



**COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
THEMATIC DEBATE 10-12 November 2021
TOPIC 1: CRIME PREVENTION**

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EUROPEAN PUBLIC LAW ORGANIZATION (EPLO) places great importance to the issue of crime prevention as the most important dimension of an integrated approach against crime.

Anti-crime culture is the fundamental pillar for an effective crime prevention and control as it is based on values of legality and respect of human rights. Without such well developed and accepted values against crime there is no effective response to the ever emerging crime challenges. This reasoning is applicable to both the conventional crimes as well as the emerging forms of organized crime, corruption and cyber crime.

Anti-crime culture needs to be cherished by all the main instruments in crime prevention and control. In this rich context, education plays especially important role. Anti-crime education is a societal engagement. It should rest of an adequate educational institutions mobilization and commitment. It also must rely on an anti-crime strategy with clear goals and responsibilities. However, it is the responsibility of the government to provide adequate resources in order to pursue the anti-crime strategy.

Anti-crime education has both value and management components. Installing values against illicit is as important as developing the management capacity to prevent and control crime. The two must go together in pursuance of the culture of integrity.

Academic education against organized crime and corruption provides opportunity to engage future managers and leaders in public and private sectors in their pursuance of commitments to the rule of law and skills to manage many challenges related to reducing the opportunities and risks of organized crime and corruption. Such education should be based on informed evidence about new manifestations of organized crime infiltration in economy, politics and public administration. Similarly, it has to be permanently updated about the new forms of corruption and in particular organized corruption.

The culture of integrity is the most powerful crime prevention component.

EPLO stands ready to engage with UNODC as well as the civil society, in particular, research and academic communities, to further develop and implement anti-crime education as the very significant contribution to an integrated crime prevention.

Thank you for your attention.