

# MEMORANDUM

## EUROPOL

To: [REDACTED] DIVISION 9 FIELD HANDBOOK

Subject: [REDACTED]

attached summary [REDACTED] latest  
developments.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

[REDACTED] attached reference [REDACTED]  
garding the latest developments  
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### SECTION 1 WELCOME & ORIENTATION MEMO

*Confidential / Internal Use Only / Not For Distribution Outside Provisional Charter Network (PCN)*

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**TO:** All Seconded Operatives  
**FROM:** Interim Coordination Office, Division 9  
**DATE:** 6 March 1992  
**SUBJECT:** Initial Orientation Briefing – Division 9 Pilot Task Force

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Welcome to The Hague.

You are receiving this document because you have been formally transferred, seconded, or otherwise “volunteered” to serve as part of the **Division 9 Pilot Initiative** under the evolving structure of *Europol*. Your assignment is not permanent. It may end without notice. It may be extended indefinitely. That depends on a variety of factors, some of which are legal, political, or existential.

You will be working under a unique cross-border cooperation framework, currently under review in Brussels and contested in multiple jurisdictions. Please do not speak to the press.

You have been selected based on your expertise, operational success, psychological profile, or — in some cases — because your national agency was short on alternatives. Your record speaks for itself. You have either impressed someone or irritated them enough to be handed over.

**Division 9 is not a traditional command structure.** You are expected to operate with initiative, discretion, and resilience. You are not assigned partners. You are not issued uniforms. You are expected to solve problems that cannot be addressed by conventional means.

There is no dress code. There are no official coffee machines.

There are, however, rules. A few of them are even written down. These will be covered in later documents in this handbook.

Should you require logistical support, medical evaluation, or legal cover during a crisis, please contact the relevant liaison — or improvise. Response times vary. If you are in mortal danger, inform us **in writing** once the situation is resolved.

You are authorized to carry a firearm under the discretion of your host agency and local Dutch regulations. You are **not** authorized to initiate open hostilities in public spaces unless explicitly ordered or genuinely out of options.

Your conduct reflects not only your nation of origin but the fragile idea that Europe can — occasionally — get its act together. Don’t make us look bad. Some of us are actually trying.

Again, welcome.

**You’ll find your badge at the front desk. It doesn’t open anything useful.**

*Katarina Novak*

## SECTION 2 SETTING OVERVIEW: EUROPE, SPRING 1992

*Confidential / Internal Briefing – General Strategic Context*

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Spring 1992. The Cold War is over. That's what the newspapers keep saying.

The Berlin Wall is gone. The Soviet Union has collapsed. Old powers retreat. New powers surge. The flags are different. The crimes are not.

Across Europe, borders are shifting faster than laws can keep up. Former state surveillance networks dissolve, fragment, or go freelance. Armories are emptied. Smuggling routes become trade routes. Trade routes become pipelines for heroin, weapons, and people.

Some crimes cross borders. Some crimes erase them.

Europol exists — on paper. It is a name, a proposal, a set of draft agreements in multiple languages with slightly different meanings. But Division 9 is real. It is the pilot. The test. A group of agents from different nations, trained in different schools, answering to overlapping jurisdictions. And if it works — it might become the new normal. If it fails — it will be quietly erased.

Here is the world you now operate in:

- Germany is reunited, but the files of the Stasi are still bleeding secrets into every corner of Europe.
- The Balkans are cracking. There are men with guns and no orders — just memories.
- The Soviet archives are not secure. Some are already in private hands.
- NATO wants influence. The EU wants unity. Intelligence agencies want each other's lunch.
- Entire mafia families have relocated. Their names are changing faster than their methods.

Meanwhile:

- In Brussels, policy moves slower than scandal.
- In The Hague, no one wants to admit they've lost control.
- In offices like yours, the heaters don't work — but the phones still do.

This is the Europe you now represent. Not the ideal. Not the dream. The one we actually live in. It is not stable. It is not fair. But it is yours to navigate.

Act accordingly.







