

Vienna International Summer School on Transnational Crime and Justice

in partnership with the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Vienna International Center

28.05.2026



SŁAWOMIR REDO

**THE VIENNA MOMENT: RULE-OF-LAW EDUCATION
AND THE TRANSNATIONAL RECRUITMENT OF MINORS
INTO ORGANIZED CRIME**

(WORK IN PROGRESS)

VISITING PROFESSOR OF UNITED NATIONS LAW

F. UN SENIOR CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE EXPERT

AND STAFF OF THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (RET.)

Vienna International Summer School on Transnational Crime and Justice

in partnership with the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Vienna International Center

28.05.2026



ŚLAWOMIR REDO

**THE VIENNA MOMENT: RULE-OF-LAW EDUCATION
AND THE TRANSNATIONAL RECRUITMENT OF MINORS
INTO ORGANIZED CRIME**

(WORK IN PROGRESS)

VISITING PROFESSOR OF UNITED NATIONS LAW

F. UN SENIOR CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE EXPERT

AND STAFF OF THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (RET.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION & EXPLANATION OF TERMS

QUIZ

FACTS ABOUT VIENNA LIFE

EUROPEAN TREND

HANDSHAKE CONTROVERSY & LOCAL INTEGRATION PEDAGOGY

RESEARCH

‘THE VIENNA MOMENT’

UN CULTURE OF LAWFULNESS WITH THE RULE OF LAW

QUIZ

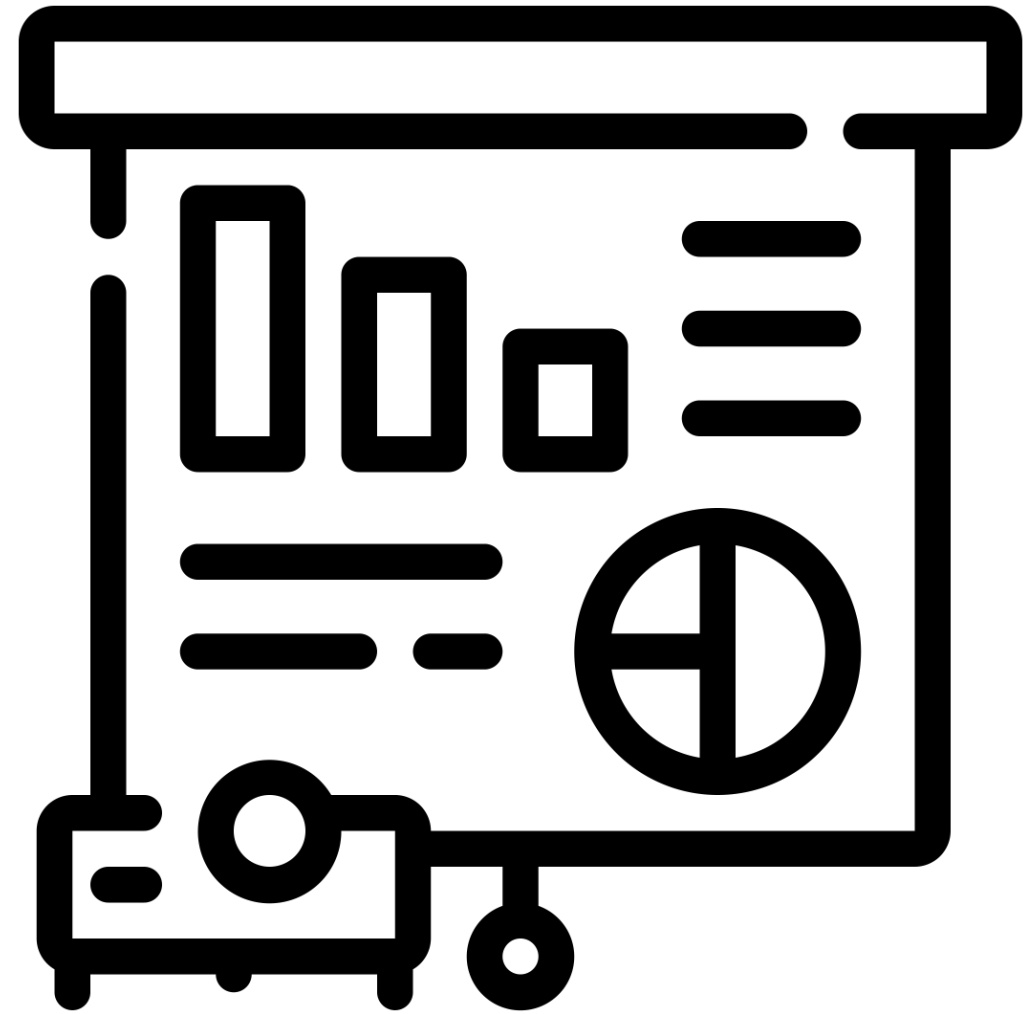
CONCLUSION

AFTERWORD



CAVEAT

INTRODUCTION
&
EXPLANATION OF
TERMS



1

Explain how criminal markets, networks, and governance structures operate across borders

2

Analyze how int. borders both constrain & enable transnational crime
Critically evaluate the quality, limitations, and political uses of transnational crime data

3

Identify key legal, institutional, and enforcement mechanisms for international cooperation and assess their effectiveness

4

Assess how states use international law and cooperation frameworks to prevent and combat organized crime

5

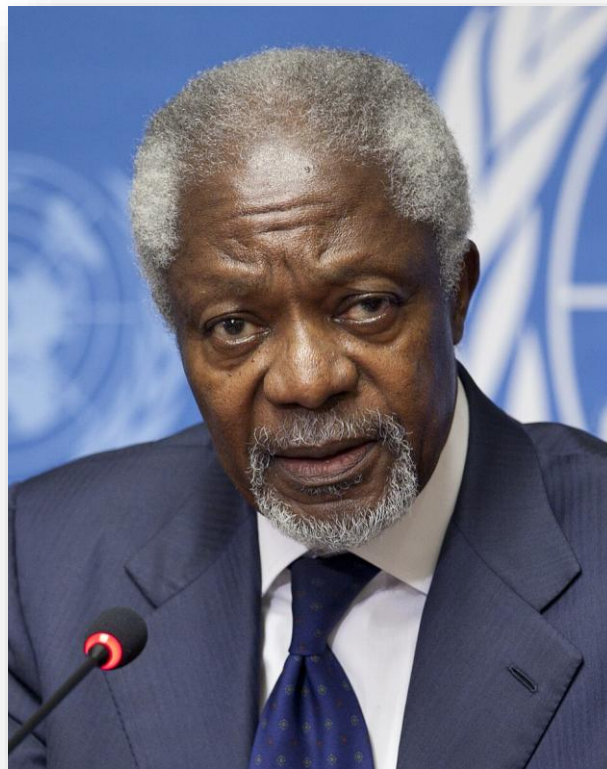
Evaluate private-sector, public-private, and civil-society responses to transnational crime and identify best practices

6

Gain hands-on experience contributing to the UNODC SHERLOC Knowledge Management Portal

7

Support the dissemination and analysis of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its three Protocols



The next century must be the age of prevention. I spoke of the prevention not only of human rights violations, but prevention also of organized criminality, drug abuse and terrorism -- the chief sources of what I have termed „uncivil society“. Their behaviour undermines in the most fundamental way the rights of others to live safe and secure lives.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "K Annan".

SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESS TO VIENNA PUBLIC ASSEMBLY ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE
OF LAW

Press Release SG/SM/6614, HR/4373, 27th June 1998



“

By 2030 ensure all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.

TARGET

4-7



EDUCATION FOR
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT AND
GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP



SDG51FOOTLINE



@SUSTAINMENT7

#SUSTAINMENT7

WIND OF CHANGE

THE 15TH CRIME CONGRESS AND THE
REPOSITIONING OF THE UNODC AND UNTOC

Ian Tennant

MAY 2026

*“In 2023, INTERPOL marked its centenary with a general assembly in Vienna. Its Declaration, titled ‘Challenging the rise of transnational organized crime’, stated that ‘law enforcement in many countries cannot cope as criminals buy political influence, launch cyberattacks from different continents or operate transnationally’. It concluded, unambiguously, ‘We are at **a tipping point**. Action needs to be taken now.’”*

*“Multilateralism is under unprecedented strain to respond to transnational organized crime and to sustain the architecture that has been built up over decades to address it. The UNTOC review mechanism’s failure to produce results, along with the faltering start to the UN’s new Convention against Cybercrime, provides clear evidence of **this lack of political will and common purpose**.”*

„Tipping point” = a phenomenon where a relatively small change or intervention in a system leads to a large change (or to large changes) on a macroscopic level*.

*The term tipping point originated from social science research on racial segregation patterns** and was used to refer to thresholds for the racial composition of neighbourhoods in the US in the 1950s.*

„Moment” = emergence of systemic conditions for change accompanied by a growing social consensus on a macro-level.

*M. Milkoreit, Social tipping points everywhere? – Patterns and risks of overuse, Wires Clim. Change, 14, e813, <https://doi.org/10.1002/wcc.813>, 2023.

