EASST 2022

Politics of technoscientific futures

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Predicting crime: standardization, discretion and digital tools

Organized by: easst

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BSC BALTIC STUDIES CENTRE

NordForsk

Case studies of digital and datafied law enforcement tools

DENMARK	General crime	❏ POL-INTEL - Intelligence-led policing platform
NORWAY	Youth crime/gangs	❏ Risk assessment tools
LATVIA	Road traffic safety	❏ Future Intelligent Transport Systems ❏ Unmarked police bus with a 360-degree camera, drones ❏ Police body-worn cameras ❏ Smartphone apps allowing citizens to report crimes and incidents
ESTONIA	Data instead of humans on the move	❏ Genetic engineering (CRISPR-Cas9) ❏ E-residency and digital migration ❏ Border control & smart city
SWEDEN	Enhanced policing power for security guards	❏ Gothenburg's Brunnsparken
UNITED KINGDOM	Urban public space policing	❏ London's St Pancras

Methods: recent historiography + ethnographic investigation + interventionist analysis

Theoretical framework

- Boundary object - social political life messy (Law 2004; Law and Mol 2002)
- Crime and security as practices (Aradau 2015)Potential crime or security threats
  - “are not simply objects to be studied or problems to be solved, but the product of social and political processes» (Aradau, Huysmans, Neal & Voelkner, 2015, p. 1).
- Co-production between the social and the technological, how decision making is outsourced to the software itself (Kaufman 2018, 2020, 2021)
- Bennett Moses and Chan (2018: 818) argues: “*In such situations, there is a potential accountability gap whenever the software itself becomes an acceptable basis for decision-making so that those to whom account is given do not (or are unable to) dig deeper*.”

Norway case: Forecasting future crimes & criminals:

- **P**redictive policing as a tool for reducing uncertainty and risks in the Norwegian police.
- **Case studies:** exploring risk assessment tools implemented to prevent early carrier criminals.
- Explore the tension between automatization, data, discretion and standardization, by critically looking at crime prevention efforts using risk indicators to predict crime.
- How different kinds of interaction police/prediction software produce different rationalities, results and efficiencies.

CUPP

Critical Understanding of Predictive Policing

Data collection (2021, sept-dec)

- 2021-23: CUPP - Risk assessment tool approaching youth crime (with Pernille S. Eriksen)

  - Participatory observation developing new working methods risk assessment tool: May-November 2021: 81 hours
  - Observation of making of KIBU intelligence report (3*3 hours), 2 interviews (preventer/multi-source analyst)– analyst notebook
  - *Policy documents, 4 interviews with decision-makers and software engineers, 15 interviews with KIBU and other relevant cases (prevention)*

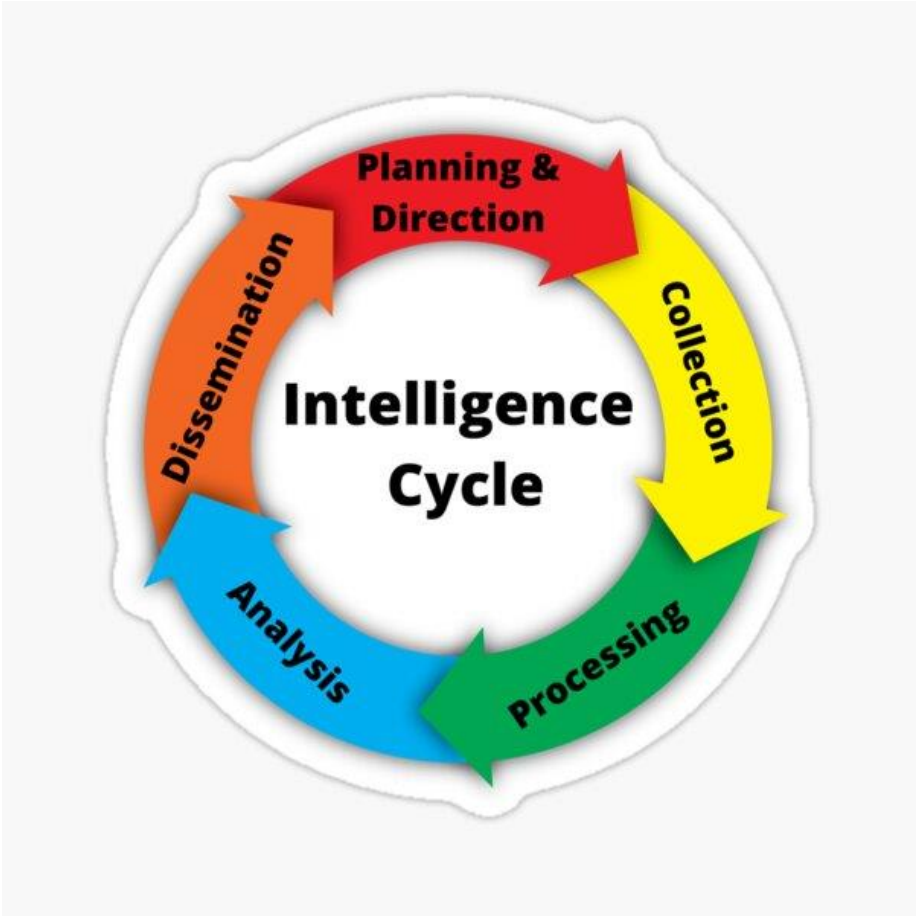
- 2021-24: Interviews and observations 'Algorithm governance and policing cultures' (AGOPOL, NRC) – with Christin Wathne
  - Police districts Agder(6) (Nordland (5, 3 obs) Sør-Øst (21, 6 obs), Police Directorate (1), PIT (3) **=36 interviews** (+ PIT, Kripos, Trøndelag, Oslo, Øst)

