

Dismembering Organised Crime

Identifying
Analysing
Countering

ECPR • SGOC • SOFIA • 2019



Sofia University
St. Kliment Ohridski

Bul. "Tsar Osvoboditel" 15
1504 Sofia
Bulgaria

Welcome to Sofia!

We are very happy to welcome you to our third ECPR SGOC General Conference in 5 years. After Naples and Bath, we are now meeting in the East thanks to our colleagues from Sofia University. We are very lucky to be able to organise our very own conference even though we are a small group and to have the Bulgarian Minister of the Interior come and open our proceedings.

Our main aim and objective as an ECPR Standing group remains being able to organise activities on organised crime in order to facilitate cross country, cross discipline and cross academic-practitioner discussions. We seek to be a hub/network for these debates, activities and future agendas. We are already in discussions about new projects for 2020 so keep an eye out for this!

At this conference, you also will come across a local Bulgarian artist, Martin Atanasov (<http://atanasovmartin.blogspot.com/>), whom we have commissioned to create some artwork around our discussions. Please engage with him and we will circulate what he produces in due course.

So, enjoy Sofia and thanks again to Stoycho P. Stoychev and Julia Rone (University of Cambridge, UK) and their local team for all their hard work and for making this conference happen. Thanks also to the ECPR Events team (Anna, Katie, Rebecca, Helen and Bianca), to the American University of Rome (Isabella Clough Marinaro) and Bath University for their support and help with the ECPR SGOC and in particular, this conference. We do hope you enjoy the discussions, the location and make some useful contacts at our conference! Don't forget to keep us informed with your tweets:

#SGOCConf2019

Do keep in touch.

Felia Allum

on behalf of **ECPR SGOC Steering Committee.**

Email: ecpr.sgoc@gmail.com/f.s.allum@bath.ac.uk

Welcome from the Local Organising Committee

Welcome to Sofia, the capital city of Bulgaria – a crossroad of cultures and bridge between civilizations. Our region has always been contested by great powers and has always been a border delimiting their interests. Border territories are fruitful soil for smuggling, trafficking and other organized criminal activities. We are glad to host the third general conference of the ECPR Standing Group on Organized Crime and hope it will draw the attention of the international academic and research community on our region for deeper understanding of local manifestations of organized crime.



Assoc. Prof. Dr Stoycho P. Stoychev

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Our Hosts

The Department of Political Science in the Faculty of Philosophy of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” was founded in 1986. From its very beginning, the Department has provided students with systemic knowledge of national politics and foreign policy. It has also focused on fostering skills for the analysis, assessment and governance of political phenomena. The Department’s main aim is to prepare highly qualified graduates that perform well in the public as well as in the private sector. Education at both the BA and the MA level is highly interdisciplinary and includes courses from diverse scientific fields.

General Information

Rooms and AV Facilities

All Panel rooms have a PC connected to the internet, along with a projector, laptop and screen for PowerPoint presentations. Please leave rooms on time and as you would wish to find them, in readiness for the next Panel. Both roundtables will take place in the Aula.

Wi-fi

You can connect to wi-fi using Eduroam or log in to the University of Sofia wi-fi, password **Uni-Sofia**.

Food & drink

Drinks and snacks will be served in the Aula lobby throughout the event.

