CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE AS A PREREQUISITE FOR QUALITY CRIME FORECASTING

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Abstract: Crime forecasting in studying new and adapting one's own methods, and as a part of criminalistic strategy in combating crime as a preliminary stage, must gain a wider knowledge of the same. For any crime forecasting, it is necessary to have crime data, which are systematically processed in their form and structure and stored in records and databases, while data collection is an essential part on which criminal intelligence activity is based. Criminal intelligence activity precedes criminal intelligence analysis, which can be defined as a system in the process of collecting, processing and presenting data to achieve police goals and thus quality crime forecasting. Basically, this task can be described as data collection and storage through criminal intelligence activity, which are then analytically processed in order to shed light on crimes in the tactical sense, and crime forecasting in the strategic sense. This paper addresses the role of data collection through criminal intelligence and criminal intelligence system as a prerequisite for quality crime forecasting.

Keywords: Criminal intelligence, criminal intelligence system, criminal strategy, crime forecasting.

INTRODUCTION

Throughout human history, especially for waging war, there was a need to predict. It is known that the history of mankind is, among other things, the history of war, while the power to predict, especially considering its methods, has always been very concealed and little was publically said or written about this skill at the time. Quality forecasting represented a strategic advantage in relation to potential enemies, as well as to the war itself, but also to other social phenomena.

Dating back to ancient times, the Chinese war strategist Sun Tzu stated in his book The Art of War, Chapter Thirteen "The Use of Spies" that foreknowl-

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edge cannot be elicited from spirits; it cannot be obtained inductively from experience, nor by deductive calculation. A forecast can be produced on the basis of data obtained by those who are well acquainted with the circumstances of the enemy (Tzu, 2002).

The mentioned author emphasized that a forecast is produced on the basis of data obtained by those who know the enemy well, which was acceptable at that time and was based on data collection. At that time, modern, later developed, forecasting methods were not known, which were based, among other things, on calculations and previous examples, so the aforementioned author linked the very essence of forecasting to data collection. Throughout history, as well as today, data collection is an essential beginning without which there is no further action and, ultimately, no crime forecasting. The disciple dealing with predicting future reality is called crime forecasting. The basic term is predicting (Krstić, 2005: 348). Crime forecasting is a relatively unexplored and new criminalistic discipline, which seeks to predict. It is important to note that criminal phenomenon and its movement prediction and can be empirical or scientifically based on real, regular connections. In the scientific literature, forecasting is defined as the process of obtaining information about a future phenomenon or event which has not yet occurred. Crime forecasting nurtures an "individual, typical" prediction, without which there is no operational, tactical, and thus no preventive action (Krstić, 2005). The author's statement correctly concludes that a forecast is a precursor to successful prevention.

Based on the above, it can be concluded that, according to the sequence of actions, criminal intelligence work precedes criminal analytics and thus crime forecasting. Also, in order to achieve quality criminal prevention, it is necessary to complete the process that can be set up by first collecting information through criminal intelligence, which is then entered into databases through a systematic and formatted methodological structure of processing, and then through crime forecasting methods derive the final prognostic scenario which is crime prediction. It is important to note that the collection of information for the purpose of a quality crime forecasting must not be based only on information about the perpetrator of the crime.

A significant source of information for scanning problems are victims as the main users of police services. They have special knowledge and experience related to the problem, which can be important when performing an analysis. The existence of unreported crime, where the victims are unknown, should also be borne in mind here. As a result, police and other entities in some states are undertaking investigations into the dark figure of crime in an attempt to obtain information from victims who are not registered as such. The experience that victims bring from contacts with the police is especially significant. They are very important because they indicate possible omissions made by the police in working with victims (secondary victimization, police repulsion, victims do not receive feedback which destroys their motivation to cooperate and increases their dissatisfaction with the police) (Goldstein, 1990: 84). Technological prog-

ress, the age of social networks, general digitalization and the development of science have led to a faster exchange of information, goods and people, and thus, the state and trends of crime.

