

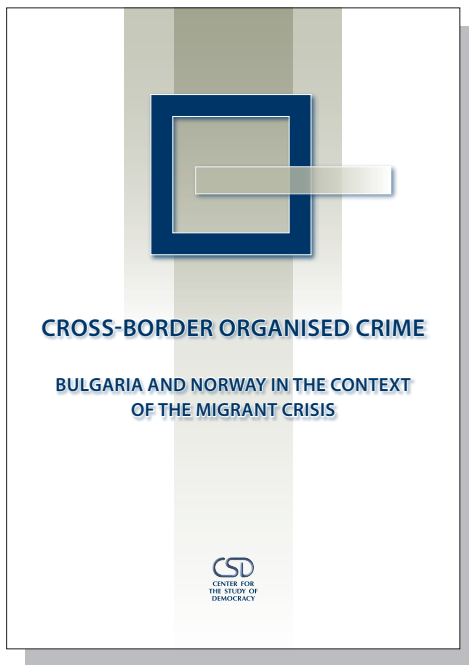
Security program

In 2017, the Security Program's efforts were focused on the following areas:

- **Assessing transnational organised crime threats.** The Security Program continued its work on overall strategic threat assessment, as well as in-depth analyses of three major criminal markets: the involvement of human smuggling operations in the context of the European migrant crisis, financial aspects of human trafficking in the EU and illicit trade in tobacco products via the Balkan route.
- **Monitoring and countering radicalisation and terrorism.** Two innovative practitioners' tools for monitoring radicalisation risks and assessing trends in extremism were developed, which gained recognition at EU level and have been included in the Collection of Inspiring Practices of the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN). CSD continued working on cutting-edge counter-radicalisation and terrorism research and policy development, including providing support to a study on violent extremism in Jordan, developing a mentoring program to counter radicalisation in probation and prison services in 5 EU Member States, as well as exploring the crime-terror nexus in 10 EU Member States.
- **EU border security.** The study Border Management and Visas beyond 2020: Scenarios and Implications (commissioned by DG Migration and Home Affairs) was concluded, outlining the challenges and priorities in the area of border security and visa policy to support strategic planning for the next multi-annual financial framework of the European Commission in the field of home affairs.
- **Measuring private corruption.** CSD contributed to developing innovative methods to measure and monitor business corruption in the EU, through participating in the design of the Private Corruption Barometer and its pilot application in Bulgaria. It is one of the few diagnostic instruments EU-wide that explores in depth different aspects of private-to-private corruption.
- **Improving private security sector governance.** CSD assessed the challenges for good governance of the private security sector and its roles and responsibilities in the broader security environment, and contributed to a regional study of accountability of private security companies in Southeast Europe.
- **Management of seized assets.** The Security Program contributed to the development of an innovative Data Management System for seized assets, a scalable and transferable ICT tool for the collection, management and automatic analysis of data on seized assets. The tool is expected to facilitate information sharing and more effective asset management within the EU.

I. Assessing transnational organised crime threats

In 2017, the Security Program continued its work on monitoring and evaluating key transnational and domestic organised crime risks and trends, with a focus on overall strategic threat assessment, as well as in-depth analyses of three criminal markets in particular: human smuggling, human trafficking and illicit trade in tobacco products.



