the very protection from sickness or from deviant behaviors.

1.2.6 The cultural transmission or transmitting perspective

Developed by Edwin Sutherland, this somehow neutral theory sustains that deviance is learnt, imitated, acquired by imitation the same as any other type of transmission of information, counting on the ideas of transmission and continuity.

1.3. Deviance, delinquency, crime, organized crime

1.3.1. Deviance and delinquency: explanatory concepts and theories

Within the social deviance forms we shall include delinquency affecting the most important values and social relations protected by the legal norms of penal nature. Delinquency or crime are defined as the action of destroying the social values and relations protected by the penal legal regulations. Deviance is different from crime first of all by the repression which accompanies the latter, which is undoubtedly sanctioned by the law. Should we try to create a conceptual, purely theoretical hierarchy we could say that deviance anticipates crime, being a starting point of the latter.

1.3.2. Crime: explanatory concepts and theories

According to its unanimously accepted definition, crime is represented by all the crimes committed within a certain territory, during a certain period of time. Based on art. 15 of the new Criminal Code of Romania,, crime is a deed provided by the criminal law, committed by guilt, unreasonable and attributable to the person who committed it, as it is the sole ground of criminal liability.

1.3.3. the Concepts of crime, organized crime and mafia

The concept of crime is interpreted as the entire anti-social manifestations breaking the provisions regulated by normative deeds, entailing the state coercive force and referring to real crime, the discovered crime and the punished crime (Rădulescu, 1991, p. 126). On the other hand, not having pertinent definitions for the notion of organized crime, we shall notice that, at a national level, it shall be defined rather by its practical meaning.

As for the notion of "mafia" used by the current language, it is the actual expression of illicit activities developed by an organized group, specialized in certain categories of actions/activities, and which instill and inspire fear by the atrocity and cruelty used to finalize their missions.

CHAPTER 2. SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE ACTIVITY OF SPECIALIZED ORGANIZED CRIME COUNTERING AS A SPECIFIC APPLICATION OF THE SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS.

Organized crime is and remains in its essence a complex social and legal phenomenon, a real social problem whose forms of manifestation have diversified and which has taken such a magnitude that it has become to exceed the law sphere, becoming the object of sociological studies, as long as its effects are perceived at the level of all the members of a society.

At an empiric level of the sociologic research there have been created and developed more methodological orientations, materialized in methods of research. MeThe sociological methods of research are often used in the process of understanding îthe organized crime countering phenomenon.

2.1. The specificity of using the observation method in investigating and analyzing organized crime

Within the organized crime research and investigation activity the observation method is used under all its forms, being, most of the times, combined with the other quality methods, especially with the interview.

2.2. The specificity of using the interview method in investigating organized crime; examples

A basic instrument of anthropologists, a working method for criminologists, the interview takes the form of a face-to-face dialogue, the purpose of which is to create a free conversation based on which the investigator shall fundament his final conclusions. We can say that the same as in the case of the previously mentioned observation method the officer within the organized crime countering structures uses in their professional activity more than one types of interviews.

2.3. The specificity of using the social documents analysis method in the organized crime investigating activity

Derived from the observation method, the documents analysis has a main objective the removal of the observation method flows and refers to applying all the principles available within observation upon a different domain under research.

2.4. The specificity of using the network analysis method by complex means

The network analysis *"the intersection method"* as defined by the practical activity in the field (Iluţ, 1998) is not a method of research in itself, but rather a method of analysis of the information obtained during the investigations achieved either by the interview, or by observation, either by questionnaire or by the analysis of documents and is seldom used in the activities related to ascertaining and countering the organized crime phenomenon.

2.5. AN integrated approach to sociological research methods

It is unavoidable and damaging not to use the research methods of sociology in the organized crime field. The implementation of these methods brings the presence of undeniable advantages. Such as detailed above, they are embodied by various actions of researchers specialized in the identification, countering and punishment of criminal actions.

CHAPTER 3. THE ORGANIZED CRIME PHENOMENON IN ROMANIA UNDERSTOOD WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT: STRUCTURE, DIMENSIONS, IMPLICATIONS

3.1. General description and presentation. A short history of organized crime.

The early forms of organized crime, such as we know nowadays, manifested even in the interior of ancient civilizations. The first written evidence in this direction certifies that in the Ancient Egypt, in ancient Rome, in Ancient Greece and in most of the ancient civilizations organized crime manifested in a manner hard to ignore. It is this history which has allowed its excessive development, the competent state authorities developing an assiduous activities to counterstrike the occurrence, extension, functionality and development of organized crime groups.

