

INTERPOL'S GLOBAL EFFORTS TO COMBAT ORGANIZED CRIME: EXAMINING STRATEGIES AND IMPACT



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Abstract: Organized crime represents the most serious crimes threatening societies at present, whether at the social or economic level or even at the political level. This is because of the criminal alliances that operate at the international level, to impose their control over the countries themselves, and to achieve the most possible profit. This led to an attempt to intensify international, regional, and national efforts to combat this crime, and among these mechanisms dedicated to combating organized crime, we find The International Criminal Police Organization or what is now known as "Interpol", which was established in 1923 and its main objective appears. In ensuring cooperation and coordination between countries to track down and arrest criminals in whatever country they are in.

Key Words: Interpol, global efforts, combating organized crime, strategies, Impact

جهود الانتربول العالمية لمكافحة الجريمة المنظمة: دراسة الاستراتيجيات والتأثير

ملخص: تمثل الجريمة المنظمة أخطر الجرائم التي تهدد المجتمعات في الوقت الحاضر سواء على المستوى الاجتماعي أو الاقتصادي وحتى على المستوى السياسي .وذلك بسبب التحالفات الإجرامية التي تعمل على المستوى الدولي ، من أجل فرض سيطرتها على الدول نفسها، وتحقيق أكبر قدر ممكن من الربح .وقد أدى ذلك إلى محاولة تكثيف الجهود الدولية والإقليمية والوطنية لمكافحة هذه الجريمة ، ومن بين هذه الآليات المخصصة لمكافحة الجريمة المنظمة نجد: المنظمة الدولية للشرطة الجنائية أو ما يعرف الآن باسم "الانتربول" ، والتي كانت تأسست عام 1923 ويظهر هدفها الرئيسي .في ضمان التعاون والتنسيق بين الدول لتعقب واعتقال المجرمين في أي بلد يتواجدون فيه.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الانتربول، جهود عالمية، مكافحة الجريمة المنظمة، استراتيجيات، التأثير

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Les efforts mondiaux d'INTERPOL pour combattre le crime organisé : études stratégies et de l'impact.

Résumé: Le crime organisé représente les crimes les plus graves qui menacent les sociétés à l'heure actuelle, que ce soit sur le plan social ou économique, et même sur le plan politique. C'est à cause des alliances criminelles qui opèrent au niveau international, afin d'imposer leur contrôle sur les pays eux-mêmes, et de réaliser le plus grand profit possible. Cela a conduit à une tentative d'intensification des efforts internationaux, régionaux et nationaux pour combattre ce crime, et parmi ces mécanismes dédiés à la lutte contre le crime organisé, on trouve : l'Organisation internationale de police criminelle ou ce qu'on appelle aujourd'hui « Interpol », qui a été fondée en 1923 et montre son objectif principal. En assurant la coopération et la coordination entre les pays pour traquer et arrêter les criminels dans n'importe quel pays où ils se trouvent

Mots Clés: Interpol, efforts mondiaux, combattre le crime organisé, stratégies, Impact

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Introduction:

Throughout history, crime has stood as one of the most perilous phenomena that human societies have encountered. Crime embodies a violation of divine and moral precepts as well as man-made laws, presenting one of humanity's greatest challenges. This reality has piqued the interest of philosophers, religious scholars, politicians, researchers, and legal experts who have sought to study its intricacies, analyze its contents, and devise effective means of combating it. Addressing crime has also become a priority for national governments, as they strive to achieve stability, security, and peace for their citizens.

However, addressing crime's evolving nature has posed new challenges. Transnational organized crime, characterized by its borderless nature, has posed a unique threat transcending national boundaries. Criminal enterprises involving drug trade, human trafficking, arms smuggling, terrorism, and more, demand coordinated global responses. Governments and international entities have recognized the necessity for cooperative frameworks. This recognition led to the establishment of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol), aiming to facilitate collaboration between diverse law enforcement agencies worldwide.

This study raises the following pivotal question:

How does INTERPOL contribute to the global fight against transnational organized crime and what is the significance of its efforts in addressing this issue?

To address this primary concern, the research was segmented into two main parts. The initial section provides an overview of the International Criminal Police Organization, elucidating its structure, functions, and operational framework. Subsequently, the second part delves into Interpol's efforts in combating organized crime.

THE FIRST TOPIC: Conceptual Framework for the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)

In addition to the United Nations, another organization has been known for a lot in the field of combating crime in general and organized crime in particular. This organization is called the International Criminal Police Organization, which is one of the oldest forms of police cooperation in combating organized crime.

