

Ukrainian
Logo



REGIONAL CONFERENCE

TOWARDS THE PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION ON COUNTERFEITING OF MEDICAL PRODUCTS AND SIMILAR CRIMES INVOLVING THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH (MEDICRIME CONVENTION)

DRAFT PROGRAMME

11-12 June 2013
Kyiv
Ukraine

Background and objectives

The Council of Europe drafted a convention which constitutes, for the first time in world history, a binding international treaty in the criminal law field on counterfeiting of medical products and similar crimes involving threats to public health (MEDICRIME convention).

Safeguarding of public health through penal measures against criminal behaviours, protection of victims, promotion of cooperation at national and international levels, and preventive measures are the overarching aims of the above convention.

The core values of the Council of Europe, a pan-European intergovernmental organisation comprising 47 member States in Europe, are the protection of human rights and essential freedoms, the promotion of the rule of law and of democracy. The Organisation aims at identifying solutions for challenges faced by today's societies.

Counterfeiting medical products and similar crimes threaten the right to life enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ECHR). Incidences of counterfeit medical products and similar crimes undermine public trust in healthcare systems and authorities' surveillance thereof.

Counterfeiting of medical products and similar crimes have a global spread, no country is spared.

The Council of Europe has long been concerned about the absence of harmonised international legislation, non-deterrent sanctions in proportionate to the harm caused to patients, and the involvement of criminal organisations which operate across borders.

Thanks to its pan-European membership and cooperation with states and regions beyond Europe, the Council of Europe was able to embark on developing an international criminal law treaty focusing on public health and with a truly global impact: mandated by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and supported by intersecretariat cooperation between the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law and the Directorate General of Democracy through its European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare (EDQM), the text of the above convention was opened for signature in Moscow (the Russian Federation) on 28 October 2011. Ukraine is the first country in having ratified the MEDICRIME convention.

Aim of the conference

The aim of this conference is to significantly advance in the fight against counterfeit medical products and similar crimes in Europe and worldwide through promoting political support for the practical implementation of the MEDICRIME convention. The objective is three-fold:

1. to encourage member states to sign and ratify the convention;
2. to raise awareness of its existence among members of parliament, law enforcement and national regulatory authorities and professionals working in the field;
3. to discuss the benefits and challenges of ratifying the MEDICRIME convention.







Target audience

The target audience of the conference includes officials responsible for policy-making, representatives of judicial, health and enforcement authorities as well as State Prosecutors, Heads of Police and Customs Agencies, Heads of Medicines Agencies and relevant international and European institutions and organisations.

Speakers

Details of speakers are listed in the appendix of the programme (TBC).

Organisation

<i>Registration</i>		TBC
<i>Coffee break</i>		TBC
<i>Lunch</i>		TBC
<i>Interpretation</i>		Simultaneous interpretation (English/Ukrainian/Russian) for all sessions
<i>Proceedings</i>		The proceedings will be published in English and Ukrainian
<i>Press conference</i>		TBC

9.30 a.m. 🕒 **Registration of participants**

10.a.m. **Welcome address and opening**

- TBC, Ukrainian representative(s)
- Mr Jan KLEIJSEN, Director, Information Society and Action against Crime Directorate, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DG I), Council of Europe
- TBC, Member of the Verkhovna Rada
- TBC, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

10.30 a.m. - 10.45 a.m. ☕ *Coffee break*

SESSION 1

INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATION: OBJECTIVES AND BENEFITS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEDICRIME CONVENTION

Chair: TBC

- Purpose & objectives
- Need and benefits for public health protection: different perspectives
- Discussion

12.15 p.m. – 13.30 p.m. 🍽️ *Lunch break*

SESSION 2

HOW TO IMPLEMENT THE MEDICRIME CONVENTION INTO NATIONAL LAW?

Chair: Mr Carlo CHIAROMONTE, Council of Europe

13.30 pm- 17.30 p.m.

2.1 Counterfeiting & similar crimes threatening public health: substantive criminal law

- Considerations of the MEDICRIME convention
- Ukrainian legislation & practices: possible approaches for implementation
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- DISCUSSION

2.2 Preventing harm and protecting public health

Chair: TBC

- Considerations of the MEDICRIME convention
- Anti-counterfeiting strategy and its outcomes & approaches for implementation
- Promotion of public awareness in TBC & approaches for implementation
- Preventive measures in Europe & EDQM contribution
- DISCUSSION

2.3 Tackling a transborder crime – international jurisdiction

- Introduction & considerations of the MEDICRIME convention
- Provisions on jurisdiction in Council of Europe Conventions
- WCO perspectives: the impact of the MEDICRIME Convention and the role of the WCO in the fight against counterfeit and similarly dangerous medical products

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Day 2

🗣️ EN/UKR/RU

SESSION 3

DEVELOPING A LEGAL FRAMEWORK WITH A GLOBAL IMPACT ASSOCIATING STATES AND REINFORCING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Chair: TBC

9.30 am- 12.30 p.m.

3.1 How to facilitate multisectorial co-operation at national level

- Considerations of the MEDICRIME convention
- Cooperation in Turkey: experiences & possible approaches for implementation
- Cooperation in Bulgaria: experiences & possible approaches for implementation
- Cooperation in Poland: experiences & possible approaches for implementation
- ...
- Discussion

10.30 a.m. - 10.45 a.m. ☕ Coffee break

3.2 How to facilitate multisectorial co-operation at international level

- Considerations of the MEDICRIME
- Interpol multisectorial cooperation: suggestions for implementation convention
- Situation in France: approaches for implementation
- Discussion

SESSION 4

CLOSING REMARKS

Chair: TBC

- Considerations Ukrainian Representative
- Considerations CoE
- **Closing address**

Social programme: under the host's responsibility.