With the advent of new computer programs, applications, technology, the police get new opportunities to gather information so they can ultimately predict the future state of crime with a greater degree of accuracy and thus achieve a quality crime prediction. The age of digitalization, the Internet and other technologies makes human life less and less private because a person's life becomes recorded both in real time and in digital space. This technical and technological progress is really useful in a comprehensive life, but in addition to changing the way of life, it often records permanent human behavior. In this regard, and in line with the mentioned progress, there is a tendency to profile an individual or group that is already present in the era of marketing and economics because having knowledge on clients, their habits significantly predicts individual or profiled group behavior in economic terms. In accordance with the above, the security services as well as the police agencies are developing their own methods of predicting the movement of social phenomena which are aligned with their interests. This certainly includes crime forecasting, especially for the police agencies, although in addition to the above, the security services also predict, from the aspect of security, the movement of not only crime but also other social phenomena using forecasting methods.

In modern crime countering, the term predictive policing is encountered. It refers to the use of mathematical, predictive analytics and other analytical techniques in law enforcement to identify potential criminal activities. Predictive policing methods fall into four general categories: methods for predicting crime, methods for predicting offenders, methods for predicting perpetrators' identities, and methods for predicting victims of crime (Perry et. Al, 2013: 1). All of the above cannot be achieved without a quality and system-based criminal intelligence activity.

There are a number of articles which, in the form of a criminal strategy, treat the approach to combating crime through intelligence-led police, and thus the purposefulness of using criminal intelligence systems in a tactical sense, that is, for a specific clarification of crimes and in forecasting, strategic sense, estimating future crime trends, where forecasting methods are indicated (Palmiotto, 2000; Groff, & La Vigne, 2002; Herchenradera, & Myhill-Jonesb, 2015; Bošković & Matijević, 2007; Moldy, 2002; Matijević & Stupar, 2021; Muratbegović , 2010; Stupar, 2021).

This paper seeks to present criminal intelligence activities and data collection systems and point out the connection and conditionality of the above with crime forecasting.

The first part of this paper focus on criminal intelligence as a prerequisite for quality crime forecasting and presents its connection, with an emphasis on collecting information on crime, because this phenomenon is impossible to properly observe, control and prevent, and in accordance with the above, im-

prove the existing and develop new methods in countering crime without intelligence activities. The second part of the paper presents the systems of using data collected through criminal intelligence activities in BiH in terms of criminal intelligence system 4x4. The autochthonous system developed by the Ministry of the Interior of Republika Srpska, which refers to crime called Crimea1 and Crimea 2 is also partially present.

CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITY IN THE PURPOSE OF CRIME FORECASTING

Considering the concepts of crime forecasting, types and methods of such research, its main characteristics should be emphasized. Its goal is to identify the perpetrator, illegal acts in general and the factors that cause them as well as potential the victims or objects of the attacks. Methods of criminal science are the generalization of experiences of investigative and judicial work, studying the manner of committing criminal offenses and processing scientific methods for collecting, finding, fixing and examining evidence based on natural and technical science data (Šaver & Vinberg, 1945: 5). In the forecasting process, the possible consequences of crime are also assessed. Based on the research conducted, effective measures for crime prevention or its individual types are being developed.

Crime forecasting may relate to trends, a situation, the period of events as well as other given prognostic parameters, and the forecast itself should be employed both in the tactical sense and the strategic sense.

The forerunner of all the above is quality criminal intelligence activity. The expansion of old and new forms of crime is an indisputable fact in a modern society. The assumptions of optimal results in opposing the same require the construction of a modern structure which would be authorized to work in the so-called forefront of criminal activity, that is, to enable early warning and extend the time in favor of crime forecasting and criminal preventive response by state bodies.

In the middle of the 20th century, the basic forms of criminal intelligence work were established, which developed through several criminal intelligence activities. Intelligence work or activity is the result of collecting, processing, integrating, analyzing, predicting, interpreting and disseminating intelligence. Intelligence is any new knowledge about a foreign country, crisis area, current or potential adversary collected through intelligence work related to intelligence work pertaining to crime.

Criminal intelligence work has its characteristics which can be set in a way that it is comprehensive in terms of time, space and methods, important as a support to decision-making. It is carried out with equal intensity regardless of the form of crime and its manifestation and is aimed at the criminal phenom-

enon from several aspects. In accordance with the above, the criminal intelligence activity uses various methods of collecting information, which extract information from various sources. It is important to note that the ways and methods of collecting information use the methods employed by intelligence services or security services, and some methods of collecting information characteristic of police work have been developed.

