

**JICDT-VM** **DARKNET**  
PROJECT



Co-funded by the Prevention of and Fight against Crime Programme of the European Union.

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## Ladies and Gentlemen!

International drug networks operate across all borders. They are organised, structured, and operate according to a plan. And they constantly avail themselves of new technologies and new distribution systems such as the darknet for it offers criminals a virtual place of retreat and anonymity. They feel safe in the darknet - often too safe.

To be able to combat this phenomenon in a sustainable manner and on an equal footing with the offenders, the investigating authorities too have to adapt their strategies. This requires lifelong learning and the ability to quickly adapt to new structures and working methods by the police as well.

In this context, international cooperation as direct as possible, with a minimum of bureaucracy, and a swift exchange of information is of particular significance. However, uniform practices and standards are important as well.

With this joint project that will focus on the combat of virtual drug trafficking, the police are following the right path, the path of cooperation. All in all 28 EU Member States, candidate countries, the countries of the Western Balkans, Switzerland, the Ukraine, the United States, the Russian Federation as well as Europol, Eurojust, Interpol, the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCCDA), the United Nations, and the European Commission will be invited to participate in the project.

I therefore thank not only our partner Germany but also the entire network for their commitment to this important project and I wish you strength and perseverance for the joint implementation of these plans.

Wolfgang Sobotka  
Federal Minister of the Interior



## Ladies and Gentlemen!

Drug trafficking on the Internet - notably the darknet - along with new types of payment systems such as cryptocurrency and bitcoins is booming and calls for an urgent adaptation of the police's combating strategies. The profits earned by criminal groups are enormous and there is zero risk.

To cope with it, new paths will be taken under Austria's direction and in cooperation with project partner Germany: a goal-oriented multinational investigation team structure will be set up that - under a central management - coordinates all relevant investigation areas. This is because only a coordinated exchange of information within the complexity of a cooperation between „actual“ investigators, Internet investigators and cybercrime experts will take us to our goal.

The interplay of these three components will allow us to obtain information on structure-related investigations, concrete offenders and groups of offenders. The findings serve to devise new methods to combat a new phenomenon of organised drug trafficking which will complement Europe-wide uniform combating strategies. They are ultimately intended to provide the basis for identifying best practice.

Following the EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020 and the Action Plan on Drugs 2013-2016, with the help of the EU funded ISEC Project „Joint investigation to combat drug trafficking via the virtual market (darknet) within and also into the EU“ a kick-off meeting, a conference, 12 operational meetings and two evaluation meetings will be held for a period of 24 months starting in February 2015.

Already at this early stage I would like to congratulate all participants on this unique initiative and I wish the project all the best!

General Franz Lang  
Director of the Criminal Intelligence Service Austria



## Foreword

The Internet opens up many new opportunities, especially in the commercial area. New business models are being created almost every day. In some industries, the Internet is rapidly speeding growth. Unfortunately, one of these growth industries is international drug crime.

The "darknet" offers criminal networks in particular worldwide access to customers, enabling them to operate anonymously and cover their tracks in the virtual world. Enormous profits and a relatively low risk of detection: For many drug dealers, that makes for an extremely attractive business model. According to law enforcement information, already in 2013 there were roughly 140 German-language websites in the dark net specializing in narcotics. In addition, an unknown number of websites in other languages can also be used by German buyers and sellers.

This rapid development creates major challenges for investigating authorities: If the fight against "Drug Trafficking 2.0" is to have any chance of success, traditional narcotics investigators must work with cyber analysts and specialists in online investigations. And we must work even more closely together at the international level. Initiated by our partner Austria, this project, with its cross-border forum, makes it possible to tap the potential for new initiatives and lay new foundations for joint operational measures.

I wish all those involved the necessary strength, energy and creativity to follow new paths in the fight against "Drug Trafficking 2.0."



Dr Thomas de Maizière, Member of the German Bundestag  
Federal Minister of the Interior



## Ladies and Gentlemen!

The progress in information technology shapes the everyday lives and activities of millions of people all over the world. Besides generating the desired economic growth and positive social developments, it also promotes, however, the development of new crime phenomena and an increase in criminal structures. Perpetrators have recognised the opportunities of clandestine communication and the trade in illicit goods via the internet and increasingly use the darknet to evade criminal prosecution.

The supposedly virtual space becomes an integral part of real life in a united Europe. Under these conditions, the socio-political requirement of safeguarding freedom, security and justice represents a new challenge for the security authorities. In the 21st century, the groups of perpetrators operating in online networks have a significant influence on criminal police measures and possibilities. Therefore, we must keep restructuring and fine-tuning our suppression strategies.

The Federal Republic of Germany and the Federal Republic of Austria have been pursuing their common goal of cross-border crime suppression for many years. The current EU project reflects this lasting, valuable and fruitful partnership. I therefore wish all parties involved every success in achieving the project objectives!

Holger Münch  
President of the Bundeskriminalamt



## Ladies and Gentlemen!

Legitimate communication networks offering anonymity – generally referred to as the darknet – are being increasingly abused by criminals to trade drugs, weapons, false IDs, stolen property and child abuse material.

Online criminal markets on the darknet are further facilitated by the availability of virtual payments systems. The level of anonymity provided by cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin make them attractive payment instruments for illicit trade and money laundering.

The anonymisation offered by the darknet and virtual currencies make detection, attribution, investigation and prosecution of illegal activities complex and challenging for law enforcement. This is further hindered by a lack of appropriate legal instruments and judicial cooperation frameworks.

Stronger commitment is needed to curb this worrying trend so the ISEC project “Joint investigation to combat drug trafficking via the virtual market (darknet) within and also into the EU” is a highly welcome initiative. It should support international cooperative efforts in combating drug trafficking on the darknet.

A successful example of internationally coordinated efforts to combat crime on virtual markets, specifically on the darknet, is Operation Onymous, which was coordinated by Europol’s European Cybercrime Centre (EC3), the FBI, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and Eurojust. This operation demonstrated that criminals abusing such networks are not beyond the reach of law enforcement.

I commend the project partners for initiating this important joint initiative and wish them every success in its implementation.

Rob Wainwright  
Director of Europol



# The Project

## “Joint investigation to combat drug trafficking via the virtual market (darknet) within and also into the EU”

(Short version JICDT – VM)

The Austrian Federal Criminal Police Office is running a 24-month project (2 2015 – 1 2017) in cooperation with the partner country Germany to form operational criminal intelligence networks and to carry out investigations in virtual markets on the internet, focused on combatting international drug trafficking in connection with cyber-crime.

Apart from the 28 EU MS, also candidate countries and third countries as well as Europol, Eurojust, Interpol, EMCDDA, EC and UNODC are involved. The peculiarity of drug trade on the internet is that the initiation of business and the trade processing are arranged completely anonymously on virtualized platforms using virtual means of payment, but the drug trafficking itself happens in real life. The combatting of this type of crime must therefore take place in a complex investigation context, where criminal intelligence investigators communicate, contract and coordinate together with investigators in the virtual environment and experts of cyber-crime. Traditional drug trafficking routes and the vehement cooperation with the respective Balkan countries will therefore also remain important. Increased attention will be paid to consignments by post or on the freight route as well as to shipments from the east.

