IAP
INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
PROSECUTORS

IAP NEWS

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We regret to advise that the 31st IAP Annual Conference and General Meeting in Riyadh **has been postponed**

Read more

TABLE OF CONTENTS

02 | Message from the President
04 | Secretary-General's Editorial
06 | Message from the General Counsel
08 | IAP Annual Conference in Riyadh Postponed, with Commitment to a Future Conference
11 | Bermuda Regional Conference
14 | IAP Member Benefits
16 | Theme articles
20 | Strengthening Prosecutorial Capacities to Combat Cybercrime
21 | Upcoming webinars
22 | Previous webinars
25 | Reminders and Contributions - Call for newsletter articles and webinar topics
26 | IAP staff and contact information



Juan Bautista Mahiques

IAP President

Message from the President

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to another edition of the IAP Newsletter.

In this edition, we focus on human trafficking and smuggling, two of the most complex challenges confronting prosecutors around the world. In practice, these crimes are often closely interconnected, involving criminal networks operating across borders, exploiting differences between jurisdictions and taking advantage of people in situations of vulnerability.

Trafficking can take many forms, including sexual exploitation, forced labour and other practices associated with modern slavery. At the same time, these crimes should be understood within the broader context of transnational organised crime. In many cases, the same criminal organisations may be involved in multiple illicit activities, including drug trafficking, money laundering and, in some circumstances, terrorist financing. This criminal convergence allows networks to diversify their operations, move resources across different illicit markets and reinforce a broader cycle of organised crime.

Understanding these connections is therefore essential not only to prosecuting individual offences, but also to disrupting the wider criminal networks that sustain them.

These cases are often particularly difficult to detect and investigate. Victims may be reluctant or unable to come forward, evidence may be dispersed across several jurisdictions, and those responsible may operate through sophisticated structures that extend well beyond the country in which exploitation ultimately takes place. For prosecutors, these cases therefore demand close cooperation between authorities, law enforcement agencies and other relevant actors across borders. Timely exchange of information, effective mutual legal assistance and direct professional relationships between prosecutors can be decisive in identifying criminal networks, securing evidence, tracing illicit proceeds and ensuring that those who organise and profit from exploitation are held accountable.

At the same time, our response must consider the particular vulnerability of trafficking victims and the need to ensure their protection throughout the criminal justice process. Effective prosecution and the protection of victims are not competing objectives. Building trust, reducing the risk of further harm and ensuring that victims can engage safely with the justice system are often essential to the successful investigation and prosecution of these crimes.

This is precisely why international cooperation among prosecutors matters so much. The IAP provides a unique network through which we can share experiences, strengthen professional connections and learn from the different approaches developed across our jurisdictions.

This newsletter brings together contributions examining human trafficking and smuggling from different perspectives. I hope they will encourage further dialogue and practical cooperation across our global prosecutorial community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to address the postponement of the 31st Annual Conference and General Meeting of the IAP, which was due to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 15 to 18 November. It is regrettable that the Conference cannot proceed as planned, and our thoughts are with our colleagues in the region during this time.

The Conference, under the theme “The Criminal Justice System in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Opportunities, Challenges, and Global Applications”, remains an important opportunity to examine how artificial intelligence is transforming criminal justice systems worldwide. The programme will explore the opportunities offered by AI, the challenges it poses for criminal justice, AI-enabled crime, ethical considerations, and practical experiences from different jurisdictions. We look forward to welcoming you to these important discussions when the Conference takes place in due course.

In the meantime, I would like to thank our colleagues and partners for their understanding and continued support. We look forward to sharing further information about the revised arrangements at a later date and to coming together again to exchange experiences, strengthen our international cooperation, and discuss the important issues facing our profession.

Warmest regards,



Juan Bautista Mahiques
IAP President

Secretary-General's Editorial



Roel Dona
IAP Secretary-General

This newsletter is dedicated to human trafficking and human smuggling. These are crimes that can have a profound impact on people's lives, but they are also among the most difficult to prove.

Significant profit can made from these crimes, and the vulnerability of the people involved is exploited. This vulnerability may be economic, but it can also be emotional or relational. In some cases, relationships are deliberately created or manipulated; in others, victims may feel a great responsibility towards their family or others who depend on them.

These cases are also challenging because they often have a strong international dimension. A victim may be recruited or exploited in one country, pass through several transit countries with the involvement of different intermediaries, and eventually end up in a city in a different region of the world. Effective international cooperation may already be required to establish what actually happened and who was responsible, let alone to trace the financial flows hidden behind these forms of crime.

Beyond the legal and practical challenges that international investigations entail, the priority given to these crimes can also vary considerably across jurisdictions. Where cooperation depends on a chain of countries and authorities, a weakness at any point in that chain can have a significant impact on the overall outcome of an investigation.

