



2nd EU Conference on Metal Theft

The Hague, 23 & 24 April 2013

EUROPOL & Metal Theft

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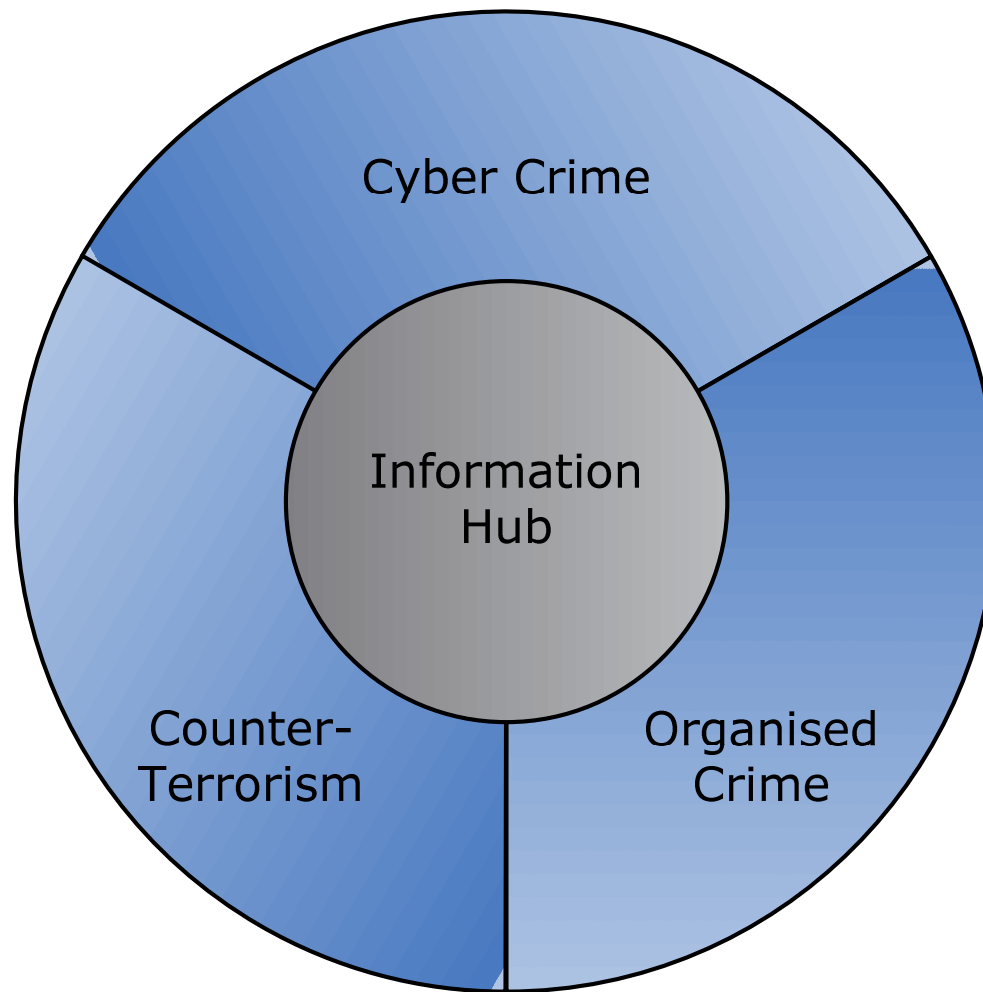
Operations Department

Europol:

- support centre for **Law Enforcement operations** (e.g. analysis, coordination meetings, on-the-spot support)
- criminal **information hub** (e.g. Siena, Europol Information System, AWFs, ELOs 28 MS + TP etc)
- centre for **Law Enforcement expertise** (e.g. European Platform for Experts/EPE, training etc)



