

## 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: 211

SEARCH



TYPE

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

TARGET GROUP

SEARCH

CLEAR ALL

25  
Sep  
2018

## DARKNET EURO COUNTERFEITER ARRESTED IN POLAND

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



14  
Sep  
2018



## GERMANY AND SWEDEN TAKE ACTION AGAINST CYBER FRAUD GANG

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



06  
Sep  
2018



## KICK-OFF OF PROJECT CARGO - PUTTING THE BRAKES ON CARGO THEFT

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



24  
Aug  
2018



## MIGRANT SMUGGLING AND SHAM MARRIAGES: ORGANISED CRIME GROUP DISMANTLED

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



14  
Aug  
2018



## 24 SUSPECTS ARRESTED IN EU-WIDE ACTION WEEK AGAINST CHILD TRAFFICKING

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



20  
Jul  
2018



## ONLINE SCAMMERS CAPTURED AFTER CAUSING EUR 18 MILLION OF DAMAGE IN MORE THAN 35 000 CASES

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



16  
Jul  
2018



## EU LAW ENFORCEMENT AND GOOGLE TAKE ON TERRORIST PROPAGANDA IN LATEST EUROPOL REFERRAL ACTION DAYS

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



29  
Jun  
2018



EC<sup>3</sup>

## EUROPOL ORGANISED TRAINING TO SPREAD KNOWLEDGE TO FIGHT PAYMENT CARD FRAUD

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

26  
Jun  
2018

## 141 ARRESTED IN WORLDWIDE CRACKDOWN ON AIRLINE FRAUD

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

21  
Jun  
2018

## CRYPTOCURRENCY MEETS LAW ENFORCEMENT AT EUROPOL'S 5TH VIRTUAL CURRENCIES CONFERENCE

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

19  
Jun  
2018

## 95 E-COMMERCE FRAUDSTERS ARRESTED IN INTERNATIONAL OPERATION

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

11  
Jun  
2018

## #2GOOD2BTRUE: BEWARE OF THE CRIMINALS OUT TO RUIN YOUR HOLIDAYS

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

◀ FIRST

◀ PREVIOUS

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?page=4>