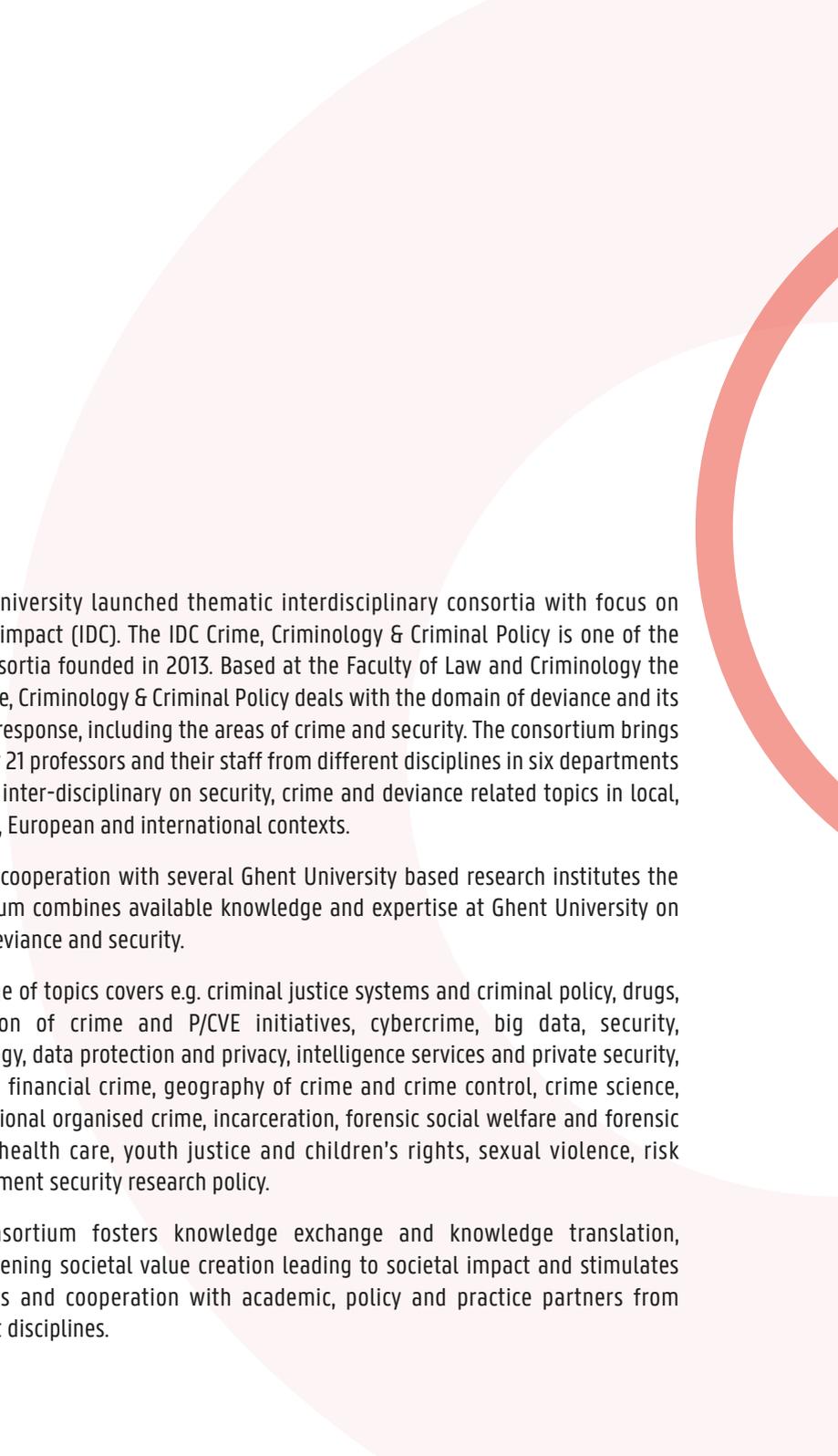


Crime, Criminology & Criminal Policy

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH CONSORTIUM
WITH FOCUS ON SOCIETAL IMPACT





Ghent University launched thematic interdisciplinary consortia with focus on societal impact (IDC). The IDC Crime, Criminology & Criminal Policy is one of the first consortia founded in 2013. Based at the Faculty of Law and Criminology the IDC Crime, Criminology & Criminal Policy deals with the domain of deviance and its (policy) response, including the areas of crime and security. The consortium brings together 21 professors and their staff from different disciplines in six departments working inter-disciplinary on security, crime and deviance related topics in local, national, European and international contexts.

In close cooperation with several Ghent University based research institutes the consortium combines available knowledge and expertise at Ghent University on crime, deviance and security.

The range of topics covers e.g. criminal justice systems and criminal policy, drugs, evaluation of crime and P/CVE initiatives, cybercrime, big data, security, technology, data protection and privacy, intelligence services and private security, policing, financial crime, geography of crime and crime control, crime science, transnational organised crime, incarceration, forensic social welfare and forensic mental health care, youth justice and children's rights, sexual violence, risk management security research policy.

The consortium fosters knowledge exchange and knowledge translation, strengthening societal value creation leading to societal impact and stimulates synergies and cooperation with academic, policy and practice partners from different disciplines.

COMBINING OUR STRENGTHS

Interdisciplinary Study of Law,
Private Law and Business Law



Eva LIEVENS

European, Public
and International Law



Ellen DESMET

Faculty of Medicine
and Health Sciences



Kurt AUDENAERT



Stijn VANDEVELDE

Faculty of Psychology
and Educational Sciences



Wouter VANDERPLASSCHEN

Faculty of Law
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Criminology,
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Wendy DE BONDT



Olga PETINTSEVA



Gert VERMEULEN



Christophe VANDEVIVER



Freya VANDER LAENEN



Tom BALTHAZAR



