

EUCPN Newsletter December 2015

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.

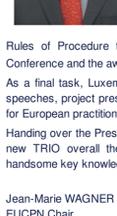
Specific topics

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Editorial

Dear Reader,

First of all I would like to present my condolences to all the victims and their families involved in the Paris attacks on November 13-14 2015. These tragic events show that Europe is not immune from terrorist attacks against our democratic values and the safety of its citizens. However, there will be no doubt about the firm commitment of police forces through Europe to overcome this major challenge and to defeat any international terrorism wherever it may hide from prosecution.



The year 2015 and Luxembourg's Presidency is close to its end and I have the honour to introduce to you the last 2015 EUCPN Newsletter – December edition.

The main focus of the Luxembourg's Presidency team was to collect and present best practices in prevention of cybercrime.

A first step was to give the floor to national institutions and organizations active in tackling cybercrime and to encourage discussions among delegates during our last EUCPN Board meeting in Luxembourg on 23 September.

Secondly, Luxembourg's Presidency called for ECPA projects and received in total 20 submissions for the European Crime Prevention Award and 6 additional best practice projects. The European Crime Prevention Award Jury met on 11-12 November in Luxembourg to evaluate the submitted projects. According to the Rules of Procedure the Jury nominated three winners which will be presented at the Best Practice Conference and the award ceremony on the 17th of December in Luxembourg.

As a final task, Luxembourg's Presidency is honoured to issue a relevant practice book with all key-note speeches, project presentations and summaries of the discussions with the recommendations on the theme for European practitioners.

Handing over the Presidency to the next Presidency TRIO (The Netherlands, Slovakia and Malta), I trust the new TRIO overall theme "Organized crime" will be perfectly explored under new aspects to provide handsome key knowledge for efficient field practice in crime prevention.

Jean-Marie WAGNER
EUCPN Chair

Research and publications

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Special Eurobarometer 423: Cyber security

The periodic Eurobarometers measure the public opinion and feelings within the European Union about a certain topic. The Eurobarometer 423 does this for Cyber Security. The aim of the survey on "Cyber Security" is to understand EU citizens' experiences and perceptions of cyber security issues. The survey examines the nature and frequency of Internet usages; their awareness and experience of cybercrime; and the level of concern that they feel about this type of crime.

To read the report, click [here](#).

Special Eurobarometer 432: Europeans' attitudes towards security

The global financial crisis left many people feeling insecure about their own personal situation. War and conflicts on the EU's doorstep raise security challenges for bordering Member States, while the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters travelling between the EU and conflict zones has become a key security challenge for the EU. Therefore Security is arguably a greater issue for Europeans in 2015 than at any time since a generation ago. This study looks at how secure European citizens feel and what the impact of several factors are on these feelings. The study also looks at what they regard as the main security threats to the EU and which organisations or institutions are best placed to address these challenges.

To read the report, click [here](#).

BELGIUM

Children as social network actors: A European legal perspective on challenges concerning membership, rights, conduct and liability

Recent social science research shows that children from as young as 7 are avid users of Social Networking Sites (SNS) such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Tumblr. The involvement of minor users on SNS platforms raises significant legal challenges, for instance regarding their capacity to enter into a membership agreement, consenting to share or be tagged in photographs and liability for certain actions. This contribution aims to identify relevant legal issues related to SNS use by (young) children and to assess the applicability of existing legal frameworks at European and national level with regard to the capacity to contract, transfer of intellectual property rights, right to image, and the liability of children and parents for certain breaches of legislative provisions or acts that cause damage. The second part contains an exploration of user empowerment mechanisms such as the use of innovative information provision tools or awareness-raising to achieve better informed decision-making by children (and parents) with regard to their SNS use.

Bullying and sexting in social networks: Protecting minors from criminal acts or empowering minors to cope with risky behaviour?

