DEADLY ATTACK: DUBONA AND MALO ORASJE: ABSENCE OF THE PROTECTOR

Abstract: The paper will investigate the aspects of the deadly attack on the citizens of the suburban settlement of Dubona in the city municipality of Mladenovac — the city of Belgrade, and the settlement of Malo Orašje — the city of Smederevo, from May 4th, 2023, which resulted in the loss of life and the injury of several people. The aim of the research is to come to the following conclusion, is it a legal right of a citizen to expect his life to be protected? Was the deadly attack predictable? On what principles are the powers of the authority based, which, according to them, is obliged to provide protection to the citizen — his bodily integrity and any other integrity? Did the body authorized to protect citizens from the deadly attack that was carried out on May 4th, 2023 act in accordance with its obligations in the case of the crime in the suburban settlement of Dubona of the city municipality of Mladenovac - the city of Belgrade, and Malo Orašje, a populated place - the city of Smederevo? Who is responsible for the deadly attack? Based on the research, it is established that: for the deadly attack on May 4th, 2024 in the suburban settlement of Dubona in the municipality of Mladenovac - the city of Belgrade, and Malo Orašje, a settlement in the city of Smederevo, the citizens of the Republic of Serbia who decide to entrust and transfer their powers to authority—the government that exercises the powers delegated to it on their behalf; the government of the Republic of Serbia — its Ministry of Internal Affairs — its Police Directorate and its organizational units are responsible: the Police Administration for the city of Belgrade and the city of Smederevo; managers in those organizational units who are obliged by law to provide protection to citizens for the peaceful enjoyment of their rights; the deadly attack was predictable; authorities could have prepared for proactive action and prevented the deadly attack.

Keywords: Deadly Attack, Dubona, Malo Orašje, Absence of the Protector
1. INTRODUCTION

Deadly attacks resulting in the mass murder of several people are not a matter of nature, but of man [1, p. 313]. From the above mentioned, it can be concluded that the deadly attack with a mass murder of a person in a school or in a village is a creation created in society [2, p. 32]. When we say that a deadly attack is a creation that arose in society, as the work of an individual or a group on the one hand as the perpetrator, we have in mind that on the other hand, it was caused by someone's carelessness, negligent work, omission or intention [3, p. 625]. Therefore, with the mentioned actions, it is possible to create the conditions for a person as an individual or a group, either deliberately or recklessly (through negligence) to create (carry out) a deadly attack [4, Ibidem]. Taking this approach in determining the subject of research, we can notice that it can already be recognized from what has been presented. Following the stated methodological approach, we draw the conclusion that in order to “create” a deadly attack, it is necessary for a person ready to carry it out to intervene, and an authority (individual—competent officer... head of the Police Department, minister, etc.) who has the authority and duty prescribed by law to prevent the creation of the conditions for a deadly attack to occur, acts in a way that does not interfere with the creation of the conditions for the execution [5, p. 34]. Furthermore, each deadly attack has its own history, each can change, each is either known in the preparation phase before execution [6, p. 29]. It is not rare to hear that every action taken by an authority responsible for preventing this type of crime has its own justifications for why the attack occurred and was not prevented. We believe that justifications are not a „building block“ for defence against failure to exercise authority [7, p. 310]. Powers to the police are given to be the main (not secondary) building block to be enforced in order to ensure that citizens have the right to peacefully enjoy their rights—such as the right to life [8, p. 153]. We prove, based on the results of the research, that the authority — the police (officials who are authorized to make decisions about the use of the police) understood the application of the law — understood that the ultimate basis of the authority given to them to exercise it is neither justification nor assumption, but an obligation which arises from the law, the deadly attack in Dubona and Malo Orašje would not have been carried out as an “imitation” of the deadly attack at the “Vladislav Ribnikar” school.

In order to explore and explain the role that law enforcement authorities have—that they derive from the authority [9] which were transferred to them by the citizens after the elections [10], with the intention of carrying them out on their behalf and thus protecting them, it is necessary to put the rights of citizens and the powers of state authorities — in this work of the police — into the appropriate context. This requires an explanation of the origin, status, obligations and purpose of the rights of citizens and the powers of state authorities — in this work of the police — into the appropriate context. This requires an explanation of the origin, status, obligations and purpose of the rights of citizens and the powers of state authorities and their purpose. The law enforcement authority, the police, should know and understand how the citizen's right affects their (individual or collective) exercise of authority (tasks). This requires additional explanations about the consequences for citizens (their lives, property, and other rights...) that occur as a result of not exercising the powers that they transferred to the authority of state authorities, in this case the police, based on their right to choose a political authority—the government [11].

