FUTURE TRENDS IN CRIMINALITY, JITs AND EU POLICY CYCLE AS ANSWERS FOR EVOLVING SECURITY THREATS

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Abstract: In our socially, economically and technically changing word criminals and criminal networks invent new modi operandi and exploit new technologies flexibly and fast evolving new security threats. Organized crime is dynamic and adaptable and law enforcement agencies in EU member states also make use of technological innovations and improve new investigative measures to counter these challenging threats. What might be the main features of future criminality? What are the key driving factors of changing criminality? How law enforcement should change and develop? Proactive approach, better allocation of resources, international cooperation and effective use of new instruments are needed. Joint investigation teams (JITs) and the multi annual policy cycle on organized and serious crime (EU Policy Cycle) are outstanding „new" instruments in the hand of law enforcement authorities. Both are joint efforts in fighting organized crime and aim to coordinate the activities of many participating stakeholders in international dimension. This paper gives a short overview about the possible future trends of criminality based on the Europol's analysis, and a brief introduction of JITs and policy cycle.

Keywords: security trends, joint investigation team, EU Policy Cycle.

INTRODUCTION

Living in security is an essential need in every age, in every culture and in every society. Due to the increased security environmental challenges, extended risk factors and threats this need has greater importance and higher priority in the everyday life of states.

Globalization, cyberspace and freedom of movements are major sources of opportunities for criminals to improve and invent their modi operandi, to expand

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their markets, operational areas and target groups of victims. Organized crime became unpredictably dynamic and adaptable.

The experienced qualitative and quantitative changes of crime, the changing criminal landscape of Europe calls for a wider international professional cooperation between different law enforcement authorities in fighting against cross border crime. As a necessary consequence of this trend investigation processes require more complex, modern and more effective innovations and methods in the toolkits of criminalistics, and more flexible and efficient forms (legal and institutional) of international police and judicial cooperation.

According to the analytical outcome of the Europol SOCTA 2017 report, we can characterize the organized crime groups (OCG) in Europe with the following features. There are approximately 5000 active organized crime groups operating in the territory of EU on a network-style basis. 70% of these groups are composed of members of multiple nationalities and more than 30% of these organized crime groups are poly-crime groups. These groups are increasingly entrepreneurial in approach and business management, and mostly characterized by shared leadership approach and/or a flexible hierarchy.

POSSIBLE FUTURE TRENDS OF CRIMINALITY (EUROPOL DOCUMENT, 2015)

The Serious and Organized Crime Futures Forum was organized by Europol in March 2014, and was followed by adopting a document with the title of "Exploring tomorrow's organized crime".

Based on this document the possible future trends and potential developments of serious and organized crime might be the follows.

A virtual and global criminal underground made up of individual criminal entrepreneurs will appear beside the declined traditional hierarchical criminal networks and groups working on project-basis lending their knowledge and expertise. This phenomenon already exists in the field of cybercrime, but will extend to other areas of traditional crime as well in which competing actors interact or cooperate ad hoc.

Flexible, loose and undefined networks of individual criminal entrepreneurs will work on a freelance basis without belonging to a bigger group. These individual criminal entrepreneurs and groups will operate based on a crime-as-a-service business model facilitated by social networking online. Organized crime will seek to change the commodities they trade meaning new commodities besides the traditional goods.

Organized crime activities will rely on digital infrastructures. By "using" virtual currencies criminals will be able to exchange and use financial resources anonymously without the need for "risky" money-laundering schemes. Cybercriminals already form a complex a dynamic online community. Increasingly criminals

of other crime areas will come together on online platforms as well planning, coordinating and executing special criminal activities.

Targeting vulnerable people for exploitation by organized crime will change and extend pools of victims and clients for illicit goods and services. The growing number of elderly and legal business structures will emerge as the main target groups for organized crime.

KEY DRIVERS THAT MIGHT IMPACT ON SERIOUS AND ORGANIZED OVER THE NEAR FUTURE (EUROPOL DOCUMENT, 2015)

Demographic change in the EU will have great influence on the trends of criminalities. The average age and life expectancy has been increased significantly in the last few decades resulting in the rise of silver citizens and opening new criminal markets. Organized crime groups will be more engaged in different forms of fraud against pension schemes and social benefit system. Elderly people will be target groups for fraud offences and also they might be target consumer group for illicit commodities.

