

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



Prepared by the Executive Board - March 2025

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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 meaningful engagement of civil society in the implementation of the crime prevention and criminal justice programme. It regularly represents the interests and opinions of its members in relevant UN venues and channels crucial information on issues and events concerning civil society at the global, regional and local levels. The Alliance and the UNODC have signed an MOU originally in 2019, which has been renewed for a second time in December 2023.

CHAIR'S REFLECTIONS ON 2024

2024 was a year of progress and change for the Alliance in many ways. Most notably for our ability to engage across the UN system, the Alliance received ECOSOC consultative status. Following decades of substantive engagement, and years of work to get our application in order (thanks in large part to former Treasurer Ingeborg Geyer, with the support of Anna Alvazzi de Frate and Tobias Krachler), the Alliance now formally has a status allowing automatic engagement with the UN system. We have already used this to full advantage throughout 2024, and look forward to doing so long into the future.

2024 saw the culmination of many years work towards a Civil Society Declaration towards a more effective implementation of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC). This was published by the Alliance at the 12th UNTOC Conference of Parties in October in Vienna, and was produced by a consultative process through Constructive Dialogue and other relevant meetings over previous years. The 12th COP saw the largest and most diverse ever civil society participation, and with the publication of the Declaration, a clear message was sent that civil society needs to be front and centre of enhancing implementation of this convention.

2024 also saw the historic adoption of the UN Convention against Cybercrime. Throughout the year, the Alliance actively facilitated civil society inputs, through regional consultations, multistakeholder events and regular update sessions with its members. Civil society participation in the negotiations of this process was constant and high quality, and contributed to the outcome of the discussions. We were proud to play our part.

Multilateralism now faces unprecedented challenges, including in our mandate areas, but we are certain that a well-coordinated and confident civil society will continue to play its role, and the Alliance stands ready to continue facilitating meaningful engagement at the UN on crime and justice issues.

BOARD MEMBERS 2024

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Ian Tennant

Global Initiative
against
Transnational
Organized Crime
(GITOC)

Chair

chair@crimealliance.org
2023-2025

Yuliya Zabyelina

Academy of
Criminal Justice
Science (ACJS)

Secretary

secretary@crimealliance.org
2023-2025

Anna Alvazzi del Frate

Kennis: Knowledge for
Safety
and Good Governance

Treasurer

treasurer@crimealliance.org
2023-2025

VICE CHAIRS

Lisa Hartevelt
Wildlife Justice Commission

Vice-Chair

2024-2026

Michael O'Connell
Victim Support Asia
Vice-Chair
2023-2025

Jolanta
Łopusiewicz-Redo
Asia Crime Prevention
Foundation
(ACPF)

Vice-Chair

2023-2025

Tariq Khosa
Centre for Governance Research
(CGR)

Vice-Chair

2024-2026

Mythri Jayaraman
The International Legal
Foundation
Vice-Chair
2024-2026

BOARD MEMBERS

Jay Albanese
Criminologists Without
Borders (CWOB)
Board Member
2024-2026

Gerson Nozea
Rapha International
Board Member
2024-2026

Olivia Rope
Penal Reform
International (PRI)
Board Member
2024-2026

Linda Witong
Sorooptimist International
Board Member
2023-2025

AUDITORS

Sabine Peters
(2023-2025)

Milena Curzel
(2023-2025)

INTERNS

Chiara Busiol
Martina Ferraresi
Daniel Ceglie Swoboda
Caterina Zampieri

Alessandra Coletti
Edoardo Alvazzi del Frate
Jack Ransom
Kaushani Dey

2024 ACTIVITIES

Informal meetings

In 2024 the Alliance held 5 informal meetings. It is a format which allows members of the Alliance to promote their organizations and engage in meaningful discussions around UN processes. It also allows the Alliance to inform its members on upcoming UN events, invite speakers for briefings and disseminate important updates. The informal meetings are also regularly attended by the UNODC civil society unit, giving updates and clarifications for the membership. Before major UN events, the informal meetings provide the different Secretariats, such as the Secretariat of the Governing Bodies for the CND and CCPCJ, or the Secretariat of the Ad hoc Committee on Cybercrime (AHC), to hold special briefings for civil society. Topics usually include information on the registration and participation of NGOs, the organization of side events and exhibitions, and the modalities of oral and written statements.

