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**A joint-agency initiative against organised crime
in Södertälje**

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Abstract

This paper will describe one of the biggest criminal investigations in Swedish history, but above all the establishment of one the most ambitious joint-agency initiative against organised crime, named TORE 2.

The growing problems with criminal networks in the municipality of Södertälje, situated in the Stockholm County, have been acknowledged and talked about for at least 20 years. Likewise, the operations of these criminal networks have been reflected through an increasing numbers of homicides, venture on homicide, assault and battery etc. After a period of some very spectacular homicides the local and regional police were determined to form a joint problem scenario. In order to proceed local and regional police were opted to establish a sustainable joint-agency initiative with operational breadth and depth.

The ground thesis is that the stronger the connection between individuals in a criminal network, the larger the risk that the person can be recruited to criminal activities. For example connections/bonds can be ethnicity or relationship and another can be common criminal infringement. According to researchers, ethnicity is not essential for creating local based criminal networks, but in the municipality of Södertälje we can see that ethnicity combined with a common residential area and the local school environment have formed a seedbed for an impulsive, but also in some aspects, a mature criminal network.

So far, many of the success factors of TORE 2 derive from establishing a joint problem scenario as well as a joint target perspective. Other success factors are derived to sustainability, operational depth, and a ambitious information and mass media strategy. The joint-agency initiative is still on-going and will be evaluated in the autumn of 2013.

Key words: Södertälje, criminal networks, joint-agency initiative