### SECTION 3 WHAT IS DIVISION 9?

*Confidential Summary – Charter, Status, and Function*

**Name:** Division 9 (Unofficial / Provisional Designation)

**Mandate:** Provisional transnational law enforcement and intelligence coordination unit

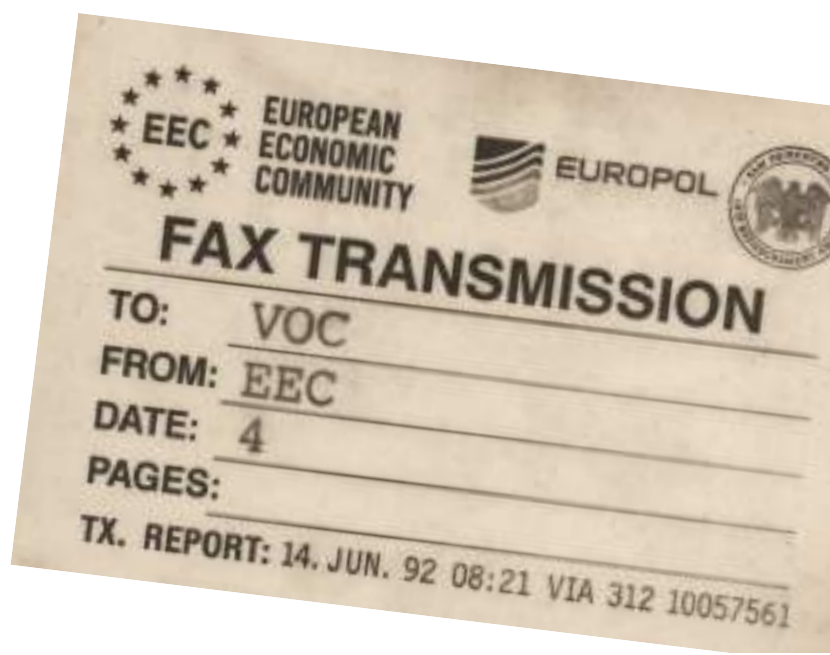
**Authority:** Europol Pilot Project under Joint Security Framework 88-B

**Established:** January 1992

**Location:** The Hague, The Netherlands (Operational HQ)

Division 9 is not a task force. It is not a department. It is not — technically — an agency.

It is a **pilot program** created to assess whether a small, flexible, cross-border team of investigators, analysts, and field agents can function effectively **outside of national silos**. The intention is noble. The execution is unstable.



The founding logic was this:

- Crime moves faster than bureaucracy.
- Intelligence dies in translation.
- Cooperation only works if it happens **before** the press conference.

So, twelve individuals were pulled from different nations. Some volunteered. Some were offered no choice. All were told very little.

Division 9 is expected to:

- Operate under multinational protocols.
- Coordinate with local agencies while remaining autonomous.
- Investigate **complex, transnational cases** deemed “inappropriate” for any one country to handle alone.
- File reports that may or may not be read.



#### **Legal Basis:**

- Loosely authorized under **Council Act 91/478/JHA**, currently under review.
- Backed by a shared funding pool from participating nations — exact amounts unclear.
- Subject to diplomatic immunity on a **case-by-case** basis (interpretation varies).

#### **Structure:**

- No formal rank system. Field leadership is situational.
- Coordination handled by **Inspector Katarina Novak** (Czech Republic).
- Analysts, specialists, and consultants assigned by need, not nationality.

**Resources:**

- An aging police facility in The Hague.
- Limited access to Europol's experimental infrastructure.
- No formal motor pool. No dedicated budget for weapons. One printer.