First requirement: The history of INTERPOL and its values

In this part, we will discuss the establishment of the International Criminal Police Organization and the principles on which this organization is based in its basic law ¹

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¹ Jensen, Richard Bach. "The international anti-anarchist conference of 1898 and the origins of interpol." Journal of Contemporary History 16.2 (1981), p 329



First section: The history of INTERPOL

The first practical initiative to establish an international body in the field of international security cooperation to combat crime was in 1914 when the Prince of Monaco called for an international police conference. The First World War, and when the First World War came to an end, a police officer in the Netherlands tried to revive the idea of coordination between the various police agencies of all countries, as Colonel "Van Houts" called for an international conference to discuss this issue, but he was not successful in what he called fori. However, most of the specialized writers who dealt with this subject attribute the real beginning of the International Criminal Police Organization to the year 1923, when the Second International Police Conference was held at the invitation of the Vienna Police Chief, and the conference decided to establish the International Criminal Police Committee based in Vienna.

The committee continued its work, which was focused on exchanging information among the member states of the committee, especially in the field of drug control, until the outbreak of World War II, during which the committee stopped its work. In 1946, at the invitation of the Belgian police, the International Police Conference was held in Brussels, A new constitution was drawn up for the International Criminal Police Commission, and its headquarters were moved to Paris 200, and in 1956 the name of the commission was changed to the International Criminal Police Organization and its acronym is Interpol, and in 1989 the headquarters of the commission became in Lyon, France. As for joining Interpol, Article 4 of its charter stipulates that membership is open to all countriesii, and this is considered an affirmation of the global nature of membership in the International Criminal Police Organization, and this means that membership is not limited to a specific group of countries. Every country respects the obligations of the Charter no matter what. Whether it is its orientation, strength, or population, it can join the International Criminal Police Organization. Interpol has succeeded in these directions, as the number of organizing countries has now reached 186 countries.²

Second section: The values of INTERPOL

The main principles of the International Criminal Police Organization enshrined in its Basic Law are as follows: (Basic Law of the International Criminal Police Organization amended in 2008):

- A/ Respect for the national sovereignty of the OIC member states.
- B / Implementation of the decisions of its general assembly.

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¹ Calcara, Giulio. "A transnational police network co-operating up to the limits of the law: an examination of the origin of INTERPOL." Transnational Legal Theory 11.4 (2020), p 530.

² Ibid, p531

C / equality in rights and obligations among all member states within the organization. The organization is prohibited from any activity related to issues of a political, military, religious, or racial nature.¹

Second requirement: The Objectives and Membership of INTERPOL

INTERPOL stands as a pivotal force in global law enforcement cooperation, Its primary objectives encompass countering transnational crimes such as terrorism, cybercrime, and human trafficking by facilitating information exchange among member countries. Also, INTERPOL's membership structure promotes collaboration among countries with distinct legal systems.

First section: Objectives

Article 2 of the Constitution of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) stipulates the goals that the organization was established to achieve, and they are limited to the following:

This organization aims to raise the level of cooperation between law enforcement agencies in countries in various fields of information exchange, investigation, and legal follow-up, and to unify the political will of countries to address this crime and encourage them to develop legislation to ensure effective combating of organized crime and seeks to achieve the following goals:²

A/ Securing and developing collaboration on the widest scale among all criminal police authorities within the framework of existing systems in various countries and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Establishing and developing all institutions capable of contributing effectively to the prevention of common law crimes.

b/ Confirming and encouraging mutual aid on the widest possible scale between the competent criminal authorities within the limits of the laws and regulations in force in the Member States, and taking into account the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

C/ Issuing and developing decisions and regulations that contribute effectively to preventing and combating common law crimes.

From the foregoing, it is clear that Interpol aims briefly at achieving cooperation between the competent security services and issuing the necessary decisions and regulations to prevent and combat common law crimes, which is that group of crimes represented in violating the principles of natural law and the legal systems of all societies, such as murder, theft, fraud, drug trafficking, slavery, and weapons. People, currency counterfeiting, etc³.

The Basic Law of the International Criminal Police Organization amended for the year 2008

Article 2 of the Constitution of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) 2008
The Basic Law of the International Criminal Police Organization amended for the year 2008



However, the organization's constitution set a limitation on the exercise of its activities, which is represented in respecting the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights issued by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948, which guarantees the human right to life, liberty, personal safety, and the preservation of dignity without any discrimination as to race, sex, color, religion, or religion. Any other discriminatory criteria.

