Challenges in a Changing World – Perspectives on Internal Security

Abstract

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The world is changing in ways that were once thought unthinkable. War has returned to Europe. Climate change threatens the existence of our planet. Conflicts are triggering migration, energy and food insecurity, and financial instability. These challenges, coming on the heels of COVID-19, show the extent to which states, peoples and markets are interlinked and how security has become indivisible. Like never before, national security must take into account transnational threats, including organised crime. Since flows of people, money and goods move across borders, internal security depends on understanding and coping with external factors.

In his keynote address, Mark Shaw, Director of the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime, will look at the challenge posed by organised crime in a rapidly changing world. How has organised crime contributed to creating the inflection point that we now face, and how could this Zeitenwende affect trajectories of illicit economies? This presentation will explore the interaction between global trends and the drivers and enablers of organised crime. It will also look over the horizon to anticipate how factors such as geopolitics, technology, climate change, and governance could affect organised crime. It will also analyse how these changes could impact internal security. It will conclude by looking at possible strategies for the future to reduce the harms caused by organised crime and improve crime prevention and suppression.