**Operational Challenges:**

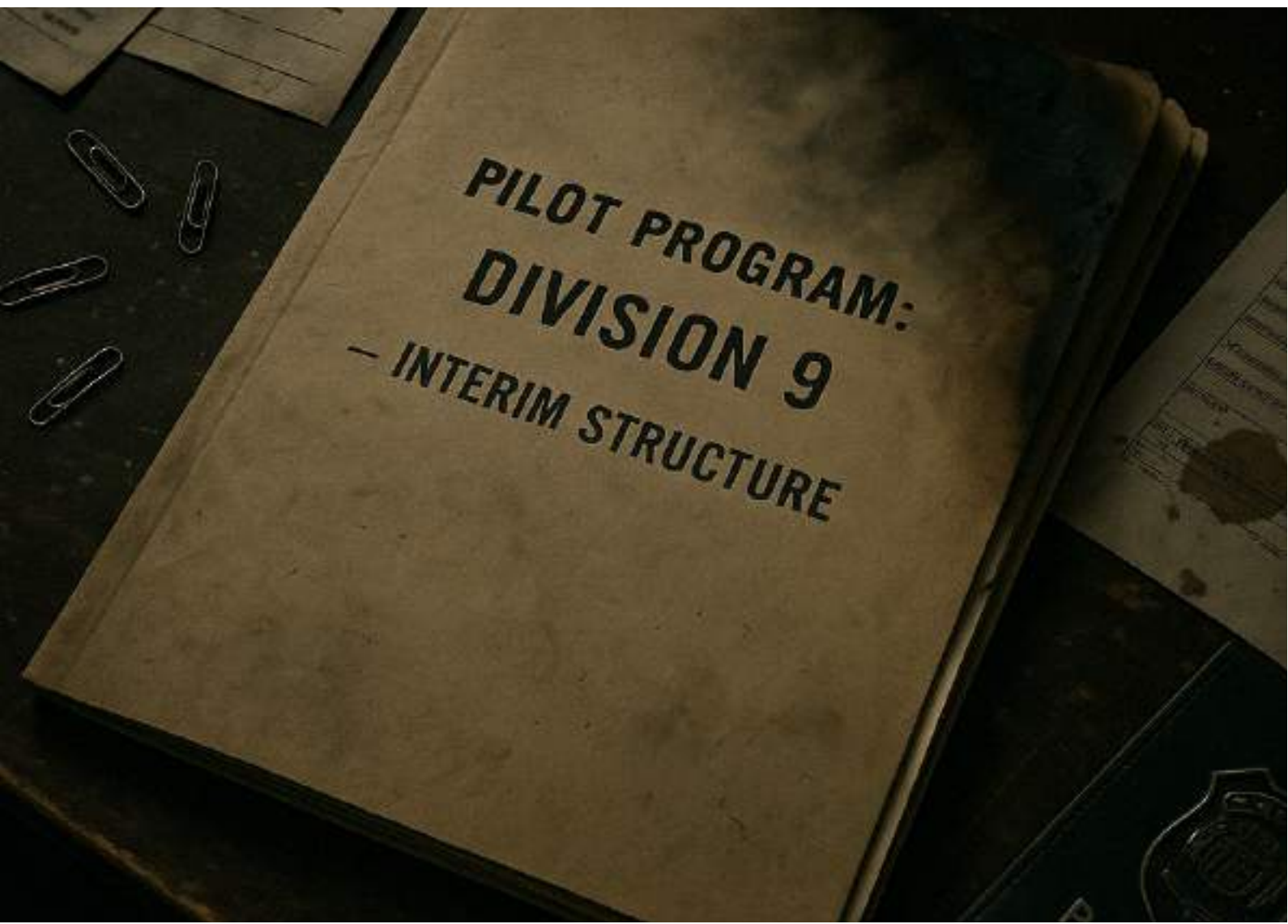
- Clashing legal traditions
- Language barriers
- Political interference from national governments
- Internal mistrust and external surveillance

**Operational Advantage:**

- No one knows what Division 9 is supposed to be.
- Which means you get to decide what it becomes.

You are not working for Division 9.

**You are Division 9.**





## SECTION 4 WHERE YOU ARE: HQ & AREA OVERVIEW

*Orientation for newly assigned personnel – Site & Surroundings*

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**PRIMARY LOCATION:** Division 9 Operational Headquarters

**Address:** [REDACTED] – Former National Police Facility, The Hague, NL

**Designation:** Internal Use Only – Not Signposted

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### About the Building

Division 9 operates out of a **repurposed Dutch police station**, once home to hundreds of officers, analysts, and technicians. Now it houses fewer than 40 people, including administrative and contract staff. Most of the building is silent. Some wings have not been entered in years. Your office may still have someone else's nameplate. Do not remove it. You'll be gone before they notice.

### General Layout

- **Ground Floor:** Entry, admin offices, main briefing room ("The Aquarium")
- **1st Floor:** Communications, cybercrime workstations, liaison rooms
- **2nd Floor:** Archives, empty cubicles, forgotten case files
- **Basement:** Forensics, pathology, holding cells (one active), old range ("Tunnel 7")

Heating is inconsistent. Some clocks don't work. The left elevator only goes down.

