Halving Violence by 2030 (SDG16+): Role of Cities, Evidence, and Faith Leaders

SIDE EVENT: 31st Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, UNODC, Vienna

Organized by the International Organization for Victim Assistance and Co-Organized by UNODC Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Section and UN-Habitat Safer Cities Programme
UNODC has called for action now to reduce homicides across the world by 2030 (SDG16.1). Violent crime causes loss of life, widespread trauma, threat to democracy and reduced GDP.

Several agencies, including WHO, have identified prevention programs that have achieved 50% less violent crime.

ECOSOC resolutions, system-wide guidelines, and the Kyoto Declaration confirm essentials to tailor prevention nationally and locally to get results. Pathfinder cities demonstrate that these essentials have reduced violent crime by 50%.

But these are not yet well known or used.
Experts at Kyoto called for investment now in accelerators to get knowledge and essentials used to achieve SDG16.1

1. **Raise Awareness** to make decision makers and the public aware of what works.
2. **Train Human Capacity** to plan and implement violence prevention from national governments to cities.
3. **Use Safety Monitor Tools** to guide decision makers on science, implementation, and measuring results.
4. **Multiply Success Stories** to network science, guidelines, and pathfinder successes.
5. **Invest in Prevention** to provide adequate and sustained funding for prevention that stops violent crime before it happens.

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This panel focuses on how to accelerate action now by building on ways knowledge and essentials are being used to halve violent crime before 2030.

It brings together leading experts from:

- UNODC and UN-Habitat
- Latin America
- Pathfinder Cities: London (UK) and Toronto (Canada)
- A coalition of faith leaders exploring their role in halving violent crime through prevention