January – February

Between 16 January and 18 January, The Alliance together with the UNODC Civil Society Unit organized three regional cybercrime consultations leading up to the 7th session of the AHC. This was also an important preparatory step for the member states. The briefing provided valuable insight into the issues surrounding the topic of cybercrime. The Chair of the Alliance, Ian Tennant, spoke at all three consultations giving a historic overview of the AHC, current issues leading up to the 7th session, and possible ways beyond.

16 January - Remote

Regional Cybercrime Consultations for Asia was held on 16 January from 9.30 to 11 a.m. CET and saw the participation of 45 stakeholders from the region.

Outcomes:

- Recognition of challenges in navigating diverse legal national legislation
- Frameworks and the role of Mutual Legal Assistance treaties.
- Raising concerns about the Darknet's growing influence, wildlife
- Crimes, online child exploitation, financial crimes, and fraud.
- Acknowledgment of the delicate balance between privacy and
- Working on encrypted platforms. Call for innovative solutions addressing privacy concerns without compromising security.

18 January - Remote

The second **regional Cybercrime consultation for Africa** was held on 18 January from 9.30 to 11 a.m. CET and saw the participation of 58 stakeholders from the region. French interpretation was provided to cater to a diverse set of participants and stakeholders.

Outcomes:

- Need to expand capacity building to include civil society and Governmental actors. Non-governmental partners can be trained for the implementation of a future convention.
- Promoting increased research and data gathering through or in collaboration with CEOs.
- Foster public-private partnerships on cybercrime resilience.

18 January - Remote

The third and final regional consultation on cybercrime for America was also held on 18 January from 4 to 5.30 pm CET and saw the participation of 71 stakeholders from the region. Spanish interpretation was available for the participants.

Outcomes:

- More cooperation around the criminal use of social media platforms and messaging applications. These have an influential role in exposing people's vulnerabilities and shaping public opinion through deceptive campaigns.
- Increase information on cyberattacks against private individuals.
- Safeguards are needed to prevent wrongful criminalisation. There is a special mention of human rights protection of journalists, migrants, victims of trafficking, gender perspectives, and children.

18 January - Vienna

Preceding the final week of regional consultations on cybercrime. The Alliance hosted a reception together with the UNODC Civil Society Unit and the Kompetenzzentrum Sicheres Österreich, the reception was aimed at bringing together various stakeholders of the Cybercrime Stakeholder Initiative with representatives of member states and international organizations who were going to participate in the upcoming 7th and final session of the Ad Hoc Committee on Cybercrime. Over 30 member states and international organizations participated in the successful evening.

Jean-Luc Lemahieu, the UNODC Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs, moderated through the first part of the event. A briefing by stakeholders of the ongoing Ad Hoc Committee negotiations. Tanja Fachathaler from Epicenter Works, Helmut Leopold from the Austrian Institute of Technology and representative of KSÖ, and Ian Tennant, the Chair of the Alliance of NGOs, shared the podium with him. It provided civil society with the opportunity to convey to the member states their view on the ongoing negotiations and highlight some of the potential risks hidden in the current draft.

29 January – 09 February - New York

In collaboration with the UNODC Civil Society Unit (CSU), the Alliance played key roles in framing the “cybercrime treaty” to enhance civil society involvement.

The fourth session of the **Ad Hoc Committee on “Cybercrime” (ICT for criminal purposes)** held **7th session** from 29 January to 9 February 2024 in New York. In the margins **of the session, the Alliance hosted a virtual briefing** aimed at informing the stakeholders, both attending the session in person and online, on the progress of the negotiations and the finer details of the draft text. The briefing was held on Thursday morning, 8 February, at 9 am EST / 3 pm CET. Over 40 organisations joined the briefing and actively participated.

14 February - Vienna

The **GBV- NST working group of the Alliance organized a round table discussion** on “Stop Non-State Torture: Enforcing Human Rights for Everyone”. Experts were invited to discuss the working paper. The paper explores the critical issue of non-state torture, with a focus on women and girls. And further analyses international, regional, and national legal frameworks, emphasising a paradigm shift to address the complexities of torture definitions.

March – April

08 March - Remote

The Alliance **Working Group** on Crimes Affecting the Environment organized a meeting with Tiphaine Chapeau, Policy Advisor - Strategies for enhanced and coordinated action against environmental crime. The objective was to discuss environmental crimes, their impact, and strategies for addressing them.

Tiphaine Chapeau presented the progress made in addressing environmental crimes at both international and regional levels, emphasizing the importance of international cooperation and raising awareness. The discussion also touched the complexities and challenges of tackling environmental crimes, the role of various stakeholders, and the need for integrated and comprehensive strategies.

