



MUN DES LYCEENS

Edition 2022



INTERPOL
Guidelines

Interpol Guidelines

INTERPOL (International Criminal Police Organization) is an international organization with administrative capabilities to help countries work together to fight international crime. They facilitate worldwide police cooperation and crime control. Their headquarters are in Lyon, France. Interpol does not have executive powers, so it officially does not arrest suspects or act without the approval of national authorities.

Interpol provides investigative support, expertise, and training to law enforcement worldwide, focusing on three major areas :

- counter terrorism : assisting member countries to prevent and disrupt terrorist activities through the identification of individuals, networks and affiliates

- organized and emerging crime : targeting and disrupting international criminal networks ; identifying, analysing and responding to criminal threats

- cybercrime : making cyberspace safe for all by supporting member countries to prevent and investigate cyberattacks

Namely, INTERPOL issues red notices ; They are published at the request of a member country and must comply with INTERPOL's Constitution and Rules. Nonetheless, a Red Notice is not an international arrest warrant and therefore its actions are limited. They contain two types of information; information to identify the wanted person (such as their name, date of birth, nationality, hair and eye color, photographs, and fingerprints if available) and information related to the crime they are wanted for (murder, rape, child abuse or armed robbery).. Thus, Interpol covers crimes that have an international scope.

Can cooperation allow INTERPOL to handle drug trafficking?

Interpol Guidelines

TOPIC 1:

FIGHTING DRUG TRAFFICKING

The issues at stake

Criminal networks traffic a range of drugs including cannabis, cocaine, heroin and methamphetamine. As international borders become increasingly porous, global abuse and accessibility to drugs have become increasingly widespread.

This international trade involves growers, producers, couriers, suppliers and dealers. It affects almost all of our member countries, undermining political and economic stability, ruining the lives of individuals and damaging communities. The end-users and addicts are often the victims of a powerful and manipulative business.

Drug trafficking is often associated with other forms of crime, such as money laundering or corruption. Trafficking routes can also be used by criminal networks to transport other illicit products.

In recent years, there has been a shift toward the concentration of opium poppies and coca in fewer and fewer countries. In fact, the UN estimates that well over 90 percent of illegal opium comes from Afghanistan, Laos, and Burma (also called Myanmar), while a similarly high percentage of cocaine comes from Bolivia, Colombia, and Peru. Nevertheless, several other countries play a role in drug production as well. Other source countries for heroin include Pakistan, Iran, Lebanon, Thailand, Mexico, Guatemala, and Colombia, while Ecuador is another supplier of cocaine. Major producers of marijuana include Mexico, Colombia, and Jamaica. However, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), enough of the marijuana used in this country is grown here to make the United States a significant source country as well.

One problem is that the information about worldwide drug production come from a patchwork of sources. In response, the UN has set up a Global Monitoring Programme of Illicit Crops. The program, which started in 2000 keeps track of opium and coca production by ground and air monitoring, as well as through satellite tracking.

Interpol Guidelines

Besides impacting the health of those who directly consume the substances produced, drug trafficking also has consequences on the life

and security of people living in the areas of production. With the creation of cartels (Mexico being one of the symbolic, most affected country where cartels control half of the territory), this business leads to an increase in violence, insecurity, and encourages the development of informal jobs thus putting people at risk. In these countries, the State needs to fight with criminals to keep control on the country.

Issues related to drugs affects every country. From production to consumption, drug trafficking involves several issues.

The main markets

Cocaine

Coca, the raw material from which cocaine is made, is grown only in the Andean region of South America. In the 1990s, the governments of Bolivia and Peru made big strides in reducing coca growing within their countries. However, this success was tempered by a surge in coca growing in Colombia. In the early twenty-first century, 90 percent of the cocaine entering the United States starts out in or passes through Colombia, where the cultivation of coca has more than tripled since 1992. Terrorist groups and organized crime networks largely run this drug trade. In recent years, government conflict with these groups has reached crisis proportions.

Heroin

Unlike cocaine, heroin production is scattered around the world. Historically, most of the world's illegal opium for heroin has been grown in southern Asia. Recently, however, Latin America also has become an important supplier of heroin to the United States. Worldwide, opium production has doubled since the mid-1980s. Greater availability and lower prices, coupled with rising purity, have helped boost the popularity of heroin. As a result, there has been a worldwide increase in heroin-related health problems and criminal activity.