** M. Grodzins, Metropolitan Segregation, Sci. Am., 197, 33–41, 1957.



The key difference

Tipping Point

systemic threshold

descriptive/(meta)analytical

network dynamics

often quantitative

emergent cascade

explains *how* change
spreads

Moment

historical conjuncture

interpretive/normative

political meaning

often
qualitative/historical-
philosophical

decisive orientation

explains *why* a phase
matters



UNITED NATIONS
Office on Drugs and Crime

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND THE PROTOCOLS THERETO



UNITED NATIONS



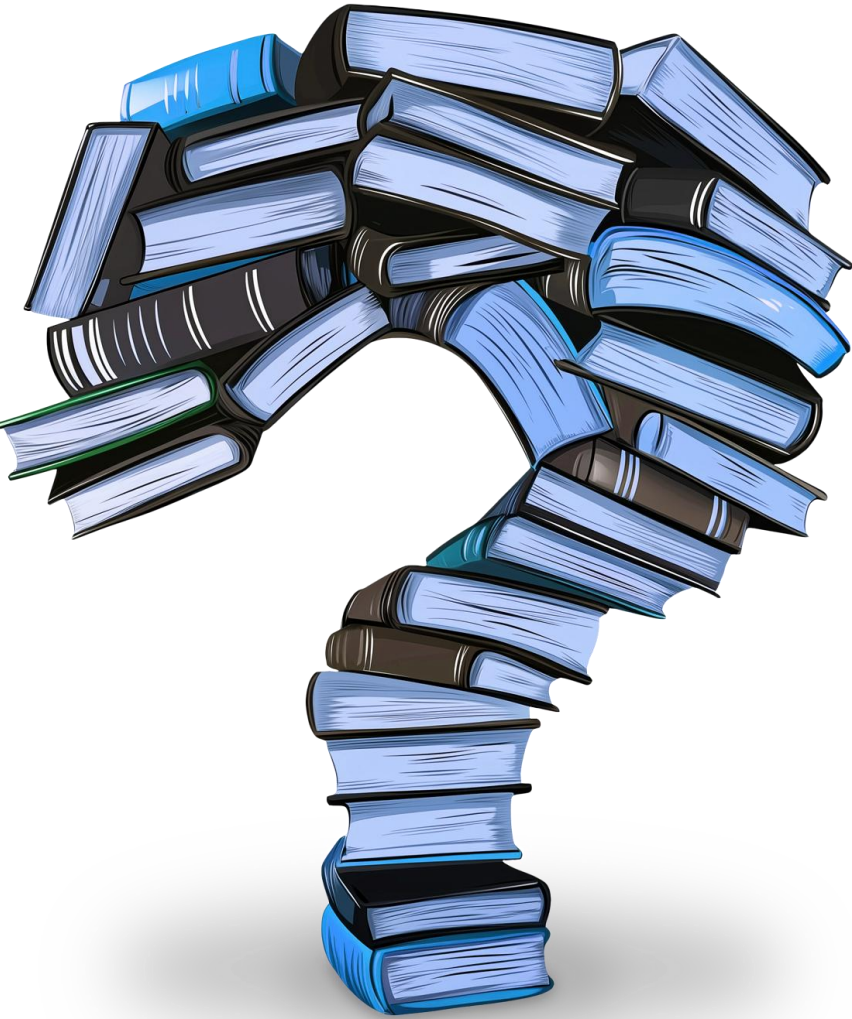
联合国
毒品和犯罪问题办事处

联合国打击跨国有组织犯罪 公约及其议定书



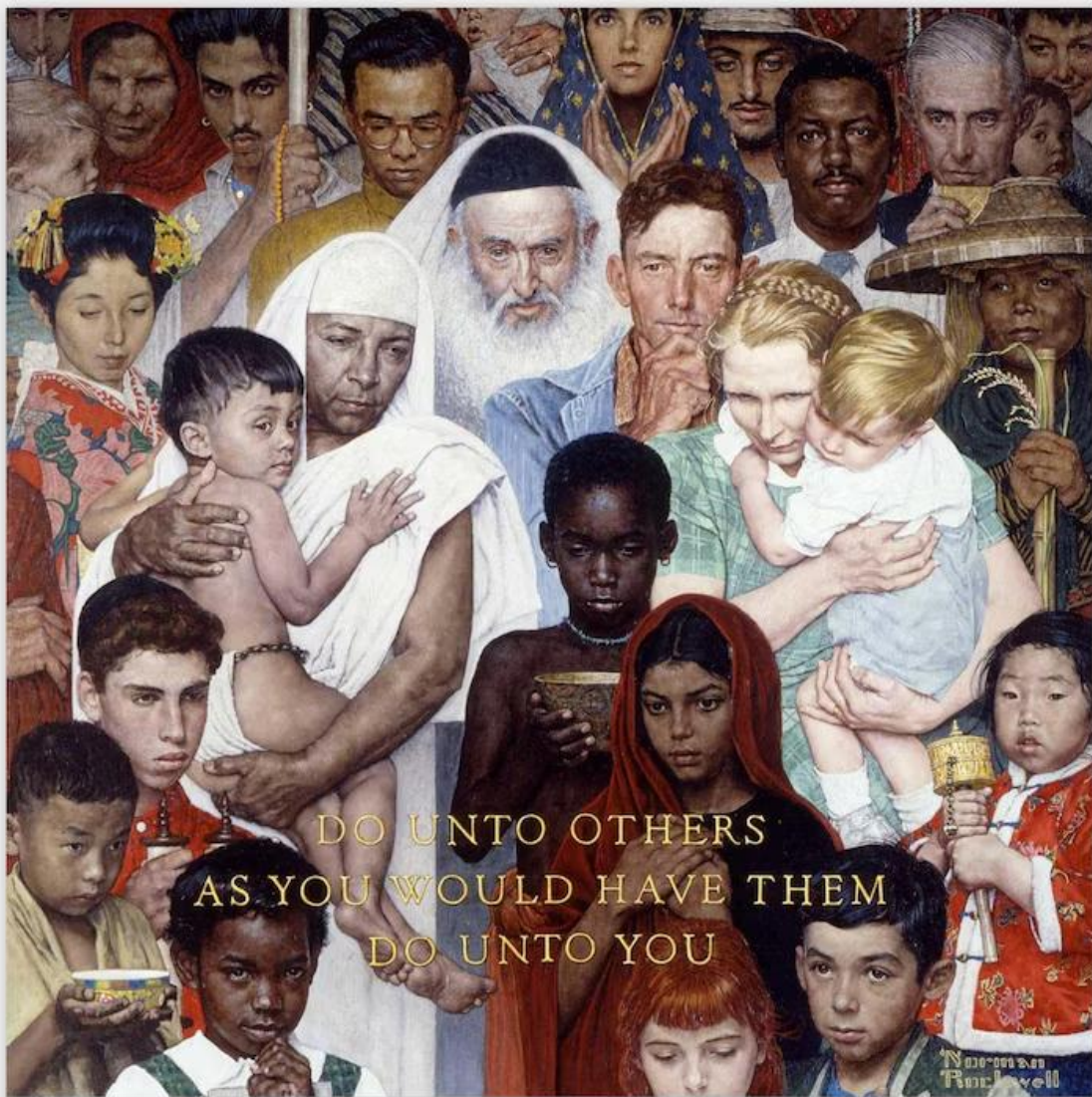
联合国





What does the principle of reciprocity generally mean in international relations and legal cooperation?

- A. A state must always follow the laws of another state without conditions.*
- B. States cooperate only when ordered to do so by the United Nations Security Council.*
- C. States grant each other similar rights, treatment, or cooperation on the expectation that the other side will do the same in return.*
- D. Reciprocity means that all countries must have identical legal systems and criminal codes.*
- E. Reciprocity is the mutual recognition of extradition requests and forms of mutual legal assistance, including cooperation encouraged under the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime framework of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, even where no bilateral treaty exists.*



„DO UNTO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE THEM DO UNTO YOU”

Poster placed at the Vienna International Center, UNODC HQ,
Building „E”

dedicated to the name of Kofi Annan

Norman Rockwell
(1894–1978)

FACTS
ABOUT
VIENNA
LIFE





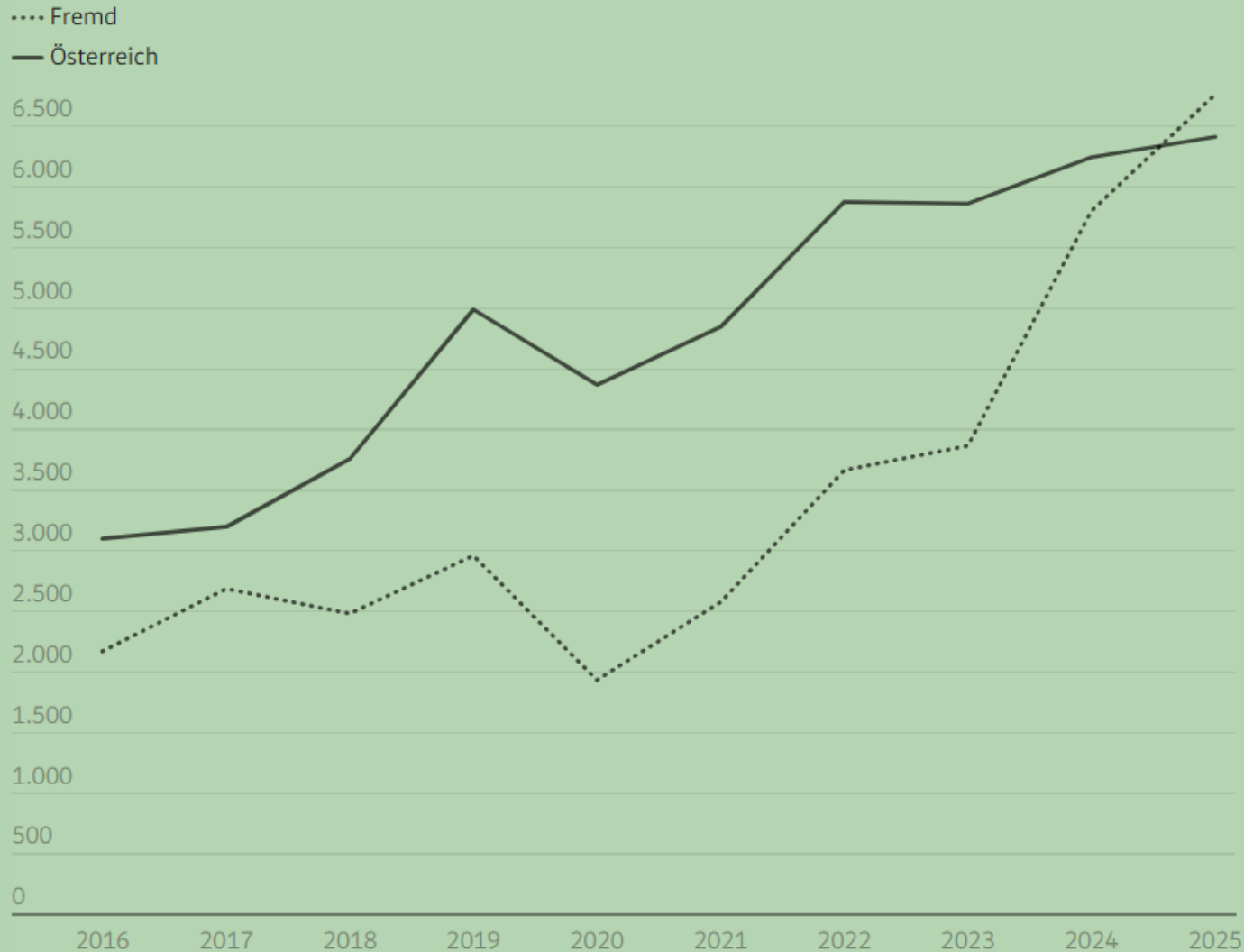
| Ranking institution | Result for Vienna | Year | Key finding |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) | #1 worldwide | 2024 | Vienna ranked the world's most liveable city for the third consecutive year |
| Mercer Quality of Living Ranking | #2 worldwide | 2024 | Vienna remained among the global leaders in quality of life |
| Monocle Quality of Life Survey | Top tier globally | 2024–2025 | Vienna regularly ranked among the world's most liveable urban environments |
| Numbeo Quality of Life Index | Among Europe's highest-ranked cities | 2025–2026 | Vienna achieved a "Very High" quality-of-life score |

Vienna among the world's most liveable cities

- Source: Economist Intelligence Unit, Global Liveability Index 2024, London: EIU, 2024. Mercer, Quality of Living City Ranking 2024, New York: Mercer, 2024. Monocle, Quality of Life Survey 2024/2025, London: Monocle Magazine. Numbeo, Quality of Life Index by City 2025/2026, available at: Numbeo.com.

