

**National University of Public Service,  
Faculty of Law Enforcement, PhD School**

**THESES OF THE Ph. D. DISSERTATION**

Veprik Zita Judit, PhD.

**The forensic tools of the fight against corruption in law enforcement, with  
special regard to the integrity test**

Manuscript closed on the 19th of August, 2023

**Consultant:**

Colonel Hautzinger Zoltán, PhD.  
university reader

**Budapest, 2023**

CONTENTS	
TIMELINESS OF THE PAPER, FRAMING THE SCIENTIFIC PROBLEM	3
RESEARCH HYPOTHESES	4
RESEARCH OBJECTIVES	4
RESEARCH METHODS	5
PRESENTING THE IMPLEMENTED EXAMINATIONS BY CHAPTERS	7
CONCLUSIONS SUMMARISED	9
NEW SCIENTIFIC RESULTS	10
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PRACTICAL USABILITY OF RESEARCH RESULTS	12
THE AUTHOR'S TOPIC-RELATED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS	19
THE DOCTORAL CANDIDATE'S PROFESSIONAL-SCIENTIFIC BIOGRAPHY	20

*„– Hard thing – pondered he out loud –  
Hard for everyone. Hard to accept,  
hard not to accept....”  
(Móricz Zsigmond: Relatives, 1932)*

## **TIMELINESS OF THE PAPER, FRAMING THE SCIENTIFIC PROBLEM**

Actions against corruption have preoccupied both government bodies and researchers in all developed countries. In the past decades the criminal investigation tools and methods in order to prevent and detect corruption have been highlighted. The phenomenon causes severe economic, political, moral and social problems and may create such an operation system which is outside the scope of mechanisms defined within legal frameworks, causing precisely detectable drawbacks for those who wish to assert themselves in accordance with this normal operation system. In those countries where corruption is high, the interests of the government and community are overshadowed by individual interests. As a result, trust in government bodies is weakened, as they cannot appropriately fulfil their function and apply generally compulsory legislation.

A special type of corruption is corruption in law enforcement, which deserves special attention for the reason that one of the offenders is such an official person whose very task is to enforce regulations and to maintain public trust. Law enforcement is able to more intensely interfere in the legal affairs of natural or legal persons, since it has a role of magisterial application of law. Thus, more significant subjective conflict is connected to their actions, therefore it is not an exaggeration to claim that from corruption's viewpoint persons acting on behalf of law enforcement bodies belong to a more endangered group. Owing to the severe consequences of corruption in law enforcement and the great latency characterising corruption offences, not only are this particular corruption-type state- and social consequences to be indispensably explored, but also the prosecution's tools to combat this concrete phenomenon must be defined. In order to mitigate corruption in law enforcement the efficacy of both prevention and detection must be increased and particular tools must be applied. The so-called integrity test is applied in numerous countries for prevention and to filter persons liable to be corrupted. We are talking about such a legal institution which has been introduced in the sphere of law enforcement both abroad and in Hungary. This has also been in force in Hungary regarding healthcare workers since the 1st of January, 2021. The integrity test is in the crossfire of arguments in all countries, sometimes its very reason for existence has been questioned.

In order to combat corruption in law enforcement effectively various tools and methods must be simultaneously applied. As far as I am concerned, the productive detection of corruption crimes, the reduction of latency, the passing of strict and consistent verdicts serve both special and general prevention. The gist of the scientific problem is that although corruption phenomena are being researched nowadays from several viewpoints, detailed research is not being carried out on the topic of the forensically developed possibilities to detect corruption. To fill in this hiatus, at least partially, I consider the implementation of such a scientific research important that takes the specialities of corruption in law enforcement into consideration, covers the integrity test, thoroughly examines and outlines recommendations, suggestions on the possible application of traditional and modern forensic tools. I am researching the integrity test only regarding law enforcement, as the aim of the thesis is to examine corruption in law enforcement.

### **RESEARCH HYPOTHESES**

1. The integrity test has been primarily designed to prevent and detect petty corruption offences. Against large-scale, organised criminals covert tools may deliver results.
2. If the legal barriers of integrity examinations do not change - which would be solicitous from a legal certainty viewpoint -, they will still not be appropriate to combat organised criminals, as these individuals use their long-term networks to commit offences.
3. If the present organisational system and the delegation of expertise do not change, plus the organisations do not constitute common strategies, then the success of combating corruption in law enforcement cannot increase, as Prosecution is not able to process the cases in a timely manner.

### **RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

Recognising the importance of integrity-based tools I am primarily examining the forensic tools which serve the detection and verification of corruption crimes. I am to analyse the concept and characteristics of corruption in law enforcement so as to establish the research. I am examining the bodies empowered to prevent and detect corruption in law enforcement, their activities and the tools and methods applied by them. For the sake of effectively preventing and detecting corruption offences in law enforcement, one must adapt to the particular environment and accidental occurrence of these types of offences. Therefore, we must focus on such detecting

methods and tools which are specifically suitable for detecting otherwise hidden criminal acts committed in conspired circles.

Based on the preliminary source-analysis and my practical experience I have decided to carry out a qualitative and a quantitative, systematic research; during which I examine the efficacy of the tools and methods of forensic detection of corruption in law enforcement, applied abroad and in Hungary. Using all acquired information it is my aim to provide adequate suggestions to improve the Hungarian forensic detections, which can be applied in practice and may serve the basis of further scientific research. I offer suggestions for lawmaking and law application practices as well as draw organisational development conclusions.

