
PNI

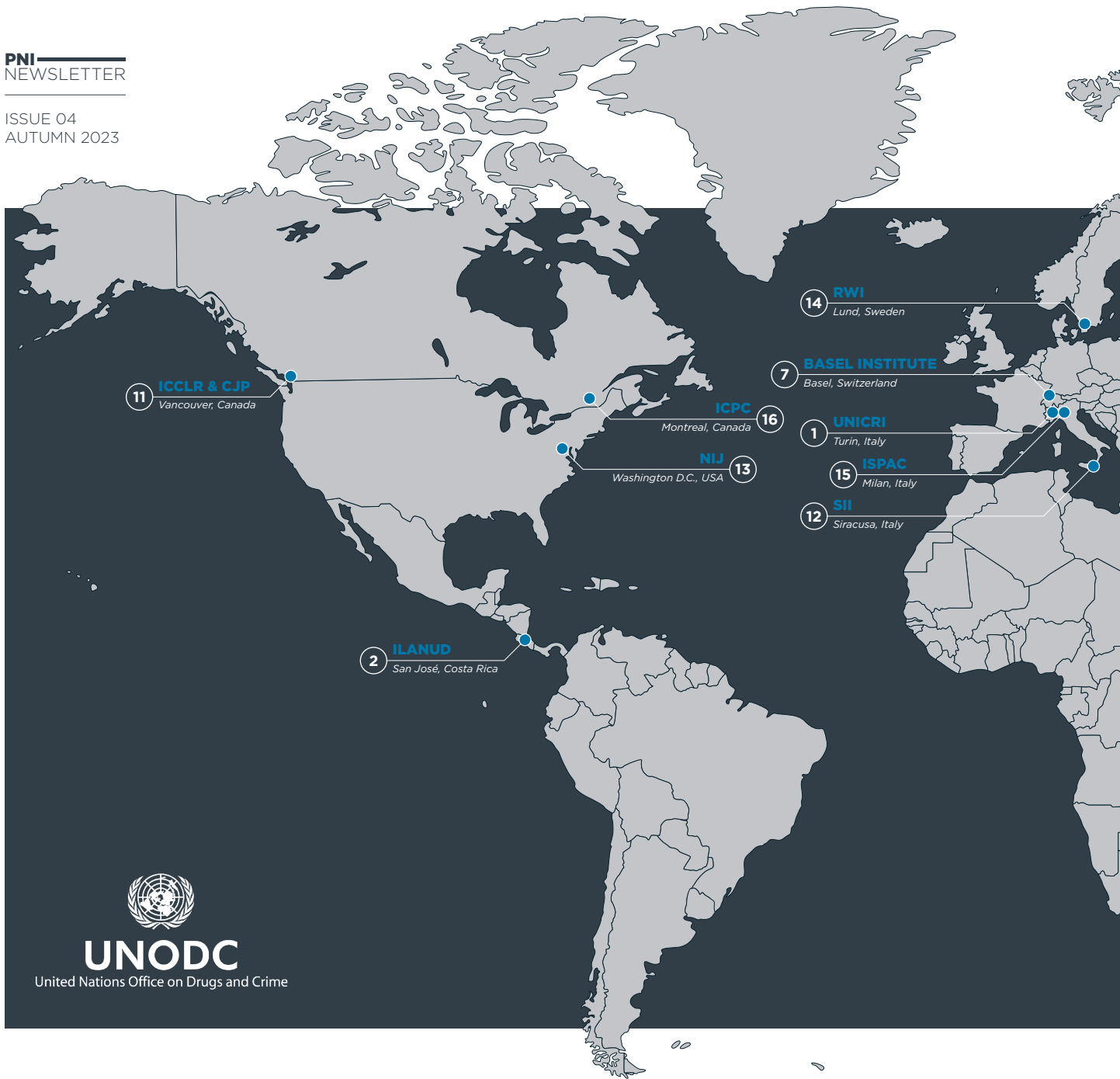
NEWSLETTER

THE UNITED NATIONS CRIME PREVENTION
AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAMME
NETWORK OF INSTITUTES (PNI)

KYOTO DECLARATION PILLAR III
"PROMOTING THE RULE OF LAW"
EXECUTIVE INTERVIEW
WITH HEUNI AND TIJ

ISSUE 04
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UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

INTERREGIONAL & REGIONAL INSTITUTES

NATIONAL INSTITUTES



1 UNICRI
United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institutes; *Turin, Italy*



4 UNAFRI
African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders; *Kampala, Uganda*



7 BASEL INSTITUTE
Basel Institute on Governance; *Basel, Switzerland*



2 ILANUD
Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders; *San José, Costa Rica*



5 UNAFEI
Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders; *Tokyo, Japan*



8 CCLS
College for Criminal Law Science (CCLS); *Beijing, China*



3 HEUNI
European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations; *Helsinki, Finland*



6 NAUSS
Naif Arab University for Security Sciences; *Riyadh, Saudi Arabia*



9 TIJ
Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ); *Bangkok, Thailand*



Australian Government
Australian Institute of Criminology

10 AIC
Australian Institute of Criminology;
Canberra, Australia



13 NIJ
National Institute of Justice;
Washington D.C., USA



**INTERNATIONAL
CENTRE
FOR THE
PREVENTION
OF CRIME**

16 ICPC
International Centre for the Prevention of Crime;
Montreal, Canada



11 ICCLR & CJP
International Centre for Criminal Law Reform
and Criminal Justice Policy; Vancouver, Canada



14 RWI
Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights
and Humanitarian Law; Lund, Sweden

KICJ Korean Institute of
Criminology and Justice

17 KICJ
Korean Institute of Criminology and Justice;
Seoul, Korea



12 SII
The Siracusa International Institute for Criminal
Justice and Human Rights; Siracusa, Italy



15 ISPAC
International Scientific and Professional Advisory
Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention
and Criminal Justice Programme; Milan, Italy



18 ISS
Institute for Security Studies;
Pretoria, South Africa

ABOUT THE PNI NEWSLETTER



The United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network (PNI) consists of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and 18 institutes and entities around the world. The mission of the PNI is to assist the international community in strengthening cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice on the global, regional and sub-regional levels, within the framework of the United Nations Crime Programme. In January 2022, the members of the PNI decided to publish a “PNI Newsletter” as a way of sharing information on the contributions of the Network, in a way that could benefit a wide range of international and regional stakeholders as well as the general public. The Newsletter also serves to promote cooperation within the Network as well as with UN entities and with national and international stakeholders, through the dissemination of information and the sharing of knowledge. The Newsletter is published twice a year, in the spring and the autumn.

This 4th edition of the PNI Newsletter coincides with the thematic discussion of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) on the follow-up to the Kyoto Declaration, which took place on 21-22 September 2023. Accordingly, this issue dedicates significant focus to Pillar III of the Kyoto Declaration - “Promoting the Rule of Law”. A detailed analysis of the PNI’s engagement in the CCPCJ thematic discussion and its global activities supporting Pillar III implementation is featured in the first section. As we look forward to the 15th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in 2026, this issue offers an article by Dr. Matti Joutsen providing a comprehensive overview of the preparation and thematic discussions ahead. Furthermore, we proudly join in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Australian Institute of Criminology, featuring an insightful article about the establishment of the Australian National Anti-Corruption Commission. To provide an intimate glance into individual institutes within our Network, this issue includes interviews with the Directors of HEUNI and the TIJ, offering a unique perspective into the inner workings and aspirations.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

UPDATES FROM THE PNI

UPDATE ON PNI ACTIVITIES RELATED TO
PILLAR III OF THE KYOTO DECLARATION 01

THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY (AIC)
CELEBRATES ITS 50TH BIRTHDAY 12

SHORT ARTICLES

AUSTRALIA LAUNCHES
THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION 13

UPDATE ON PREPARATIONS FOR
THE 15TH UNITED NATIONS CRIME CONGRESS (2026) 17

“THANK YOU, VALÉRIE ...” 19

INFORMATION ON RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM THE PNI

20

A CLOSER LOOK AT INDIVIDUAL PNIs

INTERVIEW WITH DR. NATALIA OLLUS
DIRECTOR OF HEUNI 27

INTERVIEW WITH DR. PHISSET SA-ARDYEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF TIJ 32

EDITORIAL TEAM

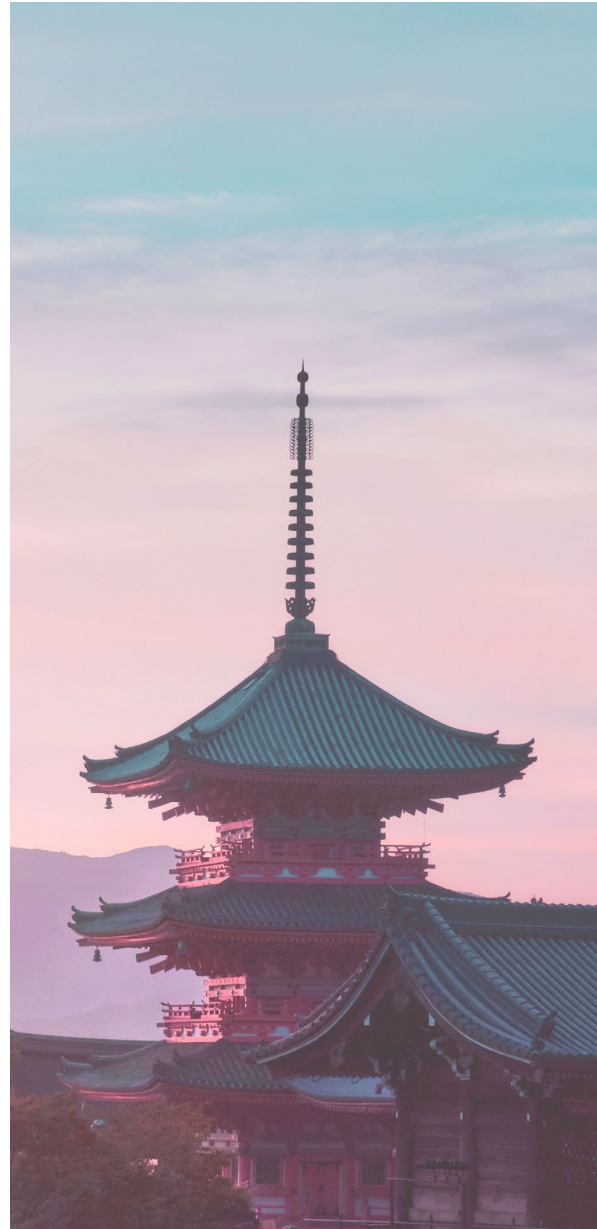
35

UPDATES ON PNI ACTIVITIES

RELATED TO PILLAR III OF THE KYOTO DECLARATION

UPDATES ON
PNI ACTIVITIES

On 21 to 22 September 2023, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held its third thematic discussion on the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration, focusing on Pillar III, “Promoting the Rule of Law”. Along with international experts, representatives from the PNI, including the **International Centre for Criminal Law Reform & Criminal Justice Policy (ICCLR)** and the **Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ)**, joined the panel discussion. Dr. Peter German, President of the ICCLR, presented on the issue of corruption and effective anti-corruption efforts. The presentation also highlighted the importance of UNCAC as an overarching process for international cooperation to deal with corruption. Dr. Anuwat Vongpichet, Deputy Executive Director of the TIJ, addressed the topic of “Access to Justice and Equal Treatment before the Law”. Key points that were highlighted during the discussion are the concept of people-centred justice and approaches for



enhancing access to justice, including the TIJ's work on the Justice Needs Survey and the use of innovation and collaboration. Ms. Kanravee Kittayarak also represented the TIJ as an additional speaker for the Asia-Pacific region on the topic of social, educational and other measures. Her presentation was centred around nurturing active agents for positive change through justice literacy, using a four-step process that involves understanding the causes of injustice, examining the unfairness of the situation, creating an action plan to tackle these injustices and then implementing solutions on the ground through prototyping and testing. This Justice Literacy Model has also been demonstrated in the TIJ's Curriculum Design Handbook for Incorporating Social Justice into Programs in Higher Education, entitled "So you think you can teach social justice?".

Pillar III deals with "Promoting the Rule of Law", which includes two main clusters, namely: 1) Access to justice and equal treatment before the law; Access to legal aid; National sentencing policies; and 2) Effective, accountable, impartial and inclusive institutions; Effective anti-corruption efforts; and Social, educational and other measures. This section summarises activities undertaken by the PNI across the globe that fall within one or more of these areas.