Bringing those responsible to justice does not, however, end the victims' suffering. In addition to trauma and fear of reprisals, victims may face significant difficulties in finding a safe and stable place from which to rebuild their lives. Every prosecutor will recognize in these criminal networks many of the same structures that we encounter in other forms of organized crime: a long chain of people, each involved in only part of the overall process. Although there may be a clear hierarchy, a multitude of individuals can be involved in carrying out different parts of the operation. Housing, transport, false documents, financial transactions and communications can all be handled by different people. This fragmentation can make the investigation particularly challenging.

If there is one area of criminality that demonstrates the importance of international cooperation at every level, it is human trafficking and human smuggling.

It is precisely in these cases that the IAP's network can prove its worth. We all work from the same focus, with a common purpose, and we can facilitate the exchange of information by sharing knowledge, experience and contacts. International cooperation is not only about formal requests for assistance; it is also about knowing whom to contact, understanding how our respective systems work, and being able to exchange experience with colleagues facing similar challenges. By sharing knowledge, practical experience and professional contacts, we can help one another to make international investigations more effective.

In this newsletter, many of your colleagues will once again share their experiences. We are also very curious in hearing about yours, whether it is in relation to human trafficking and human smuggling, or to other areas of prosecution. I therefore personally invite you to send us a short contribution, so that your colleagues across our international network can learn from your experience as well.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere regret that our 31st IAP Annual Conference and General Meeting, which we had been looking forward to holding in Riyadh, will not proceed as planned. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our host, the Public Prosecution of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for its commitment, the considerable work undertaken and the extensive preparations made to welcome our international community of prosecutors. The recent site visit by the IAP Secretariat was an important part of these preparations and provided a further opportunity to appreciate the dedication and efforts of everyone involved. We are truly grateful for their commitment and support and sincerely regret that the conference cannot take place as planned. We will stay in close contact with our host to explore a new date for the conference and will keep you all updated as plans develop.

Roel Dona
IAP Secretary-General



Tarika Jayaratne
IAP General Counsel

Message from the General Counsel

As I look ahead to the remaining months of my term as Interim General Counsel of the IAP, I have been reflecting on what an immensely rewarding experience it has been. It has been a pleasure to get to know so many of our members and to work with colleagues across the broader IAP community.

Every conversation, meeting and event has reinforced the strength of our Association and the value of the relationships that connect prosecutors across jurisdictions, regions and legal traditions.

Since our last newsletter, the difficult decision has been taken to postpone the 31st IAP Annual Conference and General Meeting in Riyadh. I recognise the disappointment this brings to members, speakers and colleagues who had been looking forward to attending. I would particularly like to acknowledge the considerable work, commitment and generous hospitality of our hosts, the Public Prosecution of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Their enthusiasm for bringing the international prosecutorial community together, and the care and effort devoted to preparing the conference, have been greatly appreciated.

The planned professional programme, exploring the opportunities, challenges and practical applications of artificial intelligence in criminal justice, remains highly relevant to prosecutors worldwide, and we intend to return to this important theme. As technology develops, sharing our experiences and approaches will be essential to helping prosecutors harness its benefits while safeguarding professional judgment, fairness, accountability and the rule of law. The work already undertaken by the Professional Programme Committee provides a valuable foundation for continuing these discussions.

I had been looking forward to meeting many of you in person in Riyadh, but I hope you will join us online for the General Meeting in November. This will be an important opportunity to discuss the Association's business, including our new Constitution, and to contribute to shaping the IAP's future.

Preparations for future regional and annual conferences are continuing in earnest. I recently had the opportunity to visit Bermuda as part of the planning for its regional conference in March 2027. The visit was both productive and inspiring, and it was encouraging to see the commitment and enthusiasm being invested in developing a programme that will be relevant and valuable to prosecutors across the region.

We are also planning a number of regional conferences in different parts of the world, creating more opportunities for members across our regions to meet, exchange experience and engage with the Association and one another. I encourage you to look out for further details as these plans develop. At a time when crime increasingly crosses national borders, the relationships formed through these gatherings have real practical value. Getting to know our counterparts, understanding their legal systems and building mutual trust all help lay the foundations for effective cooperation when cases require us to work together.

The theme of this newsletter, Human trafficking and smuggling, including cross-jurisdictional challenges, labour and sex trafficking, and modern slavery, illustrates why that cooperation matters. These crimes exploit vulnerable people, frequently span multiple jurisdictions and often involve sophisticated criminal networks. Investigating and prosecuting them effectively requires coordinated responses, the exchange of expertise and strong relationships between prosecuting authorities.

The IAP supports this work through its conferences, professional networks and training activities, helping prosecutors learn from one another and develop connections that can make a practical difference to their cases and the communities they serve.