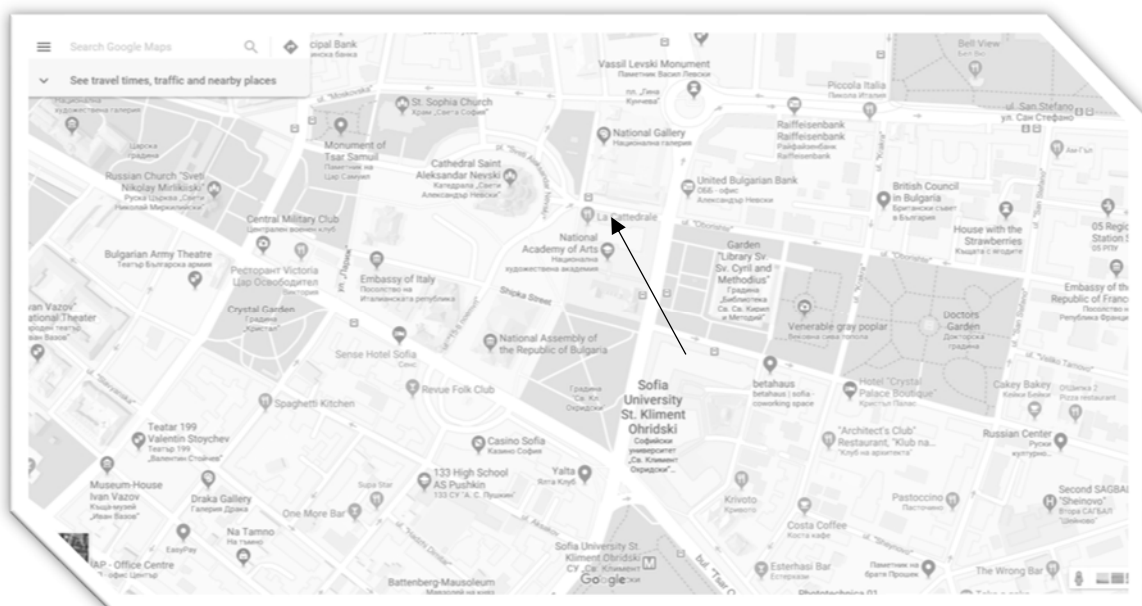
Lunches

At 13.30 on 5 July, a buffet lunch will be served in the **Aula lobby**.

At 13.00 on 6 July, a buffet lunch will be served in the **Aula lobby**.

Social Dinner:

At 20:00 on 5 July, join us for a **FREE Social Dinner** at **La Cattedrale**, next to Alexander Nevsky Cathedral (<http://www.lacattedrale.bg/>)



CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 5th July 2019

8,15-9,00

Registration, Aula – Lounge

9,00-9,30

**Opening Plenary Session,
Welcome addresses and Introduction to the
Conference - Aula**

Prof. Maria Stoicheva, Functional Rector for International Relations, Sofia University

Mr. Mladen Marinov, Minister of Interior, Republic of Bulgaria

9,30-11,30

Keynote lectures

9,30-10,30

Organised crime in the Sahel region

Francesco Strazzari, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy.

10,30-11,30

Can we claim to be countering organized crime?

Tuesday Reitano, Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, Geneva, Switzerland.

11,30-12,00

Tea/Coffee break (Aula – Lounge)

12,00-13,30

Parallel Sessions I (4 panels)

13,30-14,30

Lunch (Aula – Lounge)

14,30-16,30

Roundtable, Aula

Beyond corruption and bribery – systematic extortion by public officials and state capture (organized by the Centre for the Study of Democracy, Bulgaria)

Chair: **Dr. Atanas Rusev**, Center for the Study of Democracy

Speakers:

Dr. Alexander Stoyanov, University of National and World Economy, Sofia

Dr. Tihomir Bezlov, Center for the Study of Democracy, Sofia.

Dr. Ruzha Smilova, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Sofia

16,30-16,45

Tea/Coffee break (Aula – Lounge)

16,45-18,15

Parallel Sessions II (4 panels)

20,00

Social dinner (La Cattedrale Restaurant, Sofia)

SATURDAY 6th July 2019

9,00-10,30

Parallel Sessions III (3 panels)

10,30-11,00

Tea/Coffee break (Aula – Lounge)

11,00-13,00

Roundtable, Aula

Organised crime in the West Balkans (organised by the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime)

Chair: **Ms. Tuesday Reitano** (Deputy Director, Global Initiative)

Speakers:

Amb. Ugljesa Zvekic (Senior Advisor, Global Initiative and Permanent Representative of the European Public Law Organization (EPLO))

Ms. Fatjona Mejdini (Field Coordinator at the Global Initiative)

Prof. Dr. Anna Maria Getos Kalac (University of Zagreb – Faculty of Law; Max Planck Partner Group for Balkan Criminology)

13,00-14,00

Buffet (Aula – Lounge)

14,00-15,30

Parallel Sessions IV (2 panels)

15,30-15.45

Tea/Coffee break (Aula – Lounge)

15.45-17,15

Parallel Sessions V (3 panels)

17,15

Closing of the Conference

PANELS

FRIDAY 5th July 2019

12.00-13.30

Panels 1 - 4

PANEL 1: Mafia manifestations in Italy (I)

ROOM: Aula

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Zora Hauser, Oxford University	The 'Ndrangheta in Germany.
Joselle Dagnes; Rocco Sciarrone, University of Turin, Italy	Local politics, the 'Ndrangheta and the Alps: evidence from a collusive network in Valle d'Aosta, Italy.
Filomena Occhiuzzi, University of Milan, Italy	The dissolution of municipal councils for organized crime infiltration
Ciro Dovizio, University of Milan, Italy.	How journalism invented the mafia. The case of the palermitan newspaper «L'Ora» (1954-75)
Chair: Francesco Strazzari, Sucola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy.	