Charlotte COLMAN

Spokesperson



Tom VANDER BEKEN



Willem DEBEUCKELAERE



Wim HARDYNS



Tom DECORTE



Marc COOLS

Coordinator



Noël KLIMA



Jelle JANSSENS



Lieven PAUWELS



Antoinette VERHAGE



Sven BISCOP

Faculty of Political
and Social Sciences

TO MAXIMIZE SOCIETAL IMPACT



POLICY MAKERS

Advising, exchanging and translating knowledge.



PRACTITIONERS

Co-creating knowledge and projects; advising on, supporting and evaluating initiatives.



INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Translating knowledge into an international context, advising international organisations.



GENERAL PUBLIC

Informing, interacting and translating knowledge from latest research results.



ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

Exchanging knowledge and building international joint ventures.



STUDENTS

Creating research and education synergies and engaged learning activities.



GHENT UNIVERSITY

Bringing together knowledge forces from different disciplines.



IRCP: Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy

The IRCP is a robust and at the same time flexible research institute that focuses on research with a short and longer duration, on education, expert training, policy advice and ad hoc consultancy assignments.



PIXLES: Privacy, Information Exchange, Law Enforcement and Surveillance

PIXLES is an interdisciplinary knowledge platform and research consortium with a focus on current societal dilemmas and developments in the context of privacy, information exchange, law enforcement & surveillance.



Institute for Social Drug Research

The ISD plays a prominent part in the social scientific collection and transfer of knowledge regarding different aspects of the use of drugs, drug trafficking and drug policies.



Human Rights Centre

An academic centre specialized in human rights law, the HRC hosts a dynamic international team, counting many young researchers and of has a broad research and teaching expertise, covering international, regional, national and comparative law of human rights.



CESSMIR: Centre for the Social Study of Migration and Refugees

An interdisciplinary and interfaculty centre at Ghent University, focusing on the social dimensions of migration and fleeing, and developing activities in the areas of research, education and service to society.

