CALL FOR SPEAKERS

EMERGING CRIME TRENDS IN EUROPE

18th European Regional Conference
Malta 2024

6-8 NOVEMBER 2024, ST JULIANS
The International Association of Prosecutors invites proposals from those interested in giving a presentation during the plenary sessions of the 18th Regional Conference (Europe) in St Julian’s, Malta from 06 – 08 November 2024.

The theme of the IAP 18th European Regional Conference is **Emerging Crime Trends in Europe**.

In the perennial struggle against crime, encompassing money laundering, terrorist financing, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction among other criminal offenses, a notable trend has emerged—one that traverses myriad jurisdictions. The detrimental impact of financial crime and other serious offences on the economy is profound.

Criminals, in their pursuit of illegitimate gains, exhibit an increasing dynamism and adaptability, forging networks that span jurisdictions to shield their illicit activities. Exploiting vulnerabilities inherent in globalisation, digitalisation, and the continuous evolution of new technologies, criminals pose unprecedented challenges to law enforcement agencies.

To counter these threats effectively, the establishment of a robust regime demands a collective commitment across all sectors. Collaboration and cooperation among diverse entities are imperative for ensuring vigorous prosecutions and addressing the ever-evolving challenges posed by criminal enterprises.

The conference seeks to delve into emerging crime typologies, with a particular focus on hate crime, terrorism, and financial crime. Each of these realms will be explored from various perspectives.

The section dedicated to hate crimes will scrutinise the surge in incidents across Europe. Strategies at the national level for prosecuting and preventing such crimes will be examined, underscoring the importance of prioritising victim support within the criminal justice system. Best practices for supporting and protecting victims during the prosecution process will also be shared.

The conference will further address the intricate challenges involved in prosecuting terrorism offences. This part will explore the unique hurdles faced by prosecutors, encompassing issues related to national security, the diverse legal framework, intelligence sharing, and preventive measures at the national level.

In addressing financial crime trends, the conference will cast a critical eye on modern-day money laundering schemes, the utilisation of money mules, and the exponential surge in online fraud. Traditional anti-money laundering (AML) approaches, often relying on relational databases, will be scrutinised, highlighting potential pitfalls in missing connections within the data that may serve as red flags for money laundering activities.

The discussions on emerging crime trends during the conference do not pertain exclusively to the European region but extend to all other global jurisdictions. The trends under scrutiny transcend geographical boundaries, emphasising their relevance and impact on a broader international legal landscape.
The deadline for proposals is 2nd August 2024.

ALL PROPOSALS SHOULD STATE:
• The name and job title of the speaker;
• The plenary session to which the proposal relates;
• The title of the proposed presentation;
• A short description of the proposed presentation for consideration by the Professional Programme Team. Presentations must relate to the specified theme of the relevant plenary session.

All proposals must be submitted in English.

The working language of the conference is English. There will be simultaneous translation into French during the conference.

Priority will be given to proposals that have a strong practical and operational focus.

Presentations illustrated with operational outcomes at an international, national, organisational and/or individual case level are particularly welcome. Presentations should not focus on academic research and should not simply be a summary of the legal framework in a specific jurisdiction, as this will not be of universal application to other jurisdictions.

Presentations should last for no longer than 12-15 minutes.

All speakers and other active contributors to the conference must pay a registration fee.

Proposals must be submitted to mario.spiteri.3@attorneygeneral.mt

If you have any questions, please contact gc@iap-association.org
Terrorism stands as one of the paramount contemporary challenges confronting our criminal justice systems. The systemic response required to prevent such criminal acts presents multifaceted legal dilemmas, including issues of cross-jurisdictional collaboration, investigation complexities, and prosecution challenges. One of the ongoing challenges faced in the realm of counterterrorism involves the effective prevention, prosecution, and management of perpetrators while ensuring fair judicial proceedings. Moreover, the evidentiary aspects in prosecuting these crimes often pose significant hurdles.

Within the realm of counter-terrorism discourse and endeavours, the crucial consideration extends beyond the mere categorisation of individuals as holding ‘radical’ or ‘extremist’ views—terms inherently subjective and legally nuanced. The focal point, within this legal framework, rests on the examination of whether such perspectives transgress into the realm of actionable violent conduct. This session aims to underscore the contemporary challenges faced by criminal justice systems, particularly in navigating the intricate web of competing interests when prosecuting acts of terror.

The discernible surge in hate crime incidents throughout Europe is a concerning reality, rooted in prejudice and intolerance. These abhorrent acts often manifest with a vicious intensity, posing a grave threat to both the targeted individuals and the fabric of our societies. The offender’s message of intimidation and exclusion reverberates not only towards those who share the same characteristics but also resonates broadly within society, corroding its social cohesion. Consequently, hate crimes inflict immeasurable harm upon victims, their families, and society at large.

This session will delve into the escalating trends of hate crimes countered by national strategies aimed at ensuring thorough investigations and prosecutions. Crucially, the approach will pivot around placing the victim at the core of these efforts.
Perpetrators of financial crimes are increasingly dynamic, swiftly adapting to technological advancements, seamlessly transitioning between jurisdictions, and exploiting the online sphere. This adaptive nature demands that law enforcement agencies and prosecutors be adequately equipped to escalate the fight against financial crimes, especially those spanning across borders.

These sessions will explore modern trends in financial crimes, including sophisticated money laundering schemes, the phenomenon of ‘money mules,’ and the pervasive realm of online fraud. Additionally, they will highlight the tools adopted to counter such criminal activities, aiming for robust and effective prosecution strategies.
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