

Donor mapping in the Western Balkans: security and justice work linked to serious and organised crime

Luke Kelly

University of Manchester

27 November 2019

Question

- What are non-UK donors currently doing in the Western Balkans region on security and justice work with a particular focus on activity linked to tackling serious and organised crime (both bilaterally and regionally)?
- The mapping should include interventions aimed at operational prevention of SOC through supporting security and justice institutions (police, border force, legal reforms, etc); upstream prevention through to support to governance institutions (e.g. increasing transparency and tackling corruption) or support to affected population, victims or potential victims of SOC (protecting vulnerable groups from being trafficked, providing alternative economic and social opportunities to youth at risk, etc)

Contents

1. Overview
2. EU bodies and member states
3. Norway
4. United States
5. UN
6. Other International
7. Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe
8. Non-governmental donors
9. Bilateral and regional donors
10. References

The K4D helpdesk service provides brief summaries of current research, evidence, and lessons learned. Helpdesk reports are not rigorous or systematic reviews; they are intended to provide an introduction to the most important evidence related to a research question. They draw on a rapid desk-based review of published literature and consultation with subject specialists.

Helpdesk reports are commissioned by the UK Department for International Development and other Government departments, but the views and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of DFID, the UK Government, K4D or any other contributing organisation. For further information, please contact helpdesk@k4d.info.

1. Summary

This rapid literature review has found a variety of donors working on security and justice assistance in the Western Balkans. The most significant donors include European Union (EU) bodies and the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC). There is significant international cooperation between donors, regional coordination mechanisms such as the Western Balkan Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG), and international bodies such as UNODC and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

Many donors, including the US, the EU and UN bodies, link their justice and security work with the region's targets for accession to the EU. Technical assistance to the police, judiciary and governments includes training and sharing of best practice regionally and with EU and international bodies. Work on trafficking of people is often part of programmes to make border control in the region more efficient. Work on serious and organised crime is sometimes linked with counter-terrorism and preventing violent extremism programming, as the two are seen to be linked. Work on the judiciary focuses on building capacity and making institutions more efficient, as well as strengthening the integrity and independence of anti-corruption processes. There is less evidence of programmes to help the victims of serious and organised crime, although this is included in many programmes on trafficking and border control.

The review has found limitations within the available evidence. It has looked for programmes focused on security and justice, including technical assistance, upstream support to governance institutions and prevention work and support to victims. It has not always been possible to find detailed budgets and programme mapping. An evaluation of the Western Balkan Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG) notes that, although its role is partly to coordinate programmes in the region, there does not as yet appear to be a systematic mapping of programmes (UNODC, 2017, p. 33).

This review has focused on programming in the categories including rule of law, policing, judiciary, serious and organised crime, and border control. However, aid reports and statistics are not always broken down in the same categories. A country may spend money on judicial reform in the Western Balkans, but it is not always possible to infer how much, if any, of this would be aimed at combatting serious and organised crime directly.

The review has focused on current and recent programming. Some earlier missions are included. For instance, the European Instrument for Pre-Accession II (IPA II) runs from 2014-20, so programmes running in 2014 are included, for instance, as they are part of the most recent iteration of the instrument. Sources used include annual reports from donors, evaluations and websites setting out programmes. The review is gender- and disability-blind.

2. EU bodies and member states

EU Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA). Phase II 2014-2020

The IPA II has an overall budget of EUR 11.5 billion in the period 2014-2020. **It includes the following programmes on the theme of 'rule of law and fundamental rights':**

Table 1: IPA II Rule of law and fundamental rights programming

Country	Rule of law programmes	Budget (EUR million)
Albania	Independent, efficient judiciary; helping police fight organised crime; tackling corruption; respecting human rights conventions	133.8
Bosnia Herzegovina	Improving the judiciary (independence, impartiality, efficiency, accountability) and fighting corruption and organised crime; prosecuting war crimes; reforms tackling shortcomings in protecting fundamental rights and minorities	116.6
Kosovo	Strengthening the rule of law; fighting corruption and organised crime; implementing human rights law, and protecting and including minority and vulnerable groups	94.1
Montenegro	Improving the judiciary (independence, efficiency, accountability) and fighting corruption and organised crime; reforms tackling shortcomings in protecting fundamental rights and minorities.	42.3
North Macedonia	Judicial reform; fighting corruption more effectively; respecting human rights (especially freedom of expression and of the media, and protecting minorities (e.g. the Roma and the LGBTI community); improving border management and implementation of visa, migration and asylum policies in line with EU law (acquis); completing police reforms and boosting the fight against organised crime	56.9
Serbia	Independent, impartial and more professional judiciary; fight against corruption and organised crime; integrated border management; fundamental rights, respect of minorities and freedom of expression; improved asylum processing and management	246.2

Source: Author's own, data taken from https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/instruments/overview_en

Albania

Sector Reform Contract for the Fight against Corruption in Albania has the following objectives:

- Improve framework for corruption prevention, in particular through increasing transparency and detection of corruption, improving handling and follow up of corruption reports, and strengthening the controlling regime for political parties' financing.
- Improve framework for corruption repression, in particular through improving efficiency and effectiveness of criminal investigations against corruption; and supporting a good track record of investigated cases submitted to the prosecution services.
- Improve framework for awareness of corruption, in particular through encouraging civil society and the general public to report corruption cases.

It has a budget of EUR 10 million, from December 2017.¹

The programme '**EU for Rule of Law - Fighting Organised Crime and Drugs**' has the following aims:

- Improved capacity to conduct criminal and financial investigations for combating organized crime and drugs trafficking based on proactive and intelligence based investigative methods. This includes training for law enforcement agencies; capacity building through mentoring and computer installation in financial investigations and confiscation; help for police forensic laboratories; capacity building, mentoring and operational support for the prosecution of organised crime.
- Improved capacity for border control focused to fight cross border organised crime and drugs trafficking through support and new equipment.
- Improved access to socio-economic rural development and employment opportunities, services and facilities in communities vulnerable to cannabis cultivation and trafficking. This includes helping local governments develop plans for groups vulnerable to working in the drug trade; supporting access to health and education; and supporting local government's service management.
- Improved monitoring of drug statistics, by supporting a national drug information unit.

