

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Every year, 300.000 children go missing in Europe. We strive to change this by protecting and empowering children.

#ZEROMISSINGKIDS



European Centre for Missing Children



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Beek, June 15, 2022

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Welcome letter

Dear friends and supporters,

I am honored to address you all in this annual report for the year 2022. This past year has been nothing short of extraordinary, filled with remarkable achievements and unwavering dedication to our mission. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your invaluable support, which has allowed us to make a significant impact in the lives of missing children and their families throughout Europe.

In 2022, we embarked on a journey fueled by hope and resilience, ensuring that no child is forgotten and that every missing child receives the attention and resources they deserve. Together, we have made substantial progress in raising awareness, strengthening partnerships, and implementing groundbreaking initiatives to safeguard our most vulnerable population.

Throughout the year, we conducted numerous training programs, workshops, and conferences, equipping law enforcement agencies, child protection organisations, and communities with the knowledge and skills needed to respond effectively in cases of missing children. The commitment and enthusiasm displayed by our partners have been truly inspiring, and we are immensely proud of the progress we have made together.

One of our key achievements was the strengthening of our international partnerships. By collaborating with governments, organisations, and agencies across Europe, we have created a united front in the fight against the phenomenon of missing children.

However, our work is far from over. There are still countless children out there who need our help and protection. With your continued support, we will expand our projects and activities, striving to protect even more children across Europe.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all our partners and supporters who have contributed to our success in 2022. Your dedication and belief in our mission towards #ZeroMissingKids continue to fuel our determination to make a difference.

Let us continue this journey together, standing shoulder to shoulder, until every child is safe, and every family is reunited.



FRANK HOEN

Founder and Chairman
AMBER Alert Europe

01

Our approach

Together towards a Common European Approach
on Missing Persons and Missing Children

Common European Approach on Missing Children – Missing Persons

Every year, 600.000 people go missing in Europe. Half of whom are children. Even though these numbers are staggering, missing is still ‘missing’ on the EU agenda. We want to change this.

Together with the Police Expert Network on Missing Persons, we have devised the Common European Approach on Missing Children and Missing Persons (CEA), a European-wide strategy supported by 4 pillars, that will help prevent children from going missing and ensure that appropriate action is taken if a child does go missing.

JOIN OUR MISSION TO BRING MISSING CHILDREN HOME SAFELY

Together we can save children’s lives. Support the Common European Approach by bringing it to the attention of your local government and parliamentary representatives.

[View PDF](#) >



PILLAR 1

MISSING PERSONS RISK TRIAGE: IMMEDIATE RISK IDENTIFICATION OF MISSING CHILDREN SAVES LIVES

When a missing child is reported to the police, law enforcement agencies should make a timely assessment to qualify or disqualify risk for the life or well-being of the missing child. This risk assessment is crucial to determine which steps need to be taken to successfully recover the child. Under-reaction can result in serious harm or death to the child. Over-reaction and doing too much is wasteful of resources and potentially an unwarranted intrusion on a child’s privacy.

PILLAR 2

ENHANCED CROSS-BORDER LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION ON MISSING CHILDREN

With the abolishment of national borders, the Schengen Area, a zone with unrestricted movement of people was created. This also entails that missing children can easily be moved across a border into a neighbouring country. To prevent the investigations from stagnating at the border, resulting in vital time being lost, law enforcement agencies need to be able to quickly communicate and cooperate with their counterparts in other countries. In 2016, this belief resulted in an informal network of law enforcement experts in the field of missing persons. In 2019, this Police Expert Network on Missing Persons (PEN-MP) was officially recognised by the Council of the European Union.

PILLAR 3

CONNECTING THE PUBLIC WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT IN THE SEARCH FOR A MISSING CHILD

In missing children cases, law enforcement frequently reaches out to the public for assistance. In 2008, the European Commission recognised the urgency of the missing children issue and set an objective for all EU Member States to establish an interoperable child alert system that would enable law enforcement agencies to alert their respective public and even coordinate the search across borders. Interoperability, however, has yet to be realised. In fact, currently, only 20 EU Member States have a child alert system for missing children in place. With 37.5% of Europeans living near national borders, protocols must be examined to ensure citizen sourcing in cases of missing children beyond the borders of the originating country.

PILLAR 4

PREVENTING CHILDREN FROM GOING MISSING AS A JOINT EFFORT OF ALL STAKEHOLDERS

Preventing children from going missing consists of two key elements: Firstly, training and awareness-building of key stakeholders to reduce the number of children going missing. Secondly, determining the reason a child has gone missing to prevent children from going missing again. Law enforcement agencies are aware that when a child goes missing, it can be a strong indicator of underlying problems such as abuse, sexual exploitation, gender issues, and trafficking. If a child returns and these issues remain unrecognised and untreated, often children go missing again. In order to prevent this re-victimisation, it is imperative that the risk to the missing child is identified as well as the origins of this risk. Not only does this lead to a reduction in the number of incidents, or reoccurring incidents, of children going missing; it also helps law enforcement agencies identify and address any associated criminal activity.



EU PARLIAMENT MEMBERS WELCOME AMBER ALERT EUROPE'S EFFORTS, CALL FOR A COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK AT EU LEVEL TO FIND MISSING CHILDREN AND MISSING PERSONS AT RISK

Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) recognised the efforts of AMBER Alert Europe to improve cooperation on missing children and missing persons cases and called for a comprehensive framework at EU level to tackle the 300.000 cases of children going missing every year.

Addressing European Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva Johansson, during a debate on the need to set up a comprehensive framework for missing children, MEPs said that action is needed at both national and EU level. They stressed the need of rapid intervention by the law enforcement authorities in the search for missing children.

