



INTERPOL

WAR CRIMES AND GENOCIDE SUB-DIRECTORATE



INTERPOL's support to the investigation and prosecution of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

Genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes are the most serious crimes of concern to the international community. They can have a lasting, destabilizing impact on the safety and security of communities, nations and regions for decades after they occur.

The international community has sent a clear signal that prevention, investigation and prosecution of these crimes are central to the fight against impunity. INTERPOL is in a unique position to lead and reinforce ongoing efforts to assist law enforcement authorities, international criminal tribunals and national prosecution services to fight genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

INTERPOL has been cooperating with the United Nations International Tribunals for the Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda since 1994. The INTERPOL General Assembly has adopted several resolutions increasing the Organization's support to its member countries and partner organizations in the prevention, investigation and prosecution of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

In order to improve INTERPOL's response to these serious international crimes, in 2014 a dedicated unit was created to focus on war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity. ►

GENOCIDE, WAR CRIMES AND CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY

► INTERPOL'S ACTIVITIES

At INTERPOL, we undertake a range of activities to provide with strategic operational and investigative support, and to strengthen coordination and cooperation among relevant stakeholders.

Operational support

INTERPOL provides operational support to member countries and partner organizations such as international criminal tribunals and justice institutions, as well as to the increasing number of war crimes units in our member countries. We facilitate access to INTERPOL's services, technical tools, resources and expertise in the area of serious international crimes. We also support our member countries and partner organizations through information sharing and the coordination of international investigations.

Training and development

Investigating war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity requires specialist training and knowledge. At INTERPOL, we play a key role in enhancing the capability of investigators of these serious international crimes.

Our International Training Course on Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity has seen some 100 investigators from 30 countries and six international organizations trained in the most up-to-date investigative skills. The aim is to establish standard practices in all areas, including the collection and processing of evidence related to mass atrocities and in particular, extending capacity for the investigation and prosecution of sexual- and gender-based violence.

Building partnerships

We strive to develop cooperation, strategic partnerships and specialist networks in this area to allow the sharing of expertise and to maximize the impact of our initiatives on a national and international level.

The INTERPOL International Expert Meeting on Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes against Humanity provides a forum for information and discussion among specialists and is part of INTERPOL's ongoing support in developing global expertise in this area.

We represent INTERPOL as we coordinate networking activities around the International Criminal Court and participate in groups such as the European Union Network of Contact Points.

International information and coordination centre

Our War Crimes and Genocide unit coordinates information sharing amongst member countries and international partners to facilitate the widest possible mutual assistance and most effective cooperation. We also assist national and international partners with the analysis and sharing of evidence and intelligence related to war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity.



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► **CONTACT INFORMATION:**
General Secretariat
War Crimes and Genocide Sub-Directorate
200 quai Charles de Gaulle
69006 Lyon - France
Tel: +33 4 72 44 72 33

Email: cms-wcg@interpol.int

- Twitter: @INTERPOL_HQ
- YouTube: INTERPOLHQ
- WWW.INTERPOL.INT

