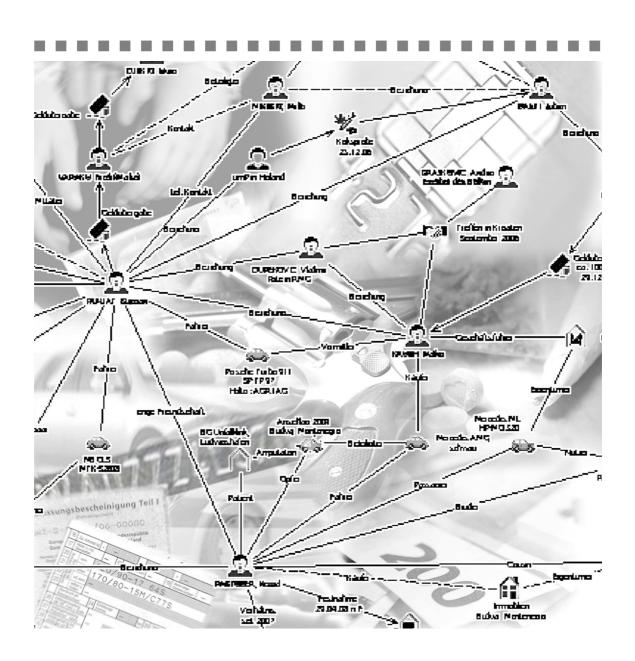
ORGANISED CRIME

National Situation Report 2010





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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	PRELIMINARY REMARK	5
2.	STATISTICAL OVERVIEW	6
3.	THE CRIME SITUATION IN GERMANY	8
3.1	Investigations	8
3.1.1	Number of investigations	8
3.1.2	OC relevance of the investigations	9
3.1.3	Financial aspects	10
3.2	Suspects	13
3.3	Group structures	15
3.3.1	OC groups dominated by German nationals	17
3.3.2	OC groups dominated by Turkish nationals	18
3.3.3	OC groups dominated by Italian nationals	18
3.3.4	OC groups dominated by Russian nationals	19
3.3.5	OC groups dominated by Polish nationals	19
3.4	Fields of crime	20
3.4.1	Drug trafficking and smuggling	22
3.4.2	Crime associated with the business world	22
3.4.3	Property crime	23
3.4.4	Tax and customs offences	23
3.4.5	Facilitation of illegal immigration	23
3.4.6	Crime associated with nightlife	23
3.4.7	Counterfeiting/forgery	24
3.4.8	Violent crime	24

1. PRELIMINARY REMARK

The National Situation Report on Organised Crime (OC) contains information about the current situation and developments in the field of organised crime in a concise form.

The report is drawn up by the Bundeskriminalamt (Federal Criminal Police Office - BKA) in co-operation with the Landeskriminalämter (State Criminal Police Offices - LKAs), the Zollkriminalamt (central office of the German Customs Investigation Service - ZKA) and the Bundespolizeipräsidium (Federal Police Central Office), on the basis of the definition of "organised crime" (see 3.1.2) formulated by the Working Party of Police and Judicial Authorities (AG Justiz/Polizei) in May 1990. Data on the OC investigations conducted during the year under review are compiled by applying the same set of criteria throughout the country.

2. STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

	2010	2009
Number of investigations	606	579
Initial reports	318	305
Completed investigations	329	283
Total number of suspects	9,632	9,294
Newly identified suspects	4,628	4,026
Total number of nationalities	113	108
Percentage of German suspects	36.5 %	38.3 %
Percentage of non-German suspects	63.5 %	61.7 %
Including:		
⇒ Turkish nationals	10.3 %	9.2 %
⇒ Italian nationals	3.5 %	3.5 %
Heterogeneous offender structures	73.9 %	75.5 %
Homogeneous offender structures	26.1 %	24.5 %
Armed suspects	4.7 %	4.1 %
Groups operating in more than one area of crime	28.7 %	28.3 %
Losses identified	€ 1.65bn	€ 1.37bn
Estimated profits	€ 903m	€ 903m
Provisionally seized assets	€ 171m	€ 113m

	2010	2009
Offences with international links	84.3 %	88.8 %
Fields of crime		
⇒ Drug trafficking and smuggling	39.9 %	40.9 %
⇒ Crime associated with the business world	14.5 %	13.0 %
⇒ Property crime	11.9 %	14.3 %
⇒ Tax and customs offences	8.4 %	9.2 %
⇒ Facilitation of illegal immigration	5.9 %	6.4 %
⇔ Crime associated with nightlife	4.5 %	3.5 %
⇔ Counterfeiting/forgery	4.3 %	5.2 %
⇒ Violent crime	4.3 %	3.5 %
⇒ Arms trafficking and smuggling	1.2 %	0.3 %
⇒ Environmental crime	1.0 %	0.9 %
⇒ Others	4.1 %	2.8 %
Investigations including		
Money laundering activities	39.9 %	29.7 %
Witness protection measures	8.4 %	6.7 %
Confiscation of assets	28.7 %	26.9 %