Second section: Membership:

By Article 4 of the Constitution of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol), any country may join the organization, in addition to the founding countries that acquired membership status upon foundation. It is sufficient for the country wishing to join to apply to acquire membership status to the Director General of Interpol, pledging to accept the obligations contained in the organization's constitution. them, which are represented in particular by the following:¹

1/ Cooperate with Interpol and other member states to achieve the objectives of the organization as outlined in its constitution within the framework of respect for the national sovereignty of states and their national laws (Article 2 of the organization's constitution)².

2/ Commitment to establishing central offices for the organization on the territories of the member states and providing all the necessary facilities for coordination between these offices and achieving cooperation with the security services of the member states (Article 32 of the organization's constitution).³

3/ Implementing the organization's decisions and the obligations resulting from them in full transparency and good faith (Article 9 of the organization's constitution).⁴

4/ Contribute to financing the organization's activities and financial expenditures (Article 38/a of the organization's constitution). The organization bases its decision-making on the principle of legal equality among all its member states, there is no difference between big and small, regardless of its actual capabilities and the extent of its financial contribution to the organization. This country is bound by its financial obligations towards the organization, including depriving it of the right to vote in the General Assembly or from the activities and services that the organization performs for its members. ⁵

On the other hand, the Interpol constitution did not address the provisions of termination of membership in it, whether by dismissal or withdrawal, and this deliberate omission may be due to the fear of the drafters of the constitution that the explicit text on withdrawal or expulsion would encourage some countries to leave the

¹ Article 4 of the Constitution of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) 2008

² Article 2 of the organization's constitution2008

³ Article 32 of the organization's constitution2008

⁴ Article 9 of the organization's constitution2008

⁵ Article 38/a of the organization's constitution 2008



organization and persevere in violating their obligations, which contributes to Weakening the global character of the organization and its effectiveness.

THE SECOND TOPIC: Interpol efforts in combating organized crime

Interpol is making important and effective efforts in combating organized crime, and this is by practicing several tasks related to combating this phenomenon at present, both in terms of principle and in terms of actual application, the latter of which is several mechanisms used by the organization, and this is what We will discuss it in this part

First requirement: The effectiveness of INTERPOL

Crimes of illegal drug trafficking, smuggling of goods, theft, slave trade, theft of works of art and antiquities, counterfeiting and financial crimes, crimes of terrorism, and catch them Interpol is also specialized in research, investigation, and detection of information crimes in general and the Internet in particular and their perpetrators as a new type of organized crime. By tracking and seizing digital evidence, and conducting a cross-border inspection of the logical computer components, information systems, and communication networks, in search of evidence and evidence that they may contain of the commission of the information crime.²

First section: Addressing Emerging Crimes

The International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) has been able to achieve some success in combating many crimes, especially serious ones, and in prosecuting the perpetrators and bringing them to justice. And that is through its effective investment of the technical means that it possesses.³

The organization has collected the data and information received from the national central offices in public files and then issued them in bulletins addressed to the competent police authorities in the Member States, which include detailed information about the crimes committed and those prosecuted, accused, or convicted of committing these crimes, which contributes to achieving effectiveness. International cooperation in combating crime. Here it should be noted that the competence of Interpol does not include combating political crimes or those committed in violation of military laws. Interpol also issues international notices for the search for missing children for any reason, especially about criminal gangs

³ Check this website https://www.interpol.int/Who-we-are/What-is-INTERPOL last seen

01/04/2023 12pm

¹ International Criminal Police Organization, INTERPOL Overview, Information Notice No. 1COM/F5/2007-09/G1, Interpol Publications, 2007, p.1, on the official website: www.interpol int International Criminal Police Review, N°267 April-May 1973, p110

² Huins, J. M. M. "Need for effective international police cooperation in the fight against increasing international crime: an examination of the effectiveness of Interpol in fulfilling the needs of the United Kingdom at the approach of the 1980s." Bramshill, Police Staff College (1980)p12



engaged in trafficking in persons, human organs, stolen antiquities, drugs, and counterfeiting currency.¹

Second section: Coordinative Role in International Investigations

Interpol plays an important role in suppressing terrorist crimes and those that violate the security and safety of civil aviation, as well as in verifying the identity of criminals, revealing the identity of unknown bodies, and searching for missing items, in addition to carrying out other activities related to training police officers, publishing statistics and criminal data, and holding international conferences and seminars. Contributing to the activities of other organizations, such as attending meetings of the Human Rights Council and the United Nations Drug Commission², and establishing close relations with specialized international agencies and some nongovernmental bodies of common interest. Interpol has played an effective and tangible role in the implementation of judicial rogatory representations, such as hearing witnesses, carrying out seizures and searches, examining evidence, and examining documents, especially about the issue of extradition of criminals between the member states of the organizations.

