



## INTERPOL

Since the first INTERPOL Red Notice was published in 1946, this vital policing tool has assisted law enforcement around the world to locate, arrest and extradite thousands of dangerous criminals including murderers, rapists and war crimes fugitives.

INTERPOL is constantly reviewing its rules and practices to ensure that we maintain the highest standards in international police cooperation.

The past two years have seen an increasing number of modifications and updates to INTERPOL's Rules on the Processing of Data. Most recently a resolution was approved at the 2014 General Assembly for the creation of a working group to review the Organization's control mechanisms, including of the Commission for the Control of INTERPOL's Files (CCF).

The process of reviewing a Red Notice is based on all relevant INTERPOL rules including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights under Article 2(1) and Article 3 of INTERPOL's Constitution, according to which it is 'strictly forbidden for the organization to undertake any intervention or activities of a political, military, religious or racial character.'

Other principles enshrined by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, for example children's rights, are also taken into account to protect rights not mentioned in Article 3 of the Constitution.

Each Red Notice is reviewed by a dedicated unit prior to publication, which involves checks not only of the information provided in the notice request, but also in light of additional available sources. In addition, the quality control team which carries out these reviews is informed in advance of potential sensitive cases which may require further in-depth review.

Any individual may submit a request, free of charge, to the CCF to have access to the information registered on him/her in INTERPOL's databases and may challenge the conformity of such information with INTERPOL's rules, including with Article 3 of INTERPOL's Constitution.

Despite a handful of cases being highly publicised, the vast majority of requests by member countries do not raise Article 3 or other issues related to INTERPOL's rules.

The rules which govern the issue of Red Notices meet the highest EU data protection standards and INTERPOL also takes pre-emptive measures to safeguard the Red Notices system. Clearly no system is invulnerable to mistakes, and INTERPOL is constantly reviewing and refining its systems. In this regard, we welcome constructive and considered input from NGOs or other interested parties.

INTERPOL cannot insist or compel any member country to arrest an individual who is the subject of a Red Notice. Nor can INTERPOL require any member country to take any action in response to another member country's request. Each INTERPOL member country decides for itself what legal value to give Red Notice within their borders.

We are aware that there are serious consequences for individuals who are the subject of a Red Notice, and thus also for the reputation of the Organization. This is why INTERPOL is committed to protecting its independence and neutrality in handling each request for assistance by its member countries to serve individual human rights and global security at the same time.