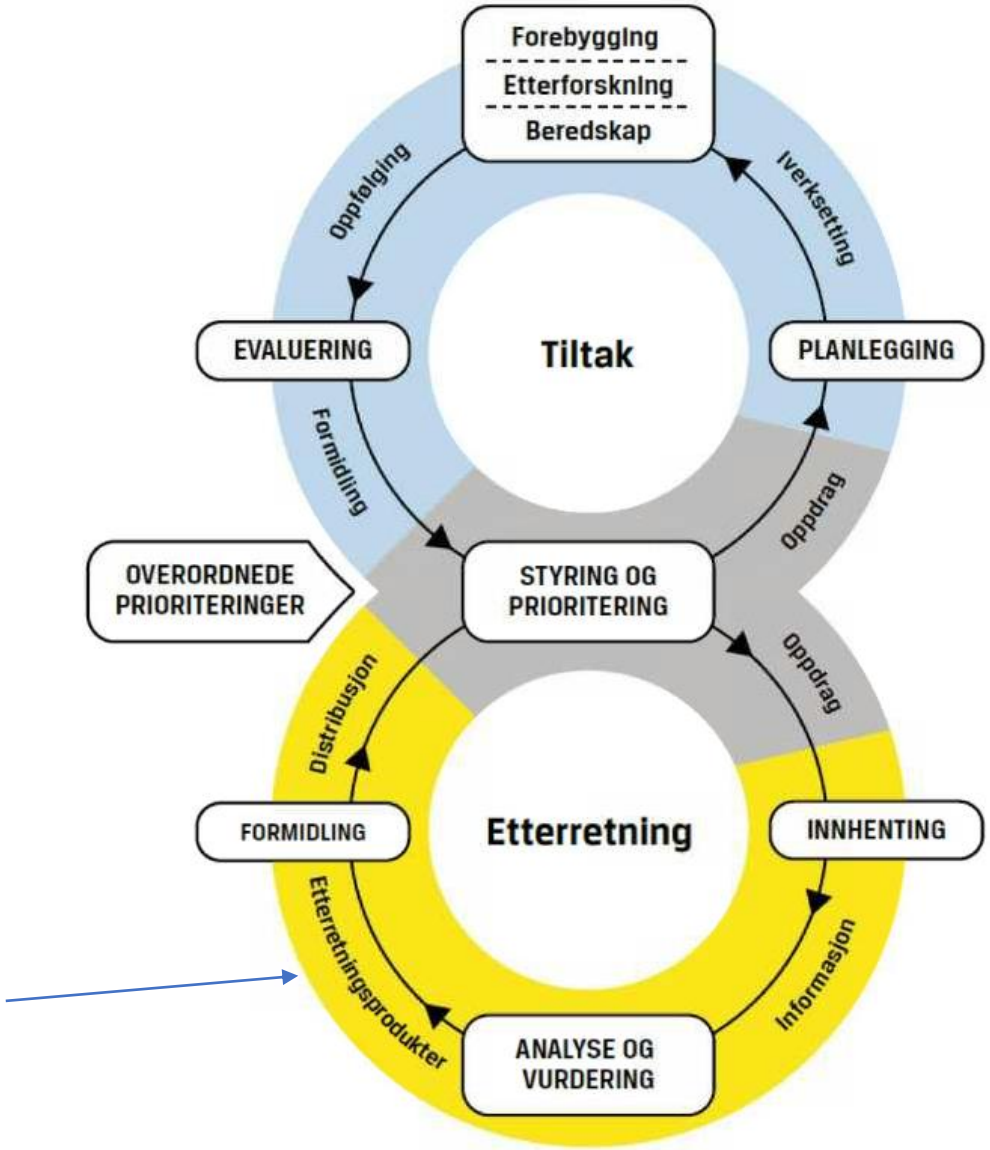
How to hit the right target groups?

