

Specific Types Of Crime

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Abstract:

The paper provides an insight into the development of forms of drug crime and new types of crime, which include environmental or cybercrime. The study of crime, especially its criminogenic agents, is dealt with by a separate scientific discipline, which is criminology. Knowing the causes and conditions of crime, but also its quantitative and qualitative quantities, it is possible to design preventive measures that will be effective and bring the desired effect in the form of its reduction. A number of experts at home and abroad are engaged in investigating the causes and conditions of crime and other anti-social activities in order to design preventive measures to minimize the occurrence of this negative phenomenon.

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I. Drug related crime

There are a number of terms related to drug crime that need to be known before defining drug crime as a separate type of crime.

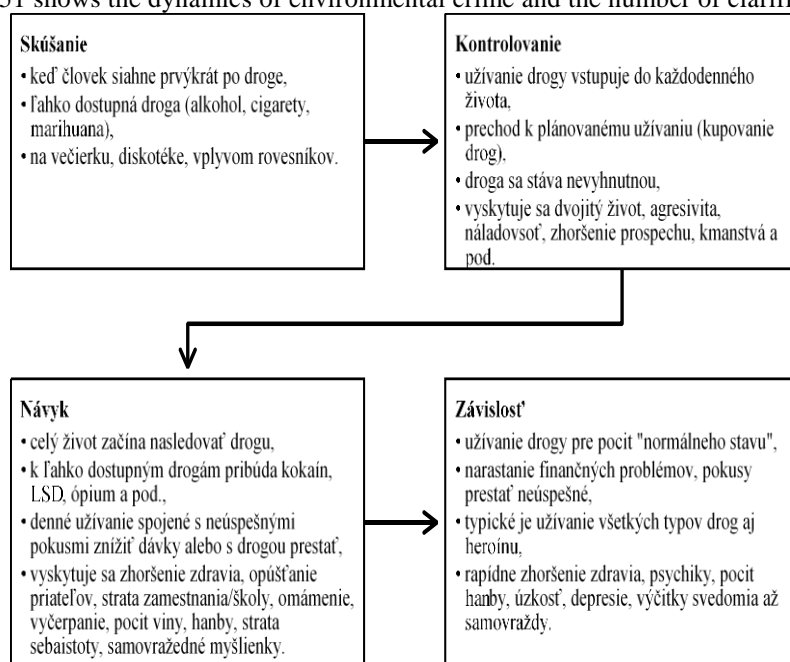
In 1969, the World Health Organization (WHO) defined the term drug as any substance which, when introduced into a living organism, is capable of altering one or more functions. Drug dependence refers to a psychological, sometimes physical, condition resulting from the interaction between a living organism and a drug, characterised by behavioural and other reactions which invariably include the urge to take the drug continuously or periodically in order to experience its psychological effects and, sometimes, to avoid the discomfort of its absence. A person may be addicted to more than one drug. (BAŽOVÁ, I - GRŇA, A. Criminal behaviour from the perspective of regression therapy, 2015). Criminal behaviour from the perspective of regression therapy. An alternative name for drug addiction is toxicomania (Greek: toxikos - deadly, poisonous; mania - madness).

Psychological dependence is characterised by an intense escalation of the desire to use the drug again. The drug provides artificially induced sensations and states, which tempt the person to repeat them. It is closely linked to specific factors associated with the use of the drug - the environment, the group consuming the drug, the music, the drug-taking ritual. It emerges as a first. Physical dependence occurs after a long period of drug use where the body becomes accustomed to having to process the harmful substance. It occurs mainly after the supply of the drug to the body has been interrupted. It is manifested by a range of symptoms such as nausea, tearfulness, sweating, increase or fluctuation in body temperature, physical restlessness, changes in blood pressure, pulse, headaches, sometimes provoked epileptic seizures. Symptoms tend to be typical of the particular type of drug. The stages in the development of drug dependence are shown in Figure 1.

According to the official statistics of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic, environmental crime is reported under economic crime.

Table 12 shows the status and clearance rate of environmental crime in Slovakia.

Figure 51 shows the dynamics of environmental crime and the number of clarified environmental crimes



<p>Trying</p> <p>when a person reaches for a drug for the first time, a readily available drug (alcohol, cigarettes marijuana), at a party, a disco, under the influence of peers.</p>	<p>Checking</p> <p>the use of the drug becomes embedded in everyday life transition to planned use (buying drugs). The drug becomes inevitable, double life, aggression, moodiness, impairment, addictions, etc.</p>
<p>Habit</p> <p>a whole life begins to follow the drug, cocaine, LSD, opium, etc. daily use associated with unsuccessful reduce doses or quit the drug deterioration of health, abandonment of friends, loss of job/school, daze, exhaustion, guilt and/or loss of self-confidence, suicidal thoughts</p>	<p>Addiction</p> <p>the use of a drug per sense of "normal state". accumulating financial problems, attempts to quit are unsuccessful, typical use of all types of drugs including heroin rapid deterioration in health, mental health, feelings of shame, anxiety, depression, remorse, even suicide.</p>

Fig. 1 Stages in the development of drug dependence (Source: Own elaboration according to Šimorová 2007)

Although the term drug is not precisely defined in Slovak criminal law, the term drug is understood as narcotic substance, psychotropic substance, poison and precursor in the meaning of the Criminal Code (ČEČOT, V. et al. 2009. Criminology: General Part). Narcotic substances are substances causing addiction and psychological and physical dependence of people characterised by behavioural changes with serious health and psychosocial consequences, which are covered by an international convention to which the Slovak Republic is bound. Psychotropic substances are substances affecting the state of the human psyche by acting on the central nervous system with minor health and psychosocial consequences, which are covered by an international convention to which the Slovak Republic is bound (Act 139/1998 Coll.). The term precursor is defined by Regulation (EC) No 273/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 February 2004 on drug precursors as a substance frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and is listed in Annex 1 to that Regulation. Narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, but also alcohol and other substances capable of adversely affecting a person's psyche or his or her powers of control or recognition or social behaviour are referred to as addictive substances for the purposes of the Criminal Code. Drugs are perceived by the general public in a narrower sense only as narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. However, alcohol and tobacco can also be considered drugs in a broader sense. According to Act No 219/1996 Coll. on protection against the abuse of alcoholic beverages and on the establishment and operation of anti-alcoholic detention rooms, as amended, alcoholic beverages are spirits, distilled spirits, wine, beer and other beverages containing more than 0,75 % alcohol by volume. Pursuant to Act No 89/2016 Coll. on the production, labelling and sale of tobacco products and related products and on

amending and supplementing certain acts, as amended, tobacco is the leaves and other natural processed or unprocessed parts of tobacco plants, including expanded and reconstituted tobacco.