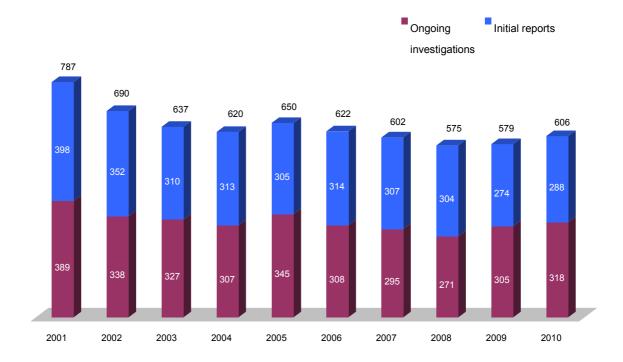
3. THE CRIME SITUATION IN GERMANY

3.1 Investigations

3.1.1 Number of investigations

In the year under review, 606 OC investigations were handled in Germany. A total of 318 of these investigations were initiated in the year under review (initial reports) and 288 were ongoing investigations instituted in previous years. 329 investigations were completed during 2010.

Number of OC investigations



In comparison to the previous year, the number of OC investigations increased by 4.7 %. The number of initial reports increased by 4.3 %.

The table below illustrates the regional distribution of the OC investigations (figures of the previous year in brackets). Assignment of the investigations conducted by the federal authorities to the federal states was based on the location of the respective public prosecutor's office conducting the proceedings.

	Fed. State	BKA	Fed. Pol.	Customs	Total
Bavaria	86 (82)	2 (2)	3 (5)	7 (7)	98 (96)
North Rhine-Westphalia	69 (65)	7 (11)	1 (0)	13 (12)	90 (88)
Berlin	64 (62)	5 (6)	4 (5)	5 (8)	78 (81)
Lower Saxony	52 (38)	2 (3)	2 (3)	11 (11)	67 (55)
Hesse	32 (38)	14 (8)	7 (2)	11 (11)	64 (59)
Baden-Württemberg	39 (34)	2 (3)	1 (2)	5 (4)	47 (43)
Hamburg	29 (28)	1 (1)	0 (1)	1 (5)	31 (35)
Saxony	15 (14)	1 (0)	4 (4)	7 (8)	27 (26)
Rhineland-Palatinate	21 (21)	1 (0)	2 (2)	1 (0)	25 (23)
Schleswig-Holstein	17 (18)	4 (1)	3 (3)	0 (0)	24 (22)
Brandenburg	9 (9)	0 (0)	1 (2)	7 (7)	17 (18)
Saarland	11 (11)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	11 (11)
Saxony-Anhalt	10 (8)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (2)	11 (10)
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	6 (4)	0 (0)	1 (1)	0 (0)	7 (5)
Thuringia	4 (3)	1 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	5 (4)
Bremen	4 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4 (3)
Total	468 (438)	40 (36)	29 (30)	69 (75)	606 (579)

A significant increase in the number of investigations conducted in Lower Saxony is seen alongside with a decrease of investigations conducted in Hesse and by the customs authorities. The other figures remained relatively constant.

3.1.2 OC relevance of the investigations

The working definition of "organised crime", formulated by the Working Party of Police and Judicial Authorities (AG Justiz/Polizei) in May 1990, serves as the basis for the selection of the OC investigations relevant for the National Situation Report on Organised Crime.

"Organised crime is the planned commission of criminal offences determined by the pursuit of profit and power which, individually or as a whole, are of considerable importance if more than two persons, each with his/her own assigned tasks, collaborate for a prolonged or indefinite period of time,

- a) by using commercial or business-like structures,
- b) by using force or other suitable means of intimidation, or
- c) by exerting influence on politics, the media, public administration, judicial authorities or the business sector."

All general characteristics and at least one of the specific characteristics listed under a) to c) of the OC definition must be fulfilled for criminal behaviour to be considered organised crime. With regard to the specific characteristics given in the OC definition, the distribution was as follows in the year under review (multiple recording possible):

⇒ 562 investigations: alternative a) applied

⇒ 289 investigations: alternative b) applied

164 investigations: alternative c) applied

In 90 investigations, all three alternatives were found to apply.