18-22 March - Vienna

The Alliance participated in the **Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)** and held an informal meeting on the margins of the Sixty-seventh session, that took place in Vienna from 14-22 March 2024.

05 April - Vienna

The **fourth Constructive Dialogue on Firearms** was convened on Friday, 5 April 2024, to promote fruitful cooperation between stakeholders and the Working Group on Firearms, in accordance with the UNTOC review mechanism. The Alliance worked closely with UNODC CSU in facilitating civil society participation, raising awareness and sharing information.

The constructive dialogue was attended by 144 Non-Governmental Organisations and other relevant stakeholders from the academia and the private sector (47% of the participants in the Dialogue were first-time participants).

12 April - Milan

The Alliance in collaboration with the University of Milan, Kennis: Knowledge for Safety and Good Governance, and the Small Arms Survey organized an international conference on **"The Impact of Global Arms Control Regimes in Reducing Armed Violence: A Regional Assessment"**. The meeting focused on assessing the impact of global arms control regimes on armed violence reduction, highlighting the importance of evidence-based approaches, inclusive strategies, and the role of civil society.

Ian Tennant, Chair of the Alliance, and Anna Alvazzi Del Frate, Executive Director of Kennis and Treasurer of the Alliance, delivered statements and participated in a panel with Antonino Tedesco, from the Permanent Mission of Italy in Vienna, Diego Simancas, from the Permanent Mission of Mexico in Vienna, and Simonetta Grassi, from UNODC, other experts, practitioner, and international organizations in the field of firearms.

May – June

07 May - Remote

In preparation of the upcoming CCPCJ, the Alliance organized a briefing for its members. During the **Special briefing of the Working Groups on Crimes Affecting the Environment— organizers of the side events with a focus on environmental crimes presented their upcoming events to the Alliance members.** Ian Tennant discussed the issues to be covered in upcoming events, specifically the Crime Congress in 2026, hosted by the UAE. The event covered a range of topics, from illegal gold mining to case studies aimed at addressing environmental crimes and Corruption. It was an insightful gathering that is anticipated to influence future constructive dialogues and working groups on international cooperation and technical assistance.

13-17 May - Vienna

The Chair, Ian Tennant, delivered two statements on behalf of the Alliance at the **33rd session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)**, where he emphasized the long-standing partnership between civil society and the UN. It was a significant event for the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. A highlight of the CCPCJ for the Alliance was its side event “Facilitating civil society engagement in the 15th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”, which featured a panel of high-level speakers, and the sponsorship of the 40 members of the Group of Friends of Multistakeholder Participation in UNODC matters.

13 May - Vienna

The Alliance along with the UNODC Civil Society, organized an **NGO briefing** at the beginning of the 33rd CCPCJ to give NGOs an overview of important events, such as the informal dialogues with the Executive Director of UNODC, the Chair of the CCPCJ, and the interim Director of UNICRI. Followed by the General Assembly of the Alliance, along with side events organized by the Alliance and the UNODC. It further gave participants the opportunity to also promote their side events.

13 May - Vienna

Organized by the UNODC's Civil Society Unit, the side event on “**Fostering Joint Stakeholder Actions Against Cybercrime Through Inclusive Partnerships.**” was co-sponsored by Access Now, the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC), the Alliance of NGOs, Microsoft, the United States, and the Dominican Republic. The discussion addressed best practices for combating cybercrime and Private Public Partnerships, during which the Tobias Krachler (Programme Coordinator) delivered a statement highlighting the engagement of the Alliance in the Cybercrime negotiations.

13 May - Vienna

The Alliance took part in the Civil Society Roundtable organised by the United States in collaboration with the UNODC Civil Society Unit. The event provided an opportunity to address the rich engagement with civil society in the lead-up to the Crime Congress. Panellists includes Deputy Assistant Secretary—Maggie Nardi and H.E. Laura S.H. Holgate, U.S Ambassador to International Organizations in Vienna.

14 May - Vienna

For the first time, the Alliance organised an **Informal dialogue with the Interim director Mr. Villadsen of UN inter regional crime research institute** at the VIC.

15 May - Vienna

An **informal dialogue with Ms. Ghada Waly, the Executive Director of UNODC**, was held at the Vienna International Centre, chaired by the Alliance. Civil society participants got an opportunity to deliberate from the floor, ensuring a meaningful exchange. The session provided a platform for authorities to share updates on their ongoing projects and allowed for a reciprocal exchange of ideas and feedback between the authorities and civil society representatives.

