



EUCPN
EUROPEAN CRIME PREVENTION NETWORK

European Crime Prevention Network
Annual Report of activities in 2020

Adopted ...

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Background

The European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN) was initially set up by the Decision of the Council of the European Union (2001/427/JHA) on 28 May 2001. Its main objective was to develop a platform for EU Member States to exchange experiences, knowledge and best practices in the field of crime prevention, as well as to promote crime prevention activity in EU Member States and at EU level, for the benefit of citizens' security and safety.

In order to implement recommendations on the structure of the Network identified in the final report of the external evaluation, which was procured by the European Commission and carried out in 2008 and early 2009, the founding legislation was repealed and replaced by a new Council Decision (2009/902/JHA) on 30 November 2009. While some key changes were introduced to assign specific responsibilities to the main agents of the EUCPN, the new legislation kept the objectives and tasks of the EUCPN broadly unchanged. It sets out for the EUCPN to:

- facilitate cooperation, contacts and exchanges of information and experience between actors in the field of crime prevention;
- collect, assess and communicate evaluated information including good practice on existing crime prevention activities;
- organise conferences, in particular an annual Best Practice Conference, and other activities, including the annual European Crime Prevention Award, designed to achieve the objectives of the Network and to share widely the results thereof;
- provide its expertise to the Council and the Commission as required;
- report to the Council on its activities each year through the Board and the competent working bodies. The Council shall be invited to endorse the report and forward it to the European Parliament;
- develop and implement a work programme based on a clearly defined strategy that takes account of identifying and responding to relevant crime threats.

The EUCPN is represented by a Board, which consists of National Representatives from each EU Member State and their Substitutes if appointed. On a case-by-case basis, observers from other European organisations, institutions and agencies can also be invited to take part in Board Meetings. Other crime prevention experts including practitioners and academics may contribute to the work of the EUCPN as designated contact points.

The Executive Committee provides support to the Chair and is responsible for developing the EUCPN's strategic approach for approval by the Board. It is responsible for the development and the delivery of the EUCPN Work Programme as well. The composition of the Executive Committee consists of representatives of the previous Presidency, the current Presidency, the two incoming Presidencies, two elected Member States¹ (Estonia and Belgium), the EUCPN Secretariat and the representative of the EU Commission.

In 2020, the EUCPN Secretariat provided administrative, academic and technical support to the EUCPN as a whole, as well as specific support services to the Chair and the Executive Committee.

Summary of the year 2020

During 2020:

➤ *The Croatian Presidency*

The priority of the Croatian presidency of EUCPN was the prevention of party drug-related crimes. The focus is on the prevention of consumption of drugs in nightclubs, concerts and parties, specifically "legal -highs". There was special interest for the problem of misuse of nitrous oxide, also known as laughing gas or hippie crack. Under the Croatian Presidency EUCPN formulated recommendations that may contribute to the prevention of nitrous oxide misuse.

On 18 February 2020 there was a meeting of representatives of the Member States Crime Prevention Councils in Brussels. The meeting was focused on the functioning and organization of the crime prevention councils on local and national level. On 19 and 20 February 2020 the EUCPN organized the first European Crime Prevention Conference in Brussels. A significant number of different topics was discussed, such as organized property crime, youth-relevant crimes, evaluation, etc.

The Croatian presidency was under the specific circumstances of a COVID-19 pandemic that affected on a number of planned activities. As part of the presidency, it was originally planned to hold two meetings of the ExCom, one in Split, one in Zagreb, one meeting of the Board and a EUCPN seminar in Zagreb, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic these meetings could not be held as it was planned. An action plan for the presidency was established and a decision was made that meetings were going to be held online.

¹ The two Member States were selected by the EUCPN Board for 18 months in line with the new Rules of Procedure of the EUCPN, which intends to provide more continuity in the work of the Executive Committee.

On 5 May 2020 the 1st meeting of the Executive Committee was organised, attended by representatives of the Member States (Croatia, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Portugal, Estonia), representatives of the EUCPN Secretariat and a representative of the European Commission.

On 19 May 2020 the 2nd meeting of the Executive Committee was organised, attended by representatives of the member states (Croatia, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Portugal, Estonia), representatives of the EUCPN Secretariat and a representative of the European Commission.

The Board meeting was organized on 2 and 3 June 2020 and it was held through 3 groups:

- o I. group: Croatia, Finland, Ireland, Bulgaria, Greece, Slovenia, the Netherlands, France
- o II. group: Germany, Belgium, Austria, Romania, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Sweden, Spain
- o III. group: Portugal, Estonia, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Malta, Poland, Denmark, Italy and Lithuania.

Based on the proposals made by the ExCom, guidelines for the development of the multiannual strategy 2021-2025 of the Network were adopted with focus on following areas:

- EUCPN work should be evidence based (importance of evaluation);
- EUCPN should define target groups,
- define management model of the EUCPN,
- define priorities of the work of the EUCPN in the next five years period,
- define new methods in the work of the EUCPN.

During Croatian presidency, a decision was made that EUCPN is going to participate as a partner in the ISF project of the French Gendarmerie called S.W.O.R.D.: Struggling against Widespread organized property crime at the Root and in all its Dimension. Cooperation between EUCPN and CEPOL (European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training) has been established and in this regard, on 23 June 2020, an Agreement on Mutual Cooperation between EUCPN and CEPOL was signed.

➤ *The German Presidency*

The German Presidency of the EUCPN focused on the new multiannual strategy (MAS) of EUCPN for the years 2021 to 2025.

The German Presidency organised one ExCom Meeting and two Board Meetings. Because of the current pandemic situation all meetings during the German Presidency were held online. The Meetings were aligned to the work on the multiannual strategy of the network and the beginning of the working groups "Governance" and "Evidence-based Approach". In the Board Meeting on the 16th and 17th of September 2020 the Member States worked in different working groups on the MAS. During the meeting the Declaration of intent of the Working Group 'Evidence-based approach' (WG-EBA) was adopted. In the Board Meeting on the 2nd of December 2020 the multiannual strategy 2021-2025 of the network was adopted.

The theme of the ECPA competition in 2020 und the German Presidency was “family-based crime”.

