



Ceasefire: Advanced versatile artificial intelligence technologies and interconnected cross-sectoral fully-operational national focal points for combating illicit firearms trafficking

D9.3 – Dissemination and community building reports. Final.



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Document History

Date	Version	Change
01-Sep-2025	0.1	Initial table of contents and structure completed
23-Sep-2025	0.2	Final draft ready for internal review
26-Sep-2025	0.3	Internal review by EXUS
28-Sep-2025	0.4	Internal review by ITTI
29-Sep-2025	1.0	Final version

Executive Summary

D9.3 is the final report for WP9, consolidating CEASEFIRE's dissemination, communication, and community-building over M1–M36, with emphasis on M19–M36. It builds on D9.2 (mid-term) and aligns with SP5 targets in the Grant Agreement (public events, special sessions, publications, social followers, newsletter subscribers, web visitors, free trials, community size, LEA networks, and project liaison).

How the work was done. The consortium operated a multi-channel outreach programme: the project website (live since M3) as the primary hub; LinkedIn/Facebook/X for steady updates; a refreshed Dissemination Pack used across events and media; a series of newsletters; continuous presence in external events; CEASEFIRE-organised demos/workshops/public event; scientific publications; and a growing Community (mailing list + Sister Projects). Sensitive content followed the established TRI/PSO clearance prior to publication.

Results (high level). Traffic and engagement were sustained: the website reached ~6,200 visitors cumulatively (~2,100/yr), social channels increased followers and output in the second period, and eight newsletters (M5, M9, M15, M18, M20, M26, M29, M35) documented progress and upcoming actions. Scientific dissemination expanded substantially beyond the M18 baseline, while events combined policy fora, practitioner workshops and conference sessions; CEASEFIRE also organised a hands-on workshop series, a second BDA4FCT workshop (IEEE BigData 2024), and a public event showcasing the five use cases to stakeholders. Community-building matured: by M36 the Community counted 92 members across 45 organisations (13 internal, 32 external), with sustained liaison to 7 Sister Projects for cross-promotion and knowledge exchange.

KPI performance. Against SP5 metrics, CEASEFIRE met/exceeded most targets: 2 public events, 2 special sessions, ~11 publications/year (≥ 5 /yr target), >100 new social followers/year (~156/yr), ~2,100 unique web visitors/year (>2,000/yr), 4 free trials, 45 stakeholder organisations (>40), 11 connected LEA communities (≥ 5), and 7 sister projects (≥ 5). Newsletter subscriber growth (~30/yr vs >50/yr) and strict quarterly cadence are noted gaps; evidence and counting rules are archived with exports (web analytics, native social insights, mailing-list logs, publication DOIs, event registers).

What this means. The programme progressed from set-up and awareness (M1–M18) to evidence-backed uptake (M19–M36): stable channels, larger technical proof through demos/pilots, and durable ties with LEAs, EU bodies and sister initiatives. Two operational lessons arise: (i) pair milestone newsletters with short “between-milestone” updates to lift subscriber growth; (ii) keep the TRI/PSO clearance workflow for post-project communications to preserve trust and compliance. These findings, together with the documented KPI outcomes and archived evidence, provide a solid basis for post-grant visibility and technology transfer, and feed directly into lessons-learned and market/exploitation deliverables.

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List of acronyms

Acronym	Explanation
AI	Artificial Intelligence
NLU	Natural Language Understanding
CNN	Convolutional Neural Network
LLM	Large Language Model
CEPOL	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training
EC	European Commission
EFE	European Firearms Experts
EMPACT	European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats
ENLETS	European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services
EU	European Union
EUROPOL	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organization
LEA	Law Enforcement Agency
PSO	Project Security Officer
R&D	Research and Development
SEESAC	South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons
SMEs	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
UNDOC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
DG HOME	Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs
BDA4FCT	Big Data Applications for Fight Against Crime and Terrorism
FIU	Financial Intelligence Unit
GI-TOC	Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime
JAD SEE	Joint Action Days South East Europe
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PSCE	Public Safety Communication Europe
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons

SEEFEN	South-East Europe Firearms Experts Network
CERIS	Community for European Research and Innovation for Security
SELEC	Southeast European Law Enforcement Center
UNDIR	United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

1. Introduction

This document (D9.3) is the final report on CEASEFIRE's dissemination, communication, and community-building activities. It consolidates all actions from month M1-M36, with emphasis on the second reporting period (M19-M36). It builds on D9.2 (initial report at M18) and complements the WP9 package (D9.1 web presence; D9.4-D9.5 lessons learned; D9.6-D9.7 market/exploitation), providing the closing account of outreach performance against objectives and KPIs defined for WP9.

The outreach plan covered: the project website (live since M3); social media (LinkedIn and Facebook since M3; X/Twitter since M17); the Dissemination Pack (since M4); periodic newsletters; presentations of aims/results at conferences, seminars, events and workshops; CEASEFIRE-organised events; scientific conference presentations; journal publications; creation and maintenance of the CEASEFIRE Community mailing list; and liaison with Sister Projects.

Update at M36 (D9.3 scope).

- Website is maintained and expanded; final content set and evidence captured; analytics consolidated in the KPI section and annexes.
- The social media pages had continuous posting on LinkedIn, Facebook and X; cadence increased after M18; final reach/engagement reported in the KPI section.
- The dissemination Pack got refreshed and extended (templates and visuals); final kit archived in annexes and used across events and media.
- Regarding newsletters, additional issues released during M19-M36; full archive and performance metrics provided later in the report.
- The External events consist of ongoing presentations to the European security ecosystem; final event log and outcomes included.
- CEASEFIRE-organised events programme of demos/trainings; participant evidence and materials archived.
- Scientific dissemination. Continued conference papers and journal submissions; final bibliography with DOIs/links provided.
- Community mailing list. Sustained operation with growth beyond M18; composition snapshot and usage described in the community section.
- Sister Projects. Liaison continued with joint actions and cross-promotion; outcomes summarised in the clustering/synergies subsection.

In the following sections, all of the project's outreach activities and communication channels are reported and detailed, consolidating the results from the entire M1-M36 duration. **Section 2** provides a final overview of the dissemination and communication materials and channels, updating the status of the project website and social media accounts, and presenting the new YouTube channel, the refreshed Dissemination Pack, and the complete series of periodic newsletters. **Section 3** details the dissemination activities that have taken place throughout the project's lifetime, including the consortium's presence in external events, the full list of scientific publications, and the workshops and public events organized by CEASEFIRE. **Section 4** presents the final results of the community-building efforts, including the final composition of the Community mailing list and the outcomes of collaborations with Sister Projects. **Section 5** introduces the final Key Performance Indicator (KPI) dashboard and provides an impact assessment of the project's outreach against its initial targets. Finally, **Section 6** summarizes the key achievements and presents the conclusions and lessons learned from the project's outreach program.

It must be noted that, since CEASEFIRE is a security-sensitive project that may also involve personal data, all outreach material that is deemed as potentially sensitive is first reviewed by relevant project partner TRI and/or the CEASEFIRE PSO before being published, as needed.

1.1. Deliverable context

Keywords	Lead Editor
Objectives	D9.3 contributes to Strategic Pillar 5 of CEASEFIRE “<i>Intense dissemination and community building activities, as well as preparation of comprehensive business plans of the project tools and services</i>”. The Deliverable contributes to this by providing the final version of the report on the project’s dissemination, communication and community-building activities, focusing on those that have taken place during M19-M36 of the project’s lifetime.
Work plan	D9.2 is developed in the framework of WP9 “<i>Dissemination and exploitation activities</i>”. It includes results of T9.1 (“<i>Dissemination activities and public outreach</i>”) and T9.2 (“<i>Community building and liaison with relevant projects</i>”), which are being led by project partners HUA and PSP, respectively. D9.3 is the final version of the Deliverable.
Milestones	N/A
Deliverables	D9.3 is the final version of the Deliverable, detailing activities from M19 to M36 of the project. The initial version, D9.2, covered activities from M1 to M18. A preliminary report on the CEASEFIRE online presence was included in D9.1 (M3).

1.2. Version-specific notes

This is the **final** version of the “Dissemination and community building reports” (D9.3, due M36). It **supersedes D9.2** (M18) and draws on D9.1 (web presence) while providing inputs to WP9’s lessons learned and exploitation deliverables.

2. Dissemination and communication material and channels

This section consolidates the outreach materials and channels established under T9.1 and operated throughout M1–M36, updating the mid-term status from D9.2 with final content sets, usage, and analytics. The scope covers:

- Project **website** (live since M3): maintained and expanded; final content set captured; cumulative analytics reported and archived.
- **Social media** accounts in LinkedIn, Facebook (since M3) and X/Twitter (since M17): continuous posting with increased cadence after M18; final reach/engagement metrics included in the KPI section and annexes.
- **YouTube channel**: established in the project's second half (M19–M36) to host video content such as tool demos, pilot highlights, and webinar recordings; the final video list and performance metrics are provided.
- **Dissemination Pack** (since M4): refreshed and extended (templates, visuals, guidelines); final kit archived and referenced across materials and events.
- Periodic **newsletters**: additional issues released in M19–M36; full archive and performance metrics provided later in the report.

