



The International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law is pleased to send you this e-Newsletter. Below you will find details of our most recent and upcoming events as well as links to our Website and Twitter for more information.

July 2020 Newsletter



Message from the Executive Secretary

I hope this latest newsletter finds all of our partners staying safe and healthy during this ongoing challenging time. I also take this opportunity – the first since the end of Ramadan – to wish all of our Muslim colleagues and friends Eid Mubarak.

Foremost, I start this issue by reaffirming the IIJ's support for the Rule of Law. Central to our mission, and so integral to human dignity, justice, peace and security, the Rule of Law requires us all to remain vigilant in protecting rights and fundamental freedoms. The global community has raised its collective voice demanding an end to discrimination, injustice, and the arbitrary and excessive interference with freedoms and liberties. The IIJ stands with you.

As I start a fourth year with the IIJ Team, the impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic presents unprecedented challenges for all of us as we transition. Further below in the newsletter, we share some details on how the IIJ as a team has responded to these challenges. Allow me to also thank our partners, including the IIJ Governing Board of Administrators, the IIJ Advisory Board, and colleagues around the world for sharing your insights. To further this cooperation, the IIJ has led a series of conversations and multi-party video conferences with partner organisations to share lessons learned and innovations in responding to COVID-19. We are, of course, also coordinating closely with our donors to ensure that we are meeting their expectations and obligations under existing grants. We are closely monitoring the situation in the IIJ geographic focus regions, including recent developments in Africa and the Middle East, and impact on international travel, and we will continue to adjust our calendar accordingly.

In response, the IIJ is taking its capacity-building online, including utilising platforms that provide for near simultaneous interpretation. In the past few months, we have convened successful online capacity-building workshop under the [IIJ Juvenile Justice Initiative](#) and consultations to further our development of a new training curriculum under the [IIJ Referral Mechanisms](#)

development of a new training curriculum under the [100+ Initiative Workstream](#). Let me thank our Director of Programmes, Mr. Patrick Ehlers, seconded from the United States Department of Justice, for leading this transition. The team wishes him well on his new assignment starting in September.

I am delighted to take this opportunity, following an extensive international recruitment campaign, to introduce our new IIJ Academic Unit Director, Ms. Marie Compère, who will work closely with the next Director of Programmes. A former prosecutor and examining judge from France, Marie brings to the role extensive experience in criminal cases, international criminal justice and counter-terrorism, and expertise drawn from her tenure with the [École nationale de la magistrature](#) (ENM) (French National School for the Judiciary), including the development of bilateral and multilateral projects in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and Europe. We are delighted to welcome Marie to the IIJ and provide further details below on the exciting developments underway for the launch of the new Academic Unit.

Since our last newsletter, we also provided our views to the [Global Counterterrorism Forum](#) (GCTF) Strategic Vision for the Next Decade. We were very pleased to work with the GCTF Co-Chairs and Members to provide input to this important review process, which will also inform the IIJ's own strategic direction. The review included consideration of the Forum's structure, membership, methods of work, partnerships, funding model, and communication and outreach methods. As a GCTF-inspired institution, the IIJ remains committed to working collaboratively with and in support of the GCTF, as well as to the UN and other strategic partners.

Although there are many uncertainties going forward, our team and your partnerships have demonstrated that our collaboration will adjust, our foundations are solid, and the our mission and mandate remains pivotal to addressing terrorism and violent extremism in an increasingly uncertain and unstable world. In many ways, this pause and pivot in "the way we do international counter-terrorism work" will allow us to be stronger going forward as we rethink and innovate to address the post COVID-19 capacity-building environment and needs of our practitioner community.

Thomas Wuchte
IIJ Executive Secretary



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Follow The IIJ's French-language Twitter account

COVID-19: IIJ Response

The pandemic, and the global measures and policies implemented in response, have had a significant impact on the ability of all organisations to deliver in-person capacity-building workshops. However, the IIJ as responded robustly, focusing on three key pillars: staff health and safety; operational

continuity; and mitigating financial impact. Contingency planning commenced in early February, followed by a series of measures and revised regulations relating to staff health and travel, and remote working. Scheduled workshops were postponed due to international travel restrictions, and the IIJ began working immediately with partners and vendors in Malta and abroad to mitigate the financial impact of these changes.

