



INTERPOL

FACT SHEET

International Notices system

Notices are international alerts used by police to communicate information about crimes, criminals and threats to their counterparts around the world. They are circulated by INTERPOL to all member countries at the request of a country or an authorized international entity. The information disseminated via notices concerns individuals wanted for serious crimes, missing persons, unidentified bodies, possible threats, prison escapes and criminals' *modi operandi*. Notices offer high visibility for serious crimes or incidents.

► SHARING INFORMATION ON CRIME

One of INTERPOL's most important functions is to help police in its member countries share critical crime-related information using our system of international notices. Police can use our notices to alert law enforcement in other countries of potential threats, or to ask for assistance in solving crimes.

Notices can also be used by the United Nations Security Council, the International Criminal Court and international criminal tribunals to warn that certain individuals and entities face UN sanctions.

► TYPES OF NOTICES



■ Red Notice

To seek the location and arrest of a person wanted by a judicial jurisdiction or an international tribunal with a view to his/her extradition.

The legal basis for a Red Notice is an arrest warrant or court order issued by judicial authorities in a country. Many of INTERPOL's member countries consider a Red Notice to be a valid request for provisional arrest. Furthermore, INTERPOL is an official channel for transmitting requests for provisional arrest in a number of bilateral and multilateral extradition treaties, including the European Convention on Extradition, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Convention on Extradition and the United Nations Model Treaty on Extradition.



■ Blue Notice

To locate, identify or obtain information on a person of interest in a criminal investigation.



■ Green Notice

To warn about a person's criminal activities if that person is considered to be a possible threat to public safety.



■ Yellow Notice

To locate a missing person or to identify a person unable to identify himself/herself.



■ Black Notice

To seek information on unidentified bodies.



■ Orange Notice

To warn of an event, a person, an object or a process representing an imminent threat and danger to persons or property.

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■ INTERPOL–United Nations Security Council Special Notice

To inform INTERPOL's members that an individual or an entity is subject to UN sanctions.

The INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notice was created in 2005 to provide better tools to help the Security Council carry out its mandate regarding the freezing of assets, travel bans and arms embargos aimed at individuals and entities associated with Al Qaeda and the Taliban.



■ Purple Notice

To provide information on modi operandi, procedures, objects, devices or hiding places used by criminals.

■ Diffusions

Similar to the Notice, a diffusion is issued for the same purposes as notices but sent directly by a member country or an international entity to the countries of their choice. Diffusions are also recorded in the Organization's police databases.

Notices and diffusions contain two main types of information: identity details (physical description, photograph, fingerprints, identity document numbers, etc.) and judicial information (offence with which the person is charged; references to the laws under which the charge is made or conviction was obtained; references to the arrest warrant or court sentence, etc.)

► KEY FIGURES

The General Secretariat published approximately 26,500 notices and diffusions in 2011:

NOTICES								DIFFUSIONS
Red	Blue	Green	Yellow	Black	INTERPOL-UN	Orange	Purple	
7,678	705	1,132	1,059	104	30	31	8	15,708

There were 40,836 notices and 48,310 diffusions in circulation at the end of 2011, and 7,958 people were arrested on the basis of a notice or diffusion during 2011.



INTERPOL

► CONTACT INFORMATION:

Contact us via our web site. For matters relating to specific crime cases, please contact your local police or the INTERPOL National Central Bureau in your country.

► **Twitter:** @INTERPOL_HQ

► **YouTube:** INTERPOLHQ

► **WWW.INTERPOL.INT**



► NOTICE PUBLICATION PROCESS

The General Secretariat publishes notices either on its own initiative, or based on requests from National Central Bureaus (NCBs) or authorized international entities. All notices are published on INTERPOL's secure website. Extracts of notices may also be published on the Organization's public website if the requesting entity agrees.

The General Secretariat can only publish a notice that adheres to all the proper legal conditions. For example, a notice will not be published if it violates INTERPOL's Constitution, which forbids the Organization from undertaking activities of a political, military, religious or racial character. The General Secretariat can refuse to publish a notice that it considers unadvisable or a potential risk.