Innovation in transportation and logistics will give the possibility for organized crime groups to increasingly commit crime over the internet anonymously avoiding being physically present. Criminal groups will find new ways to exploit changing modes of transport, new routes and technologies. Changes in transportation and logistics will change where and how illicit goods (for example drugs, firearms) are trafficked.

Nanotechnologies and robotics will open new markets for criminals and will offer new tools for a more sophisticated criminal method as well. Current applications of nanotechnology and robotics are mostly used only in hospitals and research institutes, in the areas of agriculture, medicine, information technology and engineering. Robotic workers will mean vulnerabilities that can be exploited by criminals, and developing market in nanotechnology can improve to produce counterfeit drugs or devices.

Personal data is going to become an increasingly valuable commodity. The increasing exploitation of Big Data and personal data will make criminal groups capable to carry out very complex and sophisticated identity frauds. Cybercriminals are already able to collect great amount of information on potential victims. The data stolen from advertising agencies and product manufacturers can be sold to other criminal groups.

Without improved and adequate responses from decision makers and policing illicit trade in e-waste is going to grow enormously in the very near future. This means a dramatic growth in terms of quantities traded and will also improve new methods used by criminals. The proliferation of electronic devices containing precious metals (for example gold, silver, palladium…etc) has already made e-waste

a valuable commodity to be traded, bartered and trafficked on a global scale. Furthermore processing of illicit e-waste can cause environmental damages.

Besides the above mentioned key factors economic disparity within in the EU, increase of competition for natural resources and proliferation of virtual currencies will also have great influence and will affect the phenomena of criminality.

POSSIBLE TRENDS IN THE CRIMINAL MARKET LANDSCAPE (EUROPOL DOCUMENT, 2015)

There are many actors in the European criminal "society" including individual criminals, organized crime groups and loose networks as well carrying out crimes ranging from traditional "old fashioned" crimes to new "trendy" ones. (SOCTA, 2017)

Predictions of the United Nations (UN Document, 2019)

New emerging crime areas were identified by the 9th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime organized in Vienna on the 15-19 October 2018. Global security is threatened by new emerging threats, meaning that people can become victimized by organized crime groups in an increasing number of ways, and in an increasing number of places. The Conference identified cybercrime, economic fraud and identity-related crimes, trafficking in cultural property, environmental crime (wildlife and forest crime), maritime crime and piracy, and organ trafficking as new and emerging crimes of concern.

Both perpetrators and victims of cybercrime can be located in different regions, and its effects can ripple through societies around the world.

Identity-related information obtained by criminals can be abused to launder money, to commit fraud and to enable illicit activities for organized crime purposes (including human trafficking, migrant smuggling, acts of corruption and even terrorism).

Organized criminal groups have infiltrated into the cultural property market, both through legitimate markets (auctions and through the Internet), and in underground illicit markets. Trafficking in cultural property seems to be an important source for the laundering of the proceeds of crime, and has been recently identified as a possible source of financing for terrorist groups as well.

Wildlife and forest crime[2] recently has become one of the largest transnational organized criminal activities, by using the same routes and methods for wildlife trafficking as for smuggling of other illicit commodities.

2 Wildlife and forest crime means taking, trading (supplying, selling or trafficking), importing,

Recently there has been a significant rise in piracy, armed robbery, armed attacks on commercial vessels with a view to hijacking the vessel and taking the crew hostage for ransom, illegal oil bunkering and cargo theft and other maritime crimes.

The sharply increasing demand for healthy organs to be transplanted has created an expanding underground market for illicitly obtained organs by international organ trafficking syndicates.

Future scenarios based on Europol analysis

Based on the analytical work of Europol some criminal markets seem to be the most dynamic ones recently within the EU, which are not always the biggest markets, but mean great challenge for law enforcement authorities with their new forms of modi operandi, unknown substances and new technologies they use. These markets are the synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances (NPS), counterfeiting of goods, cybercrime and environmental crimes. Besides the traditional synthetic drugs (for example amphetamine, methamphetamine, MDMA… etc) and their existing markets, new psychoactive substances will emerge and explode the markets of distribution and consumption. The increasing ratio of elderly population in the EU might cause a great increase in the production and trafficking of counterfeit medical devices, pharmaceuticals…etc. Cybercrime already affects virtually all other criminal activities, but its changing character will directly impact even more on how criminal groups will carry out other crimes. New forms of environmental crime might be improved in the future and the trafficking of e-waste will have significantly expanded the market.

