

Fictional appearances of Europol

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Film and TV-Series:

- The character Johan Falk (Jakob Eklund) from ‘The Third Wave’ (see below) is returning to the screen in 2009 in six film parts of *GSI – Gruppen för särskilda insatser (Swedish)*. In the series, Johan Falk returns after five years of service at the Europol headquarters in The Hague to the police in Gothenburg, where he is going to lead the unit GSI. Johan Falk’s family stays in The Hague.
- *Ninja Assassin* is an upcoming martial arts film. Mika Coretti played by Naomie Harris, is a Europol agent who investigates money linked to political murders.
- In the French movie ‘*Cash*’ from 2008, Julia (Valeria Golino) is an ambitious Europol officer who is hunting a small-time swindler nicknamed Cash.
- In ‘*Reflections*’ from 2008 Europol agent Tom Brindle (Timothy Hutton) investigates the case of Pygmalion, a serial murderer who has killed several girls in France and Spain.
- *Chrysalis* is a French science fiction movie. (2007). In 2025 Paris, Police lieutenant David Hoffman (Albert Dupontel) investigates the circumstances behind the body of a young girl. Hoffman finds a link between the murderer and Dimitri Nicolov, ex-Bulgarian secret service agent and a key figure in organised crime. In this movie Europol is contending with bodies and disappearances.
- *The Container Lorry (Täckmnteln)* (2006). This movie is based on a plot by the Swedish writer Henning Mankell. A container found in a wood contains nine death persons – illegal immigrants. The Swedish detectives involve Europol in the case. Europol employee Henrietta Andersen thinks that the organisation ‘Lifeline Unlimited’ plays an important role in the case.

- “*Aspe*” De Orpheusfactor (The Orpheus factor) (2006). In this episode of the Belgian TV series “Aspe”, which is based on books by the Belgian novelist Pieter Aspe, Europol is present. The Europol officers are present in Belgium supporting their colleagues from Bruges with a case focusing on the smuggling of drugs via the port of Zeebrugge.
- Christian Hennig played by Bruno Eyron, who heads the operations of the *Vienna Crime Squad* (also known as SOKO Wien and SOKO Donau) is a cool, analytically-gifted ex-Europol agent with a razor-sharp mind.
- In the 2004 film *Oceans’s Twelve*, Catherine Zeta-Jones plays Europol agent Isabel Lahiri. In an interview about the film and her research which included a visit to Europol in The Hague, Catherine Zeta-Jones said “ It’s very good to know that Europol agents wear red leather to work. When I was first researching the character I didn’t think of red leather and it really helped in my characterization”.
- The Danish TV drama *Ørnen (The Eagle)* (2004). This series of 12 parts is about a small special unit which is founded within the Danish National Police in cooperation with Europol. Their focus is on international organised crime and terrorism. The cooperation with Europol is most significant in part 8, Operation Hades.
- Europol is the focal point in the Swedish film *The Third Wave* (2003). In its opening sequence a Europol boss addresses the press and describes how organised crime is taking over the European economy.
- The TV Series “*Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*” episode “Pandora” (2003) used Europol as an element of European policing. The scenes are set in Prague and a female agent from Europol is helping in solving a case of a brutal rape and subsequent death of a female motorist who turns out to be an informant for the FBI.
- Europol has been mentioned in several episodes of the American TV series, *Alias*.

- When the German series featuring Chief Inspector *Derrick* ended in 1998 after 24 years and 281 episodes, the storyline was that he was promoted to a desk-job at Europol.
- Europol had already been mentioned in the German TV series ‘*Okay S.I.R.*’ as early as 1972. The main characters were two female Europol agents working out of Munich.

