

THE *Alliance* OF NGOs ON CRIME PREVENTION  
& CRIMINAL JUSTICE



Prepared by the Executive Board

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# ABOUT THE ALLIANCE



The Alliance brings together a broad network of civil society organizations contributing to the achievement of security and justice for all. It ensures that civil society are recognized and heard in advancing the crime prevention and criminal justice agenda and in designing, implementing and measuring results of relevant policies everywhere. Under the umbrella of the Alliance, cooperation among its members will be strengthened, reinforcing the expertise and vision of each of the members to add value and support the work of relevant international organizations, especially UNODC. The Alliance encourages its members in playing a key role towards the achievement of the SDGs, and in particular Goal 16 to “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.”

## History

Crime-related matters have been dealt with by the United Nations since the 1950s, when the Social Defence Unit was established within the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in New York. The United Nations Congresses on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (the first one was held in Geneva, in 1955, followed by regular Congresses every five years) provided ample opportunities for exchange and engagement of civil society in the UN programme. Acknowledging the important role of an organization to serve as the main civil society interlocutor and coordinator, the Alliance was established in 1972. In 1980, immediately after the inauguration of the Vienna International Centre, the Crime Prevention branch of the UN moved to Vienna. The Alliance followed the shift and became fully operational in Vienna in 1983. In 2019 the Alliance was registered as an NGO in Austria (Verein von Nichtregierungsorganisationen für Verbrechensprävention und Strafrechtspflege).



It is one of three umbrella organizations coordinating civil society organizations around matters of interest of UNODC, with a broad mandate across different treaty and policy-making bodies. The Alliance supports UNODC and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice by ensuring the engagement of civil society in the implementation of its activities, alongside the Conference of Parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Crime, and in the preparation for the implementation of the UN Convention against Cybercrime. It regularly represents the interests and opinions of its members in relevant UN venues, and it channels crucial information on issues concerning civil society at global, regional and local levels. In 2019 The Alliance and UNODC signed an MOU, which has been renewed for a second time in December 2023.

# CHAIR'S REFLECTIONS ON 2024

2025 was another challenging, but eventful and exciting year in multilateral engagement on crime and justice issues. The Alliance was able to engage in a wide range of events and fora, bringing civil society voices to the fore as important processes continued their work.

Aside from the annual meetings in Vienna: the CCPCJ and the UNTOC Constructive Dialogues, the UN Cybercrime Convention was officially opened for signature in Hanoi, VietNam, and member states prepared regional inputs for the forthcoming 15th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

The Alliance and its members were clearly visible and active in all of these events, building on our previous work to ensure a credible and trusted platform for engagement between member states and civil society at the UN in Vienna. This has been carried out in partnership with the UNODC Civil Society Unit, and further strengthened through the partnership of the Group of Friends of Multistakeholder Participation in UNODC matters.

In addition to its in person participation and statements, the Alliance demonstrated its value as a convenor by publishing a comprehensive compendium of civil society inputs for member states to consider as they negotiate the outcome declaration of the 15th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to take place in Abu Dhabi in 2026.

Despite the uncertainty and changes that took place 2025, and the risks and challenges that civil society faces around the world, civil society continues to have a prominent voice as policy is debated and developed at the UNODC.

I thank all of the Board members, the Programme Coordinator, all Working Group coordinators and interns who have driven forward Alliance initiatives in 2025, as well as all the members who have continued to engage.

# BOARD MEMBERS 2025

Members of the Board of the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice are elected for a period of two years.



**Ian Tennant**

GITOC

**Chair**  
2023-2025



**Anna Alvazzi del Frate**

Kennis: Knowledge for  
Safety and Good  
Governance

**Vice - Chair**  
2025-2027



**Lisa Hartevelt**

Wildlife Justice  
Commission

**Vice-Chair**  
2024-2026



**Mythri Jayaraman**

The International Legall  
Foundation

**Vice-Chair**  
2024-2026



**Tariq Khosa**

Centre For Governance  
Research (CGR)

