

Third Transnational Criminal Law Review Conference

## The Borderlands of Criminal Law II (Call for Papers)

Cluster for European Research (CEUS) & Faculty of Law, Saarland University, Germany

24 and 25 May 2027

Saarland University's Cluster for European Research (CEUS) and Faculty of Law, the Transnational Criminal Law Review and the German national group of the International Association of Penal Law (AIDP Deutschland e.V.) invite academics, policy makers, lawyers, and members of civil society to participate in a conference on the borderlands of criminal law. In an increasingly inter-connected world, cross border crime is burgeoning, but so too is cross-border criminalisation and cooperation. This conference is designed to provide a venue for those who are interested in understanding and critiquing these legal responses. The »**Borderlands of Criminal Law II**« conference aims to facilitate dialogue and build networks amongst scholars, practitioners, policy makers, and individuals working on the ground to address pressing legal questions relating to the suppression of cross-border criminal activity, with a particular focus on criminal law responses in border regions.

**Topics** may include anything that falls within the field of cooperation concerning cross-border crime, including:

- **Substantive areas of legal cooperation** including, but not limited to, transnational organised crime, terrorism, cybercrime, drug trafficking, trafficking in cultural property, trafficking in endangered species, slavery, money laundering, environmental dumping, corruption, migrant smuggling, weapons smuggling, child sex tourism, transnational intellectual property offences, piracy and maritime safety offences;
- **Procedural and institutional areas of legal cooperation** such as jurisdiction, police cooperation, judicial cooperation, mutual recognition, mutual legal assistance in criminal matters, asset recovery, extradition, and other forms of international and supranational law enforcement cooperation; and
- **General theoretical and doctrinal issues relating to transnational criminal law and justice** such as the theory of transnational criminal law, the UN criminal justice system and regional criminal justice systems, and the protection of human rights of perpetrators and victims in transnational criminal law.

We welcome submissions from around the globe, focusing on legal doctrinal, theoretical, critical, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary perspectives. In particular, we encourage participation from scholars in the Global South. Those interested in presenting at the conference are invited to apply by the

web form available at <https://www.uni-saarland.de/lehrstuhl/brodowski/veranstaltungen/borderlands-of-criminal-law-ii-1.html> no later than 1 May 2026.

Applications should include:

- An abstract of 300 words maximum.
- Your name(s), affiliation(s) and contact information.
- A short biography.

A limited number of travel bursaries may be available for presenters from the Global South, members of civil society, and doctoral candidates. If you fall into one of these categories, please indicate in your application if your attendance is contingent upon the receipt of financial support.

The **Transnational Criminal Law Review (TCLR)** was launched in 2022 and is an open-access, fully peer-reviewed journal focused on all aspects of legal responses to transnational crimes. The journal was established with the aim of creating a focal point for a global community of lawyers, policy makers, activists, and scholars who work in and are interested in the field of transnational criminal law. The first TCLR conference was held in Windsor, Canada in June 2024 under the title »The Borderlands of Criminal Law«, a second TCLR conference on »Transnational Criminal Law in the Asia/Pacific« followed in November 2025 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The Transnational Criminal Law Review will **publish a selection** of conference papers. Please indicate in your application if you intend to submit a paper for consideration for publication.

**Saarland University's Cluster for European Research (CEUS)** and **Faculty of Law** are located in Saarbrücken, Germany. Being located within the so-called »Greater Region« consisting of (parts of) Belgium, France, Germany and Luxemburg, it is an area where the opportunities, risks and challenges of crossing borders may be experienced on a daily basis. Within its focus area »Europe«, Saarland University has a strong tradition in Border Studies, European Studies as well as European and International Law.

**AIDP Deutschland e.V.** is the German national group of the **International Association of Criminal Law (AIDP)**. The AIDP was founded in 1924 in Paris. As the oldest global network of criminal law experts, and one of the oldest scientific associations worldwide, the AIDP has held a unique position in its field for over a century. It engages with academics, legal practitioners, and institutions on key issues such as criminal policy and legislation, comparative and international criminal law, and human rights in criminal justice systems.