

# **SOUTHEAST EUROPEAN LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER**



## ***REGIONAL COOPERATION IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE***

***Future Policing Strategies: Addressing Trends and Changes in a Globalized World***

***22 - 23 October 2018 in Vienna, Austria***

# WHAT IS SELEC

Southeast European Law Enforcement Center (SELEC):

- international law enforcement organization
- cooperation platform - Police and Customs
- established 2011 (SECI Centre's inheritor)

**To provide support for its Member States and enhance cooperation in preventing and combating trans-border serious and organized crime.**

# SELEC REGION



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA



THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HUNGARY



REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA



MONTENEGRO



ROMANIA



REPUBLIC OF SERBIA



REPUBLIC OF TURKEY





# OPERATIONAL PARTNERS

Cooperation with SELEC is available to any State or international organization

## **Operational Partner Status:**

- exchange personal data
- participate in operational activities
- post representative at SELEC HQ

**Interpol**  
**Italian Republic**  
**United States of America**

# OBSERVERS

## Observer Status:

- receive strategic information
- participate in SELEC's different meetings
- post representative at the SELEC HQ

Austria	Japan
Belgium	The Netherlands
Belarus	Slovak Republic
Czech Republic	Spain
EUBAM	Switzerland
France	Ukraine
GCC-CIC	UK
Georgia	UNMiK
Germany	UNODC
IOM	WCO
Israel	

