



EUCPN Newsletter April 2018

This Newsletter is a platform for policymakers, practitioners and everyone who is interested in crime prevention. We are interested in your news, research, good practices and experiences on crime prevention in the Member States and in Europe. Please send your documents in English accompanied by an abstract of 100-150 words to euicpn@bz.eu.

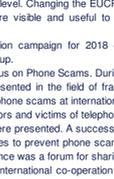
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► Editorial

Dear Reader

On behalf of the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU, I welcome you to the April 2018 Newsletter.



Since the beginning of 2018, the European Crime Prevention Network has accomplished great achievements and began to implement important networking activities. In March, meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board were held in Sofia. During these meetings important decisions were made concerning the future of the Network and its development as a leading factor in the field of prevention at EU level. Changing the EUCPN logo and communication strategy will make the Network more visible and useful to all stakeholders.

Serious progress has been made in developing the prevention campaign for 2018 on pickpocketing, which will be launched in June during the World Cup. Sofia hosted a thematic conference on Fraud with a Special Focus on Phone Scams. During the conference the successful experience of Finland was presented in the field of fraud prevention. Europol presented data on identified patterns of telephone and victims of telephone scams, as well as specific prevention campaigns in this area were presented. A successful experience in the field of technical and administrative approaches to prevent phone scams was shared by private banking partners. The Thematic Conference was a forum for sharing experiences, establishing professional contacts and planning international co-operation in the field of telephone scams prevention. The data collected through a questionnaire on the topic, which will be the base of a policy paper and a toolbox, are being summarized and systematized. In June 2018, Sofia will host the meeting of the Executive Network Committee, during which current tasks and initiatives will be discussed.

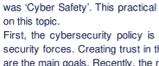
We believe that the European Crime Prevention Network will mark a successful period as a leading factor bringing together policymakers and practitioners in the field of prevention.

Hristina Ivanova
Chair EUCPN

► EUCPN output

New logo

The EUCPN has launched a brand new logo, which fits in with our new communication strategy that we will adopt very soon. Tell us what you think!



Toolbox nr. 11 - Prevention of pickpocketing within the EU – policies & practices

Even though some countries have to cope with rising prevalence numbers, pickpocketing as a specific crime phenomenon is often not considered as a priority within the world of criminal policy and legislation. The mobile organised crime groups (OCGs), who are deemed to be responsible for a big part of the committed pickpocketing, do get proper attention from policymakers and law enforcement agencies. Therefore in this toolbox we focus on both mobile organised crime groups in general and on pickpocketing more specifically. Another important part of the toolbox consists of recommendations for a successful approach to the prevention of pickpocketing committed by mobile OCGs. Finally, the toolbox concludes with some good practices of pickpocketing prevention measures as they were shared by the Member States with the EUCPN Secretariat.

[Read the toolbox](#)

Toolbox 12 - Cybersecurity and Safety Policy and best practices

The 12th toolbox in the series published by the EUCPN Secretariat focuses on the main theme of the Estonian Presidency and the 2017 Best Practice Conference (BPC), which was 'Cyber Safety'. This practical toolbox is to be read in tandem with the theoretical paper on this topic.

First, the cybersecurity policy is situated between two driving forces: the economic and security forces. Creating trust in the digital market and protecting citizens is taking form. This first part presents an overview for policymakers and tries to guide the reader through the myriad of legislative proposals and policy documents. The second and third part focus on the good and promising practices which were submitted to compete in the 2017 European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA) and some additional projects that were sent to the Secretariat by the Member States. Being safe online is not a luxury for everyone and the projects that were gathered aim to achieve just that. We have a look at the orientation of the projects, which partners are present and some of the methods that were applied. These lessons learned provide practical information for the practitioners in their effort to prevent cybercrime and promote cyber safe behaviour.

[Read the toolbox](#)

Meeting of National Crime Prevention Councils

On the 29th of March the EUCPN Secretariat organised the first ever meeting for National Crime Prevention Councils (NCPC) in Brussels. In multiple Member States there are semi-independent prevention councils in place. However, there has never been organized a meeting for them to exchange information and experiences. Since the EUCPN wants to be a platform for crime prevention, the EUCPN Secretariat decided to offer this platform to the NCPCs.

After a general introduction and discussion on the operation of National Crime Prevention Councils there were presentations on the Polish set of standards for the preparation of preventive program and 'What works and what doesn't in crime prevention policy. Evidence from research outcomes'. Since the participants rated this meeting as very useful, it will become a yearly event.

Funding: EU ongoing calls

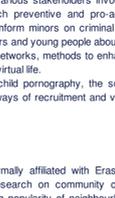
Crime prevention projects can obtain funding from a number of EU financial instruments. On our [website](#) we give you an overview of the most relevant funds and ongoing calls. The EU ongoing calls are updated every two weeks.