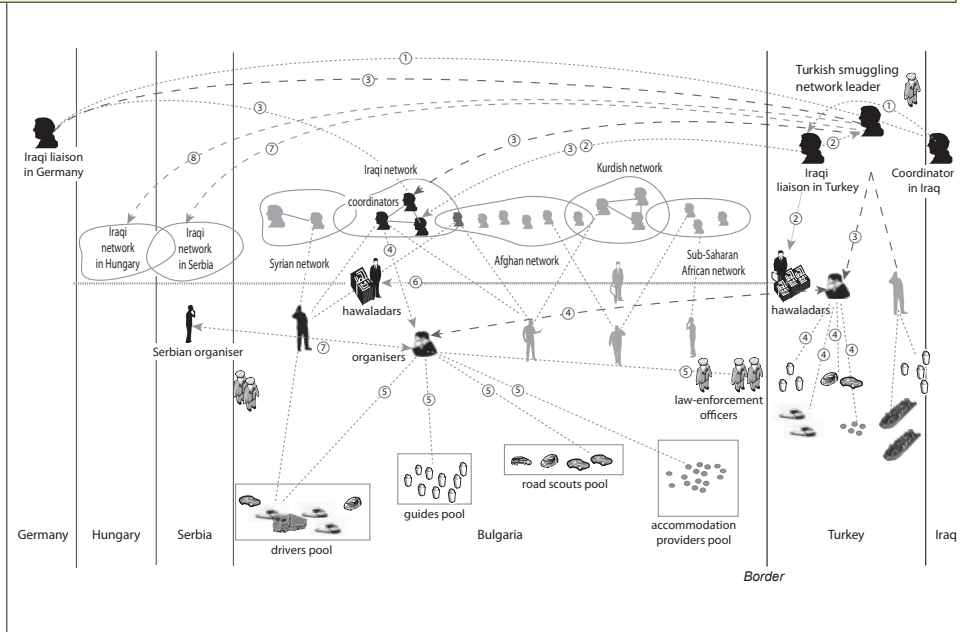
The adaptation of transnational criminal networks to the recent migration crisis in Europe since 2013 to date, as well as the rapidly evolving criminal market for human smuggling were among the issues examined in the study *Cross-border Organised Crime: Bulgaria and Norway in the Context of the Migrant Crisis*, conducted by CSD in partnership with the Norwegian Police University College (NPUC). The joint initiative aimed to improve understanding of the effect the migrant crisis has had on criminal net-

works and markets in Bulgaria and Norway, to contribute to the development of better suited approaches to countering transnational crime and to strengthen cooperation between law enforcement in the two countries. The study presents the first in-depth examination of human smuggling networks and operations in Bulgaria from the 1990s to date, as well as the synergies and overlaps with other organised criminal enterprises. It further examines critically the belated institutional response to the evolution of human smuggling networks at the peak of the European migrant crisis and highlights specific gaps and policy recommendations for a more synchronised and effective counteraction.

To enhance law enforcement cooperation in the field, CSD and NPUC organised a [study visit](#) to Oslo on 9-10 October 2017 aimed to facilitate exchange of good practices between Bulgarian and Norwegian police agencies tasked with countering human trafficking and smuggling. The findings of the joint study were presented at the international conference *Cross-border Organised Crime in the Context of the Migrant Crisis* held on 31 October 2017 in Sofia. The event was attended by representatives of Bulgarian law enforcement and the judiciary, members of civil society as well as diplomatic representatives of European countries and the US.

In 2017, the Security Program launched several new studies and initiatives that built upon previous work in the field of organised crime. After publishing the first Bulgarian *Serious and Organised Crime Threat Assessment* (BOCTA) in 2012, in 2017 CSD started work on the second independent BOCTA, which over the next three years will produce annual assessment reports covering 10 criminal markets posing the greatest threat. In January 2017, CSD started work on the study – *Financing of Or-*

Structure of a typical smuggling network through Bulgaria and organisation of smuggling operations



Participants from Bulgarian and Norwegian law enforcement agencies during a study visit in Oslo, 9-10 October 2017



Cross-Border Organised Crime in the Context of the Migrant Crisis Conference, Sofia, 31 October 2017

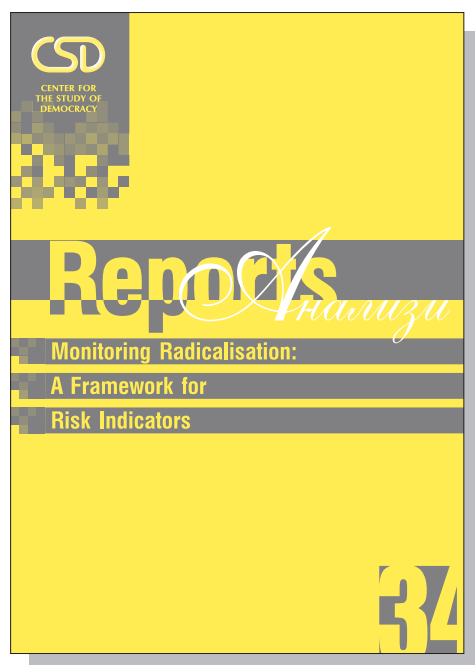
rganised Crime – Focus on Human Trafficking, building upon the successfully completed *Financing of Organised Crime report* in 2015. The study covers 10 EU countries and assesses in depth the financial aspects of trafficking in human beings activities.