The relationship between the right of citizens to choose in elections to whom they will delegate their authority to enforce laws on their behalf, for their protection, on the one hand, and the application of authority by the police—on the basis of decisions made by those to whom citizens have delegated their authority —on the other, and the consequences that occur to citizens due to the application of authority by those whom they - the citizens have chosen as their representatives (Parliament, government, etc.) - on the third hand, requires research, because this issue is particularly significant when it’s about understanding the conclusion that the citizens are directly responsible for the deadly attacks in Dubona [12] and Malo Orašje [13].
From the above mentioned, we understand that, on the one hand, there are rights of citizens to elect those representatives who they believe will apply the highest quality powers that they transfer to them as citizens—the future political power, the government, on the other hand, and that there are obligations arising from that decisions made by citizens in elections, which cannot be avoided when the consequences occur because they are directly correlated with their right to vote. It can be concluded that for the full application of the powers and protection of the rights (rights to life, property and other rights) and freedoms of the citizens, it is necessary for the citizens to understand that the authority (government) to which they have transferred their powers (e.g. to elect and appoint the Minister of Internal Affairs, and he appoints other leaders in the police...) can, by applying the powers transferred from citizens to it, produce consequences from this relationship. This means that citizens must be aware of their individual and collective ability to influence the public's general understanding of the right to choose and the consequences that arise from that relationship, because they are mutually conditioned: the right to choose entails responsibility for the consequences resulting from its application (use) of that right not only for individuals in the body, which can be: criminal, disciplinary, misdemeanour, etc., but also for all others to which citizens have transferred their powers through the application of electoral law, such as the Government, ministries [14], etc. as well as the citizens themselves.

An indispensable segment of the research is scientific, theoretical and expert views on the connection between multiple deadly attacks - mass murders [1] and would-be killers: “impersonation” after a staged attack in a new mass crime. This is necessary in order to make a finding that will show what the decision-makers in the police authority had to know in order to launch a proactive police operation to prevent a potential attack as an “imitation” after the deadly attack on May 3rd, 2023 in the Elementary School “Vladislav Ribnikar” in Belgrade, when several children - students of the same school - were killed by a student of that school. Everything presented will provide a deep enough insight into theory and empiricism in order to draw conclusions related to the subject and goal of the research in this paper.

2. POLICE POWER: THE RIGHT TO APPLY AND OBLIGATION TO APPLY

In the research, the subject includes, in addition to the citizen's right to protection (his human right...), also the authorization of the authorities—in our work, the police, which is authorized and obliged (it is prescribed by law) to apply both invisible and visible components of law enforcement (Law on Police [16], of the Criminal Procedure Code [17], and other legal acts). Through the application of the historical method, it can be stated on the basis of available scientific and other materials (literature, professional journals, etc.), that a large number of countries - most or almost all countries - managed to establish (by law) some body for the implementation of the law [18, p. 17]. As can be concluded that in countries where the rights of citizens are protected against murder attacks, the established authority is usually the police, which is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Internal Security, the Ministry of the Army, etc. [19, p. 377]. In the Republic of Serbia, the police are directly authorized and obliged by law to provide protection to citizens in the field of public life, public order, etc.

The police should be a public service that is trained in accordance with the law and that is responsible for maintaining and enforcing the law, maintaining public order and providing assistance in emergency situations [20, p. 167]. For carrying out the aforementioned tasks in the field of law [21, p.77], powers of the police are prescribed by national laws [22, p. 41]. This

1 Deadly attack and Mass murder at work are used as a criminological term. In the Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia (“Official Gazette of RS”, no. 85/2005, 88/2005 - corrected, 107/2005 - corrected, 72/2009, 111/2009, 121/2012, 104/2013, 108 /2014, 94/2016 and 35/2019), it is defined in Chapter XIII “Criminal offenses against life and body”, in Article 114 “Tough murder” paragraph 1 in point 11 it is prescribed: “whoever deliberately takes the life of several persons and it is not about murder outright, killing a child during childbirth or taking life out of compassion”.
is not enough to draw conclusions about the subject of the research and the consequences that occurred in the deadly attack on May 4, 2024 in Dubona and Malo Orašje. It is necessary for the scope of the research subject to investigate the impact of the centralization of command orders through the right of the political authority to decide on the selection of leading officers in the police, and this directly affects the quality and possibilities of applying police powers. [23, p. 241]. From the above mentioned, we find that the common denominator of responsibility in the cross-section is: (a) the right of citizens to choose a political authority—the government, which, through the transfer of authority from the citizens to it after the election—acquired the basis to choose the person who will be appointed to the position of minister internal affairs; (b) the right of the minister to draw powers from the government’s decision — to select and appoint officials who will implement orders on the use of the police; and (c) the consequences that follow from that relationship [24, p. 32].