The project is taking into account the EU drug strategy 2013-2020 and the EU action plan 2013-2016 as well as the EMPACT OAP (Operational Action Plan) 2014 (OA 5.1).

### General targets

Enhancing the law enforcement cooperation in the field of combatting international drug trafficking with a focus on cyber-crime and elaboration of Best Practices.

### Operational targets

Findings from real life investigators, virtual investigators and experts of cyber-crime together with the know-how of all fields shall lead to the ability to combat drug trafficking on the internet effectively, to dismantle criminal networks and to confiscate drugs.

### The focus of the project

lies on the tightly focused common knowledge management of the fields „real life investigation“, „virtual investigation“ and cyber-crime and the related common actions (arrests/seizures).

### Target group

Drug investigators from the EU MS, candidate and third countries, as well as Europol, Interpol, EMCDDA, EC, UNODC.



## Methodology

### 1 conference

(place: AT): Investigators and (cyber-crime) experts from 28 EU MS, candidate countries, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Ukraine, United States of America, Europol, Eurojust, EMCDDA, Interpol, UNODC and EC are participating in the respective conference – a total of about 90 participants

### Outcomes

Multinational measures to combat drug trafficking on the internet

Further development of common EU standards + Best Practices taking into account the EU drug strategy 2013-2020 and the drugs action plan 2013-2016

### 12 operational meetings

as a basis for the planning of and the agreement on joint investigations. About 16 investigators participate in an operational meeting (participants as required of the concerned countries, Europol and Eurojust)

### Results from the operational activities

Detection of criminal networks

dismantling of offender groups

seizure of drugs and drug precursors

confiscation of proceeds from crime

### 2 evaluation meetings

with the project partners – a total of about 15 participants

### Project booklet

Project documentation

## Beneficiaries

EU member states

Candidate countries

Europol

Eurojust

EMCDDA

Interpol

UNODC

EC

# Responsibilities Contact Persons

## Project Management

**Mag. Gerhard STADLER**  
Phone: +43 1 24836 985350  
Gerhard.Stadler@bmi.gv.at



## Organisation & Financial Management

**Christian MADER**  
Phone: +43 1 24836 985380  
Christian.Mader@bmi.gv.at



## Operational Management/ Steering Group Investigation Teams

**Thomas DORNER**  
Phone: + 43 1 24836 985381  
Thomas.Dorner02@bmi.gv.at



**Peter BUNYAI**  
Phone: +43 1 24836 985388  
Peter.Bunyai@bmi.gv.at





## Project Assistant

**Andrea ZEHNER**

Phone: +43 1 24836 985358

Andrea.Zehner@bmi.gv.at



**Elisabeth LATTINGER**

Phone: + 43 1 24836 985353

BMI-II-BK-3-3@bmi.gv.at

## Kick off Meeting

11/12 February 2015, Vienna/Austria

Austria started with its partner country Germany the new project "Joint investigation to combat drug trafficking via the virtual market (darknet) within and also into the EU"



Bundeskriminalamt Wien  
Bundeskriminalamt Wiesbaden

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## 1 operational meeting

30/31 March 2015, Wiesbaden/Germany

The focus of the meeting was on the information exchange with the Ukrainian Cyber Crime Department. Also investigation methods with the Landeskriminalamt Hessen were discussed.

**Conclusion:** Beside operational case reviews contact and network building are essential factors for success.



## 2 operational meeting

26/27 Mai 2015, Krems/Austria

17 participants from the domains of police, justice and finances discussed in Krems the fight against organised drug trafficking in the Darknet. The resulting knowledge is intended to be taken into consideration in future investigation cases.



Project leader Gerhard Stadler at the opening of the meeting

Topic of the meeting was the legal strategy against this special form of crime. Legal materials were illuminated, problem fields were analysed and discussed by means of current cases. The participation of judges, public prosecutors, drug investigators, experts of cyber-crime and customs investigators offered a broad range of issues. The experts were supported by representatives of Europol and Eurojust. In this way the topic was also illuminated from an international point of view and so the basis for the elaboration of EU-standards and best practice methods was created.



Discussion of the participants

**Conclusion:** The multinational legal materials and approaches are considerably different. There is an urgent need to tie already existing experiences and practiced approaches in various countries into bundles, to add the latest knowledge and to pass them on as compact information. For the implementation a multinational conference must be envisaged. Beside the participation of investigators also the participation of representatives of justice is evaluated as essential.

## 3 operational meeting

1/2 July 2015, Wiesbaden/Germany

At the initiative of the Bavarian Landeskriminalamt the investigation team “Down Under” held a meeting in the Bundeskriminalamt Wiesbaden. The aim was to proceed together in a complex investigation. It was revealed once more that the here required data exchange – also on national ways – can be restricted by different existing data protection guidelines.

Based on the motto “operational meetings connect” a total of 31 participants from Germany, Austria, the Netherlands and Australia met. A particular focus lay on the data exchange within Germany.



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**Conclusion:** Network building, multinational communication and data exchange are essential parts of the successful combating of crime. In this case great importance is attached to the operational meetings which allow a complex subject treatment and facilitate the solution finding since problems can be discussed “face to face”.

Through the project network contacts to the Dutch Public Prosecutor’s Office could be made. They agreed to take on the investigation complex, given that the senders of drugs could be localised there.





# Preliminary meeting for the organisation of the international conference from 17 to 19 November 2015 in Bad Erlach/Austria 18/19 August 2015, Berlin/Germany

At the representational meeting the content related and organisational main emphases were discussed and the respective tasks and competences were determined.



The Austrian / German project team

**Conclusion:** The foundation for a well-planned conference was laid.

## 4 operational meeting

24/25 August 2015, Stockholm/Sweden

The aim of this meeting was to highlight risk potentials in the Baltic countries and in Scandinavia as well as to sensitise the topic. This meeting had great impact on the operational network building. All concerned countries of this region showed significant interest by participating in this meeting.



**Conclusion:** Extension of the contact network. The topic “DARKNET” could be illuminated effectually and great interest in the participation in the international conference from 17 to 19 November 2015 in Bad Erlach/ Austria could be revived. In the field of operational measures common target subjects were identified.

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## 5 operational Meeting

Due to organisational reasons this meeting has been postponed to November 2016

## 6 operational Meeting

28/29/30 September 2015, Vienna/Austria

### “Competence and dedication” brought the success!

The aim of this meeting was the operational coordination in the multinational investigation case „Shiny Flakes”. Special attention was paid to the participation of the Netherlands. Due to the in the Netherlands existing “principle of opportunity”, which says that not every single crime has to be prosecuted, the participation of this country was of great importance. Beside Germany Austria was the most affected country worldwide. In Austria alone about 800 facts have been collected in the cause “Shiny Flakes” concerning middlemen of illegal drugs. For more detailed information about „Shiny Flakes” please see <http://motherboard.vice.com/read/the-rise-and-fall-of-shiny-flakes-germanys-online-drug-market>.

**Conclusion:** Due to the information exchange an important “Power Seller” from the Netherlands could be identified which made this operational meeting an extraordinary event. Several months of attempts to identify the power seller beyond project activities had remained unsuccessful. This demonstrates once more the great value of operational meetings!

