

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on "Working with Juveniles and young adult offenders"

**6th – 7th June 2017
Barcelona, Catalonia**

**SPEAKER'S BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS AND PRESENTATIONS ABSTRACTS
In chronological order of the Conference programme**

Mr. Antonio Andrés Pueyo (Catalonia – Spain)



Antonio Andrés Pueyo is Professor of Violence Psychology and Criminal Psychology. Director of the Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychobiology at the University of Barcelona. Director of the Criminal and Forensic Psychology Master. Supervisor and advisor of governmental agencies in Law and Enforcement Services, Penitentiary and Juvenile Justice in Spain and Latin-American as well as in private and NGO services. His main research topic is violence risk assessment in professional settings. He has published papers and reports in violence prevention, aggression, impulsivity, individual differences and personality.

Plenary 1 - CRIMINAL HISTORY AND TRAJECTORIES OF YOUNG ADULT OFFENDERS

Longitudinal studies carried out in recent decades to understand the development of juvenile antisocial behaviour have confirmed the age-crime strong relationship (Farrington, 2003; Loeb et al., 1998, Moffitt, 1993, LeBlanc and Loeber 1998, Laub and Sampson 1993). They have also provided substantive information about the risk and protection factors that determine the development of criminal trajectories of young offenders (Hoge et al., 1996, Assink, 2015). Through these longitudinal research we know that there are different trajectories and patterns that help us to understand how risk factors differentially affect types of offenders (Piquero et al., 2007). Now we have valid information on the frequency and prevalence of crime at different stages of life, and others like precocity, continuity, duration, cornification, recidivism and desistance of the different trajectories of young offenders (Hochstetler, et al., 2016).

In this talk we will present an unpublished study with inmates between the ages of 18 and 23 about their criminal careers. We have been able to observe the existence of various criminal trajectories identifiable from the retrospective study and self-reported by prison inmates themselves. A total of 168 inmates, all males, were analysed with a mean age of 20.7 (1.3) years. We analyse the criminal history from the age of 5 years until prison time and these results were compared with different outcomes: behaviour in prison, type of crime and risk for violent recidivism. The relationship between the different risk factors along the development in accord with the criminal trajectories shows a relevant predictive validity of these developmental variables and the antisocial trajectory.

The results indicate that the relationship between age and crime is not always manifested in the same way and for all offenders. The relationship between age and crime varies according to the criminal trajectory that the juvenile delinquent has followed in their psychosocial development. These results can be used in professional practice to assess the risk of recidivism and violence among juvenile offenders.

Mr. Atte Oksanen (Finland)



Atte Oksanen is Doctor in social sciences and professor of social psychology at the University of Tampere, Finland. His research focuses on emerging technologies and social interaction. He has published in a variety of areas including youth studies, criminology and drug and alcohol research.

Plenary 2 - SOCIAL MEDIA AND YOUNG OFFENDERS: EMERGING FORMS OF VIOLENT IDEATION

Social media plays a central role in the lives of young people today. This presentation explores the role of online world in the ideation of severe targeted violence. Perpetrators have published their manifestos, thoughts and pictures online before committing their attacks. In the 2000s web sources demonstrated their attractiveness to people plotting atrocities, school shootings or similar acts of terror. Specific online communities play a relevant role in the indirect encouragement of severe targeted violence.

Ms. Marzena Kordaczuk-Wąs (Poland)



Marzena Kordaczuk-Wąs is Doctor in social sciences in discipline of sociology of safety and security threats prevention, consultant and co-operator of International Juvenile Justice Observatory, active police officer, Major in National Police Headquarters. Coordinator of community policing and crime prevention issues for Polish Police, involved in trainings and preparation of Polish police officers for preparation and implementation of preventive measures aimed in threats of security leading to criminality (focused on juvenile delinquency). Representative of Polish Police in European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN), co-operator of Radicalisation

Awareness Network (RAN) - law enforcement and police working group (RAN POL) working on preparation of preventive measures aimed in radicalisation counteracting. Author and coordinator of preventive programmes addressed to children and youth at risk of criminality as well as to juvenile offenders.