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### Atmosphere

- The building creaks. The lights hum. The windows frost even when it isn't cold.
  - Some agents sleep here. Some refuse to be here after dark.
  - Official deliveries come to the front door. **Unofficial ones do not.**
  - There is a cat. No one knows where it came from. No one questions it.
  - Smells: paper, old leather, stale coffee, antiseptic, the ghost of bureaucracy.
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## Operational Advice

- **Never assume the building is empty.**
- If something disappears, it may be a clerical error. Or it may not be.
- Keep your badge on you, but **don't show it in public unless absolutely necessary.**
- The janitor knows more than she says. So do the pigeons.

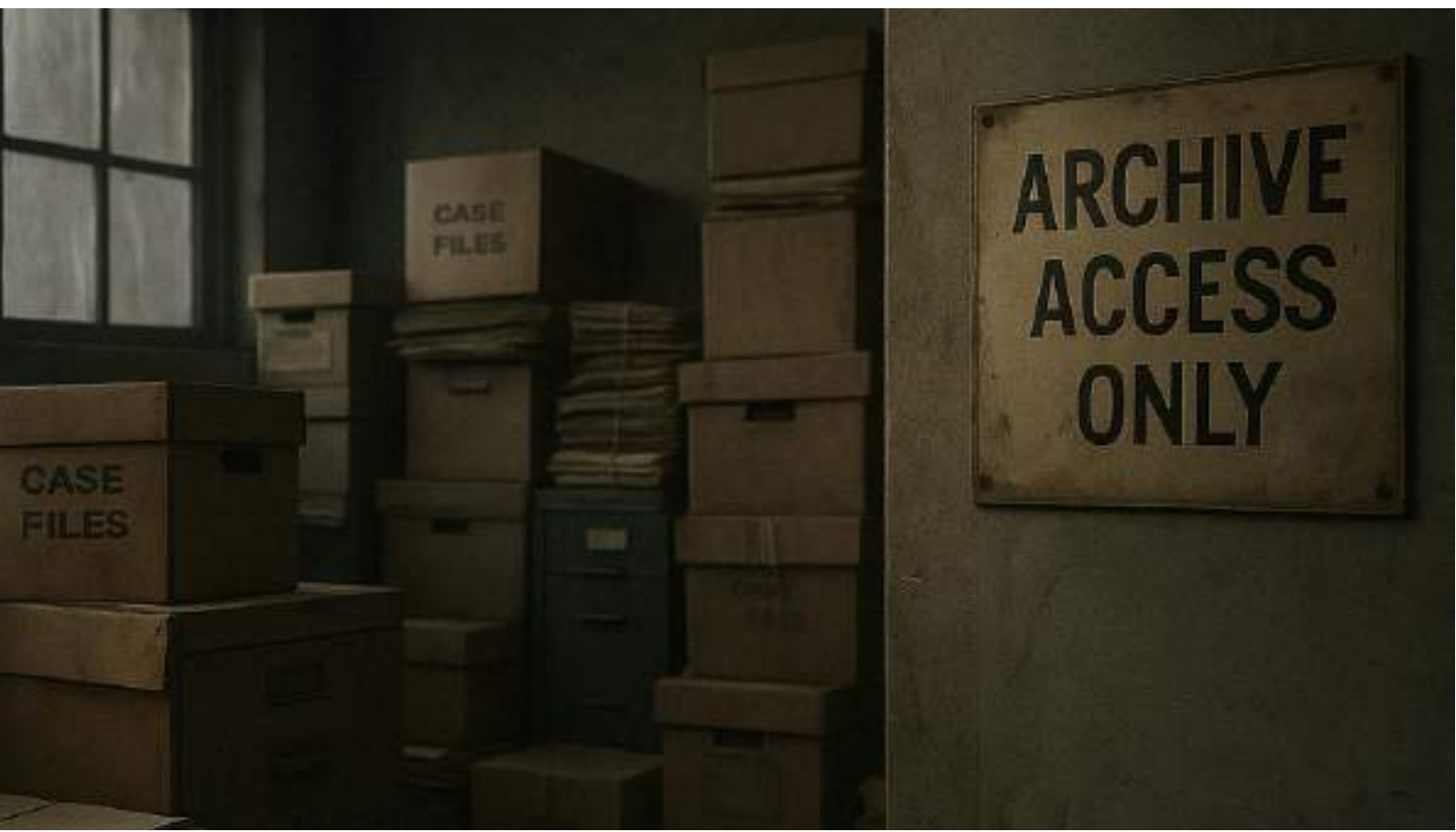
This is where you work now. This is where the quiet things happen before the loud ones make the news.

