## PERIVALL **Push and pull factors of climate** change linked to organised crime: **The PERIVALLON project CERIS** workshop on Impact of Climate Change on Security Practitioners | 21-05-2024

Eduardo VILLAMOR, ETRA - Project Coordinator

Dissemination level: Public



Co-funded by the European Union Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

## **PERIVALLON Pilot Use Cases**



PUC1: Illegal waste disposal detection (IT, EL, SE, RO)



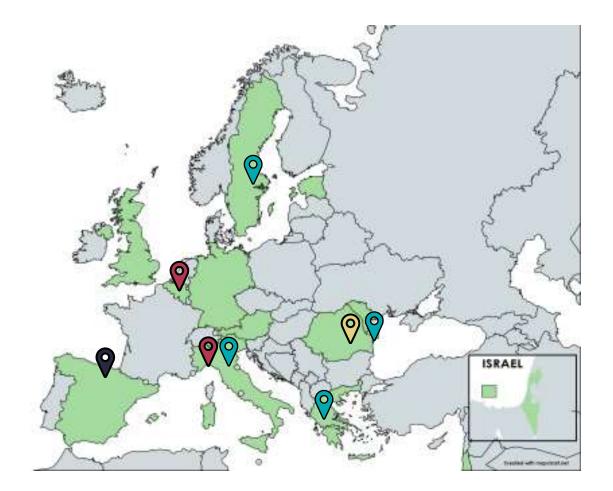
PUC2: Intentional dumping of polluting substances in land and water (IT, BE)



PUC3: Transnational illegal trafficking of waste electronic and electrical equipment (Europe towards Sub-Saharan countries)



PUC4: Illegal trade in ozone-depleting substances & HFCs (RO)



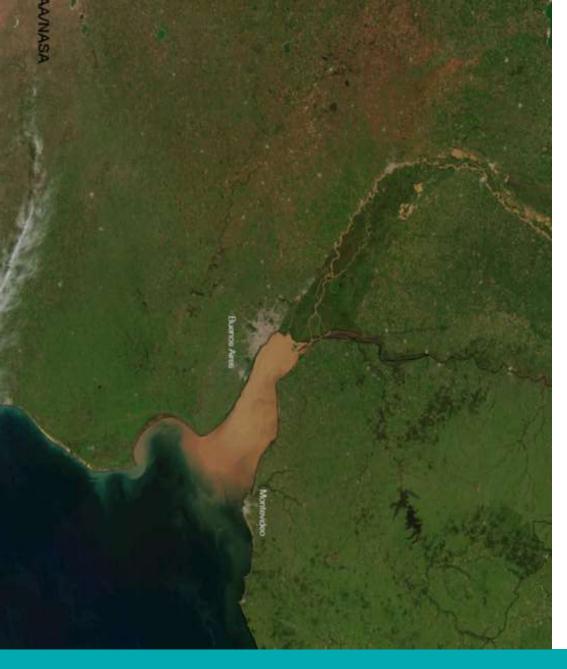


# PUC1: Illegal waste disposal detection

In Europe 5.2 tonnes of waste were generated **per inhabitant** in 2018, 38% were landfilled. In 2017-2019, only Lombardy (Italy) **paid €26M to recover illegal waste dumps**.

- Networks voluntarily distribute the different stages of the waste cycle in multiple jurisdictions
- Waste management companies serve as 'front' and 'shell' companies to deal with the transactions.
- Falsification of documents in classifying waste

Increased availability of high-resolution satellite data supports early detection. PERIVALLON **first public dataset and tools** on remote waste detection: <u>https://zenodo.org/records/7991872</u> (Politecnico di Milano).

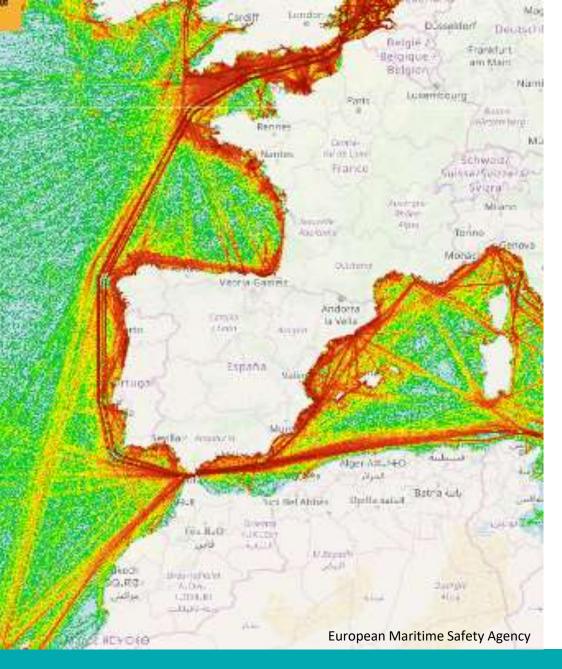


## PUC2: Intentional dumping of polluting substances on land and water

Industrial releases alongside discharges of animal waste, silo juices and oil spills exerts pressure on EU water, with **only 40% of surface water bodies** remain in good ecological status.

Drinking water scarcity can be leveraged by organised crime groups to **set instability within an entire region** by polluting the same water.

Early detection to prevent intake of contaminated water by citizens, by means of **satellite imagery**. Hotspots or zones could be identified then to set more intense monitoring by **UAVs**.

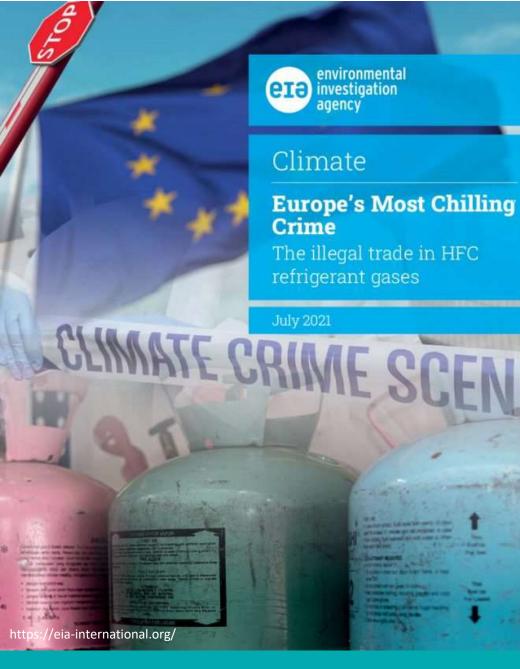


# PUC3: Transnational illegal trafficking of waste electronic and electrical equipment

Illegal shipment of e-waste from **EU to 3rdcountries is a complex and serious concern**. Part of e-waste is shipped towards Sub-Sahara due to the lack of specific policies, legislation, and appropriate infrastructure, being handled by illegal recyclers.

- No systematic routes can be determined, as they frequently change (plus AIS-off).
- **Declassification** of hazardous waste as nonhazardous is the main modus operandi used to traffic dangerous substances.

Monitoring and analysis of online and AIS data improves **identification of smuggling routes** and investigation of illegal actors.



## PUC4: Illegal trade in ozonedepleting substances & HFCs

The illegal trade of ozone-depleting substances (ODS) and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) is a **serious environmental concern.** 

Despite regulations, recent seizures across Europe highlight a growing problem.

In a specific case, an intelligence team **detected a suspicious online advertisement for refrigerant cylinders** 

Through advanced analytics and collaboration with maritime authorities, a vessel was identified, and a **concealed shipment of HFCs was discovered** at the port.

The successful interception underscores the importance of vigilant monitoring and coordination among authorities in combating the illegal trade of substances that contribute to climate change.