

# COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

## Agenda:

Enhancing international  
collaboration and strengthening  
legal frameworks to prevent and  
prosecute transnational criminal  
activities committed within Eurasia



K L E M U N  
2024-25

# CONTENTS

Letter from Executive Board	I
Committee Mandate	2
Introduction	3
Case Studies	4
Current Situation	6
Challenges	7
International Frameworks	9
QARMA	II
Bibliography	12

# LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE BOARD

Warm greetings delegates,

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you all to the 2024 KLE MUN. As a chair of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice I'm instilled with faith that us, the youth will play a pivotal role in bringing peace and making the world a better place. Our agenda gives us the leverage to immerse ourselves in combating transnational crimes and formulate strategies to develop and improve international legal frameworks

Let us together broaden our horizons and have loads of fun and learning over the next two days. Looking forward to meeting you all.

Regards  
Ranjana J Rao  
Chair- CCPCJ

## COMMITTEE MANDATE

The Commission guides the activities of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. It also reviews United Nations standards and norms in this area, including their use and application by Member States. It takes action through resolutions and decisions.

### FUNCTIONAL COMMISSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Commission was created in 1992 by the Economic and Social Council as one of its functional commissions (resolution 1992/1), upon request of the General Assembly. The Council has established the Commission's mandates and priorities, which include international action to combat national and transnational crime, including organized crime, economic crime and money laundering; promoting the role of criminal law in protecting the environment; crime prevention in urban areas, including juvenile crime and violence; and improving the efficiency and fairness of criminal justice administration systems (resolution 1992/22).

### GOVERNING BODY OF UNODC

The Commission acts as the governing body of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. It approves the budget of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Fund, which provides resources for promoting technical assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice worldwide.

### UNITED NATIONS CRIME CONGRESSES

The Commission provides substantive and organizational direction for the quinquennial United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. It also considers the outcome of the congresses and takes decisions on appropriate follow-up measures.

### PROGRAMME NETWORK OF INSTITUTES

The Commission also maintains links to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network, which supports the efforts of the United Nations in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice and contributes to the work of the Commission.

# INTRODUCTION

Transnational organized crime refers to criminal activities that extend beyond national borders, involving coordinated efforts across multiple countries. These crimes include a wide range of illicit activities, such as drug and arms trafficking, human trafficking, smuggling of migrants, and illegal trading in wildlife, cultural property, and falsified medical products. The increasing use of virtual assets and online platforms has expanded the scope and sophistication of these crimes, making them more challenging to detect and combat. Organized crime groups are highly adaptive, often exploiting global crises like the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, and armed conflicts to advance their illegal enterprises.

The most prevalent forms of transnational organized crime include drug trafficking, which remains one of the most profitable illicit businesses, generating hundreds of billions of dollars annually. Human trafficking and migrant smuggling are also significant issues, with victims often subjected to severe exploitation and abuse. Other types of transnational crime include illicit firearms trade, which fuels violence in many regions, and environmental crimes like wildlife trafficking and illegal logging, which contribute to ecological destruction. Additionally, cybercrime, such as identity theft and online fraud, has emerged as a major revenue stream for organized criminal networks.

Transnational criminal law encompasses activities that transcend borders and involve various actors, such as individuals, companies, and governments. A significant treaty in this realm is the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, which seeks to combat the global drug trade through international cooperation and domestic enforcement. The 2000 United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) specifically targets organized crime, including human trafficking, migrant smuggling, and firearms trafficking, and is supported by three protocols that mandate states to enact domestic laws to address these issues while promoting international collaboration. Furthermore, the 2003 United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) addresses global corruption by advocating for anti-corruption measures across both public and private sectors and emphasizing international cooperation for the recovery of assets obtained through corrupt practices. Lastly, the Firearms Protocol under UNTOC focuses on the illicit manufacturing and trafficking of firearms, establishing standards for marking and tracing firearms to curtail illegal trade, which is essential for reducing violence and organized crime.