In the now expired Act No. 46/1989 Coll. on Protection against Alcoholism and Other Toxic Addictions, smoking was also defined as a special type of toxic addiction, which has a harmful effect on the health of smokers and non-smokers directly exposed to the effects of smoking. On the basis of the definitions of the basic terms, several experts have attempted to define the concept of drug crime. Drug crime in the narrower sense of the term as criminal activity consisting in the illicit handling of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. In a broader sense, they speak in connection with drug crime of criminal offences:

- contributing to the spread of non-alcohol addiction (enticing, encouraging or otherwise inciting the abuse of substances other than alcohol),
- committed with the aim of obtaining drugs or the means to obtain them (in particular property crime),
- committed under the influence of a drug (offences committed under the influence of drugs),
- crimes against drug addicts (a broad group of crimes involving drug addicts).

Drug addiction can be classified according to the type of psychoactive substance the drug contains, as shown in Table 1

<i>Addiction</i>	<i>from:</i>	<i>Type of drug</i>	<i>Method of application</i>	<i>Effect</i>	<i>Note</i>
	From alcohol	Alcoholic drink	Orally	At lower doses, stimulation (good mood, talkativeness, increased self-esteem, later reduction of self-criticism and inhibitions, aggressiveness). With rapid consumption of higher doses, depression (fatigue, sleep, unconsciousness to death).	A socially tolerated drug.
	from opioids	Heroin, methadone, Braun	Intravenously, but also by snorting and smoking	Predominantly suppressive effect - pain reduction, sedation, drowsiness, dilation of blood vessels (slowing of heartbeat), slowing of breathing, severe constipation, decreased urine production, itching.	The natural source is the poppy.
	from cannabinoids	Marijuana, hashish	Smoking, orally	Dry mouth, sensation of cold and hunger, distortion of the perception of time and space, euphoria, laughter. With prolonged use, flashbacks, paranoia, depression, state of anxiety may occur.	The natural source is hemp.
	from sedatives and hypnotics	Medications (Rohypnol, tramadol, aspirin, diazepam, Xanax)	Orally, intravenously	Similar to the opioids.	Painkillers and sleeping pills.
<i>Addiction</i>	<i>from:</i>	<i>Type of drug</i>	<i>Method of application</i>	<i>Effect</i>	<i>Note</i>
	from cocaine	Cocaine, Crack	Sniffing, smoking, chewing coca leaves	Repeated use leads to euphoria - cheerfulness, sociability, desire for increased movement, talkativeness, energetic to hyperactivity. Long-term use results in anxiety, paranoia, hallucinations,	The natural source is the coca plant.

				increased risk of heart attack and stroke.	
	from other psychostimulants	Methamphetamine, ecstasy, amphetamine	Intravenously, orally, by snorting	Similar to cocaine addiction.	the use of some is legal (coffee, tea, chocolate, cocoa).
	from hallucinogenic	LSD (in trip or crystal form), psilocybin	Orally	At lower doses, illusions, pseudo hallucinations, increased sensitivity of spatial perception and colour perception, mild euphoria, good mood are experienced. High doses damage liver, kidneys, paranoia, anxiety, confusion, disorientation, thought disorders.	Abundance of natural hallucinogens (magic mushroom, (<i>Psilocybe semilancea</i>) Jimson weed)
	from nicotine	Cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco	Smoking, chewing	Irritation of mucous membranes, headache, diarrhoea. Increased risk of health problems (e.g. cancer) with prolonged use.	A socially tolerated drug.
Addiction	from:	Type of drug	Method of application	Effect	Note
	from volatile substances	Toluene, acetone, gasoline, paradise gas	Inhalation	Euphoria or depression, hallucinations. With prolonged use, dullness, stupidity, behavioural disturbances (lability, aggressiveness, loss of interest and performance), liver and kidney damage.	Solvents, thinners, adhesives, gases.
	from other addictive substances	-	-	-	-

Source: Own processing according to Hupková and Liberčanová 2012

Table 1 presents the status and clearance rate of drug crime in Slovakia.

Table 1 Status and clearance of drug offences

Year	Total	Clarified	Clarification	Year	Total	Clarified	Clarification
1997	967 ▼	932	96,4 % ▼	2009	2 459 ▲	1 330	54,1 % ▲
1998	520 ▼	487	93,7 % ▼	2010	1 762 ▼	1 247	70,8 % ▲
1999	454 ▼	418	92,1 % ▼	2011	2 422 ▲	1 736	71,7 % ▲
2000	946 ▲	869	91,9 % ▼	2012	1 951 ▼	1 378	70,6 % ▼
2001	1 041 ▲	936	89,9 % ▼	2013	1 930 ▼	1 417	73,4 % ▲
2002	1 120 ▲	890	79,5 % ▼	2014	1 609 ▼	1 222	75,9 % ▲
2003	1 319 ▲	986	74,8 % ▼	2015	1 750 ▲	1 270	72,6 % ▼
2004	1 282 ▼	925	72,2 % ▼	2016	1 493 ▼	1 156	77,4 % ▲
2005	1 682 ▲	1 162	69,1 % ▼	2017	1 480 ▼	1 105	74,7 % ▼
2006	1 742 ▲	970	55,7 % ▼	2018	1 573 ▲	1 161	73,8 % ▼
2007	2 159 ▲	1 248	57,8 % ▲	2019	1 723 ▲	1 252	72,7 % ▼
2008	2 285 ▲	1 167	51,1 % ▼	2020	1 513 ▼	1 071	70,8 % ▼

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

Figure 2 shows the dynamics of drug crime and the number of solved drug offences and Figure 3 shows the dynamics of the level of drug crime.

