



14TH UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

KYOTO, JAPAN 7 – 12 MARCH 2021



FR 12.03.2021 ISSUE 07

THE 14TH CRIME CONGRESS NEWSPAPER

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Promoting the rule of law

On 10 and 11 March, delegations discussed multi-dimensional approaches by Governments to promoting the rule of law by, inter alia, providing access to justice for all; building effective, accountable, impartial and inclusive institutions; and considering social, educational and other relevant measures, including fostering a culture of lawfulness while respecting cultural identities.

Importance of designing and implementing comprehensive policies and programmes to increase access to justice for all, particularly the more marginalized and vulnerable sectors of societies, was underscored. Another element highlighted was the need to promote policies and strategies geared to-

wards enhancing the capacity of criminal justice institutions in support of efforts to promote the rule of law.

Development of national cooperation mechanisms to establish effective and comprehensive strategies to promote a culture of lawfulness, involving all relevant sectors in society was also mentioned.

Chair of Committee I, H.E. J. Antonio Marcondes, briefed the Congress on the outcome of Workshop 3 entitled “Education and youth engagement as key to making societies resilient to crime”. Among the key outcomes of the Workshop, he highlighted “the need for partnerships between crime prevention and criminal justice institutions and youth organizations as a means through which to build trust and accountability.”

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International cooperation and technical assistance

International cooperation plays a central role in addressing all forms of transnational crime, including terrorism and new and emerging forms of crime. Technical assistance is key to enable national competent authorities to effectively cooperate, especially in criminal matters of considerable complexity.

On 11 March, participants of the Fourteenth Crime Congress exchanged views on the importance of advancing international cooperation and strengthening technical assistance to prevent and address all forms of crime.

It was particularly emphasized that “comprehensive and balanced responses to the new and emerging

manifestations of crime and terrorism will need to counter criminal innovation with global, inventive and consistent prevention and criminal justice initiatives across all regions of the world”.

On 10 and 11 March, Workshop 3 on “Current crime trends, recent developments and emerging solutions, in particular new technologies as means for and tools against crime” was held under the purview of Committee II.

Presenting the outcome of the Workshop, Matti Tapani Joutsen, Chair of Committee II, stressed that in the field of international cooperation in criminal matters, the global community “should seek to strengthen related mechanisms and procedures through the use of technology”.



14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice



OVER TO YOUTH

"When the Kyoto Congress began, the sun had already set in my home in South Florida,



but it was just beginning to rise in Japan. Even though the COVID-19 pandemic scattered participants to every corner of the globe, a shared mission to address the issue of global crime prevention and criminal justice united us.

In group session three, we were tasked with exploring the impact and threat of ICT technologies. Despite our many differences, we all experienced the same issues online from hacking to cyberbullying to sexual harassment on social media platforms. I was able to bond with my international peers over the hardships we have faced growing up in the technological era.

As I presented the outcomes of our discussion, I could see my face on the computer screens of the in-person participants, and knew that I didn't have to physically be in Japan to share in the experience. My voice and ideas could be heard from over 7,000 miles away.

With the solutions proposed by group session three, and the other groups at the forum, I am confident that we can mitigate this global crime prevention and criminal justice crisis by 2030. And together we will continue to connect for good."

Zoey,

Youth Forum participant



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