

The Hague, 31 July 2008

**E U R O P O L**

To Heads of Europol National Units  
(To be forwarded to the national  
competent authorities)

Ref.: 331721



Re: Animal Rights Extremism Monthly Report

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to draw your attention to a new product of the Europol counter-terrorism unit, the Animal Rights Extremism (ARE) report.

This new monthly report has been developed as a result of needs expressed by experts in animal rights extremism at an experts' conference in **[DELETED]** in May 2007.

The concept of the new monthly report was discussed by delegates attending the ARE experts conference, held at Europol in April 2008, where it was agreed that the report should be based upon Member States' contributions to Europol and will be intended for the use of law enforcement officers in the EU, **[DELETED]**.

The report briefly summarises events related to ARE, as contributed by EU MS, **[DELETED]**. It will not contain personal data and there will contain no information from Open Sources.

Attached to this letter is the first issue of the report, which covers the months of April and May 2008. Although the intention was to provide a monthly report, the data contributed to Europol during the first two months of the report's inception was meagre and incomplete. I have, therefore, taken the decision to provide the first two months in one report.

Although ARE experts expressed a need for this report, the contributions received by Europol to date do not appear to support this need; in order to make the most effective use of Europol resources, contents of future reports will be closely monitored.

Future reports will show the situation relating to each contributor: where the contribution indicates that there are no incidents, this will clearly be marked; equally, where a contributor has failed to provide information, this too will be indicated.

SC5 will evaluate the quality of contributions to the report in November 2008 with a view to presenting the results to the High Level Experts Meeting (HLEM) at Europol, which is planned for 13 November 2008, for a decision on the future of the initiative.

I would be grateful if this letter, together with the first issue of the ARE monthly report, could be forwarded to the appropriate responsible unit within your law enforcement community.

I would also be happy to receive feedback on the report and views on its future prior to the HLEM in November.

Please do not hesitate to make contact with either myself or the activity co-ordinator, **[DELETED]**, should you wish to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

**[DELETED]**

Acting Head of SC5 - **[DELETED]**