ROLIN-JAEQUEMYS International Law Institute

The activities of the Institute span the entire realm of public international law, ranging from the law of armed conflict and international human rights law, to the law of the sea, international environmental law, international criminal law, and international economic law, as well as the history of international law.



PSYNC: Working together for mental health

PSYNC is a consortium dedicated to improving the mental health of all citizens, running research projects in close collaboration with diverse stakeholder groups, with a clear focus on generating real world impact and societal innovations.



Delta: Digitale Innovatie voor Mens en Samenleving

DELTA brings together technologists, human scientists and health professionals to explore the opportunities and challenges of new digital technologies, to guide desirable innovation trajectories to support man and society, and to raise awareness among young people in society of the importance of sustainable digital innovation.



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EXPERTISE

(Security) Research policy

Societal impact

Interdisciplinarity

P/CVE

BIOGRAPHY

Noël Klima is IDC Research Coordinator at Ghent University's IDC consortium 'Crime, Criminology & Criminal Policy' based at the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP), Faculty of Law & Criminology & Social Law at Ghent University in Belgium. He is UGent focal point for Horizon 2020 SC7 Secure Societies, Horizon Europe cluster Civil Security for Society and UGent representative in CESAERS' Task Force SSH-STEM.

Before he was Programme Management Officer at the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute – UNICRI in Rome, Italy. He was also working several years for the Belgian Federal Public Service Home Affairs, DG Security and Prevention as Deputy Head of the Unit Radicalism in Brussels. Noël Klima also served as Coordinator of the Secretariat of the European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN) and has long experience as scientific researcher and post-doctoral researcher at IRCP. Furthermore, Noël Klima is a certified ISO 31000 Risk Management Professional and Trainer.

NOËL KLIMA

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EXPERTISE

Criminal justice

Criminal law and policy

Environmental criminology

Incarceration

Penal policy

BIOGRAPHY

Tom Vander Beken is full professor in Criminology and Criminal Law and director of the IRCP at Ghent University. He is also a member of the Centre for the Social Study of Migration and Refugees and the IDC Crime, Criminology & Criminal Policy Consortium. He developed several research lines in criminology and criminal justice focusing on organized crime, prison systems, and criminal justice issues in an international and comparative perspective. Many of his studies take a special focus on vulnerable persons such as mentally ill offenders, asylum seekers, or victims.

Tom Vander Beken and his team have developed a growing interest and expertise in interdisciplinary research on (mental) health, geographical criminology, and sexual abuse. The research designs applied consist of both state-of-the-art quantitative and qualitative methodologies.

TOM VANDER BEKEN

Prof. dr.

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EXPERTISE

European and International Criminal Law and Criminal Justice

Sexual Offending, Prostitution and Human Trafficking

Privacy, Technology, Cyber, Big Data and Surveillance

BIOGRAPHY

Gert Vermeulen is senior full professor of (European and international) criminal law, sexual offending and data protection law at Ghent University. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the University and chair of the Department of Criminology, Criminal Law and Social Law of the Faculty of Law and Criminology. He is also director of the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP) and Director of the Knowledge and Research Platform on Privacy, Information Exchange, Law Enforcement and Surveillance (PIXLES). He is general director of publications, executive committee member, scientific committee member and member of the board of directors of the International Association of Penal Law and editor-in chief of the International Review of Penal Law. Gert Vermeulen is also a former privacy commissioner at the Belgian Data Protection Authority and a former member of the European Data Protection Board's subgroup on Borders, Travel and Law Enforcement, the Europol Cooperation Board and the Supervision Coordination Groups for respectively the Schengen Information System, Eurodac, VIS and Customs.

