

**Speaker:** *Siru Törnroos* and *Vernon White*

**Presentation title:** Guns and illegal protection business by organized crime: the method and countermeasures

Illegal protection business is a method used widely by organized crime groups and mafias. The method bases on a threat of violence, normally gun violence, and may cause extortion and corruption. The illegal protection business may also interlink with other illicit acts, such as drug trafficking. How does the method really work? How many people a mafioso may “protect” at the same time? Also, there are multiple risks when criminals start such business, especially in states that have been free from these illegal activities previously. Are there some existing effective countermeasures by law enforcement?