In order to derive the necessary evidence in the work, it is necessary to investigate the practical organization and system of command and enforcement of authority in the police, which are practiced in the Republic of Serbia. As for the organization of the police, it is of a hierarchical type, with a so-called closed system. The structure is often similar to the military and the rank system. The police, as an authority for the implementation of laws that protect the rights of citizens, operate under a rigid line, without a strict separation of powers and authorities, in which most of the decision-making procedures are something that goes from the top down. [25, p. 66]. How does this organization respond to deadly attacks that threaten the lives of citizens? The ability of this type of organization to apply the powers prescribed by law in the protection of citizens, which is currently present in Serbia, to external incentives such as the preparation and implementation of actions for the execution of a deadly attack, is organized for reactive responses, always when life is threatened - a citizen is deprived of his life, injured or damaged, is with little or no possibilities for actively predicting the current and future development of the situation outside the system in the environment or criminal milieu.

Such a closed system with a significant influence of the political element, which is not clearly separated from the powers of the police, inevitably creates difficulties in establishing and maintaining an efficient function of the police in the forefront of future criminal activities. There is also a difficulty in implementing authority at lower levels in initiating and conducting police operations in the field of ante-delict, because an order from “above” is expected. On the other hand, in order for citizens’ rights, not only personal ones such as the right to life, to be efficiently and effectively protected, the key principles that would have to be established in the work of the police are: ability to react, representativeness, timeliness and responsibility, and all in connection with legal powers and obligations [26, p.24]. The strict closure of the entire police system and the reduction of decision-making to the internal framework of a small number of officials “...often only the Minister of the Interior, who is a political person, and not an authorized official...leads to the institute of ‘political surgery in the police’ and ‘waiting for opinions or orders from above” [27, p. 72].

The police have a range of rights that they can use to achieve legitimate law enforcement objectives [28, p. 35]. Among them, the most famous application of police proactive operations in the community, which has been carried out for decades around the world [29, p. 363], and at the beginning of the third millennium, is the application of this approach to the execution of police powers that started in the Republic of Serbia as well. It is important to investigate and communicate the findings about possible models of police work, in order to find the answer to this question: Why the deadly attacks on May 4, 2023, on peaceful citizens in the area of the suburban settlement of Dubona, the city municipality of Mladenovac, the city of Belgrade, and Malo Orasje, a populated place in the city of Smederevo, were not prevented?
In reality, the police in the world are organized to act prophylactically or repressively [30, p. 141]. The sphere of repressive police work would include acting reactively—waiting for a violation of a citizen’s rights or proactively—working on prevention in the forefront of criminal activities [31, p. 69]. In the first model of reactive approach in police work, citizens are seen from their right to peaceful enjoyment of their rights — helpless and lost [32, p. 218]. One of the possible models and police principles in work on security, personal and property protection of citizens is the one applied and put into practice by Robert Peel, [33, p. 423] with which he established the modern understanding of the execution of police duties, pointing out, “... that the fundamental basis of police work is ... the presence of the police...” [34, p. 369]— Robert Peel continues, “with such an approach, all the tasks of the police will be of greater benefit to the safety of citizens” [35, p. 73], but the arrest of a person after the crime has been committed” [36, p. 237]. It follows that what the police do should be in the foreground of criminal activities—the foreground of crime prevention [37, p. 114], thus the main goal of the police is crime prevention [38, p. 28].

