

## 228 ARRESTS AFTER 70 000 INDIVIDUALS CHECKED ACROSS EUROPE TO TACKLE MOBILE CRIMINALITY

21 Apr 2021

[Press Release](#)

Operation Trivium XIV sees 17 countries target mobile criminal groups using the EU's road infrastructure



Between 13 and 16 April 2021, law enforcement authorities from 17 countries\* targeted mobile organised crime groups active across Europe as part of the latest edition of operation Trivium. The operation was coordinated by the Netherlands and supported by Europol and is part of the [EMPACT](#) security initiative.

### The coordinated actions led to:

- 228 arrests;
- 70 000 persons checked;
- 67 000 vehicles checked;
- seizures including 88 vehicles, stolen goods, illegal substances and large amounts of cash.

One objective of this year's operation Trivium was to locate wanted convicts of organised property crime on the run. Investigations during the operation identified the whereabouts of a number of these individuals.

During the operation, German authorities checked an individual suspected by Danish authorities to be linked to several thefts of GPS devices from agriculture

machines. During the check of his vehicle, the German officer discovered 30 GPS units from agriculture machines, approximately 100 kg of gold, silver and ivory jewellery, nearly 50 new high-end smartphones and 20 laptops. The suspect will be extradited to Denmark under a European Arrest Warrant. A check by the Belgian authorities of a vehicle on a motorway parking led to the discovery and seizure of 380 kg of copper hidden in the nearby woods.

Operation Trivium, launched in 2013, focuses on a multi-agency approach to tackle crime. The operation targets criminal networks using the EU's road infrastructure to perpetrate different cross-border crimes through police checks. The joint actions hit criminal groups trying to stay under the radar of law enforcement authorities by being mobile and changing their modi operandi. These activities based on a multi-agency approach enhance security on roads and contribute to increased trust and a feeling of safety in local communities.

\*Participating countries:

- **EU Member States:** Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden.
- **Non-EU country:** Albania

Headquartered in The Hague, the Netherlands, Europol supports the 27 EU Member States in their fight against terrorism, cybercrime, and other serious and organized crime forms. Europol also works with many non-EU partner states and international organisations. From its various threat assessments to its intelligence-gathering and operational activities, Europol has the tools and resources it needs to do its part in making Europe safer.



In 2010 the European Union set up a [four-year Policy Cycle](#) to ensure greater continuity in the fight against serious international and organised crime. In 2017 the Council of the EU decided to continue the EU Policy Cycle for the 2018 - 2021 period. It aims to tackle the most significant threats posed by organised and serious international crime to the EU. This is achieved by improving and strengthening cooperation between the relevant services of EU Member States, institutions and agencies, as well as non-EU countries and organisations, including the private sector where relevant. [Organised property crime](#) is one of the priorities for the Policy Cycle.

CRIME AREAS

[Organised property crime](#)

TARGET GROUPS

[General Public](#) · [Law Enforcement](#) · [Academia](#) · [Professor](#) · [Students](#) · [Researcher](#) · [Press/Journalists](#) · [Other](#)

SUPPORT &

[Operational coordination](#) · [Operational support](#) · [Information exchange](#) · [Analysis](#) · [Operational](#) · [Intelligence](#)

SERVICES

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