PANEL 2: New technologies and organised crime

ROOM: Hall 2

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Matthew Shillito, University of Liverpool, UK	Untangling the 'Dark Web': An International Response to an International Crime?
Laura Neiva; Helena Machado, University of Minho, Portugal.	Views of security professionals in the EU about the potential capabilities of big data in control of crime
Edmund Breckin, University of Bradford, UK	WhatsApp group chats for tackling Organised Crime in Mexico: The new neighbourhood watch?
Chair: Julia Rone, University of Cambridge, UK.	

PANEL 3: Administrative approaches to combatting organised crime: the Belgian experience

ROOM: Hall 137

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Robin Dreesen, Arrondissementeel Informatie - en Expertise Centrum (ARIEC)	"Handle with care": The processing of data for the purpose of the administrative approach
Clara Vanquekelberghe, Belgium Police.	The Belgian administrative approach to disturb organised crime. Instruments, information and cooperation the way to success?
Maude Bietlot, University of Ottawa, Canada.	The Belgian evolving implementation of the administrative approach
Chair: Ronald-Frans Melchers, University of Ottawa, Canada.	

PANEL 4: Organised crime and theory

ROOM: Hall 148

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Luca Bonzanni, University of Milan, Italy	'Paramafia': Ideas for a Complementary Mafia Model
Anna Paus, University of Milan, Italy.	Managing Cooperation Issues on the Market For Migrant Smuggling In Northern Italy
Chris Allen, University of Liverpool John Moore, UK	Examining the use of Business Analysis techniques to police OCGs
Chair: Rumyana Kolarova, Sofia University, Bulgaria.	

FRIDAY 5th of July 2019

16.45-18.15

Panels 5 - 8

PANEL 5: Crime and deviance in Brazil

ROOM: Hall 1

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Andrea Varsori, Kings College London, UK	Criminal swarms. An evolutionary explanation of the resilience of Rio de Janeiro's trafficker gangs
Sergio Catignani, University of Exeter, UK	A Tale of Two Cities: 'Pacification' and the Marginalisation of the favelas in Rio de Janeiro
Maria Trombini, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität, Heidelberg, Germany.	Environmental liability and organizational deviance: evidence from informal rules in a dam collapse
Chair: Heather Marquette, University of Birmingham, UK.	

PANEL 6: OC manifestations in Central and Western Europe

ROOM: Hall 2

NAME AND INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Petr Kupka, University of West Bohemia, Germany	Gangtalk Revisited: Analysis of Cultural Representations of Local Drug Gang in a Gypsy Urban Area in Ostrava
Toine Spapens, Tilburg University, Netherlands	Philanthropic Criminals in the Netherlands
Joselle Dagnes, Davide Donatello, Rocco Sciarrone, Luca Storti, University of Turin, Italy	Italian Mafias in Romania: Opportunities in a transition context
Chair: Julia Rone, University of Cambridge, UK.	

PANEL 7: OC and drug trafficking

ROOM: Hall 137

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Deborah Alimi, Université de Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris, France.	Countering illicit drugs through development lenses: an international cooperation agenda in-the-making?
Luca Ranieri; Francesco Strazzari, Sucola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy	Twins' diverging trajectories? Drug trafficking and political reordering in Mali and Niger
Chair: Valentin Pereda Aguado, Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies at the University of Toronto, Canada.	

PANEL 8: Citizens against Crime and Corruption: Societal Responses to Organised Crime.