- **Preventors rationality**: police impact on youth crime is minimal; growing up conditions, structural factors – police might strenghtening social exclusion. Work with trust and relation building!
- KIBU's answer to this: work with selected young people whose lives they can influence
- Actors: intelligence, preventers and patrols
  - Decision support for the preventive section
  - Improve managing of concerns

- Objective:
  1. Early identify young people who may be the subject of preventive measures, which not yet have been captured by the preventers
  2. Initiate intervention; concern dialogue/collaborations

The intelligence and intervention cycles



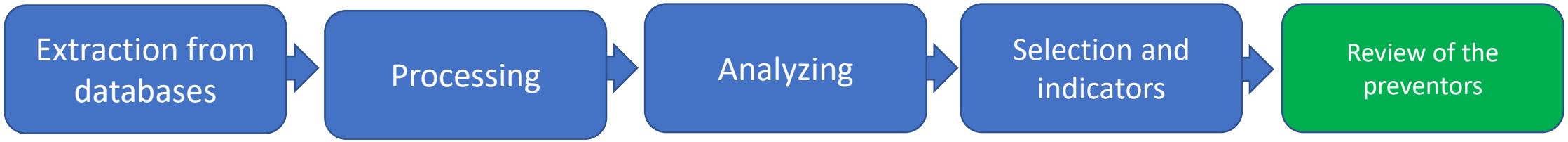


Part 1: Ordering – assignement dialogue

- Information need (IN) 1.1: Which children and young people have been involved in a contemporary negative incident and should be assessed by the department for crime prevention?
- IN 1.2: Which children and young people exert a negative influence on other children and young people in the geographical unit?
- IN 1.3: Who appears to be a criminal role model for children and young people in in the geographical unit?
- Floating IN: Information needs related to topics/themes the prevention and intelligence unit want more knowledge about

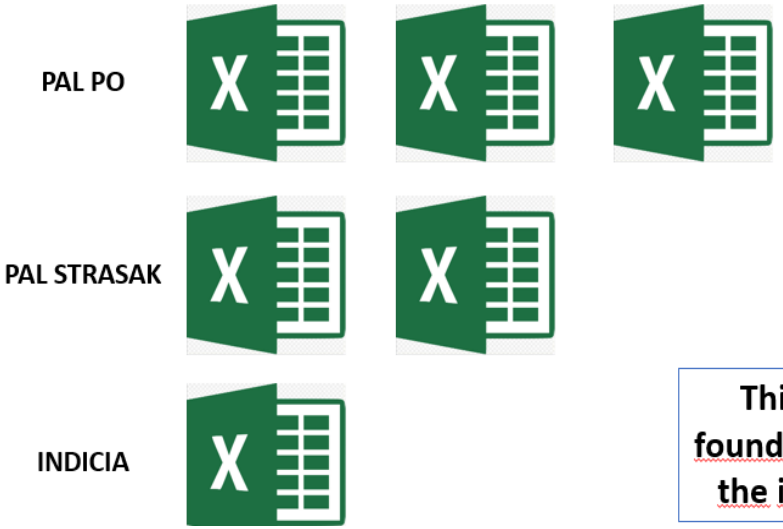
Part 2: Collection plan – how to find what they ask for?