15 May - Vienna

The Alliance organized a **civil society gathering** at Gigerl – Der Stadtheurige on the sidelines of the 33rd session of the CCPCJ for all the members of NGOs and Civil Society. The event served as an informal venue for exchanging information and discussing projects within civil society. Some member state representatives were also able to join the social gathering after negotiations had ended on that day.

16 May - Vienna

Informal dialogue with the CCPCJ Chair Ivo Šrámek, the Permanent Representative of Czechia to the UN in Vienna, facilitated by Alliance , to ensure meaningful engagement of NGOs. The interaction fostered transparency and mutual understanding, enhancing the collaborative efforts to combat crime and improve justice systems.

16 May - Vienna

The side event, **"Facilitating Civil Society Engagement in the 15th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,"** was organized by the Alliance. Aside from the Chair, Ian Tennant, speakers included Michael Davidson from the UK Permanent Mission, Dr. Natalia Ollus, Jay Albanese, and Doris Resch, who spoke about civil society's role and engagement in the upcoming UN Crime Congresses taking place in the United Arab Emirates in 2026.

07 June - Vienna

The Constructive Dialogue on Technical Assistance & International Cooperation was held in Vienna as part of the UNTOC Review Mechanism. The Alliance participated in the dialogue and hosted several civil society organizations in its delegation. The event brought together experts from UNODC, UN member states and civil society to exchange and discuss advances in the implementation of the firearms protocol.

19 June - Remote

In the margins of the current Cybercrime Stakeholder Engagement Initiative, the UNODC Civil Society Unit facilitated a second **Cybercrime Consultation** in collaboration with the Alliance of NGOs, Microsoft, ICC, CyberPeace Institute, GI-TOC, Access Now, and Cyber Saathi Foundation. The pan-regional Cybercrime Consultation covered discussions by non-governmental stakeholders on matters related to prevention and policymaking around cybercrimes, and to shed light on the ongoing "Cybercrime Convention" negotiations and identify potential areas of engagement for civil society moving forward. The Chair of the Alliance, Ian Tennant, and Programme Coordinator Tobias Krachler were among the key speakers.

July – August

10 July - Vienna

The Alliance presented civil society declaration at the **constructive dialogue on trafficking in persons**.

Different topics covered like cross-cutting issues, trafficking in persons protocol, smuggling of migrant's protocol, International Cooperation, technical assistance, role of civil society, firearms protocol, and crimes that affect environment.

15 July - Vienna

In the **constructive dialogue on the smuggling of migrants**, the Alliance joined other NGOs and stakeholders to discuss the UNTOC review process. Two panellists reflected on strategies to combat the smuggling of migrants. Chair, Ian Tennant, stressed the importance of civil society's role in constructive dialogue and advocated for improvements to ensure accurate and reliable solutions. The panel concluded on a promise that NGOs supporting migrants for humanitarian reasons are not criminalized for their work.

19 July - Remote

The **Informal Meeting on the Launch of Working Group on Access to Justice** was conducted remotely. The meeting saw discussions on objectives and areas of interest of the WG. Distinguished speakers who took part were Alliance Vice-Chair; Mythri Jayaraman from The International Legal Foundation, Anika Holterhof— UNODC justice section, and Co-ordinator of the WG on access to Justice.

September – October

19 September - Remote

The Alliance supported the launch event for the Author Talks Series, featuring the new book titled "**Reinvigorating the United Nations**" by Markus Kornprobst and Sławomir Redo. The book examines pathways for how to reinvigorate the United Nations, in light of recent crises.

14-18 October - Vienna

The 12th session of the **Conference of parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (COP12 UNTOC)** took place in Vienna from October 14 to 18. A record of 1,400 participants from 131 States, 15 intergovernmental organizations and 212 non-governmental organizations took part. More than 400 participants from civil society came together for COP12.

The Alliance organised and participated in a series of events during COP12 as follows:

14th October: 12th UNTOC COP: The Alliance along with the UNDOC Civil Society Unit, held the traditional first day briefing which facilitated discussions regarding the upcoming COP events. The briefing included the draft resolutions that were currently under considerations, the Alliance side event on the civil society declaration, the US roundtable for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and an informal dialogue with the Executive Director and the President. Additionally, various side events were highlighted.