ROOM: Hall 148

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Sasha Jespersion, St Mary's University, London	Community Responses to Libyan Smuggling Networks
Sheenagh Brady, Dublin City University, Ireland	Could community responses to organised crime in the Western Balkans have greater success than traditional criminal justice responses?
Trevor Stack, Aberdeen/Robert Gordon University, Scotland.	Rethinking Citizens' Roles in Security Policy: A Mexican Case
Thomas Aureliani, University of Milan, Italy	Social mobilisation in organized crime contexts: the activism of disappeared people's relatives in Mexico. The case of Fuerzas Unidas por Nuestros Desaparecidos en Coahuila y en México.
Chair: Trevor Stack, Aberdeen/Robert Gordon University, Scotland.	

SATURDAY 6th July 2019

9.00-10.30 am

Panels 9-11

PANEL 9: Mafia Manifestation in Italy (II)

ROOM: Hall 1

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Mario Portanova, Il Fatto Quotidiano, Italy	Why Nigerian Cults are a new "official" mafia in Italy
Ilaria Meli, La Sapienza, Rome, Italy.	Mafia and the city: a case study in Ostia (Rome)
Alice Rizzuti, University of Essex, UK	The myth of Agromafie: Involvements of mafia-type groups in the italian food section.
Chair: Daniel Smilov, Sofia University, Bulgaria.	

PANEL 10: Women in OC and terrorism

ROOM: Hall 2

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Ana Guerreiro, University of Porto, Portugal.	The masculinization of organized crime? A current criminological perspective
Kleanthis Kyriakidis, University of the Aegean, Greece.	From “Black Widows” to “ISIS Brides”: How absurd is it for women to join Islamist terrorist networks?
Chair and Discussant: Tatyana Dronzina, Sofia University, Bulgaria.	

PANEL 11: OC and operational challenges

ROOM: Hall 137

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Valentin Pereda Aguado, Centre for Criminology & Sociological Studies at the University of Toronto.	The Bureaucratisation of organised crime violence against law enforcement agents in Mexico
Ramiro Serrano-Garcia; Sara Helena Otal, Northern State University and Universitat de Alcala.	Regulatory factors associated with county-level differences in reporting suspicious financial activities
Chair: Petr Kupka, West Bavaria University, Germany.	

Saturday 6th JULY 2019

14.00-15.30

Panels 12-13

PANEL 12: Crime in transitional and developing contexts

ROOM: Hall 1

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Gabriella Gricius, Rijksuniversitat, Gromingen, Germany	Corruption and Transitional Justice in Chechnya. Ukraine and Georgia
Heather Marquette, University of Birmingham	Organised crime, development and the potential unintended consequences of interventions: lessons from research & practice
Anthea McCarthy-Jones, University of New South Wales	From Hybrid Regime to ‘Mafia State.’ Explaining the Criminal Transformation of the Venezuelan State
Siru Törnroos	International organized crime in the Czech Republic: a case study
Chair: Iskren Ivanov, Sofia University, Bulgaria.	

PANEL 13: Understanding terrorism

ROOM: Hall 2

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Immaculada Yuste Martínez, University of Granada, Spain.	"Cubs of the Caliphate": minors at the service of the Islamic State
Matthew Phelps, Criminological research Institute of Lower Saxony, Germany	Understanding Mental Illness in Terrorist Populations
Chair: Tatyana Dronzina, Sofia University, Bulgaria.	

Saturday 6th JULY 2019
15.45-17.15
PANELS 14 -16

PANEL 14: The Smuggling of People and the trafficking of goods

ROOM: Hall 1

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Rasa Vegiene, Vilnius University, Lithuania.	The EU migration policy on preventing smuggling of migrants at sea
Elena Sciandra, University of Trento, Italy	Illicit antiquities trafficking in the Balkans: patterns, actors, and policy issues
Chair: Deborah Almi, Université de Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris, France.	

Panel 15: Intelligence sharing and policing strategies

ROOM: Hall 2

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Ina Klopp, Criminological Research Institute of Lower Saxony, Hanover, Germany	Outlaw motorcycle gangs in Germany: which challenges face law enforcement?
Tony Lock	Is the IT-induced Re-configuration of organised crime in Westminster by New York and West Coast Mafias a category mistake? How can legislation be enhanced for successful prosecution?
Kim Cheong Ju, Ji On Kim, Korea National Police University, N. Korea.	Developing criminal intelligence sharing platforms to address transnational organized crimes
Chair: Stoycho Stoychev, Sofia University, Bulgaria.	