Anteil nicht-österreichischer Tatverdächtiger in der Überzahl

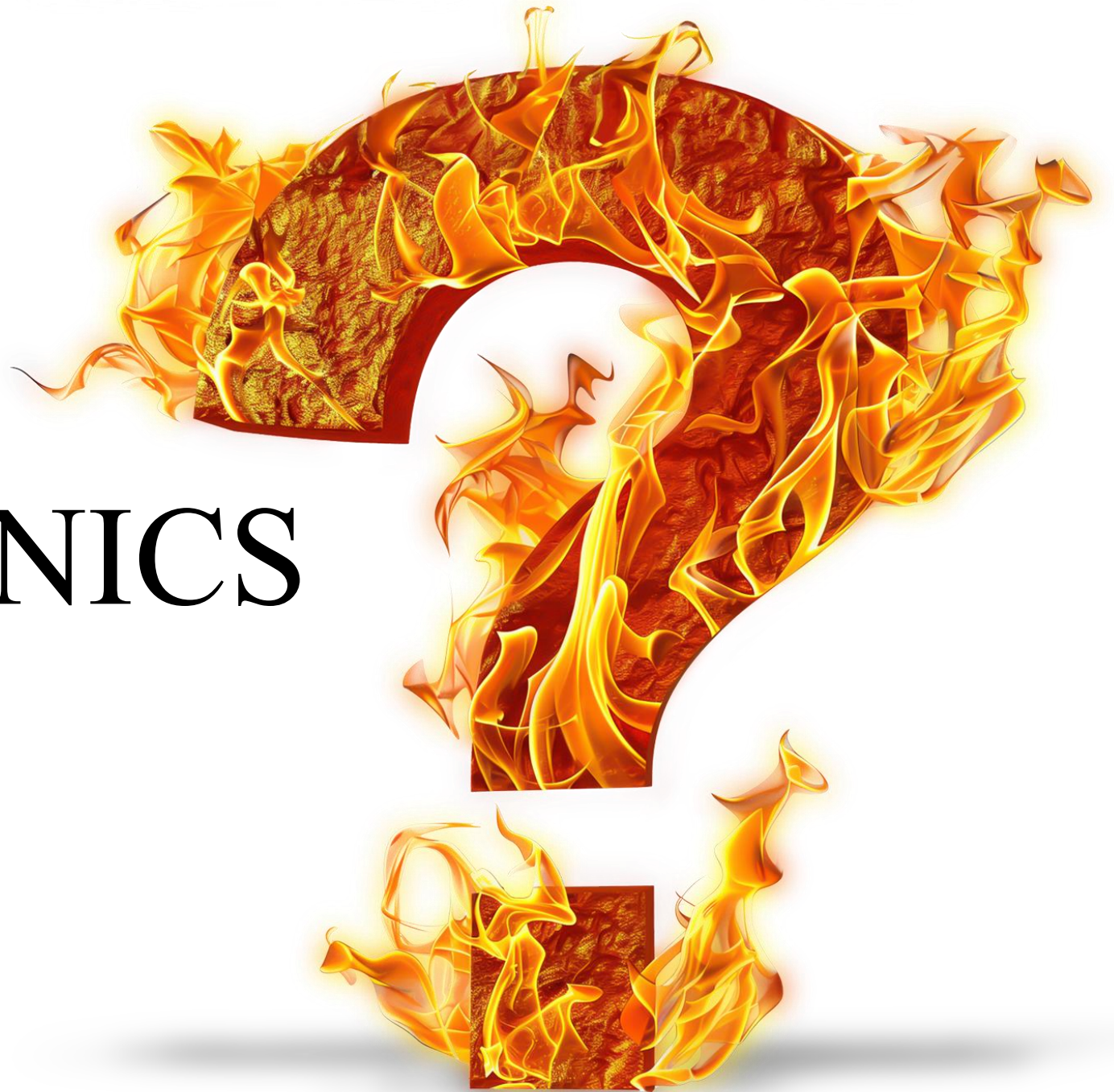
Entwicklung der Tatverdächtigenanzahl Zehn- bis unter 14-Jähriger für die Gesamtkriminalität in Österreich 2016 bis 2025



Quelle: Bundesministerium für Inneres

Development in the number of suspects aged 10-14 for overall crime in Austria, 2016–2025

- ***Foreign nationals (dotted line)***
- ***Austrian nationals (solid line)***



MORAL PANICS



17 A total of 335,900 suspects were recorded by the police in 2024. Of these, 157,100 were foreign suspects (47%), of whom 65% were resident in Austria, 32% abroad, and 3% had illegal residence status. The total number of prisoners at the beginning of 2024 was just over 9,700, with 53% of these being foreign nationals. These were primarily nationals of Serbia, Romania, Slovakia, Afghanistan, Türkiye and the Russian Federation. The detention rate among foreign nationals was 0.28% in 2024, while it was 0.06% for Austrians. The proportion of foreign nationals who were newly imprisoned remained constant in 2024 at 60% compared to the previous year.



STATISTICAL YEARBOOK



Migration & Integration

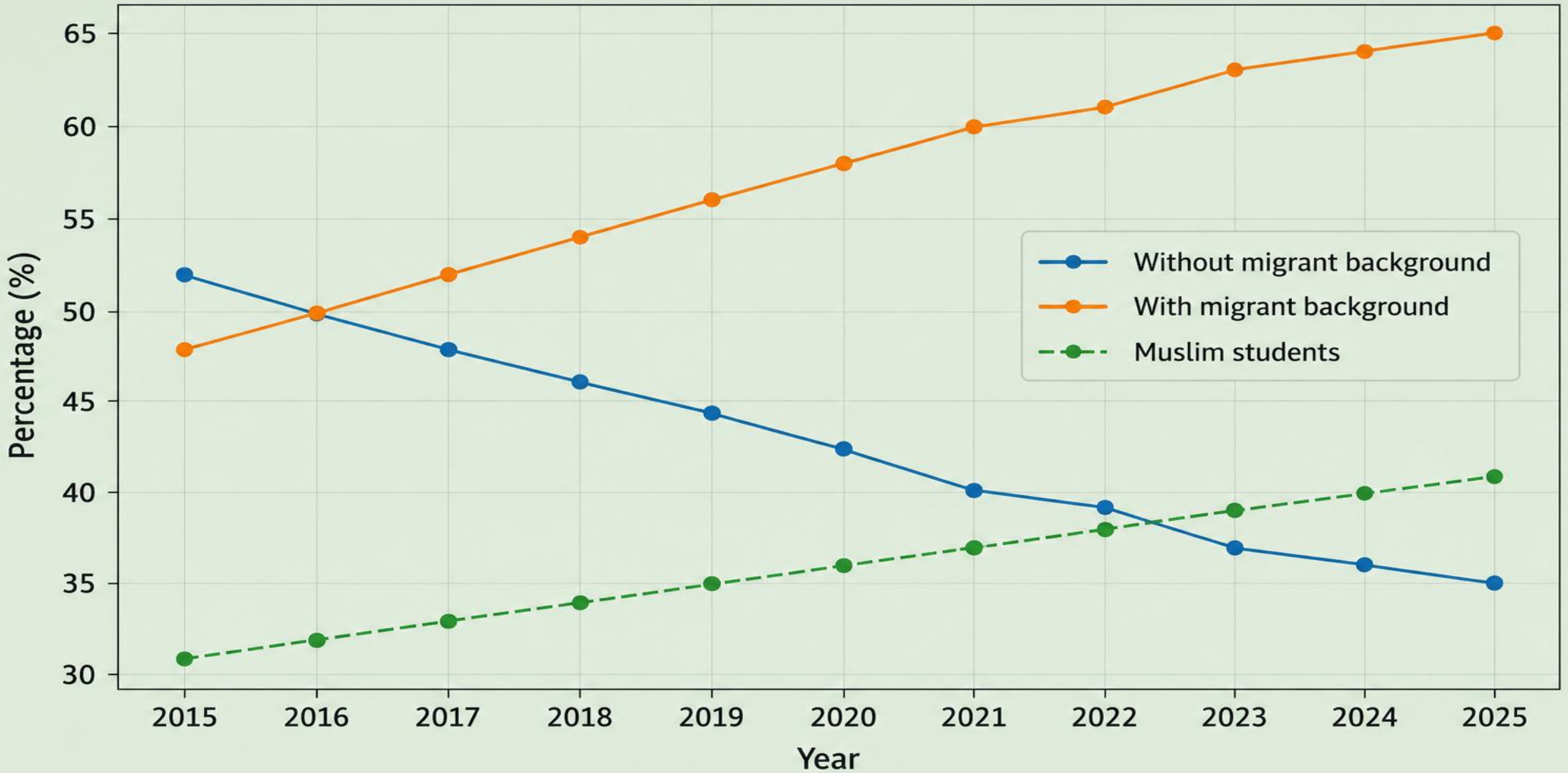
SHORT VERSION

2025



22 Immigrants are more likely to live in towns and cities than in rural areas. Almost 40% of persons born abroad lived in Vienna alone at the beginning of 2025, compared to 17% of the population born in Austria. The concentration in Vienna is highest for nationals of Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq, with around 55% of people from these countries in Austria living in the federal capital. Around 43% of all those born in Austria lived in municipalities with fewer than 5,000 inhabitants, compared to just 18% of people born abroad. The number of municipalities with an immigrant population of more than 25% has increased significantly over the past decade, from 30 in 2015 to 104 in 2025. These are not just larger cities but also important tourist municipalities, towns close to the border or municipalities with large refugee accommodation centres. In 2025, two thirds of foreign-born people living in Austria lived in municipalities where immigrants made up more than 25% of the population. According to the segregation index, the spatial segregation of people born abroad is lowest among the Hungarian and German population groups but is relatively high among people from Somalia, India, Iran, Serbia, Syria, North Macedonia and Slovenia.

Vienna – Structure of Public School Students (2015–2025)



Source: Author's compilation based on: Bildungsdirektion für Wien, Religionsbekenntnis der Schülerinnen und Schüler an öffentlichen Pflichtschulen in Wien; Schüler/innen mit nichtdeutscher Umgangssprache, supplemented by press account from DER STANDARD.

EUROPEAN TREND



This is an article premium

jest na wolności. Domaga się 46 mln zł • 18:59 Waldemar Żurek stracił cierpliwość. Wydał polecenie w sprawie Grzegorza Brauna • 18:52 "Ludzie j

WORLD > "CHILDREN ARE THE PERFECT SOLDIERS FOR CRIMINAL NETWORKS." A TERRIFYING PHENOMENON IN EUROPE. "IT'S SPREADING LIKE WILDFIRE."

"Children are the perfect soldiers for criminal networks." A terrifying phenomenon in Europe. "It's spreading like wildfire."

WELT

Alexander Dinger

Philipp Woldin

May 2, 2026, 2:47 PM

Shorten the article

Murder, arson, and other crimes—criminal organizations have reached new heights, recruiting children and teenagers to commit bloody crimes across Europe. The scheme is terrifyingly simple—and effective. And the scale is increasingly alarming.



Listen to the article



x1

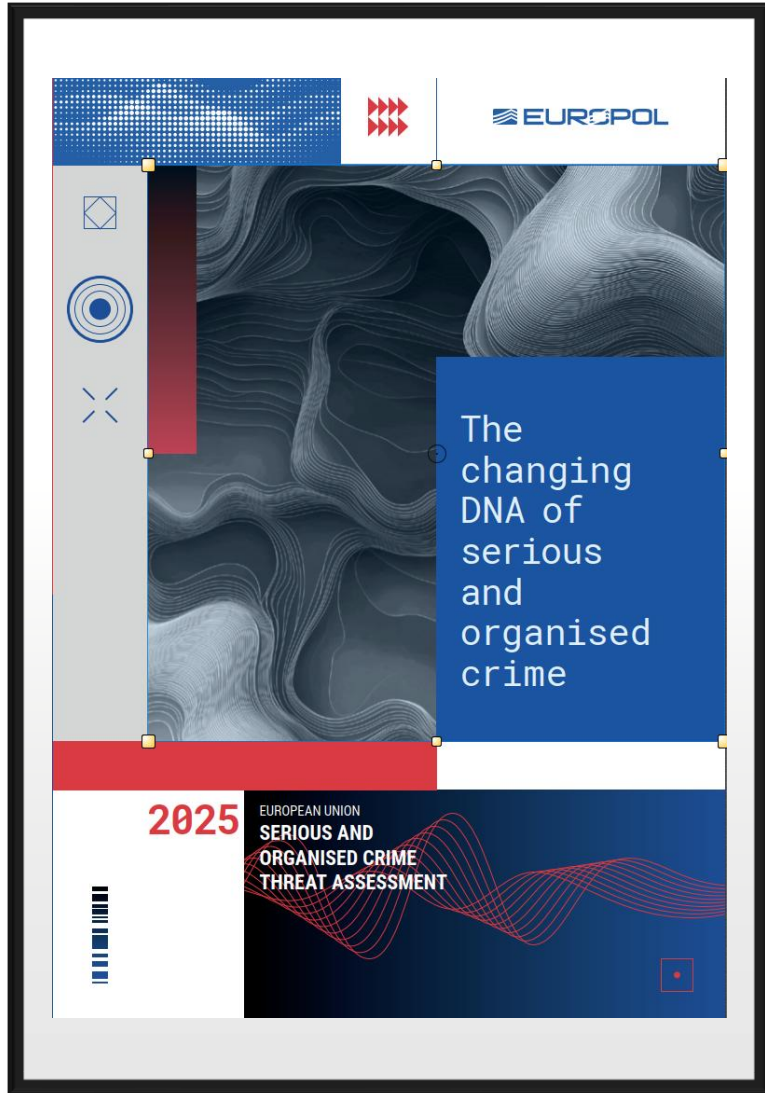


00:00 / 00:00

ElevenLabs

Audio generated by AI (ElevenLabs) and may contain errors





Briefing

EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service

Recruitment of minors into organised crime

Katrien Luyten with Greta Baltikauskaitė; Samy Chahri (graphic)
Published: June 2025 | Document number: PE 772.903

Summary

The recruitment of minors into serious and organised crime has increasingly become a tactic used by criminal networks to avoid detection, capture and prosecution. By using minors, the criminal networks increase the distance between the criminal activity and the network's core members or leaders, hampering identification. Even though there is a lack of reliable and comparable data on this phenomenon, several EU Member States have reported an increase in the involvement of minors in serious and organised crime.