14 October: At the beginning of the UNTOC COP the delegation of the US Mission hosted the **Round Table for Civil Society Organizations**. It gave its members the opportunity to exchange with NGOs and explain the focus of the US delegation at the COP. The panel featured Maggie Nardi; Deputy Assistant Secretary and Cindy Dyer from the State Department, and Mirella Dummar Frahi, Head of the UNODC CSU. This year the focus of the delegation lay on the critical issue of countering transactional organized crimes, specifically of the fight against trafficking in persons. Afterwards, non-governmental organizations had a chance to ask questions and present their work at the UNTOC COP.

15 October: Side event on “**Making sure that firearms do not end up used in Gender-Based Violence**” — organized by Zonta International and co-organized by the Alliance along with Costa Rica, Every Woman Treaty, Graduate Women International, International Association of Democratic Lawyers, KENNIS, NGO Committee on the Status of Women Vienna, and NGO Committee on Sustainable Development Vienna.

15 October: “**Tackling the nexus of organized crime and corruption: strengthening linkages between UNTOC and UNCAC**”. Co-sponsored by the Alliance, the side event was organized by UNCAC Coalition, together with Italy, Mexico, Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC), Transparency International, and Wildlife Justice Commission.

16 October: The Alliance, together with the UNODC Civil Society Unit, held an **Informal Dialogue with UNODC Executive Director Ms. Ghada Waly**. It gave an opportunity to the NGOs for direct interaction with the Executive Director, allowing them to present questions on various topics. H. E, Ms. Waly addressed the role of Civil Society in different thematic areas and highlighted the need to focus on emerging issues, such as violence against women.

16 October: The side event on “**Effective implementation of the firearms protocol to prevent misuse and armed violence**” was organized by Kennis: Knowledge for Safety and Good Governance, with the support of the Alliance, Mexico, CROSS (University of Milan), Small Arms Survey of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID).

16 October: The UNODC Civil Society Unit, along with the Alliance, Angola, Kenya, Mexico, Pakistan, United States, and the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC) facilitated the side event on “**Uniting forces: strengthening multistakeholder collaboration against transnational organized crime**”.

16 October: The Alliance Civil society gathering saw an overwhelming increase in participation compared to the last year. The evening began with a spirited toast by Ian Tennant, bringing together friends and colleagues from UNODC and various NGOs. The gathering transitioned into a networking opportunity with food and laughter on the sidelines of the COP event.

17 October: On **day four** of the **COP** session, the Informal Dialogue, presided over by **COP12** President H.E. Peter Burian, took place. He opened the floor to **CSOs** for discussions and interventions. Additionally, members of indigenous communities participated in the dialogue.

17 October: “**Joint action: harnessing partnerships to combat crimes that affect the environment**”. The event organized by the Alliance together with the Wildlife Justice Commission, France, Peru, United States, Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC), and Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime.

18 October: The Alliance presented the first Civil Society Declaration for the effective implementation of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) in collaboration with the UNODC Civil Society Unit. Aside from the General Assembly, it was the most important milestone of the year, as the Declaration was in the making for several years. The process started in principle in parallel to the Constructive Dialogues. More than 150 NGOs signed up to the declaration, expressing their support for the initiative and highlighting the importance of the Convention’s effective implementation.

The event was moderated by Anna Alvazzi del Frate and the panel included Ian Tennant, as the Chair of the Alliance, Tariq Khosa, Lisa Hartevelt, Michael Davidson, the First Secretary for the UK Mission, and Jean-Luc Lemahieu, the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs at the UNODC. The presentation of the Declaration garnered strong support from civil society organizations, as well as a number of ambassadors present.

November – December

12-14 November - Vienna

The Alliance attended the 2024 **Thematic Discussions on the Implementation of All International Drug Policy Commitments**.

The important event held in Vienna began with opening remarks from H.E. Philbert Johnson, Chair of the 67th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. 17 civil society speakers took part and presented their study reports, shared their best practices, key challenges and proposed their recommendations.

15 November - Vienna

On the International **Day for the Prevention of and Fight against All Forms of Transnational Organized Crime** a high level event organized by the Permanent Mission of Italy at the UN took place in Vienna to commemorate the death of Italian Judge Giovanni Falcone (Capaci, 23 May 1992) and all those who lost their lives fighting organised crimes. A video message played in the board room which showed the final hours of arrest of several fugitives including Francesco Schiavone and the actions taken since 1992. Among other prominent panellists on this day, the Chair of the Alliance gave a presentation on the role of civil society in tackling TOC.

