

27th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)

UNICRI 1968-2018: Celebrating 50 years of partnership with Italy in advancing justice and security through innovation and dialogue

Side event of UNICRI co-sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Italy to the International Organizations in Vienna

Friday, 18 May 2018, h. 09:00 - 09:50 - Conference Room M6

The side event will highlight the long-standing and successful partnership of UNICRI and Italy in supporting the global community to address crime prevention, justice and security related issues. Established in 1968 in Italy, UNICRI serves the global community in formulating and implementing improved policies in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice. UNICRI assists governments and non-governmental actors in the development of targeted strategies and interventions to address crime and emerging threats in a way that positively impacts on good governance, sustainable development, human rights and security.

The Institute develops tailored context-specific interventions based on concrete needs and citizen-centric approaches. It adopts a multi-sectoral and holistic approach where applied research, exchange and dissemination of knowledge, capacity building and the creation of strong partnerships are indissoluble components. This helps ensuring that policy makers and practitioners, as well as actors within civil society and the private sectors, are better equipped to design and implement well-rounded strategies that promote more just and secure societies in which the rule of law prevails and in which the needs of the most vulnerable are met.

The meeting will draw conclusions for UNICRI's future strategic framework within Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda. It will be an occasion to present the most recent achievements in counterterrorism and social cohesion, and opportunities and challenges of exponential technological changes for security and crime control. During the event Prof. Maria Falcone, Italian Judge Giovanni Falcone's sister and President of Foundation Giovanni and Francesca Falcone, will be nominated as an advocate for UNICRI. The nomination is to pay tribute to Judge Falcone and to all those who sacrificed their lives on the front lines for us to be free from fear. Their legacy is an imperative to continue their fight against organized crime and end impunity in the name of justice and the rule of law.

Agenda

08:30 - 09:00 Registration

09:00 - 09:20 Opening Remarks

- **H.E. Ambassador Maria Assunta Accili Sabbatini**, *Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in Vienna*
- **H.E. Ambassador Giorgio Marrapodi**, *Director General for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy*
- **Dr. Jafar Javan**, *Director a.i. of UNICRI*

09:20 - 09:35 Session I – Enhancing security, human rights and development through research, technology and innovation

Moderator: Mr. Leif Villadsen, *Senior Programme Officer*

- **Mr. Francesco Marelli**, *Head, Security Governance Programme*
- **Ms. Maria Vittoria De Simone**, *Deputy Head Prosecutor - Antimafia and Antiterrorism Directorate, Italy*
- **Mr. Giovanni Russo**, *Deputy Head Prosecutor - Antimafia and Antiterrorism Directorate, Italy*

Key Points of the Discussion

- Understanding the global impacts, opportunities and challenges of exponential technological changes. Focus on: blockchain, supply chain security and responsible life science.
- Big Data Analytics and visualization technology to monitor and combat the infiltration of organized crime into the legal economy.

09:35 - 09:45 Session II – The role of civil society in countering radicalization and violent extremism in the Sahel-Maghreb; rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremists

Moderator: Mr. Leif Villadsen, *Senior Programme Officer*

- **Ms. Itziar Arispe**, *Monitoring and Evaluation Officer*
- **Mr. Maurizio Romanelli**, *Deputy Head Prosecutor - Antimafia and Antiterrorism Directorate, Italy*

Key Points of the Discussion

- Context-specific and people centred approaches to prevent violent extremism.
- Sharing experiences and good practices; enhancing cross border cooperation and fostering synergies and mutual understanding between civil society groups and local and national authorities.
- Rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist offenders and returning foreign fighters.

09:45 - 09:50 Session III - Nomination of Prof. Maria Falcone as an advocate for UNICRI: the legacy of Giovanni Falcone in the fight against transnational organized crime

- **Dr. Jafar Javan**, *Director a.i. of UNICRI*
- **Prof. Maria Falcone** (Video message), *President of the Foundation Giovanni and Francesca Falcone*

Key Points of the Discussion

- In April 1992, Giovanni Falcone attended the first meeting of the CCPCJ. One month later he was killed together with his wife and three policemen by a bomb planted by the mafia. His assassination pushed the international community and led the General Assembly to endorse Italy's proposal to host the first international conference on transnational organized crime. The outcome of that conference, the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention), came into force in December 2003. The nomination of Maria Falcone as an advocate for UNICRI testifies the courage of people who fight mafia syndicates. Too many judges, police officers and civilians have died in this war and their sacrifice is a deep scare on our community. Their legacy, the legacy of judge Giovanni Falcone, should guide our efforts against transnational organized crime and strengthen the culture of legality. Much more should be done through international cooperation; actions to end impunity and discourage connivances; alliances between the institutions and the civil society; and education and employment to prevent the involvement of young people in criminal activities.