Access to Justice and Equal Treatment Before the Law



ASEAN Innovation for Justice 2023 held from 16 to 18 August 2023 by TIJ in collaboration with WJP

A range of activities have been conducted by the PNI to promote the rule of law and enhance access to justice for all. The **TIJ** in collaboration with the World Justice Project (WJP) held the ASEAN Innovation for Justice 2023 conference under the theme of "The Rule of Law, Data, and the Future of Justice Systems in ASEAN" from 16 to 18 August 2023. The event discussed the importance of enhancing the rule of law as well as

unpacked the opportunities and challenges in implementing the rule of law, through interactive sessions such as panel discussions, workshops and an exhibition. The participants, all interested in justice and innovation, came from various stakeholders in the ASEAN region, such as governmental agencies, non-governmental organisations, academia, the private sector and civil society. The TIJ also initiated a study called the "Justice Needs Survey" that uses cross sectional quantitative research to examine the experiences of the urban Thai population related to the justice system in Thailand. The aim of the study was to understand people-centred justice needs in Thailand by collecting data from over 2,000 survey participants in seven urban areas throughout the country on the most common recurring legal problems, barriers to access to justice and their impacts on peoples' lives.

In enhancing equal treatment within the justice system, particularly targeting persons deprived of liberty, the **United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders** (UNAFEI), with UNODC Bangkok, co-hosted a local workshop for about 20 corrections official in Timor-Leste, aiming to introduce guidance on violence prevention in Timor-Leste (19-20 July 2023). The **United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders** (ILANUD) addressed issues related to international standards on the care of persons deprived of their liberty, as well as an approach to the framework of rights and obligations developed in the universal system and the Inter-American system for the protection of human rights, during the International Training Course for Prison Staff, Civilian Professionals and Operators of Prison Intervention Programmes, organised by the Austral University of Argentina from 19 May to 1 July 2023. Innovative experiences of differentiated attention to persons deprived of their liberty were also highlighted, particularly in the case of LGBTI persons in Costa Rica.



The 2023 Joint Fall Conference in Seoul focusing on an overview of restorative policing and assessing private sector security provision for high-risk crime victims by KICJ



ILANUD, together with the Judicial Branch of Costa Rica, organized the IV International Congress on Restorative Justice and Therapeutic Justice

To promote the use of restorative justice, the **Korean Institute of Criminology and Justice (KICJ)** convened the 6th Open Forum on the topic of Restorative Justice, in New Zealand on 17 May 2023. On 27 October 2023, the KICJ, the Korean Association of Victimology, and the National Police Agency co-organised the 2023 Joint Fall Conference in Seoul. The topics were an overview of restorative policing and policy directions and assessing private sector security provision for high-risk crime victims. ILANUD representatives attended the thirtieth Assembly of the Ibero-American Association of Public Prosecutors (AIAMP) from 27 to 28 July 2023 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. During the conference, ILANUD proposed the drafting of a report entitled the rights of victims. The report will be presented as part of the initiatives under the Restorative Juvenile Justice Network which operates under the purview of AIAMP. ILANUD together with the Judicial Branch of Costa Rica organised the IV International Congress on Restorative Justice and Therapeutic Justice, in Costa Rica, from 7 to 9 November 2023. The conference brought together experts from Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Spain, and Uruguay, to address challenges and best practices in juvenile criminal legislation, and the role of the judiciary in the effective implementation of restorative justice.

Access to Legal Aid

To ensure the quality of legal aid services, the **National Institute of Justice (NIJ)** in collaboration with the Department of Justice's Office for Access to Justice sponsored a report on public defence system models in recognition of the 60th anniversary of the Gideon v. Wainwright decision (372 U.S. 335 (1963)). The decision in this case established the Sixth Amendment's right to counsel for indigent persons charged with felonies in

state courts, which was later extended to misdemeanours and delinquency proceedings in juvenile court. The report documents findings from a national scan of the public defence (also known as indigent defence) service models currently used in U.S. state, local, and tribal adult, trial-level, criminal cases. In addition, a solicitation was released to support NIJ's Research and Evaluation on the Administration of Justice Program, which supports rigorous research and evaluation projects examining the impact of court and other criminal justice tools, practices, and policies on the administration of justice and public safety in state, local, and tribal jurisdictions. With the 60th anniversary of Gideon v. Wainwright, the solicitation, Research and Evaluation on the Administration of Justice: Advancing Access to Justice 60 Years after Gideon, prioritized research on public defence or indigent defence services (IDS) and equitable access to justice. NIJ made two awards under the solicitation.

ILANUD supported the International Meeting on Public Defender's Offices in Latin America, organized by the Inter-American Association of Public Defender's Offices (AIDEP), in Costa Rica from 22 to 23 November 2023.

UNAFEI hosted the 180th International Senior Seminar (13 January-6 February 2023), at which 22 senior criminal justice officials from 16 jurisdictions discussed promoting legal aid for offenders and victims.

National Sentencing Policies

ILANUD, together with the Guatemalan Judicial Branch, organised a seminar on "Criminal Justice and Penalty Enforcement" in Guatemala from 8 to 9 June 2023, to identify good practices in the application of alternative exits from criminal proceedings and alternatives to pre-trial detention during the pre-trial phases of the proceedings.





ILANUD, together with the Guatemalan Judicial Branch, organized a seminar on "Criminal Justice and Penalty Enforcement" in Guatemala from 8 to 9 June 2023

UNAFEI has organised and facilitated a range of events to discuss trends in correctional facilities and various legislation. The events included:

- the 41st Public Lecture on Criminal Justice Policy (27 January 2023, in a hybrid format) to learn key issues related to the Role of the International Criminal Court and the Juvenile Justice System in Kenya;



UNAFEI conducted the site visit to the Offender Rehabilitation Support Centre Hino/Tama/Inagi during the Malaysia and the Philippines Joint Study Tour to Japan on Community Corrections

- the Study Tour to Japan on Community-based Rehabilitation of Children in Conflict with the Law (9–14 February 2023), at which nine senior criminal justice officials involved in juvenile justice enhanced their knowledge on delinquency prevention and rehabilitation of children in conflict with the law in Kenya;
- an Exchange Programme between the Japanese Prosecution Service and the Supreme People's Procuracy of Vietnam (15–17 February 2023), aiming at sharing and discussing the latest trends, legislation and practices in the criminal justice field;
- a Joint Study with Timor-Leste on Treatment of Offenders and Prison Reform (1–6 March 2023), at which six senior correctional officials considered how they might strengthen the functions of correctional facilities in Timor-Leste by learning about the efforts of correctional facilities and the treatment of offenders in Japan;

- the 2nd International Training Course on Building Inclusive Societies (8–20 March 2023), at which 17 participants from eleven countries shared knowledge about rehabilitation and social reintegration of offenders with substance use disorders;
- participation in the organisation of the "Malaysia and the Philippines Joint Study Tour to Japan on Community Corrections" (8–17 June 2023), together with UNODC, to offer theories and practices related to offender rehabilitation and collaboration with community volunteers such as hogoshi;
- the 182nd UNAFEI International Training Course (8 September–3 October 2023) on effective support for reintegration of released inmates;
- co-organization, together with TIJ, of the Study Tour in Thailand (9–11 October 2023) for officers of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Interior of Cambodia, to promote community-based treatment in Cambodia.

The **United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute** (UNICRI) focuses on exploring innovative technologies for prisoner rehabilitation, ensuring ethical standards, and developing comprehensive strategies to support successful reintegration of former prisoners into society. In order to enhance rehabilitation outcomes for prisoners through the adoption of innovative technologies, UNICRI launched a research project to explore the potential benefits of new technologies for prisoner rehabilitation in April 2023. In addition, UNICRI is researching existing initiatives that leverage technology to support rehabilitation and reduce reoffending which will identify and establish ethical and human rights principles to guide digital rehabilitation in prisons. The intention of this report is to present guidelines, ideas and options that will be relevant to prison agencies at different levels of digital maturity and to allow agencies to select a development pathway that is appropriate for their needs and the needs of the people in their custody and care. This report is scheduled to be published around February 2024, and the launch event will be held at UNAFEI in Tokyo in March. Furthermore, UNICRI in collaboration with the Government of Japan, Penal Reform International (PRI), and UNAFEI organised a side-event spotlighting the role of technological advancements in prisoner rehabilitation during the 32nd session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), from 22 to 26 May 2023.



A side-event spotlighting the role of technological advancement in prisoner rehabilitation organized by UNICRI, with the Government of Japan and PRI during the 32nd session of the CCPJ in May 2023

In order to strengthen detainee classification in the Central African Republic (CAR), **UNICRI**, in collaboration with the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSCA), hosted a workshop to enhanced prisoner classification. This workshop, attended by 34 participants including prison directors and caseworkers, is part of an ongoing project initiated in 2021 with the National Prison Administration to refine the classification system in CAR prisons, using a customised tool. The workshop was a crucial step towards improving the skills and capabilities of prison personnel in managing detainee classification effectively. Between October 2022 and April 2023, the project successfully classified 90 prisoners in Bangui-area prisons based on their records and interviews, which marks a significant step forward in CAR's prisoner risk assessment and management.

Effective, Accountable, Impartial and Inclusive Institutions

In order to ensure fair and effective administration and delivery of justice, the **Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law** (RWI) continued to provide training and other support, including law, policy and curriculum review, for correctional services in Armenia, Kenya, and Zimbabwe, as well as regionally within East Africa. The activities included a series of workshops in Kenya to review the Prisons Act for compliance with international standards and good practices; the development of an internal inspection system in Zimbabwe regarding compliance with the Nelson Mandela Rules and the Bangkok Rules; a project to reduce the use of pre-trial detention in China in collaboration with the Great Britain China Centre and the China University of Political Science and Law; and a study visit to Sweden and Denmark for academics and lawyers working on pre-trial detention guidelines for Chinese prosecutors. RWI also contributed to the development of a checklist for prison inspections for the Human Rights Defenders Office in Armenia, in line with the National Preventive Mechanism under the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention Against Torture; alongside having developed and implemented

a course on Human Rights in the Pre-Trial Phase for Judges, Prosecutors and Investigators at the Academy of Justice in Armenia. The RWI, in cooperation with the African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum, continues to work on common standards for policing in the East African Community. The **Basel Institute on Governance** partnered with the NIJ in its mission to develop knowledge, skills and competencies in Bulgaria's judicial system and thus promote the rule of law. The **International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council** (ISPAC), in cooperation with the University of Milan, provided a one-year training course for legal practitioners to enhance their knowledge of the international criminal law system. The training course was funded by the Italian Ministry of Justice.

ILANUD presented a paper on "Criminological perspectives on Latin America, 21st century. The trend towards greater use of criminal law and its implications for human rights" during a visit to the Katholieke Universiteit of Leuven. A memorandum of understanding was also signed between the institute and the university, with the objective of establishing the basis for reciprocal cooperation. **ILANUD** also presented a paper on "Criminal Enforcement in Latin America" during the inaugural conference at the 1st International Meeting and the 10th Meeting on Criminal Enforcement, organized by the Court of Justice of the State of Bahia and the Brazilian Institute of Criminal Enforcement, entitled "35 years of the Federal Constitution and Criminal Enforcement".

In order to ensure an effective response to a specific form of crime, the **European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control** (HEUNI) actively participates in the PROMISE-TRM project by the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS), which focuses on preventing the trafficking of children in the Baltic Sea region. In September 2023, HEUNI organised a workshop together with the Ministry of Justice of Finland to initiate a national dialogue on the topic, to increase cooperation between different actors, and to come up with concrete ideas on how to identify and prevent child trafficking in Finland. The main themes of the roundtable discussions were how to identify and support children who are at risk or have become victims of human trafficking, what kind of cooperation different actors engage in, how victims could be supported using, for example, the "Barnahus" model, and what needs to be considered in the criminal process. The meeting was attended by experts from the police, child protection and healthcare services, NGOs working with children and/or trafficking victims, and different government ministries. Furthermore, HEUNI has started a new project entitled "Safety for All? Remedy for Exploited Migrant

Workers in the Nordic Region,” together with the Loretta and the Martin Luther King Institute and Ethical Trading Initiative Sweden, funded by the CBSS Project Support Facility (PSF). This new project maps the different grievance mechanisms, covering state-based judicial and non-judicial mechanisms as well as non-state-based mechanisms in Finland, Sweden, and Norway as well as in other Baltic Sea countries.

ILANUD supported the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in organising a training workshop for trainers on smuggling of migrants and related crimes in Costa Rica from 11 to 14 July 2023. The workshop focused on topics such as human rights, international and national regulations, migration, the smuggling of migrants, document forgery, corruption, technology, cooperation, and investigation, among others. The target population for the workshop was the migration police officers who work as liaison officers for the Border Police’s “Borders of Peace” Programme. ILANUD presented a paper on “Risks of Cybercrime and its Link to Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants in Latin America and the Caribbean” at the XVIII International Congress of Criminology organised by the University of Ixtlahuaca, which was held from 30 August to 1 September 2023 in Mexico. The Congress focused on “Risk management: contributions of criminology in corporate security and cybersecurity”.