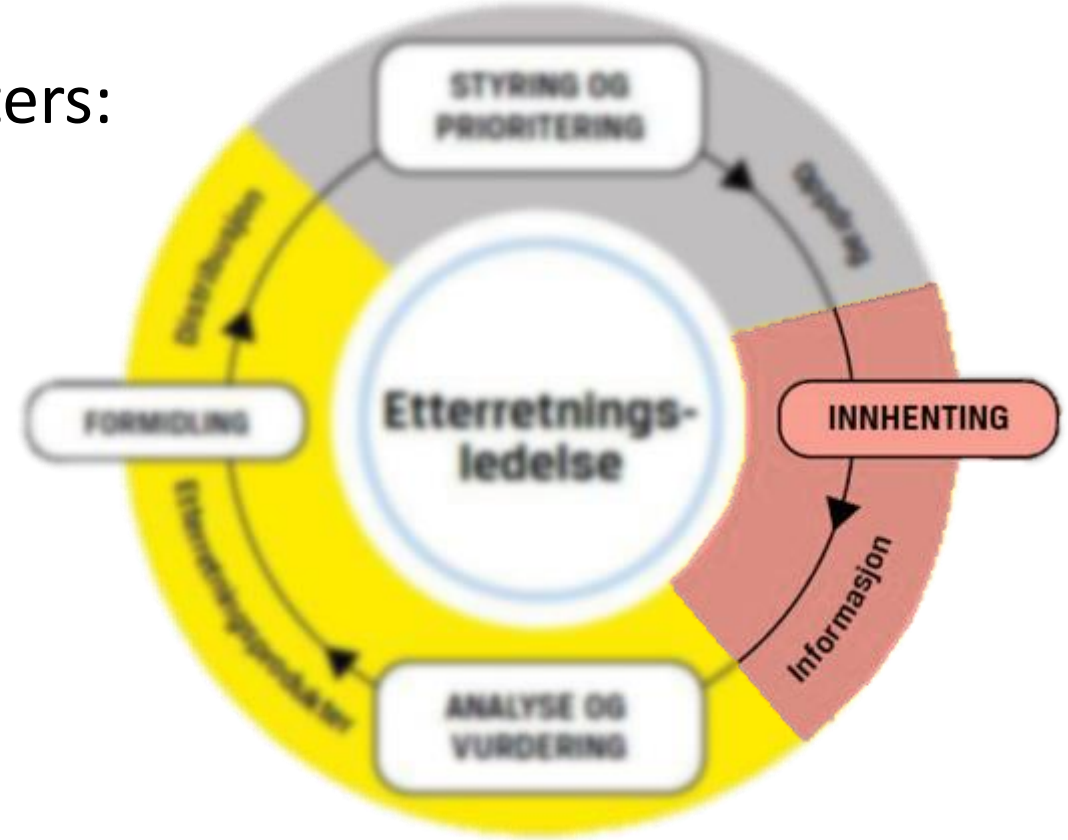
- Data collected:
  - PAL PO – Incidents (recorded data by command center and the patrols)
  - PAL STRASAK – Criminal cases (convicted, accused, suspect,witness etc.)
  - INDICIA – Informations in intelligence database