Another key effort of the Security Program in the field of countering transnational organised crime is the study *Illicit trade of tobacco products along the Balkan route: addressing institutional gaps and corruption*, which is implemented jointly by CSD, the University of Trento in Italy, the Syene Center for Education in Romania and a team of leading Greek criminologists. The study elaborates tools for performance evaluation and corruption risk assessment of law enforcement and revenue authorities with regards to illegal tobacco trade.

II. Countering radicalisation and terrorism

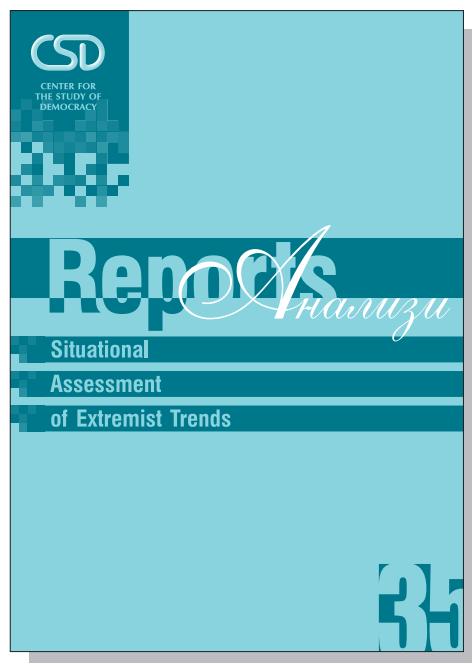
The Security Program, together with the Sociological Program, continued providing the evidence base for better understanding of radicalisation risks and processes in Bulgaria and the region, and developing practical diagnostic instruments to aid prevention efforts. CSD developed two innovative monitoring instruments to assess radicalisation and extremism risks, which respond directly to the needs of governments, practitioners and experts in countries from Central and Eastern Europe which are yet to implement comprehensive prevention and counter-radicalisation policies. There are few reliable diagnostic tools, designed to identify individuals and groups who might pose a threat, or are vulnerable to radicalisation, to guide ef-

fective policy action, both in those countries and across Europe more generally.



The *Framework for Risk Indicators for Monitoring Radicalisation* offers a practical guide of radicalisation risk and vulnerability indicators that enables frontline practitioners to better identify, understand and assess risk signs of radicalisation. It will serve as a main reference point for police officers, social or education workers in Bulgaria and in countries from Central and Southeast Europe, who are yet to be familiarised with the phenomenon and trained in how to respond to it. It also provides the basis for developing a tailored institutional early-warning mechanism in Bulgaria.

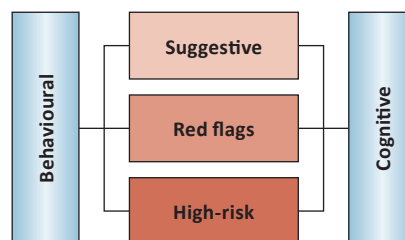
The *Situational Assessment of Extremist Trends* offers a viable mechanism for regular data collection and evaluation of extremists actors and crimes that enables intelligence and law enforcement institutions to develop regular situational reports of the spread, nature and trends



in extremism and violent radicalisms. The methodology was tested in Bulgaria, the Czech Republic and Greece, proving itself viable and effective despite variations in national contexts.

Policy makers wishing to develop comprehensive prevention and counter-radicalisation policies need reliable and

Structure of the vulnerability and risk indicators



actionable diagnostic tools that take into account different threat levels, vulnerability indicators and risk groups. To inform strategic policy making in the field of counter-radicalisation CSD has proposed an integrated approach towards monitoring and evaluation of underlying risks factors and trends, presented in the *CSD Policy Brief No. 68: Monitoring Radicalisation and Extremism*.

The two diagnostic instruments developed by CSD have been presented at national level and discussed with practitioners from law enforcement and intelligence agencies and from the expert community during the round table *Radicalisation and Extremism Risks in Bulgaria: Towards More Effective Diagnostic and Assessment Tools* held on 28 February 2017 at the Academy of the Ministry of the Interior. These efforts build directly on CSD's previous contribution

to the national *Strategy to Prevention and Countering Radicalisation and Terrorism 2015 – 2020*, by providing policy makers and practitioners with the necessary evidence base and actionable risk assessment tools to achieve strategic prevention objectives.