As in the previous years, the cases falling under c) were the smallest group with a share of 27.1 %. The exertion of influence (multiple entries possible) by organised offender groups was aimed at

the public administration in 118 investigations (51 in Germany, 76 abroad),

judicial authorities in 49 investigations (24 in Germany, 26 abroad),

politics in 36 investigations (10 in Germany, 27 abroad), \Rightarrow

the business sector in 32 investigations (18 in Germany, 14 abroad), \Rightarrow

the media in 9 investigations (6 in Germany, 4 abroad).

Distribution and ranking largely corresponded to the previous years.

3.1.3 Financial aspects

Losses

The total losses reported for the period under review amounted to approx. EUR 1.65 billion (compared to approximately EUR 1.37 billion in 2009). The significant increase in losses was primarily due to one specific investigation into tax and customs offences, where EUR 500 million were found to have been lost in connection with the trade in CO₂ emission allowances. As in previous years, the highest losses were caused by crimes associated with the business world (EUR 737 million). These were followed by tax and customs offences (EUR 679 million), property crime (EUR 147 million) and environmental crime (EUR 31 million). The highest losses amounting to roughly EUR 788 million were caused by crime groups dominated by German nationals (182 groups).

Profits

The following data on profits made are estimates. In 2010, no profit was established in 214 investigations (35.3 %) and in 46 investigations (7.6 %), the profits were unknown. For 346 investigations (57.1 %) profits totalling approximately EUR 903 million were indicated. The highest profits were established in investigations into offences associated with the business world (EUR 401 million), followed by tax and customs offences (EUR 189 million); drug trafficking and smuggling (EUR 126 million) and environmental crime (EUR 76 million). With EUR 506 million, OC groups dominated by German nationals generated the highest profits, above all in the field of crime associated with the business world (EUR 376 million) and environmental crime (EUR 52 million), the latter profiting primarily from illegal waste disposal. In one investigation into crime associated with the business world, which mainly concerned fraud offences (breach of trust), a profit amounting to EUR 250 million was reported. Groups dominated by Turkish nationals achieved profits totalling approximately EUR 88 million with one investigation into customs and tax offences alone featuring profits in the amount of EUR 40 million.

Confiscation of assets

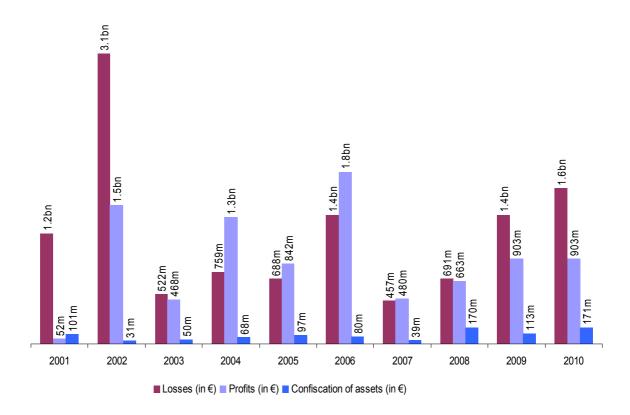
The percentage of cases where measures to secure assets were taken was 28.7 % (2009: 27 %). In this context, assets totalling approximately EUR 171 million were provisionally seized (compared to EUR 113.2 million in 2009). It should be noted that in case of long-term investigations, provisionally seized assets are included only once in the situation report and are not updated. The largest amounts were secured in connection with investigations into tax and customs offences (roughly EUR 78 million). The highest individual assets were seized in an investigation into tax and customs offences committed in connection with the trade in CO2 emission allowances (more than EUR 48 million), an investigation into investment offences (EUR 14 million) and two further investigations into tax and customs offences as well as crime associated with the business world (EUR 12 million each). During investigations directed against groups of offenders dominated by German nationals, more than EUR 78 million were seized. The aforementioned highest individual seizure of more than EUR 48 million was made in the course of an investigation directed against a group of offenders dominated by British nationals.

Money laundering activities / investigations

In 242 investigations (39.9 %), information suggesting money laundering activities was obtained. In 154 cases, investigations were conducted into money laundering pursuant to section 261 of the German Penal Code. In 96 investigations, a total of 757 suspicious transaction reports were filed pursuant to section 11 subsection 1 of the German Money Laundering Act.

Development of the financial aspects

The following table provides an overview of the losses reported, the profits estimated and the assets seized in the last ten years.



Losses, profits and confiscation of assets

With EUR 3.1 billion, the reported losses reached their absolute record level in 2002. In 2010, the losses were estimated at EUR 1.6 billion which was the second largest sum of losses sustained in the past decade. In the past, outstanding sums of losses mostly resulted from one investigation.