Call for proposals to prevent and combat gender-based violence and violence against children
Deadline: 13 November 2018
[Read more](#)

► Policy, publications and research

ENAA

The European Network on the Administrative Approach tackling serious and organised crime (ENAA) is a Network that consists out of 28 Contact Points each representing their country, competent in the field of administrative measures to tackle the phenomenon of organised crime groups, taking into account national needs and particular circumstances. In the process of formalizing the Network, it was decided to change the name to ENAA and drop the 'informal' part together with this change a logo was also created. Another important outcome of the meeting included the adoption of the third Work Programme for 2018-2020.



[More information](#)

EUROPOL

MTIC fraud investigation and LEA's cooperation improving
This report is produced within the framework of EMPACT MITC by anti-fraud experts from six member states. The report is designed to assist a more collaborative approach to MTIC fighting fraud.

[Read the report](#)

ROMANIA

Online child safety study

Mrs. Moise Alina & Mr. Ghita Mugurel – Crime Research and Prevention Institute

The purpose of the study was to update the evidence of online aggressions that children fall victim to and to explore as well as analyze the relationship between independent variables such as: family climate, the parents' values and concerns, their degree of social integration into everyday life in order to deeply understand the factors that lead to victimization online. The study has dealt with the issue of child pornography on the Internet in a distinct and in-depth manner as a high-profile crime of social danger, in the context of the police officers having been aware of an increase in this type of criminality in recent years. The present study employed a mixed approach where qualitative and quantitative data were collected. Thus, it was designed in three stages, namely: conducting a poll among pupils, analyzing the existing information at the level of the General Inspectorate of Romanian Police with regard to victimization of minors through the Internet and interviews with police officers investigating such crimes. Questionnaires (1.368) were used to collect the quantitative data and semi-structured interviews were conducted for the qualitative data collection. Semi-structured interviews sought to capture the dynamics and ways of displaying child pornography, the characteristics of victims and aggressors, understanding the factors responsible for increasing vulnerability, recruitment and how to react.

The results of the study are grouped in the following categories: student's interests, internet usage habits, online socialization, information level regarding online risks and legislation in the field, parents' participation in online behavior education, safety level of children online. On the other hand, the study highlighted the main causes and forms of manifestation of child pornography, the main features of victims and offenders. The study has practical and scientific implications related parents' and children's awareness raising regarding internet safety, explaining the role of the various stakeholders involved. The study highlighted the main mechanisms through which preventive and pro-active intervention can be implemented: educational materials to inform minors on criminal law, behavioral rules in the online environment, awareness of minors and young people about the risks associated with the use of the Internet and socializing networks, methods to enhance parents' communication skills and overseeing their children's virtual life. Moreover, the study provides information about trends in child pornography, the socio-economic context associated with those trends, as well as ways of recruitment and victim vulnerability.

THE NETHERLANDS

Neighbourhood watch publications

Dr. Vasco Lub is an independent Dutch researcher (informally affiliated with Erasmus University Rotterdam). Since 2014 he has been doing research on community crime prevention in the Netherlands, in particular on the increasing popularity of neighbourhood watch groups (its national rise and growth, efficacy, influence of digital applications, policy implications and its 'dark side': vigilantism, stigmatization, ethnic profiling and excessive social control). Recently, he has published two international titles on the subject: one book with Palgrave Macmillan ('Neighbourhood Watch in a Digital Age') and a scholarly article in the British Journal of Criminology: 'Neighbourhood Watch: mechanisms and moral implications'. Both publications are not just academic but offer practical recommendations.

Links to the publications:
[Book](#)
[Article](#)

► Member States' good practices

AUSTRIA

The Granny Scam

The telephone rings at a victim's ('Granny's') place. Unsuspecting, the victim assumes that the caller is a friend or relative. The victim starts guessing who is calling, utters several different names of family members (in most cases, grandchildren or nephews' names), the fraudster picks one and claims to be that person. Later, the caller describes his financial emergency situation and asks the victim for cash. It is not unusual in such cases that victims lose all their savings; often, the loss entails serious emotional distress, even physical ailments. Crime prevention proves difficult: potential victims are often inaccessible to speeches or campaigns. Bankstaff was found to play a crucial role in prevention; so this campaign, in cooperation with Austrian National Bank and Chamber of Commerce, is geared to informing and motivating the general public and bank staff in particular; it includes an information film entitled 'The Granny Scam'.