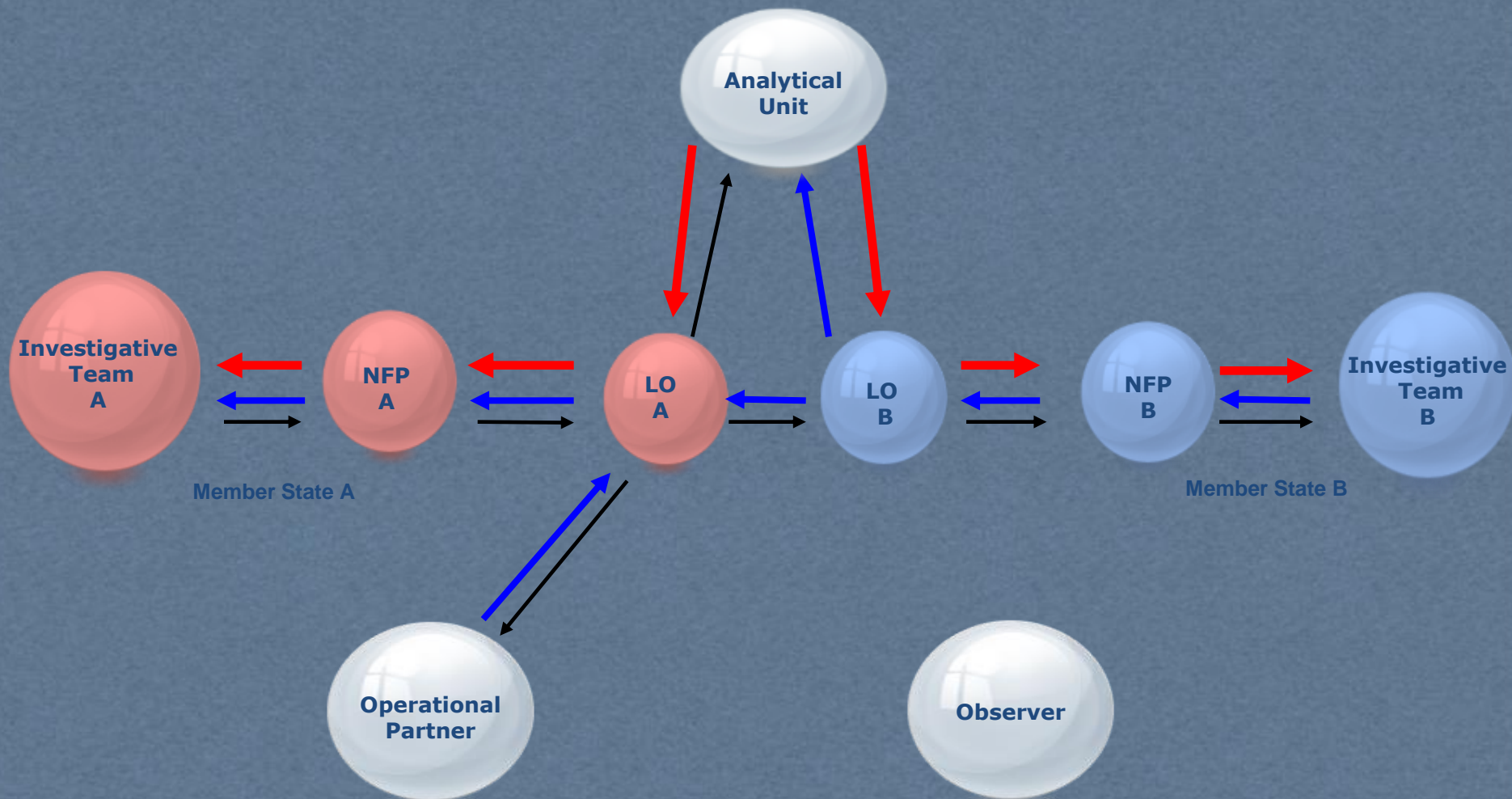
# NATIONAL UNITS

The National Units - established by the Member States to implement SELEC Convention





# INFORMATION FLOW



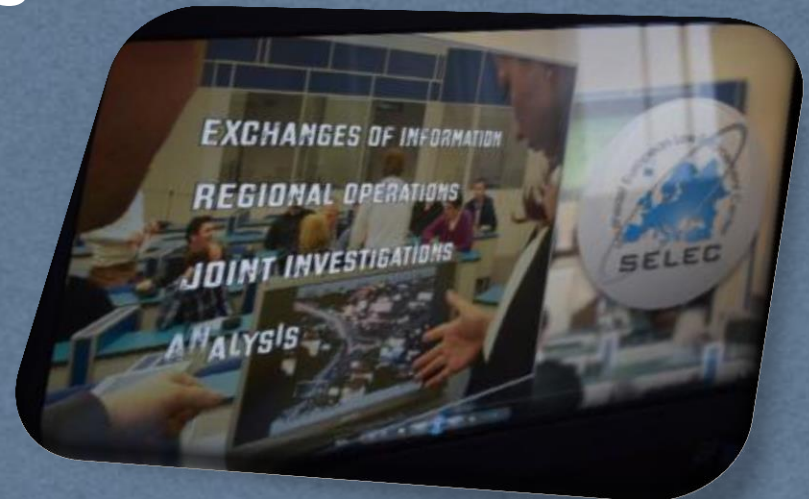
# SELEC's TASK FORCES

- Anti-Drug Trafficking
- Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Migration
- Stolen Vehicles
- Anti-Fraud and Anti-Smuggling Task Force
- Financial and Computer Crimes
- Anti-Terrorism
- Container Security
- Environment and Nature Related Crimes