While the rising demand for recreational drugs seems to be the main driver behind the increase, minors are involved in other markets too, including property crime and online fraud. Criminal networks exploit children as young as 12 years for low-skilled roles such as local street dealers, cash couriers, warehouse operators and extractors of drugs from shipping containers. Easier access to firearms has led to a shift from minor crime to more serious, especially violent, crime, such as extortion and killings.

Many minors are lured into organised crime by the promise of financial gain, social status, or sense of belonging, whilst others may be coerced or forced into this lifestyle due to their circumstances or environment. The consequences of such involvement are far-reaching, affecting not only the minors involved, but also the communities and society as a whole. The processes for recruiting minors into organised crime are still poorly understood, but there is a clear trend of increased use of digital tools for recruitment and communication, such as encrypted messaging services, apps and video games that are popular with young people.

The EU recognises the severity of the problem and the need for closer cooperation between the affected Member States and for an integrated preventive response. By facilitating the exchange of best practices amongst Member States, integrating the local dimension into efforts to counter the infiltration of criminal networks into the economy and society, and by adopting a comprehensive and multi-faceted approach, the EU contributes to preventing the recruitment of minors into organised crime and to mitigating the devastating consequences.

European Drug Report 2025: Trends and Developments

EUDA
EUROPEAN UNION
DRUGS AGENCY

European Drug Report 2025:
Trends and Developments

This PDF was generated automatically on 6/06/2025 from the web page located at this address: <https://euda.europa.eu/publications/european-drug-report/2025>. Some errors may have occurred during this process. For the authoritative and most recent version, we recommend consulting the web page.

- 1 -

Such European reports increasingly suggest that minors are no longer recruited solely for local crime, but for interregional criminal supply chains linked to global cocaine markets, digitized violence and hybrid criminal infrastructures. In this sense, youth recruitment is increasingly reminiscent of a form of geopolitical and economic exploitation of vulnerable youth. From a criminological perspective, one could even suggest that, this is not only about juvenile delinquency, but also about the *Americanizing* "criminal environment" due to the "outsourcing" of violence, contract offers, young offenders used as "disposable assets". Last but not least, this shows a new form of globalization of crime and delinquency.

However, Vienna is not mentioned in this context.

Why?

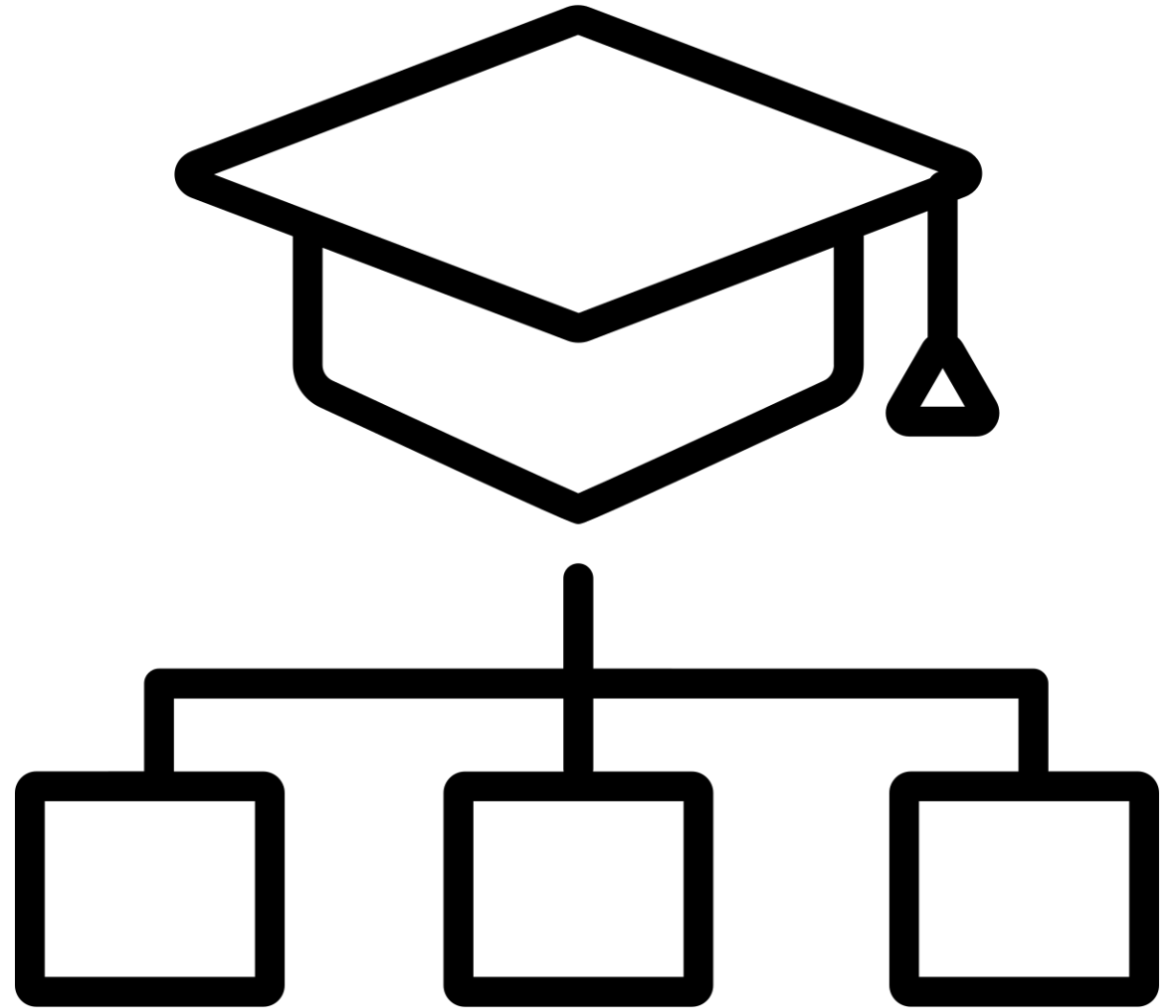


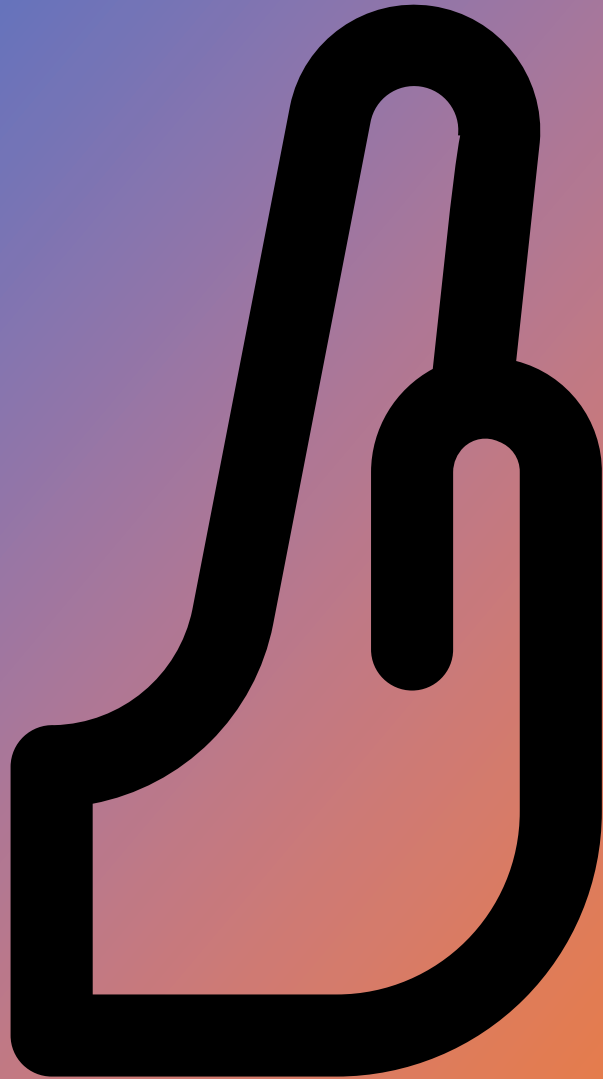
| Ranking institution | Result for Vienna | Year | Key finding |
|--|---|-----------|---|
| Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) | #1 worldwide | 2024 | Vienna ranked the world's most liveable city for the third consecutive year |
| Mercer Quality of Living Ranking | #2 worldwide | 2024 | Vienna remained among the global leaders in quality of life |
| Monocle Quality of Life Survey | Top tier globally | 2024–2025 | Vienna regularly ranked among the world's most liveable urban environments |
| Numbeo Quality of Life Index | Among Europe's highest-ranked cities | 2025–2026 | Vienna achieved a "Very High" quality-of-life score |

Vienna among the world's most liveable cities?

- Source: Economist Intelligence Unit, Global Liveability Index 2024, London: EIU, 2024. Mercer, Quality of Living City Ranking 2024, New York: Mercer, 2024. Monocle, Quality of Life Survey 2024/2025, London: Monocle Magazine. Numbeo, Quality of Life Index by City 2025/2026, available at: Numbeo.com.

THE HANDSHAKE
CONTROVERSY
&
LOCAL
INTEGRATION
PEDAGOGY





HANDSHAKE CONTROVERSY*

- *In 2004, in the Netherlands, an Imam refused a handshake with the Dutch Minister of Integration.*
- *In 2006, a female Muslim teacher at a public high school in Utrecht in the Netherlands was suspended after she had informed her colleagues via e-mail that she would no longer shake hands with men because of religious objections*
- *In 2016, an Algerian women, married to a French man was denied French citizenship because she refused to shake the hand of a male official in the citizenship ceremony for religious reasons.*

*Christopher Baumgartner, (Not) Shaking Hands with People of the Opposite Sex. Civility, National Identity and Accommodation, in: Jonathan Seglow and Andrew Shorten (eds.), RELIGION AND POLITICAL THEORY: SECULARISM, ACCOMMODATION AND THE NEW CHALLENGES OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY. London: Rowman and Littlefield International (2019) 119-136.

