



Conference

Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products
In search of optimal enforcement

Utrecht

20 – 21 June 2022

Location: *Muntgebouw* (Leidseweg 90, 3531 BG Utrecht)

Organisers: *John Vervaele* (Utrecht University), *Stanislaw Tosza* (University of Luxembourg)

The conference is financed by the Utrecht University.

Monday, 20th June

12.30 – 13.45: Light Lunch

13.45 – 15.00: Introduction

- 13.45 – 14.00 Welcome by Janneke Plantenga, Dean of the Faculty of Law, Economics and Governance
- 14.00 – 14.15 Welcome and Introduction by John Vervaele (Utrecht University)
- 14.15 – 14.45 Combatting illicit trade in tobacco products - Comparative Analysis of Law and Practice by Stanislaw Tosza (University of Luxembourg)
- Discussion

15.00 – 16.30: International framework: regulation and enforcement

Chair: *John Vervaele* (Utrecht University)

Panelists:

- EU T&T system as a regional implementation of Art. 8 of the FCTC Protocol - Dr Filip Borkowski, Acting Head of Unit SANTE/B2, European Commission
- Enforcement is making choices - Gert Vorsteveld, Senior Counselor Excises/ Customs
- Illicit Trade and the U.S. FDA's Planned Ban of Menthol Cigarettes and Flavored Cigars – Eric Lindblom (O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, Georgetown Law School, USA)

Discussion

16.30 – 16.45: Coffee Break

16.45 – 18.15: Tobacco trafficking phenomenon

Chair: *Dina Siegel* (Utrecht University)

Panelists:

- Explaining the Consumption of Illicit Cigarettes in the EU – Francesco Calderoni (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano, Transcrime)
- Smoke and mirrors- empirical research on illegal tobacco trade– Dina Siegel, Brenda C. Oude Breuil, Daan van Uhm (Utrecht University)
- Illicit tobacco trade in the digital age – David Décary-Héту (University of Montréal)

Discussion

19.00: Dinner

Tuesday, 21th June

09.30 – 11.00: Enforcement: substantive law – strengths and weaknesses

Chair: *Stanislaw Tosza* (University of Luxembourg)

Panelists:

- Germany – Martin Böse (University of Bonn)
- Poland – Witold Zontek (Jagiellonian University of Krakow)
- EPPO EDP – Egon Visser
- USA – Matija Kajić (Utrecht University)

Discussion

11.00 – 11.15: Coffee Break

11.15 – 12.45: Enforcement: investigation and prosecution at national level

Chair: *Gavin Robinson* (Utrecht University)

Panelists:

- Italy – Anna Francesca Masiero (Ferrara University)
- Belgium - Ana Laura Claes (University of Liège)
- Fighting tobacco fraud in the Netherlands – Rosita van Duuren Fleming & Andre van Duinen (Strategic Analyst at the Smoke Cluster of the Dutch Tax Information and Investigation Service)

Discussion

12.45 – 13.30: Lunch

13.30 – 15.00: Enforcement: transnational and supranational cooperation

Chair: *Michiel Luchtman* (Utrecht University)

Panelists:

- The fight against illicit tobacco: innovations in national and cross-border enforcement from the Dutch perspective – Aart de Vries (Utrecht University)
- The role of OLAF in the fight against illicit tobacco trade – Giuseppe Marra, policy officer, European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)
- The double hat of the Belgian customs authorities and their relation to the EPPO – Vanessa Franssen (University of Liège/KU Leuven)

Discussion

15:00 – 15.15: Coffee Break

15.15 – 16.45: EU and neighbouring states policies against tobacco trafficking

Chair: *Cedric Ryngaert (Utrecht University)*

Panelists:

- The EU's Eastern Neighbourhood Policies in Combatting Illicit Tobacco Trade – Machiko Kanetake (Utrecht University)
- EU Agencies and Bodies as Global Actors in the Fight against Illicit Tobacco Trade – Elmin Omicevic (Utrecht University)
- Towards an integrated response to illicit tobacco and related flows in the Balkans: regulatory gaps and blindspots – Filippo Musca (Siracusa Institute)

Discussion

16.45 – 17:00: Closing Statement by John Vervaele and Stanislaw Tosza