The IIJ Team then pivoted quickly to focus on how it could deliver effective and sustainable capacity-building in an online environment. Central to this was a survey and testing of available online platforms with the required functionality for integrated capacity-building, including platforms providing near simultaneous interpretation for multi-lingual workshops and platforms not requiring high-speed internet . We also convened a consortium of partner-organisations for regular video conferences to share lessons learned and innovations during this time. The IIJ Team is also coordinating closely with our donors to ensure that upcoming programmes meet expectations and obligations under existing grants to ensure sustainable impact for both donors and beneficiaries.

While many countries and regions that were first to experience COVID-19 are now reopening we are cognizant that the impact of this pandemic is still being felt strongly and with devastating impact in many parts of the world. We are closely monitoring the situation in the IIJ geographic focus regions, including recent developments in Africa and the Middle East, and related impacts on international travel, and we will continue to adjust our calendar accordingly.



Academic Unit

As mentioned in the opening message, we are excited to welcome Ms. Marie Compère to the [IIJ Team](#) as Director of the new Academic Unit. Ms. Compère brings to the role 15 years of experience as a prosecutor and examining judge in France. She was then selected by the [École nationale de la magistrature](#) (ENM, French National School for the Judiciary) to serve in its international department. Over a period of three years, she developed bilateral and multilateral projects, mainly in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and Europe, including the Balkans, with a focus on criminal cases, international criminal justice and counter-terrorism. She has a wealth of experience in collaborating with EU institutions and civil law practice, from which the IIJ is very fortunate to be able to draw, not only for the Academic Unit but for the IIJ as a whole.

As Director of the Academic Unit, Ms. Compère will oversee the design and implementation of the Academic Unit-led Core Courses on counter-terrorism and transnational crime for judicial practitioners and will lead the Academic Unit fellows and programmatic staff. To date, there is no other international institution that has developed such an in-depth foundational learning experience in this sector. The Academic Unit will serve as a centre of excellence in education and an indispensable forum for future criminal justice practitioner capacity-building.

These foundational or core courses, collectively known as the ***IIJ Counter-Terrorism Academic Curriculum (CTAC)***, will augment and reinforce the IIJ's thematic workshops under the existing IIJ Core Initiatives and Workstreams, which are typically two to three days in duration and address emerging terrorism challenges faced by criminal justice practitioners.

The Academic Unit's Counter-Terrorism Academic Curriculum (CTAC) will ensure investigators, prosecutors and judges have the necessary knowledge and practical skills to effectively manage their counter-terrorism cases. The Academic Unit will have access to leading counter-terrorism and criminal justice practitioners across the world, to deliver dynamic and impactful CTAC modules to IIJ beneficiary countries in Africa and the Middle East in the first instance.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Academic Unit has prepared an e-'CTAC' of priority modules. Using a new method of learning, the pedagogical approach will move from the traditional group learning space to the individual learning space through a virtual library of resources and transform online group sessions into a dynamic, interactive learning environment. The Academic Unit will then deliver its flagship Counter-Terrorism Academic Curriculum, with face-to-face immersive learning, when the pandemic recedes.

To support CTAC development, on 15 June 2020 the IIJ convened the first virtual meeting of a new IIJ Advisory Board Academic Unit Working Group. The Working Group draws together members of the IIJ Advisory Board with specific experience and expertise on academic curriculum development, relevant international networks, including Francophone African National Judicial Institutes, and experience in the IIJ geographic focus regions. The members of the Working Group expressed their support for and interest in the IIJ Academic Unit curriculum, and the IIJ looks forward to working with them in the coming months. Thank you for your commitment.

