

Protecting vulnerable communities

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Human trafficking, people smuggling, sexual abuse and forced labour are just some of the dangers that vulnerable sectors of the population face worldwide. Children in particular are in need of protection. We are committed to fighting all forms of exploitation.

50 children rescued: the tip of the iceberg

Operation Blackwrist, a two-year international crackdown on child abuse, culminated in the rescue of 50 children and the arrest of nine child sex offenders in Thailand, Australia and the United States. The youngest victim identified was just 15 months old.

Our routine Darkweb monitoring operations revealed abusive photos and videos originating from a subscription-based website with nearly 63,000 users worldwide. The abuser left very few visual or audio clues and officers reached out to the global police community to track victims. The level of cooperation was exemplary and extremely effective.

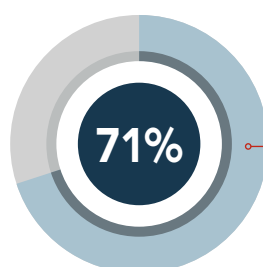
All of the images and videos seized have been uploaded to INTERPOL's International Child Sexual Exploitation database. Results stemming from Operation Blackwrist will likely be seen for a number of years, as officers comb through devices, chat groups and known associates of website users.

Crimes against women: widespread human rights violations

INTERPOL made a public appeal to track eight fugitives wanted for crimes against women including murder. The appeal coincided with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on November 25 – a stark reminder of how women and girls universally experience violence and abuse across the world.



71% of all human trafficking victims worldwide are women and girls, and 3 out of 4 of them are sexually exploited



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Migrants are duped into undertaking treacherous – even deadly – trips through jungles, on boats or, as we've seen recently, in lorries.

In October, an INTERPOL-led operation to disrupt the crime groups behind people smuggling routes to the USA and Canada led to 53 arrests and the identification of 775 migrants from 30 different countries. Authorities in 20 countries across three continents carried out nearly one million checks at air, land and sea borders in order to disrupt the organized crime groups behind key smuggling routes to the USA and Canada.