

Operation against Glass Eel Trafficking



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European Law Forum: Prevention • Investigation • Prosecution

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News

At the beginning of April, a two-year [investigation against an organised criminal group illegally exporting glass eels to Asia](#). The operation led to the successful arrest of 10 members of the OCG, the seizure of 350 kg of live glass eels, and €40,000 in cash.

The European glass eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) is protected under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) of Wild Fauna and Flora with a zero quota ban on shipments to non-EU countries.

Operation Elvers was conducted by the Spanish Guardia Civil, Portuguese authorities, and Europol under the umbrella of Project Lake, a project launched by Europol to counter environmental crime.

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