



GI-TOC – CGR PAKISTAN FIELD VISIT REPORT

November 2024

BACKGROUND

At the invitation of the Centre for Governance Research (CGR), GI-TOC Director of Academic Engagement, Dr John Collins visited Pakistan from November 10-17, 2024. The purpose of the visit was to:

1. Build links with local civil society organizations as part of the GI-TOC Resilience Fund project focusing on Trafficking in Persons (TIP) in Pakistan.
2. Sensitize various branches of the Pakistani state and security services to the work of GI-TOC and the Resilience Fund TIP project in particular.
3. Share GI-TOC expertise on key issues, including community resilience, our Global Organized Crime Index, drugs and arms trafficking, illicit economies in Afghanistan, and the evolving threats posed by organized crime throughout the region and globally.
4. To establish direct links with key academic and civil society actors with a view to a more formal GI-TOC presence in country.
5. To co-chair an in person dialogue on TOC with various police, think tank and civil society actors in Lahore on the International Day for the Prevention of and Fight against All Forms of Transnational Organized Crime, November 15, 2024.

Islamabad, Nov 10-12:

Bilateral Meetings with Senior Officials and Relevant Agencies:

- **Mr Raffat Mukhtar and colleagues, Ministry of Interior.** Discussed GI-TOC regional activities as well as broad trends in organized crime across the region with a particular focus on TIP, drugs and weapons.
- **Mr Ehsan Sadiq, Director General, National Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism Authority (NAML-CFTA).** Discussed institutional apparatus and reforms underway in Pakistan to tackle AML-CFT. Received a full briefing on the legal and institutional architecture in place within Pakistan.
- **Mr Muhammad Tahir Rai, Director General, National Police Bureau (NPB).** Discussed GI-TOC's role in fostering training, capacity building and other activities aimed at raising the analytical capabilities to tackle OC within the Pakistani police. DG Rai expressed significant interest in further collaboration with GI-TOC as we establish in-country, with a particular focus on training and seminars.
- **Mr Muhammad Khalid Khattak, National Coordinator, National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA).** Mr Khattak and his team provided extensive, in-depth, overview of the work of NACTA and their processes for compiling assessments of ongoing terrorism challenges in country as well as their community prevention efforts. His team also briefed us on their approach to collaborations with academic institutions as well as their open access Pakistan Journal of Terrorism Research.



- **Ahmad Ishaque Jehangir, Director General, Federal Investigation Agency (FIA).** GI-TOC received a briefing on the work of FIA and various trends in Organized Crime in Pakistan. We discussed GI-TOC work regionally and around the world and ways that GI-TOC can feed into FIA capacity as we expand in country, particularly our work in cybercrime and trafficking in persons.



- **Mr Muhammad Idrees Ahmed, Commandant, National Police Academy (NPA).** Discussed GI-TOC role in providing international expertise and training to NPA staff. Agreed that Dr Kaleem, Chief Coordinator of CGR would serve as a useful focal point for suggesting thematic and technical areas where GI-TOC could serve as a bridge and provide expertise for the NPA.
- **Mr Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, Inspector General of Police, Islamabad.** Discussed the role of international data collection and police cooperation in responding to transnational organized crime. Agreed to discuss ways GI-TOC could foster information gathering and sharing at a regional level.

Civil Society Dinner on Trafficking in Persons:

A selection of police experts and civil society representatives convened for a dinner hosted by CGR. The theme of the dinner was the role of civil society in combatting TIP and finding new ways for local, national and international actors to cooperate to tackle this issue.

Karachi, November 12-14:

EVENT: Round Table Interactive Session on “Serious and Organized Crimes in Pakistan”

- This event was hosted by the **Citizen-Police Liaison Committee (CPLC)** in Karachi. It is a public-private partnership established to assist law enforcement in addressing crime and improving public safety. It operates as a non-political, non-profit organization that provides services like crime victim support, dispute resolution, and the management of critical databases, such as those for vehicle theft and kidnapping cases. CPLC plays a vital role in fostering trust between citizens and police while leveraging technology and community involvement to enhance crime prevention and response efforts.

