

# 10th Anniversary of the MEDICRIME Convention



Conference organised by the  
MEDICRIME Committee

## PROGRAMME

2 December 2021

Strasbourg (online)



## Concept note

### 10th Anniversary of the MEDICRIME Convention

2 December 2021  
Online

The 10th Anniversary of the opening for signature in Moscow of the MEDICRIME Convention<sup>1</sup> will be marked on 2 December 2021 in an online event.

This event will celebrate the MEDICRIME Convention's achievements, challenges and added value for the Parties and member states in fighting against the counterfeiting of medical products and other similar crimes involving threats to public health. It will aim to look at the current issues at stake and the steps ahead.

This Convention tackles the protection of human well-being through a three-fold mechanism: the criminalisation of certain acts which endanger public health, the protection of victims' rights, and the creation of multidisciplinary, domestic and international synergies between the relevant actors (e.g., law enforcement officers and legal professionals, public healthcare authorities and private industry).

Since its opening for accession in 2011, the Convention has been ratified by 18 countries, 4 of which are non-Council of Europe member States. Currently 6 non-member States are in the process of ratification, and 3 more expressed their wish to be invited by the Committee of Ministers to sign the Convention. This trend underscores both the international value of the Convention and the effectiveness of the framework it offers.

The Convention has become even more relevant in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Reports from national and international organisations have revealed exacerbated trafficking of COVID-19-related medicines and medical devices (e.g., fake vaccines and fake Personal Protective Equipment, respectively), as well as other unassociated goods (e.g., anti-cancer medication and painkillers). These findings highlight the continuous nature of the problems faced.

The MEDICRIME Committee of Parties, composed of the representatives of the state Parties to the MEDICRIME Convention, has provided an excellent collaborative platform to address many transborder challenges. It is at the forefront of current health-related issues faced by societies; smoothly coordinating its actions with other international organisations.

The 10th anniversary conference will thus provide an excellent opportunity to evaluate what has been achieved under the MEDICRIME Convention. It will also be an occasion to discuss the future of the MEDICRIME Convention's system in further protecting public health.

#### **Participation**

Participation is subject to registration. The working languages will be English and French. Given the uncertainty of the COVID-19-related situation, and in order to remain inclusive, this event will be held online.

The registration will remain open from 28 October 2021 to 1 December 2021 at [www.coe.int/medicrime](http://www.coe.int/medicrime).

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<sup>1</sup> *Council of Europe Convention on the counterfeiting of medical products and similar crimes involving threats to public health*, CETS No. 211, Moscow, 28 October 2011.

Promotion of the event on social media and other communication channels is encouraged. Should you tweet, please tag the MEDICRIME Convention (@MedicrimeC), using the hashtag '#MEDICRIME10'.

**Contact**

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MedicrimeC

## DRAFT PROGRAMME

Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021

14:45-15:00 CET *Onboarding of the participants on the online platform (KUDO system)*

15:00- 15:20 pm **OPENING SESSION**

Ms Marija Pejčinović Burić, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Mr Christian Meuwly, Ambassador of Switzerland to the Council of Europe, Chair of Rapporteur Group on Legal Co-operation, Committee of Ministers

Mr Rik Daems, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Mr Sergei Glagolev, Deputy Minister of Health, Russian Federation, Chair of the MEDICRIME Committee

*Moderator: Oscar Alarcón-Jiménez, Executive Secretary of the MEDICRIME Committee*

15:20- 15:25 pm **Video**

15:25 - 15:45 pm **SESSION 1: Drafting the Convention 10 years ago**

Mr Fritz Zeder, Head of unit, Federal Ministry of Justice, Austria, Member at the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC)

Ms Lynda Scammel, Senior Policy Adviser, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), United Kingdom, Chair of the Committee of Experts on Minimising Public Health Risks Posed by Falsification of Medical Products and Similar Crimes, European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare (EDQM)

Mr Christian Tournié, Lieutenant Colonel, Gendarmerie, Vice-Chair of the MEDICRIME Committee

*Moderator: Jeremy Moakes, Head of Web and Audio-Visual communication Division, Directorate of Communication, Council of Europe*

15:45- 16:05 pm **SESSION 2: The implementation of the MEDICRIME Convention at national level: 10 years of achievements**

Mr Gabor Jancso, Deputy State Secretary for Criminal Law Codification, Ministry of Justice, Hungary.

Mr Asier Urruela, Professor in Criminal Law, University of Zaragoza, Spain

Ms Marta Castillo González, Deputy Head of Unit, Illicit trade, health & environment investigations, European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)

*Moderator: Carlos Romeo Casabona, Full Professor of Criminal Law and Coordinator of the "Chair of Law and the Human Genome" Research Group at the University of the Basque Country*

16.05 - 16.25 pm **SESSION 3: Next steps for the MEDICRIME Convention**

Ms Karen Kramer, Senior Expert, Organized Crime Branch, Division for Treaty Affairs, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Ms Pernette Bourdillon Esteve, Technical officer, incidents and Substandard and Falsified medical products team, World Health Organisation (WHO)

Mme Tatiana Sallem, General Coordinator, Conference of Ministers of Justice of Ibero-American countries (COMJIB)

Pr Marc Gentilini, Pan-African Organisation for the fight for health (OPALS)

*Moderator: Hugo Bonar, international consultant*

16:25-16:30 pm

**CLOSING SESSION**

Mr Sergei Glagolev, Chair of the MEDICRIME Committee

*Moderator: Oscar Alarcón-Jiménez, Executive Secretary of the MEDICRIME Committee*