
Call for Papers
CRIMSA 2027 International Biennial Conference

Theme: *Crime, Security, Technology and Social Justice: Shaping Safe, Resilient and Inclusive Societies*

Date: 25 – 27 August 2027

Venue: Premier Splendid Inn, Umhlanga, Durban, South Africa

The Criminological Society of Africa (CRIMSA) invites scholars, researchers, practitioners, policymakers, postgraduate students, civil society organisations, and criminal justice professionals to submit abstracts for the **2027 CRIMSA Biennial Conference**.

Africa is experiencing profound social, economic, technological, and environmental transformations that are reshaping patterns of crime, victimisation, justice, and security. Emerging technologies, climate-related challenges, urbanisation, migration, changing forms of organised crime, and evolving notions of social justice, present both opportunities and risks for societies across the continent.

Against this backdrop, the 2027 CRIMSA Conference seeks to provide a platform for critical engagement on the future of Criminology, Criminal Justice, and public safety in Africa. The conference aims to stimulate dialogue, promote collaboration, and generate innovative solutions for addressing contemporary and emerging crime and justice challenges.

The conference will explore how African societies can build safer, more inclusive, resilient, and just communities while responding to the opportunities and challenges of a rapidly changing world.

Conference Sub-Themes

Submissions are invited on, but not limited to, the following areas:

1. Technology, Artificial Intelligence and Crime

- Artificial intelligence and criminal justice: African perspectives
- Cybercrime and cybersecurity: global threats, local responses
- Digital fraud and financial crime in the Global South

- Social media, online harms, and misinformation
- Digital surveillance, privacy, and human rights in African contexts
- Digital forensic investigations: Northern models and African challenges
- Online sexual abuse and technology-facilitated violence
- Facial recognition, predictive policing, and algorithmic bias
- Data sovereignty and the politics of digital knowledge production
- The global governance of AI and its implications for African justice systems

2. Gender, Justice and Post-Colonial Feminist Perspectives

- African and post-colonial feminism approaches to crime, violence and justice
- Sexual violence by persons in authority and the coloniality of power
- Intersectionality (race, class, gender, age, disability) and the colonial construction of difference
- Justice by the state vs justice in communities: Gendered dimensions
- Approaches to improving CJ response to GBV
- Legislative and policy implementation: Colonial inheritance and post-colonial reform
- Transformative justice and feminist alternatives to carceral approaches
- Gender-based violence and femicide
- Violence against children
- Victimology and victim support in African contexts
- Masculinities and violence and the colonial construction of manhood

3. Disability, Gender and Access to Justice

- Gender-based violence against persons with disabilities
- Disability, intersectionality and structural inequalities in post-colonial societies
- Access to justice for persons with disabilities within criminal justice systems
- Barriers to reporting violence and victimisation among persons with disabilities
- Disability-inclusive approaches to victim support and rehabilitation services
- The experiences of persons with disabilities as victims, witnesses and offenders
- Policy, legislative and institutional responses to violence against persons with disabilities
- Community-based and transformative justice approaches for persons with disabilities
- The role of culture, stigma and discrimination in shaping justice outcomes for persons with disabilities

4. Organised Crime, Corruption and Illicit Economies

- Transnational organised crime
- Human trafficking and modern slavery
- Drug markets and trafficking networks
- Corruption and governance
- Financial crimes and money laundering
- Illegal mining and resource-related crimes

5. Policing, Security and Public Trust

- Police legitimacy and accountability
- Community policing
- Intelligence-led and data-driven policing
- Security governance
- Public trust in criminal justice institutions
- Comparative policing in Africa

6. Climate Change, Environmental Crime and Security

- Wildlife crime and conservation
- Environmental justice
- Illegal extraction of natural resources
- Climate change and crime
- Water security and conflict
- Green Criminology

7. Youth, Communities and Crime Prevention

- Youth offending and resilience
- School safety
- Gang violence and intervention strategies
- Community crime prevention
- Social cohesion and public safety
- Indigenous and local approaches to crime prevention

8. Migration, Borders and Human Security

- Migration and crime
- Border security
- Refugee and migrant vulnerabilities
- Xenophobia and social conflict
- Human security in Africa
- Regional cooperation and crime prevention

9. Corrections, Rehabilitation and Restorative Justice

- Correctional reform
- Rehabilitation and reintegration
- Recidivism and desistance
- Restorative justice
- Mental health and corrections
- Alternatives to incarceration

10. Emerging Issues in African Criminology

- Decolonising Criminology
- Indigenous knowledge systems
- African-centred criminological theory
- Ethical challenges in criminological research
- Future directions in African Criminology
- Innovative methodologies and interdisciplinary approaches

Submission Guidelines

Abstracts

Authors are invited to submit abstracts of **250–300 words**.

