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MONEY-LAUNDERING AND GLOBALIZATION

Nowadays, the development of information and communication technologies makes it possible to move money quickly and easily anywhere in the world. This is the main reason why advanced and emerging economies face financial problems such as money flow regulation, financial system abuse and the ability to launder money secretly and unimpeded. Whenever a criminal activity generates substantial profits, individuals must find ways to hide, control, and legalize the funds without grabbing any attention from legal authorities. Criminals are forced to do all these activities so that their criminal activities are not tracked and all ties are eliminated.

Moreover, money must be legal in order to make it usable and transferable and not allow the police to track it. Money laundering is a global problem all over the world whereas it happens in every country. Criminals are constantly improving their skills in money laundering, and the globalization of such processes continues. Legalization of proceeds of crime in ways that threaten the economic security of any country, it is of a global nature because various money laundering schemes are transnational in nature and have links to organized crime such as drug dealing, financial fraud, the slave trade and the financing of terrorism.

There are many criminal schemes, but each involves the transfer of money through various channels and the use of financial transactions to conceal the origin of money. Most frequently used instrument by money launderers is banking institution as these institutions can provide multiple services such as deposit, cashier check, deposit box, loan, acceptance, discount, foreign exchange, settlement, and like [2]. Along with the money-laundering banks traditionally used, e-money systems are becoming more popular. These institutions also provide easy means of transferring money or assets into another institutions or different branch of same institution in different geographical region with different regulations. With global economy and integrated financial markets, transferring funds across

international borders is convenient and fast. Many countries have rigid bank secrecy laws allowing anonymous fund transfers. This creates an easy way for criminals to transfer money into other countries, and eventually cover up or conceal the nature or source of illegally obtained funds [2].

The money laundering process has three stages, that is placement, layering and integration.

1. Placement is the first stage of money laundering where launderer invests in one or more foreign bank accounts. The main purpose of the employee is to withdraw money from the place of receipt and transfer it to various forms, which are common to foreign accomplices and unusual for use by the population of the country where the offender stole the money.

2. Layering is important step of money laundering. At this stage, money is converted into various forms of currency, real estate and assets. Most often, money laundering is done through offshore banks, alternative banking services (money transfer on trust), smuggling, shell companies (this is a company that does not provide services, but is not really designed for illegal money transfer) and insurance agencies. Money laundering scheme usually involves combination of these methods. Layering ultimately makes the origin of money untraceable and is the most complex step in illegal money laundering scheme [2].

3. Integration is the final and most important stage, because of the offender was not caught during the previous two stages, it will be very difficult to do so in the third.

As there are many people who want to get money illegally and money laundering has become a global concern and that the governments worldwide have started to create agencies to fight it, their efficiency is still being challenged [3]. Information technology development is a big help in money laundering, but it is also positive for those who are struggling with the problem, as the most advanced technologies and programs make it possible to check payments. Combating money laundering has become an international priority. Most countries' constitutions and laws contain articles about liability for corruption. In addition, legal representatives from the state are trying to cover as much as possible information about the perpetration of criminal activity and the punishment of a person caught for committing a crime and they encourage people to report criminal or suspicious activity. In their view, this will help to stop the development of crimes in the financial sphere.

Money laundering exists almost everywhere in globe. This factor makes combating money laundering difficult because criminals can easily transfer money to anywhere in the world, thereby spreading criminal activity. The more countries and people involved in money laundering, the

harder it is to expose the crime and stop it. But fortunately, law-abiding persons are more than criminals and this does not make it possible for crime to become universal.

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ILLICIT TRADE IN SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons occurs in all parts of the globe but is concentrated in areas afflicted by armed conflict, violence, and organized crime, where the demand for illicit weapons is often highest. Arms trafficking fuels civil wars and regional conflicts; stocks the arsenals of terrorists, drug cartels, and other armed groups; and contributes to violent crime and the proliferation of sensitive technology.

Black market trafficking usually takes place on a regional or local level; publicly available data suggests that the multi-ton, inter-continental shipments organized by the ‘merchants of death’ account for only a small fraction of illicit transfers. Among the most important forms of illicit trafficking is the ‘ant trade’—numerous shipments of small numbers of weapons that, over time, result in the accumulation of large numbers of illicit weapons by unauthorized end users. Analyzed data indicates that thousands of firearms seized in Mexico are traced to the United States annually. These weapons are often purchased from gun shops in small numbers and then smuggled over the border. While individual transactions occur on a small scale, the sum total of the weapons trafficked into Mexico is large.

While most arms trafficking appears to be conducted by private entities, certain governments also contribute to the illicit trade by deliberately arming proxy groups involved in insurgencies against rival governments, terrorists with similar ideological agendas, or other non-state