Further results: The criminal police cooperation between the countries Austria, Germany and Netherlands will be forced. A close cooperation in current investigation cases has been arranged.

Further findings: Drug trafficking on the Internet (Darknet) takes on large dimensions. 14000 orders and 6000 customers per year seem to be a reality of a drug platform. Incomes of Euro 4,4 million within only 16 months prove the explosive nature of this type of crime. Post and private package and delivery services have to be convinced to cooperate with law enforcement agencies.

Furthermore the sustainable benefit of the 3 operational meeting held in Wiesbaden has proved to be true. Subsequently further essential steps to continue the complex investigation of the investigation team “Down Under” of the Bavarian Landeskriminalamt (Germany) have been taken.

The discussions held at this meeting opened doors for further successful investigations. The opportunity of an additional operational meeting in Germany concerning the data synchronisation and reflection of datasets on hard disks has been opened up.



## EFFORTS WERE CROWNED BY SUCCESS

### DarkNet Task Force

An Austrian power seller on  and 

Once again it were traditional drug investigation methods which ensured that a 30-years old man from Vienna, formerly established on the Darknet platforms ALPHABAY and OXYGEN, and his involved partner in life, a 30-years old woman from Vienna as well, have fallen in the hands of the Austrian justice.

The shop was operated from their apartment in 1160 Vienna and covered almost all kinds of acquirable drugs. The drugs were dispatched, well hidden, in a familiar way by post to destinations all over the world. The customer base comprised customers from Australia to the US and Europe. To meet the customer's wishes in an adequate time, a part of the Ecstasy pills was pressed by hand and was sent to the customers afterwards, often also as a free goodie to create new desires.

On the 14 October 2015 the arrest was made by the Landeskriminalamt Vienna EB 09 in cooperation with the Austrian Criminal Intelligence Service – .BK 3.3.1 and an access team of the DSE EKO Cobra with utilisation of available tactical measures.

As usual in this field of crime, the payment was made most of the times by the virtual currency BITCOIN.

Total value of seized substances: **USD 22.886**



### Proven sold substances

Substance:	Quantity:
MDMA	453.411 g
Ecstasy	1976 pills
Speed	Pills: 1510 Paste: 2211 g
Adipex Retard	300 g
Cocaine & Cocaine Alternatives	68 g
Cannabis seeds (for indoor plantation)	66 g
LSD	25 trips
Cannabis resin	25 g

More detailed information on this case cannot be exposed yet due to currently running international investigations.



## 7 operational Meeting

3/4 November 2016 in Dresden/Germany

At the 6 operational meeting in Vienna on the issue of “Down Under” of the Bavarian Landeskriminalamt/ Germany the participants agreed upon the comparison of data and the mirroring of data on hard disks. These measures were implemented at the 7 operational meeting.

Therefore two Austrian experts of the Criminal Intelligence Service travelled to Dresden in order to take the required measures together with colleagues of the Landeskriminalamt Sachsen. The mirrored data enables Austria to lead investigations against suspects independently.

## Conference

17/19 November 2015 in Bad Erlach/Austria

75 international experts, including judges and prosecutors as well as representatives of Europol and Eurojust, UNODC and EMCDDA met to discuss about new combating strategies against illegal drug trafficking in the “Darknet”.



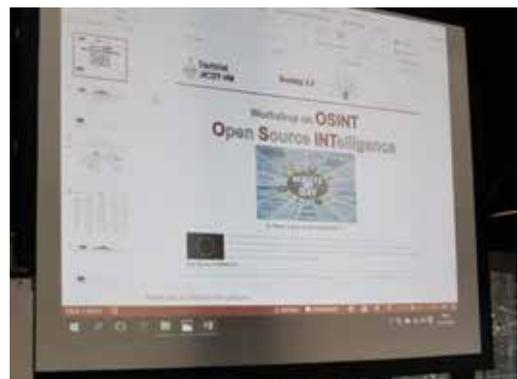
Gerhard Stadler BK AT  
Head of Office Drug related crime



Ernst Geiger BK AT  
Head of Department 3  
Investigations, organised crime  
and general crime



Stefan Haas  
BKA Wiesbaden/DE, Head of S022





**Conclusions:** Drug trafficking via virtual markets does not only belong to the Surface Web, via the hidden services it also attacks society worldwide by the use of DarkNet platforms or individual decentralized web shops. Within the existing DarkNets or generally spoken within the hidden services, drug trafficking under the use of IT is not a traditional cyber-crime, like online fraud etc., it's nothing more than traditional drug trafficking under the use of a new method, a new modus operandi of encrypted communication on trust based online DarkNet web shops.

A combined investigation team of traditional drug investigators, undercover agents and IT experts in any kind of investigation concerning drug trafficking via virtual markets is one of the key receipts for success. The efforts carried out in the field of investigations on drug trafficking via virtual markets in a rising number of participating countries show that networking and international cooperation are part of the main goals to combat this phenomenon. Operational meetings as well as international conferences are positively proved methods to raise awareness on every step of combating these new methods and to increase the now existing network in this field.

Existing operational results of investigations carried out during this particular project show us that the operational approach for investigative measures of the JICDT-VM project led to arrests, seizures and bulk information from criminal networks all over the world.

#### Virtual Currencies

BitCoin (one of currently 1.200 existing virtual currencies) is still remaining the main used virtual currency within the DN markets. The main payment method is now the use of multisig escrow services.

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#### Use of OSINT

Traditional investigative measures combined with the outcome of OSINT researches are one of the key factors for every successful drug trafficking investigation on virtual market places.

#### Take down strategy

The take down of hidden web services is not a universal remedy for the threat occurring for social society. DN Vendors are moving to decentralized platforms, which makes it even harder to investigate.

#### Step forward

LE as well as the judicial level has to raise awareness on this threat. As a result of all the LE efforts, a conference at the end of the on-going project JICDT-VM is required to evaluate international investigative approaches and best practices in this relatively new special issue.





# Project evaluation meeting

## 25/26 November 2015, Berlin/Germany

The project course was examined through an actual-state-analysis and a risk analysis.

All intended activities up to now have been implemented as planned. Bringing forward the project conference proved to be absolutely reasonable. So far the project has been very successful, the operational meetings were efficient and the first arrests and seizures have been achieved. Since many countries have been sensitized through the project, investigation activities have increased and the small project team already reaches a limit in terms of investigation.

The originally intended IT expert is still missing in the project team. Though this circumstance represents a burden for the rest of the team, it was able to compensate it by the high motivation and willingness of all the parties involved. Nevertheless it seems to be very necessary that the problem is going to be solved in the second half of the project. Up to now the search for a qualified person has remained unsuccessful.

The economical and responsible dealing with the budget is having positive effects on budget resources. All operational meetings held so far led without exception to the desired success. On the one hand measures in criminal tactics have been discussed and coordinated, on the other hand a very valuable sensitization and expansion of the contact networks could be achieved.

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### Examination of currently available potentials for further operational meetings:

It has been decided that two criminal police investigation procedures shall be analysed for the examination of the requirement and the feasibility of an operational meeting:

EG – DOWN-UNDER – feasibility analysis for the establishment of a Joint Investigation Team (JIT). Will be checked by the Bundeskriminalamt Wiesbaden.

