



University
for Peace



Online Summer Certificate Course Combating Transnational Organized Crime and Illicit Trade: A Focus on the Americas

The University for Peace (UPEACE), the Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center (TraCCC) at the George Mason University, and the Anti-Illicit Trade Institute (AITI) are pleased to offer the second edition of the **online Summer Certificate Course on Combating Transnational Organized Crime and Illicit Trade: A Focus on the Americas**, which will take place from **31 July to 10 August 2023**. The course aims to improve students' comprehension of the dynamics of transnational organized crime, focusing on money laundering, corruption, illicit trade, security, trade zones, state fragility, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030). The main objective of the course is to identify how different types of crimes impact the capacity of the state to manage and mitigate internal and external threats. The course will also push participants to think about organized crime from a more nuanced perspective, specifically as an aspect of social conflict, emphasizing that the challenges for promoting peace are embedded in local, regional, and global contexts. **Students will receive a certificate upon successful completion of the course.**

1. Course goals and objectives: The main goal of this summer course is to provide participants with an overview of transnational organized crime as both a concept and an opportunity to influence international policies and frameworks in the face of complex challenges. At the end of the course, participants will be capable of the following:

- a. Defining transnational organized crime
- b. Contextualizing transnational organized crime within local, regional, and global dynamics
- c. Comprehending corruption as organized crime
- d. Identifying different methods of money laundering and illicit trade within organized criminal dynamics

2. Course content:

- a. Transnational organized crime
- b. Corruption
- c. Money laundering
- d. Illicit trade
- e. Trade zones
- f. State fragility
- g. Sustainable Development Goals

3. Cost and number of course credits: USD 500; 1 credit

4. Duration of the course: 2 weeks; 31 July - 10 August 2023

5. Timeline

Week 1				
Time	Monday 31 July	Tuesday 1 August	Wednesday 2 August	Thursday 3 August
4:00pm - 5:30pm Costa Rica time 6:00pm – 7:30pm Washington, D.C.	<i>Session 1</i> Opening session and information to participants	<i>Session 3</i> Following the Dirty Money and Value Trails John Cassara	<i>Session 5</i> Corruption, Organized Crime, and the role of Civil Society Shaazka Beyerle	<i>Session 7</i> Organized crime and State fragility Dr. Maurício Vieira
15min break				
5:45pm – 7:15pm Costa Rica time 7:45pm – 9:15pm Washington, D.C.	<i>Session 2</i> Transnation al Organized Crime Groups Business Elites Dr. Louise Shelley	<i>Session 4</i> Peace, Human Rights, and the Agenda 2030 Dr. Juan Carlos Sainz-Borgo	<i>Session 6</i> Counterfeits and Illicit Trade Dr. Layla Hashemi	<i>Session 8</i> Protection of Journalists and Transnationa l Organized Crime Dr. Mariateresa Garrido

Week 2				
Time	Monday 7 August	Tuesday 8 August	Wednesday 9 August	Thursday 10 August
4:00pm - 5:30pm Costa Rica time 6:00pm – 7:30pm Washington, D.C.	<i>Session 9</i> The Environment and Transnation al Security Dr. Camilo Pardo Herrera	<i>Session 11</i> Free Trade Zones and Hubs of Illicit Trade Dr. Yulia V. Krylova & David M. Luna	<i>Session 13</i> Human mobility and Organized Crime Dr. Adriana Salcedo	<i>Session 15</i> Group presentations
15min break				

5:45pm – 7:15pm Costa Rica time	<i>Session 10</i> In-Group discussion	<i>Session 12</i> In-Group discussion	<i>Session 14</i> Roundtable	<i>Session 16</i> Closing session
7:45pm – 9:15pm Washington, D.C.				

6. Teaching method:

- a. The summer course is organized into 16 sessions, from Monday to Thursday. There are two sessions per day. See the above timeline.
- b. The summer course is based on class discussion. In each session, professors will pose questions to the class to initiate discussion among students.
- c. As part of the course evaluation, students will be asked to present a short proposal on a strategy to counter transnational organized crime. This presentation will take place in the last session.

7. Contact:

Maurício Vieira, Head of the Chair on Countering Illicit Trade and Preventing Transnational Organized Crime, University for Peace
mvieira@upeace.org