Seven Deadly Sins of Trans-Border Police Cooperation and How to Avoid Them

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Seven Deadly Sins of Police Cooperation

- Cooperating without political support
- Cooperating without a purpose and plan (strategic & operational)
- Cooperating without resource proportionality
- Cooperating without legal knowledge
- Cooperating without sharing all relevant information
- Cooperating without humility and understanding
- Cooperating without communicating needs
Operational structures

“Joint Hit Team” (JHT): Counter drug trafficking between Belgium, Luxemburg, France, and The Netherlands. Police officers work with legal framework of the country where each daily operations happen. Considered one of the best practices by European Union members.

Police and Custom Cooperation Centers (PCCC): Located in strategic border areas, they are key assets for intelligence exchange, coordinating hot pursuits and support other imminent cross-border operational needs.
Strategic Structure

Joint Investigation Teams (JIT):
• Sharing information directly amongst members
• Requesting directly investigative measures
• Being present at interviews, house searches, etc. in all jurisdictions covered by a given JIT
• Build up mutual trust between practitioners from different jurisdictions;
• Coordinating efforts in real time and informal exchange of specialized knowledge;
• Involvement of Europol and Eurojust with direct support and assistance;
• Securing potentially available funding
The Impact of Local Law Enforcement at the Canada-U.S. Border

• Mathieu Ferland – Surete du Quebec - International Relations and Protocol Branch

• James Horton - New York State Office of Counter Terrorism

• Michael J. Manning - Vermont State Police - Vermont Homeland Security Unit