



**WORKING TOGETHER
BY LEARNING TOGETHER:
A VIEW FROM JUSTICE
& LAW ENFORCEMENT**

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1. WHAT IS EUROJUST?
27 EU PROSECUTORS / JUDGES



More Effective
Co-ordination &
Co-operation

2. CASE ILLUSTRATIONS

1. OPERATION KOALA
2. OPERATION BAGDAD

1. OPERATION KOALA

2006 - 2007

BACKGROUND

- **Video tape containing child pornographic material linked to Belgium**
- **Persons involved:**
 - Belgian father abused his 2 daughters
 - Italian national was photographer & video produce (had a studio in Ukraine and owned a website for child pornographic purposes)
 - US citizens were customers/clients
 - Many customers through internet

➔ **Investigations started in Belgium and Italy**

COORDINATION MEETINGS AT EUROJUST IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH EUROPOL

1. **25 October 2006**
 2. **25 April 2007**
 3. **29 May 2007**
 4. **5 November 2007:**
 - coordination meeting
 - joint press release
- **Coordination of investigations**
 - **Simultaneous, coordinated actions in all countries involved**
 - **Exchange of information:** gathering of sufficient information for prosecution

COORDINATION MEETINGS AT EUROJUST

▪ MAIN DECISIONS:

- Time frame for investigations/actions

↓
May '07 – Sept. '07

- ↓
- Identification of targets
 - Arrests
 - Interrogations of suspects
 - Seizures

- Common media strategy

JOINT PRESS RELEASE & RESULTS

- Newspapers, radio, TV from at least 15 different countries + press agencies
 - ➔ following 3 days worldwide coverage of the case
- 16 countries provided **results** to the press:
 - 1000 targets identified
 - More than 100 arrests until November 5th
 - Thousands of videos and photos found
 - Hundreds of computers seized
 - NL: at least 25 suspects; already 17 convictions

CONVICTIONS

Two main targets:

- BE: 10 years imprisonment + 10 years in mental institution + loss of civil rights + compensation of the victims
- IT: 10 years imprisonment

US - OPERATION HAMMER

- US investigations following leads from OPS. KOALA
- FINDINGS & RESULTS:
 - Website database 800 US customers; 200 searches →
 - 2 Bulletin boards created and operated by US citizens
 - ↳ > 30 US members
 - several convictions: long term imprisonments
 - 7 online child pornography rings, some numbering in the hundreds

2. OPERATION BAGDAD

2008

BACKGROUND

- Criminal group smuggling illegal immigrants from Turkey, Iraq, Afghanistan, Iran, China, Bangladesh to the UK, Ireland and the Scandinavian countries
- 10 Member States involved
- Group has 'cells' in every transit country and countries of destination
 - ➔ large-scale network

COORDINATION MEETINGS AT EUROJUST

- 2008
 - presentations on different operations in MS
 - agreements on further actions:
 - identification of targets in all countries
 - which country will arrest who
 - ↳ 'interim report' of results to be presented during follow-up meeting
 - **target date for simultaneous actions in all countries**
 - feasibility of setting up an international coordination center

COORDINATION MEETINGS AT EUROJUST

- Follow-up meeting 2008
 - follow-up meeting to present 'new' results of investigations since previous meeting
 - further agreements on simultaneous action

RESULTS

- Simultaneous action:
 - 23/06/2008
 - 1.332 police officers involved
 - 9 MS involved
 - 76 arrests



NO JUSTICE WITHOUT
POLICE
&
NO POLICE WITHOUT
JUSTICE





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