

## Rome conference builds inter-parliamentary co-operation to fight organized crime



Conference on the Fight Against Organized Crime in the OSCE Region, Rome, 5 June 2025

On 5-6 June, the Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Organized Crime, hosted by the Italian Parliament and organized by OSCE PA Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime Eugenio Zoffili (Italy), brought together some 80 parliamentarians from more than 25 OSCE participating States to explore the links between organized crime, corruption and terrorism.

The opening session featured remarks by Lorenzo Fontana, President of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, and Ignazio La Russa, President of the Senate of the Republic. Matteo Salvini, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, addressed the conference in-person, along with OSCE PA President Pia Kauma (Finland); Giorgio Silli, Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy; Nicola Molteni, Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of the Interior; and Roberto Montella, Secretary General of the OSCE PA.

Speakers underlined the crucial role of parliamentary diplomacy in addressing the cross-border nature of organized and other forms of serious crime, and stressed the importance of information-sharing and legislative co-operation.

“Increasingly, it is clear that emerging technologies can be misused to facilitate organized crime, corruption, and terrorism,” said President Kauma. “Poorly regulated cryptocurren-

cies, blockchain technologies, and biased algorithms present vulnerabilities exploited by criminal actors. Artificial intelligence is similarly being used for dangerous purposes. These challenges affect all our societies and require a concerted response.”

In the first session, the Fourth Inter-Parliamentary Forum of South East Europe was co-organized by the Italian Delegation to the OSCE PA and Special Representative on South East Europe Kyriakos Hadjiyianni (Cyprus). Moderated by Hadjiyianni, the session featured contributions from parliamentarians and experts, followed by a dynamic exchange of experiences and best practices.

The second session, moderated by Special Representative Zoffili, focused on the social reuse of assets confiscated from criminal organizations as a strategic tool in dismantling criminal structures. Zoffili highlighted the importance of mechanisms such as mutual legal assistance and cross-border information sharing. “This is why the OSCE is an exceptional platform to encourage participating States to strengthen their legal and institutional frameworks,” he underlined.

Session three, chaired by OSCE PA Special Representative on Fighting Corruption Irene Charalambides (Cyprus), brought together prominent experts to discuss effective strategies to prevent and combat corruption. The session showcased a wide array of institutional and community-based approaches, emphasizing that effective anti-corruption efforts must be systemic, transparent, and inclusive.

The OSCE PA’s Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism, chaired by Kamil Aydın (Türkiye), held a session on “Trends in the OSCE Region: Youth Radicalization to Violent Extremism.” Drawing on extensive experience in counter-terrorism, keynote speakers emphasized the urgent need for a unified and inclusive approach to address radicalization, especially among youth. The session concluded with a strong call for enhanced co-operation at all levels of society and governance.

## Videos and photos of Rome conference available online

Videos of all sessions of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference on the Fight Against Organized Crime in the OSCE Region, held in Rome on 5-6 June 2025, are available here: <https://bit.ly/3SK9Kzf>

Photos of the event are available for public use at Flickr: <https://bit.ly/4jHx4sg>

## South Korean national intelligence and crime officers visit OSCE PA Vienna Office

On Tuesday, a delegation of the National Security Investigation Bureau from South Korea visited the OSCE PA’s Vienna Office for a meeting with Special Representative Amb. Miodrag Pančeski, Senior Advisor Marco Bonabello, and Research Assistants Felix Daiber and Lorenza Vezzoni. The constructive discussions focused primarily on sharing insights into ways of enhancing international co-operation on countering terrorism and youth radicalization to violent extremism. The work of the OSCE PA’s Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism, and particularly its well-established collaboration with other international organizations in advancing a rights-based and multilateral approach to fighting violent extremism, was highlighted as an example of effective inter-parliamentary co-operation.



South Korean visitors meet with staff in Vienna, 10 June 2025

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