My general strategic objective is to review the specialities of corruption in law enforcement, the research of forensic combating the phenomenon, with special regard to mapping the role, application fields, advantages and disadvantages of the integrity test, plus to phrase further possibilities for improvement.

My personal objective is to analyse the best practices and forensic tools applied abroad and in Hungary, to summarise the examinations of how the productive methods abroad can be applied in Hungary, and to process these in practice. Via this process I wish to achieve that individuals liable to corruption could work in fewer numbers in law enforcement personnel, and as a consequence, individual and social security can be achieved.

Being aware of the achieved results, all those suggestions, tools and methods must be outlined which empower the efficacy of detecting corruption in law enforcement, which is in a common social interest.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

During my research I got acquainted with the literature of corruption, more specifically corruption in law enforcement; with the foreign and Hungarian legislation connected to the phenomenon, and with the open- and covert forensic tools applied to detect it. I analysed the causes and effects of the differences between foreign and Hungarian criminal substantive and procedural law, especially in the case of legislations in military criminal law. At the beginning of my research I felt the need to get to know the most important theoretical topics of law enforcement, forensics and criminology. This served as the basis of the examination, which was a significant starting point and guideline all throughout the research.

For the sake of foreign outlook I processed the applied legislations of primarily Germany and Romania and the analyses and studies by their researchers, as well as asking for the opinions and experience of the German and Romanian experts who I got to know during my work.

I examined the data of criminal procedures for corruption crimes in Hungary. I analysed files of ordered and terminated criminal procedures for corruption in law enforcement and the concluded facts. I was researching what forensic tools were used to detect corruption in law enforcement in the examined cases and which ones were proven to be effective. I gave utmost importance to get acquainted in details with the destination, competence and effectiveness of bodies and organisations having a task and taking part in combating corruption in law enforcement; with the improvement possibilities of these bodies resulting from it, and with the effects of recent years' reorganisation in them.

It has been my aim to assess the conditions and productivity of the relatively newly imposed legal instrument, the integrity test by analysing and evaluating closed cases. During this process I analysed statistical data and I researched legislation and practical experience of legal institutions in other countries.

Researching the practical experience, morals and assertions broadens the minds of those interested in the topic - in accordance, I analysed legal cases. This method helped me recognise the "teething problems" and anomalies connected to the integrity test. By studying the files of criminal procedures for corruption in law enforcement, I gained further insight into the difficulties and professional pitfalls.

I made interviews<sup>1</sup> with colleagues acting on corruption criminal offences in law enforcement at the Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) and the Prosecution Service of Hungary (PSH); with several police commanders responsible for police personnel and people responsible for discipline at police forces. Within this framework I received answers to the question of how effective they believe the currently applied methods and bodies for the detection of corruption in law enforcement are, and what other tools, methods, and what other organisational changes they consider to be necessary to be introduced. For the subordinate police personnel I provided

---

<sup>1</sup> Permitted by Lt-Gen Balogh János, PhD., Principal Administrator, Head of Hungarian Police Forces, registered as 29000/51-55/2021.ált.

surveys<sup>2</sup> to research the corruption risks of certain fields of expertise, the possible and known methods of committing corruption crimes and suggestions on detection tools.

## **PRESENTING THE IMPLEMENTED EXAMINATIONS BY CHAPTERS**

In the first chapter I defined corruption in law enforcement, presented its characteristics and possible negative consequences. Well-operating law enforcement bodies that society expects can only be maintained if a great emphasis is placed on the prevention and detection of corruption in law enforcement. This can solely be implemented by carrying out research in the topic, during which the reasons, prevention and possibilities of detection of corruption crimes affecting law enforcement are in focus.

In the second chapter I presented two countries' corruption situations and their important elements regarding combating corruption, which show significant differences. The level of corruption in Germany is low, to which tools, methods and institutions adapt. The fee and social judgement of law enforcement personnel are considerably higher than those of Romania or Hungary. It is to be firmly stated, though, that these are not enough to combat corruption and do not form an adequate base not to create external control and independent bodies to prevent and detect corruption in law enforcement.

In the third chapter I presented the activities of the bodies involved in the prevention and detection of corruption in law enforcement and their co-operation, which serves as a base for effective and productive combat; however, the necessity to improve these bodies should be regularly checked. I also presented what hardship exists in the co-operation and countenance of them. I reviewed what positive effects military criminal justice - that is, the application of legislation different from usual ones - in case of corruption in law enforcement has on conducting the processes.

In the fourth chapter I examined the role of criminalistics in combating corruption in law enforcement. This interdisciplinary science provides a wide range of tools to detect and prove crimes, including corruption in law enforcement, also serving a crime prevention objective. Creative and innovative thinking is also needed in order to be productive, since the authorities' combat cannot be effective in any criminal acts without it. In case of hardly detectable corruption crimes the professional application of criminal tactics is indispensable. Criminal

---

<sup>2</sup> Permitted by Lt-Gen Balogh János, PhD., Principal Administrator, Head of Hungarian Police Forces, registered as 06000/14970/2021.ált.

technology is developing rapidly and offers crime detection and law enforcement bodies more and more possibilities to detect and prove offences. When we take the possibilities into account we must face the fact that in case of corruption crimes there may be inarguably fewer criminal technological tools, but their application provides substantive evidence to detect offenders and hold them liable. The detection and verification of corruption crimes without surprise in the act or without evidence from an operative measure is immensely difficult.

