

# • European Conference on Drug-Related Violence

- This presentation was delivered at the European Conference on Drug-Related Violence on 26-27 November 2024 in Brussels. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union.



# Homicides by members of criminal groups involved in drug distribution in Sweden

**European conference on drug-related violence  
26-27 November 2024 Brussels, Belgium**

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# Background

- Drugs and violence in Sweden and EU
  - Swedish gang problems “radiating”
    - To neighboring countries: 25 “torpedo” attacks in DK, spring 2024
    - Family members victimised
    - Infiltration of prosecutors, law enforcement...
- Record cocaine seizures EU
  - Increased production, reduced demand from US
    - US cocaine trade historically very violent
  - Cocaine trafficking routes shifting to BE, NL
    - Lower prices, higher purity, room for expanding the market
      - Recent violence around SE harbours

# PGP phones - EU

- PGP phones have end-to-end encryption, instant wipe function that erases contacts and messages
- GPS, camera, and microphone features are physically removed
- Sold anonymously with subscription charges up to €2,200 a year
- Initially resulting in more than 6,500 arrests and the seizure of almost €900 million
- Since then, Europol has gained access to other encrypted servers
- Many more arrests in several EU countries

# Data

Court documents from 139 District Court cases and 78 Court of Appeal cases, concluded between 2018 and 2023

- Built on Encrochat (58%), ANOM (32%), SkyECC (10%)
- Most cases from Stockholm (34%), Göteborg (28%), and Malmö (18%)

Coding status:

- 74 court cases
- Funded by Vetenskapsrådet (Swedish research council) 2024-2028
- Research team of criminologists and economist from SE and UK

# Additional court data: Pre-Investigations

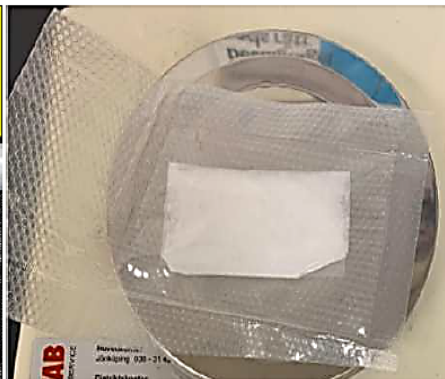
Beslagtagn vakuummaskin från

Beslag av 4,46 gram amfetamin som låg i garderoben på

Tops från knappar på lamineringsmaskin, säkrades på [redacted] Resultaten talar för att del av DNA:t kommer från [redacted] (Grad +2). Resultaten talar i någon mån för att del av DNA:t kommer från [redacted]



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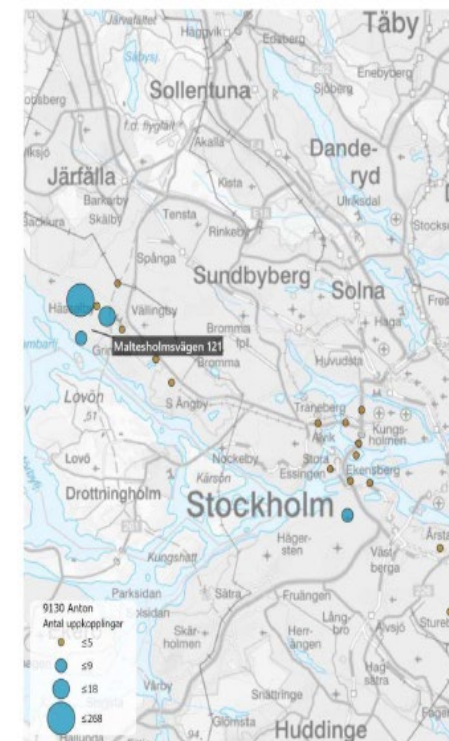
Adress

Vakuumpåse innehållande blixtlåspåse som innehöll 4,46 gram amfetamin. Av NFC säkrat fingeravtrycksspår från blixtlåspåsens utsida har identifierats till [redacted]

Klockan 15:53

och kommer ut från skogspartiet i andra kläder, de sätter sig i personbil

och kommer ut från skogspartiet i andra kläder, de sätter sig i personbil som står parkerad längst in på Stora Mans Väg.

