

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and General Meeting of the International Association of Prosecutors

**7 - 10 September 2025**Singapore

### **Call for Speakers**



# **Call for Speakers**

The International Association of Prosecutors invites proposals from those interested in giving a presentation during the plenary sessions and workshops of the 30th Annual Conference and General Meeting of the IAP in Singapore from 07-10 September 2025.

The theme of the 30th Annual Conference is The Versatile Prosecutor and the Administration of Criminal Justice. The criminal justice landscape is constantly evolving. As criminals continue to exploit technology and innovation to commit and conceal their crimes, it is the versatile prosecutor who will bring them to justice. To this end, the versatile prosecutor scans the horizon for emerging crime trends, develops deep specialist expertise and cross-cutting capabilities, adapts to the use of technology effectively and strengthens global networks to improve international cooperation.

Organised criminal syndicates continue to circumvent concerted efforts by law enforcement authorities, governments, the financial sector and the private sector to further their illicit activities, and to exploit legal and procedural loopholes to conceal their assets and evade detection. Parties in the criminal justice sphere are in a never-ending race to identify new crime trends and stay ahead of the curve in terms of prevention, detection and prosecution.

To combat evolving criminal trends, the versatile prosecutor must understand the value and limitations of tools available. Since the advent of DNA profiling revolutionised the role of forensic science in prosecuting criminal cases in the 1980s, new forms of technology, forensic data extraction, science and medicine have emerged which a prosecutor must be familiar with to enable them to present such evidence in criminal trials. Outside of the court room, targeted legal training, the development of specialist expertise and the safeguarding of the mental wellbeing of prosecutors also all contribute to the ability of a prosecutor to tackle crime in the technological age.

Upskilling alone is insufficient – collaboration is equally important. The evidence is compelling that globalisation has led to a proliferation of organised crime. We need to revitalise and improve cooperation between States and between prosecuting agencies. Learning from one another minimises blind spots and improves our collective response to the common challenges that we face in keeping our communities safe. The sharing of knowledge, best practice and expertise are all valuable tools with which prosecutors can arm themselves in the fight against serious and organised crime.

If you have any questions, please contact gc@iap-association.org



### Please note the following instructions

The deadline for proposals is Friday, 02 May 2025.

All proposals should contain a short description of the proposed presentation for consideration by the Professional Programme Team.

All proposals must be submitted in English.

The working language of the conference is English. Simultaneous interpretation into French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Chinese will be available for all plenary sessions and sessions that take place in the main conference hall.

Priority will be given to proposals that have a strong practical and operational focus. Presentations illustrated with operational outcomes international, national, organisational and/or individual case level are particularly welcome. Presentations should not focus on academic research and should not simply be a summary of the legal framework in a specific jurisdiction, as this will not be of universal application other jurisdictions.

Presentations should last for no longer than 15 minutes.

All speakers and other active contributors to the conference must pay a registration fee.

1

#### **PLENARY 1**

TURNING THE TABLES ON NEW FORMS OF CRIME

#### **WORKSHOP 1A**

TECHNOLOGICAL
ADVANCEMENTS AND THE
PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE

#### **WORKSHOP 1B**

OBTAINING AND USING EXPERT DIGITAL EVIDENCE

2

#### **PLENARY 2**

STRENGTHENING
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION –
BEST PRACTICES AND
INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO
TACKLE BARRIERS TO
EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION