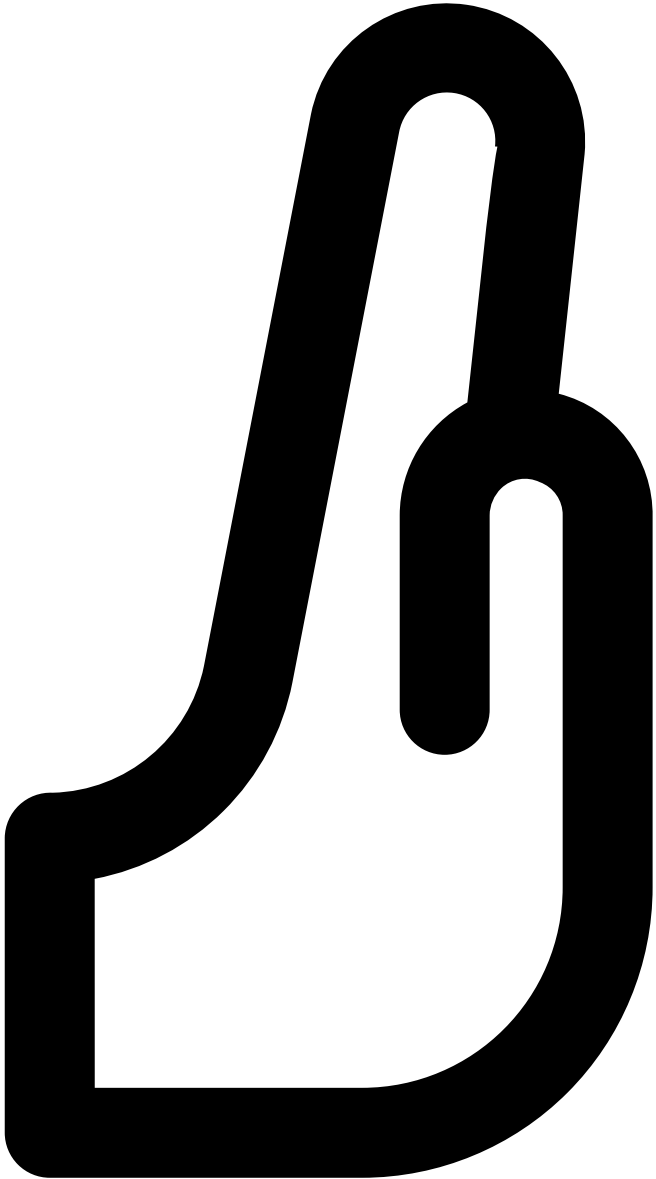
*THE THERWIL CASE**

The 2016 Therwil case concerned two Muslim students in Switzerland who, supported by the Islamic Central Council of Switzerland's view that Islamic law allows only to shake hands with male teachers. This triggered a nationwide debate on tolerance and integration.

Cantonal authorities in Basel ultimately held that the handshake with men and women formed part of Swiss school culture and social inclusion, and—invoking gender equality, integration, and the orderly functioning of schools as overriding public interests. The authorities confirmed that parents could be fined up to 5,000 Swiss francs if their children persisted in refusing, leaving the family to choose between compliance and significant financial risk.

The Islamic Council argued this as an excessive, even “totalitarian” intrusion, but no successful legal challenge followed, and the boys were expected to obey the rule, with the controversy coming to symbolise how a routine school ritual was turned into a legally relevant indicator of integration, used to link everyday conduct to the integration clauses of the 2018 nationality law and to frame compliance as a prerequisite for full membership in the polity.

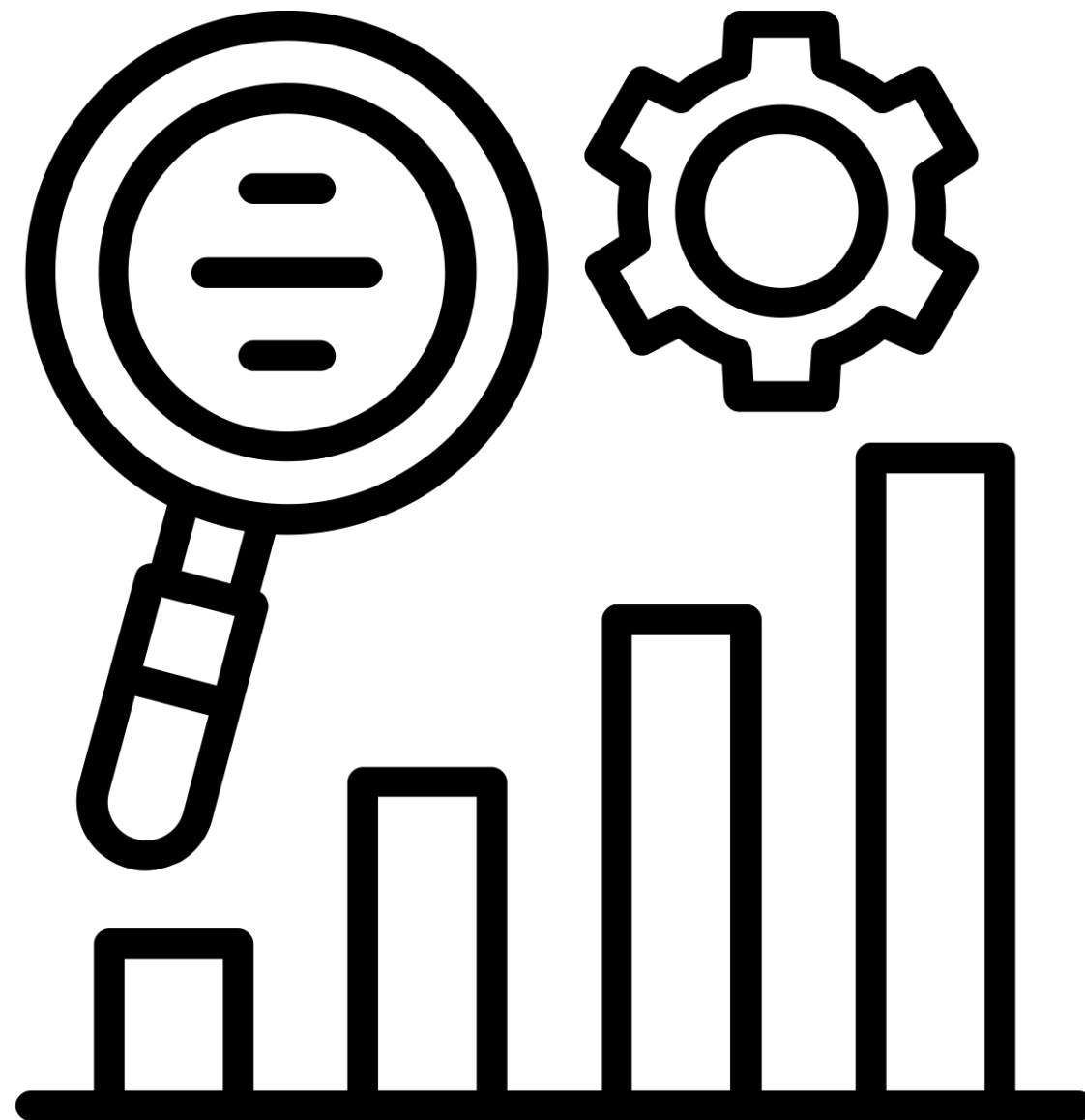
**Christoph Baumgartner, (Not) Shaking Hands with People of the Opposite Sex. Civility, National Identity and Accommodation, in: Jonathan Seglow and Andrew Shorten (eds.), RELIGION AND POLITICAL THEORY: SECULARISM, ACCOMMODATION AND THE NEW CHALLENGES OF RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY. London: Rowman and Littlefield International (2019): 119-136.*







RESEARCH



41 Percent of Young Muslims Believe Islamic Rules Are Above the Law

For the defense of the faith and other fundamentalist aspirations: A new study shows that Muslim adolescents are more likely to hold anti-democratic, derogatory and violence-affine attitudes

Gerald John, Jan Michael Marchart

May 11, 2026, 6:14 PM

□ 2715 Posts

🔖 Read later



A student wearing a headscarf: The majority of young Muslims believe that covering the head in public is a duty.

The answer to this question can be found in a new study on the attitudes of young immigrants in Vienna. On behalf of the city, a team of researchers interviewed 1,200 girls and boys between the ages of 14 and 21 from ten ethnic groups. Austrians, Serbs, Poles, Romanians, Bosnians, Turks, Kurds, Syrians, Afghans and Chechens are represented.

For example, support for democracy is much weaker among Muslims – and authoritarian tendencies are increasing. While 84 percent of young people with Polish roots and 82 percent of Austrians consider democracy to be the best form of government, this applies to only 61 percent of Afghans, 57 percent of Turks, 50 percent of Chechens and only 47 percent of Syrians.

Muslim Youth Are More Susceptible to Fundamentalist Positions

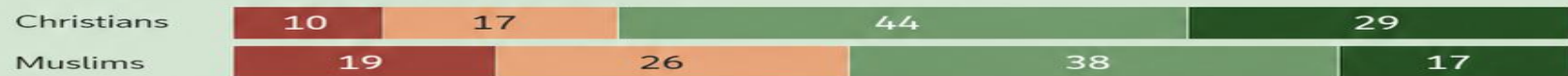
How Christian and Muslim adolescents respond to various statements.

■ Not at all ■ Rather no ■ Rather yes ■ Completely agree

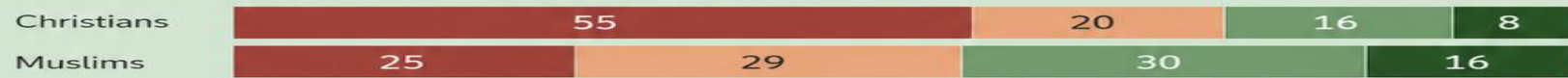
All religions are equal.



Religions must adapt to the modern world.



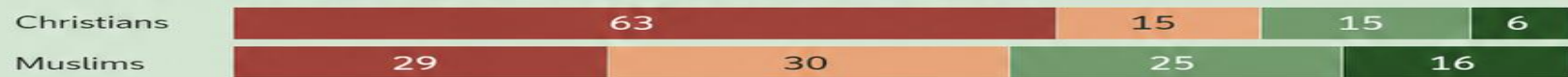
One must be prepared to fight and die for one's faith.



All people should follow the rules of my religion.



For me, the rules of my religion are above the laws of Austria.



Every Muslim woman should wear a headscarf in public.

(asked only to Muslim respondents)



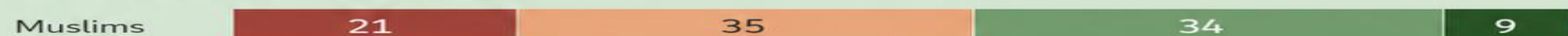
Islamic rules apply to all areas of daily life and must be strictly followed.

(asked only to Muslim respondents)



The West is responsible for the problems of the Islamic world.

(asked only to Muslim respondents)



Standardized survey of 1,069 persons aged 14–24 living in Vienna at the time of the study and belonging to one of the following ten ethnic groups: Austrian, Serbian, Polish, Romanian, Bosnian, Turkish, Kurdish, Syrian, Afghan, Chechen.

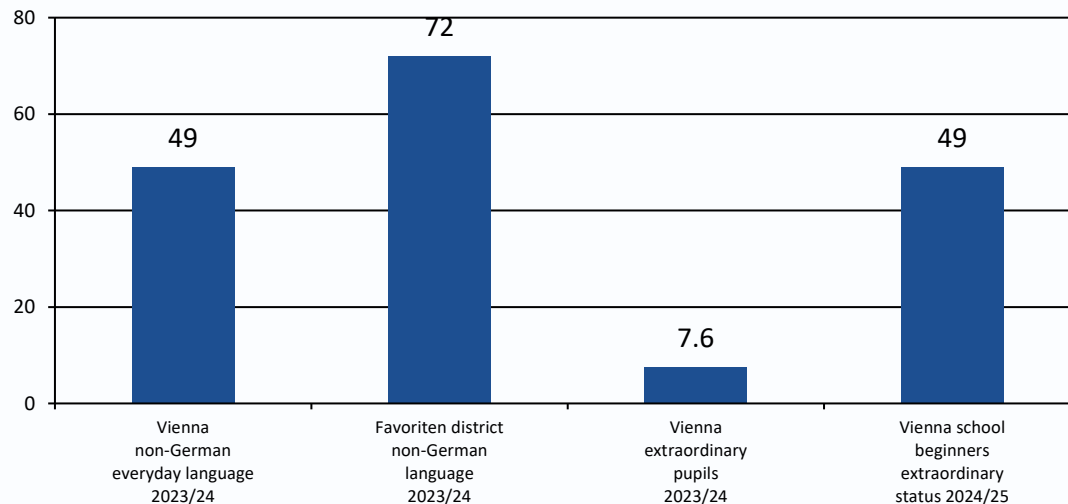
* The last three questions were asked only to Muslim respondents (n = 515).

