

UNIVERSITY OF  
LUCERNE

FACULTY OF LAW

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK FOR LAW  
AND ECONOMICS – LUCERNAFORUM

13<sup>TH</sup> LAW AND ECONOMICS  
CONFERENCE IN LUCERNE

# LAW AND ECONOMICS OF CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

13-14 MARCH 2026,  
FROHBURGSTRASSE 3,  
UNIVERSITY OF LUCERNE

PARTNERS



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# Law and Economics of Crime and Punishment

The modern economic analysis of crime began with Gary Becker's seminal essay "Crime and Punishment: An Economic Approach" (1968). Becker framed criminal behaviour as a rational choice made by individuals weighing the expected benefits of committing a crime against the expected costs, depending on the probability of being convicted and the severity of punishment. In addition, the economic analysis offers a framework to determine the efficient level of deterrence based on the minimum of the total social costs of crime.

More recently, Becker's model was challenged by the insights from behavioural economics. Empirical findings revealed that individuals often deviate from rationality or have limited self-control. The behavioural turn in Law & Economics led to new policy approaches emphasizing nudges and preventive measures beyond punitive deterrence. Moreover, the economic analysis can be applied not only to offenders, but also to prosecutors, judges, and the police – making criminal law and enforcement in general subject to the economic analysis of law.

This conference aims to analyse the foundational principles of crime and punishment from a law and economics perspective. The contributions address the incentives and effects of substantive criminal law as well as procedural law and enforcement. Punitive norms in other areas of law, such as administrative law, competition law, or tax law, will also be discussed. In addition to theoretical contributions on the economic analysis of crime, a special interest lies on empirical findings in criminology.

## Programme

**FRIDAY, 13 MARCH 2026**

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09.00 – 09.15 Registration

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09.15 – 09.30 Prof. Dr. Klaus Mathis, University of Lucerne  
*Welcome and Opening Address*

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**PANEL 1 CHAIR: ASSOC. PROF. DR. ANN-SOPHIE VANDENBERGHE ROOM 4.A05**

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09.30 – 10.30 Univ.-Prof. DDr. Peter Lewisch, University of Vienna  
*Punishing an Offender Makes you (Un-)happy: Intrinsic Utility or Disutility of Punishment?*

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10.30–11.00 Coffee Break

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11.00–12.00 Prof. Dr. Francesco Parisi, University of Minnesota & University of Bologna  
*Juries on Trial*

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12.00 – 13.00 Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Avishalom Tor, University of Notre Dame Law School  
*Why Punishment Inevitably Fails to Fit the Crime: Recognizing the Coherent Arbitrariness of Criminal Sanctions*

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13.00–14.00 Lunch

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**PANEL 2A****CHAIR: DR. EMANUELE PEZATI FRANCO DE MORAES****ROOM 4.A05**

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14.00 – 14.25 Prof. Dr. Michael Faure, University of Maastricht & Erasmus University Rotterdam & University of Indonesia  
Dr. Guotong Shen, Guangxi University  
*The Effectiveness of Environmental Criminal Law: What Does the Evidence Tell Us?*

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14.25 – 14.50 Dr. Ido Baum, Haim Striks Faculty of Law, Colman  
Dr. Jarosław Bełdowski, Warsaw School of Economics  
*The Crime of Insider Trading and the Limits of Punishment: Evidence from the Warsaw Stock Exchange*

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14.50 – 15.15 Dr. Riccardo Milani, University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Western Switzerland  
Prof. Dr. Maurizio Lisciandri, LUMSA University, Rome-Palermo  
*The Economics of Asset Confiscation: A Survival Analysis of Confiscated Firms in Italy*

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15.15 – 15.40 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dusica Stevcevska-Srbinoska, Rennes School of Business & University American College Skopje  
*Cracking Modern Fraud: Forensic Accounting at a Crossroads of Competence and Change*

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15.40 – 16.10 **Coffee Break**

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**PANEL 3A****CHAIR: DR. JAROSŁAW BEŁDOWSKI****ROOM 4.A05**

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16.10 – 16.35 Prof. Dr. Michele Alessandra Hastreiter, Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná  
Ph.D. Candidate Domingos José Perfetto Jr., Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná  
*The (In)Efficiency of MLAT: Obtaining Big Techs' Telematic Data for Criminal Investigations in Brazil*

