

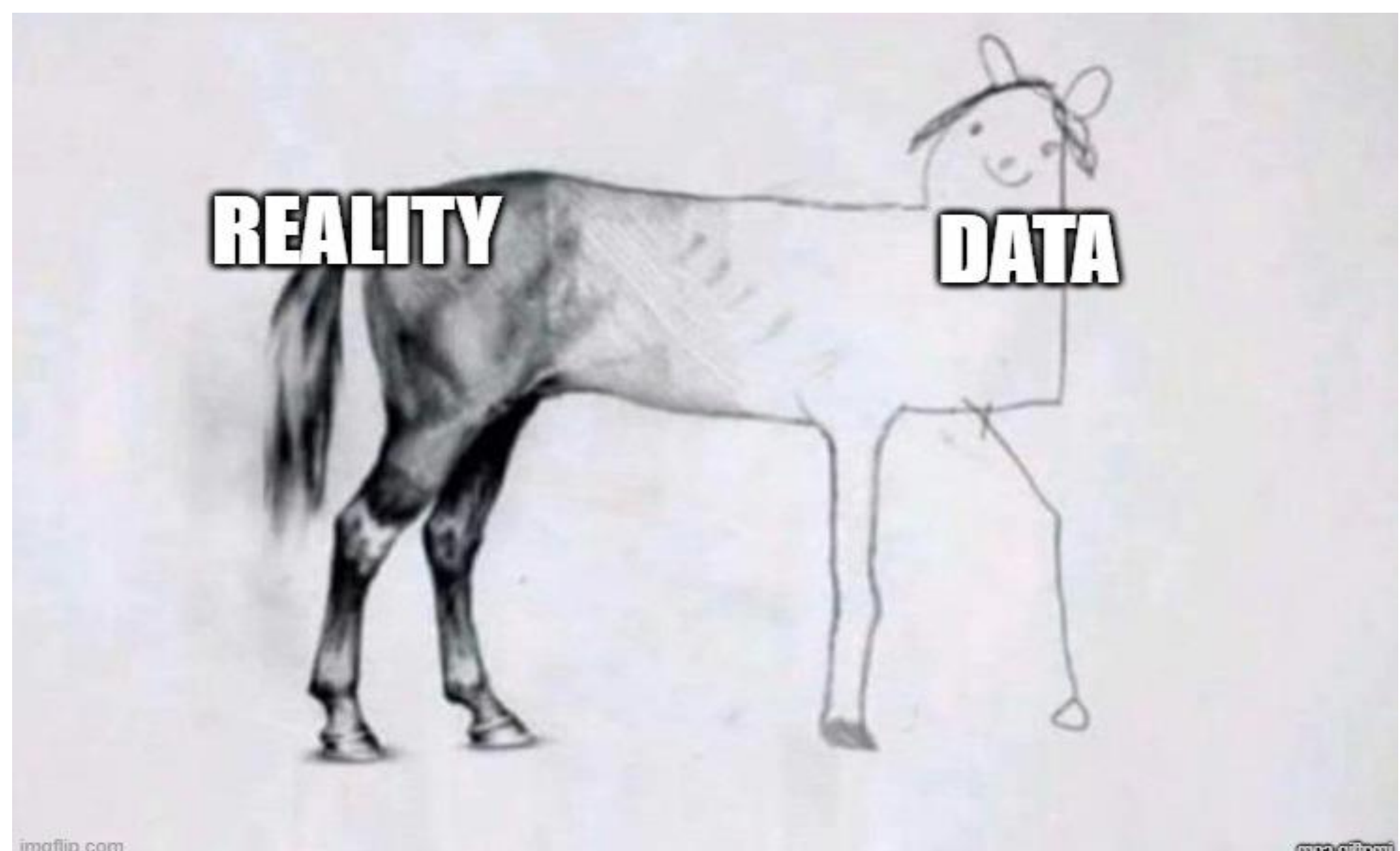
Chasing Unicorns: A Quest for Clarity in Drug-Related Crime

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Background

- drug-related crime = theoretical concept indicating the link between drug use and crime
- actual extent and structure is rather unclear
- lack of data on this potential drug supply indicator → project to propose a new way of collecting data on this phenomenon
- **trying to avoid the displayed scenario** →



Preparation

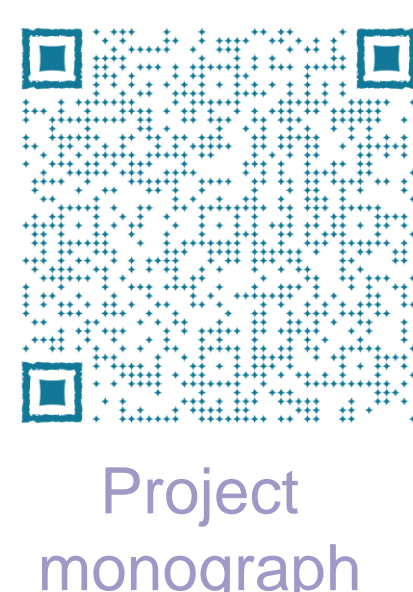
- novel methodology
- new comprehensive categorisation
- police as a key institution
 - data collection by police officers at the beginning of the criminal proceedings
- participatory approach
 - involvement and interest of the police
- provide a tool for routine and standardised data collection
 - guidelines
- **the end of the project does not mean the end of the effort. The hardest part starts here**

Data collection

- take the time to negotiate
- do not lose control of the process
- speak their language
- explain, explain and....explain
- motivate data collectors
- convince higher officers and decision makers of the benefits
- minimise the administrative burden
- make data collection as easy as possible
- **nationwide data collection was launched in 2024**

Interpretation

- ensure access to data
- maintain good relations with police statistics
- interpret the data in the appropriate context
- emphasise the limits and nature of the data
- triangulate with other data sources
- generate interest in data on high profile individuals and different stakeholders
- try to avoid misuse and misinterpretation
- **the first year's data will be available soon**



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The presentation stems from the research project "Possibilities of Detecting the Extent and Structure of Secondary Drug-related Crime in the Czech Republic" (VI20172019053) carried out by the Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention and funded by the Security Research Programme of the Czech Republic 2015-2020, run by the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic.

Picture used: <https://www.vecteezy.com/free-vector/unicorn> Unicorn Vectors by Vecteezy