The first iterations of the Academic Unit courses are planned to be delivered in November/December 2020, with a focus on blended learning in virtual mode. The February 2021 course iteration is expected to include in-person training, subject to developments surrounding the COVID-19 global health pandemic. Practitioners from French and English-speaking African countries will be the first participants to participate in this unique training programme.

The Academic Unit is an exciting addition to the IIJ in support of the mission to build the capacity of criminal justice practitioners to counter-terrorism within a rule of law framework.

In April, the **IJJ Governing Board of Administrators (GBA)** met virtually for its biannual meeting. The IJJ Team briefed the GBA on activities and work since the previous GBA meeting in November 2019, including: updates on the IJJ Academic Unit; IJJ programmes and upcoming activities; measures taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; progress on implementation of the IJJ Sustainability Strategy; revisions to the IJJ Financial Policy; and progress on the implementation of the IJJ Communications & Outreach Strategy. The meeting was highly productive, with approval and agreement among the Administrators present, resulting in the unanimous adoption of a written Board Resolution. We thank our Administrators for joining us for this meeting during the challenging COVID-19 period and for your ongoing support for the IJJ mission, mandate and team.

In May, the IJJ convened a virtual meeting of the **IJJ Advisory Board** with great input received on a number of key IJJ focus areas, including the IJJ's COVID-19 response and the new Academic Unit. Following that meeting, we then convened in June the first meeting of an **IJJ Advisory Board Academic Unit Working Group**, with members providing valuable support and feedback on the Unit's curriculum development. We are very proud and grateful for the support we receive from our IJJ Advisory Board Members. Thank you all.

The IJJ welcomed the June **EU Council Conclusion** affirming that the EU will maintain and step up its engagement with the GCTF and the GCTF-inspired institutions, including the IJJ. The IJJ is proud of its past and current work with EU partners, including an innovative project currently underway through the IJJ Referral Mechanisms Workstream, which is receiving generous funding from the EU Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO). We look forward to enhancing our cooperation!

The IJJ is also proud to have contributed to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's (NATO) new **Counter-Terrorism Reference Curriculum**, launched in June. The NATO Curriculum aims to provide the wider counter-terrorism community with an insightful reference document to contribute to national educational processes of both interested NATO Allies and partners, including through NATO's Defence Education Enhancement Programme (DEEP). Contributing on behalf of the IJJ were: Mr. Thomas Wuchte, IJJ Executive Secretary; Mr. Joe Connell, IJJ Senior Investigations Adviser; Ms. Allison Curtis, Senior Manager, Communications and Strategic Planning; and Mr. Adrian Carbajo, IJJ Programme Manager. We congratulate NATO on this important and timely curriculum and commend it to our partners. The IJJ Team looks forward to collaborating and contributing to future NATO-led projects!

The screenshot shows the NATO website's news section. At the top is the NATO logo and the text 'NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION'. Below this is a navigation bar with links for 'ORGANIZATION', 'TOPICS', 'NEWSROOM', and 'E-LIBRARY', along with a search bar. The main headline reads 'NATO launches Counter-Terrorism Reference Curriculum'. The article is dated '12 Jun 2020' and was last updated on '12 Jun 2020 13:51'. It is available in English, French, Russian, and Ukrainian. The text of the article states: 'NATO today (12 June 2020) launches its first ever Counter-Terrorism Reference Curriculum (CTRC). It supports interested Allies and partner countries in enhancing their capacities to develop national skills and improve counter-terrorism strategies.' To the right of the article is a 'PUBLICATIONS' section featuring the 'Counter-Terrorism Reference Curriculum' cover, which is a purple document with the NATO logo. Below the cover is a link: '> DEEP - Counter-Terrorism Reference Curriculum'. At the bottom of the article is a small image showing soldiers in helmets.



The Curriculum will also serve as a reference document to address partner nation defence educational institution requirements and will provide helpful guidelines for relevant existing NATO courses. Drawing on historical examples, the CTCRC provides an overview of terrorist ideologies, motivations and methods, as well as contemporary counter terrorism practices and potential future projections.

