

Building Blocks

INNOVATE

Use new narratives and approaches

Apply systems thinking to reduce the harms of organized crime, viewing illicit economies as an ecosystem that involves underworld and upperworld. Take a whole-of-society approach.

Close information gaps

Close the information gap about organized crime by developing an independent global analytical capacity along the lines of, for example, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Look ahead

Devote greater focus and resources to strategic anticipation of possible future trajectories of organized crime, including the establishment of a global foresight group.

Use tech for good

Use technology as a tool to disrupt illicit markets, improve information gathering, analysis, as well as law enforcement and protect the public and companies.

Be strategic

Build political support for a global strategy in intergovernmental bodies (G7, G20, UN Security Council) and regional organizations. Countries that have not done so should develop national organized crime strategies.

Bring untouchables to justice

At the moment there is no supra-national court to deal with transnational organized crime and high-level corruption cases; it is worth exploring if such a body could be established.

Revive the Palermo Convention

Enhance its implementation review mechanism, increase access to and engagement of civil society, and raise the profile of the potential benefits of the UNTOC in addressing environmental crime.

Look at crime and corruption together

Organized crime and corruption are often treated separately but are linked. Ensure synchronization of legal instruments and approaches to tackle organized corruption.

BREAK DOWN SILOES

Promote law enforcement cooperation

Enhance cross-border and inter-regional law enforcement cooperation.

Streamline information exchange and mutual legal assistance

Further develop protocols to enable the collection, retention and sharing of e-evidence and take steps to streamline and accelerate mutual legal assistance.

Give youth a future

Young people are often either victims or perpetrators of organized crime. They should be at the centre of any efforts to reduce vulnerability to this scourge.

Develop gender-sensitive responses

Apply a gender lens when analyzing criminal groups and markets, and take a gender-sensitive approach in law enforcement responses.

Strengthen local resilience

Devote greater attention and investment to enhancing community resilience to organized crime and supporting counter-crime activists and other civil society actors.

Prioritize human rights

Human rights must inform interventions against organized crime, companies should address human rights impacts linked to their operations, and criminal groups must face accountability for rights violations.

Don't forget the victims

Establish national and global funds for compensating victims of organized crime, including from recovered assets.

A PEOPLE-CENTRED APPROACH

Involve the private sector

Adopt a definition of 'professional facilitators', crack down on such enablers, incentivize compliance to enhance regulation, and engage the private sector in more effective prevention and remedies.

Keep free trade zones clean

Strengthen international regulatory standards to enhance transparency and integrity in free trade zones.

CRIME IN CONTEXT

Factor crime into peace plans

Increase awareness of the impact of organized crime on geopolitics, factor organized crime into peace operations, and provide guidance to peacemakers who are dealing with illicit economies.

Strengthen maritime security

Enhance cooperation between port authorities, shipping companies and law enforcement and devote greater attention to flag hopping and IUU fishing.

Develop safer cities

Focus on strategies to develop safer cities and engage municipal governments in crime prevention and reduction strategies.

GET CRIME OUT OF BUSINESS

Enhance integrity and protection of supply chains

Work with the private sector and make effective use of technology to reduce the risk of criminal infiltration and human rights abuses in supply chains.

Future-proof new technologies

Make it mandatory to integrate a crime-proofing safety check into the process of issuing patents and international quality management standards to future-proof the abuse of inventions and new technologies.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

Establish a global financial intelligence unit (FIU)

Explore the possibility of creating a global FIU to facilitate rapid and efficient responses to potential cross-border financial crimes.

Develop more coherent drug policies

Ensure that drug policies protect health and human rights while law enforcement focuses on large-scale traffickers.

Curb counterfeiting and contraband

Devote greater attention and research to the smuggling of licit products, which is an underestimated but lucrative type of crime.

SHRINK ILLICIT MARKETS

Deploy targeted sanctions

Deploy targeted sanctions against criminal groups or individuals engaged in organized crime as well as secondary sanctions against their enablers.

Discover who benefits

Adopt comprehensive and transparent ownership registries, and minimize secrecy jurisdictions.

Reduce the benefits of crime

Strengthen legal obligations to confiscate illegal proceeds of crime and make more frequent and effective social reuse of confiscated assets.

Prioritize environmental crime

Reduce demand for precious natural resources, disrupt online markets for endangered species and environmental commodities, and tackle waste crime.

Crack down on firearms trafficking

Tighten compliance of the norms and standards designed to regulate the safe storage and sale of firearms and ammunition and arms trade, and create a global firearms registry.