ILANUD supported IOM in organising a training workshop for trainers on smuggling of migrants and related crimes in Costa Rica



ILANUD presented a paper on “Risks of Cybercrime and its Link to Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants in Latin America and the Caribbean” at the XVIII International Congress of Criminology

The **KICJ** convened the 2023 Criminal Justice and Legal Policy Conference on National Policy Tasks in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice and the National Police Agency on 27 June 2023. This event consisted of two separate sessions on criminal justice and legal policy. The criminal justice session addressed recent issues that had received national attention, such as illicit drug use, stalking, mass gathering safety, and virtual assets, as well as adoption of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime and victim protection. The legal policy session addressed topics such as civil law reform, jeonse (Korean housing scheme) fraud, international investment disputes, business law revision for introducing online shareholders’ meetings, foreign policy and human rights policy.



The 2023 Criminal Justice and Legal Policy Conference on National Policy Tasks by KICJ

On 6 July 2023, **ISPAC**, in cooperation with the UNESCO Chair on “Business Integrity and Crime Prevention in Art and Antiquities Market,” organised an international conference on “Preventing And Remediating Wrongs In The Art Market: Which Legal Tools?” in Milan, Italy. On 15 May 2023, ISPAC, in cooperation with Alta Scuola “Federico Stella” sulla Giustizia Penale and the Catholic University of Milan,



A national conference on “Towards the Reform of the Italian Corporate Criminal Liability System” by ISPAC



The international conference on “Preventing and Remediating Wrongs in the Art Market: Which Legal Tools?” in Milan by ISPAC

held a national conference on “Towards the Reform of the Italian Corporate Criminal Liability System”. The conference aimed at launching the book on “Verso una riforma della responsabilità da reato degli enti. Dato empirico e dimensione applicativa” (Towards the Reform of the Italian Corporate Criminal Liability System: Empirical Data and Case-law), edited by F. Centonze and S. Manacorda, Il Mulino, 2023.

UNICRI seeks to bring the use of technology to the foreground in order to strengthen the criminal justice system. On 13 November 2023, UNICRI and Interpol trained 250 officers from EU countries in a webinar on the responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI) in law enforcement. The webinar provided law enforcement agencies with practical insights on organisational resilience for an ethical and human rights-compliant engagement with AI, including the development, procurement and deployment of AI systems in a responsible manner. The webinar drew from the Toolkit for Responsible AI Innovation in Law Enforcement (AI Toolkit), developed by Interpol and UNICRI, with financial support from the EU.

On 15 March 2023, the **KICJ** convened the 4th Open Forum and invited Jungwoo Ha, Research Director at Naver Cloud AI Lab, to speak on the topic of “Criminal justice and legal policy research in the era of AI - Using Chat GPT.”



The 4th Open Forum by KICJ

From 16 to 20 January 2023, the **Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights (SII)**, in cooperation with the Institute for International Law and Human Rights (IILHR), organised a workshop on “The Use of Modern Evidence in Criminal Proceedings: A Way Forward” in Siracusa, Italy, for the Iraqi judiciary. The participants included practitioners and experts from Iraq, Egypt, Belgium, the Netherlands, France and Italy. The three-day workshop focused in particular on the use of technology in the administration of justice, the use of modern evidence in investigating, prosecuting

and adjudicating cases and the use of classified or sensitive evidence in criminal trials, with a focus on investigative techniques in counter terrorism. Between July 2022 and July 2023, the SII, in cooperation with the Supreme Judiciary Council of Qatar, organized four Specialization Training Seminars on “Artificial Intelligence, Criminal Justice and Human Rights”. Each training seminar brought together ten judges from Qatar. The training programme illustrated the nature and scope of artificial intelligence, and its underlying algorithms, then investigated the human rights risks, impacts and related issues that AI presents to modern society, as well as the opportunities and risks they present to modern criminal justice systems. Specific sessions focused on AI applications in the field of cybersecurity, on the applications of AI in criminal justice and law enforcement systems, from investigations to court proceedings, and on AI applications relevant to the investigation, prosecution and reporting of financial crimes as well as asset recovery processes.



A workshop on “The Use of Modern Evidence in Criminal Proceedings: A Way Forward” for the Iraqi judiciary, organized by SII in collaboration with IILHR



Four Specialisation Training Seminars on “Artificial Intelligence, Criminal Justice and Human Rights” for Qatar by SII with the Supreme Judiciary Council of Qatar

Effective Anti-corruption Efforts

To provide support for countering corruption, the **Basel Institute** conducted a range of activities, including signing a Memorandum of Cooperation with the

Ministry of Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine to minimise corruption risks in the use of state and donor funds allocated for the reconstruction of critical infrastructure; organising a high-level forum on strengthening transparency and governance through Collective Action in Bulgaria, in partnership with the Ministry of Finance of Bulgaria, with an aim to shape private-sector engagement in anti-corruption and good governance efforts in Bulgaria; joining, together with the University of Basel, a consortium of 25 organisations from 15 countries under the EU's new research project, FALCON: Fight Against Large-scale Corruption and Organised Crime Networks; the three-year Horizon Europe project aims to develop data, evidence and tools to fight corruption and promote the rule of law; and supporting the Commission for Protection for Personal Data in implementing the new Whistleblower Protection Act in Bulgaria to bring the law into line with the EU's 2019 Whistleblowing Protection Directive.



Basel Institute signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Ministry of Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine for transparent reconstruction in Ukraine



A high-level forum on strengthening transparency and governance through Collective Action in Bulgaria by the Basel Institute in partnership with the Ministry of Finance of Bulgaria

ILANUD continues to provide technical assistance to Costa Rica in updating and strengthening regulatory aspects aimed at the investigation and prosecution of corruption crimes, providing better tools to the judicial system, as well as aspects aimed at promoting the

prevention and reporting of corruption from private and public sector organisations. ILANUD contributes to the generation of regulations aimed at strengthening the system of protection in the workplace for whistle-blowers and witnesses of acts of corruption against possible retaliation or discrimination in the workplace because of their complaints. ILANUD also supported the implementation of the National Integrity and Corruption Prevention Strategy (ENIPC is its Spanish acronym), to promote the enactment of a National Anti-Corruption Policy in the country. The ENIPC is the first national effort in Costa Rica aimed at having a tool that articulates and enhances the initiatives carried out by the various entities that have competencies in the promotion of ethics, integrity, and anti-corruption.

On 9 May 2023, the **KICJ** convened the 5th Open Forum under the theme of Anti-Corruption in Canada and Korea. KICJ invited Dr. Todd Foglesong, Professor of Global Practice at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Toronto, to speak on the topic of "The criminology and political economy of anti-corruption in Canada and Korea". On 25 August 2023, the KICJ and the Corruption Investigation Office for High-ranking Officials (CIO) co-organised a conference on the topic of enhancing the investigative and organisational capacities of CIO as an investigative and prosecuting authority.



KICJ organized the 5th Open Forum under the theme of Anti-Corruption in Canada and Korea

In support of the implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), the **ICCLR's** Vancouver Anti-Corruption Institute (VACI) Chair, Dr. Peter German, delivered remarks during an in-person country visit of Canada's second cycle peer reviewers from South Africa and the United States as well as UNODC Secretariat representatives to Ottawa to review Canada's implementation of UNCAC. Canada is currently undergoing its second cycle review covering UNCAC Chapters II (Preventive Measures) and V (Asset Recovery). The VACI, featuring the Anti-Corruption Law Program (ACLP), organised a webinar on the topic of

“Digital Government – How can it be used as a tool to combat corruption?”. The webinar is based on the premise that digital government can be an important tool in the fight against corruption, and explores problems encountered by governments in its effective implementation. The panellists discussed both global and Canadian perspectives on the challenges and benefits of digital government, as well as the impact of digital government on government procurement.

Anti-Corruption Law Program
DIGITAL GOVERNMENT
How Can it be Used as a Tool to Combat Corruption?

Moderator: [Name] | **Panelists:** [Names]

Jessie O'Neil
Senior Manager, Global Compliance
Freeporf-McMoran

Paula Perez
Program Officer,
Open Government Partnership

Jaimie Boyd
National Digital Government Leader,
Deloitte LLP

Nancy Dubosse
Research Economist and
Project Manager, Copenhagen
Consensus

Tuesday, October 10th 9-11am PT | Zoom

Qualifies for 2 CPD credits from the Law Society of British Columbia

Centre for Business Law | Transparency International Canada

“Digital Government: How can it be used as a tool to combat corruption?” organized by VACI within ICCLR

Shaping an international response against the criminal misuse of cryptocurrencies, the **Basel Institute** co-organized the 7th Global Conference on Criminal Finances and Cryptocurrencies together with Europol on 26 to 27 October 2023. The two-day hybrid event was attended by 1,300 representatives from law enforcement, policy institutions, the private sector and academia from more than 100 countries.



The 7th Global Conference on Criminal Finances and Cryptocurrencies by Basel Institute and Europol

The sharing of experiences and perspectives that took place at the conference is key to combating the criminal misuse of cryptocurrencies and promoting a safe, rules-based ecosystem for new financial technologies. VACI within **ICCLR** hosted the second major international event: the 2023 Colloquium on Combating Crypto Crime on 2 November 2023, following the successful conference in 2022 on “Whistleblowers and Public Integrity,” co-organised with the Office of the British Columbia Ombudsperson. The event was chaired by the Right Honourable Kim Campbell, former Prime Minister of Canada. The colloquium focused on key issues associated with combating criminal exploitation of cryptocurrencies, including:

Lead Sponsor: TRACE | Senior Sponsors: Deloitte, Vancouver Anti-Corruption Forum

COMBATTING CRYPTO CRIME COLLOQUIUM
2 November 2023

2023 Colloquium on Combating Crypto Crime by VACI within ICCLR

governance and legal frameworks within which cryptocurrencies are used and traded; key criminal and regulatory concerns associated with the misuse or misrepresentation of cryptocurrency, including fraud and money-laundering; best practices in investigative and regulatory response; regulatory and investigative readiness requirements; current institutional capacity to combat criminal exploitation of cryptocurrencies; and the future of cryptocurrency in markets, regulation and law. The colloquium brought together an audience of law enforcement and financial regulatory sector leaders, practitioners and other professionals; subject matter experts in the design, application and regulation of current crypto technologies; and others whose work brings them into direct contact with the regulation or investigation of the misuse of cryptocurrencies.



A Regional Conference on “Strengthening Judicial Cooperation in the MENA Region: Judges and Prosecutors at the Forefront of the Fight against Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing” in Bahrain by SII and the EU Global Facility on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing

To improve anti-corruption measures focusing on proceeds of corruption, the **SII** and the EU Global Facility on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing co-organised a Regional Conference on “Strengthening Judicial Cooperation in the MENA Region: Judges and Prosecutors at the Forefront of the Fight against Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing” in Manama, Bahrain, in March 2022. The Conference brought together 83 speakers and participants, including 48 representatives from 17 countries of the MENA region, and aimed at strengthening international judicial co-operation and the efficient application of existing MLA standards and international instruments by judges and prosecutors. The overall purpose of the Conference was to equip judges and prosecutors with the specialised knowledge they require to carry out their responsibilities and tasks related to anti-money-laundering and combatting the financing of terrorism. A Regional Conference on “Strengthening Judicial Cooperation in the MENA Region: Integrated Approaches to the Investigation and Prosecution of Money Laundering” was then organised from 5 to 7 June, 2023, in Rabat,

Morocco, in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of Morocco and MENAFATF. The three-day event brought together 102 speakers and participants, including 69 representatives from 17 countries of the MENA region, and focused on the effective implementation of the recommendations endorsed at the end of the previous conference organised in Bahrain. In order to be able to adequately address the subject, this event focused on the fight against money-laundering, in particular on the subject of the recovery of the proceeds of crime and international cooperation in this area.



A Regional Conference on “Strengthening Judicial Cooperation in the MENA Region: Integrated Approaches to the Investigation and Prosecution of Money Laundering” in Morocco by SII in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of Morocco and MENAFATF

On 16 May 2023, **ILANUD** presented on the topic of “Money laundering and related illicit activities as challenges to the rule of law from a human rights perspective” during the International Conference “Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing in West and Central Africa: Current Situation, Challenges and Future Opportunities” organised by UNAFRI. On 30 May 2023, the director of ILANUD, Douglas Durán, participated as a speaker at the Meeting on Security Concerns in the Member States of the Central American Integration System (SICA), held by the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States (OAS). The presentation highlighted the scope of certain crimes, such as money-laundering, tax crimes, trafficking of migrants and corruption, in the social development of States and their impact on the fundamental rights of citizens.



Francophone African Criminal Justice Seminar by UNAFEI

UNAFEI organised the 181st International Training Course on Criminal Justice (12 May-8 June 2023), in which 28 participants from 20 jurisdictions discussed countermeasures against transnational organised crime. The Francophone African Criminal Justice Seminar (28 February-10 March 2023) was also held, at which 26 criminal justice practitioners from seven Francophone African countries discussed the challenges in investigation and trial of drug crimes as well as measures to tackle these challenges.