## Local Area (5–10 Min Radius)

The HQ is located in a **former administrative district** now full of embassies, legal offices, and low-traffic municipal buildings. It is unremarkable. That's the point.

Useful nearby locations:

- **Café Atlas** – Local café frequented by agents and civil servants. Friendly owner. Good for quiet conversations.
  - **Van Doorn's Flower Stall** – Operated by Marijke van Doorn. Observant. Talks in metaphors.
  - **Tram Stop: Burgemeesterplein** – Nearest public transport link. Also regular street performer spot.
  - **De Witte Kamer** – Mothballed municipal building. May be used for informal surveillance.
  - **Hotel Oranjekade** – Long-term hotel for agents with no fixed address. Ask for "Suite 2B."
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## **SECTION 5 HOW YOU LIVE: HOUSING ASSIGNMENTS**

*For Internal Eyes Only – Not for External Disclosure*

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There is no standard-issue Division 9 dormitory.

Housing for agents has been arranged through a mix of national placements, embassy favors, shell companies, and on occasion — the agent's own preference. This means your colleagues may be sleeping in a hotel, a concrete bloc, or on a cot in the forensics lab. Do not interpret this as symbolic. It is entirely symbolic.

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### **Quick Notes**

- You are not required to disclose your housing to other agents.
  - That said, someone at HQ knows where you are — even if you don't.
  - If you feel your home is compromised, report it. After you move out.
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## Current Lodging Situations (Spring 1992)

**Erik Weiss (DE)** – Modest state-leased apartment; lives like a ghost, leaves no dishes in the sink.

**Eleanor Hayes (UK)** – Long-term hotel suite; windows taped, phone unplugged, always ready to leave.

**Claire Montaigne (FR)** – Loft above a printmaker's studio; likes the quiet and the smell of turpentine.

**Mats Eklund (SE)** – Technically lives in the pathology lab. No complaints. No change of clothes.

**Luca Romano (IT)** – Changes short-term flats monthly; knows which landlord doesn't ask questions.

**Sjoerd van Dijk (NL)** – Lives with his parents in Leiden. Commutes with headphones. No one judges him.

**Carmen Ibáñez (ES)** – Assigned flat near the Spanish Embassy. Feels like she's still on parade.

**Thanos Kalogeropoulos (GR)** – Hotel room paid by Europol stipend. Still has the suitcase he arrived with.

**Piotr Zieliński (PL)** – Shared apartment with two attachés. Keeps a loaded pistol in the cutlery drawer.

**Declan O'Rourke (IE)** – Rents a room from a local family. Walks their dog. They adore him.

**Freja Madsen (DK)** – Lives in a cot under her workstation. Unclear if by design or neglect.

**Brigitta Farkas (HU)** – Lives alone in a minimalist apartment with government-issued furniture and no listed name on the lease.

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**Project Lead: Katarina Novak (CZ)** – Private flat arranged through the Dutch Ministry. Spartan. Spotless. All the wine bottles are gifts. None have been opened.

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## Operational Advice

- Avoid routine. Switch tram routes. Burn your receipts.
- Don't get too comfortable — or too isolated.
- If something moves in your apartment that shouldn't, it's either a warning or an invitation.

Sleep well. If you can.





## SECTION 6 WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT: FIELD CONDITIONS & REALITY CHECK

### *Provisional Assignment Notes for Operational Preparedness*

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You are now operating in a multinational legal and logistical grey zone. Your authority exists at the intersection of trust, urgency, and paperwork no one has finished writing.

You were not chosen for this assignment because it would be easy.

