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Criminogenic Manifestations of Football Fans and Prevention: Latvian and Foreign Experience

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Abbreviations

FIFA International Federation of Association Football

FC Football Club

LFF Latvian Football Federation

NFIP National Football Information Point

UEFA The Union of European Football Associations

Introduction

Criminology is a branch of science that includes joint research. It is characterised by the emergence of new directions (separation) and this characteristic, which has a fundamental meaning, demonstrates the openness of criminology for active collaboration with other sciences. Critical awareness of new scientific areas implies presence of real social problems, the study of which requires a comprehensive interdisciplinary approach. Hence, the widely known problems with sports of criminal expression and the criminogenic potential, indicate timeliness and regularity of the scientific identification of the criminology of sport.

Sports criminology is a new field of criminology that studies criminological aspects of sports industry: development of crime and other offenses in sports; factors influencing crime and other offenses in the field of sport; personality of the offender (athletes, sports specialists and employees, visitors); peculiarities of victimology in the implementation of sports events; criminological policy in the field of sports.

The main task of sports criminology is to study criminalisation processes in the field of sports and develop measures for their prevention.

Contents of sports criminology:

1. theories and methods of sports criminology research;
2. offenses in the field of sports and limits of their criminological research;
3. determinants of offenses in the field of sports;
4. personal characteristics of a person committing a crime or other offense in the field of sport;
5. mechanism of interaction between the offender and his victim in the commission of crimes or other offenses in the field of sports;
6. prevention of crime and other offenses in the field of sports.

The 20th century introduced many adjustments in all areas of human life from the basic principles of family formation to everyday entertainment, which created new social phenomena. One such phenomenon is the subculture of football fans, the active growth of the degree of criminalisation of which is observed today. Mass riots, group disorder, acts of vandalism and violence often occur in and around stadiums.

Topicality of the theme. The struggle with disorder in sport competitions has become a European problem since last century. The starting point for this problem can be seen in the collisions of sports fans at the stadium “Heysel” in Belgium in 1985, which resulted in death of 39 people and more than 600 injured¹. As UEFA points out, about 46 % of football matches are followed by incidents, a quarter of which can be judged to be serious or critical; between 2013 and 2015, the number of disciplinary proceedings against the state or its team has increased by 64 %², which means that previous measures to prevent and combat irregularities have not been effective.

In the event of a disorder, sporting events have existed continuously, but their modern modification is very specific – more outspoken and coordinated previously in a riot organisation. Democratisation and promotion of football in all layers of society have rendered the stadium an area in which social conflicts are formed in a particularly pronounced form.

It should be noted that football fans are becoming more and more organised each year and are trying to dictate their terms not only to FC, but also to the society itself. Over the last five years, there have been cases in the world where football fans became involved in the government’s overthrow process or the introduction of

¹Coslett, P. 2013. Heysel disaster. *BBC*. Liverpool Web site.
http://www.bbc.co.uk/liverpool/content/articles/2006/12/04/local_history_heysel_feature.shtml

² Bengtsson, H. 2016. Football violence on the rise again: UEFA disciplinary actions up 64 % in two years. *The Guardian*.
<https://www.theguardian.com/football/datablog/2016/jun/18/football-violence-on-the-rise-again-uefa-disciplinary-actions-up-64-in-two-years>

a new political regime. For example, on May 1, 2014, the lead researcher at Harvard University, Dmitry Gorenburg, published his analysis with two Ukrainian national maps, paying particular attention to who controlled the public administration in the course of Euromaidan.³ One of the maps shows that,⁴ in most parts of Ukraine, the public administration was controlled by the support of football fans. In the same year, in Cologne, football fans who did not hide their neo-Nazi ideology, caused collisions with the police representatives during demonstrations against conservative Islamic nationals (salafites)⁵. In personal contacts with Luca Guglielminetti, a member of the European Commission expert group of Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN), the author has learned that Italy has a similar tendency, also gaining confirmation that there are many football fans among extreme right extremists.

The author draws attention to the fact that the problem of neo-Nazi protests in the Baltic states does not exist, which does not make the problem less topical in the region. This is evidenced, for example, in January, 2015 by a vast protest by the fans of the Lithuanian FC Gargždai “Banga” in the city square held to invite the District Council to vote for the Russian investors expulsion from the club.⁶ As a result of the protests, the Klaipeda district Council, with 24 out of 26 votes decided to exclude Russian investors from the list of club owners. As the portal

³ Gorenburg, D. 2014. Opposition in Ukraine: A tale of two maps. *PonarsEurasia*.
<http://www.ponarseurasia.org/article/opposition-ukraine-tale-two-maps>

⁴Gorbachov, S. 2014. Who controls local State administration. *Facebook*.
<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=850763154938797&set=pb.100000153610067.-2207520000.1398887460.&type=3&theater>

⁵LETA. 2014. Pret islāmistiem vērstā demonstrācija Ķelnē izvērsas vardarbībā (Eng. The anti-Islamist demonstration in Cologne is escalating into violence). *Leta.lv*. Ziņas: Ārzemēs.
http://www.tvnet.lv/zinas/arvalstis/532640-pret_islamistiem_versta_demonstracija_kelne_izversas_vardarbiba

⁶ 2015. Lietuvas futbola kluba fani protestē un padzen krievu investorus (Eng. Fans of the Lithuanian football club are protesting and driving out Russian investors). *Nra.lv*.
<http://nra.lv/sports/futbols/133483-lietuvas-futbola-kluba-fani-proteste-un-padzen-krievu-investorus.htm>

nra.lv tells, a hundred and a half people (football fans) expressed their opinion in the city square.⁷

The illegal behavioural problem of other country fans is relevant in Latvia. Its vivid affirmation happened in Liepaja stadium on 11 July, 2019, during a qualification game of UEFA European league between FC “Liepaja” and FC “Dinamo Minsk”. In the 88th minute of the game, several fans of the Belarusian team broke through the barriers and guards’ created chain, running into the field⁸. The necessity and relevance of a thorough study of the criminogenic manifestations of football fans is also confirmed at the national level by the fact that the FC “Liepaja” director and the policemen obviously did not have sufficient information on the leading views and goals of the FC “Dinamo Minsk” fan group.⁹ The author has been examining the criminogenic manifestations of football fans for more than 10 years. Having regularly followed majority of European closed football fans’ forums, it was confirmed that the situation in Liepaja did not surprise most European fans. For example, the following comments were made on the events in restricted access website:

1. They're football hooligans, it could be expected.
2. “Dinamo Minsk” fans for a long time boycotted, supporting an illegally convicted “Puma” (football fan). It’s their first trip, it could be expected.

It is, therefore, evident that the FC management did not carry out the necessary preparatory work and preventive measures.

In the past decade, football fanaticism has evolved quite rapidly in the world, and it has undergone many different changes. However, this research object

⁷ 2015. Lietuvos futbola klubą fanai protestė un padzen krieivų investorus (Eng. Fans of the Lithuanian football club are protesting and driving out Russian investors). Nra.lv. <http://nra.lv/sports/futbols/133483-lietuvos-futbola-klubą-fanai-proteste-un-padzen-krieivų-investorus.htm>

⁸2019. Video: The Liepaja disorder is in the football fans of Minsk “Dinamo”. *Delfi.lv*. Delfi Sports <https://www.delfi.lv/sports/news/futbols/video-liepaja-nekartibas-sariko-minskas-dinamo-futbola-fani.d?id=51272295>

⁹ *Ibid.*

has not caused serious scientific interest among Latvian sociologists and criminologists, although in Europe this phenomenon has long been studied. However, the author assumes that learning from the mistakes of others can prevent their own ones. Therefore, it is useful to pay attention to this social phenomenon, to study it before it starts creating serious problems for Latvian population.

Lack of legal frameworks in national and European sports policy is also a matter of topicality of the thesis. The sport industry is self-regulating, thus this situation has led to a high degree of legal uncertainty, as it is unclear to what extent sport organisations are entitled to act autonomously and which should be the case of a European or national Regulator's intervention. In the light of the foregoing, the author justifies the need to investigate the criminogenic manifestations of football fans' groups, to determine their place in the environment of criminogenic processes and phenomena, and to examine their specific nature and characteristics.

The novelty of the research thesis. Based on traditional criminological theories and their sub-theories (sociological theory and socio-psychological theory of crime)¹⁰, the author has developed a study on the criminogenic manifestations of football fans. A structured approach to the criminological study of the criminogenic manifestations of football fans as a social legal phenomenon should be considered a significant benefit of the dissertation. The research is an investment in Latvian legal science, as it includes:

- 1) scientifically proven existence of separate content element of sports criminology;
- 2) identification of the mechanism of forming an informal football fan group;
- 3) scientifically proven existence of elements of the football fan subculture, which form the definition of the football fan subculture and determine their place in the criminal subculture;

¹⁰ Ķīpēna, V. un Vilks, A. 2004. Kriminoloģija. Rīga: Nordik

- 4) a classification of football visitors, indicating the differences between them in general and their separate groups;
- 5) a criminological portrait of a modern football fan;
- 6) systematic study of factors that influence the criminogenic manifestations of football fans;
- 7) proposals for the improvement of preventive measures for illegal offenses, using the model of inter-institutional cooperation for this purpose.

The aim of the research thesis is to develop a study, including a theoretical and practical complex on the criminological problems of the criminogenic manifestations of football fans, as well as to provide proposals for their solution.

The tasks of the research thesis:

1. Explore football fans as a criminological study object.
2. Investigate the criminological character of the types of criminogenic manifestations of football fans.
3. Identify key directions for general and special prevention.
4. Identify problems and make proposals for their solution.

The object of the study is criminogenic manifestations of football fans as a criminological phenomenon.

The subject of the study is criminological aspects of the criminogenic manifestations of football fans: the state of affairs and tendencies, the research of football fans who commit an offense; identification of determinants that govern the criminogenic manifestations of football fans in Latvia and abroad.

Scientific research questions:

1. What are the mechanisms for the formation of a football fan association?
2. What is the criminological profile of a football fan?
3. What is the criminogenic potential of fans' subculture?
4. What measures are necessary for general and special prevention of football fans' unlawful activities?

Theoretical base of the study is the Latvian and foreign scientific research papers in **criminology**: R. Agnew, G. Armstrong, J. Baumanis, P. Backshall, D. Bodin, A. Tsoukala, M. Doidge, J. Kaufman, A. Kipane, S. Kirby, I. Kronberga, A. Vilks, A. Matvejevs, V. Voins, C. Lombroso, M. Lyman, P. Marsh, G. Pearson, G. Potter, J. Smolik, R. Spaaij, V. Burlakov (В. Бурлаков), A. Dolgova (А. Долгова), N. Kropachev (Н. Кропачев), A. Meitin (А. Мейтин); **criminal law**: S. Kaija, U. Krastiņš, I. Ponkin, (И. Понкин); **sports law**: R. Siekmann; **sociology**: R. Giulianotti, M. Guschwan, P. Leeson, M. Neill, H. Skott–Myhre, N. Smokoviti; **philosophy**: I. Vedins, J. Ortega y Gasset; **psychology**: G. Le Bon, C. Hollin, M. Melnick, G. Pease, G. Russell, D. Wann, J. Antonian, (Ю. Антонян), S. Bagadirova, (С. Багадирова), A. Gizulina, (А. Гизулина), V. Dihor, (В. Дихорь), A. Jurina, (А. Юрина). Unless otherwise stated, all citations in the work are translated by the author.

The legal basis for the study is international conventions, acts of the European Parliament and the Council of Europe, Latvian and foreign laws.

The empirical basis for the study is official statistical data on the state and dynamics of delinquency, the quantitative and qualitative characteristics of delinquent offenses by football fans. Practical national and foreign experience was gathered from semi–structured interviews with leading specialists in football security. The author also carried out an unstructured interview with a representative from national movement “Ultras” on the internal features of the football fans’ subculture.

In order to criminologically describe football fans who break the law, the author used a specially designed questionnaire, which was initially approved in the lecture of the doctoral programme. In order to facilitate the involvement of fans in the survey, the questionnaire was prepared electronically in three languages: Latvian, Russian, English and posted on Google forms. The survey was designed with a one–time response limit, which ensured the reliability of the total number of responses, i.e. the respondent was given the opportunity to participate in the survey

only once. The direct hyperlink to the anonymous questionnaire was distributed through a representative of the national movement “Ultras”, provided that only fans who had committed an offense, regardless of whether they had been prosecuted or not, should participate in the survey. The obtained results of the anonymous survey are compared with foreign research projects, the results of which are based on open interviews, surveys, court judgments. In this way, the reliability of the survey results was tested. The target group of the survey was football fans who had committed an offense in the last two seasons. In the period from 01.11.2016 to 30.01.2017, 164 football fans who have committed criminal offenses and/or administrative violations were interviewed. The obtained data is coded and processed using special data processing programmes SPSS and Excel. Statistical analysis was performed using Fisher exact test.

In addition, to create a realistic picture of the Latvian and foreign football fans, the author has analysed and for 10 years researched the available specialised web sites on the subculture of football fans, a large part of the sites is of a closed type, i.e. only available after the site administrator’s confirmation about being added to the group.

The methodological basis of the study consists of general scientific methods:

1. **Monographic method:** gathering, compiling and analysing information on the problem of the study.
2. **Analytical method:** discovering the regularities in the investigation problem; the basis for conclusions and proposals.
3. **Historical method:** based on the analysis of the development of the research object, identifying the mechanisms of formal and informal formation of the football fan association.
4. **Comparative method:** provides comparison and analysis; has been used to view the football fans’ unlawful activities prevention aspects in the criminological and criminal justice system, in order to make proposals for the

improvement of the offences and crime prevention system development in the Republic of Latvia.

