

Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime

The Global Initiative is an independent civil society organization, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, with a globally dispersed Secretariat and a high-level advisory board.

Its network members include prominent law enforcement, governance and development practitioners who are dedicated to seeking new and innovative strategies and responses to organized crime.

The Global Initiative was born from a series of high-level, off the record discussions between mainly (though not exclusively) law enforcement officials from both developed and developing countries in New York in 2011-12. At these meetings, the founding members of the Global Initiative, many of whom stand at the front line of the fight against organized crime, illicit trafficking and trade, concluded that the problem and its impacts are not well analyzed; they are not systematically integrated into national plans or strategies; existing multilateral tools are not structured to facilitate a response and existing forms of cooperation tend to be bilateral, slow and restricted to a limited number of like minded states.

The result was the creation of the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime, which provides a platform to promote greater debate and innovative approaches, which serve as the building blocks to an inclusive global strategy against organized crime.

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GI Network of experts

The Network of Experts remains at the heart of the work that the GI undertakes.

It makes the GI more than just another 'think tank' in a crowded space, because the active intervention and engagement of the members of the Network are central and have moved the organization forward. It has grown significantly in size, expanding from an initial group of about 30 to nearly 300 in less than five years.

The effective functioning of the Network represents one of the key objectives of the GI itself: to bring together people committed to fighting organized crime who come from different backgrounds and interests, giving them the opportunity to engage with one another in a trusted space, and to facilitate the kinds of debates that would help them to respond more effectively by drawing from their own work and mandates. In that sense, the founders of the GI have always believed in the creation of the GI as a 'network to counter networks'.

Geographic distribution of members

December 2018

Sub-Saharan
Africa
33 (9%)

Middle East North Africa
3 (1%)

Asia
31 (8%)

Latin America
40 (11%)

North America 81 (21%)

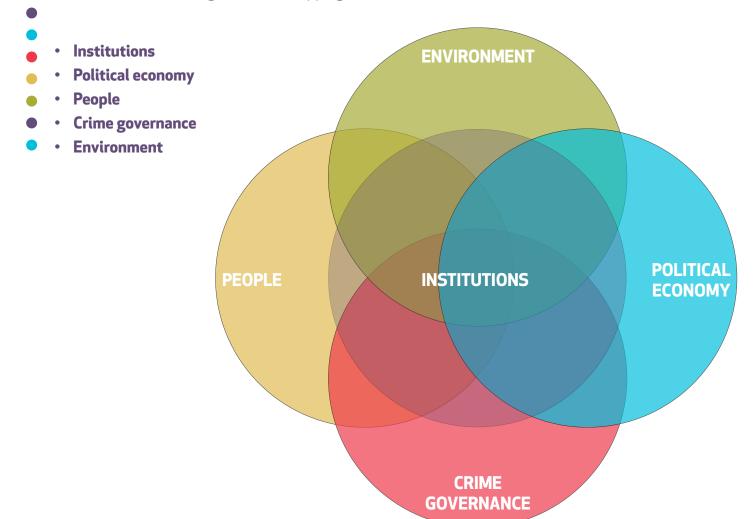
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Responses to new challenges
posed by transnational organized crime
have not been commensurate or innovative enough.
This is where the GI has its niche and opportunity.

- Gl's substantive work streams, 2018-2020
- The GI's work spans across a wide variety of areas. It encompasses all criminal markets drugs,
 people, arms, environmental commodities, violence, and so forth and their impacts.
- Debates on organized crime and illicit markets have become increasingly complex, crossing multiple sectors and requiring a wide array of expertise to understand and respond to them.
- With a Network of more than 300 Experts and its global focus, the GI has a strong comparative
- advantage and will continue to seek new and innovative strategies to highlight and reduce the
 impact of organized crime and illicit markets.
- The GI's work is focusing on five overlapping work streams:





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The GI's strategic objectives, 2018-2020

In the last five years the Global Initiative has grown into a highly regarded organisation with a network of over 300 members. The focus for the next three years will therefore be on consolidating the growth and impact of the organization and to ensure that the Initiative continues to be recognized as a respected, global, and cross-disciplinary platform to respond to organized crime.

The strategic objectives will be:

- To generate, analyze and publish value-adding information on organized crime by leveraging on a strong network of global partners and organized-crime 'observatories';
- To continue to grow the GI Network of Experts and draw effectively on their access, input and influence;
- To promote engagements, debate and discussion on effective policy responses to organized crime that cross-cut and cross-fertilize thematic and country expertise;
- To develop and implement innovative, field-based pilot response programmes.

The GI Strategy in 60 seconds:













