

# A SHORT ANALYSIS OF THE EVOLUTION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN ROMANIA

CRISTINA DÂMBOEANU

The Institute of Sociology of Romanian Academy

*This paper presents the evolution trends of the juvenile delinquency phenomenon, based on the statistical data provided by the Judicial Statistics Bureau of the Prosecutor's Office attached to the High Court of Cassation and Justice. It analyzes the dynamic of the juveniles and young prosecuted offenders and the evolution of their share in the overall number of prosecuted offenders, in the period 2007-2010. The study recommends to the Romanian specialists involved in the collection and management of statistical data to adopt the criminal career perspective, a perspective that guides for more than 30 years the scientific analysis of the American and European criminologists. Unlike the traditional approaches, which operate only with the distinction between the offenders and non-offenders or between first time offenders and recidivists, the criminal career paradigm allows the analysis of the various offending patterns according to a number of variables such as: the minors onset age, the average number of offences committed by them, the frequency and the intensity with which they committed these acts, the average of their criminal career length, the offenders specialization, the sanctions applied to them.*

*Key words: criminal career, juvenile delinquency, official data.*