FUTURE TRENDS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

Serious and organized crime will remain highly dynamic and being able to change flexibly in the future, therefore European law enforcement authorities are challenged to keep pace with the increasingly complex and improved criminal structures within the EU, and also with the technological innovations they use for committing crimes in expanded areas of the society and economy.

Parallel with this phenomena law enforcement should also become more complex and improved based on the required unprecedented degree of specialization and expert knowledge.

exporting, processing, possessing, obtaining and consumption of wild fauna and flora, including timber and other forest products, in contravention of national or international law.

Cyberspace, internet and Big Data

The explosion of internet and the rise of Big Data will offer invaluable opportunities for law enforcement in identifying and surveying suspects and developing new methods for investigations. Beside phones and personal computers the increasing connectivity of products (for example clothes, footwear…etc) law enforcement has more and more possibility to find someone's location at a given time.

Big Data analysis will be able to be used for predictive policing and opinion mining as well by law enforcement in the future in a wider scale, and will give the possibility to „map" more precisely the criminal activity by finding links between events and criminal actors. However, the increased use of this technology also raises serious questions relating to data protection, since reliable data protection and transparency are the main priorities and mean the basic bridge towards citizens' trust in policing.

Training

The increased use of internet, data analytics and Big Data will require high level of specialized knowledge and expertise to be able to carry out complex and more specific tasks and projects. Beside the need of improved training and recruitment within law enforcement the extended involvement of private sector into investigation is also highly recommended in the future.[3] In the fields of nanotechnology and robotics law enforcement will also have to employ specialists to be competitive against criminals.

Increased involvement of private sector

New tendency is the increased involvement of the private sector into solving the public security problems. Besides the logistical services many other functions – traditionally done by law enforcement authorities – are already carried out by private security companies[4] and this involvement will be extended more in the future.

International law enforcement cooperation

Decision makers, professional law enforcement actors and also academia agrees that organized crime has already been globalized, and soon criminals will

3 Cybercrime counterfeiting and financial investigation is already largely investigated by private companies working alongside law enforcement.
4 Insurance companies and banks established their own analysis and investigation capacities, sonsultancy services and private investigatiorn services are available often offered by former police oficers.

carry out almost all their activities as part of a global virtual underworld without borders, therefore law enforcement response should be globalized as well. By today there are many legal and institutional instruments available for national law enforcement agencies to reach a more effective and successful international law enforcement cooperation.

Main instruments of the existing toolbar of international law enforcement cooperation:

- European agencies, institutions and bodies: Europol, Eurojust, CEPOL, EJN, COSI…
- Practical cooperation: common culture, joint operations, manual on cross border cooperation, clarification of roles…
- Criminal substantive and procedure law - concept of approximation/ harmonization - compatibility of legal frameworks
- Analyzing the future scenarios, threat assessments, policy cycles: SOCTA, TE-SAT, EU Policy Cycle…
- Information exchange in law enforcement cooperation: Swedish initiative, Prüm decision, Schengen Information System (SIS II), EUROSUR…
- Multiannual Programs and Strategies: Tampere Program, Hague Program and Stockholm Program, Internal Security Strategy…etc.

EU has to face to some coordination challenges in fight against organized crime, such as the great number of agencies and institutions dealing with this policy creating overlaps, since there is still prejudice and reluctance of member States European agencies and institutions must prove their added value, and EU policies against organized crime must be coordinated at the global level considering external dimension, foreign policy tools and agendas of the EU.

Coordination should exits at different levels including EU internal coordination (DG Justice and Consumers, DG Migration and Home Affairs, Agencies… etc), there must be appropriate coordination among MMs (EU Policy Cycle, Working groups…etc), coordination with the EU's broader foreign policy tools (external dimension of the fight against organized crime) is also needed (European External Action Service -EEAS-, Common Security and Defence Policy -CSDP- missions, counter trafficking operations…etc), and also extended coordination with global partners (US, Russia…) has essential importance.

