

ImpleMéndez newsletter



WELCOME TO THE FOURTH EDITION OF THE **IMPLEMÉNDEZ NEWSLETTER!**

OUR GOAL IS TO LAUNCH A PERIODIC NEWSLETTER THAT HIGHLIGHTS **KEY DEVELOPMENTS, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND EVENTS** WHILE ENSURING **TIMELY COMMUNICATION** WITH ALL MEMBERS.

Latest Developments

CEPOL Research & Science Conference 2024/2025

From 25 to 27 March 2025, sixteen of our colleagues represented the Action at the CEPOL Research & Science Conference 2024/2025, titled “Tackling the World of High-Risk Criminal Networks (HRCN)”. The event took place in Rome, Ostia, and gathered leading experts and practitioners from across Europe and beyond. Our delegation delivered presentations centered on the Action and COST, particularly promoting a model of investigative interviewing aligned with the Méndez Principles. The conference marked a significant achievement for our “ImpleMendez” team, offering a platform to showcase research and advocacy efforts, network with national stakeholders, and disseminate knowledge about the Méndez Principles. We’re also pleased to share that the presentations will be featured as full-length articles in the upcoming issue of the European Law Enforcement Research Bulletin (Bulletin)—a respected periodical published both online and in print by CEPOL.



Your ImpleMendez Core Management (CM) group

Chair

Dave Walsh

Vice-Chair

Yvonne Daly

WG1

Investigation and Interviewing

Leader: Lennart May

WG2

Law, Human Rights, Criminal Justice

Leader: Anželika Banevičienė

WG3

Vulnerability

Leader: Lore Mergaerts

WG4

Institutional and Governmental Leadership

Leader: Zvonimir Ivanovic

Special coordinators:

Kristjan Kask

Science Communication Co-ordinator

Ivar Fahsing

Grant awarding co-ordinator

Latest Developments

New Network Groups – *This month's spotlight on The Emerging Technologies group*

On 8 April 2025, the Emerging Technologies Group held an online meeting where several topics were explored. Discussions included the use of AI-powered tools for interview transcription, AI-based support for interview planning and preparation, and best practices for interview recording. Looking ahead, the next online meeting is scheduled for 8 May 2025, where the group will delve even deeper into how technology can enhance investigative and interviewing practices. Planned discussion topics include:

- Developing AI-assisted tools for investigation and interviewing
- Transcribing interviews using AI solutions
- Incorporating avatars in interview training
- Conducting interviews via chat and video calls
- Technical and ethical considerations around interview recording

Other new network groups are also being undertaken. These include The Training Curriculum Network, The Diversity and Cross Cultural Interviewing Network, The Forensic Linguistics and Interpreters Network. Future issues of the Newsletter will provide more information about these too. Please contact the Editors of the Newsletter Communication Team to express your interest in any of these new network groups. Our contact details can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Introduction to the Polish translation of the MP

Our Polish colleagues – Katarzyna Holewik, Olga Mazur, and Denis Solodov – have prepared the introduction to the Polish translation of the Mendez Principles. The document (in Polish) will be disseminated among national stakeholders and academic institutions. Its goal is to clarify the aims, internal structure, and content of the Mendez Principles to facilitate their understanding and full domestication. A workshop is planned for mid-June in Kraków (kindly organized by Olga Mazur) to discuss both the introduction and the Principles with relevant stakeholders.

Upcoming events

The Vulnerable Accused in the Criminal Justice System (VACJS) Conference

We are pleased to announce that the Vulnerable Accused in the Criminal Justice System (VACJS) Conference will be held at Cardiff University (Wales) on 10–11 September 2025, with generous support from the Centre for Law and Society (Cardiff University), the Society of Legal Scholars, and the ImpleMéndez Action. This conference will bring together scholars and practitioners to explore the challenges faced by vulnerable accused persons in criminal proceedings. We hope to see many of you in attendance and are excited to invite submissions of abstracts—the call for papers is attached. A limited number of reimbursed places are available for ImpleMéndez members wishing to attend the conference. Priority will be given to young researchers (those under the age of 40 at the time of application) and to those from Inclusiveness Target Countries ([see the full list here](#)). Additional priority will be given to applicants whose abstract is accepted, and to those whose submissions demonstrate high quality and strong relevance to the conference themes. ImpleMéndez members who receive reimbursement are required to participate in a workshop and contribute to a collaborative report related to their expertise and the Méndez Principles.

There will also be an opportunity to contribute to a Special Issue in an academic journal (to be confirmed). Members are strongly encouraged to express interest in contributing to this publication. To apply for a reimbursed place, please submit your abstract along with the following information:

1. A statement that you wish to be considered for reimbursement;
2. Confirmation of your age (if under 40 at the time of application);
3. Confirmation of whether you are based in an Inclusiveness Target Country;
4. A commitment to participate in the workshop and contribute to the report.

Abstracts and accompanying information should be sent to: VACJSConference@cardiff.ac.uk
Further details regarding reimbursement will be provided to successful applicants in due course. We look forward to welcoming you to Cardiff in September and to including you in our growing ImpleMéndez research network.

Roxanna, Sam, and Harriet - VACJS Conference Organising Committee

Online Training School

The Online Training School on **Writing Successful Grant Applications** was rescheduled to 16 May at 09.00 - 10.30 UK time (10:00 - 11.30 CET).

World Police Summit

The World Police Summit returns in 2025 in Dubai for its 4th edition from 13–15 May. More info [here](#). Everyone is welcome to participate!