**Vice-Chair**  
2024-2026



**Linda Witong**

Soroptomist International

**Vice-Chair**  
2025-2027



**Yuliya Zabyelina**  
Academy of Criminal  
Justice Science (ACJS)  
**Secretary**  
2023-2025



**Sabine Peters**  
Zonta International  
**Treasurer**  
2025-2027



**Jay Albanese**  
Criminologist Without  
Borders (CWB)  
**Board member**  
2024-2026



**Dawn Beichner-Thomas**  
World Society of  
Victimology  
**Board member**  
2025-2027



**Jolanta  
Lopusiewicz-Redo**  
Asia Crime Prevention  
Foundation (ACPF)  
**Board member**  
2025-2027



**Gerson Nozea**  
Rapha International  
**Board member**  
2024-2026



**Olivia Rope**  
Penal Reform  
International  
**Board member**  
2024-2026

**Interns:**

Roberta Petrocelli  
Elisabetta Semeraro  
Alessia Pistilli  
Anna Pozzato

# 2025 ACTIVITIES

## January – February

### **8 January – Presentation of the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons**

UNODC presented the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons to civil society. During the meeting, the Chair of the Alliance delivered opening remarks, emphasizing the importance of the report for both governments and civil society, as well as the need to support survivors through reintegration into the labor market.

### **21 to 23 January – Crime Congress RPM Asia Pacific, Bangkok**

The Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Asia-Pacific Region took place in Bangkok and saw the participation of various NGOs. The meeting underlined the importance of multi-stakeholder cooperation and the adoption of a more holistic and human-centric approach to addressing the issues of diverse communities. To tackle the challenges these communities face, several proposals were made, such as the establishment of accountability and transparency mechanisms and the need to provide policy reforms.

### **4 to 6 February – Crime Congress, RPM Latin America Caribbean San José**

At the Latin American & Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 15th UN Crime Congress, Board Member Gerson Nozea spoke on behalf of the Alliance, highlighting the importance of partnerships with CSOs and community-centred approaches when tackling evolving crimes. The attending NGOs underlined the necessity to adopt an evidence-based approach and to consolidate technical aspects, such as data collection and analysis capabilities.

## **18 February – Launch of the Stakeholder Working Group on Cybercrime**

The Stakeholder Working Group on Cybercrime was launched on 18 February. After welcoming remarks from the Chair of the Alliance, opening remarks from both the Chief of the UNODC CSU and Jiří Blažek from the Group of Friends for Multi-Stakeholder Participation in UNODC Matters, Pavlina Pavlova presented the working group as working group coordinator. She outlined the next steps for the UN Cybercrime Convention and opportunities for stakeholder engagement. Objectives, activities, and modalities of the Stakeholder Working Group on Cybercrime were shared, and inputs from stakeholders were gathered.

## **19 February – Informal Meeting**

On 19 February, an informal online meeting within the Alliance was held. During the meeting, participants addressed the funding freeze affecting many CSOs and the need to share resources to overcome the crisis. The UNCAC Coalition highlighted the impact on governance-focused NGOs and shared its efforts to gather data. Upcoming events such as CND, CCPCJ, and the UNCAC Conference were discussed, including hybrid participation and side event planning.

## **10 to 14 March – UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)**

The 68th Session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) was held from 10 to 14 March 2025. The CND saw the participation of 554 NGO representatives from 119 countries. The Alliance participated and co-sponsored one side event, "Artificial Intelligence Vs Gender based Violence: Is the UN Cybercrime Convention Our Knight in Shining Armor Coming to Rescue?", which was held on 11 March.

## **10 to 21 March – Commission on the Status of Women New York – Event**

The NGO Committee on Sustainable Development and the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, in collaboration with the Alliance, organized a side event aimed at briefing Vienna-based audiences on issues relevant to the 69th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 10-21 March 2025. The event was the first opportunity to discuss gender-related issues within the framework of the newly adopted UN Convention on Cybercrime. Specifically, participants explored the role of AI in relation to gender equality, addressing key challenges arising from this new international legal instrument.