The Hungarian investigative approach involving Australia. Will be checked by the Criminal Intelligence Service Vienna.

**Conclusion:** No risks have been stated which could have a negative or even dangerous impact on the further project course. The present situation, particularly the positive circumstances concerning the budget resources, led to the unanimous resolution to hold a final conference. The European Commission has therefore been asked to grant their approval.



from the left – Christian Mader, BK AT, Stefan Haas BKA Wiesbaden/DE, Thomas Dorner, BK AT, Josef Krausler BK AT, Sebastian Fleisch BKA Berlin, Gerhard Stadler BK AT

## Special event “Justice”

26 January 2016, Feldkirch/Austria

Good communication between police and legal authorities is an essential part of a successful fight against crime.

On the initiative of the Austrian Criminal Intelligence Service and the Public Prosecutor’s Office Feldkirch, Dr. Manfred Bolter, an information seminar on the issue “DARKNET” was held on 26 January 2016 in the “Großer Schwurgerichtssaal” of the regional court Feldkirch/Austria.



Dr. Wilfried SIEGELE



Dr. Hans-Peter LUDESCHER

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This event was performed as “special event” in the framework of the project beyond the official time schedule and without EU funding. A total of 200 people from police and legal authorities participated.



From le to re:  
Robert Taferner, CIS Vienna  
Dr Manfred Bolter, Prosecution  
Feldkirch  
Thomas Dorner, CIS Vienna

The information seminar was opened by the head of the Public Prosecutor’s Office Feldkirch, Dr. Wilfried SIEGELE, and the head of police of the province of Vorarlberg, Dr. Hans-Peter LUDESCHER. Hardy TSCHOFEN represented the Landeskriminalamt Vorarlberg as its director.



## 8 operational meeting

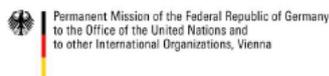
23/24 February 2016 in London/United Kingdom

The representational meeting was organised on the initiative of the National Bureau of Investigation, Transnational Crime Division, Drug Unit Hungary with the friendly assistance of the National Cyber Crime Unit of the National Crime Agency in the UK.

The occasion was a Hungarian investigation case with numerous links to the UK. Beside the practical illumination of the case, the NCA held out the prospect of further cooperation. The result of the meeting enabled Hungary to continue with the investigation of the unknown perpetrator.

## UNODC – SIDE EVENT

16 March 2016 in Vienna/Austria



On the occasion of the 59th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)

Austria, Germany and UNODC Studies and Threats Analysis Section  
will present the Side Event

### “USE OF THE DARKNET FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING”

Date: Wednesday, 16 March 2016

Time: 2.20-3.10 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room M3

Moderator:

*H.E. Christine Stix-Hackl, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations (Vienna)*

Panellists:

*Mr. Thomas Dorner, Federal Criminal Police Office, Vienna, Austria*

*Mr. Stefan Haas, Federal Criminal Police Office, Wiesbaden, Germany*

*Mr. Thomas Pietschmann, UNODC*

The panellists will discuss the growing importance of the use of the 'darknet' for drug trafficking at the international level and the related challenges and will present the close cooperation between Germany and Austria in this area, as a concrete example of how to counter these threats.

Furthermore, recent developments within the framework of the EU project on "Joint investigations to combat drug trafficking via the virtual market ('darknet') within and also into the EU" will be discussed. This ongoing project enhances international law enforcement cooperation regarding drug trafficking while focusing on cyber-crime and the elaboration of best practices.

The discussants will also show the latest findings on how to dismantle drug trafficking networks which make use of the internet and how to seize the drugs and the proceeds, which are often virtual currencies such as bitcoins.

## Preliminary meeting for the organisation of the international final conference from 8 to 10 November 2016 in Berlin

17/18 May 2016 in St. Ruprecht an der Raab/Austria

At this meeting the content related and organisational main emphases were discussed and the respective tasks and competences were determined.



The Austrian/German project team

**Conclusion:** The foundation for a well-planned conference has been laid

## 9 operational meeting

23/24 May 2016 in Mikulov/Czech Republic

The representational meeting served for the coordination of criminal police measures involving undercover officials against an offender group of 33 persons.

# 10 operational meeting

21/22 June 2016 in Berlin/Germany

Joint criminal police investigation measures of the countries Austria, Germany and Hungary  
As a basis for this meeting served the prior knowledge and further measures in an Hungarian investigation case. The situation report and discussion already had taken place by ways of the 8 operational meeting from 23 to 24 February 2016 in London. The current target was to coordinate the states of investigation and discuss possible access options. As a further additional benefit this meeting offered the possibility to take organisational measures relating to the Closing Conference from 8 to 10 November 2016 in Berlin.



From left to right: Thomas Dorner AT, Jozsef Boczan HU, Edina Tollmar HU, Bärbel Stahl DE

# 11 operational meeting

6/7 October in Lisbon/Portugal

Great meeting of the countries Portugal, Germany and Austria at the central department of the Portuguese unit for the fight against drugs UNCTE (Unidade Nacional de Combate ao Tráfico de Estupefacientes) Two main points characterized the meeting: On the one hand, it was a meeting of investigators from the real world as well as undercover agents. The target was to discuss a concrete border-crossing case and support opportunities by the project team.

On the other hand 75 Portuguese drug fighters followed an introduction by the project team concerning the topic DarkNet.



From left to right: Rosa Moto (UNCTE), Bärbel Stahl (BKA Wiesbaden), Thomas Dorner (.BK Austria), Christian Mader (.BK Austria)

## 12 operational meeting

11 to 12 October Frankfurt/Wiesbaden/Germany

This meeting dealt with an essential problem of the “DarkNet criminality” – the sending of illegal drugs by ways of letters and parcels. Officials of the countries Austria and Germany from the areas police and customs met to coordinate joint criminal police measures. In the current case already 1000 mailings with illegal drugs could be seized. The larger percentage based share of these mailings was addressed to recipients in Austria.

Fundamental finding: Between postal and package services and law enforcement agencies there exists an essential requirement for communication.



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## Final project conference 8/10 November 2016 in Berlin/Germany

A total number of 88 participants from 24 EU member states, six EU candidate countries and potential candidate countries (FYROM, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo), Switzerland, Ukraine, Russian Federation and United States participated in this conference in Berlin. Also Europol, Eurojust and the European Commission delegated high level experts.



Wolfgang Seiler,  
Bundeskriminalamt Wiesbaden



Gerhard Stadler, Criminal  
Intelligence Service Austria

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Family Photo

### JICDT-VM Conclusions per 10 November 2016

During this two-year project JICDT-VM our over-all skills on operational activities in the field of investigations on hidden services have improved rapidly. It has turned out that drug trafficking via hidden services has moved from a niche product to a common modus operandi used by drug criminals of all ages. Even "experienced old school" drug criminals moved from the traditional hand-to-hand business on the road to the virtual online business.



There is evidence that the increased use of crypto markets for drug purchases has contributed to increased prevalence of drug use. Even criminals who previously were not involved in drug trafficking are now moving into the online drug trade. But ultimately the Darknet drug trading remains anchored in offline markets.

