



## **Juvenile Delinquency and the Threat to National Security: Possible Causes and Remedies**

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### **Abstract**

The paper presents the juvenile delinquency from the perspective of societal security and is founded on the premise that national security (state's security) does not necessarily mean the society's security. We cannot sign equivalence between national security (seen as political security) and societal security, as societal security concerns security "outside" the state or "beside" the state. Societal security is influenced by different sub-systems that may induce risks, threats, challenges and vulnerabilities. One of these sub-systems is the educational subsystem, which nowadays is increasingly threatened by juvenile delinquency among other factors. The factors contributing to delinquency display a large variety of causes and include social exclusion, migration, racism, gender inequality, violence (societal and domestic), and breakdown of the family, lack of positive role models and the influence of media. All these factors need to be addressed when we approach juvenile crime and when searching for solutions against it. The paper catches few aspects and statistics on youth crime (including pre-delinquency) and outlines the factors that produce it. It also emphasizes potential solutions to reduce youth crime and presents in this context a case study: MAJMIN project – Major competences to manage minor offenders. MAJMIN is a Leonardo da Vinci (Development of Innovation) project developed in the framework of the Lifelong Learning Programme and financially supported by the European Commission. The goal of the project is to increase the specific professional training provisions that will enforce the involvement of different parts involved in the management of juvenile crime, for a better response to the needs for social inclusion of minor offenders.