GERT VERMEULEN

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EXPERTISE

Forensic social welfare and forensic mental health care

Professional confidentiality

Drugs: demand

BIOGRAPHY

Freya Vander Laenen is senior lecturer at Ghent University, Department of Criminology, Penal law and Social Law. She is a co-director of the multidisciplinary research group 'Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy' (IRCP). Her expertise focuses on vulnerable individuals (because of substance use, mental illness, and/or social exclusion) in contact with the criminal justice system. She has acquired many years of experience as a (co-)supervisor in interdisciplinary research on drug policy, offender rehabilitation and recovery.

She is also (co-)promotor of several on-going PhD projects. As a promotor, she was part of the Geconcerteerde Onderzoeksactie (GOA) titled "Developing multidisciplinary strengths-based strategies for mentally ill offenders" – an interdisciplinary initiative from the faculties of Law and Criminology, Medicine and Health Sciences, and Psychology and Educational Sciences.

She is also a member of various international networks, like the European Society of Criminology and the International Society for the Study of Drug Policy.

FREYA VANDER LAENEN

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EXPERTISE

Research on crime causation

Questionnaire construction

Evaluation of crime and radicalization prevention / initiatives

Rule-breaking and victimization

Neighborhood effects

Evolution of norms and self-control

BIOGRAPHY

Lieven Pauwels is professor of criminology and co-director of the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP), within the Department of Criminology, Criminal Law and Social Law. He has conducted research on the interplay of individual and circumstantial factors in explaining individual differences and changes in adolescent offending and victimization, troublesome youth group involvement, the role of group processes, norms, and grievances in explaining violent extremism.

His work involves the evaluation and testing of the leading theories on crime causation, the integration of situational and social crime prevention and the study of measurement problems in survey research and registered crime data and the development and assessment of risk assessment tools.

Prof Dr Lieven Pauwels is currently co-editor of the European Journal of Criminology and has collaborated with both local and supra-local actors on the issues of crime prevention.

LIEVEN PAUWELS

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EXPERTISE

(Historical) criminology
Intelligence services
Private security

BIOGRAPHY

Marc Cools is full professor of Criminology at Ghent University and the Free University of Brussels, Visiting Professor at Nyenrode University, member of the scientific council Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers – Criminologie Paris and teaches at the Intelligence & Security School of the Ministry of Defence.

He is co-director of the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP), within the Department of Criminology, Criminal Law and Social Law. He was advisor for the former Belgian Justice Minister, Mr. Marc Verwilghen. He also is 'Officier in de Kroonorde (B)', 'Ridder in de Leopoldsorde (B)' and 'Chevalier dans l'ordre des Palmes académiques (F)'. Marc had different higher-management and board positions in the private security services industry.

Currently, he is a member of the board at Securitas Training nv and member of the Mont Pèlerin Society. He has conducted research on the upscaling of local belgian police zones, the private security sector, federal security and intelligence services.

MARC COOLS

Prof. dr.

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EXPERTISE

Big data

Security & technology

Space, place & crime

BIOGRAPHY

Wim Hardyns is professor of criminology in the Department of Criminology, Criminal Law and Social Law at Ghent University. His current interests are crime mapping and statistics, environmental criminology, crime prevention, new security technologies, big data, radicalization and terrorism, and sports-related crime. He is President of the Editorial Board for Crime & Methodology of Panopticon, President of the Editorial Board of Reeks Veiligheidsstudies, member of the Editorial Board of Cahiers Politiestudies, and Het Groene Gras.

Besides this, he is President of the Flemish Society of Criminology (Vlaamse Vereniging voor Criminologie), a member of the Board of Directors of the Centre for Policing and Security (CPS) and member of the Board of Directors of Panopticon.

WIM HARDYNS

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EXPERTISE

Organised crime
Transitional justice
Criminology of war
International policing

BIOGRAPHY

Jelle Janssens is professor of criminology at the Department of Criminology, Criminal Law and Social Law at Ghent University and member of the Institute of International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP). His research focuses on transitional justice, radicalization, organized crime, outlaw motorcycle gangs, corruption, police reform in Belgium and abroad.