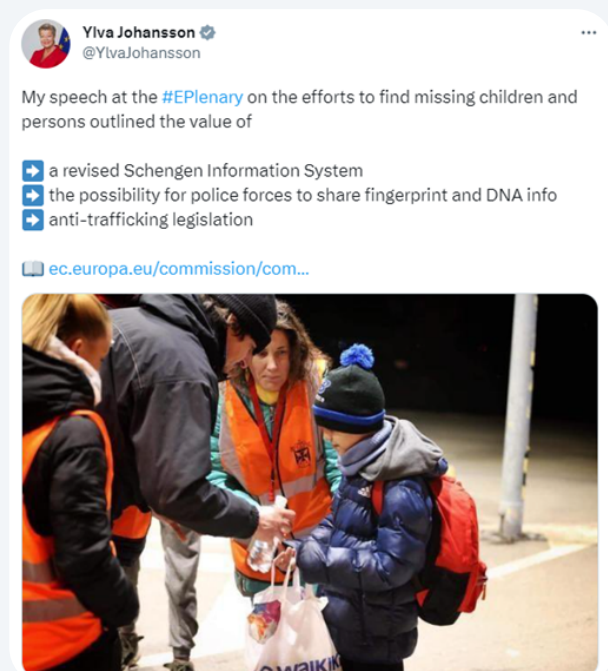
Commissioner Johansson outlined that “to help missing children and adults we need to work across borders and across sectors” involving all actors, including police, helplines, child protection services, judges, civil society organisations to work together. Commissioner Johansson also spoke on the need to allow the use of Prüm exchanges to search for missing persons using DNA, fingerprints and facial

images within the Prüm regulation as “effective law enforcement cooperation can only be as effective as the legislation it is built on”. She stressed the need to protect and empower children to keep them from harm when they go missing and leave no stone unturned to find them.

The debate highlighted that risk of life or serious harm increases the longer persons are missing; this is even more evident for children, the most vulnerable due to their age. Unless a criminal activity has been identified, tools for a rapid interception by law enforcement authorities are limited, while the missing person remains at risk.

As the majority of missing persons cases do not have a criminal component, a gap in protecting their fundamental rights still remains. MEPs expressed support for AMBER Alert Europe's activities in addressing this gap.

The debate, which supported the need for a comprehensive approach to supporting and protecting children at risk of going missing and improving the search of missing persons and missing children, is consistent with AMBER Alert Europe's Common European Approach on Missing Children and Missing Persons aimed at improving the search for missing persons with priority and special attention to children considering their vulnerabilities.



02

Our impact

What we achieved in 2022

PILLAR 1

Missing persons risk triage: immediate risk identification of missing children saves lives

ACTIVITIES

UNDERSTANDING AND MANAGING RISK IN THE CONTEXT OF MISSING PERSONS

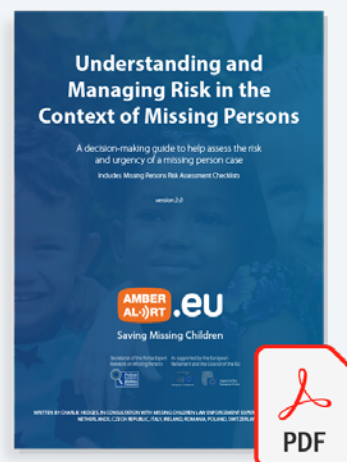
In 2022, AMBER Alert Europe continued to advocate the use of risk identification in missing children cases. This was reflected in all aspects of our work as missing persons risk triage served as the basis for many of our

training and awareness-raising activities, as well as for our efforts to advocate for policy change at EU level.

GUIDE ON RISK ASSESSMENT

In consultation with missing children law enforcement experts from all over Europe and Canada, AMBER Alert Europe has developed a decision-making guide on risk management. A quick risk assessment is crucial to identify the correct response.

[View PDF](#) >



WEBINAR: THE USE OF RISK TRIAGE IN MISSING PERSON CASES AND ITS BENEFITS – IN COOPERATION WITH CEPOL

On May 19th, we organised a webinar in cooperation with CEPOL: The use of risk triage in missing person cases and its benefits. The webinar brought together representatives from various #LawEnforcement authorities and agencies, fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing.

Throughout the webinar, participants gained valuable insights into the application of risk triage as a vital first response to a missing person's report. Our

esteemed speakers and experts guided attendees in developing a common understanding of the risks associated with missing persons, particularly focusing on the vulnerability of children.

By the end of the webinar, participants were equipped with the necessary tools and knowledge to identify crucial elements of risk, enabling a targeted response by law enforcement authorities.

PILLAR 2

Enhanced cross-border law enforcement cooperation on missing children

ACTIVITIES

POLICE EXPERT NETWORK ON MISSING PERSONS' FORUM 2022

On October 18-19, police experts from 25 countries gathered in Ljubljana, Slovenia, for the Police Expert Network on Missing Persons' Forum 2022. The aim of the annual event, which was organised by the Slovenian Police and AMBER Alert Europe, was to share new knowledge, exchange experience, and practices, as well as come to a common European approach, increasing the chances of bringing missing persons back home.

In addition to police experts from more than 25 European countries, Australia, Canada and the United States, the conference brought together representatives of Interpol, Europol, Frontex, the Law Enforcement Task Force, the Bavarian Police, and police academies from Ljubljana, Zagreb and Lower Saxony in Germany. Also present were representatives of the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia and foreign organisations such as Meta Inc. from the US, Locate International from the UK and Ludwig-Maximilian University from Munich.