Books:

- Stan Lauryssens, ‘*Bloedrozen (The Dali Killings)*’ (2009). The Belgian author has made his main character, a chief inspector from Antwerp, work for Europol in this novel. He is investigating some murders committed in the area between Barcelona in Spain and Perpignan in the south of France. The victims are young girls killed in a style which has resemblance to some of Salvador Dali’s paintings.
- Martin de Wolf, ‘*Die Orlandi Verschwörung (The Orlandi Conspiracy)*’ (2009). German. Daniella Romanue, a Europol investigator, and an American professor are trying to trace a file on the Shroud of Turin. They come across murder and a link to the attempted murder of Pope Johannes Paul II in 1983.
- Julia Navarro, ‘*The Brotherhood of the Holy Shroud*’ (2008). Marco Valoni, the head of the Italian Art Crimes Department has been sent to investigate a suspicious fire at Turin’s Cathedral and an incinerated body is discovered. Europol and CIA are assisting.
- Troels Oerting Joergensen, *Operation Gamma* (2007) *Danish*. Thriller on organised crime and terrorism in Denmark. The detective Christian Lange is using Europol and the Europol liaison officer network for support.
- Gene Kerrigan, ‘*The Midnight Choir*’ (2007). Harry Synnott, an Irish detective whose unyielding moral rectitude has alienated most of his fellow cops, is up for a promotion to Europol.

- Corbeyran, Guérineau, Defali & Medon, *Le Syndrome de Hyde* (2007) French. Comic book. Iran, 1883. At the time of the opening of a tomb, a gas volute is spread, causing the fear and the panic of the archaeologists. Two hundred years later, Franck, inspector of Europol, is in charge of the investigation.
- Ilkka Remes, *'6/12 (The Hostages)'* (2006) Finnish thriller. The two special investigators from Europol, Timo Nortamo and Johanna Vahtera, are dealing with a hostage situation in the palace of the Finnish President on Finland's Independence Day 6/12. The two main characters are also present in other of Ilkka Remes books.
- Marshall Browne, *'Inspector Anders and the Blood Vendetta* (2006). It is twenty years since the Mafia had Inspector Anders blown up in his car in Rome, and eighteen months since Anders has been in Italy. The killing of two right-wing Italian politicians one month apart has resulted in Anders' Europol chief sending the one-legged investigator back to Milan where he will be in most danger.
- Stephen Booth, *'Scared to Live* (2006) For DS Diane Fry and DC Ben Cooper, the ordinary always means trouble. With a little help from Europol, they discover some of the reasons why people can be scared to live - and the connection at the heart of the enquiry proves to be the most surprising revelation of all.
- Taavi Soininvaara, *'Pimeyden ydin (Finnish Tango)'* (2005). Riita Kuurma who is the colleague and former girlfriend of the main character Arto Ratamo is returning to Finland after having worked some years for Europol in The Hague. She was more or less ending her relationship with Arto Ratamo when she left for Europol some years earlier. This was described in *'Koston komissio (Finnish Requiem)'* (2002).
- DOA, *'Les Fous d'Avril'* (2004). A science-fiction like novel set in Paris 2019 which tells the story of a young Europol cop, Markus Frey, who is on the track of a psychopathic killer.
- Naoki Urasawa, *'Pluto: Urasawa x Tezuka, Volume 1 (Manga)* (2003). Pluto follows the Europol robot detective **Gesicht** in his

attempts to solve the case of a string of robot and human deaths. The case becomes more puzzling when evidence suggests a robot is responsible for the murders.

- In the Japanese (Manga series 2002 -) *Gunslinger Girl*, one of the main characters, Hillshire, is an ex-Europol agent. Hillshire had to leave Europol because he let a mob boss go in exchange for information on where some children were kept caught.
- Arne Dahl, *'Europa blues'*(2001). Swedish. Europol is of great help in this novel to a team of investigators who are dealing with a very complicate case involving several murders, links to Greek mythology and secret research carried out by the Nazis.
- Brian Freemantle, *Mind Reader* (1998). The main character is Dr. Claudine Carter, an Anglo-French forensic psychologist and criminal profiler who works for Europol.

POSTSCRIPT

Europol is slowly becoming more and more known in the general public and thus more interesting for fictional writers. The above list is showing examples identified by Europol Corporate Communications where Europol somehow is part of the plot in TV series, Films and books.

When Europol Corporate Communications is contacted by fictional writers and producers, we try to give the best possible idea of Europol's tasks and responsibilities in order that our everyday work is reflected in the best possible light. We are fully aware that we cannot insist on editing and approving fictional work. Our everyday work will be spiced up for fiction, but our conclusion is still that it is better to assist with such requests than to ignore them and not have any influence at all.

If you are aware of other 'fictional Europol appearances' then please send an email to CG3@europol.europa.eu and inform about the details.