

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Twenty-seventh session

Statement by the
International Anti-Corruption Academy

Vienna, Austria
16 May 2018

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mister Chairman,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), it is a pleasure to be here with you in Vienna today to discuss how we can join forces to help prevent and counter cybercrime in all its forms.

Ladies and gentlemen, corruption, financial fraud, economic crimes, and terrorism are all increasingly cyber-enabled. And because of the speed, sophistication, and global scope of these cyber-threats, regulators and law enforcement agencies around the world are struggling to keep up. Furthermore, cybercrime and corruption reinforce and multiply each other, making the task of addressing these twin threats even harder.

IACA firmly believes that by redoubling our efforts to attack corruption, we can make a meaningful contribution to preventing and countering cybercrime. This in turn will increase our chances of fulfilling the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, an ambitious and groundbreaking social contract for a better global future.

There are some encouraging signs in this area, notably the possibility that emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, and big data analytics can help to combat cybercrime and corruption. But how effective might such technologies be in this respect, and how will they reshape our collective approaches to tackling these phenomena? Do we even have the necessary legal, regulatory, and judicial structures in place yet?

We very much look forward to further discussions with you this week on the links between cybercrime and cyber-corruption. I would therefore warmly invite you to an IACA side event on precisely this theme on Thursday 17 May at nine o'clock (09:00). This features a panel of distinguished experts in the field, so please do join us.

At IACA we take a broad, holistic approach to fighting and preventing corruption, and we place great emphasis on the importance of partnerships with our stakeholders. We are therefore ready and willing to contribute any way we can to a better understanding of the links between corruption and cybercrime.

Firstly, IACA stands ready to cooperate further with other international organizations and institutions working on the nexus between corruption and cybercrime. This reflects our status as an independent intergovernmental organization with a constantly growing constituency of 73 Parties from around the world.

In addition, IACA is open to ways of integrating this topic more closely in, *inter alia*, our technical assistance, capacity-building, and awareness-raising activities; our anti-corruption and compliance programmes and related research; and our global alumni network of some 1,500 anti-corruption and compliance professionals in 155 countries and jurisdictions.

Indeed, corruption and technology is already an increasingly prominent theme in our many academic degree programmes, practice-oriented trainings, and other activities during the rest of 2018 and beyond.

These include, among others, the Master in Anti-Corruption Studies (MACS), the sixth class of which starts this autumn, and the International Master in Anti-Corruption Compliance and Collective Action (IMACC) for business professionals, the second cohort of which begins in early 2019.

IACA will hold its eighth annual Summer Academy in late June for professionals from around the world, and in September we will deliver our fourth Regional Summer Academy, this time for East and Southeast Asia in Beijing, China. Also in September is a two-day IACA seminar on How Emerging Technologies Will Drive Changes in Compliance Systems, primarily aimed at professionals involved with the business sector in this field.

We are currently accepting applications for all of these programmes and many more besides, and I encourage you to visit our website to see what else we have to offer.

Demand remains very strong for IACA's tailor-made trainings — our customized anti-corruption and compliance programmes for specific organizations, corporations, or institutions. Indeed, senior vigilance officers from India are currently on campus for a two-week training that includes sessions on Corruption and Cyber Crime: Use of the New Technologies in Detecting and Combating Corruption. Many more such trainings are scheduled at IACA in the coming months.

We look forward to further fruitful discussions on the vital corruption-cybercrime issue during the rest of this week, and we hope to see you at our side event on Thursday at 09:00.

Thank you.