In the mid-1990s, initiatives for proactive policing began to strengthen. This, among other things, meant predicting criminal activities in the future. In order for that to be possible, it was necessary to obtain as much useful information from the criminal milieu as possible, which was only possible with an increase in criminal intelligence activity. That is why the National Intelligence Model was created in England, which extended to all levels: local, regional, cross-border issues, international, serious and organized crime (Guidance on The National Intelligence Model, 2005: 12).

Criminal intelligence activity in most European countries is based on an understandable tendency for maximum protection of citizen rights and freedoms and on a wise balance with a deep need for forecast action in order to prevent and detect crimes, which have a more serious impact on the whole society. Forecasting analysis in criminal intelligence directly contributes to a more successful planning of crime suppression by applying modern methods and means.

The exclusive mandate of criminal intelligence, in theory, is to achieve, through the collection, analysis and dissemination of criminal intelligence and the coordination of other services and agencies for combating crime, an appropriate advantage over crime in general in terms of forecast, preventive and pre-criminal relationship with the perpetrators of all forms of crimes.

Given the great importance of criminal intelligence activities in the field of crime forecasting, it is necessary to point out some doubts in defining the important terms used to denote certain criminal intelligence content and actions:

1. Data is any knowledge, data or information which contains certain information.

2. Information means knowledge in its raw form. Information is a universal means of human communication with the world and with each other. Information is one of the main aspects and tools of human practical and theoretical activity. Information is data which means something. In addition to this, Dr. Vodinelić states that every piece of data is information, provided that it communicates something relevant (Vodinelić, 1990: 37), which is certain and correct.

3. Criminal intelligence analysis means the process of decomposing or separating things into their integral parts, as well as determining those parts. The analysis also involves monitoring the flow of certain events to their sources in order to discover the general principles behind them and demonstrate the results of this process.

4. Criminal intelligence data is a product of criminal intelligence analytical process (Manojlović, 2005: 112). It is information with added value, which can be understood. Criminal intelligence data is created by processing raw information. Criminal intelligence has a strategic and tactical application, depending on its content, character and meaning.

5. An intelligence procedure is a process of learning which consists of a series of activities, in stages with the ultimate goal of learning what is not yet known.

6. Criminalistic research means the application of a number of methods in the examination and analysis of criminal intelligence data, facts, with the application of the rules of criminalistics and other sciences, which are based on the use of modern techniques and methods (Šimović, 2002: 7).

Data are raw and uninterpreted observations and measurements. Examples include features of criminal activity that are easily quantified, such as crime reports and other crime statistics, offender databases, and police tasks. Information is data placed in the context and empowered by meaning, wwhich gives it greater relevance and purpose. Knowledge is information which has been been given an interpretation and understanding. When a person has added his/her wisdom to information, it becomes knowledge.

Intelligence is data, information and knowledge that have been evaluated, analyzed and presented in a decision-making format for action-oriented purposes, according to a criminal intelligence theorist (Ratcliffe, 2016: 72).
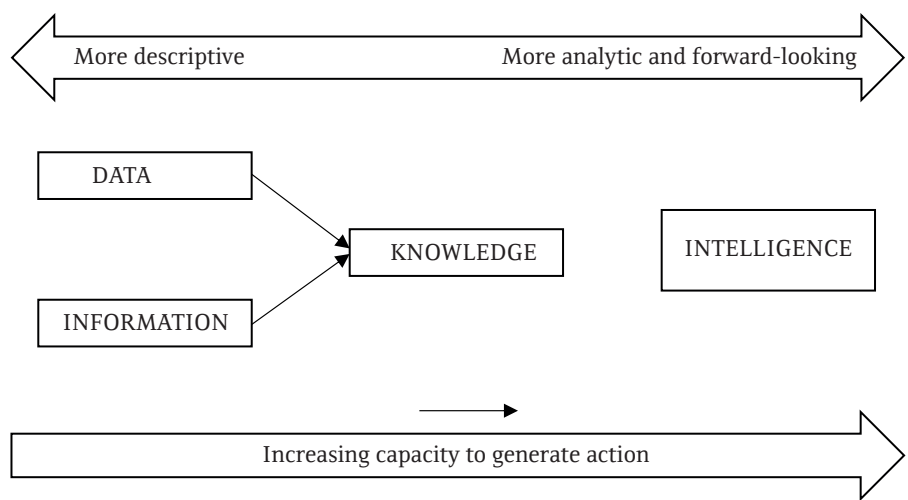

Figure 1. From data to intelligence

Ratcliffe, J. (2016). *Intelligence - Led Policing, 2nd Edition.* London/New York: Routledge.

