

National and Regional Reviews of Investigative and Forensic Psychology

Like any significant area of professional application—particularly investigative psychology, with its connections to legal processes and police practice—the understanding of the work in the field benefits from a richer exploration of its particular context. The activities of psychologists in the forensic arena will be shaped and will have to respond to the particularities of local legal systems as well as to the ways in which law enforcement agencies go about their business. This in turn will require us to have a better understanding of the history and culture of the milieu in which the research and professional behaviour of investigative psychologists and their forensic colleagues operate.

In the spirit of a fuller understanding of what forensic and investigative psychology consists of in different contexts, JIPOP is encouraging contributions that review the work in this area within a particular country or in other specific domains. We welcome articles that review the development of areas of psychology of relevance to the journal, indicating their origins and developments. Such contributions should take account of the international readership of JIPOP, making clear the ways in which the particular context has had relevance for the evolution of psychology in connection with the law.

The following paper is the first in this series, giving an indication of how forensic psychology has emerged in the newly independent country of the Czech Republic.

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