19 November - Vienna

The Alliance facilitated the briefing on the CCPCJ **Thematic discussions on Pillar IV of the Kyoto Declaration**, aimed at explaining the substantive scope of interventions and organizational arrangements to the panellists and speakers.

22 November - Vienna

Ian Tennant, the Chair of the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, spoke at the conference "**Orange the World**", held in commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Participants wore orange outfits to showcase their support.

Ms. Ghada Whaly, Executive Director United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Minister for Women— Susanne Raab, Abdulaziz Alwasil— Chair on the Commission on the Status of Women and the Campaign Ambassador for UN Women Austria—Ursula Strauss was among the distinguished speakers.

25 November - Vienna

The Alliance engaged in a roundtable event on **Artificial Intelligence and Gender based Violence**. Co-hosted by the International Association for the Promotion of Innovative Solutions to Global Challenges and the Permanent Mission of Mexico. On the International Day on the Elimination of Violence against Women, the session conveyed a powerful message - "Ensuring everyone can benefit from technology, free from harm."

02-04 December - Vienna

The Alliance took part in the thematic discussions on Pillar IV of the Kyoto Declaration "**Promoting international cooperation and technical assistance to prevent and address all forms of crime**" which held in Vienna from 2-4 Dec. The Alliance together with the UNODC Civil Society selected three civil society panellists (one per thematic panel – three in total) and twelve civil society speakers from the floor (up to four speakers per segment – twelve in total) presented their views and deliberated from the floor.

05-06 December - Vienna

The **Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)** held joint reconvened sixty-seventh joint sessions from 05-06 Dec 2024. Ian Tennant made a statement underlining the essential involvement of civil society organizations in shaping the upcoming Crime Congress. The Alliance facilitated the selection of speakers for the three sessions; ensuring broad participation of a diverse set of civil society speakers keeping in mind equal gender and regional distribution.

06 December - Vienna

In the margins of the Joint reconvened session, the Alliance was invited to the side event of launching the **Global Strategy to Prevent and Combat the Nonconsensual Sharing of Intimate Images (NSCII)**. Tobias Krachler, Programme coordinator of the Alliance delivered a statement and discussed launching of a dedicated working group on cybercrime within the Alliance, to create a space for common civil society engagement and to raise awareness for topic within our network. Briefing for Civil Society on the 15th UN Crime Congress and its Preparations - The Alliance.

18 December - Remote

The Chair of the Alliance, together with the UNODC Secretariat of the Governing Bodies, conducted a briefing regarding the preparatory process for the **Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**, scheduled to take place in Abu Dhabi in April 2026. Over 140 NGOs participated online. The NGO briefing showcased how civil society will be able to contribute towards the preparation of Crime Congress and shed light on the overall theme.

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 UN processes taking place in and outside of Vienna.

Working group on crimes that affect the environment (CAE)

Coordinator: Linda Witong and Lisa Hartefelt

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

Working Group on Gender-based violence as torture inflicted by nonstate actors (NST)

Coordinator: Ingeborg Geyer

The aim of this working group is to document research towards a model strategy to promote global awareness to end non-State 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 Access to Justice (A2J)

Coordinator: Mythri Jayaraman

The purpose of the Working Group on Access to Justice (ATJ) is to advance the equal access to justice for all persons who have been accused, arrested, detained, or charged with a crime. This working group will engage in advocacy — both within the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as well as through cooperation with other UN bodies as relevant—aimed at addressing discrimination in criminal justice systems, strengthening the right to high quality legal aid in line with the UN Principles and Guidelines for Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems, and promoting evidence-based best practices that comport with international law. The ATJ working group is open to new members, and welcomes both Alliance members and non-members to apply to join

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 2023. During 2023, the Alliance received 70 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 international scope and the remaining ones with 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 against 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 program for NGOs in need. The program covered the 2024 membership fee of 15 non-governmental organizations. It continues to be important for financially less liquid, but very often important grassroot 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 over 2300 users in 2024. Most users were from Austria, followed by the United States and Italy. In total, users from 143 different countries/territories visited the website in 2024. The homepage is the most frequently visited, followed by the event page.

The mailing list of the Alliance, including membership at large, expanded to include 667 contacts in total. At the end of 2024 the Alliance counted 521 X followers (50 more than in 2023) and 687 followers in LinkedIn (350 more than in 2023). 8 new videos of events, statements, and webinars were uploaded to the Alliance YouTube channel in 2024, accumulating over 800 individual views.