3.2. Crime. Mafia. Organized crime

Defining the concepts of *"crime"*, *"organized crime"* and *"mafia"*, respectively the delimitation of their application field within the entire structure of the crime phenomenon, at an international level, has been and still is an object of study for the majority of specialists, theoreticians and practitioners with an interest in the field.

3.3. Organized crime phenomenon at an international level

Criminal activity is reported on all continents. Some states become the targets of criminal organizations for various reasons: geographical position, the economic development degree, the social development degree, etc. The fact is that regardless the region, organized crime is a problem of nowadays, it is actual and real and its countering has been brought to high levels, to international levels.

3.3. The situation of organized crime in Romania, structure and dynamics.

3.3.1. Crime as a whole/a phenomenon in itself

The criminal phenomenon is not unfamiliar to the Romanian society. During the period before 1989, real crime was even greater that nowadays crime, in compliance with the specialists' opinion (Pitulescu, 1996, p.45). After the fall of the communist system, Romanian society had to fight an even much more diplomatic enemy, consisting of a legal vacuum marked by the authorities' incapacity to lead the population under the principle of freedom which many of us have unfortunately

misinterpreted. The climax of the development of the legislative system was possibly underlined by the implementation of the new Criminal Code in year 2014.

3.3.2. Organized crime

Not only crime in its wholeness has developed within the Romanian territory. The notion of organized crime is not unfamiliar to either the Romanian communist society or to the post-December society. Within the organized crime field, we shall identify a series of categories of crimes frequently committed within the territory of our country, but also at an international level, as follows:

3.3.2.1. Illicit trafficking of drugs

Drug consumption has become a serious social issues which our contemporary societies have to face. This issue has multiple implications and negative consequences on a social level, but especially from the point of view of the individual. The drug consumption issue becomes even more serious as it involves a series of other types of crimes committed as additional reactions. Therefore, the cocaine trafficking is in tight connection with the corruption phenomenon, as it contributes to an increase in corruption in the transit countries, and also in the destination countries, where the absorption of drugs from new sources is difficult and subject to the approval of corrupted authorities.

3.3.2.2. Human trafficking and the traffic of migrants.

Human trafficking is one of the most profitable activities of organized crime of the European Union, based on Europol. Human trafficking has actively and visibly manifested in Romania beginning with the 90's, subsequent to the fall of the communist regime, even if before that such facts had existed, nevertheless they had been less known.

3.3.2.3. Computer crime and crimes with credit cards.

Computer crime is extremely complex, as they are the fruit of the imagination of highly skilled criminals who use the evolution of cybernetics to achieve their own personal goals and interests. Computer crime is a field of maximum concern and interest nowadays not only within the criminal law sphere, but also in the field of sociologic research, as it is one of the categories of organized crime which evolves at the same pace with society.

3.3.2.4. Corruption

Conceptually, corruption represents a great obstacle of the social and economic development. Although it is a global phenomenon, the proofs indicate that it affects especially poor people. Corruption distorts markets, slows economic growth and diverts public funds, affecting the most vulnerable category of people.

3.3.2.5. Economic-financial crime

Even though the concept has been recently created, we can ascertain that economic-financial crime has developed even beginning with the occurrence and manifestation of the first forms of trade and has evolved together with them. Organized crime in the economic-financial field has experienced two major categories of crime: money laundering and falsification of coins and of other values.

3.3.2.7. Crimes of terrorism and terrorism financing crimes

At present, the world lives under the continuous threat of terrorism, beginning with the attacks in the United States of America, dated September 11, continuing with the attacks of 2015 in France, when Paris was shaken by the murder of the journalist Charlie Hebdo and by the events which have followed and have terrified the population again, culminating with the terrorist attack of November, of Baclatan (Paris) we can state that terrorism is in its climax age. Because of the danger implied by terrorism in itself, the great powers of Europe and of the world have concentrated on the development of certain legislative regulations in the field of international cooperation, the goal being terrorism fighting and countering.

3.4. Specific tendencies and evolutions within the practical approach and the scientific understanding of organized crime at the level of the institutions of Romania

In Romania, an extensive activity of countering organized crime is developed by the Directorate of the Investigation of Organized Crime and Terrorism -D.I.I.C.O.T. DI.I.C.O.T.