[More information](#)
[Video to build up awareness for bank staff](#)

BELGIUM

Strengthening Resilience against Violent Radicalisation (STRESAVIORA II)

The BOUNCE project (STRESAVIORA II), funded by the European Commission and coordinated by the FPS Home Affairs of Belgium, officially ended on March 31, 2018. The main objective of the project was the implementation and concrete use of the BOUNCE resilience tools at local level. 10 cities from 5 EU Member States (Belgium, Germany, France, The Netherlands and Sweden) were selected to serve as pilot cities to implement the BOUNCE tools and to evaluate their impact. The past year, approximately 100 people from the pilot cities were trained in the Bounce tools.

The final results of the research, carried out by Ghent University, have been presented on the expert workshop and final conference, on 13 and 14 Mars, in Brussels ([Read more](#)). The [short-term evaluation of BOUNCEUp](#) has shown that the present project has been well appreciated by the majority of participants in all ten pilot cities, but that certain deficiencies occur in the practical implementation of the BOUNCE tools.

On the new website www.bounce-resilience-tools.eu, it is now possible to find a bottom-up database containing a large number of European projects working specifically on resilience, but more broadly, in the primary prevention of various forms of violent radicalism. It will also be possible for registered users to directly add initiatives on this database. A forum was also created in order to allow European participants to discuss and exchange experiences with each other.

[Read more](#)

CZECH REPUBLIC

The Czech elderly don't swallow the bait

'We Don't Swallow the Bait' ('Nedáme se') project is an interactive educational stage play, in which four types of most common deceitful and manipulative techniques used against seniors are presented. These are sales campaigns, selling perfumes on the street, telemarketing and at-senior's-home selling technique. Besides the actors, a policeman, and also the author of the play, psychologist PhDr. Romana Mazalová, Ph.D., appears on the scene. They interact with the audience, and thus teaching them new strategies of defence. The play is therefore not only enjoyable, but also educational. The educational effect on the audience was experimentally examined. The results confirmed that the seniors who had seen the play proved to be more successful in defending themselves against fraud sellers. The method of quasi-experiment on a research group of 260 seniors from Hradec Králové Region (130 in experimental group, 130 in control group) was used. The play was performed in 41 towns and cities in the Czech Republic, and it had been seen by more than 1000 elderly. The project was found useful and has been submitted to The Manual of Good Practice of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic.

GREECE

European & Development Programmes Agency's Projects:

1. Within the framework of the Actions for the 2014-2020 Programming Period, managed by the European and Development Programmes Agency, the Action 'Actions against Radicalization and Extremism' which was co-funded by the Internal Security Fund/Police Cooperation Section, had as deliverables inter alia, the drafting and publication of a Training Manual and two Pocket Guides for the preparation of first-line professionals and other executives in detection of indications of radicalization leading to violent extremism. Within the framework of the above, the Action entitled 'Enhancement of Law Enforcement Agencies to identify and counter radicalization and extremism' is about to be implemented and foresees the establishment of a specific methodological framework for risk assessment and evaluation, the creation of a simulation game, the preparation of special recognition indicators, recognition questionnaires and the preparation and conduct of readiness exercises.

2. The Action entitled 'Collection, Analysis & Dissemination System of Economic Crime Intelligence (CADI-S)' refers to the procurement of Software, Conferences Organization and Personnel Training, in order to enrich the existing data base, modernize the existing system for collecting, analyzing and managing information, optimize the recording of the trends of specific economic crimes (economic fraud etc), recognize the level of threat from such forms of organized crime (at national, European and international level), strengthen the level of information exchange with financial crime agents focusing on the interconnection of information systems and the creation of an interface platform, and finally understand how to act and dismantle criminal organizations which are active in the field of financial crime.

Contact info: ppg.papadopoulos@astynomia.gr

Regarding the crime of fraud and especially phone scams, the Hellenic Police has launched an awareness Campaign, which is consisted of the following actions:

- Useful advice and information for civilians are available on the Hellenic official website (<http://www.astynomia.gr>), regarding prevention measures.
- A brochure, containing useful advice and practices for avoiding victimization was issued, distributed to the public and put in display on prominent places inside Police Departments as well as in other public places (City Halls, Banks, Post Offices etc.).
- Two relevant informative spots were broadcasted on television and radio.
- The abovementioned brochure and tv spot are also available on the official website and the official social media accounts of the Hellenic Police. ([\) and \(https://www.facebook.com/hellenicpolice/videos/425145761257310/\)](http://www.astynomia.gr/index.php?option=com_content&perform=view&id=9876&Itemid=6198&lang=)
- Cases concerning criminal acts of fraud and new threats and methods are made known to the public by the use of the media.
- Public lectures were prosecuted, in cooperation with local and church authorities, for the purpose of informing the attendees of the methods used by criminals regarding phone scams.