Upcoming Conference: Erfolgreich vernehmen [Interviewing successfully] in Oranienburg, Germany

The Successful Interrogation Conference will take place from 28–30 April 2025 at the Brandenburg State Police University Campus in Oranienburg, Germany. The event brings together experts in psychology, policing, and law to explore scientific foundations and practical applications of effective interrogation. Day 1 focuses on theory, including memory psychology, false confessions, and human rights. Day 2 offers hands-on workshops covering trauma-informed interviewing, child-focused protocols, virtual reality training tools, and the 3K interrogation model. Day 3 addresses implementation in practice, featuring the VERITAS model and insights from the ImpleMéndez project. Speakers include Prof. Dr. Birgitta Sticher, Dr. Teresa Schneider, and Jun.-Prof. Dr. Lennart May. The event is a key platform for sharing best practices and strengthening evidence-based interrogation across Europe.

Link to the event is [here](#).

Upcoming Lecture Series for Mexican Academics and NGOs

Between 25 April and 5 July, a series of online lectures is being held for academics and NGOs in Mexico, organized by ImpleMéndez member Dr. Eduardo Pérez-Campos. These sessions are delivered by a group of dedicated experts who are also members of the wider ImpleMéndez network. The initiative reflects the continued commitment of our members to promote a deeper understanding and application of the Méndez Principles in diverse professional and regional contexts. Topics to be explored include:

- What are the Méndez Principles?
- How do training and accountability ensure the successful implementation of the Méndez Principles in legal practice?

- How do language barriers, particularly those requiring interpreters, affect police communication during interviews?
- How is deception detected during interviews?
- How does human memory function, and what is its impact on interview outcomes?

Presenters include: Eduardo Pérez-Campos (Ph.D.), Lucía Fernanda Araya (Lawyer), Alberto Hijazo Gascón (Ph.D.), Jaume Masip (Ph.D.) and Victor Moloeznik (Lawyer). We applaud this collaborative effort and thank the contributors for the willingness to share their expertise to support dialogue and learning around the Méndez Principles in the Latin American context!

Upcoming Webinars

In conjunction with the International Investigative Interviewing Research Group (or IIRG - see www.iirg.org) three ImpleMéndez members (Kate Haworth, Brandon May and Adrian Gates) are together presenting a webinar as part of the IIRG in conversation series - as well as the webinar being our second ImpleMéndez webinar series (see [this link](#) for further details) .

Calls for networking and cooperation

Our colleague, Dr. Roxanna Dehaghani from the Cardiff School of Law and Politics, is seeking cooperation on research related to topics such as vulnerable accused persons (suspects/defendants), safeguards for suspects (e.g., the appropriate adult safeguard and access to legal advice and assistance), and neurodivergent accused individuals (suspects/defendants). Contact us if you are interested!

Ana Cruz is hoping to organise a network of members examining interviews with suspects conducted in prisons if you are interested in joining this network, please get in touch with Ana at p6114@ulusofona.pt

New deliverables!

A **new article** written by several members based upon work from COST Action ImpleMéndez (CA 22128) and supported by COST has been published in the EarlyCite of the Journal of Criminal Psychology (ISSN: 2009-3829).

May, L., Fahsing, I, Kelly, C. E., Barela, S., Milne, R. and Bull, R. 2025. What is investigative interviewing (and what is it not)? A primer on the ethos of suspect interviewing. *Journal of Criminal Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JCP-10-2024-0092>

Another **new article!** This article, which was written by Aleksandras Izotovas & Dave Walsh, begins building a knowledge base in Lithuania.

Izotovas, A., & Walsh, D. (2025). Rapport-building in suspect interviews: a survey of Lithuanian investigators. *Psychology, Crime & Law*, 1–23. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1068316X.2025.2486416>

The Reminder

PLEASE DON'T FORGET

Those submitting a paper for publication should follow the COST Annotated Rules to ensure proper recognition of COST funding. In short: just use the following "formula": This article is based upon work from COST Action CA22128 (ImpleMéndez), supported by European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST). More details on the COST rules can be found [here](#).

ImpleMéndez May Events Overview Mark down on your calendars!

We are excited to share a packed month of events across Europe, highlighting key meetings, workshops, training schools, and collaborative initiatives centred on the Méndez Principles and investigative interviewing practices:

- **6th May - Malmö, Sweden**

1. Méndez Centre Meeting - A strategic gathering of 15 members from 9 countries to explore opportunities relating to the creation, expansion and/or operation of a Méndez Centre or Méndez Centres in the region

2. Sub-project meeting: Barriers and Enablers to Implementation - a focused session for project members examining factors that influence successful implementation of the Méndez Principles.

- **7th May - Bucharest, Romania**

Translation workshop - a collaborative session dedicated to translating the Méndez Principles into Romanian, supporting wider accessibility and engagement.

- **7th and 8th May - Bucharest, Romania**

Two Parallel ImpleMéndez Training Schools - intensive training sessions introducing the Méndez Principles, tailored to a range of audiences, with hands-on workshops and expert-led discussions.

- **15th and 16th May - Freiburg, Germany**

Guidelines for Effective and Fair Interviewing in Criminal Proceedings Workshop/Conference.

- **27th May to 30th May - Lisbon, Portugal**

Two parallel ImpleMéndez Training Schools: Introducing the Méndez Principles.

- **28th May - Lisbon, Portugal**

Training session; memory and linguistics, for young researchers.

>>>> For additional info about these two workshops taking place in Lisbon, please see [this link](#). <<<<



The newsletter has been prepared by
Ana Sofia Silva and Denis Solodov.



Stay tuned for more...

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