The difficult theme of “family-based crime” was for the first time on the agenda of the Network. But as we notice in various European countries, organized crime as well as petty crime is often associated with distinct social groups which are often characterised by clan-like and/or family-based structures. Typically, these groups seek to set themselves apart from other groups (ingroup-outgroup) and shut themselves off from mainstream society. This deviance poses a certain risk both for individuals and for law enforcement authorities. It is very difficult for law enforcement as well as for prevention initiatives to penetrate these groups. This is a major challenge for criminal prosecution and prevention policies.

For dealing with criminal members of such subcultures, both a wide repressive approach and a strong preventive approach (e.g. strengthening schools as a social space) would be a conceivable response from the government. Germany was interested in finding out the different approaches of the member states to work on this theme.

On the 10th and 12th of November 2020 the Executive Committee Meeting and the European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA) jury were held in an online-conference as part of the German Presidency of the EUCPN.

In 2020 there were 9 projects in competition for the award, introducing a number of relevant practices from Europe on the prevention of family-based crime. The ECPA project entries were evaluated according to the rules and procedures for awarding and presenting the European Crime Prevention Award by the international jury of experts.

The German Presidency organized the annual best practice conference on the 3rd and 4th of December 2020 which was held online for the first time. For two days, practitioners and experts in the field discussed innovative preventive approaches. One of the results of the best practice conference was to focus the prevention work on children and young people to combat Europe-wide family-based crime. Most of the projects nominated for the European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA) focused on the question of how to offer children and young people prospects for a life outside of criminal structures

At the End of the Europe-wide best practice conference of the European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN) the winners of the annual European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA) were announced. The ECPA has been, since the start of the European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN), one of the essential events of the Network and continues to showcase the success of crime prevention throughout Europe.

The winner of the European Crime Prevention Award 2020, a prize of €10,000, is Ireland’s Greentown Project. Greentown relies on targeted local intervention which aims to reduce the influence of criminal networks on children. The project aims to reduce the ability of criminal networks to recruit children for the purpose of committing crime and to offer a way out to children already involved in crime.

The second prize, worth €5,000, was awarded to the "Untouchables" Approach in the Netherlands. This approach focuses on just a few families in a particularly underprivileged area of Maastricht. It combines crime control and crime prevention, with preventive stakeholders taking the lead. This integrated approach is reflected in the partners involved: The municipality, the local police and the public prosecutor's office as well as schools, charities and social workers all cooperate closely.

The third prize, worth €5,000, went to the initiative "TICKAN" in Sweden, which is based on a phase model approach to combating the crime problems in question. While the first phase takes a repressive approach, the subsequent phases focus increasingly on prevention. Integrating repression and prevention in a single project is an innovative and promising approach.

The dialogue launched at the conference will be continued in 2021. In the second half of the year, Germany will host another conference on the prevention of family-based organised crime.

Delivery of the EUCPN Work Programme 2020

The Multiannual Strategy (MAS) identifies four strategic goals for the period 2016–2020. Annual actions, tasks and projects serving the achievement of the strategic goals were consolidated into the Annual Work Programme 2019. Therefore all actions stated within this annual report refer back to the Multiannual Strategy 2016-2020.

Goal A) To be a point of reference for the target groups of the Network

Action: *Updating a database of contacts of the target group members in line with priorities of the policy cycle*

- **Task:** The Member States will update their contact list according to the priorities of the policy cycle

This was considered a continuous task. Throughout the year the Secretariat updates the contact list, with the help of the National Representatives. Specifically, the Secretariat focuses on the topics of the presidencies to find experts for workshops and meetings. Furthermore, in light of the organisation of the first European Crime Prevention Conference, many experts who participated in previous priorities and output were brought together. This allowed the Network to exchange information.

Action: *Improve the Network's communication strategy*

- **Task:** the new communication plan, adopted in December 2018, will be implemented

A second communication plan was published by the EUCPN Secretariat in 2018. It outlines what the EUCPN will commit itself to in regards to communication in order to achieve the EUCPN goals by 2020. What follows is a overview of these targets. A complete final report of the communication strategy 2018-2020 will be published in the beginning of 2021.

In July 2019 the EUCPN launched a new website. Due to the new design, it is much easier to keep the website up-to-date and dynamic. The monthly average number of visitors in 2020 was 2535, which is an increase of about 45% in comparison with 2019. The most popular pages were the homepage, the knowledge centre and the about us.

Regarding twitter, the EUCPN had 884 followers at the end of 2019 and gained 143 followers in comparison with 2019. On average, the EUCPN tweeted three times a week. The EUCPN had 607 followers on Facebook in December; this was an increase with 35 % in comparison with 2019. On average the EUCPN posted three times a week. The EUCPN is also active on LinkedIn. Roughly speaking the EUCPN posted twice a week about EUCPN activities and had 623 followers at the end of 2020, which is more than double in comparison to 2019.

The EUCPN published 15 newsletter and newsflashes during 2020. The EUCPN registered 1336 subscribers to the newsletter.

In 2019 the EUCPN developed three videos on toolboxes, the first one was on preventing the victimisation of minors in the digital age, the second on preventing drug-related crime and the third one on the prevention of family-based crime.

Action: *Developing a function as a wider EU 'platform' of crime prevention*

➤ **Action:** increase the cooperation with the EUCPN Board observers

○ **Secretariat Task:** A stakeholders meeting will be organised

2020 was all about the renewal of the Multiannual Strategy (MAS). As a consequence, the stakeholder meeting was delayed until the MAS was adopted and the new strategy could be presented. This has happened on 26 January 2021.

Nevertheless, the stakeholders were consulted regarding the identification of knowledge gaps. The UNODC, Europol and CEPOL were kind enough to participate in the consultation and have send is important input which will shape our activities.

○ **Task:** the creation of Memorandum's of Understanding will be aspired with key stakeholders

In June 2020, the EUCPN and CEPOL signed their agreed upon framework partnership agreement.

➤ **Action:** Establishing an efficient network of contact points

- **Secretariat Task:** A meeting with all national crime prevention councils will be organized

On 18 February 2020, the third EU wide National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) meeting was organised in Brussels. During the meeting the EUCPN provided an opportunity to exchange experiences and good practices on how the different councils operate; specifically the Greek and Croatian NCPC's where presented.