Workshop 1 - JUVENILE RADICALISATION - THE MOST COMMON CAUSES OF VIOLENCE AND WAYS OF PREVENTIVE WORK

This workshop aims to explain how the radicalization of juvenile delinquency can be expected. Describes the types of violence committed by juvenile delinquents. It also indicates the most important (the most common) causes and mechanisms of young people's inclination to aggressive behaviour. It aims to discuss ways to prevent young people's violence. It discusses the types of preventive measures (levels of prevention) suitable for working with both - youth affected by violence and with youth at risk of violence. It also focuses on the importance of unloading negative emotions and giving an alternative (positive behaviours) to potential negative behaviours. Strongly aims to clarify how important is the so-called 'positive prevention' in working with juvenile delinquents.

Ms. Kamila Špejrova (Czech Republic)



Kamila Špejrova is graduated in pedagogy and social work. After a few years as a teacher, telephone help line consultant and assistant in an asylum house for mothers and children worked as Probation officer specialized in children and young adults. She also worked as Head of a regional centre, project manager of a project focused on new approaches in working with young offenders. Since 2016 is Head of Methodical and Analytical Department at PMS Headquarters.

Workshop 1 – EXPERIENCES WITH RESTORATIVE (FAMILY) GROUP CONFERENCES WITH VIOLENT JUVENILES

This workshop aims to explain a restorative justice practice with violent juveniles. It will cover concepts such as: the preparation of the young offender, his family, and the victim for conference, their experience with the process. How community members perceive their role in conference and short case report about conference with children who committed robbery.

Ms. Ellen van Kalveen (Netherlands)



Ellen van Kalveen is a judge since 1999. She worked as well in several courts as criminal judge, civil judge, family and juvenile judge. Last 15 years she has been very interested in children and the court as well in criminal, protection and family cases. At the moment she is an investigation and juvenile judge. She is also the chairperson of the expert group of juvenile judges in the Netherlands.

Workshop 2 – AN INSIGHT IN THE WORK OF A JUVENILE JUDGE AND A DUTCH INVESTIGATION JUDGE

In this workshop will give an insight of my work as a juvenile investigation judge by drafting an example of a workday and some cases. By doing so, I hope to give you information on the latest developments in the criminal justice system for juveniles and young adult offenders in The Netherlands.

Ms. Deborah Nolan (Scotland – United Kingdom)



Debbie Nolan is a Practice Development Advisor at the Centre for Youth and Criminal Justice (CYCJ). CYCJ supports improvement in youth justice, contributing to better lives for individuals and communities by developing, supporting and understanding youth justice practice, policy and research in Scotland, and through seeking and sharing learning internationally. CYCJ are funded by the Scottish Government and hosted by the University of Strathclyde. Debbie current project manages the multi-agency work completed under the Improving Life Chances Implementation Group under the Scottish Government's Youth Justice Strategy- Preventing Offending Getting it right for children and young people. She has previously completed research into risk management in mental health; reintegration and transitions practice across Scotland; the impact of imprisonment on families; and young people's experiences of youth justice policy. Prior to this, Debbie spent ten years working with vulnerable and marginalised children and young people across sectors and in various roles. She completed a Master of Arts in Social Policy in 2006 and Master of Social Work in 2009, prior to working in a local authority Children and Families Social Work team for five years.

Workshop 2 – THE WHOLE SYSTEM APPROACH TO JUSTICE IN SCOTLAND: RESPONDING TO COMPLEXITY AND LESSONS LEARNED

The Whole System Approach for Children and Young People who offend in Scotland, introduced in 2011, represented a significant shift to more clearly focus on diversion, early intervention and holistically responding to children involved in offending. Since the introduction of the Whole System Approach we have seen a significant reduction in children and young people's contact with the justice system. This workshop discusses the Whole System Approach to youth justice in Scotland, the rationale behind this, how it has attempted to respond to the complexity of the lives of children involved in offending, and what has been achieved. It will also explore what can be learnt from the Whole System Approach for other jurisdictions.