The **Basel Institute**, along with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Swiss Embassy in Mozambique, supported Mozambique’s Minister of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs and Deputy Attorney General in co-chairing a high-level international seminar on the topic of a new civil confiscation law to boost recovery of stolen assets. The Basel Institute has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Prosecution Authority of Zambia to support Zambia’s efforts to fight corruption and recover stolen assets. The Basel Institute celebrates a decision by the Swiss Federal Supreme Court to return around USD 8.5 million in corruptly obtained assets to Peru. It is a highly symbolic case for both Switzerland and Peru and sets an important precedent for the use of non-conviction-based forfeiture laws to recover illicit assets. The Basel Institute has been supporting the Peruvian authorities since 2012 in emblematic asset recovery cases through capacity-building and hands-on mentoring.



The Basel Institute co-chaired a high-level international seminar on the topic of a new civil confiscation law to boost recovery of stolen assets



The Basel Institute signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Zambia’s National Prosecution Authority to fight corruption and recover stolen assets

In response to green corruption, the **Basel Institute** co-organised a high-level discussion on “green corruption” at the Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. on 19 September 2023, together with the Embassy of Liechtenstein to the U.S. and the U.S. Department of State to promote dialogue on corruption and the environment. The panellists noted substantial progress in addressing corruption and illicit financial flows linked to environmental degradation.



A high-level discussion on “green corruption” at the Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. on 19 September by the Basel Institute

Social, Educational and Other Measures

In fostering a culture of lawfulness, **UNAFEI** held a symposium on “A Comparative Approach to a Culture of Lawfulness” as a special event at the ASEAN-Japan Special Legal Affairs Ministers’ Meeting (6 July 2023, in a hybrid format).



The symposium on “A Comparative Approach to a Culture of Lawfulness” by UNAFEI

The **RWI** has also been working on twinning the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission and the Zimbabwe Gender Commission, and continues to support clinical legal education as a model to promote increased access to justice in Zimbabwe.

ILANUD prepared a “Guide for specialised care with a restorative and therapeutic approach for young minors and women users of the administration of justice in juvenile criminal proceedings”, in a coordinated effort with judicial authorities of Paraguay, Mexico and the Dominican Republic. This was within the framework of the triangular cooperation provided by the Judicial Branch of Costa Rica in the region through the Adelante 2 initiative, financed by the European Union. In collaboration with the Judiciary Council of Cuenca and the School of the Judiciary, training was held from 3 to 6 October 2023 for 250 people, including teachers, researchers and university students from different careers; people from the multidisciplinary teams of the Judiciary Council (psychologists, social workers, judges, prosecutors, jurists, experts, physicians); and people from the prosecutor’s office in different provinces.

The **TIJ** initiated a pilot project to raise awareness and promote students’, high school teachers’ and university lecturers’ understanding of restorative justice and conflict resolution. The project aims at mainstreaming the use of restorative justice practices in educational institutions by organizing annual youth camps and initiating the development of institutional guidelines that suit the distinctive needs of educational settings and communities while preserving the fundamental principles of restorative justice.



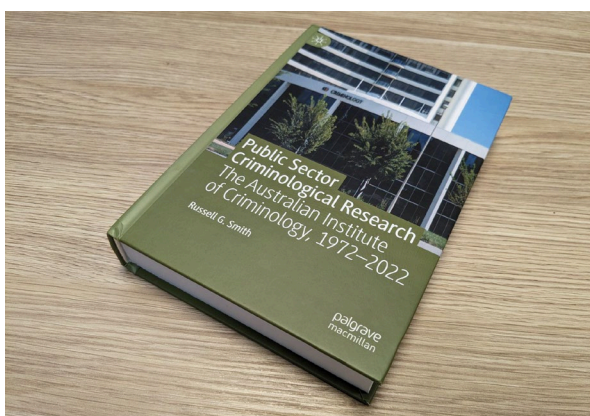
RJ Youth Camp by TIJ

THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY (AIC) CELEBRATES ITS 50TH BIRTHDAY

On Monday, 16 October 2023, the AIC celebrated the 50th anniversary of its opening ceremony in 1973. The 1973 ceremony at the National Library of Australia in Canberra included a speech by the Commonwealth Attorney General at the time, the Hon Lionel Murphy, who outlined the need for a criminology institute that would examine the causes and consequences of criminal behaviour and identify and develop effective solutions to reducing crime. Since then, the AIC has delivered over 1,800 research studies that have explored a wide range of crime and justice issues, tracking the changes in the trends over time.



To celebrate this significant milestone, the AIC returned to the National Library of Australia, 50 years to the day of the opening ceremony, for a one-day conference that examined the past, present and future of criminology in Australia. The first presentation was delivered by Professor Russell Smith, from Flinders University and former AIC Principal Criminologist. Dr. Smith provided an overview of the early years of the AIC, including the background to the Institute's formation and its early successes and challenges. This was followed by the launch of his new book, *Public Sector Criminological Research: The Australian Institute of Criminology, 1972-2022*, with a commentary on the book by former AIC Director, Professor Richard Harding.



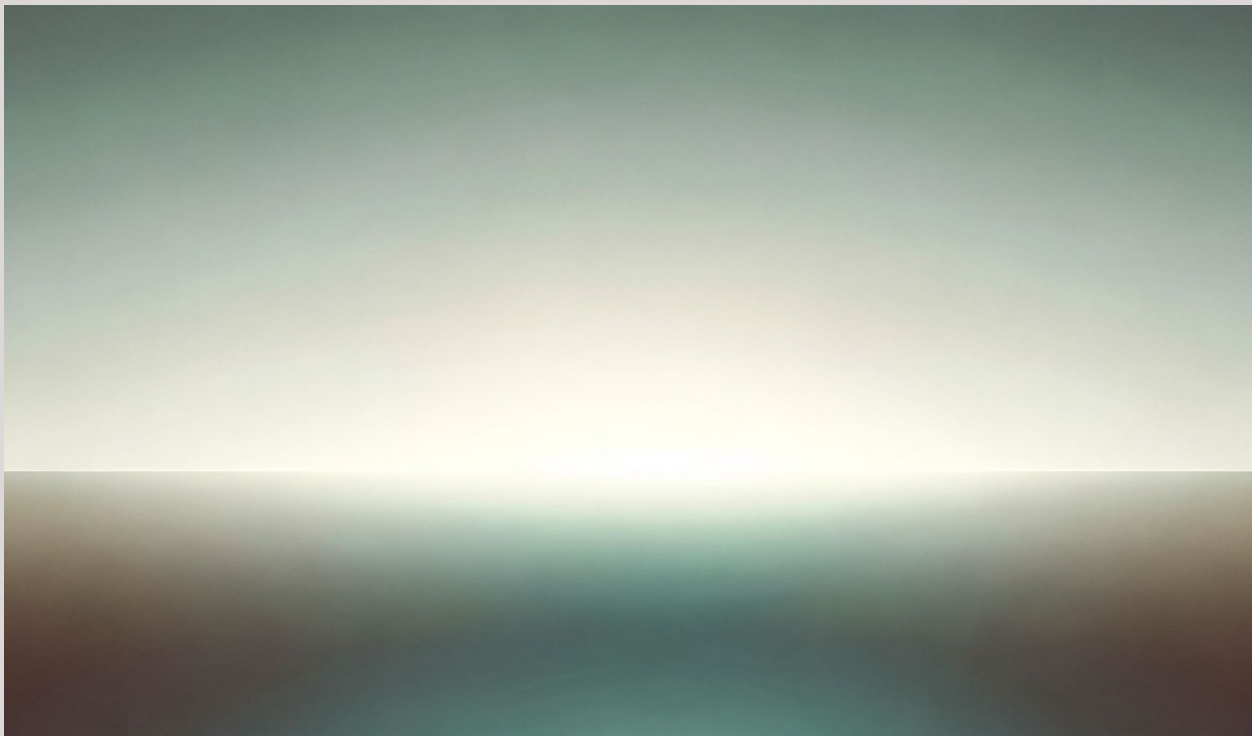
A session on the present criminology saw presentations on key AIC research topics, including cybercrime, deaths in custody, online sexual exploitation of children, sexual violence and adolescent family violence. These were delivered by AIC Research Managers Anthony Morgan, Dr. Samantha Bricknell, Dr. Sarah Napier, Dr. Christopher Dowling and Dr. Hayley Boxall. The afternoon was devoted to examining the future of criminology, with a focus on the future of policing, the future of corrections and climate change and crime. These were delivered by Dr. Tracey Green, CEO of the Australia and New Zealand Policing Advisory Agency, Professor Susan Dennison from Griffith University and Professor Rob White from the University of Tasmania, respectively.



This was a fitting way to celebrate our 50th anniversary, with over 170 policymakers and academics joining us for the conference.

AUSTRALIA LAUNCHES THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

RICK BROWN¹
ANTHONY MORGAN



Internationally, effective responses to corruption have long been a priority for both the United Nations and individual member states. As noted 20 years ago in the foreword to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), “Corruption ... undermines democracy and the rule of law, leads to violations of human rights, distorts markets, erodes the quality of life and allows organised crime, terrorism and other threats to human security to flourish” (United Nations, 2003: iii). These far-reaching impacts highlight the importance

of ensuring corruption is suppressed as much as possible. The Kyoto Declaration (2021:10) reaffirmed the importance of anti-corruption measures, calling on Member States to:

Develop, adequately resource and implement effective policies and measures, including by, inter alia, enhancing the collection and assessment of data to analyse corruption and strengthening the integrity, transparency and accountability of public institutions, in order to prevent, detect, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate corruption in a holistic manner for ending impunity.

¹ Rick Brown, Deputy Director of the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC)
Anthony Morgan, Research Manager, AIC

As a signatory to UNCAC since 2003, Australia has taken significant steps to improve its response to corruption over the years. This has included anti-corruption agencies in most states and territories, tasked with investigating corrupt public officials at the local level. At the federal level, the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI) was (until July 2023) responsible for investigating integrity issues associated with federal law enforcement agencies and a limited number of government departments with investigatory powers. Other integrity cases involving federal public servants were dealt with by departmental integrity units, working in collaboration with the Australian Federal Police.

Yet, there have been signs that Australia's international standing in dealing with corruption has deteriorated in recent years. In 2012, Australia was ranked seventh best in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index. By 2021, its rank position had slipped to the 18th internationally, before improving to the 13th in 2022. Australia is, indeed, by no means immune to corrupt conduct, including within government, and there have been several recent high-profile cases that have attracted considerable media scrutiny. Irrespective of the true extent of corruption (APS Commission, 2022), people's perceptions may not match reality (McAllister, Pietsch & Graycar, 2012). If the community believes a government is acting corruptly, that can negatively impact public confidence in government and undermine democratic processes (Menocal et al., 2015).

To address corruption at the federal level, the Australian government launched the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) in July 2023. The remit of the new Commission is to detect, investigate and report on serious or systemic corruption in the federal public service. Ministers, parliamentarians and their staff, as well as staff of federal agencies come under the purview of the new NACC. It also includes the remit previously covered by the ACLEI. Referrals to the NACC can be made by public service agencies as well as by members of the public, and the founding legislation includes robust whistle-blower protections to encourage reporting without fear of repercussions.

In addition to investigation, the NACC also plays an education and awareness raising role, providing information to the public service and the general public on corruption risks and its prevention.

Introducing the National Anti-Corruption Commission Bill (2022) during its second reading in parliament, the Commonwealth Attorney General, the Honourable Mark Dreyfus KC MP, explained:

Today I bring to the parliament a bill to establish a powerful, transparent and independent national anticorruption commission ... This government takes its commitments seriously. And we're serious about restoring trust and integrity to government. This legislation delivers the single biggest integrity reform this parliament has seen in decades. It honours our commitment to Australians in both form and substance. The design principles we announced before the election are the design principles of the bill before the House. These design principles were developed with some of Australia's leading integrity advocates. They were endorsed by the Australian people at the election (Dreyfus, 2022).

Although the NACC is still in its early stages of implementation, it is expected to play an important role in enhancing integrity in the public sector and, importantly, the perception of integrity. The Australian Institute of Criminology's recent research in support of the NACC has highlighted the essential role of perceived integrity in shaping people's views of the government. This research involved measuring perceptions of corruption prior to the implementation of the NACC.

In a survey of 11,304 online Australians, respondents were asked to estimate what proportion of public officials—including politicians and representatives of government institutions—were involved in corruption. While most respondents believed corruption was relatively rare, a significant minority felt that corruption was quite common. Approximately two in five respondents said they believed more than half of all politicians were involved in corruption, while nearly one-third of respondents believed more than half of those working in government institutions were involved in corruption.

