

IASOC- Publications on Organized Crime

(Available free of Charge)

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- Jaraba, M., 2024. The nexus of women and ‘Clan Crime’: unravelling the dynamics and constraints. *Trends in Organized Crime.*

Abstract

Despite its prominence in public debate, scholars have given little attention to women’s roles in ‘clan crime’ in Germany. This article aims to bridge this gap through in-depth ethnographic fieldwork and 18 interviews conducted with women from various ‘clans’ throughout the country. These women are part of the al-Rashidiyya community with origins in Mardin, Turkey. Adopting an anthropological perspective, I seek to uncover the underlying historical, cultural, social, and contextual factors shaping women’s participation in ‘clan crime’, whether through indirect support or direct involvement. My findings reveal that women play a crucial, albeit often hidden, role in ‘clan’ dynamics and criminal activities, which frequently go unrecorded by the police. Although they are unlikely to hold leadership positions, women exert their influence through other means, such as shaping their children’s behavior, actively encouraging their sons to engage in criminal activities, or transmitting criminal norms and roles through socialization. Women themselves may also engage in crimes such as money laundering and financial fraud. By shedding light on these dynamics and emphasizing the importance of gender dynamics in the broader study of criminal groups, I expand our understanding of organized crime and similar clan-like mafia structures.

- Kamga, G., Kamga, S., Kwesiga, A. (eds.), 2024. Right to Development and Illicit Financial Flows from Africa: Dynamics, Perspectives, and Prospects. Lexington Books.

Abstract

Gerard Emmanuel Kamdem Kamga, Serges Djoyou Kamga, and Arnold Kwesiga explore a relatively new phenomenon, namely referred to as illicit financial flows, that aim to impoverish the African continent and prevent its economic development. There is a direct relationship between illicit financial flows and failed initiatives to realize the right to development on the continent. For instance, in 2016, Africa received \$41 billion towards public development while \$50 billion left the continent through illicit financial flows. The gap between recent economic achievements on the continent and its state of generalized underdevelopment coupled with rampant poverty, corruption, prolonged economic crisis, and political instabilities signals an issue with resource allocations. The systematic theft of resources by multinational corporations and criminal networks is a hard blow to the idea of people-driven development in line with the Pan African vision of “an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa”

proclaimed by Agenda 2063. Right to Development and Illicit Financial Flows from Africa: Dynamics, Perspectives, and Prospects provides insights into the dynamics and perspectives on illicit financial flows and its dire impacts on the right to development and development initiatives across the continent.

- **Rodrigues, A.M., Guia, M.J. (eds.), 2024. New Forms of Human Trafficking: Global South Highlights and Local Contexts on Sexual and Labor Exploitation. Springer, Cham.**

Abstract

This book analyses new forms of human trafficking taking into account the transposition of the Directive 2011/36/UE which sets out minimum standards to be applied throughout the European Union in preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims. Sexual exploitation of trafficked persons is at its highest rate. After COVID-19, new forms of sexual exploitation have been identified, specifically in the Global South. The book analyses new forms of exploitation used by traffickers to coerce victims. Combining the perspectives of academic researchers with those of highly skilled professionals from governmental institutions, this book is a unique contribution, promoting collaboration in preventing and combating human trafficking crime, and in raising awareness of this ongoing problem.

- **Shaw, K., 2024. The Illegal Marine Wildlife Trade: A Review of Consequences and Strategies to Combat the Trade. SSRN.**

Abstract

An enduring challenge in assessing the risk of extinction for marine animals lies with our need to consume them. Many nations, including the United States, invest substantial resources in supporting fishery businesses to locate, harvest, and market ocean wildlife, with comparatively small allocations for their protection. Despite the existence of numerous state, national, and international laws dictating how and when animals can be harvested, achieving sustainable catch levels remains elusive. Especially with the constant battle with other organized crime groups, combatting the marine wildlife trade almost seems impractical. This comment analyzes and argues for a more comprehensive approach to legal doctrine both nationally and internationally, suggesting alternative perspectives to protect marine biodiversity.

