

8th Research Conference on Organised Crime

Countering International Organised Crime Groups – Challenges and Opportunities

7 – 8 October 2015, Mainz

Corruption Threats in Southern Eastern Europe

Ambassador Dr. Ugljesa Ugi Zvekic

Senior Advisor, Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime, Geneva, CH



Curriculum vitae

Born on 2 August 1950 in Belgrade, Serbia, Ambassador Zvekic holds a law degree (LL.B), MA and PhD in sociology/law. He was a country representative in the UN-sponsored World Youth Forum (USA, 1969) and Fulbright Scholar (1973-75).

Main career positions:

- Scientific Counsellor, Institute of Criminological and Sociological Research; Honorary Professor, University of Hull, UK; External Ph.D Examiner, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- Deputy Director/ OIC, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), Rome, Italy
- Deputy Representative/ OIC, United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Regional Office for Southern Africa, Pretoria, South Africa
- Chief, Strategic Planning Unit, UNODC, Vienna, Austria
- Member of the UN High-level Programme Coordination Committee
- Member of the Foundation Councils of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), the Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) and the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)
- Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Serbia to the UN in Geneva
- Consultant, UNODC/UNITAR/ISICS/IP
- Senior Advisor, Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime
- Visiting Professor: Law School, University of Belgrade, Serbia; School of Governance, LUISS, Rome, Italy; Law School, University Rome III, Rome, Italy;

Main positions held in Geneva International:

- the Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee/ Bureau of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), 2011 2013
- the President of the General Assemblies of World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) , 2011-2013

Main topical areas:

- Multilateral diplomacy
- International crime, global corruption, criminal justice and security reform
- Geopolitics and political tension management
- Strategic planning, results-based programme management

Abstract

The linkages between corruption and organized crime are explored on a theoretical level to move to a regional South Eastern European perspective. A series of data are presented about corruption from TI, UN and EU. It is well established that corruption is perceived as one of the main treats to the legal, economic and political stability for the region and in particular in view of its integration in the EU. Organized crime uses corruption as an effective instrument to carry out its illicit trade into and out of the region, to legalize dirty profit, to invest it in legitimate business (in particular through the privatization process), to link with the political structures and to attempt to achieve impunity.

o th To the Control of the Control o