PANEL 16: Organised Crime and the Crime-Terror Nexus

ROOM: Hall 137

NAME and INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION	PAPER
Roberto Musotto, University of Leeds, UK	Exploring the online crime-terror nexus
David Wall, University of Leeds, UK	Facilitating the online crime-terror nexus: cybercrime kingpins and the cybercrime ecosystem
Marrero Rocha Inmaculada + Javier Ruiperez, University of Granada, Span.	From financing needs to criminal terrorism: the role of terrorism financing in the crime-terror relations
Chair: David Wall, University of Leeds, UK.	

ROUNDTABLE 1: FRIDAY 5TH JULY 2019: 14.30-16.30



Beyond corruption and bribery – systematic extortion by public officials and state capture

Systematic extortion perpetrated by public officials and state capture are two borderline phenomena, which challenge the common understanding of corruption and bribery. These two phenomena go beyond the typical manifestation of bribery and the mere reciprocal exchange of benefits between two parties, where public officials redistribute public wealth for their own gain in response to competing private demands. Systematic extortion perpetrated by public officials involves use of coercion on regular basis and the benefits are paid by the victims under the implicit or explicit threat to harm the victim. Extortions perpetrated by public officials under certain conditions develop into systemic phenomena that thrive as part of wider political patronage networks where payments extracted from businesses are redistributed to other members.

Similarly, state capture can be defined as a combination of different forms of corruption which have a single objective: to secure wholesale (by default) and long term privileges to captors by exploiting the power of government for private benefit. State capture schemes are not a mass phenomenon (do not include large population groups) but refer to actors (most often collective actors, including networks) who have high leveraging power and command of substantial resources and influence capacity. The roundtable shall discuss the conceptualization and manifestation of these two phenomena and how they have blurred the line between organized crime, corporate crime and corruption, drawing on concrete empirical manifestations as examples from recent research.

Chair: **Dr Atanas Rusev**, Center for the Study of Democracy

Speakers:

Dr Alexander Stoyanov, University of National and World Economy, Sofia

Dr Tihomir Bezlov, Center for the Study of Democracy, Sofia.

Dr Ruzha Smilova, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Sofia

ROUNDTABLE 2: SATURDAY 6TH JULY 2019: 11.00-13.00

THE GLOBAL INITIATIVE
AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL
ORGANIZED CRIME

Organized Crime in the Western Balkans: mapping local vulnerabilities

In August 2018, the Civil Society Observatory to counter organized crime in South East Europe was launched with the aim of identifying, analysing and mapping organized criminal trends in the six Western Balkan countries*. Led by the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, the Observatory acts as a platform that connects and empowers civil society organizations in the region in their common fight against organized crime and corruption.

Since the Observatory started its work, a detailed report on organized crime trends has been completed, mapping local vulnerabilities throughout the region. Focusing on the six Western Balkan countries, namely Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia, the local vulnerability report investigated hotspots for criminal activities, seeking to uncover the interconnectedness of the illicit activities and organized-criminal groups throughout the region. By looking at organized crime from a grass-roots approach and putting it into the wider context of the political economy of the region, the resulting longer-term analysis provides policy makers with a better evidence basis to counter organized crime.

On July 6th, the Global Initiative is looking forward to co-hosting a side event at the 3rd conference of the ECPR Standing Committee on Organized Crime. A panel of civil society experts will present and discuss the local vulnerability report, including recent trends in organized crime in the Western Balkans. This presentation will provide cutting-edge insights into the political economy of the Western Balkans as the analysis uncovers the close link between organized crime and corruption in the region, a phenomenon which has been described as “organized corruption”.

This round table serves to showcase what has been achieved by the Civil Society Observatory to counter organized crime in South East Europe, as well as to portray future opportunities. The Global Initiative has been actively involved in the Berlin Process and has organized several events in preparation to the London and Poznan summit, bringing together civil society representatives from the region in an attempt to enhance the dialogue between policy makers and civil society organizations. As academia is an integral part of civil society and plays a crucial role in pushing this dialogue forward, the Global Initiative wants to take this opportunity and reflect on the outcomes of the Poznan summit (which will conclude on 5 July), discuss its achievements and examine the role of academia on the way forward.

