Combating organized crime | Edwin W. Kruisbergen

Although counterstrategies regarding organized crime are heavily debated – and they should be – they are not often subjected to empirical research. As a consequence, debates and policies lack a firm empirical basis and are mainly based upon normative grounds and untested assumptions. The aim of this study is to contribute to the empirical evidence by giving insight into the practice and results of two counterstrategies to organized crime in the Netherlands: the criminal justice approach and the financial approach (‘follow the money’). For the criminal justice approach, it focuses on a specific method of criminal investigation: undercover policing. For the financial approach, it looks into what organized crime offenders actually do with their money as well as the efforts of law enforcement agencies to confiscate criminal earnings.

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