Ms. Briega Nugent (Scotland – United Kingdom)



Briega Nugent specialises in the area of youth justice, prison, through care and prevention. Her work has included longitudinal studies of thorough care support services and more recently has completed a PhD on the impact of poverty on youth transitions.

Workshop 3 - DESISTANCE AND MARGINALISED YOUTH

This workshop will present findings from two qualitative longitudinal studies of young people from Scotland aged 16-25 who are trying to stop offending and discuss what this could mean to inform effective practice.

Ms. Eugenia Albani (Catalonia – Spain)



Eugenia Albani Moreno, MSSc. is a member of the research group Criminology Applied to Penology from the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Her doctoral thesis explores the role of official labelling in desistance from crime by analysing personal networks of young adult offenders.

Workshop 3 – TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD AND DESISTANCE FROM CRIME. PERSONAL NETWORKS OF CLIENTS FROM THE CATALAN JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

This workshop aims to discuss the role of the juvenile justice's interventions in processes of desistance from crime. We understand desistance as a relational process towards social recognition, where social action is considered the outcome of social relationships in the context of (a) the exercise of agency, (b) within the limits of a social structure, and (c) the influence of others through social interaction.

We present evidence from a longitudinal social network analysis of a sample of 55 young adult offenders (18-21 years old) serving probation and custody in Catalonia during 2013. Results show different profiles of clients regarding their background and network properties, as well as different explanations for desistance regarding processes of psychosocial maturation, the experience of the sanction and the network resources.

Ms. Michaela Tomita and Ms. Roxana Ungureanu (Romania)



Mihaela Alida Tomita is associate professor at the Department of Social Work, Faculty of Sociology and Psychology from West University of Timisoara, Romania. Her professional, academic and scientific activity is closely related to the therapeutic and educational approach of young offenders and young with substance abuse disorders, militating and promoting intervention strategies and alternative sanctions in the criminal justice system. Author and co-author of several books and articles on the field, she coordinates and participates in research and intervention projects with budgetary and European funds in child protection, probation system, etc.



Roxana Ungureanu is a PhD student in Sociology from the West University of Timisoara, Romania. She is a research assistant at the Social Work Department from West University of Timisoara. Roxana graduated the master program "Preventing violence against children in the family and society" (also from the West University of Timisoara, Romania). She has participated at several national and international conferences and also as member in research projects.

Workshop 4 - EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS IN THE LIVES OF JUVENILES IN THE ROMANIAN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

To be in the same field with the latest developments regarding juvenile delinquency and how this is sanctioned in the criminal justice systems in Romania, we want to underline in this presentation that the standard social ecology approach to juvenile justice situates the problem as one that demands attention at varying levels of the social structure – for example, the individual, families, groups, neighbourhoods, communities, mass media, politics and industry. It is the interaction between individuals and their social (and natural) environments which is viewed as most important in shaping options and choices for that young person. Accordingly, crime and youth offending is explained as being a consequence of a particular person-context exchange.

For young people who come into contact with the juvenile justice system, their interactions with the juvenile court and, in particular, how they are sentenced following an arrest may greatly influence the course of their development and adjustment as adults.

We will present the specific interventions for juveniles under probation supervision and inside the education centres, facilities under National Administration of Penitentiaries' authority.

Mr. Bård Mellin-Olsen and Mr. Asmund Steine (Norway)



Bård Mellin-Olsen has a Master in Criminology and 20 years' experience as a milieu therapist and team leader in the child welfare field, particularly in institutions with juveniles with severe conduct disorders placed in institutions after Child Welfare Act. Currently employed by the Norwegian regional office for children, youth and family affairs, as a child welfare adviser in the inter-sectorial team at the youth unit west, Bjørgvin prison.