During the meeting, the Proton project, in which the EUCPN was a partner has also been presented. Furthermore, the NCPC's discussed future topics for the meeting. In total 15 Member States where present.

- **Task:** MS identify national experts as the need arises; f.e. according to the themes of the presidencies or specific national projects

Throughout the year, various experts from different Member States were contacted to help the EUCPN Secretariat with creating the output of the network. This year, also three experts took part in the jury meeting of the ECPA; Prof. dr. Rita Haverkamp, University of Tübingen, Dr. Anna Sergi, University of Essex and Ms Meike Lommers, Centre for Crime Prevention and Safety (CCV).

➤ **Action:** setting-up collaboration projects with international institutions should be improved

- **Secretariat Task:** The EUCPN should be represented on relevant meetings organized by the stakeholders.

Due to the pandemic of 2020, this task was somewhat more difficult to complete. Nevertheless, the Secretariat participated in multiple meetings related to the EU Policy Cycle at Europol.

➤ **Action:** The EUCPN Secretariat is organising a European conference on crime prevention on 19 and 20 February 2020.

- **Secretariat Task:** The Secretariat will make sure that the conference becomes an event where local, national and international practitioners, policy makers and academics can connect.

The first ever European Crime Prevention Conference (ECPC) was held on 19 and 20 February in Brussels. All 27 Member States where represented and in total 198 experts participated. The plenary sessions dealt with the concept of crime prevention, evaluation, obtaining EU funding and the future of crime prevention.

Next to the plenary meetings, 3 sessions were organised with each 3 working sessions. Topics discussed were organised property crime, cybercrime, environmental crime, youth related crimes, community policing, trafficking in human beings, the administrative approach and child sexual exploitation.

During the conference, an evaluation form was distributed. The overall score of the participants for the conference was 80%. The Network also asked for suggestions in order to improve the next conferences. Due to the positive experience, the Network plans to organise this conference bi-annually.

Action: provide a dynamic and interactive redesign of the EUCPN newsletter

- **Secretariat task:** The Secretariat will issue a minimum of six newsletters in 2020: three during the presidency of Croatia and three during the German presidency

The EUCPN Secretariat issued 15 newsletters and newsflashes in 2020. The new design of the Newsletter has been used since May 2019. All newsletters can be consulted on the website: <https://eucpn.org/service/newsletters>

Action: the content, design and user friendliness of the EUCPN website should be kept in line with the current web standards

- **Task:** The Secretariat will keep the website up to date and optimise its current functions with the assistance of the Board. The Member States will make sure that the Secretariat receives regular updates about the information and contacts provided.

In July 2019, the EUCPN Secretariat launched the new website of the EUCPN. The website is now user-friendly and has a modern design. Since then, the Member States were asked to update their content such as policies, crime prevention initiatives etc.

Goal B) To disseminate qualitative knowledge on crime prevention

By the collection and dissemination of information on facts, theories and practices, the Network shall contribute to finding the most adequate forms of interventions for the particular problems and to the standardization of solutions.

A list of projects which were completed or updated can be found in annex 1

- **Task:** The Croatian Presidency has focused on prevention of party drug-related crimes.

In the last few years, party drugs are becoming more popular amongst the young drug users. According to the report of the EMCDDA the production of synthetic drug in Europe is “growing and it is becoming more diverse and innovative”. Europe is the main producer of synthetic stimulating drugs like MDMA, and its exporting that knowledge and experience to other parts of the world. One of the crucial problems are substances that are not illegal, so-called „legal-highs“ and are freely distributed on the market. Besides crime related to production, distribution, possession and procurement of party drugs, different types of crimes are becoming widespread amongst drug users such as vandalism, traffic offences, property crime and violent behavior. Preventive measures that are taken with the goal of preventing crime related to party drugs can be directed towards lowering the demand for these drugs with creating more sensibility amongst the public through informing and educating the groups that are most vulnerable and prone to drugs use on their negative effects on their health. Besides the mentioned methods, prevention can be also conducted with different activities directed towards lowering the availability of these types of drug in all chains of supply from production to their sales. The Network has written a toolbox on this topic.

- **Task:** Germany’s presidency focused on *prevention of family based crime*. In various European countries, organized crime as well as petty crime is often associated with ethnically distinct social groups and structures. The more pointed term to describe this situation is “parallel societies”, which often have their own system of social rules and laws. Individual members who wish to leave these structures often face the risk of severing all ties to their families and their social environment. At the same time, young person’s growing up in such an environment are particularly vulnerable and at a high risk of learning to understand criminal activity as the normal way of life.

It is very difficult for law enforcement but also for prevention initiatives to penetrate these groups. This is a major challenge for criminal prosecution and prevention policies. The Best Practice Conference was organised focusing on this topic and the Secretariat wrote a toolbox.

Action: *Information exchange through the means of the Network will be intensified*

- **Task:** relevant research articles will be disseminated through the newsletter and the website

Throughout the year, the Secretariat uploads interesting articles on the website. Furthermore, before each newsletter is published, the Secretariat actively looks for useful articles which they then upload on the website and in the newsletter.

- **Secretariat task:** the secretariat will update every 2 weeks the financial information page on the website to give an overview of all possible open calls

Every two weeks the Secretariat gathers all the new calls and adds them to the website of the EUCPN. Furthermore, tweets are also sent out to promote them. In order to make this more visible, there is a dedicated page for this information on the new website .

- **Task** Croatia will organize one thematic seminar on crimes related to party drugs
Due to the covid-19 pandemic, this seminar was cancelled.
- **Task:** Germany will organize the BPC-ECPA on *prevention of family-based crime*
The Best Practice Conference took place online on 3 and 4 December 2020. At the start of the conference, Prof. Dr. Anna Sergi from the University of Essex explained the knowing and contrasting 'Ndrangheta Dynasties. After which the BKA from Germany explained the administrative approach possibilities towards tackling family-based crime. Furthermore, Prof. Dr. Thomas Grumke from the University of applied science for police and public administration in North Rhine-Westphalia gave a lecture on exiting family-based organised crime and which lessons could be learned from extremism prevention.