VIDEO



NATO launches Counter-Terrorism Reference Curriculum, 12 JUN. 20
12 Jun. 2020



Support The IIJ

The IIJ is entering an exciting new chapter, building on its early successes and making a substantial and sustainable impact on the ability of criminal justice practitioners in IIJ geographic focus areas to address terrorism and violent extremism within the rule of law.

However, in these uncertain times, the IIJ needs your support to fulfil this critically important mission. You can support the IIJ and its delivery of tailored, practitioner-focused capacity-building to strengthen and promote rule-of-law-based counter-terrorism efforts and/or fund a specific IIJ course, programme or workstream by clicking the button below or by emailing the IIJ Executive Secretariat at info@theiij.org.

Donate with **PayPal**

Recent Programmes

IIJ Juvenile Justice Initiative: Online Sectoral Workshop for Investigators

16 – 18 June 2020, Online Workshop

Building on the IIJ Practitioner Notes for which we thank those partners who contributed to its peer review, the Online Sectoral Workshop for Investigators brought together 55 investigators and other practitioners including defence counsels, prosecutors, judges and detention officers. Sixteen countries across the Sahel, North Africa, East Africa and Southeast Asia were represented. The main objective of the workshop was to build the capacity of investigators in using and promoting effective practices to protect the rights and ensure the best interests of the child as a primary consideration in terrorism cases involving juveniles. The practitioners were divided into two groups to accommodate the different languages and time zones. During the dynamic discussions, the practitioners provided their perspectives on efficient multi-agency approaches...[Read more](#)

For more information on this workshop or the IIJ Juvenile Justice Initiative, please contact IIJ Programme Manager [Emerson Cachon](#)

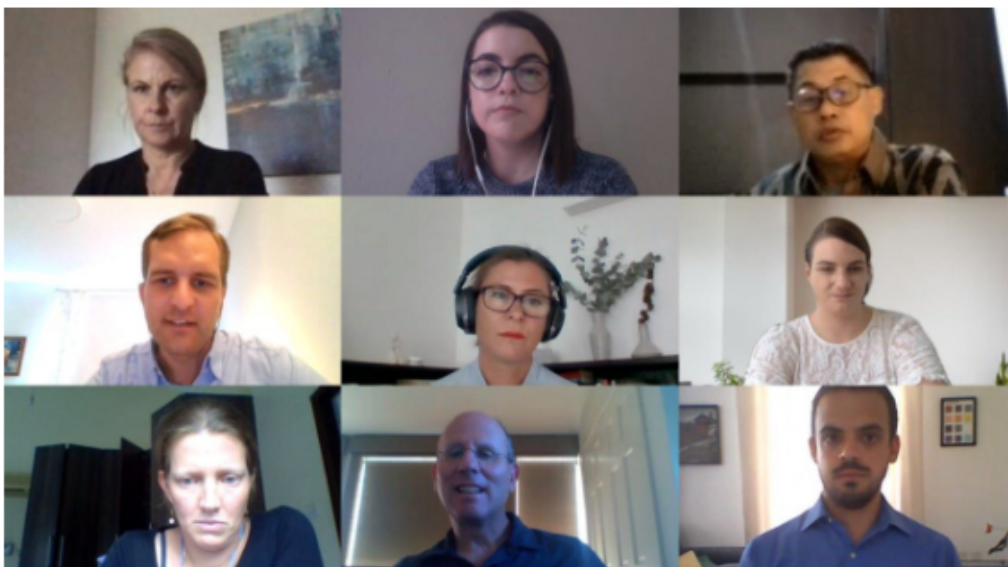


IIJ Referral Mechanisms Workstream: Rule of Law-Based Multi-Actor Intervention Programmes for Preventing Violent Extremism – Practitioners' and Curriculum Development Virtual Consultations