The IAP Global Training Academy is an important part of that effort, supporting professional development and knowledge sharing across our membership. Our webinar programme brings together experts and colleagues from around the world to share experience, discuss emerging challenges and explore practical approaches. I encourage members to read Irina's article in this edition and to make use of the opportunities the programme offers for continued learning and international engagement.

This is likely to be my final newsletter contribution as Interim General Counsel, with a new General Counsel expected to take over in the New Year. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve the Association, and I am grateful for the warmth, support and generosity of colleagues and members throughout my time in the role. I look forward to continuing to work with you over the coming months and to supporting a smooth handover to my successor.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the IAP and to the international cooperation that lies at the heart of our work.

Tarika Jayaratne
IAP General Counsel



IAP Annual Conference in Riyadh Postponed, with Commitment to a Future Conference

The International Association of Prosecutors regrets to announce that the 31st IAP Annual Conference and General Meeting, scheduled to take place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 15 to 18 November 2026, has been postponed.

This is a disappointing development for the IAP and its members, as well as for our hosts, the Public Prosecution of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, who have invested considerable time, effort and resources in preparing to welcome the international prosecution community to Riyadh. The decision reflects the current regional circumstances and their implications for international travel and participation. The IAP and the Public Prosecution share the view that the Conference should take place under conditions that allow it to achieve its full professional and international objectives.

A Warm Welcome and Outstanding Preparations

Earlier this month, the IAP Secretariat visited Riyadh as part of preparations for the Conference. The visit provided an opportunity to see first-hand the extensive work undertaken by the Public Prosecution and to experience the care, professionalism and hospitality with which they were preparing to welcome delegates from around the world.

The preparations demonstrated the hosts' commitment to delivering an outstanding Conference, with every indication that Riyadh would have provided a memorable setting for the IAP's international prosecution community to come together, exchange expertise, strengthen professional relationships and advance cooperation across borders.

Looking Ahead to Riyadh

The postponement does not diminish the IAP's commitment to holding a future Annual Conference in Riyadh. We look forward to continuing to work closely with our hosts to identify a suitable opportunity to bring the international prosecution community together in Riyadh.

When the Conference is rearranged, we are confident that the excellent preparations already undertaken, combined with the host's continued commitment and hospitality, will help make it the outstanding event we had all anticipated.

The new dates will be considered in due course, in coordination with the Public Prosecution of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and will be communicated as soon as they are confirmed.

The Public Prosecution has also issued its own announcement regarding the postponement, reaffirming its valued partnership with the IAP and its commitment to hosting the Conference in Riyadh in the future

Association Governance Meetings and Registration Refunds

Although the Annual Conference has been postponed, the IAP's essential governance meetings will proceed in November 2026 in accordance with the Association's Constitution. The General Meeting will be held online, and further information about participation arrangements will be circulated directly to members.

All registered participants who have paid a Conference registration fee will receive a full refund in accordance with the published registration policy. The Secretariat aims to complete the refund process within three weeks of the postponement notice, although some bank transfers may take longer. Participants do not need to take any action at this stage unless contacted directly by the Secretariat.

Our Thanks to the IAP Community

We recognise that this postponement will be disappointing for members, speakers and participants who had been looking forward to meeting in Riyadh, particularly those who have already made travel arrangements. We sincerely regret the inconvenience and uncertainty this creates and thank everyone for their understanding, patience and continued support.

Above all, we wish to acknowledge the commitment and generosity of the Public Prosecution of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Their preparations, professionalism and hospitality have left a strong impression on the IAP Secretariat, and we look forward to building on the excellent work already undertaken.

While we are sorry that we cannot meet in Riyadh this November, we remain enthusiastic about the opportunity to do so in the future. We look forward to returning to Riyadh when circumstances permit and to delivering the exceptional Conference that their preparations have so clearly set out to achieve.







Navigating New Currents: Bermuda Welcomes the IAP in 2027

Prosecution, Partnership and a Little Pink Sand
14–17 March 2027 Bermuda.
The currents are changing. Come navigate them with us.

In March 2027, Bermuda will welcome prosecutors and prosecution leaders from across Canada, the United States, the Caribbean and the wider international community for the 8th International Association of Prosecutors North American and Caribbean Regional Conference.

For four days, our island will become a meeting place for prosecutors confronting many of the same questions even when we practice thousands of miles apart.

Our conference theme is: **The Evolving Role of the Modern Prosecutor: Navigating New Currents.** It is a theme that reflects the reality of prosecution today.

Crime crosses borders with increasing ease. Digital evidence may be located in another country or another continent. Organised criminal networks exploit jurisdictional boundaries. Financial crime continues to evolve in sophistication. Technology is changing both offending and investigation. Victims expect justice systems that understand vulnerability and trauma. Prosecutors are navigating social media, artificial intelligence and unprecedented public scrutiny, while still being required to safeguard the rule of law and uphold the fundamental principles of independence and fairness.