## **24 March – Civil Society Coordination Meeting prior to the Regional Preparatory Meeting Europe and North America**

The Alliance organized the Civil Society Coordination Meeting prior to the Regional Preparatory Meeting Europe and North America. The meeting was moderated by Alliance Chair Ian Tennant, with opening remarks by Mirella Dummar from UNODC and Jiri Blazek, representative of Czechia. In this occasion, Tobias Krachler and Anna Pozzato from the Alliance presented the Civil Society Survey Report. The report gathers input from CSOs, private sector enterprises, individual experts and academia representatives working in the Europe and North America region on the themes of the 15th UN Crime Congress (to be held in Abu Dhabi in 2026).

## **25 to 27 March – Crime Congress Regional Preparatory Meeting Europe and North America, Vienna**

The European Regional Preparatory Meeting was held in Vienna from 25 to 27 March. CSO representatives had the opportunity to deliver 25 statements, raising issues and concerns to be discussed at the 15th UN Crime Congress.



## **26 March - Green Prisons: A Guide to Creating Environmentally Sustainable Prisons**

The Alliance participated in a side-event called “Green Prisons: A Guide to Creating Environmentally Sustainable Prisons”, held on 26 March and organized by UNICRI and Penal Reform International. During the event, researchers shared insights on green strategies within Italian and Japanese prisons, alongside lived experiences perspectives from Norway and England.

## **7 April – Civil Society Coordination Meeting prior to the Regional Preparatory Meeting, Africa**

The Alliance organized the Civil Society Coordination Meeting prior to the Regional Preparatory Meeting Africa. The meeting was moderated by the Programme Coordinator of the Alliance, with opening remarks by the Chief of the UNODC Civil Society Unit. In this occasion, the Alliance presented the Civil Society Survey Report for Africa, which gathers input from CSOs, private sector enterprises, individual experts and academia representatives working in the Africa region on the themes of the 15th UN Crime Congress to be held in Abu Dhabi in 2026.

## **8 to 10 April – Crime Congress Regional Preparatory Meeting Africa, Addis Ababa**

The Africa Regional Preparatory Meeting took place in Addis Ababa. It was the fourth of five RPMs in preparation for the 15th Crime Congress. Civil Society representatives took part in the meeting, and Nchokwe Donaldson Chepape delivered a statement on behalf of the Alliance.

## **30 April – Constructive Dialogue following the conclusion of the Working Group on Firearms**

On 30 April, the Alliance participated in the Constructive Dialogue following the conclusion of the Working Group on Firearms. During the Constructive Dialogue, the Alliance’s Chair, Treasurer and Programme Coordinator delivered statements regarding the importance of civil society engagement in the UNTOC review mechanism framework concerning Firearms.

## **8 May – Informal Meeting and CCPCJ Briefing**

The Alliance organized an informal briefing conducted by the Secretariat of Governing Bodies in preparation for the upcoming CCPCJ. During the session, its representatives provided participants with a detailed overview of the procedural modalities of participation in the CCPCJ, including side events and logistical arrangements.

## **19-23 May – Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)**

The 34th session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) was held in Vienna from 19 to 23 May. 222 representatives from 61 Civil Society Organizations took part in the discussions and side events. The Alliance participated in person and contributed to the negotiations with two statements, one under the General Debate and one under Agenda item 6d.

The Alliance also organized and co-sponsored many side-events within the CCPCJ.

### **19 May:**

- **NGO Briefing on the CCPCJ:** The Chair of the Alliance opened the session. Panelists shared insights on public-private partnerships to address the non-consensual sharing of intimate images, as well as efforts to strengthen regional networks against transnational crime. The Chair emphasized the importance of civil society engagement, reviewed draft resolutions, and reminded participants of upcoming events and dialogues.
  
- **Annual General Assembly of the Alliance**, held in hybrid format, moderated by the Chair of the Alliance:
  - Ian Tennant (GITOC) was re-elected as Chair;
  - Yulia Zabelina (Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences) was re-elected as Secretary;
  - Sabine Peters (Zonta International) was elected Treasurer;

- Anna Alvazzi del Frate (Kennis Knowledge for Safety and Good Governance), and Linda Witong (Soroptimist International) were elected Vice-Chair;
- Dawn Beichner-Thomas (World Society of Victimology) and Jolanta Lopusiewicz-Redo (Asia Crime Prevention Foundation) were elected as board members;
- Ingeborg Geyer and Milena Curzel (Bolzano penitentiary institution) were appointed auditors.