#### **WORKSHOP 2A**

**ASSET TRACING AND SEIZURE** 

#### **WORKSHOP 2B**

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO TACKLE CYBER OFFENCES – PRACTICAL EXAMPLES Š

#### **PLENARY 3**

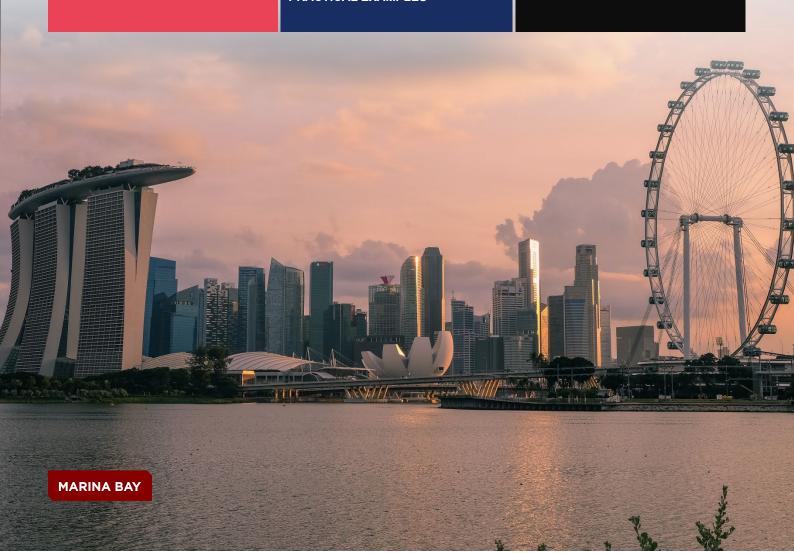
FUTURE-PROOFING PROSECUTORS

#### **WORKSHOP 3A**

**LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING** 

#### **WORKSHOP 3B**

MENTAL WELLNESS AND RESILIENCE



#### **PLENARY 1**

#### Turning the Tables on New Forms of Crime

The novel and creative ways in which criminals exploit new technology know no boundaries. Whilst technology and globalisation have facilitated trade and contributed to a thriving global economy, criminal syndicates have relied on the same to achieve their nefarious goals.

This plenary session will explore the use of new technology in the *commission* and *prosecution* of crimes. It will examine the ways in which criminals exploit new technologies and AI to facilitate the commission of both traditional and newly emerging types of crime. It will also consider how law enforcement and prosecution agencies use new technology to investigate and prosecute crimes effectively.

#### Amongst other topics, speakers may wish to explore:

- The role of new technologies and AI in developing sophisticated malware and ransomware.
- Deepfakes and misinformation as criminal tools.
- Al-driven identity theft and fraud.
- Technology and Al-assisted forensic analysis, evidence processing and predictive analysis in criminal investigations.
- Al in legal research and case management.

The workshop sessions will then discuss the use of new technology in the courtroom.



#### **WORKSHOP 1A**

#### Technological advancements and the presentation of evidence

The digital transformation of the courts and prosecution offices has the potential to revolutionise and streamline the preparation of cases and the conduct of trials. This session will explore how technological advancements (including AI) can be used to enhance the management of cases, and to effectively present and explain complex, voluminous data clearly and concisely to a tribunal of fact, through both data visualisation and informational processing.

#### Amongst other topics, speakers may wish to explore:

- Technological advancements in their jurisdictions which have changed the conduct of criminal cases for the better for example, the use of virtual courtrooms, remote proceedings, digital jury bundles, and digital case management systems.
- The use of technology in case management systems.
- Transparency and explainability of Al algorithms challenges of presenting "black box"
   Al systems in a legal setting.
- Techniques for helping judges, legal practitioners and juries understand Al processes and digital evidence.

#### **WORKSHOP 1B**

#### Obtaining and using expert digital evidence

As law enforcement agencies ramp up the use of technology in the detection of criminal activity, this also generates new types of digital evidence with which prosecutors must familiarise themselves and which will need to be adduced through the use of experts. Prosecutors must recognise the potential admissibility and reliability challenges that may be raised and understand how to address them, and recognise how to use AI within the criminal justice system responsibly. They must also understand the interplay between the obtaining and use of digital evidence, human rights, and data privacy considerations.

#### Amongst other topics, speakers may wish to explore:

- Technological advancements in their jurisdiction which have impacted the way such evidence is collected, analysed, and used, such as the impact of AI on evidence collection and analysis.
- Oversight, regulation and best practices for the use of Al within the criminal justice system.
- Data privacy, security and the use of AI in criminal prosecutions.
- Expert evidence preparation.
- Admissibility and reliability of different types of digital evidence.

#### **PLENARY 2**

### Strengthening international cooperation – Best practices and innovative approaches to tackle barriers to effective international cooperation

With criminals utilising advanced technologies to carry out and conceal transnational offences, the detection and prosecution of such crimes must similarly become increasingly sophisticated. International cooperation is, more than ever before, an important dimension of the fight against such crimes. From the uncovering of criminal activity to the seizure of proceeds of crime, cooperation and collaboration between different jurisdictions is crucial to the effective investigation and prosecution of any case.

This plenary session will share current best practices in international cooperation and discuss new avenues to address ongoing challenges. Some challenges are perennial, such as the differences in legal / judicial systems, processes and standards, language barriers and the impact of political and socio-economic factors, whereas other challenges, such as the volume of digital evidence, are new. This session will consider how we can revitalise cooperation between States in a digital age, how AI and technology can improve international cooperation, and will seek to identify solutions to some of the challenges that are faced in tackling criminal activity that spans borders.

#### Amongst other topics, speakers may wish to explore:

- Innovative ways to strengthen the international legal framework for cooperation in the detection and prosecution of transnational crimes.
- Solutions to challenges faced by States when rendering assistance in international cooperation in criminal matters in a digitally connected world
- Challenges to international cooperation involving concurrent investigations and prosecutions in multiple jurisdictions for organised crime.
- Best practice that countries can adopt for international cooperation in criminal matters.

The workshop sessions will then share practical examples of international cooperation in the arena of cybercrime and the identification and recovery of the proceeds of crime.



