



# 13th UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Doha, 12–19 April 2015



For information only — not an official document

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### What is the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice?

The Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is hosted by the Government of Qatar and will take place in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015. United Nations Crime Prevention Congresses have been held every five years since 1955 in different parts of the world, dealing with a vast array of topics. They have made a considerable impact on the field of international crime prevention and criminal justice and influenced national policies and professional practices. As a global forum, the Congresses enable the exchange of information and best practices among States and professionals working in this field. Their overall goal is to promote more effective crime prevention policies and criminal justice measures all over the world.

### What is the theme of this year's Congress?

The theme of the Thirteenth Congress is “Integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and public participation”, as decided by the United Nations General Assembly (GA Resolution 67/184).

### What will be discussed at the Congress?

There are four substantive items on the agenda covering the following issues:

- Successes and challenges in implementing comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies and strategies to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and to support sustainable development;
- International cooperation, including at the regional level, to combat transnational organized crime;

- Comprehensive and balanced approaches to prevent and adequately respond to new and emerging forms of transnational crime;
- National approaches to public participation in strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice.

The Congress will also be the venue of four workshops on: the role of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice; trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants; strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to evolving forms of crime such as cybercrime and trafficking in cultural property; and public contribution to crime prevention and raising awareness of criminal justice. A high-level segment will be held during the first two days of the Congress, where Heads of State or Government and Ministers and other high-level government representatives will address the main agenda items of the Congress. There will also be numerous other side meetings organized by non-governmental organizations, covering subjects relating to crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law.

### Who will participate?

The Crime Congress is a global forum that brings together the largest and most diverse gathering of policymakers and practitioners in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as individual experts from academia, representatives of inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, specialized agencies and other United Nations entities, and the media.

### What is the expected outcome of the Congress?

The Congress will adopt a single political declaration, which will contain recommendations based on discussions at the various parts of the Congress including the high-level segment and the workshops. The declaration

will be submitted to the next session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice from 18 to 22 May 2015 for appropriate consideration and action. The Congress will also provide a platform for increased cooperation between governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on the whole spectrum of crime prevention and criminal justice issues, thus promoting more effective international action in this field.

### What happens in the run-up to the Congress?

To provide a regional perspective on the topics to be discussed at the Congress, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime organized a series of regional preparatory meetings in 2014, held in Bangkok, Thailand; Doha, Qatar; San José, Costa Rica; and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. A special Governmental Expert Group Meeting was also held in Qatar from 27 to 29 September 2014. The idea was for participants to highlight their special concerns and share their “lessons learned”.

### How can I follow proceedings if I am not able to come to Doha, Qatar?

A website will provide live and on-demand webcast coverage of the Congress in English and the original (floor) language, as well as statements (speeches) in text format. The website is:

<http://www.un.org/en/events/crimecongress2015/webcast>



### How do I get involved?

Participate in the “What does Rule of Law mean to you?” photo and video campaign, and learn more about various forms of transnational crime at:

[http://www.un.org/en/events/crimecongress2015/get\\_involved.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/events/crimecongress2015/get_involved.shtml)



For further information, visit:

### Media:

<http://www.un.org/en/events/crimecongress2015/index.shtml>



### Documents:

<http://www.unodc.org/congress/en/documentation.html>