Speakers (in the order of their presentations):

Ms. Tuesday Reitano, Deputy Director, Global Initiative (moderator)

Amb. Ugljesa Zvekic, Senior Advisor, Global Initiative and Permanent Representative (Ambassador) of the European Public Law Organization (EPLO): the political context of the Western Balkans

Ms. Fatjona Mejdini, Field Coordinator at the Global Initiative: local vulnerabilities to organized crime in the Western Balkans

Prof. Dr. Anna Maria Getos Kalac, University of Zagreb – Faculty of Law; Max Planck Partner Group for Balkan Criminology: Discussant

** References to Kosovo made throughout this report are made without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.*

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

[Tuesday Reitano](#) is Deputy Director at the [Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime](#) and a senior research advisor at the Institute for Security Studies in Pretoria, where she leads the ENACT programme on behalf of the GI. Tuesday was formerly the director of CT MORSE, an independent policy and monitoring unit for the EU's programmes in counter-terrorism, and for 12 years was a policy specialist in the UN System, including with the [UN Development Programme \(UNDP\)](#), the [UN Development Group \(UNDG\)](#) and the [UN Office on Drugs and Crime \(UNODC\)](#). In this time, she has amassed a wealth of experience in fragile states and development working both with states, civil society and at the community level to strengthen resilience to transnational threats, promote sustainable development and the rule of law. Tuesday has authored a number of policy orientated and academic reports with leading institutions such as the UN, World Bank and OECD on topics ranging from organized crime's evolution and impact in Africa, on human smuggling, illicit financial flows, and the nexus between crime, terrorism, security and development. Tuesday is the lead author of a forthcoming OECD flagship publication: *Illicit Financial Flows: Criminal Economies in West Africa*, co-author of [Migrant, Refugee, Smuggler, Saviour](#), a book published in 2016 by Hurst on the role of smugglers in Europe's migration crisis, and the editor of *Militarised Responses to Organised Crime: War on Crime*, published by Palgrave in 2017. She holds three Masters Degrees in Business Administration (MBA), Public Administration (MPA) and an MSc in Security, Conflict and International Development (MSc). Tuesday is based in Geneva, Switzerland, with her family.

[Francesco Strazzari](#) is Associate Professor in International Relations at the Pisa-based **Scuola Universitaria Superiore Sant'Anna** (2009 to date - with abilitazione scientifica to *professore di prima fascia*). He is also adjunct research professor at the Oslo-based **NUPI** (Norwegian Institute of International Affairs), and at the Bologna-based **SAIS Europe**, The Johns Hopkins University. He specializes in International Relations theories and peace/conflict studies, with a specific focus on political violence and extra-legal governance (organised crime). His main areas of expertise are EU's peripheries and neighborhood (the Balkans, North Africa & the Sahel, the Caucasus, the Middle East). He works on peace, conflict and international security. His main

research focus is on informal/criminal practices, armed conflict and political violence, state making and un-making. He works on organised crime, (counter)narcotics, arms and insurgent/terror groups along Europe's borderlands and borderlands peripheries.

At NUPI, he works with the Research Group on Security and Defense, with the Consortium for Research on International Crime and Terrorism. He is also affiliated with the Oslo-based Center for Research of Extremism (C-REX) and with the Global Initiative for the Fight against Transnational Crime. In Italy, he is a member of the Associazione il Mulino and is contributing to many other European and International research projects (H2020 - Europe as a Global Actor: Societal Challenges, SAFTE - Studying the acquisition of illicit firearms by terrorists in Europe, FRAGVENT - Fragile states and violent entrepreneurs: conflict, climate, refugees (Norwegian Research Council).

ECPR SGOC ACTIVITIES

As a SG we seek to organise various activities around the theme organised crime. If you are not yet a member of our standing group. Do join. It is free and in this way, you know what we are organising and get involved. To join you need to set up an MyECPR account at <https://ecpr.eu/>. The Steering Committee is up for renewal by the end of the year. If you are interested, do get in touch.

Drawing during our conference

We have a local artist, Martin, who will be drawing during the conference. Please do engage with him so he can produce some interesting pictures for us and our website.