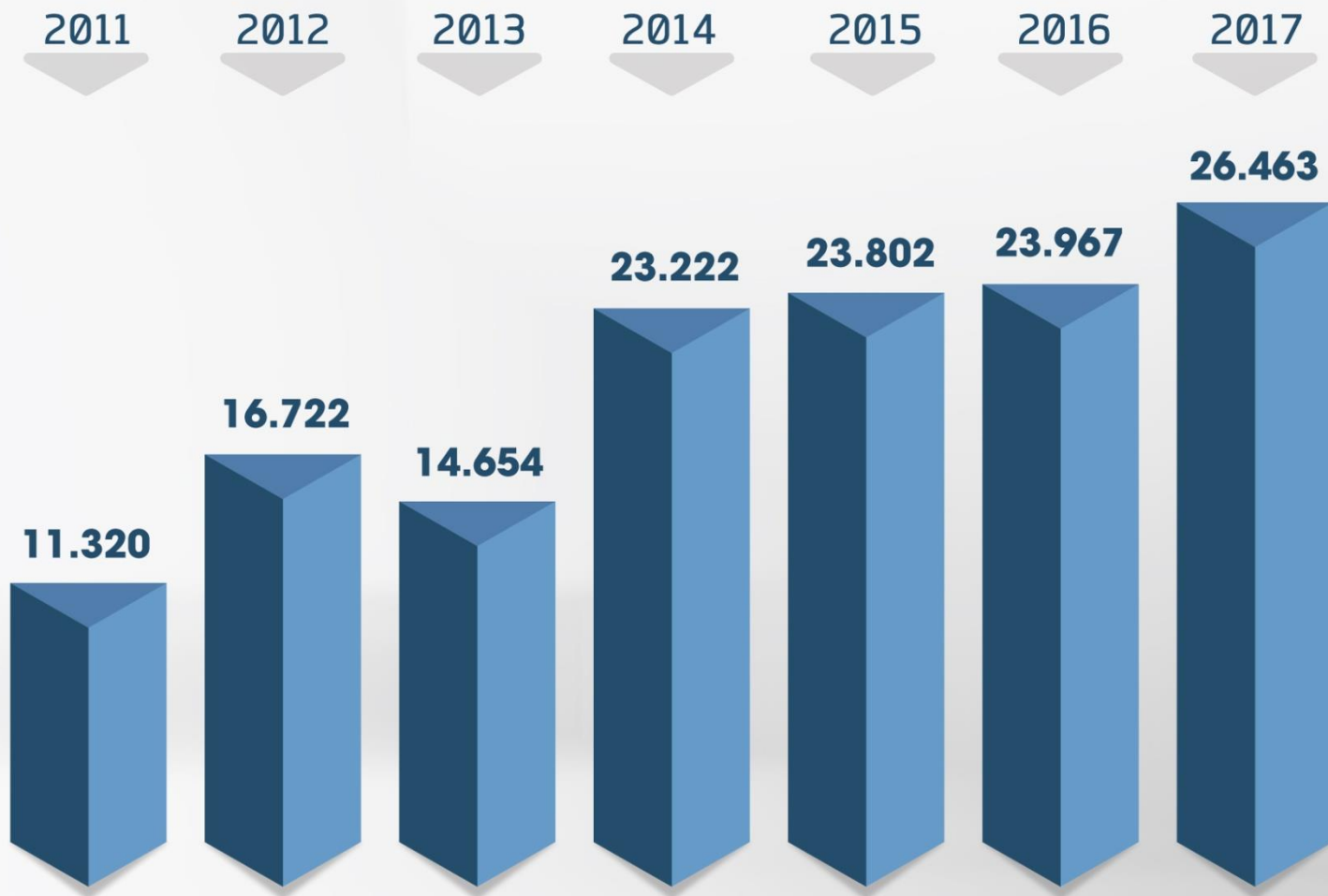
# OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Exchanges of information
- Requests of assistance
- Joint investigations
- Operational meetings
- Regional operations
- Analytical products