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### What to Expect

- Minimal resources
  - Unclear jurisdiction
  - Cases that began three years ago and never ended
  - Sudden international travel with six hours' notice and the wrong clothes
  - Unreliable communications — both technical and interpersonal
  - Complicated briefings delivered in the back of moving vehicles
  - Witnesses who speak five languages and trust none of them
  - Colleagues who carry trauma like a second badge
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### What You Will Not Have

- Regular backup
  - Full disclosure
  - Predictable sleep cycles
  - Official approval from your home agency (after week three)
  - Clear rules of engagement
  - Adequate psychological support
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### What You Might Encounter

- Unregistered surveillance tech
- Shell companies tied to former state intelligence groups
- Smugglers with better equipment than you
- Governments pretending they don't know what you're doing - until they want you to stop
- Colleagues who disappear from your contact sheet and are never mentioned again







## Practical Advice


- Bring a second passport. Or two.
  - Speak like you're being recorded. Because you might be.
  - Always know the location of the second exit.
  - If a superior says, "Don't worry about that," **start worrying**.
  - Don't get too attached to your alias. Or your assumptions.
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## Final Note

Fieldwork in Division 9 is not a mission. It is a process. The case you're working on today may not be the one you finish — or the one that finishes you.

Proceed with caution. But proceed.

You are the net. There is no one beneath you.



**SECTION 7 HOW TO WORK HERE: CONDUCT, COMMAND & CULTURE**  
*Internal Guidance on Professional Behavior in a Structure Without Structure*

21:43 12.03.

# DIVISION 9: CHAIN OF COMMAND

There is no formal rank system within Division 9. There is, however, a general understanding: If someone speaks with certainty and everyone else listens — that person is currently in charge.

This section outlines the *unofficial guidelines* for operating within a unit defined more by necessity than design.

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## Command Structure (Provisional)

- **Project Lead:** *Inspector Katarina “Kat” Novak (CZ)* — Final decision-making authority on-site
- **Field Team Leads** (by specialty or operation):
  - *Erik Weiss (DE)* – Interagency coordination, primary field briefings
  - *Carmen Ibáñez (ES)* – Tactical command, operations leadership
  - *Claire Montaigne (FR)* – Behavioral profiling, internal conflict mediation
- **Subject Matter Experts:**
  - *Sjoerd van Dijk (NL)* – Cybercrime, data forensics
  - *Freja Madsen (DK)* – On-site forensics, evidence control
  - *Brigitta Farkas (HU)* – Counterintelligence, classified material analysis

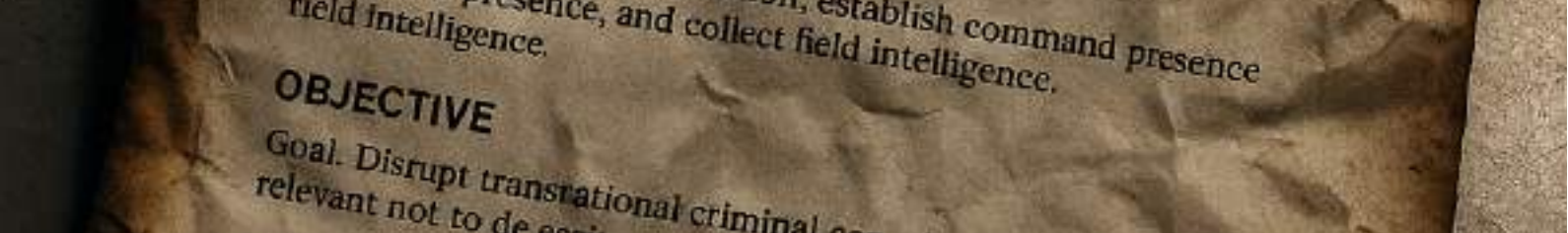
If you believe someone is making decisions they shouldn't — tell Novak. If you believe Novak is making decisions she shouldn't — document it. Then proceed as ordered.

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## Expected Behavior

- **Act professionally.** This includes how you speak, how you write reports, and whether you remember to lock the damn lab door.
  - **Stay in your lane.** Unless ordered otherwise, defer to the person who knows the most about the situation.
  - **Respect local law enforcement.** Even if they don't respect you. Especially if they outrank you in their own country.
  - **If in doubt, shut up.** Or check with someone who hasn't already compromised the case.
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DESTROY AFTER READING  
**DIVISION 9**  
MISSION BRIEFING  
OVERVIEW  
Priority 0



## Confidentiality

- Do not share Division 9 intel with outside agencies without clearance.
  - Do not speak to the press under any circumstances.
  - Do not file “personal memoirs” while still on assignment.
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## Chain of Blame

Should operational decisions come into question, responsibility flows upward until it can no longer find a person with plausible deniability.