It begins in 2019 and has a budget of EUR 19,350,000.²

The programme **EU for Justice Reform** includes a number of measures to improve the training and efficiency of the judiciary, protect human rights in the penal system, and improve transparency and accountability. It includes the goal of **increasing the efficiency of criminal justice system and anti-corruption measures through the consolidation of the mission,**

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/ipa_2016-038717-3_sector_reform_contract_for_the_fight_against_corruption_in_albania.pdf

² https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/ipa_2018_040211_al_02_eu_for_rule_of_law.pdf

status and functions of criminal justice institutions. In total the programme has a budget of EUR 42 million.³

Consolidation of the Justice System in Albania aims to strengthen the independence, transparency, efficiency, accountability and public trust in the Albanian justice system. It has a particular emphasis on **anti-corruption and judicial integrity**, and the improvement of case management. It includes help in the implementation of Albania's justice reform strategy; strategic planning for the Ministry of Justice; help to improve the management of the judiciary, including case management and human resources; and **support to an International Monitoring Observation mission to monitor the assets of judges and prosecutors, any ties to organised crime they might have, and their work performance.** It has a budget of EUR 12.5 million.⁴

Consolidation of Law Enforcement Agencies - Support to the Albanian state police and prosecutor office aims to help improve Albanian investigation skills in relation to organised crime, as well as interagency and international cooperation; help with Albania's border management; help the planning of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, police and prosecutors; help with the management of police and prosecutors, including the implementation of a zero-tolerance policy on corruption and mis-use of funds; help to buy police vehicles, radio communications systems, GPS, surveillance systems and other similar equipment to help operations against organised crime, as well as equipment to intercept electronic communications. It has a budget of EUR 16 million.⁵

Bosnia-Herzegovina

EU4Justice in Bosnia and Herzegovina (phase 2) aims to strengthen the independence, transparency, efficiency, accountability and ultimately public trust in the justice system, and promote effective prosecution and enhancing cooperation between law enforcement and prosecution. It has a budget of EUR 5 million.⁶

EU Support to the establishment of an Automated Fingerprint and Palm Print Identification System (AFIS/APIIS) helps with hardware and software procurement. It considers AFIS/APIIS to be a 'a key tool for countering organised, major and serious crimes including terrorism'. It has a budget of EUR 3.5 million.⁷

³ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/ipa_2018_040211_al_03_eu_for_justice_reform.pdf

⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/ipa_2016-038717-4_consolidation_of_the_justice_system_in_albania.pdf

⁵ <https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/albania/ipa/2015/ipa-2015-038715-04-al-consolidation-of-law-enforcement-agencies.pdf>

⁶ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/ipa_2018_41501_ad5_bih_eu4justice_in_bosnia_and_herzegovina_phase_2_.pdf; <https://eu4justice.ba/en/about-project/>

⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/ipa_2018_41501_ad7_bih_eu_support_to_the_establishment_of_afisapis_.pdf

EU support to effective justice helps enhance the effectiveness and integrity of the judiciary and law enforcement, by building prosecution capacity, advancing cooperation between judiciary and law enforcement, using ICT solutions, training, expert assistance, and the introduction of standards. It has a budget of EUR 14.35 million.⁸

Enhanced Justice Sector and cooperation in Rule of Law aims to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, professionalism and accountability of judicial and prosecutorial institutions. It aims to improve the institutional capacity of courts, prosecutor offices and law enforcement, as well as cooperation between law enforcement and prosecution on organised crime and corruption. It has a budget of EUR 16.5 million.⁹

Support to Law Enforcement Agencies in BiH aims to increase the capacity of law enforcement agencies to fight corruption and organisation crime, including economic, financial and cyber crimes. It will increase information exchange between agencies using IT systems, and the technical capacity of border police. It has a budget of EUR 6 million.¹⁰

Support to implementing anti-corruption strategies aimed to help the coordination and harmonisation of anti-corruption strategies. It had a budget of EUR 0.75 million.¹¹

Kosovo

EU Support to Justice and the Rule of Law aims to strengthen the independence and impartiality, accountability, professionalism, quality, efficiency and transparency of the institutions in the justice sector. This includes the objective of increasing the capacity to fight corruption, money-laundering and terrorism using GRECO and MONEYVAL methodologies.¹² It has a budget of EUR 9.25 million contributed by the EU and the Council of Europe.¹³

Strengthening Kosovo institutions in effective management of migration, asylum and fight against trafficking with human beings aimed to help Kosovo better manage migration,

⁸ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/ipa_2017_040524.04_eu_support_to_effective_justice.pdf

⁹ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/bosnia_and_herzegovina/ipa/2015/ipa_2015-037888.05-bih-enhanced_justice_sector_and_cooperation_in_rule_of_law.pdf

¹⁰ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/bosnia_and_herzegovina/ipa/2015/ipa_2015-037888.06-bih-support_to_law_enforcement_agencies.pdf

¹¹ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/bosnia_and_herzegovina/ipa/2014/ipa2014_037662.04_bih_support_to_implemting_anti-corruption_strategies.pdf

¹² GRECO and MONEYVAL are Council of Europe bodies to monitor compliance with anti-money laundering standards.

¹³ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/annexes/ipa_2018_041245.03_eu_support_to_justice_and_rule_of_law.pdf

increase capacity to deal with trafficking between and improve service provision and reintegration process for victims of trafficking. It has a budget of EUR 3.5 million.¹⁴

Strengthening the capacities of the Judicial System in Kosovo aimed to 'efficiency, transparency and the sustainability of the judicial system by improving the policy planning and implementation of judicial reforms, and enhancing the effectiveness of Judicial and Prosecutorial Councils in Kosovo, including the Special Prosecutors Office in Kosovo'. The latter is responsible for fighting organised crime, terrorism, corruption, money laundering and war crimes. It had a budget of EUR 4.4 million.¹⁵

Further support to Kosovo Institutions in their fight against organized crime and corruption focuses on strengthening cooperation mechanisms in Kosovo and internationally with regards to financial crime, violent extremism, terrorism financing and corruption. Support is given to the Agency for Managing the Sequestered and Confiscated Assets (AMSCA), the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), the Kosovo Police (KP), the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and the Central Bank of Kosovo (CBK). The project costs EUR 2,294,500 and runs from February 2017 to February 2020.¹⁶

Montenegro

None listed in this area.

