



Social prevention of drug related harms (SOCPREV)

Why SOCPREV?

Social prevention of delinquency is a crucial component of Belgian Strategic Plans for security and prevention. They constitute an important complement to more traditional prevention measures (Blumstein et al., 1978; Mackenzie, 2006) of whom we know they have unfortunately a limited impact (Gottfredson and Hirschi, 1990; Tonry and Farrington, 1995).

There are no studies on social prevention of crime, especially related to systematic and economic compulsive drug-related crime in Belgium (EMSA, 2015). This project aims to fill this gap and intends to provide information on the efficiency and impact of public measures.

Objectives

The aims of this research are twofold:

1. sketch the state of play of the best and most promising practices at (inter)national level for the monitoring of social prevention programmes (systematic and economico-compulsive drug related crimes)
2. empirically analyse Belgian projects and provide guidelines for the follow-up and evaluation of such schemes

Methodologie

Several methodologies will be mobilised.

1. An (inter)national literature review relating to best practices in terms of social prevention of drug related crime, concentrating on : 1) characteristics of authors of crime and mechanisms at play 2) a cost/benefit analysis of such programmes , 3) evaluation studies oriented towards the reduction of crime, more specifically targeting systematic and economic and compulsive motivations of crime;
2. qualitative interviews with (inter) national experts on social crime prevention to fill the gaps of the literature review;
3. a systematic analysis of Belgian programmes in relation to best or most promising practices identified in the literature review
4. qualitative interviews with Belgian experts to fill the gaps

expected results

SOCPREV will contribute to the development of a well-grounded and evidence-informed drug-related crime prevention.

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