5. **Induction and deduction: induction** method is used to produce general opinions and certain relationships from certain facts about criminogenic manifestations of football fans; **method of deduction** is used to logically systematise and theoretically explain the empirical.

Methods of interpreting legal norms: the interpretation of the foreign and EU legislation in relation to the research question, the following legal translation methods (methods of interpretation) were used, such as grammatical, historical, teleological and systemic. **Grammar (philological) method of interpretation** has been used to clarify the verbal content of the legal provisions, based on clarification of the meaning of the words in the regulation. In turn, within the framework of the **systemic method**, the interconnections and interdependencies of legal norms in legal acts related to the sports sector are understood. Applying the **historical method**, the aims of the legislation related to safety issues in the sports sector have been clarified: the origin and background of the specific legal act, the legal tradition in which the legal act is ranked. The meaning of the legal provisions was clarified by the **teleological method of interpretation** (meaning and purpose). Proposals for solving the identified problems are put forward in the light of the objective of a specific article to be analysed.

Within the framework of the doctoral thesis, three empirical studies were carried out, using both quantitative study methods (questionnaire) and qualitative study methods (semi-structured and unstructured interviews, content analysis).

The Thesis structure is designed to fulfil the thesis tasks, to achieve the aim of the thesis and logically reveal the essence of the researched problem: the thesis consists of an annotation, an introduction, a discussion structured in three chapters, each consisting of several subchapters, a conclusion and the list of literature and sources used.

Approbation and publication of the results of the Doctoral Thesis – the results of the study, presenting some problems and possible solutions, have been approbated at local and international scientific conferences in Latvia and abroad. The author of the study has published **10 scientific publications** on the topic of the research. **Three publications** are published in a scientific paper collection that is included in the *Web of Science/Clarivate Analytics*, one article of which is also included in the *SCOPUS* database (for publications and reports, see pages 72–75). The results of the research have been approbated not only in scientific conferences and collections of articles, but they also have practical application. The author has developed several drafts of international documents in the group of foreign scientists to improve security measures and ensure the principle of good governance in the field of sports. The author is a member of the board of International Association of Sports Law (IASL) and a member and secretary of the competition integrity and safety committee (IASL).

1. Football fans as criminological research object

1.1. Football fans as informal association with criminogenic manifestations

History shows that informal groups and associations are an “automatic” reaction to the challenges of social processes that are happening in society. Like football itself, the subculture of football fans and their characteristic offences originated in Britain. British football-related disorder events have been occurring since the beginning of the 13th century. Already in those days, team fans and players themselves often faced each other at the end of the game to find out who was better also outside the football field. However, a modern type of football hooliganism, as expressed by this new subculture, appeared in Britain only in the 20th century, in the late 1950s¹¹, when British society was going through a difficult period of development.¹² The country was struck by the systemic crisis¹³, and radical communist ideas gained great popularity among young people.¹⁴

Any subculture grows and develops as a malignant tumour with easily formed metastases.¹⁵ As a result, a successful export of the subculture of football fans and its aggression in mainland Europe and later the USSR began quickly. In the early 1980s, the problem of football violence already existed across Europe.

Further a classification of football supporters¹⁶, which is offered by the author on the analysis of foreign authors’ scientific articles and the content of closed football internet communities. With the deduction method, the author fully

¹¹ Bodin, D. 2003. *Le Hooliganisme*.

¹² Quinault, R. 2001. Britain in 1950. *History Today*. 51(4).
<https://www.historytoday.com/archive/britain-1950>

¹³ Gamble A. 1994. *Britain in decline: economic policy, political strategy, and the British state*. 4th ed. New York: ST. MARTIN’S PRESS, INC.,

¹⁴ Rowlands, J. 2001. *Policing European Football Hooliganism*.

<http://people.exeter.ac.uk/watupman/undergrad/rowlands/index.htm>

¹⁵ Armstrong, G. and Hobbs, D. 1994. Tackled from behind. In R. Giulianotti, N. Bonney and M. Hepworth, eds. *Football, violence and social identity*. London: Routledge. 196–228.

¹⁶ There are no generally accepted classifications of football fans in the European science and football community, and each country divides them according to history and legislation.

agrees with the general classification of football event attendees by the US researchers, which is built on the basis of a person's attitude to a football game:

1. Episodic Spectators:

- do not sympathise with any team other than the national sample;
- many of them watch only the World and European Championships;
- or are poorly oriented in football, or watch only the most popular football leagues. This group is mostly not interested in a particular team, it is interested in a beautiful game.

2. Supporters without criminogenic manifestations:

- support a specific team;
- sympathise with it, know all the basic and backup line-up players, team history, collect programmes, publications, attributes and everything pertaining to the favourite team;
- many people rarely visit stadiums due to their geographical locations; others can live in the city where a favourite team resides, but it is also more common for them to watch football on TV due to age, marital status, or other reasons.

3. Supporters with criminogenic manifestations (worldwide this group of supporters is called fanatics, or fans):

- as well as supporters without criminogenic manifestations, they support a certain team;
- most active football lovers;
- usually organised, it is difficult to imagine a fan with a criminogenic expression alone;
- not only regularly visit their favourite team games, but also travel with the team in the country and globally;
- organise support measures in the tribunes that often grow into conflicts and, as a result, offences;

- battle with fans of other teams and law enforcement representatives, breaking chairs etc.;
- despite this, many of them, no matter the age, have poor comprehension of football; it is more important for them to show off; a fight with other team fans is more important than football itself.¹⁷

Of course, it is not always possible to clearly define the boundaries between the categories in general and within them separately. As mentioned above, the first two categories are relatively law-abiding supporters. It is therefore necessary to pay attention in more detail to the analysis of the third group – fans with criminogenic manifestations.

According to the information gathered from the closed Internet communities of football fans and the few scientific publications of foreign authors, there are two main types of fans with criminogenic manifestations in the world football industry:¹⁸ “Ultras” and “Football hooligans”.

Even though many authors, scientific communities and law enforcement authorities tend to consider “**Ultras**” as fans who have an aggressive or violent orientation, in the 21st century opponents of this theory have emerged. Modern European groups of “Ultras” are activists in football movements. They are the ones who are getting prepared for the game for a long time, trying their speeches, slogans and making posters for the favourite club’s support. “Ultras” is a structured group with a strict hierarchy. “Ultras” have quite strict internal rules (code of honour), so they are disciplined and united.

Football hooligans are the fans who the police pay special attention to in the countries where a football fanaticism movement is developed and most

¹⁷ Wann, D. L., Melnick, M. J., Russel, G. W. and Pease, D. G. (2001). *Sports fans: The psychology and social impact of spectators*. New-York: Routledge.

¹⁸ These are the two main types of fans recognised worldwide. Similarly, there are a number of subtypes in several European and world countries. These subtypes will not be considered.

commonly spoken in the media. They are the most active and aggressive representatives who position themselves as the elite of football fans.

Football hooligan is a person who is prone to a noisy, possibly criminal, football-related behaviour.¹⁹ Unlike any other fan who is engaging/may engage in conflict spontaneously, such as the result of the abuse of alcohol, football hooligans consider a conflict with similar rival groups one of their main goals. They attach greater importance to participation in such conflicts than to the participation in the support of the football team with which they are associated.

The main challenge of today's preventative measures in some European countries, including Latvia, is that many scientists and/or policemen and society as a whole do not see the difference between "ultras" and "football hooligans". However, the differences between them are large and the main difference is:

1. The "Ultras" aggression and delinquency in sports competitions will usually be spontaneous;
2. The aggression and misdemeanours of "football hooligans" are always carefully planned and organised using modern means of communication.

Each fan movement consists of organised groupings and simple fans who do not belong to fan associations. Moreover, the number of organised groups constantly changes.

Groupings organised by football fans with criminogenic manifestations have a specific title (slang in the football industry) – firm.²⁰ A large "firm" typically originates from a string of self-standing "Mobs"²¹, which have a territorial principle. The "firm" is currently the most common form of a football hooligan organisation. Every "firm" can be formed by hundreds and even thousands of extremely-minded fans, while a "mob" is a smaller and more mobile

¹⁹ Leeson, P. T. et al. 2012. Hooligans. *L'économie des conflits*. 122(2), 213–231.

²⁰ Leeson, P. T. et al. 2012. Hooligans. *L'économie des conflits*. 122(2), 213–231.

²¹ Дихорь, В. А., et al. (2017). Основы психологии футбольных болельщиков (Eng. Fundamentals of the psychology of football fans). Учебное пособие. Екатеринбург: Издательство Уральского университета. С. 21.

formation.²² The core of each “firm” is a small, more authoritative, more active and more experienced fan group of up to 40 people. It is difficult to note more about the hierarchy in “firms”, because, for example, in Eastern Europe it is quite primitive: the leader and the basic composition. Undoubtedly, in every “firm” there are people who are engaged in finance. First, it is an integral part of any group.²³ Secondly, it is not possible to organise a joint football match attendance for fans, make posters that are taken by fans, and a whole range of activities without a financial support. The author emphasises that the issue of the financing of a group of fans is necessary to separate for a special study. In particular, this study would be relevant in those regions where the link between football fan groups and organised crime groups (e.g., in Bulgaria²⁴ and Serbia²⁵) has been proved.

1.2. Subculture of football fans, its place in criminal world

Criminal subculture at all times and in most parts of the world is characterised by the following features: a specific global vision and ideology; rules of conduct and prohibitions; special language – jargon and argo folklore. In most cases, there is a special external attribute: tattoos, clothing or certain ways of wearing it.²⁶ In the opinion of the author, the main elements and features of the criminal subculture are the same as those of the subculture of football fans, despite

²² Murphy, P. et al. 1990. *Football on Trial: Spectator Violence and Development in the Football World*. New York: Routledge. 92.

²³ Глебова, Д. И. 2014. Футбольный фанатизм в России: феномен, типология, структура (Eng. Football fanaticism in Russia: phenomenon, typology, structure). Молодежный научно-технический вестник. (2). <http://sntbul.bmstu.ru/doc/687138.html>

²⁴ Crime UooDa. 2002. *Results of pilot Survey of forty selected organised criminal groups in sixteen countries: Global programme against transnational organised crime*.

https://www.unodc.org/pdf/crime/publications/Pilot_survey.pdf

²⁵GI_TOC. 2019. Hotspots of Organized Crime in the Western Balkans; Local vulnerabilities in a regional context. *The GI_TOC*. <https://globalinitiative.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Hotspots-Report-English-13Jun1110-Web.pdf>

²⁶ Омигов, В. И. 2011. Профессиональная преступность: её современное содержание. Криминология: вчера, сегодня, завтра (Eng. Professional crime: its current content. Criminology: yesterday, today, tomorrow). (21), 54–58.

the broad campaign to stop law enforcement agencies, journalists and scientists to artificially criminalise fans.²⁷

There are a number of elements in the subculture of football fans with a very significant criminological information. By exploring its typological features, it is possible to find inherent features such as ignoring individual rights, manifested in aggressive, cruel, and cynical attitude towards “strangers”, the weak, the presence of a number of strongly regulated attributes in the group consciousness, lack of compassion for people, underestimation of human work, manifested in vandalism, etc.²⁸

One of the attributes of the subcultural behaviour of football fans is the unwritten **Fan Conflict Code**. Failure to comply with such a rule (e.g., a detained fan betrays other partners in crime), the person will not only be excluded immediately from the fan group, but the group members would also punish them for causing of “shame” for the whole group.

At present, almost every fan group has the appropriate **symbolism**, most often the emblems of supported clubs. The symbolism and attributes can be divided into five groups:

1. symbolism of their team;
2. symbolism of friendly fan movements;
3. symbolism of hostile fan movements;
4. symbolism of the movement of fans with whom the fans of this team have no relationship;
5. forbidden symbolism.

The first four groups can be analysed from different angles, such as national leagues, Europe, mixed fan movement relationships, etc. Therefore, each group

²⁷ 2019. *Fans Against Criminalisation: F.A.C. Football fans not criminals.*
<http://fansagainstcriminalisation.com/more-about-fac/>

²⁸ Czop, A. and Juszcak, A. 2017. Subculture of stadium hooligans – pathology or crime? Security dimensions. *International and National Studies.* (21), 142–158.

will not be viewed separately in this thesis. However, in the case of the fifth group, there is a common list of European prohibited symbols in football.²⁹ The presence of such attributes on some football fans is a criminogenic manifestation and, as a result, might be a subject not only to moral condemnation of the society, but also, depending on a national legal act of European countries, to administrative or criminal liability.

Criminological significance of the **fans' slang**, as the subculture attribute of football fans, is difficult to underestimate. The risk of a special colloquial dialect entering a fan environment is not a fictional exaggeration. The critical fans' criminological element is its influence on perception. It is clear that the lifestyle and rules form a slang, but already created slang dictates the lifestyle and rules.

The ignorance of the terminology of football fans does not allow an uninformed person to participate adequately in the negotiations with the fans because, firstly, the vocabulary is large enough, secondly, many words and phrases have an additional meaning and thirdly, there is a need to know not only slang, but also the existing events of fans' movements. Fans' slang knowledge can greatly facilitate work of law enforcement officials in carrying their operational preventive tasks. Research has shown that the language of football fans is mainly metaphoric, often military, aggressive or comic, mockery, as well as slang, jargon words and phrases.³⁰ However, on the one hand, the main purpose of the emergence of fans' slang, obviously, is to separate and isolate the movements of fans from the rest of the world, to determine the division into “ours” and “alien” criteria.

