Operation Paradise City

An international criminal group was dismantled that was producing and distributing counterfeit 50 and 100 euro banknotes from their base in Vienna, Austria. Its members originated from the former Yugoslavia (mainly Serbia). The criminal network was active in Austria and Serbia but the counterfeit currency produced by it was detected in 12 European states. The organised crime group produced in total over 1 million in counterfeit euros (in 10, 50 and 100 denomination banknotes) and over 12 million Serbian dinar (1000, 2000 and 5000 denomination banknotes).

Participating countries and organisations: Austria (Austrian Police, Austrian National Bank), Serbia, Slovenia, Europol.

Operational coordination
Operational support
Networking power
Exchange of criminal information – SIENA
Operational analysis

Europol mandate
Euro counterfeiting
Forgery of documents

- based in Vienna, Austria
- active in Austria and Serbia but producing counterfeit currency in 12 European states
- produced over 1 million in counterfeit euros and over 12 million Serbian dinar

13 people arrested
16 house searches in Vienna
300k € worth of counterfeit banknotes
1.5m £ worth of counterfeit banknotes

Pieces of counterfeiting and IT equipment, fake IDs and other forged documents
Clandestine print shop dismantled in Vienna