The task of criminal intelligence and apprising is to obtain as much relevant data and information as possible from all available sources. Criminal intelligence aims at timely, high-quality and comprehensive apprising of phenomena and events in the environment which may have a certain impact on the security situation. More precisely, as it is a matter of criminal intelligence, we primarily mean data, information from the domain of crime phenomena such as preparation, execution, hiding objects and traces of crime and perpetrators (Matijević & Mitrović, 2011: 82). In order to fill the databases with relevant criminal intelligence data in a quality way, it is necessary to systematically record a wide range of seemingly irrelevant information, because even such data, with the help of crime forecasting methods, can help us act in a better way in the crime prediction zone. The intelligence gathering process, traditionally referred to as the intelligence cycle, describes and outline six widely accepted standard steps used to transform raw data and information into value-added intelligence aimed for action. Ideally, this process begins with a decision or a tasking, followed by a planning stage, after which analysts engage in collecting information and data which must be evaluated according to a formally recognized evaluation system (Figure 2).

The next step is, in fact, the actual processing stage, which begins with collating and structuring available data and information and inserting them into a database. The data and information are then analyzed, which results in the production of an intelligence product to be disseminated to the client (the manager, the investigator or others that task the analysts or request their analysis support) and other relevant stakeholders. The clients evaluate the intelligence product with reference to their needs and demands. The received feedback is used to improve the current product or as methodological input for future similar products. (OSCE, 2017: 34).
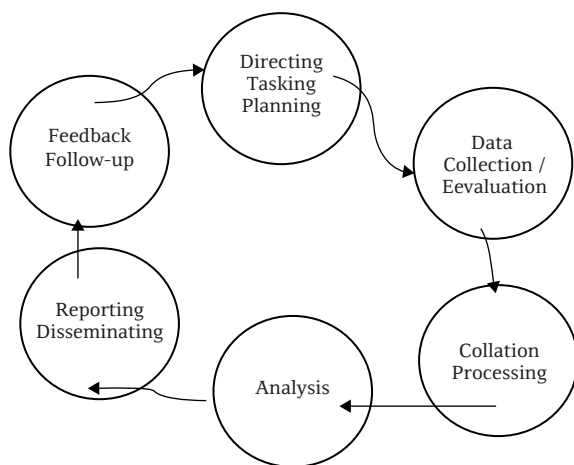

Figure 2. Criminal intelligence cycle (OSCE, 2017)

It should be noted that new experiences of police agencies confirm that there is a fundamental shift in the police toward a strategic, future-oriented and targeted approach to crime control, which is basically based on the concept of criminal intelligence and crime forecasting. However, the letter should not be understood narrowly in terms of proactive operational methods based on police intelligence because it is not necessarily incompatible with these novelties. The National Intelligence Model adopted by the police forces in England and Wales offers, as an example, a business process framework for managing police priorities of all kinds and can include perspectives from partner agencies and local communities, and can set parameters for reactive and proactive crime response. The structured use of analysis within the adopted model potentially takes full account of all factors, but retains essentially an evidence-based decision-making and prioritization process, as well as a future-oriented focus on community security threats (Maguire & Tim, 2006: 67). This model has been adopted by England and Wales in intelligence leadership in police decision-making in the UK. Intelligence collection, crime analysis and intelligence are important in police efforts to reduce crime and address chronic problems related to the same, which was adopted as a model in police education in the Phoenix Police Department's Intelligence Officer Program (Ratcliffe, 2016: 332).