North Macedonia

The programme '**Migration and asylum, border management and fight against terrorism and organised crime**' will help improve policy, legislation and practice in border management and in the fight against trafficking, among other goals. It will help increase cooperation among law enforcement agencies. Its work includes training for border police and staff at national ministries; support for migrants and victims of human trafficking, including information and linguistic support for victims, analysis of groups at risk of trafficking, support for victims' reintegration and support for a compensation mechanism. It has a budget of EUR 16 million.¹⁷

Support to the Justice Sector aims to 'improve independence, accountability, efficiency and competence of the judiciary and prosecution, ensure more accessible justice, fairer and more effective criminal justice system, further develop strategic planning, reform management and EU law approximation mechanisms in the justice sector and support administrative justice and

¹⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/kosovo/ipa/2015/09._ipa_2014_migration_asylum_and_fight_against_trafficking_with_human_beings_20141027.pdf

¹⁵ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/kosovo/ipa/2015/07._ipa_2014__strengthening_the_capacities_of_the_kjc_kpc_sprk_and_moj_20141027.pdf

¹⁶ <http://kosovoprojects.eu/project/further-support-to-kosovo-institutions-in-their-fight-against-organized-crime-and-corruption/>

¹⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/ipa_2016_039618.2_mk_migration_and_asylum_border_management_and_fight_against_terrorism_and_organised_crime.pdf

misdeemeanour law reforms.' The work carried out includes the construction/reconstruction of the Basic PPO for organised crime and corruption and further PPOs. It has a budget of EUR 15.29 million.¹⁸

Further Development of the Capacities for Crime Scene Investigation aimed to aid 'development of the capacities for crime scene investigation through establishment of a new organisational structure, introducing new methods and standards for collection and transport of evidence from the crime scene and fulfilment of preconditions for accreditation of crime laboratories.' It had a budget of EUR 1.05 million.¹⁹

Serbia

EU Support to the Justice Sector aims to 'increase the capacities of the Ministry of Justice and of the institutions and organisations in the justice sector' and increase judicial efficiency with reforms and ICT tools. It has a budget of EUR 26.65 million.²⁰

Support to the Justice Sector aims to increase the efficiency, accountability and transparency of the judicial system and aid the exercise of rights by aggrieved parties, among other objectives. It includes the aim of establishing a victims and witness support and protection network, for victims of crime including of trafficking. It has a budget of EUR 5 million.²¹

Support to Justice Sector aims to help implement justice policies and contribute to judicial reforms. It had a budget of EUR 12.1 million.²²

Multi-country

The **European Union (EU)/Council of Europe (CoE) Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey** ran projects worth EUR 20 million in the period 2016-2019. It has been renewed for 2019-2022 with a budget of EUR 38.5 million. It has four main components, including 'ensuring justice through justice reforms, including prisons and police, and comprising a dimension of anti-radicalisation; and fighting corruption, economic crime and organised crime'.²³

¹⁸ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/the_former_yugoslav_republic_of_macedonia/ipa/2016/ipa_2014_037701_037706.3_the_former_yugoslav_republic_of_macedonia_country_action_programme_justice_sector_programme.pdf

¹⁹ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/the_former_yugoslav_republic_of_macedonia/ipa/2016/ipa_2014_037701_037706.5_the_former_yugoslav_republic_of_macedonia_country_action_programme_crime_scene_investigation.pdf

²⁰ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/2017-040497.04-eu_support_to_the_justice_sector.pdf

²¹ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/ipa2016-039801.05-serbia-support_to_the_justice_sector.pdf

²² https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/serbia/ipa/2015/pf_05_support_to_justice_sector.pdf

²³ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/ipa_ii_2018_040-113.05_mc_eu-coe_horizontal_facility.pdf

'Regional support to protection-sensitive migration management in the Western Balkans and Turkey' aims to help develop a 'comprehensive migration management system' in the region. The programme is partly related to organised crime in that it includes methods to better identify and screen migrants, including potentially trafficked migrants. The overall cost is EUR 8.5 million, although only some of the programme is related to SOC.²⁴ Phase II runs from 2018 to 2021 and has a budget of EUR 5,177,000.²⁵

Measuring and Assessing Organised Crime (MACRO) focuses on the identification of existing data on organised crime, the production of databases to house standardised data, surveys and qualitative data collection, technical assistance to beneficiary countries to improve their data collection, and analysis of organised crime in the region. The project costs EUR 2.2 million.²⁶

Cooperation on Cybercrime aims to strengthen 'the capacity of the beneficiaries to search and confiscate cybercrime proceeds and prevent money laundering on the Internet.' The methods employed include helping develop public reporting systems; helping encourage domestic legislation reforms to bring Western Balkans countries in line with international standards; facilitating inter-agency cooperation; helping develop financial sector guidelines; helping devise 'a mechanism allowing public and private sector institutions (such as law enforcement, financial intelligence units, banks, regulators etc.) share intelligence on current threats and trends in a trusted environment and thus allow for immediate preventive measures'; and providing judicial training; encouraging international cooperation. It costs EUR 5.5 million.²⁷

Witness protection 'aims to reinforce the institutional capacity of the witness protection units and other relevant agencies' as well as improving inter-agency co-operation. It costs EUR 5 million and runs from 2015 to 2019.²⁸

Balkans Act Now (BAN) phase III aims to implement a monitoring tool for trafficking developed in previous phases of the programme, as well as strengthening the cooperation and capacity of institutions in the region. The EU will contribute EUR 965,117 and the project runs from January 2018 to December 2021 (European Commission, 2018, pp. 33–34).

Civil Society for Good Governance and Anticorruption in Southeast Europe: Capacity Building for Monitoring, Advocacy and Awareness Raising (SELDI) aimed at 'enhancing the impact of civil society in public decision-making and reform processes in the Western Balkans in

²⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/financial_assistance/ipa/2014/multicountry/ipa_ii_2014_031-603.07_mc_migration.pdf

²⁵ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/ipa_ii_2017_039-402.07_mc_migration.pdf

²⁶ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/financial_assistance/ipa/2014/multi-country/ipa_ii_2014_031-603.06_mc_assessing_organised_crime.pdf

²⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/financial_assistance/ipa/2014/multi-country/ipa_ii_2014_031-603.05_mc_cybercrime.pdf

²⁸ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/pdf/financial_assistance/ipa/2015/multi-country/ipa_ii_2015_031-609.07_mc_witness_protection.pdf

the area of good governance and anti-corruption through evidence-based advocacy, watchdog and policy monitoring, and dialogue with the Governments.' It runs from May 2018 to May 2022 and the EU contributes EUR 1,135,257 (European Commission, 2018, p. 38).

Ending impunity for grand corruption in the Western Balkans and Turkey will analyse 'how grand corruption cases are being processed in the judicial systems and identifying tailor-made laws'. It runs from November 2018 to December 2020 and the EU contributes EUR 1,111,109 (European Commission, 2018, p. 41).

Project iPROCEEDS - Cooperation on Cybercrime under the Instrument of Pre-accession (IPA): Project on targeting crime proceeds on the Internet in South-eastern Europe and Turkey aims to encourage the beneficiary countries to comply with EU standards on cybercrime and crime proceeds. The EU contributed EUR 5 million and the programme ran from January 2016 to June 2019 (European Commission, 2018, pp. 44–46).