These views were stronger among certain groups within the community. Younger, unemployed, and First Nation's respondents perceived higher levels of corruption. This was also true of respondents with lower levels of education and who were living in socioeconomically disadvantaged areas. These are all groups which are more likely to experience disadvantage and social exclusion (O'Donnell, 2022), such as limited access to services or fewer work or education opportunities. There was also a relationship between the level of interest in politics and levels of perceived corruption, suggesting corruption may lead to disengagement from political processes.

Further analysis revealed how closely related perceptions of corruption were with the perceived legitimacy of public officials. As one went up, the other

went down. Respondents to the survey who believed there were higher levels of corruption were less likely to report that politicians or government institutions acted with honesty and integrity, considered the views of citizens, treated citizens with fairness and equality or treated citizens with dignity and respect (four items which, when combined, were used to create an overall legitimacy score). The same marginalised groups which believed corruption was common among public officials were also more likely to hold negative perceptions of the legitimacy of government and public officials.

The effect of corruption on legitimacy also varied between groups of respondents. One of the most notable findings was with respect to older Australians. Their views were much more likely to be impacted by perceived corruption. While they were more likely than younger respondents to perceive government as being legitimate when they did not believe they were acting corruptly, their views of government legitimacy declined sharply when the level of perceived corruption increased. Younger respondents were more sceptical of government generally, but the level of perceived corruption had less of an impact. Similar findings were observed for people born overseas and with those who had completed vocational education. It is possible these are groups which feel most impacted by the corrupt conduct of public officials.

Many of these findings are not unique to Australia—similar results have been found in international studies as well (Erlingsson, Jónsdóttir & Kristinsson, 2022; Menocal et al., 2015; Seligson, 2002). From this research, it is not possible to be certain whether perceived corruption increases the likelihood that people will perceive politicians as being less trustworthy, acting dishonestly, or failing to treat citizens with fairness or respect, or whether it works in the opposite direction. What is clear though is that perceived corruption goes hand in hand with the legitimacy of government. Addressing one can help address the other. Introducing accountability measures for corruption by public officials—which have been shown to be effective in deterring corrupt conduct (Mugellini et al., 2021)—may, over time, help improve community perceptions of the extent of corruption and contribute to a greater sense of trust, confidence, legitimacy and integrity in public officials. Efforts to improve community perceptions of the legitimacy of public officials may also be beneficial. These findings highlight the essential role to be played by the new NACC in improving both prevention and detection responses to public sector corruption, thereby enhancing the community's perceptions of integrity in the system and legitimacy in government.

The AIC's research will be published on its website (aic.gov.au) in early 2024.

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UPDATE ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE FIFTEENTH UNITED NATIONS CRIME CONGRESS (2026)

MATTI JOUTSEN²



The United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (the UN Crime Congresses) are the world's largest global gatherings on crime and justice. They are also the oldest periodic conferences organised by the United Nations on a specific subject area. The Congresses, which are organised every five years, bring together thousands of senior policymakers, practitioners, representatives of UN specialised agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations as well as individual experts in crime prevention, law enforcement, prosecution, the courts, corrections and

related fields. The Congresses are organised by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) together with the host country.

The first UN Crime Congress was held in Geneva in 1955, and the most recent, the Fourteenth, was held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021. (The Fourteenth UN Crime Congress was delayed by a year as a consequence of the global Covid-19 pandemic, and it was the first major UN conference in any field to be held in a hybrid format).

The Fifteenth UN Crime Congress shall be held in 2026.

² Dr. Matti Joutsen, Special Advisor, Thailand Institute of Justice

The five-year cycle for Congress preparations follows a standard format. The proposed Congress programme and mandate are formulated by the UN Crime Commission, from where they go through ECOSOC for approval by the General Assembly, as follows:

- second year in the cycle** (in this cycle, 2023): decisions on the theme, agenda items and Workshop topics;
- third year in the cycle** (in this cycle, 2024): approval of the discussion guide prepared by the Secretariat; acceptance of the invitation of the future host Member State;
- fourth year in the cycle** (in this cycle, 2025): organization of regional preparatory meetings (usually during the first four months of the fourth year), followed by informal negotiations on the text of the Congress Declaration.

Throughout the cycle, the UN Crime Commission also pays attention to the follow-up from the preceding Congress.

In line with this timeline, the UN Crime Commission, at its session in May 2023, formulated a draft Congress resolution. This was submitted to ECOSOC, which recommended it, as ECOSOC resolution 2023/23, to the General Assembly for adoption. At the time of writing, the draft resolution is still before the General Assembly.

According to the draft resolution, the main theme of the Fifteenth UN Crime Congress shall be “Accelerating crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: protecting people and planet and achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the digital age”.

The United Arab Emirates have generously offered to host the Fifteenth UN Crime Congress. This shall be the third time that the UN Crime Congress has been held in the region, following Congresses in Egypt in 1995 and Qatar in 2015. (The Congresses have been held in the Latin American and Caribbean region three times, in Venezuela in 1980, Cuba in 1990 and Brazil in 2010. They have been held in the Asian region also three times, in Thailand in 2005 and in Japan in both 1970 and 2021).

The four substantive agenda items and four workshop topics have been selected so that they deal in a balanced way with priority concerns in different areas of crime prevention and criminal justice. Following the innovative structure adopted for the 2015 Congress in Doha, Qatar, and used subsequently at the 2021 Congress in Kyoto, Japan, each workshop topic has been selected so that it supports discussions on the respective substantive agenda item, as follows:

Substantive Agenda Item	Related Workshop Topic
Advancing innovative and evidence-based crime prevention strategies towards social, economic and environmental development	(a) Building resilient societies, with a focus on protecting women, children and youth: fostering engagement, education and the culture of lawfulness
Promoting people-centred, inclusive and responsive criminal justice systems in a world of continuous change	(b) Ensuring equal access to justice for all: towards safe and secure societies while respecting the rule of law
Addressing and countering crime – including organized crime and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations – in new, emerging and evolving forms	(c) Getting ahead: strengthening data collection and analysis to better protect people and planet in times of new, emerging and evolving forms of crime
Working better together to elevate cooperation and partnerships, including technical and material assistance and training, at the national, regional and international levels, in crime prevention and criminal justice	(d) Turning the digital age into an opportunity: promoting the responsible use of technologies in crime prevention and criminal justice

The draft resolution emphasises the importance of the workshops. While the discussion on the agenda items tends to focus on policy and on developments in the different Member States, the Workshops are intended to be more practical and technical, with an exchange of experiences among practitioners, policymakers and academics regarding “what works”. The Secretary-General is requested to cooperate inter alia with the Programme Network Institutes in the preparation of these Workshops. UNAFEI has agreed to be the lead PNI in the coordination of workshop (a), ILANUD correspondingly of workshop (b), TIJ of workshop (c), and UNICRI and KICJ on workshop (d). Several PNIs shall be assisting with each of the workshops. As noted at the PNI coordination meeting held in Vancouver, Canada on 1 November 2023 at the generous invitation of the ICCLR&CJP, these preparations are making good progress.

The draft resolution also requests the Secretary-General to work with the Programme Network Institutes on the preparation of a discussion guide to be used at the regional preparatory meetings and at the Fifteenth Congress itself. This is a key function, since the regional meetings are tasked with making action-oriented recommendations to serve as a basis for the Congress Declaration, the politically most important outcome of the Fifteenth UN Crime Congress. At the time of writing, the PNIs have provided detailed input to the UNODC, and the discussion guides are on track for consideration at the May 2024 session of the UN Crime Commission.

“THANK YOU, VALÉRIE ...”

FUMIKO AKASHI³



Valérie Lebaux, a key and widely respected member of the UNODC staff, has retired from her duties.

Valérie's tremendous contributions to the UNODC and the PNI go without saying. Whether she was chairing UNODC conferences and meetings, helping in the organisation of Crime Congress workshops or facilitating the development of UN standards and norms, she has always demonstrated superb professionalism, outstanding leadership and expert knowledge.

I would also like to pay tribute to her sense of collegiality and her warm consideration of the circumstances of others. From July 2021 to June 2023, I had the pleasure of working as a consultant at the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Section of the UNODC, of which Valerie was the chief.

I quickly discovered that Valerie is always calm, polite and wore a gentle smile even when the situation is critical. I never saw her upset. She is always considerate of others and respects their opinion. To give you an example, when I had to go back to Japan due to a family issue during my stay in Vienna, she said, “Take care of yourself and your family. We can support you anytime. Do not worry about work during your absence!” Since I lived in Vienna by myself, it was very helpful and encouraging to have her support, and to know that she and my colleagues cared about my family in Japan.

All of my colleagues enjoyed working with her and have tremendous respect for her keen intellect, leadership skills and warm personality. Thanks to her, we all enjoyed working at CPCJS/UNODC in a very comfortable and positive environment, and I have wonderful memories of my time in Vienna.

Dear Valérie, thank you very much for your longstanding and great contribution to UNODC and the work of the PNI. I, along with all of your colleagues at UNODC, thank you and will miss working with you! Please keep in touch with your PNI family!

Valérie Lebaux was Chief of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Section, Division for Treaty Affairs, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) from 2010 until her retirement in September 2023. Before leading the Justice Section, Ms. Lebaux was the Chief of the Organized Crime and Criminal Justice Section, as well as the Secretary of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Transnational Organised Crime Convention, after holding a variety of positions in the United Nations in the drug control and anti-corruption areas. Ms. Lebaux holds a Master's degree in Humanities from the University Paris IV-Sorbonne and a Postgraduate degree in International and Penal Comparative Law from the University Paris II-Panthéon.

³ Fumiko AKASHI, Professor, United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI)

RECENT PNI PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS INTERREGIONAL CRIME AND JUSTICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (UNICRI)



SDG 16 Through a Digital Lens

This report, *SDG 16 Through a Digital Lens*, zooms out from UNICRI's niches in justice, security, and the rule of law to explore broadly the intricate interplay between the trend toward digitalisation and the pursuit of peace, justice, and strong institutions. As the title suggests, this report emphasises that we must look at SDG 16 "Through a digital lens". Read more: <https://bit.ly/3QHazYf>

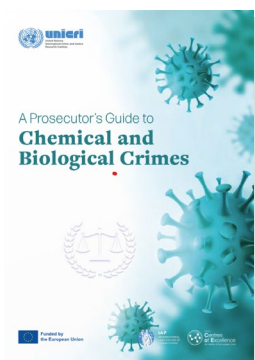


Toolkit for Responsible AI Innovation in Law Enforcement

The Toolkit for Responsible AI Innovation in Law Enforcement is a tailor-made set of resources for the global law enforcement community, developed by Interpol and UNICRI with the financial support of the

European Union. Its objective is to support law enforcement agencies in navigating the complex task of institutionalising responsible AI innovation and integrating AI systems into their work. Read more: <https://bit.ly/3KwYvGx>

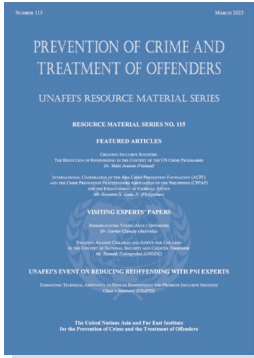
The Prosecutor's Guide to Chemical and Biological Crimes



Now available in different languages, including Arabic, English, French, Russian, and Ukrainian, the Guidebook provides police, civil prosecutors, and relevant investigative agencies with guidance to support the successful prosecution of incidents involving the deliberate use of chemical or biological agents. The Guidebook raises awareness and offers insights into current and emerging challenges in investigating and prosecuting such crimes. Read more: <https://bit.ly/47ep2ls>

PUBLICATIONS OF THE ASIA AND FAR EAST INSTITUTE FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS (UNAFEI)

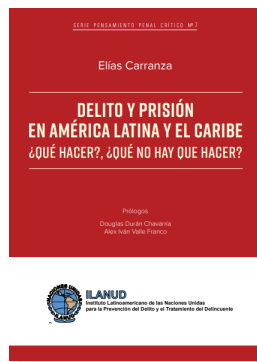
UNAFEI's activities include training courses and seminars for criminal justice practitioners. The outcomes of these training courses and seminars are published in the Resource Material Series. Issues 115 (March 2023) and 116 (October 2023) contain papers by lecturers and



participants on the themes of UNAFET's international training courses and seminars. <https://www.unafei.or.jp/english/publications/resource.html>

PUBLICATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS LATIN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS (ILANUD)

The director emeritus of ILANUD, Elías Carranza, published the book "Crime and Prison in Latin America: What to do, what not to do?" In this publication, the author presents an analysis of the prison situation in Latin America and the Caribbean, based on an analysis of data collected in the region. Among his findings, Carranza emphasises the serious overcrowding crisis affecting most of the region's detention centres, a situation that seriously affects the guarantee of the fundamental rights of persons deprived of their liberty. The author also draws attention to the repeated challenges faced by the penitentiary systems, related to the lack of technical and security personnel, the precarious working conditions of many of these people and the limited economic resources allocated to prison administration. Carranza also stresses in this text the importance of Latin American and Caribbean countries addressing the profound inequality that affects them, as a necessary condition for developing a criminal policy that respects human rights.