To measure the effectiveness of these channels, a consistent methodological approach was adopted for data collection. Performance was tracked using the native analytics tools of each platform, such as Google Analytics for the website, insight dashboards for social media, and YouTube Studio, in order to ensure data reliability. While metrics like a ‘view’ versus a ‘visit’ differ across platforms, the project focused on the most relevant Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for each channel: **unique visitors** for the website, **follower counts** for community growth, and **video views** for YouTube content. All data was regularly exported and archived, providing a verifiable evidence base for the final KPI assessment presented in Section 5.

Each item is presented in a dedicated subsection with its objectives and role, activities and updates since M18, and final KPIs.

2.1. Website

The project website (live since M3 at <https://ceasefire-project.eu/>) remained the primary online hub through M36. It was continuously updated to present project goals and use cases, consortium information, periodic news, a repository of dissemination material (e.g., newsletters, blog posts), links to scientific publications arising from CEASEFIRE research, and the CEASEFIRE Community page.

Hosting was provided by CERTH and day-to-day maintenance/content updates by HUA.

Website traffic totalled 6,200 visitors across M3–M36: 2,600 in M3–M18 and 3,600 in M19–M36, equivalent to approximately **2,100 visitors per year**.

Changes to the website from D9.2 include:

- Consortium member updates upon request (logos, descriptions).
- Inclusion of public deliverables (<https://ceasefire-project.eu/public-deliverables/>).
- Page layout update of the “Communication Material” (<https://ceasefire-project.eu/communication-material-newsletters-press-releases-etc/>) page. See Figure 1.
- Page layout update of the “News” (<https://ceasefire-project.eu/news/>) page. See Figure 2.

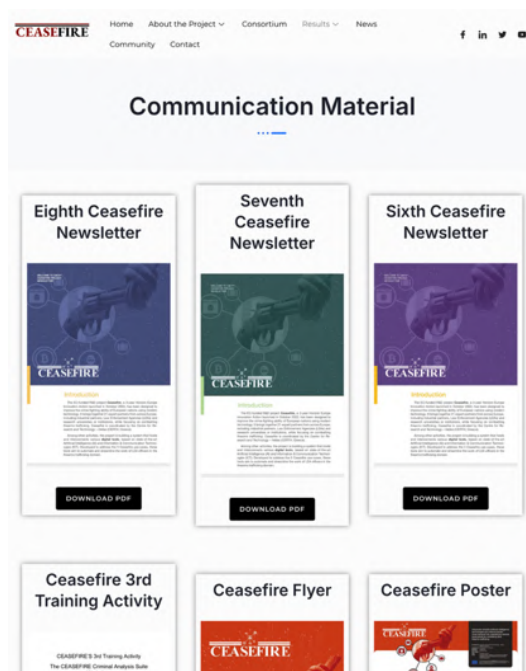


Figure 1. Updated layout of the "Communication Material" page on the project's website.

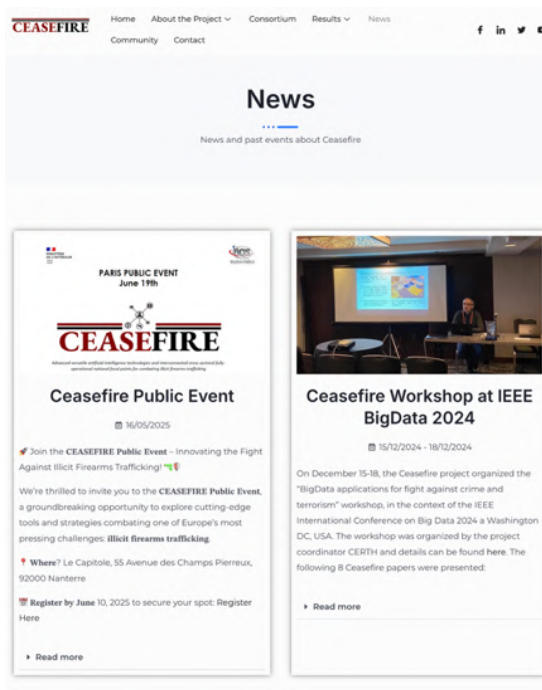


Figure 2. Updated layout of the "News" page on the project's website.

2.2. Social media

The project's social media channels remained active through M36: LinkedIn (since M3), Facebook (since M3) and X/Twitter (since M17).

Links:

- **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/ceasefireproject/>

- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/people/CEASEFIRE-Project/100089862614779/>
- **X/Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/CEASEFIREHE>

As reported in D9.2, by M18 the channels had gained 230 / 21 / 27 followers (LinkedIn / Facebook / X) and published 38 / 32 / 18 posts, respectively. During M19–M36, they added 169 / 6 / 15 followers and published 50 / 31 / 32 new posts. Cumulatively (M1–M36), followers stand at 399 / 27 / 42 and posts at 88 / 63 / 50 for LinkedIn, Facebook and X, respectively. The totals are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Total social media followers and posts per platform.

Platform	Followers	Posts
LinkedIn	399	88
Facebook	27	63
X/Twitter	42	50
All platforms	468	201

Activity increased during the final-period (M19–M36): with a focus on (i) sharing project news and milestones, (ii) attending events/conferences, (iii) releasing publications (such as newsletters and blogs), and (iv) featuring ‘meet the partners’ spotlights. Example screenshots are included from Figure 3 to Figure 5.

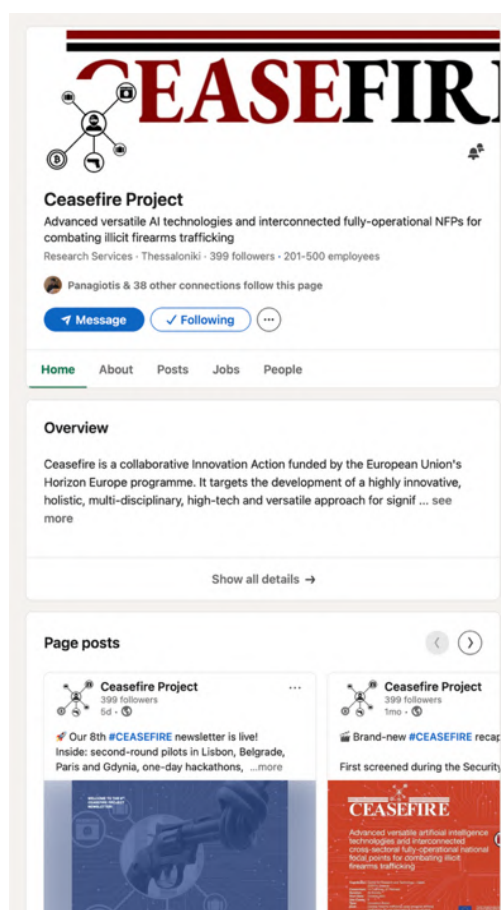


Figure 3. The LinkedIn page of CEASEFIRE.

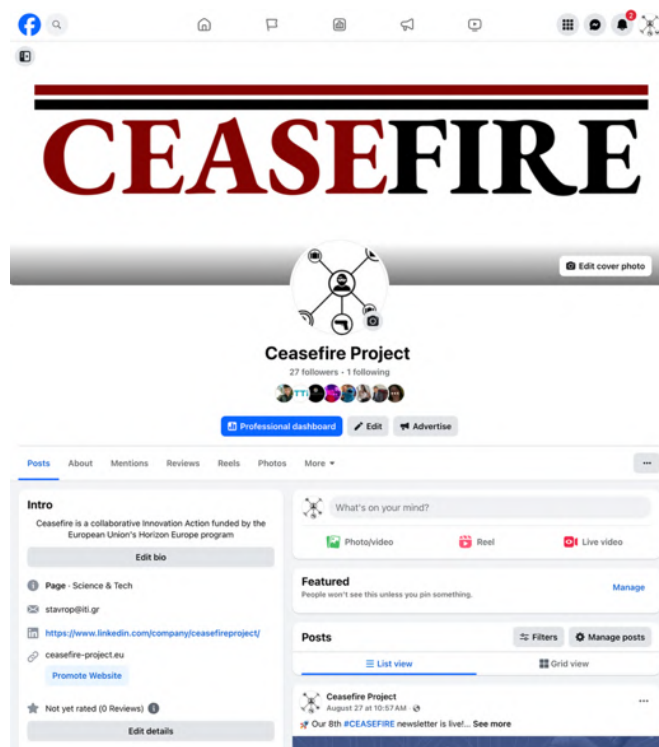


Figure 4. The Facebook page of CEASEFIRE.

