Selected publications on CRA

ĽORKO J., LULEI, M. 2017.
Risk assessment of social failure.
Edit. spec.: Bratislava: A paper of penological research
of GR ZVJS , 2017, [1. vyd.], 27 s. [CD-ROM].
ISBN 978-80-972856-0-9

GRIGER J., LULEI M., ĽORKO J. 2018.
**Current assessment of the risk of social failure
of imprisoned persons under the conditions of the Slovak
Republic.**
Edit. spec.: Criminological Days of the year 2018
[electronic document] : a textbook on 6th annual volume
of the international conference.
Olomouc : Iuridicum Olomoucense, 2018, s. 287-301 [online].
ISBN 978-80-88266-15-0

KEMSHALL et al. 2015.
**Offender Management User Guidance Assessment
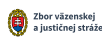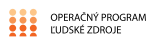and Management of Serious Mobile European Criminals.**
SOMEC, 2015, 139 p.

LULEI, M. 2014.
**Selected aspects of criminal policy and tools
to measure recidivism risk in probation.**
Edit. spec.: available online: http://alis.uniba.sk:9909/lib/
item?id=chamo:320318&fromLocationLink=false&the-
me=EPC

CRA-RU tool has been modificated and is used
within the national project Chance for Reentry.

CRIME
R!SK
CRA
ASSESSMENT

Basic information

CRIME
R!SK
CRA
ASSESSMENT

CRIME R!SK
LOW MEDIUM HIGH

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Tool for Risk Assessment
of Crime Recidivism

What is CRA?

CRA (the official English name: "Crime Risk Assessment", the official Slovak name: "nástroj na hodnotenie rizika recidívy trestnej činnosti" – the tool for risk assessment of crime recidivism) is a predictive tool for risk assessment of crime recidivism of persons serving the prison sentence within two year after his/her release from the prison in the form of electronic program. It uses a combination of statistical methods, clinical methods and intuitive methods and works with data obtained on the convicted persons during the previous crime career and in the course of the current prison sentence execution.

CRA belongs to the group of assessing tools, which are referred to worldwide in judicial practice as, so called the tools for determining the risks and needs of the assessed persons (the official English name: "Risk and Needs Assessment Tools"). In the condition of the Corps of Prison and Court Guard, the CRA tool, from 1 January 2021, hall replace the tool the Risk Assessment of Social Failure (HRSZ), in addition to others, also in the assessment process of a prisoner to the proceedings on conditional release.

Who developed CRA and when?

The development of CRA began within the implementation of the research project the Risk Assessment of Social Failure (approved by the Director General of the Corps of Prison and Court Guard on 5 June 2017) as one of the research intentions of the Concept of Applied Penological Research for 2016 – 2026 and long-term orientation of analytical research activities in the conditions of the Corps of Prison and Court Guard. The main aim of the research project realized by a research team consisting of 10 researchers in the field of prison sentence execution, social work, psychology and pedagogy, was to modify the HRSZ tool used in the Corps at that time. The CRA tool undergone, in four project phases, the external expert consultation at the national and international level, it was presented in various scientific forums (European Society of Criminology, EuroPris and others) and mainly it undergone pilot testing (verification in practice) in three independent below stated catamnestic monitoring of the prognostic "value", validation an reliability of the tool.

What is the content of CRA?

CRA tool has two modifications: CRA-CR and CRA-RU. It contains a total of 37 (CRA-CR) / 38 (CRA-RU) items focusing on criminogenic risk factors, which have the set predictive value in relation to the crime recidivism. At the same time, it contains 4 (CRA-CR)/5 (CRA-RU) content and competently independent sections (sections are divided according to the assessors).

For processing the items, there is responsible a team of assessors consisting of social worker, case manager, psychologist, prison staff member of preventive-security service and social guardian of the Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family (in case of using CRA in prison facilities involved in the national project the Chance for Return). When administering a particular questionnaire form (assessing of a particular prisoner) the assessors are independent and they use in it the information on crime career of a prisoner, character of a crime, personality of a prisoner, behaviour during the prison sentence execution and similar.

Pilot testing			
Order	1.	2.	3.
Tools	HRSZ	HRSZ + CRA	CRA
Period of data collection	(1/2016 – 6/2016)	(9/2018 – 12/2018)	(10/2019 – 1/2020)
Number of respondents	850	118	2 361

What is the output of CRA?

The output of the CRA tool from a specific diagnostic form is the determination of the level of risk of crime recidivism (low/medium/high) by the professional prison staff, i.e. resocialization prognosis of a prisoner from a view of the Corps of Prison and Court Guard.

How to properly understand the outputs of CRA

The final output of the tool provides the overall assessment in the variance of minimum and maximum number of achieved points and at the same time its % value. The key is the output of the level of risk of crime recidivism (low, medium, high) and to it the corresponding prognosis of resocialization (favourable, less favourable, unfavourable).

To whom are the outputs from CRA disclosed?

The content of CRA (including the manual for assessors) is confidential (protected by copyright) and cannot be disclosed without the consent of the responsible researcher. Only the result according to the calibrated sum of individual items shall be made available to the competent authority, within the assessment of the resocialization prognosis of the specific prisoner. It is up to the competent authority, whether it will take into account the result determined by the diagnostic tool of the Corps.

Comparison of tools		
Tool	HRSZ	CRA CR/CRA RU
Comparison of tools	13	37/38
Number of assessors	1	4/5
Development	Modification of foreign tool	Multilevel development, Pilot testing, Expert assessment, Manual
Form	Printed questionnaire	Digitalized questionnaire

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