

Crisis Study Guide

Organized Crime Council



Recalling the important roles of civil society, non-governmental and community-based organizations, the private sector and academia in the prevention of and fight against transnational organized crime and the contributions that they can provide to such efforts,

UNGA Resolution A/78/L.45 (February 2024)

Dear Delegates, this study guide is designed to introduce you to the topic that you will be discussing in your committee: **Crisis: Organized Crime Tribunal**

The meeting

London, 7:00 AM

Welcome to this historic meeting, bringing together the heads of the world's top crimefighting organizations, along with the world's most powerful intelligence agencies. For far too long, the world has been victimized by organized crime. Leaders of gangs and mafias profit from an estimated 5-10% of global exports, as they move stolen or counterfeit merchandise, drugs, weapons and even smuggle people through international borders. Whether via bribes or threats, local law enforcement and customs officers look the other way, while judges and prosecutors let the problem fester. From Sicily to Columbia, from Moscow to Tokyo, organized crime is growing, and evolving to adapt to the international economy. After decades of being terrorized by criminal gangs, who control local economies, spread illegal substances through violence, and promote corruption to protect themselves, the world is finally fighting back. The Organized Crime Fighting Alliance (OCFA) has been formed to bring the world's most powerful resources and brilliant minds together in a unified fight to end organized crime once and for all.

But the crime fighters are not the only ones who are meeting. At exactly the same time, in a different timezone in an undisclosed location, representatives and leaders of the world's most nefarious criminal organizations are also meeting. This isn't [Moglivech's](#) annual birthday party or the summer retreat for the [Five Families](#). This meeting is all business. There are rumors that the leading government crimefighting agencies around the world are forming a new partnership to target crime organizations. That is an existential threat to everyone present, and will require an unprecedented kind of coordination to stay three steps ahead of law enforcement, and make sure that crime organizations and their leaders live to prosper another day.

Warning: Look around you, to the right and the left. These criminals—men who lie, kill and steal with impunity, are your best hope of evading the police. But can they be fully trusted? Who knows who might sell you out to the police, or try to take over your enterprise?

For the crimefighters, your situation is just as precarious. You are all together in this fight, and you can only win by working together to outsmart and outmaneuver the criminal gangs. But these organizations have infiltrated, bribed and threatened everyone who came before you. Be careful who you trust—you never know who is being manipulated or spied upon!

Key issues

- **Technology:** The world is changing, and crime is adapting accordingly. Crime fighters have increasingly sophisticated tools to detect and track. On the other hand, crime organizations are exploiting credit card and online fraud, [using cryptocurrency](#) to move funds, and other methods of using technology. What role will AI or drones play? How can you use technology to your advantage, and counter the other side's moves?
- **Values:** There is now a clash of values between those who have “old school” principles, vs. the new age of criminals who have no rules—and their crimefighting counterparts who say that the only way to stop the criminals is to think and act like them.
- **Corruption:** Bribery and corruption have been age-old methods of success for the most powerful crime organizations, from paying off judges and informants to avoid the police, to strong-arming politicians into modifying laws and policies to benefit criminal groups. This has to be a key target for the crime fighters if progress is to be made, but who knows how far wide and high the corruption goes?



<https://marketbusinessnews.com/financial-glossary/organized-crime-definition-meaning/>

- **Prisons:** While police struggle to catch the heads of criminal organizations, even putting them behind bars may not be enough. Often [the prisons themselves fall under the influence of gangs](#), while crime bosses still manage to run operations from a relatively safe jail cell.
- **Drugs:** Trafficking illegal drugs has been one of the most profitable components of many organized crime groups. How do changing drug laws impact that model?
- **Economic diversification:** As the global economy moves more towards Asia and Africa, as well as online, how will organized crime organizations adapt? Will the rise of large corporations and online shopping force organized crime to change?

- **Interagency cooperation:** How can the crime fighters best utilize their collective resources and work together, despite fears about sharing intelligence, to fight organized crime? How will the crime organizations respond?
- **Failing states and political turmoil:** Conflicts in Afghanistan, Somalia, Libya, Ukraine, Syria, Yemen, and other states in turmoil also provide opportunities for bold and creative criminals, including weapons and human trafficking, and safe havens from prosecution. How can states facing power vacuums be exploited by criminal organizations?

Guiding questions:

- What ideas do you have that can best benefit your organization?
- Which ideas can help you improve your position or your agenda and interests?
- What moves do you think the other side might plan?
- Who will be your biggest competitors within the committee? What might they have planned?
- What is the greatest vulnerability that the other side might exploit?

Learn more:

Character matrix

- [UN police](#)
- [UNODC](#)
- [Crypto and organized crime](#)
- [How crime families went global](#)
- [Response to organized crime](#)
- [Transnational organized crime in fishing](#)

UN Resolutions and official reports:

- UNGA Resolution [78/267](#)
- [UN convention on transnational crime](#)
- [Organized crime index](#)
- [EU report](#)
- <https://globalinitiative.net/analysis/ocindex-2023/>
- [EMPACT](#)

Listen:

- [Underworld Podcast](#)
- [Kinpins](#)
- [Mafia](#)