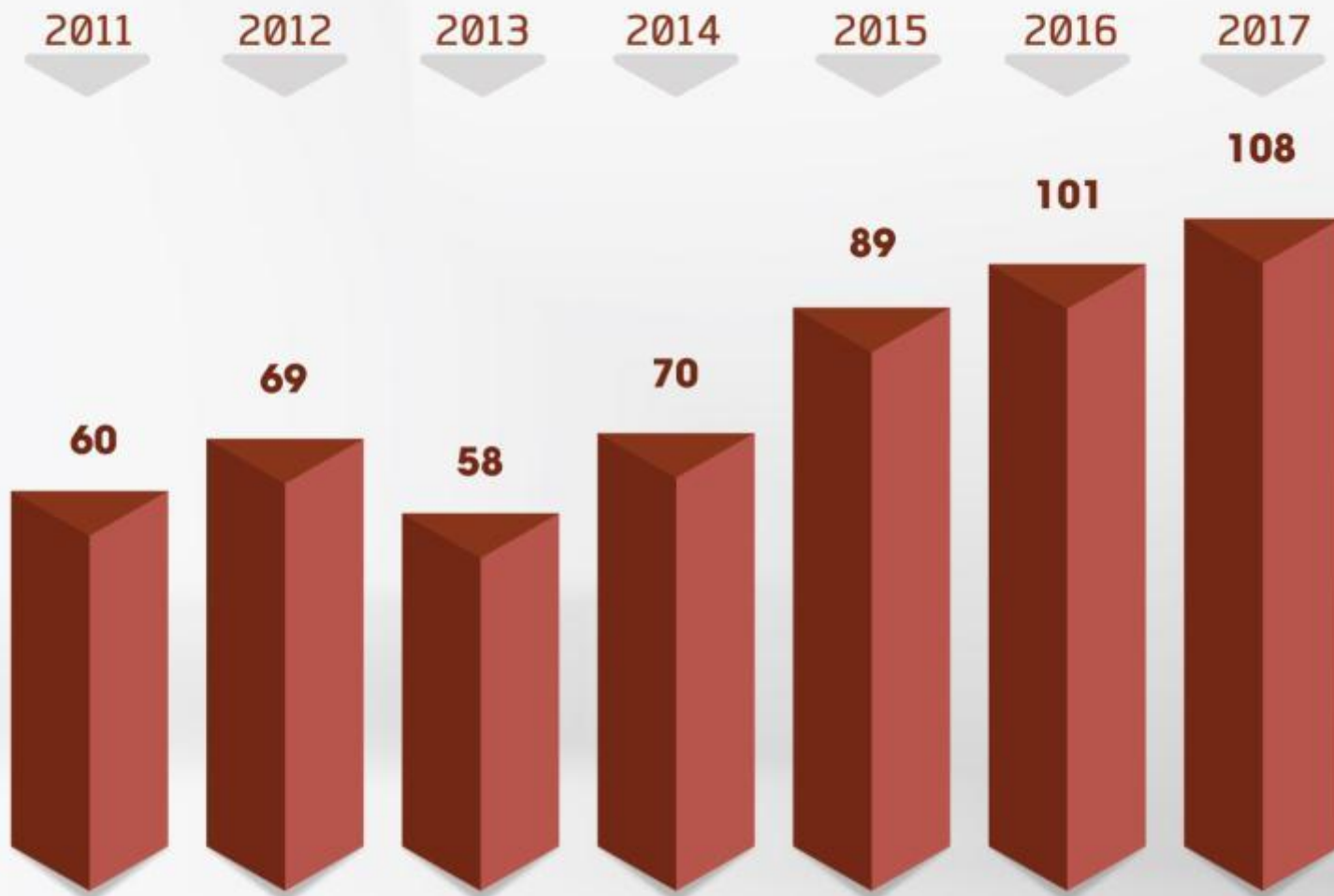
# EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Exchanges of requests and information



