

“No matter
the subject,
the EUCPN is
your first
point of contact
regarding
crime prevention.”

Organised property crime I

CHADIA DEHBI, EUCPN

PREVENTION OF PICKPOCKETING

DORIEN STEVENS, EUCPN

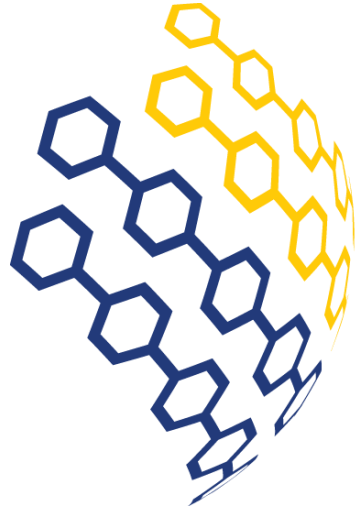
PICKPOCKETING CAMPAIGN

DORIEN STEVENS, EUCPN

FOCUS DAY DOMESTIC BURGLARY

DORIEN STEVENS, EUCPN

PRO'S AND CON'S FOR A EU WIDE CAMPAIGN



EUCPN
EUROPEAN CRIME PREVENTION NETWORK

Prevention of pickpocketing

Chadia Dehbi

European Crime Prevention Conference, 19-02-2020



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1

PICKPOCKETING
IN THE EU

01 Maltese Presidency 2017

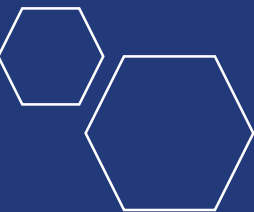


01 What?

The unnoticed theft of items that are carried on the body of the victim

Incorrectly romanticized

Sever consequences on community level



01 Who?

Lone wolfs, yet mostly in organised groups

Young drug users as lone wolfs

Fundamentally linked with mobile OCGs

big sore point: not always seen as the organised crime it is

Profile: active in property crime, often Eastern European and high degree of mobility

Tourists are vulnerable targets



01 How?

Hotspots: tourist attractions, escalators and queues, public transport...

Prominent timing: sports games, concerts, religious celebrations, summer months, winter months...

Recurring scenario's to distract



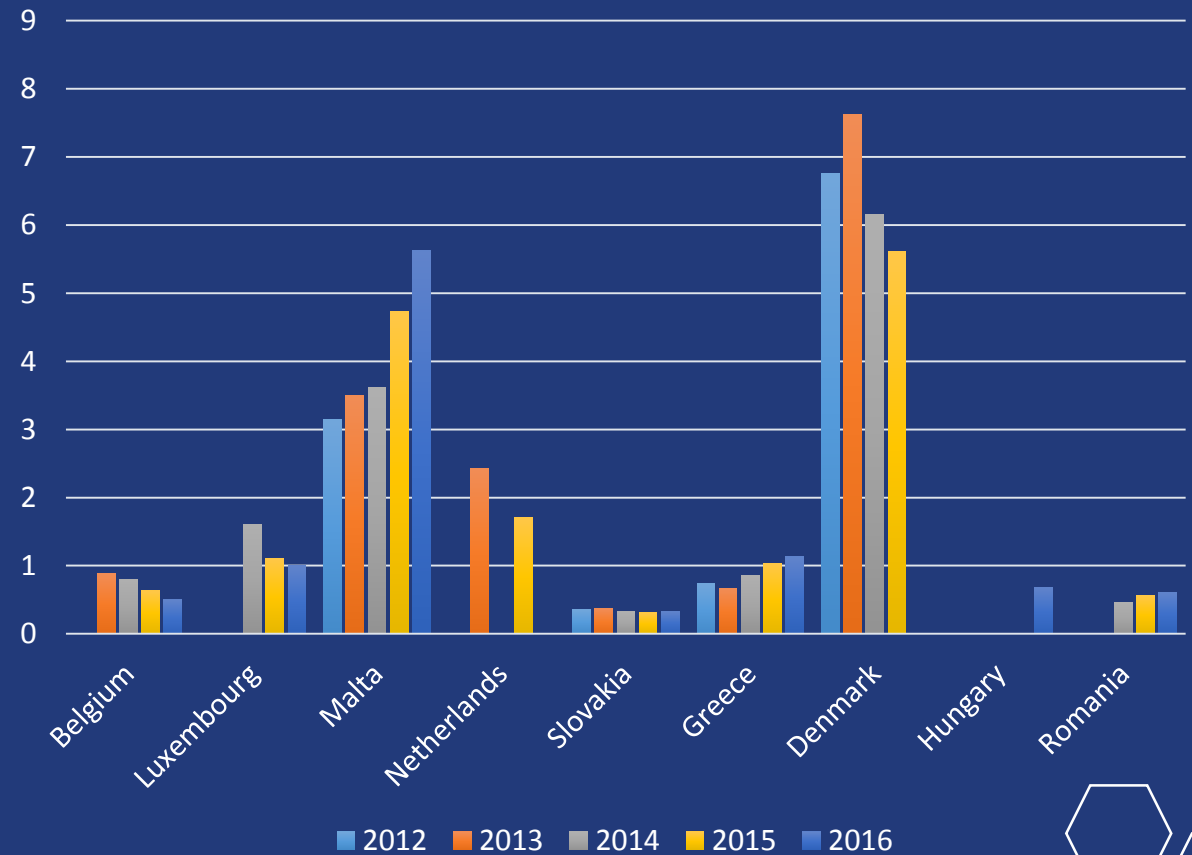
01 Numbers?