The currents really are changing: and that is precisely why we should navigate them together. Whether you are a Crown prosecutor in Canada, a federal, state or local prosecutor in the United States, a Director of Public Prosecutions or prosecutor in the Caribbean, or a colleague from a prosecution agency elsewhere in the world, Bermuda 2027 has been designed with the realities of your work in mind.

Our professional programme will bring together experience, practical solutions and emerging best practice from across jurisdictions.

We will examine transnational crime and cross-border collaboration, including human trafficking and migrant smuggling, mutual legal assistance, extradition, information sha-



ring, international witnesses and the practical challenges of investigating and prosecuting increasingly borderless criminal activity.

We will confront organised crime, gangs and complex multi-defendant prosecutions—issues that resonate in major American and Canadian cities as well as in smaller Caribbean jurisdictions. Discussions will consider gang networks, firearms offending, witness protection, complex prosecutions and the important relationship between prosecution, prevention and community-based violence reduction.

Our parallel sessions will explore Prosecuting in the Digital Age and Financial Crime, Anti-Money Laundering and Asset Recovery.

We will consider what victim-centered justice should mean in modern prosecution practice, including technology-enabled domestic abuse, image-based sexual abuse, online exploitation, child sexual abuse and trauma-informed approaches to prosecution.

Because the fundamentals of our profession remain as important as ever, we will return to the courtroom for discussion about advanced advocacy, expert witnesses, technological evidence, ethics, disclosure, leadership, resilience and wellbeing within prosecution services.

The programme will also ask one of the most important questions facing prosecution leaders today: What is the future of prosecution and how do we preserve leadership and independence in an age of mistrust? That conversation should matter to every prosecutor and every head of a prosecution agency, irrespective of the size or location of the jurisdiction they serve.

Of course, those of us who attend IAP conferences know that some of the most valuable exchanges do not happen behind a lectern. They happen over coffee, at dinner and on the way to the next session. During the conversation that begins with: “We had a case like that…”

The prosecutor you meet in Bermuda may be the colleague you call six months later when an urgent mutual legal assistance issue arises. The American prosecutor sitting beside you may have prosecuted the type of criminal network now appearing in your jurisdiction. A Canadian Crown prosecutor may have developed an approach to vulnerable witnesses that can be adapted elsewhere. A Caribbean DPP may already have confronted the leadership or independence issue now landing on another Director’s desk. That is one of the great strengths of the IAP. We do not simply exchange information. We build professional relationships before we need them. Bermuda 2027 will create plenty of opportunities to do exactly that.





Our conference will be hosted at Grotto Bay Beach Resort & Spa, set across 21 acres along Bermuda's coastline. This will be our professional home for the conference, but it is certainly not an ordinary conference setting. There will be serious discussions about serious subjects. There will also be turquoise water just outside.

We think the two can coexist very nicely.

Our time together will begin with a Welcome Cocktail Reception with beautiful views of Bermuda's ocean: a relaxed opportunity to reconnect with old IAP colleagues, meet new ones and begin building the relationships that are such an important part of the conference experience.

And, because you are coming to Bermuda, we hope you will also find a little time for what the island is famous for: a little pink sand.

One of the highlights of the social programme will be a special Networking Reception at Government House, the official residence of the Governor of Bermuda. Delegates will be welcomed for an evening of food, drinks, music and conversation in one of Bermuda's important historic settings.

Entertainment will include the Royal Bermuda Regiment Band giving our guests an opportunity to experience some of the island's musical character while strengthening relationships with fellow prosecutors and prosecution leaders.

This will be more than another reception. It will be an evening to meet the person behind the title, renew friendships across jurisdictions and create new professional connections in an atmosphere that is unmistakably Bermudian.

For our final evening together, we will travel west to Bermuda's historic Royal Naval Dockyard for a special Closing Conference Dinner at Commissioner's House, part of the National Museum of Bermuda. Sitting high above the Dockyard, historic Commissioner's House offers extraordinary views across Bermuda's Great Sound and provides a spectacular setting in which to bring our conference to a close.

There will be dinner. There will be local artists and performers. There will be music.

And yes, there will be dancing.

After several days discussing organised crime, digital evidence, disclosure, victims, prosecutorial independence and the future of criminal justice, we think everyone will have earned it.

Our final evening will give us the opportunity to relax, celebrate the professional friendships formed during the conference and experience some of Bermuda's culture before we return to the demands of our respective jurisdictions.

Why Bermuda? Why this conference?

Because this conference represents a particular kind of opportunity. It is an opportunity for prosecutors from some of the largest prosecution agencies in North America to sit alongside colleagues from some of the smallest jurisdictions in the Caribbean and discover just how much we have in common.