After these lectures, all participating projects were presented. All projects can be found on the [EUCPN website](#). On the second day of the conference the German presidency organised a panel discussion focussing on the challenges for prevention of family-based organised crime and Dr. Stijn Aerts from the EUCPN Secretariat presented the toolbox. The conference was concluded with the virtual award ceremony of the ECPA.

- **Task :** The BPC-ECPA needs to be more promoted and become better known
 - **Task:** efforts will be taken to increase press coverage
Due to the online nature of the BPC-ECPA this was somewhat more difficult. Nevertheless, the German presidency invited the press to join and send out a press release.
 - **Secretariat task:** extra promotion materials might be created.
Due to the online nature of the BPC-ECPA, this task was not completed.
- **Action:** develop relevant interregional information exchange

- **Task:** the Secretariat will write a paper about the policy similarities and differences between the EU Member States and the regions within the EU. The National representatives will make sure that the Secretariat is updated about changes in policy

Throughout 2020, the EUCPN Secretariat kept gathering the policies of different phenomena from the Member States. Furthermore, the Secretariat decided to analyse the policies on Organised Property Crime. This task proved difficult but the concluding paper can be found on the website. Because the topic of organised property crime is so large, the Secretariat decided to focus on a smaller part; domestic burglary for the next analysis.

Action: *Analyse and development of the Network's concept of crime prevention*

- **Secretariat task:** will write an explanatory paper linked to the updated concept of crime prevention.
Based on the new concept of crime prevention agreed upon in December 2019, the Secretariat wrote an explanatory paper which can be found on [the website](#).
- **Task:** The updated concept of crime prevention shall be promoted by the Board and the Secretariat
In order to further promote the concept of crime prevention, a video and factsheet explaining the concept as created. Furthermore, the concept was presented during an LEWP meeting in December 2020.
- **Action:** Development of recommendations on approaching challenges of crime problems by target groups
 - **Task:** The Secretariat will, in cooperation with the Croatian Presidency, organise a workshop with experts specialised on the prevention of party drug-related crimes. The Secretariat will also write a toolbox on this topic. Furthermore, an assessment will be made if it would be beneficiary to write and publish a policy paper with recommendations on how to prevent party drug-related crimes.

The EUCPN toolbox was divided into 4 different papers in order to fully explain and focus on the topic at hand:

- Party drugs and crime: understanding the phenomenon
- Party drugs and crime: effective approaches
- Darknet drug markets: the criminal business process explained
- Darknet drug markets: recommendations drawn from a barrier model

In general, offenders are more likely to use drugs and drug users are more likely to offend. However, as there are differences between recreational or problematic drug use, several drug user target groups and types of crime, more nuance is needed. There are several categories to define drug-related crimes.

This first two papers focus mainly on the preventive approaches of psychopharmacological crimes and some drug law offences as negative consequences of going out and using drugs in recreational settings. Also, easily accessible databases and high-quality guides related to the prevention of risks at recreational settings are discussed.

The following two papers focus on the criminal business process behind darknet drug markets which roughly consists of the four consecutive steps of (1) setting up a marketplace, (2) running a marketplace, (3) selling drugs and (4) shipping drugs. Several players are involved in setting up and running a marketplace. From a developer, over a managing administrator to a moderator who helps with maintenance and supporting customers.

When writing this toolbox, the Secretariat did consult with experts, however due to the covid-19 pandemic, there was no physical expert meeting organised.

Next to the toolbox papers, there was also a recommendation paper written focusing on the misuse of nitrous oxide. Over the last years the recreational use of nitrous oxide, also known as laughing gas or hippie crack, has become popular during music festivals and at party destinations in the Republic of Croatia. Since nitrous oxide is a substance with a number of legitimate uses in medicine and food industry it can be easily bought and the unlawful sale can be hardly forbidden. Our research has shown that Member States are mostly concerned about the negative effects on public health, rather than that they fear an increase in crime due to the consumption of the gas. Therefore, in the paper it is suggested to focus on measures which counter the visibility and availability of nitrous oxide, keeping in mind that a thorough risk assessment should be carried out before imposing far-reaching interventions.

- **Task:** The Secretariat will, linked to German Presidency, organise a workshop with experts specialised on *prevention of family-based crime*. The Secretariat will also write a toolbox on this topic. Furthermore, an assessment will be made if it would be beneficiary to write and publish a policy paper with recommendations on *prevention of family-based crime*.

The EUCPN Toolbox on Family-Based Crime consist of multiple paper; are a theoretical background paper, a paper on effective prevention mechanisms and an overview of the participants in the 2020 European Crime Prevention Award, devoted to the topic of preventing family-based crime. They are available for download at <https://www.eucpn.org/toolbox-familybasedcrime> together with the explanatory video.

The focus of the theoretical paper is twofold. First, it outlines the phenomenon of family-based crime. Crime sometimes runs in families, a phenomenon to which several factors may contribute. The most important factors are discussed, and put into context by sketching three cases. Second, the paper translates what we know about family-based crime into a theoretical basis for prevention. It

emphasises the importance of a systematic and integrated approach to preventing family-based crime.

The paper on effective prevention lists seven different types of preventive interventions for family-based crime, targeting different phases of the processes that lead to crime. It indicates for each one how it works, which prevention mechanisms it activates, to what extent its effectiveness is supported by evidence, and what it might contribute to the fight against family-based crime. Ideally, different types of interventions are combined into an integrated approach to prevent family-based crime.

Lastly, the ECPA paper reports on the 2020 edition of the European Crime Prevention Award. This edition was organised by the German Presidency of the EUCPN and was dedicated to the topic of family-based crime. This paper outlines the nine projects or programmes that competed in the contest, with a special focus on the top three and the jury's assessment of them.

Action: *Assessing the impact of crime prevention work*

- **Secretariat task:** the Secretariat will increase its research output by developing a research programme; increasing the research performed by the Secretariat and by subcontracting research to universities.

The research programme of the Secretariat for the years 2018-2020 consists of the toolboxes linked to the presidencies topics, 2 monitors, 2 subcontracted researches, 2 in-house researches on phenomena and one research on the concept of crime prevention. These tasks were completed by March 2020.