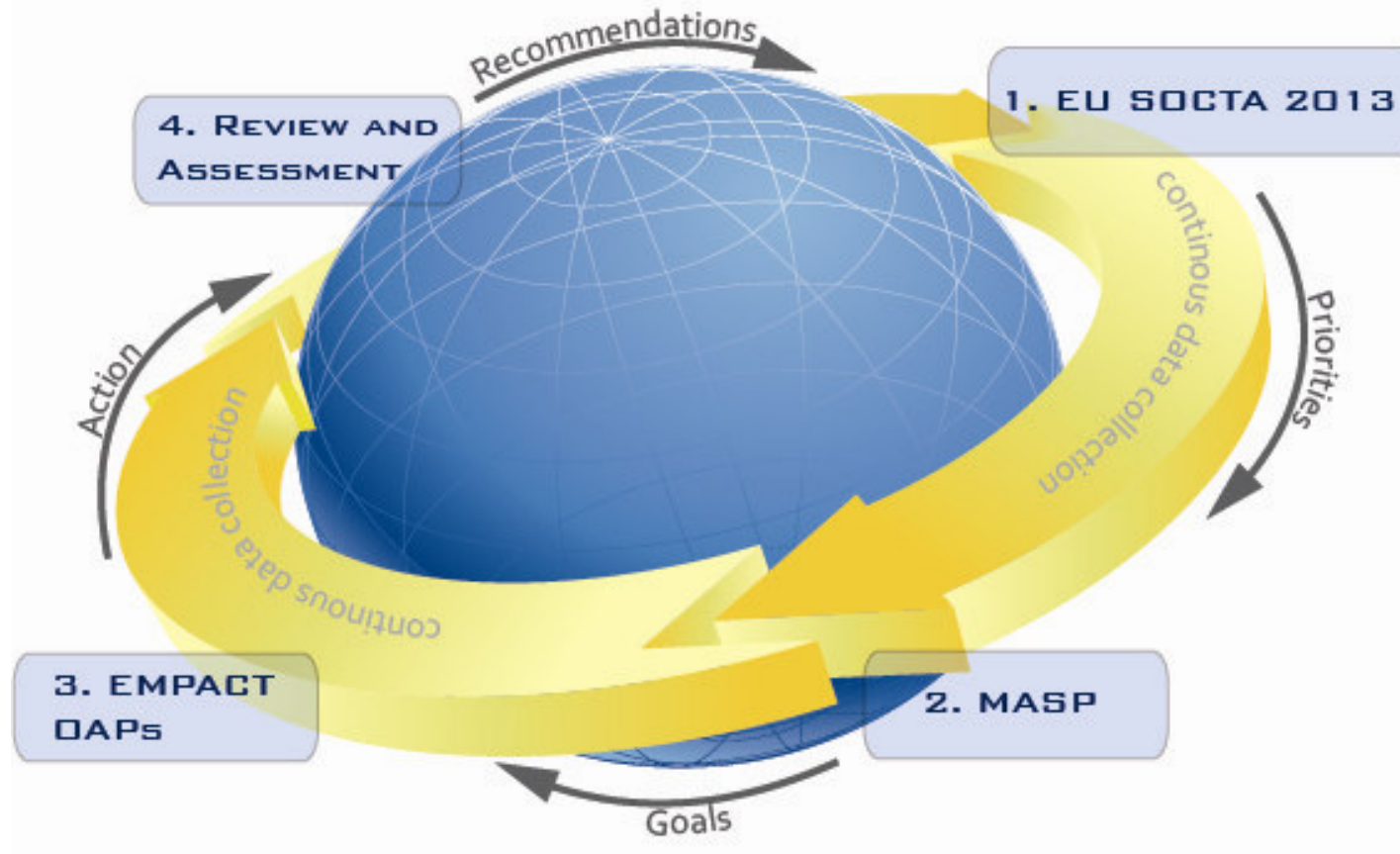
Operations Department



Added value Europol

- 1. Quick and safe** information exchange
- 2. Centralisation** of information
- 3. Add weight** to petty cases
- 4. Awareness raising**

The EU Policy Cycle



The policy cycle **ensures effective cooperation** between national law enforcement agencies, EU institutions, EU Agencies and other relevant partners in the fight against serious and organised crime.