Between 2001 and 2018, the **EU Strategy to combat illicit accumulation and trafficking of SALW and their ammunition** spent EUR 29 million in the Western Balkans (Carapic & Gassmann, 2018, pp. 49–66).

EU Action IPA II 2017 (Support to the Western Balkan Integrative Internal Security Governance) has a budget of €21,625,000 for the period 2018-21.²⁹ It includes the following outputs:

German Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) outputs

- Strengthened operational capacities and capabilities of respective law enforcement units to conduct cross-border investigations and prosecutions on SOC, especially to undertake financial investigations and to fight illegal migrant smuggling.
- Improved effectiveness of respective law enforcement units on investigations and prosecutions through more efficient cooperation with relevant European and regional authorities and the use of regional instruments, particularly EUROPOL, Interpol, PCC SEE and Eurojust.
- Increased efforts to improve legislation and regulations for cross-border police and judicial cooperation.
- Improved skills and knowledge of beneficiaries on specific topics arising on short-notice from practical cooperation and joint investigations.
- Enhanced prerequisites for concluding or implementing Cooperation Agreements between beneficiaries and Eurojust.
- Enhanced framework of information and data exchange between respective police units and relevant European and regional authorities.
- Improved effectiveness and strengthened operational capacities and capabilities of respective police units on pre-investigations through more efficient cooperation with relevant European and regional authorities and the use of regional instruments, particularly Europol, Interpol and PCC SEE.

²⁹ https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/ipa_ii_2017_039-402.09_mc_security_governance.pdf

- Improved skills and knowledge of respective police units on special investigation techniques, asset recovery and investigations on fugitives.

UNODC anticipated outputs:

- Training strategy and road map designed for each jurisdiction.
- Capacities of Financial Intelligence Unit (FIUs) analysts, police, and other Law Enforcement Officers (LEAs), prosecutors and judges to conduct Financial Investigations (FIs) increased through training.
- The regional platform for the regular exchange of the strategic and operational information on illicit financial flows established.

European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) outputs:

- Comprehensive overview about the recent challenges, gaps and training needs on financial investigation in the Western Balkans. Having a full picture about ongoing and planned donor activities. Drafting an accurately fine-tuned action plan.
- Reinforced personal competencies on financial investigation including knowledge on relevant legal instruments, good practices and lessons learned.
- Better understanding of benefits of interagency and international cooperation, especially in regional and EU regard.

Europol output:

- Deployment of Europol Liaison Officers in the Western Balkans

(UNODC, 2017).

EULEX in Kosovo

The **European Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX)** works to build capacity in Kosovo's law and justice institutions through 'monitoring, mentoring, and advising' (MMA) activities. It is supported by most of the EU states, plus Turkey, Canada, Switzerland and the US. It has an approximate annual budget of USD 100-120 million.

Individuals from EU member states were embedded in Kosovan institutions. In addition, EULEX investigators, prosecutors and were given the authority to act independently or in conjunction with Kosovan counterparts to take action on specific cases. In 2012, EULEX was split into 'Strengthening' and 'Executive' divisions corresponding to these functions.

It is expected to end in June 2020. However, it has not taken on new cases since 2014. As of 2019, it has been involved in 64,261 cases and 400 indictments related to war crimes and serious and organised crimes.

European Commission

'The **International Law Enforcement Cooperation Unit (ILECU)** is a European Commission-funded project carried out by the Ministry of Interior of Austria. Its objective is to enhance cooperation and networking among beneficiaries and EU Member States through the establishment of cooperation mechanisms and/or agreements with national and international law enforcement partners, particularly with regard to South-Eastern Europe. The beneficiary

countries are Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia, with cooperation from Romania, Slovenia, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and Europol' (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2014, p. 124).

The European Commission finances the **Building Regional Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism Capacity in South Eastern Europe** programme. It is implemented by UNODC. It is working with the EU-led Western Balkans Integrative Internal Security Governance initiative (IISG). It runs from December 2017 to December 2019. It has a budget of EUR 2,631,578.

It has two aims:

- enhance the ability of the six Western Balkan jurisdictions to detect, deter and prosecute money laundering, financing of terrorism, including foreign terrorist fighters, in order to degrade organized crime and terrorism threats.
- enhance the ability of the six Western Balkan jurisdictions for interagency and international cooperation on anti-money laundering, combating terrorism financing and asset recovery, so as to reduce threats of transnational organized crime and terrorism.

EURALIUS

Euralius promotes reform of the justice sector in Albania. Its most recent incarnation, Euralius V, began in 2018 and has a budget of EUR 7.5 million.

It helps with capacity building at the Ministry of Justice; organisation and managerial support for the bodies governing the judicial and prosecutorial system; strengthening the court/prosecutorial system's independence, including anti-corruption structures; extending and maintaining IT systems to increase efficiency and transparency; and increasing the capacity of judicial training institutions. It does this through institutional strengthening, capacity building and training.³⁰

EU member states

France

France will undertake the following bilateral assistance in security and justice in the coming years in the Western Balkans:³¹

- Fighting illegal trafficking of small arms and light weapons: following the implementation of the Franco-German roadmap aiming to mobilise the countries in the region around concrete measures (particularly increasing security, fighting trafficking networks, and collecting stockpiles of illegal weapons) and to coordinate the assistance of the international community to help countries fight weapons trafficking.
- Enhancing bilateral cooperation, including implementing permanent criminal intelligence units (UPRC).

³⁰ <https://www.cilc.nl/project/consolidation-of-justice-system-in-albania-euralius-v/>

³¹ <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/europe/western-balkans-62918/>

- fighting terrorism and radicalisation with support for creation of platforms for flagging up illegal internet content.
- enhancing operational cooperation mechanism on issues of internal security.
- continuing technical cooperation on the fight against trafficking of narcotics, weapons and human beings, and the fight against organised crime and corruption.
- creating new cooperation projects on financial and economic crime and fighting trafficking of cultural property and protected species, which may also be used to finance terrorism.
- putting together joint investigation teams with all countries in the region.

