



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### *A. FORMAT AND SUBSTANTIVE FOCUS:*

**Q: What is the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice?**

**A:** The Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Fourteenth UN Crime Congress), which is hosted by the Government of Japan, will take place in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021, with pre-Congress consultations scheduled for 6 March 2021. The United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (UN Crime Congress) is the world's largest and most diverse gathering of Governments, civil society, academia and experts in crime prevention and criminal justice. The UN Crime Congresses have been held every five years since 1955 in different parts of the world, dealing with a vast array of topics. They have made a considerable impact in the field of international crime prevention and criminal justice and influenced national policies and professional practices. As a global forum, the UN Crime Congresses enable the exchange of information and best practices among States and professionals working in this field. Their overall goal is to promote more effective crime prevention policies and criminal justice measures all over the world.

**Q: What is the format of the meeting?**

**A:** The UN Crime Congress has a formal part and an extensive informal part. The formal part takes place in the Plenary and in two Committees which take place in parallel with the Plenary. The formal part consists of the opening and the closing sessions, the "high-level segment" in Plenary immediately after the opening, the discussion on the four agenda items, and the discussion in the four workshops.

**Q: What is the theme of the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress?**

**A:** The theme of the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress is “Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda”, as decided by the United Nations General Assembly (GA Resolution [72/192](#)).

**Q: What will be discussed at the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress?**

**A:** The agenda items and the topics for the workshops of the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress were determined by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution [72/192](#).

There are four substantive items on the agenda, each of which is linked to a workshop organized within the framework of the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress. The agenda items and topics of the workshops are as follows.

**Agenda item 3:** Comprehensive strategies for crime prevention towards social and economic development

**Workshop 1:** Evidence-based crime prevention: statistics, indicators and evaluation in support of successful practices

**Agenda item 4:** Integrated approaches to challenges facing the criminal justice system

**Workshop 2:** Reducing reoffending: identifying risks and developing solutions

**Agenda item 5:** Multidimensional 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, in line with the Doha Declaration

**Workshop 3:** Education and youth engagement as key to making societies resilient to crime

**Agenda item 6:** International cooperation and technical assistance to prevent and address all forms of crime: (a) Terrorism in all its forms and manifestations; (b) New and emerging forms of crime

**Workshop 4:** Current crime trends, recent developments and emerging solutions, in particular new technologies as means for and tools against crime

A high-level segment will be held at the beginning of the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress, where Heads of State or Government, Ministers and other high-level government representatives will address the overall theme of the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress.

Subjects relating to crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law will also be discussed at numerous side meetings organized by non-governmental organizations.

**Q: What is the expected outcome of the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress?**

**A:**

- The Fourteenth UN Crime Congress will adopt a single declaration to be submitted for consideration to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which acts as the preparatory body for the UN Crime Congress and is the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.
- The Fourteenth UN Crime Congress will provide a platform for increased cooperation between governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on the whole spectrum of crime prevention and criminal justice issues, thus promoting more effective international action in this field.

**Q: What has already happened in the run-up to the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress?**

**A:** In preparation for the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress, the Secretariat organized a series of regional preparatory meetings in 2019 to provide a regional perspective on the topics to be discussed at the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress. The meetings were held in:

- [Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok / Thailand](#) (22-24 January 2019)
- [Latin America and the Caribbean, Santiago / Chile](#) (5-7 February 2019)
- [Western Asia, Beirut / Lebanon](#) (26-28 March 2019)
- [Africa, Addis Ababa / Ethiopia](#) (9-11 April 2019)
- [Europe, Vienna / Austria](#) (23-25 April 2019)

Based on the outcomes of the regional preparatory meetings, a draft declaration will be negotiated and prepared well in advance of the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress.

## ***B. SIDE EVENTS, EXHIBITIONS AND YOUTH FORUM:***

**Q: What kinds of side events will be organized at the margins of the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress?**

**A:** In accordance with past practice, ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations participating in the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress will be organized as well as meetings of professional and geographical interest groups. Those side events provide an opportunity to develop and maintain partnerships with the private sector and civil society organizations.

Further information on these meetings as well as on the application process can be found on the following website: [www.un-congress.org](http://www.un-congress.org).

**Q: Is it also possible to organize exhibitions in the margins of the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress?**

**A:** During the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress, to be held from 7 to 12 March 2021, governments, organizations and the private sector will have the opportunity to exhibit their programmes, goods and services. Exhibitions will be administered by the host country, Japan.

Further information as well as exhibit application forms are available on the following website:  
<http://www.moj.go.jp/KYOTOCONGRESS2020/en/entries/exhibition.html>.

**Q: Will there be a Youth Forum in the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress?**

**A:** The host country of the Fourteenth Crime Congress, Japan, will also host the Kyoto Congress Youth Forum which will be held in the Kyoto International Conference Center on 27 and 28 February 2021.

The first Youth Forum, the Doha Youth Forum on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, was organized by the Government of Qatar, in cooperation with the Qatar Foundation, prior to the Thirteenth UN Crime Congress in 2015. In its resolution [70/174](#) of 17 December 2015, the General Assembly invites host countries of future congresses to consider the holding of similar events.

The overall theme of the Kyoto Congress Youth Forum is “Youth Engagement for our Safe and Secure Society towards Achieving the SDGs”. Approximately 120 young people are expected to attend the youth forum.

For further information, please visit the following website:  
[http://www.moj.go.jp/KYOTOCONGRESS2020/en/events/youth\\_forum.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/KYOTOCONGRESS2020/en/events/youth_forum.html).

## ***C. PARTICIPATION***

**Q: Who will participate?**

**A:** The UN Crime Congresses are unique in their mix of participants. They bring together the largest and most diverse gathering of senior policy-makers, practitioners, representatives of UN agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations as well as individual experts in crime prevention, law enforcement, prosecution, the courts, corrections and related fields. In doing so, they provide an opportunity to invigorate policy discussions by permitting front-line practitioners, civil society representatives and individual participants to raise issues of concern, bringing these to the attention of policy-makers.

**Q: Can individual experts participate in the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress?**

**A:** Individual experts in the field of crime prevention and the treatment of offenders may be invited to the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress by the Secretary-General in their individual capacity and may participate, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Congress, its committees, subcommittees and working groups. In accordance with past practice, individual experts who participated in previous UN Crime Congresses, receive an invitation, upon their request to the Secretariat of the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress ([unodc-congress@un.org](mailto:unodc-congress@un.org)), to participate in the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress. In addition, persons with an interest in crime prevention and the treatment of offenders may apply to the Secretariat for an invitation to participate at the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress as individual experts.

Further information on the application procedure can be found on the following website: <https://www.unodc.org/congress/en/about.html>.

**Q: How can I follow proceedings if I am not able to come to Kyoto, Japan?**

**A:** A website will provide live and on-demand webcast coverage of the Fourteenth UN Crime Congress in English and the original (floor) language, and statements delivered during the Congress will be posted.

(As of 1 September 2020. Information will be updated as things progress.)