Metal theft: a EU priority

The EU policy cycle has identified:

- **Mobile (Itinerant) Criminal Groups:** a EU priority for the years 2012-2013
- **Organised Property Crimes:** a EU priority for the years 2014-2017

An **EMPACT** (*European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats - Mobile Organised Crime Groups*) group has been established for each EU priority (BE driver, FR co-driver).

For both priorities, related Operational Action Plans include activities and actions in the field of

→ **metal theft.**



EU Conference on Metal Theft

Europol, April 2013

1st EU Conference: topics

- **Questionnaire** on legislation review & cashless model
- **Legislative differences** contribute to transnational character of the crime
- **Organised crime**
 - National vs international
 - Repression vs prevention
 - Flexibility & mobility
 - Adaptability to changes
 - New modus operandi & new routes
- **Environmental** aspects
- Use of **administrative tools** and different forms of cooperation.

1st EU Conference : weaknesses

- **LEAs databases** do not allow ah-hoc searches on metal theft to retrieve and analyse e.g. nationality, hotspot, routes etc
- Considered as '**petty crimes**'
- Not implemented as specific '**type of offence**'
- Not taken into account the '**major impact**' in terms of e.g. disruption and economical damage (for citizens, services etc)
- Hardly recognised the '**organised crime**' component

1st EU Conference: outcomes.

LEAs common need for:

- **coordination** (nat & intl)
- **analysis**
- **harmonising legislations & activities**
- **cooperation with private sector**
- **escalating the *chain*** (focussing on recyclers, fencers, organisers, recruiters etc)
- establishing a **network of practitioners**
- identify and share ***good practices***
- increase **awareness.**