We learned that it's unlikely that DNMs alter the entire drug market. Maybe it's too early to judge whether the popularity of crypto markets will continue to rise exponentially or plateau and where law enforcement initiatives fit into this trend.

Tor also has and will have vulnerabilities that law enforcement can exploit, but the network itself seems resilient, therefore Tor is still the best alternative for criminals to stay as anonymous as possible.

Trust is the fundamental bond upon which illicit drug trading takes place. Like on surface web platforms, positive reviews are essential for DN vendors.

Recent developments prove that criminals are learning from LE action and learning from their mistakes: the creation of the decentralized platform Open Bazaar – on block chain technology.

OSINT is a major source of useful information, to avoid drowning in the huge offer of available information you need to manage your research carefully.

As an OSINT-expert said: "Make use of the 'human eye' and do not rely on automatic programs only."

LEAs must begin to 'think like the source' and therefore need to be provided with training techniques in order to be able to fully understand the dimensions of social media.

E-evidence is playing an increasingly important role due to the increased presence of not only cyber-crime, but also of cyber enabled crime.

As in traditional drug business, seizing money and goods, also virtual currencies, hurts the criminals most. It's necessary to consider the psychosocial foundations of DNMs. Trust and reputation build the backbone of these spaces and we should perhaps look into strategies that undermine these. It also appears that LEAs need to orientate their approach away from takedowns as these have shown to precipitate 'bounce back' of new DNMs.

We learned that within an investigation, the only way of success is to combine traditional investigative measures with new technology, a close cooperation between traditional drug investigators, IT-experts, financial experts and undercover agents.

Drug trafficking via hidden services is and will be, also in the future, an increasing phenomenon in the common fight against crime.

**Extension of the project duration  
8 December 2016**

**The European Commission approves the extension of the project  
duration by 5 months**

## 13 operational meeting

16/17 March 2017 Frankfurt/Germany

The 12 operational meeting from 11 to 12 October 2017 in Frankfurt am Main/Germany served as a basis for the representational meeting.

The meeting served as a further preparation and coordination of common cross-border criminal police measures. The participants were delegated from the Bundeskriminalamt Wiesbaden, the Criminal Intelligence Service Austria, the Customs Investigation Services Frankfurt am Main, the Zollkriminalamt Köln, the Landeskriminalamt Nordrhein-Westfalen and Dutch police authorities for international cooperation.



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## 14 operational meeting

18/19 April 2017 Wiesbaden/Germany

The representational meeting is based on the previous 12 and 13 operational meeting.

Again the numerous mailings destined to Austria and seized by the Customs Investigation Services Frankfurt am Main served as topic of the meeting.

The aim was to discuss further targeted measures together with the Public Prosecutors' Office Wiesbaden and the Bundeskriminalamt Wiesbaden.



## **15 operational meeting**

18/ 19 April 2017 Düsseldorf /Germany & 10/11 May 2017 Bad Erlach/Austria

### **18 to 19 April 2017**

Due to complex information structures the meeting was divided into two parts. The 12 operational meeting as well as the numerous mailings via Frankfurt am Main/Germany were taken as a starting point.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss measures in criminal tactics concerning the operation "PORTO" together with officials of the Landeskriminalamt Nordrhein – Westfalen in order to investigate the suspect. Furthermore the participants for the second part of the meeting in Bad Erlach/Austria were planned.

### **10 to 11 May 2017**

The objective of the meeting was to coordinate measures between police authorities and Public Prosecutor's Offices of the countries Germany, Netherlands and Austria. The investigations trace back to the seizure of Ecstasy pills in 2016 and the arrest of the operating dealer in Germany. In the representational meeting information about connections of criminal networks with drug dealers in the Darknet and motorcycle gangs was exchanged and analysed.

SEITE 31

## **"NERD" meeting**

**Originally planned as 5 operational meeting**

**Final highlight at Europol**

30 May to 1 June 2017 Den Haag/Netherlands



## Treffen der Darknet-Experten bei Europol

*(Wien/Den Haag, 1. Juni 2017) 23 Darknet-Experten aus Deutschland, Großbritannien, den Niederlanden, den Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika und Österreich tagten gemeinsam mit Spezialisten der Polizeibehörde Europol von 30. Mai bis 1. Juni 2017 in Den Haag. Ziel war es, sich mit innovativer Software zur Bekämpfung des illegalen Drogenhandels auf virtuellen Handelsplattformen und deren Geldflüssen zu beschäftigen.*

Der illegale Drogenhandel auf Darknet-Handelsplätzen boomt. Seine Bekämpfung bedarf neu ausgerichteter Strategien. Die Herausforderung dabei stellen die im Netz völlig anonymen Akteure und die von ihnen benützten virtuellen Währungen dar. Mit speziell entwickelter Software soll es zukünftig möglich sein, effektivere kriminaltaktische Maßnahmen zu treffen. Bei dem Meeting wurden daher bestehende Programme besprochen und Verbesserungen ausgearbeitet.

„Die internationalen Ermittlungserfolge der letzten Wochen belegen, dass wir nur mit vereinten Kräften gegen die kriminellen Machenschaften im Darknet vorgehen können“, unterstützt Innenminister Mag. Wolfgang Sobotka den grenzübergreifenden Austausch.

Das internationale Treffen fand im Rahmen des vom Bundeskriminalamt (BK) Österreich durchgeführten und durch die Europäische Kommission geförderten Projektes „Joint investigation to combat drug trafficking via the virtual market (darknet) within and also into the EU“ statt. Mit dem Treffen der Softwareexperten endete nun das unter der Leitung des österreichischen BK geführte und mit Unterstützung des Bundeskriminalamtes Wiesbaden äußerst erfolgreich umgesetzte Projekt „JICDT - VM - DARKNET“. In den letzten 29 Monaten wurden zwei multinationale Konferenzen und 15 operative Meetings abgehalten, die zur Bewusstseinsbildung, Erarbeitung von Strategien, Festnahmen und Sicherstellungen von illegalen Suchtmitteln führten. Eingebunden waren alle 28 EU-Mitgliedsstaaten, aber auch Dritt- und Kandidatenländer, Europol, Eurojust, Interpol, die Europäische Beobachtungsstelle für Drogen und Drogensucht (EMCDDA), das Büro der Vereinten Nationen für Drogen- und Verbrechensbekämpfung (UNODC) und die Europäische Kommission.

Mit den im Wege dieses Projektes erworbenen Kenntnissen und Strategien kann dem Drogenhandel im Darknet weiterhin vehement entgegen getreten werden.



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## Translation – English version

### Meeting of Darknet experts at Europol

(Vienna/Den Haag, 1 June 2017) 23 Darknet experts from Germany, UK, Netherlands, USA and Austria met together with specialists of the police authority Europol from 30 May to 1 June 2017 in Den Haag. The objective was to deal with innovative software created to help combat illegal drug trafficking and its cash flows on virtual trading platforms.

The illegal drug trafficking on Darknet marketplaces is booming. The fight against this phenomenon requires realigned strategies. Completely anonymous actors in the web and virtual currencies used by them represent the challenges. With the help of specially developed software it shall be possible to take more efficient criminal tactic measures in the future. In the framework of this meeting existing programs were discussed and improvements were elaborated.