23 – 26 June 2020, Online Workshop

The IIJ convened five online consultations for 59 practitioners from 15 countries with experience in designing and implementing multi-actor programmes for preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) with a particular focus on referral mechanisms. Each of the five two-and-a-half-hour meetings brought together a different group of subject-matter experts, who shared their views on the proposed theory of change, the key messages and methodology for the course and offered recommendations on the appropriate participants for the training. With the feedback gathered, the IIJ has updated the draft framework and is currently working on expanding it into a training curriculum...[Read more](#)

For more information on this workshop or the IIJ Referral Mechanisms Workstream, please contact IIJ Programme Manager, [Adrián Carbajo](#)

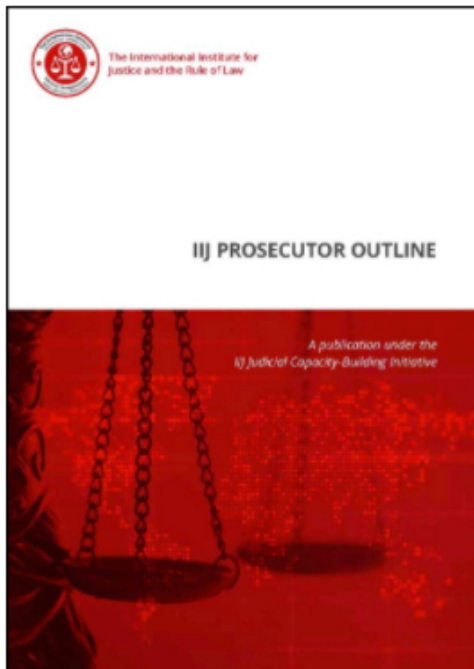


IIJ Investigations Initiative: Phase V – Trinidad & Tobago Counter-Terrorism Investigation Project

09 – 13 March 2020, Port of Spain, Trinidad

A two-day module for thirty-six members of Trinidad & Tobago's judiciary was held at the Judicial Educational Institute in Port of Spain under the leadership of Justice Gillian Lucky. The module addressed key issues arising from the consolidation of the *Anti-Terrorism Act, Act No. 18 of 2018*. A further two-day module was then held for thirty prosecutors from the Directorate of Public Prosecutions and the Trinidad & Tobago Police Service. As with the judicial module, the prosecutorial module addressed key issues arising from the consolidation of the *Anti-Terrorism Act, Act No. 18 of 2018* and crucial considerations such as: the benefits of engaging prosecutors at an early stage in terrorist investigations;... [Read more](#)

For more information on the IIJ's work in Trinidad & Tobago or the broader IIJ Investigations Initiative, please email IIJ Senior Investigations Advisor [Joe Connell](#).



IIJ Prosecutor Outline

The **IIJ Prosecutor Outline** is a practical tool designed to help build the capacity of criminal justice officials to effectively prosecute and investigate terrorism cases in southern Mediterranean countries and their immediate neighbourhood (Sahel and Horn of Africa) in line with international human rights standards, good practices and the rule of law.

Available for download [here](#)

Upcoming Programmes & Meetings

- 7 – 9 July IIJ Judicial Capacity-Building Initiative: Remote Access to Judicial Proceedings in Terrorism Cases

- 13 – 17 July IIJ Global Central Authorities Initiative: East Africa Regional Online Workshop for Developing Standardised Guidelines for Mutual Legal Assistance (MLA) on Criminal Matters
- 14 – 15, 21 – 22, 28 – 29 July IIJ Addressing Homegrown Terrorism Initiative: Workshop on Implementing the GCTF *Rabat-Washington Good Practices* on the Prevention, Detection, Intervention, and Response to *Homegrown Terrorism* – Special Focus on Response to Terrorist Attacks
- 22 – 24 July IIJ Core Course: Using Information Derived from Intelligence to Generate Evidence for Terrorism Investigations and Prosecutions
- 28 July IIJ Academic Unit: IIJ Advisory Board Academic Unit Working Group – Second Virtual Meeting

Please contact info@theijj.org for further details

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