The impact of the European Sourcebook on research

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| le savoir vivant |

Context

- Core team of the European Sourcebook (ESB)
- **Aim**: to study the evolution of the ESB through time and space
- **ESB assets:**
  - International project composed by scholars and practitioners
  - Time series (1990-2016)
  - Methodological focus
  - Contribution to science – open access data

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CRIMINOLOGY IN THE MAKING

THE HISTORY OF THE EUROPEAN SOURCEBOOK

COLLABORATING AUTHORS:
Marcelo F. Aebi · Gordon Barclay
Claudia Campistol · Beata Gruszczynska
Stefan Harrendorf · Joerg-Martin Jehle
Markku Heiskanen · Annie Kensey
Martin Killias · Chris Lewis · Paul Smit

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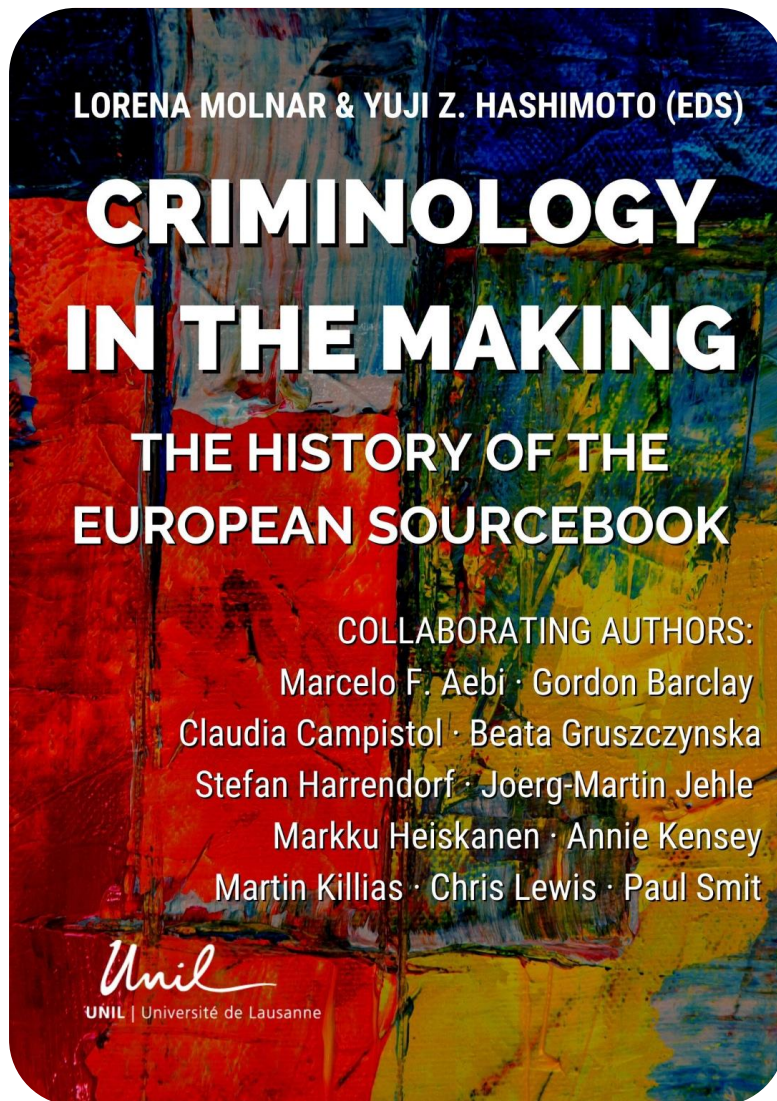
(Meta)criminology

- Eleven key scholars.
- Topics:
  – The internal functioning of an international project
  – Methodological and logistic challenges
  – Views on the ESB
  – Impact on academia/policy