3. IMITATION: SALIENCE: (DE) MOBILIZATION: DISENGAGEMENT: DISENGAGEMENT: DETERRENCE

In order to obtain methodologically valid and deep enough findings to understand why the deadly attack happened in Dubona and Malo Orašje, we will base hypotheses as the starting point for research in this part of the work, it is necessary to ask the following questions: Does the executed deadly attack with mass murder, attract other potential perpetrators to carry out new deadly attacks with mass murder? Does the understanding of deadly attacks require the knowledge of police officers in this area to initiate a prophylactic police operation to prevent a potential “imitation”—carrying out a new attack? Did the police timely launch a deterrence operation to prevent a “new” deadly attack in Dubona and Malo Orašje, after the deadly attack at “Vladislav Ribnikar” school? We will look for the answer using these hypotheses:

Hypothesis one: (mobilization and/or attention hypothesis): “Murder attacks—mass murders arouse a potential ‘imitator’”;

Hypothesis two: (salience hypothesis): “Murder attacks resulting in mass murder affect the number of followers of the lethal attack carried out by creating a “sub delinquent idealized friend”, who is ready to follow the same path”;

Hypothesis three: (hypothesis of demobilization): “Police proactive operation—the activity of creating a ‘defensible space’, with the ‘Comb’ model (The „police comb“ is a model of police method, after sudden events that threaten life, property and any other security of citizens, anxiety is created; then the police leaders launch this operation with the aim of reducing the space (as a geographical term) in the geographical location to prevent the possibility of a potential “Imitator”, an already executed deadly attack—mass murder, appearing in the area with weapons or tools with which he could perform another deadly attack); ‘Stationary security islands’, ‘Moving security islands with frequent time intervals of appearance’; and many other proactive models in operation of the police, shows that the presence of visible and invisible to the public police officers reduces the number of possible occurrences of ‘sub-delinquent generalized friend’—followers for a potential ‘Imitation’, executed deadly attack by mass murder”;

Hypothesis four: (hypothesis of separation/deterrence): “The effects of demobilization are particularly pronounced in police forces with credible management personnel who have knowledge in the field of criminological sciences for the allocation of resources and prophylactic police operations”.

The results of the research indicate the following:

Hypothesis one: In a deadly attack with the consequence of mass murder, scientists and experts observe the appearance of two mutually dependent effects. On the one hand, a
deadly attack resulting in mass killings can: (a) signal the way for the execution of a new attack that aims to “imitate” an already executed deadly attack with a new deadly attack, and (b) increase the reservoir of potential “sub delinquent generalized friends.” On the other hand, the attacks trigger a necessary proactive police operation in the time “K-13” (the time in which, according to scientific evidence and professional practice, new deadly attacks (as an imitation) with the consequence of mass murders are most often carried out) [39, p. 309], with the aim of: (a) deterring the intention to launch new potential deadly attacks, (b) disengaging the initiated activities of preparation for carrying out a “copycat” deadly attack, and (c) separating and demobilizing the power of potential “copycats” — preventing them from carrying weapons or tools suitable for execution of a deadly attack (searches, examinations: persons, especially in public space when moving (on foot, by vehicle, etc.) — who move and look for a place to commit a crime in certain geographical areas [40, p. 304].

Here, it is necessary to state that the methods of separation and demobilization serve the police in prophylactic operations [41, p.438] to create a potentially possible source(s) for police operational activities, focusing on the impact of those models on demobilized (found with weapons) to carry out deadly attacks — on their possible support in detecting other potential “sub delinquent generalized friends”. Specifically, “Police operational system observation” of the terrain in the time space of “future hot spots, hours and days (‘K13’)” — (at the moment of the execution of the deadly attack by mass murder on May 3rd, 2023 in the school “Vladislav Ribnikar” became the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia “Hot spot”) with the application of the “police comb” principle contributes to police empirical knowledge, for the answer to the question: what effect dominates among those segments of the population who are at the peak of being an “imitator” or an insider in relation to potential perpetrators of the intent of “sub delinquent generalized friends” to carry out another deadly attack with mass murder [42, p. 504].

Hypothesis two reflects the research idea that salience effects are greater the lower the overall impact of visible police presence [43, p. 29]. As stated earlier, this impact factor can be related to two components: (a) the number of victims, and (b) the location of the incident. From the above mentioned, it seems methodologically correct to construct two independent variables for each attack in our observation period, taking into account these two parameters. First, we calculate the number of deadly attacks with mass murders that occurred in the Republic of Serbia. Second, we do the same for the number of lives lost as a result of a deadly attack. We will immediately notice that our independent variables do not reflect (this is not the goal of the research) whether there is an attack on a certain day, but they weight each attack by the number of deaths it generates, and differentiate between the deadly attack that occurred on May 3rd, 2023 in school “Vladislav Ribnikar”, as a condition for a new deadly attack that happened a day later on May 4th, 2023 in Dubona and Malo Orašje.