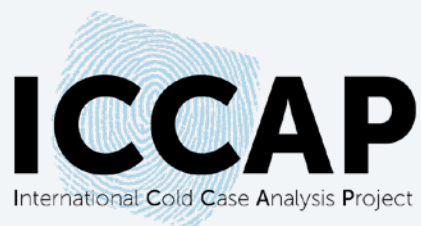


THIRD INTERNATIONAL COLD CASE ANALYSIS PROJECT (ICCAP) FOCUSES ON NEONATICIDES AND MISSING CHILDREN

For four months, more than 60 students from ten British universities* worked together with the Australian Murdoch University, the Police College Zagreb and the Police Academy of Lower Saxony on six cold cases of infants and children as part of the third International Cold Case Analysis Project (ICCAP). During the project, the students explored the possibilities to identify the children and their parents through modern forensic methods and a media strategy.

The selection of cold cases in the third ICCAP was oriented towards the recent Council Conclusions on future police cooperation in missing person cases, in which special emphasis is given to children. For this reason, four homicides of children from Lower Saxony who were killed immediately after birth (neonaticides) between 1988 and 2014 were analysed. A missing person case of a 7-year-old child from another European state who went missing in 1994 was also studied. At the end of the ICCAP, the findings were presented to the investigators responsible for these cases – as well as 30 cold case specialists from 14 countries. As a result, further investigation was triggered in one of the cases.

In addition to the cold case analyses, the students, led by Maureen Taylor from Glasgow Caledonian



University, prepared an 'Analysis of Neonaticide investigation' report for the police forces in Europe based on their experiences and ideas from the analysed cases and supplemented with current forensic investigation methods for investigations of other cold cases of neonatal deaths.

The "Gentleman John Doe" Case – student support continues

After the responsible investigators and prosecutors were convinced of the students' findings from the second ICCAP in September 2021, the exhumation of the unidentified dead man and the launch of a national and international public search to identify the man after almost 30 years was ordered. The investigations continue supported by British universities, Locate International and the Human Remains Service Ireland. Podcasts and TV documentaries on the case are in preparation in the UK and Germany.

Further steps in 2022

The next analysis is planned from June to September 2022. The Saxony-Anhalt Police Academy from Germany and the French Gendarmerie are set to join the current participants of the ICCAP, expanding the project even further. "It's great to see that more and more police training institutions are getting involved in this great international collaboration", says Karsten Bettels from the Police Academy of Lower Saxony, who helps run the course.

* South Wales, Plymouth Marjon, Canterbury Christ Church, Glasgow Caledonian, Staffordshire, Bath, Winchester, Leeds Beckett, Central Lancashire And Goldsmiths' University Of London



THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL COLD CASE ANALYSIS PROJECT (ICCAP) PRESENTS ITS RESULTS – INTEREST AMONG EUROPEAN POLICE ACADEMIES AND POLICE UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES GROWS

For four months, more than 85 students from eight British universities* worked together again with the Australian Murdoch University, the German Universities of Bonn and Cottbus, the Northern Macedonia University of Skopje, the French Gendarmerie, the Universities of Applied Science of the Police Saxony-Anhalt, the Bundeskriminalamt and the Police Academy of Lower Saxony on four cold cases of homicides and missing persons cases as part of the fourth International Cold Case Analysis Project (ICCAP).

Networking with AMBER Alert Europe, the PEN-MP and Locate International is an important building block for establishing this unique project worldwide.

“It is really great to see how, in addition to the universities with their forensic, psychological, and crimi-

nology faculties, more and more police training institutes are expressing interest in participating,” says Karsten Bettels from the Police Academy of Lower Saxony, who is responsible for organising the course as well as its content. “A total of 35 police students from France, Germany, and Northern Macedonia participated in the fourth ICCAP.”

* South Wales, Plymouth Marjon, Glasgow Caledonian, Staffordshire, Bath, Winchester, Greenwich, And Goldsmiths' University Of London



At the end of the ICCAP, the findings were presented to the investigators responsible for these cases and to cold case and missing persons units from Europe.

Proposals on forensic issues as well as media strategies were again presented in the cases. In one case of an unidentified victim of a homicide, photographic facial reconstructions and aging images of the man were created in order to carry out publicity measures based on the result of available isotope analyses in other European countries where the murder victim had lived in the past.

Also, in other homicide and missing persons cases, suggestions for further interrogation strategies were presented after analysing the files and identifying inconsistencies.

Bettels: "It is also to be noted that the results and proposals of the students in ICCAP are increasingly being carried out in parallel with investigations by the cold case units and public prosecutors' offices, or are even being integrated into current missing persons cases to work out concrete proposals.

The "Gentleman John Doe" Case – new investigative approaches

There are also new lines of investigation in the case of the unknown dead man from the North Sea from the second ICCAP, the "Gentleman Case". Through an isotope report, it was determined that the man had spent many years of his life in Australia, in addition to the established relations with Great Britain. A subsequent media strategy in Australia, involving Murdoch University, also led to an interesting missing person lead. A matching of the cases is currently taking place between German and British investigators involved.

Further steps in 2022

For the fifth ICCAP, which will take place from December 2022 to March 2023, the students will face further challenges: they will have to analyse several missing person cases of young women from the 1970s and 1980s to collect arguments for or against a series context as well as to analyse two homicides of women and homicide of a man who was first a missing persons case in order to check a set context. For the first time, the law faculty from the University of Cologne will participate in the fifth ICCAP.

WEBINAR: AN INTRODUCTION TO COLD CASE MISSING PERSON INVESTIGATIONS – IN COOPERATION WITH CEPOL

On June 23rd, we organised a webinar in cooperation with CEPOL: An introduction to cold case missing person investigations. The primary objective of this webinar was to raise awareness about the importance of conducting cold case investigations. Throughout the duration of the webinar, the audience had the opportunity to acquire valuable insights into the various possibilities and new techniques available for conducting such investigations. Additionally, the webinar delved into how universities and non-governmental organisations can offer assistance to the police in handling cold cases.