The Spanish version is available at the following link of the ILANUD Documentation Centre: <https://biblioteca.ilanud.or.cr/cgi-bin/koha/opac-detail.pl?biblionumber=501>

PUBLICATIONS OF THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL, AFFILIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (HEUNI)



HEUNI Report Series No. 99b "Review of actions against labour trafficking in Finland" by Anniina Jokinen, Natalia Ollus, and Anna-Greta Pekkarinen, HEUNI

This review examines the development, regulation and **combating of labour trafficking and the exploitation of migrant labour** on the basis of an extensive selection of written materials and previous literature. The review highlights findings regarding key actors, their roles, and the most significant changes that have taken place in Finland. In addition, the review briefly analyses Finnish legislation and case law and makes a comparison with other Nordic countries. Finally, an assessment of Finland's approach to tackle labour exploitation and the factors that have led to Finland's current situation is presented, and existing gaps are identified. <https://heuni.fi/-/report-series-99b>

Policy brief "Trafficking in human beings: psychological coercion and investigative interviewing" by Julia Korkman, HEUNI

This policy brief reviews psychological coercion (and psychological coercion in the context of human trafficking), and investigative interviews with trafficking victims. <https://heuni.fi/-/thb-psych-coercion-investigative-interviewing>

"Patterns of exploitation. Policy brief on the latest trafficking trends and modus operandi" by Anna-Greta Pekkarinen and Anniina Jokinen, HEUNI

This policy brief is based on the "Patterns of exploitation" publication. It summarises the main findings of the report on human trafficking trends and modus operandi in Finland, Latvia, Estonia, Poland and Ukraine. The policy brief includes definitions, premises, an overview of labour trafficking, an overview of trafficking for sexual exploitation, a look into the impact of Covid-19 and the Russian invasion of Ukraine on human trafficking, as well as key recommendations for policymakers. <https://heuni.fi/-/patterns-of-exploitation-summary>

HEUNI Report Series №103 “Patterns of exploitation. Trends and modus operandi in human trafficking in Finland, Latvia, Estonia, Poland and Ukraine” by Anna-Greta Pekkarinen and Anniina Jokinen, HEUNI

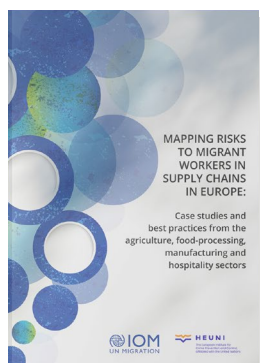
This report is based on data on the modus operandi and routes of traffickers and other actors involved in trafficking, and on trends in trafficking. The data have been collected in the three partner countries, Estonia, Finland and Latvia, as well as in Poland and Ukraine. The information has been collected via desk review as well as through interviews and meetings with representatives of different key stakeholders, such as law enforcement, labour inspection authorities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and trade unions. <https://heuni.fi/-/report-series-103-patterns-of-exploitation-elect-thb>

ELECT THB Online Knowledge base: investigating human trafficking

HEUNI and partners have developed an online training resource based on the latest information on the modus operandi of traffickers and on schemes and routes used. The resource includes a comprehensive overview of the different tools and techniques that law enforcement agencies and other organisations use to investigate cases of trafficking in human beings. The materials include video trainings on investigating human trafficking, covering investigative interviewing, psychological control in the context of human trafficking, and taking cultural aspects into account in investigative interviews. <http://heuni.education/elect-thb>

“Mapping Risks to Migrant Workers in Supply Chains in Europe” by Anna-Greta Pekkarinen, Saara Haapasaaari, Anniina Jokinen, Anni Lietonen and Natalia Ollus, HEUNI

The report was produced by HEUNI as a result of their project in collaboration with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) Regional Office for EEA, EU, and NATO. The project was part of their effort to sustain and scale private sector engagement to protect migrant workers in Europe. HEUNI conducted four regional mappings on sector-specific risks to migrant workers in European supply chain contexts in the sectors of agriculture, food processing, hospitality, and manufacturing. <https://heuni.fi/-/mapping-risks-to-migrant-workers-in-supply-chains-in-europe>



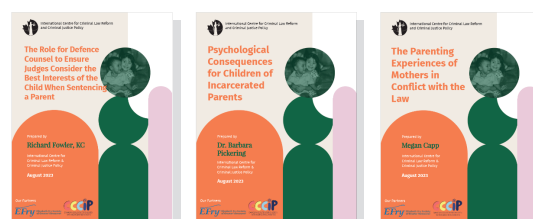
PUBLICATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR CRIMINAL LAW REFORM AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY (ICCLR)



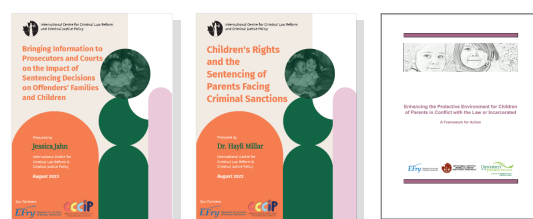
Considering the Best Interests of the Child in Sentencing and Other Decisions Concerning Parents Facing Criminal Sanctions: An Overview for Practitioners

This Overview is intended to encourage active consideration of child impact and family impact at the time of sentencing and other court decisions, principally by prosecutors and judges but also all those with influence in criminal proceedings, to avoid the potentially negative impacts of those decisions. A broader purpose is to raise awareness about these issues more generally, and to identify practices which serve to diminish consideration of the best interests of the child, where they exist.

Overview for Practitioners synthesizes insights from separate modules. Contributing authors of these modules include ICCLR Associates and experts. To read these additional resources, visit this link. <https://icclr.org/considering-the-best-interests-of-the-child/>



The Role for Defence Counsel to Ensure Judges Consider the Best Interests of the Child When Sentencing a Parent
Psychological Consequences for Children of Incarcerated Parents
The Parenting Experiences of Mothers in Conflict with the Law



Bringing Information to Prosecutors and Courts on the Impact of Sentencing Decisions on Offenders' Families and Children
Children's Rights and the Sentencing of Parents Facing Criminal Sanctions
Enhancing the Protective Environment for Children of Parents in Conflict with the Law or Incarcerated - A Framework for Action

PUBLICATIONS OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (NIJ)

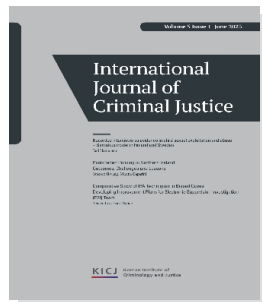
NIJ publishes the NIJ Journal several times a year. The NIJ Journal features articles to help criminal justice policymakers and practitioners stay informed about new developments. The NIJ Journal presents research-based information that can help inform policy decisions and improve understanding of the criminal justice system. Each issue of the NIJ Journal focuses on a single theme, allowing the articles to dive into one specific topic from different scientific points of view. The current and past issues of the NIJ Journal can be found here: <https://nij.ojp.gov/library/nij-journal>

Throughout the year, NIJ disseminates a variety of information including but not limited to special reports, research final reports, articles for trade publications, and podcasts, to support the diverse range of research topics funded by NIJ. A complete list of publications can be found here: <https://nij.ojp.gov/library/publications/list>

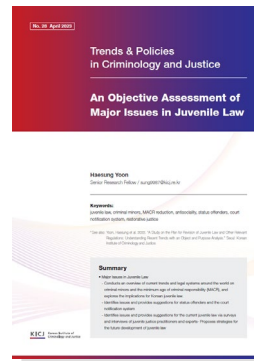
PUBLICATIONS OF THE KOREAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY AND JUSTICE (KICJ)

1. International Journal of Criminal Justice (IJCJ), Volume 5 Issue 1

The first paper compared the “Barnahus” model of Finland and Sweden, used in the investigation of child sexual abuse. The second paper explored the implementation and limitations of policing reforms in the Police Service of Northern Ireland. The third paper applied Importance-Performance Analysis (IPA) to an Electronic Supervision Investigation Team in the special judicial police system, concluding that



Importance-Performance Gap Analysis (IPGA) is suitable for cases involving bias. Available at <https://www.kicj.re.kr/board.es?mid=a20205010400&bid=0034>



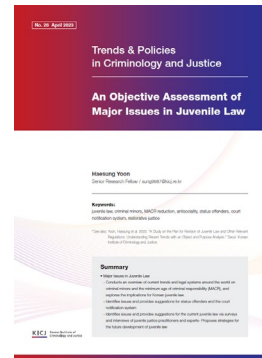
2. Trends & Policies in Criminology and Justice (TPCJ)

2.1. No. 28: An Objective Assessment of Major Issues in Juvenile Law

This report summarises major issues and proposed improvements in juvenile law, based on an analysis of global trends related to juvenile delinquents. The report includes policy recommendations, such as proposing amendments to Article 1 of juvenile law, specialization of juvenile courts, and enhancing the expertise of the police and prosecution.

2.2. No. 29: The Operating Status and Future Improvements of Social Settlement Support Projects for Projected Juveniles

The issue provides a summary of the current situation of the Settlement Support Programme for protected juveniles in South Korea. Policy recommendations were also presented, including legal revisions related to social settlement support, and establishment of the role of the Juvenile Protection Association.



Available at <https://www.kicj.re.kr/board.es?mid=a20203000000&bid=0031>

PUBLICATIONS OF THE BASEL INSTITUTE ON GOVERNANCE

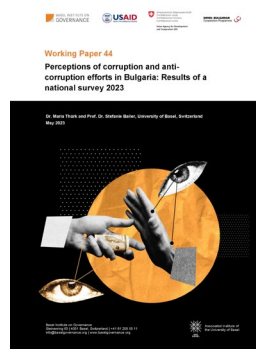


Working Paper 43: *How corruption threatens the forests of Ukraine: Typology and case studies on corruption and illegal logging*

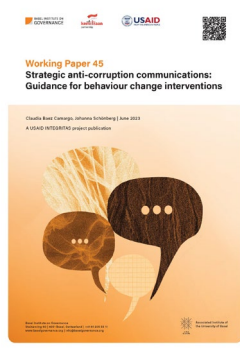
This report offers a detailed account of how corruption fuelled illegal logging in Ukraine during the period before the full-scale war. It explains how the Russian

invasion has raised the risks of illegal logging, by increasing demand for wood and its relative value as a resource, and by reducing inspections and civil society oversight.

Working Paper 44: *Perceptions of corruption and anti-corruption efforts in Bulgaria: Results of a national survey 2023*



This Working Paper presents the results of a nationwide survey which examined how corruption is perceived in Bulgaria and what kind of behaviour is considered acceptable. It also looked at respondents' perceptions of anti-corruption efforts and under which circumstances they would be more likely to report corruption to the authorities.



Working Paper 45: *Strategic anti-corruption communications – Guidance for behaviour change interventions*

This Working Paper is intended to guide practitioners who are seeking to complement conventional anti-corruption measures by

adopting a behavioural communications approach. It suggests practical implications based on a review of seven key topically pertinent studies.

Working Paper 47: *Conflict of interest legislation in Brazil, South Korea and the European Union: International case studies*



This Working Paper presents international case studies of legal frameworks addressing conflicts of interest and highlights common challenges, opportunities and lessons for practitioners and other interested stakeholders.



Policy Brief 12: *De-risking of Russian clients: best intentions, unintended consequences*

The de-risking of unsanctioned Russian individuals may cause an increase in the use of unregulated channels to move money and have other unintended consequences on the fight against financial crime. This Policy Brief outlines the current situation and suggests how to better manage risk to avoid this negative impact.

Quick Guide 29: *Money laundering and sanctions evasion using the art market*



This quick guide briefly explains the unique characteristics of the art market that makes it vulnerable to abuse from people seeking to launder proceeds of crime or evade sanctions. It outlines steps that jurisdictions can take to prevent and combat abuse of the sector for illicit purposes.



Research Case Study 2: *Leveraging informal networks for anti-corruption in East Africa*

This research case study gives a brief overview of our Public Governance team's research in Uganda and Tanzania. Through interviews, the team explored when, how and why informal networks are built and used

to access public services or business opportunities corruptly. Understanding these networks better can strengthen anti-corruption efforts.

Research Case Study 3: *Exposing the networks behind transnational corruption and money laundering schemes*

Corruption is increasingly understood as a form of collective, social behaviour that uses sophisticated financial strategies and transactions to launder the stolen money. We applied analytical tools to reveal the complex networks behind a corruption and money-laundering scheme involving Odebrecht and Peru's former president. The insights can support strategic approaches to fight transnational corruption.



