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INTEGRITY IN SPORT

Criminal Threats and International Answers in the Global Sports Industry

**Milan, Italy,
12/13 December 2014**

Match Fixing and Illegal Betting

Protecting sport from corruption
(especially match fixing)
is mostly about **PREVENTION**

John Abbott,
INTERPOL

What is 'match-fixing'





Manipulation of sports competitions

Intentional arrangement, act or omission aimed at an improper alteration of the result or the course of a sports competition in order to remove all or part of the unpredictable nature of the aforementioned sports competition with a view to obtaining an undue advantage for oneself or for others

*Council of Europe Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions,
18.09.2014*

What is 'match-fixing'?

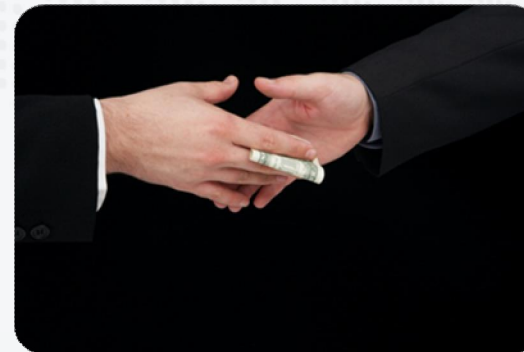
**Improperly influencing the
result or course of the event
for advantage**

Match fixing or manipulation for:

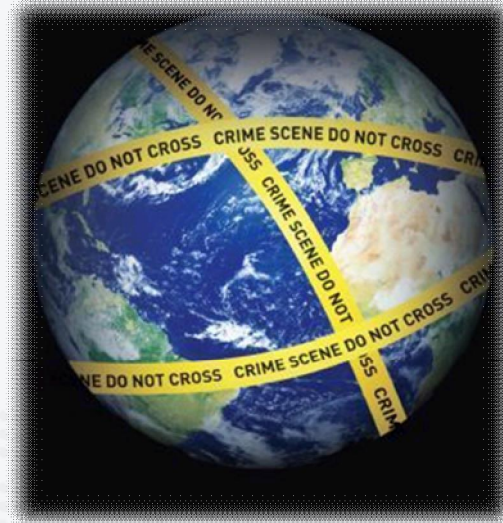
“Sporting advantage;



“ For financial gain – frequently through irregular betting on the legal market, or illegal betting.



Match-fixing in sport:



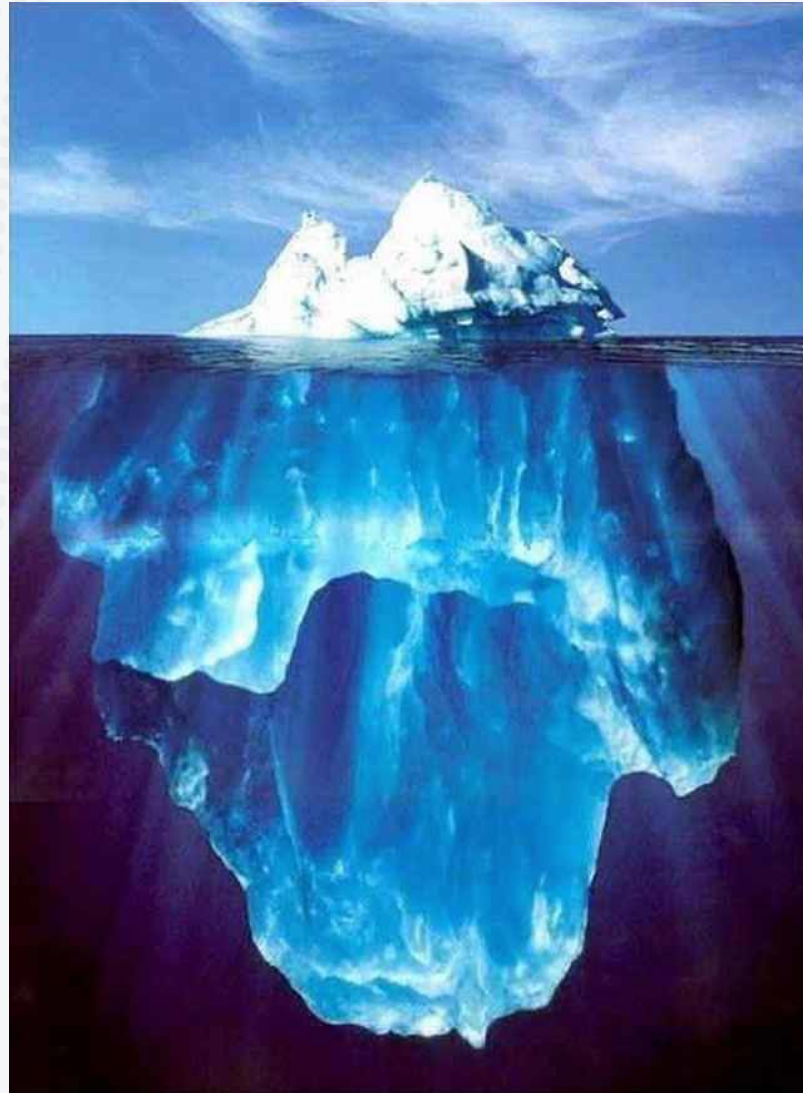
How big a problem is it?