²⁹ 2016. *Monitoring Discriminatory Signs and Symbols in European Football*. The guide. London: Network fare. https://www.farenet.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Signs-and-Symbols-guide-for-European-football_2016-2.pdf

³⁰ Терпелец, Ж. Футбольный дискурс: Языковая вариативность и национальная специфика (на материале французского и английского языков) (Eng. Football discourse: Language variability and national specificity (based on French and English). *Филологические науки Вопросы теории и практики*. 8(86), 338–394. <http://www.gramota.net/materials/2/2018/8-2/38.html>

The linguistic activities of football fans are not limited to the oral communication only. The fans also express their thoughts and emotions on team flags or posters that are exhibited during the game. Outside the stadium team fans announce their thoughts using fan magazines (*fanzines*), online blogs and discussion sites (forums). They tend to use an informal language that sometimes becomes offensive, especially when turning to fans of competing teams. Their printed texts are distinguished by their originality, as they are using hybrid language forms – the language of young people and the language of a particular subculture prepared in the form of media.

Another indispensable subculture attribute is **nicknames**. Personal observations as well as analysis of the content of various sources, prove that almost every second member of an informal fan association with the criminogenic orientation has a nickname. Nicknames cannot be considered a harmless phenomenon. They are an indispensable associate subculture, which manifests itself in the characteristics of the interpersonal offender, attribute.³¹ For fans, nicknames perform not so much the functions of indicating or lowering the social status of a person, but they are a means of celebrating or dignifying the characteristics of its owner, or of their appearance.³² The leaders' nicknames are usually good-natured (Dragon, Professor), but the people's in the lower stages of a group hierarchy – less good-natured (Nut, Coffin), all other ones – even offensive.

By exploring the subcultural characteristics of football fans, it can be said that outside the “harmless” nature of it, strong anti-cultural nature is hidden, since belonging to a group of fans already expresses an opposition to the existing norms

³¹Романова, Н. М. 2013. Криминальные группы и криминальная субкультура. Психология и право (Eng. Criminal groups and criminal subculture. Psychology and Law). 3(1).

http://psyjournals.ru/files/58348/psyandlaw_2013_1_Romanova.pdf

³² Корецкий, Д. А. И Тулегенов, В. В. 2006. Криминальная субкультура и ее криминологическое значение. Монография (Eng. Criminal subculture and its criminological significance. Monograph). СПб.: Юридический центр Пресс.

and values in the society and justifies the behaviour, which is often illegal and criminal in nature.

Thus, on the basis of analysis of the investigation phenomenon and the available literature on the subject, it can be said that the subculture of football fans has a stable position in the criminal subculture, while preserving the inherent characteristics which often have a criminal meaning and which facilitate their mass reproduction among football lovers. The above elements of this subcultural diversity enable the concept of this phenomenon to be formulated. The subculture of football fans is a kind of behavioural regulations for football fans based on established and existing rules of conduct, which mediate common groups' unlawful behavioural actions during or relating to football matches, the language of certain communication (fan slang) and external attributes.

1.3. Criminological characteristics of football fans who commit offenses

Scientific literature has marked a number of criminological parameters of people who have committed offences, but for most authors it is based on the concept of a criminal's personality structure developed in the context of common theory of criminology. The most appropriate is the approach that the characteristics of the persons who committed an offence should be summarised in the following groups:

1. socio–demographic data (gender, age, education, etc.);
2. social status;
3. moral and psychological qualities (level of legal consciousness, etc.);
4. criminal signs.³³

³³ Афанасьева, О.Р. и Гончарова, М.В. 2016. Криминологический портрет личности преступника (Eng. Criminological portrait of the personality of the criminal). Вестник Московского государственного областного университета. Серия: Юриспруденция. 3. <https://www.vestnik-mgou.ru/Articles/Doc/10020> [sk. 16.04.2018.]

By fully agreeing to this approach of personality research and revealing the mechanism of social determination, two fan groups were investigated: 1) Ultras; 2) Football hooligans. During the survey, 11 out of 164 (6.71 % of the total) respondents admitted they would consider themselves neither “Ultras” nor “Football hooligans”, but they are simply supporters who have committed offences during the past two football seasons. It is, of course, difficult to argue that the results of the study indicate strictly certain patterns of illegal behaviour, as well as strictly certain personal qualities. Meanwhile, the compilation of data on the persons infringing the law makes it possible to accurately predict the dynamics of violations of these types of offenders, their influence on other social phenomena and processes, as well as form scientifically sound ways of an organised struggle against them.

Socio–demographic features include:

Sex. Majority of violations are made by male individuals – 97.56 % of respondents from the total number without considering any type of fans.

Age. The analysis carried out showed that, irrespective of affiliation with the first or second group of fans, the persons tending to commit the offence are persons between 21 and 30 years old. When considering the age structure of the offender, it can be seen that criminal activity is increasing with the increase of the number of teenagers and the peak of their criminogenic situation occurs at an average age of 25 years old

Education. Data on the level of education and the age data given above (violations of both “Ultras” and “Football hooligans” mostly take place at the age of 21 to 30) may indicate that the level of education and intelligence of this group of offenders is sufficiently high compared with a group of similar persons–street hooligans³⁴, considering that the presence of higher education in today’s world, in

³⁴Бурлаков, В. и Кропачев, Н. 2019. Криминология: Учебное пособие (Eng. Criminology: Study Guide). 2-е изд. Стандарт третьего поколения. Санкт-Петербург: Питер, 67 с.

particular in the European part, is not the prerogative of a certain part of the population, but it has become accessible to almost all, regardless of circumstances and opportunities. Likewise, a higher education with more than 66 % of respondents in both groups considered shows that, firstly, just at the age of 21 to 30 higher education is obtained, and secondly, despite the similarity of illegal offences with ordinary street criminals (hooligans), the criminological portrait of football fans with criminogenic manifestations is more like the criminological portrait of “white-collar” criminals³⁵. It can, therefore, be considered that the motivation of the offender concerned is not linked to the absence of a positive microclimate in higher education institutions, which in turn influences the choice of preventive methods to combat football violations. In this case, the educational programme alone will not be enough because, for example, answering the questions: “Do you know what is forbidden to do and what is not allowed to bring into the stadium visiting the game?” and “Are you aware of any liability for infringements that have been committed before, during or after the game?”, 96 % of respondents in the total responded that they know what actions are illegal and 84 % know what responsibility they are facing for committing the offence.

In addition, the author notes that the data obtained by foreign scientists on the level of education of football fans fully correspond to the data obtained by the author. According to a study by a group of docents at the Serbian Academy of Forensics and Police, around 69 % of violent fans surveyed have higher or incomplete higher education in Serbia.³⁶ Moreover, researchers of the Ural Federal University have also found (a study on the psychology of football fans) that 54 %

³⁵ Gottschalk, P. and Gunnesdal, L. 2018. *White-Collar Crime in the Shadow Economy: Lack of Detection, Investigation and Conviction Compared to Social Security Fraud*. Palgrave Pivot.

³⁶ Baic, V., Ivanovic, Z., and Popovic, S. 2017. Socio-demographic characteristics of violent fan groups at football matches. *Acta Kinesiologica* Vol.11 No.1.
<http://www.actakin.com/PDFS/BR1101/SVEE/04%20CL%2006%20VB.pdf>

of football fans surveyed have a higher education.³⁷ It should be noted that among Latvian experts it is considered that local fans are around 30 years old, with higher education and hold leading positions. Consequently, the author has no reason to doubt the objectivity and veracity of these results.

Marital status. It is quite clear that the age characteristics of the group of offenders affect their marital status. Among the fans surveyed who have committed offences, more than half are not married – 56.71 % of the total number of respondents. In addition, non-married ones range more among the “Football hooligans” than the “Ultras” – 62.86 % and 49.40 %. In this context, it can be said that the relationship of the offence with functional dependency can be discovered by analysing the nature of the family relationship, which in some cases acts as a deterrent factor, and in others creates and accelerates the commission of crimes.

Residence. The survey data show that football fans who freely share their criminal experience live in the neighbouring countries of Latvia. Among the fans surveyed who committed offences:

- 11.59 % of the total number are from the Baltic States, i.e. Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia;
- 57.31 % from Russia and
- 31.10 % from other countries in the Eastern Europe (e.g., Poland, Hungary, Romania, Belarus, Ukraine.)

People who trusted the author of the survey were mostly from neighbouring countries, since, according to a local “Ultras” fans’ representative, fans who have committed offences from the Western Europe, with occasional exceptions, disseminate information about the offence made, taking into account the fear of

³⁷ Дихорь, В.А., et al. (2017). Основы психологии футбольных болельщиков. Учебное пособие (Eng. Fundamentals of the psychology of football fans. Study Guide). Екатеринбург: Издательство Уральского университета.57.c.

government and law enforcement authorities.³⁸ The survey was conducted anonymously in three languages: Latvian, English and Russian.

Social situation. Data received and compiled show a sufficiently high proportion of offenders with a job (Ultras – 95.18 %; Football hooligans – 84.29 %). Moreover, it is surprising that in both the “Ultras” (13.25 %) and “Football hooligans” (10 %) there are persons representing the country.

Not a smaller percent of fan offenders is among entrepreneurs, either. Therefore, taking into account that the majority of individuals are both having a higher education and are employed, it can be concluded that, in most cases, there is no link between criminogenic manifestations of football fans and their intellectual level, the ability to determine what is an unlawful offence, etc.

Looking at personality changes of the offenders, there is not so much to speak about socio–demographic characteristics, but about deeper subjective changes in the state of moral and legal consciousness, the motivation of criminal behaviour.

Firstly, when analysing the nature of these offenders, the **moral, psychological and legal characteristics** of the person must be discussed. In the moral and legal consciousness of persons, committing offences there is not only a profound deformation, which was partly inherent in the past³⁹, but also an unacceptable low level of co–responsibility in social communion.

When analysing the findings of personal attitudes to the infringement committed, more than 85 % of respondents do not feel any remorse, and about 40 % of them would again commit a similar offence. As a result, it can be concluded that a football fan who seeks to commit unlawful offences is a selfish person,

³⁸ It is interesting that there is fear of punishment, but it does not prevent the offender from an unlawful offense.

³⁹ Антоян, Е.А. 2014. Личность рецидивиста: криминологическое и уголовно-исполнительное исследование: ДИССЕРТАЦИЯ (Eng. Recidivist’s personality: criminological and criminal executive research: DISSERTATION). МОСКВА, МГЮА. https://msal.ru/common/upload/DISSERTATSIYA_Antonyan_E.A..pdf

considering that the views and principles of the person are higher than the public's right to security in general.

According to several scientists (J. M. Antonyan (Ю. М. Антонян), M. J., Yenikeev (М. И. Еникеев), V. J. Eminov (В. Е. Эминов)⁴⁰, M. Schmideberga⁴¹, P. O. Wikstrom (Per-Olof Wikström)⁴², and others), it is important that the data on the behaviour of a person are relevant in the developing of criminal motives, the views just before committing an offence, as they reflect the nature of the person.

Thus, according to the results of the survey, both the “Ultras” (21.69 %) and “Football hooligans” (40 %) main motivation for an unlawful offence is the direct impact of the group to which they belong. Therefore, the main reasons which need to be addressed when developing preventive measures in the fight against analysed irregularities are the policies, rules and principles of the movement analysed in general, and in particular – in certain groups.

Togetherness, obligation, conscience, courage, and other concepts are often thought out, taking into account the interests of the group. One of the fundamental needs of a personality is the tendency to realise himself, to achieve certain results in action, behaviour, interaction with other people, and to see himself at the level identified in his own eyes and in the opinion of others.⁴³

On the basis of the results of the survey, it can be concluded that the life objectives of football fans in the “Ultras” and “Football hooligans” groups are directed towards the psychological comfort of the group members, temporary

⁴⁰ Антонян, Ю. М. и Еникеев, В. Е. Э. 1996. Психология преступника и расследования преступлений (Eng. Psychology of the criminal and investigation of crimes). Москва https://www.sgu.ru/sites/default/files/textdocfiles/2014/09/30/_antonyan_yu.m._psihologiy_a_prestupnika_i_rassledovaniya_prestupleniy.pdf

⁴¹ Schmideberg, M. 1947. Psychological factors underlying criminal behavior. *The Journal of criminal law and criminology, including the American journal of police science.* 37(6), 458-476.

⁴² Wikström, P. O. H. 2014. Why crime happens: A situational action theory. *Analytical sociology: Actions and networks.* 74-94. <http://www.ssp-samraadet.dk/media/1378/why-crime-happens.pdf>

⁴³ Cohen, Geoffrey, Sherman, David K.. 2014. The psychology of change: Self-Affirmation and social psychological intervention. *Annual review of psychology.*

enjoyment, consumption, the benefit side. Fulfilling immoral and unlawful actions, they strive to “defend” their motives, with multitude of disloyal negative assessments of the behaviour of the victims. They have a clearly fixed, as already mentioned above, recognition or “awareness” stance on the majority of violations, the denial of their responsibility for unlawful behaviour and total defiance of it.

Socio–psychological characteristics of the personality. Many researchers have noted the fact that in such a combination as the crowd, the behaviour of individual people can differ significantly from their moral qualities, other individual peculiarities that aggravate, dissolve in the psychology of unification, the crowd.⁴⁴ The main characteristics of the crowd are the merging of individuals into one mind and feeling that overshadows personal differences and undermines intellectual abilities. Everyone tends to align with the ones with whom they communicate.