The monitoring tools have received highly positive feedback from EU policy officers, representatives of European NGOs, practitioners and international academic experts during the conference *Monitoring Radicalisation Risks in Central and Southeast Europe: Shaping Diagnostic Tools for EU Policy Makers* held on 23 February 2017 in Brussels in cooperation with the European Policy Center. As a result, the two instruments developed by CSD have been included in the *Collection of Inspiring Practices* of the EC's Radicalisation Awareness Network Center for Excellence (RAN).



Radicalisation and Extremism Risks in Bulgaria: Towards More Effective Diagnostic and Assessment Tools Round Table, Sofia, 28 February 2017



Alexandra Antoniadis, Head of Sector, Fight against Terrorism and Prevention of Radicalisation, DG HOME, European Commission and Günther Sablattnig, Office of the EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, during the conference in Brussels, 23 February 2017



Continuing CSD's successful cooperation with the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) on 17 January 2017, the Security Program organised and hosted a [RAN study visit for practitioners](#) in Sofia dedicated to the challenges in prevention of radicalisation with a particular focus on those EU Member States that are in the initial stages of developing programs and measures to tackle radicalisation. The study visit gathered members of the RAN Center for Excellence, representatives from Eastern European NGOs and practitioners from

the police, health, social and education sectors involved in countering radicalisation, as well as representatives of key Bulgarian institutional stakeholders such as the State Agency for National Security, the Ministry of the Interior and the penitentiary administration.

CSD continued working on innovative research and policy development efforts in the field of countering radicalisation and terrorism in the EU and beyond, including: providing support to a nation-wide study on violent extremism in Jordan, developing deradicalisation and mentorship programs in prison and probation services in 5 EU Member States, as well as exploring the nexus between crime and terrorism in partnership with renowned research institutes from 10 EU Member States.

III. EU border security

CSD continued working at the forefront of developing and evaluating EU programmes for the improvement of border control and EU migration policies. In 2017, CSD led the study *Border Management and Visas beyond 2020: Scenarios and Implications*, commissioned by DG HOME. It outlined the challenges and priorities in the area of EU border security. The objectives of the study were to provide the EC with recommendations for the future policy and funding priorities in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) in the areas of border management and common visa policy.

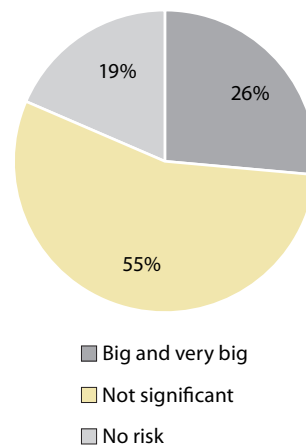
The study focused on several major uncertainties: the dynamics of migration pressure, the level of EU cooperation in general, and in particular in the area of border management, the evolution of travels to the EU and the common visa policy, and the potential implications of technological innovations. Each scenario is placed in a certain political context which provides the framework of possible developments within the EU and in its relationship with third countries. It defined the general framework of possible “futures” in regards to the uncertainties, and to assess each of the developed scenarios in terms of strategic planning and funding needs in the area of Home Affairs.

IV. Measuring private corruption

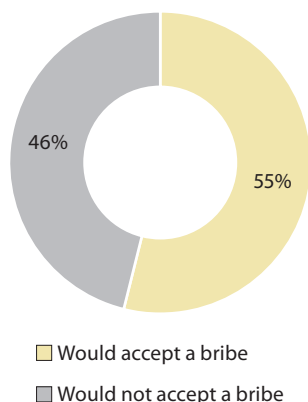
Corruption is a factor which hinders firms’ access to the market and to growth. There is a strong demand coming from both businesses and governments for sustainable policies to counter corruption in the private sector. Efficient policies, however, depend on the quality of information about the level and incidence of corruption.

CSD continued its efforts in developing innovative instruments for measuring and monitoring corruption through contributing to designing the [Private Corruption Barometer](#), in cooperation with the University of Trento, Universidad Rey Juan Carlos and the German NGO *Mafia? Nein Danke!* It is aimed at developing the first business victimisation survey module gathering comparative information on private corruption to produce more reliable indicators and statistics across EU Member States. The PCB survey was piloted in Bulgaria, Italy, Spain and Germany, allowing to measure comparatively objective (experiences) and subjective (perceptions) of private corruption within businesses of Member States. Results for private companies in Bulgaria show that illegitimate transactions between private companies are fairly common: only about 19 % of companies consider there is no risk of private-to-private corruption, while about 26 % of companies assess this risk as “big and very big”. This type of corruption is widespread and barriers to

Assessments of risk for private-to-private corruption



Susceptibility to private-to-private corruption



its proliferation are low: more than half of the employees in private companies would accept a bribe.