The minutes of the General Assembly can be found on the website of the Alliance.

The Alliance supported the side event **"Impunity, Penal Law and the UN Reform"** and co-sponsored the side event **"40 Years Since the UN Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power: What's Next?"**.

- **21 May**

On this day the **Informal Dialogue with the Executive Director of UNODC**, Ms. Ghada Waly, took place, chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Alliance, Jay Albanese. Questions were collected by the Alliance from civil society participants before the dialogue.

In the afternoon, the Alliance co-sponsored the side event **"The Road to the 15th UN Crime Congress: Civil Society Engagement in shaping crime prevention and criminal justice responses"**.

- **22 May**

The Chair of the Alliance moderated the **Informal dialogue with the Chair of the CCPCJ**, José Antonio Zabalgoitia Trejo. The Alliance collected questions from civil society participants before the dialogue.

On this day, the Alliance:

- co-sponsored the side events **“Global Prison Trends 2025”** , **“New, Emerging and Evolving Forms of Crime”** and **“Firearms Related Gender-Based Violence Against Women: Legislative Approaches to Enhance Prevention and Responses”**;
- supported the side event **“Crime Prevention House Rules to Integrate Immigrant Communities for Peace and Justice: Challenges and the Way Forward”**;
- organized the side event **“Strengthening Civil Society Engagement at the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”**, with the support of the UNODC Civil Society Unit, the Group of Friends of Multi- stakeholder Participation in UNODC Matters, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Victim Support Asia, Criminologists Without Borders, the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, Soroptimist International, the Wildlife Justice Commission, the Centre for Governance Research-Pakistan, Penal Reform International, the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation and Kennis.

- **23 May**

The Alliance co-organized the side events **“Climate Crimes and Gender-Based Violence: Strategies to Raise Awareness, Prevent, and Combat Climate-Induced Gender-Based Violence”**.

In the morning, the Alliance participated in the side event **“Civil Society and the United Nations Reform: From Domestic to International Justice and Back”**.

In the afternoon, the Alliance supported the following side events:

- **“Family and Non-Family Non-State Torture, Human Trafficking, Femicidal Risks: A Victim-Centred Approach”**;
- **“Building Bridges, Speaking Up, and Keeping Watch: Stakeholder Engagement in the Implementation of the United Nations Cybercrime Convention”**;
- **“It Takes a Network to Defeat a Network: Empowering Civil Society Networks to Support Member States in Preventing Transnational Organized Crime”**.

## **30 May to 2 June - Joint Constructive Dialogue on Technical Assistance and International Cooperation**

On 30 May, jointly with the UNODC Civil Society Unit, the Alliance hosted the orientation sessions of the **Preparatory Day to the Joint Constructive Dialogue on Technical Assistance and International Cooperation**. The Chair, Ian Tennant, and Vice-Chair Anna Alvazzi del Frate co-facilitated the sessions.

- On **2 June**, the Alliance participated in the **Joint Constructive Dialogue on Technical Assistance and International Cooperation**, held in hybrid format in Vienna and online. The Chair, Ian Tennant, delivered two statements.
- **4 June – UNODC and Beijing +30: Women, Justice, and Security in a Changing World**

The Alliance attended the conference **“UNODC and Beijing +30: Women, Justice, and Security in a Changing World”** in person at the Vienna International Centre.

## **September – October**

### **17 to 19 September – European Network on Gender Violence 2025 Conference**

The conference of the European Network on Gender Violence took place on the Campus of the University of Vienna for the first two days, while on the last day, the participants and the organizers gathered at the Vienna International Centre. The Alliance joined as a sponsor and collaborated with the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, the main organizers of the event.

- **17 September**

The conference opened with a day for early-career researchers. In the afternoon, there was a guided tour to “Ni-Una-Menos-Platz” and “FRAU schafft Raum”, projects that address victims of gender-based violence.

- **18 September**

The first half of the second day was focused first on a plenary session regarding the Austrian scenario on violence against women and a following by panel session that discussed the implementation of international legislation, such as the Istanbul Convention, on cases of gender-based violence. In the afternoon, participants engaged in three different parallel sessions of discussion, exploring diverse and crucial topics. In conclusion, posters related to various issues regarding gender-based violence were presented, offering interesting and stimulating perspectives on the matter.

