

# HUMAN SECURITY. COMPLEX CRIMES

## MODULE IV



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### KEYWORDS

**Human security; transnational organised crime; economies of conflict; armed conflicts and prolonged crises; terrorism; armed groups labelled as terrorist; radicalisation.**

### ABSTRACT:

Linkages between illicit arms, organised crime, and armed conflict not only reinforce one another but also escalate violence and erode governance. Similarly, armed conflict provides an environment that enables organised crime to flourish due to the widespread availability of surplus arms and ammunition and the absence of rule of law, which allows illegal financial activities carried out by non-state armed groups to prosper. In some countries in transition, like Colombia or Afghanistan, illicit economies such as drug cultivation, illicit mining, or logging have sustained the livelihoods of many impoverished communities who possess no viable alternatives, so entering the criminal economy can be the only means of survival.

Conflict is also the primary driver of terrorism, with more than 99% of all terrorist-related deaths occurring in countries in conflict with social alienation, lack of economic opportunities, and political instability.

Indeed, the terrorist phenomenon thrives in contexts that spiral out of control, like in settings transitioning from armed conflict to generalised violence and vice versa, as portrayed in the analysis of the Sahel. Additionally, the "terrorist" label has been used in an increasingly loose manner within and outside contexts of armed conflict, often mixing international and national legal realms and blurring legal boundaries. This module will further focus on how international law apprehends and tries to address the terrorist phenomenon, especially when it comes to armed groups. Furthermore, it explores how both so-called "terrorist" groups and measures targeting them impact humanitarian aid and aid workers.

Therefore, the challenge now confronting the international community is how to address transnational organised crime and terrorism, as they not only undermine international peace and security by sustaining violence and armed conflict, but also prevent good governance and development.

This course will seek to explore the definitions of concepts such as organised crime, terrorism and extremism, and transnational crime provided in legal frameworks. Identifying similarities and differences, as well as the cause-effect relations between various factors, will help to understand the current response mechanism established to combat this phenomenon.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Understand the different concepts and definitions of organised crime, terrorism and extremism, and the definition under different legal frameworks.
- Get acquainted with the major financing mechanism of organised crime and its relations with existing conflicts.
- Understand the legal implications of humanitarian, development and peacebuilding workers engaging with terrorist groups under different jurisdictions.
- Explore the challenges of the international community's response to maintain peace and security and fight organised crime and terrorism.

### LECTURERS:



**Edgardo Buscaglia**  
Senior Research Scholar in Law  
& Economics,  
Columbia University



**Iftikhar Zaidi**  
Senior Lecturer,  
Centre for Defense  
Management and Leadership



**Ted Howard**  
Senior Policy and Programs Advisor  
Global Affairs Canada



**Andrew Whitley**  
Executive Director  
Geo-Political Advisory Services

## **METHODOLOGY**

The course uses a variety of methodologies, including lectures and presentations, debates, group work, practical and advanced role-playing sessions, outdoor activities, and simulation exercises.

## **DIPLOMA:**

Participants who successfully complete the course will obtain an official diploma from the International University Centre for Peace Missions of Helsinki España.

## **LOCATION**

Alfaz del Pi, Alicante-Spain

## **DATE**

16-20 June, 2025.

## **COURSE DURATION**

40 hours.  
8:30am-5:00pm Monday to Friday.

## **LANGUAGE**

English.

## **COST AND ENROLLMENT**

1.200€ course fee.  
Meals and accommodation costs are NOT included.  
Applicants are also responsible for their visa-related costs.

## **VISA PROCESS**

In order to start with the visa process, participants must have paid all the course. Helsinki España will support participants with an invitation letter.

## **ENROLLMENT PROCESS**

Registration form must be sent to [iucpm@helsinkiespana.org](mailto:iucpm@helsinkiespana.org)

## **MINIMUM REQUIREMENT**

University degree or equivalent professional training.

Fluency in English: B2+.

Strong interest in international affairs.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

Participants organise their own accommodation. However, Helsinki España will inform selected participants of the different accommodation options available.

## **PAYMENTS**

Individual courses must be paid in full.

Participants are responsible for the cost of bank transfers and currency exchange.

In case of cancellation prior to the start date of the course, please note that we unfortunately cannot reimburse you. You will be able to participate in future courses with that course credit.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

Unfortunately, we cannot provide scholarships for this course. Participants (or their employer) must be able to cover the tuition fee.

## LECTURERS



### MR. IFTIKHAR ZAIDI

**INSTITUTION:** CRANFIELD UNIVERSITY; CENTRE FOR DEFENSE MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP  
**POSITION:** SENIOR LECTURER IN LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGY

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Dr. Iftikhar Zaidi is the Course Director for Leadership and Management MSc for Cranfield University's Defence and Security Programme, as well as the Academic Director of the UK Ministry of Defence Strategic Leadership Program. He has given lectures and provided consults in areas of strategy, leadership, strategic management, and change, including in Cranfield University's prestigious Executive MBA Programme. In addition to a security focus, Dr. Zaidi also lectures on leadership development, strategy, and change in third-sector and commercial organisations across the world.