Asmund Steine is a teacher and has a two year degree as a prison officer. He has 15 years' experience working in various prisons, and five year as assistant manager at the Youth unit west, Bjørgvin Prison.

He is member of the Inter-sectorial team at the youth unit and is employed by the Norwegian correctional services.

Workshop 4 - CAN FAMILY GROUP CONFERENCING, ORGANIZED DURING IMPRISONMENT, FUNCTION AS A PART OF THE CARE AND AFTERCARE FOR ADOLESCENT PRISONERS?

FGC is a structured decision making process for members of the extended family. The extended family can include, beside the child, siblings and their parents, also step family, aunts and uncles, grandparents, nephews and nieces etc. Neighbours and significant others can also be invited in.

The conference itself is private without the professionals, and aims to reach a plan for the child. The professionals are involved as informants at the beginning of the FGC and at the end in the approval to the plan.

FGC was developed in New Zealand in the 1980s and was inspired by the Maori culture's tradition of conflict management, childcare and decision-making, as an attempt to get a practice more similar to the Maori culture and traditions. Later FGCs have been adapted to local contexts.

The process in being released on parole from a juvenile prison is a vulnerable process. It often proves difficult to coordinate the aid from the various actors in this process. The juvenile risks becoming passive recipients among the different actors that all have different agendas. Often the only party that does not have goals that are limited to a single field is the family. The family's goals are that the juvenile succeed in all areas. This objective is also a resource for the juvenile. The family is often close to the juvenile, and the fact that the family wants the best for the juvenile can provide a good basis for coordinating the implementation of the other parties.

The Youth unit west at Bjørgvin prison have started to try out family group conference (FGC) as one of the measures in the release process.

In this workshop we will give a short introduction to Family group conferencing, and share our experience from one case where a 17 year old boy was released from prison to parole, and which challenges occurred in coordinating services from the various participants.

Ms. Tine Fuglsang (Denmark)



Tine Fuglsang (cand. soc) work as an analyst within The Research Division in the Ministry of Justice in Denmark. The Research Division conducts research and impact assessments within the area of the Ministry of Justice.

Plenary 4 - DEVELOPMENTS IN YOUTH CRIME IN DENMARK

Based on data from both police registered crime and surveys on self-reported crime the presentation will unfold the recent development in youth delinquency in Denmark. One area of focus will be a recent study concerning the most criminal young people in Denmark - what characterize these young people and are they following the same crime trend as the youth in general? The presentation will also discuss some of the possible explanations for the development in youth delinquency we have seen the last 10 years.

Ms. Junko Nozawa (United States of America)



Junko Nozawa is a Legal Analyst for the Global Center. She provides research and programming support on criminal justice and rule of law issues with a focus on assisting judiciaries in East Africa, the Middle East, North Africa, and Southeast Asia to improve their strategies for handling complex criminal cases. In the field of international law, she has contributed to the work of the International Criminal Court, regional human rights courts, and nongovernmental organizations. She holds a BA from the University of Washington in international relations and philosophy, a JD from Washington University School of Law, and an LLM in international human rights and criminal justice from Utrecht University in the Netherlands. New York Office

Plenary 5 – REHABILITATING JUVENILE VIOLENT EXTREMIST OFFENDERS IN DETENTION: ADVANCING A JUVENILE JUSTICE APPROACH

Children in conflict-affected environments have always been among the most vulnerable victims, and at times, among the purveyors of violence. As key partners in preventing and countering violent extremism, they have also played various roles in furthering violent extremist ideologies and participating in acts of violence, ranging from inciting propaganda online to carrying out deadly attacks. Terrorist groups have actively targeted youth for recruitment, coercing or inducing them into their ranks, while other children self-radicalize. The international community has a responsibility to uphold the protections enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international juvenile justice standards for youth convicted of terrorism and related activities.