Vienna public schools: migration pressure becomes institutional pressure, but...

The issue is not migration as such, but school capacity to sustain shared civic norms

Vienna public schools: Percentage of students with non-German everyday language

Pressure indicators



Public-school composition

In 2023/24, 49% of pupils in Vienna had a non-German everyday language, compared with 26% across Austria.

Why this matters

Language, trust, family–school distance and peer networks can turn everyday classroom incidents into cascading norm shifts. The school becomes the first civic institution where integration, rights and duties are learned.

Classroom capacity is a rule-of-law issue when it determines whether common rules remain credible, fair and teachable.



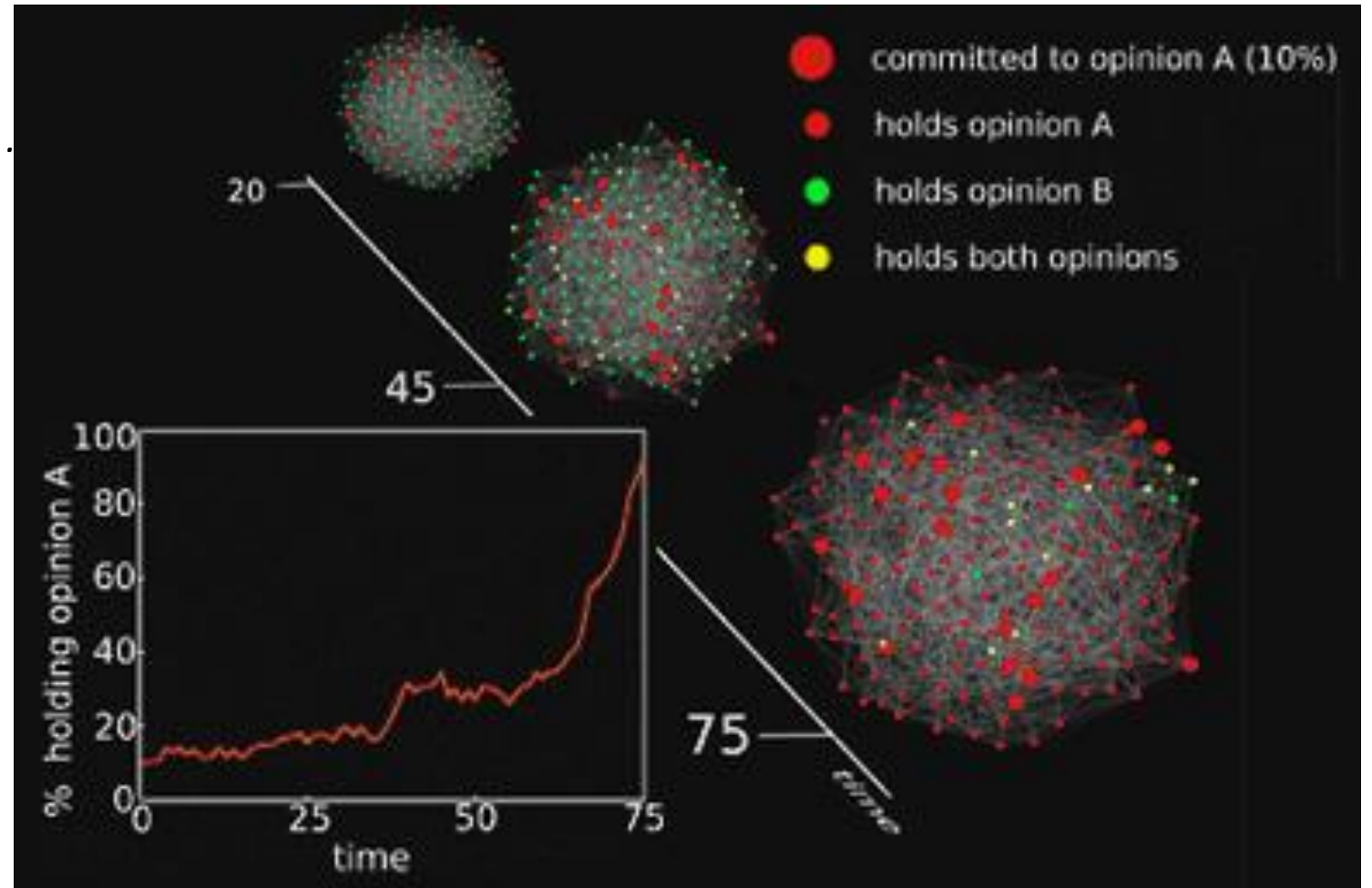
Language, trust, family-school distance and peer networks can turn everyday classroom incidents into cascading norm shifts. Contrary efforts do the opposite.

The school becomes first civic institution where integration, right and duties are learned.

Here is how.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, this is the only thing that ever happens.

Margaret Mead, U.S. anthropologist and popularizer of anthropology (1901–1978)

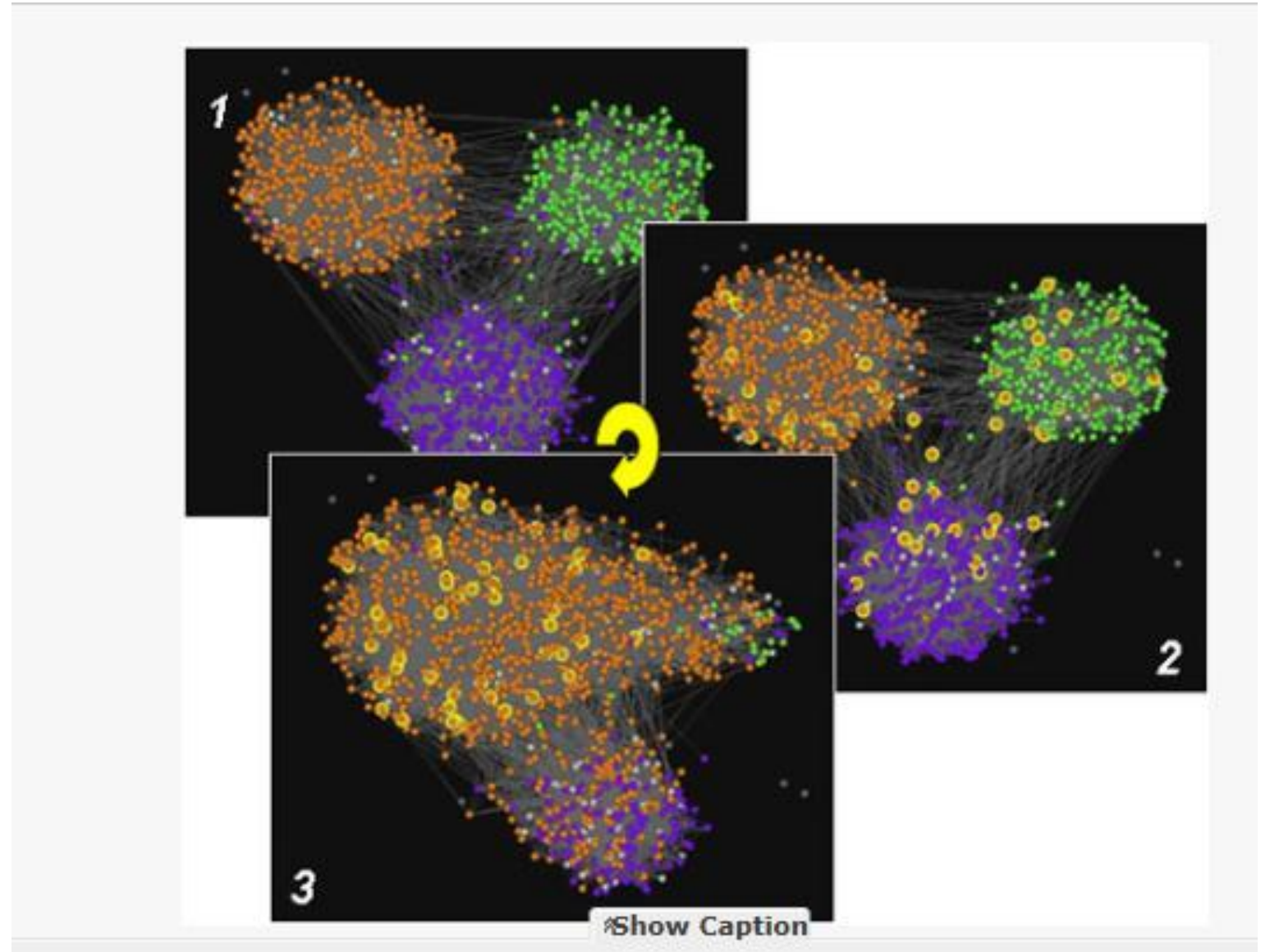


„When the number of engaged opinion holders falls below 10 percent, there is no visible progress in the spread of the idea. It literally takes time comparable to the age of the universe to reach the majority of this group. When this number exceeds 10 percent, the idea spreads like a flame”

*Bolesław Szymański, Distinguished Professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (USA), cited in the interview, Michael Philips, *Minority Rules: Why 10 Percent is All You Need*, <https://tinyurl.com/3rucxm5h> [accessed 15. 05. 2026].*

2011

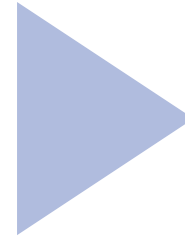
*Students
committed to
unity can
transform
the network*



2025



This latest analysis* informs that in practice this threshold is variable. It ranges from 10% to 30% (usually about 25%), depending on the social and cultural context, the type of social problem or social issue studied, the type of structure of society, its real or computer-modelled network relationships, and the presence of competing opinions.



It is almost certain that regardless of the type of civic norms violated, it is not a question of a specific numerical value, but in each of the situations examined, of a qualitative discernment of a specific mass of critical opinion, after which the change of opinion ceases to be gradual and could spread like a flame.

*Jordan P. Everall, Fabian Tschofenig, Jonathan F. Donges and Ilona M. Otto, The Pareto effect in tipping social networks: from minority to majority, Earth System Dynamics 16 (2025): 189–214. DOI: 10.5194/esd-16-189-2025

EXCERPTED TABLE

Students with Migrant Backgrounds in Vienna's Public Schools (Austria) and Violations of School Rules: Models of Pedagogical Response and Prevention

| Stages of erosion of school norms | Types of violations | Criminogenic potential | Elements of opinion change | Implications | Types of pedagogical response (Type I / II / III) | Preventive recommendations |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| I. Initiation | Demonstrative rejection of procedural rules (e.g. refusal to follow instructions, refusal to shake hands, demonstrative ignoring of the teacher) | Creates a precedent of impunity; triggers imitation effects and shifts the limits of what is socially tolerated. | Frequency of exposure + network structure | The frequency of local interactions and the structure of the social network are critical for the diffusion of micro-violations. | <p>Type I: Immediate, visible reaction and intervention.</p> <p>Type II: Tolerating early minor violations gradually disorganizes school authority.</p> <p>Type III: Systematic shaping of an environment in which norms are reproduced and internalized daily.</p> | Establish jointly accepted response rules; strengthen the teacher's relational authority; multilingual communication of school norms. |
| II. Initiation | Intentional disruption of the educational process (e.g. deliberate classroom disturbances, misuse of mobile phones) | Lowers tolerance thresholds for deviant behaviour, weakens situational control and increases the probability of escalation into aggression. | Frequency of exposure | Growing significance of repeated exposure; lack of rapid reaction increases the diffusion of alternative norms. | <p>Type I: Discipline, time-out, temporary separation of the student.</p> <p>Type II: Classroom chaos results from the systemic absence of instruments and the inability to ignore violations.</p> <p>Type III: Micro-interventions and structured lesson organization.</p> | Structured lesson design and rapid suppression of disturbances; support for teachers' competences; language support mechanisms. |

CONDENSED TABLE

From classroom incidents to de-integration: an academic policy matrix

The same peer-network mechanisms can integrate students into civic norms — or into uncivil/criminal definitions.