It is an opportunity for U.S. federal, state and local prosecutors to exchange experience with Canadian Crown and Caribbean prosecutors confronting organised crime, gun violence, digital offending and vulnerable-victim cases from very different legal and societal perspectives.

It is an opportunity for Directors and heads of prosecution agencies to speak candidly with peers about leadership, institutional independence, resources, public confidence and the

extraordinary responsibility of leading a prosecution service.

It is an opportunity for experienced advocates to exchange ideas.

It is an opportunity for younger prosecutors to begin building an international professional network that may serve them throughout their careers.

And it is an opportunity to strengthen the relationships that make international cooperation work when the next difficult case crosses a border.

Bermuda is particularly well placed to host that conversation.

Geographically and culturally, we sit between North America and the Caribbean. Our legal tradition connects us to the wider Commonwealth, while our professional relationships extend throughout the region and internationally.

For four days in March, we intend to bring those worlds together.

And although this is the IAP North American and Caribbean Regional Conference, our invitation does not stop at the boundaries of the region. The entire international prosecution community is welcome.

If you prosecute; if you lead prosecutors, if you want to understand how our profession is changing, if you want to learn from colleagues facing the same challenges in different jurisdictions, if you believe that strong professional relationships make stronger prosecution services — we want you in Bermuda.

- Come for the ideas you can take back to your office.
- Come for the practical discussions and advanced advocacy.
- Come for the Canadian, American and Caribbean perspectives.
- Come to meet the colleague you may one day need to call.
- Come to renew old IAP friendships and create new ones.
- Come for an ocean-side welcome at Grotto Bay.
- Come for food, music and networking and unforgettable social events.
- Come for the professional programme.
- Come for the partnership.
- And yes, come for a little pink sand too.

Do not simply hear afterwards about the conversations you missed, or the connections that were made.

Be here. The currents are changing. Come navigate them with us.

Registration will open soon, please keep an eye out for future communications and the conference website.

Cindy E. Clarke, BA, LLB, MCMI
Director of Public Prosecutions
Department of Public Prosecutions
Ministry of Justice Government of Bermuda

IAP Member Benefits

Connect, Share, Collaborate: Making the Most of Your IAP Membership

Human trafficking is an evolving and increasingly transnational crime. In this field, connecting with colleagues across jurisdictions and sharing knowledge and experience can support prosecutors in responding to common and emerging challenges.

The IAP's **Trafficking in Persons (TiP) Specialist Network** provides a global forum for prosecutors who specialise in the prosecution of human trafficking offences. It encompasses prosecutors with expertise in modern slavery and smuggling offences, bringing together expertise across these closely connected areas.

Connecting through Specialist Networks

The Trafficking in Persons Specialist Network is one of the IAP's nine Specialist Networks, providing members with an opportunity to connect with colleagues working in areas of shared professional interest.

Specialist Networks are one way IAP members can share their expertise, learn from colleagues and strengthen professional connections across jurisdictions. The TiP Network provides a practical example of how membership can connect prosecutors working on complex and evolving areas of criminal justice.

Individual members: If you are an IAP Individual Member, you can select your area of specialism through your IAP member profile and join the Specialist Network relevant to your expertise and interests.

Organisational members: Organisational members can nominate contact points / specialists for the various specialist areas. Contact your IAP Contact Point to get involved.

If you are interested in becoming involved in the Trafficking in Persons Specialist Network, or have any questions or comments about the Network or Specialist Networks more generally, please contact icem@iap-association.org.

Your membership. Your network. Your contribution.

The Specialist Networks are just one of the opportunities available through IAP membership. Members can also connect with international counterparts through the **Prosecutors' International Cooperation Platform (PICP),** access learning and development opportunities through **the Global Training Academy**, participate in the **Prosecutor's Exchange Programme (PEP)**, and attend and contribute to **IAP conferences** and other professional activities.

The strength of these opportunities comes from members sharing their expertise, connecting with colleagues and taking part in the life of the IAP. Whether you are already actively involved in a Network or are looking for new ways to connect and collaborate with colleagues internationally, there are opportunities to get involved.

We want to hear from you.

As part of the IAP's ongoing work to strengthen member engagement, **we invite all members — both organisational and individual — to share their experience through our Member Engagement Questionnaire.**

We want to understand how information, knowledge, training opportunities and other resources reach our members and prosecutors within our member organisations — what you receive, how you receive it, what you find useful, and what may prevent useful IAP information from reaching you.

While some questions are more relevant to organisational members, the views and experiences of individual members are equally valuable.

Your feedback will help shape the IAP's future approach to communication, knowledge sharing, capacity building and engagement, and identify opportunities to strengthen connections and collaboration across our membership.

The questionnaire takes approximately **5 minutes to complete,** and responses will be analysed collectively. Unless you choose to provide identifying information, your responses are intended to be anonymous.