The Global Center, along with the International Center for Counter-Terrorism – The Hague prepared a policy brief *Rehabilitating Juvenile Violent Extremist Offenders in Detention - Advancing a Juvenile Justice Approach* which was formally adopted by the Global Counterterrorism Forum. This plenary will present the findings derived from the research report to be published in July 2017. Together, the reports advance a juvenile justice approach for authorities responsible for the care of detained juvenile violent extremist offenders (JVEOs), drawing from good practices in international juvenile justice, the emerging body of principles and practices in the detention of adult violent extremist offenders, and the national experiences in demobilizing and reintegrating child combatants.

Ms. Anne Lill Ørbeck (Norway)



Anne Lill Ørbeck is a Clinical neuropsychologist at Dikemark hospital and Ringerike high security prison. Lecturer at Oslo University, Department of Psychology
Her special interests are: developmental psychology, evolutionary psychiatry and neuroscience.

Plenary 6 – BRAIN MADURATION IN YOUTH AND ADOLESCENCE – ITS POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON DELINQUENT BEHAVIOUR

Contemporary focus on juvenile delinquency- back round and short description, prevalence. What is special with juvenile delinquency and which factors are associated with criminality in adolescence. The brain's maturational process, nerve proliferation and pruning and development of brain connectivity.
Epigenesis and vulnerability. Adaptive and maladaptive traits in the transition from childhood to adulthood, decision making and risk taking. General principles and individual differences.

SEMINAR CHAIRS

Mr. Gerry McNally (Ireland)



Gerry McNally is Assistant Director in the Probation Service in Ireland (www.probation.ie) with responsibility for research projects, international relations and projects, legislative matters and development of Probation Service standards. In the Probation Service since 1978, Gerry has worked in prisons, courts and community supervision, as a probation officer and as a manager. He has participated in European projects and initiatives and made presentations at conferences meetings and other events in Ireland and internationally on a wide range of probation-related topics and issues.

Gerry McNally is co-editor of the Irish Probation Journal (published by the Probation Service and Probation Board for Northern Ireland) and published articles on probation themes. Gerry is a council member of the Association for Criminal Justice Research and Development (ACJRD) (www.acjrd.ie). He has been a board member of CEP (Confederation of European Probation) (www.cep-probation.org) since 2013 and was elected President of CEP at the General Assembly in Bucharest in November 2016.

Mr. Willem van der Brugge (Netherlands)



Willem van der Brugge started his career more than 40 years ago as a nursing officer - and some years later as a unit manager - in a psychiatric hospital in the province of North Holland (the Netherlands). In 1989 he became a specialized probation worker for the Addiction and Probation Service in North Holland and established several drug-free units to work with addicted prisoners.

Twelve years later he switched jobs from local policy advisor to national policy advisor at the umbrella organisation of Addiction and Probation Trusts (SVG), where he dealt with probation matters (Development of the Probation Registration System, Implementation of What Works, and Redesign Offender Supervision) but also with the operational and financial management of the SVG. In 2013 he was appointed as Secretary General of the Confederation of European Probation. Willem has a Master degree in Public Management and Governance.

Mr. Gerhard Ploeg (Norway)



Gerhard Ploeg is a Dutchman who works as a senior adviser at the Directorate of Norwegian Correctional Service. Matters concerning the probation service and community sanctions are his primary areas of work, but he considers himself a generalist in correctional matters. He is Vice-President of the European Organisation for Probation CEP and co-editor of EuroVista, journal for probation and community justice. He has a Bachelor's degree in English, a Masters degree in sociology and a Ph.D. in criminology. He worked as a researcher in that field for over fifteen years at the Criminological Institute of the University of Groningen in the Netherlands before starting in a job as a policy-adviser at the Headquarters of the Dutch Probation Service in 1992. Here he developed a specialisation in community sanctions that, among other things, led him to a conference in Oslo. Some years later he found himself married to one of the organisers and he moved to Norway in 2003. He is 63 years old and has five children in two different countries.