High dark number for pickpocketing

High rate of non-reporting

Hidden in crime statistics

Pickpocketing pro capita



02

A SUCCESSFUL
APPROACH ON
TWO TRACKS

02 A successful approach on two tracks

FIRST TRACK

Concrete recommendations for a successful pickpocketing prevention campaign

SECOND TRACK

Crucial need for cross-border and cross-entity cooperation and information sharing



02 First track

DRIVERS FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO ORGANISE A CAMPAIGN

Clear image reflects impact and serves as eye-opener

Safeguarding of tourism

International image

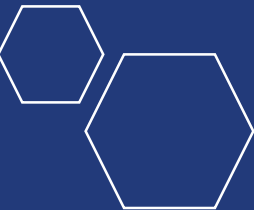


02 First track

BARRIERS FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO ORGANISE A CAMPAIGN

Lack of resources

Lack of political will



03 First track

Spray templates



03 First track

Warning of concert
goers via social
media



Polizei Berlin – 🚨 warnt vor Taschendieben mit x-why-z
Konzertagentur – hier: 📍 Velodrom Berlin.
Verfasst von Alex Kommissar [?] · 17. November 2017 um 15:55 · Berlin ·
Bezahlt · 🌐

„Rise Against Pickpockets“

Rise Against sind zurzeit auf Europatournee und werden am Sonntagabend im Velodrom Berlin ihre Marshalls auf Elf drehen. Schon bei den Gigs der Band in Großbritannien kam es zu zahlreichen Diebstählen von Smartphones, und auch beim kürzlichen Konzert in Frankfurt kamen mindestens 15 Handys abhanden. Daher fürchten unsere Ermittler, dass auch Sonntag das eine oder andere Smartphone plötzlich und unbemerkt den Besitzer wechseln kann.



03 First track

Anti-pickpocketing
bells



03 First track

Heat map



03 First track

Watch out

<p>WATCH OUT!</p> <p>SHOPPING PARASITE <i>Parazitus shopus</i></p> <p>Places of Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shops• Shopping centres <p>Source of Livelihood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Takes advantage of inattentive shoppers and steals things from shopping trolleys. <p>Precaution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not leave your personal belongings in shopping trolleys.  <p>When spotting him: ☎ 158</p>	<p>WATCH OUT!</p> <p>CROWD PICKPOCKET <i>Pilferus conglomeratus</i></p> <p>Places of Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crowded places <p>Source of Livelihood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presses against the victim and steals the person's wallet or mobile phone, most often from the back pocket.• Is a pack hunter.• Focuses mainly on men. <p>Precaution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not carry your valuables in your back pockets.  <p>When spotting him: ☎ 158</p>	<p>WATCH OUT!</p> <p>LONG-FINGERED SNATCHER <i>Stickus fingerus tabulae</i></p> <p>Places of Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cafés• Sweet shops• Clubs• Restaurants• Fast food locations <p>Source of Livelihood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gets close unnoticed and steals a mobile phone left unattended. <p>Precaution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not leave your personal belongings unattended.  <p>When spotting him: ☎ 158</p>
<p>WATCH OUT!</p>  <p>GUIDE FOR CAUTIOUS TOURISTS</p>  <p>FRA HA FRA GUE FRA GA FRA 4</p>	<p>WATCH OUT!</p> <p>BACKPACK FILCHER <i>Srabblus knapsackae</i></p> <p>Places of Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crowded places – squares, markets, narrow streets, trams, buses, underground, stops, and platforms. <p>Source of Livelihood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presses against the victim, opens the person's backpack, and steals valuables.• A pack hunter. <p>Precaution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carry your backpack in your hand or on your chest in risky places.• Keep your valuables on you.  <p>When spotting him: ☎ 158</p>	<p>WATCH OUT!</p> <p>TRAFFIC FIVE FINGER <i>Quinquedigitus transportus</i></p> <p>Places of Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trains• Buses• Underground <p>Source of Livelihood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presses against the victim, carefully opens up the person's handbag, and steals valuables.• Often takes advantage of the moment of getting on or getting off.• A pack hunter. <p>Precaution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Always pay attention to your handbag when you get on, get off, or travel by the means of public transportation – keep it in front of you or on your lap.  <p>When spotting him: ☎ 158</p>



03 First track

Do not let them fool you



03 First track

Hands of my bag



03 First track

Safe in the city



03 First track

Sticker “You have been caught by the police”



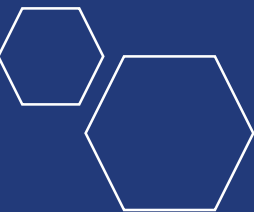
02 Second track

Never let the perception of impunity prevail

Word gets out quickly

Also the opposite is true

Unfortunate consequence: displacement effect



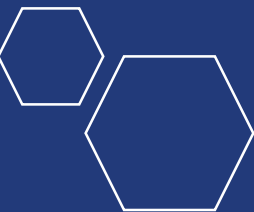
02 Second track

Need for a united European front that recognises it as organised crime

Cooperation and information sharing across borders

Cooperation between police and judicial side

Need for efficient exchange of information



02 Second track

Need for efficient exchange of information

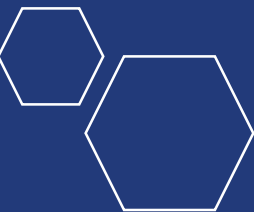
EIS – Europol Information System

Pickpocketing Expert Network

AP Furtum

Joint Actions

International Pickpocketing Conferences



03

TO REMEMBER

03 To remember

Pickpocketing is more severe than first meets the eye

Pickpocketing is organised crime

Awareness campaigns to prevent victimisation

Thorough cooperation and information exchange

Across borders

Across law enforcement and judicial bodies



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