Social media

SGOC runs a closed Facebook group and an open Facebook page. The two are now linked, so that researchers who find one are also referred to the other. We post occasional media articles that suggest possible future lines of research. The closed group is closed so that bots, scammers and phishers can be excluded. We also post details of relevant conferences and published papers. Anyone who is a member of the closed group can post to it, and are encouraged to do so. We have also experimented with a blog and a twitter feed. We now produce a blog jointly with RUSI (see below).

Twitter feed: [@ECPR_SGOC](https://twitter.com/ECPR_SGOC) Please follow us if you can. We advertise our activities and news here. For this conference, please follow: [#SGOCConf2019](https://twitter.com/SGOCConf2019)

Our website

We do have a website but it is currently under-redevelopment. We hope to be able to have our new ECPR SGOC website up soon although it still needs some work on it so we will communicate via our mailing list when it is up and running again.

Our on-line open access peer reviewed journal

We decided to launch our own peer reviewed journal with no cost for author or reader. We work hard to keep it going because we have no administrative help, but we are committed to this project. So, if you are interested in submitting articles, please do.

The European Review of Organised Crime (EROC) is a collective editorial project born under the aegis of the European Consortium for Political Research's Standing Group on Organised Crime (ECPR's SGOC). It is designed to provide a forum for the study and analysis of organised crime in its different local, national, and international manifestations by promoting a dialogue between the research community and practitioners. EROC advocates (diamond) open access to promote knowledge sharing. Open access permits the immediate and free availability of research. It also allows high visibility of its contents to the worldwide community, maximizing the dissemination and exchange of information. Unlike some journals, we do not charge our authors with a publication fee. Thus, the journal will be free for authors as well as free for readers.

At the heart of ***The European Review of Organised Crime (EROC)*** is a rigorous peer-review that helps guarantee the publication of top quality and original articles.

We invite publications on any topic related to organised crime including, but not limited to, country case studies, national narratives, policy-making approaches and methodological aspects of research on organised crime. We welcome theoretical and empirical studies as well as research reports from all disciplines (such as criminology, criminal justice, political science, law, security studies, sociology, gender studies, economics, media studies, anthropology, and history).

In order to stimulate constructive discussions, EROC also invites contributions from experts from the non-academic community such as practitioners, policy-makers, and journalists working on issues relating to organised crime across the globe.

Email: europaan.review.oc@gmail.com

Our blog project with RUSI

The Informer

Do you have an idea for 800-1200 word blog post about organised crime? Write for The Informer! This is an excellent opportunity to have your work peer reviewed and widely published to an international audience of policymakers, academics and practitioners. The Informer is run by ECPR-SGOC and the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), a leading UK think tank based in Whitehall.

Please submit directly to the Editors: SHOC@rusi.org or visit <https://shoc.rusi.org/the-informer>.

ECPR SGOC Winter/Summer schools

Over the years, SGOC has organised a number of schools for graduate students. The advanced schools on organised crime attracted interest from around the world and brought students to such locations as Catania (Italy), Leuven (Belgium), and Ohrid (Macedonia).

The most recent school on organised crime was held in Vienna (Austria) in winter 2019. It was organised in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as part of their mission to make education an integral part of crime prevention. During a two-week period, the participants had a unique chance to enrich their knowledge on organised crime, discuss and critically reflect the challenges it

poses to states and the international community, and evaluate existing national and international containment policies.



Students at this year’s Vienna ECPR-SGOC Winter school, January 2019.

ECRP SGOC Call for Papers- Special issue

The Role of State and Non-State Actors in Enabling and Disabling Cybercrime: Complementary, competitive, coherent?

Cybercrime is understood as ‘criminal acts committed using electronic communications networks and information systems or against networks and systems’ (European Commission, 2007: 2). Ranging from offences such as identity theft to distributing illegal content to destruction of data, the committing and combating of cybercrime reflects broader trends in the online environment. More specifically, the governance of cybercrime has been typified by networks of public and private stakeholders cooperating in information exchange, identification of best practices and ensuring system resilience as a means of preventing crime online, as well as rendering investigations more efficient. Similarly, the commissioning and carrying out of crimes online are also networked, comprising diverse private and even public actors engaged in transnational illegal activities so as to achieve various goals based on financial, political or personal motivations. An aspect that has been under-theorised and under-explored in the legal, criminological and political science literature, however, is the way in which a wider body of non-state actors has both been involved in shaping the

governance framework for cybercrime, and also contributed to increasing insecurity in the digital sphere by enabling the emergence of cybercrime.

