



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Justice

Minister Maharaj Calls for Nuanced, Victim-Sensitive Approach to Combat Organised Crime At EL PAcCTO 2.0 Regional Workshop

MEDIA RELEASE

July 28, 2026

The Honourable Devesh Maharaj, Minister of Justice and Minister in the Office of the Attorney General, called for a more comprehensive strategy to address the evolving nature of transnational crime in the region at the Opening Ceremony of the EL PAcCTO 2.0 (European Programme of Assistance to Combat Corruption and Organised Crime in Latin America) Regional Workshop on The Role of Women in Organised Crime in the Caribbean on Tuesday, July 28, 2026.

In his remarks, Minister Maharaj advocated for a more nuanced approach to better understand the root causes, social drivers, and specific ways women are impacted by and drawn into organised crime.

He further emphasised that developing sustainable solutions to organised crime requires a balanced framework, one that rigorously tackles criminal operations while remaining deeply sensitive to the needs, protection, and rehabilitation of victims of crime.

The workshop, hosted in collaboration with the European Union and regional partners under the EL PAcCTO initiative, brings together security officials, legal experts, and policymakers from across the Caribbean and Latin America to strengthen partnerships on justice and security by building more effective, transparent, and rights-based criminal justice systems.

EL PAcCTO continues to foster international cooperation between the European Union, Latin America, and the Caribbean to strengthen justice systems, reinforce the rule of law, and bolster security across participating nations.

The Ministry remains committed to advancing legislative, institutional, and regional security initiatives that uphold fundamental human rights, protect vulnerable populations, and ensure justice for all.

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Photo 1 (From l to r): *Her Excellency Ambassador Cécile Tassin, Ambassador of the European Union to Trinidad and Tobago, The Honourable Devesh Maharaj, Minister of Justice and Minister in the Office of the Attorney General, Her Excellency Ambassador Cristina Pérez Gutiérrez, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain, pictured at the EL PACCTO 2.0 Regional Workshop Opening Ceremony.*



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Photo 2 (From l to r): Deputy Director of the EU-funded programme EL PACCTO 2.0, Nuno Costa, The Honourable Devesh Maharaj, Minister of Justice and Minister in the Office of the Attorney General, Her Excellency Ambassador Cristina Pérez Gutiérrez, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain, Her Excellency Ambassador Cécile Tassin, Ambassador of the European Union to Trinidad and Tobago, at the EL PACCTO 2.0 Regional Workshop Opening Ceremony.



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