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Course on

ILLICIT MARKETS AND ORGANIZED CRIME IN THE AMERICAS

PMI impact

MINISTÉRIO DA
JUSTIÇA E
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Class

Illicit Markets and Organized Crime

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PMI impact

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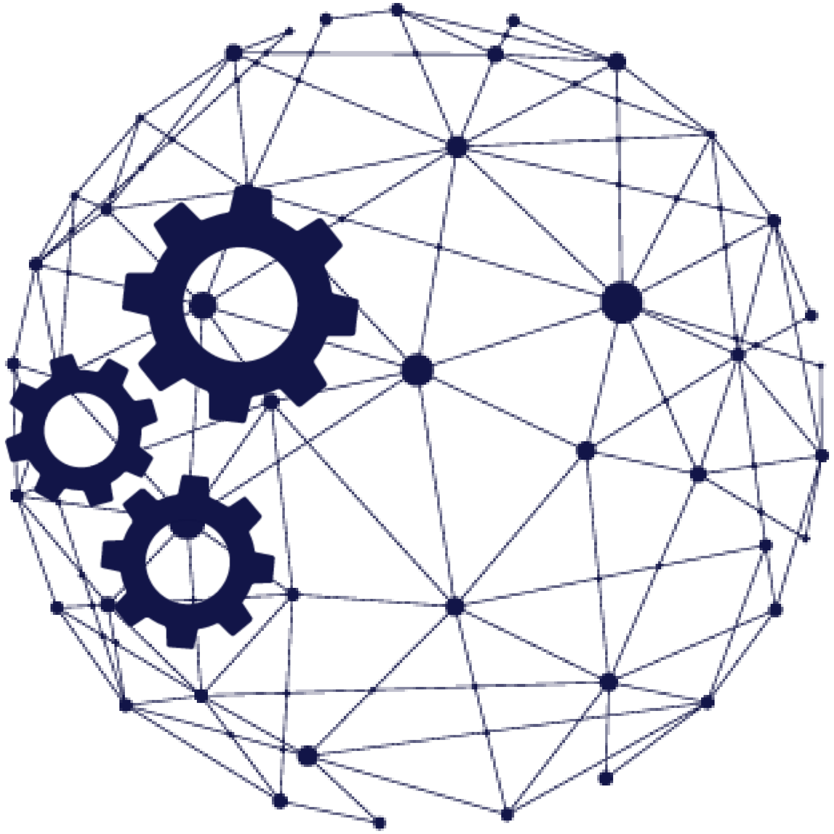
Introduction

Illicit Trades and Organized Crime are phenomena present in various parts of the world, involving illegal activities and impacting society in different ways.

This class will explore the scope of illicit markets and the knowledge of how organized crime operates is essential to understand the challenges faced by governments and society in the search for security and control of these activities.



Concepts

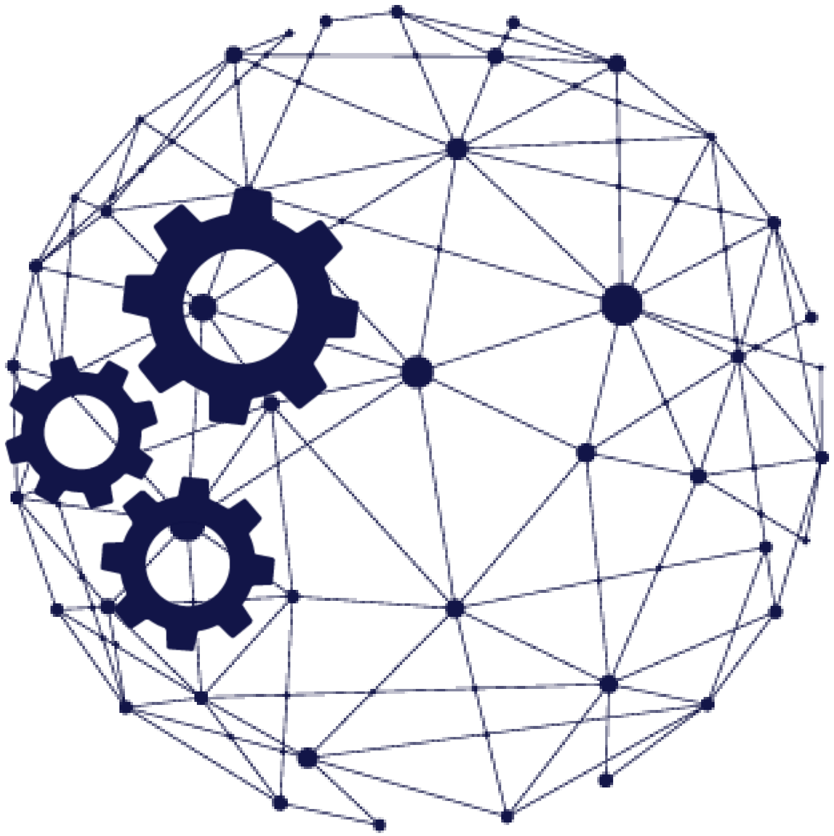
Illicit markets: These are markets where goods and services prohibited by law are traded. This includes substances such as drugs, illegal weapons, human trafficking, among others;

