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Criminal entrepreneurs or the influence

from the East

Dr. Mika Junninen

European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN), Finland

Abstract

This presentation concentrates on Finnish professional criminals and their organisations in Finland and in cross-border crime operations in the 1990s to today. It is based on qualitative

empirical material and Finnish police and justice authorities' statistical information.

The first part of the presentation is descriptive and based on expert and offender interviews.

The authorities' interviews took place in Finland and Estonia, and the main focus was to look

at Finnish offenders on both sides of the Finnish – Estonian border. The offenders interviews

focus on 14 different Finnish groups active in the 1990s in smuggling (alcohol, tobacco, and

drugs), and/or procuring prostitutes, and/or handling stolen goods in Finland.

The second part of the presentation is based on the Finnish authorities' statistical and

empirical information of members, groups' activities, and new embodiment in the 21st

century. The third part of the presentation shows some main findings of the study on

organised crime, corruption, and the movement of people on the Finnish Eastern border

(2006). The fourth part of the presentation highlights the very new steps of preventing

organised crime in Finland using administrative approaches.