PILLAR 3

Connecting the public with law enforcement in the search for a missing child

ACTIVITIES

AMBER ALERT EUROPE SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA TO IMPROVE ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF MISSING CHILDREN

The Minister of the Interior of the Republic of Serbia, Aleksandar Vulin, and the Chairman of the AMBER Alert Europe Foundation, Frank Hoen, signed the Memorandum of Understanding in Belgrade today, with the aim to significantly improve activities in the area of finding missing children.

“The safety of our citizens and the safety of our children in particular, is one of the priorities of the Ministry of the Interior. In the world we live in, in the world of many challenges, in the world where you can never be sure enough that you have done everything you could to save your youngest and dearest, the initiative of AMBER Alert is precious, valuable and important,” said the Minister of the Interior Vulin upon signing the Memorandum.

The Minister of the Interior Aleksandar Vulin said that he was grateful to AMBER Alert for the opportunity to learn from each other, to organize various training courses, to recognize best practices and to use the experience of other police forces and other organizations to improve our capacities when it comes to searching for missing persons and missing children.

According to the Serbian Minister of the Interior, there is nothing more disturbing than news of a missing child and when that happens, you ask the state, society, God to do everything to make the one you love come back quickly.

“AMBER Alert is another way to keep our beloved safe and it is good to know that whatever happens there is this tool, mechanism, possibility to solve their disappearance and to return them to where they belong, to their families, where they are safest and most beloved”, said Minister Vulin.

Minister Vulin pointed out that the Ministry of the Interior is fully committed to the fight for the safety of each of our citizens, and especially to the fight for the safety of each of our children.



TWO-DAY TRAINING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FOR MISSING CHILDREN HELD IN NORTH MACEDONIA

A two-day training session on the implementation of an early warning system for missing children took place in Skopje, North Macedonia, on September 26th and 27th. The training was organized by NGO Journalists for Human Rights as part of the project “Pilot project for an early warning system for missing children.”

During the training, expert experiences in combating human trafficking, searching for missing persons, and the necessary conditions and challenges in successfully implementing an early warning system were shared. Notable speakers included Lili Šipeć, Senior Strategic Advisor at AMBER Alert Europe, Christian Mader, President of “Austria will find you” (Österreich findet euch), Saško Sirachevski and Biljana Lalova, Chief Inspectors at the National Unit for Suppression of Migrant Smuggling and Human Trafficking, and Baže Dimitriovski, Chief Inspector at the Property and Violent Crime Unit, Criminal Police Department, at the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of North Macedonia.



This training session was part of a series of activities aimed at facilitating the exchange of experiences and acquiring new knowledge among all stakeholders, including the public and private sectors, civil society organizations, and the media. The overarching goal of the project is to enhance existing approaches and develop innovative methods for preventing, investigating, and mitigating human and child trafficking, while also protecting and strengthening the rights of those affected by these crimes.



WEBINAR: THE USE OF AN ALERT SYSTEM FOR ABDUCTED OR MISSING CHILDREN

On November 8th, we organised a webinar in cooperation with CEPOL: The use of an alert system for abducted or missing children. The aim of the webinar was to optimise the chances of survival for abducted or missing children in life-threatening and/or dangerous situations. Research on the topic of Missing Children Homicide Investigation has shown that in certain cases of abduction of children by adult males unknown to them, these offenders would kill the child within a short time after the abduction had taken place. In such scenarios, no time should be lost, and the use of an alert system, involving the general public in the search for the child, could have saved their lives. The presentation discussed the customised way in which an alert system could be set up and used, the incorporation of modern media, and the legal requirements.

STATISTICS 2022: NATIONAL AMBER ALERTS AND CHILD ALERTS

AMBER Alert Europe only maps AMBER Alerts and Child Alerts issued by law enforcement authorities across Europe. The aim of this data collection is to gain better knowledge of the number of AMBER Alerts and Child Alerts shared by law enforcement or police-mandated organisations and the use of AMBER Alert systems in Europe.

The data in this report are collected by daily monitoring of law enforcement and police-mandated organisations' websites from European Union Member States. This data does not represent the total number of children who annually go missing in Europe.

Yearly statistics

In 2022, 37 national AMBER Alerts or Child Alerts were issued by competent law enforcement in Europe. In 85 percent of the cases, the children were safely recovered.