Interpol Guidelines

Marijuana

Mexico is the biggest supplier of marijuana to the United States. In recent years, Mexican fields have yielded about 6,700 to 8,600 metric tons (7,383 to 9,477 U.S. tons) of marijuana per year. The price of this marijuana has stayed fairly stable since the early 1990s, while its strength has increased. As a result, seizures along the southwestern U.S. border have reached record levels. The United States and Mexico have long worked together to fight illegal drugs. Unfortunately, weakness and corruption within the Mexican government have been a major obstacle to success. Lately, however, there have been signs of improvement, including the arrests of several drug kingpins and greater cooperation with U.S. efforts.

Lab grown drugs

The rising popularity of drugs made from chemicals in a lab, rather than from plants, is expanding illegal drug production into developed nations as well. The major foreign source of methamphetamine is Mexico, but much also is made in underground labs within the United States itself. The vast majority of ecstasy (MDMA) used in the United States is produced in Europe, especially in the Netherlands and Belgium. Russia is a key producer of chemicals that are needed to convert the morphine made from opium into heroin.

Measures taken by INTERPOL

Facilitating discussions:

Since 2018, INTERPOL has organized a Global conference on Illicit Drugs, bringing together representatives from more than 100 countries. The goal of the meetings is to gather countries with various interests, allowing them to review recent developments, and implications of convergences between drug trafficking and other criminal activities such as money laundering, cybercrime and weapons trafficking.

Offering training:

Training can be combined with operational support to assist member countries in planning and executive on-the-ground operations against drug trafficking.

Interpol Guidelines

Example: following the rise in drug trafficking in Fiji, the authorities requested INTERPOL'S assistance. The organization decided to provide a comprehensive course covering drugs, financial investigations and security document examination to members of the police in the area.

Favoring the sharing of data:

INTERPOL produces a Drugs Analysis File, which is a repository of intelligence shared by 114 countries on illicit regional and international drug trafficking, including:

- Transnational criminal networks, their members and associates.
- Telephone numbers, website addresses and other media linked to drug trafficking.
- Modus operandi.
- Financial information used to conceal or launder assets.
- Locations associated with criminal activities.

This information helps law enforcement and government officials to make more informed decisions.

Intervening through field operations:

The operation Lionfish Global (2018) was the first operation against illicit drugs and substances to take place on a global scale. Simultaneously, 93 countries combined forces and resources to enhance and intensify the exchange of information on illicit drugs. This intervention was followed by several others, such as the Lionfish Sand, Mihadarati or Asian Pacific Operations.

Interpol Guidelines

Can cooperation enable better handling of the issues related to drug trafficking?

Kim Jong Yang, President of INTERPOL, said: "The landscape of the global illicit drug trade is complex, rapidly evolving and facilitated by technology such as encrypted communications software and the darknet. It is said, 'the best way out of a problem is through', and we will achieve success with the determined resolve of all law enforcement."

The importance of INTERPOL's global policing capabilities is undeniable. Including I-24/7, its secure communications system, its Drugs Analysis File and capacity building programs, the multiple interventions recently implemented show the necessity for a reinforced cooperation. However, the organization still faces issues that need to be addressed. Here are a few problem questions that could help you better understand them.

Key questions

- **What are the consequences of drug trafficking on a social, on an economical level?**
- **How do countries benefit from drug trafficking? Which are the one that are positively impacted? And negatively? Is there a trend you can observe?**
- **To what extent can the interests of the members of INTERPOL come into conflict when trying to tackle the issue of drug trafficking? How can this hinder the operations implemented by the organization?**

Interpol Guidelines

Bibliography



International drug routes

Source: CIA

<https://www.interpol.int/>

<https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/role-interpol-when-dealing-international-criminal-acts>

<https://www.europol.europa.eu/crime-areas-and-statistics/crime-areas/drug-trafficking>

<https://www.saps.gov.za/dpci/event.php>

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/drug-trafficking/mexico-central-america-and-the-caribbean.html>

Interpol Guidelines

TOPIC 2:

