

Ecorys presents

Building a Safer Europe Together

Ecorys contributing to tackling serious and organised crime in the EU

MAY 2025



Building a Safer Europe Together

Serious and organised crime poses a great security threat to the European Union. The newest Serious and Organised Crime Threat Assessment (SOCTA) 2025 by Europol lays out the key elements of how transnational organised crime operates and how it destabilises society, is nurtured online and is accelerated by AI and new emerging technologies. Organised crime is increasingly linked to hybrid threat actors undermining democratic societies, rule of law and the sense of security in the EU. Hybrid threat actors and organised crime manoeuvre on geopolitical instabilities and conflicts outside of Europe thereby, causing serious spillover effects in European societies.

Ecorys supports national governments, European institutions, international organisations and law enforcement agencies in tackling these challenges. To help tackle today's complex policy and security challenges. Our services span the full policy cycle — from in-depth evaluations and impact assessments to strategic advice, capacity building, and tailored workshops and training programmes.

Our cross-cutting knowledge

Tackling the different components of the DNA of organised crime requires an all encompassing approach. We are experts in the following aspects:



Across sectors

Security, Justice, Transport, Economy, Health



Methodology

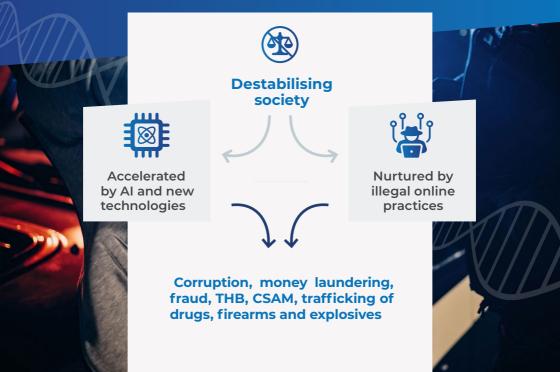
Methodology Monitoring and evaluation, qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis, stakeholder engagement and consultation



Technical assistance

Coordination of networks and hubs, organisation of events and workshops, visualization and communication materials

The DNA of organised crime



Monitoring and Evaluation

We design and implement monitoring systems that inform effective decisionmaking — combining solid performance indicators, user-friendly monitoring tools, and interactive data visualisation. Whether supporting pilot initiatives or large-scale national and cross-country programmes, our evaluations are crafted to uncover what works, how, and why. We are experienced in engaging with different stakeholders ranging from policymakers to academia, civil society and law enforcement.

Our monitoring, evaluation and learning services include:



Curious to learn more about our monitoring and evaluation projects in the field of internal security and organised crime?

Click here for the study supporting the back-to-back evaluation of the *Internal* Security Fund 2021-2027 and *Internal Security Fund-Police* 2014-2020.

Click here for the study supporting the evaluation of the *Regulation on Terrorist Content Online*.

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We develop innovative methodologies and creative approaches to better understand evolving threats posed by organised crime.

Phenomenon studies

Ecorys is at the forefront of addressing new and emerging issues in internal security through phenomenon studies. We develop innovative methodologies and creative approaches to better understand evolving threats posed by organised crime.

Our core strengths include mapping of crime and modus operandi of organised crime groups, analysis of crime prevention practices through theory of change, and development of tools, such as dashboards. This results in providing forward-looking policy and advice to support evidence-based decision making and operational level actions.

See examples of our phenomenon studies:

- Project **POSEIDON** on corruption and organised crime in EU seaports;
- Project REGISYNC on firearms diversion and improvement of firearms registries;
- Project CYBBAR on the improvement of information exchange in cybercrime;
- Project VISTA on improving the intelligence picture on violence and seizures of firearms.

Technical assistance

We have extensive experience in leading and coordinating EU-wide networks, hubs and secretariats. By deploying a team of highly skilled and multilingual experts, we ensure effective coordination, fostering seamless communication and engagement with public and private stakeholders.

Our services cover:



We are currently supporting European Commission in the EU-wide anti-corruption efforts. Since 2019, **Ecorys has been in a key role in coordinating 54 local anti-corruption experts across EU Member States.** We conduct in-depth studies on anticorruption trends and developments and provide vital support in the creation and organisation of the new EU Network Against Corruption. See more information <u>here</u>.

Ecorys is also **assisting the European Commission in fighting human trafficking** by organised crime through the coordination of the **EU Anti-trafficking Hub.**



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