- The subcontracted research dealing with the identification of the market position of the EUCPN was performed by the University of Ghent. The results can be read on [the website](#).
 - The subcontracted research to examine the experiences of the Member States performing evaluations in projects and activities aimed at crime prevention was undertaken by the Mid-Sweden University. The results can be found on [the website](#).
 - The in-house research: 'organised property crime - winning the arms race', can be found [here](#).
 - The in-house research: 'How to prevent that unaccompanied minors go missing, and how to prevent that they end up in prostitution, modern slavery,... and other dangers they face during their journey?', can be found [here](#).
 - As stated above, the paper focusing on the concept of crime prevention was also finished and is available online.
- **Action:** Understanding of EU trends across Member States with regards to crime prevention

- **Task:** the Member States will update their information on the policy of different crime prevention phenomena.

There are multiple policies of the Member States to be found on the website of the EUCPN. The Member States are asked to keep these up to date. Furthermore as the result of the discussion on the prioritised phenomena for the EUCPN, the Secretariat has started to gather the Member States [policies](#) of 5 'larger' phenomena such as OPC, THB, Cybercrime, illegal migrant smuggling and drugs.

Action: *The EUCPN should further develop its range of outputs to increase the capacity to respond to key stakeholder needs (REC4)*

- **Secretariat task:** The Secretariat will engage with local practitioners in the course of developing toolboxes or exchanges of good practices.

Due to the covid-19 pandemic, the EUCPN Secretariat was not able to organise multiple workshops during 2020. Nevertheless, experts were consulted online when writing the toolboxes. Furthermore, local practitioners were invited to the ECPC and the BPC-ECPA of 2020 was fully online which meant that they could join in the conference.

- **Secretariat task:** The Secretariat continues to engage with relevant institutions and respond to requests for inputs.

The EUCPN Secretariat has had multiple contacts (formal and informal) with institutions and partners. These contacts have allowed the EUCPN Secretariat to gain information about a multitude of topics and it has enabled the EUCPN Secretariat to exchange information.

Goal C) To support and facilitate crime prevention activities at national and local level

With a view to increase the preventive approach in Europe, the EUCPN needs to support policy makers and practitioners at national and local level. The Network should take account of and address the difficulties caused by the diversity of national conditions of crime prevention activities. The EUCPN Secretariat is ready to assist National Representatives with knowledge and to support funding applications.

Action: *Review of EU funding sources and national funding mechanisms of crime prevention activities*

- **Secretariat task:** the Secretariat will continuously update information about the funding opportunities for the target groups

An overview was made of all EU financial instruments which could be useful for crime prevention projects. This overview can be found on the website of the EUCPN: <http://eucpn.org/document/eu-funding-programs>

Action: *publishing key documents in national languages*

- **Action:** A key EUCPN priority should be to produce good practice material for crime prevention practitioners at a regional and local level
 - **Secretariat task:** the toolboxes produced by the Secretariat will be translated into 4 national languages: English, French, German and the language of the presidency

The toolbox on the prevention of family-based crime has been translated into French and German. The toolbox on preventing party drugs related crimes will soon follow. Next to these two documents being translated. The Secretariat also commenced the translation of the summaries of past toolboxes and the recommendation paper on physical ATM attacks into all EU languages.

Action: *Implementation of good/best practices by Member States*

- **Secretariat task:** the secretariat provides support and evaluations to Member States wanting to adapt projects being ECPA winners

The EUCPN Secretariat did not receive any requests from Member States during 2020 in regards to this task. However the Secretariat added extra information, if available, on the website for all the ECPA entries.

Furthermore, the ECPA winners from 2016 till 2019 were all invited to give presentations about the project during the European Conference on crime prevention which will take place on 19-20 February 2020 in Brussels.

- **Task:** An overview of implemented projects and ideas will be developed

The overview of the ECPA projects of the last 20 years can be found here: <http://eucpn.org/document/history-and-evolution-european-crime-prevention-award>

Action: *improving the links between EUCPN and the national crime prevention institutions*

- **Secretariat task:** EUCPN Secretariat will organize a meeting in Brussels which can serve as a platform for the national crime prevention institutions

On 18 February 2020, the third EU wide National Crime Prevention Council meeting was organised in Brussels. During this meeting the EUCPN provided an opportunity to exchange experiences and good practices. In total 15 Member States participated.

Action: *Providing the Member States with useful campaign material to raise awareness amongst their citizens*

- **Secretariat task:** The Secretariat will develop at least 2 awareness raising campaigns in relation to the EU priorities. These campaigns are linked to the EU Policy Cycle on serious and organized crime and will be focused on domestic burglary and THB.

June 2020 would have marked the second EU Focus Day on domestic burglary. However due to the covid-19 pandemic, the Member States decided against organising this event in June. The event was therefore moved to October. As a result the Belgian coordinator created a new poster more suitable for the time of the year. The Secretariat was granted approval to translate the poster in order to be suitable for the other participating Member States.

In addition to the EU Focus Day, the Secretariat started preparing an action focusing on the crime of trafficking of wildlife. This activity will be taking place in the first half of 2021.

Past campaign materials and new once created are to be found on the EUCPN website: <https://eucpn.org/service/campaigns>

Goal D) To contribute to various aspects of crime prevention at EU level in respect of the EU strategy of crime prevention

The preventive work should be part of the way to handle crime in Europe, therefore the Network should support the EU. The best use of existing knowledge base shall be made by setting up regular schemes of information exchange with relevant European actors.

Action: *closer cooperation with relevant EU bodies, agencies and organisations*

- **Task:** the Secretariat and the Board will develop closer relationships with other European and international entities in the crime prevention field

The Secretariat and Board have had various formal and informal contacts with European and international entities. The EUCPN has signed a framework partnership agreement with CEPOL.

- **Secretariat task:** the Secretariat will organize a stakeholders meeting with relevant partners

As stated above, the stakeholders meeting was delayed until January 2021 in order to be able to present the by then adopted Multiannual Strategy 2021-2025.

Action: *increase the visibility of the EUCPN towards the international level*

- **Task:** the Secretariat and the Board will identify the events and other activities organised by other organisations. The Secretariat and the Presidency, if deemed appropriate, may look for an invitation to these activities and give the possibility to the National Representatives or a member of the Secretariat to participate and give a presentation of the activities of the EUCPN with the aim to raise its visibility.