In the fifth chapter I presented the, in Hungary, relatively newly introduced legal institution, the integrity test's regulations, legal problems, statistical data and occurrent difficulties. I applied an extensive outlook abroad to outline the possibilities of improvement. Integrity tests are applied in many countries, but with significantly different regulations. I differentiated between two main types of integrity tests: those of hard- and soft regulations, and also presented their main characteristics. Integrity tests have a general preventive effect but they also have the task, as a particular tool of criminalistics, to filter persons potentially liable to commit corruption offences. The aim of the introduction of the legal institution is to filter persons unsuitable for this profession, thus ensuring the clearing of the bodies.

In the sixth chapter, through practical examples, I presented what hardship may arise in the fight against corruption in law enforcement. In the process I analysed the importance of the bodies' co-operation, the role of military criminal procedure, its advantages, the flaws and difficulties of implementing integrity tests.

I carried out quantitative and qualitative research, whose findings I presented in Chapter seven. The survey's results show an interesting picture of how the implementing personnel look at themselves and the applied tools to mitigate corruption. We can conclude that the examined personnel are very committed to both police and border guard work, they are proud of their job and show respect to their uniforms and profession. The personnel consider the criminal law sanctions and strong morals to be a dissuasive effect. We can also see from the answers, however, that they do not reject corruption unequivocally. Based on the interviews we can state that the law enforcement personnel's exposure to corruption depends primarily on how often they must make a decision, how often they get in touch with citizens and what the weight and legal consequences of their decisions are. All interview respondents agreed that the covert tools are the most effective and almost only possibility to detect corruption effectively.

## **CONCLUSIONS SUMMARISED**



The starting point of this thesis is that during law enforcement activities the opportunities to be corrupted are almost infinite. Corrupt behaviour has reasons and conditions both personally and dependent on circumstances. These are obviously not independent, they are in correlation with each other, as the circumstances influence the law enforcement personnel's behaviour and they have an effect on their surroundings. Decisions affecting people's lives and the secrecy of the profession contribute to the creation of corruption situations.

Results achieved during the research of corruption in law enforcement help map the risks, prevent committing corruption crimes and decrease latency. Corruption in law enforcement has several particularities compared to other criminal offences, thus has such special consequences which cause significant damage to almost all walks of life. The mitigation of these negative effects is only possible through productive handling of corruption in law enforcement; for which the legitimacy, cause and effect relations and different handling methods of the phenomenon must be analysed.

The application of AI (eg. predictive analysis, data procession, digital tracing, sound and text processing) in detecting and preventing corruption in law enforcement may provide effective help. This can only be realised, though, if appropriate human decisions based on extensive professional knowledge are connected to it.

We can assume that the introduction of the integrity test to Hungary helps combat corruption in law enforcement. While examining the efficiency of the legal institution the fact that in case of targeted personnel it is not only appropriate in realisation but also serves as a kind of prevention, must be taken into consideration. Besides the positive effects of the legal institution we must emphasise that its application is necessary and justified, but it is "only" one of the necessary tools in the process of combating corruption in law enforcement. Thus, it does not substitute processes implemented by intelligence tools and the consistent use of independent and commander control and that of integrity-based tools.

Based on statistical data it is to be stated that the number of cases ending with direct contact is low and must be increased, as the members of crime detection bodies are commissioned by the legislature to be productive against corrupt administrators. For this, however, a higher rate of direct contact is needed. This legal institute holds out fewer results in case of persons of organised criminal behaviour, owing to its particular characteristics. Integrity tests are many times applied to those individuals whose field of expertise increasingly includes the possibility of corruption crimes. Integrity tests are excellent tools to examine these people's integrity, and

if the inspection unfolds a criminal act, the administrator can be held liable. In these cases the service may be terminated, resulting in a “clearing process”. The integrity test is a well-applicable tool to discourage corruption. Nevertheless, regarding the examination of the personnel’s integrity, the detection, examination and the state’s law enforcement power remain primary in the detection of corruption crimes. Besides this, in accordance with recent years’ change of approach, a wider scope of application of integrity-based tools is justified. The emerging legal and ethical questions must be examined by analysing the practical examples. Taking the observations into account, those rules and practices are needed to be developed and improved which, while respecting human rights, can be most successfully applied in the combat against corruption in law enforcement.

## **NEW SCIENTIFIC RESULTS**

Taking into account the established hypotheses, the scientific results of the research can be summarised as follows.

1. Based on the results of domestic and foreign research, I prepared a scientifically demanding summary of the forensic tools of the fight against corruption in law enforcement, and as part of this, I highlighted the integrity test, the like of which - to the best of my knowledge - has not yet been published in Hungarian.
2. I defined a kind of concept of corruption in law enforcement that is the focus of the research.
3. By presenting the situation of corruption in law enforcement in other countries and the methods of action against the phenomenon, I proved that high salary and social respect alone are not sufficient for effective action against corruption in law enforcement. In addition, I found that a country's favourable corruption index does not create a sufficient basis for not establishing external control and independent organisations in order to prevent and detect corruption in law enforcement, and that the legalisation of the acceptance of low-value gifts by law enforcement officers makes it difficult to detect corruption crimes in law enforcement.
4. I summarised the activities, tasks and powers of the persons and organisations participating in the fight against corruption in law enforcement in the prevention and

detection of the phenomenon, and I also presented the forms and necessity of cooperation between them.

