



AIDP International Association
of Penal Law

Young Penalists



UnitelmaSapienza

Università degli Studi di Roma

Dipartimento di Scienze Giuridiche ed Economiche

RESPONSES TO ORGANISED CRIME: BETWEEN TRADITION AND INNOVATION

International Association of Penal Law (AIDP)

XIII AIDP Symposium for Young Penalists

Rome, Italy – University of Rome Unitelma Sapienza

Hybrid Event

10 October 2025

Call for Papers

The Section 1 of the next XXII AIDP International Congress will focus on “The Place of Criminal Law in Our Times”. As the related scientific agenda of the AIDP for the period 2024-2029 explains¹, recent developments «raise the question of whether the rationales and foundations of the criminal law system are still the same today, or if new rationales and expectations

¹ See the [concept paper](#) of Prof. André Klip, *Core Values for Criminal Justice Systems*.



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have come up», and that this «main question may be followed by a series of sub-questions relating to the expectations of and for criminal law. Is criminal law still regarded as an *ultima ratio* tool or has it been replaced by something else?».

The XIII AIDP Symposium for Young Penalists aims to build on the concept proposal of the above-mentioned scientific agenda of the forthcoming AIDP International Congress, by approaching the subject from the perspective of the responses to organised crime, which is a particularly clear illustration of the aforesaid developments in criminal law, especially with regard to the **three main themes** that the Symposium will address.

Firstly, there is the tendency to use non-criminal tools to combat crime as an *alternative* to the traditional criminal law instruments, even if they can affect fundamental rights. In this context, it is necessary to consider that there can be no response to organised crime without due respect for the constitutional, criminal, and procedural criminal guarantees of the investigated/accused person.

Reference is made to the role of administrative or hybrid preventive measures in the fight against these phenomena, as well as non-conviction-based confiscations, as both are often based on a less relevant standard of proof than the criminal law one – in cases where there is reason to believe that certain individuals, or assets, are somehow linked to (in particular, organised) criminal activity.

The difficulties in collecting evidence in the “ordinary” criminal trial have stimulated in many jurisdictions the creation of innovative and different instruments, as a sort of “way out” from the traditional paths of enforcement. This makes one wonder, recalling the aforementioned AIDP scientific agenda, whether criminal law is still the same or whether it has been – in whole or in part – ‘replaced’ by something else, also in this specific area of law.



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The Symposium will focus on these and related issues and, thanks to the contribution of young penalists coming from different parts of the world, it will allow for a comparative analysis of models adopted in different legal systems.

The involvement of organised crime in drug trafficking and other criminal activities has also made it essential for these criminal groups to try to penetrate the legal economy and influence 'legitimate' businesses, as to reinvest the huge profits that cannot be fully redistributed in the illegal circuits. This has led to an intense transformation of law enforcement instruments, which have increasingly focused on such 'economic' dimension of organised crime activities: systems to prevent money laundering, the aforesaid confiscation instruments to hinder the accumulation of illicit capital, mechanisms to hold companies liable for "mafia-type" offences and preventing organised crime from infiltrating their activities, etc.

Therefore, this Symposium will provide an opportunity to reflect on potentialities and risks associated with these innovations in enforcement instruments in the organised crime area, as well as on problems related to international cooperation in criminal matters, considering the transnational nature of these forms of crime.

We invite submissions discussing the abovementioned issues related to the fight against organised crime from the perspective of criminal law, criminal procedure and criminology. The purpose of this Symposium in Rome is to – without prejudice to other relevant questions – shed light on the following:

1. Non-Criminal Tools to Combat Organised Crime: non-criminal/hybrid tools in the fight against organised crimes (administrative instruments, preventive measures with regard to individuals and/or corporations; public control or administration of economic activities; interdictions from public procurement procedures or public funds; non-conviction-based/preventive confiscation, etc.); criminological perspectives on the causes and consequences of organised crime



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infiltration into the legal economy and preventive strategies; relationship between criminal proceedings and preventive proceedings for the enforcement of non-criminal/administrative/hybrid tools used to fight against organised crimes.

2. The “Economic Dimension” of Organised Crime: Criminal Law and Corporate Criminal Liability Issues: substantive criminal law and organised crime between “old” and “new” crimes related (also) to the “economic dimension” of organised crime activities; confiscations and organised crime; money laundering and organised crime between prevention and repression; organised crime and corruption; organised crime offences and corporate crimes; organised crime and white-collar crimes; organised crime and crimes against the economic order and the tax order; organised crime and forced labour; organised crime and cybercrimes; organised crime and environmental crimes; mechanisms to hold companies responsible for “mafia-type” offences and preventing organised crime from infiltrating their operations and the “legal economy” (corporate criminal liability regimes, corporate compliance programs and the fight against organised crime).

3. Criminal Procedure and International Cooperation: investigation of organised crime and methods of evidence collection; digital evidence and organised crime; negotiated criminal justice and plea bargaining; transnational organised crime and criminal procedure; international cooperation between judicial and police authorities and the fight against organised crime; organised crime and conflicts of jurisdiction; mutual recognition of judgement and judicial decisions in the fight against organised crime and cross-border gathering of evidence; the EU dimension of the fight against organised crime; the European Public Prosecutor’s Office and the fight against organised crime.

These issues can be approached from domestic, regional, comparative and international perspectives.



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Call for Papers

Ph.D. candidates, postdoctoral researchers, early career researchers and young professionals are invited to submit abstracts (length: up to 700 words) on these and related questions. Abstracts must be in English, in Word format, and submitted via email (ypc@youngpenalists.com) by **April 30, 2025**, along with contact and affiliation information and a short resume (CV) (max. 1 page) in the same file. **Early submissions are encouraged.**

About the XIII AIDP Symposium for Young Penalists

The XIII AIDP Symposium for Young Penalists is organised by the International Association of Penal Law (AIDP), the AIDP Young Penalist Committee (YPC), and the Italian Group of the AIDP.

The Symposium will be held **in person** on **October 10, 2025**, in **Rome**, hosted by the **University of Rome Unitelma Sapienza** (Main Conference Room) **and it will also be livestreamed**. The University of Rome Unitelma Sapienza is located in Piazza Sassari, 4 (Rome) and it is easily accessible by public transport. The University is located opposite to 'Policlinico' metro station (metro line B), two stops from the Rome's main railway and metro station (Termini).

The Scientific Committee of the Symposium is composed of Isabelle GIBSON, Emanuele BIRRITTERI, Gonzalo GUERRERO, Dawid MARKO, Yuto YOKOYAMA, Luyuan BAI and Alejandra PASTRANA (Members of the AIDP Young Penalists Committee). The main purpose of this Symposium series is to foster a community of young criminal law scholars from around the world and to produce research presentations.



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Authors whose abstracts are accepted will be invited to present their work either **in person at the University of Rome Unitelma Sapienza (Rome) or online**. The use of audiovisual technology (e.g. PowerPoint and similar) is optional.

Participation in the Symposium is free of charge. Travel and accommodation expenses cannot be covered by the hosts and organisers.

The proceedings will be published as a volume of RIDP (*Revue Internationale de Droit Pénal*) Libri series.

Website – Contact Information

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For more information, please visit us at:

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AIDP Young Penalist Committee, <http://ypc.youngpenalists.org/>