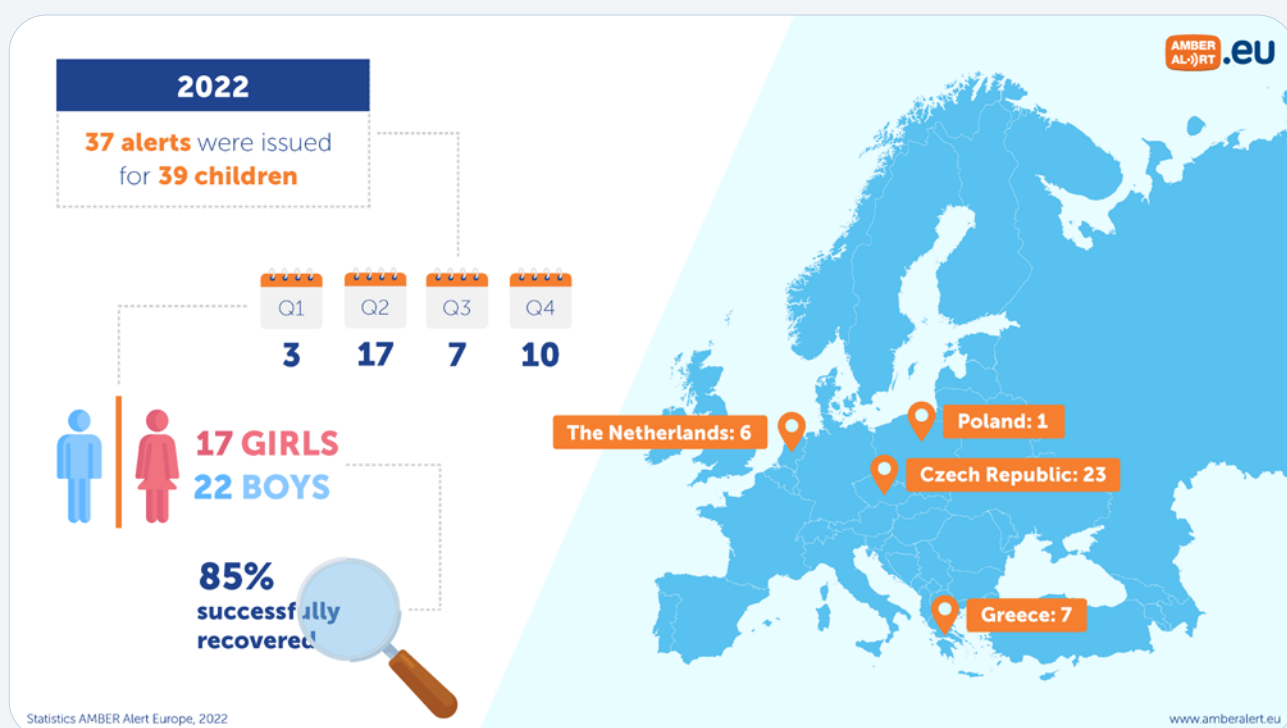
Highlighted cases

The Netherlands: AMBER Alert for 9-year-old boy

In June, a 9-year-old boy went missing from playground in Kerkrade, the Netherlands. An intensive search for the boy was activated with the issuing of an AMBER Alert. Tragically, the boy was found deceased. He was lured by a child predator who abused and murdered the child.

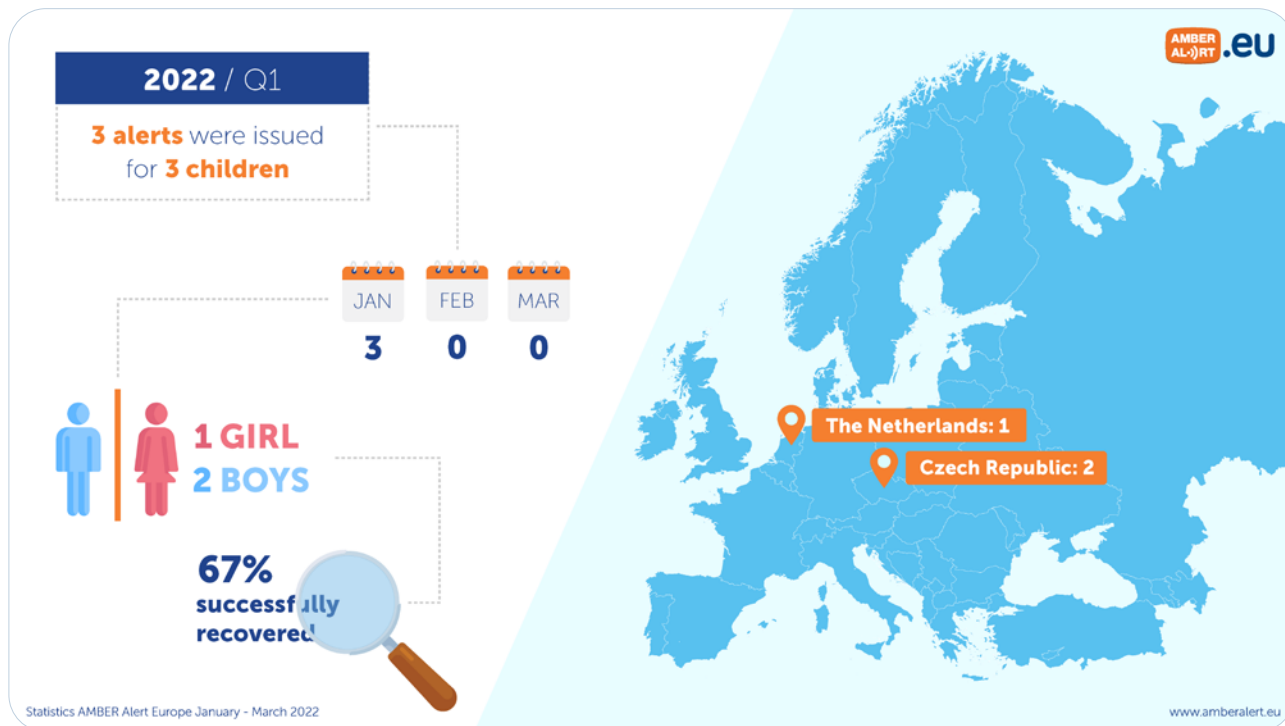
Poland: Child Alert for 5-year-old girl

In November, a 5-year-old girl was violently taken from the apartment of her mother in Oświęcim, Poland. Her non-custodial father, a Norwegian native, abducted the girl and transported her to Denmark, where he was later arrested. The girl was found safe and sound and reunited with her mother.