5. I described the relationship between the detection and investigation of corruption in law enforcement and military criminal law.
6. The research - as far as I know - is the first to summarise the role of forensics in the detection of corruption crimes in law enforcement, detailing the significance of criminal intelligence.
7. As a result of the investigation, I presented the domestic regulation and practice of reliability testing, or also known as integrity tests, as well as compared it with the regulations and practices in force in several other countries. Based on all this, I distinguished two main groups of integrity tests and presented the essential difference between them.
8. The research results have clearly demonstrated that the reliability test is primarily suitable for the prevention and detection of small-scale corruption acts. Against those who demonstrate high-profile, organised criminal behaviour, covert devices can bring results. The results of investigations carried out using different research methods, as well as domestic and international case studies, confirm that reliability tests are not effective against those who exhibit high-profile, organised criminal behaviour, but significant results can be achieved by using covert tools and persistent, dedicated work. With regard to corruption in law enforcement, special attention should be paid to the potential inherent in covert devices.
9. The research - also by presenting practical examples - proved that if the legal limits of reliability tests do not change - which would be worrisome from a legal security point of view - then they will still not be suitable for taking action against organised criminals, since these persons use their long-term relationship system to carry out delicts. I presented the currently existing difficulties and problems of using the reliability test as a type of forensic tool.
10. Based on the results of the investigation, I explained that without leaving the current organisational system and the distribution of powers unchanged, and without creating a joint strategy for the organisations, the success of the action against corruption in law

enforcement cannot increase. Through existing difficulties, I demonstrated that in order to further increase efficiency and effectiveness, it is necessary to regularly review, if necessary, modify and develop the structure, tasks and powers of the organisations empowered to act against corruption in law enforcement, as well as to create a common strategy.

11. During the research, I mentioned that the application of AI can also be an effective help in the fight against corruption in law enforcement, but only if it is accompanied by appropriate human decisions that take into account legal and ethical aspects.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PRACTICAL USABILITY OF RESEARCH RESULTS**

Pursuant to the current regulations, the Law Enforcement Agency (NVSZ) carries out investigative activities together with the prosecutor's office. This requires both organisations to be particularly flexible in practice, since the prosecutor cannot be present at all stages of the investigation due to his basic duty, the organisation of a possible caught in the act may encounter serious difficulties due to the performance of various basic tasks. The primary investigative actions can be crucial, however, the fact that members of two separate organisations are acting on the same case, possibly having different ideas about the tactics to be followed, can make it difficult to carry out the primary investigative actions effectively. For this reason, it should be examined whether the merger of the two organisations or the granting of investigative powers to the Law Enforcement Agency (NVSZ) would improve effectiveness. In the latter case, the prosecutor would already receive a completed, investigated case, i.e. a similar division of labour would develop as in the police department between the crime departments and the investigation departments. Due to the different cultures of the two organisations, this version could be easier to implement. It is likely that it would result in more cost-effective, successful, and faster investigations, with the additional consequence that prosecution would also take place in a shorter time compared to the currently protracted procedures.

It is also recommended to consider the possibility of holding the organisers of corruption acts accountable. Detecting a law enforcement officer who accepts an advantage is obviously simpler to implement than organisers who are distant from the specific act of corruption and who help its realisation (e.g. appropriate service organisation, help in hiding money). In most

of the investigated cases, law enforcement officers at the bottom of the organisational hierarchy are involved in large numbers while the organisers come out of the cases unscathed and continue to "serve" in the law enforcement agency. These criminal procedures significantly tie up the capacities of the prosecution, however, the detection of the organisers has a much greater preventive effect, which is already taking place more and more often. The Law Enforcement Agency (NVSZ) acts actively and efficiently in relation to acts of corruption in law enforcement, as a result of which numerous criminal proceedings have been initiated in recent years. However, the prosecutor's office is not always able to track this active investigative activity in a timely manner, many procedures are prolonged, which leads to a decrease in the value of evidence, to the passing of lighter sentences, and to the failure of the prevention goal. Different organisations could be more effective if they could somehow coordinate their work. The solution to this could be the creation of a common strategy, in which the priorities could be defined in detail, and thus the use of forces could be optimised.

Crimes of corruption in law enforcement need to be subject to rules different from the general ones. These special rules are in fact the rules of military criminal law, which, however, do not only apply to "soldiers" defined according to criminal procedure law, and they are not only applicable in the case of criminal offences belonging to the military procedure because of the connexity of subject and object. The special rules of the military criminal procedure help in maintaining order and discipline, which is the essence of law enforcement organisations. In case of a military crime committed by the professional personnel of law enforcement agencies during their actual service, as well as in the case of other crimes committed at the place of duty or in connection with the service, military criminal proceedings shall be instituted. However, it should be noted that, based on the current legislation, the professional staff members of the NAV (NTCA) are not classified as soldiers, and they do not fall under the scope of military criminal proceedings, the advantages and disadvantages of which should be investigated.

The role of forensics in uncovering the past in crimes of corruption in law enforcement is particularly important because, in the case of these delicts, there is usually very little information and data available at the initial stage of the procedure. The perpetrators and the methods of committing crimes are constantly evolving. In order to keep up with this, it is essential, but not sufficient, to apply the achievements of science. Within forensics, the primacy of criminal technology prevails, but at the same time, the appropriate use of criminal tactics is also essential for effective detection. It is only worth using such new tools and methods that can effectively fulfil their purpose, i.e. to facilitate the detection and proof of corruption.

By examining the criminal tactics of non traceable corruption crimes, we can conclude that the on-site inspection usually plays a minor role. Interrogations of suspects also promise few results due to the sameness of interests of the perpetrators. On the other hand, if a witness is available, the testimony can be used with great efficiency. Confrontation and presentation for recognition may also bring results. In the case of these criminal offences, the most important coercive measures are body search, inspection, confiscation as a coercive measure concerning property, and custody and arrest as a coercive measure concerning a person. Of course, it is not enough to choose the appropriate coercive measures, their appropriate timing is also essential.