- The event focused on GI-TOC and key thematic areas including drugs, extortion, urban violence, human trafficking and corruption. The GI-TOC index country profile on Pakistan was Presented by the Deputy Inspector General Police (DIGP). Of particular interest was the Index focus on corruption and state resilience. Further, the topic of geocriminality was discussed at length.

Time	Activity	Speaker/Host
11:25 a.m.	Welcome Address by Chief CPLC – Sindh	Mr M. Zubair Habib, Chief, CPLC – Sindh,
11:35 a.m.	Opening Remarks	Dr John Collins, GI-TOC
11:45 a.m.	Presentation on CPLC	
12:00 noon	Presentation: <i>Organized Crime</i>	Mr Amir Farooqui, DIGP (Investigation/Crime)
12:15 p.m.	Presentation: <i>Challenges on Drug-Related Issues Confronting ANF, Sindh</i>	Brig M. Umar Farooq, Commander ANF Sindh
12:30 p.m.	Presentation: <i>Human Trafficking</i>	Mr M. Nouman Siddiqui, Director FIA, Karachi
12:45 p.m.	Presentation: <i>Regional Challenges for Pakistan</i>	Dr Samina Ahmed, South Asia Director, International Crisis Group
1:00 p.m.	Q/A Session	



Sindh Police Museum:

- GI-TOC undertook a tour of the museum and its attached archives. The GI-TOC Director of Academic Engagement discussed ways to utilise the archives for academic research and discussed fostering collaborations with relevant academic historians of police, drugs and organized crime. It was agreed that a future visit may be examined to conduct more extensive examination of the material for potential use in published research, including the GI-TOC academic journal, JIED.



Meeting with Inspector General of Police for Sindh, Ghulam Nabi Memon:

- GI-TOC met for a bilateral meeting with the IGP Sindh, accompanied by leadership of the CPLC.
- Alongside broad discussions on GI-TOC and the range of organized crime issues faced within Sindh, discussions focused on developing comprehensive strategies to rehabilitate drug users, particularly those from vulnerable groups such as victims of human trafficking. He expressed particular interest in GI-TOC providing expertise, training and general capacity building in this thematic area.



Lahore, November 14-16:

GI-TOC Meeting with Inspector General of Police (IGP), Punjab:

- Meeting focused on the general trends in policing in Punjab as well as issues of drugs, human and firearms trafficking. Weapons from Afghanistan were highlighted as a particular focus as was the evolving threat of methamphetamines.
- The IGP and his team highlighted efforts being made to improve gender diversity within the police force as well as respond to specific community needs, including transgender community. They also highlighted role of the Police Welfare Fund.
- GI-TOC highlighted our expertise and developing work on firearms trafficking from Afghanistan as well as the evolving drugs threat. Also highlighted our Resilience Fund work in Pakistan and the role of gender in particular to this work.
- Mr Sevim Saadat and colleague from the Centre for Human Rights (CFHR) presented their work and spoke of their particular expertise in TIP.



GI-TOC Tour of Lahore Safe Cities headquarters:

- Lahore Safe Cities is an initiative aimed at enhancing public safety and security in Lahore, Pakistan, through the use of modern technology. The project integrates a network of CCTV cameras, smart sensors, and data analytics to monitor and respond to criminal activities and traffic incidents in real time.
- The tour covered all activities undertaken within the Safe Cities HQ, with a specific focus on the Women's Unit and the Children's unit. The Women's Unit is a dedicated initiative designed to address safety concerns specific to women in the city. It utilizes technology and real-time monitoring to improve women's security, respond to emergencies, and provide immediate support during incidents of harassment or violence. The Children's Unit focuses on enhancing the safety and protection of children in the city. It integrates surveillance systems, real-time monitoring, and quick-response protocols to prevent child abductions, trafficking, and other threats, while also offering support in emergencies.

GI-TOC meeting with Beaconhouse University (BU):

- GI-TOC was given a tour of the campus, including a live meeting with students presenting their research.
- GI-TOC met with Ambassador Mansoor Ahmad Khan, Director of the Beaconhouse Centre for Policy Research (BCPR), along with two colleagues from the faculty of International Relations.
- The focus for the discussion was establishing a formal collaboration between GI-TOC and the university. It was agreed that GI-TOC and BU would examine a formal collaboration, underpinned by an MOU. This would potentially include: an annual lecture (named after a prominent GI-TOC figure) on the topic of TOC; direct GI-TOC involvement in the creation of a course on organized crime; yearly research visits by a GI-TOC team to host seminars and conduct research on Pakistan.