- **19 September**

The final day opened with further parallel sessions at the University of Vienna, before moving to the Vienna International Centre. Presenters from UNODC and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights introduced the work of UNODC on gender-based violence and the recent survey of the European Union on violence against women. The final panel explored the intersection between gender-based violence, armed conflict, and disarmament.

- **22 September – CCPCJ Intersessional Meeting**

The Alliance took part in the Intersessional Meeting of the CCPCJ that was held in preparation for the Fifteenth United Nations Crime Congress and for the reconvened thirty-fourth session of the CCPCJ which will take place in December. The Chair of the Alliance, Ian Tennant, intervened and delivered a statement to underline the importance of civil society engagement.

- **25 September – Joint meeting of the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development and NGO Committee on the Status of Women**

This meeting was centred on the proposal for a centralized secretariat (with the logistical support of the Alliance) to more efficiently coordinate the efforts and the organization of events by the two Committees. The participants also reviewed the calendar of upcoming events in which they will be involved for the rest of the year.

- **26 September – International Consultation Meeting: Safeguarding Civic Space in the European Union**

As part of the “Civic Champions” project, the event focused on empowering civil society organizations and activists defending human rights and democratic values across the European Union.

The discussions raised crucial questions about the challenges currently experienced by civil society organizations, the tools at their disposal to detect early warning signs of threats to civic space and the means to foster and support the participation of civil society.

As an NGO and umbrella organization, the Alliance gained valuable insights to continue supporting and amplifying the role of civil society in safeguarding democracy and human rights.

### **30 September – 2 October – Thematic Discussions CND 2025**

The Alliance joined the CND thematic discussions, bringing the perspectives of civil society to the discussion. This year, one of the key takeaways was the importance of evidence-based and human-centred approaches to drug policies.

## **7 October - Preparation Day for the constructive dialogue on trafficking in persons**

The meeting was focused on the approaches and priorities of civil society in the fight against the phenomenon of trafficking in persons. The discourse centred on the need to bring about a victim-centred perspective with the objective of delivering criminal justice.

During the meeting, the necessity to acknowledge the complexity of trafficking was highlighted, together with the urgent need to protect vulnerable groups, such as children and women. Moreover, a contribution drew attention to the importance of trust funds for NGOs, which are fundamental for continuing their work.

## **8 October - Constructive dialogue on trafficking in persons**

The Alliance participated in the Constructive Dialogue on the UNTOC Review Process on Trafficking in Persons. The core pillars of the debate were victim protection, non-criminalization, and the physical and digital evidentiary challenges related to trafficking cases. The event provided a pivotal platform for civil society organizations to voice their perspective, emphasizing that only a layered, tailored, and sensitive approach can tackle this complex issue. Ian Tennant delivered a statement calling on Member States to leverage the expertise of civil society organizations when implementing the Trafficking in Persons Protocol.

### **10 October - Preparation Day for the constructive dialogue on smuggling of migrants**

The meeting focused on civil society's priorities and approaches in the fight against migrant smuggling. The discourse centred on adopting a victim-centred perspective to effectively deliver criminal justice. Participants called for the establishment of safer, more accessible legal migration pathways alongside renewed efforts to identify and prosecute smugglers.

### **13 October – Constructive dialogues on smuggling of migrants**

The constructive dialogues focused on the need for a victim-centered approach to this phenomenon, emphasizing the avoidance of migrant criminalization. After a presentation on the progress of the UNTOC Review Mechanism, which addressed key issues and best practices, our Chair delivered a statement calling for greater efficiency to enhance multisectoral cooperation. He also stressed the vital role of CSOs and the private sector in maintaining an evidence-based approach to countering migrant smuggling.

A primary agenda item involved aligning the constructive dialogues with the formal working groups to better integrate CSO voices into the discussion. This was followed by a panel discussion regarding the challenges in the prosecution of smugglers and the lack of internationally recognized, enforceable legislation.