**EU Action Day
on
Metal Theft & Scrap Dealers**

May 2013

EUROPOL & Metal Theft: Action Day, 27/28 May 2013

Results

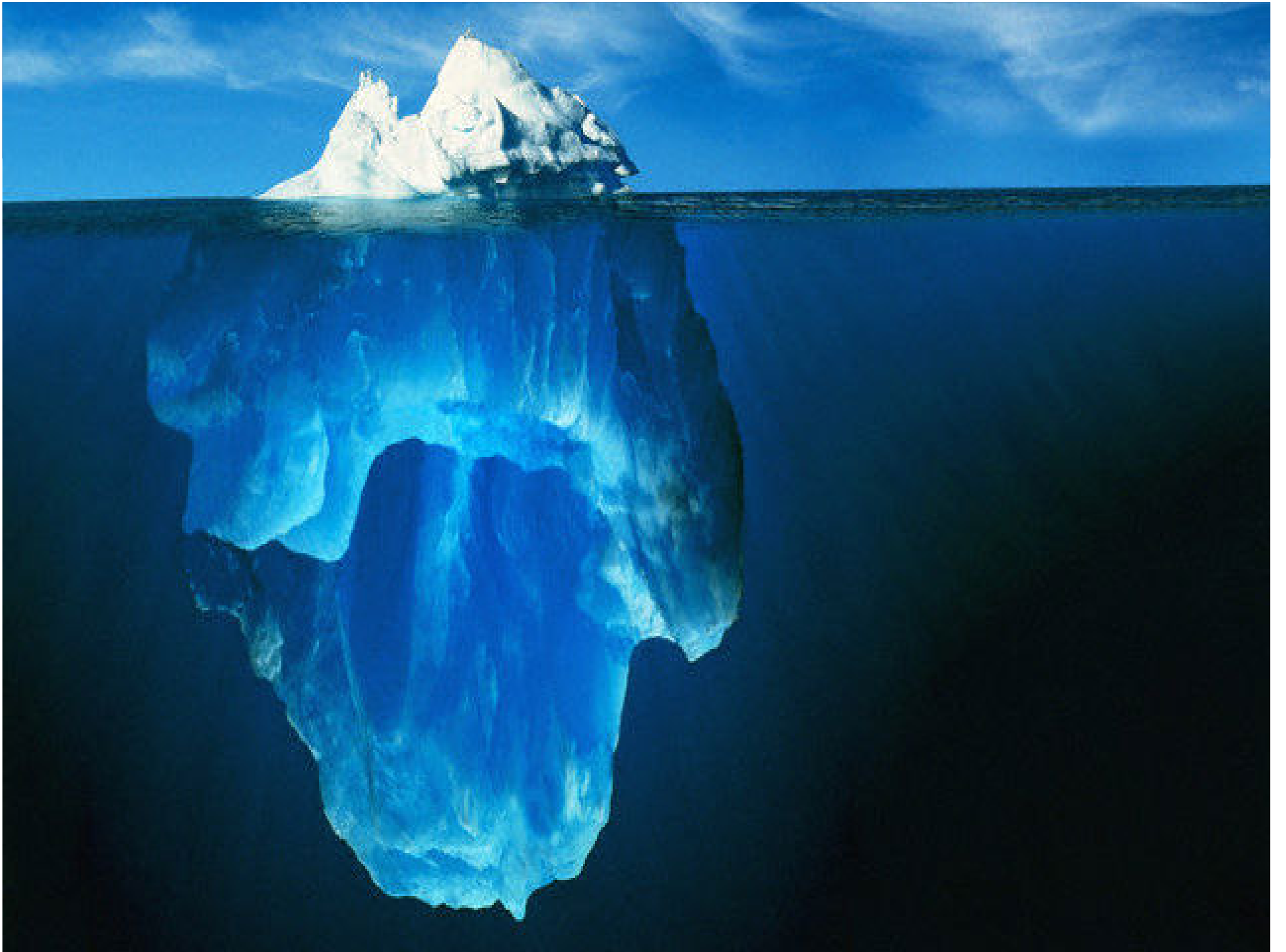
18 Member States → AT, BE, BG, CY, DE (Keulen, Saarbrücken, Rijnland-Palts), EE, ES, FI, FR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LUX, NL, PT, RO, e SE

	EU
• Persons controlled	→ 58 289
• Persons arrested	→ 266
• Theft	→ 204
• Vehicles controlled	→ 50 489
• Vehicles seized	→ 30
• Administrative checks	→ 7 045
• Administrative fees	→ 4 378

