

### Criminals continue to profit from defrauding businesses and consumers.

The counterfeiting of money remains a serious problem for advanced economies, while electronic means of payment offer criminals new opportunities to commit fraud.

The growth of internet banking and of electronic means of payment has been a double-edged sword for consumers and businesses. While it has lessened the dependence on physical cash, it has also provided criminals with new opportunities to commit fraud.

#### FORGING MONEY

While currency forgery is expected to diminish over time as cash becomes less relevant in the digital age, banknotes will not be replaced entirely by electronic means of payment.

As a result, criminals will continue to forge banknotes. The raw materials used for currency counterfeiting will become even more widely available, particularly on the darknet, the hidden internet that exists beneath the "surface web".

As the worldwide contact point for combating the counterfeiting of the euro, Europol is involved in all major currency forgery investigations in the EU. The agency coordinates joint investigation teams and provides financial and forensic support, as well as on-the-spot assistance, to law enforcement partners in the EU.

#### PAYMENT FRAUD

Fighting payment fraud — in particular that involving credit and debit cards — is one of the three mandates of Europol's European Cybercrime Centre (EC3). Through its Joint Cybercrime Action Taskforce (J-CAT), it has supported several high-profile cybercrime operations and investigations, such as Operation Imperium, which targeted an organised crime network active in payment fraud.

In its 2016 Internet Organised Crime Threat Assessment (IOCTA), Europol recommended that EU law enforcement focus on the following operational areas:

- ATM malware and skimming devices
- E-commerce fraud with a focus on the transport (airlines), retail and accommodation sectors.
- The acquisition and trading of compromised financial data
- and credentials:

Europol has also stepped up activity against CEO fraud cases in Europe. In these cases, fraudsters posing as the CEO or a member of the senior management team in a company trick an employee at the company into wiring funds to them.

NUMBER OF ITEMS FOUND: 212

SEARCH

TYPE


Article/Story, Event, How-To Guide, Landing Page, Multimedia, News/Press Release, Operation, Page, Publication/Document

TARGET GROUP

Q SEARCH

ⓧ CLEAR ALL

12 Apr 2021



### SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME IN THE EU: A CORRUPTING INFLUENCE

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE





23  
Mar  
2021

## 37 ARRESTS IN A HIT ON COUNTERFEITERS OF HIGH QUALITY €500 FAKE BANKNOTES IN SPAIN

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



10  
Feb  
2021

## TEN HACKERS ARRESTED FOR STRING OF SIM-SWAPPING ATTACKS AGAINST CELEBRITIES

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



03  
Feb  
2021

## 105 ARRESTED FOR STEALING OVER €12 MILLION FROM US-BASED BANKS

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



01  
Feb  
2021

## SUN, SEA AND SCAMS: SIX ARRESTS FOR FORGING MONEY AND DOCUMENTS IN BULGARIA

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



28  
Jan  
2021

## HALF A MILLION IN FAKE EUROS SEIZED IN ROMANIA

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



02  
Dec  
2020

## 422 ARRESTED AND 4 031 MONEY MULES IDENTIFIED IN GLOBAL CRACKDOWN ON MONEY LAUNDERING

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



26  
Nov  
2020

## OFFICERS FOIL FRAUDSTERS FROM STEALING €40 MILLION IN PAYMENT CARD SCAM

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

09  
Nov  
2020

## HERE'S HOW TO OUTSMART CRIMINALS ABUSING THE ONLINE SHOPPING EXPERIENCE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

05  
Oct  
2020

## COVID-19 SPARKS UPWARD TREND IN CYBERCRIME

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

05  
Oct  
2020

## INTERNET ORGANISED CRIME THREAT ASSESSMENT (IOCTA) 2020

PUBLICATION/DOCUMENT

29  
Sep  
2020

## HOOK, LINE AND SINKER: CYBERCRIME NETWORK PHISHING BANK CREDENTIALS ARRESTED IN ROMANIA

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 ...

NEXT »

LAST »

Source URL: <https://www.europol.europa.eu/crime-areas-and-trends/crime-areas/forgery-of-money-and-means-of-payment>