### **Hanoi UN Convention Against Cybercrime – 25-26 October 2025**

The event aimed to facilitate the signing of the Convention and hosted a High-Level Conference. It represented a critical opportunity for multilateral cooperation and the establishment of legal standards to combat offenses such as illegal access, cyber fraud, and online child exploitation, while safeguarding human rights and data privacy. Ian Tennant represented the Alliance and delivered a statement in the high-level session, calling for civil society to be fully involved in the future implementation of the Convention. He also took part in several side events and panels organized by UNODC, member states and other NGOs.

## **11 November - High-level Event to commemorate the second International Day for the Prevention of and Fight against All Forms of Transnational Organized Crime**

On 11 November, the event addressed the importance of targeting the financial systems that sustain transnational organized crime. It featured the participation of H.E. Alexander Van der Bellen, Federal President of Austria, and H.E. Sergio Mattarella, President of Italy. In tandem, the Permanent Mission of Italy, in collaboration with ANSA, inaugurated an exhibition in the VIC Rotunda honoring the legacy of Giovanni Falcone and Paolo Borsellino and their historic fight against the Mafia. During the deliberations, the Chair of the Alliance, Ian Tennant, delivered a statement highlighting the critical role of civil society in the global fight against transnational organized crime.

## **19 – 21 November - Regional Workshop on Non-governmental Stakeholders' Engagement in Practical Application of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime – Rome**

From 19 to 21 November 2025, the Alliance co-organized with LIBERA, GI-TOC, and the UNODC the Regional Workshop on Non-governmental Stakeholders' Engagement in the Practical Application of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in Rome. The event took place over six intensive sessions, spanning the course of three days of discussions, presentations, and breakout sessions.

The first day outlined the convergence of various criminal issues and expressed an emerging necessity to respond and build sustainable, community-led, and inclusive resilience programs against criminal activities that proliferate in many societies. More institutional access and early responses to organized crime activities must be provided, considering the urgency of supporting victims.

On the second day, the current international and regional legal frameworks in the fight against and prevention of transnational organized crime were addressed, analyzing limitations and opportunities for greater cooperation and efficiency in the near future. The UNTOC Review Mechanism was considered along with the EU legal framework and international initiatives like EL PAcCTO to highlight current challenges. The fourth session that followed complemented this discussion with an analysis of regional non-governmental initiatives, highlighting the potential and fundamental impact of NGOs, academia, and civil society.

The fifth session on the second day, acknowledging existing institutional gaps, concluded with a presentation of alternative implementation methods that could significantly contribute to the struggle against TOC. The day closed with session six, dedicated to Working Groups, in which participants broke out into groups aligned with the main six thematic pillars of the workshop to discuss and offer grounded solutions on the following issues: child exploitation and forced criminality, hybrid threats and high-risk criminal networks, cyber-enabled organized crime and AI threats, asset recovery and social reuse, corruption and infiltration of public institutions, and youth recruitment and prevention strategies.

The Workshop on the third and final day shifted the dialogue towards a more practical dimension with a discussion of a future European Civil Society Engagement Mechanism for UNTOC Implementation. During the "Preparation for Collective Action" coffee break discussion, an insightful exercise was introduced. Participants reflected on their short-, medium-, and long-term commitments, putting emphasis on realistic, feasible, and measurable contributions. This strategic section culminated with the operational design of this Mechanism and the roadmap for its implementation at the regional level.

The Workshop emphasized survivor leadership, digital safety, and fraud prevention, and identified the current challenges in combating TOC, corruption, and cybercrime.

Moreover, it provided a framework of actionable strategies across the workshop's six thematic pillars and laid the foundation for a new European Civil Society Engagement Mechanism to be coordinated by the Alliance.

#### **4 – 5 December - Reconvened 68th CND / 34th CCPCJ**

The reconvened sessions of the CND and CCPCJ focused on the growing complexity of global drug markets and transnational crime amid geopolitical tensions and financial constraints. Delegates highlighted the rapid spread of synthetic drugs, including opioids, benzodiazepines, nitazenes, and synthetic cannabinoids, alongside rising cocaine production and increasingly sophisticated online trafficking networks. Discussions also addressed the cultural and human-rights implications of potential new controls on coca leaf products. Concerns over insufficient UNODC technical assistance and the 2026 budget were raised, particularly by developing countries. At the CCPCJ, delegates stressed the importance of stronger international cooperation, training, and implementation of the new Cybercrime Convention, while also addressing environmental crimes and human trafficking. The sessions concluded with the adoption of agendas, a contested vice-chair election resolved by secret ballot, and the opening of the new CND and CCPCJ sessions with the election of new Bureaus.