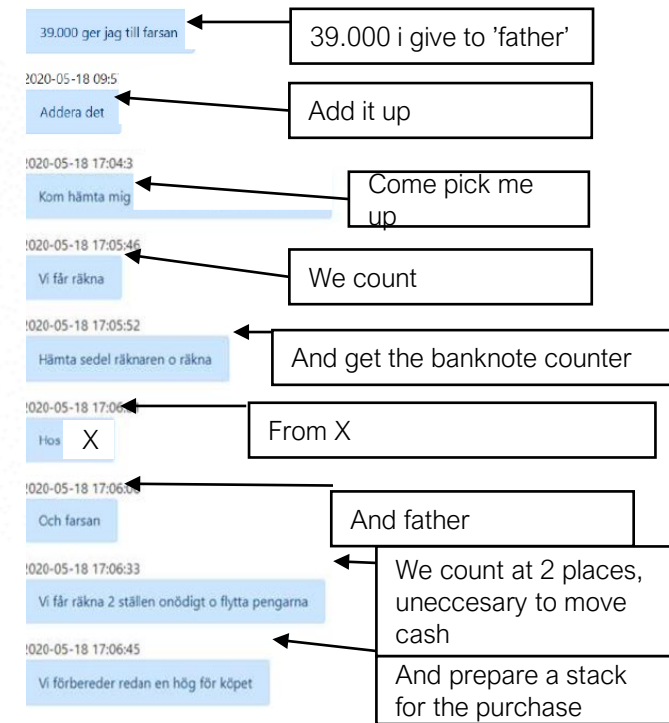
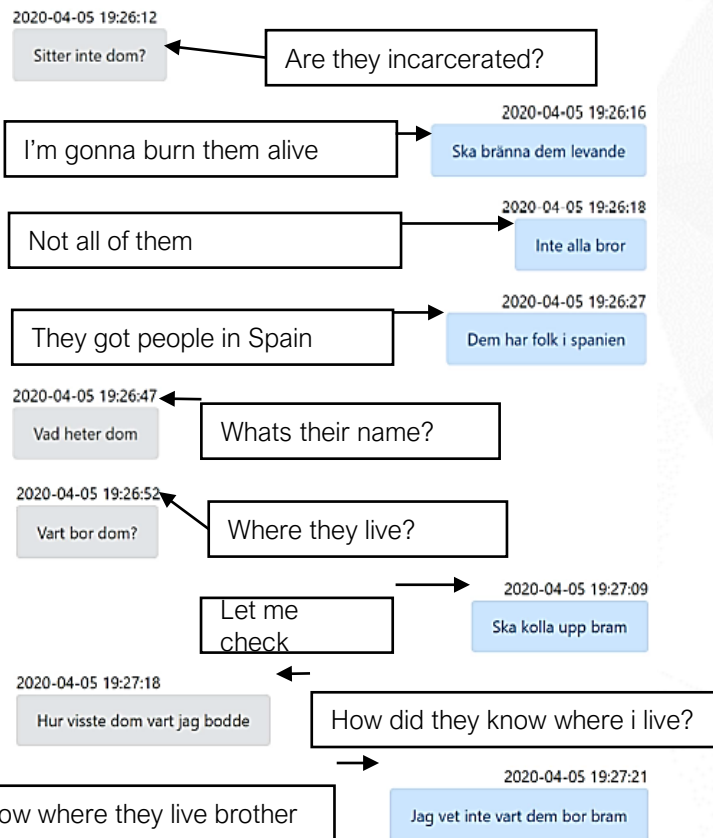


Basstation	Antal uppkopplingar	% av totalsumma
Hässelby IP 160*	268	77,9%
Hässelby Gård 210*	18	5,2%
Hässelby Strand 90*	9	2,6%
Sverkersgatan, STHLM (23002) 10*	7	2,0%
Vinsta 180*	5	1,5%

Enligt analys från NFC så talar resultaten extremt starkt för att en förslutningssvets i vakuumpåsen har svetsats med maskinen

Bild 1. Kartan visar de vanligast förekommande basstationerna för 46737629130. Basstationer med flest uppkopplingar har visualiserats med blå cirklar graderade i proportion till frekvens. Basstationer med färre än 5 uppkopplingar har markerats med brun cirkel.

# Additional court data: Chat-Logs



# Data assessment

- This material constitutes a less biased sample of individuals and criminal groups compared to police-initiated investigations, that could
  - in principle - result in a sample of less capable offenders
    - Less dark figure problem
    - Should have better representation of network participants that would otherwise elude police attention because they do not have visible working roles
- Large sample of offenses and offenders enable us to examine rare crimes types, e.g., infiltration
- Police prioritized most severe offenses first, so data collection is affected by police priorities
- To be combined with Nordic registry data...

# Social network analysis & Crime scripts

- SNA
  - Individual convicted in the same cases
  - Individuals connected to crimes
  - Identifying ‘structural holes’ between disconnected groups, ‘brokers’
  - Connecting criminal groups within illegal markets
- Crime scripts – value chain
  - Drug markets consists of a business process involving different steps of production or activity
  - Each step consists of goods and human capital exchange and added to the next, following a chainlike structure

A decorative yellow shape with a black polka-dot pattern, resembling a tie, is positioned on the left side of the slide.

