

Institution: Teesside University
Unit of Assessment: 22 Social Work and Social Policy
Title of case study: Tackling Illegal Immigration and Organised Crime through the Study of Illegal Markets.
<p>1. Summary of the impact</p> <p>This case study centres on a body of work carried out by one member of staff, Professor Georgios Antonopoulos, into the illegal markets of migrant and tobacco smuggling. The underpinning research has impacted both upon law enforcement and health promotion practices and the development of national and transnational policies designed to combat illegal immigration, and the organisation and effects of illegal markets. Research findings from 2006-2010 have been incorporated into national and transnational policy documents and into the training and practice of law enforcement officers. The knowledge and expertise of Professor Antonopoulos in this area is internationally renowned and advice on national and transnational policies is in demand by government bodies in Europe and America.</p>
<p>2. Underpinning research</p> <p>The body of work underpinning the impact detailed in this case study takes the form of a series of articles in leading criminology and criminal justice journals that has investigated the organisation and social structures of illegal markets, specifically those of smuggling migrants in Greece and of tobacco smuggling in Greece and China.</p> <p>In this research, data were triangulated from a number of sources including official statistics, national annual reports on organised crime, pre-trial reports, interviews with police, and interviews with migrant and tobacco smugglers. These data were used to provide case study accounts of the social organisation of migrant smuggling in Greece and tobacco smuggling in Greece and China, and to identify the scale and nature of each criminal market. This work provided an account of the structure of each particular network, a description of the 'actors' involved in the network, and an account of the ways in which the object of the smuggling, i.e. cigarettes or people, was transported, stored and commodified. Due to the global nature of organised crime and the fact that the objects of smuggling cross national boundaries, the regional contexts in which these studies took place have a broad transnational significance. Thus, studies of Greece and China have academic, policy and practice relevance beyond Greece and China.</p> <p>The mapping of the extent and nature of migrant smuggling in Greece was published in 2006 [outputs 1 and 2]. Work scoping the cigarette smuggling business in Greece was carried out in two separate studies in 2006 and 2008 [outputs 3 and 4] and studies detailing the extent and effects of China's cigarette counterfeiting business were published in 2010 [output 5].</p> <p>The key researcher in this series of studies is Georgios Antonopoulos, who held a lectureship in Criminology from 2006, was made Reader in 2011 and conferred in Professor in 2013.</p>
<p>3. References to the research</p> <p>Key Publications</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Antonopoulos, G.A. (2006a) 'The Legal Framework of Migration in Greece 1991-2001 and its Effects', <i>International Review of Law, Computers, and Technology</i>, (special issue on 'crime'), 20(1&2), 135-147.

Impact case study (REF3b)

2. Antonopoulos, G.A. & Winterdyk, J. A. (2006) 'The Smuggling of Migrants in Greece: An Examination of Its Social Organisation', *European Journal of Criminology*, 3(4), 439-461.
3. Antonopoulos, G.A. (2006b) 'Cigarette Smuggling: A Case Study of a Smuggling Network in Greece', *European Journal of Crime, Criminal Law and Criminal Justice*, 14(3), 239-255.
4. Antonopoulos, G.A. (2008) 'The Greek Connection(s): The Social Organisation of the Cigarette Smuggling Business in Greece', *European Journal of Criminology*, 5(3), 263-288.
5. Shen, A., Antonopoulos, G.A. & von Lampe, K. (2010) 'The Dragon Breathes Smoke': Cigarette Counterfeiting in the People's Republic of China, *British Journal of Criminology*, 50(2), 239-258.

Evidence of Quality

All six papers underwent rigorous peer-review and the editorial board of each journal consists of world experts in criminology.

Output 1 formed part of a special issue on 'crime' and the author was invited to submit a paper due to his standing in the field. Outputs 2 and 4 were published in the *European Journal of Criminology*, the official publication of the European Society of Criminology, which holds an impact factor of 1.017 and is ranked 25th out of 52 journals in Criminology and Penology (2012). Output 2 has received 23 citations and output 4 22 citations. Output 3 was published in the *European Journal of Crime, Criminal Law and Criminal Justice*, a publication of the Max Planck Institutes. Output 5 is published in the *British Journal of Criminology*, which has an impact factor of 1.556 and is ranked 14th out of 52 journals in Criminology and Penology (2012). This paper has been cited 18 times.

Note: citations gathered from Google Scholar and correct at 13 November 2013.

4. Details of the impact

The underpinning research has achieved impact of international reach and significance through the uptake of research findings by governmental organisations and NGOs. The originality of Professor Antonopoulos's work makes his outputs definitive sources of information in the areas of migrant and cigarette smuggling. For example, to date his is the most detailed work into migrant smuggling in Greece. The applied nature of the underpinning research, coupled with Professor Antonopoulos's engagement with organisations, such as the *Cross Border Crime Colloquium* (www.cross-border-crime.net), that explicitly seek to translate academic research findings into material that is beneficial in policy and practice, has facilitated the use of the underpinning research by a range of user groups. Furthermore, Professor Antonopoulos has disseminated his findings in such a way as to ensure that relevant practitioner groups could gain ready access to his research findings. For example, he purposefully attends the *European Society of Criminology* conferences annually because he is aware that this is a conference where both practitioner and academic delegates are well represented. A second example is that the *European Journal of Criminology* was targeted as a place of publication because Professor Antonopoulos knew that this is a favoured source of academic research for many international agencies such as the Greek Police and Europol.

