

# Countering Migrant Smuggling

## Tools and Challenges

Trier, 30 November-1 December 2017

**UP  
GRADE**  
YOUR LEGAL  
EXPERTISE

**Asylum and  
Migration Law**



### Confirmed speakers

**Dr Simona Ardivino**, Policy Officer, Irregular Migration and Return Policy Unit, DG Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission, Brussels

**Renza Cescon**, Public Prosecutor, Prosecution Office, Court of Palermo

**Tiphanie Crittin\***, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Vienna

**Ramin Farinpour**, Course Director, European Criminal Law, ERA, Trier

**Maegan Hendow**, Research Officer, Research and Documentation Unit, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), Vienna

**Emanuele Misiano**, Operation Indalo Coordinator, Joint Operations Unit, Frontex, Warsaw

**Rear Admiral Vincenzo Montanaro**, Chief of Fleet Operations Department, Italian Navy, Rome

**David Reizenzein**, Liaison Officer, Liaison Office, Frontex, Brussels

**Álvaro Rodríguez Gaya**, Head of Strategy and Outreach, European Migrant Smuggling Centre (EMSC), Europol, The Hague

**Gerald Tatzgern**, Head of Central Service for Combating Human Smuggling/Human Trafficking, Criminal Intelligence Service, Federal Ministry of Interior, Vienna

**Representative**, European Union Naval Force Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED), Rome

Representative\*, Court of Appeal, Douai

Representative\*, Eurojust, The Hague

\* invited

### Key topics

- Update on actions implemented under the EU Action Plan Against Migrant Smuggling 2015-2020, the European Agenda on Migration and the EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan
- Eurojust's and the Europol Migrant Smuggling Centre's (EMSC) tools and actions to enhance cross-border cooperation in countering migrant smuggling and tracking the proceeds of crime
- EU action to destroy migrant smugglers' assets: Frontex and the EU Naval Force Mediterranean's (EUNAVFOR MED) Operation Sophia and other international actors in the field
- Return policy and cooperation with third countries in countering migrant smuggling
- Methods for prosecuting migrant smugglers, in particular in cross-border cases
- Tracing and confiscation of assets connected to migrant smuggling



# Countering Migrant Smuggling

**Thursday, 30 November 2017**

08:30 Arrival and registration of participants

09:00 **Welcome and introduction**  
*Ramin Farinpour*

## **I. THE EU'S FRAMEWORK OF ACTION IN DEALING WITH AND COUNTERING MIGRANT SMUGGLING**

*Chair: Ramin Farinpour*

09:05 **Migrant smuggling into the EU within a global context**  
The UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, its Smuggling of Migrants Protocol and countering organised criminal groups, with a specific focus on migration flows into the EU from North Africa  
*Tiphane Crittin*

09:30 **The smuggling of migrants: characteristics and responses**  
A review and evaluation of existing policies within the EU and cooperation with third countries  
*Maegan Hendow*

10:00 **Update on the EU legal and policy framework to prevent and counter migrant smuggling**  
Progress on the implementation of the EU Action Plan Against Migrant Smuggling (2015-2020), the European Agenda on Migration and the EU-Turkey Action Plan; enhancing cooperation with third countries on returns and countering migrant smuggling  
*Simona Ardovino*

10:30 Discussion

11:00 Coffee break

## **II. JUDICIAL CHALLENGES IN RELATION TO MIGRANT SMUGGLING**

*Chair: Ramin Farinpour*

11:30 **Judicial challenges in investigating migrant smuggling:**

- investigative approaches and techniques (open and covert)
- collection and use of evidence, including intelligence
- financial investigations and confiscation of assets
- cooperation with other law enforcement authorities
- a possible link between NGOs and migrant smugglers?

*Renza Cescon*

12:00 **Investigating migrant smuggling networks and bringing the perpetrators to justice: a French case study of a Joint Investigation Team with Belgium and the Netherlands**  
*Prosecutor, Douai Court of Appeal*

12:30 Discussion

13:00 Lunch

14:00 **An update on Eurojust's role in dismantling and prosecuting migrant smuggling networks: from mutual legal assistance requests to joint investigation teams, investigations into illicit financial flows, cooperating with other frontline actors and strengthening the transfer of intelligence into judicial proceedings: case studies**  
*Speaker, Eurojust*

14:30 Discussion

## **III. LAW ENFORCEMENT CHALLENGES IN RELATION TO MIGRANT SMUGGLING**

*Chair: Tiphane Crittin*

14:45 **Dealing with and investigating migrant smuggling in a frontline country – the Spanish experience:**

- the increasing influx on the Western Mediterranean Route and counter-measures being taken
- disrupting cross-border migrant smuggling networks
- cooperation with other national and EU actors (Joint Operation Indalo 2017) in countering migrant smuggling

*Emanuele Misiano*

## **Objective**

With the influx of irregular migrants into the EU only having partially subsided due to the closing of the Western Balkans route, criminals still smuggle migrants across the Mediterranean and other secondary routes making it one of the most profitable forms of transnational crime in Europe. An effective and coordinated judicial and law enforcement response across the EU is still lacking and the tools to deal with this problem are only slowly being put in place.