Criminal technology is undergoing dynamic development, offering more and more opportunities for law enforcement agencies. A thorough inventory of these and all their uses are essential for successful detection, as it can provide decisive, hard evidence for the detection and prosecution of perpetrators. Regarding corruption crimes, dactyloscopy, DNA testing, instrumental credibility examination of the testimony, speaker identification, traps, camera recordings, and the use of service dogs are of particular importance among the criminal technology tools. As a result of the rapid development of the natural sciences, new forensic technology tools have become available, such as "brain-reading" techniques or the extension of DNA identification to facial recognition.

It can be concluded that detecting and proving corruption crimes using open means is quite difficult, and promises little results, therefore the use of covert tools is essential for effective law enforcement. It can be stated that the regular and professional use of covert devices in several cases enabled the detection of a large number of criminals. At the same time, one should also be aware that this tool is basically effective at a post, and also have to think about the fact that the installation often requires thorough organisational work, often a legend.

Appropriate, detailed regulation of operational activity is required, but it is not nearly enough for effective and efficient action against corruption in law enforcement. The use of covert tools, compared to other investigative actions, requires greater attention and special expertise from the practical specialists who use them. In relation to crimes of corruption in law enforcement, of the covert tools – based on practical experience – the use of video and audio recording devices, undercover detectives, covert surveillance, and secret research can be used most effectively. In recent times, wiretapping rarely yields relevant data for these crimes, so human positions have again become of prime importance in the detection phase. The appreciation of secret techniques will continue in the future as well, and a further expansion of application can

be expected, along with the introduction and application of new methods. The search for digital data provides a basis for this, since digital technical knowledge and tool base is constantly developing. It is true for the perpetrators of both corruption and other crimes that they take advantage of the development of technology, and regularly apply its inherent possibilities. The development of information technology typical of recent times represents a significant difficulty and challenge for organisations and persons using covert tools. This development is so rapid and widespread (just think of the number of chat applications that facilitate communication) that it is almost impossible to follow. The methods available to the authorities are moving further and further away from the applications that are becoming known every day and are available to many. It would be of utmost importance that serious progress be made in this area, which would mean a significant expense, but if the authority does not want to fall behind irretrievably, then steps must be taken. In practice, the intelligence agencies can do nothing until then, but expand the already mentioned human intelligence positions, despite the fact that the opportunities given by the criminal procedure are especially not conducive to a long-term, conspiratorial relationship.

The *raison d'être* of the integrity test is unquestionable, however, it can be applied with different effectiveness in particular areas of law enforcement and with different types of corrupt behaviours. In addition to screening out corrupt officials and law enforcement officers, the legal institution also plays a very important preventive role. The employees of the law enforcement agencies are aware of the rules and methods of the integrity test and thus the dangers of "getting caught". At the same time, this complicates the task of the persons conducting the integrity test. It must be taken into account that those under investigation will have suspicions much more easily, and it becomes more and more difficult to filter out those who demonstrate corrupt behaviour - through an integrity test. It can be clearly established that in order to plan and carry out a successful integrity test, knowledge of the work processes, tasks, and corruption risks related to the given branch of service and position is essential. In addition, it must always be borne in mind that the desired goal of holding corrupt policemen accountable can only be achieved by fully complying with the provisions of the legislation. In order to achieve the result, it is necessary to consider what kind of risks the negotiation officers are allowed to take, and whether it is permissible to create dangerous situations affecting citizens. Although the regulations connected to the legal institution give serious authority to the negotiation officer, directly inciting the person under investigation to commit an active crime is impermissible.

Based on the analysis of practical experience and court rulings, overall, it can be concluded that the legal institution of the integrity test fulfils its role in terms of preventing corruption in law enforcement and detecting those perpetrators who commit small-scale corruption acts. However, it cannot fundamentally become a truly effective tool against those who carry out organised acts of corruption, considering that the maximum available time frame of 30 days does not provide enough occasions to establish a relationship of trust with this kind of offenders, moreover, the possibility of offering the money once also narrows the possibility of effective application. Changing these rules however can raise human rights issues.

The regulation of integrity tests differs from country to country, however, the question of the use and permissibility of provocation is raised everywhere. In our country, the legal institution is used in such a way that it does not even reach the level of incitement, and the decision-making freedom of the individual under investigation is complete. Several factors explain the differences between the rules created in the countries. Among them, we can mention the extent of corruption among law enforcement agencies in the given country. With this in mind are determined the scope of those against whom the integrity tests can be applied, as well as the authority of the bodies conducting the tests and supervising them, the methods allowed during the test and the usability of the results of the tests.

Based on the research, it can be concluded that the large number of cases closed without contact is a serious problem. This may be due to inadequate planning, incorrect execution, or the inactivity of the person under investigation. Uncovering and analysing the real reasons is also important because it is in this way that appropriate steps can be taken in order for the prepared tests to end with contact, so that the work of several people, i.e. the invested strength and energy, is not wasted.

During the research, I established that the low corruption perception index, the small number of reported corruption cases, the developed economy, and the higher standard of living do not mean that the number of these kinds of acts actually taking place in the given country is small. In order to reduce the number of cases committed without consequences, thorough investigative work is required. This basically assumes an independent organisation and active pursuit. In a country where the level of corruption is low, rather integrity-based tools are used, and less energy is invested in the use of repressive tools, the use of covert tools, and reconnaissance. However, repressive and integrity-based tools can only be effective everywhere if they are used in tandem.