Netherlands

Strengthening the Probation and the System of Alternative Sanctions in Montenegro and Serbia is being funded by the Netherlands. It aims to 'strengthen the capacities of the relevant actors within the judicial chain which work on probation and alternative sanctions' and bring the countries in line with EU best practice.³²

The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the Centre for International Legal Cooperation (CILC), the Dutch Prosecution Service, the Dutch Probation Service and the Council for the Judiciary in the Netherlands; and the Civic Alliance (CA), NVO Juventas, the Ministry of Justice in Montenegro and the Judicial Training Centre in Montenegro; the Belgrade Centre for Human Rights (BCHR), Neostart, the Ministry of Justice in Serbia and the Judicial Academy in Serbia. It has a budget of EUR 1.55 million and runs from September 2017 to December 2020.

Together for Accountability, Supporting the Special Public Prosecutor Office of Macedonia in Strengthening its Operational and International Judicial Cooperation Capacities runs in Macedonia from February 2018 to February 2021. It has a budget of EUR 650,000. It assists the Special Prosecutor's Office to increase its investigations and prosecution capacity, and in international cooperation.³³

Germany

Countering serious crime in the Western Balkans

Financed by the European Commission and the Federal German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development. It is run by the Centre for International Legal Cooperation (CILC). It operated in Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia. It runs from January 2018 to December 2019 and has a budget of EUR 3,742,525.09.³⁴

The project aims to help improve co-operation across the region and to make efforts to tackle serious and organised crime more effective.

³² <https://www.nhc.nl/themes/building-up-rule-of-law/prison-reform-probation/strengthening-probation-system-alternative-sanctions-montenegro-serbia/>

³³ <https://www.government.nl/topics/international-peace-and-security/international-legal-order/the-netherlands-helps-strengthen-the-rule-of-law-in-other-countries>

³⁴ <https://www.cilc.nl/project/countering-serious-crime-in-the-western-balkans/>

It provides mentoring and support to cross-border investigations and prosecutions, legislative and organisational advice for police and judicial cooperation, supports co-operation between national and international agencies such as Eurojust, and provides advice and mentoring (CILC, n.d.)

International Cooperation in Criminal Justice: Prosecutors' Network of the Western Balkans

The programme ran from November 2014 to November 2017. It had a budget of EUR 5,263,158. The consortium partners are: GIZ (lead partner), UNODC, Dutch, German, Hungarian and Slovenian Prosecution Services; International Association of Prosecutors; Eurojust; European Judicial Network in Criminal Matters.

Helped prosecutors, law enforcement officers and ministries of justice to better combat serious and trans-border crime as well as corruption.

- Supporting investigations and prosecutions in serious and trans-border organized crimes.
- Strengthening of the institutional capacities, as well as coordination and cooperation mechanisms among beneficiaries to effectively prosecute and investigate serious and trans-border organized crimes, linked cases of illicit trafficking destined to the EU, in particular trafficking in firearms, drugs and human beings.
- Increasing judicial cooperation between the Prosecutors' Network of the Western Balkans and the relevant European institutions.

3. Norway

In 2018, NORAD spent USD 5,327,000 on projects that fall under the category of 'legal and judicial development'. It is not possible to see from NORAD's accounts what each project did in relation to serious and organised crime. However, the project titles shows that the expenditure included USD 49,000 on a project in Montenegro called 'Ministry of Interior - Suppressing cross-border organised crime' and USD 231,000 on 'Enhancing capacities of the Serbia Police to fight corruption'. In the same year, it spent USD 111,000 on work in the category of 'anti-corruption organisations and institutions', including a project in Bosnia Herzegovina called 'Investigative Reporting Project on Misuse of Public Funds'.³⁵

4. United States

State Department

The 'U.S. Embassy in Serbia provided training and workshops to prosecutors and law enforcement officials' (US Department of State, 2019, p. 25).

The Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)

³⁵ Taken from <https://norad.no/en/front/toolspublications/norwegian-aid-statistics/access-to-microdata/>

The **Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT)** was funded by the INL to develop the forensic accounting skills of police and prosecutors in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia (US Department of State, 2019, p. 23).

Justice Department

The **Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT)** runs programmes for judicial reform and anti-corruption in **Albania**, as well as supporting Albania's Victim Assistance Coordinators. In **Bosnia and Herzegovina** OPDAT assists with legislative reform and capacity building for prosecutors, judges and the police to help fight organised crime and corruption. It also offers 'case mentoring on complex crimes such as terrorism, human trafficking, gender violence, and organized crime, as well as programs for the judiciary and a court monitoring project.' The **Western Balkans Regional Platform (WBRP)** helps build capacity to fight transnational crime in the region. Among other objectives, it helps to 'increase the use of follow-the-money strategies in corruption investigations in the Western Balkans.' In **Kosovo**, OPDAT 'strengthens criminal justice institutions and national security interests in the areas of complex crimes, anti-corruption, victims' rights, counterterrorism, and integration of the parallel Serbian justice system in Northern Kosovo'. In **Serbia**, OPDAT helps build 'Serbia's capacity to prosecute corruption, war crimes, organized crime, complex financial crimes, human and narcotics trafficking, and domestic violence.' It facilitates information sharing between agencies and the development of legislation against organised crime.³⁶

USAID

USAID programmes relevant to this helpdesk query include the following:

Rule of Law Project in Serbia

The project aims to strengthen the justice sector in Serbia. Its budget is USD 9.8 million, and it runs from 2017 to 2021.³⁷ Its aims are:

- a) Strategic advancement of Serbia's judicial reform process, including drafting the new National Judicial Reform Strategy;
- b) a range of initiatives to improve court operations, reduce delays in court proceedings and increase public confidence in the work of the courts, targeting, among others, the service of process, and the role and career path of judicial assistants;
- c) support to more timely, consistent, and reliable process of enforcement of judgments;
- d) strengthening institutional capacities of the State Attorney's Office to improve performance and reduce the time and cost associated with cases brought against the State.

Strengthening Counter-Trafficking Efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina

³⁶ <https://www.justice.gov/criminal-opdat/worldwide-activities/europe-eurasia>

³⁷ <https://en.rolps.org/>

The programme is being implemented by the International Organization for Migration. It was 18-launched in June 2019 and will run until December 2020. Its budget is \$333,920.³⁸

The project aims to build capacity within the National Referral System to better identify and assist victims of human trafficking. Specifically it will train local monitoring teams to help them:

- better work within the existing National Referral System to help BiH fully implement the current legal and regulatory framework for protecting victims .
- establish a case management monitoring system to proactively screen for and identify potential victims.
- Include members of the Roma community who have been, or are at risk of being, trafficked. Roma victims of trafficking are often ignored by authorities.

Justice System Strengthening Program in Kosovo

The programme runs from November 2015 to November 2019. It has a budget of USD 9.3 million.

