

Lesson handout on the definition of elements of an organized criminal group

Directions

After viewing the video, ask the students to identify segments of the video that correspond to the key elements of the definition of an organized criminal group as defined in article 2 of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. For example, ask the students to identify how the group works together (or acts in concert) (article 2b).

Group + Time + Serious crime + Purpose = OCG

A structured group of 3 or more persons	Existing for a period of time	Acting in concert to commit a serious crime	Purpose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This can include loosely affiliated groups without any formally defined roles for its members. • Organized criminal groups can be small and large. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An organized criminal group does not have to exist for a long period of time, even though some groups have operated for decades. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An organized criminal group works together for the purpose of committing at least one serious crime. • This conduct is punishable by a prison sentence of four years or more. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of participation in an organized criminal group is to directly or indirectly obtain financial gain or other material benefit.