



CALL FOR PAPERS

The Centre for Criminal Justice and Security (CCJS), University of the West Indies

In collaboration with

The Government of Jamaica, Ministry of National Security and Peace
CARICOM, IMPACS
Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF)
United Nations Development Programme, Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean (UNDP)
The European Union (EU)

4TH CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE ON CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Montego Bay, Jamaica

Date

December 1-3 2026

Theme

Resilience and Evidence-Based Security: Structural Criminology, Organised Crime, and Citizen Security

Conference Chair

Professor Corin Bailey
Director, Centre for Criminal Justice and Security, UWI

About the Conference

Caribbean small island developing states (SIDS) are confronting an acute crisis of crime and violence that fundamentally threatens economic stability, democratic institutions, and the well-being of citizens across the region. Homicide rates significantly exceed the global average, driven by transnational organised crime, illicit financial flows, gang violence, and deep-rooted structural inequalities. The consequences are far-reaching, diverting resources from health and education, eroding public trust, and impeding sustainable development and tourism.

In response to this regional imperative, the Centre for Criminal Justice and Security (CCJS), based within the Vice Chancellery of the University of the West Indies, is convening the 4th Caribbean Conference on Crime and Criminal Justice. This will be the first high-level regional criminology conference in more than 20 years, providing a long-overdue platform for sustained, evidence-based dialogue on the causes, consequences, and responses to crime across the region.

We invite academics, researchers, policymakers, government officials, graduate students and representatives of regional and international organisations to submit abstracts (individual papers and/or panels) for presentation.

Conference Themes

Submissions are invited under the following three thematic areas:

Theme 1: Structural Criminology and Social Prevention

- Colonial Legacies and the Criminalisation of Marginality
- Poverty, Inequality, and the Social Ecology of Crime
- Risk, Resilience, and Protective Factors in Caribbean Contexts
- Structural Violence and the Roots of Criminal Behaviour

Theme 2: Disrupting Organised and Financial Crime

- Narcotics Trafficking in the Caribbean
- Firearms Trafficking and the Proliferation of Illegal Weapons
- Maritime Crime and Regional Security in Caribbean Waters
- Cybercrime, Cyber Security, and Digital Threats in the Caribbean
- Environmental Crime and Human Trafficking, and illegal migration

Theme 3: Institutional Reform and the Rule of Law

- Police Reform, Accountability, and Community Trust
- Justice System Effectiveness and Access to Justice
- Prison Reform, Rehabilitation, and Restorative Justice

- State Legitimacy, Democratic Governance, and the Rule of Law

Theme 4: Gender, Crime, and Violence

- Masculinity, Male Identity and Criminal Behaviour
- Gender-Based Violence: Patterns, Prevalence and Policy Responses
- Femicide: Trends, Drivers, and Legislative Frameworks for the Caribbean

Abstract Submission Guidelines

We welcome submissions from academics, researchers, policymakers, and representatives of regional and international organisations working on issues relevant to crime, security, and criminal justice in the Caribbean and comparative contexts. Abstracts should:

- Be no more than 200 words in length
- Abstracts must be structured and should include an introduction, design/methods, results, and discussion sentences.
- Indicate the relevant conference theme and sub-theme
- Include the author's name, institutional affiliation, and contact email
- Be submitted in English

**Please note that late submissions will not be accepted.

The Professor Anthony Harriott Award for Best Graduate Student Presentation

The 4th Caribbean Conference on Crime and Criminal Justice is pleased to offer an award for the Best Graduate Student Presentation.

To be eligible for consideration, applicants must:

- Be currently enrolled in a postgraduate programme (Masters or Doctoral level) at the time of abstract submission
- Be the lead author and presenter of the submitted abstract
- Self-declare their request for award consideration at the time of abstract submission by marking the appropriate box in the submission system

Award decisions will be based on the quality of the presentations as assessed by a panel. The panel's decision will be final. Shortlisted applicants will be asked submit an extended summary document prior to conference.

The Professor Ramesh Deosaran Award for Best Graduate Student Poster Presentation

The 4th Caribbean Conference on Crime and Criminal Justice is pleased to offer an award for the Best Graduate Student Poster.

To be eligible for consideration, applicants must:

- Be currently enrolled in a postgraduate programme (Masters or Doctoral level) at the time of abstract submission
- Be the lead author and presenter of the submitted poster
- Self-declare their request for award consideration at the time of abstract submission by marking the appropriate box in the submission system

Award decisions will be based on the quality of posters as assessed by a panel, with consideration given to clarity, originality and, the effectiveness with which information is communicated visually. The panel's decision will be final. Shortlisted applicants will be asked to present virtually prior to conference.

Key Dates

Abstract Submission Deadline: July 1, 2026

Notification of Acceptance: August 31, 2026

Conference Date: December 1-3 2026

How to Submit

Abstracts should be submitted via <https://www.uwipress.com/crime-conference/>. **Only abstracts submitted through this portal will be accepted.** For queries regarding submissions or the conference programme, please contact CCJS at (246) 417-4261 or thenesha.morris@uwi.edu
