



# Making Waste and Pollution Crimes Visible.

Research Outcomes & Training| For Police & Security Practitioners



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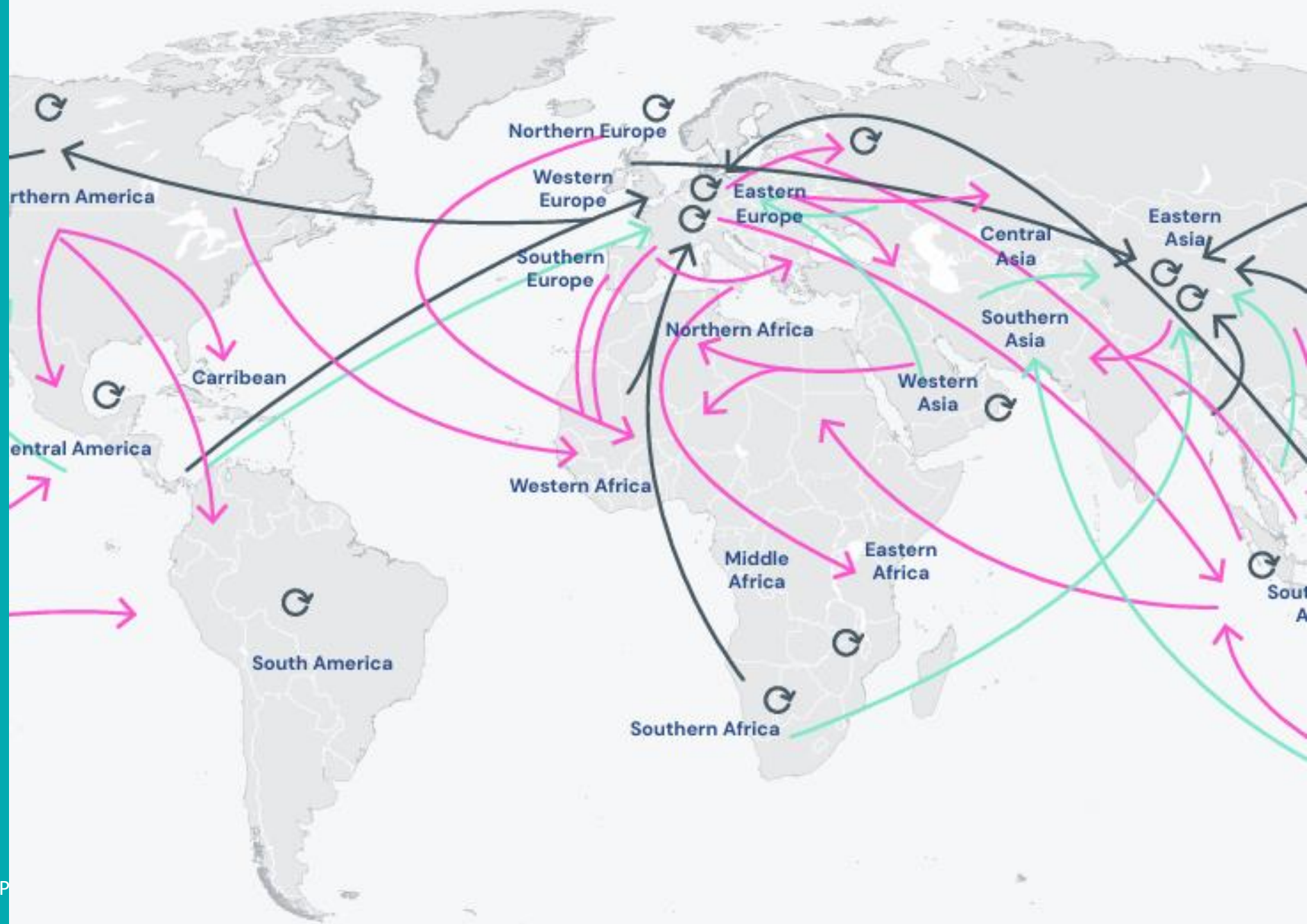
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# 1. Waste and Pollution Crime: A Hidden Threat





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**4th largest  
organised crime  
activity**



**5-7% annual  
growth rate of  
environmental  
crime**



**€80-230 billion  
lost annually due  
to environmental  
crime**

# Research Management and Methodology



# PERIVALLON

Protecting the **Eu**ropean Terr**it**ory from organised **enV**ironment**Al** crime  
through inte**LL**igent threat detecti**ON** tools