Methodology

- *Sampling*:
  - Collection of the views of ESB's authors
  - Collection of publications (N=80) which used the data of the ESB for their analyses
- *Analysis*: Content analysis of the title and abstract of the publication and of the essay of each author
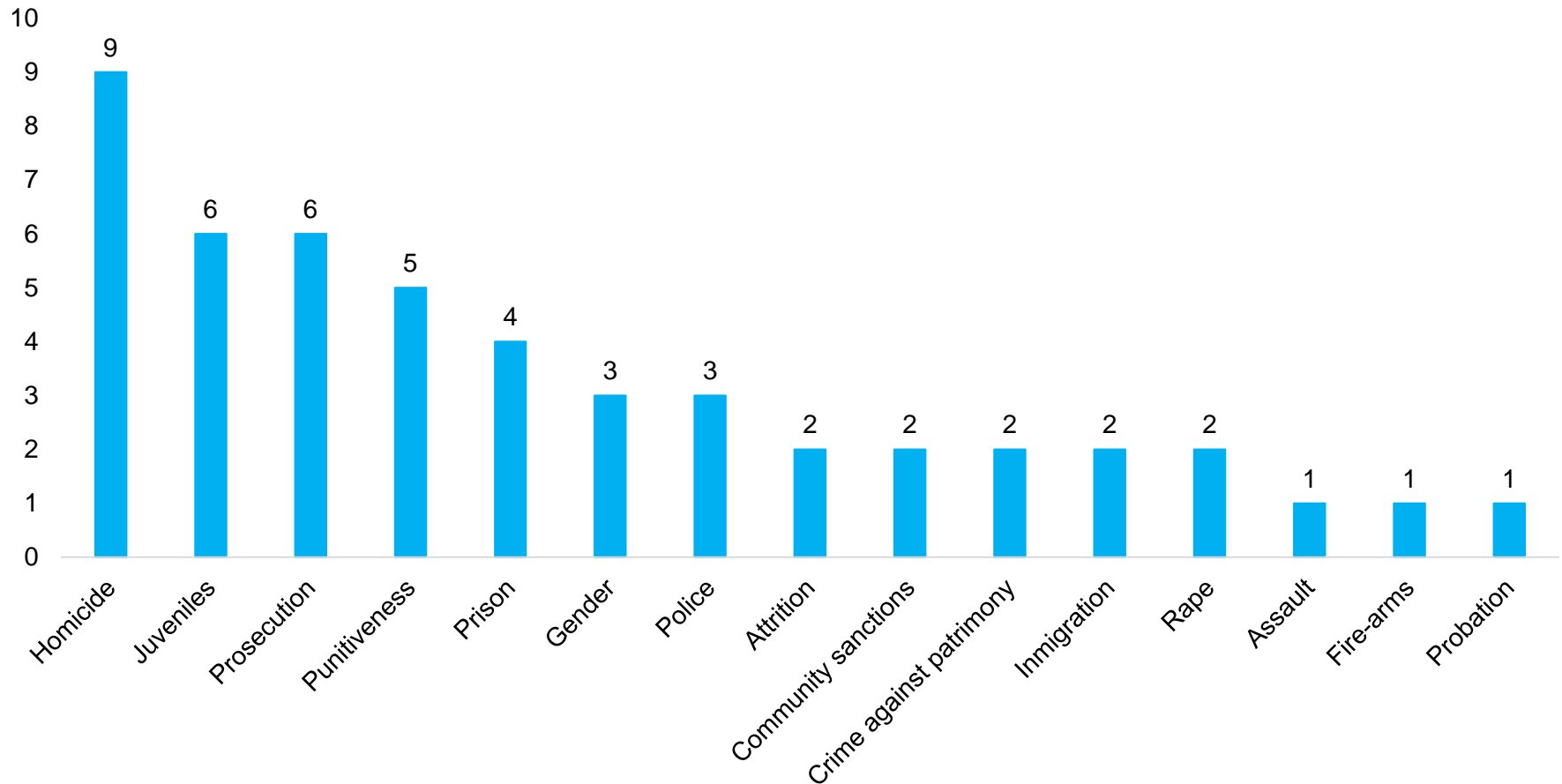
Results: Most recurrent topics (1)