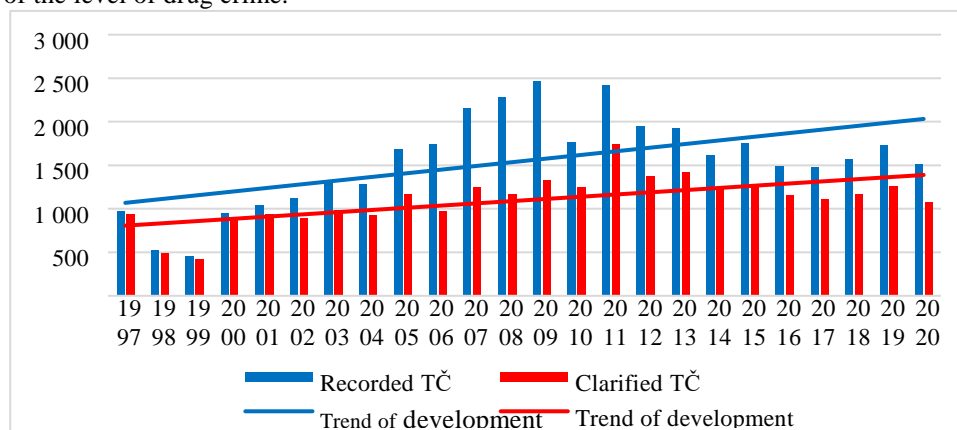


Fig. 2 Dynamics of drug crime

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

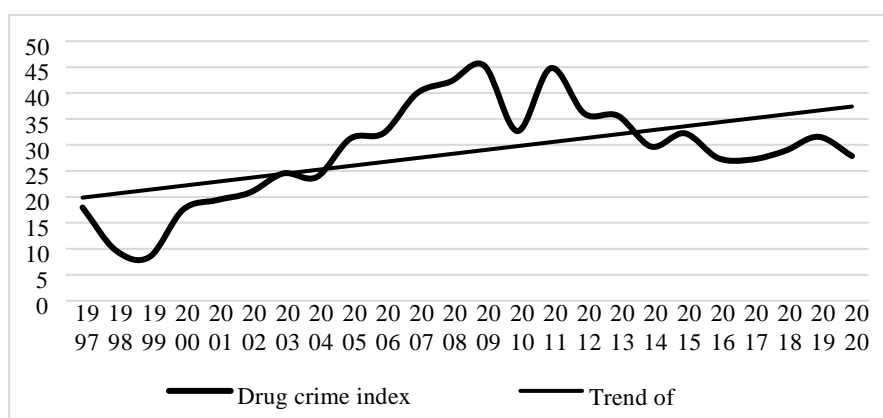


Fig. 3 Dynamics of the level of drug crime

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

From 1997 to 2020 (inclusive), a total of 37 182 drug offences have been recorded in Slovakia. In the first three years of the period under review, it is possible to observe a decline in drug crime to its lowest levels. In 1999, there were 8 drug offences per 100 000 inhabitants in Slovakia. From 1999 until 2009, drug crime rose to its peak (2 459 drug offences). Since 2012, drug crime has fallen below the 1 500 drug offences threshold, rising back above it in the last 3 years. The dynamics of selected drug offences are shown in Figure 4.

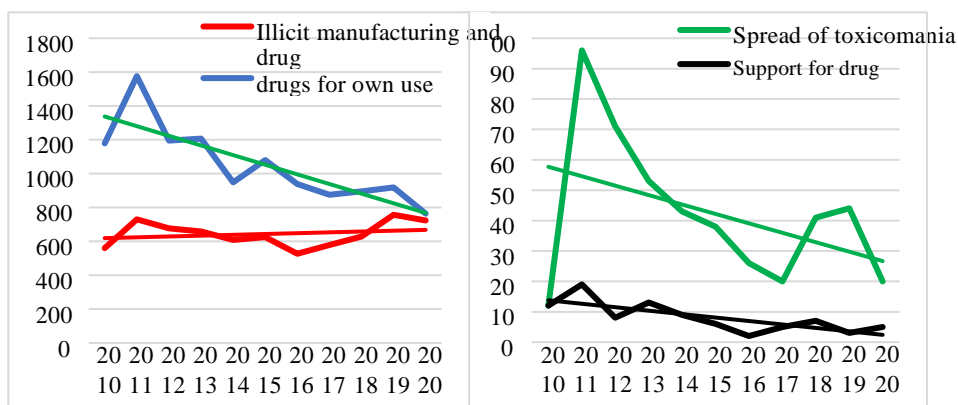


Fig. 4 Dynamics of drug offences

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

According to the statistics of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Slovak Republic, drug crime includes the offence of illicit production, possession and trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, poisons or precursors (§ 171 - § 173 of the Criminal Code), dissemination of toxicomania (§ 174 of the Criminal Code), while the first of the aforementioned offences also includes possession of a drug for personal use (par. (Act No. 300/2005 Coll., the Criminal Code, as amended). The highest number of drug offences is related to possession of drugs for own use, with a long-term downward trend in the development of this offence. Illicit drug production and possession is the second most common drug offence, with a stable or slightly increasing trend.

The offence of spreading addiction saw a sharp rise in 2011, gradually declining from that year until 2017, when it rose again for 2 years and fell to the 2017 level in 2020 (the second lowest number of recorded offences of spreading addiction in the period under review). The lowest number of drug offences is related to the promotion of drug production, which in the last years of the reporting period has long been below 10 offences per year.

Figure 5 shows the dynamics of drug crime in the region.