# Analysis - descriptive

## Networks visualisations

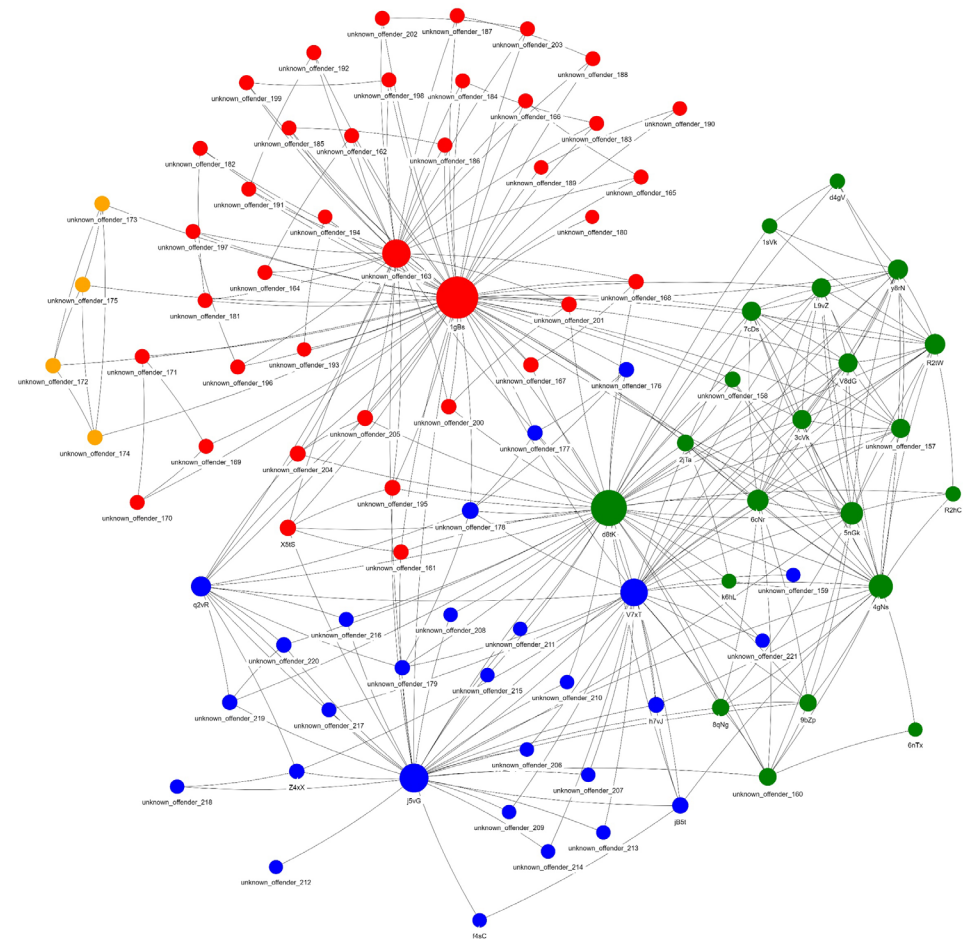
- Domestic drug distribution
- Drug dealers and associated serious offending

# Contents

- 253 offenders with known identity
- 220 offenders from chats, identity not known
- 118 different roles across 1956 role-specific engagements from the 473 offenders across all crimes
- 44 different OCGs with hundreds of connections
- Most common crime types:
  - Drug crime (N=530)
  - Gun crime, incl. destruction causing public endangerment (N=57)
  - Money Laundering (N=28)
  - Murder, and attempted murder (N=14)
    - Note that police intervened when they learned about murder plans from the chats