“The international investigation successes of the last weeks prove that the fight against criminal activities in the Darknet is only possible by joining forces”, the Austrian Minister of the Interior Mag. Wolfgang Sobotka supported the cross-border exchange.

The international meeting was held within the framework of the project “Joint investigation to combat drug trafficking via the virtual market (darknet) within and also into the EU”, funded by the European Commission and implemented by the Criminal Intelligence Service Austria. The meeting of software experts was the final meeting of the very successful project “JICDT – VM – DARKNET”, also directed by the Austrian Criminal Intelligence Service with the support of the Bundeskriminalamt Wiesbaden. In the last 29 months two multinational conferences and 15 operational meetings were held. This led to the creation of awareness, the elaboration of strategies, arrests and the seizure of illegal drugs. All 28 member states, but also third and candidate countries, Europol, Eurojust, Interpol, EMCDDA, UNODC and the European Commission were involved.

With the findings and strategies gained during the project the fight against drug trafficking in the Darknet continues vehemently.

## Meeting – summary

The technical “highlight” of this project was the international meeting of selected IT experts and DarkNet investigators from 30 May to 1 June 2017 in Den Haag/Netherlands. Europol provided the conference room for this “nerd meeting”.

The target group consisted of technically versed investigators and technicians with experience in the fields DarkNet and crypto currencies that have developed tools that support their investigations.

The aim of the meeting was to present developed tools, scripts and processes. Difficulties that had to be faced during the development process were presented. Additionally an overview of the already existing tools was given. Finally a summary about existing technical problem areas and errors was drawn up.

Success with sustainable benefit: Due to the extraordinary success it is planned to hold such meetings on a regular basis in the future.



# Investigation results and gained knowledge

## Project summary

### Media conference



From left to right: Oberstleutnant Dieter Csefan, .BK, Minister of Interior Wolfgang Sobotka, Director of the Criminal Intelligence Service Franz Lang

### Quotation Minister of Interior Sobotka:

"The specialists of the Criminal Intelligence Service quickly identified the problem of international drug trafficking in the DarkNet. To face this challenge an international organisation and powerful teams – as in criminal networks – are required. All this has been achieved and I wish all investigators continued success in uncovering perpetrator structures", Minister of Interior Sobotka said.

**Since 2015 investigators of the Criminal Intelligence Service have been investigating 716 persons that are suspected to have bought, imported and mostly resold illegal drugs in the Darknet.**

Trafficking of illegal drugs via the Darknet is booming. The order is placed by a mouse-click, payment is effected with Bitcoins and the goods are delivered by post. The Austrian police records more and more cases. A twenty-year-old man from Völkermarkt in Carinthia ordered 250 Ecstasy pills in February 2017 via an online shop in the Darknet. The mailing was seized at the airport Vienna-Schwechat. During a house search heroin, herbal cannabis, an installation for the production of cannabis and 127 Ecstasy pills were found. The man was reported. A twenty-four-year-old man from Hallein was investigated by the police because he had ordered drugs via online vendors in the Darknet. German customs investigators had seized 500 grams of amphetamine paste that had been ordered by the twenty-four-year-old. During the house search an installation for the production of cannabis, cannabis plants, coca leaves, amphetamine and cocaine were



seized. An indication of the Criminal Intelligence Service, Office 3.3 – Drug related crime led to the arrest of six drug dealers in Braunau am Inn in Upper Austria. The six men were suspected to have ordered and resold various drugs in the Darknet. A high percentage they resold in the urban area of Braunau am Inn, but they also dispatched the goods to other federal states. The two principal offenders at the age of 29 and 31 years were caught and arrested in the act of selling drugs. It could be proved that they had sold about four kilos of marihuana.

**Drug letters.** The drugs ordered in Austria mostly come from the Netherlands. The goods are mainly sent by letter, larger orders also by parcels – by the “Post” or other delivery services. Online traders in the Netherlands stamp and address the drug letters, drug couriers take them across the border to Germany and throw them into letter boxes in areas near the border.

From there the mail is taken to an international distribution centre and is dispatched worldwide. On this way drug letters also reach Austria. In the past drugs were smuggled in vehicles from the Netherlands to Germany and then dispatched. Since the police dismantled several bunker apartments, now everything is done by post. Dealers have to pack their drug mails discreetly so that customs officials don't notice. Drug mails are mainly detected randomly or by means of targeted controls of security authorities.

**Operation „Porto“.** Austrian and German investigators of the police and customs as well as the postal-parcels-team of the Dutch police met in March 2017 in Germany to discuss strategies against drug dispatch via the Darknet. “An efficient fight against this phenomenon is only possible if customs, police and private partners like the Deutsche Post cooperate internationally”, Oberstleutnant Dieter Csefan, director of the office Drug related crime of the Criminal Intelligence Service Austria said. Beside the US Austria is the second strongest recipient country of drug mails from the Netherlands. Since August 2016 the Criminal Intelligence Service is leading investigations in the framework of the operation “Porto” together with German police and customs authorities. On checking postal items in a German postal distribution centre customs investigators seized about 6000 letters and parcels with 170 kilos of drugs in the period from August 2016 to May 2017 – from heroin, cocaine and Ecstasy to amphetamine. Among the recipients are 60 different nations, with Austria occupying the second place after the United States. Regarding the deliveries to Austria, Upper Austria is leading with 128 mails ahead of Vienna (84) and Styria (51).

**Austria** led investigations against 188 persons that had bought, imported and mostly resold 56 kilos of drugs in the Darknet. In 104 cases professional dealing with large quantities of illegal drugs could be proved. During 90 house searches 31 kilos of drugs and 3200 Ecstasy pills were seized. “The specialists of the Criminal Intelligence Service quickly identified the problem of international drug trafficking in the DarkNet. The offenders are not acting on the street, they are working from their living rooms”, Minister of Interior Mag. Wolfgang Sobotka said on 23 May 2017 during the presentation of the investigation success of the operation “Porto”. “To face this challenge an international organisation and powerful teams – as in criminal networks – are required.” Sobotka wishes a closer cooperation with Europol. Furthermore not only customs, but also the police should be permitted to open internationally dispatched parcels as it is possible in Germany. Therefore an adaption of the criminal procedure code is required.

**Taskforce.** Already in 2015 the Criminal Intelligence Service established a taskforce against drug trafficking via the Darknet. The investigators could register several successes, including an online drug dealer who was investigated and arrested by investigators of the Criminal Intelligence Service and the Landeskriminalamt Vienna in October 2015. During a house search large quantities of drugs and new psychoactive substances as well as computer equipment required for running an online shop and a tableting machine for producing Ecstasy and Speed pills were seized. In the Darknet he was operating on the platform “AlphaBay” and was selling various drugs under the synonym “ShanSa”. It could be proved that the 31-year old man from Vienna had sold drugs 182 times in Europe, the USA, Australia and India and 73 times within Austria. The police in Leipzig investigated the owner of the online shop “Shiny-Flakes” in the beginning of 2015: A 20-year old man, still living with his mother. The investigators seized about 390 kilos of mainly synthetic drugs. It could be proved that he had sold 960 kilos of drugs. The investigators evaluated 13000 facts, about 890 concerning Austria. After Germany Austria was the country with the largest purchasers worldwide.