If our empirical strategy reflects our theoretical research, then we should notice that the deadly attack in Dubona and Malo Orašje, in relation to the deadly attack in the school “Vladislav Ribnikar”, is directed identically or towards a larger number of people due to the effect of geographically located victims in the school “Vladislav Ribnikar”. From the findings, it is determined that the hypothesis was confirmed, because the salience effect was greater — the perpetrator directed the deadly attack towards more people — there was no presence of the police, which in a proactive police operation would separate and demobilize the decision on the deadly attack from the means of the attack: persons from weapons.

Hypothesis three: The research confirms that police proactive operation — the activity of creating a “defensible space” [44, p. 225], with the “Comb” model, “Stationary security islands”, “Moving security islands with frequent time intervals of appearance”, and other proactive models in police work, increases the demobilization of potential perpetrators.
Current findings indicate that the presence of visible and invisible police officers for the public reduces the number of possible occurrences of “sub delinquent generalized friends”—followers for a potential “imitation” of a deadly attack by mass murder [45, p. 241].

Hypothesis four: We find that the number of separations and diversions of persons in the implementation of prophylactic police operations after a deadly attack with mass murder is directly related to: (a) a potential new deadly attack, and (b) the discovery of key information about possible dynamics (de) mobilization [46, p. 71]. In relation to the occurrence of new attacks, separation and deterrence are manifested in the following formula: (a) less separation and deterrence triggers more potential reservoirs for a new attack, and reduces the number of insider reservoirs; (b) more police disengagement and demobilization operations reduce the reservoir for a potential new deadly attack—mass murder and increase the insider reservoir [47, p. 198]. To explore the aforementioned dichotomy in more depth and provide a useful framework from which to think theoretically about who moves across the border and becomes an insider—from the inside to the outside when looking at changes in the total number of potential followers—the future “sub delinquent generalized friends”—the “imitators” of the deadly attack carried out.

Following the methodological framework of the set hypotheses, it is comprehensive that we theoretically map the potential followers of the executed deadly attack into several types: (1) supporters of the perpetrator of the deadly attack: potential imitators, friends, etc.; (2) latent sympathizers; (3) bystanders following the deadly attack being carried out—not supporters, but associated with a desire to obtain information, such as media reporters or individuals who would never support the attack; and (3) persons who are neither observers nor supporters, the so-called non-followers [48, p. 131].

The first group consists of a reservoir of potential insiders of the perpetrator of the deadly attack in the sense that they have shown a certain degree of sympathy towards him [49, p. 119]; the second group is narrowly specialized professional circles (journalists, etc.) outside the detection authorities and citizens; the third group is made up of the entire population who do not follow the occurrence of a deadly attack - they are the so-called outsiders [50, p. 49].

From the findings of the research, it is established that there are changes in the total number of followers after the announcement of knowledge about the deadly attack, which are observed: (a) by monitoring the situation earlier (before the attack); and (b) after the attack, the monitoring of the state reflects—it can be determined with the help of three types of effects depending on the type of individuals moving in the reservoirs, according to the specified types: a deadly attack can produce: (1) effects of attention, where they can be classified or can become non-follower observers; (2) mobilization effects — where non-followers can be turned into insiders; (3) demobilization effects — which in supporters, due to the disengagement effect that influenced changes in their beliefs, lead to: (a) a decrease in support for the perpetrator of the deadly attack, (b) a deterrent effect implemented by the police [51, p. 339], (c) increasing the fear of surveillance (you can see the police on the street—it is impossible to be in a public place without being noticed) (d) the impact of the fear of criminal prosecution due to their links with activities that indicate the preparation of another deadly attack [52, p.135].

Based on the set hypothesis system, the obtained results confirmed the following: that the deadly attack in Dubona and Malo Orašje was the result of the absence of a defender. Also, on the basis of the findings, it is concluded that during the deadly attack in Dubona and Malo Orašje, the police (guard) was absent, while the following were present: suitable targets and the offender [53, p. 45]. The following evidence, based on research findings, shows that in the aforementioned criminal act, the offender and the target joined together in the absence of the police. The target of the crime was people, and the target of the crime itself is determined from the aspect of the specific crime, bearing
in mind that it is committed in a specific space and time, while the defender associates the police, who are rarely in the foreground of the crime, to prevent it. [Ibidem].

4. DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF RESEARCH RESULTS

From the research, we find that in Article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it is said: “...the will of the people shall be the basis for the government’s authority...”. A representative government elected by the people in elections not only implies the representation of the will of the people, but also means that the government in its composition should maintain the composition of society. From the presented findings, it is concluded that the citizens have decided how they will be protected, and they are directly responsible for the deadly attack that killed nine people, and more of them were lightly or seriously injured (wounded).

The following question arises: what is a citizen’s right not to be the subject of a deadly and any other criminal offense—not to be threatened with bodily (life) and any other integrity (property, etc.)? “The right of a citizen to peacefully enjoy his rights is based on the postulate that a right is what one person (citizen) can express in contacts with another person and demand that it be respected, provided that by using that right the person does not prevent someone else from using his rights. In the literature, these rights are considered legal rights—which means that they are an integral part of every right and law (part of human rights). It should be noted that such rights are protected by the constitutions and domestic laws of the largest number of countries, but also by international standards whose ratification was carried out by the state (in this research, the Republic of Serbia) in its legislative body—the assembly. In order to confirm the stated point of view, let us note that the developed world understood in the middle of the last century (XX) that human rights should be protected at least by the minimum standards by which governments should behave in the exercise of powers that derive from the electoral right of citizens—the decision of citizens in elections to entrusting her with the exercise of those powers, with the aim of providing them the peaceful enjoyment of their civil rights, such as: the right to life, security, property and many others. The reasons for this approach are most eloquently expressed in the introductory part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted by the United Nations upon its founding (1948) [Where, among other things, it is stated... “...Recognition of the inherent dignity and... equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human community represent the foundation of freedom, justice,... it is important that human rights are protected by the legal order...”] [54, p. 25].

Everything identified in the research as a result, makes it possible to determine that there are state powers to manage organs, persons and property. Taken together, these rules determine what is called the jurisdiction of the state. The powers of individual states include legislative as well as enforcement powers. It naturally follows from the above that the aforementioned rights and powers in the legislative sense include criminal and civil areas. For the subject and goal of this research, it is not mandatory to consider all types of state jurisdiction. On the other hand, it is justified to give a brief overview of specific questions related to the subject matter of the research, such as the principle of territoriality and real and other jurisdictions, in order to arrive at an answer: Which authority is responsible for the deadly attack in the suburban settlement of Dubona in the city municipality of Mladenovac — the city of Belgrade, and Malo Orašje, a populated place — the city of Smederevo? The principle of territoriality determines jurisdiction according to the place where the deadly attack was carried out—where the criminal offense was committed, where its consequences occurred, etc. It is determined that by applying the above-mentioned principle, it can be concluded that the deadly attack, in which several people lost their lives and several were injured (wounded), was committed in the area of jurisdiction of the Police Department for the
City of Belgrade and the Police Department in Smederevo. By applying the theory of liability, the behaviour of the authority responsible for the implementation of the powers to which it is obliged by law consists of actions or omissions. This means, that based on the actions or omissions of the authorities in this case of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, its Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Police Directorates, the Police Department for the City of Belgrade and the Police Department in Smederevo, their managers in other areas of responsibility, the following consequences occurred: Deprivation of life and personal injury of citizens in the suburban settlement of Dubona, the city municipality of Mladenovac and the inhabited place of Malo Orašje in the city of Smederevo.

We are looking for an answer to the question: Has the authorized body undertaken and implemented the powers prescribed to protect citizens? In order to fully answer the question, we looked for the answer to the following previous questions. First, does the right and authority that should have been applied in a police operation in the lead-up to a deadly attack have their basis in national law—the laws from which the police derive their powers? Second, was the application of police powers in the case of a deadly attack necessary on the territory of the Republic of Serbia, based on the circumstances of the deadly attack on May 3rd, 2023 at “Vladislav Ribnikar” elementary school in Belgrade. The police had to know about the occurrence of “Imitation”, “Fog of War”, “Blind Tunnel” syndromes and many others that occur after a deadly attack—these syndromes have been known through scientific research and based on them determined the actions of the police in such situations—they, the police of the Republic of Serbia did not know or apply it; thirdly, the rights and powers of the police were not applied in accordance with the legitimate aim of preventing a potential deadly attack on the territory of the Republic of Serbia, after the deadly attack at the “Vladislav Ribnikar” school in Belgrade.