I. Initiation

Rule refusal

Lesson disruption

Visible non-reaction lowers the threshold



II. Escalation

Verbal contempt

Retaliation / honor conflicts

Symbolic violence becomes normal



III. Consolidation

Physical violence

Dangerous objects

Violence is learned as conflict regulation



IV. Local anomie

Delegitimising school/state authority

Inconsistent sanctions / “he may too”

Alternative norms become locally dominant

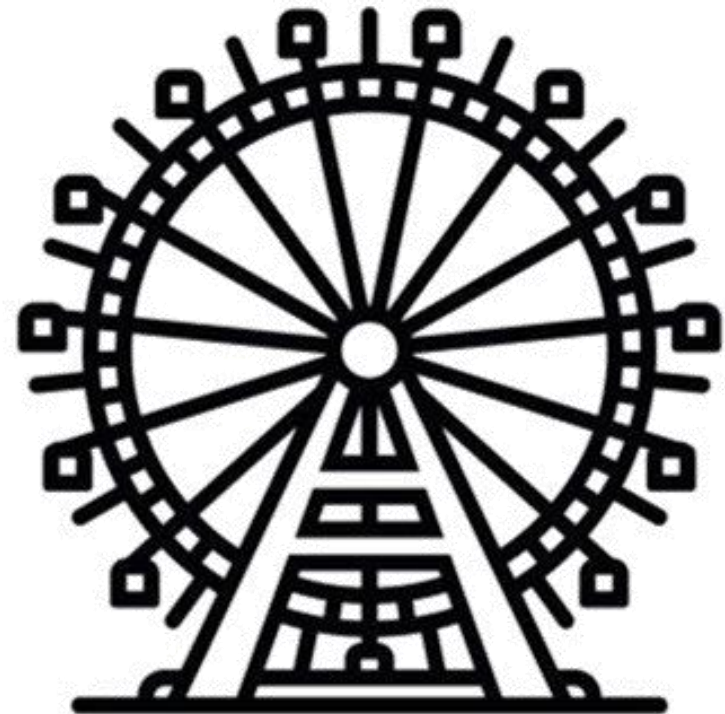


Policy lesson: react early, visibly and relationally — before a “committed minority” changes the local norm

Source: Jordan P. Overall, Fabian Tschofenig, Jonathan F. Donges i Ilona M. Otto, "The Pareto effect in tipping social networks: from minority to majority", Earth System Dynamics 16 (2025): 189–214. DOI: 10.5194/esd-16-189-2025; Redo Word table: "Evidence-based policy matrix"; adapted from phases: initiation–escalation–consolidation–tipping point/local anomie.

THE VIENNA MOMENT

= presently emerging, meaningful opportunity to prevent a negative normative tipping point in public-school integration under conditions of mass migration and transnational criminal recruitment of minors



From classroom incidents to integration through inclusiveness: a policy matrix

How Austria and Vienna works to prevent school de-integration

From sanctions to empowerment with the UN rule-of-law impact

1. Language as institutional access

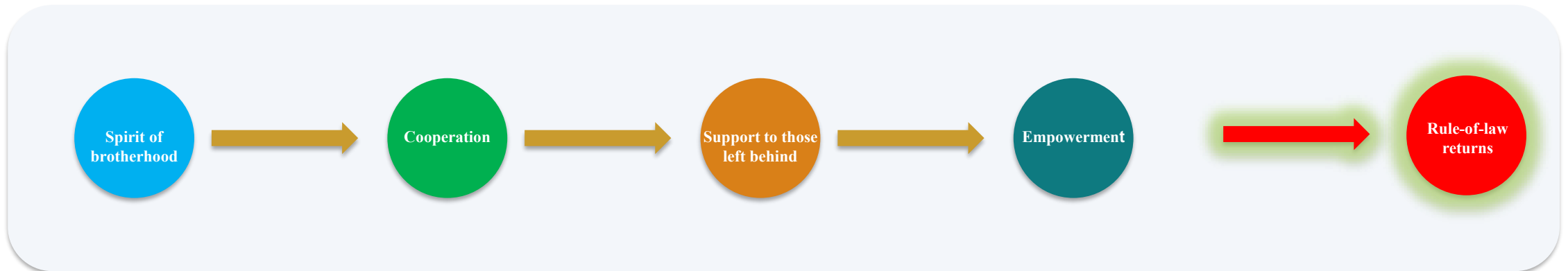
Deutschförderklassen and *Deutschförderkurse* exist since 2018/19; from 2026/27 schools may organise German support more autonomously. Language becomes access to learning, participation and later integration.

2. Clear “house rules” + consistent reaction

The policy matrix points to immediate, visible reactions, documentation, transparent sanctions, and whole-school routines as means to stop the cascade from micro-violations to local anomie.

3. Relational prevention

Recommendations include teacher authority, psychosocial support, family work, mediation, multilingual communication, media literacy and structured intergroup contact.



Rule-of-law returns: empowered students claim rights, respect duties, trust institutions, and cooperate for the common good

UN value added: local school integration becomes part of a wider cooperation logic — dignity, rights, prevention, justice and shared responsibility.

UN CULTURE
OF
LAWFULNESS
WITH
THE RULE OF
LAW



22 May 2026

English only



UN „Culture of Lawfulness” – a social and institutional commitment (not a legal concept) to respecting the rule of law and internationally recognized human rights, and to actively promoting that respect through crime prevention policy and practice.

**Commission on Crime Prevention
and Criminal Justice**

Thirty-fifth session

Vienna, 1–5 June 2026

Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

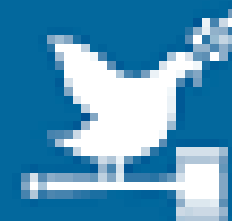
**Use and application of United Nations standards
and norms in crime prevention and criminal
justice**

**Recommendations of the 4th Global Youth Forum for a
Culture of Lawfulness, Tokyo, Japan, 5–7 March 2026**1**

28. Ensure Language, Cultural Mediation and Community Support for Migrants and Minorities: Governments and relevant service providers should ensure that reintegration programmes and support services are fully accessible to migrants, ethnic and gender minorities through the provision of multilingual materials, professional interpreters, cultural mediators, legal aid and community networks, who can bridge communication gaps and build trust between service providers and individuals from diverse backgrounds. Language courses should be made available within correctional facilities and continued after release in order to equip migrants with the linguistic foundations necessary for employment, civic participation and social reintegration. Culturally grounded community engagement – through elders, spiritual leaders and community organizations – should be promoted for indigenous peoples, migrants and minority groups.

TARGET 16.3

16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



PROMOTE THE RULE OF LAW
AND ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE



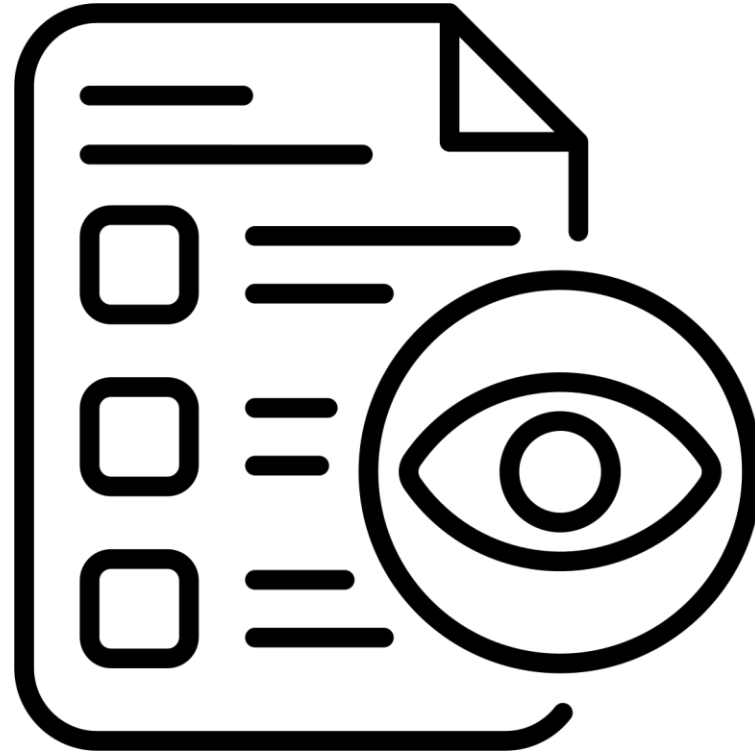
“RULE OF LAW [...] MEANS THAT THE STATE, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS AND ENTITIES, AS WELL AS PERSONS THEMSELVES, ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO LAWS THAT ARE PUBLICLY PROMULGATED, EQUALLY ENFORCED AND INDEPENDENTLY ADJUDICATED, AND ARE CONSISTENT WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW.”

UN DOC. A/RES/73/195 (DEC. 19, 2018), *GLOBAL COMPACT ON SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION*, § 15 (D)),
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/4M6YMVZ](https://bit.ly/4M6YMVZ).

“Rule of law [...] means that the State, public and private institutions and entities, as well as persons themselves, are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced and independently adjudicated, and are consistent with international law.”

UN Doc. A/RES/73/195 (Dec. 19, 2018), *Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration*, § 15 (d), <https://bit.ly/4m6yMVz>.