# CASE STUDIES

## 1. Trafficking of drugs in Central Asia:

In the 1990s, the primary drug route into Central Asia ran from Khorog, Tajikistan, to Osh, Kyrgyzstan. Osh became a central hub for trans-shipment, with new routes emerging across the Tajik-Kyrgyz border from Jirgatal and Garm, leveraging the remote, poorly policed enclaves like Vorukh and Chorku. By 2002, four key routes through Kyrgyzstan were identified, stretching from the Tajik border into Osh, Batken, and the Fergana Valley. Over 100 paths facilitated smuggling across Kyrgyzstan's 1,000 km border with Tajikistan. The United Nations reported that these trafficking routes overlapped with those used by the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), which had strongholds along the Khorog-Osh highway during Tajikistan's civil war. This network fostered a relationship between drug barons and armed groups. The region also saw an increase in the smuggling of precursor chemicals like acetic anhydride into Afghanistan. Tajikistan, most affected by drug trafficking, saw the trade's value estimated at 30% of its GDP. Meanwhile, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan became key trans-shipment points for narcotics, and Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan faced growing smuggling activities. Despite large drug seizures, weak law enforcement and poverty in these countries allowed criminal organizations to thrive and expand their activities.

## 2. Migrants Smuggling from Mekong countries to Thailand:

Thailand and Malaysia, due to their relative economic prosperity and labor shortages, are key destinations for smuggled migrants from Southeast and South Asia, most of whom take up low-skilled jobs. Thailand has seen a significant rise in non-Thai residents, growing from 3.7 million in 2014 to 4.9 million in 2018, with around 80% being migrant workers from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam. Smuggling routes into Thailand are well-established, with most migrants entering via formal or informal crossings. From 2012 to 2017, Thai authorities apprehended between 63,000 and 132,000 irregular migrants from Myanmar annually, with over 80% believed to use smugglers. The cost of smuggling varies by country, with Myanmar migrants paying around \$400, while Cambodians pay about \$150, which is cheaper than legal migration options. Lao nationals also face exploitation in various sectors in Thailand, and their smuggling fees range from \$150 to \$400. Additionally, Lao PDR serves as a transit route for other migrants heading to Thailand.

### 3. Flesh Trade in Europe:

Human trafficking to Europe, especially for sexual exploitation, is a complex and alarming issue involving a diverse range of victims, primarily from the Balkans and the former Soviet Union, with increasing numbers from Latin America, West Africa, and East Asia. Most victims are lured by traffickers through deceitful promises of legitimate employment, marriage, or educational opportunities. The trafficking routes are well-established, with victims typically transported by land, sea, or air. Trafficking networks are often composed of organized groups from various regions, including Balkan, Nigerian, and Chinese traffickers, who utilize methods of coercion, violence, and debt bondage to control and exploit their victims. Recruitment methods frequently involve acquaintances or family members, contributing to a cycle of manipulation and trust. Once in Europe, trafficked individuals are forced into various forms of exploitation, ranging from street prostitution to operations disguised as legitimate businesses, such as massage parlors and beauty salons. The scale of trafficking in Europe is staggering, with estimates suggesting that around 140,000 victims are trafficked annually for sexual purposes. This figure represents a significant portion of the commercial sex market in Europe, which operates on an estimated annual value of approximately \$3 billion. The interplay of these trafficking routes, the socioeconomic vulnerabilities of victims, and the often-limited responses from law enforcement highlight the urgent need for comprehensive strategies to combat this form of modern slavery and protect those most at risk

## CURRENT SITUATION

The current landscape of transnational crime is complex and evolving, significantly impacting regions like South-Eastern Europe (SEE) and the Pacific. In SEE, organized crime manifests through activities such as drug trafficking, human trafficking, and firearms smuggling, with the "Balkan route" being a crucial corridor. Recent workshops organized by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) have focused on promoting gender-sensitive and human rights-compliant strategies to combat these issues, highlighting the importance of women's empowerment and equal representation in law enforcement to effectively address crime.

Engaging youth has emerged as a critical strategy in preventing organized crime, particularly in SEE, where limited employment opportunities make young people vulnerable. Experts like Kristina Jozic and Edlira Gjoni have emphasized the need for youth empowerment and active involvement in policy-making processes to develop effective preventive measures. Additionally, civil society organizations are essential for identifying trafficking indicators and addressing gaps in the implementation of anti-trafficking protocols, ensuring that survivor voices are integral to policy formulation.

Globally, challenges such as cyber-enabled crimes, environmental crimes, and organized fraud persist, particularly in the Pacific region, where rapid globalization and digitalization create new threats. Despite efforts toward regional cooperation, many Pacific states still lack comprehensive national strategies against organized crime. Recent dialogues in Vienna have highlighted the need for a harmonized international legal framework to address these issues, emphasizing the importance of civil society's role in promoting international instruments like the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC).