In this way, according to the survey results, 80.72 % of the respondents from the “Ultras” movement have committed offences in the group. Of these, 55.42 % without prior agreement and 25.30 % by prior agreement, which leads to the conclusion that this group of persons is characterised by spontaneous, as mentioned above, emotional and instant illegal offences. In turn, the proportion of administrative offences in the “Football hooligans” group is slightly higher than that of the “Ultras” and is 87.15 %. Also, there is a difference in violations by prior agreement. In the “Football hooligans” group, illegal offences were taken without prior agreement by 34.29 % of respondents, and 52.86 % by prior agreement. Therefore, it can be concluded that, in developing preventive measures to combat the delinquency of football hooligans, the Cabinet of Ministers’ orders on prevention and combating of organised crimes (e.g., Cabinet Order No. 90 of 28

⁴⁴ Wijermans, F. E. H. 2011. *Understanding Crowd Behaviour: Simulating Situated Individuals*. Groningen: University of Groningen, SOM research school.

February, 2018 On the Prevention of Organised Crime and Combating Plan for 2018–2020⁴⁵).

Another factor indicating the social orientation of a personality is the existence of a criminal record. Among the surveyed fans, the share of persons involved in criminal or administrative responsibility was 18.29 % (Ultras – 13.25 %; Football hooligans – 25.71 %).

However, lack of criminal record does not necessarily indicate that a person has not committed a criminal offence. According to the data of the questionnaire, 92.07 % of respondents (Ultras – 92.77 %; Football hooligans – 97.4 %) have repeatedly avoided liability for football-related offences.

This leads to the conclusion that majority of football fans who have committed at least one violation are morally and psychologically prepared to make delinquency in the future as well.

Practice shows that committing different offences for a long time by a group, and almost without penalty, leads to an increasing number of organisational features, expressed in a relatively fixed hierarchy of criminal roles, after each new offence.

Certain qualities and personality traits which are largely determined by the nature of the criminal behaviour, are not completely the same for all football fans. However, based on the evidence found, it is possible to distinguish between groups that require early and immediate preventive action, as well as specific control, taking into account the high probability of committing the crime. This, in turn, will allow to make a more precise identification of the objects of preventative effects and the differentiation of work on crime prevention.

⁴⁵ Ministru kabineta rīkojums Nr. 90 Par Organizētās noziedzības novēršanas un apkarošanas plānu 2018.-2020. gadam (Eng. Order of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 90 On the Plan for the Prevention and Combating of Organised Crime 2018–2020. 28.02.2018. Latvijas Vēstnesis. 45.

2. Types and characteristics of criminogenic manifestations of football fans

2.1. Criminogenic manifestations of football fans and their types

There are many foreign scientific publications on criminogenic manifestations in sport as a whole⁴⁶ and directly in football.⁴⁷ It can be concluded that, in scientific community, football fans' behaviour is initially regarded as a potentially criminal behaviour. Officials of international and national football organisations, FC authorities also limit the behaviour of fans in stadiums, thus indicating that their behaviour (violence, use of pyrotechnics, etc., both violations of the competition safety rules and of legal norms as a whole) is aggressive and diverted from the generally accepted norms of society.

Two types of aggression have been identified in the football industry: verbal⁴⁸ and physical aggression.⁴⁹ The verbal aggression of football fans takes the form of:

- negative discussion of a football game;
- shouting out the team's slogan;
- singing songs in support of a team;
- negative expressions about a team/player;
- negative expressions about the opposing team/player;
- negative expressions about the opposing team fans;
- shouting of racist and xenophobic slogans;

⁴⁶ Lee, J. W. and Lee, J. C. 2009. *Sport and Criminal Behavior*. Durham, North Carolina: Carolina Academic Press.

⁴⁷ Spaaij, R., 2006. *Understanding Football Hooliganism: A Comparison of Six Western European Football Clubs*.

⁴⁸ Rocca, K. A. and Vogl-Bauer, S. 1999. Trait verbal aggression, sports fan identification, and perceptions of appropriate sports fan communication. *Communication Research Reports*. 16(3), 239-248, DOI: 10.1080/08824099909388723

⁴⁹ Tenenbaum, G., Stewart, E., Singer, R.N. and Duda, J. 1997. Aggression and violence in sport: An ISSP positionstand. *The Sport Psychologist*. 11(1), 1-7.

- expressions of dissatisfaction with football officials (for example, a threat to a referee, an insult to a FC and/or a federation administration).

The physical aggression of football fans includes:

- damage to public/private property;
- throwing items onto the football field;
- ignition and throwing of missiles;
- fights (between fans, fans and all players involved in the football industry);
- immoral behaviour associated with an excessive use of alcoholic beverages.

As the most important feature of criminogenic manifestations of football fans, their group character should be noted. According to the Greek professor N. L. Smokoviti's theory, a social conflict is often the result of crowd-unstructured behaviour.⁵⁰ In turn, physical aggression among football fans appears directly in the crowd. In practice, there are also other facts of the law of delinquency that have been done by single fans (for example, dissatisfied with refereeing fans having moved over the boundary and offended the game's referee during the game). However, they are mostly the result of inciting of other fans, or the planned start of the campaign, when detention of the offender may escalate into massive disorder and clash with the staff providing public order during the game. Such single-person hooliganism phenomenon hides the danger, not just as the aid to others, but also the opportunity for others to "come to help" if necessary.

Thus, the main focus of preventive methods to combat the physical aggression of football fans must be diverted to the individual and their separation from the informal association with criminogenic manifestation.

It is also necessary to pay attention to where the delinquency is performed (venue), when (season, days of the week, hour of the day) and by whom (offender's personality, belonging to a particular group of football fans). This

⁵⁰ Smokoviti, N. L. 1994. *Sociology-Society and Social Life*. Athens-Piraeus: Stamoulis Publicatios. In: Kleomenis, L., 2005. *Deviant behaviour of Greek football spectators: Doctoral thesis*. Budapest: Semmelweis University of Budapest. 17.

preventively important information is necessary in order to differentiate between the measures concerned and the specification of preventive action objects. In view of such access to all the criminogenic manifestations of football fans, they may conditionally be divided into three groups based on the time aspect of the manifestations:

1. “before the game” (before the beginning of a football game, outside the stadium);
2. “in the stadium” (made in the territory of the stadium, in the course of a football game);
3. “after the match” (made after a football match, outside the stadium).

This type of grouping helps not only to specify similar breaches by the composition, to ascertain the likely time and location of the offence, but also to define their nature, characteristics, direction and a range of other critical signs.

“**Before the game**” delinquency characteristic location is the station, public or other transport stops, which are on the way to the stadium, where the game is taking place. In these places, fans of the opposing team are waiting for the fan groups who also initiate a group fight. The illegal nature of such group activities is always specifically addressed to the fans of the other team. In the case of local team fans, it will also be the advantage of the territory, the numerical dominance of the participants who have already created weapons of attack for the offence, and other circumstances allow local fans to gain an edge over the opponents of this type of fights though the number of victims may be similar on both sides. The motives behind such activities are driven by low-level drivers, such as the desire for revenge and hatred for the fans of another team. Typical crimes for such a group include group hooliganism, causing bodily harm at different degrees of severity, and a number of related crimes (e.g., robbery, destruction and damage of property, etc.).

“**Stadium**” delinquency also has its own specifics. The offences are mostly made within the sport complex during a football match. This range of offences can

cover not only group hooliganism and bodily injury, but also mass disorder, damage to property, application of violence against policemen, etc.

The third group of offences (**after the match**) can be realised by both the losing and winning teams' fans. Inspired by victory, or saddened by loss, fans can express their accumulated aggression toward any person. However, in most cases the victims of their illegal activities are fans of the opposite party. Groups of fans who wander in the streets after the game and have taken a decent amount of alcohol, together with violent activities, often also commit many actions of vandalism, disrupting everything on their way. The diversity of the frustrated fans, their unmanageability and mobility, allow some of them to also perform a range of other offences due to the greedy appetites (theft and robbery) during a peculiar process (on their way to the place of residence, public or other transport stop).

In addition, the author notes that often **“initiative”** criminogenic manifestations, which are not associated with a particular football game, are also noticed, but these offences are made by motivating them with the frustrations of a game result, the behaviour of fans or other mutual contradictions. The so-called **“initiative”** nature of delinquency is included in the pre-planned group battles between informal fan groups. The organisation of this type of actions is generally the responsibility of the association managers who agree on the location and timing of the meeting, the number of scheduled participants, the authorised use of the crime tools, etc.

To sum up, the author believes that the criminogenic manifestations of football fans are illegal and harmful, endangering the system of human relations in a society that provides public peace, normal conditions for work and recreation, as well as the rights and legitimate realisation of the person's interests. In addition, the life and health of a person, the property, assets and interests of natural and legal persons, as well as values may be harmed. The diversity of such offences is a relatively independent criminal, as well as a criminological object of research, with

the ultimate aim of effective protection of individuals, society and the state against criminal offences and the prevention of crime.

2.2. Criminological characterisation of criminogenic manifestations of football fans

Objective elements of criminological characterisation include statistics, data on social conditions (situation) of violations of rights (socio–political, geopolitical, socio–economic, geography, etc.).⁵¹ In view of the fact that statistics about delinquency by football fans is not available or translated in all European countries, the author will review the European Council’s “Annual/seasonal report 2016 on violence, disorder and other prohibited activity” at football matches, which is an analysis of the objective elements of the criminological characteristics. This report is the second edition of the joint project “Promoting and Strengthening the Council of Europe Standards to Safety, Security and Services at Football matches and other sport events (ProS4+)”, funded by the European Commission and the Council of Europe, which is implemented by the Council of Europe. The project involves several sub–projects, including the one aimed at creating a reliable process of data collection and information on football incidents related to violence, disorder and other crimes in Europe. The aim is to provide a reliable basis for an annual quantitative and qualitative analysis of current tendencies, to identify emerging problems and thus to prioritise work activities. This edition was published in March, 2018 and the data for relevant analysis were submitted by 29 countries.

According to the document, the total number of incidents relating to professional football matches was 14,994 in 2016. Incidents were, therefore, recorded in 93 % of the games played at the national and international levels. This demonstrates directly that the actual level of violations of the offences of football

⁵¹ Езикан, В. И. 2011. Криминология: учебное пособие (Eng. Criminology: Study Guide). Новочеркасск: ЮРГТУ. 92.

fans at both national and European level is twice as high as that of UEFA (47 %).⁵² Thereby, the need to carry out criminological analysis and statistical data collection at the European level is also justified. Of course, differences between national legal regulations and methodology for registering incidents affect a final percentage, but this should attract the attention of all interested parties at national level. The statistical method (not only in science) must form the basis of any objective study, but law enforcement authorities at national level are mainly investigating common types of delinquency, while the above type is ignored as an independent one.

Based on the data collected in the framework of the ProS4+ project, it is possible to establish a legal infringement structure for football fans.

The most common offence of football fans in the stadium area is the use of pyrotechnics – 65 % of the total number of infringements recorded.

The violent behaviour of supporters in the stadium is as follows:

- hooliganism or threatening behaviour – 523 cases (7.29 % of the total number of offences recorded);
- violence against the police: 266 (3.70 %);
- throwing items – 174 (2.42 %);
- vandalism – 150 (2.09 %);
- illegal political action – 150 (2.09 %).⁵³

Unlike the fixed violations at the sports complex (stadium) territory, offences outside the stadium are characterised by aggressive fan behaviour:⁵⁴

- abusive behaviour – 1,878 (60 % of all registered incidents);

⁵²European Union. 2018. *Annual/season report 2016 on violence, disorder and other prohibited activity*. Strasbourg <https://rm.coe.int/pros4-2017-11-annual-season-2016-report-for-publication-april-2018/16808b7946>

⁵³European Union. 2018. *Annual/season report 2016 on violence, disorder and other prohibited activity*. Strasbourg <https://rm.coe.int/pros4-2017-11-annual-season-2016-report-for-publication-april-2018/16808b7946>

⁵⁴European Union. 2018. *Annual/season report 2016 on violence, disorder and other prohibited activity*. Strasbourg <https://rm.coe.int/pros4-2017-11-annual-season-2016-report-for-publication-april-2018/16808b7946>

- violence against rival fans – 241 (7.70 %);
- vandalism – 101 (3.22 %);
- violence against the police – 93 (2.97 %).

Illegal use of pyrotechnics at the stadium and outside its territory is a serious problem – 638 (20 %). In turn, it raises the question of the responsibility of the parties organising all sport events, which can only be solved by joint work within an integrated approach.⁵⁵

According to project ProS4+ data for the above-mentioned offences in the 2016 season, 6,716 people (2,427 at stadium area and 4,289 outside it) were detained⁵⁶. Inside the stadium, 36.13 % were detained, but outside it – 63.87 % of the total number of the detainees. It should also be noted that, according to the data provided by the member states of this project, 14,994 offences were recorded in total, but only half were detained for them, namely, 44.79 % of the total number of delinquencies. The author states that this could happen due to many local circumstances, including a regulatory framework requiring a separate study at the national level.

The ProS4+ project also collected data on the number of penalties imposed in criminal and administrative cases concerning football offences. In total, in the 2016 season the national courts sentenced 5,722 criminal and/or administrative penalties. It can therefore be assumed that 14.8 % (994 people) of the total number of detainees managed to avoid criminal or administrative liability.

According to the author, the above document proves that the movement of fans is a challenge for public authorities and other stakeholders, whose job is to

⁵⁵ In 2015 the author prepared and presented to the members of the Latvian Football Federation recommendations on the illegal use of pyrotechnics (flares, smoke bombs, fireworks) on football fields. The recommendations were also discussed and received scientific support at the 2016 International Sports Law Association (IASL) 22nd Congress “Mega Events in Sport: Legal Environment”, Russia, Sochi.

