

Session One – *International Cooperation*

Seminar Three – 13th May, 2009.
Nuffield Foundation, London

The use of forensic bioinformation in international cooperation



- The detection of crime
- Analysis of trends in transnational crime (volume and spatial)

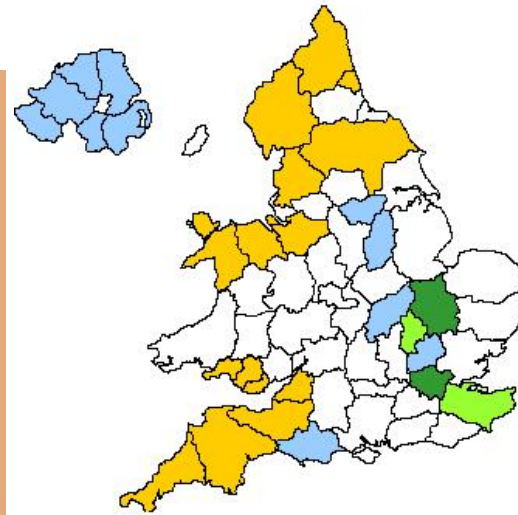
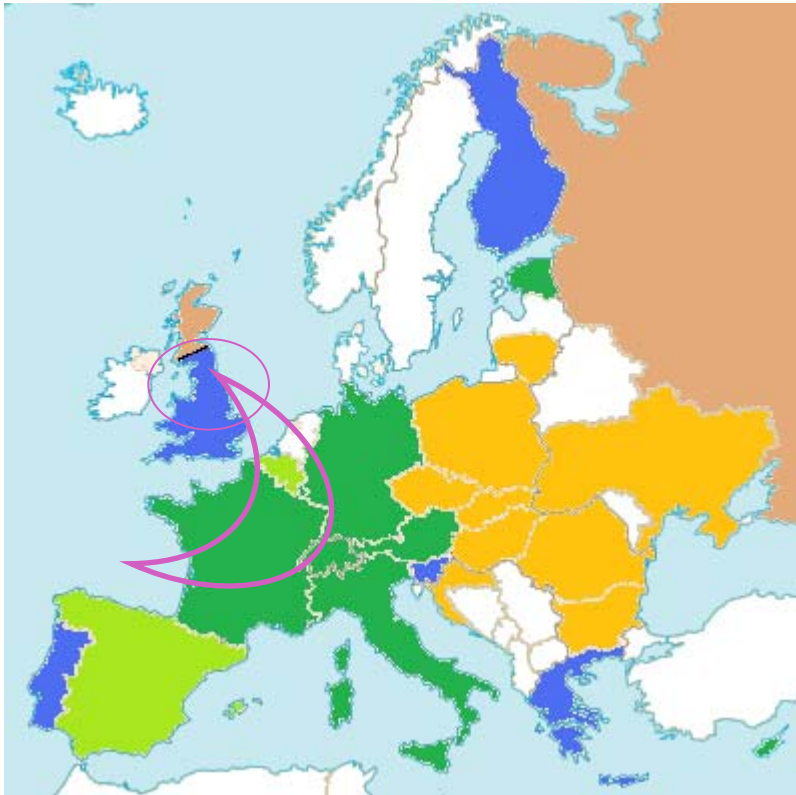


- Identification of bodies and body parts, including DVI



- Other possible needs, such as the identification of trafficked children

The use of forensic bioinformation in international cooperation



The purple lines indicate very approximately the EU's economic & logistical core

Source: 'Forensic Science and the Internationalisation of Policing' in Fraser, J. G. and Williams, R. (eds.) *Handbook of Forensic Science* (Willan), June 2009

Learning from experience:



- ‘By chance and not as a matter of routine’: Francisco Arce Montes and Michel Fourniret



- ‘Operation Thread’
- 2005 Tsunami and 2008 Typhoon Frank



- Critical contextuality: the arrest of Dr Haneef



- Quality lost in transmission: the arrest of attorney Brandon Mayfield

Different DNA maker systems etc



- SGM+, CODIS and any other markers
- How matches are defined



- Any potential new marker systems?



- Transition arrangements for moving from existing marker systems to a new one



- Different tools for measurement and issues of calibration

Potential complications in respect of fingerprints

- Quality of images
- Baseline standards
- Potential degradation of image during international transmission
- Lack of interoperability of some propriety AFIS systems
- Randomised peer scrutiny to enhance validity of matches



Other potentially relevant issues



- Compliance with domestic law
- Scientific or technical integrity



- Data protection standards



- Contextual information allowing judgements to be made about the significance of any matches

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Different arrangements for initial identification



- An international database located in another jurisdiction



- By allowing officials another jurisdiction to directly search (but not manipulate) information held on the national database



- Full national control over access to information on a national base, but dealing with requests for assistance in a standardised and systematic manner



- Any other potential arrangements?

Different fora for international cooperation



- Europol and Eurojust
- National liaison officers at Europol



- Interpol national bureaux
- ACRO and similar organizations



- The Prüm structure
- Individual police force to individual police force



- Any other arrangements?

Ownership, legal competence and assessment



- Can the value of a match vary during different stages of an investigation and what is the effect this on the assessment of its value to the outcome of an investigation?



- Judicial and police information: can differences in ownership or the control of information be a barrier to cooperation?



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DVI cooperation



- Does this require any different organisational, technical and operational arrangements?



- Integration with other forensic techniques e.g. odontology?



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Affordability



'...a discovery that has benefited mostly the wealthiest of countries'



Ron Noble, the Secretary General of Interpol, speaking about DNA profiling in 2007



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Affordability

INITIAL ESTIMATE OF INVESTMENT REQUIRED IN NEW EU STATES				
		Total € Millions	Per annum € Millions	Per 100,000 pop per annum €1,000s
Minimum DNA Strategy: DNA personal database investment only	0.6.% of population	14	2.7	4
	1.2% of population	28	3.9	4
	4.8% of population	110	11	6
Major forensic development programme	0.6% of population	53	10.7	15
	1.2% of population	106	15.2	22
	4.8% of population	427	42	58

Affordability

INITIAL ESTIMATE OF INVESTMENT REQUIRED IN NEW EU STATES				
Investment budget comparators		TEN-T % (annual: annual)	UK Anti- terrorism % (Total: Annual)	Planned 2012 Olympics security Budget % (Total: total)
Minimum DNA Strategy: DNA personal database investment only	0.6.% of population	0.04	0.48	7.87
	1.2% of population	0.07	0.97	16
	4.8% of population	0.20	3.80	62.86
Major forensic development programme	0.6% of population	0.19	1.83	30.29
	1.2% of population	0.27	3.66	60.57
	4.8% of population	0.75	14.72	244

Affordability



- The cost of reliability?



- The cost of integrity?



- Is the exchange of forensic bioinformation a global public good?

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