Abstracts should include:

- Title of the paper
- Author(s) and affiliation(s)
- Contact details
- Conference sub-theme
- Objectives of the study
- Methodology
- Key findings (where applicable)
- Keywords (3–5)

Presentation Formats

Submissions are welcome in the following categories:

- Individual papers
- Panel discussions
- Roundtable sessions
- Poster presentations
- Practitioner and policy forums
- Postgraduate research presentations

Awards

To encourage excellence and emerging scholarship, awards will be presented for:

- Best Student Paper
- Best Emerging Researcher Paper
- Best Seasoned Researcher Paper

- Best Poster Presentation

Who Should Attend?

The conference welcomes:

- Academics and researchers
- Postgraduate students
- Policymakers
- Criminal justice practitioners
- Police officials
- Correctional services professionals
- Social workers and psychologists
- NGOs and civil society organisations
- Security and technology professionals
- International development partners

Post-Conference Publication

There is no need to send your full paper to the conference organisers before the actual conference, since there will be no Conference Special Edition of the Society's journal to be published based on the submission and acceptance of abstracts of papers presented at the CRIMSA Conference 2027. Therefore, it is not mandatory to prepare a full paper before the conference. However, presenters of completed studies and discourses will be encouraged to submit their full papers for consideration for publication in the **General Editions** of *Acta Criminologica: African Journal of Criminology and Victimology*. We would encourage authors to submit their publications to *Acta Criminologica* within a month after the conference. Authors must adhere strictly to the editorial rules and author guidelines of the journal (available on the website at: [Acta Criminologica - CRIMSA](https://crimsa.ac.za/abstract2027)), and the submitted papers will undergo the standard peer review processes for a regular edition. The Editorial Team of *Acta Criminologica* will be available at the conference to address any queries.

Important Dates, Registration Fees & Banking Details

Activity	Date
Abstract Submission Deadline (Submission Link: https://crimsa.ac.za/abstract2027)	28 February 2027
Notification of Acceptance	30 April 2027
Conference Registration and Payment Deadline (Registration Link: https://crimsa.ac.za/2027-crimsa-conference/)	Registrations will open after Abstracts have been approved. Payment deadline 11 June 2027
Full Programme Released	30 June 2027
Conference Dates	25 – 27 August 2027

Registration Fees	CRIMSA Member Fee (SA & Int.)	Non-member Fee (SA & Int.)
Full registration fee	R5 500 (Int. US\$345 or equivalent)	R6 000 (Int. US\$376 or equivalent)
Student registration fee (provide proof of registration)	R3 500 (Int. US\$220 or equivalent)	R4 000 (Int. US\$251 or equivalent)
Daily registration	R2 500 (Int. US\$157 or equivalent)	R2 500 (Int. US\$157 or equivalent)

Banking Details	
Swift code (International transactions):	ABSAZAJJCPT
Name of bank:	ABSA Bank
Branch address:	1102 Burnett Street, Hatfield, Pretoria. PO Box 7263, Pretoria, 0001, SOUTH AFRICA
Account holder name:	KRIMSA
Branch code:	335-545
Account number:	010471656 (Current account)
Reference to be inserted:	CNF Surname & initials

REGISTRATION FOR DELEGATES AND PRESENTERS WHOSE PAYMENTS ARE NOT RECEIVED BY 11 JUNE 2027 WILL BE CANCELLED. NO PAYMENT, NO CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE.

Join the Conversation

The 2027 CRIMSA Biennial Conference offers a unique opportunity to shape the future of justice, security, and criminological scholarship across Africa. We invite participants from across the continent and the globe to contribute to this important dialogue and help envision innovative, inclusive, and sustainable responses to contemporary crime and justice challenges.

For enquiries

Conference Email: crimsaconference@gmail.com

Conference Website: <https://crimsa.ac.za/2027-crimsa-conference/>

CRIMSA Contact Details: crimsasouthafrica@gmail.com

Together, let us advance African perspectives on justice, security, and social transformation.