⁵⁶European Union. 2018. *Annual/season report 2016 on violence, disorder and other prohibited activity*. Strasbourg <https://rm.coe.int/pros4-2017-11-annual-season-2016-report-for-publication-april-2018/16808b7946>

ensure the security and well-being of their citizens and guests. In addition, the conclusion of the document that the provision of safety in sport events should involve both the national police and the collaborating security firms and complement each other, is also to be welcomed.⁵⁷

Taking into account that hooliganism in this document is a predominant part of the total fan abuses committed in a mass, the author considers hooliganism to be a “starting point” for further criminal activity; but as the fight against it decreases, the number of serious violent crimes increases. Violence as the most dangerous form of crime is a universal tool for various crimes. This leads to profound changes in self-motivation, the nature of the crime and the personality characteristics of the subject of violence and victims. The steady escalation of football fans’ hooliganism jumps during the broadcast of football games is an evidence of an increase in public exposure to their behaviour. At the same time, violence is not only a means of pursuing unlawful personal interests, of solving group problems, but often becomes a norm of common behaviour. Violent hooligans try to prove their superiority, strength and impunity to another person, considering their anonymity. Individuals united in a group are constantly looking for a cause for melee. Those who avoid conflicts are believed to violate the Code of Honour of the football fan, but the damage caused by them or the cursing of law enforcement officers is the right way to get respect from them ones like them.

⁵⁷ European Union. 2018. Annual/season report 2016 on violence, disorder and other prohibited activity. Strasbourg <https://rm.coe.int/pros4-2017-11-annual-season-2016-report-for-publication-april-2018/16808b7946>

3. Prevention of criminogenic manifestations of football fans

3.1. Determinants of criminogenic manifestations of football fans

Criminological research identifies several factors that affect offenses. Depending on the depth of the criminological research and the level of detail, up to 500 factors might be distinguished in criminology (including climatic conditions, increase in solar activity, etc.).⁵⁸ Identifying the factors that influence the criminogenic manifestations of football fans, the author grouped them in the following order:

1. **Physical factors** are items that increase the offender's ability or help overcome preventative measures (for example, phones allow a leader of football fan group to organise any illegal activity while away from the group, but provocative behaviour by opposing team fans increases adrenaline levels that can lead to aggression). Other physical contributing factors are part of the physical environment:⁵⁹
 - sports competitions as a factor of fan aggression;
 - spatial factors.
2. **Social factors** contribute to crime or disorder by increasing the proceeds of crime, justifying legitimate offenses or encouraging non-compliance (for example, groups of young men can create atmosphere in society that encourages hooligan behaviour at sporting events, groups and organised crime networks promotes criminal activity through its members):⁶⁰
 - socio-political factors;
 - situational factors such as start time and the crowd size;

⁵⁸ Vilks, A., Usatjuka, N. 1999. Par noziegumu faktoriem šodienas Latvijā (turpinājums) (Eng. On crime factors in today's Latvia (continued)). Latvijas Vēstnesis. Nr. 240/241 <https://www.vestnesis.lv/ta/id/19464>

⁵⁹ Klarks, R.V., Eks, D.E. 2010. Noziedzības analīze 60 soļos (Eng. Crime analysis in 60 steps). Tulkojusi Veckalne, A. Rīga: Valsts Policija, 79.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*

- football fan subculture.
3. **Intoxicant factors** increase offenders' ability to ignore risks and moral prohibitions (for example, to reduce anxiety, some offenders drink alcohol or use drugs before a crime):⁶¹
- effects of alcohol, narcotic, psychotropic and other intoxicating substances.

Physical factors: sports competition as a factor influencing fan aggression. This factor certainly plays an important role, which can be justified by the researches of a lecturer of the University of Bern, Alain Brechbühl with colleagues⁶², an Associate professor at Erasmus University Rotterdam, Dr. Olivier Marie⁶³ and Leander van der Meij, an Associate professor at the Eindhoven University of Technology with colleagues⁶⁴, in the field. The above studies show a causal relationship between what is happening on the football field and the criminogenic manifestations of football fans. Analysing the violations committed by football fans, the author also found that the factor associated with the competition, which formed the basis for illegal actions, often appears: the loss of a favourite team, the experience of an unsuccessful game of football players, as well as referee bias.⁶⁵ The studies mentioned have also shown that there is an increase in the level of violence in the area where football is played. However, there are also drawbacks to this conclusion in the theoretical justification, as there is currently lack of comparative studies; i.e. scientists collect and analyse the data obtained at

⁶¹ Klarks, R.V., Eks, D.E. 2010. Noziedzības analīze 60 soļos (Eng. Crime analysis in 60 steps). Tulkojusi Veckalne, A. Rīga: Valsts Policija, 79.

⁶² Brechbühl, A. A., Schumacher Dimech, Schmid, O.N. and Seiler, R. 2017. Escalation vs. Non-escalation of fan violence in football? Narratives from ultra fans, police officers and security employees. *Sport in Society*. 20(7), 861–79.

⁶³ Marie, O. 2016. Police and thieves in the stadium: Measuring the (multiple) effects of football matches on crime. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society. Series A (Statistics in Society)*. 179(1), 273–92.

⁶⁴ Meij, Van der L., Klauke, F., Moore, H.L., Ludwig, Y.S., Almela, M. and Lange, van P.A.M. 2015. Football fan aggression: The importance of low basal cortisol and a fair referee. *PLOS One*.10(4), 14.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

the national level, so it is not possible to say with certainty whether this factor affects the persistence of criminological manifestations in the football fan sub-culture as a whole or in a particular region and/or country.

Spatial factors are manifested in such a way that the degree to which competing fans are distinguished from one another affects their criminogenic manifestations. Consequently, both the size of the stadium and the effective crowd management strategy to prevent offenses play a crucial role, as competing fans will not be able to obey the law when they are in the same room, both inside and outside the stadium.⁶⁶ Therefore, the author believes it is necessary to ensure that the stadiums are filled and freed by providing a separate entrance/exit for guests, spectators, supporters and fans (namely, by providing a special entrance/exit and the time when it will be open, on the ticket). In addition, it would be desirable to provide some positive event right after the game to “cool down” the emotions of the dissatisfied supporters and fans.

Social factors: Socio-political factors. There is little scientific evidence on the influence of socio-political factors on criminogenic manifestations of football fans. Undoubtedly, socio-political aspects in some cases provoke illegal behaviour of football fans. However, this can hardly be considered as a leading, influencing factor in the expression of a football fan’s criminogenic manifestations. Firstly, for example, the results of a survey (see p.30–31) show that the number of unemployed football fans with criminogenic manifestations is quite low (9.15 %). Secondly, as mentioned in the introduction, the participation of football fans in political protests is a consequence, not a cause, because it is their willingness to act illegally which often puts football fans among the protesters.

Situations and environment-related factors such as start time and crowd size. Several scientists have concluded that this is the leading factor when it

⁶⁶ Meij, Van der L., Klauke, F., Moore, H.L., Ludwig, Y.S., Almela, M. and Lange, van P.A.M. 2015. Football fan aggression: The importance of low basal cortisol and a fair referee. PLOS One.10(4), 14.

comes to criminogenic manifestations of football fans. Director of the Institute of Criminology and Legal Policy at the University of Helsinki Mikko Aaltonen and a docent of the University of Eastern Finland Jyri Paasonen, on investigating whether Finland needs a football attendance banning system (and similar public events)⁶⁷; their British colleague, a docent of criminology, Dr. Jamie Cleland and Professor, Dr. Ellis Cashmore at Aston University, in their study on football fans' attitudes towards violence in Britain⁶⁸, as well as a Dutch scientist, Dr. D. P. Schaap and his colleagues in an evaluation of football hooliganism in the Netherlands⁶⁹ have found:

1. it does not matter which month the games take place, but it is important on which day (more offences are recorded on Saturdays than on other days);
2. venue and start time – more offences are recorded at designated locations and times (mostly dependent on alcohol consumption culture in the country); for example, football matches are a rarity on Saturday evenings in the UK, both in stadiums and on TV;
3. darkness is also an added factor: fewer offenses are recorded during the day (it is also found how darkness affects the number of offences mostly outside the stadium);
4. the result of the game is also largely of no statistical significance, but the size of the fan groups and how many of them have attended the game, as offences are more often recorded in games with more crowds, such as the Second

⁶⁷ Paasonen, J. and Aaltonen, M. 2017. Does Finland need an entry–ban system for football matches (and similar public events)? Examining the current state of regulation and security issues. *Security Journal*. 30(4), 1064–1079. Doi: [org/10.1057/sj.2016.5](https://doi.org/10.1057/sj.2016.5)

⁶⁸ Cleland, J. and Cashmore, E. 2016. Football fans' views of violence in British football: Evidence of a sanitized and gentrified culture. *Journal of Sport and Social Issues*. 40(2), 124–142. Doi: [org/10.1177/0193723515615177](https://doi.org/10.1177/0193723515615177)

⁶⁹ Schaap, D., Postma, M., Jansen, L. and Tolsma, J. 2015. Combating hooliganism in the Netherlands: An evaluation of measures to combat hooliganism with longitudinal registration data. *European Journal on Criminal Policy and Research*. 21(1), 83–97.

Football League; there could be more delinquency registered than in the Super League if, in the first case, the attendance from fans is higher.

5. in turn, Israeli professors of criminology and psychology, Dr. M. Bensimon and Dr. E. Bodner's study of the impact of football songs and slogans on the level of aggression found that fans who participated in collective singing during the game experience a higher level of aggression. However, as in discussions of the causal relationship between alcohol use and violent or anti-social behaviour, it is difficult to say whether songs and slogans lead to aggression or vice versa.⁷⁰

Fan subculture. Norwegian criminologists have shown that prison subculture has a negative effect on prisoners' correction through a subcultural study of prisoners using a method of monitoring their communication in forced cohabitation.⁷¹ Thus, the criminal subculture is in itself a factor influencing the offense.⁷² Previously, the author has already determined the place of the football fan subculture in the criminal environment and proved with the results of the survey that the determining factor in the offenses is the policy and principles of the group (style) to which the respondent belonged. 61.59 % of the respondents indicated that there were other influencing factors in each offense, but in general, the illegal action was directly related to the subculture of football fans.

Intoxicant factor: impact of alcohol, narcotic, psychotropic and other intoxicating substances. According to several foreign researchers, such as a lecturer at Aarhus University in Denmark, Dr. Rasmus Beedholm Laursen⁷³ and a

⁷⁰ Bensimon, M. and Bodner, E. 2011. Playing with fire: The impact of football game chanting on level of aggression. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*. 41(10), 2421–33.

⁷¹ Mathiesen, T. 1965. *The Defences of the Weak: a Study of Norwegian Correctional Institution* London: Tavistock Publ., 272 p.

⁷² Иванова, А. 2016. Криминальная культура как детерминант преступности (Eng. Criminal culture as a determinant of crime). *Всероссийский криминологический журнал*, 10 (4), 673.

⁷³ Beedholm Laursen, R. 2017. Danish police practice and national football fan crowd behaviour. *Dialogue or coercive force? Soccer and Society*. 20(2), 325-340.

lecturer at John Moore University in Liverpool, Peter Millward⁷⁴, alcohol consumption is one of the factors contributing to criminalisation of football fans. This conclusion is also supported by empirical evidence from the author's survey – 26.83 % of all respondents said that their offenses were directly related to alcohol abuse (17.68 % – alcohol use only, 9.15 % – multiple causes, including alcohol use). The author draws attention to the fact that the impact of alcohol on the behaviour of football fans individually and on society as a whole still requires thorough research, as a total ban on alcohol is unlikely to improve the situation. Theoretical⁷⁵ and empirical (the results of a survey conducted by the author) evidence for the claim to influence the use of narcotic and psychotropic substances on the criminogenic phenomena of football fans is not found in the results of the author's research, because drug use is not supported by football fans.

It is also important to note that none of these factors occurs in isolation and they are closely interrelated. Dutch scientists Dr. R. Braun and Dr. R. Vliegthart have shown that risk games (that is, games between teams that have a historic confrontation), police repression, media coverage, unemployment level and aggressive play – all have a statistically significant impact on the criminogenic manifestations of football fans.⁷⁶

In conclusion, one might wonder why mass disorder is a rarity in other sports (such as hockey or volleyball). An absolute majority of crime investigators at sport events believe that there are many more football fans and football lovers

⁷⁴Millward, P. 2009. Glasgow Rangers supporters in the city of Manchester: The degeneration of a "fan party" into a "hooligan riot". *International Review for the Sociology of Sport*. 44(4), 381-98.

⁷⁵ Strang, L. et al. 2018. *Violent and Antisocial Behaviours at Football Events and Factors Associated with these Behaviours: A Rapid Evidence Assessment*. Santa Monica: RAND Corporation.

⁷⁶ Braun, R. and Vliegthart, R. 2008. The contentious fans: The impact of repression, media coverage, grievances and aggressive play on supporters' violence.' *International Sociology*. 23(6), 796–818.

(unlike other sports fans)⁷⁷, but their opposition is already a tradition, regardless of the result of the game.⁷⁸ Also, there is an opinion that the riot does not depend on the belonging of fans to some sport, but the reason for their development is the planned acts of individual informal organisations, which are mostly in football.⁷⁹ In addition, the author considers that in several sports competitions are held in enclosed spaces, where there is a limited number of visitors (e.g., in sports palaces), or competitions are visited mostly by adult people, women with children, etc. that is certainly the reason that unlawful acts on the part of supporters are a rarity in other sports.

3.2. General and special crime prevention measures for criminogenic manifestations of football fans

There is no doubt that the practice of combating illegal activities by football fans should be multidimensional. This means that the problem of preventing this type of offence should not be limited to the problem of law enforcement agencies, law enforcement and legislation, though they are very important. It should include the activities of all state and public institutions focused on preventing crime, blocking its factors.⁸⁰ It must be said that crime prevention involves a wide range of objective and subjective facts, events and phenomena, including human behaviour that has a criminogenic role. In each specific case, the most appropriate set of preventive measures should be applied, corresponding to the specific circumstances of the situation created.