24 partners



12 countries

## USE CASES

Illegal Waste Disposal on  
Land

Intentional Dumping of  
Polluting Substances in  
Water

Transnational Illegal  
Trafficking of WEEE

Illegal Trade in Ozone-  
Depleting Substances &  
HFCs

Research & Development

Testing & Validation

Training

Policy Recommendations

# Cases Studies

PUC	Case	Italy IT-CC ARPA	Greece HP MoEE	Sweden SPA	Romania RBP	Belgium DWG
PUC 1	Investigating illegal waste <i>disposal</i> on land					
PUC 2	Investigating intentional <i>dumping</i> of polluting substances in water					
PUC 3	Investigating transnational illegal <i>trafficking</i> of waste electronic and electrical equipment					
PUC 4	Investigating illegal trade in ozone-depleting substances & HFCs					

# Research Management and Methodology

## **1. Literature Study [M1-M12]**

- Achievement: overview of the 'field' of waste and pollution crime

## **2. Case Studies (Survey I) [M6-M18]**

- Achievement: end user perspective (e.g., type of law enforcement action, challenges, needs)

## **3. Case Studies (Interviews) [M27-M28]**

- Achievement: in-depth analysis with SPA and RBP based on Survey I

## **4. Case Studies (Survey II) [M28-M29]**

- Achievement: national historical perspective, statistics, institutional architecture incl. status of cooperation (institutions, roles)

## **5. Writing the report / D2.3 [M6-M35]**





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Protecting the European territory from organized environmental crime through intelligent threat detection tools

## 2. Current Practitioner Challenges

- Modus Operandi
- Challenges
- Success Factors

# Policy Recommendations

## Policy Gaps

1. Weak Enforcement Across Member States
2. Inadequate Cross-Border Coordination
3. Less Established Monitoring and Digital Tracking
4. Private Sector Accountability
5. Gaps in Legal Frameworks

# Policy Recommendations

## System of recommendations

- Core proposals
- Supplementary proposals
- Further recommendations

# Policy Recommendations

## Recommendations

### Core Proposals

- CP 1: Boost Investigation and Enforcement
- CP 2: Supporting the Implementation and Development of Technologies for Surveillance and Tracking
- CP 3: Improve Data and Intelligence Sharing
- CP 4: Strengthen the Implementation of Regulatory Frameworks



# Policy Recommendations

## Recommendations

### **Supplementary Proposals**

- SP 1: Promote Public Engagement and Whistleblowing
- SP 2: Address Socioeconomic Drivers

### **Further recommendations**

- FP 1: Invest in Green Infrastructure and Innovation
- FP 2: Support Community Monitoring and Environmental Justice

# Policy Recommendations



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Environmental Crime is one of the EU's priorities in the fight against serious and organized crime.

## Policy Research Insights

### Welcome

This *Environmental Policy Research Insight* aims at providing research insights from the PERIVALLON project for long-term policy making on waste and pollution crime in Europe. It provides (i) high-level overview of the key institutional frameworks and initiatives in the realm of environmental policy and the (ii) policy-related institutions and initiatives in the field of environmental enforcement. It shows, that although key actions have been taken to protect the environment, there are still challenges in investigating and enforcing waste and pollution crimes in Europe.

To better understand these challenges and needs, a literature study, two surveys and an interview series have been conducted. The methodology, the results as well as the key policy recommendations are presented in this *Policy Research Insights*.

**Sandra Balbierz**  
Researcher at the Center for Police and Security Studies (CEPOLIS)



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## Environmental Policy

### Key Frameworks and Initiatives on the EU level

The European Union has recognised the growing threat of environmental crime and implemented a range of policies and mechanisms to combat it. One of the recent developments is the *Environmental Crime Directive* which was adopted on 11 April 2024 and entered into force on 20 May 2024 as well as the high-level *Commission Expert Group on Environmental Compliance and Governance Forum* [10] [17].

Since 1973, several **Environment Action Programmes (EAP)** have set "legislative proposals and goals for EU environment policy." [19] [20] One of the current EAP priorities is to reduce "environmental and climate pressures related to production and consumption (particularly in the areas of energy, industrial development, buildings and infrastructure, mobility and the food system)." [Ibid, p. 3] The general function of the Environment Action Programmes within the policy architecture is to set the long-term goals. These are complemented by **horizontal strategies** which formulate the strategies. Two of these horizontal strategies are the sustainable development strategy (SDS) from 2001 and the biodiversity strategy for 2030 from 2020.

# Turning waste crime from *hidden* to *visible*.

## Situational Awareness

Crime monitoring



## Investigation

Information sharing and  
evidence exchange



**Making waste and  
pollution crimes  
visible.**

<https://perivallon-he.eu/>