The multifaceted nature of transnational crime requires a concerted global effort that integrates gender considerations, enhances civil society engagement, and fosters international cooperation. By addressing root causes, promoting diversity in law enforcement, and leveraging the unique perspectives of youth and survivors, nations can develop more effective strategies to combat organized crime. Ongoing dialogues and workshops by organizations like UNODC are vital for forging partnerships and crafting comprehensive responses to these pressing global challenges.



# CHALLENGES

**Resource and Training Deficiencies:** Many law enforcement agencies lack adequate resources and training to tackle complex transnational organized crime (TOC). The introduction of new laws criminalizing trafficking often leaves investigators inexperienced, which hinders their ability to conduct effective investigations. The lack of expertise can result in a limited understanding of the nuances involved in such crimes.

**Financial Constraints:** Some countries struggle to fund necessary training programs, technological advancements, and the operational costs required for investigating cross-border crimes. When countries cannot provide sufficient victim protection and support, it may deter victims from cooperating, complicating investigations and prosecutions further.

**Transnational Investigation Challenges:** The cross-border nature of trafficking cases complicates the collection of evidence, especially in jurisdictions that may be unwilling or unable to assist. Law enforcement agencies face logistical issues, a lack of cooperation, and inadequate laws that can impede the effectiveness of investigations and prosecutions across borders.

**Legal Framework Fragmentation:** The variations and conflicts in laws among different countries create significant hurdles in the investigation, arrest, and extradition of offenders. Relying on bilateral agreements can complicate the legal landscape, making cooperation cumbersome and slow, which may result in missed opportunities for justice.

**Delays in Legal Processes:** Mutual legal assistance requests often experience delays due to overloaded systems and a lack of prioritization among requested authorities. Additionally, state refusal to extradite their own nationals complicates the prosecution of transnational crimes, with underlying mistrust of foreign judicial systems contributing to this reluctance.

**Victim Reluctance to Testify:** Many victims are hesitant to testify due to fears of reprisals, mistrust of authorities, or a strong desire to return home, which can lead to insufficient evidence for prosecutions. Moreover, the trauma associated with testifying may result in secondary victimization, highlighting the need for a robust focus on victim protection and assistance.

**Credibility Issues with Victim Testimony:** Victim testimonies in trafficking cases can often be inconsistent or lack corroborating evidence, complicating prosecution efforts. Emotional responses from victims during testimony may also lead to doubts about their reliability, further undermining the potential for successful legal outcomes.

**International Cooperation Limitations:** The prosecution of transnational trafficking cases necessitates collaboration among multiple jurisdictions, a process that can be costly and resource-intensive. Delays in international evidence requests can hinder timely prosecutions, as evidenced by various legal cases where cooperation was not achieved swiftly.

**Political Will and Trust Deficits:** A lack of mutual trust and political will among member states significantly impedes effective cooperation in combating TOC. Enhancing cooperation and fostering trust among states is crucial for improving legal assistance and prosecutorial outcomes in transnational crime cases.

**Need for Coordinated Networking:** The current fragmented state of international law enforcement underscores the necessity for more coordinated approaches among states. Establishing networks for cooperation can improve collaboration and streamline efforts against TOC, ultimately enhancing the effectiveness of international responses to these crimes.

## IMPORTANT FRAMEWORKS

The international framework for combating transnational crime is anchored in several key conventions and protocols designed to enhance cooperation among Member States. The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), adopted by General Assembly Resolution 55/25 in 2000 and entering into force in 2003, serves as a comprehensive framework mandating countries to implement domestic laws targeting organized crime. Key provisions of UNTOC include extradition (Article 16), mutual legal assistance (Article 18), confiscation of proceeds of crime (Articles 13 and 14), transfer of criminal proceedings (Article 21), joint investigations (Article 19), and special investigative techniques (Article 20). The Convention also highlights the importance of effective communication among law enforcement agencies to facilitate rapid information exchange (Article 27). It is supplemented by three critical protocols: the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (2000), which defines trafficking and outlines obligations for victim protection; the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air (2000), focusing on preventing migrant smuggling and protecting the rights of smuggled individuals; and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms (2001), which establishes obligations to combat firearms trafficking.

In addition to UNTOC, the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), adopted in 2003, emphasizes measures to combat corruption and promote asset recovery, further strengthening the international normative framework. The 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances addresses global drug trafficking, reinforcing the commitment to tackle various forms of transnational crime.