Take part in the Member Engagement Questionnaire and help shape how the IAP connects, shares knowledge and engages with its members.

IAP Member Information & Engagement Survey

Theme articles: Human trafficking and smuggling, including cross-jurisdictional challenges, labour and sex trafficking, and modern slavery.



Prosecuting Human Trafficking in the Age of AI: Following the Digital Recruitment Trail.

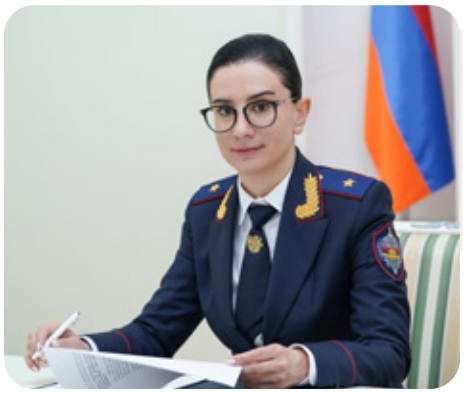
Abdulla A. Ridha Abdulla, Chief Prosecutor, Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit, Public Prosecution, Kingdom of Bahrain

Read more

Trafficking in Persons: Evolution of Legal and Practical Frameworks in Armenia.

By Anna Vardapetyan, Prosecutor General of the Republic of Armenia

Read more





The Pylos Case: Prosecuting Migrant-Smuggling Shipwrecks on the High Seas.

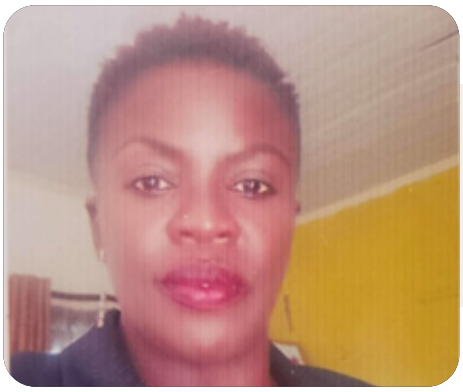
By Dionysios Lambridis, Prosecutor of First Instance Court of Orestiada, Greece

Read more

Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants: The Prosecutorial Response to Transnational Organized Crime in Kenya.

By Evelyn Onunga, Assistant Director of Public Prosecution, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Kenya

Read more





Victim in One State, Suspect in Another: Giving Effect to Article 14(2) of the ASEAN Convention Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (ACTIP)

By Rebecca Wong, Senior Advisor for Justice Systems (APAC) at International Justice Mission, with Jennifer Riddell, Director, Prosecutions Program at International Justice Mission

Read more

Constructive pathways and logistical constraints in the fight against trafficking in human beings in Bulgaria.

By Teodora Todorova, Prosecutor at Sofia Regional Prosecutor's Office and INTERPOL certified trainer on the topic of Trafficking in human beings

Read more





The Use of Children and Vulnerable Persons for Begging by Family Members as a Form of Modern Slavery. Between “mistreatment of a minor” and “trafficking in human beings”: an international, comparative and constitutional-criminal reading of the qualification problem.

By Ylli Pjetërnikaj, Prosecutor at Prosecution Office at the Court of First Instance of General Jurisdiction, Tirana, Albania

Read more

Best practices in prosecuting trafficking in human beings – the case of Malta

By Ramon Bonett Sladden, Prosecutor at the Office of the Attorney General, Malta

Read more



A FURTHER READ: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

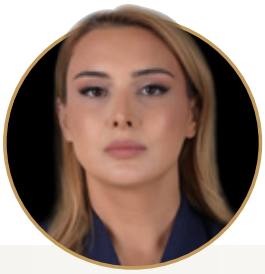
We are pleased to share this insightful article on domestic abuse, whichwas missed from our previous edition, as a valuable contribution to the wider discussion on protecting vulnerable people.

Justice Through the Lens of Intimate Partner Violence: Prosecutorial Lessons and Operational Best Practices from Republic v Lewis Kazungu Charo

Marcellar Odero, Prosecution Counsel Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Kenya, and Susan Balongo, Justice System Associate with International Justice Mission

Read more





Irina Beridze

IAP Executive Programme Manager

To read the full message please click here

Strengthening Prosecutorial Capacities to Combat Cybercrime

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the IAP Global Training Academy area. We continue to provide prosecutors worldwide with opportunities to strengthen professional capacity through knowledge and experience sharing.

Cybercrime and digital evidence are key thematic areas of the GTA Webinars Programme. Technology-enabled crimes increasingly intersect with fraud, corruption, organised crime, trafficking, violent extremism, financial crime and other forms of criminality, creating complex evidential, legal, operational and jurisdictional challenges. The GTA addresses these challenges by bringing together prosecutors, criminal justice experts, international organisations and private-sector specialists to share expertise and comparative perspectives.