What is the nature of the problem ?

This.....?

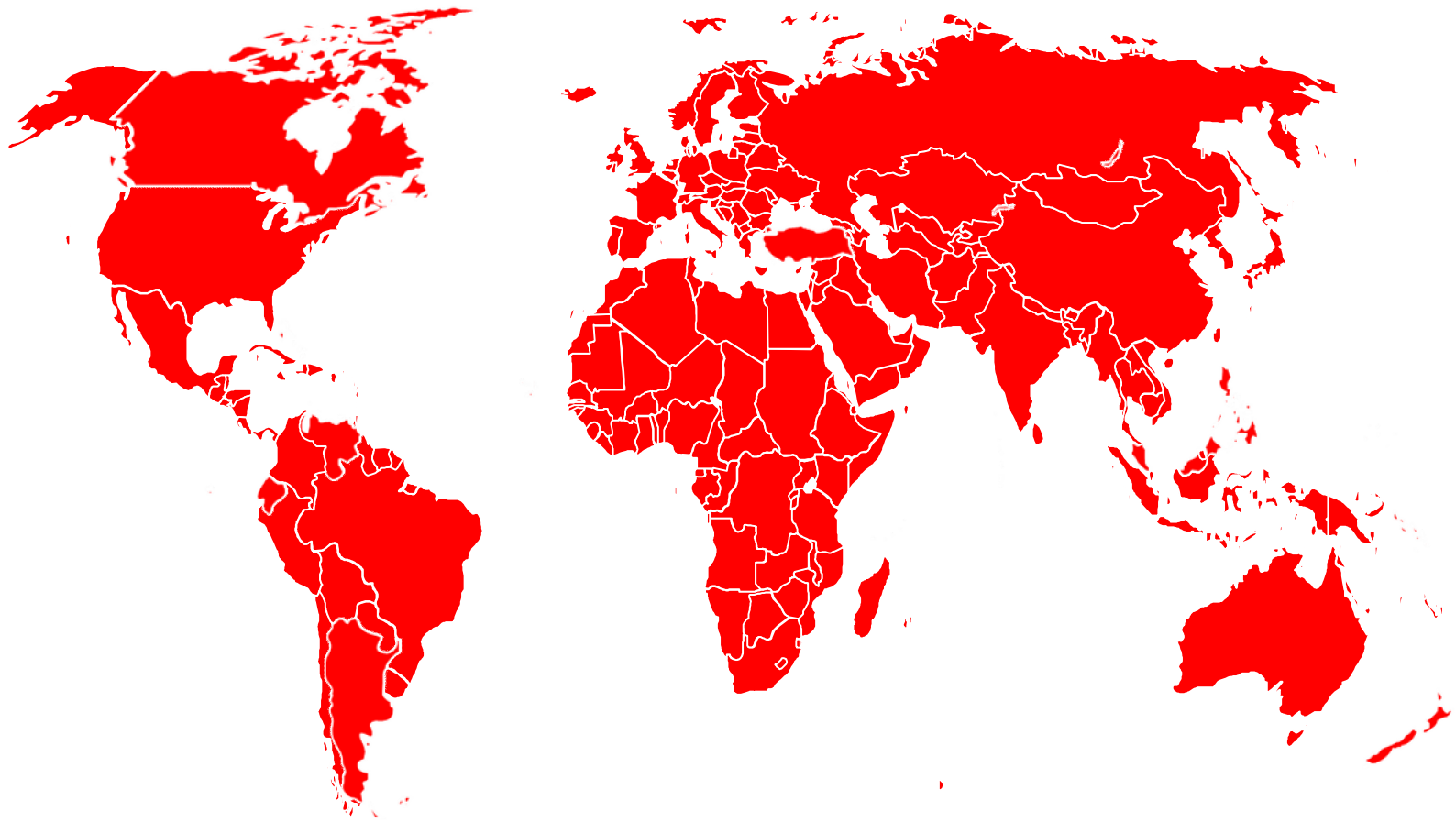


Or this....



Match Manipulation:

A SIGNIFICANT GLOBAL THREAT





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SPORTS most AFFECTED BY CORRUPTION recently:

- ” Football
- ” Cricket
- ” Tennis
- ” Horse Racing

also Badminton, Cycling, Handball, Ice Hockey,
Snooker, Sumo wrestling, Volleyball

....and so on....

Match-fixing in sports has been adversely affected by:

- “ **Globalisation;**
- “ **Developments in communications;**
- “ **Developments in betting markets;**
- “ **Organised Crime (professional criminal networks) involvement;**
- “ **Failure of many ‘authorities’ to do anything, or the right things.**



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Question:

Why have professional criminals (Organised Crime) got involved in match fixing?

Answer:

Because it is **EASIER** than most other types of criminality!

What does the Professional Criminal think?

- “ Criminals look for high profit and low risk;**
- “ Criminals look for anonymity;**
- “ Criminals look for and exploit easy targets (especially, naive sports people, absence of effective sport regulations and their implementation);**
- “ Criminals look for absence of legislation and ineffective supervision and regulation of gambling;**
- “ Criminals look for limited law enforcement capability.**



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Drug Dealer v Match Fixer

	Drug Trafficker/Dealer	Match Fixer
Skill	Multiple skills	Comparatively simple
Profit	Enormous	Enormous
Mobility	Limited	High
Risk	Extremely High	Medium (or low)
Need	Drugs	Networking
People dealing with	Extremely Violent Criminals / addicts	Athletes / referees / officials / bookies
Penalty	Death, long prison sentence	Few years imprisonment – possibly!



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MODUS OPERANDI of FIXERS

- “ How do the criminals operate?
- “ How does a fixer make the approach?
- “ Who are the main targets for fixers??

Changing ALL the time!!