In the framework of the investigations, 390 suspects were reported because of the purchase, import and partial passing of 32 kilos of amphetamine and 19000 Ecstasy pills in Austria.

According to the director of the Criminal Intelligence Service Franz Lang **investigations in the Darknet** are not simple. "We don't know who we are dealing with, where the perpetrators exactly are." Nevertheless the investigators found market places that were relevant for Austria and gained information about the senders of the drugs. According to Dieter Csefan the main part of the illegal drugs sold via the Darknet are being produced in ship containers buried in the ground in the Netherlands and are being sent from Germany into the whole world. In the laboratories one ton of drugs is being produced every week with a turnover amounting to several millions. Payments in the Darknet are effected with the virtual currency Bitcoin. The codes for the Bitcoins can be bought in tobacco shops or on the internet. Lang sees three expert areas: drugs, IT and communication. „We are coordinating the investigations against dealers and purchasers. Our colleagues in the federal states are doing excellent work in investigating and arresting suspects", director of the office Drug related crime Dieter Csefan said. The experts of the office Drug related crime of the Criminal Intelligence Service are giving lectures about drug trafficking in the Darknet at domestic and foreign judicial and security authorities in order to inform and sensitise.

**Darknet.** About 7000 computers worldwide are connected via the Tor network where the online drug trafficking takes place. It is possible to buy all kind of drugs in the Darknet day and night, the purchase is absolutely anonymous. There exist videos on Youtube that explain how to buy drugs in the Darknet. According to the police, 21 drug market places are currently active in the Darknet. "In the case that we track a suspect we only localise his computer, but we don't have any information about accomplices or people behind", an investigator of the Criminal Intelligence Service explains. "During the interrogation dealers pretend to only know the nickname of the vendor that sold them the drugs and that they were sent vacuum-packed by post", the investigating officer illustrates. Dealers are selling their drugs in the Darknet like private persons are selling their things on the internet. It is even possible to assess purchases. "You lose your customers if you receive poor assessments", Csefan says. The bases are trust and reputation. For the vendors it's easier to sell the drugs via the Darknet from their living rooms than to sell them on the street where the risk is high to be caught by the police. Perpetrators benefit from reduced risks and transport issues. Some drug dealers are hiring "employees" because they have so many orders to process.

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**No replacement.** Drug trafficking via the Darknet doesn't replace the street trading. On the contrary, the mail-order selling enables drug dealers to buy drugs of higher quality and in larger quantities that are subsequently thinned down and resold on the street. Acquisitive crime still exists to finance their addiction. Beside of high quality drugs also impure drugs are being sold. For example amphetamine paste mainly consists of solvents – waste products that occur during the production of Speed. The synthetic opioid Fentanyl that is increasingly used in the USA is dangerous too. Inter alia it is used as a painkiller in anesthesia and is much stronger than Morphine. It is being mixed with heroin. The pop star Prince for example died because of an overdose of Fentanyl. "The customers don't know what they really get", Dieter Csefan says. No customer would report to the police because they are connected to the dealers. Drug trafficking is a control-related offence: it only becomes apparent when vendors or consumers are caught by the police.

**Drug related deaths.** Nine drug-related deaths in the period of summer 2014 to January 2017 in Austria could be related to online drug purchases. The average age at the time of passing away was 30 years. The youngest drug victim was 18 years old, the oldest 43. There was also a 37-year old married mother from Lower Austria among the drug-related deaths. She died after having consumed drugs from an online shop. Investigators are expecting that the number of seizures will increase, regarding the number of already seized drug mails.

**Deepweb – Darknet.** Large parts of the web are not accessible for searching engines. The Deepweb is one part of the Internet that consists of company networks, databases of libraries, universities or research institutes. Websites in the Deepweb can be accessed via normal Internet browsers. For most of the sites it is necessary to log in. The Deepweb is the biggest part of the Internet. Another part of the Internet, the Darknet, is not accessible via normal browsers. To access the Darknet specific software is required, for example the



Tor browser (The Onion Router) or Orbot and Orweb when using Android devices. The data in the Darknet is sent anonymously and in an encrypted form via different servers. In a multi-layered system – reminding of an onion – they are sent between various servers without leaving traces and without giving information about where they come from. Darknet addresses consist of combinations of numbers and letters. At the end the information broadcasted in the Darknet becomes revisable in plain text again. The link list Hidden Wiki provides help for orientation. Originally the Darknet was designed for journalists and organisations that were threatened by censorship. The dark net got its bad reputation as a platform for illegal arms and drug trafficking, hacking services and other criminal activities.

## The project's overall balance (2. June 2017) – JICDT-VM-DARKNET Project

Since the foundation of the Criminal Intelligence Service Taskforce in March 2015, 716 persons have been reported in Austria. They are suspected to have bought, imported and mainly resold 132 kilos of drugs and 78000 Ecstasy pills in the Darknet. In 165 cases professional trade with large quantities could be proved. By ways of 181 house searches 40 kilos of drugs and 4500 Ecstasy pills were seized. Most of the drug orders took place in Upper Austria (32 percent), followed by Vienna (21 percent), Styria (12,5 percent) and Lower Austria (10 percent).

**OSTERREICH** Dienstag, 23. Mai 2017

Seite 12

**700 Verdächtige in Österreich** Polizei verstärkt Kampf gegen Internet-Handel

**Drogen-Pakete kamen per Post!**

Ein Marktplatz, auf dem Drogen aller Art, Waffen und Kinderpornos feilgeboten werden – in der Realität völlig undenkbar, im sogenannten Darknet, der dunklen Seite des Internets, aber bestens etabliert. Und so scheffeln hier internationale Organisationen Tag für Tag Millionen! Bei den Drogen funktioniert das so: Auf den virtuellen Marktplätzen wird das Gift bestellt und bezahlt, in den Niederlanden kuriiert und abgepackt. Drogenkurierere nach

unrühmlichen Ranking auf Platz zwei hinter den USA. Das Bundeskriminalamt nahm daher vor rund zwei Jahren groß angelegte Ermittlungen gegen die Abnehmer in Österreich auf. Seitdem wurde gegen 700 Personen ein Ermittlungsverfahren eingeleitet, 159 Dealer wurden ausgeforscht, 123 Kilogramm Suchtgifte sowie 78.000 Ecstasy-Tabletten sichergestellt. Neun Todesfälle stehen in Zusammenhang mit (minderwertigen) Drogen aus dem Netz. Oliver Papacek

**„Operation Porto“: Erfolg gegen Drogen im Darknet**

170 Kilogramm Suchtgift beschlagnahmt — Von Deutschland aus in die ganze Welt verschickt — 98 Dealer in Österreich ausgeforscht

