

**INTERPOL PCWG and LIFE SMART Waste joint
Conference, Brussels 12-14 November 2019**
Key current trends in pollution crime
(Where are we now?)

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Key current trends; what does it mean?

- "Where are we now?" it says in the agenda (Strategic Theme)
 - The old well known stuff is still a (big) part of our daily business.
- The answer might depend on where you are standing:
 - From a national point of view
 - From a regional
 - From an international
 - "From an organizational" – for instance INTERPOL
- Environmental impact (chemical substance), MO, new technology or new legislation



- 1 **Examples: relevant national pollution crime**
- 2 Illicit trade in chemicals
- 3 Carbon emission
- 4 Environmental toxins/micropollutants
- 5 Waste
- 6 Falsification of documents as a trend
- 7 **Current trends - Focus of PCWG (and others)**

1

Examples; relevant national pollution crime:

- Mining
- Fires in waste (Poland and all countries)
- Dangerous substances in products (for instance toys)
 - Cases often contains falsification of documents (certificates etc)



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2

Illicit trade in chemicals:

- These are just examples:
 - Mercury (also connected to illegal mining)
 - Pesticides
- In general instances where trade in substances/products are becoming illegal in one country, but not in another



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3

Carbon emission?:

- Biggest environmental challenge on earth
- New legislation – stricter, to make things better
- Higher prices on quotas
- Old stuff: emissions from industry



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4

Environmental toxins/micropollutants:

- Low biodegradability and accumulative in the food chain
- The cocktail effect is uncertain
- Relevant also to the handling of waste
- And of course traditional emissions/spills



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5

Waste in general:

- Problem for decades – still current
- Ee-waste, ELV, tires etc. – problem not solved
- Nothing more to say really



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6

Falsification of documents as a trend:

- Important part of MO in lots of cases
 - Notifications and permits re waste
 - Shipbreaking/rigs
 - Annual reports etc.
- Administrative authorities rely on documentation – self declarations/obliged info in combination with maybe too few controls
 - You can't rely on criminals
- Should be part of criminal investigations



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7

Current trends - Focus of PCWG and others:

- Plastic "ban" from China (and possibly others)
- Shipbreaking/Rigs (Oil and Gas Decommissioning)
- Organised crime
- Marine pollution