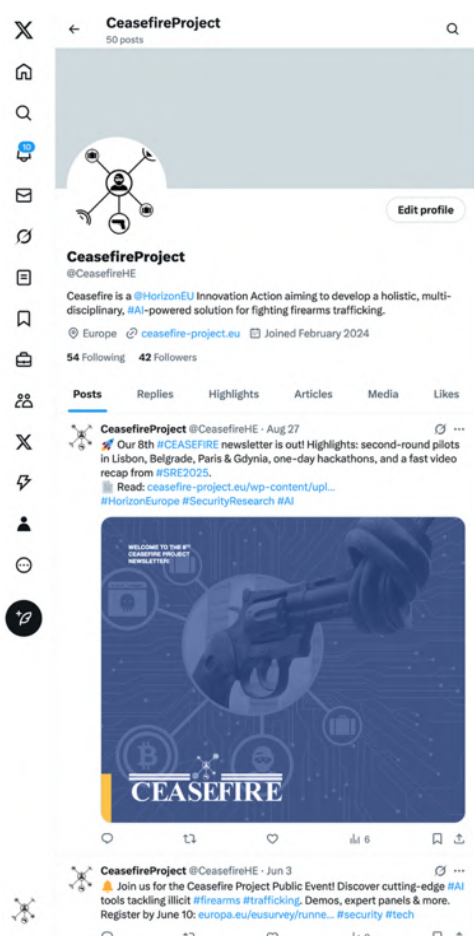


Figure 5. The X page of CEASEFIRE.

2.3. YouTube channel

YouTube complemented CEASEFIRE's social media strategy in the second reporting period (M19–M36), hosting video content that gives deeper insight into activities, findings, and tool demonstrations. The channel (see Figure 6) features demos, pilot highlights, webinar/workshop recordings, and short tutorials; titles, descriptions, and captions follow project branding and clearance rules. See Table 2 for details regarding the YouTube channel upload statistics.

Table 2. The project's YouTube videos.

Video title	Views	Link
CEASEFIRE Promo 1	64	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bPpYMmMWwSM
Evidence graph learning and firearms key event detection demo	14	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ASTISJAW5-g
Linking digital traces with physical entities demo	37	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8a1mWu1TAs
Evidence-based visual analytics of cyber-physical traces demo	36	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z8kKqd9JVIs
UC#1 demo: Real-time systematic firearms incident and intelligence information collection	86	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BWS9vj38gn0
UC#4 demo: Mail order and courier service firearms trafficking detection using scanning technologies	69	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3RV9RKDjzQ
UC#3 demo: Firearms purchase on dark Web marketplaces	45	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdmCuOwd4LY
UC#5 demo: 3D-printed firearm blueprints distribution	65	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xXNxR_V3Mus
UC#2 demo: On the spot firearm seizure registration and cross-border data search	130	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtvXYsJQVKo
UC#4 Updated Demo: Mail & Courier Gun Trafficking Detection with Scan Tech	58	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQ37vxU608Q
Updated UC#2 Demo: On-the-Spot Gun Seizure Registration & Cross-Border Data Search	14	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uzLsk3TlkQQ
CEASEFIRE Recap: Tech Demos, Pilot Action & Hackathons	44	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cj3FyVrChWg

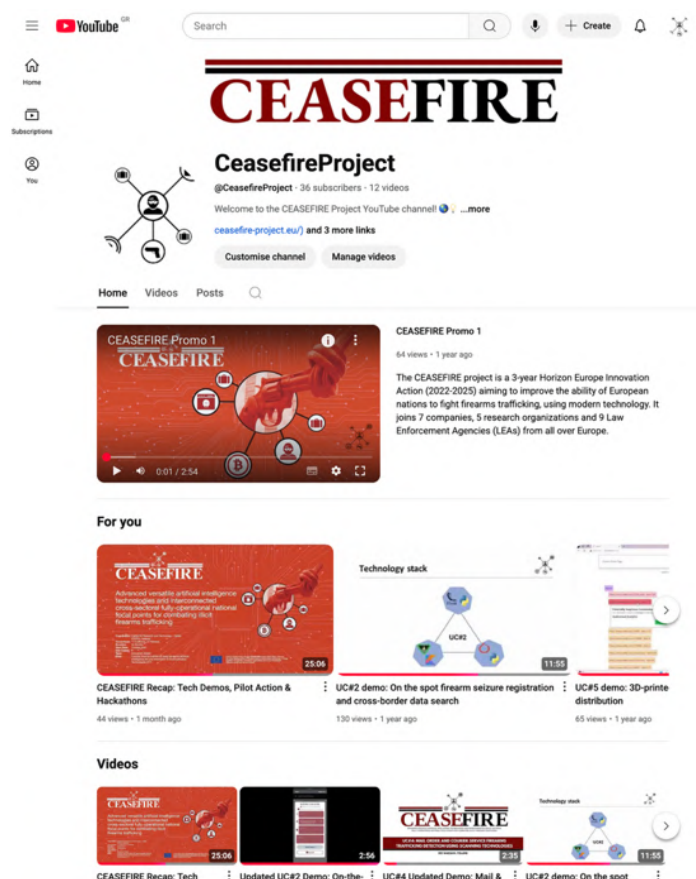


Figure 6. The CEASEFIRE project's YouTube homepage.

2.4. Dissemination pack

The initial pack was delivered by HUA at the end of M3 and refined throughout the project. The final version (M36) is in use across all channels and events.

Final version of the dissemination pack:

- CEASEFIRE logo (in use since M4).
- Official presentation templates (used in all project slides since M4).
- Project overview deck (12 slides) for partner reuse in outreach. Updated to include videos from each use-case, published on the YouTube channel.
- Journalistic description of vision and goals (3 pages).
- Public-facing infographic (3 pages) explaining motivation, aims, and vision.
- Public event materials (a flyer, a poster, and a rollup banner)

Availability and use:

- Source files are stored on the consortium Nextcloud (managed by CERTH) for unrestricted partner reuse.
- Public items are available on the website: motivation-and-goal (<https://ceasefire-project.eu/motivation-and-goal/>) and vision (<https://ceasefire-project.eu/vision/>) pages.
- Materials ensured brand consistency and were used in press, events, social posts, and the website.

Governance and evidence:

- Updates followed the established branding and clearance workflow.
- The final pack and example usages are archived in the annexes; indicative screenshots appear from Figure 7 to Figure 10.

Use-Case #3: Firearms purchase in Dark Web marketplaces



- Dark Web marketplaces are the most commonly used platforms for illicit firearms trade, due to the enhanced user anonymity.



- Ceasefire develop software that automatically detects and reveals the real identities of individuals involved in illegal firearms trade in anonymous Dark Net marketplaces.

State-of-the-art AI will be employed to address the volatile nature of Dark Web markets and automatically analyze cryptocurrency payments.

Figure 7. Sample slide from the main PowerPoint presentation of the project.



Figure 8. The final version of the CEASEFIRE flyer.

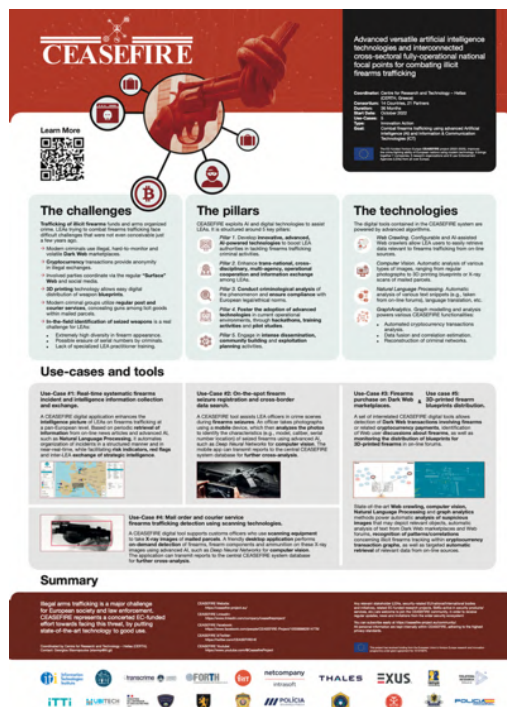


Figure 9. The final version of the CEASEFIRE poster.



Figure 10. The CEASEFIRE rollout banner.

2.5. Periodic newsletters

The CEASEFIRE newsletter, targeting external stakeholders and the general public, has operated continuously since M5 to communicate aims, vision, activities, and recent developments. During M5–M18, four issues were released (5 / 7 / 7 / 9 pages) on M5, M9, M15, and M18. During M19 – M36, another four issues were released (6 / 6 / 5 / 6), on M20, M26, M29, and M35, respectively. Indicative screenshots from the last four newsletters are depicted from Figure 11 to Figure 14. Table 3 contains details of all published newsletters, alongside a short description and publicly accessible link. Distribution used the website, social channels, partners' networks, the Community mailing list, and Sister Projects' networks. The Community list counts a total of 92 subscribers; members receive each issue upon release and function as the newsletter's subscriber base. Publications are accessible on the website's Communication material page.