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16.35 – 17.00 Prof. Salil Mehra, Temple University, Philadelphia  
*Rehabilitation Without Prison: Introducing Refundable Fines*

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17.00 – 17.25 Prof. Dr. Andrea Minto, University of Venice & University of Stavanger  
*Bank Deposits, Cash, Crypto and CBDC: Towards a Consistent AML Regulatory Approach*

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17.25 – 17.50 Dr. Emanuele Pezati Franco de Moraes, University of São Paulo  
*Economic Analysis of Crime in Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) Environments*

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18.30

**Dinner (speakers)**

Dinner Lecture by Prof. Dr. Deborah Tor, University of Notre Dame  
*Cruel and Unusual Punishment in the Medieval Islamic World*

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**PANEL 2B CHAIR: DR. FABIAN BRAND****ROOM 4.B55**

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14.00 – 14.25 Prof. Dr. Gideon Parchomovsky, University of Pennsylvania & The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
*Rehabilitation Without Prison: Introducing Refundable Fines*

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14.25 – 14.50 Prof. Dr. Svenja Hippel, Bonn University  
Dr. Sven Hoeppner, Charles University & Free University Berlin  
*Day Fines vs Fairness Norms: A Vignette Experiment*

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14.50 – 15.15 Prof. Dr. Mitja Kovac, University of Ljubljana  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ann-Sophie Vandenbergh, Erasmus University Rotterdam  
*Reconsidering the Role of Day Fines: A Comparative Law and Economics Approach*

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15.15 – 15.40 Prof. Dr. Rolf H. Weber, University of Zurich  
*Fines as Sanctions in Financial Market – Quo Vadis?*

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15.40 – 16.10 **Coffee Break**

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**PANEL 3B CHAIR: PROF. DR. SRBINOSKI****ROOM 4.B55**

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16.10 – 16.35 Dr. Fabian Brand, University of Lucerne  
*Taking Behavioral Skepticism Seriously: Law and Economics' Deterrence Theory in a Moral World*

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16.35 – 17.00 Dr. Maria Beatriz Brito, Adjunct Professor, NOVA School of Law, Lisbon  
Prof. Dr. Fabrizio Esposito, NOVA School of Law, Lisbon  
*A Matter of Scope: The Missing Variable in Deterrence Theory to Fit With the Law*

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17.00 – 17.25 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ákos Szalai, Pázmány Peter Catholic University, Budapest  
*Nullum Crimen Sine Lege, A Neoclassical-Behavioral Analysis and the Hayekian Critique*

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17.25 – 17.50 Ph.D. Candidate André H. Paris, Vitória Law School, Santa Lucia (Brasil)  
*Cognitive Rationalizations and White-Collar Crime – Behavioral-Economics and the Limits of Deterrence*

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18.30 **Dinner (speakers)**

Dinner Lecture by Prof. Dr. Deborah Tor, University of Notre Dame  
*Cruel and Unusual Punishment in the Medieval Islamic World*

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**PANEL 2C****CHAIR: PROF. SALIL MEHRA****ROOM 4.B51**

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14.00 – 14.25 Prof. Dr. Doron Teichmann, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Dr. Adi Leibovitch, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
*The Expressive Power of Law: An Experimental Study of Moderating Factors*

14.25 – 14.50 Prof. Dr. Igor Srbinoski, Rennes School of Business & University American College Skopje  
*Immunity or Impunity? The Double Standards of Prosecuting Diplomatic Crimes*

14.50 – 15.15 Prof. Dr. Michele Alessandra Hastreiter, Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná  
Ph.D. Candidate Domingos José Perfetto Jr., Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná  
*The “Involution” of Cooperation: The Application of the Magnitsky Act to Brazilian Supreme Court Justices through the Lens of Rational Choice Theory*

15.15 – 15.40 Prof. Dr. Rute Saraiva, University of Lisbon  
*Female Genital Mutilation in Guinea-Bissau and the Changes in Criminal Law: Between Norm Shifting and Polarisation*

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15.40 – 16.10 **Coffee Break**

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**PANEL 3C****CHAIR: DR. SVEN HOEPPNER****ROOM 4.B51**

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16.10 – 16.35 Ph.D. Candidate Dawn Zaiter, University of Aberdeen  
*Greenwashing and the Economic Analysis of Crime and Punishment*