By analyzing the criminal intelligence activity, a need for standards regarding the collection of information arose. The literature points out the problem of obtaining information and insufficient quality of their analysis because there is a lack of staff for quality performance of this task, given that these are new methods which the police have not used frequently. It is emphasized that the first necessary step in solving the problem is to defining it precisely. It is pointed out that it is not easy to obtain information in the field because the police, as a rule, do not have the personnel and financial possibilities to organize a thorough research into a problem. This issue may be overcome in several ways: by concluding cooperation agreements with certain scientific institutions which can, within scientific programs, obtain funds to finance research (thus research arises from the immediate needs of the practice and for its needs). Another way is to introduce a monitoring system (supervision system) so that the facts collected, methods applied and results obtained are presented at a panel before the police and other experts where the analysis of the results obtained is conducted and instructions are given regarding further procedures. Another way is to organize training courses for police officers engaged in criminal intelligence analysis (Goldstein, 1990: 90).

Due to new trends in the manifestation of crime, there arose a need for the specialization of certain organizational units within the police and the current modern system of training of police officers with a tendency to specialize police personnel who are trained to prevent new current forms of crime. The tendency in modern police organizations is certainly oriented toward the professionalization and specialization of both personnel and system solutions with an emphasis on the specialization of a range of tasks on which criminal intelligence is based.

In this regard, there is a need to form new and transform old organizational units in order to become better organized and specialized, which is a trend in police organizations that have performed or are performing such restructuring in order to perform criminal intelligence activities in a better way.

Also, in order to successfully counter crime, systems have been adopted to systematically treat the information received in terms of a better evaluation process. This phase was unjustifiably neglected in classical crime work as well. A complete and purposeful assessment requires an assessment of the reliability of information sources and the value of specific information content. This phase is crucial for an efficient analytical process.

Therefore, an analyst should be allowed to have greater self-confidence in reaching a conclusion. He/She should understand the quality and reliability of the information source on the one hand, and the quality of the information content on the other. The information source and the current information, as two subsystems within the system as a whole, must be evaluated independently. The police officer completing the report should have a proper insight into the knowledge of the assessment system. The evaluation starts at the data collection stage because it is difficult to evaluate information which is not adequately adjusted.

There are three basic principles before starting to evaluate and organize data:

1. Evaluation must not be influenced by personal feelings (the principle of objectivity);
2. The evaluation of the information source must be done separately from the evaluation of the information content and
3. The evaluation should be performed as close as possible to the source (Krstić, 2010: 170).

In light of the above, the causality of criminal intelligence activity is visible in order to have a quality crime forecasting. Criminal strategy in its approach to combating crime, in the part related to crime forecasting, develops and refines the command forecasting methods, but it also introduces new ones, especially with the help of artificial intelligence and new computer programs and algorithms. Both the old and new methods of crime forecasting are conditioned by the information and data on crime collected in the broadest sense. As previously stated, this conditionality is obvious and it can be said that the whole process can be set as an initial stage in the part related to criminal intelligence activity, after which criminal analysis is carried out through the systems of using data and by applying crime forecasting methods, the final forecasting of the manifestation of crime is reached.

At the end, as the final end of the mentioned process, criminal prevention is conducted. All of the above has a clear goal to achieve the best possible results with as few resources and as possible, that is, to achieve police goals in crime prevention and control.

SYSTEMS OF USING DATA COLLECTED THROUGH CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

With the reform of police structures in BiH in 2002, in order to strengthen criminal intelligence, the 4 x 4 criminal intelligence system was adopted as a standardized evaluation system and accepted as a common practice for criminal services in most EU police agencies. This system is also used by analysts at Europol and any information received by Europol's information database that has not been evaluated will be evaluated before it is used through this system. The characteristic of this system is based on the fact that the reliability of intelligence information must be examined before it is stored in criminal intelligence systems. Personal feelings must not affect evaluation. Evaluation must be based on a professional approach in order to draw adequate judgments and conclusions. Police officers who enter intelligence into reports are personally responsible for ensuring the accuracy and proper evaluation of information material, which is based on their knowledge and circumstances at the specific time and place when the information was received. Likewise, justification may be required for an action undertaken on the basis of criminal intelligence. Intelligence data coming from the same information, which refer to different cases and persons, are registered in special intelligence reports. Each intelligence data should be evaluated separately on an individual basis.