Table 3. List of published CEASEFIRE Newsletters.

No.	Release date	Description	Link
1	February 2023, M5	Introductory newsletter outlining the illicit-firearms challenge and CEASEFIRE's AI-based approach, use cases, early project status, and channels for ongoing updates.	http://ceasefire-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Newsletter_Ceasefire_1.pdf
2	June 2023, M9	Progress update covering the Gdańsk plenary and customs-warehouse data-collection workshop for X-ray datasets, EU-level coordination with CERIS/Europol and EMPACT Firearms, development of a law-and-ethics manual and societal impact assessment, growth of the stakeholder community via Sister Projects, and forthcoming technical milestones.	http://ceasefire-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Newsletter_Ceasefire_2.pdf
3	December 2023, M15	Highlights Lisbon plenary progress, firearms image-dataset creation for mobile AI ID, NLU tools for online trafficking analysis, an event-correlation prototype, and findings on harmonising NFFPs.	http://ceasefire-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Newsletter_Ceasefire_3.pdf
4	March 2024, M18	Updates on Toulouse plenary and Hague symposium, first LEA online training, progress on graph mining/GCE tools, new Sister Projects (ARIZONA, VIGILANT, CosmoPort, and BAG-INTEL), and preparation for 2024 pilots.	http://ceasefire-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Newsletter_Ceasefire_4.pdf
5	May 2024, M20	Highlights the 2nd LEA online training and showcases tools for incident intelligence, on-site seizure ID, dark-web/3D blueprint analytics, and X-ray parcel screening, with next steps.	http://ceasefire-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Newsletter_Ceasefire_5.pdf
6	November 2024, M26	Interim review success, EMPACT demo, expanded CFray X-ray dataset (5,855 images; 12,875 annotations), Heraklion plenary with 3rd training, YouTube channel launch, and next steps toward pilots.	https://ceasefire-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Newsletter_Ceasefire_6.pdf
7	February 2025, M29	First-round pilots in Lisbon, Belgrade,	https://ceasefire-

		Paris, and Gdynia validated CEASEFIRE tools for incident monitoring, dark-web trade, 3D-printed blueprints, mobile seizure reporting, and X-ray parcel screening, with next steps focused on refinement and scaling.	project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Newsletter_Ceasefire_7.pdf
8	August 2025, M35	Second-round pilots (Lisbon, Belgrade, Paris, Gdynia) plus follow-on hackathons, a public demo event and SRE 2025 showcase, a new video recap, and preparations for the final review focused on evidence, sustainability, and compliance.	https://ceasefire-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Newsletter_Ceasefire_8.pdf

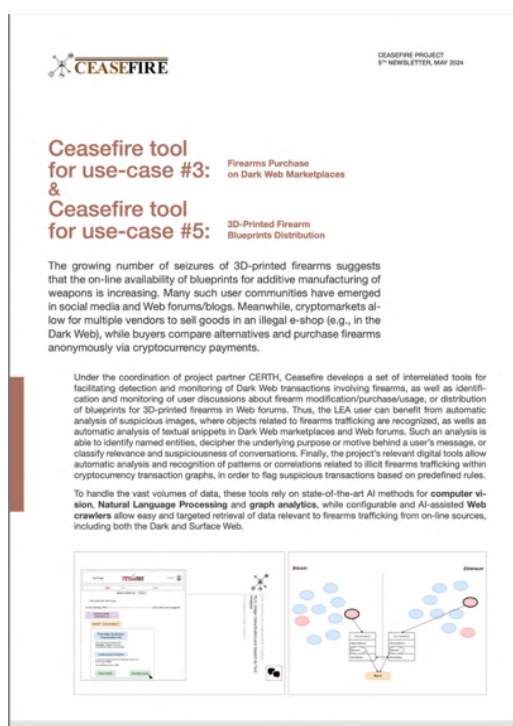


Figure 11. Sample page from the 5th CEASEFIRE Newsletter.

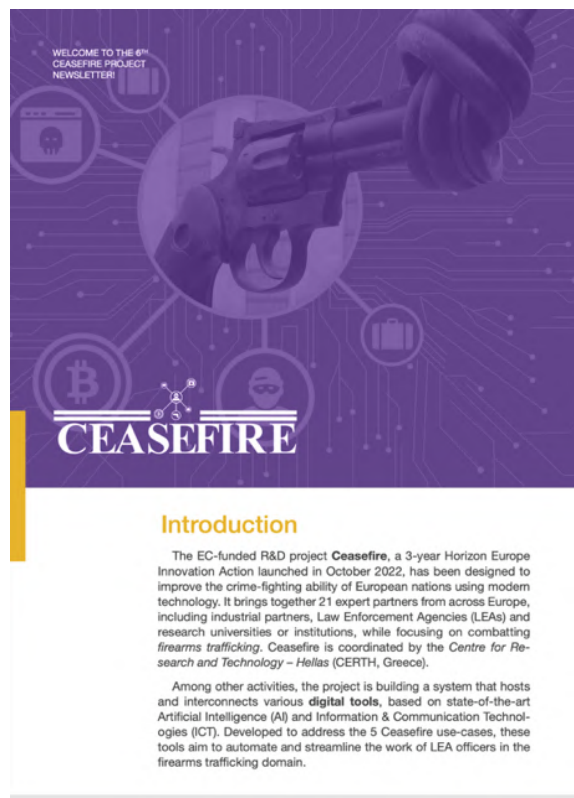


Figure 12. Sample page from the 6th CEASEFIRE Newsletter.

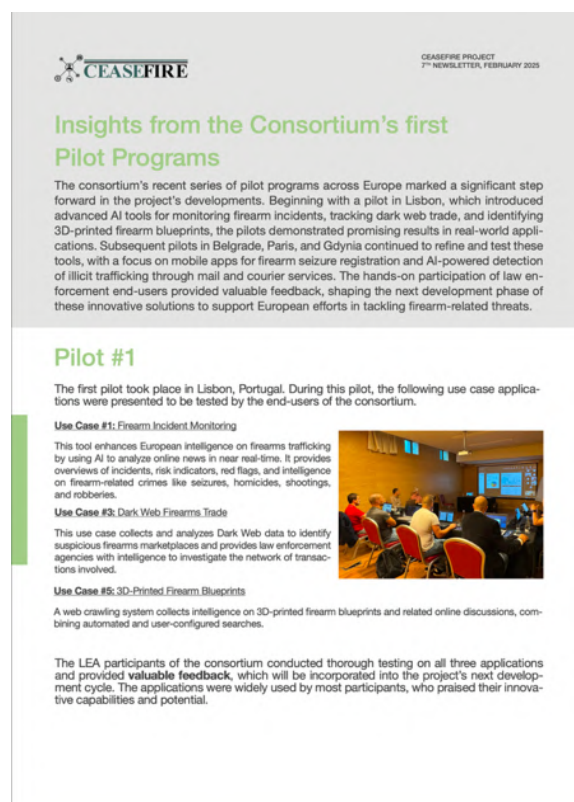


Figure 13. Sample page from the 7th CEASEFIRE Newsletter.



Figure 14. Sample page from the 8th CEASEFIRE Newsletter.

3. Activities and results

This section consolidates CEASEFIRE’s outreach activities across the full project, updating the M1–M18 baseline reported in D9.2. Activities remain grouped into three categories: (a) presence/presentations in end-user, industrial, and scientific events; (b) peer-reviewed publications in conference proceedings and journals; and (c) events organised by CEASEFIRE.

All outputs were communicated through CEASEFIRE’s established channels (website, social media, newsletter, and Community list) and amplified via partners’ own web and social outlets. Clearance procedures for sensitive content continued to apply throughout M19–M36.

3.1. Presence in end-user, industrial, and scientific events

By M18, CEASEFIRE had been present and/or presented in **18 distinct external events** led by security and academic stakeholders interested in firearms trafficking; several involved multiple partners. In M19–M36, participation continued with additional conferences, workshops, seminars and policy fora; the consolidated list below merges both periods and notes date, venue, role (talk/booth/panel), audience profile, and immediate outcomes.

1. CEASEFIRE was presented via **HUA** on 27–28 March 2024, in Athens, Greece, at the “**Open Days HUA 2024**” event for secondary school students. The team showcased scientific results with live demos of computer-vision tools for X-ray illicit-object detection and firearms-trafficking image classification. Approximately 25 participants attended. A sample image is depicted in Figure 15.



Figure 15. The HUA team presenting CEASEFIRE during the "Open Days HUA 2024" event in Athens, Greece.

