



IAP RIYADH 2026

THE 31ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE
AND GENERAL MEETING



The 31st Annual Conference and General Meeting of The International Association of Prosecutors

Special Interest Sessions Call for Speakers and Organisers

Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
15 - 18 November 2026



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The 31st Annual Conference and General Meeting of the IAP will take place in Riyadh from 15-18 November 2026.

The theme for the conference is “The Criminal Justice System in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Opportunities, Challenges, and Global Applications”.

A Call for Speakers for the Plenary Sessions and Workshops has already been circulated. Please find full details of the plenary sessions [here](#). Please also note the guidance on how to submit an abstract and details about what must be included in your submission on page 3 of the attached document. The deadline for abstracts for the Plenary Sessions and Workshops is Friday 14 August 2026.

The IAP and the Professional Programme Committee are now also inviting proposals from all IAP members who are interested in giving a presentation during the Special Interest Sessions of the conference to submit an abstract for consideration for inclusion in the programme by the Professional Programme Committee. In addition, we are seeking Expressions of Interest from IAP members who would be interested in assisting to organise and chair one of the below Special Interest Sessions.

THE SPECIAL INTEREST SESSIONS ARE ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS

- i. **Witness Protection in Organised and Transnational Crime Cases: Emerging Challenges and Technological Innovations:** *This sub-theme examines the challenges faced by prosecutorial authorities in protecting witnesses involved in organised crime and transnational criminal cases, where risks of intimidation, retaliation, and undue influence are often heightened. It will explore risk assessment mechanisms, physical and procedural protection measures, and the legal safeguards required to protect witnesses while preserving fair trial rights and the interests of the defence. The session will also consider how artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies may support witness protection efforts through enhanced risk analysis, secure communications, digital identity protection, and remote testimony solutions. Drawing on comparative international experiences and best practices, the discussion will provide practical insights for prosecutors seeking to strengthen witness protection in an increasingly complex and interconnected criminal justice environment.*

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- ii. **Future-Ready Prosecutors: Building Resilience in a Changing Criminal Justice Environment:** *This session explores the professional, ethical, and psychological pressures faced by junior prosecutors when handling high-sensitivity, complex, and distressing cases. It will examine the challenges of exercising sound judgment under pressure, managing increasing workloads, and maintaining professional well-being in an evolving criminal justice landscape. The discussion will review international approaches to fostering resilience, supporting mental health, and developing programmes that enable early-career prosecutors to perform effectively and ethically. It will also consider how emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and digital evidence systems, are changing aspects of prosecutorial practice and creating new opportunities and challenges for the next generation of prosecutors.*
- iii. **Combating Wildlife and Environmental Crime: Emerging Challenges, Innovation, and Global Best Practices:** *This session explores the growing threat posed by wildlife and environmental crimes, including illegal wildlife trafficking, illegal logging, illegal fishing, pollution offences, and other forms of environmental harm that increasingly operate across national borders. It examines the challenges faced by prosecutors and law enforcement agencies in investigating complex criminal networks, gathering and presenting evidence, and fostering effective international cooperation. The session will also consider how emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, digital monitoring tools, satellite imagery, and data analytics, can support investigations and prosecutions. Drawing on comparative international experiences and best practices, the discussion will highlight effective strategies for strengthening accountability, enhancing cross-border cooperation, and improving criminal justice responses to environmental crime.*
- iv. **Protecting Victims in the Digital Age: Prosecuting Domestic Violence and Online Harm:** *This session will examine the evolving nature of domestic violence and online harm, whereby perpetrators increasingly exploit digital technologies to facilitate coercive control, harassment, stalking, image-based abuse, online intimidation, and other forms of technology-enabled violence. It will explore the diverse approaches adopted by prosecutors across jurisdictions to investigate, prosecute, and safeguard victims. It will consider the practical and legal challenges associated with digital evidence, cross-border offending, victim protection, and emerging technologies, including the growing use of artificial intelligence to create or facilitate harm. Drawing on experiences from across jurisdictions, the session will highlight effective prosecutorial approaches, the importance of international cooperation, and the dedication of prosecutors in protecting victims, securing accountability, and ensuring justice in an increasingly digital world. It will provide a valuable opportunity to share good practice and strengthen global responses to domestic violence and online harm.*



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If you wish to be considered as a speaker for one of the above Special Interest Sessions, please submit a short proposal, in English, containing a description of the proposed presentation for consideration by the Professional Programme Committee. Please specify which Special Interest Session you wish to participate in, and include full details of your name, job title and prosecuting agency. Priority will be given to presentations that have a strong practical and operational focus, and presentations that include case examples are particularly welcome. If selected, your presentation should last for no longer than 15 minutes.

If you wish to organise and chair one of the Special Interest Sessions, please send an email setting out a brief description of your experience in the relevant topic.

All proposals and Expressions of Interest should be sent to gc@iap-association.org. The deadline is Friday 28 August 2026.

We look forward to receiving your abstracts and Expressions of Interest!