He provides expertise to the European Network for the Administrative Approach against Organized Crime and the European Commission.

JELLE JANSSENS

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EXPERTISE

Penal law and special penal law

International and European penal law
collaboration

Juvenile law and children's rights

BIOGRAPHY

Wendy De Bondt is tenure track professor with a background in both law and criminology). Together with her team, she works on two research lines.

Firstly, she focuses on substantive criminal law principles and the in-depth study of certain specific offence types. In addition to criminal law applicable to adults, she also looks into juvenile delinquency law. The research projects aim to always include a comparative or cross-border component. She participated in a large number of EU wide research projects in the field of international cooperation in criminal matters.

Secondly, broadened her research work to encompass the rights of children and juvenile law, predominantly looking into the legal framework governing the contact between children and the criminal procedure. This research line looks into the topic both from a national as well as a European/ international perspective. It not only looks into children as suspects or witnesses, but also children (in)directly influenced by sentences handed down against their care takers.

WENDY DE BONDT

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EXPERTISE

Policing
Approach of financial crime
Deontology

BIOGRAPHY

Antoinette Verhage is professor of Criminology at Ghent University. She is a member of the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP) at the department of Criminology, Criminal Law and Social Law. Her research interests are among others policing, compliance, financial-economic crime and informal economy.

She has an extensive interest in qualitative research methods. Aside from research, teaching and supervising (PhD) students, Antoinette is an active member of diverse editorial boards.

Since 2012 she is the chief-editor of a new journal, the European Journal of Policing Studies (EJPS).

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EXPERTISE

Cybercrime
Human rights / children's rights
Privacy & data protection
Artificial Intelligence
Alternative Regulatory Instruments

BIOGRAPHY

Eva Lievens is Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law & Criminology of Ghent University, where she leads the research group Law & Technology. A recurrent focus in her research relates to the legal impact of the design and deployment of technology in today's society, human and children's rights in the digital environment, and the use of alternative regulatory instruments, such as self- and co-regulation to regulate tech phenomena (such as Artificial Intelligence).

She is a member of Ghent University's Research Council, of the COST Global Digital Human Rights Network, of the Chamber for impartiality and the protection of minors of the Flemish Regulator for the Media, and of the Steering Board of the Flemish Knowledge Centre for Media Literacy.

At Ghent University, Eva teaches 'European Law & ICT', 'European Media Law', 'Cybercrime, Technology & Surveillance', and 'Data Protection Law'.

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EXPERTISE

Migration law

Human rights

Anthropology of law

BIOGRAPHY

Ellen Desmet is assistant professor of migration law at Ghent University, where she founded the Migration Law Research Group. Two particular research lines are the interaction between human rights and migration law from a users' perspective, and the position of children and young people in migration law.

She also teaches legal anthropology, and coordinates the migration branch of the Human Rights and Migration Law Clinic. She previously held positions at the Children's Rights Knowledge Centre, the Law and Development Research Group of the University of Antwerp and the Human Rights Centre of Ghent University.

ELLEN DESMET

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EXPERTISE

Orthopedagogy
(Drug) addiction
Recovery

BIOGRAPHY

Wouter Vanderplasschen is associate professor at the Department of Special Needs Education at Ghent University. He is a senior researcher in the field of substance abuse treatment and recovery.

Wouter Vanderplasschen has been doing research on accessibility, effectiveness and quality of care in substance abuse treatment and concerning recovery in general. His research interests include addiction recovery, case management, treatment methods, vulnerable groups, therapeutic communities, continuity of care and evaluation of treatment. He has supervised several studies on the role of treatment, case management and psychosocial support in addiction recovery, resulting in several journal articles, books and monographs. He is a co-editor of the journal 'Drugs: Education, Prevention, Policy'.

Recently, he has been involved in studies on continuity of care in prison settings, recovery pathways of alcohol and drug users in Belgium, the Netherlands and the UK, and on recovery capital among substance users with a migration background.