ROMANIA

The Price of Friendship Project

Frauds prevention project, initiated and implemented by the General Directorate of Bucharest Police. The general objective of the project was to reduce the risk of senior victimization, by accomplishing the following specific objectives: to analyse the target group from attitudinal and behavioural perspective, to increase the level of preventive information targeting seniors; to increase seniors' self-defence abilities.

The target group consisted of seniors over 60 years old who were members of the seniors' clubs set up by the local public authorities in each district level. In the time period January to October 2017, crime prevention officers developed 34 awareness raising activities, such as: the risks associated to seniority, prevention of victimization in case of frauds, by the following methods: "the accident", "supermarket promoter", "prize money from television or from telephone companies" where seniors were sweet-talked out of their savings by being deceived with "legends" such as their children being involved in traffic accidents in urgent need of money to make the punishment, be it a fine or imprisonment, go away.

Along with information, the personal development of the old people from the target group was aimed by training abilities to use a computer, objective accomplished with the help of IT specialists, during 6 training sessions, focusing on: using the internet, searching for useful information on the official websites and sending personal or other e-mails, and other such initiatives.

The above mentioned activities were accompanied by video clips with preventive content. During the project implementation, they were periodically broadcasted on national TV and radio station, alongside with being disseminated on the TV screens from 4 hypermarkets.

SLOVAKIA

Conference "The protection of Life and Health under the Criminal Law"

Trnava University in Trnava, Faculty of Law, Department of Criminal Law and Criminology is organizing the international scientific conference "The protection of Life and Health under the Criminal Law" that will be held in Trnava (Slovakia) on the 20th and 21st of September 2018. The Conference is organized as a part of project funded by the Slovak Research and Development Agency under the Contract No. APVV-16-0106.

The Protection of Life and Health is the highest priority in an advanced society. The Conference will focus on legal, criminological and criminalistics aspects of the protection of Life and Health. The conference is approaching mainly the effectiveness of the protection of Life and Health under the Criminal Law, the sentencing policy for the violent crimes and the importance of expert evidence in the process of proving them. The conference also addresses the criminological aspects of violent crime- its state, structure, dynamics, new forms, causes and conditions, prevention programs and measures of control of violent crime in the Slovak Republic. The outcome of this conference will be peer reviewed conference proceedings.

Further information about the conference can be found on the website <http://www.zpravickakonferencie.sk>
Doc. JUDr. Miroslava Witzelová, PhD.
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Local Civil Neighborhood Watch - Miestna Občianska Poriadacia Služba (MOPS)
Local Civil Neighborhood Watch is an initiative of the Office of the Plenipotentiary for Roma communities currently financed from European structural funds and state budget. The Watch should facilitate the communal life in the municipality. The activities of the Watch include help in keeping order and safety within the community and the wider municipality, bridge communication gaps between the municipality and the members of the community, accompanying children on the way to school and back etc., assisting with public events. The project aims to employ Roma directly from community. Currently, 710 out of the total number of 820 members of the Watch are Roma.

The original budget for this project was set to 10 million EUR, funded by European structural funds. The popular demand, however, far exceeded this budget. The Office of the Plenipotentiary together with the Ministry of Interior of Slovak republic therefore realigned resources and set the final budget to 19 million EUR, two million of which are from the state budget. This doubled the originally planned number of municipalities that could participate. aim of the Office of Plenipotentiary is to mainstream this project at the end of the programming period and integrate the members of the Watch in the Slovak Police force after the three year funding period.

► Upcoming events

Date	Event	Location
16-18 May 2018	Counterterrorism (CT) and Applied Intelligence Courses (7th Edition)	The Hague, Netherlands
22-24 May 2018	Flying Money conference - Investigating illicit financial flows in the city	Amsterdam, Netherlands
11-12 June 2018	23rd German Congress on Crime Prevention	Dresden, Germany
12-14 June 2018	Stockholm Prize in Criminology 2018	Stockholm, Sweden
14-16 June 2018	10th international EFRF Conference	Tirana, Albania
29 August-1 September 2018	18th Annual Conference of the European Society of Criminology	Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
25-27 September 2018	Fundamental Rights Forum 2018	Vienna, Austria
5-7 December 2018	Counterterrorism (CT) and Applied Intelligence course (8th Edition)	The Hague, Netherlands

For more information on one of these events, [click here](#).

► Preview

The next edition of the EUCPN Newsletter in June 2018 will focus on Frauds (with focus on phone scams). We kindly invite readers to share their news and information on European crime prevention issues with the EUCPN Secretariat by sending contributions (in English, 100-150 words abstract) to euicpn@bz.eu

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