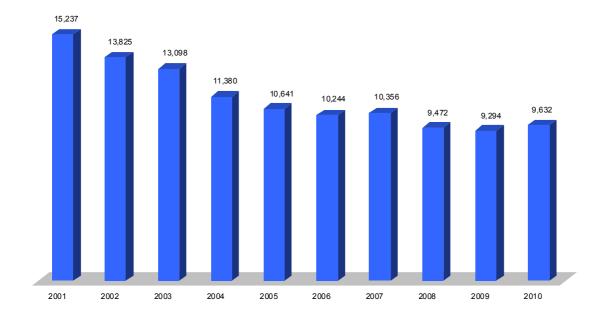
In 2002, 2004 and 2006, the estimated profits of the groups of offenders amounted to more than EUR 1 billion and in the other years, except for the last two years, they ranged significantly below that sum (i.e. roughly EUR 903 million per year). Since 2001, seizures in the three-digit million range were carried out again during the past three years, with an absolute record amount of EUR 171 million in 2010. Although financial investigations were conducted in more than 90 % of the OC investigations, criminal assets were only recovered in almost 30 % of the investigations.

3.2 Suspects

Total number of suspects

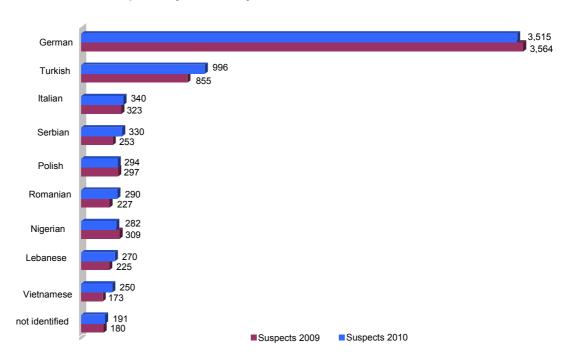
A total of 9,632 suspects were investigated in the year under review (compared to 9,294 suspects in 2009).

Development of the total number of suspects



Consequently, the total number of OC suspects rose by approximately 3.6 % compared to the previous year.

Total number of suspects by nationality



As in previous years, with 36.5 %, German nationals continued to make up the largest group among the total number of suspects (38.3 % in 2009). 14.3 % of the German suspects were nationals of a different country at birth (21 % in 2009).

The largest increase was recorded for Turkish nationals (+ 141), followed by Serbian (+77), Vietnamese (+77), Romanian (+63) and Lebanese suspects (+45).

In terms of percentages, the most conspicuous increase was seen in relation to Vietnamese suspects (+ 44.5 %), followed by Serbian (+ 30.4 %), Romanian (+ 27.8 %,) Lebanese (+ 20 %) and Turkish suspects (+16.5%).

The highest decrease was recorded for German suspects (-49), followed by Nigerian suspects (-27).

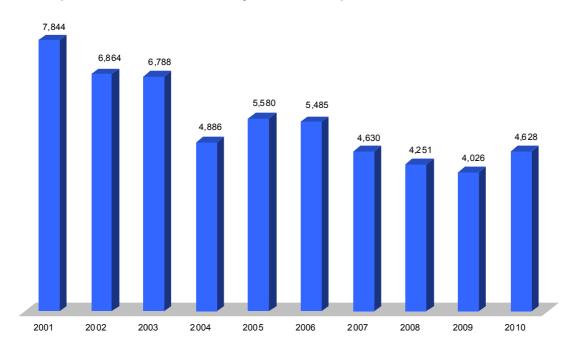
In terms of percentages, the most conspicuous decline, i.e. 8.7 %, was recorded for Nigerian suspects.

The origin of 191 suspects (2 % of all suspects) could not be clarified.

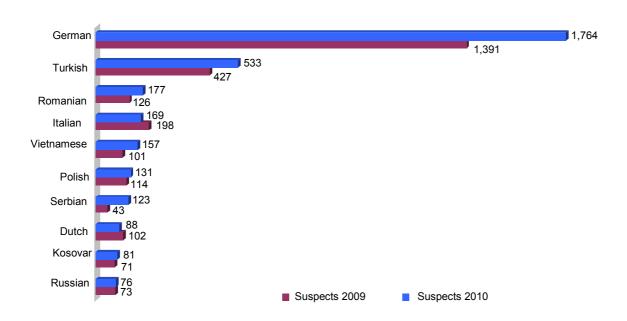
Newly identified suspects

The number of suspects identified for the first time in the period under review rose in comparison to the previous year by approximately 15 % to 4,628 (4,026 in 2009).