WOUTER VANDERPLASSCHEN

Prof. dr.

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EXPERTISE

(Clinical) orthopedagogy

Behavioural and emotional disorders

Forensic orthopedagogy

BIOGRAPHY

Stijn Vandeveldde is an associate professor at the Department of Special Education ("Orthopedagogics").

His research and research interests focus among others on forensic orthopedagogy; the support of children, adolescents and adults with behavioural and emotional problems; the support of special target groups in orthopedagogy (persons subject to an internment measure (with an intellectual disability), persons with intellectual disabilities and additional behavioural and emotional disorders, drug assistance to detainees); Quality of Life and the Good Lives Model; and theoretical orthopedagogy.

STIJN VANDEVELDE

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EXPERTISE

Brain-behavior interaction

Neurolaw

Neuroscience on human interaction

BIOGRAPHY

Kurt Audenaert is extraordinary professor at the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology at the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences of Ghent University.

He is also chairman of the Permanent training 'Forensic Behavioural Sciences' of the Ghent University Association and co-editor of the 'Manual of Forensic Behavioural Sciences'.

In addition to his academic work, he performs his clinical work as a psychiatrist at the Ghent University Hospital where he is the head of the clinic of adult psychiatry. His scientific research focuses on aggression and transgressive behavior, and finds its application in neurobiological imaging research in humans and large pets, and neurocriminological research. He has a special clinical interest in anxiety and mood disorders, and impulsive behaviour.

KURT AUDENAERT

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EXPERTISE

International Security
European Common Security and
Defense Policy

BIOGRAPHY

Sven Biscop is the Director of the Europe in the World Programme at the Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations in Brussels and a professor at Ghent University. His research and teaching focus on the strategies of the European Union, NATO, and their Member States.

Sven regularly lectures for the EU's European Security and Defence College (ESDC), as well as in various European and American staff colleges, and at the People's University of China in Beijing, where he is a Senior Research Associate of the Centre for European Studies. Sven also is a Senior Associate Fellow of the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy and of the Baltic Defence College. He is a member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (UK) and of the Clausewitz Society (Germany).

Sven chairs the jury of the annual Global Strategy PhD Prize awarded by Egmont and the ESDC. He represents Egmont in the Higher Studies in Security and Defence, a course for security practitioners organized with the Belgian Royal Higher Institute for Defence. With Richard Whitman, Sven co-edits the European Strategy & Security book series for Routledge, and he is a member of the editorial board of the journals European Security (UK) and The International Organisations Research Journal (Russia).

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EXPERTISE

(Drug)policy evaluation

Drug supply

Alternative measures for drug-using offenders

Recovery and desistance

BIOGRAPHY

Charlotte Colman is a tenure track professor at the Department of Criminology, Criminal Law and Social Law (Ghent University), a Postdoctoral Research Fellow Fundamental Research from the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) and a member of the Institute of International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP).

She has acquired significant expertise in conducting and coordinating international and national research projects regarding different aspects of the drug phenomenon. Her main (research) interests are based around drug policy evaluation, drug supply markets including cryptomarkets, recovery and desistance focusing on community (recovery) capital and alternatives to punishment.

She has also gained significant expertise in working with international and European (policy) organisations (such as The Pompidou Groupe Council of Europe, UNODC and OAS/CICAD), providing keynotes, participating in expert meetings, providing policy advice, setting up workshops and developing policy manuals on the above-mentioned topics.

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EXPERTISE

Substance use and drug policies

Critical criminology

Research methodology

BIOGRAPHY

Tom Decorte is full professor at Ghent University and the founder of the Institute for Social Drug Research (ISD), a research group that focuses on the acquisition and transfer of knowledge about the various aspects of intoxication drug use, policy and trafficking, from a social-scientific orientation as well as a social commitment.

