

Council of Europe Conference Three decades of crime and criminal justice statistics in Europe: methods, trends and the impact on policy making"

(22-23 MARCH 2021)

Reflections on ICCS implementation

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> INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF CRIME FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES (ICCS)

VERSION 1.0



The International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS) was endorsed in 2015 by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) and the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

Before the ICCS there was no international standard on the production of statistics on crime and criminal justice



Advantages of the ICCS

The ICCS - a definitional framework that groups and organizes criminal offences meaningfully and systematically - allows to:

- Build a <u>comprehensive stat. framework</u> on all criminal offences to facilitate analysis of crime
- Improve <u>comparability</u> across countries and through time
- Improve data <u>consistency</u> within countries:
 - across entities in federal states
 - across data produced by successive stages of the criminal justice process
 - across sources (admin. data and surveys)
- Creates a common <u>vocabulary</u> on crime that sometimes can go beyond statistics



Technical path

Bottom up

- 1. Build correspondence tables between national categories/definitions and the ones provided by the ICCS
- 2. Improve/adapt the way data is collected
- 3. Implement the ICCS system at agency level
- 4. Produce ICCS compliant data



Some challenges

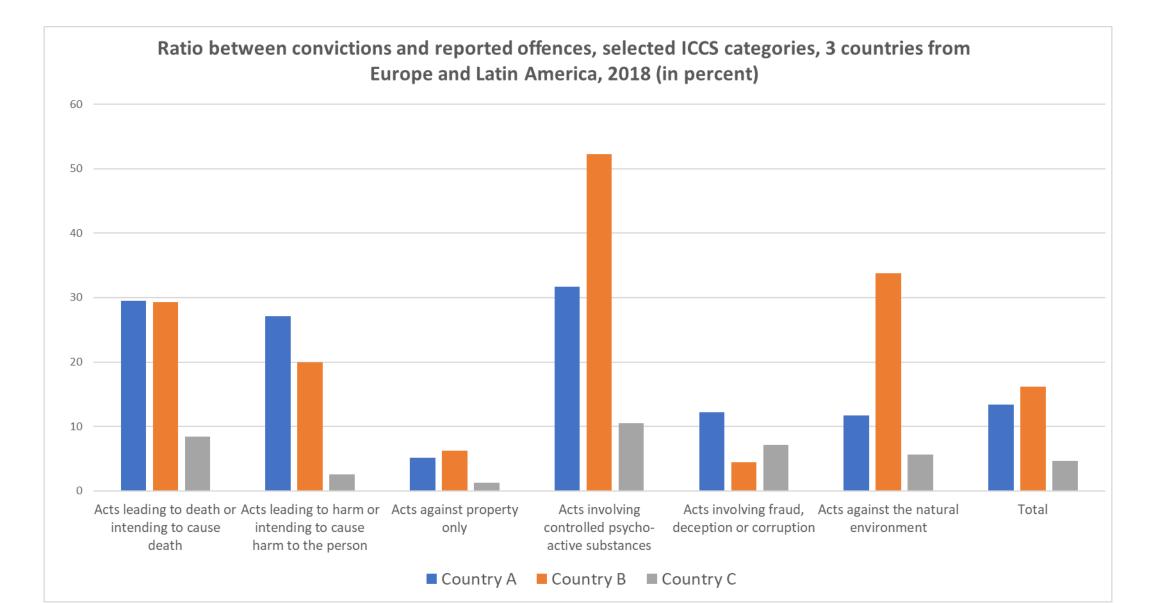
- 1. Technical problems in matching national data with ICCS categories
- 2. Lack of contextual information to produce disaggregated data as per ICCS indications
- 3. Resistance by some entities/agencies in realigning their data production system
- 4. Reluctance to accept ICCS-compliant data



Advocacy/stakeholders path

- 1. Raise awareness about specific value added of ICCS
- 2. Identify policy issues where ICCS-compliant data can make a difference
- 3. Conduct specific 'use-cases' where ICCS-compliant data can show their value







PROBLEM

- Within the broader theme of violence against women, there is a strong international push to fight femicide/feminicide.
- The concept of "femicide/feminicide" can have very different connotations, in some countries it is even considered as a specific criminal offence.
- From a statistical point of view, the lack of a comprehensive and standard definition of the femicide/feminicide prevents a thorough monitoring and analysis of such killings.
- UNODC and UN-Women launched an initiative to develop a common statistical framework on femicide/feminicide



STARTING POINT

 The current international standard for crime statistics is the International Classification of Crimes for Statistical Purposes (ICCS).

 The ICCS offers various opportunities to identify gender motivation of crime and the genderrelated context, though more operational guidance is needed. The ICCS defines Intentional Homicide as the "Unlawful death inflicted upon a person with the intent to cause death or serious injury". Femicide/ Feminicide falls into this category.

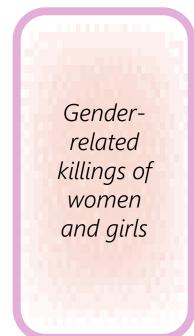
UNODC



HOMICIDE DISAGGREGATION

 An initial approximation to the gender-related killing of women and girls (femicide/ feminicide) is the measurement of killings by intimate partner/family member. But this is only a subset of the whole phenomenon, further disaggregation is needed.







Towards a common approach

- 33 gender-related criteria (and related disaggregating variables and categories) have been identified to have an open discussion with data producers, practitioners and substantive experts
- Criteria grouped by themes:





Future of ICCS implementation

- Focus on ICCS as a tool to modernize crime statistics
- From ICCS partnership(s) to ICCS alliance
- Show added value of ICCS in providing better comparative knowledge on crime and criminal justice





Thank you

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