**Global Crime Hotspots -
Impact on Germany**

BKA-Autumn Conference, 25 - 26 November 2009

International Focal Points of Criminal Activity and Possibilities of Response - Europol's Perspective

Summary of the Presentation

Robert Wainwright

Director of Europol

BKA

Introduction

- Welcome
- I lead an Agency that is pioneering new response to organised crime (OC) in Europe
- Using the power of information and its key capabilities, Europol
  - Tracks activities of most dangerous OC groups
  - Monitors development of OC techniques
  - Helps European law enforcement services have maximum impact on OC
- Purpose of this presentation is to describe the changing dynamic of OC and Europol's evolving approach

The Future of Europol

- Europol coming of age
- Europol is becoming **an EU agency** as of 1 January 2010
- **The Stockholm Programme** - important for Europol' development
  - Main areas of concern as identified by the European Commission are within the Europol's mandate
    - Child abuse
    - THB
    - Terrorism
    - Economic crimes
    - Euro counterfeiting
    - Drug trafficking
  - Creation of an EU Strategy for Information Management is central for Europol's further development
  - More coherence and central role for Europol in EU security model
- **New Europol Strategy** ensures development of Europol's key capabilities and will deliver a unique set of operational services for the EU in three main areas
  - **Principal support centre for law enforcement operations**
    - Improving operational analysis by i.a. a data-matching capability
    - Offering stronger operational expertise in key areas
    - Enhancing coordination of operational action in the EU
    - Developing more effective cooperation with partners
  - **Criminal information hub**
    - Further development of the ECIM
    - Ensuring full interoperability within Europol and outside between Europol, MS and EU bodies
    - Further developing SIENA and enhanced intelligence analysis tools
    - Providing automatic data transfers and bulk data matching
  - **Centre for law enforcement expertise**
    - Improve strategic assessment capability by introducing standardised regimes
    - Pioneer new techniques based on innovation and best practice

- Strengthen the position of a platform for specialist areas, such as euro counterfeiting, terrorism, key horizontal areas
- Providing quality training in key techniques
- All these developments make Europol a pivot in the EU security architecture

Reflection on new threats

New global society

- Freedom of movement for 500 million EU citizens; Enterprising business culture; Convenience of on-line shopping and banking
- Rise of global society offers opportunities for criminal exploitation
  - Easier, quicker cross-border travel and communication
    - Billion people across external EU borders every year, unrestrained access within
  - Free access to new and expanding markets
  - Power to directly target citizens through misuse of Internet
    - Over 90% business and 50% homes dependant on internet
    - Increase in on-line data storage leading to ID theft
    - Over 1500 internet sites hosting child abusive contents

Main OC Threats

- Modern characteristics of OC groups – mix of old and new
  - Flexible, multinational business enterprises with professional facilitators, diversifying services
  - But still reliant on power of violence and corruption
- Not easily seen or reached
  - Hidden in legitimate economy
  - Operating below radar of national police priorities
  - Operating in inaccessible jurisdictions – cyber crime, piracy

Criminal hubs

- Factual regionalisation of OC hotspots
- 5 criminal hubs indentified in the EU
- OC groups strictly linked with criminal hubs
  - Domestic OC groups within the hubs - gatekeepers, low profile
  - Other OC groups - more aggressive to seize and control destination markets
- OC groups infiltrate and exploit non- and less-integrated ethnic communities
  - Become points of reference for communities
  - Involve in trafficking and management of forced labour
  - Involve in racketeering and extortion
  - Control alternative remittance systems

- o Reach high levels of violence and influence
- OC groups manage feeders outside EU
  - o West-Africa, North-Africa
  - o Latin America, Caribbean
  - o Russia, Ukraine and Moldova
  - o Western Balkans
  - o Turkey
- OC groups manage legitimate business structures (LBS)
  - o Borderline of licit / illicit activities increasingly blurred
  - o LBS - facilitators for money laundering and predicate offences
  - o Controlled LBS - unfair competition
  - o Dismantling controlled LBS - social, economic, political problem

Smarter response

- Focus on criminal hubs
  - o Criminal hubs influence entire EU, not only MS in which they are based
  - o EU priorities must become also national priorities
  - o National intelligence cycles fed also by regional intelligence
- International cooperation to dismantle and impair hubs
  - o Identifying and dismantling OC groups with key role in criminal hubs (not only disrupting their criminal activities)
  - o Identifying and cutting links between the feeder and the hub
  - o Concentrated operational action against Top 100 criminal networks

From cooperation to integration

- Knowledge sharing – data mining, information hubs, ECIM
  - o Not short of data, but must share more
  - o Retain public confidence by operating strong data protection regime
- Joint operations – common target set, judicial /op instruments
- Changing the dynamic – critical infrastructure of OC, prevention
- Common values
  - o Leadership – courage and imagination to design a better future model
    - Shared responsibility of Ministers and Police Chiefs
    - Promote more open culture of cooperation
  - o Legitimacy – highest standards of probity and accountability
    - Public confidence is key
  - o Learning
    - Evidence-based research
    - Culture of learning what works

Effective EU

- Overcoming natural conservatism

- Strong performance in European policing within highly advanced regional framework
  - Judicial instruments (JITs, EAWs)
  - Operational capabilities (cross-border surveillance, Europol)
- But not well-integrated
  - Coherence under the Stockholm Programme
  - ECIM
    - New culture
    - Tool to turn strategic priorities into operational activities
    - OCTA = key component (to set strategic priorities)
    - Fundamental contribution of PCTF and COSPOL (to go operational)

Summary

- Smarter response needed to fight new OC
- Integration of knowledge, operations and values
- Increased use of existing capabilities and instruments
- Increased cooperation and coherence
- Europol has got it all:
  - Top specialists, analysts, unique network of liaison officers
  - Modern capabilities and tools
  - High-security, 24/7 operational network
  - Centre of strategic expertise
  - Coordination of EU internal security programmes