

## Short summary

The 25th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) and its three Protocols on trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, and trafficking in firearms and ammunition (collectively often referred to as the 'Palermo Convention and Protocols') is fast approaching.

The Institute for Comparative Criminal Law at the University of Cologne has the pleasure of inviting interested experts, officials, researchers, representatives, students, and other interested members of the public to a two-day international conference to examine these challenges and controversies and prepare for the 25th anniversary of UNTOC and its Protocols.

The conference will be held in English language only. Chatham House Rule applies.

### Hosts:



Prof. Dr. Bettina Weißer  
Prof. Dr. Andreas Schloenhardt



### Conference assistance and registration:

Kirsten Kindler ✉ [kkindler@uni-koeln.de](mailto:kkindler@uni-koeln.de)

## Venue

### Schloss Wahn University of Cologne

Transportation to conference venue:

Schloss Wahn can be reached using suburban trains (lines S12 or S13) from the city centre or the airport. Exit the train at Porz-Wahn Station which is in walking distance (200m) from the conference venue.



## THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANISED CRIME TURNS 25:

**C**hallenges  
celebrations  
controversies

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
UNIVERSITY OF COLOGNE

**6-7 JUNE 2024**

### CONFIRMED SPEAKERS:

**Luigi Achilli** | European University Institute (EUI) Florence

**Neil Boister** | University of Canterbury

**Marika McAdam** | ASEAN-Australia Counter Trafficking Program

**Karine Bannelier** | University of Grenoble Alpes (UGA)

**Francesco Calderoni** | Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore and Transcrime, Milan

**Parosha Chandran** | The Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College London

**Calogero Ferrara** | European Public Prosecutor's Office, Palermo

**Julia Geneuss** | Universität Bremen

**Florian Jeßberger** | Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

**Max Menn** | United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Vienna

**Joseph Lelliott** | University of Queensland

**Mark Shaw** | Director of the Global Initiative against Transnational Organised Crime, Geneva

**Frank Zimmermann** | Universität Freiburg

### THURSDAY, 6 JUNE 2024

- 12.30 pm Registration
- 1.00pm Welcome remarks  
Bettina Weißer & Andreas Schloenhardt
- 1:20 pm Keynote address
- 2:00pm Coffee break
- 2.30pm United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime  
  
Chair: Bettina Weißer
- 4.00 pm Coffee break
- 4.30pm Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants / Firearms Protocol  
Chair: Andreas Schloenhardt

### FRIDAY, 7 JUNE 2024

- 9.00 am Trafficking in Persons Protocol  
Chair: Joseph Lelliott
- 10.30 am Coffee break
- 11.00 am The future of UNTOC  
Chair: Florian Jeßberger
- 12.30 pm Closing remarks  
Bettina Weißer & Andreas Schloenhardt

### GOALS, CONCEPT, AUDIENCE

The conference seeks to critically explore the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its three Protocols on trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, and trafficking in firearms and ammunition. Separate panels examine each instrument as well as future developments. Most panels comprise one speaker reflecting on the evolution and experiences of the instrument thus far, followed by a further speaker examining future progress and prospects, followed by an open discussion. A high-level keynote speech and a concluding panel reflecting on the significance of UNTOC for other crime types and the development of transnational criminal law complete the conference schedule.

The conference is aimed at and suitable for officials from national authorities, representatives of international organisations and non-governmental organisations, criminal law practitioners, academic researchers in the fields of criminal law, international law, criminology, social sciences, international relations and related fields, university students, and other experts

While it is anticipated that conference presentations and discussions will be edited for publication in a book or special issue, to enhance open discussion, Chatham House Rule applies.