We shall mention the fact that the actions developed by D.I.I.C.O.T. exclusively relate to facts of significant gravity, respectively those crimes committed by organized crime groups .

3.5. Prevent crime by non-criminal methods

It is considered that the crime phenomenon, under all its manifestation forms, threatens national and world safety, thus defining as mandatory the implementation of a series of efficient countering and prevention measures. From the perspective of the various categories of the existing organized crime countering methods, we shall underline the current tendency of diversifying the non-criminal methods of preventing and sanctioning certain crimes.

CHAPTER 4. CONTEMPORARY APPROACHES TO COUNTERING ORGANIZED CRIME

4.1. Contemporary approaches to countering organized crime at an international level: institutions, legislation, resources, methods, instruments, procedures.

Addressing the organized crime phenomenon at an international level has taken special dimensions, and we shall refer herein not only to international organisms and organizations with competences in the field but also to a beneficial cooperation between them. The international dimension of organized crime, facilitated by the existence of international and worldwide organisms, has mobilized all the states of the world to focusing their efforts in order to counterstrike this scourge.

Therefore, between 12-15 December, 2000, over 120 of states member of ONU signed the United Nations' Convention against transnational crime and the protocols attached to it, in Palermo, Italy. Furthermore, still at an international level, there was drafted the United Nations' Convention against transnational crime organized on 15.11.2000, published by the Official Gazette, Part I, no. 813 dated 08/11/2002.

4.2. Contemporary approaches to countering organized crime in Romania: institutions, legislation, resources, methods, instruments, procedures.

Romania has tried to follow the direction traced by the states member of the European Union and by the international organisms with attributions in countering sand punishing organized crime. Law no. 39/2003 for the prevention and countering of organized crime, by which Romania's Parliament regulated and adopted a series of specific measures for the prevention and countering of organized crime at a national and international level.

CHAPTER 5. POPULATION'S REPRESENTATIONS, ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORS IN RELATION TO THE ORGANIZED CRIME COUNTERING ACTIVITIES.

5.1.Population's representations, attitudes and behaviors in relation with organized crime and its countering, within an international and national background.

Population's representations, attitudes and behaviors in relation with the state in general, are materialized by an interdependency report. Therefore, the idea of community comes to strengthen the individual's belief that they are part of a structure superior by its organization form and by its force. Society's perception of the organized crime phenomenon differs a lot, based on the sub-field in question.

From the perspective of the individuals' behaviors and attitudes, it is important to observe the manner in which they are open or not to support the public institutions to achieve their goals. On the other hand, we do not have to ignore the result of the actions developed by the law forces and the way in which these results come to meet the needs of the members of society. All these factors become extremely important in understanding this report of the population's attitudes towards the organized crime activities.

5.2. Population's level of trust in the law force and in countering organized crime

The citizens' degree of confidence in authorities is influenced by their personal experience, the time of delay in answering their claims being equally important. Nevertheless, should we discuss of the population's trust in the law force it is even more difficult to create a certain hierarchy, because each individual has interacted in a way or another with at least a representative of the state and of the law and the manner in which the latter settled his issues, facilitating or hindering the situation, influences the individual's degree of trust into the institution in question.

5.3. Public policies and social communication services meant to counter organized crime. The public support of the institutions involved in this activity.

The great majority of the authorities with attributions in countering organized crime has double specialized staff: both in the field in which they activate, and also in the public relations field, to facilitate population's access to ongoing projects and cases.

The clear conclusion as far as public policies of the institutions with attributions in countering organized crime are concerned, is that they are oriented to displaying an even better opening towards the population, in order to communicate their availability to cooperation and information, and also in order to be conferred a greater degree of the population's confidence in the actions they develop.

5.4. Evolutions and perspectives of the crime phenomenon dynamics and in the population's relation to it

The efficient implementation and functioning of the laws in the organized crime countering field require on one hand, a decisional transparency of their implementation and on the other hand the increase of the level of culture, moral, spiritual and legal education of each citizen. The authorities must reasonably distribute their resources not only for the identification and punishment of extremely serious crimes which form organized crime, but also for their prevention, because preventing becomes always more important and more efficient than healing.