Organized crime: Refers to continued criminal enterprises that seek profit through illegal activities of high public demand. These organizations use force, threats and the corruption of public officials to maintain their existence;

Transnational organized crime: Refers to illegal activities involving the cooperation and coordination of criminal groups in different countries. This occurs in the global markets for drugs, weapons, human trafficking, among others..

Class Content

We can describe the “illicit markets” as a type of **economic activity** in which it is identified, among others, the: production, distribution, sale and purchase of **prohibited products and services**, such as narcotics, wild animals and sex trade; the **irregular sale** of commodities, such as antiques and precious stones, products that infringe intellectual rights, and products that do not conform to the standards of local standards; the sale of products outside their target market without paying local taxes, such as cigarettes and alcohol, stolen goods such as cars and electronics.



Class Content

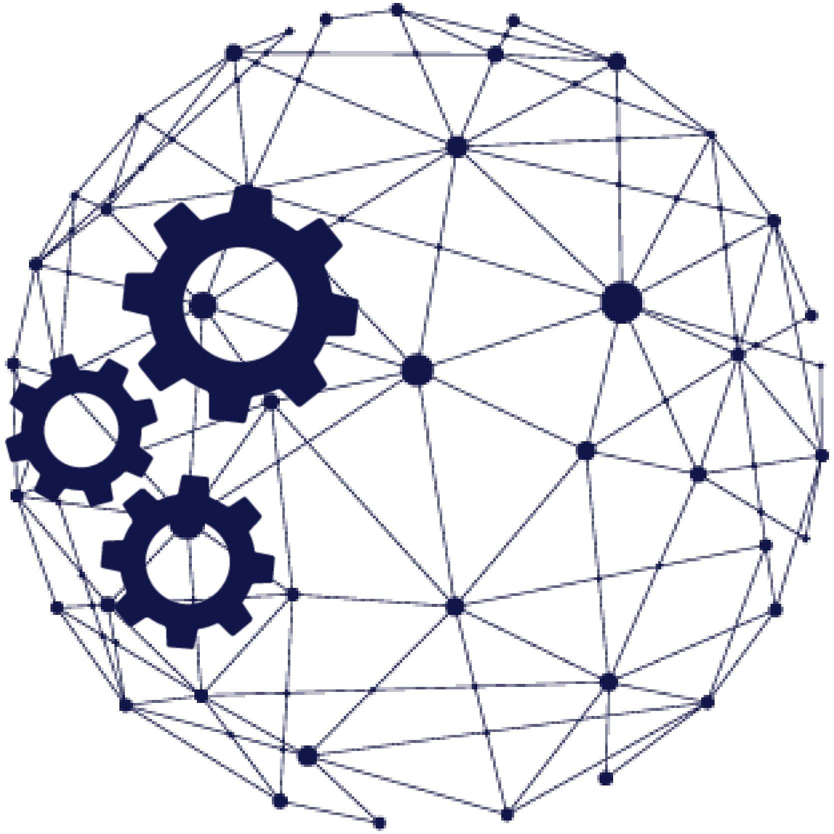
The organization of illicit markets, price formation and the behavior of firms that operate in these markets can be analyzed according to an economic model of **costs and benefits**. These activities are subject to a simple economic logic: if there is some kind of demand for these goods and services, there will always be someone or some organization dedicated to meeting this demand.