Main focus of the publications

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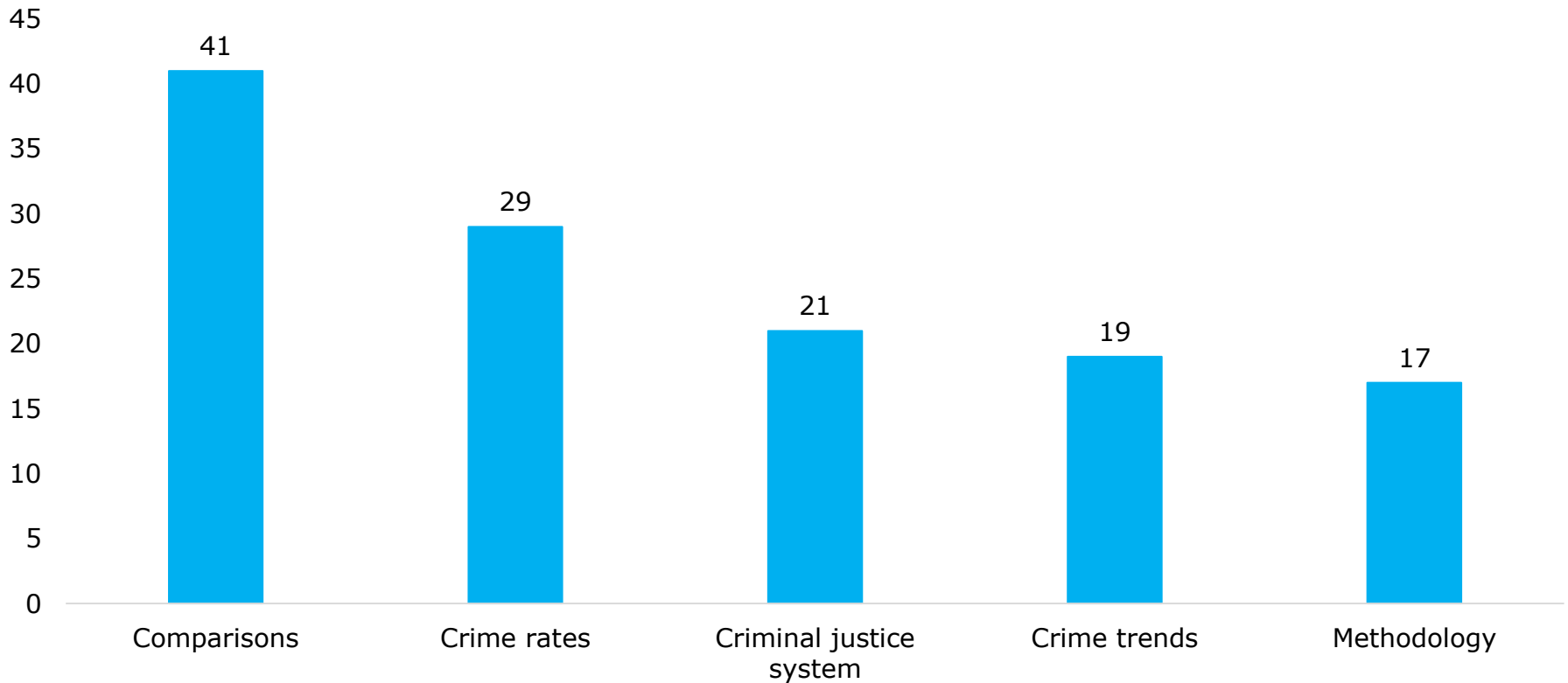
Results: Most recurrent topics (2)

Publications: specific topics

Results: Regions of study

Levels of analysis	n
European	49
Sub-European	11
European countries	17

Results: Impact

- ESB 2014 cited 205 times.
- Overall, all 80 articles were cited approx. 2,500 times.

Contributions

- Overview of the criminal justice system
- Methodological guideline
- Data source
- Development of other projects
- Teaching
- Trend analysis

Challenges

- Late publication
- Needs expert knowledge
- Complicated to change institutional practices

Conclusion

- **ESB has had a positive impact in research.**

✓ Influential **in comparative research, crime trends analyses, and methodological standardisation.**

— Unclear influence in the methodology of national statistics institutes.

- Potential for further exploration on understudied topics:
    - Sex differences, specific offences, immigration, cybercrime, national victimisation surveys.
    - Rates/trends unexplored at a country-level.
    - Trends on a longer time series.

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Thank you for your attention

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