PART II

APPLIED RESEARCH: THE RESEARCH METHODOLOGICAL DESIGN AND PRESENTATION OF THE RESEARCH RESULTS

CHAPTER 6

Purpose and methodology of the research

6.1. Object and purpose of the research: Systematic identification of the representations attitudes and behaviors of the specialists involved in the field and of the population in relation to organized crime and its countering actions

6.2. Questions of the research and its operational objectives

- Question The perception of the specialists involved in the field over the population's knowledge and attitudes in relation to organized crime countering shall be shaped by their professional experience in the field and by their specific interaction with the population?
- Question: Population's representations, attitudes and behaviors in relation with the specialists of the organized crime countering structures are conditioned by their level of trust in the law force and in other structures of countering and public order?
- Question: Population's representations in relation with issues of organized crime, and in relation to the institutions specialized to counterstrike them, are mostly created by mass-media information?
- Question: Population's representations, attitudes and behaviors in relation with the specialists of the organized crime countering institutions are conditioned by the presence/absence of direct interactions with the above-mentioned specialists, as well as by the experience of international migration and implicitly by the familiarization, in the occidental societies, of this phenomenon?

6.3. Population under research and lots of investigated subjects

The adult population of the counties within the activity area of the Organized Crime Countering Brigade Cluj-Napoca; the population of specialists belonging to the main institutions involved into the organized crime countering activity (police officers within B.C.C.O. Cluj-Napoca, prosecutors of D.I.I.C.O.T.- The Territorial Service Cluj, specialized judges, specialized lawyers, specialists of corresponding institutions).

- Thorough individual interviews with police officers within B.C.C.O. Cluj-Napoca, prosecutors of D.I.C.O.O.T.- The Territorial Service Cluj, specialized judges, specialized lawyers, specialists of corresponding institutions (A.N.I.T.P., the Office for Crime Analysis and Prevention), working in the organized crime countering field.

- Focus-group of the general population of the counties of Cluj and Maramureş, within the competence area of the Organized Crime Countering Brigade Cluj-Napoca.

- Case studies (2), within the context of my professional activities, as a police officer within the Organized Crime Countering Brigade Cluj-Napoca.

6.4. Methods, instruments and techniques used by the research

- Secondary analysis based on the information of previous investigations in this field.

- The method of individual semi-structured interview.
- The focus-group interview method.
- The case study and intervention method.

6.5. Expected results

At the end of the research I expect the following results:

- a detailed explanation of the way in which population's representations, attitudes and behaviors in relation to the specialists of the organized crime countering structures are conditioned by the level of trust which the population manifests for the law enforcement and for the other institutions of social countering.

- a refined understanding of the role which mass-media plays in creating the population's representations, attitudes and behaviors in relation to the institutions and specialists in the organized crime countering field.

- Determine the importance of public communication, of the information campaigns and of the direct interaction with the citizens, within the context of increasing the actions success based on the relationship with the citizens, in the organized crime countering activity.

CHAPTER 7

Presentation and interpretation of the research results

7.1. Perspective of the specialists involved in the field in relation with the population's representations, attitudes and behaviors against organized crime and its countering actions, by the structured interview method.

7.1.1. Perspective of the police officers within B.C.C.O. Cluj-Napoca

IN developing my scientific research I have applied the semi-structured individual interview on a number of 3 police men within B.C.C.O. Cluj-Napoca, and they have formulated the following appreciations:

- As a general trend, the population possess information about the organized crime phenomenon and the institutions involved in fighting this phenomenon, respectively B.C.C.O. Cluj-Napoca and D.I.I.C.O.T.-

- The main information source of the population, according to which they shape their representations, attitudes and behaviors in relation to organized crime and to the institutions involved in organized crime countering is mass-media.

7.1.2. Perspective of the prosecutors within D.I.I.C.O.T.-The Territorial Service Cluj

Within my scientific research I have interviewed a number of 3 prosecutors within D.I.I.C.O.T.- the Territorial Service Cluj who, from the perspective of their duties, frequently interact with the population in relation with issues of the organized crime phenomenon and of its countering, with the following results:

- For the optimization of the organized crime countering we need policies and programs by which the general population should better understand the danger of the organized crime development.

7.1.3. The opinion of a judge specialized in the field

I have also interviewed a judge of the Court of law Cluj - the Criminal Section, specialized in judging causes of organized crime, his considerations being as follows:

- During the last 10 years, people have accumulated more information and knowledge about organized crime and about the institutions involved in countering this phenomenon, nevertheless the

quality level of this information remains unknown. People perceive these institutions by a greater degree of trust and manifest a certain opening to them.

