

UNODC Executive Director Video Message

Project Launch – Strengthening nuclear security through law: the new EU project ‘Union support for the universalisation and effective implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT)’ (18 September and 18 October 2023)

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the launch of our new project on the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism.

Nuclear technology has the power to transform lives, advance science, and promote sustainable development.

But if it falls into the wrong hands, it can cause unimaginable consequences.

We must prevent nuclear and other radioactive material from being used for terrorist or other criminal purposes, and ICSANT was designed precisely for this purpose.

Since its adoption in 2005, UNODC has been championing the Convention, which now counts over 120 parties.

We have trained thousands of government officials on robust measures to prevent nuclear terrorism thanks to funding from Canada and the EU.

Through the launch of this new project, we will continue to expand this work over the next three years across the globe.

We will be developing innovative toolkits tailored for legal and technical practitioners, as well as training new generations of judges and prosecutors on the mechanisms of the Convention.

We will be doing this in close collaboration with our partners at UNOCT, the IAEA, INTERPOL, civil society, and other relevant stakeholders to leverage our complementary mandates, and I would like to thank the EU for funding this initiative.

Together, let's work towards universal adherence to ICSANT, for a world free from the threat of nuclear terrorism.

Thank you and I wish you a fruitful event.