



## INTERPOL Support to El PACCTO 2.0 PROJECT

Enhancing the rule of law and the combat against transnational organized crime in Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe.

#### **► THE SITUATION**

Organized crime rates in Latin America and the Caribbean continue to be among the highest in the world and have increased following the global pandemic. Transnational organized criminal groups operating in the region demonstrate a high level of sophistication, engaging in a wide range of activities that threaten security, human rights and good governance.

The movement of international fugitives evading the rule of law and justice in the region strains not only good governance but also trust in law enforcement and public safety.

In 2017, the European Union (EU) launched phase 1 of its EL PACCTO programme (Europe - Latin America Programme of Assistance against Transnational Organized Crime) to promote security and Justice in Latin America. In 2024, it launched phase 2 to further enhance cooperation between Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union.

In this context, the INTERPOL support to EL PACCTO 2.0 is a project focusing on building EU-LAC cooperation to improve fugitive investigations.

#### **▶** OBJECTIVES

The Project aims to achieve the following:

- Improved efficiency and effectiveness of cooperation to track, arrest, and prosecute high value fugitives in 12 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), and in Europe.
- Long term ability for law enforcement to conduct joint fugitive investigations through increased interregional police cooperation and standardized information exchange between law enforcement officers in the region.
- Enhanced best practice working methods in fugitive investigations in the region.

#### **▶ PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

Specialized operational and investigative support, as well as capacity building activities will focus on identifying the most dangerous fugitives, their associated networks and the groups responsible for providing them with support and logistics.

Project activities are intelligence-led and tailored to all 12 participating countries' operational needs. Four European countries are providing assistance (France, Italy, Portugal and Spain). Intelligence-led operations will be conducted in the region with a focus on subjects of our Red and Blue Notices and Diffusions.

**Timeframe:** 2024 to 2026

#### Funded by:

European Union (Directorate-General for International

Partnerships - DG INTPA)

# ► STRENGTHENING THE NETWORK OF FUGITIVE INVESTIGATORS

INTERPOL created a regional operational network of fugitive investigators during the first phase of the Project and through the several Infra operations performed in the regions. Project 2.0 will build upon this network and bring together law enforcement officers through operational meetings to share experience on fugitives' identification, localization, tracking and arrest.

#### **▶** OPERATIONS AND POLICE DATA EXCHANGE

INTERPOL will leverage our established INFRA (International Fugitive Round-Up and Arrest) operating model, to strengthen the police capacity to identify, track and arrest fugitives and promote joint operations at the multi-country level.

INTERPOL's Fugitive Investigation Support Unit (FIS) is developing a mechanism for law enforcement to standardize, analyze and exchange police data via INTERPOL's I-24/7 police communication system. The aim is to anticipate and identify the movements, travel facilitators and modus operandi of fugitives to facilitate their location and arrest by national law enforcement.

### ► STRENGTHENING INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES

Operational workshops will be organized to build the law enforcement capacity of the new four (4) Project participating countries (Belize, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, and Jamaica) on specialized fugitive investigation techniques and existing INTERPOL capabilities for criminal investigations (INTERPOL tools, data exchanges, forensics, cybercrime and criminal intelligence analysis).

#### **Participating countries**

Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Jamaica, Panama and Peru.





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