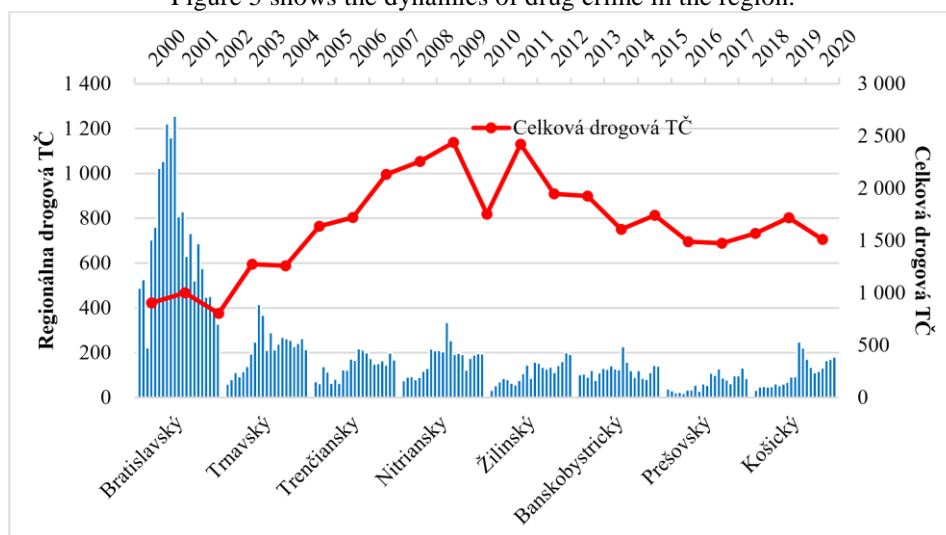


Fig. 5 Dynamics of drug crime in the regions in 2000-2020

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

Figure 6 shows the dynamics of the level of drug crime in regions.

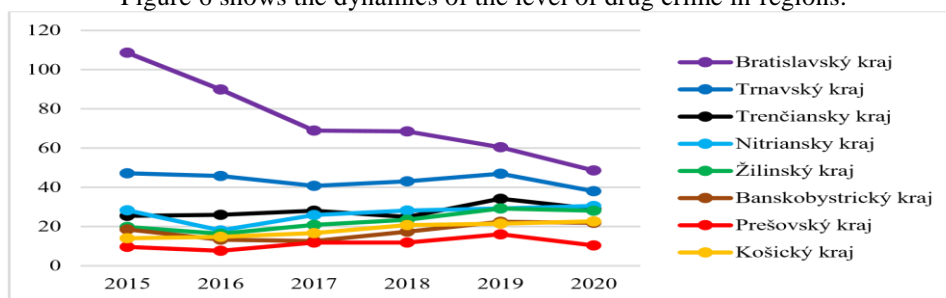


Fig. 6 Dynamics of drug crime levels in the regions

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

The cause of drug addiction varies. Motivation leading to drug use is important for the development of addiction (Heller and Pecinová 1996):

- physical motivation (physical relaxation, improved physical condition, elimination of physical problems),
- sensory motivation (improving sight, taste, smell, touch),
- emotional motivation (solving personal problems, relieving psychological pain, improving mood, banishing anxiety, relaxation),
- Interpersonal motivation (fitting in, peer recognition, defying authority),
- social motivation (escape from life's problems, identification with the group),
- Political motivation (defiance of social rules, need to change drug policy),
- Intellectual motivation (to banish boredom, to explore one's own consciousness),

- Creative-aesthetic motivation (improvement of artistic creation, originality, enjoyment of art, improvement of imagination).

Slovakia's priorities in the field of drug crime prevention are defined in the National Drug Strategy of the Slovak Republic for the period of years 2021 2025 with a view to 2030 issued by the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic as follows:

- Reducing the supply of drugs, strengthening security,
- Disrupting organised criminal groups involved in drug-related crime that operate or originate in or target EU Member States for drug-related crime, addressing links with other security threats and improving crime prevention
- Focus on detecting the illegal wholesale trade in drugs and drug precursors at EU entry and exit points,
- Focus on the abuse of logistical and digital channels used to distribute medium and small quantities of illicit drugs. In cooperation with the private sector, improve the interdiction of illicit substances smuggled in this way,
- Target illicit production and cultivation of illicit PEDs, prevent the diversion and trafficking of drug precursors for illicit drug production in the context of environmental damage
- Reducing the demand for drugs: prevention, treatment and care services,
- Prevent drug use and raise awareness of the adverse effects of drugs
- Ensure access to and strengthen treatment and care services
- Addressing drug-related harm,

Interventions to reduce risks and harms and other measures to protect and support people who use drugs, (BIELIKOVÁ, M. et al. 2002. Truancy and its causes in selected districts),

- Address the health and social needs of drug users in the prison environment and upon release
- Strengthen international cooperation with third countries, regions, international and regional organisations
- Promoting research, innovation and foresight in the field of drugs
- Ensuring optimal implementation of the strategy, coordination of all stakeholders

According to the Report on the State and Development of the Drug Scene in the Slovak Republic in 2020, the most commonly abused narcotic and psychotropic substances in Slovakia between 2013 and 2020 were marijuana and stimulants, especially methamphetamine. There was also a growing interest in cocaine use among users.

II. Environmental crime

The concept of environmental crime was first encountered during the 1980s and 1990s. Environmental experts, lawyers and national governments could not agree on a precise definition of environmental crime, on the acts that should be punishable, or on how to set penalties for these acts. During this period, environmental crime was defined as the contamination of water with chemicals, the release of pollutants into the air, and the improper disposal, storage, or transportation of hazardous waste (e.g., pesticides, chemicals, or radioactive waste). Thus, such perceptions of environmental crime applied primarily to businesses that carried out such activities. It is for this reason that environmental crime was considered to be a white-collar crime (similar to economic crime). However, crimes committed by ordinary people did not meet the characteristics of white-collar crime (e.g. a truck driver improperly storing hazardous waste could not be described as a white-collar offender), which is why experts have continued to struggle to find the right definition of environmental crime (Environmental 2022).

One of the first official definitions of environmental crime is offered by Clifford Environmental Crime. (1998), which defines environmental crime as the intentional act of harming or potentially harming an ecological and/or biological system. In simple terms, it states that environmental crime is any act that violates environmental law.

According to Europol (the European Police Office, which promotes mutual cooperation between the Member States of the European Union in preventing and combating serious forms of international organised crime), environmental crime is characterised by its impact on the natural environment, which is manifested by increasing levels of pollution, degradation of wildlife, reduction of biodiversity and disturbance of the ecological balance (CLIFFORD, M. 1998. Environmental Crime: Enforcement, Policy, and Social Responsibility). The primary victim of environmental crime is the environment, with damage to the environment secondary to the risk of disease, ecological disasters, irreversible climate change, contamination of the food chain, reduced life expectancy, as well as death of persons.

