



INTERPOL

FACT SHEET

New technologies and data protection

The impact of new technologies on criminal activity can no longer go unnoticed. Law enforcement agencies must remain at the forefront of innovation to stay ahead of criminals, but this requires appropriate legislation.

To enhance the use of innovative tools by law enforcement, INTERPOL is participating in multiple European Union-funded research projects into the use of new technologies and data protection. These projects emphasize strengthening security while minimizing impacts on fundamental rights, such as privacy.

► THE ISSUE

One of the challenges facing law enforcement worldwide is the use of new technologies to commit or facilitate crimes. Due to the rapid evolution of these technologies, law enforcement agencies must continuously adapt, for example by using automated systems to identify and track criminals.

To ensure an effective and lawful implementation of these new police technologies, they should be part of an appropriate legal framework based on the principle of the rule of law and fundamental human rights. In addition, the support of civil society is crucial.

► OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the research projects are to:

- Reflect on important issues to the law enforcement community and benefit from scientific and multidisciplinary viewpoints;
- Inform and alert INTERPOL member countries regarding ongoing developments and gather their feedback;
- Encourage collaboration among INTERPOL departments, including the INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation (IGCI), which are carrying out police projects involving new technologies;
- Develop INTERPOL as a hub to test industrial solutions concerning new technologies, such as speaker identification;
- Assist with drafting of model legislation relating to safeguards on the use of new technologies;
- Create a dialogue and develop partnerships with academia, the private sector, civil society and law enforcement experts;
- Strengthen existing relationships with other international organizations. ►

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► THE PROJECTS



Smart – Two parallel activities currently exist: the exponential development of smart surveillance technology, and a push by legislators to provide effective legal frameworks in a timely manner. The Smart Project aims to support this by providing a draft model law which clearly reflects stakeholders' needs and ensures a balance with citizens' rights. For more information: www.smartsurveillance.eu.



Respect – The Respect Project builds upon the Smart Project and extends the scope of research to a number of areas such as CCTV systems, social network monitoring and automated systems tracking financial movements. INTERPOL's participation focuses on research relating to the legal bases for the use of surveillance systems, as well as best practices. For more information: www.respectproject.eu. Contact: respect@interpol.int.



Speaker Identification Integrated Project (SIIP) – This project aims at developing law enforcement capabilities in the field of voice recognition and speaker identification. INTERPOL seeks to create a hub for this emerging new technology, taking into consideration current privacy and data protection laws including INTERPOL's Rules on the Processing of Data. For more information: www.siip.eu. Contact: siip@interpol.int.



Evidence – The Evidence Project aims at providing a roadmap to develop a common framework for the systematic and uniform application of new technologies in the collection, use and exchange of evidence, and at considering its potential legal implications. For more information: www.evidenceproject.eu. Contact: evidence.interpol@interpol.int.



E-crime – This project analyses the development and impact of cybercrime from a legal and economic perspective, focusing on legal developments and the effects of cybercrime, assessing existing counter-measures, measuring the economic impact of cybercrime and developing concrete responses. For more information: www.ecrime-project.eu. Contact: ecrime@interpol.int.



Mapping – Serving as a forum for expert discussions on the move towards a digital society, the Mapping Project aims at creating a common understanding of the many and varied economic, social, legal and ethical aspects of the recent developments on the Internet, with a focus on governance, human rights (including privacy and data protection) and intellectual property. For more information: www.mappingtheinternet.eu. Contact: mapping.interpol@interpol.int.



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