Development of the number of newly identified suspects



Number of newly identified suspects by nationality



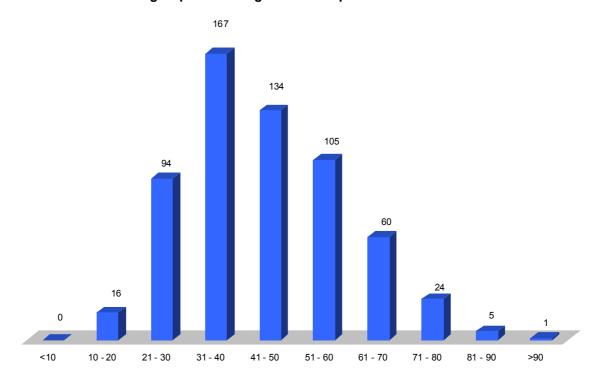
Composition of the groups of perpetrators

As in the previous year, the average number of suspects per group was 16 persons and the proportion of OC groups consisting of more than 50 suspects (27 groups in total, including nine groups with more than 100 suspects) was relatively small, i.e. 4.5 % (compared to 4.5 % in 2009).

OC potential of the groups of perpetrators

In addition to checking all reported investigations for OC relevance, OC groups are assessed in terms of their level of organisation and professionalism, which is expressed by the so-called "OC potential". The OC potential is calculated by counting and weighting the applicable indicators taken from the list of "General indicators for identifying OC-relevant cases". The duration of an investigation and staffing play a decisive role in identifying these indicators. In principle, the stages of the offence are evaluated, i.e. preparation and planning of the offence, commission of the offence and use of crime proceeds.

Classification of the groups according to their OC potential

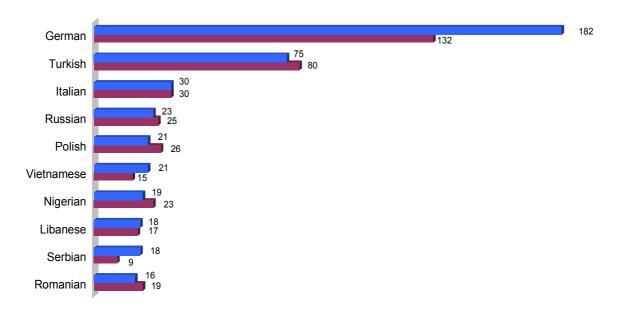


The average OC potential of all groups amounted to 43.7 points and was therefore almost identical to the previous years (43.2 points in 2009, 43.7 points in 2008, 43.3 points in 2007 and 42.9 points in 2006). Likewise, the distribution of the values has only changed slightly for years. Groups with a medium level of OC potential continued to make up the largest proportion by far. On the other hand, the percentage of groups with a comparatively high OC potential has been relatively low for years, however, an increasing tendency was again revealed for 2010. 90 OC groups (14.9 %) displayed an OC potential of more than 60 points.

Dominating nationalities and phenomena

When they were included in the OC Situation Report, the nationality of most suspects was indicated. For classification purposes in the table below, the decisive criterion is the nationality that determined the criminal activity within the groups. However, it did not necessarily represent the majority of group members.

Group structures



As in previous years, organised crime in Germany was dominated by German and Turkish OC groups. These were followed by Italian, Russian, Polish and Vietnamese OC groups. The highest increase was established for OC groups dominated by German nationals (+ 50), followed by those dominated by Serbian (+ 9) and Vietnamese (+ 6) nationals.

In terms of percentages, the most conspicuous increase, ie. from 9 to 18 (+100 %), was recorded for OC groups dominated by Serbian nationals, followed by those dominated by Vietnamese (+ 40 %), German (+ 37.9 %) and Lebanese (+ 5.9 %) nationals. In 2009, seven groups dominated by Serbian-Montenegrin nationals were still recorded which no longer explicitly appeared in 2010.

In terms of percentages, the most conspicuous decline was observed for groups dominated by Polish nationals (-19,2 %), followed by those dominated by Nigerian (-17.4 %), Romanian (-15.8 %), Russian (-8.0 %) and Turkish (-6.3 %) nationals.

3.3.1 OC groups dominated by German nationals

With 36.5 %, the proportion of German suspects was lower than in the previous year (38.3 % in 2009). When considering the percentage of German nationals involved in organised crime, it has to be taken into account that, in the year under review, 502 German suspects (14.3 %) were nationals of a different country at birth (21.0 % in 2009). As in the past years under review, the Russian Federation (187 suspects), Turkey (105 suspects), Kazakhstan (93 suspects), Poland (38 suspects) and Lebanon (36 suspects) continued to be the most important countries of origin of these suspects.

Compared to the previous years, (2009: 132, 2008: 161), the number of OC groups dominated by German nationals rose to the same level as in 2007 (181). As in previous years, OC groups dominated by German nationals were mainly involved in drug trafficking and smuggling. In addition, crime associated with the business world played an important role, followed by property and violent crime.