In the conditions of the Slovak Republic, environmental crime is understood as a criminal activity where the object of the perpetrator's attack is the environment or one of its parts (water, soil, air, animals, plants, including trees). In a broader sense, the concept of environmental crime in several European Union countries, including the Slovak Republic, also includes the problems of endangering health with hazardous

foodstuffs and the illicit production and possession of radioactive and nuclear materials and other dangerous substances. The issue of environmental crime is quite broad and each area is covered by separate legislation. From a criminal law point of view, environmental crimes can be found primarily in Part 2 of Title VI of the Special Part of the Criminal Code - Crimes against the Environment (§300-§310):

- threatening and damaging the environment,
- unauthorised handling of waste,
- unauthorised discharge of pollutants,
- water and air pollution violations,
- unauthorised production and handling of ozone-depleting substances,
- violating plant and animal protection,
- animal cruelty,
- neglect of the care of the animals,
- organising animal fights,
- violation of tree and shrub protection,
- the spread of a contagious animal or plant disease,
- the escape of organisms,
- poaching.

However, environmental crime is also covered by the criminal offences of illegal production and possession of nuclear materials, radioactive substances, high-risk chemical substances and high-risk biological agents and toxins (Art.298 and Art.299 of the Criminal Code), unauthorised construction (Art.299a), endangering health with hazardous food and other objects (Art.168 and Art.169 of the Criminal Code) and, in relation to timber, the offence of theft (Art.212 par. (Act No. 359/2007 Coll. on the Prevention and Remediation of Environmental Damage and on Amendments and Additions to Certain Acts, as amended).

According to the official statistics of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic, environmental crime is reported under economic crime. Table 12 shows the status and clearance rate of environmental crime in Slovakia. Figure 51 shows the dynamics of environmental crime and the number of clarified environmental crimes.

Table 2 Status and clearance of environmental crime

Year	Total	Clarified	Clarity	Year	Total	Clarified	Clarity
2006	777 ▼	425	54,7 % ▼	2014	663 ▼	365	55,1 % ▼
2007	754 ▼	455	60,3 % ▲	2015	618 ▼	327	52,9 % ▼
2008	782 ▲	490	62,7 % ▲	2016	751 ▲	302	40,2 % ▼
2009	891 ▲	605	67,9 % ▲	2017	706 ▼	267	37,8 % ▼
2010	768 ▼	470	61,2 % ▼	2018	775 ▲	317	40,9 % ▲
2011	1 088 ▲	704	64,7 % ▲	2019	952 ▲	350	36,8 % ▼
2012	801 ▼	498	62,2 % ▼	2020	1 222 ▲	456	37,3 % ▲
2013	667 ▼	406	60,9 % ▼				

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

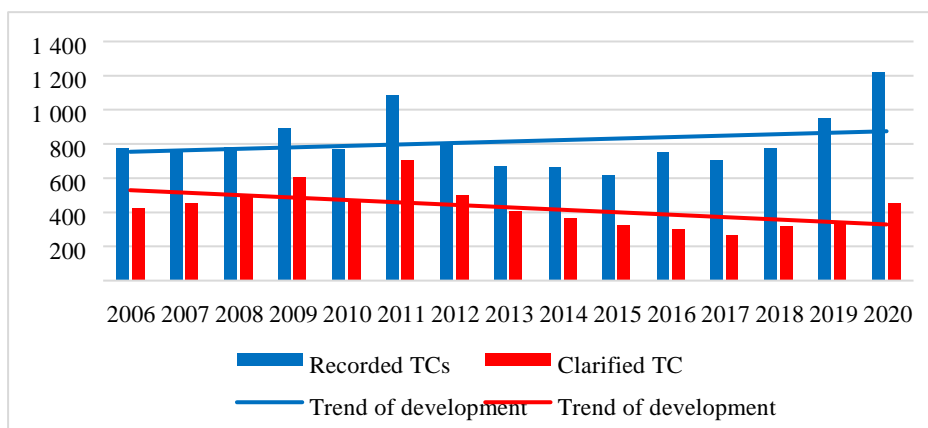


Fig. 7 Dynamics of environmental crime

Source: own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

Given that environmental crime can be considered one of the youngest types of crime, it is not possible to trace its historical development in the long term (some environmental crimes have been added to the Criminal Code only since 2006). It is also inevitable to say that the factual nature of a number of environmental crimes has changed over the period under review, which also affects the statistics on environmental crime. In spite of the above, the highest number of environmental crimes in Slovakia was recorded in 2020, with a slightly increasing trend. The clearance rate, on the other hand, is slightly decreasing - initially more than 60% clearance rate has dropped below the 40% threshold. Figure 8 shows the dynamics of the level of environmental crime.

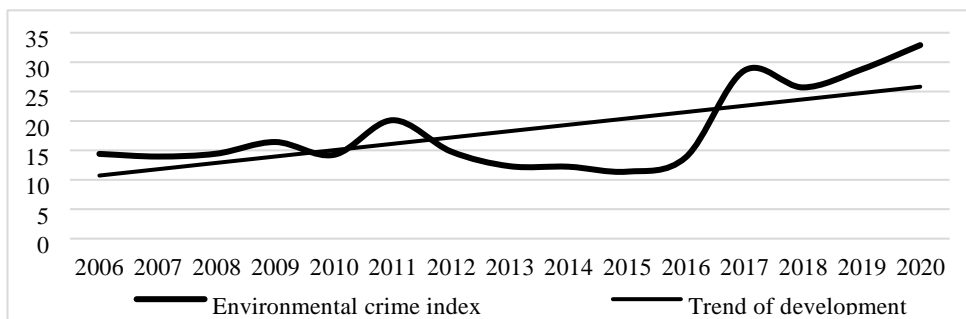


Fig. 8 Dynamics of the level of environmental crime

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

The evolution of the level of environmental crime follows the evolution of the status of environmental crime. Environmental crime reached its highest level in 2011 (despite the fact that the highest number of environmental crimes was recorded in 2020), when there were 20 environmental crimes per 100 000 inhabitants. The trend in the level of environmental crime is slightly decreasing (while, paradoxically, the state of environmental crime is on an upward trend). The dynamics of selected environmental crimes is shown in Figure 9.