Many events planned were canceled due to the pandemic. Nevertheless, the Secretariat members did join into multiple online conferences, webinars and meetings.

Action: *The EUCPN has decided to systematically align its priorities with the agreed EU priorities as regards the fight against crime (REC1)*

- **Task:** The Commissions' annual working programme will be put on the agenda for discussion at the Executive Committee and Board Meeting following its adoption by the Commission.

There was no presentation of the Annual Working Programme of the Commission.

- **Task:** The Presidencies, with the help of the Secretariat, will include on agendas of upcoming Board Meeting relevant developments in Working Group meetings (LEWP, COSI...). National Representatives will be canvassed for agenda topics in advance of Board Meetings.

On 17 December, the EUCPN gave a presentation at the online LEWP meeting in which the MAS 2021-2025 and the concept of crime prevention was presented.

- **Task:** The EUCPN will continue and increase its activities linked to the EU Policy Cycle on serious and organized crime.
 - **Task:** A European Focus day on Domestic Burglary will be developed
The EU Focus Day was initially planned on 17 June but delayed until 21 October.
 - **Task:** A campaign in relation to Environmental crime will be developed
As stated above, the EUCPN has started the creation of the campaign which is designed to be delivered in the first half of 2021.
 - **Task:** EUCPN will support the creation of a prevention package on the prevention of cybercrime – child sexual exploitation
The prevention of child sexual exploitation was an important topic during the ECPC in February, as the EUCPN continuous to strive for an improved understanding and exchange of good practices.
 - **Task:** research will be directed towards discovering possible preventive actions related to synthetic drugs-related crimes.
Two of the papers related to the toolbox of the Croatian presidency topic are directed specifically to understanding the darknet and looking into valuable preventive actions.

Action: *The EUCPN should develop its role in making inputs to EU and Member State policymaking in the crime prevention field (REC2)*

- **Task:** the Presidency in office will inform LEWP about the main activities and recommendations proposed by the EUCPN.
On 17 December, the EUCPN gave a presentation at the online LEWP meeting in which the MAS 2021-2025 and the concept of crime prevention was presented
- **Task:** the Presidency in office, the Member States and the EUCPN-secretariat will proactively increase circulation of information on EUCPN activities/projects on national and EU-level.
The EUCPN is continuously putting effort into the communication of the publications and good practices available on the website.
- **Secretariat Task:** The EUCPN Secretariat will write a policy paper for each of the official presidency topics.

Related to the topic of the Croatian presidency, the Secretariat wrote a paper on the misuse of nitrous oxide. For the topic of the German presidency, the decision was taken to add the recommendations to the papers of the toolbox instead of writing a separate paper.

Action: *A more strategic approach to determining EUCPN activities, and strengthening its role in providing inputs to policymaking at the EU and Member State level is needed therefore the EUCPN Secretariat will provide:*

- *An understanding of EU trends and across Member States with regard to crime;*
 - *An overview of Member States' crime prevention institutional set-ups, strategies and policies (some of this information is already available);*
 - *To the extent that can be assessed, an assessment of what impact crime prevention measures have on different types of criminal activity.*
- **Task:** The Secretariat will further develop and circulate research and outcomes. The Member States will provide the Secretariat with relevant research.

The Secretariat has continued its research in relation to the topics of the presidencies. Furthermore, the Secretariat gathers and disseminates research from other EU institutions, universities, NGO's and governments through the newsletter and the website.

- **Secretariat task:** the Secretariat will engage in more research of its own and will provide for an analyses of the different policies amongst Member States

The EUCPN Secretariat has been focusing on 2 phenomena within its own research: OPC and THB. The OPC research deals with new technology to prevent OPC and the THB research focuses on unaccompanied minors.

- **Task:** The Board will annually include/update on the website an overview of Member States' Crime prevention institutional set-ups, strategies and policies.

The Secretariat has asked for the update of the strategies and policies. They have not yet received them from all the Member States. Nevertheless the ones that they did receive have been uploaded on the website.

Furthermore, the National Representatives can also send requests to the other Member States. These request deal with a whole range of phenomena and generally ask for good practices, research, policies or statistics. During 2020 a total of 10 requests were sent out.

Action: A new Multi-annual strategic plan for the years 2021-2025 needs to be created by the Board of the EUCPN

- **Task:** an action plan has to be drafted
- The Executive Committee took the lead in the discussion of the MAS. An action plan was created however the covid-19 pandemic did alter this plan significantly. In the end there were multiple online meetings organised to discuss the various input and to take the necessary decisions.
- **Task:** different input needs to be gathered; externally and internally

- **Task:** the recommendations coming from the evaluation of the European Commission need to be considered when drafting the MAS 2021-2025
The preliminary results of the evaluation commissioned by the European Commission were presented to the ExCom in May 2020 and sent to the remaining of the Board.
- **Task:** Germany will take the lead in the drafting of this document, with strong support of the Executive Committee.

The German presidency indeed took the lead in the discussion of the new MAS. They organised one extra online Board Meeting in order to be able to finalise the discussion and adopt the document on 2 December 2020.

DRAFT

Annex 1: projects as referred to in Goal B

“Impact Evaluation” (BE)

In March 2020, the Directorate Local Integral Security (SLIV), Federal Public Service Home Affairs, presented the "Methodological guide for the elaboration and evaluation of prevention projects with a spatial perspective" during a seminar. The target audience were the prevention officers and internal evaluators of the 109 cities and municipalities that are funded by Home Affairs by means of a strategic security and prevention plan. This guide is the result of the scientific research carried out by the Brussels universities ULB and VUB.

The tool was developed for the municipalities to measure the impact of their prevention practices and thus improve crime prevention evaluation practices. SLIV has also started working with the tool and three projects on impact evaluation have been launched on the following themes: nuisance, domestic violence and neighbourhood mediation. The municipalities that have projects on these themes, were selected to draw up, together with SLIV, a reference framework for the impact evaluation of these projects based on the methodological guide.

This joint reflection is carried out in several stages and will continue until 2021.

‘We love BXL’ (Brussels) (BE)

‘We Love BXL’ has 3 pillars: We Love to Play, Grow & Work.

