

Crime prevention policy	
EU- priority	Organised Property Crime
Country	Cyprus
Year	2018

1. Overview of the field

Definition of cybercrime

In Cyprus, there are many criminal offences that fall under the category of Property Crime. The main ones are:

- Theft
- Criminal offences related to Theft
- Criminal Trespassing
- Robbery and Extortion
- Burglary during the night, Burglary and similar criminal offences
- False pretenses
- Issue of Cheques without security
- Fencing
- Fraud by Trustees and Person in a Position of Trust and False Accounting
- Usury and Profiteering

Please note that, for an offence to be considered as Organized, there has to be involvement of an Organized Criminal Group.

Assessment of trends and developments

There has been a decrease in Property Crime, according to a piece of research carried out in 2016, by a private company of polls, called "Cypronetwork". These findings are also corroborated by the official Police Statistics, as shown in the table attached. The statistics have been produced by the Statistics and Cartography Office.

Recent overview of statistics and research

Please refer to the table attached, entitled "Recorded cases of offences against property by year". → **onbreekt**

2. Crime strategy and coordination

Objectives of the crime strategy

1. Detection / analysis and dealing with the crime factors that lead to delinquency and criminality.
2. Involvement of various organizations, local authorities and the society at large, regarding the role of the citizens in the prevention of property crime

Role of prevention in the crime strategy on state/regional/local level

At a national level, the Strategy is included in the Governance Program of the President of the Republic. The national Strategy is implemented at a regional and local level, by the Cyprus Police Headquarters, the District Police Divisions, Police Stations in cooperation with the local authorities.

Implementation of the policy (which level is responsible for the implementation and how is the implementation coordinated?)

The responsibility for the implementation of the policy lies with the Minister of Justice and Public Order and the Chief of Police. The coordination / control is carried out through the Strategic Planning of the Police.

Stakeholders (working groups, specialised agencies, partners, etc)

The Cyprus Police participates in the Europol Working Group EMPACT OPC. Also, the Crime Prevention Office of the Crime Combating Department deals with crime prevention and cooperates closely with local authorities, organizations and security companies. Moreover, it has the responsibility of operating crime prevention programs, like the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

Participation in European/ international networks, working groups, etc.

The Cyprus Police participates in EMPACT OPC.

3. Good practices

Overview of recent good practices, prevention programs, etc.

In 2011, the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme was launched, which now includes 102,500 Watchers (volunteers) and is being implemented in 316 municipalities and communities. There is an observable decrease in the crimes against property. This conclusion was drawn from a piece of research carried out in 2016, by a private company of polls, called "Cypronetwork".