Part 2 – Data collection

- Extraction of data from police registers:
  - PO
  - Strasak
  - Indicia





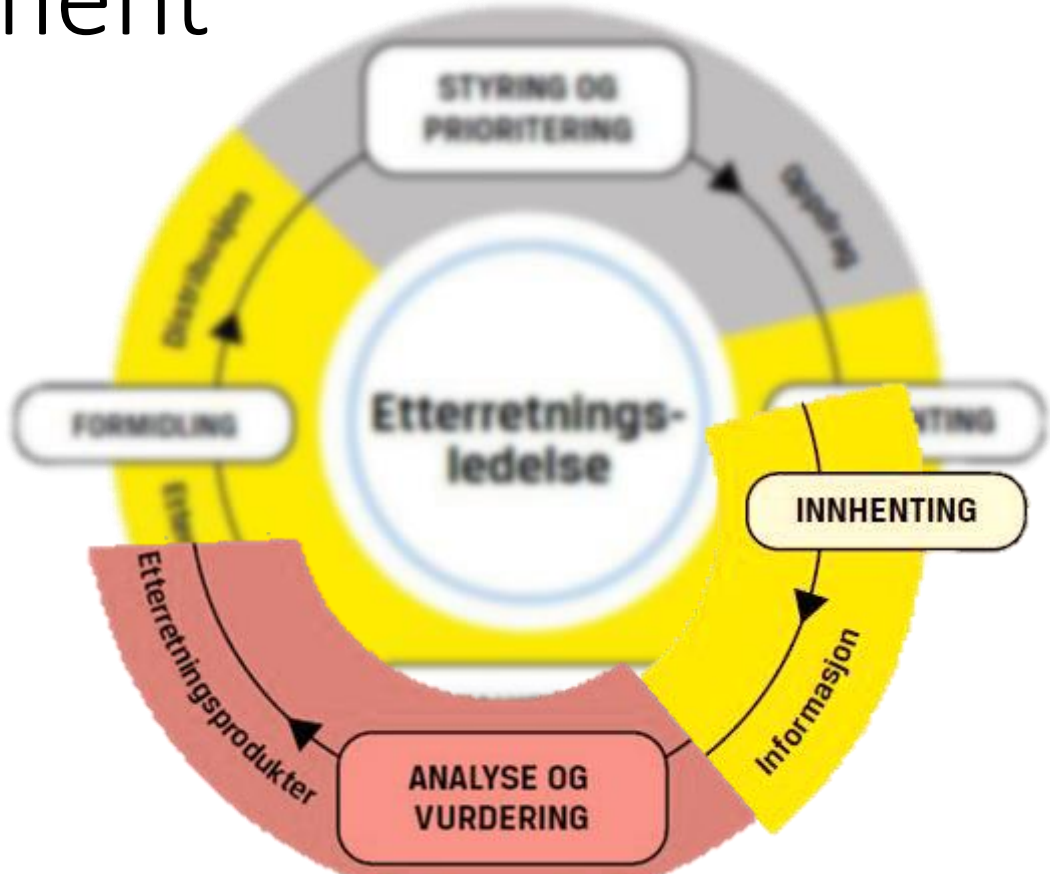
This is the analysts' foundation for answering the information needs

Part 3 – Analyse and assessment

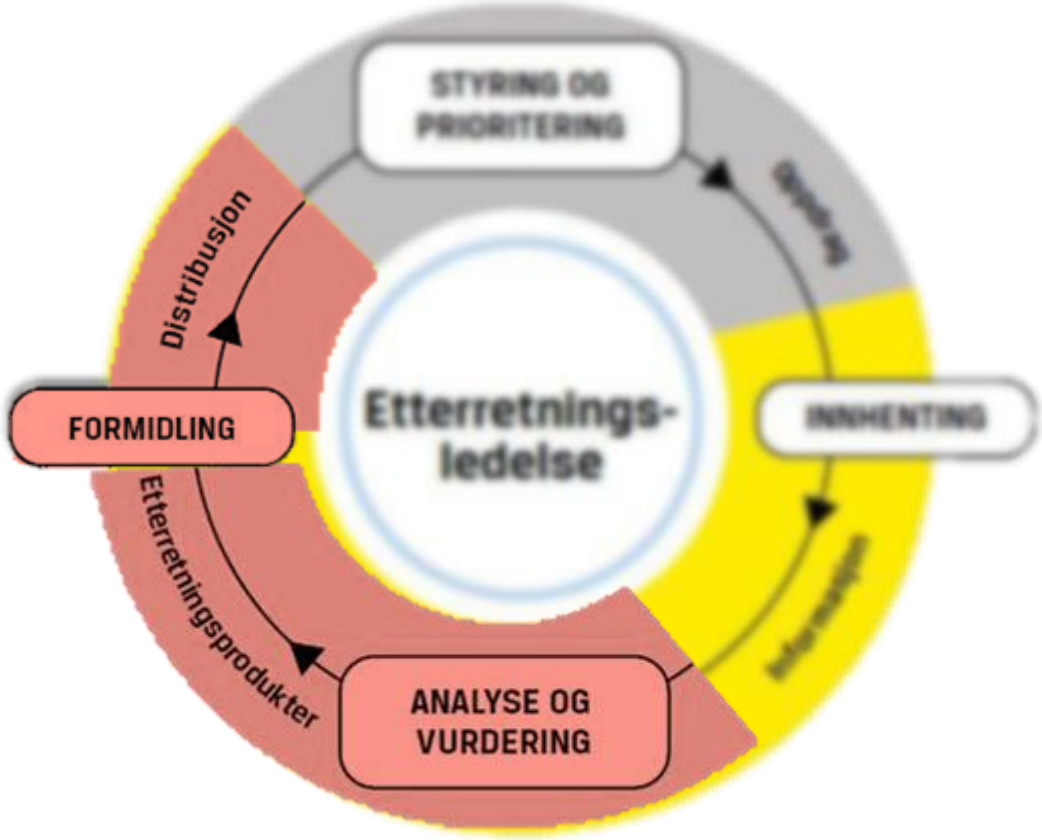
- Compilation of data: Analyst notebook
- Processing
- Selection of candidates, incidents