One phenomenon by which the OC groups dominated by German nationals are characterized is OC committed by rocker gangs. 35 OC investigations (5.8 %) were directed against rocker gangs (2009: 21, 2008: 15, 2007: 9, 2006: 2), and among these, the following numbers of investigations were directed against the "four major gangs" in Germany: 20x Hells Angels Motorcycle Club (MC), 9x Bandidos MC, 3x Gremium MC and 1x Outlaws MC. In 33 investigations, the prevailing nationality was German and in 2 investigations, it was Turkish. The main fields of activity of the rocker gangs were violent crime (15x extortion offences, offences against life etc.) as well as drug trafficking and smuggling (13x cocaine and synthetic drugs), followed by crime associated with nightlife (3x), arms trafficking/smuggling (3x) and property crime (1 vehicle-related offence).

In addition, 22 OC investigations were directed against OC groups who had connections to rocker gangs (14 of which were directed against OC groups dominated by German nationals, 5 against OC groups dominated by Turkish nationals and 1 investigation each was directed against OC groups dominated by Armenian, Lebanese and Moroccan nationals).

Consequently, 57 investigations, i.e. nearly every tenth investigation, either concerned rocker gangs directly or it targeted OC groups which only had loose connections to the rocker scene.

3.3.2 OC groups dominated by Turkish nationals

The number of Turkish OC groups (75) decreased slightly in comparison to the previous year (80 in 2009, 81 in 2008, 77 in 2007, 73 in 2006). As in previous years, the criminal activities of Turkish OC groups were focused on drug trafficking and smuggling (48 investigations, 64 %). Their main field of activity was cocaine trafficking and smuggling, followed by heroin trafficking and smuggling and cannabis trafficking. Cocaine was mainly smuggled from the Netherlands to Germany and heroin from Turkey to Germany via Austria and Bulgaria.

3.3.3 OC groups dominated by Italian nationals

The number of OC groups dominated by Italian nationals (30) remained the same as in the year before. Their main criminal activities were drug trafficking and smuggling (cocaine). In comparison to 2009, forgery crimes and other types of crime focusing on money laundering offences increased. Customs and tax offences were on the decrease while investigations into property crime remained unchanged.

7 OC investigations were directed against Italian Mafia groups (6x 'Ndrangheta, 1x Camorra). These groups focused on other areas of crime (money laundering, criminal association etc.) and on drug trafficking and smuggling (cocaine).

13 investigations were directed against OC groups having links to the Mafia (5x Camorra, 4x Cosa Nostra and 4x 'Ndrangheta). Eleven of these groups were dominated by Italian nationals, one by Albanian nationals and one by Lithuanian nationals. These groups were active in the most varied fields of crime

(cocaine trafficking and smuggling, counterfeiting/forgery offences, customs and tax offences, violent crime, economic crime, crime involving weapons and other fields of crime).

3.3.4 OC groups dominated by Russian nationals

The number of Russian OC groups (23) dropped in comparison to the previous years (25 in 2009, 28 in 2008, 23 in 2007 and 30 in 2006). In the period of review and as in 2009, the Russian groups were particularly active in drug trafficking and smuggling (the focal point being the smuggling of heroin from the Netherlands to Germany), in the field of economic crime (fraud offences) and in tax and customs offences (specifically cigarette smuggling).

3.3.5 OC groups dominated by Polish nationals

The number of Polish OC groups (21) dropped in comparison to the previous year (26 in 2009, 33 in 2008, 35 in 2007 and 30 in 2006). Polish OC groups were primarily active in tax and customs offences (cigarette trafficking and smuggling) as well as in the field of property crime (motor vehicle offences). The tax and customs offences consisted in particular of the smuggling of cigarettes mainly from Russia to Germany via Poland and Lithuania.

The following table provides an overview of the most important data of the prevailing groups ordered by the number of groups (figures for the previous year in brackets):

