



**CRS**  
2017

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International Correctional  
Research Symposium

# Enhancing Comparability and Understanding

/Participant Information

Ghent, Belgium  
27-29 March 2017



**#CorrectionalResearch**



**[www.icpa.ca/crs2017](http://www.icpa.ca/crs2017)**

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Organised by:



Federal Public Service  
**Justice**

## About the Event

This conference will focus on each stage of harnessing data at local, national and international levels, to look at current research undertaken within correctional services and by external agencies, and through discussion to share our experiences and seek ways to enhance these processes. We hope this will be the first in a series of such gatherings that will seek to enhance the way we conduct research and to open routes for future collaborations, knowledge exchange and learning.

## Aims

This conference aims to focus on each stage of harnessing data at local, national and international levels, to look at current research undertaken within correctional services and by external agencies, and through discussion to share our experiences and seek ways to enhance these processes.

By organising this event we hope to:

- Strengthen the global research network
- Raise awareness of operational and applied research projects
- Consider ways to encourage greater cross-jurisdictional comparative research, especially in terms of measuring performance and/or correctional outcomes
- Begin identifying some potential solutions which can promote the development of shared data definitions and statistical comparisons cross-jurisdictionally. This will be a particular focus of this first Symposium.

The research specialists among our various jurisdictions and departments comprise a large and a largely fragmented community. Their task is a difficult one, and with often limited opportunity or scope to share their knowledge and practices with others or indeed to learn from the work going on in other areas.

## Who should attend

This event has the purpose of inviting researchers with a broad interest in criminal justice and corrections issues, especially as it pertains to the measurement of performance, quality of services and outcomes in the delivery of correctional services, as well as research managers from correctional agencies worldwide, including both prisons and community services. We also invite those working in data analysis technologies to attend and share your experiences with regards to industry recognised methods, tools and approaches for data collection and analysis.

- Criminal Justice Researchers from Academic Institutions or Research Bodies
- Research Managers/Coordinators from Public Sector Prison and Correctional Services
- NGO/Non-Profit Representatives
- Data Analysis and Software Specialists (Public and Private Sector Representatives)

## Area of Focus

By attending this conference you will be able to participate in sessions which address:

- How to extract useful information on your prisoner population
- How to plan and structure research activities
- Methods for collecting data and improving collection processes
- Dealing with conflicting definitions at local, national and international levels
- Enhancing understanding through better reporting
- Transparency vs. risk: responsible sharing of information
- How to collectively identify key indicators for international comparison and benchmarking

## Want to Present Your Work?

Participants who are interested in presenting their initiatives during this conference are welcome to submit a proposal to our Programme Committee for review. Papers are particularly welcomed from the following areas:

- Operational and Applied Research in Prison Services
- Operational and Applied Research in Probation and Community Corrections
- Interjurisdictional Research (Public Sector, Academic, NGO, etc.)
- Practices in data collection, analysis and reporting
- Local, National and International Research Initiatives (Public Sector, Academic, NGO, etc.)

## Registration

Registration fees are set at the special rate of **195 EUR** for delegates from Public Sector, Government, NGO/Non-Profit and Academic institutions (**375 EUR** for all other participants). For more information and to register for this unique event please visit [www.icpa.ca/crs2017](http://www.icpa.ca/crs2017)

## Sponsorship and Exhibition

Opportunities exist to be a part of this exciting event. We are open to expressions of interest from vendors specialising in research and analytical technologies, machine learning, big data, statistical software, infographics, business intelligence and offender management systems. Contact us now to secure your space!

## About the City

Belgium's fourth-largest and most beautiful city is home to a quarter of a million people and a flourishing flower export trade. An important port, Ghent's city center is a pedestrian area that is like a museum to early Flemish architecture and a testament to the city's medieval might. It has Impressive Gothic sites, such as dramatic St. Bavo's Cathedral and the Castle of the Counts. The works of Flemish masters are housed in the distinguished Museum voor Schone Kunst.



## The Venue



Het Pand is one of the most prized locations the University of Ghent has to offer. The location is in the very middle of the historical center of Ghent. The building used to be a Dominican Monastery, and is now housing several museum collections, exhibition rooms kept in the original state.

## Transport to the Venue

### From the Brussels International Airport

There is a train that goes from the Brussels International Airport to Ghent St-Pieters Station. It departs every 60 min. The duration is approximately 90 minutes.

### By public transport

From station Gent St-Pieters:  
tram 1 (every 6 minutes) or tram 24 (every 20 minutes). Exit at Korenmarkt.

From Gent Zuid:  
tram 4 (every 6 minutes), tram 24 (every 20 minutes) or bus 17 (every 30 minutes). Exit at Korenmarkt.

### By car

Follow the parking signage to parking P7 Sint-Michiels. The parking is located at 50 meter from Het Pand. Take the exit Onderbergen and you come out in the Wilderoosstraat, opposite Het Pand.

**For more information and to register please visit [www.icpa.ca/crs2017](http://www.icpa.ca/crs2017)**