# Working Groups

Working groups provide an informal space for coordination on an issue or process of relevance to the Alliance and its mandate as an umbrella body. They carry out a number of activities throughout the year, such as briefings, exhibitions, and side events during the various United Nations processes taking place in and outside of Vienna.

## **Working Group on Crimes that Affect the Environment (CAE)**

Coordinators: Linda Witong and Lisa Hartevelt

Crimes affecting the environment have garnered more attention over the last few years. Highlighting the importance of this issue has also been part of the Alliance's work. Therefore, this working group aims to focus on crimes against the environment, environmental issues, and climate change.

## **Working Group on Gender-based Violence as Torture Inflicted by Non- State Actors (NST)**

Coordinator: Ingeborg Geyer

This working group aims to document research towards a model strategy to promote global awareness to end nonstate torture crimes, especially against women and girls. The group is also actively engaged with the international agenda on femicide and gender-based violence.

## **Working Group on Cybercrime**

Coordinator: Pavlina Pavlova

The working group serves as an advocacy and coalition-building network promoting effective, inclusive, transparent, and human rights-respecting implementation of the UN Convention against Cybercrime, with active stakeholder participation in related consultations and capacity-building efforts.

An information-sharing hub facilitating exchanges between the UN bodies, Member States, and the multistakeholder community, and providing timely updates on developments related to the Convention, including engagement opportunities in multilateral and regional discussions. A platform for expert briefings to deepen understanding and foster collaboration on cybercrime issues, and to conduct cybercrime law monitoring of the Convention's implementation and related legislation.

The working group is open to new members and welcomes both Alliance members and non-members to join. Members of civil society, the private sector, academia, and the technical community are invited to express their interest

# MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE

Membership in the Alliance is regulated by the Statutes. As of 31 December 2023, the Alliance counted 187 ordinary members and 26 extraordinary members, for a total of 213 NGOs, plus 41 individual members. Approximately 60 per cent of the members were in good standing, including 15 who obtained a waiver of their fee for 2024.

## Trends in 2023-2025

A steady increase in the number of ordinary members has been observed since the registration of the Alliance in Austria in 2019. This trend continued in 2025. During 2025, the Alliance received 78 membership applications from NGOs, to be included as ordinary, extraordinary, and individual members. Eligibility of applicants is assessed by the Executive Board based on the documentation provided in the applications. A monthly list of new applicants is submitted to the Board for admission. The scope of the work of NGOs, as declared in the membership questionnaire, indicated that more than half of the new members had a national scope, followed by more than a third with an international scope, and the remaining ones with a regional scope.

The applying NGOs were involved in a diverse range of activities, with a considerable number of organizations engaging in activities related to transnational organized crime, crimes that affect the environment, and cybercrime. In 2021, the Alliance started cooperation with the Resilience Fund of the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime to establish a fee waiver programme for NGOs in need. The programme covered the 2024 membership fee of 15 non-governmental organizations. It continues to be important for financially less liquid, but very often important grass-roots organizations.

## Honorary members

- Yael Danieli
- Christian Kuhn
- Karen Judd Smith
- Michael Platzer
- Ingeborg Geyer
- Philipp Reichel
- The General Assembly in 2024 added two more Honorary Members, Ingeborg Geyer and Philipp Reichel.

## WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The website of the Alliance registered more than 2 700 users in 2025. Most users were from Austria, followed by the United States and Italy. In total, users from 143 different countries and territories visited the website in 2024. The home page is the most frequently visited, followed by the event page.

The mailing list of the Alliance, including the membership at large, expanded to include 753 contacts in total. At the end of 2025, the Alliance counted 521 followers on X (60 more than in 2024) and 1002 followers on LinkedIn (382 more than in 2024). Eight new videos of events, statements and webinars were uploaded to the YouTube channel of the Alliance in 2024, accumulating more than 800 individual views.