Although the extradition system is governed mainly by international agreements concluded in this regard, such as the Montevideo Convention of 1933 signed between the American countries, and the Arab Convention of 1952, Interpol has a vital role in the actual implementation of these agreements, so that some of them, such as the European Convention for the Extradition of Criminals of 1957, have I entrusted the task of apprehending criminals and handing them over to the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol).³

Second requirement: the most important crimes of concern to INTERPOL

Some of the crimes handled by the organization are the International Criminal Police Organization. The organization deals with many crimes. They are difficult to list such as firearms, antiquities theft, environmental crime, cybercrime, financial crime, organized crime, and many more. In our study, we will confine ourselves to mentioning the most important crimes that concern the international community, which are terrorism, corruption, and cybercrime, and then we present some of the activities of the organization.

First section: The crime of terrorism;

The goal of terrorism is often political or ideological, and Interpol, in cooperation and coordination with member states, pursues and tracks down the terrorists who are fleeing and extradites them, and the procedures for pursuit and seizure begin with a request submitted to the General Secretariat of Interpol through

¹ C Blakesly, Justice systems facing organized crime, general report, ride, n 1 and 2-16 1998, p36.

² J. R. Serrana Piedecase, penal response to Spanish organized crime, national report presented at the international congress of the AIDP, September 1999.p 263.

³ EIPO, the role of interpol in the fight against transnational organized crime, draft resolution in agm 68.p.2005



the central office located in the country requesting extradition, and it is stipulated that this request contains all the information The necessary information, including information related to the fugitive terrorist and information proving his involvement in one of the crimes of international terrorism, as the General Secretariat issues an international bulletin to all national central offices located in the member states of the organization, and in the event that the terrorist is caught in any of these countries, the central office in the country The central office of the state informs the requester of extradition, and the latter must follow the necessary diplomatic methods to receive the terrorist. ¹

For Interpol to be able to verify the effectiveness of its role in this field, it worked to possess all means of rapid communication between it and all national central offices through a wireless network and telegrams linking its general secretariat to all central offices to ensure the speed of transfer of information, images, and fingerprints of terrorists, and there is no doubt that the speed of access Information and data between countries helps prevent many forms of international terrorism. International conventions related to terrorism and UN Security Council resolutions urge cooperation between states in the judicial field before and after criminal trial, and to extradite criminals based on the Interpol mechanism. Among these agreements is the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism of 199, whose article (18), paragraph four, stipulates: That "States Parties may exchange information through the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol)"².

What can be raised in the issue of extradition, especially the dangerous ones such as terrorists, is that it collides with the lack of bilateral treaties between countries, while terrorist crimes are among the crimes that require extradition in all national legislations other than political and military crimes., a group of Conditions must be met to extradite criminals, which is understood from Articles Five to Seven, namely:

- 1. That the offense is terrorist (Article 05)
- 2. That it has harmed the interests of the contracting states and is serious, and its penalty is not less than one year (Article 08).
- 3. That the crime be criminalized in both the laws of the two countries, i.e. the Muslim woman and the recipient (Article 06 paragraph c)
- 4 That the crime or punishment has not been extinguished by the statute of limitations (Article 6, Paragraph G).

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¹ Check the Interpol website https://www.interpol.int/Crimes/Terrorism last seen 02/04/2023 at 6 pm

²The Basic Law of the International Criminal Police Organization amended for the year 2008 article (18), paragraph four



- 5. The crime should not have been subject to a judicial ruling with the force of the judge (Article 6 Paragraph d).
- 6. That the state requesting extradition be competent to prosecute the person and punish him for the crime (Article 6, paragraph f)
- 7. The crime or punishment for which a blanket amnesty has not been issued (Article 6, Paragraph E)
- 8. The person whose extradition is requested is not under investigation, trial, or convicted for another crime in the country to which extradition is requested, as his extradition is postponed until the completion of the investigation or completion of the investigation. trial or execution of the sentence, however, the State may surrender him temporarily for investigation. with him or try him on the condition that he be returned to it (Article Seven)¹

Second section: The crime of corruption:

There are executive and legal mechanisms to combat corruption within the scope of Interpol.

1/Legal mechanisms in combating corruption within the framework of Interpol:

Declaration of Intent to Save the Law (Seoul Protocol) 1999. The advertising strategy includes adopting the anti-corruption approach on three levels:

Awareness and prevention.