It is also necessary to consider whether the lower level of corruption is a sufficient basis for law enforcement officers to legally accept a gift of lesser value, i.e. there is no zero tolerance for corruption. It should be understood that such a measure makes the work of intelligence agencies more difficult, and the introduction of integrity tests practically meaningless. A police officer with discretionary power, after accepting a gift, due to that may possibly decide to impose a lighter sanction on the person in question. In any case, it is difficult to imagine that after accepting a gift, anyone could be independent from it. In my opinion, the best decision to take effective action against corruption is to apply zero tolerance.

An important result of the survey carried out as part of the research is that the majority of the respondents are proud of their profession, committed to the organisation, and feel that criminal sanctions and firm moral standards are a sufficient deterrent. This means that every single case investigated in addition to asserting the state's criminal law claim, also serves a very serious preventive purpose. In order to increase the effectiveness of detection, it is naturally essential to fully apply and develop forensic tools. The results of the questionnaire research also confirmed that both repressive and integrity-based tools are needed to curb corruption.

According to what was stated in the interviews, the corruption risk of law enforcement personnel depends on how often they get into a decision-making situation, how often they encounter citizens, and the weight and legal consequences of their decisions. In addition, it was highlighted that the social perception of the phenomenon of corruption and the organisational culture also have a significant impact. The interviewees think that repressive tools are more effective, and they specifically highlighted the role of using covert tools. However, it was indicated as a problem that these tools cannot be used at foreign duty stations (at a border crossing located on the territory of another country /Csanádpalota motorway border crossing point/), in which a change would be necessary. It is consistent with the experiences of the questionnaire survey that the personnel protection control is not considered adequate. The answers highlight the fact that the covert tools used for detection, the contact system built by the Law Enforcement Agency (NVSZ), generate such a large amount of criminally relevant information, for which the prosecutor's office does not have the proper capacity to process. In addition to the widespread use of repressive tools, however, the interviewees also consider it essential to strengthen the integrity of the personnel.

In recent years, it has happened on several occasions that criminal proceedings were initiated against multiple persons from the personnel of certain law enforcement agencies, including sub-

department and department heads, for accepting bribes. The common feature of the cases was that the number of suspects was very significant, and according to the suspicion, the vast majority of the relevant subdivisions' and departments' personnel took a role in committing the crimes. These cases raise the need for an in-depth analysis of the given cases, the factors that facilitate them, possibly faulty work methods, inadequate control mechanisms, and the particularities of the relevant service locations and activities. For this, it is not enough to conduct criminal proceedings or internal professional investigations. Given that these cases not only resulted in a significant security risk, but also caused significant damage to the police agencies involved, I consider it necessary to use the results and methods of science in order to prevent them. A good solution for this would be if a working group led by the Faculty of Law Enforcement of the National University of Public Service were to be set up.

The effective prevention and detection of corruption in law enforcement also requires the use of technological achievements. Accordingly, the lack of exploitation of the opportunities provided by AI is almost unacceptable in our time.

## THE AUTHOR'S TOPIC-RELATED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

1. Az államhatár rendjének védelme, kontra kulturált, gyors határforgalom-ellenőrzés. (Protecting the order of the state border, versus cultured, fast border traffic control.) *Katonai Jogi és Hadijogi Szemle* 10. (1) 127-151. o. (2019)  
[http://real-j.mtak.hu/21730/1/Katonai\\_jogi\\_szemle\\_2019\\_7\\_1\\_.pdf](http://real-j.mtak.hu/21730/1/Katonai_jogi_szemle_2019_7_1_.pdf)
2. The appearance of petty and high-ranking corruption at law enforcement organs of Hungary. In: Barabás A. Tünde (szerk.): *Distinguishing criteria between petty and high-ranking corruption: Countries' case studies*. Budapest, Magyarország, Országos Kriminológiai Intézet 279-295. o. (2021)  
[https://critcor.okri.hu/images/case\\_studies\\_2021/Case\\_Study.pdf](https://critcor.okri.hu/images/case_studies_2021/Case_Study.pdf)
3. Prevention, fight against crime or provocation? The international regulation of integrity tests. In: Mrvi Petrovi Nataša - Topi Tanja - Grbi Pavlovi Nikolina (szerk.): *„Usaglašavanje pravne regulative sa pravnim tekovinama evropske Unije” stanje u Bosni i Hercegovini i iskustva drugih*, Banja Luka, Bosznia-Hercegovina: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung 76-88.o. (2021)
4. A rendészeti korrupció kutatása. (Research on corruption in law enforcement.) In: Harmati, Barbara; Kovács, Szitkay Eszter; Pap, András László; Papp, Bendegúz (szerk.) *Honestas, Humanitas, Humilitas* Budapest, Magyarország: L'Harmattan Kiadó 190-200. o. (2021)  
[http://real.mtak.hu/135138/1/Honestas\\_beliv\\_press.pdf](http://real.mtak.hu/135138/1/Honestas_beliv_press.pdf)
5. Jó úton járunk? Avagy a korrupció megelőzésére alkalmazott eszközök hatékonyságának vizsgálata a határrendész állomány visszajelzése tükrében. (Are we on the right track? The examination of the effectiveness of the tools used to prevent corruption in the light of the feedback from the border police personnel.) *Határrendészeti Tanulmányok* 2021/3 157-174. o. (2021)  
[https://rtk.uni-nke.hu/document/rtk-uni-nke-hu/HatrendTan\\_2021\\_3\\_szam.pdf](https://rtk.uni-nke.hu/document/rtk-uni-nke-hu/HatrendTan_2021_3_szam.pdf)