Due to the new and complex threats effective and coordinated response was needed at European level which called for a renewed Internal Security Strategy. The European Agenda on Security adopted in 2015 prioritizes terrorism, organized crime and cybercrime along the following five key principles:

- need to ensure full compliance with fundamental rights,
- need more transparency, accountability and democratic control, to give citizens confidence

- need to ensure better application and implementation of existing EU legal instruments
- need a more joined-up inter-agency and a cross-sectorial approach
- need to bring together all internal and external dimensions of security

Besides the importance of better information exchange (Schengen Information System –SIS-, Interpol's database on Stolen and Lost Travel Documents -SLTD-, Prüm framework, Europol's analytical capabilities, Single Points of Contact -SPOC-, EU Passenger Name Record -PNR- system, European Criminal Records Information System –ECRIS-, European Police Record Index System -EPRIS-, Maritime Common Information Sharing Environment -CISE-…etc) and the great demand for an increased operational cooperation (such as EU Policy Cycle for serious and organized crime, EU agencies, developing risk assessments, a coherent European response during crises and emergencies, Joint Investigation Teams -JITs-, Joint Customs Operations –JCOs-, networks of national specialized units, Police and Customs Cooperation Centres –PCCCs-, regional cooperation, judicial cooperation in criminal matters…etc) the Agenda emphasizes the essential importance of supporting actions, like training, funding, research and innovation (CEPOL, Internal Security Fund, European Structural and Investment Funds, EU Justice Programs, Customs 2020 Program, European Judicial Training Network –EJTN-, European Security Training Centre, Research and innovation HORIZON 2020, European Forensic Area…etc)

Joint investigation Team (JIT)

A joint investigation team is an international cooperation instrument based on an agreement between competent authorities – both judicial (judges, prosecutors, investigative judges…etc) and law enforcement – of two or more Member States, established for a specific purpose and for a limited duration, to carry out criminal investigations in one or more of the involved Member States.

The legal framework for setting up JITs between EU Member States can be found in Article 13 of the 2000 EU Mutual Legal Assistance Convention[5] and the 2002 Framework Decision on JITs[6].

There are many instruments being adopted by EU institutions at Member States disposal to support and establish JITs, such as the Model agreement for setting up joint investigation teams appended to Council Resolution (2017/C 18/01), JITs Practical Guide, Network of National Experts on Joint Investigation Teams, JITs Network Secretariat.

5 Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters between the Member States of the European Union, OJ C 197, 12.07.2000, pp. 1-23.
6 2 Council Framework Decision of 13 June 2002 on Joint Investigation Teams, OJ L 162, 20.06.2002, pp. 1-3.

JIT has the following main added value compared to traditional forms of police and judicial cooperation:

- JIT enables the direct gathering and exchange of information and evidence without the need of using traditional channels of mutual legal assistance. Information and evidence gathered in accordance with the legislation of the State in which the team operates can be shared on the basis of the JIT agreement.
- Seconded members of the team (the ones, who are originating from a State other than the one in which the JIT operates) are entitled to be present and to take part – within some limitations - in investigative measures conducted outside their home country.
- It means an extensive, coordinated cross-border and a common "active" approach to organized crime, working together on common priorities.
- Perfect platform to determine the optimal investigation and prosecution strategies, to create a professional network based on trust and expertise, to share know-how and specialized knowledge.
- JIT gives the possibility to Member States to coordinate efforts on the spot and to exchange informally specialized knowledge, reaching a better efficiency of manpower.
- Human, financial and technical resources are more guaranteed by using JIT.
- There are two particular situations – based on EU documents - in which a JIT can be established:

1. Demanding cross-border investigations: when a Member State's investigations into criminal offences require difficult and demanding investigations having links with other Member States.

2. Connected investigations requiring coordination: when several of Member States are conducting investigations into criminal offences in which coordinated, concerted action in the Member States involved is needed due to the circumstances of the case.

EU Policy Cycle

In 2010, the EU Council established a multi-annual policy cycle with the aim of ensuring that in the fight against serious international and organized crime there is effective cooperation between Member States, law enforcement agencies, EU Institutions, EU Agencies, relevant third countries and organizations and private sector (where it is needed), and also with the aim of carrying out coherent and robust operational actions targeting the most pressing criminal threats facing the EU.