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) plays a vital role in developing guidelines and resolutions that support crime prevention and justice. The Doha Declaration is a significant document that integrates crime prevention and criminal justice into the broader United Nations agenda, promoting public participation and adherence to the rule of law. The General Assembly has adopted various resolutions, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules) and the Bangkok Rules for the treatment of women offenders, which provide frameworks for the humane treatment of prisoners and the specific needs of women in the justice system.

Technical assistance and policy recommendations from the CCPCJ are essential for enhancing national crime prevention strategies. The CCPCJ, through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), offers advisory services and technical assistance to help Member States strengthen their crime statistics and develop participatory processes in crime prevention and justice. Recommendations also emphasize addressing the specific needs of vulnerable groups, particularly children and women, promoting strategies to prevent violence and combat trafficking and corruption.

Governed by ECOSOC and GA resolutions, the CCPCJ serves as the principal policymaking body in crime prevention and criminal justice. It oversees the implementation of the UN's crime prevention and justice programs, emphasizing its crucial role in addressing crime, weak rule of law, and corruption, all of which hinder sustainable development, peace, and human security. The CCPCJ promotes the principle that "no one is left behind," highlighting the importance of ensuring justice for all individuals and communities.

## QUESTIONS A RESOLUTION MUST ANSWER

- What are the key barriers hindering effective international cooperation amongst member States in the prevention and prosecution of transnational crime?
- How can Member States enhance their capacities to implement international legal frameworks and improve national legislation regarding transnational crime?
- What measures should be included to ensure the protection and support of victims of transnational crime within the legal frameworks?
- What protocols or systems can be established to facilitate the timely sharing of intelligence and data among countries to combat transnational crime?
- How can legal frameworks be adapted to address emerging forms of transnational crime, such as cybercrime and environmental crime?
- What mechanisms should be put in place to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of international collaborations and legal frameworks in combating transnational crime?
- How can various resources like technology, ammunition and financial investments be leveraged to strengthen legal frameworks and improve international collaboration in the fight against transnational crime?
- How can non-governmental organizations, civil society, and the private sector be engaged in the process of strengthening international collaboration and legal frameworks?
- What are some preventive measures, diplomatic support systems, and emergency evacuation plans for tourists and foreign nationals during Transnational Crimes?

# BIBLIOGRAPHY

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CCPCJ/mandate.html>  
<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/organized-crime/intro/UNTOC.html>  
<https://www.unodc.org/toc/en/crimes/organized-crime.html#:~:text=Hidden%20cost%20to%20society,activities%20of%20organized%20crime%20groups.>  
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/fight-against-transnational-crime-day#:~:text=Observances>  
[https://www.un.org/en/observances/fight-against-transnational-crime-day#:~:text=Observances%20\\*%20International%20Day%20for%20the%20Fight,November](https://www.un.org/en/observances/fight-against-transnational-crime-day#:~:text=Observances%20*%20International%20Day%20for%20the%20Fight,November)  
<https://www.unodc.org/e4j/en/firearms/module-5/key-issues/international-public-law-and-transnational-law.html#:~:text=A%20%EF%AC%81rst%20step%20in%20focusing,Module%20Series%20on%20Anti%2DCorruption.>  
[https://www.unodc.org/documents/organized-crime/Central\\_Asia\\_Crime\\_Assessment.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/organized-crime/Central_Asia_Crime_Assessment.pdf)  
[https://www.unodc.org/roseap/uploads/archive/documents/Publications/2019/SEA\\_TOCT\\_A\\_2019\\_web.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/roseap/uploads/archive/documents/Publications/2019/SEA_TOCT_A_2019_web.pdf)  
[https://www.unodc.org/documents/publications/TiP\\_Europe\\_EN\\_LORES.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/publications/TiP_Europe_EN_LORES.pdf)  
<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/es/organized-crime/news/newsandevents.html>  
<https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/administration/eop/nsc/transnational-crime/threat>  
<https://rm.coe.int/r68070afba>  
<https://www.unodc.org/e4j/en/tip-and-som/module-9/key-issues/challenges-to-an-effective-criminal-justice-response.html>  
<https://blog.ipleaders.in/effectiveness-of-international-law-in-combating-transnational-organised-crime/#:~:text=UNTOC%20provides%20a%20framework%20for,that%20address%20transnational%20organised%20crime.>  
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=30022&nr=210&menu=3170#:~:text=The%20CCPCJ%20has%20C%20in%20numerous,promote%20the%20rule%20of%20law>