Policing in Slovenia - Analysis of the Development and Research of Policing

Branko Lobnikar, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, University of Maribor, Slovenia. E-mail: <u>branko.lobnikar@fvv.uni-mb.si</u>

Maja Modic, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, University of Maribor, Slovenia. E-mail: <u>maja.modic@fvv.uni-mb.si</u>

Andrej Sotlar, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, University of Maribor, Slovenia. E-mail: <u>andrej.sotlar@fvv.uni-mb.si</u>

The purpose of this paper is to review previous research of police and policing in Slovenia. At the beginning of the paper, the authors draw attention to the changes that have occurred over the last two decades in terms of understanding the role of the police and policing in contemporary societies. The police have been increasingly attaining the status of a profession, while policing has been characterised as a knowledge-based activity. Therefore, the authors begin with defining police science as a research field of police and policing in contemporary society. This is followed by an analysis of the study of the police and policing from the perspective of reviewing prior literature on this subject. To this end, the authors analyse available sources in the Slovene language using two key words: "police" and "policing". In the final part of the paper, some research on the topic of policing in Slovenia is summarized. The paper concludes with a description of the importance of periodical publications for the development of research on policing (and police work) in Slovenia.

Key words: police, research, Slovenia, professionalization, knowledge

UDC: 351.741(497.4)