B Investigative fieldwork

C Public relations through:

- 1 Enact effective legislation to track and confiscate the proceeds of corruption and related crimes.
- 2 Developing legislative and administrative measures and eliminating corruption in the police forces.
- 3 Expanding the powers of the police in conducting investigations and bringing those involved to justice.
- 4 Establish oversight mechanisms such as bodies to monitor the systems and measures that have been adopted, to prevent, detect, punish, and eradicate corruption within the police force.²

2/ executive mechanisms

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¹ The Basic Law of the International Criminal Police Organization amended for the year 2008 article 05/06 in all paragraphs (a b c d e f g) + article 07/08

² Deridder, Willy. "Interpol's Approach to Combating Corruption." Corruption, Integrity and Law Enforcement. Brill Nijhoff, 2000.p p401/402.



1 Expert Panel on Corruption (IACA) The team includes a large group of stakeholders from other countries in the anti-corruption campaign. As for the principles and objectives of the agency, they are the formation of a free and just society and its inclusion of high standards of integrity, justice, and public resistance to corruption. As for the functions of the device, it contributes to:¹

A/ Provide basic information to INTERPOL on issues related to all aspects of corruption, and entrust it with the mandate to advise the Secretary-General on the best ways to combat this phenomenon

B/ Attending national, regional, and global anti-corruption meetings

C/ Conducting several workshops, studies, and preparing conferences on combating corruption.

D/ Carrying out many control operations, including: (a project of a set of "global standards for combating corruption in the police forces" for law enforcement, while providing a framework for improving its components of corruption, as well as preventing corruption and investigating its cases.²

3/ Combating Internet Crimes

Cybercrime is defined as "a set of illegal acts and actions that are carried out through electronic equipment, devices, or the Internet, or through which their contents are proven. It is that type of crime that requires special knowledge of computer technologies and information systems to commit or investigate it and prosecute the perpetrators"³.

Prosecuting the perpetrators of crimes and bringing them to justice requires taking procedures outside the borders of the state where the crime was committed, and among these procedures is the inspection of Internet sites abroad, the seizure of hard disks, and the inspection of computer systems. between countries, where the state alone cannot eradicate these transnational international crimes because the police apparatus in this or that country cannot track and prosecute criminals except within the borders of the state to which it belongs when the criminal flees outside the borders of the state, the police apparatus becomes powerless, and efforts have been made Interpol in this field went through several stages until several regional communication centers were established in Tokyo, New Zealand, Nairobi, Azerbaijan, and Buenos Aires to facilitate the passage of messages, in addition to a sub-regional office in Bangkok.⁴

¹ Check this website https://www.iaca.int/measuring-corruption/our-team/ last seen 03/04/2023 9pm

⁴ Tsybulenko, Evhen, and Sebastian Suarez. "INTERPOL." International Conflict and Security Law: A Research Handbook. The Hague: TMC Asser Press, 2022. P 679.

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² Anderson Malcohn Interpol and the developing system of police cooperation, United States of America, 1997, p 60

³ Check this website https://www.unodc.org/e4j/en/cybercrime/module-1/key-issues/cybercrime-in-brief.html last seen 03/04/2023 3pm



Conclusion:

Organized crime has become a threat to peace and security not only in third-world countries but also in the collective security system as a whole. Therefore, various countries and major international organizations such as the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization rushed to search for effective ways to combat and prevent the phenomenon of organized crime, by concluding and ratifying many agreements and organizing many conferences and seminars on this dangerous phenomenon. In this research, we reached the following results and suggestions:

Results:

- 1-The security and stability of the international community, and limiting the spread of crimes, is linked to the guarantees that we, the individuals, offer good education, exemplary behavior, renunciation of selfishness, and respect for others
- 2- It is also linked to the positions of the major countries towards thorny international issues, especially issues of wars, regional tensions, and armed conflicts, and to fair decisions taken at the level of the organs of active international organizations such as the Security Council and the International Criminal Court, for example.
- 3-The repercussions of the dangers of organized crime hit even the social and economic structure of the superpowers, which made them strive to cooperate to track down criminals and trace their traces and then hand them over to trial, through the conclusion of many agreements and treaties, holding international seminars and conferences and the establishment of international bodies "Interpol for example" to confront these alarming phenomenon.

Suggestions:

- 1-Giving a legal value to the red notices related to the extradition system by intervening in making amendments to its internal laws that prevent the extradition system at the international level from reaching its goals, so that it does not remain just a theoretical idea.
- 2- The need for an amendment to the basic law of the organization, especially in Article 3, to set a standard clarifying what are the issues of a political, military, or religious nature.
- 3- Activating the organization's mechanisms and intensifying cooperation to achieve the goals that INTERPOL aspires to. Despite some of the shortcomings of this security apparatus, it remains an efficient and effective means of bringing together all the countries of the world under one goal, which is a world without crime.



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