Also, the same reform introduced telephone hotlines called "crime hunters", as sources of information, which certainly contributed to greater knowledge of crime, although the reliability of sources of anonymous information obtained from "crime hunters" cannot be examined and therefore this information source is treated as "X", without exception, and applications for reporting crime on the Internet have been designed. The data obtained in this way was processed by the said system. The confirmation of the received information content should be sought wherever possible, with the inevitable assessment of risks related to the use of criminal intelligence obtained from such sources before undertaking operational action.

Evaluating the information source according to this system means the quality of information source regarding the following aspects:
1. Credibility;
2. Quality;
3. Reliability and
4. Applicability.

Depending on who gives information, the 4x4 system classifies sources into four categories:
1. Reliable;
2. Usually reliable;
3. Usually unreliable and
4. Untested information source.

1. A reliable information source is a source where there is no minimum doubt in the credibility of the information's source. It is used when the information source is an authorized official of the Ministry of the Interior, a police officer or some other (authorized) person. In the criminal intelligence report, it is marked and classified under "A".

2. A usually reliable information source is classified and used in those operational situations where the information source is known to the police officer completing the report. Such an information source has already proven to be reliable in most criminal-operational situations under the label "informant". In the criminal-intelligence report, it is classified under "B".

3. A usually unreliable information source is used in those operational situations when the information source has proven to be unreliable in most criminal operations. By its nature, such an information source is unreliable, but in some criminal operational situations it can provide valid information. In the criminal intelligence report, it is classified under "S".

4. An untested information source is a type of data source that cannot be evaluated. A typical example of this are anonymous and pseudonymous reports or person who, for the first time, provide information to the police, which has not been evaluated before. In the criminal intelligence report, it is classified under "X".

The stated information collected using the 4 x 4 system from certain information sources must be evaluated in terms of information content by the recipient of the specific information content, regardless of the information source. Evaluating the quality of information received by this system is qualified according to the following groups:

1. True information: label "1",
2. Information known to an official passing it on: label "2",
3. Information not known personally to an official passing it on: label "3",
4. Accuracy cannot be assessed: label "4".

1. True information is a type of information which is accepted as true and is not subject to additional checks in relation to the credibility of its content. As a rule, it is a police officer who acts as a witness – the person passing it on.

2. Information known to the person passing it on, but not to the police officer completing the report. As a rule, it is information obtained from the informant, that is, a collaborative network.

3. Information that is not personally known to the person passing it on, but is corroborated by other information. For example, if the person passing information on was given information by a dear person or he

indirectly learned about a criminal event or criminal activities carried out by a group. The informative content of each piece of information must be evaluated differently (Krstić, 2010: 172).

In accordance with the above, police organizations create and keep separate records on crime, which are systematized depending on the methodology of work and the manner of keeping records on crime. Criminal records are, in terms of content and function, part of the entire criminal information system, which has a very important role and significance and which creates preconditions for crime forecasting. Criminal records represent planned and organized collecting, recording and processing of data on the crimes committed and prepared, perpetrators, and trace evidence, as well as criminal actions and measures that are important for detecting and clarifying criminal offenses, detecting perpetrators, their identification and generally for taking preventive criminal measures for the prevention of new criminal offenses by the registered offenders (Krivokapić, 2005: 199).

As the police agencies obtain more information through operational work, reports by individuals, state bodies, companies, etc., they document information and the crime itself through the prescribed forms, which is in line with the 4 x 4 system used by most police structures in the European Union. The Ministry of the Interior of Republika Srpska introduced a modernized system of Crimea 1 and Crimea 2 in 2014, which had previously been used as an analytical and statistical crime database by the former police of the SR of BiH. The mentioned system, which was in the nomenclatures, has been computerized and updated so it can be used, in the tactical sense, for the clarification of specific crimes but also in the strategic sense, which opens the possibility for crime forecasting. This system is roughly divided into two separate units, one contains data on crimes (Crimea 1), while the other contains data of the perpetrators of crime (Crimea 2), and it provides opportunities for statistical and analytical use of data and crime forecasts. These systems are important and they systematically valorize criminal intelligence activities in order to perform quality crime forecasting.

It is important to state that the development of applications and system solutions in the area of information technologies and artificial intelligence opens up new ways and models of information collection and their systematization, evaluation, and ultimately opens up a possibility for tactical and strategic use in forecasting. The tendency to create digital cities and areas in which human activities are recorded in real time and continuously indisputably provides opportunities for monitoring as well as predicting the behavior of both individuals and groups of citizens. Police organizations that already use these science achievements with developed methods and models of crime forecasting can rightly be called "Predictive Policing" in the scientific literature.