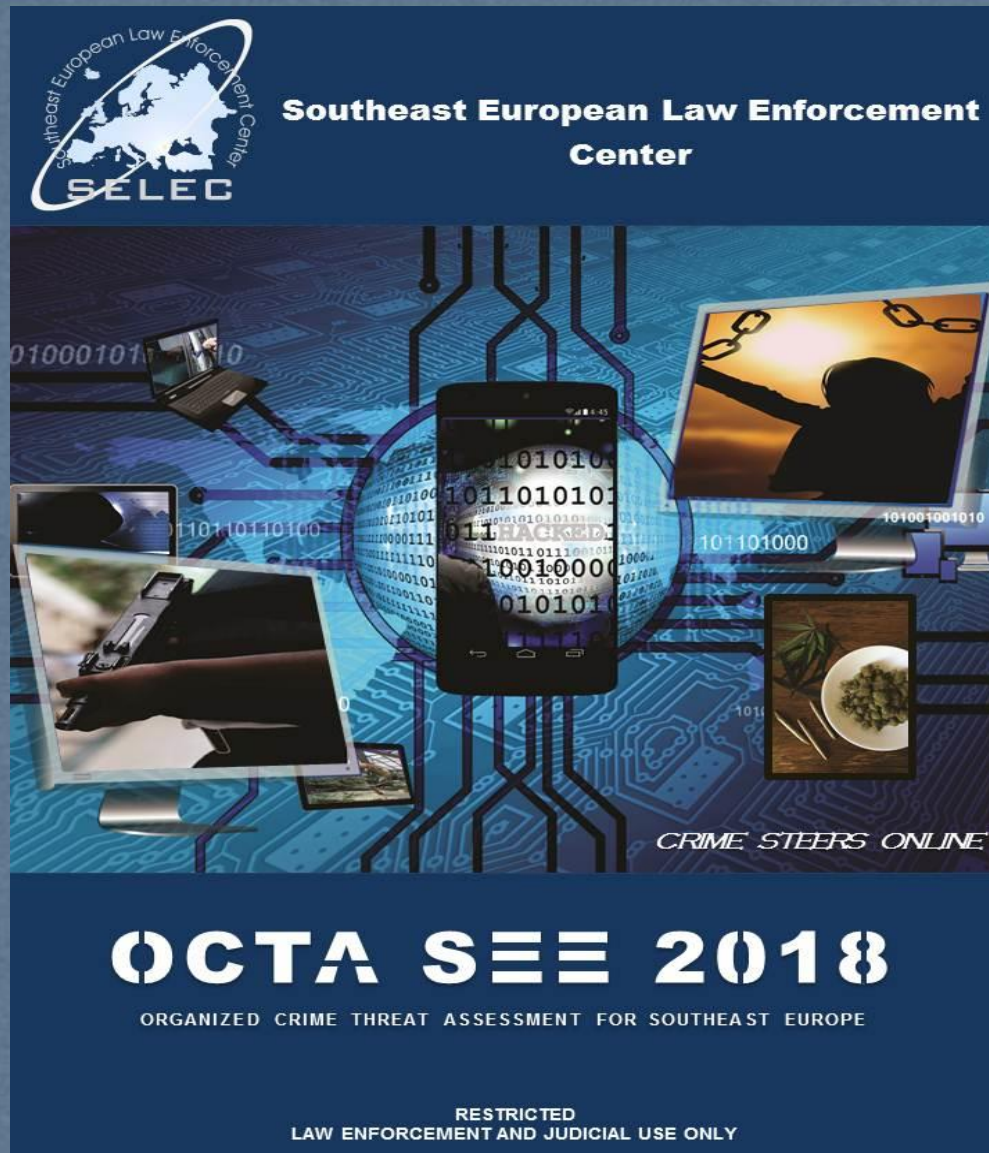
# JOINT INVESTIGATIONS

## Joint investigations





# Organized Crime Threat Assessment 2018



# OCTA SEE 2018

- Strategic report identifying and assessing the threats faced by the SELEC Member States
- The assessment covers relevant aspects occurred during the past five years (2013 – 2017)
- Provides valuable facts to the stakeholders and law enforcement bodies in general
- OCTA SEE intends to cast more light on the understanding of crime in the region



# **OCTA SEE 2018**

## **- Facilitating Factors -**

- Most OCGs in the region take advantage of the latest technological tools
- The criminals are permanently ready to upgrade; the latest and future technology may have an impact on the criminal instruments
- The illicit goods and services are ever more advertised and traded via online platforms
- Cryptocurrency is a key crime facilitator



# **OCTA SEE 2018**

## **- Emerging Factors -**

- Despite the fact that technology is intended to help society progress, there is a side effect to it
- The criminals have been keeping up with technology implementation
- The computers and mobile devices may be easily used to coordinate criminal actions
- Illegal items (drugs, cigarettes, weapons, etc.) may be manufactured more efficiently

# **OCTA SEE 2018**

## **- Emerging Factors -**

- The criminals may remotely follow their cargo using hidden GPS-based trackers
- The surveillance equipment or even drones can be used against law enforcement, for instance to counter LEAs' operations
- High-tech devices support criminals in preparing better counterfeit documents
- 3D printing technology, Blockchain and Cryptocurrencies

# OCTA SEE 2018

## - Emerging Factors -

- **Communication** - the opportunities provided by the Internet have a rich impact on all criminal areas.
- **Information source** –Criminals from all areas may use Internet to acquire countless information and know-how.
- **Social media** – will continue to bring lots of opportunities for criminals and challenges for LEAs
- **Cryptomarkets/Darknet Marketplaces** – online black markets which vendors and buyers trading illicit items and services.