Besides an active participation in European and international networks, Professor Decorte regularly gives lectures on drug problems at national and international conferences, guest lectures at various (Flemish) universities, and lectures for schools and other organisations.

He is also a member of the International Society for the Study of Drug Policy (ISSDP) and a founding member of the citizens' movement Smart on Drugs.

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EXPERTISE

Privacy
Security

BIOGRAPHY

Willem Debeuckelaere worked as a lawyer between 1977 and 1995 and chief of staff for the Belgian minister of the interior from 1995 to 1998. He was a Trial Court Judge in Ghent, and counselor for the Appellate court in Ghent.

From 2004 to March 2007, he was vice-president for the Belgian commission on Privacy, and since 2007 he has presided over this commission.

Willem Debeuckelaere is also honorary visiting professor at Ghent University and has conducted research on privacy and international and EU data protection law.

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EXPERTISE

Youth justice and social exclusion

Critical and cultural criminology

Qualitative research methods

BIOGRAPHY

Olga Petintseva is professor of criminology at the Department of Criminology, Criminal Law and Social Law at Ghent University and member of the Institute of International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP).

Her expertise lies at the crossroads of criminology, migration studies and sociolinguistics. Her PhD focused on 'new' migrants in youth protection, approached from a discursive perspective. Olga's research interest is in how migration has an impact (or acquires meaning) in 'national' institutions that are not structurally adapted to diversity (e.g. the criminal justice system). Her research concerns seemingly self-evident but discriminatory practices within institutional contexts. Both in her research and in her services Olga mainly focuses on social exclusion of Roma and young refugees.

Olga is involved in various academic networks around (qualitative) methodology and critical, cultural and narrative criminology. She is also chairman of vzw SEER (Social Enhancement and Empowering of Roma).

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EXPERTISE

Health law
Criminal Policy



BIOGRAPHY

Tom Balthazar is associate professor in health law at Ghent University and legal advisor to Zorgnet-Icuro, the umbrella organization of all Flemish Hospitals.

He teaches health law and hospital law in the faculties of law, medicine and psychology.

Tom worked during 20 years as lawyer and was president of the federal commission for patient rights and member of the advisory committee on bio-ethics. He is member of the ethical committee of the University Hospital Ghent and president of the health chamber of the Flemish Council WVG.

He conducted research on professional confidentiality and data protection in healthcare, substitution-therapy, professional liability and the role of physicians in the application of social law.

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EXPERTISE

Geography of crime

Crime control

Crime science

Sexual violence

Quantitative research methods

BIOGRAPHY

Christophe Vandeviver is a tenure track Research Professor of Criminology (Ghent University Research Council, BOFZAP) and a Senior Postdoctoral Research Fellow Fundamental Research of the Research Foundation—Flanders (FWO) at the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP), Ghent University.

He is a Fellow of the Belgian Young Academy (Jonge Academie) and affiliated with the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR) as an International Research Fellow.

Christophe Vandeviver and his team perform fundamental research on the spatial and temporal dimensions of crime and crime control and sexual violence, with a strong emphasis on interdisciplinarity and cutting-edge technologies. He focuses on applications for law enforcement and the criminal justice system.

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EXPERTISE

Engaged learning
Police Organisational Culture
Qualitative Research

BIOGRAPHY

Courtney Marsh is a senior scientific researcher at Ghent University's IDC consortium 'Crime, Criminology & Criminal Policy' based at the Institute for International Research on Criminal Policy (IRCP), Faculty of Law & Criminology & Social Law at Ghent University in Belgium.

She is currently involved as a researcher in the CaST – Communities and Students Together – Erasmus+ 2019 Key Action 2 Strategic Partnerships for Higher Education. Prior to this she was a lecturer in criminology at Trinity College Dublin and freelance researcher at Irish Hospice Foundation. She completed her PhD in police organizational culture of the Irish police in the School of Social Work and Social Policy at Trinity College Dublin.

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