It focused on increasing the efficiency and transparency of courts. It also supported 'Kosovo Judicial Council in developing 43 legislative and regulatory acts, policies and procedures designed to promote court efficiency, transparency and integrity, and to enhance judicial independence'³⁹

5. UN

UNODC

Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe (2016-2019)

The regional programme, in conjunction with global UN initiatives and other regional programmes, carried out work to counter trafficking of humans and drugs, anti-corruption work, and drug use prevention and treatment, among other work.⁴⁰

UNODC's work in South Eastern Europe is linked to the UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) and the Common Development Plan (CDP). It also aims to help countries in the region work towards European Union (EU) membership (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2016, p. 7). UNODC's work in the region is carried out alongside other global and regional programmes.

- Sub-programme 1: Countering Illicit Drug Trafficking and Transnational Organized Crime
- Sub-programme 2: Strengthening Criminal Justice, Integrity and Legal Cooperation

³⁸ <https://www.usaid.gov/bosnia/news-information/fact-sheets/fact-sheet-strengthening-counter-trafficking-efforts-bosnia-and>

³⁹ <https://www.usaid.gov/kosovo/news-information/fact-sheets/justice-system-strengthening-program>

⁴⁰ <https://www.unodc.org/southeasterneurope/en/regional-programme-framework.html>

- Sub-programme 3: Enhancing substance use prevention, drug use disorders treatment, and reintegration and care

The programme has an overall budget of USD 21 million. This includes USD 9 million for sub-programme 1, USD 5 million for sub-programme 2, and USD 7 million for sub-programme 3.

In the 2012-15 period, the global container sub-programme supported the ‘governments of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro in adapting new strategies to improve container control. Special attention is given to the illicit trafficking of drugs through containerized shipments to these three countries...The major objective of the CCP is to build local capacity in the law enforcement agencies. This is done through an inter-agency approach, where units comprising all relevant agencies receive training and equipment.’

In the 2012-2015 period, the container programme had the following outputs (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2016, p. 35):

- 3 Joint Container Control Units (JCCUs) established: Durrës, Albania; Bar, Montenegro; Bijača, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 11 trainings and 3 mentorship missions held; 3 study visits undertaken and 1 hosted
- Equipment and evidence handling tools provided to Albania and Montenegro
- Premises for the JCCU refurbished and equipped in Montenegro
- JCCUs hosted and participated in 4 law enforcement operations
- Impact: 10.8 tons of undeclared goods, 5.6 tons of marijuana, 25.5 kg of heroin, USD 203,000 worth of counterfeit goods, 1 machine gun, over 750 bullets and equipment seized; 1 person arrested; capacities of national authorities in container profiling enhanced; port controls improved; region is better equipped to counter illicit trafficking.

The regional programme produced a report on drug trafficking in South Eastern Europe, as well as **14 studies on how corruption** is experienced by the general population and by the private sector in the region and in each country or territory.

The programme **co-operated with the Paris Pact Initiative on combatting opiates from Afghanistan** through the Balkans.

It undertook the following **work to combat Trafficking in Persons (TiP) and Smuggling of Migrants (SoM)** in the period 2012-15:

- Regional report on trafficking in children (TiC) for sexual exploitation (May 2012)
- 8 national (Albania, Montenegro, Serbia) and 3 regional events for over 200 criminal justice professionals, judges, prosecutors, police on protection of victims of TiP, TiP curriculum, criminal justice response to TiP (October 2012 – June 2014)
- Support to Albania in drafting National TiP Strategy and Action Plan for 2014-2017
- Support to Albania in establishing and maintaining a helpline for victims of crime, including TiP
- 3 regional events on criminal justice response to TiC (October 2014 – May 2015)
- 1 national (Bosnia and Herzegovina) and 2 regional events on investigation/prosecution of SoM and cooperation among origin, transit and destination countries (October 2013 – May 2015)

- Impact: improved awareness of national authorities on the challenges related to SoM and enhanced understanding/preparedness to counter the problem of TiP in national authorities and improved national capacities in the TiP prevention and countering, including victims' protection.

Measuring and assessing organised crime in the Western Balkans (MACRO): supporting evidence-based policy

MACRO ran from April 2016 to March 2019. "The overall objective of the action is to contribute to the strengthening of the rule of law through the fight against organised crime by improving knowledge about trends and patterns of organised crime.

- Develop and implement a framework for quantifying and analysing organised crime in the Western Balkans.
- Establish mechanisms to monitor it and to produce an evidence-based analytical report on organised crime" (Carapic & Gassmann, n.d., p. 62).

UNDP

Western Balkans Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) Control Roadmap MPTF

Help co-ordinate 'the implementation of the Roadmap for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and their ammunition in the Western Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Republic of Serbia and the Republic of North Macedonia' (UNDP, 2018)

From 2019 to 2021, it has a budget of USD 1,941,315.

It has seven goals:

- By 2023, ensure that arms control legislation is in place, fully harmonized with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations and standardized across the region.
- By 2024, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are evidence based and intelligence led.
- By 2024, significantly reduce illicit flows of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) into, within and beyond the Western Balkans.
- By 2024, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy.
- By 2024, substantially decrease the estimated number of firearms in illicit possession in the Western Balkans.
- Systematically decrease the surplus and destroy seized small arms and light weapons and ammunition.
- Significantly decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion of firearms, ammunition and explosives

South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC) is an executive arm of SALW.

EUSTAR project

The EUSTAR Project aims to help Bosnia Herzegovina manage its stockpiles of ammunition safely. It builds on the EU/UNDP EXPLODE project (2013-2016).⁴¹

It undertakes two strands of work:

- Disposal of remnants of war – direct assistance to the significant reduction of ammunition quantities through the safe and environmentally benign disposal of up to 3,000 tonnes of ammunition, including unstable and unsafe ammunitions as well as complex ammunition systems;
- Ammunition disposal know-how transfer – ensuring that all necessary disposal skills and knowledge are successfully conveyed from the project and its contractors to the AF BiH.

The project runs from June 2017 to November 2019.

It has a budget of EUR 2,793,346.66. Its partners are the United Nations Development Programme, Ministry of Defense BiH/Armed Forces (MoD/AF BiH), the Delegation of the European Union in BiH (EUD), the European Union Force in BiH (EUFOR), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the US Department of State and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Headquarters in BiH (NATO HQ).

6. Other International

Western Balkans Counter-Serious Crime Initiative (WBCSCi) and Western Balkans Border Security Initiative (WBBSi)

The WBCSCi and WBBSi are pillars of the Western Balkan Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG), a forum for integration of security initiatives in the region. They are endorsed by the EU and supported by UNODC and 50 other bodies.