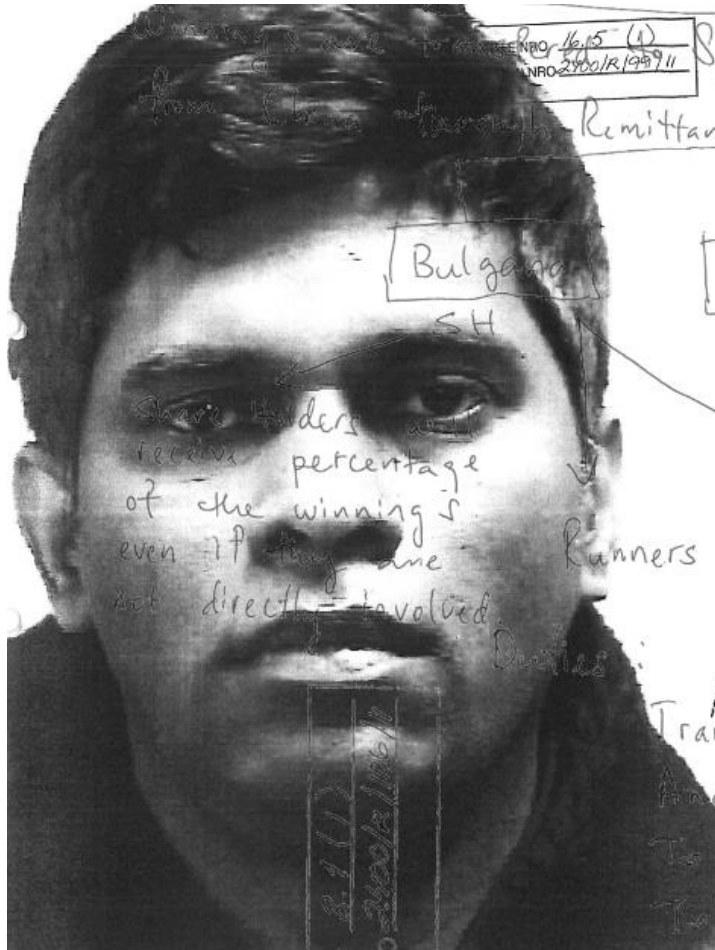


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VULNERABILITIES – exploited by criminals (are we protecting sporting integrity?)

- “ Inadequate legislation;
- “ Betting opportunities increased;
- “ National sporting governing bodies often naive, in denial (and in some cases colluding);
- “ Not seen as a law enforcement priority;
- “ Difficult to detect/investigate/prosecute;
- “ Smart criminals; global reach;
- “ Plenty of targets – many naive (unworldly);
- “ Bad guys choose when, where, who and how.



PRO-16.15 (A)
INFO: 2001/12/11

Singapore
Leader
Singapore
Remittance seats

Bulgaria
SH

Hungary

Slovenia

Slovenia

Singapore

KELONG
KINGS

Share holders
receive percentage
of the winnings
even if they are
not directly involved