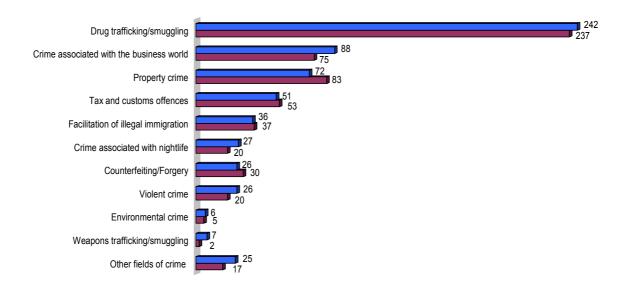
Dominating Nationality	Number of groups	Average OC potential of the groups ¹	Duration of cooperation in years
German	182 (132)	44.1 (46.5)	3.4 (3.5)
Turkish	75 (80)	43.7 (39.9)	2.0 (2.1)
Italian	30 (30)	44.8 (47.9)	2.5 (4.9)
Russian	23 (25)	43.8 (45.2)	2.9 (3.6)
Polish	21 (26)	45. 7 (40.5)	2.8 (2.2)
Vietnamese	21 (15)	46.0 (43.2)	2.4 (1.5)
Nigerian	19 (23)	45.6 (46.7)	3.5 (3.2)
Lebanese	18 (17)	47.0 (42.3)	2.5 (2.3)
Serbian	18 (9)	47.9 (40.3)	2.9 (2.6)
Romanian	16 (19)	37.6 (38.9)	2.4 (2.1)

¹ The average OC potential of all OC groups (606) amounts to 43.7.

3.4 Fields of crime

With a percentage of 39.9 %, drug trafficking and smuggling continued to make up the largest share of organised crime in Germany. Besides, offences associated with the business world (14.5 %) and propertyrelated offences (11.9 %) were of particular importance.

Main fields of crime of the OC groups



The following table provides a summarised overview of the most important data concerning the different fields of crime (figures for the previous year in brackets):

Fields of crime	Number of groups	Percentage in relation to OC in total	OC potential of the groups
Drug trafficking/smuggling	242 (237)	39,9 % (40,9 %)	45,0 (43,2)
Crime associated with the business world	88 (75)	14.5 % (13.0 %)	45.1 (45.5)
Property crime	72 (83)	11.9 % (14.3 %)	41.3 (43.7)
Tax and customs offences	51 (53)	8.4 % (9.2 %)	49.1 (48.0)
Facilitation of illegal immigration	36 (37)	5.9 % (6.4 %)	37.8 (35.9)
Crime associated with nightlife	27 (20)	4.5 % (3.5 %)	40.6 (45.0)
Counterfeiting/forgery	26 (30)	4.3 % (5.2 %)	35.1 (31.7)
Violent crime	26 (20)	4.3 % (3.5 %)	47.7 (50.6)
Arms trafficking/smuggling	7 (2)	1.2 % (0.3 %)	33.6 (48.0)
Environmental crime	6 (5)	1.0 % (0.9 %)	42.7 (29.9)
Other fields of crime (money laundering, ICT, corruption)	25 (17)	4.1 % (2.9 %)	41.5 (42.8)

Over the past decade, up until 2010 the by far largest area of crime constantly was drug trafficking and smuggling which last accounted for 40%, followed by crime associated with the business world and property crime which sometimes changed positions in the ranking order and recorded percentages in the lower two digit range (maximally 17.1%). Crime associated with nightlife declined significantly and almost continuously from more than 11 % in 2001 to approximately 4 % in recent years. In 2003 and 2004, figures in the two-digit range were recorded for facilitation of illegal immigration before the figure recently dropped to less than 6 %.

Modi operandi

In the year under review, 28.7 % of the groups of perpetrators were active in more than one field of crime (28.3 % in 2009, 32.2 % in 2008, 31.9 % in 2007 and 24.6 % in 2006).

Groups active in more than one field of crime continued to display, on average, a higher OC potential than groups active in only one field of crime (48.8 points compared to 41.6 points).

A total of 511 investigations (84.3 %) showed links to other countries. There were supraregional links in 49 investigations (8.1 %), while merely regional links were established in 46 investigations (7.6 %).

The international links referred to a total of 130 countries. The modi operandi established involved above all the Netherlands (208 investigations), Italy (110), Austria (94), Belgium (87), France (79), Spain (77), Switzerland (75), Poland (70), Turkey (68) and the United Kingdom (54). The high number of investigations involving the Netherlands results from the particular role this country plays in drug crime.

3.4.1 Drug trafficking and smuggling

As in previous years, OC groups in Germany were mainly active in the field of drug trafficking and smuggling. With 39.9 % in 2010, however, the proportion in OC did not continue to increase as in the years before (40.9 % in 2009, 38.6 % in 2008, 37.0 % in 2007 and 35.2 % in 2006).

Drug trafficking and smuggling were still dominated by German and Turkish OC groups. The percentage of the German groups amounted to 26 % and thus exceeded the figures for the years 2009 and 2008 (2009: 20.3 %, 2008: 23.9 %). The percentage of OC groups dominated by Turkish nationals amounted to 19.8 % (2009: 22,8 %), so that the positions in the ranking order changed again. In addition, Lebanese nationals accounted for 5.4 %, followed by Albanian, Italian, Dutch, Nigerian and Vietnamese nationals with 4.5% each as well as Kosovar nationals with 3.7% and Russian nationals with 2.5 %.