6. The corruption risks of police tasks related to state border in connection with the handling of world pandemic COVID-19. *Belügyi Szemle* (2010-) 69. (1) Special Issue 109-122. o. (2021)  
<https://ojs.mtak.hu/index.php/belugyiszemle/article/view/5946/4643>
7. A rendőri korrupció megelőzésében és felderítésében hatáskörrel rendelkező szervezetek tevékenysége. (Activities of organizations empowered to prevent and detect police corruption.) In: Baráth Noémi, Mezei József (szerk.): *Rendészet-Tudomány-Aktualitások: A rendészettudomány a fiatal kutatók szemével*. Budapest, Magyarország, Doktoranduszok Országos Szövetsége (DOSZ) 257-267. o. (2020)  
[https://www.dosz.hu/doc/to\\_dok/120/1611930781.pdf](https://www.dosz.hu/doc/to_dok/120/1611930781.pdf)
8. Titkos eszközök alkalmazása a rendőri korrupciós bűncselekmények nyomozásában. (Use of secret tools in the investigation of police corruption offenses.) *Belügyi Szemle* (2010-) 68. (12) 85-103. o. (2020)  
<http://real.mtak.hu/118381/1/VeprikBelugyiSzemle2020.evi12.szam85-103.pdf>
9. Az államhatárhoz kapcsolódó rendőri feladatok korrupciós kockázatai a járványügyi veszélyhelyzet tükrében. (Corruption risks of police duties related to the state border in the light of the epidemiological emergency.) In: Gaál Gyula - Hautzinger Zoltán (szerk.): *A hadtudománytól a rendészettudományig – Társadalmi kihívások a nemzeti összetartozás évében*. Pécs, Magyarország: Magyar Hadtudományi Társaság Határőr Szakosztály Pécsi Szakcsoport 185-192. o. (2020)  
<http://www.pecshor.hu/periodika/XXII/veprik.pdf>
10. A megbízhatósági vizsgálatok a bírósági ítéletek tükrében. (Integrity tests in the light of court judgments.) *Belügyi Szemle* (2010-) 68. (7) 47-62. o. (2020)  
<http://real.mtak.hu/112742/1/VeprikBelugyiSzemle2020.evi7.szam47-62..pdf>
11. Prevenció, bűnüldözés vagy provokáció? Nemzetközi kitekintés a megbízhatósági vizsgálatok szabályozása tekintetében. (Prevention, law enforcement or provocation? An international perspective on the regulation of integrity tests.) In: Gaál, Gyula; Hautzinger, Zoltán (szerk.) *A bűnüldözés és a bűnmegelőzés rendészettudományi tényezői* Pécs, Magyarország, Magyar Hadtudományi Társaság Határőr Szakosztály Pécsi Szakcsoport 91-99. o. (2019)  
<http://www.pecshor.hu/periodika/XXI/veprikzita.pdf>
12. A rendészeti környezetben elkövetett korrupciós bűncselekmények felderítésének gyakorlati sajátosságai. (Practical features of detecting corruption crimes committed in police work environment.) *Belügyi Szemle* (2010-) 67. (7-8) 159-176. o. (2019)  
<http://real.mtak.hu/111594/1/VeprikZitaBelugyiSzemle2019.evi7-8.szam159-176..pdf>
13. Rendvédelmi korrupció a katonai büntetőeljáráásban. (Law enforcement corruption in military criminal proceedings.) *Katonai Jogi és Hadijogi Szemle* 7. (1) 31-52. o. (2019)  
[http://real-j.mtak.hu/21730/1/Katonai\\_jogi\\_szemle\\_2019\\_7\\_1\\_.pdf](http://real-j.mtak.hu/21730/1/Katonai_jogi_szemle_2019_7_1_.pdf)
14. A határátkelőhelyen jelentkező rendőri feladatok korrupciós kockázatainak elemzése, valamint a korrupciós bűncselekmény gyanúja esetén követendő protokoll. (Analysis of the corruption risks of police duties at the border crossing, and the protocol to be followed in case of suspicion of a corruption offence.) Budapest, Magyarország, Nemzeti Közszolgálati Egyetem, Államtudományi és Közigazgatási Kar, 61 o. (2019)  
[https://nkerepo.uni-nke.hu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/123456789/12687/Hataratkelo\\_rendori\\_feladatok\\_190523\\_E-konyv.pdf;jsessionid=6EB81C68F114B71BFDDBE3328C4F042B3?sequence=1](https://nkerepo.uni-nke.hu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/123456789/12687/Hataratkelo_rendori_feladatok_190523_E-konyv.pdf;jsessionid=6EB81C68F114B71BFDDBE3328C4F042B3?sequence=1)
15. A megbízhatósági vizsgálatok a rendőri korrupció elleni küzdelemben. (Integrity tests in the fight against police corruption.) In: Baráth, Noémi Emőke; Mezei, József (szerk.) *Rendészet-Tudomány-Aktualitások: A rendészettudomány a fiatal kutatók szemével*

