

CRIME & JUSTICE

Jenny Schell & Linda Geven: The European Registry of Exonerations (EUREX)

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In this episode of Orion Talks, our podcast host, Suat Cubukcu, is joined by Dr. Jenny Schell and Dr. Linda Geven. With their multinational research team, including Dr. Teresa Schneider (who could not join the conversation), they have been documenting wrongful convictions and exoneration cases across Europe. Drs. Schell and Geven delve into their methodology, explaining how they conceptualize and operationalize wrongful convictions, gather data, and ensure the accuracy and reliability of the EUREX database amidst various challenges. The conversation extends to preliminary data analysis, highlighting common factors contributing to wrongful convictions. They also share compelling stories from exonerees in their database and compare their findings with similar studies in North America, noting similarities and differences. Finally, they discuss suggested reforms and practices to mitigate wrongful convictions.

Dr. Linda Geven is an assistant professor of Criminology at the Faculty of Law at Leiden University in the Netherlands. Her research area covers false confessions, judicial decision-making, and wrongful convictions. Linda serves as an expert witness under supervision for Dutch courts and is part of the Landelijke Expertisegroep Bijzondere Zedenzaken (LEBZ), a multidisciplinary group of experts in sexual offense cases in the Netherlands.

Dr. Jenny Schell-Leugers is an associate professor of Legal Psychology at University College Maastricht in the Netherlands. Her research focuses on false confessions and their impact on

wrongful convictions. She is particularly interested in examining risk factors for innocent suspects in police custody and the gap between science and practice in the field of legal psychology. Since 2023, she holds the position of research director at UCM.

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