The IISG is partly intended to prevent duplication and overlap of activities. However, an evaluation states that there 'does not appear to have been a systematic approach' to mapping donor activities in the Western Balkans by IISG (UNODC, 2017, p. 33).

The WBCSCi and WBBSi developed from a counter-terrorism initiative and was extended to organised crime and border security in 2016 (UNODC, 2017).

The priorities for period 2018-20 are (Western Balkans Serious Crime Initiative, 2018, p. 5):

- To improve the cooperation between police and prosecution in the investigation phase.
- To increase the capacities of national authorities to conduct financial investigations, including national specialised units.
- To identify and address gaps in cross-border operational cooperation in the Western Balkans, including based on provisions of existing regional law enforcement cooperation

⁴¹

https://www.ba.undp.org/content/bosnia_and_herzegovina/en/home/operations/projects/Justice%20and%20Security/EUSTAR.html

legal bases and in implementing relevant bilateral agreements transferring EU and UN standards.

- To enhance cooperation with Europol and Cefpol and further implement operational agreements with EU agencies.
- To improve contribution of beneficiaries' authorities to Europol's tools and instruments in the framework of relevant Operational Action Plans and better use of Europol tools, including its deployed Liaison Officers to the Western Balkans.
- To support operational meetings in cross-border investigation cases.
- To improve and support the use of Joint Investigation Teams, incl. enhancing cooperation with Eurojust.
- To consolidate efforts transferring standards and good EU practice on intelligence-led policing in the Western Balkans.
- To ensure synergies between the activities of the EU Policy Cycle in the Fight Against Serious Crime 2018- 2021 and activities of this integrative plan of action (including by considering of inviting WB partners and IISG Support Group representatives, where relevant, to a National EMPACT Coordinators meeting for a specific session).
- To enable automated exchange of data following EU standards (EU Prüm-inspired framework).
- To implement targeted training in various aspects of investigations, incl. considerations on necessary equipment.
- To enhance interagency (and international) cooperation between cybercrime units, financial investigators and financial intelligence units at the domestic level in the search, seizure and confiscation of online crime proceeds.
- To address the lack of interpretation with a regional pool of interpreters for authorities dealing with migrant smuggling/THB and cross-border investigations.
- To strengthen the capacities of national authorities in the fight against corruption.
- To improve regional cross-border information exchange, incl. in the framework of EU information exchange.

7. Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

The OSCE field operations in the Western Balkans spent EUR 45.875.831 in 2018. This included a range of work on issues related to serious and organised crime (OSCE, 2019, pp. 56–66). This review has not been able to find disaggregated statistics on programme expenditure.

Albania

The OSCE mission helps destroy ammunition, supports the exchange of best practice on prevention and prosecution for trafficking as well as victim support, and helps cross-border

initiatives. It provides training for police officials and the establishment of joint information exchange centres for border officials. It is also responsible for a trial monitoring initiative and reforms, capacity building for justice officials, and monitoring of recruitment practices in the sector.⁴²

Bosnia and Herzegovina

The OSCE mission supports weapons life cycle management, improving physical infrastructure and advocacy work on arms disposal. On trafficking, the OSCE, works on anti-trafficking legislation, helps to harmonise it with international standards, and develops education and training for judges and prosecutors on the issue. In the justice sector. It monitors and assesses the judicial system, provides training, and promotes public awareness.⁴³

Kosovo

The OCSE mission helps support legislation and reviews of Kosovo's cyber-security plans, as well as facilitating workshops and conferences with the police. In the policing sector, it advises on legislation and offers training for police, judges and prosecutors on trafficking in drugs and people, cyber crime, corruption, and other issues. It helps facilitate cooperation between agencies. It reviews the work of the justice system and helps improve its performance.⁴⁴

Montenegro

The mission helps dispose of arms and ammunition and improve military storage infrastructure as part of the Montenegro Demilitarization Programme.⁴⁵ It provides capacity building and awareness campaigns on human trafficking. It assists with police education and specialised training in issues such as cybercrime or irregular migration, and supports cross-border police cooperation.⁴⁶

North Macedonia

The OSCE mission helps the Ministry of Internal Affairs improve its armouries and its processes for storing small arms in order to reduce proliferation. It helps strengthen cooperation between institutions on human trafficking, as well as working with grass roots organisations on prevention. It helps with police reform and professionalisation through training. It organises training for the judiciary.⁴⁷

⁴² <https://www.osce.org/presence-in-albania/arms-control>

⁴³ <https://www.osce.org/mission-to-bosnia-and-herzegovina>

⁴⁴ <https://www.osce.org/mission-in-kosovo>

⁴⁵ <https://www.osce.org/mission-to-montenegro/arms-control>

⁴⁶ <https://www.osce.org/mission-to-montenegro>

⁴⁷ <https://www.osce.org/mission-to-skopje>

Serbia

It works with the Serbian Ministry of Defence and UNDP to manage arms stockpiles. It helps the police develop strategies on organised crime. It organised training for the judiciary and civil society on issues such as financial crimes, and helps anti-corruption institutions become more accountable.⁴⁸

8. Non-governmental donors

Philip Morris International Impact (PMI IMPACT) funds projects related to serious and organised crime in the form of illicit trade in the region, including:⁴⁹

- Karzai Consulting in Albania to carry out '[r]esearch on illegal tobacco trade in Albania and bordering countries, exploring the correlation between tax policies, penal legislation against illicit trade, and state policies. Monitoring of the growing, processing, and trade of raw tobacco, as well as the illicit tobacco trade and corruption.'
- The project 'fight against illicit trade (FAIT)' run by SELEC. This includes Setting up state-of-the-art SELEC Operational Centre Unit (OCU) in order to increase the operational capacity of the LEAs against illegal trade', training for specialist law enforcement officers, and awareness campaigns.⁵⁰
- Research on the shadow economy in the Western Balkans region focusing on informal labor and illegal trade of high-tariff goods at the **Center for Policy and Governance**.
- Research at the **Mykolas Romeris University** on 'the impact of illegal tobacco trade in Ukraine, Armenia, Serbia, Georgia, Moldova, and Albania, exploring aspects related to corruption, money laundering, and organized crime. This project aims to strengthen cooperation between public authorities, the business sector and academic communities.'
- It funds the **Faculty of Business Economics and Entrepreneurship Research's** research on 'modern education techniques and awareness activities to address illegal trade in the Balkans including Serbia, Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Project to focus on the illegal trade of tobacco, alcohol and drugs, analysing the links between illegal trade, corruption and money laundering.'
- The research project, 'Illegal Trade of Tobacco Products: Smuggling as Experienced Along the Balkan Route—BalkanSmugg' at the **Institute of Economics, Zagreb, Croatia**.