The EU Policy Cycle was established in order to:

- define priorities in the EU-wide „fight against serious international and organized crime", on this basis

- develop and implement appropriate interventions to tackle the prioritized crime phenomena
- evaluate the results achieved in order to identify a new set of priorities for the following cycle

The full policy cycle consists of four key steps, which are:

Step 1: *Policy development - EU SOCTA*

The EU Serious and Organized Crime Threat Assessment (EU SOCTA) developed by Europol, delivers a set of recommendations based on an in-depth analysis of the major crime threats threatening the EU (based on source of data). SOCTA contains the analysis of the present and future threats and the set of recommended crime priorities. It has a core role in the policy cycle by ensuring an intelligence-led approach from the strategic priorities through to operational actions. These recommendations are used to define the main priorities for the coming 4 years by the Council of Justice and Home Affairs.

Step 2: Policy setting and decision making - MASP

Policy setting and decision making through the identification of the priorities based on the recommendations. Multi-Annual Strategic Action Plans (MASPs) are developed from these priorities in order to be able to define the strategic goals for fighting against each priority threat. For each of the priorities a MASP needs to be developed in order to achieve a multidisciplinary, integrated and integral (covering preventive as well repressive measures) approach to effectively address

the prioritized threats. MASP contains list of general objectives (strategic goals) that should be achieved during the cycle. (Busuioc, M., Curtin, D. 2011)

Roles and actors in this step:

- COSI[7]: examines the SOCTA recommended priorities
- Council of Justice and Home Affairs Ministers: adopt the EU crime priorities for the policy cycle
- Commission: convenes a meeting of representatives of MSs, JHA agencies, EU institutions to draft a 4-year multi-annual strategic plan (1 MASP / priority)
- COSI: MAPS are approved by COSI

Step 3: Operational actions, Implementation and monitoring – OAP

Joint actions are carried out as EMPACT (European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats which is an ad hoc management environment) projects, whose framework provides a structured cooperation platform for the stakeholders. These projects set out operational action plans (OAPs) to tackle the priority threats. OAPs include joint member states/agencies actions, agencies' actions and national actions.

Actors and roles in this step:

- OAPs are drafted by the MSs, EU Agencies and Institutions
- COSI: OAPs are approved by COSI
- Driver: leads the implementation of each OAP
- NECs – National EMPACT Coordinator: oversees the implementation
- ESU-EMPACT Support Unit: provides administrational and logistical support (+ monitoring)
- EMPACT Support Manager: ensures operational support
- COSI: monitors the implementation on the basis of a 6 monthly reporting by the Drivers via the ESU

Step 4: Evaluation, review and assessment

At the end of the policy cycle a thorough evaluation needs to be conducted which serves as an input for the next policy cycle.

Actors and roles in this step:

- Drivers: annual reporting
- Europol: an interim threat assessment prepared by Europol to evaluate, monitor and adjust (if required) the effort in tackling the priority threats.
- Commission: provides a yearly state of play to COSI
- COSI: reviews the effectiveness of the OAPs and their impact on the priority threat
- Within the framework of EU Policy Cycle:

7 Standing Committee on Internal Security

• COSI is instructed to agree and endorse the costumers' requirements for the EU SOCTA, to submit conclusion to the Council to decide on the priorities (on the basis of the Policy Advisory Document drafted by the Presidency and the European Commission based upon the SOCTA), to adopt MASPs and OAPs and to coordinate and monitor the implementation.

• Members States are called upon to integrate the actions developed within the EU Policy Cycle into their national planning, to allocate dedicated resources to support a common EU approach and to actively support all the phases that constitute the cycle.

• European Commission is called upon to develop together with the Member States and EU agencies a MASP for each priority defining the most appropriate strategy to tackle the problem, to report yearly to the COSI on the implementation of planned activities related to OAPs, to carry out at the end of the policy cycle an overall evaluation of the implementation of MASPs, and transmit the results to the Council via COSI and also to propose to review the Prevention of and Fight against Crime (ISEC) funding and consider the feasibility of setting up of the Internal Security Fund (ISF).

• EU agencies are called upon to develop together with Member States the OAP's concerning priorities corresponding to their mandate, to integrate the actions developed within the policy cycle into their yearly working programs, to develop under the leadership of Europol the EU SOCTA and its methodology and to contribute to raising awareness about the policy cycle, in particular CEPOL by providing training packages.

In the period of 2011-2013 there was a pilot project which was followed by the first 4 year-long EU Policy Cycle between 2013-2017.