The crime prevention system in Latvia is grouped as follows:

⁷⁷ Milojević, S., Simonović, B., Janković, B., Otašević, B. and Turanjanin, V. 2013. *Youth and Hooliganism at Sports Events*. Belgrade: OSCE.
<https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/180014/English.pdf>

⁷⁸ Ward, R. 2002. *Fan violence: Social problem or moral panic? Aggression and Violent Behavior*. 453-475.

⁷⁹ Spaaij, R. F. J. 2007. *Understanding Football Hooliganism: A Comparison of Six Western European Footballclubs*. Amsterdam: Vossiuspers.

⁸⁰ Dijk, van J. J. M. and Waard, de J. 1991. A two-dimensional typology of crime prevention projects: With abibliography. *Criminal justice abstracts*. 483-503.

1. general – regulation is found in policy documents and legislation (mostly carried out by the State Police and the Municipal Police), and
2. individual – carried out by Municipal Social Services and other institutions in places of residence of people.⁸¹

Improving the organisation of preventive measures against football fans' infringements by both home and non-governmental organisations should begin with the development of a new concept of prevention, considering changes in youth policy and the mindset of European citizens as well as the current geopolitical situation. In addition, the author believes that in Latvia it is necessary to develop an inter-institutional cooperation model⁸² by implementing the prevention of criminogenic manifestations of football fans.

Therefore, the general and special criminological preventive measures for football fans are further analysed in the following order:

1. socio-political measures;
2. legal measures;
3. organisational arrangements.

Socio-political measures. Football fan offence prevention issues are similar to juvenile delinquency prevention issues, with most football fans as offenders being in the 18 to 25 age group (according to Section 1 of the Youth Act – a young person is the one between 13–25 years old).⁸³ Consequently, they should be resolved using the following measures:

⁸¹ Kronberga, I. 2013. *Preventīvie piespiedu līdzekļi kā valsts preventijas sistēmas sastāvdaļa*. Konference Cilvēktiesību samērošana un preventīvo piespiedu līdzekļu izpratne: materiāli (Eng. Preventive coercive measures as a part of the state prevention system. Conference Mapping Human Rights and Understanding Preventive Coercive Measures: materials).

⁸² Landmane, D., Rinkevics, A., Eināts, K. 2019. *Atkārtotu Likumpārkāpumu novēršanas pamatprincipi*. Rīga: Valsts policija

⁸³ Jaunatnes likums: Latvijas Republikas likums (Eng. Youth Law: Law of the Republic of Latvia). 28.05.2008. Latvijas Vēstnesis. 82

1. Activation of the system development and general social prevention institutions (various institutions and organisations aimed at youth employment in general and football fans in particular, conduct educational work with them). In this context, informal youth associations with positive achievements, such as creative associations, interest clubs, youth initiative funds, nature conservation movements should be actively implemented, etc.
2. Systematic educational impact through adolescent legal education, with the involvement of qualified educators, psychologists, scholars and law enforcement personnel;
3. Use of media opportunities to highlight measures taken by home affairs authorities to prevent group hooliganism and mass disorder during football games. In anticipation of high-risk games, measures are being taken to “level” media’s unhealthy apprehension of potential conflicts between FC fans and law enforcement;
4. Development and adoption of relevant laws and regulations, including legal framework for football fan behaviour and liability for unlawful conduct, etc.⁸⁴

Obviously, the issues of prevention of the type of offence under consideration should also include a crucial moment such as strengthening fan relationship with clubs, establishing a relationship of trust with law enforcement, raising the level of fan culture and morale. Some countries are already making some progress in this area.

During a semi-structured interview with football security experts (Andrei Madzyanovsky⁸⁵, Paolo Garraffa⁸⁶, Igor Ponkin⁸⁷ and Guntars Indriksons⁸⁸), the

⁸⁴Мейтин, А. А. 2005. Преступления футбольных болельщиков (криминологическая характеристика и их предупреждение): Монография (Eng. Crimes of football fans (criminological characteristics and their prevention): Monograph). Москва: Школа охраны Баярд.231.

⁸⁵ Senior Legal Adviser to the Ukrainian Prosecutor’s Office, Security Officer of the Football Association of Ukraine, as well as Vice-President for Security at FC Dinamo.

⁸⁶ Professor (Link Campus University, Catania), former Deputy Public Prosecutor of the Italian Football Federation, lawyer, PhD in Law.

author has drawn the following conclusions about the experience of collaboration between fans and clubs, law enforcement agencies in Ukraine, Italy, Russia and Latvia:

1. The problem is that there is no clear understanding of how and on what basis to build relationship with football fans to promote civilised behaviour of fan masses so as not to diminish fan interest in sport and their activity in socially acceptable forms. Any collaboration is welcome, but the main problem arises – persistent reluctance to get in touch with the fans. Their ideology is close to the criminal subculture and does not offer any form of collaboration with law enforcement agencies.
2. Professional FCs have official fan clubs, supported by the club administration and widely involved in club social projects. In contrast, football hooligan groups unite independently in their fan squad and do not want to contact FC leaders. Often these groups cooperate with an organised criminal group (the latter blackmailing football clubs, sometimes trying to enter their social structures) or with radical political organisations (far–right or far–left).
3. Constant communication would improve the quality of dialogue and mutual understanding. Fan group leaders must be such communicators. The higher their authority in the group, the more structured and vertical the fan organisation is; the easier it is for the security service to communicate their claims. Of course, severity of security measures must be different for each game, depending on the behaviour of fans and performance of their promises in previous games.
4. Necessary measures for establishing/improving collaboration:
 - creation of a common platform (website, database) on security in Europe, analogous to the NFIP police platform;

⁸⁷ Dr.iur, Professor, Moscow O.E. Kutafina State University of Law (MSLA).

⁸⁸ Member of the Infrastructure and Regional Development Committee of the Latvian Football Federation.

- consolidation of European legislation in line with the Council of Europe Sectoral Convention, first and foremost extends the rights and obligations of the police in this area (for example, by obliging the police to work directly in the stadium tribunes, which are considered high-risk categories during sensitive games);
- the establishment of a blacklist of a European fan base for offenders who should be banned from all European stadiums (by court order and for a particular time);
- empower clubs and federations with the right and duty to inform border authorities and consular posts about hooligans who should not be granted a visa or the right to enter national territory during football matches.

Legal measures. Law enforcement authorities, for their part, may propose to strengthen the relationship, for example, by working with the FC in the form of a policy planning document to ensure public safety at football matches. In this document, it is necessary first to condemn all possible facts of hooliganism and other anti-social fan facts at both national and European level. Second, to justify and express concern about the existence and reinforcement of a dangerous phenomenon – confrontation and hostility between fans and law enforcement because of fan abuses and the unjustified use of force by interior organs. This document may serve as a basis for national legislation governing organisational and technical safety rules and rules for the operation of sports facilities, rules of conduct for spectators and the liability of law enforcement and stadium authorities. For example, the content framework of the Digital Transformation Guidelines 2021–2027 includes potential developments such as digital security, digital skills, including the creation of a rational and efficient (interoperable, cyber-secure, high-performance) digital infrastructure in the field of justice – development of public registers and services provided by them (introduction of artificial intelligence and machine translation tools, etc.), data security and data application

solutions.⁸⁹ In its turn, the informative report on the sectoral policy guidelines for the 2021–2027 programming period indicates that the development of guidelines for the 2021–2027 planning period in the home affairs sector is not currently planned, but it is planned to develop a three–year anti–trafficking plan, as well as in cooperation with other responsible institutions to carry out policy planning on the issues of prevention of child crime and protection of children against crime.⁹⁰

Thus, the author substantiates the need to include in the Sports Policy Guidelines 2021–2027 an additional course of action – improvement of sports legal regulation:

1. Consolidation of sports and legal regulations into a single law, so that there is order not only in the common legal framework of sports, but also in certain sports disciplines.
2. Changes in the structure of Sports law, dividing it into general and special parts;
3. In the special part of the Sports law, to provide a chapter on safety of sport events, which would define the regulation and mechanism of the duties and responsibilities of sports organisations, sportsmen, sports employees and sports professionals, sports spectators (including in the general part the types and definition of this concept) and other public and private institutions if the principles and rules of the Sports Law, national and EU sports policies or other relevant and binding rules are grossly or repeatedly violated or found to be related to the unlawful conduct of football fans or otherwise to the sports industry or the public interest. Provision is accordingly made for administrative offences and penalties in the Sports law, as well as for the competence of institutions to impose penalties. In accordance with the decodification of the

⁸⁹ Ministru kabineta rīkojums Nr. 95 “Par nozaru politiku pamatnostādņēm” 2021.-2027. gada plānošanas periodam (Eng. Order of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 95 “On Sectoral Policy Guidelines” 2021-2027 annual programming period). 04.03.2020 Latvijas Vēstnesis. 48.

⁹⁰ Informatīvais ziņojums “Par 2021.-2027.gada plānošanas perioda nozaru politiku pamatnostādņēm” (Eng. Informative report “On the Guidelines for Sectoral Policies for the 2021–2027 Planning Period”) 25.02.2020 <http://tap.mk.gov.lv/lv/mk/tap/?pid=40484149>

regulation on administrative violations, the sector specific regulations are being amended and supplemented with the composition of administrative offences provided for in a special part of the Latvian Code of administrative offences. Taking into account that the draft law “Administrative Penalties for Violations in the Field of Administration, Public Order and the State Language” does not provide security issues in sports events in Chapter III, “Administrative penalties for public order offence” the author considers that several amendments and additions to the Sports Law are necessary;

4. Administrative violations of sports supporters to be included:
 - a) attending sporting events in a condition that offends human dignity, that is, under the influence of alcohol or drugs or other intoxicating substances;;
 - b) carrying prohibited attributes on the territory of the respective sports facility;
 - c) violating the rules of organisation of the event, endangering safety of persons or property by entering the playground or throwing objects which can endanger human safety during a sport event or a video broadcast.

It should be noted that the Latvian legal framework for the prevention of sports-related crime is still in its infancy. However, the scale of the negative effects of football hooligan activity at sport events at the European level, their consolidation and their integration into informal criminal organisations require an early understanding, in-depth analysis, development and adoption of appropriate legislation. Even the Council of Europe regards the legal aspect as the most important safeguard during football matches, but subsequently the educational and organisational aspects.⁹¹

⁹¹ Council of Europe. Home: Democracy: Sport. *Coe.int*.
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/sport/home?desktop=true>

The legal framework for football hooliganism and violence is also based on the relevant UEFA and FIFA regulatory documents, which have been successfully integrated into the regulations of national football federations, including Latvia.

Organisational arrangements. Undoubtedly, with regulations alone, without a series of organisational measures, there can be no successful national or global European security policy at sport events. Ensuring and managing spectator safety needs to be planned and integrated. This includes stadium design and condition, spectator movement path, safety management, fan behaviour control, spectator care, club commercial activities and media presence. The work to implement this strategy may vary depending on the event plan and the nature of the event, but most importantly, it must begin long before the first viewers arrive; ideally, at the stadium design stage.⁹² After all, its appearance is not as important as functionality. For example, spectators must be placed and moved not inside, but outside the stadium. The presence of individual seating significantly improves safety as it gives each viewer their own space. The task of managing the stadium is also facilitated: if the stadium is equipped with a closed-circuit television system, the administration and the police can monitor the situation, and constant video surveillance would undoubtedly deter the offenders themselves. In addition, the author notes that video control and video recording measures must comply with the principle of proportionality, that is, the benefit to the public of the restrictions imposed on the addressee must outweigh the restriction of his rights or legal interests. Significant restrictions on the rights or legal interests of an individual are justified only by a significant public benefit. Consequently, video surveillance and video recording in this case will be an important public good, as the purpose of these measures is to prevent a possible infringement.

⁹² Conclusions after the meeting (April 29, 2015) within the framework of LFF national stadium design with Thomas Speck, German architect, leading expert in stadium development, management and operation. He participated in the 2012, 2016 European Football Championship and 2016 World Cup projects.

It is very important that each viewer has their seat number, that number is on the ticket, and that the viewers take their seats according to the tickets bought. In accordance with the technical recommendations and requirements of UEFA for football stadiums⁹³, special attention should be paid to entry, exit and movement of spectators at any sport event, as these are the most dangerous moments. It is very important not to form a crowd at the entrance, but to quickly bring spectators into a controlled territory. The number of entrances should be such that everyone can get to the stadium within one hour. But it would be best if the number of entrances were more than the norm, given that spectators often come to the event shortly before the start.

It is also advisable to distinguish between sectors with corresponding barriers, which are closed after the sector is filled, which prevents fans from moving from one sector to another. Such stadium design in many foreign countries has already proven its effectiveness in preventing disorder and group hooliganism.⁹⁴

To ensure safety in stadiums, the system of registration of spectators at each entrance also plays an important role in detecting and preventing potential overcrowding. In addition, spectators must be able to move freely and safely inside the stadium. Therefore, it is still necessary to determine at the design stage the ways of their movement, considering the opinion of those who will be responsible for managing this process.

International experience in general, and at European level, in particular, shows that the effectiveness of law enforcement efforts in the fight against crime depends on a well-organised and ambitious preventive work focused on attracting

⁹³FIFA. 2011. Football Stadiums: Technical recommendations and requirements. 5th ed. *Fifa.com*. <https://resources.fifa.com/image/upload/football-stadiums-technical-recommendations-and-requirements-5th-edition-1371776.pdf?cloudid=rcrtvaelvfae84czze1w>

⁹⁴The Football Association. 2012. Summary of measures taken to prevent football violence. *Thefa.com*. Available from: file:///C:/Users/Asus/Downloads/summary-of-measures-taken-to-prevent-football-violence%20(7).pdf

citizens and mobilising national and local resources. FCs, teams and fans cannot be viewed and treated individually as they form the entire football world community. However, in the international and local arena, the viability of these entities and the elements of football and all the associations and organisations concerned is directly dependent on football fans.

