

## Organizational Attributes Sheet – Albanian Drug Trafficking Group (dubbed ‘Motorino’ Group)

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<b>A. When the organization was formed + brief history</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information not found.</li></ul>
<b>B. Types of illegal activities engaged in,</b>
a. In general
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Drug Trafficking</li></ul>
b. <i>Specific detail: types of illicit trafficking activities engaged in</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Drug Trafficking – responsible from mailing and/or transporting cocaine from Central/South America and Caribbean to Europe; group appears to make particular use of Panama<sup>1</sup></li></ul>
<b>C. Scope and Size</b>
a. Estimated size of network and membership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Remains unknown, although the Albanian Prosecution for Serious Crimes and the state police announced that the ‘Motorino’ investigation revealed “a network of people involved in the trafficking of cocaine from Latin America to Albania.”<sup>2</sup> While this could refer more to structure of the organization, it could also indicate respectable size, especially given the group’s operating areas, which are geographically spread.</li></ul>
b. Countries / regions group is known to have operated in. (i.e. the group’s operating area)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Panama, United States, Albania, Italy<sup>3</sup></li></ul>
<b>D. Leader Characteristics</b>
a. Who is/are the leader(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information not found.</li></ul>
b. Leadership timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information not found.</li></ul>
c. Leadership style (autocratic, diffuse, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information not found.</li></ul>
<b>E. Organizational Structure</b>
a. Topology (cellular, hierarchical, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information not found.</li></ul>
b. Membership – is there formal or informal membership in the organization or network? What role do informal or nonmembers play in trafficking and other criminal activities?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information not found.</li></ul>
c. Command and Control (decentralized or centralized)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information not found.</li></ul>
<b>F. Resources</b>
a. Financial
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information not found.</li></ul>
b. Human
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The group did have a member (formal or informal) who acted as a mail courier from within the United States (see “Activities in the United States” below). However, given that Albanian authorities noted the discovery of a “network of people” involved, there are likely additional different roles and specializations within the group to increase its effectiveness and success, although information regarding this is not available in open</li></ul>

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.

All research conducted according to the project manual.

	source.
c.	Logistical
	i. Forgery, safe-houses, etc.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
	ii. Key routes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central/South America/Caribbean – United States – Europe</li> </ul>
d.	Transportation
	i. Land
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
	ii. Sea
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
	iii. Air
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least on one occasion utilized (or attempted to utilize) commercial air transportation to move drugs from United States to Europe – see “Concealment” below.</li> </ul>
	iv. Intermodal container
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
<b>G. Trafficking Methods and Modalities</b>	
a.	Corruption
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
b.	Concealment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group was found to have hidden 1kg of cocaine in a package with fake shipping details and tucked inside an engine starter.<sup>4</sup> This discovery was made at Miami airport and, in coordination with U.S. and Italian authorities, in what Albanians authorities dubbed the ‘Motorino’ (engine starter) operation, the shipment was allowed to continue in transit in order to apprehend three individuals picking up package in Albania (see below – “Other Notes”)</li> </ul>
c.	Deception
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
d.	Circumvention (avoiding border entry points)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
<b>H. Prior / Existing Relationships</b>	
a.	Other criminal organizations (cooperative and conflictual)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
b.	Corrupt politicians, law enforcement , political parties and other state entities, etc.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
c.	<i>Specific detail: Any alliances / past dealings with terrorist groups.</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
<b>I. Ideological / Ethnic / Familial Orientation (if any)</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul>
<b>J. Technical Sophistication</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Although the true degree of technical sophistication of this group remains unknown in open source information, what is known is that three arrested members who were responsible for receiving the drug shipment in Albania were first detected and subsequently traced by the phone calls they made to one another.<sup>5</sup> While this cannot be used to generalize the group’s technical sophistication (or perhaps lack of), it seems likely that the group does not retain a high degree of technical sophistication and/or operational security (OPSEC) measures.</li> </ul>

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.  
All research conducted according to the project manual.

<b>K. Penchant for Innovation</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No information.</li> </ul>
<b>L. Activities in United States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Includes both criminal and non-criminal activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Logistical: Trans-shipment/courier activities</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. <i>Specific detail: trafficking activities ; logistical activities</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Logistical – a foreign citizen who took care of mailing the drugs to the United States using a fast courier has been declared wanted in the U.S.<sup>6</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>c. Linkages with US groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Market/transaction links <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>ii. Stable supplier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>iii. Franchise arrangement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>iv. HQ and Branch office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>M. Evaluations</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul> </li> <li>b. Weaknesses and vulnerabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group’s OPSEC measures are almost certainly low and could be exploited for further information and/or mitigation (see “Technical Sophistication” above).</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. Additional insights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not enough information to justify additional insights.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Other Notes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ilia Xoxe, Arben Uku, and Ervin Tushe (all from Albania) were arrested in connection with the trafficking – all had been the intended receivers in Albania of the concealed drug package.<sup>7</sup></li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> “Albanian Police Operation Uncovers Panamanian Drug Trafficking Network,” Tirana *Albania*, November 23, 2010, OSC: EUP20101123005016.; and “Albanian Prosecutors Crack Down on Panama-Albania Cocaine Trafficking,” Tirana *Shqip*, November 26, 2010, OSC: EUP20101126005011.

<sup>2</sup> “Albanian Police Operation Uncovers Panamanian Drug Trafficking Network,” OSC: EUP20101123005016.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> “Albanian Prosecutors Crack Down on Panama-Albania Cocaine Trafficking,” OSC: EUP20101126005011.

<sup>6</sup> “Albanian Police Operation Uncovers Panamanian Drug Trafficking Network,” OSC:

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.