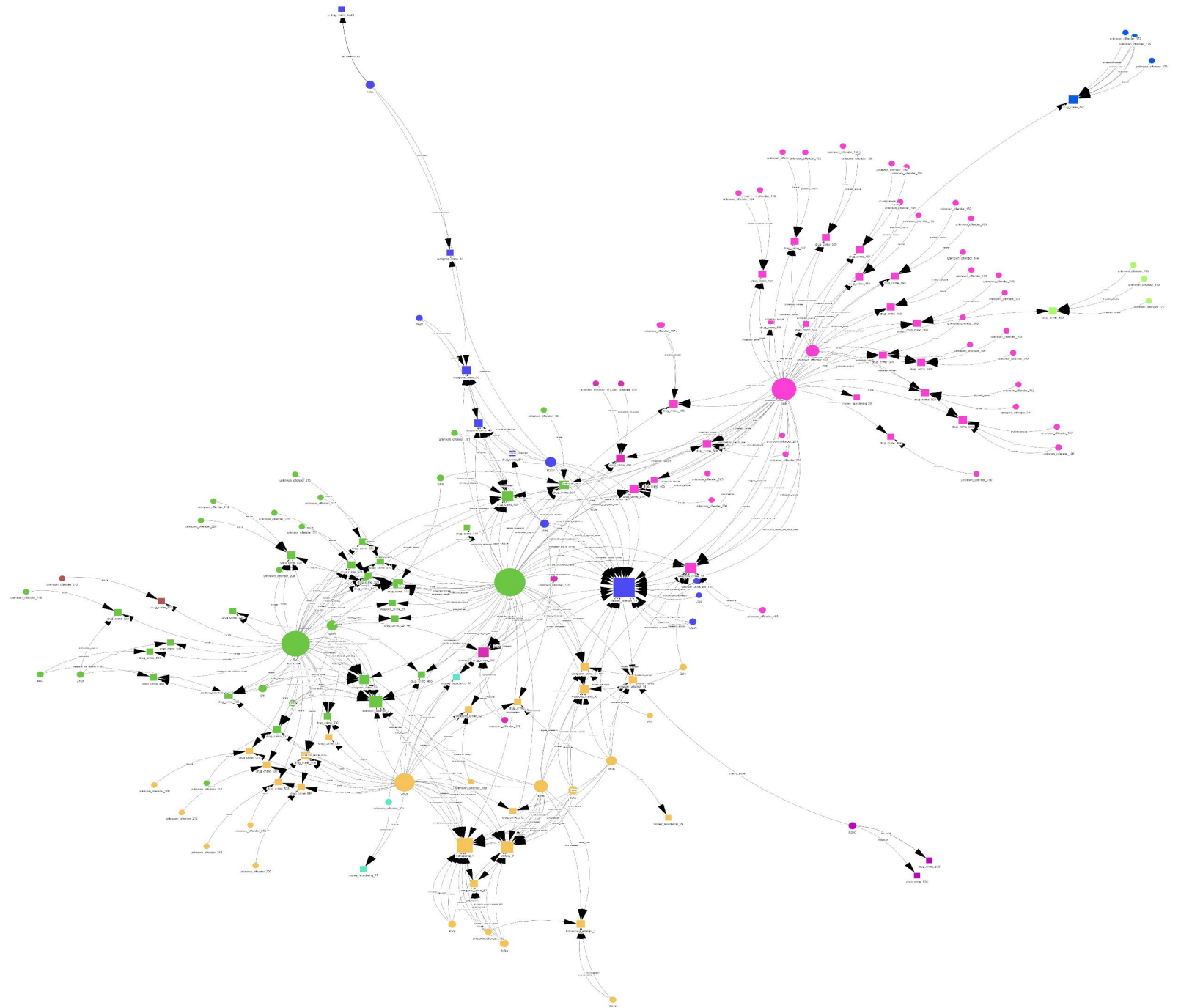
# Domestic cocaine distribution network

- March 27 – to May 24, 2020
- 48 cocaine sales
- Also depicted: storage, processing, and possession
- Combined: > 60 kg cocaine, 20 kg amphetamine, 10 kg cannabis
- Big circles are sellers:
- Typical amounts 50-100 grams but also large sales of 10-20 kg



**3 week period**

**Drug sellers  
involved in two  
attempted  
homicides and  
kidnapping,  
robbery, and  
extortion**

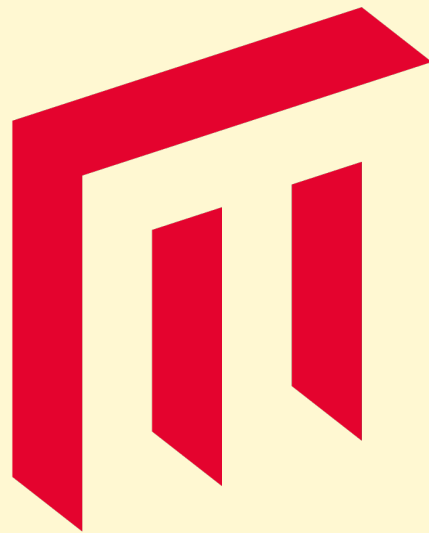


# Additional Data

- Register data
  - Individuals: Country of origin, Age etc.
  - Crime: Suspicion registry and Prosecution registry
- Geographic data
  - 250x250 meter pixels, Population density by age groups
    - Prediction of where will the next shootings take place
    - Where are criminal groups located that we may have missed
- Police data
  - Cylinder model, the 63,000 “Gang associations”
- Chats:
  - Pending...
- Combining quantitative network analysis with qualitative data from court documents (and chats) can provide unprecedented research on OCGs structures
  - e.g. how hierarchical, how market oriented (crime as service), how flexible, at different stages of “maturity”

# Looking ahead

- Consortium of countries working on similar data from Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, Finland, Norway, Belgium, Netherlands
    - SNA is the key to understanding criminal groups, drug markets, and violence
- ...but good data is hard to come across



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