The availability and use of social networking sites creates both opportunities and risks for their young users. This article evaluates the applicability of the current legal framework to (cyber)bullying and sexting, two types of (potentially harmful) behaviour that are increasingly occurring between peers in the social networking environment. The analysis includes a mapping of applicable legislative provisions at the European and national level, an analysis of the Terms of Service of the largest social networking provider, Facebook, and an overview and assessment of self-regulatory initiatives that have been taken by the industry in this area in Europe. The ultimate goal is to identify a number of elements for a comprehensive strategy to ensure that risks of (cyber)bullying and sexting are dealt with in a manner that empowers young users.

EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS (FRA)

Surveillance by intelligence services: Fundamental rights safeguards and remedies in the European Union

FRA decided to draft this report as a response to the European Parliament's call for thorough research on fundamental rights protection in the context of surveillance, maps and analyses the legal frameworks on surveillance in place in EU Member States. The report stresses the fact that protecting the public from security threats and safeguarding fundamental rights involves a delicate balance. By demonstrating the complex considerations involved, this report underscores how difficult it can be to address what are often seen as competing priorities, and contributes to the continuing debate on how to best reconcile them.

To read the report, click [here](#).

EUROPOL

10 common sense tips to avoid becoming a fraud victim



Europol published 10 practical tips about how to avoid becoming a fraud victim. Through this, Europol shows how citizens can protect themselves through simple actions.

To read these 10 tips, click [here](#).

Crime prevention advice

It is commonly acknowledged that people themselves are the weakest link in the information security chain and attackers have become very sophisticated in exploiting this to their advantage. Today, a typical attacker is more professional, operates more in secrecy, and is relying more heavily on Social Engineering techniques to target victims via trickery and deception into unwittingly or even knowingly providing information and access that would have been much harder to take by force. Europol wants to counter this trend by providing information how people can protect themselves against these kind of attacks.

To read the document, click [here](#).

Internet organised crime threat assessment (IOCTA)

Europol published the 2015 internet organised crime threat assessment. This assessment is intended to inform the priority setting for the EMPACT operational action plan for 2016. This action plan is divided in three sub-priority areas of cybercrime: cyber-attacks, child sexual exploitation online and payment fraud. The IOCTA also seeks to inform decision-makers at strategic, policy and tactical levels on how to fight cybercrime more effectively and to better protect online society against cyber threats.

INTERPOL

Crimes against children

Interpol has published a factsheet about crimes against children.

To read the factsheet, click [here](#).

Since the beginning of the Syrian civil war, many western people have gone to Syria to fight in this civil war. As a reaction Interpol lists its activities against these foreign fighters threat.

To read the factsheet, click [here](#).

International centre for the prevention of crime

The ICPC has started an international comparative study on the prevention of radicalisation. This global study aims at gathering information regarding both conceptualization and trends, and tools of prevention, especially those linked to the social prevention of this issue. The study will entail a systematic literature review, identify key actors in various countries and gathering good practices. ICPC is currently looking for institutions who are interested in contributing to this study and who want to exchange information.

For further information, click [here](#).

LATVIA

Simplification of less serious crime investigation aimed to reduce public danger, harm caused by crime and consumption of resources for investigation

The aim of the project is to exchange, summarize and analyse legislation, knowledge, experience and the best practice on simplification of less serious crime investigation in 7 EU Member States and to deliver recommendations for implementation of the best models and practice, thereby providing opportunities to increase effectiveness of law enforcement agencies in the EU Member States.

To read the report, click [here](#).

NETHERLANDS

Final report EU Study Administrative Approaches to crime

The study aims to contribute to the existing body of knowledge concerning the legal options approach to crime in the European Union in the following manner. First, it explored the legal options available to national administrative authorities in the ten selected Member States. These are, in alphabetical order: Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom (limited to England and Wales). Second, it considered the practical application of the legal options available in the selected Member States.

To read the full study, click [here](#).

