

**Abstract**

**Sándor Kálai**

---

**Crime Spaces – The Representation  
of Crime in Eastern European HBO  
Series**

In nowadays crime fiction crime often plays a secondary role. The location of the events, based on the accumulation of reality effects, becomes the engine of narratives. This feature, the anchoring of events in a given space, is not independent from the increasing popularity of the genre. Therefore we can speak about a sort of spatial turn, which characterizes contemporary crime fiction.

After the huge success of *In Treatment*, the HBO's franchised series adapted in many Eastern European countries, the second wave of production focused on the creation of more ambitious series, still adopting the franchise logic. These series are crime fictions – the regional HBO production choose this genre to conquer larger audiences framing crime by the representation of social problems. We can mention series like *Aranyélet* (Hungary), *Umbre, Valea Mută* (Romania), *Pustina* (Czech Republic) or *Wataha* (Poland).

The aim of all of these series is to reveal social problems through the representation of crimes. This communication will analyse all of the above mentioned series from a comparative point of view:

- what types of crime are represented in those series?
- what are the relations between crime and spaces?

- how the spatial structures (private-public, nature-culture, here-there, our space-other's space) organize the plot of the series?