"Intelligence-led policing emphasizes analysis and intelligence as pivotal to an objective decision-making framework that prioritizes crime hotspots,

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repeat victims and prolific offenders and criminal groups. It facilitates harm and crime reduction, disruption and prevention through strategic and tactical management, deployment and enforcement" (Ratcliffe, 2016: 66). It is evident from the above that this author emphasizes, in addition to tactical, strategic management of criminal intelligence as well. The usefulness of this approach is immeasurable because it directly links criminal forecasting with the systems of using data collected through criminal intelligence because it states the logical possibility to use data from these systems using criminal forecasting methods in order to achieve police goals in crime prevention, that is, crime forecasting.

It is important to note that the new methods which are being developed in the fight against crime should in any case be adapted for quality control and the supervision of possible abuses. Special attention should be paid to the violation of human rights and freedoms of individuals. In this regard, it is necessary to simultaneously develop control mechanisms in terms of state bodies or committees within the executive or legislative branch, which are entrusted by law with certain competencies over the work of the intelligence services (Ćeranić, 2008: 81). This control mechanism should be modeled on the control of intelligence services having specifics of criminal intelligence and police predictive system by professional and competent police and civil servants and persons trained for this type of control appointed, according to statutory procedure, by competent authorities, which would serve as a protection mechanism of a democratic society from possible abuses. Special attention should also be paid to the protection of systems of using data collected through criminal intelligence, because they are computerized and most often installed in separate applications and are usually part of intranet networks used in closed security systems. As such, they are vulnerable to threats, therefore it is necessary to constantly protect the data and the entire system from any kind of threat. In accordance with the above, from the very beginning, the developed systems and software applications have been designed for the use by authorized individuals, scientific teams, and so on.

Based on the above, it can be concluded that the entire process of criminal intelligence work, the system of using crime data collected by criminal intelligence activities, crime forecasting is mutually conditioned as one cycle and should be observed in this way as well. The final product observed in this way represents crime forecasting that can be used in the specific clarification of a crime or group of crimes committed, in a tactical sense, and predicting the movement of crime in a strategic sense, depending on the crime prediction task.

CONCLUSION

Criminal intelligence activity is the first step without which it is impossible to perform a quality crime forecasting. Every crime forecasting is based on crime data. With the development of new crime forecasting methods and by using the existing methods, there is a need for greater knowledge and insights

about crime, that is, perpetrators, victims, crime scenes, the methods of perpetrating crime and other relevant data.

In order to analyze them, these findings must be entered, processed, and systematized through the system, so they can be properly and systematically, depending on the need, processed and ultimately used. The use of these data, in most cases, is based on tactical use in order to learn about crime, that is, to shed light on crimes. Tactical use was initially the only motive for collecting data to be used for shedding light on crimes. The development of science and its methods relevant to criminalistics provides possibilities for crime forecasting based on a scientific method that gives results regarding crime prediction. In predicting future occurrence of criminal activity, the time of execution, a potential perpetrator, the manner of execution, an object or a victim of attacks, including other relevant manifestations of criminal activity from the criminalistics and criminological aspect, police structures are given strategic priority in relation to crime. A quality crime forecasting provides an advantage over crime because it achieves a strategic advantage that allows an appropriate preventive action and cost-effectiveness of policing because it creates the preconditions to achieve better results using less resources. It also enables quality crime prevention, which is generally neglected due to inappropriate presentation of both its value and usefulness, including the results of crime prevention work.

Given that the primary task of criminalistics, including crime forecasting and prevention, is the collection, analysis and provision of relevant information and data in the crime preparation phase, so that a planned criminal activity may be timely anticipated and prevented. Tendency of the development of modern police and security systems is predicting both crime and other social phenomena of interest for security. The development of criminal-intelligence activity and the system of manipulation of the data collected, which are collected through the mentioned activity, using the existing and developing new crime forecasting methods, including prevention, opens up a possibility to gain broader knowledge about crime, which can contribute to the development of criminology and criminalistics as sciences.

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