UNICRI

Towards an international strategy to combat illicit trafficking in precious metals - A meeting at UNICRI with key stakeholders

The initiative aims at establishing a network of key stakeholders, assessing the degree and scale of the threat, and the legal and control systems obstacles to effective counter measures and strategies. Final objective of the programme is to promote an international strategy to counter the illicit trafficking of precious metals and combat its potential use as a source of funding for organized crime and terrorism.

For more information, click [here](#).

EUROPEAN MIGRATION NETWORK (EMN)

A study on smuggling of migrants: Characteristics, responses and cooperation with third countries (EMN)

The study was carried out by a consortium comprising Optimity Advisors, ICMPD and ECRE, commissioned by the European Commission's DG Migration and Home. It involved six months of desk research, interviews and data analysis across selected European Member States and third countries.

The objectives of this study were to:

- Map and analyse policies, programmes and operational responses implemented by selected EU Member States and third countries aimed to fight against, reduce and prevent migrant smuggling to the EU.
- Draw concrete comparative assessments of practices in various parts of the world where smuggling of migrants occur, based on a factual and comparative picture of the scale, characteristics, trends and patterns of the phenomenon.
- Draw conclusions based on the data collection and case study outcomes

To read the Full report, click [here](#).

To read the Synthesis, click [here](#).

Member States' good practices

SPAIN

Spanish National Police promotes awareness and prevention campaign on the dangers of the Internet and cybercrime

From 12 till 15 November, specialized agents from Technology Research Unit and anti-virus company representatives Kaspersky, McAfee, Norton and Panda Security, advised citizens on the main risks when browsing the web.

For that four days, experts analysed for free smartphones, tablets and computers of internet users who wanted in four stands located in Madrid stations of Atocha and Chamartin, and shopping centers of "El Corte Ingles" in Callao Square and in Castellana Street.

This operation called "Blackfin", organized by the British NCA (National Crime Agency) and coordinated by EUROPOL, aims to provide a proactive response to threats from cyber criminals and criminal organizations to raise public awareness on the safe use of the Internet.

They gave several advices but the main one is to use common sense and apply the same security and prevention measures in real life as in virtual world.

SLOVAKIA

superzarobok.sk



During this period, the Slovak Republic conducted a campaign to combat trafficking in human beings. The first campaign called superzarobok.sk offers protection against THB through a website <http://www.superzarobok.sk/> (website in Slovakian). On this web page you can see fake employment agency offering well paid jobs abroad and does not demand good knowledge of foreign language. If a person is interested, he should register on the website to receive more information about the jobs and provide another e-mail address of his family member or a friend.

After registering on this website, an email is sent to registered person and additional address, containing a warning such as:

"Maria (30 years old) from Slovakia, was found by police in critical conditions. She went abroad to find a job and has become a victim of trafficking in human beings." This is a type of message your friends and relatives could receive one day. Do you want to know how to prevent from becoming a victim of trafficking in human beings? Click here.

Modern-day slaves

The second campaign called modern-day slaves, is indicative . This campaign also takes place on the internet through the website <http://www.novodobocisti.sk/> (website in Slovakian). It offers a wide range of information from the environment of human trafficking , which prevent the public. Part of the site are a few films which describes the fate of victims of trafficking.

HESTIA

In order to solve the problem of sham marriages in Slovakia and other European countries the Ministry of the Interior (MoI) of the Slovak republic became a partner within a project "Prevention of and Fight against Crime Programme - HESTIA" that was supported by Directorate General of Home Affairs of European Commission (EC). The project leader is Ministry of the Interior of Latvia and other non-governmental organization from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Finland, and, Ireland are involved.

The project started on January 1, 2015. Within the framework of the project during two years a variety of activities are provided: by the organization of discussions of legislators, policy planners and practitioners at national and regional level in each country a comprehensive research of the problem of sham marriages will be prepared; learning methodology will be developed and training will be implemented during which social workers, social educators, workers of educational institutions, media representatives, state and municipal police officers and representatives of non-governmental organizations will be educated; awareness raising campaigns and final conference of the project will be implemented. Overall, during the activities of the project it is planned to involve and address more than 700 thousand members of the society in six European Union (EU) countries.

