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Communication and crime prevention:

How the impact of organized crime on society
shapes UNICRI's public relations policy

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Table of contents

- **Definition of crime**
- **Global public goods**
- **Security and development**
- **Crime and economics**
- **Transnational organized crime**
 - **Drug trafficking**
 - **Counterfeiting, Piracy, Contraband**
 - **Environmental crimes**
 - **Arms Trafficking**
 - **Trafficking in human beings**
- **Terrorism**
- **Obstacles for the international community**
- **International instruments**
- **UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime**
- **Cooperation & Communication**



The definition of crime has not changed much

An act (of commission and omission) violating a law, hence deemed illegal, to which the judicial system attributes a penalty.

Current impact of crime

Crime nowadays has become a relevant variable in the complex nexus between economics, development and human rights.



Global public goods should be safeguarded while threatened by global public bads:

- **Security**
- **Development**
- **Economy**
- **Human rights**



“Not only are development, security and human rights all imperative; they also reinforce each other. This relationship has only been strengthened in our era of rapid technological advances, increasing economic interdependence, globalization and dramatic geopolitical change. War and atrocities are far from the only reasons that countries are trapped in poverty, but they undoubtedly set back development.”

Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary-General



The interdependent nexus between Security and Development becomes evident to all

- **Crimes against natural or cultural heritage** can discourage foreign investment
- **Illegally exploiting natural resources** of countries that are experiencing war or that are in the process of developing can seriously hinder reconstruction efforts.
- **Corruption** as an obstacle to increasing wealth poses severe limitations on development.



The nexus between Crime and Economics is poorly understood

Rising interconnections between organized crime and economic crimes:

- Speculative manoeuvres
- Building without permissions & illicit waste trafficking
- Counterfeiting
- Abuse of public powers (corruption, extortion, embezzlement)

Emerging threats:

- 1) progressive overlapping of organized & economic crimes
- 2) growing interdependence between economic crimes



Today's Emerging crimes are a threat to a development, economics and human rights

Collective security: two main challenges

- 1. Transnational
Organized Crime**
- 2. Terrorism**





Transnational Organized Crime



- **Facilitated by globalization trends**
- **Grows even in times of financial crisis**



A direct threat

- to States
- and to human security

Among the main transnational criminal activities: drug trafficking

- worth \$ 300-500 billion
(as much as some countries' GDP)
- contributes to the alarming spread of HIV/AIDS
- revenues from opium industry finance terrorist groups
(i.e. Afghanistan)



Transnational Organized Crime



Drugs Trafficking

Counterfeiting

Environmental Crimes

Human Trafficking

Arms Trafficking



Crime	Bln. \$	Crime	Bln. \$
1. Marijuana	141.8	16. Counterfeit Auto Parts	12
2. Counterfeit Technology	100	17. Trash Smuggling	11
3. Cocaine	70.45	18. Human Smuggling	10
4. Opium/Heroin	64.82	19. Arms Trafficking	10
5. Web Video Piracy	60	20. Art Smuggling	10
6. Smuggled Cigarettes	50	21. Counterfeit Clothes	8.24
7. Software Piracy	47.8	22. Gas and Oil Smuggling	6.2
8. Counterfeit Pharm. Drugs	40	23. Music Piracy	4.5
9. Human Trafficking	32	24. Counterfeit Cigarettes	4
10. Amphetamines	28.25	25. Pirated Mobile Phone Entert	3.4
11. Animals smuggling	20	26. Counterfeit Cosmetics	3.0
12. Movie Piracy	18.2	27. Video Game Piracy	3.0
13. Illegal Fishing	16.5	28. Counterfeit Airline Parts	2.0
14. Ecstasy	16.07	29. Cable Piracy	1.54
15. Illegal Logging	15	30. International Adoptions	1.3



Crime	Mln. \$	Crime	Mln. \$
31. Counterfeit Shoes	920	40. Counterfeit Cuban Cigars	100
32. Counterfeit Watches	655	41. Nuclear Smuggling	100
33. Counterfeit pesticides	650	42. Counterfeit Purses	70
34. Book Piracy	600	43. Counterfeit Dollars	61
35. Counterfeit Sports Mem.	500	44. Organ Trafficking	50
36. Kidnap and Ransom	500	45. Counterfeit Lighters	42
37. Counterfeit Alcohol	300	46. Counterfeit Batteries	23
38. Diamond Smuggling	280	47. Human Tissue and Parts	6
39. Counterfeit Toys	131	48. Counterfeit Money Orders	3.7



