"Crime Without Punishment." The Economist (August 28, 1999). Notes: Available full-text on Lexis-Nexis. Abstract: The latest money-laundering scandal in New York confirms that the evil of organized crime is woven into Russian life—and that it is starting to infect the rest of the world. Dirty money makes the criminal underworld go round. Between $500 billion and $1.5 trillion (or 5% of gross world product) may be laundered every year, according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Now it seems some of the IMF’s own cash may be involved. Along with several leading banks, it is embroiled in what may prove the biggest-ever case of money-laundering.

"The Makings of a Molotov Cocktail." The Economist 344, no. 8025 (July 12, 1997): p. S4(3). Notes: Available full-text on InfoTrac. Abstract: The Russian economy has contracted eight years in a row, and 22% of Russians are now living below the poverty line. Organized crime and corruption have infiltrated even legitimate business, making a few rich at the expense of the vast majority.

"Redfellas: Organized Crime." The Economist 342, no. 8008 (March 15, 1997): 31(2). Notes: Available full-text on InfoTrac. Abstract: A new wave of organized crime in Florida is allegedly being perpetrated by Russian immigrants. An investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration shows that cocaine has been shipped from Ecuador to Florida via St. Petersburg, Russia. The FBI is also investigating illegal gambling, arms sales and prostitution.

"Russian-Organized Crime Groups Pose Threat to U.S. Business." O'Dwyer's PR Services Report (January 2000): p. 24. Notes: Available full-text on Lexis-Nexis. Abstract: The U.S. and Russian governments are probing whether Russian clients laundered $7 billion through the venerable Bank of New York, which highlights the need for companies to protect themselves from infiltration by the Russian mob, according to Dick Coffman, a CIA veteran who now heads Coffman Global Group. Further, the U.S. Government has reported there are 200 large, sophisticated crime groups in Russia, some with worldwide networks. The FBI has identified 35 Russian crime groups operating in this country.

"Streamlined for Success (Organized Crime Syndicates Become More Efficient, More Global and More Profitable)." The Economist 344, no. 8038 (October 11, 1997): p. 29(2). Notes: Available full-text on InfoTrac. Abstract: According to a report recently released by the Chicago Crime Commission, organized crime has gone through many of the same changes of corporate America. Today's crime syndicates, like the Fortune 500, are leaner, more global, more technically sophisticated—and more profitable--than they have ever been.

This bibliography is a representative selection of materials either owned or on order by the FBI Academy Library. Inclusion of an item does not represent an endorsement by the FBI of the material or its author.

"Trafficking in Women." U.S. News & World Report 122, no. 13 (April 7, 1997): p. 38(4). Abstract: Russian women who have answered want ads promising modeling and other careers abroad have instead been sold into prostitution. The indentured sex slavery trade is a huge organized crime facet in Russia, and more of these women are turning up in the U.S.

establishing laws that permit arrest and conviction of groups, frustrating or slowing money laundering schemes, and establishing a version of the Federal Witness Security Program. A majority of Russian citizens must believe these changes are possible and work to make them happen.


Calabresi, Massimo. "The Dons of the East: A Growing Wave of Organized Crime Moves Westward From the Ex-Communist Countries of Eastern Europe." Time International (November 30, 1998): p. 20. Notes: Available full-text on InfoTrac. Abstract: Organized crime has been proliferating in Eastern Europe. It is relatively easy for criminal organizations to set up in the former Soviet-block countries. Gangs traffic in oil, drugs, cigarettes, prostitution, weapons, car theft, extortion, and money laundering. Criminal organizations appear to be investing in communities and may want to become part of the legitimate power structure as the countries enter the European Union. The FBI created an academy in Budapest in 1995 to train local police in methods to deal with organized crime.


Condon, Christopher. "Europe Go West, Young Thug (Russian Crime Organizations Escalate Violence and Vie for Legitimacy in Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic)." Business Week (December 7, 1998): p. 18. Abstract: Russian and Ukrainian mobsters have been at work in Central and Eastern Europe. Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic are on the cusp of joining the European Union and criminal organizations are trying to establish shell companies to give them legitimacy in these countries as they become a gateway to the west. Agents from the U.S. and the United Kingdom are concerned with combating these organizations.