GTA sessions have explored a range of interconnected themes such as Digital Evidence, Cryptocurrency and Blockchain, Cross-Border Investigations and International Cooperation, and Disrupting Cybercrime and Emerging Technologies (see recordings in the GTA online library)

(...)The GTA welcomes proposals for joint webinars from international and regional organisations, prosecution services and specialised agencies, professional networks and associations, academic institutions, civil society organisations, subject-matter experts and other relevant partners. Those interested in collaboration are invited to become familiar with the **Partner Guide** and share their ideas and suggestions with us.

As technology and cyber-enabled crime continue to evolve, international knowledge exchange remains essential to developing effective, rights-compliant and coordinated prosecutorial responses. Through its growing Webinar Programme and global network of contributors, the GTA helps transform professional experience into shared expertise and strengthen prosecutors' capacity to meet these challenges.

We look forward to continuing this dialogue with our members and partners around the world.

Irina Beridze

IAP Executive Programme Manager

Upcoming webinars



Register now

The way criminal cases are allocated within prosecution services can have a direct impact on prosecutorial independence, impartiality, accountability, and public confidence in the justice system. Transparent and objective case-allocation mechanisms are therefore essential to preventing undue influence, avoiding conflicts of interest, ensuring balanced workloads, and safeguarding the integrity of prosecutorial decision-making.



Register now

A homicide case may go cold, but the pursuit of justice never ends. This fascinating webinar examines the unique challenges of investigating and prosecuting cold case homicides, including the most difficult of all cases—those in which the victim's body has never been recovered. The session will explore how seemingly unsolvable cases can be revisited years, or even decades, later, bringing offenders to justice, even many years after the offence. Through practical insights and real-world case studies, attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the determination, innovation and collaboration required to bring offenders to justice and deliver answers for victims' families.

Previous IAP Global training academy webinar recordings

All previous IAP webinars from 2023 - present are available to view via the members-only section of the IAP website - please go to the Global Training Academy homepage here.

- Prosecutor Safety, Well-being and Sustainability in Practice (October 2026)
- OCTOPUS: An Environmental Legal Database for Legal and Law Enforcement Professionals (September 2026)
- Domestic Abuse and Suicide: Is Justice Possible? (August 2026)
- Issues in Sexual Assault Prosecutions - Myths and Stereotypes; Evidence of Other Sexual Activity (August 2026)
- Concurrent Jurisdiction Cases; Enhancing Cooperation to Agree an Effective Prosecution Strategy (July 2026)
- Crimes that Affect the Environment and the UN Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime (July 2026)
- Prosecuting Bribery in Sport: From Guidance to Practice (July 2026)
- Trauma-Informed Approach to Sexual Assault Investigations and Prosecutions (June 2026)
- Investigations Against Darknet Marketplaces - Best Practice Review (June 2026)
- Listening to Young Voices: Best Practices for Interviewing Children and Adolescents (May 2026)
- Enhancing the engagement of prosecutors with the UN Human Rights Council Special Procedures System (May 2026)
- Enhancing informal international cooperation - Bridging intelligence and evidence in AML/CFT investigations (April 2026)
- Intoxication, memory and jury trials (April 2026)
- The UN Convention against Cybercrime - What to expect? (March 2026)
- Child / Youth Advocacy Centres (February 2026)
- Prosecutor safety and security - A personal approach (February 2026)
- The engagement of prosecutors in the Universal Periodic Review Process (January 2026)
- AI's role in human trafficking prevention and investigation and criminal misuse (January 2026)
- INTERPOL Notices system and international police cooperation in combatting financial crimes (December 2025)
- Developing a persuasive case strategy (December 2025)
- Dealing with the asset in asset recovery: Improving seized asset management (November 2025)
- Cultural property awareness: From crime to court (November 2025)
- A comprehensive approach in the fight against cybercrime: The power of digital evidence (October 2025)
- Prosecutors and the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention - A shared commitment to combatting transnational bribery (October 2025)
- Digital evidence collection and freedom of expression and privacy (October 2025)
- Tackling sports corruption: Enhancing cooperation between sports organisations and prosecutors (September 2025)
- An introduction to the UN Human Rights system: Understanding the UN Human Rights Council and its mechanisms (September 2025)
- Introduction to the Guidelines for Prosecutors on Digital Evidence (August 2025)
- A comprehensive understanding and approach to combating female genital mutilation: Cutting and reducing prosecutorial impunity (July 2025)
- Putting victims and witnesses at the heart of the criminal justice system (June 2025)
- A comprehensive approach in the fight against cybercrime: Decentralisation and digitisation (June 2025)
- Decrypting the blockchain: An introduction to crypto investigations and the benefits of partnership working (May 2025)
- Prosecuting cybercrimes in Switzerland: Hurdles and challenges (May 2025)
- Unlocking the potential of equivalent value-based measures in asset recovery (April 2025)
- Universal jurisdiction: An overview (April 2025)
- Modern slavery and human trafficking prosecutions (March 2025)
- Trafficking and terrorism of antiquities (March 2025)
- Second Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest Convention) (February 2025)
- Operation Endgame: A comprehensive approach in the fight against cybercrime (February 2025)
- Prosecuting cases of police corruption (February 2025)
- Supporting the global fight against grand corruption: An introduction to the International Anti-Corruption Coordination Centre (January 2025)
- Investigating and prosecuting the destruction, looting and trafficking of cultural heritage by terrorist groups (December 2024) (not recorded)