- Budapest, Magyarország: Doktoranduszok Országos Szövetsége, Rendészettudományi Osztály 280-288. o. (2019)  
<https://docplayer.hu/179352203-Rendeszet-tudomany-aktualitasok-a-rendeszettudomany-a-fiatal-kutatok-szemevel-szerkesztette-barath-noemi-emoke-mezei-jozsef.html>
16. A határrendészeti korrupció hatása a terrorizmus elleni küzdelemre. (The impact of border police corruption on the fight against terrorism.) Határrendészeti Tanulmányok 16. (1) 59-69. o. (2019)  
[https://rtk.uni-nke.hu/document/rtk-uni-nke-hu/Hatrend%20Tan%202019\\_1%20sz%C3%A1m.pdf](https://rtk.uni-nke.hu/document/rtk-uni-nke-hu/Hatrend%20Tan%202019_1%20sz%C3%A1m.pdf)
  17. Az e-útdíj ellenőrzési feladatok korrupciós kockázatainak elemzése. (Analysis of the corruption risks of e-toll control tasks.) Budapest, Magyarország, Nemzeti Közszolgálati Egyetem, Államtudományi és Közigazgatási Kar, 30 o. (2019)  
[https://nkerepo.uni-nke.hu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/123456789/12686/E-utdij\\_190523\\_E-konyv.pdf?sequence=1](https://nkerepo.uni-nke.hu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/123456789/12686/E-utdij_190523_E-konyv.pdf?sequence=1)
  18. Szervezeti integritás a biztonság szolgálatában, avagy integritásalapú eszközökkel a rendészeti korrupció ellen. (Organisational integrity in the service of security, or integrity-based tools against corruption in law enforcement.) In.: Bencsik Balázs – Sabjanics István (szerk.) A biztonság sokszínű arca: Innováció - tudomány - információbiztonság - közszolgálat Budapest, Magyarország: Nordex Nonprofit Kft. – Dialóg Campus Kiadó 159-168. o. (2019)  
[http://publicatio.bibl.u-szeged.hu/18609/7/31147822\\_c%C3%ADmlap\\_tartj.pdf](http://publicatio.bibl.u-szeged.hu/18609/7/31147822_c%C3%ADmlap_tartj.pdf)
  19. A korrupciós bűncselekmények krimináltaktikája. (Criminal tactics of corruption offences.) In.: Gaál, Gyula; Hautzinger, Zoltán (szerk.) A XXI. század biztonsági kihívásai Pécs, Magyarország: Magyar Hadtudományi Társaság Határőr Szakosztály Pécsi Szakcsoport 183-190. o. (2018)  
<http://www.pecshor.hu/periodika/XX/veprik.pdf>
  20. A rendőri korrupció elleni fellépés a Csongrád Megyei Rendőr-főkapitányságon. (Action against police corruption at the Csongrád County Police Headquarters.) Belügyi Szemle (2010-) 66. (1) 53-69. o. (2018)  
<https://doi.org/10.38146/BSZ.2018.1.3>
  21. A rendészeti korrupció. (Corruption in law enforcement.) In: Gaál, Gyula; Hautzinger, Zoltán (szerk.) Szent Lászlótól a modernkori magyar rendészettudományig Pécs, Magyarország : Magyar Hadtudományi Társaság Határőr Szakosztály Pécsi Szakcsoport 53-61. o. (2017)  
<http://www.pecshor.hu/periodika/XIX/veprik.pdf>

## THE DOCTORAL CANDIDATE'S PROFESSIONAL-SCIENTIFIC BIOGRAPHY

Veprik Zita Judit PhD. was born on the 5th of April, 1977, in Szeged. She went to primary- and grammar school here. After obtaining her GCSEs she completed her higher education studies as a qualified economist at the University of Szeged, Department of Economics. After this she started her service at the Csongrád County Police Headquarters in 2001, first as an ensign, later, after obtaining law enforcement organiser qualification, as a professional officer. In 2008 she obtained her legal qualification at the University of Szeged, Faculty of Law, then passed the State examination in law in 2013. From 2008 she fulfilled duties as a Head of Service, first

mandated, then appointed. She completed the State examination in law enforcement in 2014, which was followed by a qualification as head of law enforcement. She has been Head of Human Resources at the Csongrád-Csanád County Police Headquarters since the 1st of July, 2018.

As Head of Service, her accentuated task was the fight against police corruption, within whose framework she co-operated with the Southern Regional Headquarters of the Law Enforcement Agency (NVSZ) and with the Regional Prosecution Service of Szeged. She has held lectures at professional workshops on the fight against corruption several times. Through controlling discipline as Head of Human Resources, the fight against corruption in law enforcement has remained a part of her job.

She has taken part in German-Hungarian exchange programmes twice: once at the Motorway Police of Bad Hersfeld, another time at the Criminal Police Office of Hessen.

She has carried out two sub-researches in the “Capacity development to detect and prevent a greater amount of corruption crimes” research. She was called upon the National Institute of Criminology to take part in the professional programme titled “*Corruption risks, risky corruption? Identifying aspects of petty and great-volume corruption*” (CRICTOR project), whose aim was to collect and circulate knowledge connected to corruption. By appointment of the Belügyi Szemle (Review of Home Affairs) and Ordinem Facere she has completed numerous tasks as proofreader. She has had lectures and reviewed final theses at both the National University of Public Service and the University of Szeged. Besides, she has presented the results of her research at conferences many times, once in English language.

She has Advanced, C1 complex language exams in English and German languages.

She has been recognised several times during her twenty years of police service. Több mint, húszéves rendőri pályafutása során többször részesült elismerésben. She was awarded The Military Division Hungarian State Golden Cross on the 20th of August, 2019, by the Head of the State. She has been promoted twice and has been Police Administrator since the 23rd of October, 2020.