

# 7<sup>th</sup> Research Conference on Organised Crime

The different Faces of Organised Crime

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## The Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime - exploring new challenges and responses

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### **Curriculum vitae**

Mr. Zvekic, a former permanent representative of the Republic of Serbia to the UN, has a law degree and a PhD in sociology. He was a Fulbright scholar (1973-75) and then worked in the Institute for Criminological and Sociological Research in Belgrade from 1976 to 1984 when he joined the United Nations Crime and Drugs Programme.

Until 1999 he was a Deputy Director of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) based in Italy. From 1999 to 2004 he headed the anti-crime programme of the United Nations regional office for Southern Africa, based in Pretoria, South Africa. Until his retirement from the United Nations in September 2009, he was in charge of the Strategic Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna, Austria.

He has published extensively on crime and development, and reform of the criminal justice system from the perspective of human rights and international standards. He has taught in many academic institutions worldwide.

#### Abstract

The Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime - launched formally in New York in September 2013 - is a network of prominent law enforcement, governance and development practitioners who are dedicated to seeking new and innovative strategies and responses to organized crime.

The Global Initiative was born from a series of high-level, off the record discussions between mainly (though not exclusively) law enforcement officials from both developed and developing countries, hosted by the International Peace Institute in New York in 2011-12. At these meetings, the founding members of the Global Initiative, many of whom stand at the front line of the fight against organized crime, illicit trafficking and trade, concluded that the problem and its impacts are not well analyzed; they are not systematically integrated into national plans or strategies; existing multilateral tools are not structured to facilitate a response and existing forms of cooperation tend to be bilateral, slow and restricted to a limited number of like-minded states.

The Global Initiative, now registered as an international civil society organization, has an office in Geneva, Switzerland, a core Secretariat and a high-level advisory board. Through a range of channels, the Global Initiative seeks to project the expertise of its Network members outwards and to make it available to a broader range of stakeholders: The Global Initiative is commissioning and sharing original research from across the globe. Over 600 reports and tools specific to organized crime sit in the resource library.

It provides monthly analysis of key issues via a newsletter "Analyzing Organized Crime".