- The role of the FATF in combatting money laundering and terrorist financing (December 2024)
- Violent extremism - the threat environment and impact of technological advancements (November 2024)
- Judicial international cooperation tools in case of emergency (October 2024)
- Prosecuting transnational drug trafficking (September 2024)
- Enabling the evidential use of intelligence material (September 2024)
- Developing an effective case strategy (August 2024)
- The European Court of Human Rights - Interim measures - Legal framework and practical application in extradition cases (August 2024)
- The prosecution of radiological and nuclear crimes (July 2024)
- Collaboration between Airbnb and judicial authorities: Strengthening cooperation for a safer community (July 2024)
- Enhancing international cooperation in the investigation and prosecution of transnational corruption crimes; Leveraging the GlobE network for effective collaboration (June 2024)
- The prosecution of chemical and biological crimes (June 2024)
- Direct cooperation with providers and entities in other parties: Practical implications of the Second Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime (May 2024)
- How to prosecute wildlife crime as a transnational organised crime (May 2024)
- Rethinking anti-corruption efforts: Key considerations regarding case selection and victim compensation (April 2024)
- An operational perspective on prosecuting environmental crime (April 2024)
- An introduction to environmental crime (March 2024)
- Rethinking anti-corruption efforts: Developing new strategies to tackle corruption (March 2024)
- The prosecution of cases of competition manipulation (March 2024)
- Developing a strategic approach to jury selection (January 2024)
- Cooperation between Financial Intelligence Units and public prosecutors (December 2023)
- An introduction to Financial Intelligence Units and the Egmont Group (December 2023)
- Webinar on waste crime (October 2023)
- An introduction to wildlife crime (September 2023)
- The importance of the Nuremberg Principles (July 2023)



Call for Webinar Topics and Presenters

The IAP Global Training Academy develops and delivers webinars on topics of interest and operational relevance to members. IAP members are invited to submit suggestions for topics / themes for future webinars to the General Counsel at gc@iap-association.org. Members who are interested in presenting at a webinar are also invited to contact the General Counsel with details of the proposed topic of their presentation and a short biography.

Members can access full information about delivering a webinar within the Guide for Joint Webinars

Call for Articles for the next newsletter



The IAP are inviting members to submit articles for consideration for inclusion in the next edition of the newsletter. The next IAP newsletter will be published in January 2027. **The Theme is: Vicarious trauma and wellbeing for prosecutors.**

If you wish to submit an article for publication, then please send it to the IAP International Community Engagement Manager at icem@iap-association.org.

Preference will be given to articles which have an operational focus. This may include identifying challenges and solutions, best practise, and new and emerging trends in this area. Articles must be written in English and should not exceed 1000 words. Please include your full name, job title, title of your organisation, a title for your article and a headshot photograph of yourself. The deadline for the submission of articles is Friday 11 December 2026.

Reminder updating of details

We kindly remind all organisational and individual members of the importance of ensuring that your details are up-to-date on the IAP membership system.

Please note that the success and effectiveness of the IAP Prosecutors' International Cooperation Platform (PICP) — which aims to facilitate and strengthen international cooperation through designated contact points across various areas of expertise — depends on the accuracy and completeness of the database. Your attention and cooperation in ensuring that organisational and individual contact details and areas of professional specialisation are kept up to date are therefore essential.

If you are a designated IAP contact person for your organisation, please review and, if needed, edit the details for your organisation via the organisational membership dashboard on the IAP website.

If you are an individual member, please review and, if needed, edit your personal details via the IAP website.

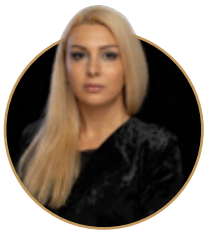
As the IAP membership year runs from 1 January to 31 December, this is also a good opportunity to verify whether your organisational or individual membership remains valid or requires renewal. Through your organisational membership or individual membership dashboard, you may request an invoice for payment via bank transfer or make a direct payment using the online payment gateway (credit card or PayPal).

Should you encounter any issues with the IAP membership system or related processes, please do not hesitate to contact the IAP Secretariat at pcm@iap-association.org.

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