ENACT.
European Network Against Crime and Terrorism

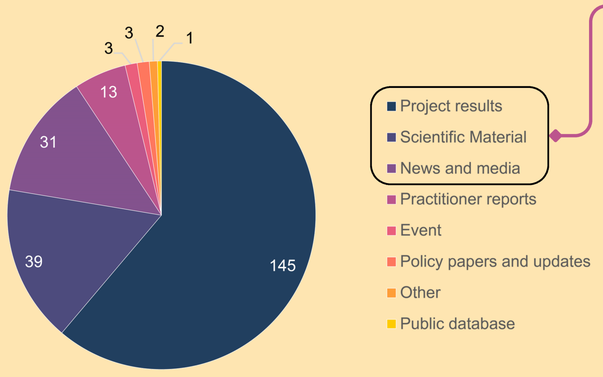
FCT Periodic Maps

Technology Observatory

2024

The Technology Observatory monitors the current state-of-the-art of technology products and services including on-going research, scientific research and those solutions (being) developed in EU-funded projects

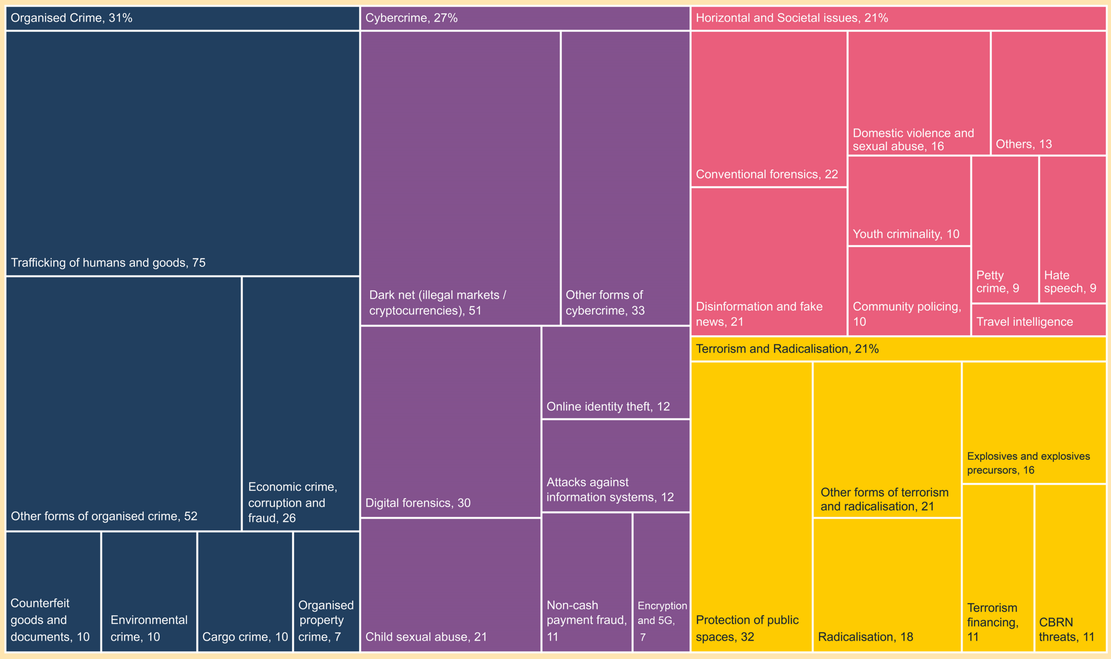
*Distribution of sources of observations with **high-relevance** to the technology observatory.*



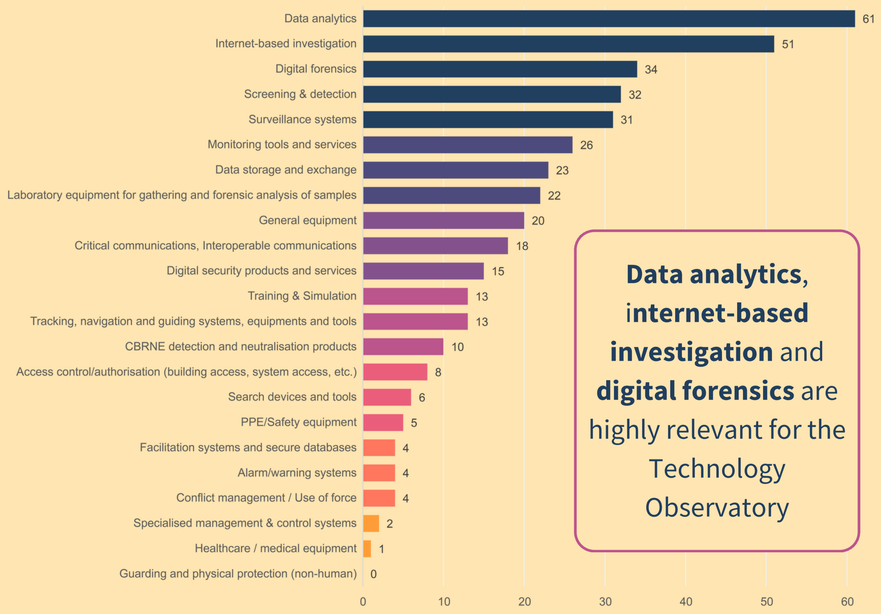
83% of observations from project results, scientific material and news and media