Thus, **illicit markets refer to the trade of goods or services that are prohibited by law or regulated in some way**. They can also refer to **underground economies** where unreported income is generated by illegal activities such as tax evasion or the sale of stolen goods. These markets often have a negative impact on society and **can lead to economic instability, increased crime rates and public health problems.**

Class Content

The problem of organized crime as a continued criminal enterprise rationally seeks to profit from illegal activities of high public demand. Prohibition and rationing create niche markets in which criminal groups - **using violence, threats and corruption** - circumvent legal controls and trade illicit or scarce goods.

Goods that are legally produced can also be illegally traded, such as the controlled drug OxyContin.



Class Content

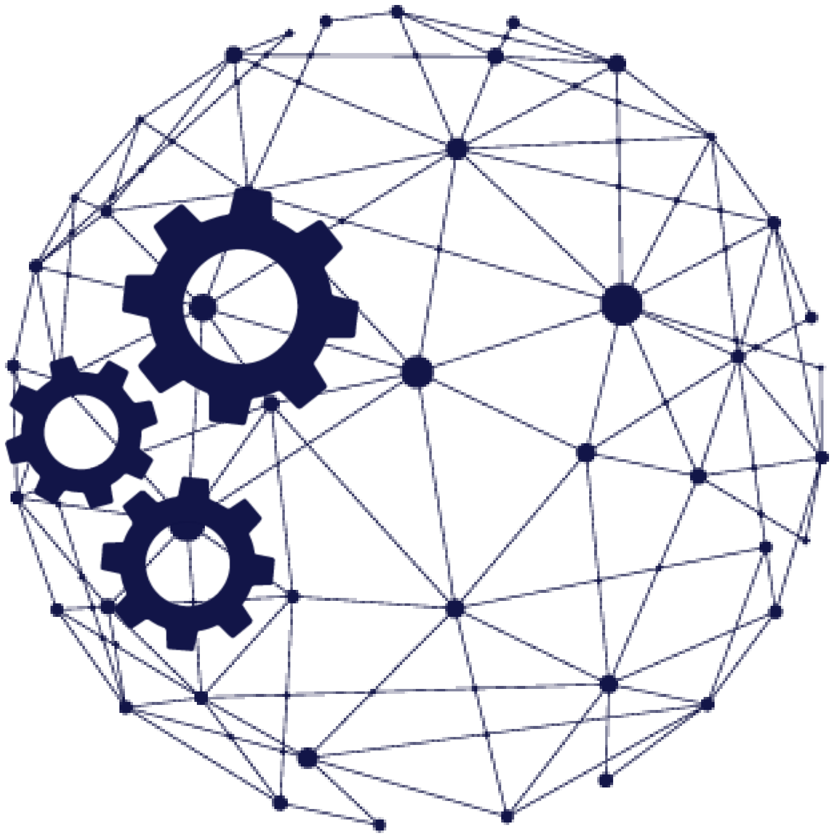
Illicit markets and organized crime are related phenomena. Criminal groups such as drug cartels, human trafficking groups and illegal arms dealers are often involved in the creation and operation of illicit markets.

Criminal groups (ORCRIMs) also provide a range of services to facilitate the operation of illicit markets such as money laundering, corruption and violence. These ORCRIMs may bribe public and law enforcement officials to turn a blind eye to their activities or actively facilitate their operations. This allows these groups to operate with relative impunity, making repression by the police and other agencies of the criminal justice system more difficult.