Quarterly statistics

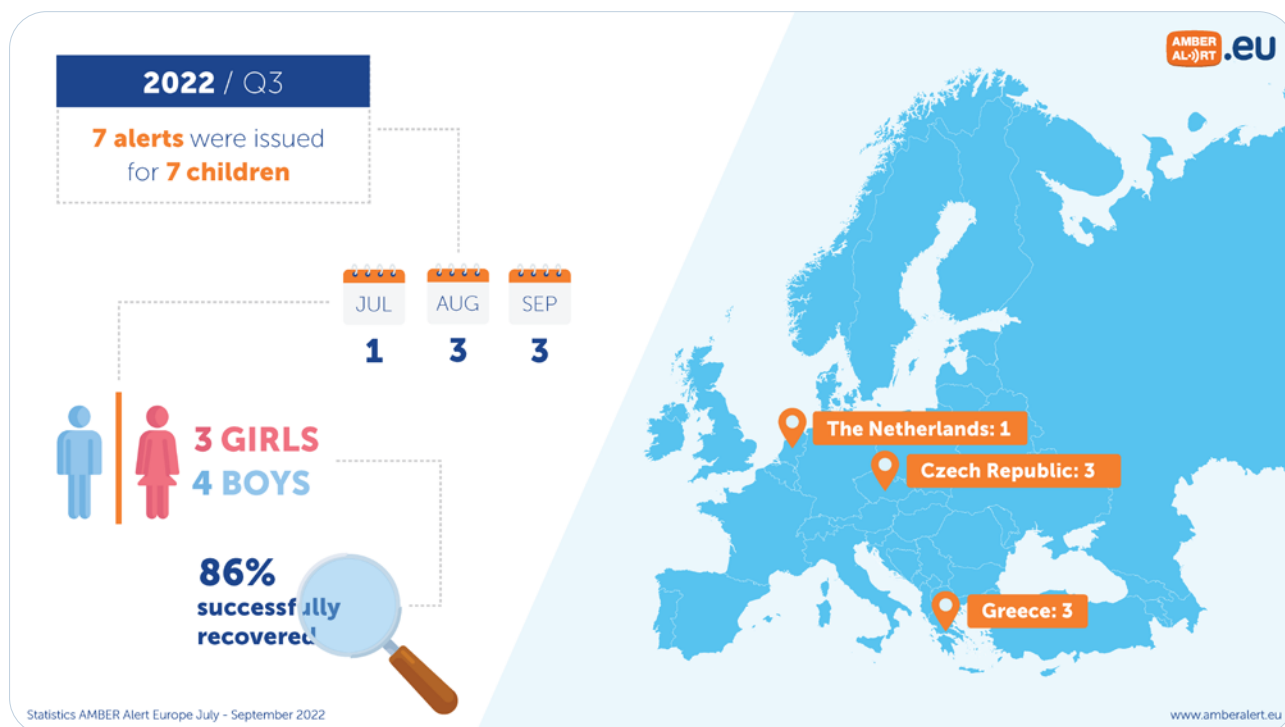
Quarter 1: January-March



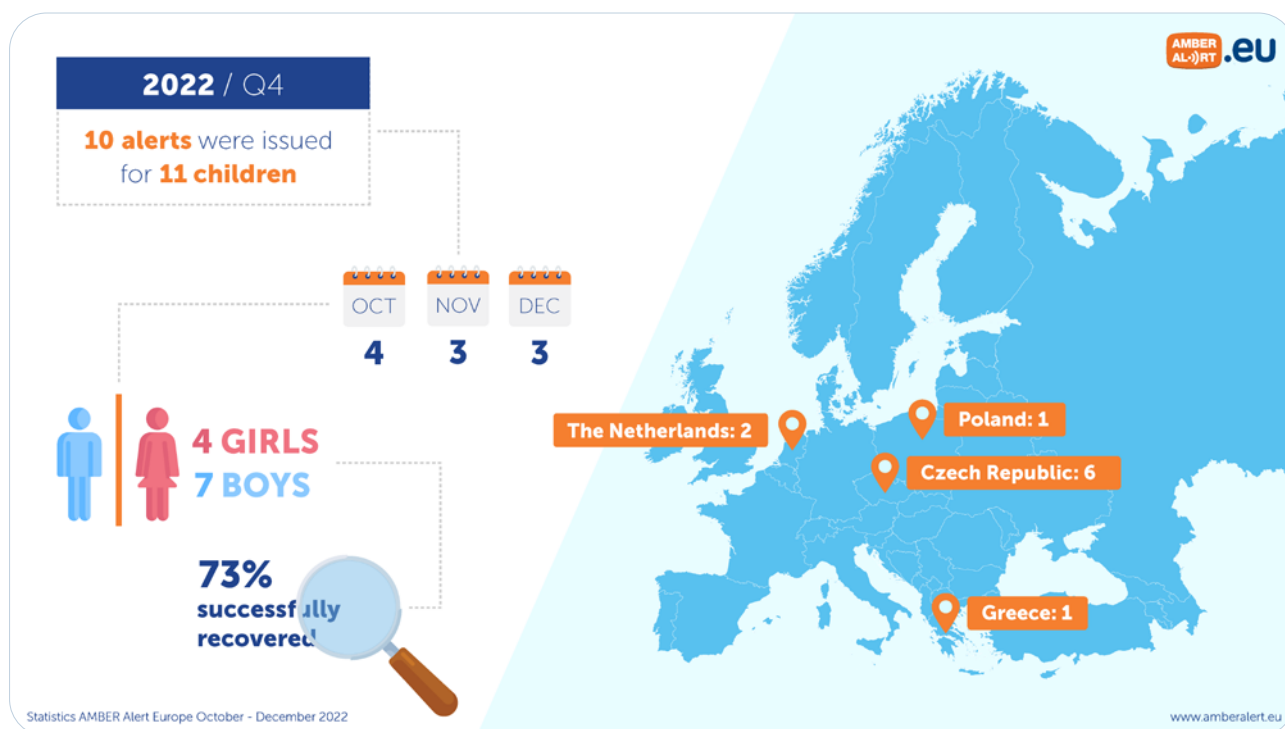
Quarter 2: April - June



Quarter 3: July - September



Quarter 4: October - December



PILLAR 4

Preventing children from going missing as a joint effort of all stakeholders

ACTIVITIES

PREVENTION CAMPAIGN

Think Before You Share

To mark International Missing Children's Day, AMBER Alert Europe, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the field of child protection, and law enforcement officers from 28 countries around the globe launched a new campaign with the motto 'THINK BEFORE YOU SHARE'.