2. CEASEFIRE participated via **HUA, CERTH and TNL** on 22 May 2024, in The Hague, Netherlands, at the **EMPACT Firearms Strategic Meeting** hosted at Europol Headquarters. Consortium representatives briefed stakeholders on project achievements, delivered live demos of CEASEFIRE technologies, and discussed synergies with EMPACT operational actions.
3. CEASEFIRE was represented via **HUA** on 30 May 2024, in Chania, Greece, at **EEITE 2024**, where HUA delivered a plenary speech titled “**Deployment of computer vision technologies in the public security domain**”. The talk focused on CEASEFIRE research outcomes in large-scale visual data analytics and X-ray image analysis.
4. CEASEFIRE participated via **HUA** on 27 September 2024, in Athens, Greece, at **European Researchers’ Night 2024** hosted by the National Technical University of Athens. The team showcased CEASEFIRE computer-vision results, including X-ray image analysis and visual big-data analytics solutions, engaging with students and the general public. A sample image is depicted in Figure 16.



Figure 16. Promotional material for the European Researchers' Night 2024 in Athens, where the CEASEFIRE project was showcased.

- CEASEFIRE was represented via HUA on 8–9 April 2025, in Madrid, Spain, at the **ISF FORTIFY kick-off meeting**. The team presented CEASEFIRE outcomes and delivered live demos on X-ray inspection imaging and visual web-data analytics for firearm detection to an audience of 100+ experts, including representatives from EMPACT Firearms, Europol, INTERPOL, UNODC/UNIDIR, CEPOL, SELEC, DG HOME, and police/customs from EU Member States and third countries. A sample image is depicted in Figure 17.



Figure 17. Event materials from the ISF FORTIFY kick-off meeting in Madrid, Spain, where CEASEFIRE outcomes were presented.

- CEASEFIRE participated via CERTH on 11 July 2024, in Brussels, Belgium, at the **CERIS thematic workshop on “E-commerce security and countering illicit transactions”**. The team presented project objectives and achievements and delivered live demonstrations of CEASEFIRE technologies. A sample image is depicted in Figure 18.



Figure 18. The CERTH team representing CEASEFIRE at the CERIS thematic workshop in Brussels, Belgium.

7. CEASEFIRE participated via UCSC, FMI, TRI and IANUS on 8–9 April 2024, in Brussels, Belgium, at the **European Commission meeting “The state of play and way forward on the establishment of National Firearms Focal Points and the standardisation of data collection on firearms at EU level”**. UCSC and FMI presented CEASEFIRE and its links to EMPACT Firearms actions on NFFPs. Attendance was ~50 participants, including LEAs from EU and Western Balkans, NFFPs, DG HOME, EMPACT Firearms, EFE, SEESAC, UNODC, INTERPOL, EUROPOL, CEPOL, OSCE, and selected EU-funded projects (INSIGHT, FOCAL-SF, REGYSINC). A sample image is depicted in Figure 19.



Figure 19. The presentation on CEASEFIRE's synergies with EMPACT Firearms during the European Commission meeting on NFFPs in Brussels.

8. CEASEFIRE was represented via UCSC on 12 April 2024, in Milan, Italy, at the **international conference “The impact of global arms control regimes in reducing armed violence: a regional assessment”**, co-organised by the University of Milan, Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Kennis, and Small Arms Survey. UCSC presented “Exploring new trends and challenges in the illicit firearms trafficking in Europe”. Attendance was ~50, mainly academics and organisers, with representatives from the Parliamentary Forum on SALW, SEESAC, GI-TOC, UNODC, Centre for Governance Research, EPLO, and the Permanent Missions of Italy and Mexico in Vienna. A sample image is depicted in Figure 20.

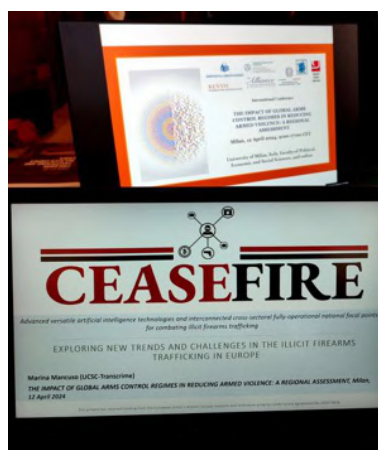


Figure 20. The opening slide of the UCSC presentation on new trends in illicit firearms trafficking at the international conference in Milan, Italy.

9. CEASEFIRE was represented via UCSC on September 11-14th, 2024, at the **European Society of Criminology (ESC) Annual Conference** in Bucharest, Romania, in a panel on trafficking networks analysis. Researcher Caterina Paternoster presented work (with Marina Mancuso) on the role of open data sources in identifying trends in illicit firearms trafficking, showing how data/text mining complements limited or outdated official datasets to improve EU-wide intelligence on firearms seizures and crimes. A sample image is depicted in Figure 21.



Figure 21. A presentation on using open data sources to understand firearms trafficking at the ESC Annual Conference in Bucharest, Romania.

10. In October 2024, UCSC-Transcrime attended the **EMPACT Joint Action Days South East Europe** together with CERTH to present and demonstrate some of the tools developed in the CEASEFIRE project. These tools were showcased and used during online investigations conducted by the cyber patrol. The meeting took place in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, where representatives from 26 countries took decisive action against key criminal threats in the region. The JAD SEE 2024 brought together EU and international partners (e.g., EU Commission, CEPOL, Europol, INTERPOL, and Eurojust) to tackle human trafficking, migrant smuggling, drug and firearms trafficking, and criminal networks. The operation, involving 31,109 officers, led to 796 arrests, 316 investigations, and 442 weapons seized. A photo from the event can be found in Figure 22.



Figure 22. A representative from UCSC-Transcrime attending the EMPACT Joint Action Days in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, to demonstrate CEASEFIRE tools.

11. From the 13 to the 18 of November 2024, UCSC-Transcrime attended the **Annual Conference of the American Society of Criminology (ASC) 2024** in San Francisco (USA) (<https://asc41.org/events/2024-asc-annual-meeting/>). ASC is an international organization whose members pursue scholarly, scientific, and professional knowledge concerning the measurement, consequences, prevention, control, and treatment of crime and delinquency. Every year ASC organized a very important event, the Annual Meeting, that all the academics/practitioners/experts/students in the field are invited to join to present their more recent studies on different criminological areas in order to share knowledge, trends, research results, create synergies with colleagues and receive feedback on their work. Caterina Paternoster did a presentation titled “Near real-time tracking tool of firearm incidents in Europe: the contribution of open sources”. The presentation showed preliminary methodology and results of the study carried out with Marina Mancuso as part of the contribution to CEASEFIRE Project. The possibility to present the results is granted upon acceptance of an abstract to be submitted some months before the Conference.
12. CEASEFIRE, via ITTI, conducted **field tests at the Magnum shooting range** (Poznań, Poland), during November, 2024, to evaluate the mobile weapons-recognition app supporting on-site officers. With an instructor’s assistance, 25 weapon models were tested; most were correctly identified, with errors linked to models not yet in the database (now being expanded). A short test video was produced ([link](#)). A sample image is depicted in Figure 23.



Figure 23. Field testing of the CEASEFIRE mobile weapons-recognition application at a shooting range in Poznań, Poland

13. CEASEFIRE was presented via **HUA** on 8 and 10 April 2025, in Athens, Greece, at “**Epilego Charokopio 2025**” (HUA Open Days) organised by the HUA Career Office. The team showcased CEASEFIRE outcomes at a public booth with live AI demos—object detection, image classification, and foundation-model inference—engaging visiting secondary-school students. A sample image is depicted in Figure 24.



Figure 24. The HUA team demonstrating CEASEFIRE's AI tools to students during the HUA Open Days 2025 in Athens, Greece.

14. CEASEFIRE was represented via ITTI at the **PSCE Conference** on 21–22 May 2025 in Gothenburg, Sweden. Mr. Krzysztof Samp (ITTI Vice-President) delivered a presentation on CEASEFIRE's AI-driven tools—real-time detection, dark-web monitoring, 3D-printed-weapon analysis—and integration with National Focal Points (NFFPs), addressing an audience of LEAs, public-safety practitioners, industry, and researchers. A sample image is depicted in Figure 25.



Figure 25. ITTI presenting the CEASEFIRE project's AI-driven tools at the PSCE Conference in Gothenburg, Sweden.

15. CEASEFIRE participated at **SRE 2025** on 24–25 June 2025 in Warsaw (EXPO XXI), exhibiting at Booth 19. The team delivered live demos of the AI-powered toolkit—X-ray illicit-object detection, dark-web monitoring/analytics, and field-ready tools for LEAs—and engaged directly with practitioners and the wider security ecosystem to support uptake ahead of project completion. A sample image is depicted in Figure 26.



Figure 26. The CEASEFIRE consortium team at their exhibition booth during the Security Research Event (SRE) 2025 in Warsaw, Poland.

16. From 3 to 6 September 2025, UCSC-Transcrime attended the **Annual Conference of the European Society of Criminology 2025** in Athens, Greece (<https://eurocrim2025.com/>). The conference brought together thousands of researchers and members of the academic community from around the world. Gergana Tsakova presented the results of research conducted with Marina Mancuso, Deborah Manzi, and Ernesto Savona for the CEASEFIRE Project, focusing on the methodological approach of the Firearm Incidents Tracking tool. Her presentation, titled “Enhancing Intelligence on Firearms Trafficking in Europe: A Methodological Framework Using Open Sources and LLMs”, was part of the panel on “Organized Crime Involvement & Illicit Markets”. A sample image is depicted in Figure 27.