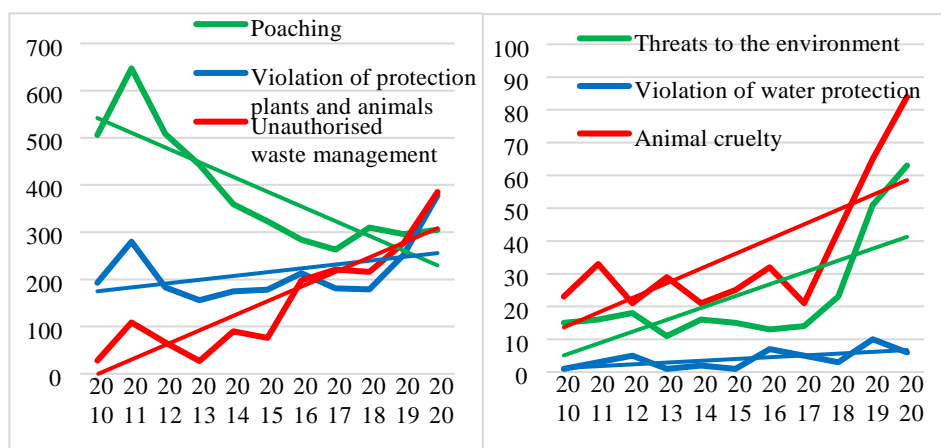


Fig. 9 Dynamics of selected environmental crimes

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

When examining the dynamics of selected environmental crimes, the crime related to the theft of timber (§ 212) was not examined because, according to the statistics of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, the crime of theft related to environmental crime cannot be separated from other types of theft. Official statistics on separate environmental crimes have been kept by the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic only since 2017, which represents a short period for monitoring the dynamics of the development of this type of environmental crime.

Until 2019, the most common environmental crime was poaching (Section 310 of the Criminal Code). The downward trend of this offence and the upward trend of the offences of violation of plant and animal protection (Art. 305 of the Criminal Code) and unauthorised disposal of waste (Art. 302 of the Criminal Code) made these two offences the most frequently occurring environmental offences in 2020. Other environmental crimes related to animal cruelty (§ 305), endangering the environment (§ 300 and § 301)

and water protection violations (§ 303 and § 304) are also on an upward trend. Figure 10 shows the dynamics of environmental crime in the regions and Figure 11 shows the dynamics of the level of environmental crime in the regions.

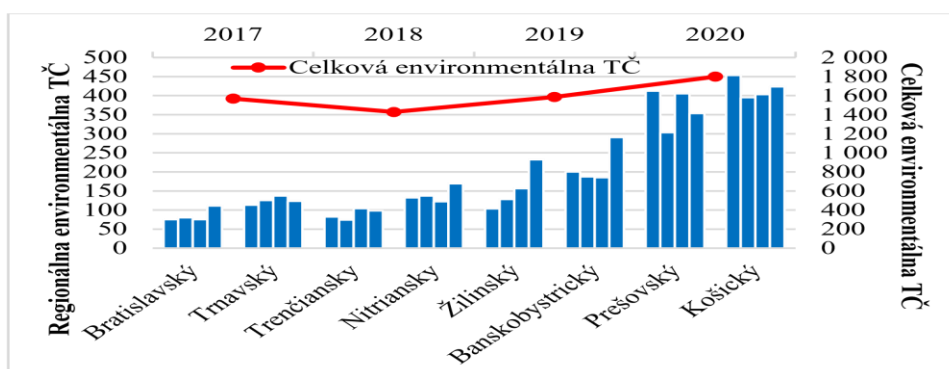


Fig. 10 Dynamics of environmental crime in the regions

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

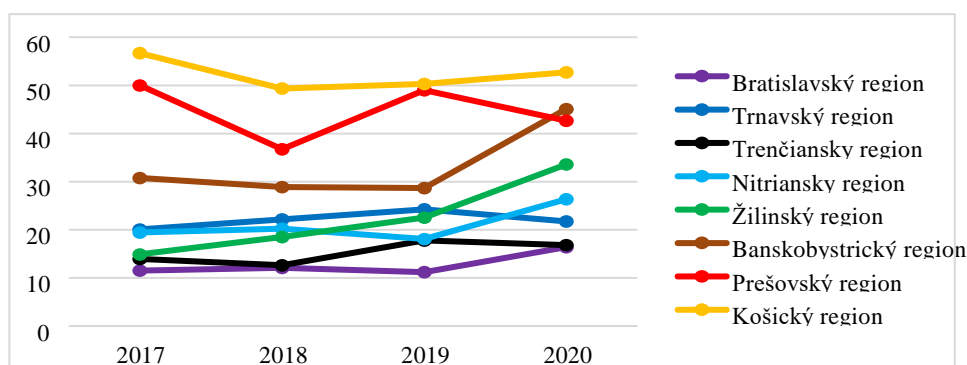


Fig. 11 Dynamics of the level of environmental crime in the regions

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

It is not easy to define the personality traits of the perpetrator of environmental crime due to its specifics. On the one hand, the perpetrator of such crime may be above-average intelligent or, on the contrary, less intelligent. Equally, he or she may be a person who has not committed any crime in the past, or, on the contrary, he or she may be a recidivist. Thus, the perpetrator of environmental crime can be basically anyone (ČEČOT, V. et al. 2009. Criminology: General Part).

In 2004, the European Union took steps to establish a uniform regime for the prevention and remediation of environmental damage by adopting Directive 2004/35/EC on environmental liability in the prevention and remediation of environmental damage. This legislation introduces for the first time in the European Union a comprehensive liability regime for environmental damage (Horňanová and Lacková. 2018). In 2007, the Slovak Republic transposed this Directive into its legal system through Act No. 359/2007 Coll. on the prevention and remediation of environmental damage and on amendments and supplements to certain acts, as amended.