The campaign was dedicated to raising awareness around a topic that has increasingly become an issue for minors over the past years – sharing self-generated naked images, otherwise known as “nudes”.

The COVID-19 pandemic along with the continuous growth of social media platforms, have increased the amount of self-generated naked teen pictures uploaded and shared daily online. A dramatic rise of 77 percent since 2019, according to the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF). This worrying behaviour has become normal among younger generations, to the point that 1 in 3 teenagers have admitted to having seen non-consensually shared nudes.

Frank Hoen, Chairman and Founder of AMBER Alert Europe said: “Social media and messaging apps have become increasingly popular among teenagers as means of exploring and expressing their sexuality. This also includes taking and sharing nude images of themselves. Many teens feel that this is completely harmless and trust that their images will remain only with the intended recipient. Unfortunately, reality teaches us that this is often not the case. We would like to make teens aware that these kinds of self-generated images can have far-reaching consequences on their health and wellbeing once shared, and could also lead to sexual extortion and coercion – even criminal charges.”

The film and posters of the campaign, created by Innocean Berlin in collaboration with Zauberberg Productions, depicted a relatable situation for many; loving parents sharing cute naked baby pictures of their children with their friends and family. While the campaign was not intended to keep parents from



taking innocent baby pictures, this familiar scene was used to make teens aware that no one can be trusted with their naked pictures, not even their parents.

This important message of a sensitive topic was executed with light-hearted tonality – something the younger generation can relate to. As Ricardo Wolff, Executive Creative Director of Innocean Berlin said: “Often, humor is the best way to address a serious topic. So when our friends at AMBER Alert Europe asked us to develop a concept to raise awareness about minors sharing nudes, we turned to comedy. But with a powerful, truthful twist. By depicting a 15-year-old birthday girl whose reputation melts in front of her eyes as her parents proudly overshare her toddler nudes, we’re sending a message that will

resonate with the kids. I’m pretty sure they’ll laugh, but deep down they’ll know exactly what NOT to do from now on.”

Directed by Micky Suelzer, and with photos by Sven Schrader, the campaign kicked off the annual campaign by AMBER Alert Europe. It went live worldwide on social media, digital advertisement screens, and was shared globally by ministries, national police forces, and NGOs in the field of missing and exploited children.

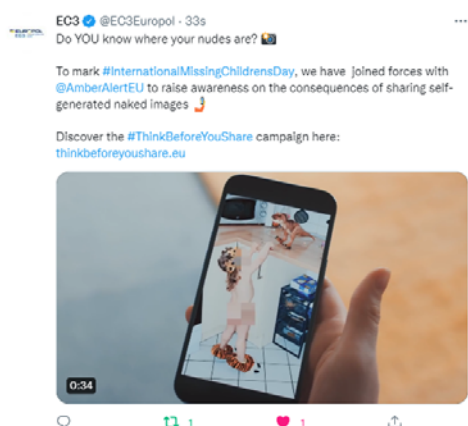
Worldwide campaign

The ‘Think Before You Share’ campaign was made available in 23 languages and shared by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the field of child protection, and law enforcement officers from 28 countries around the globe. The campaign was featured in news broadcasts, posts, articles, school programs, etc.

Participating countries: Albania, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Euronews

The ‘Think Before You Share’ campaign was aired by Euronews for five consecutive months as part of the news outlet’s One Minute of Responsibility programme, reaching millions of viewers in 155 countries.



'THINK BEFORE YOU SHARE' CAMPAIGN PRESENTED AT THE SEMINAR REGARDING THE FIGHT AGAINST SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN PARIS

On June 14-16, we attended a seminar in Paris regarding the fight against child sexual exploitation organised by the Central Unit for Protection of Minors (GCMV) of the Central Directorate of the Judiciary Police on the occasion of the French Presidency of the EU.

At the event, we had the opportunity to present our 'Think Before You Share' campaign, dedicated to raising awareness around a topic that has increasingly become an issue for minors over the past years – sharing self-generated naked images, otherwise known as “nudes”.



03

Our organisation

AMBER Alert Europe Foundation

About us

AMBER Alert Europe, the European Centre for Missing Children, is a foundation that strives to improve the protection of missing children and to prevent children from going missing by empowering them and raising awareness on the issue of missing children and its root causes. We connect experts from 44 governmental organisations, in particular ministries of the interior and police forces, and non-governmental organisations from 28 countries in our mission towards zero missing children in Europe.

Our activities

Our activities cover training, research, child alerting, and prevention and awareness-raising, as well as launching initiatives aimed at impacting policies and legislation in the area of children's rights. Our joint efforts with police experts in the field of missing children even paved the way for a European police expert network in this area.

All of our activities are implemented in line with the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child and with respect for the privacy of children and data protection laws.

Our beginnings

As a response to missing children cases exceeding geographical borders, the AMBER Alert Europe Foundation was founded in 2013 to contribute to better cross-border coordination and cooperation in the search for missing children.

Since then, our network has expanded and now encompasses different experts from a variety of backgrounds who make their know-how and expertise available to improve existing practices and procedures for a fast and safe recovery of missing children and safeguarding of children against going missing or an abduction.