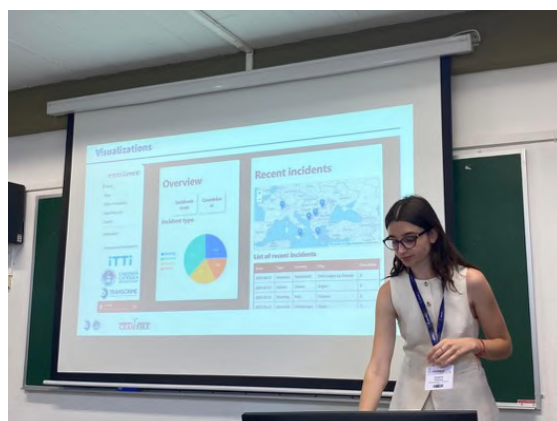


Figure 27. A presentation on the CEASEFIRE Firearm Incidents Tracking tool at the ESC Annual Conference 2025 in Athens, Greece.

17. CEASEFIRE will be presented by **CERTH** at the **EABxCERIS: Biometrics in Action for Border Management & Fight Against Crime and Terrorism** conference ([link](#)), on the 25th of September, in Darmstadt, Germany.
18. **CERTH** has been invited to present CEASEFIRE at the **twenty-second Regional Meeting of South-East Europe Firearms Experts Network (SEEFEN)** that will be held on 14-15 October 2025.

3.2. CEASEFIRE organized events

During M19–M36, CEASEFIRE partners organised a series of stakeholder-facing activities, such as demo sessions, hands-on workshops, special sessions and a public event, advancing outreach and uptake while contributing to WP9 KPIs (e.g., special sessions; public events; free trials). Specifically, the CEASEFIRE Public Event in Nanterre and the project's exhibition at SRE 2025 in Warsaw successfully fulfilled the Grant Agreement's objective (RESM5.1) of holding at least two public events.

1. **EMPACT Firearms demo session.** CEASEFIRE organised a dedicated demonstration with members of the EMPACT Firearms policy cycle. Consortium teams presented the integrated CEASEFIRE platform and all use cases through live demos, gathered feedback on module improvements, and discussed next steps and synergies with EMPACT operational actions. Sample images are provided in Figure 28.

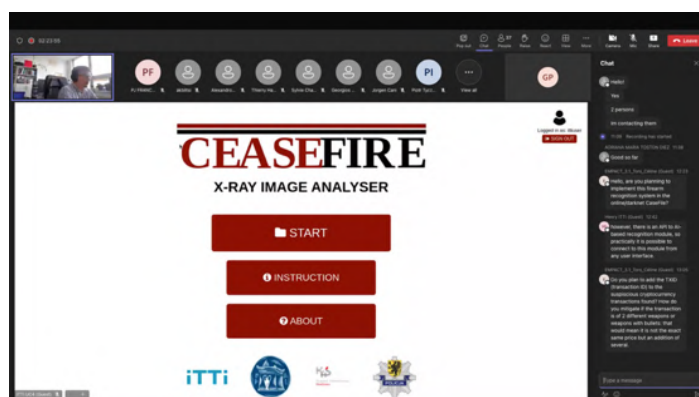


Figure 28. A screenshot from the online demonstration of the X-Ray Image Analyser tool presented to members of the EMPACT Firearms policy cycle.

2. Hands-on workshop: **“The CEASEFIRE Criminal Event Analysis Suite” (September 2024).** CEASEFIRE hosted a practitioner-oriented, hands-on training on the Criminal Event Analysis Suite, including Score-based Graph Correlation and Model-Based Situation Evaluation tools. Sessions also covered AI ethics and legal considerations.
3. WP2 workshop on **criminological analysis and policy recommendations** (31 October 2024). The consortium convened a focused workshop to present WP2 findings—policy recommendations for NFFPs, cross-border investigation harmonisation, cooperation frameworks, evidence collection/forensics, and criminological analysis of firearms trafficking in the EU—and to collect validation feedback from consortium LEAs and external experts previously interviewed.
4. **“Big Data Applications for Fight Against Crime and Terrorism” (BDA4FCT), IEEE BigData 2024** (December 2024, Washington, D.C.). Building on the 2023 edition, **CEASEFIRE supported** and co-organised the 2nd BDA4FCT workshop at IEEE BigData 2024, a premier forum on large-scale data technologies. The workshop gathered researchers from academia, industry, government and LEAs to discuss the application of big-data and AI methods to crime/terrorism detection and prevention; **CEASEFIRE contributions** included an overview of the project and related research papers. Sample images are provided in Figure 29.



Figure 29. A presentation on one of CEASEFIRE's use cases during the BDA4FCT workshop at the IEEE BigData 2024 conference in Washington, D.C..

5. **CEASEFIRE Public Event – “Innovating the Fight Against Illicit Firearms Trafficking” (June 2025, Nanterre, France).** CEASEFIRE organised a public, multi-stakeholder event at Le Capitole (Nanterre) featuring live demonstrations of the AI-powered toolkit and in-depth presentations of five real-world use cases: (i) real-time intelligence sharing, (ii) immediate registration of seized firearms during field operations, (iii) Dark-Web monitoring of illegal purchases, (iv) X-ray screening for parcel/courier flows, and (v) tracking of distributed 3D-printed-weapon blueprints. The programme included expert panels and Q&A with developers, LEAs and policymakers, facilitating engagement with the wider security ecosystem. Sample image can be seen in Figure 30.



Figure 30. Attendees and consortium members at the CEASEFIRE Public Event held in Nanterre, France, in June 2025.

3.3. Scientific publications

CEASEFIRE research continued to yield peer-reviewed outputs throughout M19–M36. The public “Scientific publications” page now lists **33 entries** (conference papers, journal articles, datasets, and vision papers), with open-access links where available.

Compared to D9.2 (which reported 6 accepted papers and 4 under review as of M18 and pointed readers to the same publications page), the volume and breadth of outputs have substantially expanded.

The full, final bibliography (titles, venues, year of publication, and access links) is consolidated in Table 4 and remains mirrored on the project website (<https://ceasefire-project.eu/scientific-publications/>) for ongoing reference.

Table 4. The full list of publications of the CEASEFIRE project's partners.

Partner	Venue title	Paper title	Year of publication	Status/Open access link
Period M1-M18				
HUA	IEEE International Congress on Intelligent and Service-Oriented Systems Engineering (CISOSE 2023, Athens, Greece)	Illicit item detection in X-ray images for security applications	2023	https://arxiv.org/abs/2305.01936
HUA	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2023 Workshops (December 15-18, Sorrento, Italy)	Visual inspection for illicit items in X-ray images using Deep Learning	2023	https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.03658
HUA	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2023 Workshops	Self-supervised visual learning for analyzing firearms	2023	https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.07

	(December 15-18, Sorrento, Italy)	trafficking activities on the Web		975
CERTH	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2023 Workshops (December 15-18, Sorrento, Italy)	Vision Paper: Uncovering Illegal Firearm Transactions in Cryptocurrency Networks	2023	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/377615247_Vision_Paper_Uncovering_Illegal_Firearm_Transactions_in_Cryptocurrency_Networks
CERTH	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2023 Workshops (December 15-18, Sorrento, Italy)	Unveiling Conversational Patterns: Intent Classification and Clustering in Reddit's Firearm Trade Community	2023	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/377602874_Unveiling_Conversational_Patterns_Intent_Classification_and_Clustering_in_Reddit%27s_Firearm_Trade_Community
UBI, INTRA	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2023 Workshops (December 15-18, Sorrento, Italy)	Harvesting Large Textual and Multimedia Data to Detect Illegal Activities on Dark Web Marketplaces	2023	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/377602371_Harvesting_Large_Textual_and_Multimedia_Data_to_Detect_Illegal_Activities_on_Dark_Web_Marketplaces
HUA, UCSC, INTRA, TRI, CERTH	IEEE Transactions on Technology and Society	The invisible arms race: digital trends in illicit goods trafficking and AI-enabled responses	2024	https://www.techrxiv.org/doi/full/10.36227/techrxiv.24288703.v1
INPT	ACM Multimedia Systems Conference, MMSys 2024 (April 15-18, Bari, Italy)	Ceasefire Hierarchical Weapon Dataset	2024	https://zenodo.org/records/10599413
HUA	International Conference in Electronic Engineering, Information Technology & Education, EEITE 2024 (29 -31 May, Chania, Greece)	Illicit object detection in X-ray images using Vision Transformers	2024	https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.19043
Period M19-M36				