- Skarbek, D., 2024. The political economy of criminal governance. *Public Choice*.

Abstract

How can people who do not rely on effective government institutions establish property rights, enforce agreements, and facilitate social and economic exchange? Scholars of public choice have long studied anarchic settings to understand foundational questions of political economy, such as the viability and robustness of self-enforcing exchange, the emergence of coercive power, and the Madisonian challenge of self-enforcing constraints. Recent work turns this conceptual, theoretical, and empirical work to the topic of the underground economy and criminal governance. Because of its illicit nature, people involved in criminal activity cannot rely on legitimate, state-based legal institutions. In this absence, a wide range of criminal governance institutions and organizations have emerged to facilitate illicit activity. Based on studies of California prison gangs, I show how classic public choice approaches explain why incarcerated people need extralegal governance, survey some of the internal governance solutions they rely on, and demonstrate how and why they govern, not only themselves, but thousands of people inside and outside of prison.

- Svallfors, S., 2024. Giving Birth While Facing Death: Cesarean Sections and Community Violence in Latin America. *Population Research and Policy Review*, 43(15).

Abstract

Armed conflict and organized crime are known to be linked to numerous negative maternal and neonatal health outcomes, such as stillbirth, low birth weight, and neonatal mortality. This study investigates how exposure to lethal community violence during pregnancy correlates with Cesarean births in Latin America, a region characterized by high rates of both C-sections and violence. The analysis combines micro-level survey data, covering 123,503 births, with subnational homicide statistics from Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Mexico. Region-fixed effects linear probability models were used to eliminate geographically varying omitted factors that could potentially confound exposure to violence and health conditions. The findings suggest that the high rates of C-sections in Latin America can partially be attributed to the high levels of violence, due to an increase in both medically unnecessary and emergency procedures. The relationship between exposure to community violence and C-section delivery varied by country, women's socio-demographic characteristics, and the number of antenatal care visits. Exposure to violence during all trimesters correlated with the uptake of C-sections, indicating that violence negatively affects maternal and child health throughout pregnancy. This study enriches our understanding of the social determinants of maternal and child health. The findings can serve to inform comprehensive interventions aimed at reducing excess C-section rates and improving the health of women and newborns in areas affected by violence.

- Danielsson, A., 2024. *Economic and Societal Impact of Organized Crime: Policy and Law Enforcement Interventions*. IGI Global.

Abstract

A pervasive and insidious menace thrives in the shadows of societies around the world, affecting millions of people: serious, organized crime. From heart-wrenching tales of human trafficking to the intricate webs of the illegal drug trade and the digital labyrinth of cybercrime, the impact of organized crime resonates everywhere, leaving scars on individuals, families, and entire communities. The actual cost of this criminal underworld remains shrouded, and the pressing question lingers: What can halt the erosion of societal well-being and restore a sense of security?

Economic and Societal Impact of Organized Crime: Policy and Law Enforcement Interventions is a wealth of insight into the critical monitoring, prevention, and interventions of organized criminal activities. Edited by the distinguished professor, Alicia Danielsson, an authority in Comparative and EU law, this multidisciplinary anthology unveils the layers of complexity that lie beneath organized crime's surface. Drawing upon contributions from various sectors, the book brings to light real-life stories, empirical findings, and case studies that dissect the psychological, physical, and economic toll exacted by these crimes. But this time goes further, examining the broader societal repercussions, from trust erosion in institutions to the exacerbation of inequality and poverty.

For academic scholars yearning to comprehend and combat this global peril, this book offers an intellectual sanctuary. It navigates the intricate pathways of criminal networks, corrupt facilitators, and the responses of law enforcement and policymakers. By fostering a comprehensive, evidence-based approach that prioritizes human well-being and community resilience, this work serves as a roadmap to confronting organized crime head-on. As readers embark on a journey through the pages of this volume, they equip themselves with the knowledge and tools to not only understand the depths of this challenge but also to contribute to a world where the grip of organized crime is loosened, and the foundations of security and justice are fortified.

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