



European
Commission

Reinforced Europol mandate



#CounterTerrorismEU - #SecurityEU | December 2020

Under its strengthened mandate, Europol, the EU Agency for law enforcement cooperation, will be able to:

Effectively cooperate with private parties

Objective: enable Europol to receive and request personal data directly from private parties

Impact: Strengthen EU response to terrorism, cybercrime, child sexual exploitation and large-scale cyber attacks



Analyse big data

Objective: clarify Europol's competence to pre-analyse data received to verify if it complies with the categories of data Europol is authorised to process (i.e. persons linked to a crime), and enable Europol to support national investigations with the analysis and storage of big data

Impact: more effective operational support to Member States in counter-terrorism investigations

Issue alerts on foreign terrorist fighters

Objective: close a loophole by allowing Europol to enter information on non-EU foreign terrorist fighters, received from trusted non-EU countries, in the Schengen Information System. A new alert category would be created to reflect Europol's mandate and ensure necessary safeguards

Impact: real-time information available to border guards and police officers

Building on the success of Task Force Fraternité:

*Europol's Task Force Fraternité supported French and Belgian authorities in the investigation of the November 2015 Paris attacks and the March 2016 Brussels attacks. Task Force Fraternité analysed **19 terabytes of information** to investigate further the international connections of the terrorists by analysing communication, financial, internet and forensic records. Europol's processing of large and complex data resulted in **799 intelligence leads**.*

Support innovation and help develop new technologies for law enforcement

Objective: reinforce Europol's role on research and innovation, including possibility to process personal data and strengthen Europol's decryption capabilities

Impact: better support national law enforcement authorities on the use of modern technologies to counter serious crime and terrorism