HUA	Elsevier Neurocomputing	Self-supervised visual learning in the low-data regime: a comparative evaluation	2024	https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.17202
HUA, UCSC, FORTH, INPT, INTRA, THALES, EXUS, ITTI, UBI, CERTH	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2024 Workshops (Washington DC, USA)	CEASEFIRE: An AI-powered system for combatting illicit firearms trafficking	2024	https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.14949
INPT	Joint CAp and RFIAP 2024 conferences	Intégration des relations de composition / décomposition pour la segmentation d'objets en considérant les sous-parties et une classification hiérarchique	2024	https://hal.science/hal-04621321v1/document
HUA	IEEE Xplore	Distributed maze exploration using multiple agents and optimal goal assignment	2024	https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.20232
HUA	Artificial Intelligence Review	Advances in Diffusion Models for Image Data Augmentation: A Review of Methods, Models, Evaluation Metrics and Future Research Directions	2025	https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.04103
HUA	SETN 2024	Multi-robot maze exploration using an efficient cost-utility method	2025	https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.14218
HUA	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2024 Workshops (Washington DC, USA)	Leveraging Digital Twin Technologies for Public Space Protection and Vulnerability Assessment	2025	https://arxiv.org/pdf/2408.17136
TNL	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2024 Workshops (Washington DC, USA)	Vision Paper: Incorporating Domain Knowledge in Information Retrieval Systems to Streamline Incident Investigation	2025	https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Franck-Mignet-2/publication/388098463_Vision_Paper_Incorporating_Domain_Knowledge_in_Information_Retrieval_Systems_to_Streamline_Incident_Investigation/links/68b047bd1bee4d42a2439725/Vision-Paper-

				Incorporating-Domain-Knowledge-in-Information-Retrieval-Systems-to-Streamline-Incident-Investigation.pdf? tp=eyJjb250ZXh0Ijp7ImZpcnN0UGFnZSI6ImxvZ2luIiwicGFnZSI6InB1YmxpY2F0aW9uIn19
ITTI, UBI	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2024 Workshops (Washington DC, USA)	Benchmarking of Different YOLO Models for CAPTCHAs Detection and Classification	2025	https://arxiv.org/abs/2502.13740
FORTH	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2024 Workshops (Washington DC, USA)	Applying visual analytics to firearms trafficking trails for the extraction of strategic intelligence	2025	https://zenodo.org/records/17075780
CERTH	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2024 Workshops (Washington DC, USA)	Vision Paper: Addressing the Threat of 3D Printing Firearm Files with Data-Driven Strategies	2025	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/388097443_Vision_Paper_Addressing_the_Threat_of_3D_Printing_Firearm_Files_with_Data-Driven_Strategies
CERTH	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2024 Workshops (Washington DC, USA)	Optimizing an LLM Prompt for Accurate Data Extraction from Firearm-Related Listings in Dark Web Marketplaces	2025	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/388097905_Optimizing_an_LLM_Prompt_for_Accurate_Data_Extraction_from_Firearm-Related_Listings_in_Dark_Web_Marketplaces
CERTH	IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2024 Workshops (Washington DC, USA)	Uncovering Illegal Firearm Transactions in Cryptocurrency Networks	2025	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/388094149_Unc

				overing_Illegal_Firearm_Transactions_in_Cryptocurrency_Networks
INPT	ACM Multimedia Systems Conference, MMSys 2025	eCHFD: Extended Ceasefire Hierarchical Firearm Dataset	2025	https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.1145/3712676.3718333
HUA	International Conference in Electronic Engineering, Information Technology & Education, EEITE 2025 (4-6 June, Chania, Greece)	Classification of Greek News Articles by Genre Using Open Large Language Models	2025	https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Georgios-Papadopoulos-2/publication/389390004_Classification_of_Greek_News_Articles_by_Genre_Using_Open_Large_Language_Models/links/67c075c88311ce680c76cd3b/Classification-of-Greek-News-Articles-by-Genre-Using-Open-Large-Language-Models.pdf
HUA	IEEE 25th International Conference on Digital Signal Processing 2025	Public space security management using digital twin technologies	2025	https://arxiv.org/abs/2503.06996
HUA	2025 Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment	Deduplicated Sampling On-Demand	2025	https://www.vldb.org/pvldb/vol18/p2482-zecchini.pdf
HUA	2025 IEEE 11th International Conference on Big Data Computing Service and Machine Learning Applications (BigDataService)	X-ray illicit object detection using hybrid CNN-transformer neural network architectures	2025	https://arxiv.org/abs/2505.00564
INPT	Elsevier Pattern Recognition	MM-FirearmNet: RGB-Depth Fusion with Adaptive Feature Reinforcement for Multi-Modal Firearm Recognition	2025	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/394963657_MM_FirearmNet_RGB_Depth_Fusion_with_Adaptive_Featur

				e Reinforcement for Multi Modal Firearm Recognition
HUA	Tabular Data Analysis Workshop, VLDP 2025	Relationship Detection on Tabular Data Using Statistical Analysis and Large Language Models	2025	https://arxiv.org/pdf/2506.06371
HUA	IEEE Access	Illicit object detection in X-ray imaging using deep learning techniques: A comparative evaluation	2025	https://arxiv.org/pdf/2507.17508
HUA	IEEE Conference on Artificial Intelligence, AI Standard, 2025	State of play and future directions in industrial computer vision AI standards	2025	https://arxiv.org/pdf/2503.02675
FORTH	Elsevier Visual Informatics	A methodological approach towards human-centered visual analytics	2025	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.visinf.2025.100269
INTRA	International Conference in Electronic Engineering, Information Technology & Education, EEITE 2025 (4-6 June, Chania, Greece)	Assessment of Cybersecurity Measures towards the Achievement of the UN SDG8: an AHP and MoSCoW Approach	2025	https://www.researchgate.net/publication/395732934_Assessment_of_Cybersecurity_Measures_towards_the_Achievement_of_the_UN_SDG8_an_AHP_and_MoSCoW_Approach

3.3.1. Planned publications

In addition to the publications listed in Table 4, the project consortium is actively preparing several new manuscripts for submission. These planned publications aim to disseminate the project's latest findings and build upon our ongoing research. A working title, as well as a short description is provided with each entry. It is important to note that the final title is *subject to change*. The final, published works will be uploaded to the project's official website. The preliminary details for these forthcoming articles are as follows:

- **2 conference submissions** from CERTH at the upcoming IEEE International Conference on Big Data 2025 Workshop, during December 2025.
- **1 research brief** from UCSC:
 - **Working Title:** “Emerging Trends and Evolving Challenges in Firearm Trafficking Across Europe”
 - **Description:** A research in brief to be published on Transcrime website, open access. It will contain the main results of the UCSC-Transcrime activities carried out during project implementation, mainly in WP2.

- o **Target:** Open-access paper published on Transcrime's website (<https://www.transcrime.it/en/>)
- o **Tentative Submission Date:** Mid-November 2025
- o **Partners involved:** UCSC
- **1 journal article submitted by UCSC:**
 - o **Working Title:** “Near-Real-Time Monitoring of Firearm Seizures and Incidents Using Open Sources: Methodological Framework and Analytical Findings”
 - o **Description:** An article to be published in a criminological peer-review journal. It will be mainly focused on the methodological framework developed for the near-real time tracking tool and, on the results, obtained from the analysis of the open sources collected for the tool.
 - o **Target Journal:** To be published in a criminological peer-review journal.
 - o **Tentative Submission Date:** End December 2025/January 2026
 - o **Partners involved:** UCSC

4. Community building

CEASEFIRE continued to build and activate a stakeholder Community aligned with project goals (LEAs and networks, EU/national bodies, related R&I projects, SMEs, academia). Two pillars, as established in M1–M18, remained the backbone through M36: (a) the **Community mailing list** (operational since M5; sign-up via the project website; PSP/HUA oversight), and (b) **collaboration with Sister Projects**.

4.1. The CEASEFIRE stakeholder network

A central pillar of the project's community-building strategy was the establishment and cultivation of the CEASEFIRE Stakeholder community. Operational since M5, the CEASEFIRE Community mailing list served the as the core channel for updates, invitations, and calls across the wider security ecosystem. Sign-up remains available via the project website, with admission subject to admin approval. The network was initially established with the support of PSP, while HUA managed its day-to-day operations and moderation, ensuring all personal data was handled in line with GDPR practices.

By the end of the project at M36, the **CEASEFIRE Community comprised 92 individual members from 45 distinct organizations**. This includes **18 internal consortium organizations** and **27 external ones**. Significantly, **12 of these 27 external stakeholders are key Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) user communities, international organizations, established bodies, and institutes**, demonstrating the project's strong connection to its primary end-user base and exceeding the initial target of connecting with at least five such communities. The external members represent a diverse range of entities, including EU R&D projects, research organizations, government ministries, Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs), national police forces, and international LEA bodies.

The list could be (and can be) used (by consortium and external members) for: (a) disseminating events of broad interest, (b) sharing public project updates, (c) soliciting feedback, (d) facilitating collaboration, (e) identifying potential partners, and (f) running surveys/polls. Posts are subject to admin approval; members are expected to use clear subjects and ensure broad relevance.