58% observations related to organised crime or cybercrime policy areas

*Distribution of observations according to the EUCS Taxonomy **Policy Areas** in FCT*

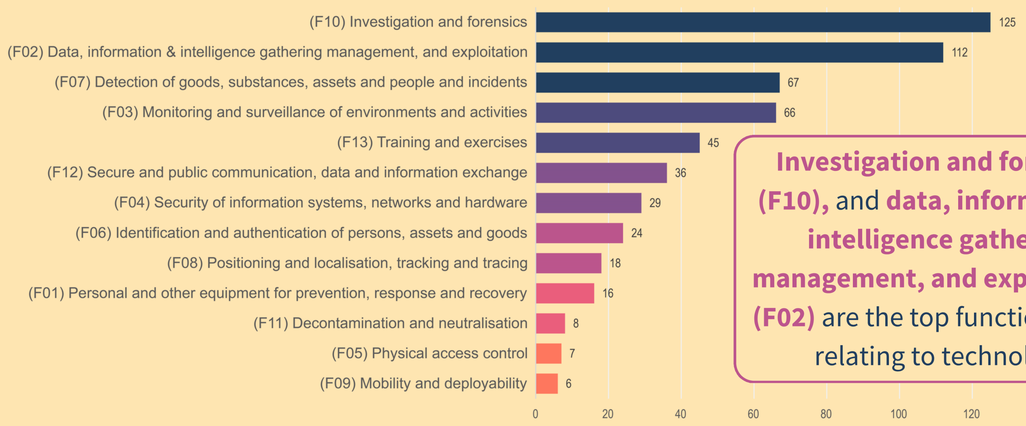


*Distribution of observations according to the EUCS Taxonomy **Technology Areas** in FCT*



Data analytics, i**nternet-based investigation** and **digital forensics** are highly relevant for the Technology Observatory

*Distribution of observations according to the EUCS Taxonomy **Functions Areas** in FCT*



Investigation and forensics (F10), and **data, information & intelligence gathering management, and exploitation (F02)** are the top functions areas relating to technology

Trends in the Technology Observatory

News

50% Observations in the news category relate to **cybercrime** areas, especially **online identity theft**, **dark markets and cryptocurrencies** and **digital forensics**.

60% Observations in the news category concerning **horizontal Issues** related to the topic of **disinformation and fake news** surrounding technologies for **deepfake generation and detection**.

In **organised crime** and **terrorism and radicalisation** articles focused on the use of **AI and LLMs, deepfakes** and **disrupting the dark web**; other articles considered 3d printed weapons and the detection of drugs.

Technology

Technology areas focused on **data analytics** technologies particularly for **trend and pattern analysis**. While **screening and detection** technologies link to the development of (mainly drugs) **sensors**

The top functions areas are:

- **Investigation and forensics** and **data, information & intelligence gathering management, and exploitation** have overlap and covers all technologies from **conventional forensics to AI, text analysis, encryption and pattern analysis**.
- **Detection of goods, substances, assets and people and incidents** – primarily focused on the development of **new sensors**
- **Monitoring and surveillance of environments and activities** – linked to **sensing activities** and **environmental crime monitoring** through geospatial intelligence

Science

Research into **AI, LLMs and AI assistants** remain popular, as do applications for **image processing** (video and satellite imagery)

65% of all observations classified as **scientific material** relate to the area of **Organised Crime**; only **13%** are related to **terrorism and radicalisation**

Active Projects

Almost half of all active projects contain some form of **cybercrime** element

Projects relating to **data gathering**; **investigation and forensics**, **training and exercises,** and **detection** and were the most common functions areas.

Technologies for supporting **internet investigations** are still the most common technologies under development.

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