Arms Trafficking **remains grave and hidden**

- **\$ 10 billion** - illegal arms trafficking
- **\$ 1-4 billion** - illegal trade in small weapons
- **2 million people** involved in illicit arms trafficking
- **2000 U.S. weapons** smuggled into Mexico by drug traffickers daily
- **140.000** illegally **smuggled** weapons **in Kenya**
- **1 million** lost/stolen **light weapons** end up on the black market
- **60% of the arms illegally trafficked** originate from a legal transaction



Human Trafficking

and the difficulties in distinguishing illegal phenomena within migrations challenge migration policies



Trafficking in persons:

- **coercion (without victims' consent)**
- **exploitation (for labour or sexual purposes)**
- **may be transnational or internal**



Smuggling in persons:

- **consensual**
- **cross-border**
- **ends with arrival at destination**



Human trafficking in numbers

- **2.7 million victims a year**
- **80% of the victims are women**
- **50% of the victims are minor**
- **\$ 9.5 billion turnover a year**



Terrorism targets stability and global governance

Threatens the core values of the United Nations Charter:

- ➔ respect for human rights
- ➔ rule of law
- ➔ humanitarian law protecting civilians
- ➔ tolerance between peoples and nations
- ➔ peaceful resolution of conflicts



Thrives in contexts of:

Despair
Humiliation
Poverty
Political oppression
Extremism
Human rights abuses
Regional conflict
Foreign occupation
State failure

New factors heightening the threat of terrorism:

Armed non-governmental networks with global outreach and sophisticated capacities (i.e. Al-Qaeda)

&

Mass-casualty attacks



The international community has encountered obstacles in confronting emerging threats:



1) **Insufficient cooperation** between States



2) **Weak coordination** between international agencies



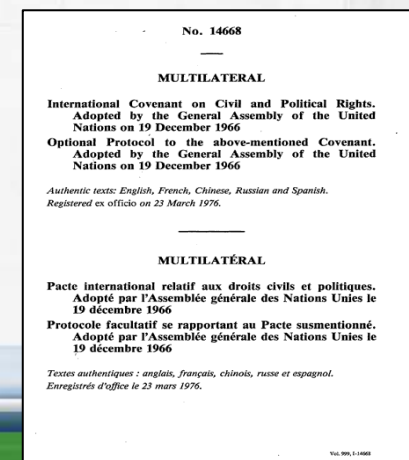
3) **Inadequate efforts** of many countries

Also complicated by structural and organizational changes:
from formal hierarchies to **fluid networks**



International instruments

- **1945** United Nations Charter
- **1948** The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- **1951** Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide
- **1966** The UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- **1969** Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- **1976** The UN International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- **1981** Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- **1984** UN Convention Against Torture
- **1989** Convention on the Rights of the Child
- **2002** Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court





The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

a global consensus on control measures
against transnational organized crime

- Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
- Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Air and Sea, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
- Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime



How global public goods could face global public bads

To contrast and prevent organized crime

COOPERATION is needed

- to address the transnational dimension**
- to build governance, rule of law,
transparency, accountability**

...How?



- 1. Implementing conventions and protocols** (i.e. UN Convention against Corruption, and the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime along with its protocols);
- 2. Developing and spreading** new enforcement tools and techniques to combat these threats, promoting security, development and human rights;
- 3. Strengthen partnerships** between public, private and non profit sectors; increasing **cooperation** with all partners/actors involved;
- 4. Training and technical assistance** to strengthen law enforcement and prosecutorial capacities, to implement standards and best practices.



Information and Communication are key tools to understand and face emerging threats

- **Communication for greater cooperation and circulation of information and to spread awareness of emerging crimes**
- **Appropriate research-oriented approach and tailored information management systems**
- **Common objective and coordinated multilateral strategy**



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**Cooperation
& Communication**

UNICRI: a first response broker

Promoting the power of partnerships,
cooperation and communication

Applied Research Program

- Emerging Crimes and Anti-Human Trafficking
- Security, Governance and Counter Terrorism
- Justice Reform

Documentation Centre

Post-Graduate Training





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