



**Europol, The Hague
06th to 08th of May 2019**

Invitation

Dear Madam / Sir

You are invited to participate in the European Pickpocketing Conference 2019 organised by the Munich Police Headquarters at Europol, The Hague/Netherlands, from Monday 06th to Wednesday 08th of May 2019.

The conference is a follow-up meeting to the European Pickpocketing Conferences, which were also held at Europol in May 2013, October 2014, December 2015 and November 2016. The last one had more than 150 participants from 20 member states of the European Union and Third Party States.

Introduction

The conference is hosted by Munich Police, who are responsible for collecting information about Mobile Organised Crime Groups (MOCG) committing pickpocketing and/or distraction theft within Germany.

Europol, as the European law enforcement agency, are providing the venue and supporting the event. Their job is to make Europe safer by assisting the Member States of the European Union in their fight against serious and organised crime and terrorism.

The European Pickpocketing Conference is part of the EMPACT Operational Action Plan 2019 for Organised Property Crime (EMPACT-OPC).



Conference Aim

The aim of the conference is to bring together representatives from police and judiciary across Europe to develop a common understanding of the crime phenomenon, share intelligence and best practice in tackling MOCG, and develop future working partnerships among European colleagues. By sharing practical experience and intelligence in this way, law enforcement will be able to improve their ability to distribute valuable resources effectively and efficiently in order to address crime throughout their respective countries and Europe.

Main Objectives 2019

This year we are planning to have presentations, workshops and discussions on a number of interesting topics, such as:

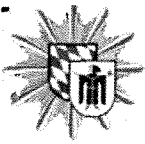
- Family clan structures and their impact on combating organised property crime
- Implementing facial information, facial recognition technology, super recognisers and behavioural recognition into criminal investigations and crime analysis
- Pickpocketing and police tactics in trains and at train stations
- Pickpocketing and police tactics at airports
- Investigating mobile organised crime groups (MOCG) from Bosnia
- Open source intelligence (OSINT) in organised property crime investigations
- Investigating Romanian MOCG committing distraction theft („hug technique“/“necklace trick“)
- Flight passenger name records (PNR) and monitoring MOCG travel activity
- Investigating the trafficking of human beings (THB) with regards to MOCG
- The role of EMPACT OPC
- Trick theft by impersonators (false police, plumbers, etc.)
- Pickpocketing at events, concerts, festivals (OP Festival)

Who should participate?

The conference is aimed at law enforcement and representatives of the judiciary, who deal with pickpocket offenders and/or offences in strategic, operational and analytical terms.

Delegates should ideally be:

- An operational practitioner whose work is aimed at investigating pickpocket offences, and detaining or deterring pickpocket offenders, or
- A strategic supervisor with the competence to influence the strategic direction of their agency in relation to pickpocket offences, or



- An intelligence / analytical officer engaged in identifying and targeting pickpocket offenders, or
- A prosecutor responsible for pickpocketing cases as well as the investigation and prosecution of MOCG involved therein, or
- Liaison officers from a national Liaison Bureau at Europol.

The Conference

The conference will be a three-day event:

06/05/2019	12.30 - 17.00
07/05/2019	09.00 - 17.00
08/05/2019	09.00 - 12.00

The final agenda will be send out as soon as possible.

The conference will be presented in English, as this is the recognised policing language of Europol. If you need any support for translation, please contact your national Liaison Bureau at Europol.

Contributions / Presentation

If you want to present a topic in addition to above-mentioned objectives, please send your proposal to muenchen.ipz.conference@polizei.bayern.de as soon as possible. Otherwise, we would really appreciate if you contributed your knowledge and experience to the mentioned workshops and presentations.

The Venue

The conference is taking place at Europol, Eisenhowerlaan 73, 25177 KK, The Hague, Netherlands.

Delegates are required to show their passport at the security reception desk to gain access to the building.

Meeting room: Auditorium

Cost

The European Pickpocketing Conference is an entirely self-funded event.

Although, there will be no fee for participation in the conference itself, the cost of **accommodation, meals** and **travel** must be borne by the participants or their authorities / departments.



Accommodation:

For participants in the conference, group reservations in suitable hotels at special rates have been arranged. **For further details and booking procedures, please see the attached accommodation overview.**

Please note that we cannot guarantee availability of the aforementioned reservations for every conference participant. **Participants are responsible for booking and payment of their accommodation.** We therefore encourage you to book as early as possible.

Meals:

It is possible to have breakfast and lunch at the Europol cafeteria.

Registration

Please send the attached registration form via email to Munich Police Headquarters

muenchen.ipz.conference@polizei.bayern.de

For registration please use the official registration form and a police / office email address. **Private email addresses cannot be accepted.** An email address is required for registration.

Only registered participants will be granted access to the EUROPOL building. There will be no possibility of registering at the venue.

For organisational reasons we also ask officers from the Liaison Bureau at Europol to register for the conference, as room capacity is limited.

You can also send your registration form via SIENA to Germany / Munich Police Headquarters. Please do not send your message to Europol. Please refer to:

SIENA ID 1406606-1-1

Contact

Further information could be obtained through:

Munich Police Headquarters
Section for International Police Cooperation (IPZ)
Philipp Förder and Leo Waffenschmidt
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Mail: muenchen.ipz.conference@polizei.bayern.de

Closing date: 18/04/2019