BATTLING PIRACY IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION

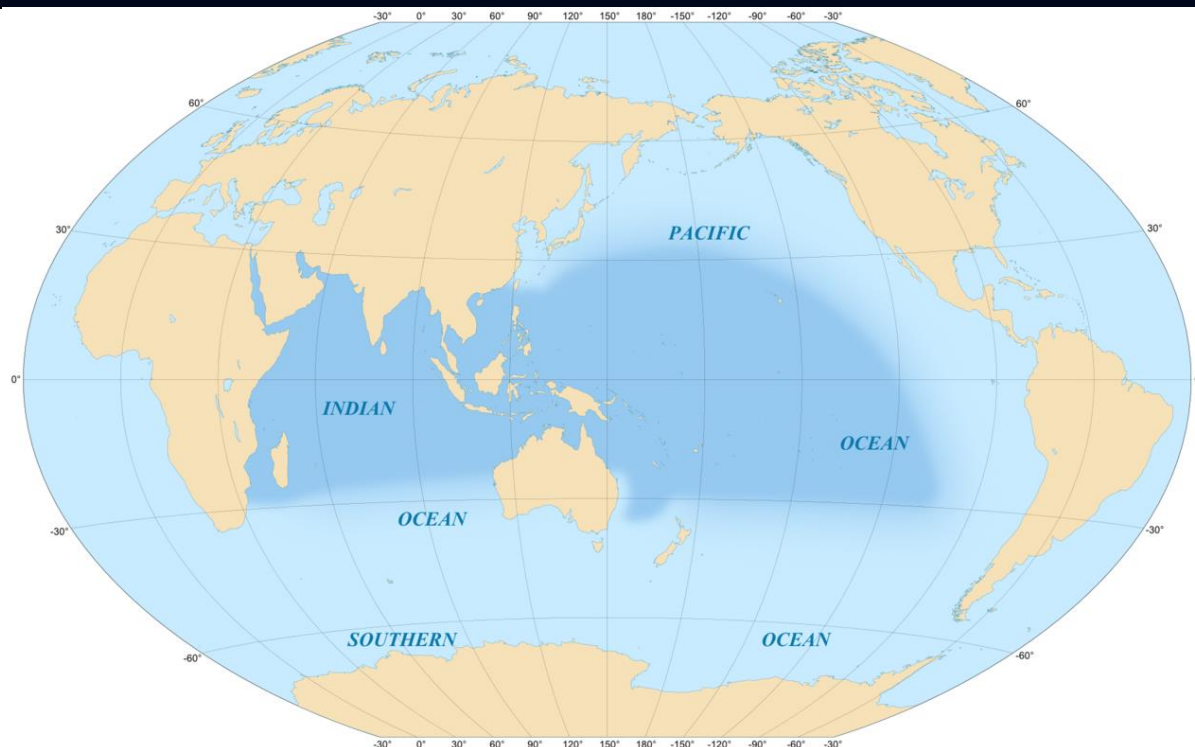
The most cost-effective way to move goods and raw materials in bulk around the world is across oceans and coastal waters. More than 90 per cent of the world's goods are transported by sea.

Maritime crimes affect the freedom of navigation and world trade and pose a threat to international security and individual safety.

The maritime space is governed by a variety of international treaties and agreements that govern everything from maritime boundaries to fishing regulations. The Indo-Pacific as a whole (comprising the tropical waters of the Indian Ocean, the western and central [Pacific](#) Ocean, and the seas connecting the two in the general area of Indonesia cf.map below) has quite high rates of ratification of such maritime agreements. In addition, regional organizations like BIMSTEC and ASEAN are placing increasing policy attention on maritime issues and where the need exists, ad hoc cooperative structures are emerging, such as the Trilateral Cooperative Agreement (TCA) between Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines to combat maritime security threats. Finally, South Asia stands out as a region with only one contested maritime boundary (regarding the British Indian Ocean Territory), though maritime territorial disputes are obviously a much larger concern in Southeast Asia, where a plethora of disputes in the South China Sea and between states in archipelagic Southeast Asia have the potential to undermine the progress the region has made toward cooperation on maritime issues.

The international community was rudely awakened to maritime piracy in the modern era with the rise of piracy off the coast of Somalia. While these activities still exist in African waters, though more prominently in Gulf of Guinea, the Indo-Pacific has emerged as another hotspot for this form of maritime crime. In the Bay of Bengal criminal gangs prey on fishermen through armed robbery and kidnappings at sea.

Interpol Guidelines



"Marine Ecoregions of the World: A Bioregionalization of Coastal and Shelf Areas". Bioscience Vol. 57 No. 7, July/August 2007

Consequences of piracy at sea

Seafarers are on the frontline of the piracy problem. All seafarers transiting the Gulf of Aden and Northern Indian Ocean, have to live with the risk of attack. When ships are attacked by pirates, crews suffer the stress of being fired upon with guns and rocket propelled grenades and those captured can be held hostage for months. Following a piracy attack those involved can be seriously affected by post traumatic stress. Indications are that pirates' treatment of the crew is worsening, with some seafarers having been held in solitary confinement and subjected to other cruelty.