He holds a PhD in Defense and Security and an MSc in Global Security from Cranfield University. Prior to joining academia, he had a successful military career from 1982 until 2011 in the Pakistan Army. He then joined Durham University's School of Government International Affairs as a Research Fellow, and subsequently joined the Cranfield Centre for Defence Management and Leadership.



### MR. ANDREW WHITLEY

**COUNTRY:** UNITED KINGDOM  
**INSTITUTION:** GEOPOLITICAL ADVISORY SERVICES  
**POSITION:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Andrew Whitley is the Executive Director of the consultancy firm, GeoPolitical Advisory Services. He was the interim Chief Executive of The Elders in March 2016 after serving five years as the organisation's Policy and Advocacy Director. He worked for the previous 16 years with the United Nations in East Timor, Kosovo, Gaza, Jerusalem, Geneva, and New York, concluding his UN career as Director of the Representative Office of UNRWA, the UN agency for Palestine refugees, in the United States. He was responsible for the Agency's relations with the United Nations System and the US and Canadian governments. He joined UNRWA in July 2002 as Director of External Relations, in charge of donor relations and resource mobilisation. During a 15-year career with the United Nations, Mr. Whitley first served with the Geneva based trade and development agency UNCTAD, as Chief of the Secretary-General's Office, before spending three years on field missions with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. In January 2011, Mr. Whitley joined The Elders, an independent group of eminent global leaders who address issues of peacebuilding, human rights, and poverty alleviation worldwide, as its Policy and Advocacy Director.

## LECTURERS



### MR. TED HOWARD

**INSTITUTION:** GLOBAL AFFAIRS CANADA  
**POSITION:** SENIOR POLICY AND PROGRAMS ADVISOR

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A high-performing leader with over 30+ years of progressive experience spearheading programs supporting the strategic objectives of the Government of Canada. Strong command of international relations with substantial exposure to public policy guidance, social performance and responsibility, regulatory frameworks, sustainable governance, indigenous relations, peace support, and security sector reform. Professional training development and educator with exemplary presentation skills.

Three major specialties include civil sector engagement, strategic communications and strategic partnership development. I provide a unique skill set with the ability to effectively implement multi-stakeholder proactive engagement, conflict mediation, regional and community development, public administration institutional reforms, capacity building, and social impact programs.

Core expertise lies in bench-marking regulations, analyzing policies and procedures, and frameworks, and overseeing project life cycle management. Consistently able to conceptualize innovative decision-making, robust planning, and strong relationship management orientation to help advance development at multiple levels of the government.

Beyond political and technical advisory competence, proven experience managing projects, budgets, governmental contingency funds, and specialty teams, in complex and unstable environments. Experienced negotiator.



## MR. EDGARDO BUSCAGLIA

**INSTITUTION:** COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
**POSITION:** SENIOR SCHOLAR OF ECONOMICS AND LAW

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Prof. Dr. Edgardo Buscaglia is a Senior Scholar in Law and Economics at Columbia University (NY, USA), a Visiting Senior Academic at Università degli Studi de Torino (Turin, Italy), a Professor at Universidad Nacional de Buenos Aires (Argentina) and the President of the "Instituto de Acción Ciudadana" (Mexico City, México).

Since 1991, Dr. Buscaglia has led programs with the United Nations and the World Bank, providing public policy advice to public and private sectors in 119 countries. He is focused on counteracting and preventing complex economic transnational crimes linked to political corruption and private sector corruption in countries including Afghanistan, Argentina, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, Ukraine, and Yemen.

Dr. Buscaglia is also a philanthropist within civil society organisations, providing free assistance to victims of human trafficking. He also counters wildlife trafficking in his roles as President of the United States branch of the Wildlife Justice Commission funding corporation and as President of the "Instituto de Acción Ciudadana" in Mexico.

Dr. Buscaglia has published his findings as opinion editorials in well-known newspapers such as The Wall Street Journal, Washington Times, New York Times, and Financial Times, among others. He has also published his findings in more than one hundred peer-reviewed scientific papers and seven books.

In 1995, he also co-founded the Latin American Law and Economics Association and served on the Board of Governance of Transparency International (Berlin, 1995-99). Professor Dr. Edgardo Buscaglia received his legal postdoctoral training in the Jurisprudence and Social Policy Program at the University of California at Berkeley. He also received a master's in law and economics and a PhD concentrated in law economics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

### PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS:



Global Affairs  
Canada  
Affaires mondiales  
Canada