

EUCPN Newsletter November 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 eucpn@ibz.eu.

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► Editorial

Dear Reader

The Austrian EUCPN Presidency has reached the home stretch and I am very pleased to present you an outlook on our "last mile":

All the projects which have been handed in for the European Crime Prevention Award are excellent and each and every one of them would have deserved an award, but at the end of the day there can be only one winner and we are all very curious who will be the winner.



This year there will be an ECPA Cup which – we think – has turned out to be really nice and stylish. It has been designed and developed by marketing experts and reflects the EUCPN spirit.

I am also very pleased to announce that the State Secretary of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Ms. Karoline Edtstadler, and the Director General for Public Security, Ms. Michaela Kardeis (who will hold over the ECPA Award), will grace the EUCPN conference in December with their presence.

On behalf of my excellent team I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to the colleagues of the EUCPN Secretariat both for their continued and professional support and their patience with us. They are always there and guarantee the high quality and professionalism of EUCPN!

I am very much looking forward to meeting you personally during the upcoming Board Meeting or at our conference in December at the latest!

Yours sincerely,
Hans-Peter Stückler
Chair EUCPN

► EUCPN output

Report on National Crime Prevention Councils



Report on National Crime Prevention Councils

Member States with and without National Crime Prevention Councils

In the framework of the project "The Implementation of the National Strategy for Crime Prevention in the Member States of the European Union" (2016-2018) the EUCPN Secretariat has conducted a survey on National Crime Prevention Councils (NCPCs) in all Member States.

In multiple Member States there are semi-independent crime prevention councils in place. Since the EUCPN wants to be a platform for crime prevention, the EUCPN Secretariat organised the first meeting for National Crime Prevention Councils (NCPCs) in March 2018. The main goal was to exchange information and experiences about the functioning of NCPCs. After the meeting the EUCPN Secretariat asked each Member State to complete a questionnaire about their NCPC and the National Crime Prevention Strategies. Two questionnaires were sent out: one for Member States with a NCPC and one for Member States without one. In the first document (report) an analysis of made of the responses of the Member States who filled in the questionnaire and gave a presentation during the meeting. The second document (summary) gives a detailed overview of the responses of

the Member States.
[Read the report](#)

Workshop Community-Oriented Policing

On 9 October 2018 the EUCPN and CEPOL have held a brainstorm with experts on community-oriented policing in the EU. This workshop is part of a larger exercise of creating a toolbox on this topic. It will contain recommendations for a successful implementation of community-oriented policing in the EU and good practices that enable the improvement of the subjective feeling of safety of citizens through positive exposure and cooperation with law enforcement within EU Member States.



More updates will follow on this forthcoming toolbox.

► Policy, publications and research

EUROPOL

Toll fraud, international revenue share fraud and more: how criminals monetise hacked cell phones and IoT devices for telecom fraud

Telecommunications fraud represents a serious threat to the telecommunication industry, resulting in loss of revenue, which is undoubtedly passed onto customers. It also represents a significant source of criminal revenue, which could potentially be reinvested in other serious criminal activities.

[Read the report](#)

EUROPOL

Criminal networks involved in the trafficking and exploitation of underage victims in the EU

This report is produced in the framework of the EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime. The Justice and Home Affairs Council defined its priorities for 2018-2021 based on Europol's Serious and Organised Crime Threat Assessment (SOCTA), released in March 2017.

Trafficking in human beings (THB) is one of the identified crime priorities of the current EU Policy Cycle 2018-2021.

The aim is to disrupt organised crime groups (OCGs) involved in intra-EU human trafficking and human trafficking from the most prevalent external source countries for the purposes of labour exploitation and sexual exploitation, including those groups using legal business structures to facilitate or disguise their criminal activities.

[Read the report](#)

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

European Getaway: Inside the Murky World of Golden Visas

This report highlights the corruption risks posed by the use of citizenship and residency and how these schemes threaten the integrity of the EU.

[Read the report](#)

► Member States' good practices

CZECH REPUBLIC

Tackling domestic violence among minorities in the Czech Republic

The Police of the Czech Republic runs the project "Don't be Blind to Domestic Violence" which is targeted, among others, also to members of minorities and citizens living in socially excluded areas. The aim is to inform these citizens about places where they can find help and important contacts. For that purpose, information materials were developed in eight languages: Czech, English, Russian, Ukrainian, Mongolian, Roma, Vietnamese and Arabic. These materials facilitate police field work and communication between the Police and members of minority communities. A pilot project to address the most serious cases of domestic violence is planned for the next year. The project will introduce special signalization devices to contact the police in case of immediate danger.

