

From Regional Trends to Global Insights:

An Interregional Comparative Analysis of Crime and Justice Trends

30 SEPTEMBER 2026

11.30-12.30 (GMT+4)

Room 1C

Background

Homicide is falling across much of the world — yet crime has never been more profitable, more networked, or harder to see. Criminal actors are adapting faster to rapid developments than many institutions can respond, and dynamics in one region increasingly drive those in another, demanding an interregional lens.

UNICRI's Crime and Justice Trends Study answers that demand: a comparative analysis of crime and criminal justice across nine regions, grounded in consultations with the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes (PNI) and additional regional experts. This side event launches its capstone publication, "Crime and Justice in a Changing World: A Global Trends Analysis".

Three key findings will guide the discussion. Criminal groups are increasingly becoming governance actors within legitimate economies, taxing trade and influencing markets. At the same time, crime is converging in specific geographic areas and criminals are increasingly relying on technology to widen their reach and impact. East and Southeast Asia-based fraud syndicates commit crime on an industrial scale and with increasing speed, as actors continue to sharpen their techniques, digital skills, and adaptability. These changes are putting justice systems under greater pressure prompting more securitized responses to complex criminality, while practitioners contend with technological asymmetry, legal and cooperation frameworks.

Objectives

1.

Present the key findings of the Global Trends Analysis, situating national and regional experiences in an interregional context.

2.

Connect research and practice by linking global analysis to the realities of investigation and prosecution.

3.

Inform Member State discussions and policy dialogue on emerging crime challenges and international cooperation.

Agenda

11:30	OPENING REMARKS 🕒 H. E. Debora Lepre, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Italy to the International Organizations in Vienna 🕒 Leif Villadsen, Acting Director, UNICRI
11:40	UNICRI'S CRIME AND JUSTICE TRENDS STUDY: INTRODUCTION AND KEY FINDINGS OF THE GLOBAL TRENDS ANALYSIS 🕒 Giordana Lucente, Associate Expert, UNICRI 🕒 Leonid Lantsman, Strategic Trends Analyst, UNICRI
11:55	CRIMINAL GOVERNANCE AND THE BLURRING OF LICIT AND ILLICIT MARKETS 🕒 Tuesday Reitano, Managing Director, Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC)
12:05	CRIME CONVERGENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-ENABLED CRIME IN EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA 🕒 Jisun Choi, Director of International Affairs, Korean Institute of of Criminology and Justice (KICJ)
12:15	A PRACTITIONER'S PERSPECTIVE: INVESTIGATING AND PROSECUTING COMPLEX CRIMINALITY 🕒 Cecilia Vassena, Legal Expert, Permanent Mission of Italy to the International Organizations in Vienna
12:25	Q&A AND CLOSING REMARKS

For any questions regarding this event, kindly contact
Ms. Giordana Lucente, UNICRI (giordana.lucente@un.org).

THE EVENT CAN ALSO BE ATTENDED ONLINE AT



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