Police work in the Republic of Serbia, as can be concluded from the presented research results, is not relevant for society (citizens) and its future development. In Serbia, it is currently understood where it is - what it should do, where it is going now, and where should the police go? What is its current and future role in society? From the deadly attack in Dubona and Malo Orašje, it is indisputable from the results of the research that the police organization in Serbia and its managers are not clear about what types of new crimes can be faced and where and how crime occurs, and what police operations must be launched and in which way?

As we can see from the results of the research, the causal parameter between the executed deadly attack with the consequence of mass murder and the potential “imitation—carrying out a new deadly attack that imitates an already executed deadly attack” not only requires the chance of an attack, but it varies over time, depending on number of followers in the periods immediately before the attack or after the attack. Thus, the parameter of mobilization and exceptionality in causality can be interpreted: (a) as a causal assessment of the effect of a deadly attack, (b) as its nature providing an identification mechanism for our empirical “sub delinquent generalized friends” who want/seek a chance for “imitation”.

In order to empirically reveal the mechanism of a deadly attack and its “imitation”, it
is necessary to generate a variable that takes into account the capacity of the state where the deadly attack was carried out. This approach measures a country’s ability to credibly and effectively conduct police operations related to a deadly attack and to retaliate in preventing the construction of a “copycat” attempt with a new deadly attack, using national material capabilities (Singer, Bremer and Stuckei, 1972).

Also, the results of the research allow us to determine that by applying in the police prophylactic approach methods such as: separation, deterrence, demobilization and disengagement, we could predict exactly the reservoir from which a “subdelinquent generalized friend - imitator” could be built, whose activity is in the decision-making phase to carry out a new deadly attack with the consequence of mass murder, and then to prevent the realization of his intention. Criminological theory is based on the point of view that after a deadly attack, the police are faced with the phenomenon: “lack of information for precise criminological, criminal and legal location of a potential imitator—a sub-delinquent generalized friend”.

The presented findings show a lack of information, which is not only a phenomenon in operational and criminal procedure operations, but it is also visible in the sphere of the impossibility of precise geolocation, which is of extreme importance for the allocation of police resources. Therefore, it is believed that this is the crucial reason that required the police leaders to declare the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia as a “Hot spot - a potential reservoir for the appearance of imitators” as an operational and geographical location for separation, deterrence, disengagement and demobilization, which is not done. This undefended space, the “environment” allowed and encouraged, as we could understand from the results of the research — it had the potential to build in its tank a “sub-delinquent generalized friend” — an imitator who carried out a deadly attack in Dubona and Malo Orašje.

Furthermore, the results offer sufficient evidence that the deadly attack with the consequence of mass murder was foreseeable and that the authority - the police, obliged by law to implement operations to prevent the deadly attack in Dubona and Malo Orašje, was able to react in a timely manner. Also, the research offers plenty of facts confirming that the police had time to prepare and allocate resources in the geographical space to carry out the operation: to separate, deterrence, disengage and demobilize potential “sub delinquent generalized friends”—“potential copycats” ready to carry out a deadly attack.

5. CONCLUSION

This paper is oriented towards research that has come to the results that will in the future help planning police operations in the environment, before and after crimes have been committed, but it can be used by civil servants, as well as government bodies for threat assessment, vulnerability assessment, not only potential targets and space, but also the professional power of authorities to defend society from potential crimes and respond to attacks in a civilian environment.

The paper ends with an analysis and discussion of the actions that may be needed after the deadly attacks to prevent its imitation through the execution of a new deadly attack, as was carried out in Dubona and Malo Orašje. In particular, the need for the presence of a protector - the police - is pointed out, in order to prevent an attack by an interested perpetrator, regardless of whether the target is suitable.

We hope that this paper will be useful to the police officers who have never faced this type of problem such as the construction of a “sub delinquent generalized friend” who through imitation wants to carry out a new deadly attack of mass murder—as could be recognized in the research. We believe that the content of the paper will help in building new knowledge and skills in the field of criminalistics, security and police operations and psychological preparation for combat, which enables an effective response through separation, deterrence, disengagement and demobilization of potential persons to carry out their intention of a deadly attack.
REFERENCES


Ključne reči: smrtonosni napad, Dubona, Malo Orašje, odsustvo zaštitnika