The nature of the impact is twofold in that firstly, findings have contributed to the development of national and transnational policies on health, illegal immigration, and markets of organised crime. Secondly, law enforcement agencies across Europe have changed their practices in the light of the research findings.

Contribution to Policy

Research findings have impacted upon transnational governmental policies to combat illegal immigration. In 2008, findings from output 2 were used in a report produced by the *Hellenic Migration Policy Institute (IMEPO)*, co-funded by the European Union, in order to estimate the illegal immigrant population in Greece [evidence 1]. This estimate was used to inform proposals for Albanian governmental policy relating to the effective and sustainable implementation of Readmission Agreements between Albania, the EC and concerned third countries [evidence 2]; such Agreements aimed to facilitate the readmission of unauthorised migrants to their nation of origin. Similarly, in 2009, findings from output 1 were submitted to the *Directorate General for Migration Policy and Social Integration of the Greek Ministry of Internal Affairs* in order to facilitate the strategy for the assisted return and reintegration of illegal migrants in Greece to their country of origin [evidence 3].

The underpinning research into cigarette smuggling has had a direct impact on national health policies in different countries. The findings of this research have allowed Governmental organisations to assess the demand for contraband cigarettes, and the resulting health effects of this, under different policy scenarios. For example, in 2010/2011, the US government considered a ban on menthol cigarettes on the grounds of public health. In January 2011, the *Centre for Regulatory Effectiveness*, an independent US governmental organisation tasked with ensuring that information used to develop federal regulations is of the highest quality (www.thecre.com), produced a report [evidence 4] considering the effects that a ban on menthol cigarettes would have on demand for contraband cigarettes. The findings of output 5, regarding the organisation of illegal tobacco markets, the health risks posed by their products and the distribution of goods to the US, were cited extensively in this report and contributed to the recommendation to the *US Food and Drugs Agency* that a ban should not be supported.

Findings from the underpinning research have also played a role in international aims to reduce cigarette smuggling and its effects. The New Zealand anti-smoking charity *Action on Smoking and Health (ASH)*; (www.ash.org.nz), which lobbies the New Zealand government, produced a report in June 2010 [evidence 5] which aimed to tackle the contraband cigarette market in New Zealand and to make recommendations on the role that New Zealand could play in the international community to help reduce cigarette smuggling worldwide. Findings of [output 3] and [output 5] were cited in the ASH report in order to provide a global picture on illegal markets of cigarette smuggling and to inform policy recommendations.

Impact to Law Enforcement Practices

From 2006, findings from outputs 2, 3 and 4 were used conjointly by the Greek Police as part of the process of moving from a reactive style of the policing of illegal markets towards strategic planning and analysis. These research findings were used to inform strategic decisions by police about which markets to tackle [evidence 6]. Thus, the findings from the underpinning research have had a direct impact on the practices of Greek law enforcement agencies by informing their knowledge of illegal markets which has in turn allowed them to act strategically in combatting them.

Findings from outputs 2, 3 and 4 were also used by EUROPOL (The Hague, The Netherlands) from 2006 in their training of Criminal Intelligence Analysts [evidence 7]. These research articles offer real-world case study examples of the nature and extent of the cigarette and migrant smuggling markets in Greece. In conjunction with other sources of evidence, these findings contribute to the provision of a clear picture of the nature of these markets across Europe. Such a picture provides a platform for educating trainee officers about the nature of criminal markets, as well as providing scenarios for training exercises.

5. Sources to corroborate the impact

1. Hellenic Ministry of the Interior (2008) *Estimate of the illegal immigrant population in Greece*. Athens: Hellenic Ministry of the Interior
http://www.ypes.gr/AENEAS_EN/slide_2.4.2.pdf
2. International Organisation for Migration (2008) *Building on mechanisms to effectively and sustainably implement readmission agreements between Albania, the EC and concerned third countries - AENEAS 2004 Project*.
<http://albania.iom.int/index.php?page=project5>
3. Dimitriadou, A. and Triandafyllidou, A. (2009) *Study concerning the projects and strategies of Greece, fostering Assisted Return to and Reintegration in third countries – Greece*, Athens: Ministry of Internal Affairs.
http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/reports/docs/emn-studies/assisted-return/11a_greece_national_report_assisted_return_re-integration_study_final_version_4_dec_2009_en.pdf
4. Levinson, B. (2011) *An Inquiry into the Nature, Causes and Impact of Contraband Cigarettes*, Washington, D.C.: Centre for Regulatory Effectiveness
<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/AdvisoryCommittees/CommitteesMeetingMaterials/TobaccoProductsScientificAdvisoryCommittee/UCM243625.pdf>
5. Paynter, J. and Joossens, L. (2010) *Illicit Tobacco Trade: Monitoring and Mitigating Risk in New Zealand*, Epsom: ASH
www.ash.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/Research_commissioned_by_ASH/Illicit_Tobacco_Trade.pdf
6. Headquarters of the Greek Police (2010) 'The Structure of the Migrant Smuggling Networks', *Analysis News*, 1(2), page 2.
7. Email correspondence, Trainer of Analysts, EUROPOL, and Former Head of Criminality Analysis Department, Greek Police Headquarters, Athens, Greece, 25/10/13.