In 2019, the **Open Society Foundation** spent USD 77.7 million on justice reform and the rule of law, USD 1.8 million of which was in Europe. It partly funds the project 'For Justice – Monitoring the Implementation of the Strategy for Judicial Reform 2019 – 2020' undertaken in North Macedonia, to increase civil society organisations' influence on judicial reform. It argues for the

⁴⁸ <https://www.osce.org/mission-to-serbia>

⁴⁹ <https://www.kazaziconsulting.com/projects/>

⁵⁰ <https://www.selec.org/projects/>

professionalisation of the Special Prosecutor's Office, and that it should have the mandate to prosecute corruption.⁵¹ Open Society Albania has funded judicial reform.⁵²

9. Bilateral and regional initiatives

There are a number of bilateral and regional coordination organisations including the **Southeast Europe Police Chiefs Association (SEPCA)**, the Secretariat of the **Police Cooperation Convention (PCC)** for South-Eastern Europe, the **Southeast European Prosecutors Advisory Group (SEPAG)** and the **Centre for Security Cooperation (RACVIAC)** (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2014, p. 124).

The **Police Cooperation Convention for Southeast Europe (PCC SEE)** was set up in 2006 to address cross-border crime in the region.⁵³ The **Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)** encourages cooperation on rule of law issues in the Western Balkans. It 'works on cross-border judicial co-operation and improved mutual trust among the Western Balkans judiciaries and administrations'. It established the 'SEE Judicial Training Institutions Network (SEE JTI Network)', coordinated policies, develops regional standards and best practice.⁵⁴

The **Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre (SELEC)** (previously SECI Centre) includes Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, North Macedonia, Greece, Hungary, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia and Turkey. Its projects include **Project SIRAS on Strengthening the fight against firearms trafficking in Southeastern Europe**, **Project FAIT (Fight Against Illegal Trade)**, **ECOFIT- Options for Enhancing Investigative Tool in the area of Firearms Trafficking**, the **Joint Project on Cooperation between Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre (SELEC) and Cybercrime Programme Office of the Council of Europe (C-PROC)** and the **Joint Collaboration for Dismantling Drugs Distribution and Illicit Laboratories - JCO3DIL**.⁵⁵

10. References

Carapic, J., & Gassmann, R. (2018). *Strengthening Resilience in the Western Balkans: Mapping Outreach and Assistance for Small Arms Light Weapons Control*.
<http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/fileadmin/docs/L-External-publications/2018/2018-AUT-Carapic-Gassmann-Mapping-Assistance-WBalkans.pdf>

CILC. (n.d.). Countering serious crime in the Western Balkans. In 2019.
<https://www.cilc.nl/cms/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Western-Balkans-Countering-serious-crime-in-the-Western-Balkans.pdf>

European Commission. (2018). *IPA MULTI-COUNTRY PROGRAMMES ACTIVITY REPORT*

⁵¹ <https://fosm.mk/en/current-project/blueprint-group-spo-as-an-institution-should-continue-to-work/>

⁵² <http://www.osfa.al/en/publication/how-albania-is-reforming-its-troubled-justice-system>

⁵³ <https://www.pccseesecretariat.si>

⁵⁴ <https://www.rcc.int/flagships/5/rule-of-law>

⁵⁵ <https://www.selec.org/projects/>

JULY - DECEMBER 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/activity_report_2018_07-12.pdf

OSCE. (2019). *Annual Report 2018*. <https://www.osce.org/annual-report/2018?download=true>

UNDP. (2018). *THE WESTERN BALKANS SALW CONTROL ROADMAP MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND Terms of Reference*. <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/SLW00>

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2014). *The Illicit Drug Trade Through South-Eastern Europe*. (March). https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Studies/Illicit_DT_through_SEE_REPORT_2014_web.pdf

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2016). *Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe (2016-2019)*. https://www.unodc.org/documents/southeasterneurope/RP_SEE_2016-2019_Approved.pdf

UNODC. (2017). *Western Balkans Counter-Serious Crime Initiative (WBCSCi) in the context of the Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG) mechanism including the European Union action: "Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II) Multi-Country Action Programme*. https://www.unodc.org/documents/evaluation/indepth-evaluations/2019/UNODC-IES_Independent_formative_evaluation_IISG_WBCSCi_EU_action_report_Feb_2019.pdf

US Department of State. (2019). *International Narcotics Control Strategy Report: Money Laundering*. <https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/INCSR-Vol-INCSR-Vol.-2-pdf.pdf>

Western Balkans Serious Crime Initiative. (2018). *Integrative plan of action 2018-2020*. <https://wb-iisg.com/wp-content/uploads/bp-attachments/5033/WBCTi-iPA-2018-2020.pdf>

Acknowledgements

We thank the following experts who voluntarily provided suggestions for relevant literature or other advice to the author to support the preparation of this report. The content of the report does not necessarily reflect the opinions of any of the experts consulted.

- Kristina Amerhauser, Global Initiative
- Tejal Jesrani Haslinger, UNODC

Key websites

- European Commission Neighbourhood Enlargement policy: https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/policy/eu-and-western-balkans_en
- Global Initiative: <http://globalinitiative.net/>
- Western Balkans Integrated Security Governance: <https://wb-iisg.com/about-iisg/>
- Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe: <https://www.osce.org/>
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Southeastern Europe regional programme: <https://www.unodc.org/southeasterneurope/en/regional-programme-framework.html>
- United States Justice Department: <https://www.justice.gov/criminal-opdat/worldwide-activities/europe-eurasia>

Suggested citation

Kelly, L. (2019). *Donor mapping in the Western Balkans: security and justice work linked to serious and organised crime*. K4D Helpdesk Report 707. Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies.

About this report

This report is based on six days of desk-based research. The K4D research helpdesk provides rapid syntheses of a selection of recent relevant literature and international expert thinking in response to specific questions relating to international development. For any enquiries, contact helpdesk@k4d.info.

K4D services are provided by a consortium of leading organisations working in international development, led by the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), with Education Development Trust, Itad, University of Leeds Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), University of Birmingham International Development Department (IDD) and the University of Manchester Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI).

This report was prepared for the UK Government's Department for International Development (DFID) and its partners in support of pro-poor programmes. It is licensed for non-commercial purposes only. K4D cannot be held responsible for errors or any consequences arising from the use of information contained in this report. Any views and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of DFID, K4D or any other contributing organisation. © DFID - Crown copyright 2019.