For the shipping industry, costs are soaring. Operators now face rising insurance premiums for a high risk area that now covers most of the Indian Ocean and one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world. Other costs include installing preventative measures and protection on board, employing private security personnel, as well as ransom payments.

Interpol Guidelines

Then there is the wider economic impact of piracy. Ship owners are finding it increasingly hard to justify putting seafarers at risk. They are also struggling to find crews that are willing to transit the area. As the situation worsens a blockade of the area becomes more likely. A ban would mean all ships having to sail around the Horn of Africa. This would add several days to most voyages, would push up transport costs, would see oil prices skyrocket and would have a huge impact on the already fragile world economy. If the attacks move further into the Gulf, oil supplies worldwide may be severely affected.

There is a real risk of an environmental catastrophe. The rocket-propelled grenades used by many pirates are capable of doing enough damage to the hull of a tanker to cause serious marine pollution or a fatal explosion with consequences similar to those last year in the Gulf of Mexico.

The situation amidst the COVID crisis

The pandemic has not only resulted in operational and financial challenges for the shipping industry but has also contributed to an increase in maritime attacks. There is a 24% increase in piracy due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, which has shut down many businesses and job opportunities around the world.

The number of reported incidents is not nearly as high as the peak of Somali piracy between 2009 and 2012. Nonetheless, the growing threat has alarmed national governments and shipping companies alike, especially after a 25-year low in piracy and armed robbery attacks globally in 2019. The pandemic has indirectly emboldened pirates in three key ways:

1- Socio-economic factors:

Research has previously demonstrated the link between the lack of onshore economic opportunities and piracy. The pandemic has had a devastating impact on economies around the world, increasing poverty and unemployment and pushing more individuals towards criminal activities. Amid plummeting global trade, shipping companies have reportedly cut down on crews and armed guards to save costs, which make vessels more vulnerable to maritime crime and exacerbating the threat to crews.

Interpol Guidelines

2- Public health restrictions:

The pandemic and related travel restrictions and border closures have forced vessels and crews to be stranded at sea and in ports for months. This lack of mobility has made vessels more vulnerable to maritime attacks. Restrictions were most strict between February and May before they started easing from June onwards; most attacks also occurred between February and May (see graph below).

3- National security measures:

The pandemic has compelled states to direct the bulk of their public safety efforts to combat the outbreak. There have been increased onshore security deployments to enforce lockdowns and other restrictions, in order to ensure that citizens abide by public health and safety regulations. This has shifted some of the attention from the threats at sea, creating opportunities for pirates.

Measures taken by INTERPOL

Created in January 2010, **INTERPOL's Maritime Piracy Task Force** focuses on three main areas to counter maritime piracy, working closely with the international community:

- improving evidence collection
- facilitating information exchange
- developing the capabilities of police investigation units on a regional level.

The analytical support and training which INTERPOL provides to law enforcement and national naval forces in particular aims to encourage uniformity in evidence gathering for investigations carried out over multiple locations.

Interpol Guidelines

INTERPOL has developed a **Global Database on Maritime Piracy** to better analyse piracy networks and to help its member countries identify and arrest high-value individuals involved in Somali maritime piracy - such as piracy leaders and financiers - and to identify their assets. The database currently contains the details of more than 800 individuals with alleged links to maritime piracy.

Similarly, a Decision adopted by the European Union in December 2010 saw the EU's on-going military operation against maritime piracy off the coast of Somalia, Operation Atalanta, use INTERPOL's global network and tools to fight the criminal networks behind piracy in the Gulf of Aden.

The Maritime Security Program (MASE) is made up of a number of projects to provide the resources needed to enhance maritime security in East and Southern Africa.

- Project COMESA provides investigative support and training to six beneficiary countries - Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritius, Seychelles, Tanzania - to tackle maritime piracy and related crimes, notably money laundering and terrorism financing.

The project helps our member countries track financial flows linked to maritime crime activities. This is achieved by strengthening existing financial intelligence units and providing training for relevant local law enforcement.

INTERPOL's support has led to positive results. For example, in a case involving USD 24 million and three countries (India, Kenya and the United Kingdom), officers were able to put their new knowledge into practice, process a Mutual Legal Assistance request, and prosecute the case successfully.