Incorporated in the first pillar are our “fun” activities, and in the last two are our “4 E's" which form the core of our organization: Education, Employment, Entrepreneurship & Empowerment.

In 2020, we offered the Urban Youth in Brussels:

1. free weekly sessions with professional coaches to monitor the progress of the young participants in resolving their internal and relational conflicts;
2. various (free or very cheap) workshops that allow youngsters to further develop their (professional and informal) network, creativity and (entrepreneurial) skills;
3. a weekly free safe space for young women in order to encourage healing and growth by finding and giving support of/to other young participants;
4. a free weekend where youngsters learned how to conceptualize and sell innovative ideas;

5. a space where youngsters can organize own events to gain professional experience.

Youth cyber resilience (BE)

The aim of this project, and in particular that of the iCoach project, is to train and raise awareness among children and young people to the safe and responsible use of the Internet.

This project is in line with the prevention trends emanating from schools or the requests of the cities/municipalities and local police services.

As a global approach, the project is aimed at different actors: children, young people, parents and grandparents, school teachers and principals, the police and prevention workers from the cities and municipalities.

The iCoach training informs the participants on the use of the Internet by young people, the opportunities and risks, and gives pedagogical advice.

The games "The Right Click" and "Jungle web" are cyber awareness tools for children.

The project prepares pupils for the challenge, the risk and the enrichment of communicating with a group.

It's message to young people focuses on strengthening their critical minds, their social competences and their resilience.

Since 2015, 146 iCoaches have been trained in Belgium, 122 of them during the period 2018-2020.

"Skills for adolescents", Preventive Program for Parents (CY)

Lions Quest Skills for Adolescence is a prevention program for school students. The program is designed among others, to promote good citizenship skills, core character values, social-emotional skills and discourage the use of drugs, alcohol and violence. The program includes also section for parents.

Cyprus Police, in 2020, implemented only one program for parents (section for parents). That program included four workshops. The workshops were held weekly, one each week and each lasted for about 3 hours. The program took place in a Nicosia high school and was attended by 10 parents.

The participants had the opportunity to improved their ability to set clear boundaries for their children, to help their children to build their self-esteem and confidence, to resolve family conflicts peacefully and with love and to recognize and apply appropriate preventive measures against drugs.

During the workshops the parents had the chance to share ideas and experiences on the role of the parent and the adolescent. They also had the opportunity to practice on important skills, like conflict handling, the limits agreement and empower children's confidence. Also, they were been informed about the negative effects of psychoactive substances.

CYberSafety II (CY)

The Cyprus Safer Internet Centre-CyberSafety II (<https://www.cybersafety.cy/>), building on European funding as part of the Better Internet for Kids project, aimed to strengthen efforts for the creative and safe use of the Internet in Cyprus. Focusing on the new and increasing needs, which constantly rise, at national and European level, regarding Internet technology, the Centre promoted cooperation between national stakeholders, aiming to create a Cyber Security culture.

Focusing on the new and increasing needs, which constantly rise, at national and European level, regarding Internet technology, the Safer Internet Centre of Cyprus – CYberSafety II promoted cooperation between major national stakeholders, to promote a safe internet culture and empower creative, innovative and critical citizens in the digital society.

The Awareness Centre (<https://internetsafety.pi.ac.cy/>) supported the work of the Centre, by developing rich educational / information material, resources and tools, as well as organized campaigns to empower children, young people, parents and teachers with skills and knowledge on how to be safe online and benefit from the advantages that the digital environment can offer. Furthermore, the Awareness Centre worked closely with children and young people allowing them to actively share their experiences, ideas and views, reinforcing them to formulate suggestions and actions regarding the creative and safe use of digital technologies and the Internet. CYberSafety Youth Panel members acted as ambassadors of best practices and actions, aiming to create innovative resources and disseminate messages about the safe use of the Internet to their peers and other involved groups.

The Helpline and Hotline (<https://internetsafety.pi.ac.cy/1480>) also supported the work of the Centre. The operation of the Helpline aimed to ensure that all users will

receive expert advice and support on issues related to the use of digital technologies and the Internet. More specifically, Helpline provided information, advice and assistance to children, young people and/or parents, teachers and professionals, on how to deal with harmful content, contact (such as grooming) and conduct (such as cyberbullying or sexting). The operation of the Hotline offered a direct, easily accessible and responsible point of contact for users to report illegal content or actions related to illegal child sexual abuse material.

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth has secured a renewal of European funding for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 March 2022, under the Better Internet for Kids program (invitation: CEF Telecom Call - Safer Internet, CEF-TC-2020-1). The Cyprus Safe Internet Center - CYberSafety (CYberSafety III) will continue the important work being done for the safe and responsible use of the Internet in Cyprus.

Print promotional materials anti-drugs (CY)

The anti-drug awareness brochures were specifically designed to target parents, students, members in the army, soldiers and others through our awareness campaigns.

The objective was to attract people at first glance and by doing so to seek expertise information on the subject. Therefore, in order to promote scientific facts and information on how drugs affect different parts of the body, including the brain, as well as the psychological effects on drugs users, a very high-quality folder was designed which included 12 colorful awareness brochures.

In 2020, more than 3000 promotional folders have been provided to the various social-target groups mentioned above.

Radio Campaign (CY)

The purpose/goal of the project was successfully met by raising awareness campaigns to the public for the «Help Line for Drugs – 1498» through the most popular radio stations of the island.

Due to the numerous calls we receive either for related information or for actual help/assistance, we can substantially say that 1) the Help Line for Drugs – 1498 is now one of the most popular Help Lines of the Cyprus Police and 2) the awareness campaigns through radio was the best way to enhance the cooperation between the public and the Cyprus Police on the related subject.

Mapping, identifying and developing skills and opportunities in operating environments to co-create innovative, ethical and effective actions to tackle radicalization leading to violent extremism (MINDb4ACT) (ES)
http://www.realinstitutoelcano.org/wps/portal/rielcano_en/projects/ongoing

MINDb4ACT is a project funded by the European Commission and led by the Elcano Royal Institute. It involves 18 partners from 10 European countries, with 33 institutions taking part.

