

2018 International Academic Conference on Organized Crime and Gender

Call for Abstracts Now Open

European University Institute, Florence, Italy
11-13 July 2018

Organized crime has generated significant interest in academic, policy and law enforcement circles, amid the spread of globalization and increasing transnational flows, which have in turn shaped the contexts within which organized crime flourishes. Plenty of attention has also been paid to the emergence and development of organized criminal groups in specific locations around the world.

Despite their visibility and the abundance of literature on their activities and structures, organized criminal groups also constitute a contentious focus of research. Empirical work on their dynamics is still scant. Their representations through media and law enforcement, policy and state discourses often convey ethnic stereotypes and stigmatize communities. Most work continues to showcase the perspectives of European and American academia and policy makers, simultaneously and unintendedly restricting the ability of scholars from the Global South to engage in transnational and critical dialogues of how organized crime impacts the security of their regions. Furthermore, the gender/ed dimensions of organized crime also remain largely unexplored.

In order to address these gaps, to display innovative global and critical research on organized crime, and to contribute to the crafting of legal and policy reform on crime, the Education for Justice initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Migration Policy Centre at the European University Institute (EUI) will convene an International Academic Conference on the gender and gendered dynamics of organized crime, including trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. The Conference will be held on 11-13 July 2018 in Florence, Italy.

The conference and the edited volume that will accompany it aim to explore:

1. The gender and gendered dynamics present in current debates on organized crime from the perspective of its actors, including offenders, victims and as well as persons working in the criminal justice system.
2. The operationalization of gender in the organization and structure of organized criminal groups, including but not limited to cases of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.
3. Case studies concerning the gender dynamics present in organized criminal activities.
4. Empirical research examining the gender dynamics present in but not limited to money laundering, corruption, obstruction of justice, food fraud, the manufacturing of counterfeit medical products, trafficking in cultural property, drug trafficking, wildlife trafficking, and in particular, trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.
5. The gender/ed impact of criminal justice system's responses to organized crime in different regions of the world, including the perspectives of female criminal justice practitioners and offenders.

The 2018 International Academic Conference on Organized Crime and Gender is sponsored by the UNODC under its Education for Justice (E4J) initiative ¹.

The Education for Justice (E4J) initiative of UNODC

E4J was developed to support the implementation of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation.² The Declaration, which was adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in 2015, recognizes the fundamental role of universal education for children and youth as key to the prevention of crime, terrorism and corruption, as well as to promote sustainable development.

E4J is aimed at building a culture of lawfulness among children and youth through the provision of age-appropriate educational materials on topics related to criminal justice and crime prevention, including organized crime, human trafficking and smuggling of migrants, and the integration of those materials into the curricula of primary, secondary and tertiary education levels. At the university level, E4J aims to develop modules and materials that support academics in their teaching and research activities related to UNODC mandate areas, including organized crime, human trafficking and smuggling of migrants.

The Migration Policy Centre at the EUI

The Migration Policy Centre at the EUI conducts advanced policy-oriented research on global migration, asylum and mobility. It serves governance needs at the European and global levels, from developing implementing and monitoring migration-related policies to assessing their impact on the wider economy and society. The Migration Policy Centre also provides EU institutions, national authorities and international organizations with policy advice. It fosters dialogue between academics, policy-makers and stakeholders from the private sector and NGOs and contributes to dialogues on major issues of migration and governance.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

We welcome submissions from all disciplines. We seek research ***that focuses on the linkages between organized crime and gender***. Abstracts documenting empirical and ethnographic research are especially encouraged. In an effort to encourage an interdisciplinary and global dialogue, we welcome submissions from: ***interested parties from the Global South***, academics, policymakers, government and law enforcement officials, members of the judiciary, advocacy organizations, think tanks, as well as independent scholars, while keeping in mind the academic nature and standards of the event.

Academic abstracts – not to exceed 250 words – should be written in English, and be based on **original and unpublished work**. Please send your abstracts no later than 9 March 2018 to crimegender2018@gmail.com. Please note that late abstracts will not be accepted. Questions about the event can be directed to gabriella.sanchez@eui.eu.

You will be notified by 13 April 2018 of the selection committee's decision. Should you be accepted, your paper will be due by 8 June 2018. Please note that presenters are expected to attend the entire duration of the conference. **There are no fees associated with this event**. UNODC will cover the cost of participation of the selected authors, in accordance with UN financial rules and regulations. (i.e. daily subsistence allowance and economy-class airfare).

¹ <http://www.unodc.org/dohadeclaration/en/topics/education-for-justice.html>

² https://www.unodc.org/documents/congress//Declaration/V1504151_English.pdf

OUTPUTS

A number of papers will be published in an edited volume with a high-ranking academic journal. Selected contributions must be original and not be under editorial consideration elsewhere. Specific details concerning the publication will be provided during the event.