Presentation title:

Local safety and security in local communities in Slovenia – rural perspectives

Speaker: Gorazd Mesko (University of Maribor, Slovenia)

This presentation is about an ongoing research project on local safety and security – rural perspectives in Slovenia (2019-2024). Research goals are related to a literature review of rural crime, security and safety publications, crime analysis, analysis of public disorder, victimisation (rural and farm victimisation survey) and fear of crime (feelings of safety), and the improvement of policing regarding work with these social groups, provision of safety and security and security partnerships in local communities based on the contemporary policing and local self-government legislation, and a study on perception of safety and security in 24 municipalities by residents and police officers serving in the same local communities (urban, semi-urban and rural). The paper aims to present preliminary statistical analyses of three datasets (2012, 2017 and 2022) of the data collected in the same local communities. We will focus on rural municipalities regarding residents' perception of crime, fear of crime and beliefs about the role of police in rural communities.