That Act is based primarily on the principle of prevention. Its essence is that the operator is obliged to prevent the occurrence of environmental damage, is obliged to take preventive measures - at the threat of such damage and in the event of its occurrence is obliged to take corrective measures to eliminate it (GAŠPIERIK, L. 2010. Prevention of crime and other antisocial activities).

III. Computer crime

The concept of cybercrime should be understood as the perpetration of criminal activity in which a computer is in some way involved as an object of this criminal activity or as an instrument of criminal activity (BRVNIŠŤAN, M. 2018. Cybercrime and possibilities of prevention. In: Current challenges of cybercrime prevention). The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Slovak Republic divides cybercrime into 3 categories - content-related crime, crime carried out through information and communication technologies, attacks on information and communication technologies.

In Slovakia, the term cybercrime is identified with the term cybercrime. However, the perception of these two concepts differs abroad. While computer crime refers to offences committed by means of a computer, cybercrime (or internet crime) involves the use of a computer, the internet or cyberspace to commit a crime.

Cybercrime is distinguished from other types of crime by a number of peculiarities and specific characteristics (Brvništ'an 2018):

- 1) the great anonymity of the perpetrators, the distance of the perpetrator from the victim and the time gap between the act and the consequence of the crime,
- 2) One of the least reported types of crime - high latency rate of 90%,
- 3) victims often do not know that they are or have been the object of an attack by the perpetrator,
- 4) the specific tools used to commit the crime (technique and technology),
- 5) the amount of damage is difficult to ascertain and quantify,
- 6) Victims can be natural or legal persons, corporations as well as state institutions,
- 7) the possibility of committing a crime in a very short period of time (within seconds) without the need for the perpetrator to be present at the scene of the crime
- 8) unidentified crime scene
- 9) the digital form of traces can be very easily obliterated (by removal, distortion or manipulation)
- 10) every security incident in cyberspace has the potential to be a criminal offence.

Cybercrime was criminally defined in Slovakia in 2016, when new criminal offences related to cybercrime came into force. Computer-related offences are mainly listed in Title IV of the Special Part of the Criminal Code - Crimes against property (§ 247 - § 247d):

- unauthorised access to a computer system (§ 247),
- unauthorised interference with a computer system (§ 247a),
- unauthorised interference with computer data (§ 247b)
- unauthorised interception of computer data (§ 247c)
- manufacture and possession of an access device, password to a computer system or other data (§ 247d).

On the basis of the above, it can be stated that in terms of statistical reporting of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Slovak Republic, computer crimes are reported under property crime (under certain conditions they can also be reported under economic crime). However, in addition to these crimes, some other economic crimes (unjust enrichment, copyright infringement), as well as moral offences (production, distribution and possession of child pornography and participation in child pornographic performances) are also related to cybercrime. (BRVNIŠŤAN, M. 2018. Cybercrime and possibilities of prevention. In: Current challenges of cybercrime prevention).

Table 3 shows the status and clearance rate of cybercrime in Slovakia. Figure 12 shows the dynamics of cybercrime and the number of cleared cybercrimes.

Table 3 Status and clearance of cybercrime

Year	Total	Clarified	Clarity	Year	Total	Clarified	Clarity
2016	243 ▼	93	38,3 % ▼	2019	372 ▼	150	40,3 % ▲
2017	316 ▲	102	32,3 % ▼	2020	468 ▲	130	27,8 % ▼
2018	400 ▲	155	38,8 % ▲				

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

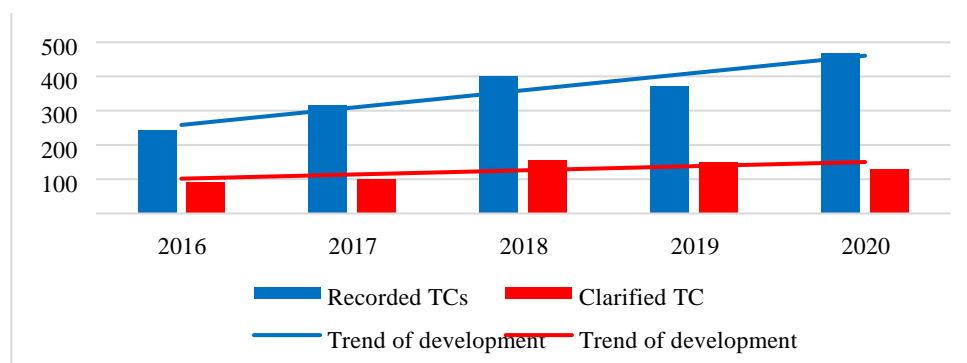


Figure 12 Dynamics of cybercrime

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

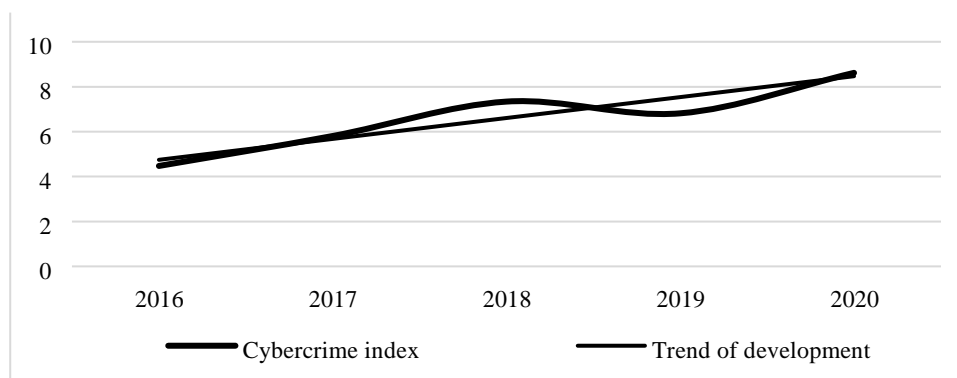


Figure 13 Dynamics of the level of cybercrime

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

Computer crime is a specific type of crime that evolves very rapidly and therefore it is not possible to track its long-term development. The highest number of computer crimes in Slovakia was recorded in 2020, with a slightly increasing trend. Although the number of cleared computer crimes is slightly increasing, 2020 recorded the lowest clearance rate for these crimes (at 27.8%). The average clearance rate for cybercrime is 35.5%. Figure 57 shows the dynamics of the level of cybercrime.