- Limited role of selected risk indixators:

1. (divorced / single parents)
2. intoxication / mental problems in the home
3. domestic abuse
4. family members with criminal cases,
5. associates with people who commit crim
6. use drugs
7. offended in violence / sexual assault

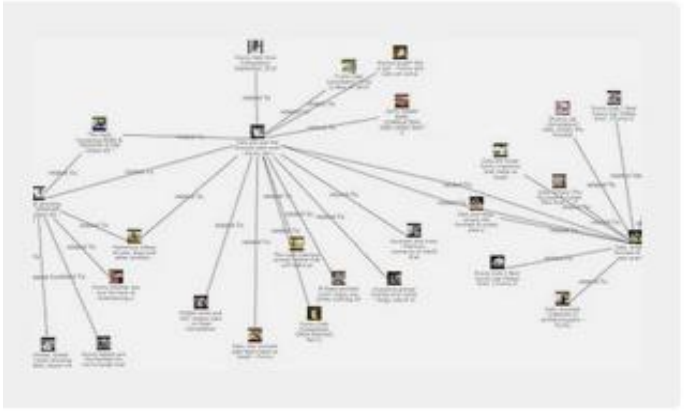


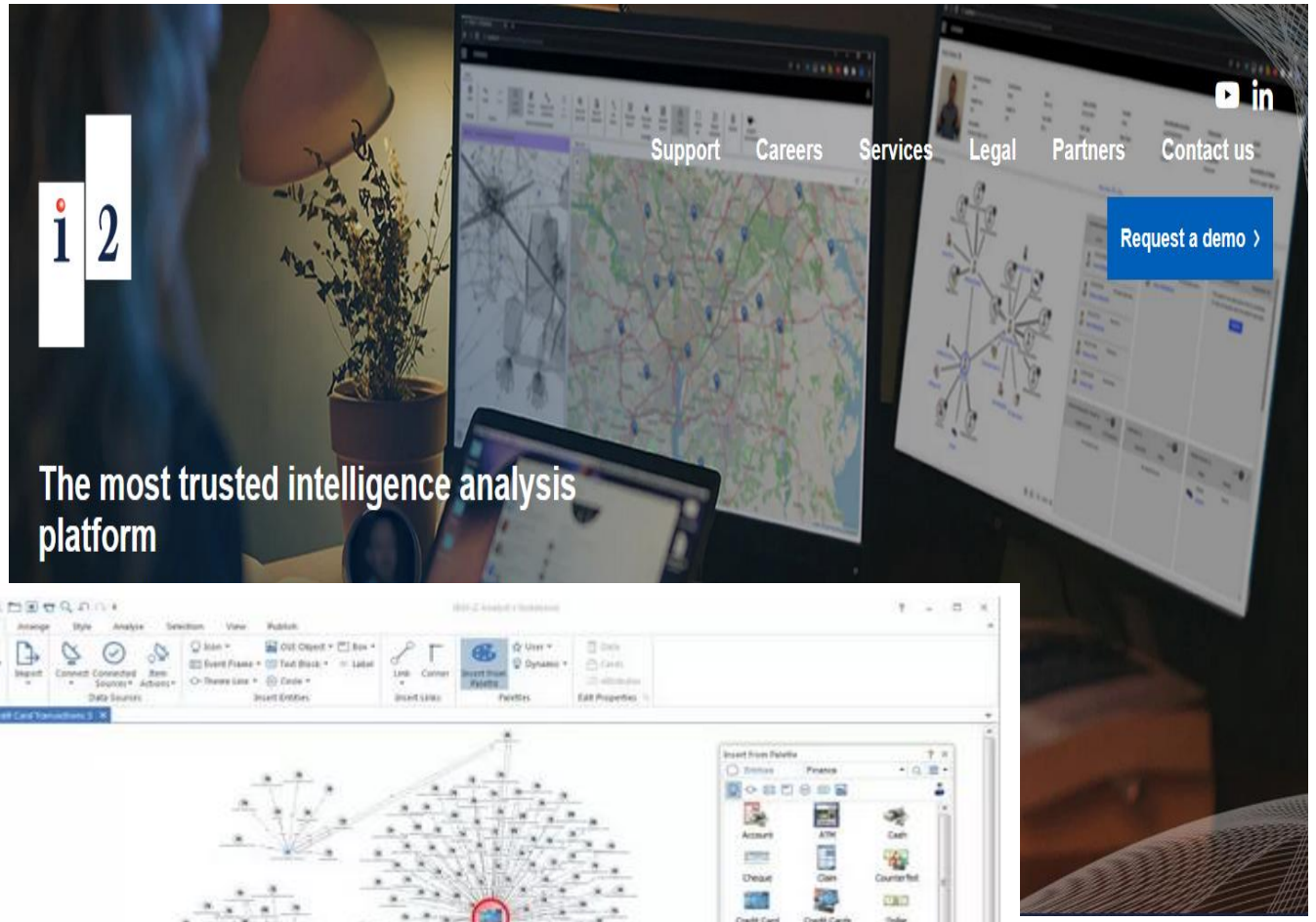
PART 4 dissemination – not this time - why?

