

Europol's support to Ukraine: one year on

Europol is united with the EU and its Member States in staunchly supporting Ukraine following the Russian invasion in February 2022. The military invasion has caused a humanitarian crisis and prompted large numbers of refugees to flee from Ukraine to the EU, and opportunistic criminal networks may use this situation to further their criminal activities. Europol and the Member States remain strongly committed to identifying and tackling these criminal threats, and to working at all levels to support the EU Member States impacted by the conflict.



Strategic analysis

5 threat assessments on potential implications of the war relating to serious and organised crime and terrorism in the EU

Early warning and intelligence notifications on trafficking in human beings and weapons trafficking

Over **170** regular open source monitoring reports on serious and organised crime and terrorism, including cybercrime, migrant smuggling, trafficking in human beings, weapons trafficking, war crimes, money laundering, and travel for terrorist purposes



Deployments

Europol Staff and Guest Officers (Guest Officers are experts from EU Member States who assist Europol with secondary security checks)

Deployment of Europol Staff and Guest Officers to Slovakia, Romania, Poland, Hungary, Lithuania and Moldova

Nearly **1 400** SIENA messages sent
3 500 hits

More than **160 000** cross checks against Europol's database



Information exchange with Ukraine

Over **7 500** SIENA* messages exchanged between Europol, EU Member States and third party countries with Ukraine



Ukrainian Liaison Office at Europol Headquarters

*The Secure Information Exchange Network Application (SIENA) facilitates the exchange of information between Europol and competent authorities, ensuring the secure and swift transmission of sensitive and restricted data.



Europol's support for witness protection

Training and support with the International Criminal Court on building Ukrainian capabilities in witness protection



Europol's support in investigating war crimes

Dedicated Analysis Project on Core International Crimes, OSINT Taskforce established

More than
7 000
photos and video footage

More than
540
witness statements

More than
150
suspects identified



EMPACT

Fighting crime together

Europol's operational response through EMPACT*:

There has been a significant mobilisation of the EMPACT framework to tackle Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) stemming from the Russian invasion of Ukraine. This has led to implementation of operational actions on:

Ukrainian victims of trafficking in human beings

Results from the trafficking in human beings Hackathons**:

Nearly
240 online platforms monitored
more than 50 suspicious platforms identified

More than
30 potential victims identified

Document fraud for the purpose of facilitating serious and organised crime

High-risk Russian-speaking criminal networks

Weapons trafficking

Operation Oscar: money laundering and asset tracing

41 participating countries
(27 EU Member States and 14 non-EU partners)
⊕ Eurojust ⊕ FRONTEX

2 operations supported
Operation DRAKE and Operation IMMANENCY

56 operational analysis reports

5 operational meetings financed



Timeline of Europol's support to Ukraine

March 2022

First deployments;
First Threat Assessment

June 2022

Start of OSINT taskforce

March 2023

5th Threat Assessment

April 2022

EMPACT mobilisation meeting

September 2022

Europol representatives' mission to Ukraine

Additional Ukraine Liaison Officer

*EMPACT, the European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats, is a security initiative driven by EU Member States to identify, prioritise and address threats posed by organised and serious international crime.

** Hackathon: when a group of experts get together, in this case online, and work jointly focusing to find ways to solve, or to investigate the same defined problem in a limited amount of time.