Research Case Study 4: *Deconstructing a criminal network involved in illegal wildlife trade between East Africa and Southeast Asia*

The illegal wildlife trade threatens biodiversity and security worldwide. Criminal networks pocket billions of dollars in illicit profits from stripping the world bare of endangered species and

corrupting politicians and public officials in the process. Yet there is very little empirical evidence on the role of both ordinary citizens and criminal networks in the illegal wildlife trade. Our research aims to fill this gap.



Engaging the private sector in Collective Action against corruption: A practical guide for anti-corruption agencies in Africa

This guidance seeks to capture and explore the innovative approaches that African governments have developed to address the demand and supply sides of corruption more effectively and sustainably. It is designed to help government institutions, in particular national anti-corruption agencies, engage with the private sector more effectively to prevent corruption.



Enhancing Ukraine's anti-corruption measures to safeguard the recovery

This document takes stock of recent progress in strengthening Ukraine's anti-corruption ecosystem with a view to safeguarding reconstruction projects. It is a joint publication of Transparency International Ukraine and the Basel

Institute on Governance, published and distributed at the Ukraine Recovery Conference 2023 in London.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAMME (ISPAC)

F. Centonze - S. Manacorda (eds.), "Verso una riforma della responsabilità da reato degli enti. Dato empirico e dimensione applicativa" (Towards the Reform of the Italian Corporate Criminal Liability System: Empirical Data and Case-law), Il Mulino, 2023 (Link: <https://www.mulino.it/isbn/9788815383808#>)



The book investigates the reason why, despite an intense theoretical debate and a wide diffusion of compliance models in large business entities, the Italian system of corporate criminal liability has not been satisfactorily applied at the jurisprudential level. Benefiting from the contribution of public and private institutions as well as authoritative scholars, the research adopted a

multidisciplinary approach to analyse empirical and statistical data on the adoption of compliance programs and the application of the regulations.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE THAILAND INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE (TIJ)

Global Prison Trends 2023

The 2023 Global Prison Trends, co-published by Penal Reform International and the Thailand Institute of Justice, addresses the critical intersection of financial crises and the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on vulnerable populations, especially those in conflict with the law and their families.

The report focuses on analysing the effects of prison overcrowding, prison administrations, and progress in adopting the Kyoto Declaration for Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2020 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



So you think you can teach Social Justice?

This handbook is designed for educators in the Thai higher education system seeking to integrate social justice into their courses. It offers practical frameworks, tools, and examples, catering to both those exploring the concept and those ready to implement it. Targeting

policymakers, administrators, and curriculum designers, it provides insights, action items, and real-life cases, emphasizing literacy-building and offering resources for enhancing social justice education in higher learning.

HEUNI AND TIJ IN FOCUS

CLOSER LOOK
AT INDIVIDUAL PNIs

INTERVIEW WITH DR. NATALIA OLLUS

Director of the European Institute for
Crime Prevention and Control (HEUNI)



WHAT IS YOUR ROLE AT HEUNI AND HOW LONG HAVE YOU WORKED THERE?

I am the Director at the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI). I have worked at HEUNI as the director since 2018. My third term as Director will start in 2024. I initially started working at HEUNI as a research assistant twenty years ago. But in between, I have worked for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Permanent Mission of Finland to the UN in New York and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe in Vienna.

HOW MANY PEOPLE WORK AT HEUNI AND WHAT IS THE MIX OF ROLES?

HEUNI is a small organisation. We currently have nine staff members. The expertise is both focused and diverse. We work across different areas. We mostly have substantive staff, including researchers, project managers and a few administrative officers.

Our work is united around the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and we try to advance a more fair, just and sustainable world. We specifically focus on Goal 5: Gender Equality, Goal 8: Peace at work and Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Good Governance. These are the core goals we work with, but we also support sustainability and the green transition as well. So people are specialised in specific topics but we have this overarching joint approach and strategy towards which we work.

WHO ARE HEUNI'S KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND HOW DO YOU INTERACT WITH THEM?

HEUNI is one of the early PNIs. We have a dual status, since HEUNI is part of the administration of the Finnish Ministry of Justice, but we are independent and independently set our research agenda and strategic goals. HEUNI also has an affiliation with the UN, and in fact the UN Secretary-General appoints members of the international Advisory Board and is consulted also on the appointment of the Director of HEUNI.

I would say that our key stakeholders are the UN, practitioners, researchers and experts in Finland and in the European region. Our mandate covers all of Europe. We were placed geographically in Finland, and so we have worked a lot with the Finnish stakeholders. However, since our mandate allows us to work beyond Europe, our stakeholders also come from additional countries. In practical terms, our day-to-day stakeholders are practitioners such as police, prosecutors, labour inspectors, tax officials and others who work on the same topics as we do.

We also work with researchers both in academia and in applied research organisations, as well as with civil society. We work closely with victim-support organisations and organisations who support people in vulnerable positions. So we work in different layers; at the government level to address policy and also with grassroots organisations and practitioners.

WHAT DREW YOU TO YOUR CURRENT ROLE?

HEUNI is a very interesting organisation. When you work at HEUNI you have the vantage position to look at important societal phenomena. Even though we are small, we are quite influential in the Finnish and Northern European setting. We have a lot of expertise at HEUNI, and I think what is interesting in my work is that I have a concrete possibility to address and influence policy. Our opinion is constantly sought so we can for example influence legislative processes. We also have independence as researchers so we can research key questions that are becoming important in society.

We are also very agile even though we are small. We are innovative and try to be courageous and aim to address issues that are outside of the ordinary such as various criminological phenomena.

WHAT DOES A REGULAR DAY LOOK LIKE FOR YOU?

My work is actually a mix of many things, and so every day I work on both substance and administration. On a regular day I have some admin responsibilities such as human resources or finances. On an average day, I also have project development work where I work together with colleagues to plan the programmatic work and new projects. I sometimes do research, but I don't have as much time for that as I would like to have.

Usually I would have meetings with stakeholders, for example providing policy advice to practitioners and government. A lot of my time is taken up by communication with stakeholders and staff members through a variety of channels such as email and Teams. A very diverse programme every day!

WHAT RESEARCH/TEACHING AREAS WILL BE KEY FOR HEUNI OVER THE NEXT 12 MONTHS?

We are just in the process of finalising our new programmatic strategy for the next four years, from 2024 to 2027. In our strategy, we have four programmatic areas of work including human trafficking and forms of

exploitation; social sustainability and corporate social responsibility in supply chains; criminal justice processes; and gender-based violence and other forms of violence.

In practical terms we have run several projects under these programmes. Our current projects within the next twelve months focus on enhancing the rights of victims of forced marriage, remedies for exploited migrant workers and sector-specific solutions for recruitment and employment of migrant workers in areas such as the agricultural sector. In terms of criminal justice processes, we will also look at how to enhance video and remote hearings of victims and the work with children who are victims of exploitation and trafficking and how children should best be heard so they can participate in the justice process.

WHAT'S THE MOST INTERESTING RESEARCH HEUNI HAS UNDERTAKEN RECENTLY?

This is a difficult one because we have done so many interesting research projects! Perhaps, it could be the research on forced marriage because we have an ongoing project with partners in four countries in Europe. We are looking at forced marriage as a phenomenon related to human trafficking as well as a separate phenomenon. This is an issue that has become a concern in recent years in European countries. In our project, we have just contributed to doing a legislative analysis to understand how forced marriage should be addressed in legislation. Then, we will be looking at how victims should be supported. HEUNI also cooperates with NGOs which work with victims to organise group meetings, either for instance among male perpetrators to prevent forced marriage, or with victims, children and families to address forced marriage. As an outcome, we will be training and raising awareness among practitioners and policymakers.

The reason why I wanted to talk about forced marriage as an ongoing project is because a national legislative drafting working group at the Finnish Ministry of Justice is considering what to do about forced marriage: whether it should be criminalised as a separate offence or criminalised as a human trafficking offence, or whether some other course of action should be preferred. Incidentally, just today I gave my expert opinion to this policy group deciding on the legislation. This is an example of how we as a research organisation can – based on our practical research – actually influence the best course of action in terms of strengthening the rights of these victims.

WHAT WOULD YOUR “ELEVATOR PITCH” BE TO PROMOTE THE WORK OF HEUNI?

The starting and ending points of HEUNI's work are to prevent crime and strengthen access to justice and remedies. Our particular focus is on individuals in positions of vulnerability. Through our high-quality and innovative empirical research and policymaking guidance, HEUNI cultivates humane and rational criminal justice policies and systems, both in Finland as well as in the European region.

Our core areas of work are human trafficking and exploitation, corporate social responsibility, criminal justice processes, and gender-based violence. We address these topics with courage, imagination, and knowledge. Over the years, we have seen how our work has positively impacted the understanding, capacities and approaches of key actors towards vulnerable people. This is exactly the impact that we strive for. HEUNI is looking towards the future with hope, confidence and enthusiasm. We are also excited to continue the close collaboration with our PNI partners.

ARE THERE ANY MAJOR EVENTS INVOLVING HEUNI IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS?

We don't have any single large event prepared for next year, although this may change. We have a lot of project-related seminars, conferences, national meetings, launches and various reports. One interesting event is that together with our PNI counterpart, the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC), we plan to launch a joint webinar series. We are looking forward to this cooperation between our two institutes, located as they are at opposite sides of the planet.

WHAT NEW OR EMERGING AREAS OF RESEARCH ARE YOU INTERESTED IN EXPLORING?

I wouldn't say it's new or emerging, rather a continuing topic. HEUNI has been working on labour exploitation and trafficking for the purpose of forced labour for many years now. This topic is perhaps new and emerging for others but not to us, so in that regard I dare call us a frontrunner when it comes to researching this topic. This issue is relevant in different parts of the world, although it has not been raised a lot in the media or in research, either in Europe or beyond.

Since many of our projects are not long-term, we are quite quick in the turnaround of developing empirical

research into practical policy advice. We are, therefore, quite quick in tackling emerging issues.

What we are interested in looking more at is to understand the business model of exploitation, how legal structures can be used to hide illegal activities, and how labour exploitation becomes normalised and regularly practiced in many societies. We have already carried out a lot of research on this topic, but are keen to deepen our understanding of the mechanisms that facilitate exploitation. In this regard, we are also very interested in looking at the connections between labour exploitation and corruption, especially how corruption facilitates and enables exploitation.

WHAT NEW AREAS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING ARE YOU INTERESTED IN EXPLORING?

We are not as such a teaching institution, apart from the fact that our staff regularly provide lectures and policy-expert advice. But one of HEUNI's strengths is that we value concrete outputs and we try to be quick in changing our empirical research into such outputs. As we have a lot of cooperation with researchers, practitioners and victim-support organisations, we try to listen to them in terms of what is going on in the field, and this in turn influences our research.

I think another important topic to explore in the future is how to strengthen the voices of those who are affected by crime as victims and perpetrators in influencing the focus of research and policy. In the webinar series with AIC, one of the topics we want to explore is how the voices of victim-survivors can be strengthened in anti-trafficking policies. This is a very sensitive issue, because we do not want to contribute to further re-victimisation by engaging these people, but I believe it is important to strengthen their voices by engaging them in our work.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO A NEW RESEARCHER/EDUCATOR KEEN TO WORK FOR HEUNI?

I think it is important to be at the crossroads between different disciplines. You do not need a specific type of education to work at HEUNI but of course you would need something that fits into our area of expertise. We have psychologists, social scientists, lawyers and criminologists so that there are a variety of backgrounds. It is an understanding among different disciplines that matters.

I think there is also potential for innovation where different disciplines meet. It is key to have an open mind to different societal and criminological questions, an interest in advancing the rights of vulnerable people, and that your values are in line with the values of the organisation.

HOW DOES COVID-19 IMPACT THE WORK OF YOUR ORGANISATION? AND THE RESPONSE OF YOUR ORGANISATION IN ADDRESSING CHALLENGES POSED BY COVID-19?

We currently do not have lockdown restrictions in Finland, since Covid-19 is no longer considered a threat to public health. In the past, when the pandemic started in 2020, HEUNI was very quick to switch to remote work and online means and was fully operational on day one. I remember that it was 13 March 2020 when I ordered everyone to start working remotely, and we immediately started using remote channels, such as Teams.

In terms of practical means, the pandemic helped us to become more digital. This may have been a transition that would have happened anyway, but it was quickened by the pandemic. Substantively, the pandemic really affected our programme, because we had to change a lot of our face-to-face work to become online. It also affected the phenomena we studied as it changed how human trafficking worked, the recruitment mechanisms and how labour is performed.

APART FROM THE CHALLENGES, DO YOU FIND ANY OPPORTUNITIES ARISING FROM THE COVID-19 SITUATION?

The switch to online means was actually a welcome change and contribution. One thing that has affected HEUNI's programming was the discussions on the climate effects of international travel, which had been a topic we discussed even before the pandemic. At the time there weren't really any other opportunities, as either you were present or you weren't, but now we have hybrid meetings where we could participate either in person or online.