16.35 – 17.00 Prof. Dr. Nathalia França, Mackenzie Presbyterian University, São Paulo  
*The War on Drugs in Brazil, Selective Enforcement, Systemic Bias, and the Economics of Punishment*

17.00 – 17.25 Prof. Dr. Katja Šugman Stubbs, University of Ljubljana  
Ph.D. Candidate Lana Gotvan, University of Ljubljana  
*Motivated Cognition on the Criminal Bench: Insights from Slovenian Constitutional Adjudication*

17.25 – 17.50 Ph.D. Candidate Jon Gashi, University of Bern  
*Withholding Income Tax as a Nudge for Compliance*

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18.30 **Dinner (speakers)**  
Dinner Lecture by Prof. Dr. Deborah Tor, University of Notre Dame  
*Cruel and Unusual Punishment in the Medieval Islamic World*

SATURDAY, 14 MARCH 2026

**PANEL 4** **CHAIR: ASSOC. PROF. DR. DUSICA STEVCEVSKA-SRBINOSKA** **ROOM 4.A05**

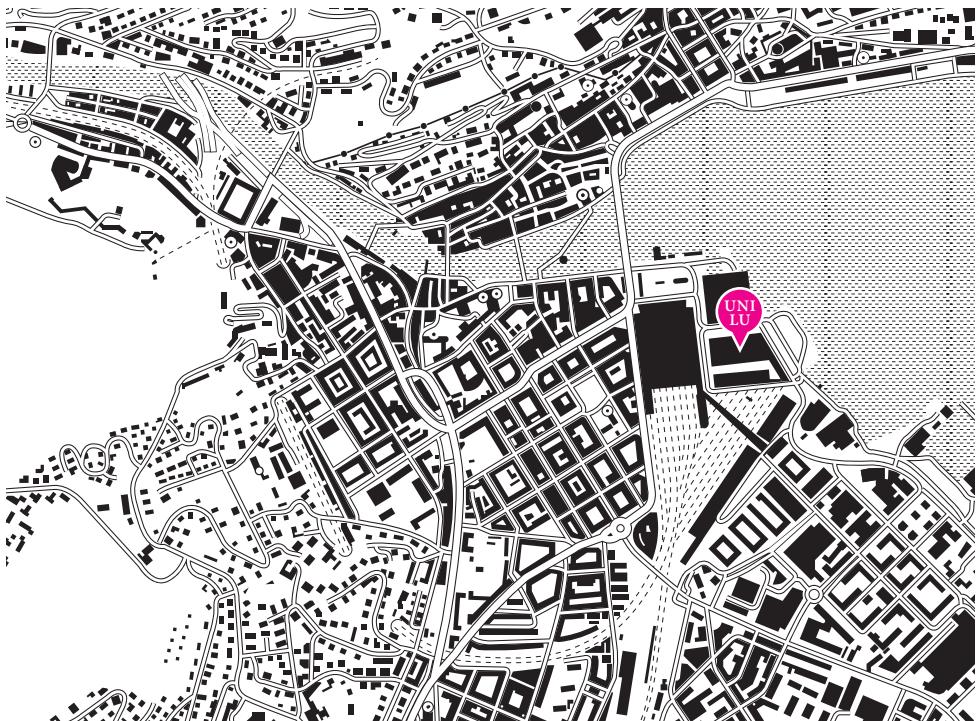
09.00 – 10.00 Prof. em. Dr. Dr. h.c. Martin Killias, University of Zurich & University of St. Gallen  
*Severity of Punishment – A Neglected Variable*

10.00 – 10.30 Coffee Break

10.30 – 11.30 Prof. Dr. Nora Markwalder, University of St. Gallen  
*The Effects of Hearings on Prosecutorial Decision-Making: A Randomized Controlled Trial*

11.30 – 11.40 Prof. Dr. Klaus Mathis, University of Lucerne  
Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Avishalom Tor, Notre Dame Law School  
*Concluding Remarks*

### 11.45 Lake Cruise with Lunch (speakers)



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## REGISTRATION

Participation is free  
(coffee breaks included).  
Please register by  
1<sup>st</sup> March 2026 via email to  
[lehrstuhl-mathis@unilu.ch](mailto:lehrstuhl-mathis@unilu.ch)

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## VENUE

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