# OCTA SEE Recommendations

**Key priorities:** Terrorism, Cybercrime, Drugs trafficking, Trade and industry crime, Trafficking in human beings and Smuggling of migrants

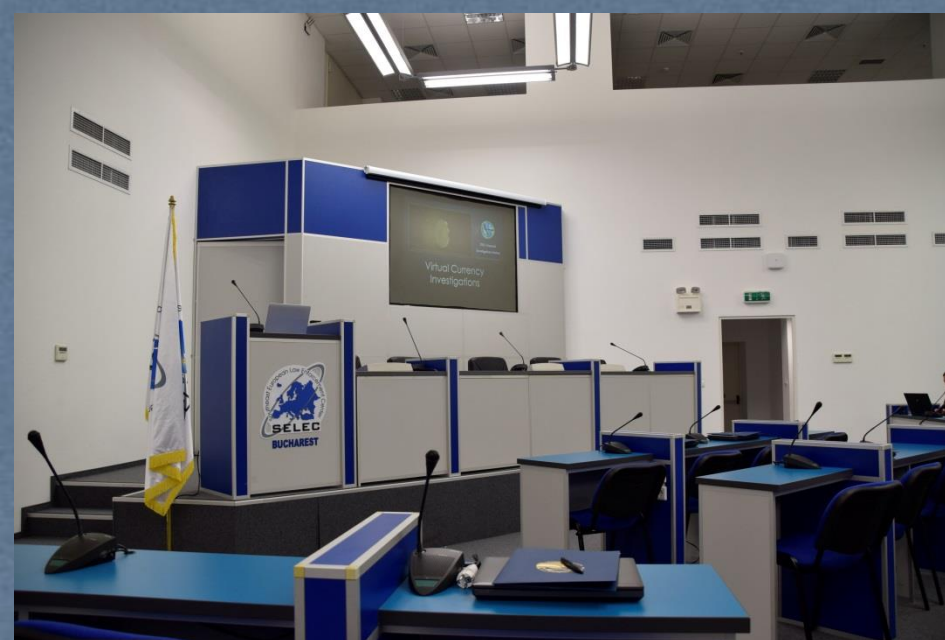
- **A common strategy**
  - **Interoperability**
- **Special investigative techniques**
- **Actions against criminals' wealth**
  - **Public-private partnership**
  - **Awareness**
- **Technology as a partner**

# Project SIRAS

- Strengthening the Fight against Firearms Trafficking in Southeastern Europe
- financed by European Commission within the framework of Internal Security Fund Police (2014-2020) 2015 Call for Proposals – Home/2015/ISFP/AG/TDFX

# Project SIRAS

- Training capacity and training sessions: dark web investigations





# Project SIRAS

- Interdisciplinary regional workshops: **trafficking firearms and cybercrime**, trafficking firearms and drug trafficking, trafficking firearms
- **Operational meetings** for supporting police cooperation and joint investigations of firearms trafficking cases in SEE



# Project FAIT

## FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL TRADE

Illicit trade is one of the most profitable crime

Illicit trade cannot be seen as an independent crime, in most of the cases it comes with additional criminal consequences i.e. organized crime, corruption and money laundering.

The project aims at increasing the operational capacity of SELEC and its Member States in order to create a more efficient response

Objectives:

- Setting up SELEC **Operational Centre Unit** (OCU)
- Training using the latest technologies (VR)



# Joint Investigation *Sunshine*

- 14 months of intensive exchange of information through SELEC channel;
- among authorities of Republic of Albania, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Hellenic Republic, Italian Republic and Republic of Turkey;



- The organized crime group was trafficking drugs in the Balkan countries and in Europe;



# Joint Investigation *Sunshine*

- on 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2018 JI *Sunshine* was finalized with a total of 8.4 tons of marijuana seized and 66 persons arrested.



# Joint Investigation Pratka / Virus

BG, MK, GR, RO, RS

The *modus operandi* used was recruiting corrupted Customs officers in all involved countries with the purpose to infiltrate a virus in the Customs' computerized systems

Once the virus installed, from distance, the offenders were able to finalize various transports, as in the Customs' system appeared that the cargo was already checked.



# Joint Investigation *Passport*

- 12 months of intensive exchange of information through SELEC channel
- among authorities from Republic of Albania, Republic of Bulgaria and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- over 1,000 migrants smuggled to Great Britain, USA and Canada, obtaining profits in an average amount of 15 million USD.



# Joint Investigation *Passport*

- 53 persons arrested and 11 persons currently wanted
- 5114 pieces of fake 100 Euro banknotes were seized



# THANK YOU

**[www.selec.org](http://www.selec.org)**

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