Wien — 170 Kilo Suchtgifte sind durch Ermittlungen im Rahmen der internationalen Operation „Porto“ sichergestellt worden, davon 27 Kilo in Österreich. Das berichtete Innenminister Wolfgang Sobotka (ÖVP) gestern bei einer Pressekonferenz in Wien. Die Operation „Porto“ wird im August 2016 vom Bundeskriminalamt (BKA) in Kooperation mit deutschen Strafverfolgungsbehörden in Deutschland durchgeführt. Die Drogen wurden von Mitarbeitern per Post in die ganze Welt verschickt. Bei der Überprüfung von Postsendungen auf Flughäfen in Deutschland wurden etwa 6000 Pakete und den 170 Kilo Suchtgifte sichergestellt. Die Empfänger vertrieben sich auf 60 Nationen, Österreich nahm nach den USA den zweiten Platz ein. Ein Großteil der über das Darknet verkauften Drogen wurde in den Niederlanden hergestellt. Dort gibt es Umverteilungszentren in denen wöchentlich rund 500 Kilo Suchtmittel produziert werden können, so Daxter Caefer vom BKA. Mit Einsatz in Millionenhöhe in Österreich wurden 174 Personen durch ein Ermittlungsverfahren durchgehört, die 56 Kilo Drogen erworben, eingekauft und größtenteils weiterverkauft hatten. 98 davon wurde der gewerkschaftliche Handel nachgewiesen. Im Zuge von 74 Hausdurchsuchungen wurden 27 Kilo

**Erfolg für Task-Force: Schon 697 Anzeigen**

Bei der Gründung der Darknet-Task-Force im JIK im März 2015 wurden in Österreich 697 Personen angezeigt, die 123 Kilo Suchtgifte und 78.000 Ecstasy-Tabletten im Darknet erwarben, eingeführt und größtenteils weiterverkauft haben sollen. 199 davon wurde der gewerkschaftliche Handel mit großen Mengen nachgewiesen. Die meisten Bestellungen kamen in (30 mit knapp 21 %) und der 30 Prozent, gefolgt von Wien (21 %) und der Steiermark (12,5 %). Bei neun Tötungen zwischen 2014 und Januar 2015 wurde ein Zusammenhang zwischen Online-Suchtmitteleinkauf nachgewiesen.

**Drogen aus dem Internet: Hauptziel Oberösterreich**

Kunden bestellen im „Darknet“, Drogen kommen per Post

Jede dritte Lieferung geht laut Polizei nach Oberösterreich

Wien/Linz. Konsumenten und Dealer decken sich zunehmend mit Drogen ein, die sie im „Darknet“ bestellt haben. Die illegale Ware kommt bequem mit der Post. Vor zwei Jahren startete das Bundeskriminalamt gemeinsam mit deutschen Drogenfahndern die „Operation Porto“, um gegen den Online-Drogenhandel vorzugehen.

Die Bilanz: Seit 2015 wurden 123 Kilo Suchtmittel und 78.000 Stück Ecstasy-Tabletten nach Österreich eingeführt. Beidenkliche: Die meisten Bestellungen (knapp 32 Prozent) gab es in Oberösterreich, gefolgt von Wien (21 Prozent) und der Steiermark (12,5 Prozent). Die Verkäufer befinden sich vor allem in den Niederlanden. Dort werden die Drogen verpackt und zur Post nach Deutschland gebracht, wo sie über die Flughäfen Frankfurt und Düsseldorf in die ganze Welt verschickt werden. Größtenteils werden die Drogen wegen des Briefgeheimnisses schwierig Am häufigsten wurden über diesen Weg die USA beliefert. Doch bereits auf Platz zwei rangiert Österreich. Bisher wurden fast 700 Verdächtige ermittelt, ein oft mit gefährlichen Zusatzstoffen gestreckt, warnen die Ermittler. Nachweislich seien in Österreich seit 2014 bereits neun Menschen durch den Konsum von online bestellten Drogen gestorben. »Seite 19

**FAHNDUNGSERFOLG** im Kampf gegen Drogenkriminalität

## Drogenquelle Internet: Oberösterreich führt bei Bestellungen die Statistik an

Ein Drittel aller abgefangenen Sendungen nach Österreich war für Oberösterreich bestimmt

Wien (Kurier) Neue Bundesländer sind die größten Drogenmärkte in Österreich. Das zeigt die Statistik der Bundespolizei. In Oberösterreich wurden im März 2017 170 Kilogramm Suchtgifte und 4500 Tabletten sichergestellt. Das ist ein Drittel aller abgefangenen Sendungen nach Österreich.

## Schlag gegen Drogenhandel

Wien - 159 Dealer ausgeforscht, 35 Kilogramm Suchtgift und 4500 Tabletten sichergestellt - das ist die Bilanz der Operation „Porto“, die sich seit August 2016 gegen Drogenhändler im Darknet, einem verborgenen Teil des Internets, richtet. Die Aktion wurde von österreichischen und deutschen Ermittlern durchgeführt. Die Drogen wurden teils in den Niederlanden und in Deutschland per Post verschickt.

In Deutschland wurden 174 Dealer erwischt, die 5 Kilogramm Suchtgift und 4500 Tabletten sichergestellt wurden. In Österreich wurden 159 Dealer erwischt, die 35 Kilogramm Suchtgift und 4500 Tabletten sichergestellt wurden.

## Florierender Drogenhandel im Darknet

Operation „Porto“ stellte 170 Kilogramm Suchtgift sicher, Österreich findet sich auf Platz zwei der weltweiten Abnehmer.

Der internationale Drogenhandel hat eine neue Vertriebsplattform gefunden: das Darknet, ein Internet, in dem anonymisierte Käufer und Verkäufer zusammenkommen. Der Handel mit Drogen nimmt hier laut Innenminister Wolfgang Sobotka (ÖVP) stetig zu.

Über den Namen Operation „Porto“ wird deutlich, um Darknet gegen Drogenhändler einzuschlagen. Die Bilanz des seit August 2016 laufenden Projekts: 170 Dealer wurden ausgeforscht, 35 Kilogramm Suchtgift sichergestellt, 4500 Tabletten in Österreich. Möglich wurde es durch eine Kooperation mit den deutschen Behörden. Dort die Drogen werden größtenteils in

## TAGESTHEMA

Versteckten Netzwerke hinter Darknet Drogen

## Schlag gegen Drogendealer im Darknet

BK-Fahnder forschten 159 Dealer im Dunkel des „Darknets“

35 Kilogramm Suchtgift und 4500 Tabletten wurden sichergestellt.



159 Dealer im Darknet ausgeforscht

## Osterreich

Das dunkle Geschäft mit Drogen im Netz

Operation Porto. Ermittler schlossen sich für die Polizei ähnliche Befugnisse wie für den Zoll.

## Drogen per Brief versendet

Der Drogenhandel über die dunkle Seite des Internets boomt. 6000 Drogenpakete wurden nun abgefangen. Der Innenminister fordert für die Polizei ähnliche Befugnisse wie für den Zoll.

## Großer Schlag gegen Darknet-Drogenhandel

Seit August 2016 etwa 6000 Postsendungen mit insgesamt 170 Kilogramm Rauschgift sichergestellt.

159 Dealer ausgeforscht, 35 Kilogramm Suchtgift und 4500 Tabletten sichergestellt - das ist die Bilanz der Operation „Porto“, die Operation wurde im August 2016.



## Operation „PORTO“: Schlag gegen Darknet-Mafia

Das Bundeskriminalamt konnte

# 159 Dealer hinters Licht geführt

Dunkle Geschäfte. Ermittler schleusten sich im Rahmen der Operation „Porto“ ins Darknet ein



# Notes



# Notes



# Notes