4.2. Sister projects collaboration and joint impact

A complementary pillar of community-building was close liaison with a circle of Sister Projects—active EC-funded or national R&D initiatives aligned with CEASEFIRE themes. By M18, 7 projects were linked as Sister projects: Cut The Cord (CTC), TRACE, Anti-FinTer, ARIZONA¹, CosmoPort, BAG-INTEL, and VIGILANT. They are publicly listed on the CEASEFIRE Community page with logo, description, and links; six are EC-funded and ARIZONA is nationally funded (Germany). HUA maintains contact points; several projects reciprocally list CEASEFIRE as a sister project. (KPI baseline met: liaison with ≥ 5 projects from year 1).

Interactions up to M18 (baseline): joint dissemination and cross-sharing of materials (newsletters, invitations), encouragement for Sister contacts to subscribe to the Community list; CEASEFIRE was presented in Anti-FinTer's Virtual Knowledge Hub (7 Nov 2023); ARIZONA was presented at the CEASEFIRE plenary in Toulouse (30 Nov–1 Dec 2023).

M19–M36 update: liaison continued with coordinated announcements, cross-posting, and participation in relevant fora; Sister contacts remained integrated into the Community list for two-way dissemination. Where feasible, joint actions were pursued; final outcomes and any co-organised activities are summarised in the Community section and evidenced in the annexed logs.

¹ www.sifo.de

5. KPI dashboard and impact assessment

This section consolidates the GA-defined indicators for SP5 and reports final status, method, and evidence. Using uniform definitions and counting rules, KPIs are computed over M1–M36 (annualised where applicable) from primary sources: website analytics, native exports from LinkedIn/Facebook/X, mailing-list manager logs, publication records, and event/training registers. CEASEFIRE met or exceeded most targets: **RESM5.1** public events (2, organized by FMI and PSP), **RESM5.2** special sessions (2), **RESM5.3** publications (11/yr, target is 5/yr), **RESM5.4** social followers (156/yr, target is >100/yr), **RESM5.7** website visitors (2,100/yr, target is >2,000/yr), **RESM5.9** free trials (4), **RESM5.10** stakeholder organisations (45, target is >40), **RESM5.11** LEA communities (11, target is ≥5), and **RESM5.12** sister projects (7, target is ≥5); **RESM5.5** newsletter subscribers (~30/yr, target is >50/yr) underperformed; **RESM5.8** (newsletter every 3 months) has been verified against actual issue dates in the newsletter Section 2.5. Items **RESM5.13–RESM5.15** are delivered via the final Lessons Learned (D9.5) and final Market/Exploitation/Business Plan (D9.7) deliverables and are referenced here for completeness.

Beyond the quantitative achievements, the project's performance against its KPIs translated into tangible impacts on its visibility and potential for uptake within the security and research communities. The consistent growth in **website visitors (over 6,200 cumulative)** and **social media followers (468 total)** established CEASEFIRE as a credible and visible initiative in the security research landscape. The website served as the project's digital hub, providing a central point for stakeholders to access public deliverables, scientific papers, and contact information. The social media channels, particularly LinkedIn with its strong professional network, created a community of engaged followers who received and amplified regular updates on project milestones, events, and results. This enhanced visibility directly supported the project's uptake. High traffic and targeted social media announcements were instrumental in promoting **CEASEFIRE-organised events**, such as the hands-on workshops and the final public event in Nanterre, ensuring strong attendance from relevant stakeholders. The **Community mailing list, with 92 subscribers from 45 key organizations**, represents a core group of stakeholders who transitioned from passive awareness to active engagement by opting in for direct communication. This network proved vital for recruiting participants for training sessions and validating project results, directly contributing to the project's real-world relevance and adoption.

5.1. KPI definitions and method

As per the GA of the project, the Strategic Pillar (SP) D9.3 contributes to is “SP5: Intense dissemination and community building activities, as well as preparation of comprehensive business plans of the project tools and services”. The following metrics have been established and addressed in Table 5.

Table 5. Final status of Dissemination and Communication KPIs (M1-M36)

KPI ID	Description	Target Value	Achieved Value	Evidence / Reference
RESM5.1	Public events to be held	At least 2 (organized by partners FMI and PSP)	2	Target met with the CEASEFIRE Public Event in Nanterre, France (June 2025) and participation with an exhibition booth at the Security Research Event (SRE) 2025 in Warsaw, Poland. Addressed in Sections 3.1 and 3.2.
RESM5.2	Number of special sessions co-organized within international conferences	At least 2	2	Target met by co-organizing the BDA4FCT workshop at IEEE BigData 2023 and the 2nd BDA4FCT workshop at

				IEEE BigData 2024. Addressed in Section 3.2.
RESM5.3	Number of peer-reviewed publications	At least 5 per year	~11 per year	The consortium published 33 peer-reviewed scientific outputs, including conference papers, journal articles, and datasets. The full list is provided in Table 4 of Section 3.3.
RESM5.4	Number of followers in social networks	More than 100 new ones per year	156 per year	The project's social media channels (LinkedIn, Facebook, X/Twitter) achieved a cumulative total of 468 followers by M36. Addressed in Section 2.2.
RESM5.5	Number of new subscribers to the newsletter	More than 50 per year	~31 per year	The Community mailing list, which serves as the newsletter's subscriber base, grew to 92 members by M36. Addressed in Section 2.5 and 4.1.
RESM5.6	Number of PhD students funded by Ceasefire	At least 3	3	Target is met.
RESM5.7	Number of unique visitors to the website	more than 2000 per year	2100 per year	The project website received approximately 6,200 unique visitors between M3 and M36, averaging over 2,000 per year. Addressed in Section 2.1.
RESM5.8	Number of newsletters issued	At least one every 3 months	8	Eight newsletters were published and disseminated between M5 and M35, exceeding the target frequency. Addressed in 2.5.
RESM5.9	Free trials for general public	At least 4	4	Free trials and hands-on demonstrations were offered during the CEASEFIRE Public Event, SRE 2025, the EMPACT demo session, and the Hands-on workshop on the Criminal Event Analysis Suite. Addressed in Section 3.
RESM5.10	Stakeholder organizations in the Ceasefire community	>40	45	The CEASEFIRE Stakeholder Network

				includes 45 distinct organizations, comprising 18 internal and 27 external entities. Addressed in Section 4.1.
RESM5.11	Number of relevant LEA communities to connect	at least 5 (e.g. ENLETS, I-LEAD, ILEAnet, EFE, CYCLOPES)	12	Of the 27 external organizations in the Stakeholder Network, 12 are identified as key LEA user communities, international organizations, and established bodies. Addressed in Section 4.1.
RESM5.12	Cooperation/liaison with at least 5 projects from the 1st year of the project	5 projects	7	The project established and maintained collaboration with 7 Sister Projects: CTC, TRACE, Anti-FinTer, ARIZONA, CosmoPort, BAG-INTEL, and VIGILANT. Addressed in Section 4.2.
RESM5.13	Report on lessons learned	N/A	N/A	Addressed in D9.5.
RESM5.14	Comprehensive study on market analysis, economic impact and exploitation potential	N/A	N/A	Addressed in D9.7.
RESM5.15	Business plans available for all identified exploitable assets	N/A	N/A	Addressed in D9.7.

6. Conclusions

CEASEFIRE’s outreach strategy evolved from an initial “set-up and awareness” phase (M1–M18) to a “evidence-backed uptake” period in its final months (M19–M36). By maintaining a consistent presence on its website, social media, and through impactful events, the project effectively engaged a diverse group of stakeholders. This final report reviews the project’s performance against its communication objectives, highlighting key achievements and lessons for future initiatives.

The project met or exceeded most of its Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Successes included holding the targeted number of public events and special sessions, significantly surpassing the annual goal for scientific publications, and building a larger-than-expected stakeholder community. However, the newsletter subscriber KPI (RESM5.5) was not met, with only about 31 new subscribers per year, below the target of over 50. This was due to a strategic decision to prioritize content relevance by aligning newsletter releases with major project milestones, which enhanced quality but limited publication frequency. Future projects should combine major, content-rich newsletters with lighter, more frequent updates to maintain engagement and boost subscriber growth.

Operationally, the security clearance workflow managed by TRI and the Project Security Officer (PSO) was crucial and effective, ensuring all public materials were suitable for a security-sensitive project and maintaining stakeholder trust. The Stakeholder Network successfully connected the project with 45 distinct organizations but also identified an opportunity for deeper engagement through targeted member segmentation.

Looking ahead, the project leaves a lasting legacy. Insights from live demos and pilot events provide concrete evidence for exploitation owners, while established communication channels (website, social media, YouTube) are ready to support post-grant visibility. These findings validate the outreach approach and offer lessons on balancing content frequency, maintaining security governance, and enhancing community engagement to sustain CEASEFIRE’s impact beyond its conclusion.