



Sentencing Forum: Talking to Sentencers

15 April from 15.00 - 17.00 CET

Talking to Sentencers explores interviews and focus groups as ways of studying sentencing through the accounts of judges and prosecutors. The session combines the two approaches to better understand how and what we gain by approaching sentencers. We will focus on the practical and analytical issues that shape this kind of research: gaining access, managing power dynamics and role expectations, what people say versus what they do, and what judicial and prosecutorial narratives can legitimately tell us about sentencing. The format is discussion-forward, with space for participants to share experiences, strategies, and doubts, and to reflect on what we can learn and where the limits of these methods lie.

The presentations will be followed by an extended discussion, with space for attendees to share their experiences and ideas on the topic.

Session will be delivered on Zoom.

Link to register for mailing list: [REGISTER HERE](#)

Nicole Bögelein is a senior researcher at the Institute of Criminology at the University of Cologne, Germany. Nicole is a sociologist and conducts research on fines, imprisonment for non-payment of fines, sentencing and institutional racism. She is co-editor of the open access journal "Kriminologie – Das Online-Journal | Criminology – The Online Journal".

Mojca Plesničar is a researcher at the Institute of Criminology in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and an associate professor of criminology at the University of Ljubljana. Her research focuses on sentencing, penal policy, and how criminal justice decisions are made in practice, including comparative and socio-legal perspectives, using a methodologically pluralist approach with a soft spot for qualitative methods.

The Sentencing Forum is a recurring online meeting space that keeps conversations on sentencing and criminal justice decision-making going between conferences and workshops. It offers short, focused sessions around a single theme, with plenty of room for exchange across jurisdictions and disciplines. Hosted by Mojca and Jakub's ERC projects:

- **Sentencing architecture: Building a decision-making matrix, SENTRIX (Grant ID 101166131), ERC starting grant, Horizon Europe**
- **Re-Constructing Sentencing: A Multidimensional Study of Judicial Discretion in Continental Europe, RE-CON-SENT (Grant ID 101219946), ERC starting grant, Horizon Europe**