With this concern in mind, the present call for papers invites expressions of interest covering one or more of the following topics for the purpose of submitting a special issue proposal to the journal **Crime, Law and Social Change**:

- How are private sector actors, namely industry and other market-based actors, involved in either enabling or disabling cybercrime?
- How have non-traditional non-state actors, such as private citizens, social movements and activist groups served to facilitate or hinder cybercrime prevention?
- What role has the structural transformation of the media played in enabling or disabling cybercrime?
- How have regulatory approaches in the fields of terrorism, data protection, hate speech and disinformation, among others, affected private actors' ability to commit or prevent cybercrime?
- How do these different non-state actors engage with each other, and the public sector, in either combating cybercrime, or commissioning it?

Expressions of interest should be submitted to the editors of the special issue Ben Farrand (Newcastle University), Helena Farrand Carrapico (Northumbria University), and Julia Rone (Cambridge University) via the following e-mail: Helena.farrand-carrapico@northumbria.ac.uk It should include the **author's name, institutional affiliation, e-mail address, and a 200-word abstract**. The deadline for submission of expressions of interest is the **1st of September 2019**.

ECPR SGOC Call for Papers- Special issue

'Gangsta's Paradise'? Tackling Serious and Organised Crime post-Brexit

Against a background of continuing growth in the volume of serious and organised crime (SOC) in the United Kingdom (UK), the 2019 report of the National Crime Agency points to a systemic failure of the police in tackling this issue, as well as to increasing concerns with the current impact on UK society: "SOC affects more UK citizens, more frequently than any other national security threat. It has a daily impact on citizens, public services, businesses, institutions, national reputation and infrastructure. SOC is estimated to cost the UK economy at least £37bn a year" (NCA, 2019: 4). Given the transnational nature of SOC and the level of international security cooperation currently in place to address this phenomenon, the departure of the UK from the European Union (EU) is only expected to worsen the situation. Since the Maastricht Treaty, the UK has been developing a system of opt-ins and opt-outs that has allowed it to substantially benefit from and contribute to the development of European measures aimed at tackling organised crime, at the same time as it has enabled the country to avoid taking part in measures which are perceived as not aligned with its national interests. Well-known examples of instruments and mechanisms the UK takes part in include the European Arrest Warrant – aimed at

harmonising extradition procedures-, the Schengen Information System – a database for the purpose of border management and law enforcement-, and Europol – the EU’s law enforcement agency. Brexit has the potential to substantially reduce the capacity of the UK to address organised crime by limiting its access to crucial instruments and databases, as well as decreasing its influence over EU decision-making in this area.

Bearing this background in mind, the present call for papers invites expressions of interest covering one or more of the following topics for the purpose of submitting a special issue proposal to the journal **Trends in Organised Crime**:

- How is Brexit likely to shape SOC trends?
- How are policy and legal responses likely to be impacted?
- What form and depth of cooperation could be achieved in future negotiations covering the issue of serious and organised crime? What political, legal and operational obstacles do you foresee?
- How can the fight against SOC be conceptualised and imagined beyond EU Justice and Home Affairs' instruments and policies?
- How can the UK continue to serve as an influential actor in the fight against SOC from an external position?
- How is the governance of Brexit impacting on the current security relations between the UK and the EU?

Expressions of interest should be submitted to the editors of the special issue, Helena Farrand Carrapico, Alex Hall, and Ekaterina Gladkova (Northumbria University) via the following e mail: Helena.farrand-carrapico@northumbria.ac.uk It should include the **author’s name, institutional affiliation, e-mail address, and a 200-word abstract**. The deadline for submission of expressions of interest is the **1st of September 2019**.

Current Steering Committee (renewed by end of 2019):

Daniela Irrera (University of Catania, Italy), Anita Lavorgna (University of Southampton, UK), Felia Allum (University of Bath, UK), Helena Farrand-Carrapico (Northumbria University, UK), Francesca Longo (University of Catania, Italy), Yuliya Zabyelina (J.Jay, Cuny, US), Bill Tupman (University of Exeter, UK), Panos Kostakos (University of Oulu, Finland), Francesco Strazzari (Sant’Anna, Pisa), Chris Bowkett (University of Bath, UK), Diorella Islas (University of Bath, UK).