EVENT: International Day for the Prevention of and Fight Against All Forms of Transnational Organized Crime:

- **Purpose and Organizers:** The event aimed to strengthen partnerships among civil society, government, academia, and international organizations to combat transnational organized crime (TOC), particularly within the context of the Resilience Fund project. It was organized by the Centre for Governance Research (CGR), Centre for Human Rights (CFHR), and the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC).
- **Key Discussions:**
 - **Global and Regional Efforts:** Speakers emphasized the threats posed by TOC, such as human trafficking, drug smuggling, and its impact on governance, security, and economic stability.
 - **Pakistan's Leadership:** Highlighted as a regional focal point in combating TOC, with initiatives like the establishment of civil society alliances and participation in international forums.
- **Participation and Format:**
 - The hybrid event included 31 in-person participants and 86 online attendees, comprising representatives from government, law enforcement, civil society, academia, and international organizations.
- **Contributions:**
 - **Keynote:** the Keynote Address was delivered by GI-TOC Director, Dr Mark Shaw. He emphasized the global threats of transnational organized crime (TOC), including impacts on security, democracy, and the environment. He highlighted the importance of data-driven strategies, preventive measures, and robust legal frameworks. He praised Pakistan's leadership as a model for combating TOC and advocated for enhanced international cooperation and innovative solutions to strengthen global efforts.



- **Speakers' Insights:** Discussed strategies like data-driven interventions, international cooperation, and capacity-building for combating organized crime.
- **Role of Civil Society:** Emphasized as pivotal in awareness campaigns, research, and grassroots initiatives to tackle TOC effectively.
- **Outcomes:**
 - The event concluded with the unveiling of the Civil Society Declaration 2024, symbolizing a collective commitment to addressing TOC.
 - Plans for future initiatives were discussed, focusing on enhancing legal frameworks, international collaboration, and public education on organized crime issues.



Meeting with the Centre for Human Rights (CFHR), Universal College Lahore (UCL):

- GI-TOC met with the leadership, Ms Sevim Saadat and Barrister Umar Khan, and the broader team at CFHR focusing on migrant smuggling (MS) and TIP.
- We discussed their various work and their ongoing contribution to the Resilience Fund project development.
- We agreed that CFHR would draft a discrete workplan focused on a broad issue mapping of MS and TIP in Pakistan, with a particular focus on local community interventions. We further agreed to examine a potential MOU between GI-TOC and CFHR.

Meeting with Deputy Inspector General, Organized Crime Unit, Punjab Police:

- GI-TOC met with the leadership of the Organized Crime Unit to discuss lessons learned and organizational approaches to countering organized crime in the region. Following a presentation of the structure of the organization and its operational successes, a bilateral discussion followed, outlining GI-TOC work in the region, as well as discussions around police oversight, capacity building and international cooperation.

Trip Debrief – GI-TOC and CGR

- Following the event GI-TOC met with the Director of CGR and GI-TOC Board Member, Mr Tariq Khosa as well as Mr Sarmad Saaed, Deputy Director, National Initiative against Organized Crime (NIOC). It was agreed that:
 - the trip had achieved its goals of building institutional awareness and links for GI-TOC's ongoing work in-country.
 - a possible follow-on mission for late-2025 would be discussed with GI-TOC leadership.
 - GI-TOC would focus on academic engagement within country as a means to further formalise GI-TOC's presence and provide a launching pad for our joint work.
 - Mr Tariq Khosa would discuss with GI-TOC Director Mark Shaw with a view towards reporting as part of CSAObs activities at the GI-TOC Board meeting on December 5, 2024.
 - GI-TOC would, pending Senior Management approval, examine two formal collaborations as a focal point for the work of the Pakistan Strategic Advisory Group of the CSAObs. One with Beaconhouse University to focus on teaching and research collaborations as well as formal yearly events. A second with the Centre for Human Rights at Universal College Lahore (UCL) with the aim that UCL could become a formal host for GI-TOC on a model replicating the success of the GI-TOC Bangkok office with the Thai Institute of Justice.