#### **WORKSHOP 2A**

#### Asset tracing and seizure

Identifying and seizing criminal assets is crucial as a mechanism to disrupt criminal enterprises, send a message of deterrence, enable funds to be available to compensate victims of crime, and to tackle corruption and organised crime. This session will cover how countries can work together to identify, freeze, and seize assets (including cryptocurrency) quickly and effectively.

#### Amongst other topics, speakers may wish to explore:

- Best practices in asset tracing, seizure and management.
- Best practices in handling seized digital assets.
- Disposal and repatriation of seized digital assets.
- Cross-border asset tracing and seizure.
- Mechanisms to secure compensation for victims.

#### **WORKSHOP 2B**

#### International cooperation to tackle cyber offences – Practical examples

Cybercrime is borderless, and so it is essential to share intelligence, evidence and best practice across jurisdictions to track, arrest and prosecute cybercriminals more effectively. This session will focus on the prosecution of cybercrime and how the current best practices in international cooperation can be developed to meet the unique challenges such crimes pose to prosecution agencies.

#### Amongst other topics, speakers may wish to explore:

- Harmonising cybercrime legislation and policy.
- Examining frameworks and platforms for real-time data exchange on cyber threats.
- Addressing challenges related to privacy, data protection and trust between international partners.
- Overcoming jurisdictional challenges and strengthening mutual legal assistance.
- The importance of public-private partnerships to improve detection and prevention.

#### **PLENARY 3**

#### Future-proofing prosecutors

Increasingly, prosecutors are expected to have a degree of professional expertise in multiple non-legal fields, such as forensic accounting, forensic data extraction, psychology, pathology, and criminology. Transnational organised crime also presents unique challenges to the prosecutor, who has to adapt his or her case strategy to the available evidence.

This plenary session will examine the need for specialist expertise and cross-cutting capabilities, including in relation to skills development, the use of specialist prosecution teams, multi-agency working and emerging areas of specialism.

Future proofing enforcement and prosecution efforts requires significant resources and strong leadership. Resources are needed to upskill investigators and prosecutors to detect new crimes, and to understand the criminals' modus operandi and prosecute them. Prosecutors must be more adept at supporting vulnerable witnesses, enabling them to give their best evidence, and prosecution services must develop innovative approaches to ensure that forward-looking strategies are in place and are balanced appropriately with other competing needs.

#### Amongst other topics, speakers may wish to explore:

- Developing and training specialist prosecution teams to deal with complex cases
- Co-ordination between multi-agency teams in prosecuting complex cases
- Future-proofing Advocacy: Best practices for adapting to a virtual court environment.
- Management strategies to future-proof prosecution agencies.

The workshop sessions will then discuss practical tips for bringing future-proofing to the individual level.



#### **WORKSHOP 3A**

#### Legal education and training

As workloads increase, there is a risk that the professional development of prosecutors is deprioritised. However, given the ever-changing criminal landscape, it is vital that prosecutors remain abreast of legal and technological developments. This session will consider different training techniques to future-proof prosecutors, including the use of online education tools and different pedagogical techniques for legal education, and the attendant challenges including a lack of resources, workload, and a rapidly changing legal landscape. The session will brainstorm potential solutions to these challenges, ensuring that prosecutors' knowledge remains up-to-date.

#### Amongst other topics, speakers may wish to explore:

- Knowledge acquisition: Developing and growing institutional contacts to keep prosecutors up to date on non-legal developments relevant to prosecution work.
- Knowledge management: Best practices to maintain institutional legal knowledge given the rapidly changing legal landscape and workforce.
- Evolving pedagogy: Leveraging technology for effective legal training while managing practical constraints such as time, budget and workload.
- Mechanisms for effective continuous learning and professional development.

#### **WORKSHOP 3B**

#### Mental Wellness and Resilience

As well as ensuring that prosecutors have the necessary skills and tools for their role, it is also vital to ensure that their mental wellbeing and resilience is protected. Increasing caseloads, limited resources, and exposure to distressing evidence can all impact on the mental wellness of prosecutors, with negative consequences for their own health and for their ability to carry out their functions. - This session will examine the importance of prioritising the mental wellbeing of prosecutors, and consider mechanisms that can be put in place to mitigate the risks associated with stress and burnout.

#### Amongst other topics, speakers may wish to explore:

- Understanding mental wellness and resilience: definitions, scope and workplace impact.
- Identifying workplace stressors and managing caseloads.
- Improving practices to safeguard prosecutors (e.g. providing resiliency services, developing protocols for handling traumatic material).
- Peer support and mentorship in burnout prevention and management.



### The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and General Meeting of the International Association of Prosecutors

If you have any questions, please contact <a href="mailto:gc@iap-association.org">gc@iap-association.org</a>

**Hosted By** 