7.1.4. The opinion of a lawyer specialized in the field

Within my research I have interviewed a lawyer within the Bar Cluj, specialized in defending people under investigation, accused of having committed organized crimes, with the following aspects of interest:

- the population's level of trust in the organized crime countering institutions is perceived as being low, the people involved in such matters do not trust the law enforcement departments and the other institutions, reason for which they seek the support of lawyers.

7.1.5. Opinions of the specialists involved in the victims' prevention and support structures

Following the interviewing of 2 specialists of the structures for the prevention and support of victims (A.N.I.T.P.-the Regional Center Cluj-Napoca and I.P.J. Cluj - The Crime Analysis and Prevention Office), the following results were formulated:

- During the last 10 years, people's knowledge of organized crime and of the institutions involved in countering it have evolved and the population manifests a positive attitude towards fighting this phenomenon. To optimize the fight against organized crime experts consider that current legislation should be improved.

7.2. Population's stated representations, attitudes and behaviors against organized crime and its countering. Focus-group of persons of the general population of the counties of Cluj and Maramureş

Within my scientific research I have developed, within the office of the Faculty of Sociology and Social Assistance of "Babeş-Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca, a focus-group including the general population of the counties of Cluj and Maramureş, within the area of activity of the Organized Crime Countering Brigade Cluj-Napoca, formed of 8 subjects (5 women and 3 men), whom I have selected, with ages ranging between 18 and 62, of various professions and levels of education, their opinions being as follows:

- M., woman, aged 20, a student of the faculty of Law, the 2nd year, in Cluj-Napoca, appreciates that the organized crime phenomenon is of actuality, which is talked about every day,

especially the drugs trafficking crimes, which form a subject of interest among students, and she believed stat the state institutions do their job and keep organized crime under countering.

- **D.**, woman, aged 41, a lawyer of the bar Cluj, is familiar with the phenomenon and with the institutions involved in its countering, by the profession which she has and she considers that organized crime has developed lately, nevertheless the institutions involved have themselves developed, especially due to experience exchanges with similar structures abroad.

- *H*., man, aged 18, a student of the Economic College "Iulian Pop", of Cluj-Napoca, holds general information on organized crime, especially about human trafficking and drugs trafficking organized crime and he appreciates them as being on an ascending direction year by year, whereas, in relation to the competent specialized structures he manifests a negative reaction as he considers that they do not get involved too much.

7.3. Organized crime and organized crime countering from the perspective of knowledge, attitudes and behaviors of the specialists in the field, as well as of the population's, explored from the perspective of two case studies.

7.3.1. Case study no. 1 (2006)

A crime group formed of 11 members, all living in place Beclean all have been knowing each other since childhood, as they have grown up together. Most of them have never been employed, and years ago they started to recruit girls from the county of Bistriţa-Năsăud and from other counties, whom they have exploited by forcing them to practice prostitution in Romania and abroad (Spain, Italy, Belgium, etc.).

7.3.2. Case study no. 2 (2010)

A crime group formed of 8 members, all living in the municipality of Cluj-Napoca, they have met in the crime environment which they attend or from prison, where they executed various custodial sentences for less serious crimes, such as thefts, body injuries, fights or other violence, etc. most of them have never been employed, years ago they started to recruit girls within the county of Cluj, whom they have exploited by forcing them to practice prostitution in Romania and abroad (Spain, Italy, etc.).

7.3.3. A compared analysis of the case studies

The two case studies focus on two different situations within the wider organized crime background, specific to human trafficking countering activities. As a criminal police officer within

B.C.C.O. Cluj-Napoca I have been directly involved into – together with an inter-institutional pluridisciplinary team formed of other police officers of the brigade and prosecutors of D.I.I.C.O.T.- the Territorial Service Cluj – informative and criminal research activities meant to prove their criminal activity in order to dismantle these criminal groups, objective which was therefore achieved.

The first study (Case study no. 1) focuses especially on the typology of the crime group specialized in human trafficking crimes, minor children trafficking, prostitution and money laundering, a group formed of criminals who live in a small town (the town Beclean, of Bistriţa-Năsăud county) who have known each other since childhood, as they grew up together, whereas the second case study focuses on the typology of the organized crime group, specialized in crimes of human trafficking, prostitution and qualified theft, formed of criminals who live in a big city (Cluj-Napoca), and the members of this group have met in the criminal environments which they have attended or from the detention period during which they have restrained for other crimes. The two typologies are relevant because they point to background elements and also specific differences, important in the wider organized crime countering framework.

