



INSTITUTO LATINOAMERICANO DE NACIONES UNIDAS PARA LA PREVENCIÓN DEL  
DELITO Y TRATAMIENTO DEL DELINCUENTE

UNITED NATIONS LATIN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRIME  
AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

INSTITUTO LATINO-AMERICANO DAS NAÇÕES UNIDAS PARA A PREVENÇÃO DO  
DELITO E TRATAMENTO DO DELINQUENTE

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ICOPA VI

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PENAL ABOLITION

ILANUD, San José, Costa Rica

June 2-5, 1993

At the last meeting of ICOPA (International Conference on Penal Abolition) held in Indiana from May 22-25, 1991, ILANUD was designated to host the next conference in San José, Costa Rica, from June 2-5, 1993.

It is a matter of record that at the V Conference in Indiana ICOPA was declared to be a forum for the exchange of ideas between reformers, academics, activists, officials working within the criminal justice system and victims and victimizers seeking to identify and reach agreement on alternative ways of dealing with crime other than simply punishing and putting perpetrators behind bars.

ILANUD's designation as the host for ICOPA VI is, for us, a source of pride and satisfaction since this is the first time that this particular forum will meet in Latin America. The Conference

is also very propitious, coming as it does at a time when criminal justice systems in this region are experiencing serious problems. They are overloaded, with most of their energies being directed towards the pursuit and criminalization of the weakest sectors of society, thus exacerbating rather than resolving the conflicts that prompt their intervention. As a result the prison population is rising at an alarming rate, facilities are filled to overflowing, prisoners are subjected to extreme overcrowding and, in many cases, inadequate health and dietary conditions.

A similar situation exists in other regions of the world but it is especially acute in the so-called developing countries. Consequently, the exchange of ideas promoted by ICOPA will, at the very least, be refreshing, though it will without doubt accomplish much more than this by promoting individual expertise, intellectual exchange and the opportunity for individuals from different countries - and even continents - working toward the same goals to organize their activities and promote joint actions, thereby making their efforts more effective.

### Topics to be addressed at the Conference

- Development, structural violence and the ways in which criminal justice contributes to it.
- Crime, personal security and abolitionism. Are these incompatible?
- Concrete steps towards abolitionism.
- Traditional and alternative justice and abolitionism.
- The structure of prisons and abolitionism.
- Abolitionism and the gender issue
- The role of religious and spiritual communities and organizations in abolishing prisons.
- A look at an alternative drug policy
- Educating the public on abolitionism.
- Abolitionism and juvenile justice.

### Structure of the Working Meetings

Following the pattern of previous ICOPA congresses, and bearing in mind that the goal is not to promote lengthy, authoritative expositions but rather to encourage a high standard of participation and exchange of ideas between the greatest possible number of individuals, three two-hour working meetings have been scheduled for each day of the conference. Each session will involve a panel of up to five members, plus a coordinator, each of whom will be allowed to make a presentation lasting a maximum of fifteen minutes, with the remaining forty-five minutes given over to discussion.

In view of the number of topics and the large number of participants who are expected to attend, two parallel sessions will be held simultaneously. Participants will have to decide which of the two they wish to attend. Due to the high cost of simultaneous interpretation services and limited space, it will not be possible to organize more than two parallel sessions.

Nonetheless, the arrangements described above will make it possible for eighteen working meetings to be held (six sessions daily over each of the three days), meaning that a total of ninety panelists will be able present their papers.

Should more participants turn up than expected (this is a real possibility), further parallel sessions will have to be organized, albeit without simultaneous interpretation.

The papers to be presented by participants:

To facilitate a fruitful exchange of ideas, and taking into account the fact that ICOPA congresses are attended by individuals from many different countries who speak a variety of languages, we suggest that panel members bring their papers to the conference in one or both the official languages.

We also recommend that all participants bring 30 copies of their paper with them to ensure that everyone has easy access to it.

### Editorial Issues

The standard of the papers presented at ICOPA IV is expected to be very high, and ILANUD is planning to publish many of them once the conference is over.

In view of the possibility of publication, participants are asked to observe the following editorial guidelines:

- length, between 20 and 40 25-line pages per paper;
- quotes and notes to be placed at the end;
- include a summary or abstract no more than 25 lines long at the beginning, in both languages (ILANUD will facilitate the translation of these summaries for participants who so request and send in their paper prior to the conference);
- if possible, together with the hard copy of your paper supply ILANUD with an IBM-compatible computer disk written in either WordStar or WordPerfect software.

### Conference Languages:

Spanish and English. Simultaneous interpretation in both languages will be provided.

### Accommodation

The conference will be held at the Balmoral and President Hotels. The cost of accommodation at these hotels, including taxes, is as follows:

President Hotel:      single room, US \$40.50  
                             double room, US \$52.00  
                             triple room, US \$58.00

Balmoral Hotel:      single room, US \$60.00  
                             double room US \$70.50

ILANUD will also arrange free accommodation in friends' homes for those who wish to partake of some Costa Rican hospitality. Please notify us in advance.

### Registration:

The registration fee is US \$50.00 (fifty US dollars), if paid by February 28, 1993. After that date the fee rises to US \$55.00 (fifty-five US dollars).

As in the case of previous ICOPA conferences, all monies received will be used to cover the main costs of the event - in

this instance, the cost of providing simultaneous interpretation and translation services.

Also as on previous occasions, anyone not in a position to pay the registration fee can ask for it to be reduced or waived.

All cheque or drafts should be made out to ILANUD and enclosed with the registration form.

### Visit to the Costa Rican Prison System

A visit to the prison system will be organized in cooperation with the local authorities.

### Tours

Costa Rica is a country possessed of remarkable natural beauty, with beaches along both oceans, volcanoes and national parks. Organized tours are available for those interested, either before or after the conference.

### Regional Coordinators

To facilitate ILANUD's work and ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on the meeting throughout the world, a system for consultations and the distribution of information sent

out by ILANUD has been set up for each region through the following persons (the Institute can also be contacted directly, if desired):

- Canada

Ruth Morris  
198 Grandavine Drive  
Downsview  
Ontario M3J 1B7  
Canada

- USA

Frank Dunbaugh  
744 Holly Drive N.  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
(301) 974-0555

Hal Pepinsky  
Criminal Justice Dept.  
Indiana University  
Sycamore Hall, Room 319  
Bloomington, Indiana 47405

- Eastern Europe

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Institute of Penal Law  
Law Faculty, Warsaw University  
Krakowskie Przedmiescie 26/28  
00-927 Warsaw, Poland  
Phone: 26-98-86

- Western Europe

Martti Gronfors  
Lastenkodink 2 F 3  
00180 Helsinki, Finland  
Phone: 694 4660



REGISTRATION FORM FOR ICOPA VI  
SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PENAL ABOLITION  
ILANUD, San José, June 2-5, 1993

Name: . . . . .

Address: . . . . .

. . . . . Country of origin: . . . . .

Tel: . . . . . Fax: . . . . .

The paper I wish to present at the panel is entitled:. . . . .

Registration fee: (tick one only)

I enclose the sum of US\$ 50.00

I enclose the sum of US\$\_\_\_\_ (Fill in the amount  
you are able to contribute)

(Please make out all cheque or drafts to ILANUD)

I should like the registration fee to be waived.

Please reserve the following accommodation for me (tick one)

President Hotel, single room, US\$40.50

President Hotel, double room, US\$52.00

President Hotel, triple room, US\$58.00

Balmoral Hotel, single room, US\$60.00

Balmoral Hotel, double room, US\$70.50

I should like to be put up at a friend's house.