

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

01
Dec
2017



OPERATION DRAGON DELIVERS MAJOR BLOW TO ORGANISED CRIME

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

01
Dec
2017



JOINT ACTION DAYS 2017

PUBLICATION/DOCUMENT

30
Nov
2017

ORGANISED CRIMINALS DEALING WITH ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS DISRUPTED IN ITALY, BULGARIA AND CZECH REPUBLIC

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

28
Nov
2017

European

159 ARRESTS AND 766 MONEY MULES IDENTIFIED IN GLOBAL ACTION WEEK AGAINST MONEY MULING

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

22
Nov
2017

EUROPOL BRINGS TOGETHER THREE REGIONS OF THE WORLD TO TACKLE PAYMENT CARD FRAUD

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

06
Nov
2017

OPERATION TAURUS – GREECE AND EUROPOL DISMANTLE AN ORGANIZED CRIME GROUP

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

24
Oct
2017



GLOBAL ACTION AGAINST AIRLINE FRAUDSTERS / OCTOBER 2017

PUBLICATION/DOCUMENT

24
Oct
2017

195 INDIVIDUALS DETAINED AS A RESULT OF GLOBAL CRACKDOWN ON AIRLINE TICKET FRAUD

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



2017, THE YEAR WHEN CYBERCRIME HIT CLOSE TO HOME

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



JOINT ACTION DAY TARGETS COUNTERFEITERS ON THE DARKNET

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



25 ARRESTS AND 16 VICTIMS SAFEGUARDED IN OPERATION AGAINST SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



NEW EURASEAN INVESTIGATIVE NETWORK ON COMBATING CYBER FRAUD

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE



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