

Simplifying transfer of motor vehicles among MS yes...

...BUT NEED FOR CHECKS ON STOLEN CARS



Politie

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INTRODUCTION

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Member of CARPOL expert network situated under the
LEWP (Council decision 2004/919)

- Piloted EU study for the CARPOL network on the weak points in vehicle checks at the registration office in function of modi operandi of laundering stolen cars during the Belgian presidency in 2010
- **OUTCOME:** Council Conclusions on improving the detection of stolen vehicles in the Member States to tackle illegal cross-border vehicle trafficking - 3051st JUSTICE and HOME AFFAIRS Council meeting Brussels, 2 and 3 December 2010

- Still **653 827** motor vehicles stolen in the EU in 2011 of which halve not recovered (source: Europol AWF Furtum -UK excl.)
- Professional groups making use of high tech means to steal cars and clever ways to launder stolen cars still within the EU

Actual checks in place at registration offices not always sufficient!

- Article 102A CISA (SIS checks by the vehicle registration authorities) not yet fully implemented (19/25 Schengen states and only 9 check the registration document, also only 11 check systematically)
- Only 14 MS signed the EUCARIS treaty (network between registration DB's for origin check of vehicle)
- Forgeries of VIN not easy to detect during physical checks – expert matter

Laundry method	Detection
Re-registration in MS not checking the “theft” signals sent through Schengen information system (SIS)	Check for a “theft” alert at registration office before registration (SIS or EUCARIS)
Forging the VIN to a fictive one	Check the existence of vehicle in MS of origin (EUCARIS)
Using a forged or counterfeited registration document	Check the corresponding document number in MS of origin (EUCARIS)
Making a clone based on a stolen registration document	Check the document number for a “theft” alert (SIS or EUCARIS)
Making use of the registration document of a wrecked car legally acquired to clone the stolen vehicle	Check the “status” of the car in the MS of origin (EUCARIS)
Lease fraud – registering before the company knows the car has been stolen	Check the holder and date of last registration in MS of origin for suspicious elements