SLOVAKIA

Prevention of human trafficking

The police finds human trafficking highly organised illegal activity. To fight this phenomenon is really hard because such criminal activity is done latently and new ways are still being emerged. That's why it is needed to prevent human trafficking as much as possible. Despite the fact that victims of the activity are often men, because they can be and are misused for physical work, women are those who are abused more often. Committing such crime, criminals transgress human rights as well as intervene mental identity of a man who is considered to be a victim of that act. Not everyone travelling abroad or going abroad for work, becomes a victim of trafficking. What is vital, is to have enough information in order to cut down on the risk of being abused. There are various resources where people can get informed. Within prevention work, the police deals with many endangered target groups of people, especially with the youth. Nowadays, young people travel a lot to get to know new countries or find a job or temp work. Therefore they should get the best information possible and be able to verify all necessary information about a job agency, to be careful with contracts, to sign them in the language they understand, not to give personal data and documents to people they do not know, etc. It is significant to be aware of human trafficking indicators, such as not to have personal documents with, not to have freedom of movement, not to have freedom to leave whenever they want, not to have freedom to contact relatives, not to be given part of salary regularly and so on. Our aim is to prevent especially youngsters from being the victims of human trafficking. Another important fact is to know what to do in such a case. All the above mentioned information is offered to a target group via interactive forms of learning, workshops or various activities. A good example of such work is a cooperation of the Police in Komárno with the Regional educational center in Komárno. School institutions show a growing interest in common prevention activities. In the last school year 135 pupils of the second grade of elementary schools and 154 students of high schools were involved in the prevention programs in cooperation with the District police headquarters in Komárno.

The preventive project "Police with the mail for seniors"

This year, the Regional Headquarters of the Police Corps in Banská Bystrica, in cooperation with Slovak Post Office, started the implementation of the preventive project, which is aimed at preventive influence primarily to the elderly, but also to people living alone. Although the police realizes lots of preventive activities in relation to senior citizens, there are still many retirees, who are not members of any organizations, associations or any society, they do not visit churches and they listen to the radio or watch television only sporadically. That why the seniors, who live alone and in isolation do not have enough information and they often become victims of crooks and thieves who come close to them because of their various made-up and sophisticated pretenses. They mislead the seniors and by deception or simply theft they prepare them for lifelong savings or valuable items. For this reason, police officers from the Regional Headquarters of the Police Corps in Banská Bystrica, section of the prevention, come up with an idea to visit this threatened group of people directly at their place and provide them with first-hand information, advice and recommendations. In this effort, the staff of Slovak Post Office is a big help, thanks to their day-to-day contact with the inhabitants of the region as well as having knowledge of local circumstances. They know to define the seniors who could be potential victims of crimes. Police officers mainly appeal to the elderly not to let in foreigners to their houses and in any case not to provide cash to unknown people. At the end of the visiting, each senior receives a leaflet, that can be studied by them in the comfort of their home. The realization of the preventive project has started since April 2018 in the municipalities of Banská Bystrica.

SPAIN

Spanish National Police sets up a computer application (VeriPol) to detect false reports

It is the first tool of its kind in the world and it estimates that a report of a robbery with violence or intimidation is false with over 90 % accuracy, while police experts get 75%.

This program has been installed as from this week in every National Police Stations and it identifies the crime on the basis of the text of the report, so it does not need any information by the user and it is completely automatic.

The implementation of VeriPol pursues a two-fold objective. On one hand, crime prevention because it discourages citizens from making false complaints and, on the other hand, to avoid the unnecessary use of police sources, optimizing efforts and time in other duties.

VeriPol is the first method which has been validated not by fictitious texts or specifically drafted for the investigation but by real documents, so it is considered a new achievement in both police and academic level.

► Upcoming events

4-6 December 2018	European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA) and Best Practice Conference (BPC)	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 February 2019 will focus on preventing victimization of minors – online and offline. 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 eucpn@ibz.eu

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