EMPACT is an EU Member States driven instrument to identify, prioritize and address threats posed by organised and serious international crime.

It is all at once a mindset, an ad hoc management environment, and a structured multidisciplinary co-operation platform of the relevant Member States, supported by all EU institutions and agencies (Europol, EBCGA/Frontex, Eurojust, CEPOL, OLAF, EU-LISA, EFCA, etc.), associating non-EU countries, international organizations and other (public and private) partners.

The Council adopted in 2021 the conclusions 6481/21 on the permanent continuation of EMPACT.

The key features of EMPACT are:

- **Intelligence-led approach** (identification, analysis and ‘management’ of crime areas),
- **Integrated character** (complementary contribution of different administrations in a partnership spirit),
- **Multi-disciplinary, integrated and integral approach** (addressing all levels by using and combining all possible measures and actions: preventive, repressive, proactive, reactive, tactical, operational, strategic, etc.)
How does that work?

The EU Serious and Organised Crime Threat Assessment (EU SOCTA) is published by Europol based on extensive contributions from Member States, third parties and organisations, Eurojust, EBCGA/Frontex, academics, and from its own work files.

A four-year Multi-Annual Strategic Plan (MASP) is developed, containing Common Horizontal Strategic Goals (CHSG), applying to all 'EU crime priorities'.

The MASP is converted into an annual Operational Action Plans (OAPs) for each crime area.

The EU crime priorities for the cycle 2022-2025

**PRIORITIES**

**High-risk criminal networks**

**Cyber-attacks**

**Trafficking in human beings**
(all forms of exploitation, including sexual and labour exploitation as well as all forms of child trafficking)

**Combating child sexual abuse & exploitation**

**Migrant smuggling**

**Drug trafficking**
- Cannabis, cocaine and heroin (CCH)
- Synthetic drugs and New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)
- Online fraud schemes
- Excise Fraud
- MTIC Fraud
- Intellectual property crime, counterfeiting of goods and currencies
- Criminal finances, money laundering, asset recovery

**Fraud, economic and financial crimes**

**Organised property crime**

**Environmental crime**

**Firearms trafficking**

**Document fraud**

Horizontal issue

Co-operation between the relevant services of the Member States, EU institutions and EU agencies as well as third countries and organisations, including the private sector where relevant.

The Presidency and the European Commission draft a Policy Advisory Document, mainly based on the EU SOCTA recommendations. The Council discusses and identify a limited number of "EU crime priorities".

Member States volunteer through COSI to participate in the various “EU crime priorities” as well as in the next steps, in cooperation with the relevant EU Institutions and Agencies.

Each OAP contains a certain number of Operational Actions (OAs).
If you want to learn more…

Webpage of the Council of the European Union
The EU's fight against organised crime - Consilium (europa.eu)

Link to the EMPACT leaflet (available in 24 EU languages)
The EU policy cycle to tackle organised and serious international crime - Consilium (europa.eu)

Webpage of the European Commission (including hyperlinks to a video and the full factsheets of results)
EMPACT fighting crime together (europa.eu)

EMPACT webpage on Europol website
EU Policy Cycle - EMPACT | Europol (europa.eu)

Webpage of Eurojust - prosecuting with EMPACT
EMPACT | Eurojust | European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (europa.eu)

On Twitter
#EMPACT