By analyzing both crime groups we shall underline that a part of the crime group members have fist committed easier criminal offences (theft, robbery, injuries, fights or other minor violence, illegal crossing of the state border, etc.), while afterwards, once out of the prison, they started organized crime offences, prostitution, human trafficking, minor children trafficking and money laundering.

PART III

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CHAPTER 8

General conclusions

8.1. Conclusions at a scientific knowledge level

Organized crime is a phenomenon which has experienced a rapid expansion in time, increasing proportionally with the market economy and with the development of societies, thus triggering the interest of specialists in the various fields of the social-humanist sciences.

In their attempts of annihilating organized crime, the authorities should be preoccupied not only by punishing and sanctioning the guilty ones but also by the development of a prevention and countering program, consisting in the development of the living standards, which should be almost identical at an international level and which should eliminate social contrasts between the rich and the poor.

8.2. Conclusions at the level of practical approach

The states, the international organizations, and the other participants to the international life lead real fights against organized crime, against their effects and impact upon society as a whole. Nevertheless their influences manifest at the level of the individual. The states in course of development, the same as Romania are even more affected by this phenomenon.

The practical component of my paperwork proved not only the frequency of the criminal phenomenon and also the fact that the population does not have a real representation of the gravity of the organized crime phenomenon, both at a national and international level, so as to bring their contribution to the authorities' attempt at annihilating it.

The entire international community, together with the national community have been fighting at present a powerful influence of organized crime in both the public and the private sectors. The consequences go beyond the legal and legislative systems, as they inclusively influence everyday aspects of society, average people and also specialists activating in the field.

8.3. Recommendations at the scientific research level

At the level of scientific research, we have come to conclude over a great socio-cultural and behavioral diversity, which has definitively influenced the theories which I have developed.

The studies achieved on human behavior have not succeeded, so far, by starting from the given premises, to reach a theory which might undoubtedly defeat the others and completely, profoundly and really explain human nature, here including aspects related to individuals' predisposition to committing offenses and crimes. To this effect, we believe that scientific research should focus on the diversifications of visions on human behavior.

Last but not least, the present research allows us to conclude by the recommendation, for the organisms, authorities and institutions with attributions in countering organized crime to perfect their organized crime countering policy system.

8.4. Recommendations to be applied at the level of the policies, programs and services dedicated to countering and to fighting organized crime

I consider that the development of the organized crime networks, be it corruption, smuggling, money laundering, etc. is also favored by the fact that sometimes the state represented by its authorities which come in contact with its citizens is rigid and immune to their needs.

Population's attitudes and representations of this phenomenon constitute in themselves a factor which influence the evolution of the demarche which we understand to refer to as "the fight against organized crime".

The institutions involved in countering organized crime, The Crime Countering/Fighting Directorate (D.C.C.O.) within the Romanian Police, The Terrorism and Organized Crime Investigation Department (D.I.I.C.O.T.) within the Prosecutor's office of the High Court of Cassation and Justice, and the courts of law must develop and apply in the future coherent policies, efficient and effective of media (by press releases and other communication means) of the actions developed and of the resolutions thus pronounced, and of the attributions which fall under their competence, so as to build a positive image in relation with the general population's representation of them, which shall further on lead to an opening towards and to increased trust of the people in the activities which they develop.

Considering the given context, the future shall be required to focus, more than the present, on fighting international terrorism and economic-financial crime, on immediate identification of movable

and immovable assets products of crimes, as well as on the amounts of money of the criminals, for the recovery, as soon as possible, of the prejudice thus created.

A most efficient organized crime countering requires a most efficient cooperation between all the specialized national structures involved, as well as an increase of computer communication between them and their similar structures of the other European states.

The population must be educated in the spirit of tits familiarization with legislation, as the population should become aware of the criminal deed negative consequences, behaviors must be modeled, youngsters should be educated in such ways as their attitudes reflect the principles which form the bases of a democratic society, which should eliminate criminal offenses. The states should reform their financial-banking system, whereas the living standards of societies should increase, based on extremely well elaborated policies and strategies.

ANNEXES

- ANNEX NO. 1
- ANNEX NO. 2
- ANNEX NO. 3
- ANNEX NO. 4
- ANNEX NO. 5
- ANNEX NO. 6
- ANNEX NO. 7
- ANNEX NO. 8
- ANNEX NO. 9
- ANNEX NO. 10
- ANNEX NO. 11
- ANNEX NO. 12
- ANNEX NO. 13

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