In that case, blame is assigned by vote, narrative, or silence.

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## Collaboration Tools

- Use the whiteboard.
  - Don't erase someone else's red string without permission.
  - File your after-action reports. Even if it hurts. Especially if it does.
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## Internal Conflict Resolution

- Step outside.
  - Resolve it quietly.
  - If it continues, speak to Novak. Or Vasseur. Or the wall in the soft interview room — it listens better than most.
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## Remember

This is not your home agency. This is not your old team. This is Division 9.

It doesn't matter where you came from. Only what you do here.





## SECTION 8 YOU SHOULD KNOW: WARNINGS, RUMORS & IN-HOUSE CULTURE

*Unofficial notes and useful hearsay compiled for internal awareness*

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This section is **not officially sanctioned**. You will not find it in the digital archives. It circulates quietly, in photocopies, with updated handwritten annotations. If you're reading this, it means someone thought you should.

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### General Advice

- The HQ building is bigger than it needs to be. That's not a metaphor. Don't explore alone.
  - The cat is not an agent. Probably.
  - Don't drink from the coffee pot in the briefing room after 15:00. It bites back.
  - The printer in Admin Room 204 is possessed. No one has fixed it. It prints things no one sent.
  - The forensics lab still smells like the case from Vienna. No one talks about it.
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### Watch List (Unofficial)

- **Locker 12 in the changing room:** Found open three times. No one claims it. It's always empty.
  - **Basement light in corridor D:** Always on. Switch doesn't work. Room beyond it was sealed in 1989.
  - **The elevator:** Left side only goes down. It used to go further.
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### Interpersonal Notes

- Don't try to get to know Mats. He already knows whether he likes you.
  - If you think Brigitta is watching you — she is.
  - If you think Declan isn't — he still is.
  - Don't beat Piotr at target practice unless you want to be reminded of it every day for the rest of your assignment.
  - Do not ask Freja personal questions. She will answer them. You may not like what you learn.
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## Cultural Discrepancies to Expect

- **The Germans** will follow the rules until the building burns down.
  - **The Italians** will ignore the rules until the coffee goes cold.
  - **The French** will rewrite the rules in poetry.
  - **The Irish** will explain the rules to you with a drink in hand.
  - **The Dutch** will rent the rules out for profit.
  - **The Danes** will label the rules, store them in triplicate, and hide them in a drawer no one opens.
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## You Should Also Know

- One of the case files on the second floor archive is missing pages. No one will say which one.
  - There is a key in the evidence locker that opens nothing in the building. Yet.
  - Someone replaced one of the whiteboards with a mirrored panel. It reflects things that aren't in the room.
  - The cat disappears from security footage every time it walks past the old radio room.
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There's more. There's always more.

Ask the right people. Or the wrong ones. Either way, you'll learn something.

Division 9 doesn't just handle secrets. It collects them.



## SECTION 9 FINAL NOTE: YOU ARE THE NET

*To be read once. And remembered often.*

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You are here because someone thought you could handle it. Or because someone didn't know where else to send you. Or because someone hoped you wouldn't come back.

It doesn't matter.

You are here now.

Division 9 is not the future of law enforcement. It is the edge of the present — the part that frays before the stitching holds.

You are not part of a structure. You are a stopgap. You are not embedded in policy. You are a test pattern. You are not safe.

But you are necessary.

Your work will not always be seen. It may never be recognized. Some of it will be buried in archives that never existed. Some of it will save lives that never know your name. Some of it will fail. Some of it will haunt you.

That's not pessimism. That's realism. And still — you showed up.

You will be sent places that don't want you. You will ask questions no one wants answered. You will face choices with no good outcome.

Do the work anyway.

When the chain of command breaks, when the borders blur, when the paperwork disappears, when everyone else looks away —

**you are the net.**

There is no one beneath you.

# YOU ARE THE NET