

Conclusion

Education is involved in the formation of labour force qualifications, shaping of their working-professional skills enabling them to perform complex work. It fulfils economic as well as socio-cultural functions. With its effects, education influences human personality. It is important for the formation of human values.

The aim of the study was to quantitatively analyze and confirm the existence of a relationship of direct and indirect dependence between the number of crimes committed, or the number of persons sentenced, as the case may be, and selected factors connected with education, such as expenditure on education, educational structure of population, average length of study and unemployment rate (which is directly related to education) (Hronec, M., 2007). The given hypothesis assuming the existence of a relationship of mutual non-linear and linear dependence between the selected factors was partially confirmed. The countries with the greatest positive effects of investments into education, length of study, qualifications structure and unemployment observed were Germany, the Netherlands and Finland. The countries showing the least positive average influence of the factors on the number of committed crimes were the Czech Republic, Cyprus, France and Norway.

In examining the dependence between the selected factors and the number of the incarcerated, distinctively dissimilar differences were observed, which can be explained by the strictness or benevolence of the system of justice and criminal legislation. The Czech Republic was the best of the assessed countries, paradoxically, in the last position in the influence on the number of crimes. This may be caused by the very nature of crimes, where offenders may be granted a suspended sentence because of the low gravity of the crime, or by misconfigured legislation failing to sufficiently protect society from such sociopathic behaviour. Also Poland and Slovakia held top positions. All the cases included V4 countries characterized by poor law enforcement.

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