According to the data provided by the Ministry of the Interior of Slovak Republic in 2014 30 victims of trafficking in human beings have been identified, 13 of them are victims of sexual exploitation, 9 of sham marriages, 4 of forced labour, 2 of forced begging, 1 of involvement in criminal activities, 1 of other form of trafficking in human beings . In the case of sham marriages in Slovakia there is a tendency of this form of trafficking in human beings to increase: 2 victims were registered in 2011, 2 victims in 2012, 7 victims in 2013, 9 victims in 2014. In many cases of sham marriages women were forced into prostitution.

For more information on the project, click [here](#).

IRELAND

Garda Síochána (Irish Police Force) Theft Stop Initiative

Theft Stop was developed as a result of the police and the Irish Farmers Association recognising the need to help farmers prevent theft of farm equipment. Theft Stop is a free farm theft prevention initiative which provides members with a unique identification code to mark farm equipment. Marking property acts as an effective crime deterrent and will help reduce farm related theft. Theft Stop members can purchase a stencil kit or a metal punching set for application of their unique code. The marked equipment is then recorded on the theftstop.ie website. The initiative was first piloted in 2014 and is proposed to be rolled out nationwide on a county basis in 2015 and 2016.

Theft Stop will provide the police with a comprehensive database of farm equipment which can be used in investigation, recovery and identification processes. It will also allow the police to form and maintain an online directory of stolen farm machinery for police personnel to view.

To find out more, click [here](#).

Upcoming events

EU Conference on the administrative approach to prevent and tackle crime

The Dutch Presidency will organize the first European conference about the Administrative Approach. This EU Presidency conference aims to give inside in the way administrative measures are or can be applied in member states, additional to actions under criminal law, with the aim to prevent and tackle serious and organised crime and what further EU actions are needed to improve cooperation between Member States in cross border cases

Date	Event	Location
26-28 November 2015	URBANITY 2015 PERSON, GROUP & SOCIETY	Mantova Italy
1 December 2015	6th Annual International Symposium on Preventing Human Trafficking: Strengthening Cooperation, Developing a Multilevel Approach	Brussels, Belgium
2-4 December 2015	Counterterrorism (CT) and Applied Intelligence Course	The Hague, Netherlands
3 December 2015	Criminal Justice Platform – International Seminar	Brussels, Belgium
3-4 December 2015	Tools for a strategic approach to urban security	Rotterdam, Netherlands
17-18 December 2015	The European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA) and Best Practice Conference (BPC)	Luxembourg City Luxembourg
14 January 2016	Seminar IVOR: Services that work for victims	Lisbon, Portugal
9-11 March 2015	Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) and Suicide Terrorism Course	The Hague, Netherlands
21-22 March 2016	EU Conference on the administrative approach to prevent and tackle crime	Amsterdam, Netherlands
18-20 May 2015	Cyber Security, Intelligence and Awareness Course	The Hague, Netherlands
1-3 June 2015	Counterterrorism (CT) and Applied Intelligence Course	The Hague, Netherlands
6-7 June 2016	21st German Congress on Crime Prevention	Magdenburg, Germany
7-9 June 2016	7th NMIOTC ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2016	Chania, Greece
26-30 September 2015	Criminal Intelligence & Analysis Course	The Hague, Netherlands
2-5 October 2016	3rd International Conference on Law Enforcement and Public	Amsterdam, Netherlands

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

Preview

The next edition of the EUCPN Newsletter in January 2016 will focus on the Prevention of illegal trafficking of firearms'. 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.

Deze e-mail werd verzonden naar .
Klik [hier](#) om uit te schrijven.

Contact: euicpn@bz.eu

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