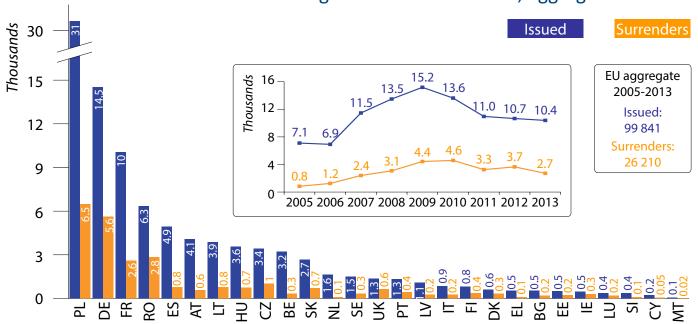
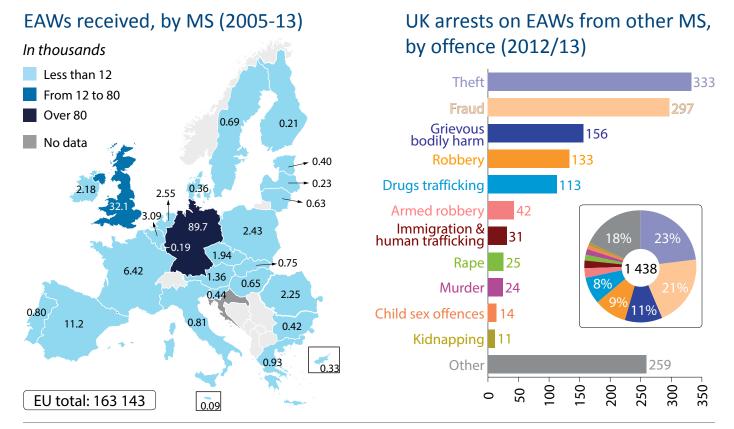


European Arrest Warrant (EAW)

In February 2014, with an overwhelming majority, the European Parliament adopted a <u>resolution</u> calling on the Commission to submit legislative proposals aimed at improving the functioning of the European Arrest Warrant. In Parliament's opinion, revision of the current legislation is needed to prevent miscarriages of justice, long waits in pre-trial detention and other breaches of suspects' human rights. The arguments supporting Parliament's position are set out in detail in the European Added Value Assessment accompanying the resolution.

Number of EAWs issued and resulting in effective surrender, aggregate 2005-13





Further information

Number of EAWs issued and resulting in effective surrender, aggregate 2005-13

The bar chart represents the number of European Arrest Warrants (EAW) for the whole period 2005-2013 and for each Member State (MS). It shows the number issued (blue bar) and the number of effective surrenders (orange bar). Poland has a significantly higher value than the other MS (31 000 EAWs) therefore the "y" axis has been broken to show the values for other MS more clearly. The reason for this high value is because Poland's criminal code generally requires all offences to be prosecuted, no matter how minor.

The line chart in the box shows the evolution of EAWs issued and effective surrenders for the EU as a whole.

Data for the years 2005-2011 comes from the document "Europe's most wanted? Recalibrating Trust in the European Arrest Warrant System" published by the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS). The main source of data used in this study is the Council of the European Union, "Replies to the questionnaire on quantitative information on the practical operation of the EAW (2005-2011)". Data for the years 2012 and 2013 also come from the Council.

It is important to highlight certain shortcomings in the statistical data available, as not all MS have provided data systematically and they do not share a common statistical tool. Only for nine MS (CZ, EE, ES, IE, CY, LT, MT, PL and SK) is there a full set of data from 2005 to 2013; for the others data are missing for certain years and/or for certain topics within the year. The table below shows the countries/years for which data are missing. No data are available for Croatia.

AT	BE	BG	DK	DE	EL	FR	IT	LV	LU	HU	NL	PT	RO	SI	FI	SE	UK
	2005	2005		2005									2005				
	2006	2006		2006									2006				
	2007		2007				2007										
	2008	2008					2008			2008	2008	2008					
2009	2009	2009					2009										
2010							2010				2010	2010					
2011		2011			2011		2011			2011	2011		2011		2011		
		2012			2012		2012	2012		2012	2012		2012	2012			2012
2013		2013	2013		2013	2013	2013		2013	2013	2013			2013		2013	2013

The bar chart shows that between 2005 and 2013, only a minority of incoming EAWs were executed. Poor execution not only undermines the credibility of the process, but is also costly for the individuals concerned, their families and for the taxpayer in general.

EAW received, by MS 2005-2013

The map represents the EAWs that each MS received from other MS. The countries are divided into three groups, with the first group representing 25% of total EAWs received, the second 20% and the last group with only one country, representing 55% of all EAWs received by all MS.

UK arrests on EAWs from other MS, by offence (2012/13)

The graphs show the arrests on EAWs from other MS by type of offence. Only the UK has been presented as there are a lack of data in this domain, and the UK is one of the few Member States systematically collecting information.

The source is the <u>UK government</u> which has collected this information since 2009.

The bar chart shows the number of arrests by offence and the pie chart the same in percentages. The category "other" includes the following: money laundering (5 arrests), terrorism (5), arson (4), counterfeiting (3), arms trafficking (2), war crimes (1) and unspecified others (239).

The EAW Framework Decision passed quickly through the legislative process, in the wake of the 9/11 attacks in the US. It was clearly intended to ensure that perpetrators of such horrendous acts would not escape prosecution. However, the graph shows that EAWs are issued for a variety of criminal offences which in some cases might be qualified as "trivial offences". Indeed, there are many cases of EAWs being issued for the prosecution or enforcement of sentences relating to very minor offences (i.e. theft of two tyres, stealing of piglets, counterfeiting banknotes worth 100 euros).

Disclaimer and Copyright. This InfoGraphic does not necessarily represent the views of the authors or the European Parliament. The document is exclusively addressed to the Members and staff of the European Parliament for their parliamentary work. Copyright © European Union, 2014. Reproduction is authorised for non-commercial purposes, provided the source is acknowledged.

eprs@ep.europa.eu - http://www.eprs.ep.parl.union.eu (intranet) - http://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank (internet) - http://epthinktank.eu (blog)

Members' Research Service 140803REV1