Law enforcement agencies across Europe have already developed a certain system of operational preventive measures to overcome hooliganism among sports fans and other informal groups.⁹⁵ It includes raids; operational search activities; registration of persons who attribute themselves to informal associations of extremist crowds and carry out educational work with them; conducting legal training of adolescents at schools and places of residence; every quarter to analyse the effectiveness of operational-preventive measures taken (dissemination of positive experience, preparation of methodological materials); ensuring close interaction with the units of the transport and territorial bodies of the Interior, conducting classes with personnel on the tactics of suppression and localisation of illegal actions of sports fans of an extremist type; participation of employees of the Department of Juvenile Affairs and the criminal investigation division in the patrol and inspection of the service guidelines; information exchange among the bodies of the Ministry of Interior; and a unitary registration system for persons who have been participating in public order offences in groups and are informal groups members.⁹⁶

⁹⁵ Adang, O. and Brown, E. 2008. *Policing football in Europe: Experiences from peer review evaluation teams*. Politieacademie Apeldoorn.

<https://www.politieacademie.nl/kennisenonderzoek/kennis/mediatheek/PDF/71375.pdf>

⁹⁶ Poutvaara, P. and Priks, M. 2009. Hooliganism and police tactics. *Journal of Public Economic Theory*. 11. 441 - 453. DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-9779.2009.01417.x.

Main conclusions and proposals

As a result of the research, after having reached the aim of the work and completing the tasks, the following conclusions have been made:

1. **Sports criminology** is a new field of criminology that studies criminological aspects of sports industry: development of crime and other offenses in sport; factors influencing crime and other offenses in the field of sport; personality of an offender (athletes, sports specialists and employees, visitors); peculiarities of victimology in implementation of sports events; criminological policy in the field of sports.
2. **Classification of a football event visitors:**
 - episodic spectators;
 - supporters without criminogenic manifestations;
 - supporters with criminogenic manifestations, or fans: there are several fan types within this group, the largest of which are “Ultras” and “Football hooligans”.
3. The main **differences between “Ultras” and “Football hooligans”** are as follow:
 - “Ultras” aggression and delinquency in sports competitions generally are spontaneous;
 - “Football hooligans” aggression and offences are always carefully planned and organised using modern means of communication.
4. Each **fan movement consists** of organised groups. At the core of each organised fan group is a small group of more authoritative, active and experienced fans with up to 40 people. The rest of the group, the so-called “combat composition”, are young people who are physically prepared for fights with mean age of 25 years.

5. **The criminal orientation of football fans is confirmed** by the increase of hooligan actions, acts of vandalism, riot and other violations of public order before, during and after sport events.
6. The subculture of football fans **partly occupies a place in the criminal subculture**, while retaining characteristics that often have a criminal significance and contribute to its mass reproduction among football fans. The elements of the diversity of this subculture allow us to formulate the concept of this phenomenon.
7. **The football fan subculture** is a kind of code of conduct for football fans based on established and existing norms of behaviour resulting from the group's illegal behaviour during or in connection with football matches, a specific language of communication (fan slang) and external attributes.
8. According to the data obtained as a result of an anonymous survey, which also correlates with the findings of other authors, the statistically average modern **football fan** is:
 - a man;
 - under 30 years old;
 - with higher education;
 - unmarried and without children;
 - employed;
 - in his spare time engaged in sports;
 - previously not punished; however, claims to have committed both administrative offenses and criminal offenses in the last two football seasons;
 - the above offences relate to policies and principles of a football fan group which members one includes himself among;
 - committed violations in a group without or by prior agreement;
 - does not regret, and in a similar situation will do it again, if necessary;

- knows what action is forbidden and what not to bring into the stadium when attending the game;
 - knows what liability is provided for offences that have been committed before, after or during the game;
 - previously, on several instances has managed to avoid responsibility for the offence committed in connection with the football game.
9. **Criminogenic manifestations of football fans can be divided into three groups:**
- “pre-match” (occurring before the start of a football match, outside the stadium);
 - “stadium” (occurring inside stadium areas, predominantly during football matches);
 - “after the game” (occurring after a football game, outside the stadium).
10. However, there are often also **“initiative” criminogenic manifestations** that are not temporally related to a particular football game but are motivated by dissatisfaction with the outcome of the game and the behaviour of the fans.
11. The group nature of their activities should be noted as the most important feature of criminogenic manifestations among football fans. Thus, preventive measures to combat the physical aggression of football fans must be aimed at isolating the individual and his or her from an informal association with criminogenic manifestations.
12. The fan subculture is characterised by resistance to the system. Consequently, the existence of restrictions motivates them to be violated. In addition, informal rules of fan behaviour allow and even encourage such activities, and those who do receive the support and knowledge of informal group members.
13. Criminogenic manifestations of football fans take the form of unauthorised going out onto the pitch, throwing objects on the playing field and players, vandalism, honour-offensive posters, verbal and also violent conflicts that lead

to aggression between fans and referees, fans and players, fans and outsiders, and the fan groups themselves, which occur just before, after or during a football match.

14. Consequently, the author considers that the **criminogenic manifestations of football fans** are illegal and harmful activities that threaten the system of human relations in society that ensures public peace, normal conditions for work and leisure, as well as the realisation of personal rights and legitimate interests. In addition, damage to a person's life and health, property interests of natural and legal persons may also be caused. Such a diversity of offenses is a relatively independent object of criminal as well as criminological research, the ultimate goal of which is to create effective protection of an individual, society and the state against criminal offenses and crime prevention.
15. According to the current version of the Council of Europe report on violence, disorder and other illegal activities in football matches under the ProS4+ project, the total number of incidents related to professional football matches in 2016 was 14,994. Thus, incidents were recorded in 93 % of matches, which were played at the national and international levels. This directly shows that the actual level of offenses committed by football fans at both national and European level is twice as high as that recorded by UEFA (47 %).
16. Based on the data collected within the ProS4+ project, it is possible to determine **the structure of violations** committed by football fans:
 - 16.1. the most common offense for football fans **on the stadium grounds** is the use of pyrotechnics;
 - 16.2. the violent behaviour of the fans in the stadium is as follows:
 - hooliganism or abusive behaviour;
 - violence against the police;
 - throwing objects;
 - vandalism;

16.3. illegal political activity;

16.4. offenses **outside the stadium** characterise the behaviour of aggressive fans:

- the most common offense is abusive behaviour;
- violence against opponent fans;
- vandalism;
- violence against the police.

17. Identifying the factors that influence the criminogenic manifestations of football fans, the author grouped them in the following order:

17.1. **Physical factors:**

- sports competitions as a factor of fan aggression;
- spatial factors;

17.2. **Social factors:**

- socio-political factors;
- situation factors such as start time and crowd size;
- subculture of football fans.

17.3. **Intoxicant factor:**

- effects of alcohol or narcotic, psychotropic and other intoxicating substances.

18. The study concludes that **preventing football fan law offenses requires** increased attention and focus on identifying and addressing the causes and circumstances that contribute to these law offences.

19. Taking into account the fact that there is a tendency throughout Europe to create special rules for supporters, stipulating their rights and obligations, strengthening them in the national legislation, the author believes that **reforms in the sports sector are needed in the Republic of Latvia, too** and should start with security issues at sports events.

Consequently, while studying foreign experience and the situation in Latvia, the author has developed proposals and recommendations aimed at improving the

prevention of illegal activities in the territory of the country. Measures should be implemented within the framework of a unified national policy on crime, public order and security, protection of individual rights and legitimate interests, border guarding, migration, fire, rescue and civil protection, which is a key task of the Ministry of Interior together with the judiciary, public administration authorities. The types of measures are based on the basic principles of interinstitutional cooperation and are divided into **three** groups:

A. Legal measures:

1. During the operation of the Sports Policy Guidelines for 2021–2027, within the framework of a potentially possible course of action, to improve the legal regulation of sports in the following way:
 - 1.1. Consolidation of sports and legal regulations into one law, that is, in the Sports Law, in order to have a unified legal order not only in the common legal regulation of sports, but also in certain sports disciplines.
 - 1.2. To amend the structure of the Sports Law, dividing it into general and special parts.
 - 1.3. In the special part of the Sports law, to provide a chapter on the safety of sport events, which would define the regulation and mechanism of the duties and responsibilities of sports organisations, sportsmen, sports employees and sports professionals, sports spectators (including in the general part the types and definition of this concept) and other public and private institutions if the principles and rules of the Sports Law, national and EU sports policies or other relevant and binding rules are grossly or repeatedly violated or found to be related to the unlawful conduct of football fans or otherwise to the sports industry or the public interest. Provision is accordingly made for administrative offences and penalties in the Sports law, as well as for the competence of institutions to impose penalties.

1.4. Administrative violations of sports supporters to be included:

- a) attending sports events in a condition that offends human dignity, that is, under the influence of alcohol or drugs or other intoxicating substances;
- b) carrying prohibited attributes on the territory of the respective sports facility;
- c) violating the rules of organisation of the event, endangering the safety of persons or property by entering the playground or throwing objects which can endanger human safety during a sport event or a video broadcast;
- d) to include in the wording (special part) of the Sports Law proposed by the author mandatory organisational measures to timely plan joint cooperation between the football industry and the State Police and other representatives involved in ensuring public order, aimed at preventing criminogenic manifestations of football fans, preventing public order violations:
 - two weeks before each match, the club sends information to the police, indicating the time and place of the match, the approximate number of spectators, the routes of the teams – guests and guest fans. There is also an exchange of “blacklists” with fans, cooperation to identify individuals (from sports fans) who have committed offenses during sports events (shortly before and immediately after) and in connection with sports;
 - discussion of draft regulatory enactments;
 - expanding police rights and responsibilities in the sports sector;
 - for clubs and federations make as an obligation to inform the Ministry of the Interior about football fans, to whom it is not

desirable to grant a visa or the right to enter the territory of the country during football matches;

- all planned activities must be coordinated in detail, the allowed problems for ensuring legal order must be analysed, the results of the work of home affairs institutions, stadium security services employees and other interested organisations must be analysed, and ways to improve the efficiency of public order and security activities must be determined.

1.5. At the European Parliament level, submit for approval a proposal to establish a “blacklist” of single European fans who have committed offenses in stadiums and who should be banned from entering all European stadiums (by court order and for a limited period).

2. In order to influence the effectiveness of interinstitutional cooperation in ensuring public safety during football events, it is necessary to include a set of existing legal measures, as not knowing the legal basis for a particular activity is one of the most common factors negatively affecting the effectiveness of cooperation:

2.1. To apply Section 61, Paragraphs 1, 3, 4 of the Immigration Law to the expulsion of foreign football fans.

2.2. Prohibit local football fans from leaving the country in accordance with Section 18¹, Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the National Security Law.

2.3. In order to obtain objective, comprehensive information about informal football fan associations, their structure, orientation, managers and active participants, their places of concentration, it is necessary to conduct criminal intelligence in accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers Instruction No. 1 “Procedures for Law Enforcement Cooperation in Preventing and Combating Crime”.

2.4. In order to supplement the registration system of criminal offenses and administrative violations and wanted persons with information on persons

belonging to various informal football fan associations, observing the provisions of the Law “On Processing Personal Data in Criminal and Administrative Violation Procedure”, it is necessary to make the following amendments:

- to supplement Article 4 with Clause 6.¹ in the following wording: “6¹) involvement in the subculture of football fans”;
- to supplement Article 12 with Clause 5.¹ in the following wording: “5¹) involvement in the subculture of football fans”;
- to supplement Article 13 with Clause 6.¹ in the following wording: “6¹) involvement in the subculture of football fans”.

B. Organisational measures.

1. Carry out video surveillance and video recording activities during, shortly before and after the start of the sport event, and for a specified period after the end of the event, in order to prevent possible administrative and/or criminal offences:

- 1.1. conducting video control and video recording activities in the game area, spectators’ tribunes and pitches, technical and other premises of the sports facility associated with the sport event, its corridors, evacuation exits used by visitors, including areas where crowds of the public can be created; detection of closed video surveillance contours throughout the sports facility (reference points);
- 1.2. video recording events in the immediate vicinity of the sports facility where the sport event is taking place, including segments of transport routes to the stadium or in its immediate vicinity;
- 1.3. video surveillance and video recording activities, to ensure security for the above records, and to protect personal data.

2. Measures to prevent possible crowds’ formation (uncontrolled, chaotic masses of people) and panic when visitors enter a sports facility at a sports

event and when visitors leave the sports facility at the end (or interruption) of the sport event:

2.1. equipment of the sports facility with a sufficient number of exits (evacuation) branches (aisles) that prevent crowd formation;

- a) create sports entrance/exit technical structures and provide logistics aimed at reducing the risk of excessive accumulation of sports fans or the formation of a moving crowd at the entrances/exits of a sports facility;
- b) the sport event is held at such a time that visitors (viewers) arrive and their departure would not occur during rush hour.