Runners

WILSON RAJ PERUMAL

ALESSANDRO RIGHI & EMANUELE PIANO

Transport Cash

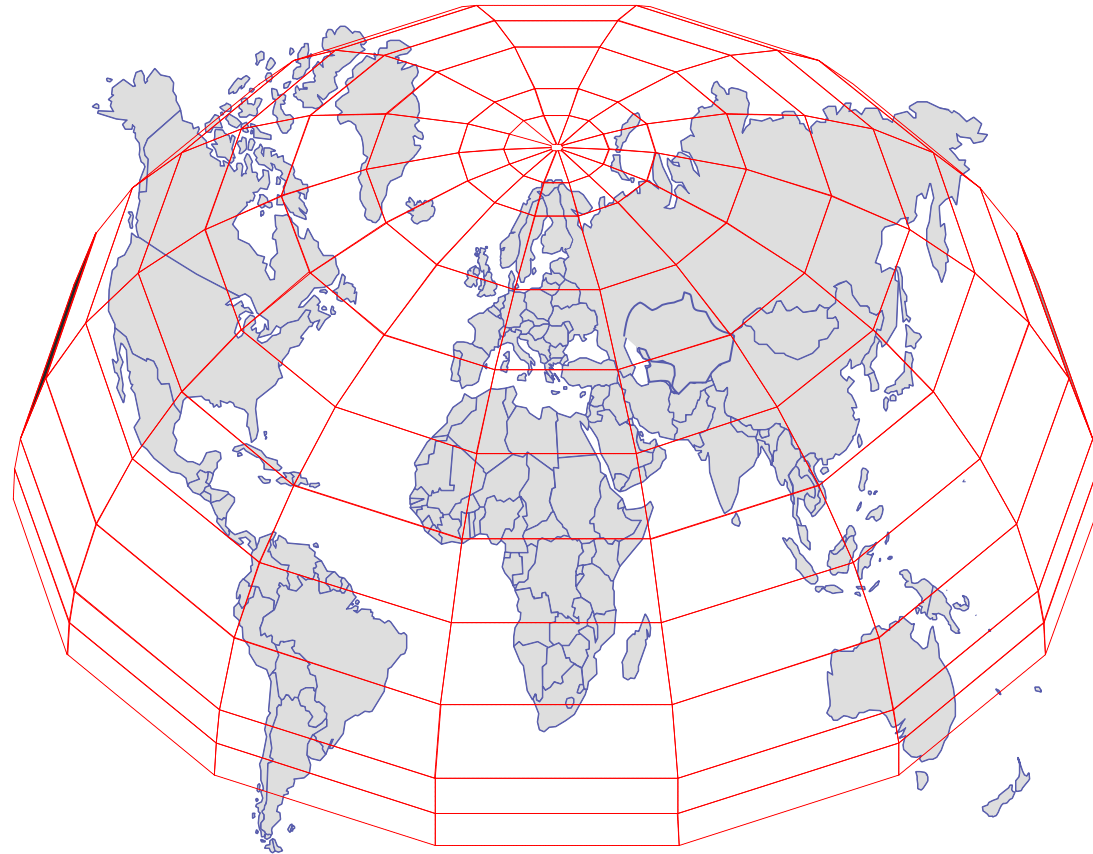
Analyse Games

report the nature of the matches

report on the performance of the matches

How should we tackle
match fixing?

INTERPOL and its 190 member countries



‘Connecting Police for a safer world’

INTERPOL – tackling match fixing

- “ IMEST – support to major sporting events;
- “ Anti Match Fixing Task Force (football);
- “ INTERPOL – FIFA Training, Education and Prevention Initiative;
- “ INTERPOL and the International Olympic Committee;
- “ Operation ‘SOGA’.



“ **The combined five Operation SOGA waves have resulted in:**

- . The arrest of more than 8400 people,
- . the seizure of almost USD 40 million in cash, and
- . the closure of some 3400 illegal gambling dens that handled an estimated USD \$5.7 billion worth of bets.



IMPACT?

PREVENTION....



....is the key



INTERPOL's framework to tackle match-fixing



Protecting integrity in sport

- “ **Enhancing PREVENTION**)
- “ **Building PARTNERSHIPS**) nationally,
- “ **Sharing INFORMATION**) regionally,
- “ **Improving COORDINATION**) and globally.
- “ **Being more PRO-ACTIVE**)



INTERPOL's framework to tackle match-fixing





PARTNERSHIPS (national level)

- “ **Government;**
- “ **Sports Governing Bodies;**
- “ **Gambling Regulator;**
- “ **Law Enforcement;**
- “ **Betting Companies (and monitoring organisations);**
- “ **Sport Participants (stakeholders such as players, referees, administrators, owners);**
- “ **Relevant NGOs (eg Sportaccord, Transparency International).**



INFORMATION (national level)

- “ We all need the best possible information – wide search for sources, nationally and internationally;
- “ Identify what information is needed and where to get it from (Information Requirement);
