



# Press Release

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## **EU2020: Smashing family-based organised crime through prevention**

### **Council Presidency brings Europe's experts together online**

Germany's Presidency of the Council of the European Union hosted an online conference at which experts from the academic community and practitioners from across the EU met to discuss family-based organised crime, with a focus on prevention and practical experience in dealing with this type of crime. Germany hopes that the conference will improve communication and the sharing of best practices among all EU member states.

Horst Seehofer, Federal Minister of the Interior, said: *"To fight family-based organised crime effectively, we must get to the root of the problem. Children and young people need prospects for a future outside prison walls. This is why prevention needs to focus on the young."*

At the conference, nine member states presented successful prevention projects focused on children and young people. The conference concluded with the presentation of the annual European Crime Prevention Award by an international jury. This year's top award went to Ireland's Greentown Project, which aims to make it more difficult for criminal gangs to recruit children and to help children already involved in organised crime to find a way out.

Further information on the programme of the Best Practice Conference and on the award entries is available on the EUCPN website: <https://eucpn.org/>.

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