3. Technical measures to prevent unlawful behaviour by visitors of a sport event:

3.1. steps to distinguish potentially conflicting fan clubs from competing sports clubs (teams):

- distribution of visitors – rival fans of the sport event in different zones of spectators of the sports facility, separated by irresistible or difficult to overcome physical and technical structures;
- increased delimitation (isolation) of spectator areas for the riskiest “fans”;
- distribution of fans of sports events who enter the spectator area to watch a sports event, as well as those who leave the spectator tribune after the end (or interruption) of the event, into a different pedestrian and evacuation vector and sports facility branches, are separated from each other by insurmountable or physically impenetrable technical constructions, uninterrupted route tracking for the purpose of transporting such visitors by bus to the sports facility and returning them to the buses;

- imposing a prohibition (hereunder on liability for non-compliance) on unauthorised entry into a prohibited (foreign – rival team) spectator territory (spectator area), another spectator area than specified in the purchased ticket;
 - each spectator seat must have its own number, which would be indicated on the ticket and spectators would take seats according to the purchased tickets;
 - in order to ensure safety in stadiums, an audience registration system at each entrance also plays an important role in detecting and preventing potential congestion.
- 3.2. determination of the prohibition of unauthorised entry into the playing field (game area) and into the space (zone) intended for the referees or arbitrators of the sport during or just before the start of the sport event, as well as in the technical and other premises and areas of the sports facility where the prohibition of unauthorised entry is imposed;
- 3.3. a ban on bringing alcoholic beverages into a sports facility (and adjacent areas), where the sporting event is taking place, distributing or consuming alcoholic beverages at that facility;
- 3.4. introduction of a ban on entry into a sports facility (including adjacent areas) where the sport event is taking place (specifying appropriate equipment to identify the following items):
- firearms and cold weapons;
 - firecrackers, smoke candles, lights, noise and other devices and pyrotechnics, containers with flammable, burning, corrosive or stinking substances;
 - powerful laser “pointers” (radiators), other objects that endanger athletes, sports referees or arbitrators, spectators or others, or may interfere with the proper conduct of a sport event;

- items intended to offend and humiliate athletes, referees or arbitrators, spectators, or others (including banners, transparencies, flags, clothes with inscriptions, or images of such content);
- items capable of producing noise above the permissible limits (for example, objects capable of producing noise above 85 dBA);
- means that interfere with the identification of the visitor to the sport event (for example, wearing face shields: balaclavas, etc.);
- attributes and symbolism of another team (if the introduction is reasonably believed to be provocative).

4. **Informing the visitor of a sport event** about the security measures to be taken and the rules of conduct for the visitor:

- 4.1. displaying text or pictograms on visitor behaviour rules on the ticket of a sport event (on the part that remains in the hands of the visitor);
- 4.2. a loudspeaker announcement at a sports facility of the security measures to be taken and of the behaviour of visitors (before, during and after a sports event);
- 4.3. displaying relevant text or pictorial announcements on sports facility constructions in locations accessible to the visitor for viewing and reading, including advertisements on multimedia screens displayed at the sports facility.

5. **Prevention of attendance at a sporting event** for persons who have committed serious offences during sport events in the past and who have been brought to justice for it by the following methods:

- 5.1. control measures at the entrance to the sports facility:
 - implementation and maintenance of a personalised ticketing system (ticketing), ticketing and sales control systems that allow the notification and identification of the person purchasing the tickets;

- personal non-admission to a sports facility where a sport event takes place, to persons against whom the judicial authority, or the Minister of the Interior, or the organiser of the event has taken a decision on their non-admission to such or similar sport events for a fixed period;
- personal non-admission of persons who are under the influence of alcohol or narcotic substances to the sports facility where the sporting event takes place;
- vandal-safe equipment for spectators' seats and other sports facilities (the advantage of this equipment is enhanced protection against vandals; most of this equipment are made of high-strength steel, which is difficult to damage, break or even cut), which has access to or can be accessed by visitors to a sport event;
- provision of a sport event with a sufficient number of security personnel who are properly trained and instructed to respect the human dignity of the fans and techniques for managing the flow of people, preventing, mitigating and suppressing conflicts, as well as proper coordination of sport events and police services;
- provision of a sport event with properly functioning (i.e. regular inspection) alarm systems, fire alarm, fire extinguishing systems;

5.2. implementation of prognostic analysis of the types and weight characteristics of risks of violence, riots and other mass offences at organised sport events – to make a decision on how to reduce such risks and prevent delinquency (including analysis of closed forums, internet portals of football fans).

C. Socio - political measures

1. Within the framework of the instructions of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 1 “Procedures for Law Enforcement Cooperation in Preventing and Combating

Crime”, to provide increased attention to preventive work with the registered elements (leaders and members of informal football fan associations), which have a tendency to illegal group actions.

2. In order to carry out, in accordance with Article 58 of the Law on the Protection of the Rights of the Child, the constant supervision of adolescents who are on preventive registration and who are members of informal football fan associations with an asocial orientation and who consider themselves as football fans, there is a need to make the following amendments to Regulations No. 157 of 25.03.2014 "Regulations of the Juvenile Support Information System":

- to supplement 5.6. sub-paragraph with sub-paragraph 5.6.1.¹ in the following wording: “5.6.1.¹ involvement in the subculture of football fans”;

In addition, it should be noted that ongoing monitoring involves explanatory work with minors and their parents in order to isolate minors from criminal groups, prevent offenses and identify adults involved in crime and anti-social activities.

3. Based on the foreign experience of creating a culture of sports events, informal youth associations with a positive entertainment direction should be formed in Latvia. For example, to form youth club “Football Friends” in each of the regions of Latvia. The aim of mentioned club will be systematic, educational influence. Members of the club "Football Friends" will have the opportunity to attend: football club trainings; educational meetings with representatives of LFF, football clubs, scientists, psychologists, law enforcement agencies; friendly football matches both between regional clubs, between the team of regional clubs and the team of LFF, scientists, law enforcement agencies. In addition, it should be possible to envisage such sporting events at EU level, such as a football match between a Latvian team of regional clubs and a

selection of similar informal youth associations with positive entertainment from another countries.

4. Preventive measures should also include key aspects such as strengthening fan relationships with clubs, building trust with law enforcement, raising the level of fan culture and morale. Continuous communication would improve the quality of dialogue and mutual understanding:

- a) to establish a non-governmental organization (e. g., the Latvian Football Friends Association - LFFA). The main aim of this organization will be to facilitate meetings between football fan groups, to carry out in-depth research with local administrations and to organize events aimed at involving fans in the following areas: fan rights and obligations; violence and racism in stadiums; football marketing;
- b) all safety measures to be taken before, after and during sports events should mainly be explained in easy-to-understand language (conversational language) to the leaders of the fan groups, as they are the ones who should ensure the communication function.

The author believes that everything in this world, including illegal actions, is like the painting “Ambassadors” (1533) by the outstanding German artist Hans Holbein der Jüngere, in the creation of which for the first time the technique anamorphosis was used, that is, a deliberate distortion of the shape, so that the object acquires the necessary shape only if one looks at it from a certain angle. The truth depends on where the viewer is. The viewer has to step back and look at things from a different angle. Each time the angle is changed, the perception of the research question and the expected solutions change. Consequently, the author is confident that the conclusions and recommendations made by her will contribute to the further improvement of preventive measures aimed at eradicating the considered negative social phenomena and creating the conditions necessary for maintaining law and order.

Publications and reports on topics of the doctoral thesis

1. Scientific papers in publications included in international databases (Web of Science, SCOPUS, ERIH plus):

- 1.1. K. Zalcmane (2016) Football and Family Violence: Learning from the Experience of Great Britain. SHS Web of Conferences, DOI: 10.1051/shsconf/20163000015. Iekļauts Web of Science/Clarivate Analytics datubāzē.
- 1.2. K. Zalcmane (2018) "New Principles of Football Security in Europe". Rīga Stradiņš University, Faculty of Law. Electronic Scientific Journal of Law "Socrates", 120 – 127. p. ISSN: 2256-0548 Iekļauts ERIH PLUS datubāzē. Pieejams: https://www.rsu.lv/sites/default/files/imce/Dokumenti/izdevumi/Socrates_10_2018.pdf
- 1.3. K. Zalcmane, M.Kamenecka-Usova (2019) "The Cost of Policing Football Matches in Latvia". Proceedings of the 33rd International Business Information Management Association Conference (IBIMA), 2019 – 6633–6642pp. ISBN: 978-0-9998551-2-6 Iekļauts Web of Science/Clarivate Analytics, SCOPUS datubāzē.

2. Scientific papers in publications included in international databases (EBSCO host):

- 2.1. K.Zalcmane (2014) "Hate Speech or Unacceptable Words and Phrases in the World of Football". Daugavpils universitātes 56. Starptautiskās zinātniskās konferences rakstu krājums. C. daļa. Humanitārās zinātnes – Daugavpils: Daugavpils universitāte. 151. – 158. lpp. ISBN 978-9984-14-703-1 Pieejams: https://dukonference.lv/files/proceedings_of_conf/978-9984-703-1_56%20konf%20kraj_C_Hum%20zin.pdf Iekļauts EBSCO Host datubāzē.
- 2.2. K.Zalcmane (2016) "Futbola fani kā neformālā fanu apvienība ar kriminogēnām izpausmēm Latvijā un ārvalstīs". Daugavpils Universitātes 57. Starptautiskās zinātniskās konferences rakstu krājums. B. daļa. Sociālās zinātnes. - Daugavpils: Daugavpils Universitāte. 138. –145. lpp. ISBN 978-9984-14-752-9 Pieejams: https://dukonference.lv/files/proceedings_of_conf/978-9984-14-752-9_57%20konf%20kraj_B_Soc%20zin.pdf Iekļauts EBSCO Host datubāzē.
- 2.3. K.Zalcmane (2017) "Criminological Characteristic of an Eastern Football Fan Personality Committing an Administrative and/or Criminal Offense". Proceedings of the 59th International Scientific Conference of Daugavpils University. Part B "Social Sciences". 123–129 p. ISBN 978-9984-14-833-5, ISSN 2500-9842, ISSN 2500-9869 Pieejams:https://dukonference.lv/files/proceedings_of_conf/978-9984-14-833-5_59_konf_kraj_B_Soc%20zin.pdf Iekļauts EBSCO Host datubāzē.

3. Scientific articles in peer-reviewed publications published in Latvia:

- 3.1. K.Zalcmane (Matvijčuka) (2014) "Football Hooliganism as a New World Phenomenon: Definition". The Baltic States in the European Union: Ten Years as Member States. Proceedings of the International Conference, 25–26 April 2014. Riga, , – 110–117 p. ISBN 978-9934-837-37-1.
- 3.2. K.Zalcmane (2018) "The Subculture of Football Fans and Its Place in the Delinquent Subculture. International Scientific "Emerging Trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities" (etECH2018). Conference proceedings. Ekonomikas un kultūras augstskola: Rīga, 29. – 36.lpp. ISBN 978-9984-24-217-0

Pieejams:https://www.augstskola.lv/upload/etECH2018_Proceedings.pdf

Iekļauts Google Scholar datubāzē.

4. Presentation at an international scientific conference with an oral report or thesis:

- 4.1. 25.04.2013. International scientific conference "Current problems of innovative jurisprudence", "Law and Order or how to kick hooligans out of football. European experience". Riga, Rīga Stradiņš University.
- 4.2. 09.04.2014–11.04.2014. The 56th International Scientific Conference of Daugavpils University. Report "Hate speech or unacceptable words and phrases in the world of football". Daugavpils, Daugavpils University.
- 4.3. 16.04.2014–17.04.2014. LSPA International conference. Sports Science Section "Sports Management". Report "The prevention of football hooliganism: European experience". Riga, Latvian Academy of Sports Pedagogy
- 4.4. 23.04.2014. International practical conference "Legal Policy for Development of Society". Report "The prevention of violence in football: EU legal policy". Riga, Rīga Stradiņš University.
- 4.5. 25.04.2014–26.04.2014. International Scientific conference "The Baltic States in the European Union: ten years as Member States". Paper "Football Hooliganism as a New World Phenomenon: Definition". Riga, Latvian Academy of Science.
- 4.6. 26.11.2014–28.11.2014. 5th International interdisciplinary scientific conference "Society Health Welfare". Report "Football and Family Violence: Learning from the Experience of Great Britain". Riga, Rīga Stradiņš University.
- 4.7. 24.03.2015. LSPA International conference, Sports Science Section "Sports Management". Report „Augstam nekārtību riskam pakļauto futbola spēļu plānošana un organizēšana” (Eng. Planning and organisation of football games at high risk of disorder). Riga.
- 4.8. 16.04.2015–17.04.2015. The 57th International Scientific conference of Daugavpils University. Report „Futbola Fani kā neformālā fanu apvienība ar kriminogēnām izpausmēm Latvijā un ārvalstīs” (Eng. Football Fans as an

- informal fan association with criminogenic manifestations in Latvia and abroad). Daugavpils.
- 4.9 23.04.2015. International practical conference “Topical Problems of Security Reinforcement: Political, Social, Legal Aspects”. Report “Political protests with participation of football supporters’ groups”. Riga.
- 4.10 06.10.2015. Valsts policijas koledžas IV Starptautiskā zinātniskā konference „Moderno tehnoloģiju izmantošana tiesībaizsardzības institūciju darbā un to darbinieku izglītošanā”. Referāts „Moderno tehnoloģiju izmantošana sporta pasākumos, lai nodrošinātu sabiedrības drošību Latvijā un ārvalstīs.” (Eng. IV International Scientific Conference of the State Police College “Use of modern technologies in the work of law enforcement institutions and in the education of their employees”. Report “Use of modern technologies in sports events to ensure public safety in Latvia and abroad.”) Riga.
- 4.11 “Sports Criminology”. Abstracts of the 58th International Scientific Conference of Daugavpils University.– Daugavpils: Daugavpils University, 2016 – 126. lpp. ISBN 978-9984-14-760-4 Pieejams: https://dukonference.lv/files/2016_978-9984-14-760-4_DU%2058%20starpt%20zinatn%20konf%20tezes.pdf
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