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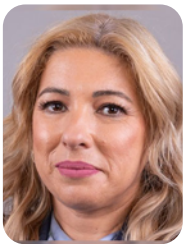
Global Expert on Missing Children – HMC Group LLC



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PATRÍCIA CIPRIANO

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Germany

Detective Director at the Police Academy of Lower Saxony and Course Leader of the International Cold Case Analysis Project (ICCAP)



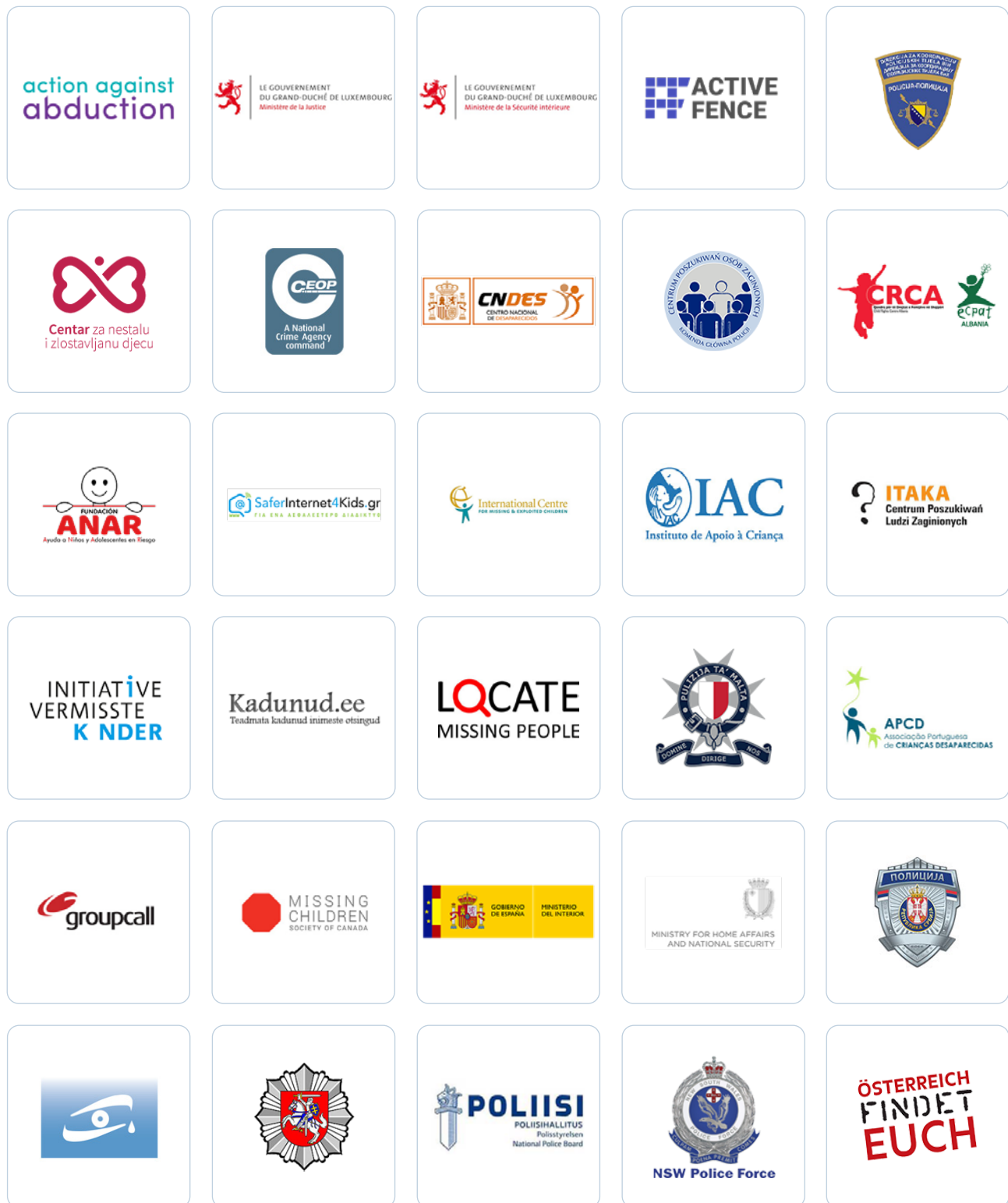
VICTOR REUTER

Luxembourg

Grand Ducal Police

Organisations that support us

Participating organisations



Participating organisations



Partners



Sponsors

In 2022, AMBER Alert Europe had the support of multiple organisations that contributed to the cause by providing us with valuable in-kind services.

2MANYDOTS

Website builder and hosting partner 2MANYDOTS sponsored the redesign of the AMBER Alert Europe website and subsequently also hosts our website. The services are provided entirely free of charge and can be quantified at an amount of approximately € 7,000 annually. In 2022, 2MANYDOTS valued its one-time in-kind contributions at € 24,840.

Axon Advocaten

Axon is a law firm based in Amsterdam that specializes in internationally oriented services. They apply an hourly rate of € 325 (excl. VAT). The service, as requested by AMBER Alert Europe, is provided free of charge. An exact amount to be quantified cannot be provided in advance. No min-max has been agreed upon between parties.

MN Adviseurs & Accountants

MN Adviseurs & Accountants provides AMBER Alert Europe with financial advice, as well as financial

statements. This service, costing around € 10,000 annually, is provided free of charge.

Notariaat Pas

A contract has been concluded with notary office Notariaat Pas whereby the necessary notarial-legal advice and support will be given free of charge. This is difficult to quantify in advance.

INNOCEAN Worldwide

INNOCEAN Worldwide is a global marketing and communications service provider that offers creative marketing solutions. From December 2021 until May 2022, INNOCEAN Berlin has helped us set up several prevention and awareness-raising campaigns. For this, the services of different employees from five fields (project management, design, strategy, PR, creative) were made available to us free of charge.

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