

Measures for the protection of Euro against counterfeiting

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The paper discusses the euro counterfeiting threat, which increased for Slovenia with its entry into the euro zone. The findings of the paper indicate that upon introduction of the euro, criminals fairly quickly switched from US dollar counterfeiting to euro counterfeiting and that they have been exploiting the advantages of the common criminal area. The paper focuses on the new circumstances of introduction of the euro in Member States, since law enforcement agencies are facing much more dangerous "opponents": who have had enough time to prepare for the situation and have counterfeiting equipment at their disposal of much better quality. The new circumstances therefore require that law enforcement agencies establish a higher level of euro protection. The paper identifies some elements based on the findings of the criminal investigation strategy which the Slovenian police could use to protect against euro counterfeiting.

Key words: money counterfeiting, euro, Europol, joint investigation teams, criminal investigation strategy

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