For HEUNI, the pandemic gave us a greater possibility of giving attention to the carbon footprint of international travel. Nowadays, we always consider whether it is possible to attend online, but of course we also recognise the importance of meeting people for fruitful discussions. This increased awareness remains a positive outcome of the pandemic.

Looking at the bigger picture, the pandemic also showed us that it was impossible to plan everything in advance and that sometimes big disruptions can happen at the global level. As an organisation you must always be prepared to adapt and change your work to the circumstances.

Another fruitful outcome that has come from the pandemic has been a project proposal on advancing the digital means of justice. Because the courts also switched to use digital platforms, they started doing remote hearings. The project, therefore, focuses on enhancing the skills of judges in particular to engage with people remotely, while taking into account access to justice, interpretation and trauma consideration.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES/OPPORTUNITIES OF BEING A MEMBER OF THE PNI?

The PNI provides access to global networks as well as to the UN which are very valuable. Through the PNI, I believe that we as individual institutions have the possibility to jointly influence multilateral policy, which I believe is the most important contribution. I also think that the PNI has great potential which can make the organisation even stronger if we can come up with joint programming.

I think that it is difficult to engage with the entire PNI as there are so many organisations that have different mandates, resources and capacity. Yet I think that there is a possibility for different PNI members to become stronger together through programming, and I really hope to see everyone at the CCPCJ in 2024 where we can discuss this further.

ARE YOU WORKING WITH OTHER PNI PARTNERS AT THE MOMENT?

As I mentioned before, HEUNI has been planning a joint webinar series with AIC for 2024. I will also be traveling to Seoul to participate in the Korean Institute of Criminology and Justice International Forum in December 2023 as one of the keynote speakers, and I am very grateful for this opportunity. I hope to see many of the PNI partners there.

I am also keen to cooperate with additional PNIs, especially with the TIJ due to the various areas that we can collaborate on.

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGING PARTS OF YOUR JOB?

The most challenging part is that the day only has so many hours, and you cannot do everything you want to do. There's so many interesting things we can achieve, so managing that is the most difficult part.

Another challenging aspect is the size of HEUNI, which is small. Therefore, we need to be good at prioritising what we do, because we cannot do everything. There are so many interesting things we can and should do, but we must be aware of what is realistic and feasible in order to ensure that we retain a high quality in our work.

Another challenge is the multilateral dialogue and the global cooperation between countries. I think the UN is very important and we should strengthen multilateralism; the UN is our key forum for a global dialogue. I see that the PNI could potentially play a stronger role in strengthening these aspects in the difficult times in which we are living.

INTERVIEW WITH DR. PHISET SA-ARDYEN

Executive Director of the
Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ)



COULD YOU OUTLINE YOUR CURRENT ROLE AT THE THAILAND INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE (TIJ) AND YOUR PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND LEADING UP TO THIS POSITION?

I have had the honour of serving as the Executive Director of the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) since 25 February 2021. In this role, I am responsible for leading the organisation's mission to uphold the rule of law and to advance crime prevention and criminal justice initiatives in Thailand and across Southeast Asia. Prior to my current position, I was the Director of the Information Technology and Communication Centre at the Ministry of Justice of Thailand. I have also held various managerial roles within both the Ministry of Justice and TIJ, including the Director of the International Affairs Division at the Ministry of Justice and the Director of External Relations and Policy Coordination at TIJ. My career has provided me with opportunities to engage in significant international initiatives. Notably, I played a supportive role in the adoption of the Bangkok Rules by the United Nations and was involved in advocating for TIJ's membership in the United Nations Programme Institutes Network.

HOW MANY PEOPLE WORK AT TIJ AND WHAT IS THE MIX OF ROLES?

TIJ has about 70 staff members, each bringing a wealth of experience and expertise from diverse professional backgrounds. Our office is structured to accommodate various roles, including both substantive and management-focused positions. The dynamic composition of the TIJ members reflects our commitment to a holistic approach in addressing the multifaceted aspects of justice and rule of law. Within our diverse workforce, individuals are engaged in various capacities, contributing to TIJ's mission through research, capacity-building and policy advocacy activities. This diverse mix of roles allows us to effectively navigate and make meaningful contributions across different facets of our work, ensuring a comprehensive and impactful approach to our objectives.

WHO ARE TIJ'S KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND HOW DO YOU INTERACT WITH THEM?

We cultivate relationships with a wide array of stakeholders, both domestically and internationally. We firmly believe that justice concerns everyone, and each stakeholder plays a vital role in achieving comprehensive justice reforms. Domestically, our partnerships span across key government agencies in the criminal justice realm, such as the Ministry of Justice, the Office of the Attorney General, the Royal Thai Police, and the Department of Special Investigation. We also actively engage with the private sector, civil society, and educational institutions. Recognising the importance of youth involvement, we have recently intensified our efforts to engage with young communities, particularly university students.

Internationally, TIJ is a member of the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes (PNI). We maintain a dynamic communication channel with UNODC and engage closely with our counterparts in the PNI. Our participation in specific research projects and initiatives has led to meaningful interactions with several PNI partners, including ICCLR, UNAFEI, RWI and AIC. Since 2019, we have had the honour of serving as co-coordinators of the PNI alongside RWI, a role that has deepened our collaboration with all PNI members through a variety of network activities.

Recently, we have broadened our interactions with various international bodies. By collaborating with organisations such as the UNDP, the World Bank, the OECD and the World Justice Project (WJP), we gain access to fresh ideas and tools. The collaborations enable us to create innovative, people-oriented

strategies to tackle challenges in the justice system and effectively advocate for the rule of law.

In addition to our domestic and international engagements, TIJ, as the only PNI member in Southeast Asia, focuses on improving crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law in the region. We adopt a collaborative approach that is deeply integrated with the regional context, engaging with a wide range of stakeholders, including individual Southeast Asian countries and regional bodies such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Our active involvement spans various ASEAN sectoral bodies, including the ASEAN Senior Law Officials Meeting (ASLOM), the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Sports (SOMS), and the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC).

WHAT DREW YOU TO YOUR CURRENT ROLE?

I have been honoured to be a part of TIJ since its inception and to lead an organisation so pivotal in enhancing crime prevention, criminal justice and promoting the rule of law. This role aligns perfectly with my commitment to justice and law reform through collaborative efforts with diverse stakeholders. It offers the unique opportunity to work with both domestic and international partners, fostering innovative approaches and inclusive strategies. I firmly believe that our collective efforts are key to driving meaningful change, not just in Thailand but also in the broader global community.

WHAT DOES A REGULAR DAY LOOK LIKE FOR YOU?

In my role, there truly isn't a "regular" day, since the dynamic nature of our work at TIJ encompasses a broad spectrum of justice-related activities. My days are often filled with engaging meetings with a diverse range of stakeholders. In addition, a significant part of my day is dedicated to internal collaborations. I regularly connect with my team to discuss and strategise on various projects, ensuring that our efforts align with both national and international goals.

WHAT ARE THE KEY FOCUS AREAS AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR TIJ IN THE COMING YEAR?

Our primary focus will remain the implementation of the Bangkok Rules, or the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders. In 2024, in collaboration with the UNODC, we plan to organise Regional Consultative Meetings for Advancing the implementation

of the Bangkok Rules in five global regions. These meetings aim to identify ongoing challenges and the necessary support for treating women offenders within their local contexts.

Beyond the Bangkok Rules, TIJ is looking to develop and implement new strategies and tools to promote the rule of law in Thailand. This will involve partnerships with both domestic and international stakeholders, including organisations such as the World Justice Project. We are hopeful that our efforts will contribute significantly to the government's national strategy for legal reform and the advancement of the rule of law.

WHAT'S THE MOST INTERESTING RESEARCH YOUR INSTITUTION HAS UNDERTAKEN RECENTLY?

In the realm of criminal justice, research extends beyond traditional academic studies to encompass innovative experiments addressing critical challenges. A particularly notable experiment at TIJ involves aiding the social reintegration of former offenders.

At the heart of this initiative is our experiment in crafting a business model that supports ex-offenders' integration into society. The "Good Start Academy" stands as a testament to this approach, utilising social enterprise principles to empower ex-offenders. This project focuses on providing ex-offenders with sustainable income and essential skills for success in the food industry. Our collaboration with the private sector aims to develop business models that are not only economically viable but also sustainable, ensuring that they are profitable enough to continue without financial loss.

If this model proves successful, it could play a key role in changing public perceptions, offering a new perspective on the challenges faced by ex-offenders and the nature of support they require for effective reintegration. This is where our "people-centred" approach becomes pivotal, focusing on the specific needs and potential of each individual ex-offender.

WHAT WOULD YOUR "ELEVATOR PITCH" BE TO PROMOTE THE WORK OF TIJ?

From its inception, TIJ has been dedicated to being a "Promoter of Change", focusing on enhancing the rule of law, sustainable development, human rights and access to justice for vulnerable groups. Guided by the vision of HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha, TIJ is committed to promoting the implementation of the Bangkok Rules. We believe firmly in the spirit of these rules and strive to bolster this international commitment, ensuring fairer

treatment and addressing the needs of women in the criminal justice system.

Central to TIJ's mission is the advancement of the rule of law. We foster collaborative and innovative approaches to strengthen the rule of law, in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for 2030 and related instruments. Our framework also supports the policies of the Thai Ministry of Justice, aiming to instil and uphold the rule of law within Thai society. Crucially, our working methodology values the involvement of stakeholders from all sectors and generations, including the youth. We recognise that inclusivity and collaboration across different fields are key to generating innovative ideas and approaches.

HOW HAS THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IMPACTED THE WORK OF YOUR ORGANISATION, AND HOW HAS YOUR ORGANISATION RESPONDED TO THE CHALLENGES POSED BY COVID-19?

The Covid-19 pandemic brought about unprecedented global challenges, significantly transforming our communication and operational methods at TIJ. In response to the restrictions, we shifted from our usual in-person engagements to a more digital-centric approach, implementing a Work-from-Anywhere policy to allow staff the flexibility of remote work. This strategic move was vital for ensuring seamless operations and nurturing a healthy work-life balance. However, this transition also posed a unique challenge: maintaining a cohesive office community. It became imperative to find new ways to ensure that all staff members felt connected, aligned and part of a unified team, despite the physical distance.

APART FROM THE CHALLENGES, HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED ANY OPPORTUNITIES ARISING FROM THE COVID-19 SITUATION?

Interestingly, the Covid-19 situation presented unique opportunities. Our Work-from-Anywhere policy, for instance, has been a game-changer. It has led to more efficient use of office space, reduced commute times, and notably, made TIJ an attractive employer for talent beyond geographical limits. Furthermore, the adoption of a hybrid meeting format has revolutionised our approach to engagements and events. This innovative format allows us to connect with participants anytime, anywhere, significantly broadening our reach. It has not only helped us navigate the constraints of the pandemic but also expanded our audience, enhancing the impact and scope of our work.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES/OPPORTUNITIES OF BEING A MEMBER OF THE PNI?

Being a member of the PNI offers TIJ significant advantages and opportunities. It allows us to engage in a rich exchange of knowledge and expertise with other PNI members, covering a wide array of global issues. Our membership in the PNI also provides access to a global network of experts, allowing our staff to gain valuable knowledge and skills through direct interactions with these professionals. The PNI network not only enhances our capabilities but also amplifies our contributions to international efforts in crime prevention and justice.

Moreover, our involvement in international activities, such as the efforts in implementing the Bangkok Rules or conducting regional training programmes, greatly benefits from the collaboration with our PNI fellows. The support and expertise of the PNI network are indispensable in achieving these initiatives, demonstrating the profound impact of this partnership on our global outreach and effectiveness.

ARE YOU WORKING WITH OTHER PNI PARTNERS AT THE MOMENT?

TIJ has been working closely with PNI institutes since the very first day. At the moment, I am grateful to be invited by the Korean Institute of Criminology and Justice (KICJ) to join as a speaker for the 10th Korean Institute of Criminology and Justice International Forum. I believe that this international forum will be a valuable platform to present insights on challenges, measures and practices to counter transnational organised crimes. I am looking forward to attending the forum and more than eager to exchange experience and have a discussion on this critical issue to further develop effective strategies collectively.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO A NEW RESEARCHER/EDUCATOR KEEN TO WORK FOR TIJ?

For anyone aspiring to join TIJ as a researcher or educator, a genuine interest in the protection of vulnerable groups is fundamental. You should possess the ability to introduce innovative ideas and fresh perspectives to our work. Equally important is a keen interest in the Southeast Asian context. This region is characterised by its diverse cultures, different political systems, and a range of economic models. Understanding and appreciating this diversity is crucial, as it shapes our approach to addressing regional challenges and opportunities.

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