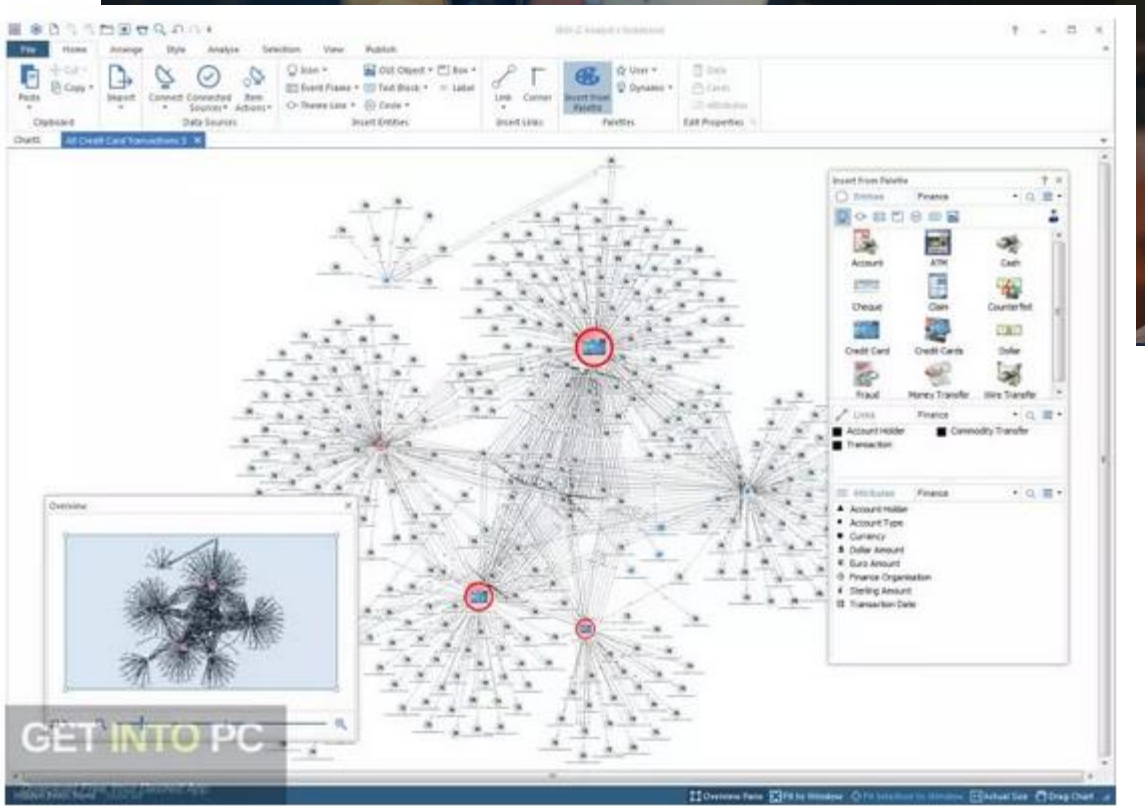


- The reports were not written because:
  - Only 6 candidates from intelligence (usually 50-60)
  - After review of the candidates, only two left
- KIBU a control function for the preventers
- Capture the youth in daily searches
- No need for distribution and briefs for preventers, patrols, managers
- Shifts in socio-technical organsational context

- Boundary objects - concerns
  - Interpretive flexibility –
- Concept of prediction – turned into resilience







Thank you!

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