Class Content

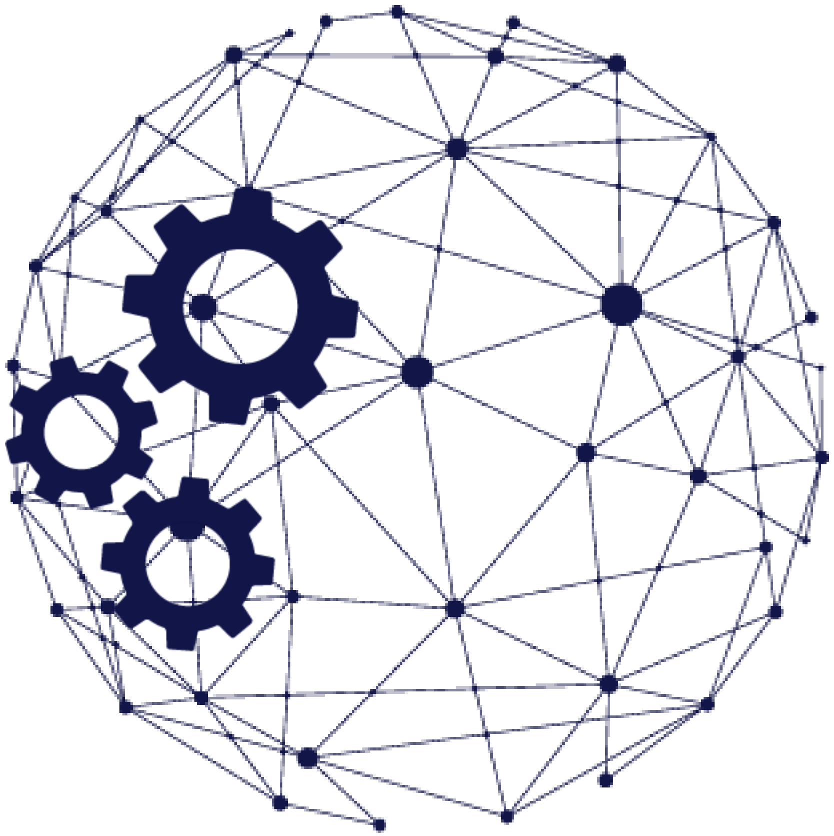
The connection between illicit markets and organized crime is a significant challenge for governments and law enforcement agencies around the world.

In this sense, directly or indirectly **cooperation** between criminal justice system institutions, as well as between them and the private sector, both domestically and internationally, while consolidating itself as the governance mechanism that ensures more efficiency in tackling global illicit markets, requires the construction and development of structuring models that enable a more qualified problem management.



Class Summary

- The Organized Crime organization and structures in the Americas;
- The main concepts about Illicit Markets and Organized Crime;
- Crime as an enterprise and relations established between illicit markets and criminal groups;
- The importance of international cooperation.



Reference

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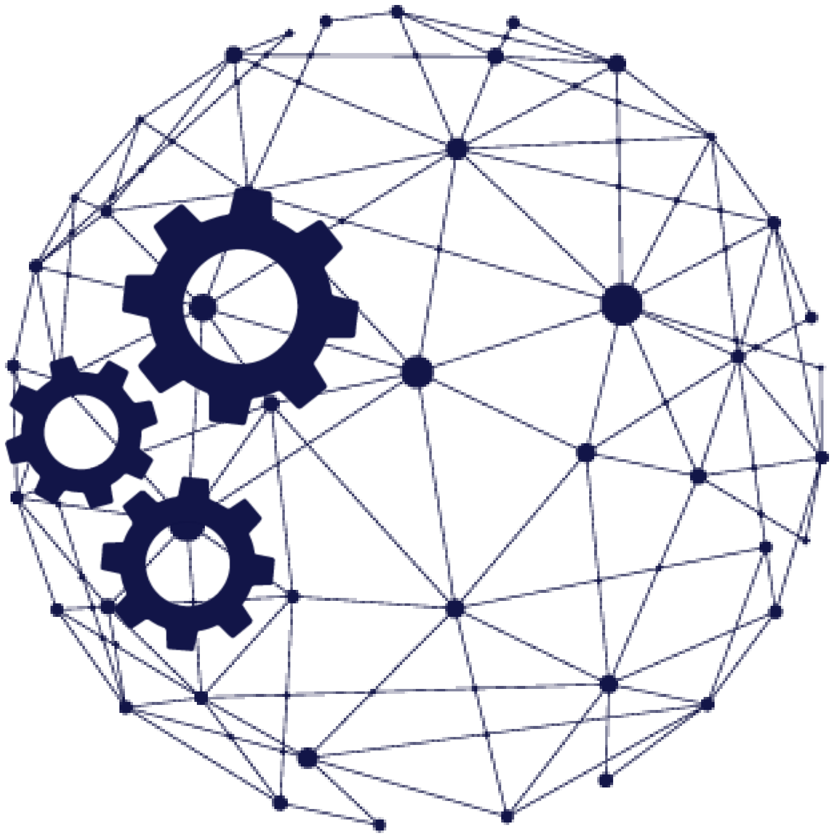

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