- “ Collection, storage, assessment, analysis, sharing (needs protocols) and use of information;
- “ Reporting mechanisms;
- “ Betting monitoring.



CO-ORDINATION (national level)

- “ ‘National Platform’ to protect integrity in sport;
- “ Develops the national strategy;
- “ Oversees implementation of the strategy;
- “ SPOC’s (to build trust and confidence);
- “ Crisis management (the ‘what ifs’);
- “ Prevention, training and awareness plans – identification and implementation.



PRO-ACTIVITY (national level)

- “ Identify barriers and solutions relevant to my country – in other words, do things!;
- “ Disruption methods;
- “ Investigations;
- “ Training of investigators (police) and ‘fact finders’ (sports disciplinary);
- “ Reporting mechanisms;
- “ Media Strategy;
- “ Integrity officer for EACH sport, nationally.



PREVENTION (national level)

- “ Relevant Legislation and powers;**
- “ Good Governance of sports governing bodies,**
- “ Sports Regulations that are fit for purpose and implemented (Code of Conduct, investigation and disciplinary procedures, Club Licensing, emphasis on integrity);**
- “ Betting ‘controls’;**



PREVENTION (national level)

- “ Contractual requirements relating to (no) corruption in sport;**
- “ Clear guidance on match fixing, corruption – zero tolerance;**
- “ Training and Awareness (Recognise, Resist, Report or similar);**
- “ Establish a national system to deal with corruption in sport (or amend/develop an existing one).**



FINAL THOUGHTS

- “ **Leadership and planning;**
- “ **Work on the basis it will happen here, in my sport;**
- “ **Systems to ensure IMPLEMENTATION;**
- “ **Build TRUST;**
- “ **Protect sports from corruption and criminals;**
- “ **Where does ‘sport autonomy’ sit with this?**

PREVENTION....



....is the key

THANK YOU