Its goal is to understand the process of radicalisation and recruitment methods in a range of contexts (individual, in the family, in schools, in the community, in prison, via the internet and social media) and dimensions (psychological, socioeconomic and ideological), using technological solutions based on big data and virtual reality for the analysis of risk factors and in order to draw up methodological proposals. All this is accompanied by the aim of constructing a community that facilitates knowledge transfer, developing joint capabilities based on empirical evidence and drawing up recommendations geared towards facilitating the work of the police forces and the social and political actors involved.

The following organisations take part in this project, coordinated by the Elcano Royal Institute: Agenfor International (Italy), University of Applied Sciences for Administration and Legal Affairs, Bavaria (Germany), Municipal Police (Madrid, Spain), Danish Institute for International Studies (Denmark), European Organisation for Security (Belgium), Free University of Berlin (Germany), Foundation for Strategic Research (France), Civil Guard (Spain), Polish Platform for Homeland Security (Poland), Police University College (Finland), Regional Police of Wielkopolska (Poland), Police Service of Northern Ireland, Centre of Excellence in Terrorism, Resilience, Intelligence and Organized Crime Research of Sheffield Hallam University (UK), Synyo GmbH (Austria), Free University of Brussels (Belgium), Women without Borders (Austria) and the Ministry of Justice (Italy).

Further information: MINDb4ACT website.

See also: MINDb4ACT - leaflet.

24 hour helpline for people in a mental crisis (PL)

The Support Centre for people in a state of mental crisis operated as part of an agreement concluded by the Ministry of Health with the ITAKA Foundation – Centre for Missing People (NGO) for the period from October 1, 2017 to December 31, 2020

for implementation public health tasks under the National Health Program 2016-2020.

The Support Centre was run, among others, by a free 24-hour helpline (800 70 2222), by e-mail: bilety@liniawsparcia.pl, chat intervention on the website with the necessary information and a database of facilities (www.liniawsparcia.pl).

As part of the Support Centre, psychologists and other specialists, such as psychiatrists, social workers, lawyers, were on duty, ready to listen and understand, also indicating therapeutic options, including specialized facilities in a given region of the country where direct help can be obtained.

During the operation of the Support Centre, more than 70 000 people were supported. Funds in the amount of approximately 7 million PLN were allocated for the implementation of the task.

The project is to be continued under the name “Ensuring access to help in a mental crisis through access to consultations via ICT tools (including support helplines, Internet clinics), tailored to the needs of people in various age” as a part of the National Health Program for 2021-2025.

More information on the implementation of the task will be available at a later date (if it is still possible, it will be reported separately to the Work Program 2021).

„Aware and Safe Senior” (PL)

The „Aware and Safe Senior” program was implemented by the Regional Police Headquarters in Opole and the Voivode of Opole from November 2018 to December 2020. During its duration, a total of 16,883 seniors, 206 social workers and community nurses and 117 employees of bank branches were trained. Moreover the system of protection against fraud on the elderly was also developed. All the parish priests of the Opole diocese were involved in the activities distributing educational materials among the church attendants, as well as postmen who warned seniors against fraud. The mayors, village leaders and presidents of cities also joined the action, and they posted on the websites of their offices warning against “help the grandchild” method of fraud. In addition, as part of cooperation with the Crisis Management Center of the Opole province, a model of operation was developed, under which, after more frequent fraud attempts using the „grandchild” methods, SMS alerts were sent to the inhabitants of the Opole region. The program logo was selected as part of a provincial art competition for students of Opole schools. The cost of the program was PLN 29,872 and was financed by the Opole province.

„I have a choice... I choose sense” (PL)

The provincial preventive programme „I have a choice...I choose sense” aims to increase knowledge of the risk associated with the use of psychoactive substances and the prevention and combating of phenomenon of demoralization in the environment of children and adolescents. The addressees of the programme, apart from students, are their parents/legal guardians and teaching staff of educational/care institutions from the province of Podlasie. The purpose of the programme strategy is to educate in the use of or experimenting with psychoactive substances. Gaining the knowledge by minors is aimed at minimizing risky behaviour. On the other hand, training legal guardians and teachers in the subject of drug addiction allows to raise the level of knowledge, and consequently, to make the right decision in the event of revealing a minor under the influence of prohibited measures.

The preventive programme provides for information and education classes and the organisations of various events: conferences, workshops, sport competitions, broadcasting of preventive spots and competitions. In addition, as part of the programme, cyclical intervention activities are carried out under the name „Stop demoralization – attention...” aimed at preventing and combating demoralization and crime among minors.

Safe Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship (PL)

The "Safe Świętokrzyskie" program was established in December 1999. Its implementation was scheduled for 5 years. The main idea of the program was broadly understood cooperation to improve safety. The success of the first edition determined the decision to continue it, which resulted in the signing of subsequent editions for the years 2006-2010 and 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.

The aim of the implementation of the Safe Świętokrzyskie program is the cooperation of police services, government and local administration around the idea of active prevention of threats to public safety in the Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship.

During the last 5 years of the Program's operation, the award called “Koziołek” (ang. Little Goat) was awarded to a total of 6 poviats and 14 communes from the voivodeship. The “Koziołek” statuette was also awarded to 12 exceptional institutions and individuals who undertake numerous innovative actions to improve safety in local communities.

Thanks to the Program, experiences were exchanged between the program partners, cooperation was improved, good practices, achievements, possibilities of action to fight crime and pathologies were shown, and local communities were activated. In 2021, the next edition will be signed for the years 2021-2025.

“You have one life. Don't waste the chance.” (PL)

“You have one life. Don't waste the chance” programme in form of one and a half-hour workshops for young people of the first grades of secondary schools, coordinated by the City Police Commander in Lodz was an integrated prevention programme based on a social impact strategy. It started on October 18, 2018 and ended on March 5, 2020. The workshops were interrupted due COVID-19 restrictions.

The programme was aimed to reduce the law violation by minors and reduce the risk of demoralization and addiction, through the integrated actions preventing risky behaviours, especially addictions. In addition, the programme intended to improve public safety, reduce the sense of threat to the inhabitants of Lodz, diminish the area of social pathologies and addictions, and reduce the level of social aggression.

As a result of the evaluation, it was found that the designated satisfaction thresholds indicated that the programme achieved its objectives.