

IDENTIFICATION OF Non EU NATIONALS (TCN) THROUGH THE USE OF FINGERPRINTS

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FEEU PROJECT

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Supported by the EU Commission





EU Commission Bid

Part of the FEEU bid to the EU Commission required the UK to investigate and pilot the exchange of fingerprints for Third Country Nationals convicted within the EU





EU Index of TCN

- UK keen to promote the use of fingerprints
- UNISYS Report
 - Alphanumeric
 - Biometric - CRIS-FIN
 - Alphanumeric & Biometric
- Explore how fingerprints could be utilised
- Explore Existing Solutions
- Report the findings to the EU Commission
- Pilot an exchange of fingerprints for TCN within the EU





TCN MIS-IDENTIFICATION ISSUES

Not all useful info is mandatory/available

No national register as identifier for TCN

No feedback concerning corrections

Incomplete/insufficient
alphanumeric information

Usurpation of identity

No ID documents - identity transmitted orally

False identity

Incorrect info captured at data collection stage

Error during one of the multiple manual entries

Large number of TCN with identical last names

Translation/transliteration errors

Incorrect Information

Error

Identification issues



Sample Cases

Case Study

Person A claiming Spanish nationality Identified as person B, a Moroccan – Banning order from entering Spain.

Case Study

Person with EU Documents, FEEU proved Ecuadorian and real ID – in UK prison 10yrs (2 offences drug importation and supply)

Case Study

Person with EU Documents, FEEU proved Chilean and real ID – in UK prison 3 ½ years (7 offences)



Results

Results from the exchange of fingerprints with Austria have identified:

2 South Africans; 5 Nigerians; 1 Somalian; 1 Ghanian
with convictions both in the UK and Austria

With Slovenia (21 sample prints)
10 were identified as Bosnian/Herzegovinian



Sample Cases

Case Study

Person A using false ID in UK as Slovenian, identified through FEEU exchange as person B a Bosnian (1 minor offence in UK)

Case Study

Sample 18 fingerprint checks with Austria. 3 using stolen documents, 6 non EU nationals, (1 non EU national on stolen Czech documents)

Case Study

Sample 24 fingerprint checks from Ireland. 1 believed by IE to be Moldovan, recorded in UK as Lithuanian. F/P check with Lithuanian proved not Lithuanian. Probably not EU. No way to verify.



Results

Results from the exchange of fingerprints:

with Portugal have identified:

1 Algerian; 1 Bolivian
2 unknown but not Portuguese and possible non-EU.

with Spain have identified:

1 x Chilean; 2 X Ecuadorians
Claiming to be Spanish nationals when convicted in the UK



Results

INTERPOL:

The project has sent 360 TCN fingerprints to the Interpol database.

14 (3.8%) have matched to their records.

Already known to Interpol through data provided by EU Member States.

Case Study

UK sent fingerprints of Bosnian convicted in UK to Interpol.

Eire sent fingerprints of a Bulgarian convicted in Eire to Interpol – **THEY MATCHED**

(this subject had forged Italian ID when arrested in Eire)

Who is he?



Results

From work undertaken on the exchange of data, TCN tend to gravitate to EU Member States with whom there are historic or legacy links

Examples:

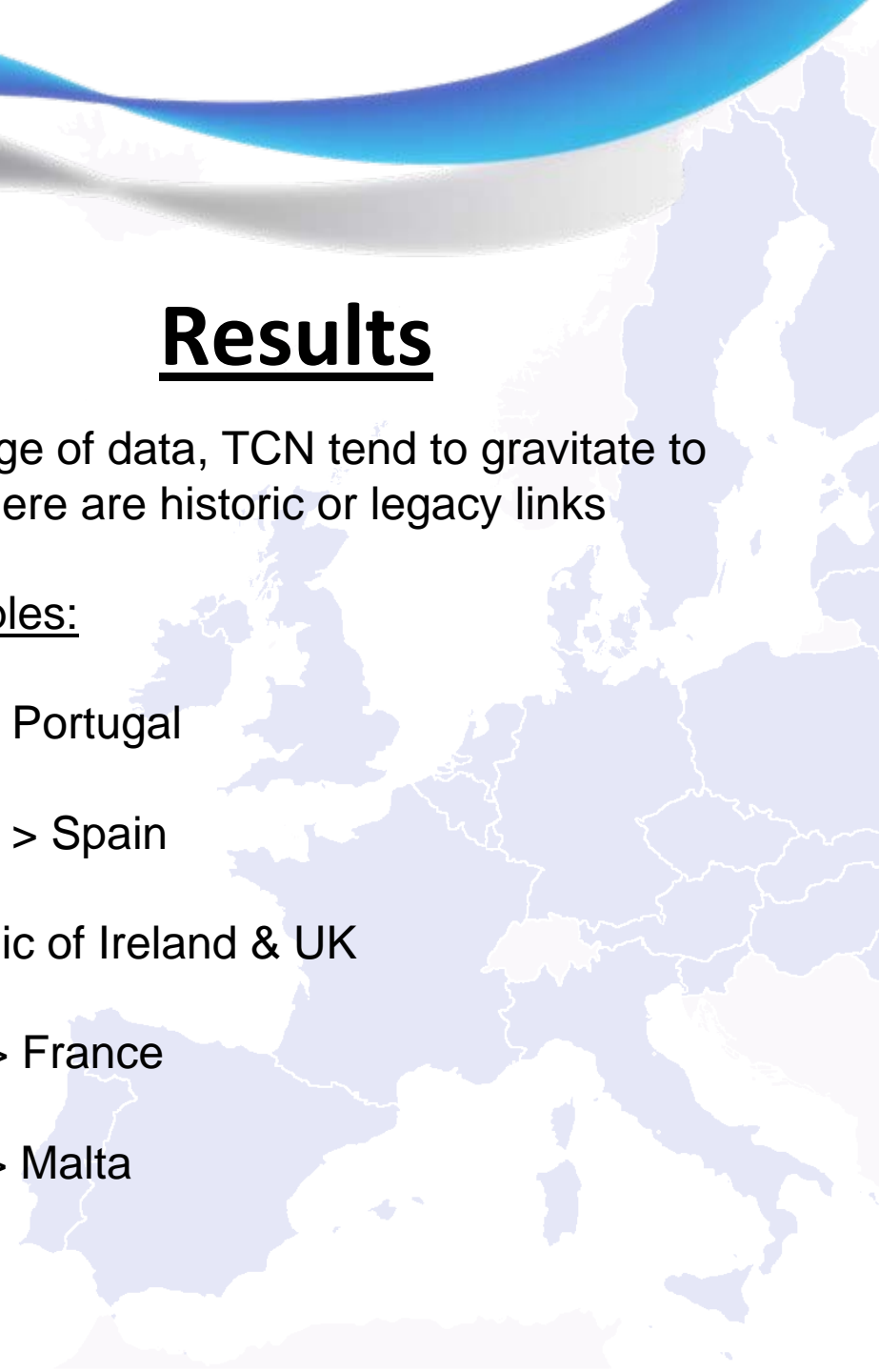
Brazilians > Portugal

Moroccans > Spain

Jamaicans > Republic of Ireland & UK

Algerians > France

Libyans > Malta





Difficulties

- Identifying EU Member States to whom a request should be sent
- Identifying the true nationality and hence possible links to EU Member States
- Limited size of Interpol fingerprint database
- EU Member States legislative restrictions
- Different non EU nationalities link to different EU Member States



Optional Systems

- Bilateral agreements - which EU Member State to check or all 26 others
- Eurodac – Immigration system. Not always linked to criminal system, issues regarding use of non conviction fingerprints
- Europol – No system available, heavy cost to develop
- Interpol – Ready made solution but currently limited capacity
- PRÜM – which EU member State to check or all 26 others

INTERPOL AFIS Database

- ✓ Existing solution
- ✓ Centralised one stop shop
- ✓ Every EU Member State can already use the database
- ✓ Covers data protection concerns
- ✓ Quality standards controlled
- ✓ Secure environment
- ✓ Supports INTERPOL Strategy
(Interpol General Assembly Singapore 2009)





Questions?

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