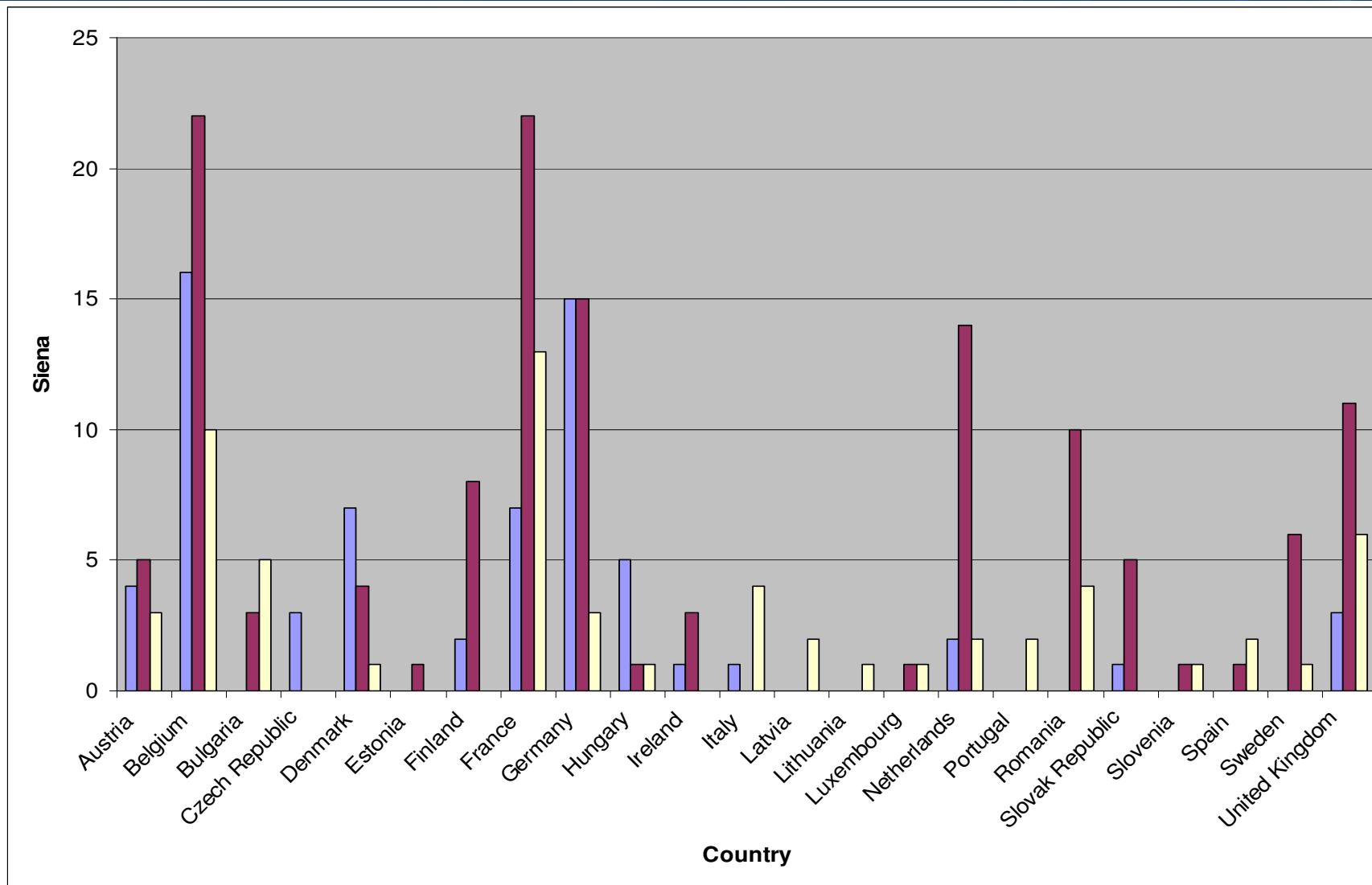


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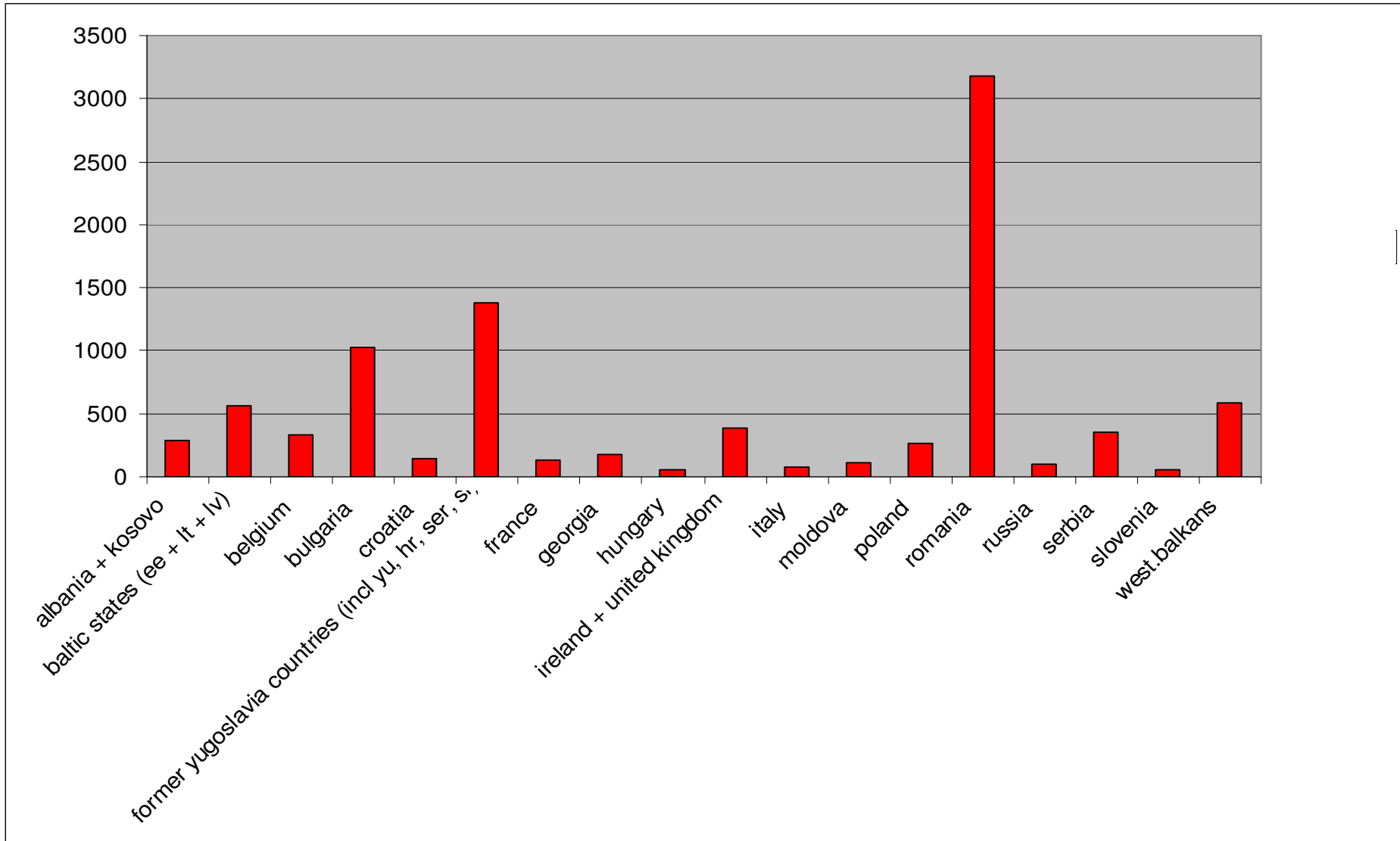
ongoing activities & the future



Metal theft: MS contributions.



Metal theft: suspect nationalities.



EUROPOL & Metal theft: ongoing operational activities

- **International investigations** triggered by the 'action day'
- MS requests for organising and supporting **further actions in EU**
- Increased number of **investigations provided to Europol** for analysis or **information exchanged via Europol channel**
- Organisation of and support to **operational meetings** amongst investigative teams
- Support to 'action days' also via the use of the **operational centre** plus Europol staff in the field for **on-the-spot assistance and analysis**
- **Early warning messages** on movements of suspects.

Europol & Metal theft: 2014, the way forward ...

2014:

- **Make use of available legislation and risk indicators in the field of environmental crime for prevention and analysis e.g.:**
 - **Basel Convention (1989, 1994)** controlling transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal and aiming at introducing a system for controlling export, import and disposal of hazardous waste and their disposal, at reducing the volume of such exchanges so as to protect human health and the environment
 - **EC Regulation 1013/2006** setting up a system for the supervision and control of shipments of waste within its borders and with the countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and third countries party of the Basel Convention.
- Ad-hoc **training** for LEA
- **DG** takes the lead to coordinate EU COM activities in this field ... ☺
- ...
- ...

The image features a central, blue-tinted globe of the Earth, showing the continents of North and South America. The globe is surrounded by several concentric, glowing blue rings that create a sense of depth and movement. The background is a solid, dark blue color. Overlaid on the globe is the text "The floor is yours" in a white, sans-serif font.

The floor is yours