The results from the monitoring in Bulgaria mapped the extent and nature of corruption pressure on businesses, the most prevalent private-to-private corruption practices, their impact on annual business income, as well as the effectiveness of different anti-corruption measures.

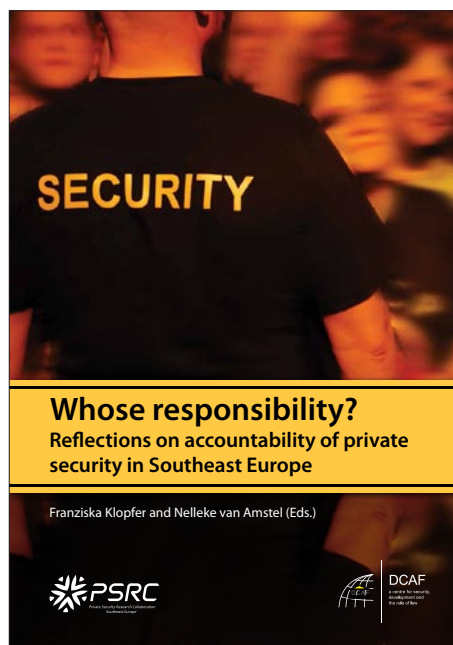
V. Improving private security governance

The challenges and opportunities in the private security sector continue to be an important topic in the overall security discourse in Bulgaria. The push for reforms in the sector culminated in the passing of a new law on private security in June, 2017. Although necessary steps were made in the right direction, much is left to be desired in the legal framework, particularly in improving the licensing regime of private security com-

panies (PSCs) and regulating effective public-private partnerships is the sector. The Security Program has remained focused on development in the area as part of the network [Private Security Research Collaboration \(PSRC\) Southeast Europe](#), led by the Geneva Center for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF).



Within this research network, CSD experts contributed to the regional study *Whose responsibility? Reflections on accountability of private security in Southeast Europe*, published in June 2017. The report provides more detailed examination of why accountability is not fully ensured in the private security sector in Bulgaria. The study critically assesses



the legislation on private security in Bulgaria and examines what kind of regulation was imposed on PSCs and the implications for the (perceived) roles and responsibilities of PSCs within the national security sector. The report also looks into the capacities of control and oversight bodies to oversee the private security sector and how the wider political and social context allows these bodies to be efficient – or not.

The Security Program continued its involvement in the public debate on the role of the private security sector in the wider issue of national and regional security, as well as on its democratic governance. On October 19, 2017 CSD experts participated in the fourth national conference of the Bulgarian Corporate Security Association (BCSA) entitled I. The efforts of the Security Program in the private security sector have gained recognition in the corporate security community in Bulgaria and the cooperation between CSD and BCSA has been formalised through a partnership agreement.

VI. Enhancing the management of seized assets

Over the past few years the Member States of the EU have become increasingly aware of the need for enhanced knowledge of the property owned by offenders in order to effectively combat not only organised crime but all forms of criminal activity. Effectively combating crime requires not only being able to trace crime-related assets but also to

seize, manage and ultimately confiscate the same in compliance with the final decision of courts if the criminal justice system is to run its full course.

Criminal asset forfeiture and management has been gaining significant political saliency in Bulgaria in the last few years, particularly in relation to government efforts in the fight against corruption at the political level. The Security Program has been closely monitoring the developments in the field while cooperating closely with the Commission for Illegal Asset Forfeiture (CIAF). In cooperation with the University of Trento, the Security Program contributed to designing and testing in selected EU Member States of an innovative Data Management System for seized assets (PAYBACK DMS prototype). The PAYBACK DMS is intended to be a scalable ICT tool – transferable with adaptations to different EU national contexts and supporting multi-lingual interface – for the collection, management and automatic analysis of data on seized assets. The application of the data management model is expected to exert a positive impact on the work of CIAF, particularly in relation to international cooperation and information exchange.

On 16 September 2017, experts from the Security Program presented the Bulgarian experience in seizing and managing criminal assets through the application of ICT tools during in the 17th Annual [Conference of the European Society of Criminology](#) (EuroCrim) in Cardiff, UK.