

iPROCEEDS

Project on targeting crime proceeds on the Internet in South-eastern Europe and Turkey

Case Cybercrime Simulation Exercise investigating cybercrime and online crime proceeds

Provided under iPROCEEDS project Tirana, Albania 4 - 7 March 2019

Outline

Background and Justification

Cybercrime of today is driven mostly by financial gain and thus rapid detection and action on illegal money flows on the Internet is often a necessity to identify and minimize damages from the criminal activity. Cybercriminals make use of technology for their benefit; they adopt new digital solutions such as cryptocurrencies to add an additional layer of anonymity to their illegal conduct. Online criminal markets on the Dark Web are a safe place for illegal activities that thrive and generate considerable profits for the cybercriminals. The growing threat of cybercrime is further exacerbated by difficulties of access to and securing of electronic evidence, especially if information vital for criminal investigations is in the hands of private companies and is found beyond national borders. However, even where realisation of these threats and challenges by policy makers and professional communities is as strong as ever, successful response to these is often hampered by lack of coordination and common approach of these communities to what should be the ultimate common goal – ensuring safer cyberspace for all.

In order to address the problems of coordination and cooperation in the most practical way, the Cybercrime Simulation Exercise will bring together prosecutors, cybercrime investigators, financial investigation/intelligence and digital forensics specialists and will be managed by a team of experts, as a command and control center and simulate an investigation of cybercrime, money laundering and parallel financial investigations.

Expected Outcome

Carried out under Result 3 of the iPROCEEDS project *Cybercrime Units, financial investigators, prosecutors and financial intelligence units cooperate with each other at the domestic level in the search, seizure and confiscation of online crime proceeds, the exercise aims to enhance inter-agency cooperation and exchange of information between different professional communities, sometimes even in real time in the search, seizure and confiscation of online crime proceeds. The goal is also to strengthen international cooperation in investigation and prosecution of transnational criminal activity through the use of effective international channels and avenues, and to encourage the use of common approaches and methods on the basis of internationally accepted standards, such as the <u>Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime</u> and the <u>Council of Europe Convention on Laundering</u>.*

Funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe



Implemented by the Council of Europe

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More specifically, the exercise will involve the following major themes:

- Receiving and handling complaints of cybercrime;
- Receiving and dealing with suspicious transaction reports;
- Establishing multiagency cooperation and creation of inter-agency teams;
- Investigating and gathering evidence of crimes involving virtual currencies;
- Investigating and prosecuting transnational criminal activity;
- Collection and handling of electronic evidence at national and international levels;
- Considerations for and planning of Joint Investigation Teams (JITs) between different countries;
- Making use of various avenues/channels offered by international cooperation mechanisms (including Budapest and Warsaw Conventions);
- Search, seizure and confiscation of proceeds of cybercrime; and
- Cybercrime prevention, disruption and offender management.

By the end of the exercise, participants will be able to establish closer links between professional communities of prosecutors, cybercrime investigators and financial intelligence/ investigation officers in a real-time environment at both national and international levels in investigation of cybercrime and its financial gains.

Participants

The event will be attended by the following participants:

- International experts on cybercrime and electronic evidence;
- Cybercrime investigators;
- Cybercrime prosecutors;
- Digital forensics specialists;
- Financial investigators; and
- Financial intelligence specialists.

Administrative arrangements and location

Tirana International Hotel, Balsha Conference Room, Tirana, Albania

DRAFT Programme

Monday, 4 March 2019

09h00	Registration
09h15	Opening address (plenary) European Union Council of Europe
09h30	Introduction to the exercise: goals, rules, timeline Council of Europe experts
10h00	Dark Net investigations Council of Europe experts
11h00	Coffee break
11h30	Exercise day I: Initial intelligence feeds
13h00	Lunch
14h00	Exercise day I: practical work
15h30	Coffee break
15h45	Exercise day I: practical work

17h00 End of day 1

Tuesday, 5 March 2019

9h00	Cryptocurrencies related investigations Council of Europe experts
10h00	Exercise day II: practical work
11h15	Coffee break
11h30	Exercise day II: practical work
13h00	Lunch
14h00	Exercise day II: practical work
15h30	Coffee break
15h45	Joint Investigation Team (JIT) – international cooperation tool for coordination of investigations • Council of Europe experts
16h15	Exercise day II: practical work
17h00	End of day 2

Wednesday, 6 March 2019

9h00	Exercise day III: practical work
11h15	Coffee break
11h30	Exercise day III: practical work
13h00	Lunch
14h00	Exercise day III: practical work
15h30	Coffee break
15h45	Exercise day III: practical work
17h00	End of day 3

Thursday, 7 March 2019

9h00	Exercise day IV: practical work
11h15	Coffee break
11h30	Exercise day IV: Preparation of reports by each group
13h00	Lunch
14h00	Presentation of reports by each group
15h45	Complete reports
15h30	Debrief of the exercise, feedback and lessons learnedCouncil of Europe experts
17h00	End of the exercise

Contact:

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