The evolution of the level of cybercrime follows the evolution of the state of cybercrime. Computer crime reached its highest level in 2018, when there were more than 7 computer crimes per 100,000 inhabitants. The trend in the level of cybercrime is increasing (MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF SLOVAK REPUBLIC 2021. National Drug Strategy of the Slovak Republic for the period 2021-2025 with a view to 2030). The overwhelming majority of cybercrimes are child pornography offences (§ 368 - § 370 of the Criminal Code). The second most common cybercrime is copyright infringement (Art. 283 of the Criminal Code), followed by the offence of unjust enrichment (Art. 226 of the Criminal Code). Typical computer crimes listed in §247 - §247d contribute minimally to cybercrime - on average less than 5 such crimes are recorded annually (ŠOLTĚS, V., KUBÁS, J. 2018. Exploring crime in the regional security environment). Figure 14 shows the dynamics of cybercrime levels in the regions.

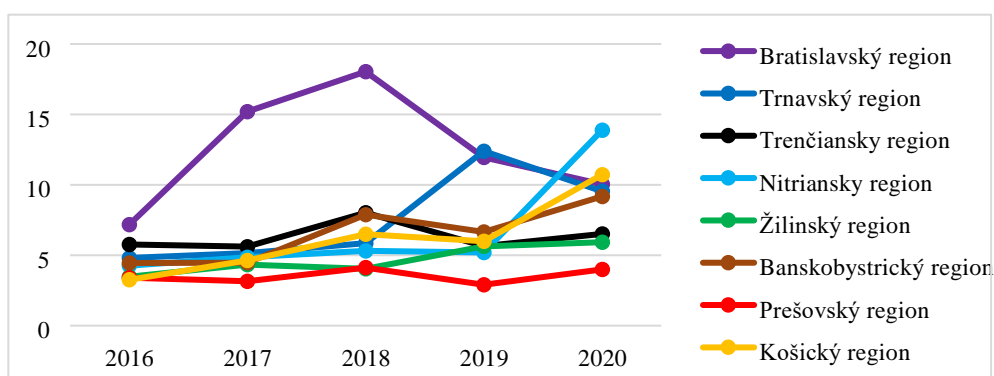


Figure 14 Dynamics of cybercrime levels in the regions

Source: Own processing according to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic 2021

The motive of the perpetrators of cybercrime may be lack of career advancement, anger of employees at superiors, but also pranks, experiments and other occasional acts of ideological nature (informal protests). On the other hand, the motivations of cybercrime perpetrators can be viewed more comprehensively and the motives can be divided into (Ördögh 2014):

- financial (securing a financial or other benefit for yourself or another person),
- Emotional (relationships and jealousy, personal revenge of a disgruntled employee),
- Intellectual (proving oneself to an undervalued teenager, student or employee),
- political motives (political games, investigative journalism, industrial espionage, activities of terrorist and extremist groups),
- sexual motives (sexual deviance or simply sexual frustration)
- curiosity (visiting extremist and pornographic sites).

In the context of cybercrime, the following forms of cybercrime can be distinguished:

Warez – Removing or blocking the protective elements of copyrighted works and the subsequent distribution of those works deprived of protection for profit.

Hacking – unauthorised access to a foreign computer or a foreign computer system by other than standard means, by circumventing or breaching its security protection, e.g., without proper access rights.

Phishing – Attempting to fraudulently obtain sensitive information, such as passwords and credit card details, by masquerading as a trusted person or business in electronic communications.

Pharming – the perpetrator does not directly attack the user via fake emails and does not create fake pages, but redirects the real institution's website, e.g., the bank's website, to the actually created fraudulent website.

Skimming – fraud, attackers try to obtain payment card data by modifying ATMs with a hidden magnetic stripe reader on the payment card (via a so-called skimmer) and a hidden camera or a fake keypad or the entire lower part of the ATM to record the customer's PIN.

Spoofing – Fraud in which the perpetrator masks an email address, display name, phone number, text message or web address to convince the target that he or she is communicating with a known, trusted source.

Sniffing – a technique by which the perpetrator eavesdrops on computers connected in a local area network. (KAMPOVÁ, K., MÄKKÁ, K., ŠOLTĚS, V. 2020. Cyberbullying as a threat to young).

Hoaxy – means a deception, usually one intended to trick or maliciously induce someone into believing something that does not correspond to reality and to exploit their credulity.

Catfishing – Deceptive activity where a person creates a false identity on a social networking site in order to gain financial gain or to compromise the victim.

Cyberstalking – Prolonged, repeated, systematic and escalated harassment of the victim using information and communication technologies.

Computer viruses – a program or code that can spread itself without the user's knowledge. In order to reproduce itself, it inserts copies of its code into other executable files or documents, which become the means to activate the next virus.

Spam – unsolicited and mass-circulated message with virtually identical content. This is an abuse of electronic communication, in particular e-mail. It is mostly used as advertising, although it has also been used for other reasons.

IV. Conclusion

A necessary condition for effective and efficient prevention of crime and other anti-social activities is knowledge of the causes and conditions of crime, but also knowledge of its quantitative and qualitative variables. In many cases, the dynamics of a society's development is also reflected in crime, which changes in space and time as a result of changes in society. In the 21st century, more and more emphasis is being placed on the issue of environmental protection, which is, among other things, negatively affected by environmental crime. Traditional forms of crime are increasingly moving into cyberspace, creating a new, separate type of cybercrime.

Moreover, crime is being committed in increasingly sophisticated ways using readily available tools and the latest technologies. Although in the long-term crime as such in Slovakia has a decreasing trend of development, individual types of crime, or specific crimes, have been on the rise in recent years. Properly targeted crime prevention is necessary to reverse the growing trend of such types of crime or crimes and thus prevent possible social, economic or other consequences.

As part of crime prevention, it is also necessary to focus on selected groups of the population that may be a potential source of crime in the future. These are, in particular, children and young people, who require increased attention and targeted and modern forms of crime prevention that will put them on the right path and warn them of the negative consequences of undesirable or even unlawful actions. The protection of life, health, property and the environment can only be achieved in a safe and predictable environment in which the most serious risks are known and measures are taken to prevent them.

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