



University for Peace



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Higher Education for Peace and Justice:

Building Young Generations' Competencies to Prevent Atrocity Crimes and Advance Accountability

CCPCJ

1st June 2026 | 16.30 – 17.30 CEST

Room MOE7 Vienna International Centre (VIC), Vienna, Austria

IN PERSON



ONLINE



unieri

United Nations
Interregional Crime and Justice
Research Institute

About the event

This side event explores how higher education and international cooperation can strengthen capacities to prevent atrocity crimes and promote accountability.

Organized in the framework of the 35th session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), the event highlights the role of partnerships among Member States, United Nations entities and academic institutions in delivering high-quality, practice-oriented education.

Featuring contributions from UPEACE, UNICRI, and the International Nuremberg Principles Academy, the discussion will showcase how innovative academic programmes support Sustainable Development Goals 4 and 16 and contribute to building peaceful and just societies resilient to crime.

Objectives



Strengthen understanding of how higher education contributes to crime prevention, promotes international criminal justice and advance accountability



Showcase successful UN–academic partnerships in international criminal law and human rights



Promote engagement and support from Member States in higher education

Agenda

5 mins	OPENING REMARKS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Giuseppina Maddaluno, Programme Management Officer and Co-coordinator of UNICRI-UPEACE LL.M.s, UNICRI• Video interview: Ms. Nazhat Khan, Deputy Prosecutor, International Criminal Court
10 mins	HIGH-LEVEL REMARKS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Ms. Olga Marta Sauma Uribe, Ambassador of the Republic of Costa Rica and Permanent Representative to International Organizations in Vienna
30 mins	PANEL DISCUSSION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moderator: Prof. Olympia Bekou, Head School of Law and Professor of Public International Law, University of Nottingham• Dr. Juan Carlos Sainz-Borgo, Vice-Rector, UPEACE <i>Advancing peace and security through higher education and multilateralism</i>• Mr. Leif Villadsen, Acting Director, UNICRI• Mr. Kiran Mohandas Menon, Senior Officer, International Nuremberg Principles Academy <i>Equipping young generations with knowledge and capacities to prevent atrocity crimes and strengthen accountability mechanisms</i>
10 mins	TESTIMONIAL <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Marcelo Martoy Pitetta, UNICRI-UPEACE LL.M. graduate, (2019/2020 cohort)
5 mins	INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION (TIME PERMITTING)

The event is a Side Event to the 35th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) and will take place in a **HYBRID FORMAT**. Participants may join in person in Room M0E79 at the Vienna International Centre. Prior registration is required and can be completed by scanning the **IN-PERSON** QR Code. For online participation, the link is available via the **ONLINE** QR Code (no prior registration is required).

IN PERSON



ONLINE



Investing in higher education is essential to build the knowledge, skills and values needed to prevent atrocity crimes and strengthen justice systems worldwide



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