This seminar will look into the various aspects that need to be considered when dealing with migrant smuggling in order to identify the actions that can be taken to enhance cross-border judicial and law enforcement cooperation in this field.

## **Who should attend?**

Law enforcement officers, ministry officials, judges, prosecutors, lawyers in private practice and NGOs.

Language  
English

Event number  
317D43

Organiser  
ERA (Ramin Farinpour) in cooperation with EJTN

## **Your contact persons**



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- 15:15 Discussion
- 15:30 Coffee break
- 16:00 **National activities in dealing with increased pressures on a main migratory route:** the Italian Navy's approach in dealing with migrant smugglers networks on the high seas, coordination with other national authorities, enhancing cooperation and coordinated action with third countries (Libya)  
*Vincenzo Montanaro*
- 16:30 **Update on Europol's tools in countering migrant smuggling:** the European Migrant Smuggling Centre (EMSC), Hotspots to identify incoming migrants and identity and document fraud and security, cooperation with Interpol, financial investigations and the freezing of smugglers' assets, smuggling networks' use of social media: case studies  
*Álvaro Rodríguez Gaya*
- 17:15 Discussion
- 17:45 End of first day
- 18:45 Guided tour of the city of Trier and dinner

## Friday, 1 December 2017

- 09:00 **Dealing with smuggling networks in a destination and crossroads country:** Austria's experience and the work of the local EU Joint Operational Office for regional operational investigations into migrant smuggling organised crime groups  
*Gerald Tatzgern*
- 09:30 Discussion

### IV. EU AND INTERNATIONAL MEASURES TO COUNTER MIGRANT SMUGGLING

*Chair: Ramin Farinpour*

- 09:45 **Frontex' activities in countering migrant smuggling:** actions at EU external borders, cooperation with EU and international stakeholders to disrupt migrant smuggling networks; facilitating return operations, cooperation with third countries and EU stakeholders  
*David Reizenzein*
- 10:30 Discussion
- 10:45 Coffee break
- 11:15 **An update on EUNAVOR MED and its operations to tackle migrant smuggling and patrol the Mediterranean:**
- Operation Sophia's latest actions in relation to intelligence-gathering, boarding, searching and diverting vessels on the high seas and destroying smugglers' assets, as well as the use of Maritime Surveillance Networking (MARSUR)
  - The new European Observatory on Migrant Smuggling and Human Trafficking
  - Weapons seizures in relation to countering illegal arms trafficking
  - Implementation of training programmes for the Libyan coastguard and navy
- Speaker, EUNAVOR MED*
- 11:45 Discussion
- 12:00 **Panel discussion:**  
**Identifying measures for more effective coordinated action in**  
*Simona Ardivino, Renza Cescon, Maegan Hendow, David Reizenzein, Álvaro Rodríguez Gaya*
- 13:00 Participant discussion
- 13:15 Light lunch and end of seminar

## What participants liked last year

"...the organization was nice and lectures very interesting..."

"...well organised and excellent subject matter..."

"...high professional level of speakers..."

## CPD

ERA's programmes meet the standard requirements for recognition as Continuing Professional Development (CPD). This event corresponds to **11 CPD hours**.

## Save the date

**Annual Conference on European Asylum Law 2017**

Brussels, 26-27 October 2017

**Annual Conference on Countering Terrorism in the EU 2017**

Trier, 23-24 November 2017

**Recent Case Law of the European Court of Human Rights on Detention**

Strasbourg, 7-8 December 2017



## IMPORTANT NOTE

This event is part of the Catalogue+ of EJTN. There are 10 free places available for judges and prosecutors from the Member States. Application deadline: 23 October 2017.

To apply, please contact the EJTN secretariat:

E-mail: [catalogueplus@ejtn.eu](mailto:catalogueplus@ejtn.eu)

Website: [www.ejtn.eu](http://www.ejtn.eu)

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