



United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime



The Road to Hanoi: Opening for Signature of the UN Convention against Cybercrime

On 24 December 2024, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the *United Nations Convention against Cybercrime; Strengthening International Cooperation for Combating Certain Crimes Committed by Means of Information and Communications Technology Systems and for the Sharing of Evidence in Electronic Form of Serious Crimes*. The Convention is the first international treaty addressing both, the prevention of and measures to combat cybercrime that is open to States globally.

The United Nations Convention against Cybercrime (thereafter “the Convention”) represents a milestone for multilateral action against shared global threats and provides advanced tools for international cooperation to tackle cybercrime and share electronic evidence. The Government of Viet Nam has kindly offered to host the signing ceremony for the Convention, which will be organized in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The ceremony is scheduled to take place in Hanoi, Viet Nam, in July 2025. Information on the exact date will be shared in due course.

Cybercrime poses significant threats across countries within the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region. Those threats include cyber-attacks such as ransomware, online scamming schemes, data breaches targeting critical infrastructure, financial institutions and government agencies, and an exponential increase in online child sexual abuse and exploitation and non-consensual intimate images. Germany, France and the United Kingdom, for example, have detected high levels of child sexual abuse material in their respective information and communication infrastructures, and witnessed recently sophisticated cyber-attacks. While some States in the region have robust legal frameworks and strong capacities to address cybercrime, the situation is uneven and open for exploitation by organized criminal groups.

The 15th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in 2026 will focus on “*Accelerating crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: protecting people and planet and achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the digital age*”. As cyber threats affect all sectors of society: security, justice, education, financial security and developments of

critical infrastructure, the Convention adds means for States to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals and in particular, Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions.

The Government of Viet Nam and UNODC will use the opportunity provided by the European Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 15th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to hold a side event to present the Convention and share information about the upcoming signing ceremony. Furthermore, the event will support awareness raising about the multi-faceted phenomenon of cybercrime as well as the work of UNODC to support Member States in their efforts to prevent and address cybercrime, including through partnerships and international cooperation.

The event is open to delegates of governments, private sector and civil society organizations.

Agenda

Registration needed for online participation:

<https://shorturl.at/iCAg7>

26 March 2025, 13.30-14:45 CET
Room CR7, 7th floor, C- Building, Vienna International Centre,
Vienna, Austria



10 minutes	Welcoming remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Dr. Nguyen Dang Thang, Director General of the Department of International Law and Treaty Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Viet Nam▪ Ms. Marie-Ange Balbinot, Minister Counsellor, EU Delegation▪ Mr. John Brandolino, Director of the Division of Treaty Affairs, UNODC <p><i>Chair: H.E. Mr. VU Le Thai Hoang, Ambassador to the Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations in Vienna</i></p>
15 minutes	Introducing the United Convention against Cybercrime and UNODC's continuous support on cybercrime <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Benefits of the Convention▪ Signature and ratification process▪ UNODC Global Programme on Cybercrime <p><i>Ms. Renata Delgado Schenk, Cybercrime Policy Adviser, UNODC</i></p>
10 minutes	The need of cybercrime cooperation and partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Model of work of UNODC-Interpol implementing the UN Convention against Cybercrime <p><i>Ms. Gabriela Chamorro, Intelligence Officer, Vulnerable Victims Sub Directorate, Interpol</i></p>
15 minutes	The Signing Ceremony in Hanoi <p>Government of Viet Nam</p>
5 minutes	Questions and answers <p><i>Moderation: Ms. Renata Delgado Schenk, UNODC</i></p>
5 minutes	Closing remarks <p><i>Mr. Glen Prichard, Chief of the Cybercrime and Technology Section, UNODC</i></p>

Coffee and snacks to go will be served at the side of the room in the 7th floor from 1pm to 3pm.