EU crime priorities for the period of 2014-2017:

• Facilitation of Illegal Immigration (especially in the source country)

• Trafficking in Human Beings (especially for labour and sexual exploitation)

• Production and distribution of counterfeit goods (violating health, safety and food regulations)

• Excise and MTIC Fraud (Missing Trader Intra Community fraud)

• Production and trafficking of synthetic drugs in the EU

• Cocaine and Heroin trafficking to the EU and distribution in the EU.

• Illicit Firearms Trafficking

• Organized Property Crime committed by Mobile Organized Crime Groups.

• Cybercrime (online and payment card fraud, Child Sexual Exploitation, cyber-attacks which affect critical infrastructure and information systems in the EU)

On 27 March 2017, the Council decided to continue the EU Policy Cycle for organized and serious international crime for the period 2018 - 2021.

The following priorities were adopted by the Council of the EU at its meeting on 18 May 2017 for the fight against organized and serious international crime between 2018 and 2021:

- Cybercrime
- Drug trafficking
- Facilitation of illegal immigration
- Organized property crimes
- Trafficking in human beings
- Excise and MTIC fraud
- Illicit firearms trafficking
- Environmental crimes
- Criminal finances and money laundering
- Document fraud

Advantages and added value of EU Policy Cycle: (Busuioc, M., Curtin, D. 2011)

- Institutionalyses and streamlines the policy process with regard to serious and organized crime
- Introduces clarity, coherence and continuity in the system
- Aims establishing direct link between clear needs, identified on the basis of threat assessment and political priority – settings,
- Aims to align the agreed political priorities with actual operational actions
- Ensures policy continuity due to its multi-annual character
- Creates the potential for moving:

  - from status quo approach of uploading a variety of national domestic priorities to RU level towards developing a more coherent common policy.

  - from an intergovernmental towards a more supranational character in ASFJ area (more in line with post – Lisbon changes)

- Reduces the existing lack of consistent operational follow-up of identified priorities (the work program of Europol in the past was an aggregate of „wish lists" stemming from a variety of sources.
- Reducing the existing dislocation between policy priorities and their systematic operational implementation
- Generates more efficient information collection/exchange
- Creates common methodology by the relevant EU agencies
- Creates shared sense of responsibility for the EU SOCTA product (various agencies and MSs are assigned an explicit role in its development, which spans from methodological input to substantive, information input)
- Provides opportunity for integration between the different structures:

- Generates synergies among law enforcement and border management authorities
- Enhances further cooperation between EU agencies
- Creates opportunity to make better use of European agencies and their capacities, incorporating their (threat assessment) products and output into policymaking and showcasing their performance.
- Provides opportunity for specific agencies to demonstrate their abilities. (Europol: limited support, lack of information contributed, mistrust, reluctance, but EU Policy Cycle signals the importance placed on Europol at the political level)
- Develops joint methodology
- Strengthens inter-agency cooperation

CONCLUSION

Organized crime groups are very quick to identify new criminal opportunities and take advantage of the weakness of the system. The globalization of organized crime has been the topic of debate amongst policy-makers, law enforcement and academia for decades.

JITs and EU Policy Cycle can have added value and may open a newer dimension in combatting cross-border organized crime since we can characterize them with the following main features:

- Intelligence – led approach: future oriented and targeted approach to crime control
- Integrated character: best using of complementary contributions (multi-agency „theatre")
- Multi-disciplinary, integrated and integral approach:
  - repressive and preventive nature,
  - proactive and reactive measures,
  - strategic (trying to impact the threat) and operational (trying to impact the organized crime group/networks) nature

What about the future of policing? It is not easy to give The Answer. There are several answers with possible scenarios and priorities that might influence the future tendencies. Here below you may read opinions from some police leaders.[8]

Jörg Ziercke (Former president –Federal Criminal Police /BKA Germany): *"Member States have to cooperate even more closely in the area of law enforcement and the European security architecture has to be developed further. "*

8 Quotes are taken from the Europol Document „Exploring Tomorrow's Organized Crime" 2015 p. 49-55.

Glyn Lewis (Director specialized crime and analysis – Interpol): *"Collaboration for bringing about a safer world need to go beyond traditional frameworks that bind law enforcement and international police cooperation."*

Ints Kuzis (Chief of the State Police – Latvian State Police, Latvia): *"The European Multidisciplinary Platform against Criminal Threats (EMPACT) is crucial in strengthening cooperation between competent authorities."*

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