In Mauritius, newly trained officers arrested two French nationals, wanted internationally by the French authorities who had requested INTERPOL Red Notices for them on charges of money laundering.

-Project EAC, also part of the MASE programme, covers eight countries in East and Southern African and the Indian Ocean.

The aim of the project is to develop forensic and investigative capacities in the region. INTERPOL delivers both training courses

Interpol Guidelines

and equipment essential to maritime crime-related investigations and prosecution.

-Project MAST targets four beneficiary countries - Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Vietnam.

The project trains national law enforcement agencies in charge of port and maritime security in order to strengthen institutional capacity to combat terrorism, piracy and armed robbery, and reduce the vulnerability of ships and port facilities to security threats.

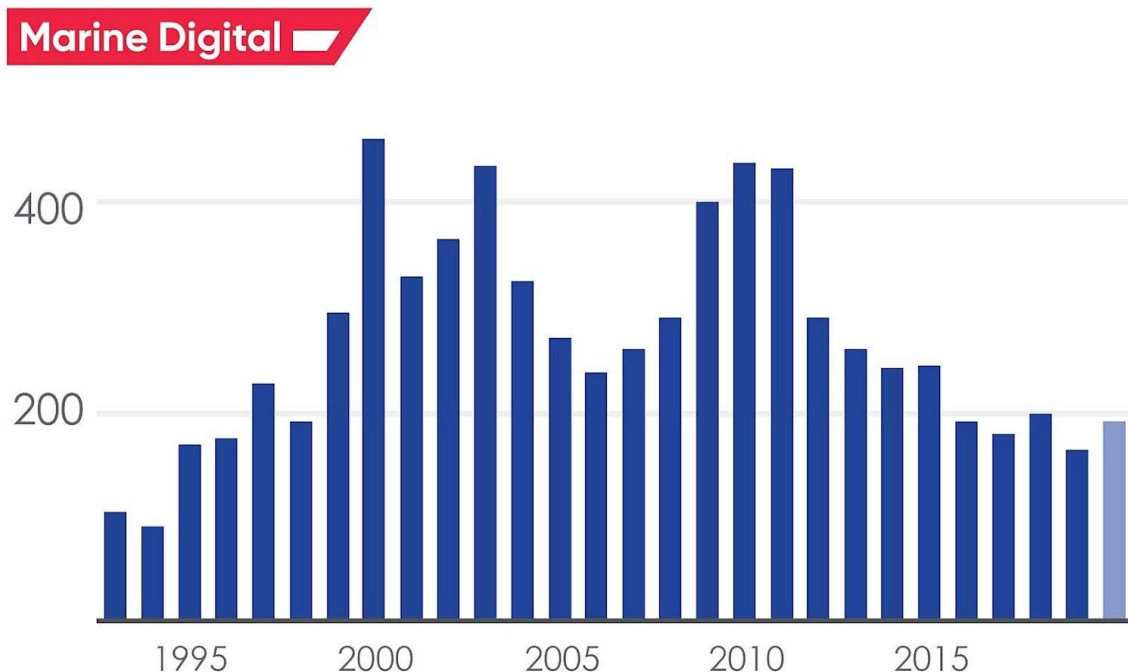
INTERPOL helps coordinate forces to fight against piracy through training of local authorities as well as direct interventions; nonetheless, we can question the efficiency and effectiveness of such measures. These are some problem questions that can help you understand the challenges faced by INTERPOL when facing the issue of piracy:

Key questions

- **Who are the main victims of piracy?**
- **What are the factors that encourage piracy? Does INTERPOL have the ability to address the root causes of piracy?**
- **To what extent does the cooperation implemented by INTERPOL encourage a dependency from countries of the Horn of Africa to developed countries?**

Interpol Guidelines

Bibliography



Data: *IMB Piracy Reporting Centre*

<https://www.interpol.int/>

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/financialsector/publication/pirate-trails-tracking-the-illicit-financial-flows-from-piracy-off-the-horn-of-africa>

<https://sgp.fas.org/crs/row/R40528.pdf>
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/24590911>

<https://www.hsdl.org/?view&did=232031>
<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/piracy-again-back-infest-west-african-waters-what-driving-52339/>



Rédactrice INTERPOL:

Cloé Boucher

cloe.boucher@edhecnaitionsunies.com



www.edhecnaitionsunies.com
contact@edhecnaitionsunies.com

EDHEC Nations Unies
24 Avenue Gustave-Delory
CS 50411
59057 Roubaix Cedex 1
France

