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Most of Europe's most-wanted criminals are women – 22nd October, 2019

Level 4

Eighteen of Europe's 21 most-wanted fugitives are women. The crime agency Europol said the suspects, who are on the run, are accused of charges like murder, human trafficking and robbery. Europol's "Crime has no gender" campaign said: "People think these crimes are not committed by women, but they are. They are equally as serious as those committed by men." However, a crime expert said women commit serious crime "far less frequently than men".

Europol wants to raise awareness, "that women are just as likely to commit violent crimes as men". It said: "Women can be just as bad." Europol asked: "Are women equally as capable of committing serious crimes as men?" It said the female fugitives on Europe's Most Wanted website prove that they are [capable]. It added that criminals of both genders are wanted, "for grave offenses like murder...fraud, theft and trafficking in human beings".

Level 5

Most of the most-wanted fugitives in Europe are women. Europe's crime agency Europol said 18 of 21 criminals who are on the run from the authorities are women. The suspects are accused of a range of charges including murder, human trafficking and robbery. Europol has a "Crime has no gender" campaign. It said: "People think that usually these crimes are not being committed by women, but they are, and they are equally as serious as those committed by men." However, a crime expert said: "Some women do commit serious crimes. They do so far less frequently than men."

Europol hopes to raise awareness, "that women are just as likely to commit violent crimes as men." It said: "Even though the discourse is often around male fugitives, women can be just as bad." The campaign website asks: "Are women equally as capable of committing serious crimes as men?" It answers that question, stating: "The female fugitives featured on Europe's Most Wanted website prove that they are [capable]. Criminals of both genders in this new campaign by EU law enforcement are all wanted for grave offenses like murder...fraud, theft and trafficking in human beings."

Level 6

The majority of the most-wanted fugitives in Europe are women. Europe's crime agency Europol has revealed a list of 21 criminals who are on the run from the authorities. Eighteen of these are women. The wanted suspects have been accused of a range of charges including murder, human and drug trafficking and robbery. The most-wanted list was released as part of Europol's "Crime has no gender" campaign. A spokeswoman said: "People think that usually these crimes are not being committed by women, but they are, and they are equally as serious as those committed by men." However, a crime expert told the BBC that: "Some women do commit serious crimes. They do so far less frequently than men."

The Europol campaign hopes to raise awareness, "that women are just as likely to commit violent crimes as men." A spokeswoman said: "Even though the discourse is often around male fugitives, women can be just as bad." The campaign's website asks visitors the question: "Are women equally as capable of committing serious crimes as men?" It then answers that very question by stating: "The female fugitives featured on Europe's Most Wanted website prove that they are [capable]. The criminals - of both genders - in this new campaign by EU law enforcement are all wanted for grave offenses like murder, drug trafficking, fraud, theft and trafficking in human beings."