



The Hague, September 2020

Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group Secretariat

To the attention of the JPSG Co-Chairs

By email only:

jpsg.libesecretariat@europarl.europa.eu

Europol reply to written questions from MEP Breyer to the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group (JPSG)

Dear Co-Chairs,

In accordance with Article 4.2 of the JPSG Rules of Procedure and Article 51 of the Europol Regulation, Europol would like to respond to the question raised by JPSG members, Mr Breyer, received by Europol on 13 August 2020 as follows:

Written question by MEP Patrick Breyer

Does Europol use the software Paliscope or any other product of the 'Safer Society Group' (please specify)? What purpose is it used for? Specifically is it used in order to recognise faces on the Internet?"

Europol's reply:

Europol does not use the software Paliscope. In 2019, the EC3 Child Sexual Exploitation Team (AP Twins) assessed the software, which can be used for facial detection and comparison purposes. The EC3 Child Sexual Exploitation Team uses the Griffeye Analyze Collaboration Server (Griffeye Analyze CS). Griffeye is one of the companies participating in the Safer Society Group. The software is used to analyse large collections of child abuse material in an attempt to extract information that will help investigators to identify victims and offenders. There is no facial recognition or detection component in Griffeye Analyze CS at present.

AP Twins also uses Griffeye Analyze DI Pro which is a licensed software that:

- Can be installed on a single workstation and has additional functions that are not included in Griffeye Analyze CS,
- These include facial detection and recognition capabilities. We have used these in the past in specific cases at the request of MS law

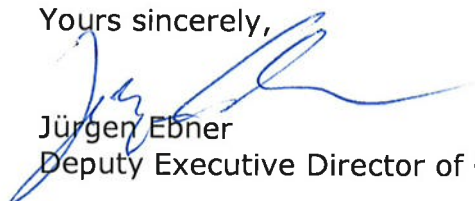
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enforcement agencies. We do not maintain databases for facial detection/recognition using Griffeye Analyze DI Pro.

- These capabilities are used in a secure environment that is not connected to the internet. This software has not been used by Europol to recognise faces on the internet.

I hope that this answers will prove satisfactory. Europol remains available for further clarifications.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Ebner', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jürgen Ebner
Deputy Executive Director of Governance