

FIFI

Fight Against Fraud and Illegal Trade

Global supply chains are threatened by illegal activities. Fraud, theft, smuggling, brand piracy, industrial espionage and compliance are challenges for industries and trade. FIFI is intended to deal with open information and internal company data by means of information processing, fusion and artificial intelligence (AI) in order to detect crime.



Globally active companies are worldwide present and connected. Production, logistics, purchasing, sales and markets form a network across national borders. Fraud, theft, smuggling, brand piracy, industrial espionage and compliance threaten industry and with their value chains. Illegal activities occur outside and also inside globally operating companies. Damage minimization is the goal of clarification and countermeasures and is the reason for the need for action.

National security agencies cannot prevent these incidents. In principle, necessary cross-border networking and coordinated measures do not take place. Reporting channels, interests, confidentiality, public relations and options for action are defined completely differently in governmental authorities than in industry.

FIFI strengthens the corporate capabilities in the fight against crime, threats and illegal trade. Relevant data and information from a wide range of international sources are collected, evaluated and f. The effective and efficient processing of this mass data is only possible with the use of AI procedures and extensive automation in information preparation. The project combines research, user knowledge and market-oriented young companies with the aim of providing practice-oriented solutions for suitable assistance systems.

Associated partners with specific focuses and interests are welcome!

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Paradigmatic for FIFI are two assumptions:

1. that the early detection of crime is possible with good prospects of success if data and information from all legally accessible sources is suitably processed, merged and aggregated;
2. that proven approaches as well as procedures and tools used by security authorities, for example the methodology of the so-called Intelligence Cycle, can be transferred to project-relevant issues.

The starting point is always a concrete, relevant management question in our case concerning the illegal trade and crime in the business environment.

This is followed by the collection of relevant actual data and information from sources of different origin, type and structure: (1) Data from the company describe the business processes; (2) Press, media, open social networks, the Internet and darknet characterize the corporate environment and reflect activities outside the company; (3) Politics, market participants, customers and committed contributors provide additional relevant information. The search and filter criteria follow from the question. The result is topic-relevant, but mostly unstructured mass data.

An important element in the processing chain is the machine translation (MT) of compiled information in text form. In addition to overcoming the skills bottleneck, MT promotes speed and reproducibility and reduces costs when evaluating multilingual sources. By means of various artificial intelligence-based tools (AI), the collected information is processed and classified. Available tools and research results are used for information processing, content indexing and categorization - partly "open source", partly developed and provided by the FIFI consortium.

The collection according to the research question provides mass data that is relatively un-specific in terms of the mission. For each report, AI-based models are used for filtering, prioritization and ranking for data reduction and fusion. Measures and assessments by the analyst support the regular improvement of the models.

The actual analysis takes place on the fully automatically collected, pre-processed and categorized data set. Tools are used to uncover relations, temporal and content-related correlations, changes, trends, anomalies and warnings. The analyst examines data and information. Corrections to the proposed priorities also allow the adaptation of report-specific models for data processing. Relevant information is included in the analysis.

The cycle is completed with the report and its presentation to the principal. The discussion and evaluation of the results provides refinements and adjustments for up-to-date reports of following cycles on unchanged or extended questions.

Technology	Intelligence Cycle, cloud technologies; natural language processing, translation, machine learning; Graph Data bases, visualization; tracking.
Market	Decision support in complex, unstructured scenarios with a focus on applications in the global industry.
Associated Partners 2020/2021	Within the scope of the project, suitable procedures are being researched and a prototype assistance system is being developed. Selected company-specific scenarios of partners will be considered in the project while maintaining confidentiality. One example is the regular monitoring of compliance requirements for factories in low-wage regions. Participation can be agreed until the end of 2020. No costs will arise for the associated partners.