3.4.2 Crime associated with the business world

Compared to the previous year, when crime associated with the business world was still preceded by property crime in terms of its percentage in all OC investigations, it rose to number two of the ranking list again, with a percentage of 14.5 (2009: 13.0 %).

In the period under review, losses of more than EUR 737 million (EUR 1.08 billion in 2009) were caused in this field of crime. The estimated profits in this field amounted to more than EUR 401 million (2009: EUR 185 million), of which EUR 250 million resulted from one specific investigation into fraud offences (breach of trust).

In more than 84 % of the investigations conducted into crime associated with the business world, the groups of perpetrators exclusively operated in this field of crime (2009: approximately 69%). On average, the groups dedicated to this specific field of crime collaborated for approximately 3.4 years.

With 47.7 %, the percentage of OC groups dominated by German nationals rose considerably again, compared to the previous year when it had dropped to its lowest percentage in the long term (2009:

41.3 %, 2008: 49.5 %, 2007: 47.3 %, 2006: 45.2 %). Nine investigation complexes (i.e. 10.2 %, 2009: 5.3 %) were directed against groups dominated by Serbian nationals.

3.4.3 Property crime

With a proportion of 11.9 % (14.3 % in 2009), property crime was now the third largest field of crime, following crime associated with the business world. One quarter of the investigations into this field of crime were conducted against groups of perpetrators dominated by German nationals (18 investigations). Seven investigations were directed against crime groups dominated by Polish nationals and six against crime groups dominated by Lithuanian nationals.

In 2010, motor vehicle-related property offences (42 out of 72 investigations) prevailed. In most cases, vehicles were stolen in Germany and transported to Poland and the Czech Republic.

3.4.4 Tax and customs offences

In the year under review, a total of 51 OC investigations were conducted into tax and customs offences (53 in 2009).

Cigarette smuggling continued to be the main activity of OC groups operating in this area. The investigations mainly concerned cigarette smuggling from Russia and Lithuania to Germany via Poland.

With approximately 76.5 %, the proportion of groups focussing on one specific type of crime again declined compared to the previous years (81.1 % in 2009, 89.1 % in 2008, 92.0 % in 2007 and 87 % in 2006). In particular, OC groups dominated by German, Polish, Greek, Russian and Turkish nationals were of importance.

3.4.5 Facilitation of illegal immigration

In the year under review, 36 groups whose main activity was facilitation of illegal immigration were under investigation (37 in 2009). With regard to group structures, OC groups dominated by Vietnamese, Iraqi, Afghan, German, Nigerian and Turkish nationals figured prominently.

The illegal immigrants identified in the investigations conducted during the year under review mainly stemmed from Iraq, Afghanistan and Vietnam, and the Iraqi and Afghan nationals mainly came to Germany and Scandinavia. For most Vietnamese illegal immigrants, Germany was the country of destination.

3.4.6 Crime associated with nightlife

In 2010, 27 OC investigations were conducted in the area of crime associated with nightlife. After a decline in 2009 (20), the number of investigations rose again to the level reached in 2006, 2007 and 2008, i.e. 28 OC investigations.

The investigations focused on trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual exploitation, facilitating prostitution and exploitation of prostitutes.

Most of the victims identified in the course of the investigations came from Romania, Hungary and Nigeria. German and Hungarian OC groups dominated crime associated with night life, followed by Romanian and Turkish OC groups.

3.4.7 Counterfeiting/forgery

With 26 investigations, the number of OC investigations conducted into counterfeiting/forgery remained on the level of previous years. (2009: 30, 2008: 25, 2007: 28, 2006: 23).

A total of ten investigations (11 in 2009, 7 in 2008, 8 in 2007 and 12 in 2006) concerned the production and circulation of counterfeit currency (EURO counterfeits). The counterfeit banknotes predominantly originated from Italy and Bulgaria. With seven OC investigations, payment card crime lost some of its significance in comparison to the previous years (2009: 10, 2008: 11, 2007: 11, 2006: 3). Most payment card offences were committed by Romanian OC groups.

3.4.8 Violent crime

In 2010, 26 OC investigations were carried out in the field of violent crime (20 in 2009, 22 in 2008, 25 in 2007 and 31 in 2006). The investigations mainly centred on extortion offences, offences against life and offences involving bodily injury. In 19 investigations the suspects turned out to be armed. With regard to group structures, German groups (18) figured prominently and were followed at a clear distance by Turkish OC groups (3). In 15 cases, rocker gangs (14 of which were dominated by German nationals) were investigated for extortion offences, offences involving bodily injury, offences against life and breach of public peace.



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