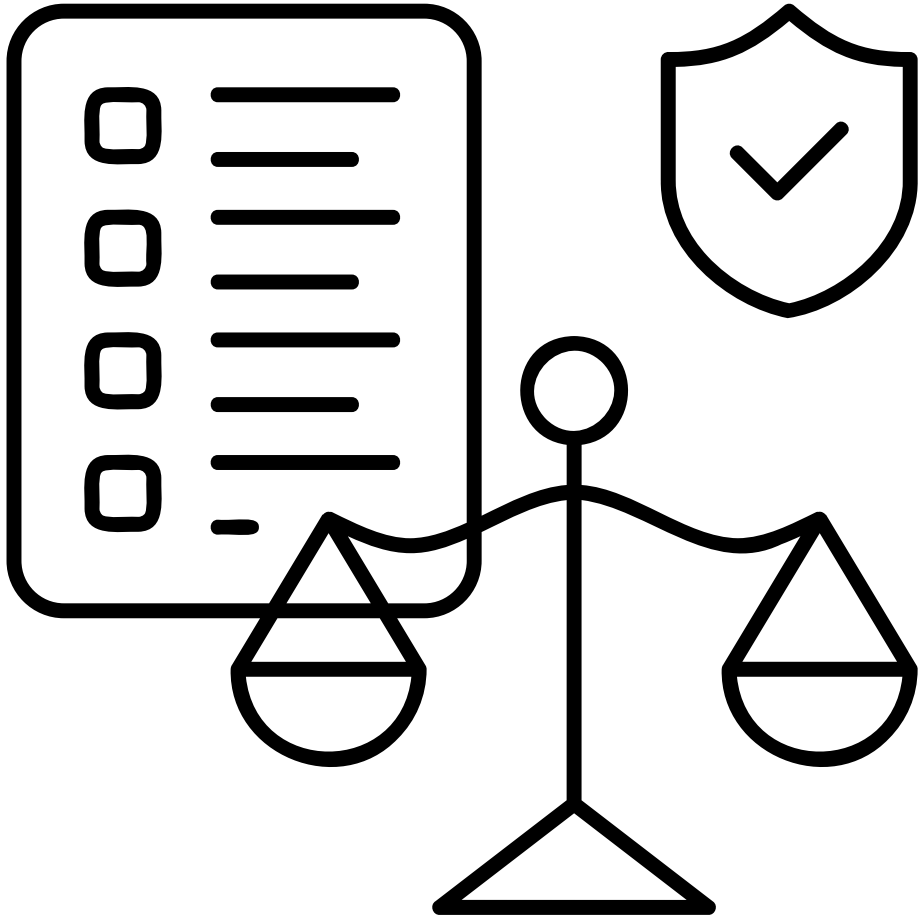
accountable to laws



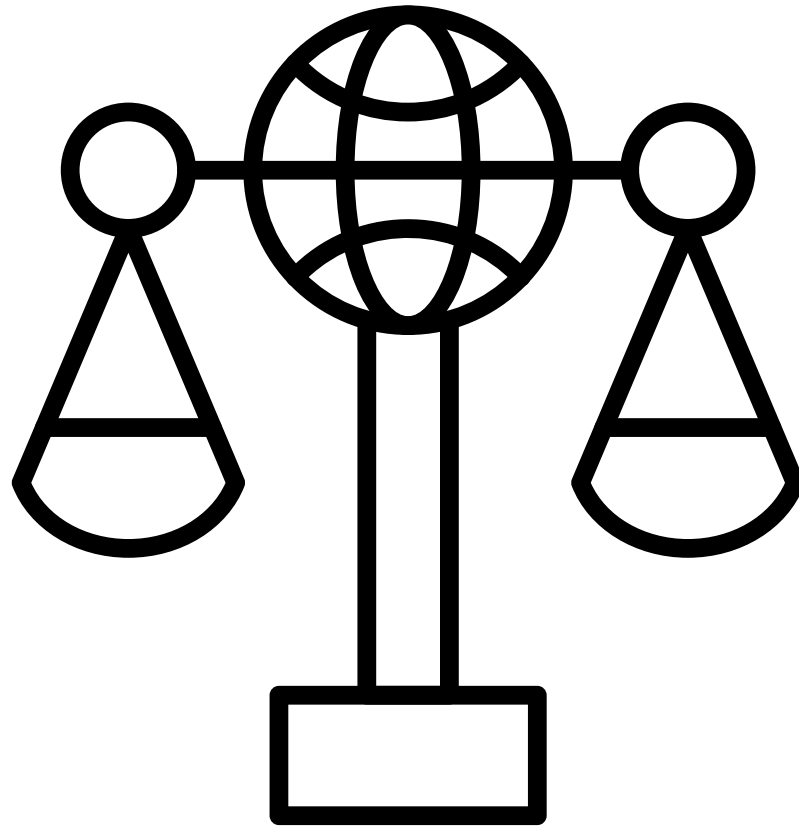
publicly promulgated



equally enforced and independently adjudicated



consistent with international law



“Rule of law [...] means that the State, public and private institutions and entities, as well as persons themselves, are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced and independently adjudicated, and are consistent with international law.”

UN Doc. A/RES/73/195 (Dec. 19, 2018), *Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration*, § 15 (d), <https://bit.ly/4m6yMVz>.



Question 1

School rule:

Violent incidents and serious disciplinary violations must be formally documented and reported to school authorities.

Which UN rule-of-law element does this most clearly reflect?

- A. Equality before the law*
- B. Public promulgation*
- C. Accountability*
- D. Conformity with international law*


 *Correct answer:*
C. Accountability

Question 2

*School rule:
School regulations
apply equally to all
students regardless
of religion, gender or
ethnic background.*

Which UN rule-of-law element is primarily involved?

- A. Independent adjudication*
- B. Equality before the law*
- C. Public promulgation*
- D. Accountability*


 *Correct answer:
B. Equality before the law*

Question 3

*School rule:
School regulations
are distributed to
students and parents
at the beginning of
the school year and
are publicly accessible
online.*

Which rule-of-law principle is reflected here?

- A. Public promulgation*
- B. Accountability*
- C. Equality before the law*
- D. Independent adjudication*

 *Correct answer:
A. Public promulgation*

Question 4

School rule:

Parents and students may appeal disciplinary decisions to higher educational authorities.

Which UN rule-of-law element does this most strongly express?

- A. Equality before the law*
- B. Conformity with international law*
- C. Independent adjudication*
- D. Public promulgation*

 *Correct answer:*

C. Independent adjudication

Question 5

*School rule:
School regulations
prohibit discriminatory
treatment and require
respect for human dignity
and religious freedom.*

Which UN rule-of-law principle is most directly reflected?

- A. Accountability*
- B. Equality before the law*
- C. Conformity with international law*
- D. Public promulgation*

 *Correct answer:*

C. Conformity with international law

CONCLUSION
WITH TWO
„Ifs”



*If we want to develop conceptual tools that will allow us to assess whether some laws are just, or which principles are morally superior to others, we should make room for the fact that the law does not arise from the principle of reciprocity itself, but is largely imposed by the legislator... by many regulators... who actively participate in the distribution of benefits and burdens**

*Pauline Westerman, Reciprocity: a fragile equilibrium, Netherlands Journal of Legal Philosophy, 2, (2014):172-184



If the main purpose [of our aid] is to help ourselves and not to help others, we are likely to get what we deserve in return, and much less than we expect

Mitchell SHARP, Canadian Associate Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce (1951-1957)

POST
SCRIPTUM

AFTERWOR(L)D





WIND OF CHANGE

THE 15TH CRIME CONGRESS AND THE
REPOSITIONING OF THE UNODC AND UNTOC



Ian Ter

- *“In 2023, INTERPOL marked its centenary with a general assembly in Vienna. Its Declaration, titled ‘Challenging the rise of transnational organized crime’, stated that ‘law enforcement in many countries cannot cope as criminals buy political influence, launch cyberattacks from different continents or operate transnationally’. It concluded, unambiguously, ‘We are at a tipping point. Action needs to be taken now.’”*
- *While serious questions are being asked about whether the Palermo Convention is still fit for purpose...UN channels for cooperation are hampered by geopolitical wrangling, and the UNODC faces serious budget cuts and operational challenges.[...]. **There have been telltale signs of the system creaking.***

The key difference

Tipping Point

systemic threshold

descriptive/(meta)analytical

network dynamics

often quantitative

emergent cascade

explains *how* change spreads

Moment

historical conjuncture

interpretive/normative

political meaning

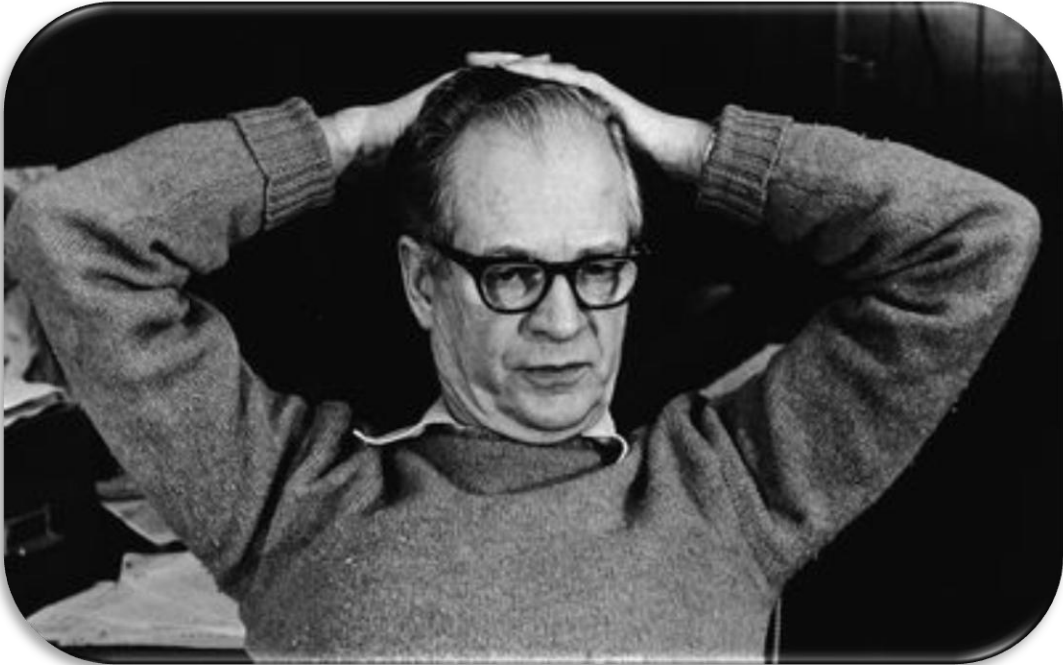
often qualitative/historical-
philosophical

decisive orientation

explains *why* a phase matters

THE CONSTITUTIONAL MOMENT





Edward Chance **Tolman** (1886–1959), University of California, Berkeley (1918-1954) was a learning theorist who advanced purposive behaviourism.

"[T]he future of a...man a supranational state would be necessary to replace the hatreds of the individual nations now displayed on battle-fields across the world. This World Federation, or superstate, or whatever we may want to call it, must command all our allegiances more strongly than our national states now do. Just as I am more loyal to the United States than I am to California, so in the future I must be more loyal to this World-Federation than I am to the United States. And not only I, but you, and the corner grocer, and the American Legionnaire, and the boys who return from this war, and the capitalist who now hates Russia, and the Russian himself who now scorns the 'backward' Chinese, and the Hindus, and the Africans, and the Indonesians, and the Germans, and the Italians, and the Japanese—all, all must then be made to adopt this one greater loyalty. All must feel that they belong to one such greater whole. For, if no such whole be consummated, then we may most certainly expect another and more terrible war when a fresh and unwitting generation shall have been raised to fighting age."

E. C. Tolman, *Drivers Toward War*. New York. Appleton-Century 1942, p. 109



*“We are here to bring multilateralism back from the brink [...] Our multilateral tools and institutions are unable to respond effectively to today’s political, economic, environmental and technological challenges, and tomorrow’s will be even more difficult and even more dangerous.[...]The United Nations Security Council is outdated, and its authority is eroding. Unless its composition and working methods are reformed, it will eventually lose all credibility.”**

**UN Secretary-General's remarks at the Opening Segment of the Summit of the Future Plenary, 22 September 2024*

TARGET

1.1



**ERADICATE EXTREME
POVERTY**

16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



ANALYSIS OF NGO WRITTEN STATEMENTS (CCPCJ 2026) THROUGH THE FIVE ELEMENTS OF THE UN RULE OF LAW

Based on the 2018 Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

FIVE ELEMENTS OF THE RULE OF LAW (Global Compact for Migration, 2018)



HOW THESE ELEMENTS APPEAR IN NGO WRITTEN STATEMENTS (KEY THEMATIC AREAS)



KEY INSIGHT: NGO statements across different thematic areas contribute to strengthening the rule of law by addressing one or more of its five interdependent elements – accountability, public promulgation, equality before the law, independent adjudication and conformity with international law.



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/slalomirredo>



ORCID: 0000-0003-2018-4217



Email Address: s@redo.net



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/slalomirredo>



ORCID: 0000-0003-2018-4217



Email Address: s@redo.net

Thank you



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/slalomirredo>



ORCID: 0000-0003-2018-4217



Email Address: s@redo.net