Dempsey, Gary T. and Aaron Lukas. "Is Russia Controlled by ORGANIZED CRIME?" USA Today (Magazine) 127, no. 2648 (May 1999): p. 32. Notes: Available full-text on InfoTrac. Abstract: Russia's struggle with developing a democracy and a free market economy has been hindered with an explosion of organized crime activity. It is estimated that there are more than 9,000 criminal organizations operating in the country that offer employment to more than 100,000 people. This translates into the need for four out of every five businesses requiring special security protection.


Frisby, Tanya. "The Rise of Organised Crime in Russia: Its Roots and Social Significance." Europe-Asia Studies 50, no. 1 (January 1998): p. 27(23). Notes: Available full-text on InfoTrac. Abstract: Organized crime in Russia began to increase rapidly in the early 1990s in the wake of several factors, including the working class' dissatisfaction with declining standards of living and the poor's hatred towards the state for betraying them. Furthermore, the rapid privatization of national wealth caused many rich individuals to rely on private protection services to protect their wealth from the government which has the power to acquire all their property by a single state decree. Unfortunately, law enforcement agencies have become fragmented and are thus unable to implement effective crime control measures.


Handelman, Stephen. Comrade Criminal: Russia's New Mafiya. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1995. Call Number: HV 6453 .R8H36 1995. Abstract: This book on organized crime in Russia is based on interviews with more than 150 mobsters, police, political crusaders, former KGB agents, and ordinary citizens. It traces the roots of the criminal underworld to the marginal elements of society that have existed in Russia for centuries, and that, for the last 20 years of Soviet rule, became an integral part of the black-market economy. Since the demise of Soviet communism, organized crime has flourished and Russian organized crime groups have exported to America and other foreign cities guns, drugs and mob violence. This book emphasizes the detrimental effects crime has had on political and economic reforms in the former Soviet Union.

Komisar, Lucy. "Fool Me Twice: Russian Money Laundering Scheme." The Progressive 63, no. 12 (December 1999): p. 36. Notes: Available full-text on Lexis-Nexis. Abstract: The sudden attention by U.S. Government officials and the mainstream media to the $7 billion or more of Russian money laundered through the Bank of New York might make you think this is the first time that multi-millions have been stolen from Russia—or elsewhere—and washed through the international offshore system. In fact, it's not even the first time for the Bank of New York.

Kranz, Patricia and Margaret Coker. "The Tidal Wave of Cash Gushing Out of Russia." Business Week (September 13, 1999): p. 158. Abstract: A Russian money-laundering scandal is grabbing headlines around the world. That's no surprise, since it has all the elements of a juicy story: money, drugs, and sex. Investigators in Britain and the U.S. believe the Russian mafia has used the Bank of New York to smuggle as much as $10 billion out of Russia. Some of the laundered money comes from proceeds of activities such as contract murders, narcotics trafficking, and possibly prostitution, investigators say.

McGovern, G. P. "Growing Threat of Russian Organized Crime." Law and Order 47, no. 2 (February 1999): pp. 66-68. Abstract: This article reviews the history of organized crime groups in Russia and describes the threat of these groups in the United States as a result of the immigration of Russian and other eastern European criminals.

Nesterenko, Yuri. "This Scandal is Like Thunder Without Rain," Moscow News, (February 23, 2000), Section 7. Notes: Available full-text on Lexis-Nexis. Abstract: Semyon Mogilevich, probably the key figure in media reports on the scandal, describes the situation around the alleged Russian money laundering through the Bank of New York.


report has identified some of the dimensions of the problem: information superhighway vulnerability, counterfeiting of tender and credit cards, money laundering, trade in fissionable materials, drug trafficking and terrorism, Russian organized crime, and international gang activity. Unless we understand the nature and scope of today's problems, we cannot begin to counteract them.


Serio, Joe. "Russian Crime Threatens Foreign Investment." Crime & Justice International 13, no. 3 (April 1997): pp. 10-13. Abstract: The end of communism in the Soviet Union led to great expectations for foreign business interests as the gateway to one of the world’s largest untapped markets opened. Planning to cash in on what the Russians call their "Klondike," the gold rush, foreigners have encountered Russkaia deistvitel'nost (Russian reality) instead: extortion, fraud, and embezzlement, on a sophisticated and unprecedented scale.


Williams, Phil. "Drugs and Guns." The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists 55, no. 1 (January-February 1999). Notes: Available full-text on WilsonWeb. Abstract: Organized crime is frequently involved in more than one stage of an arms transaction. Gangs may be the initial suppliers of weapons, they may serve as traffickers or middlemen, and they also may be customers or end users. For organized crime, armaments are both commodities and tools of the trade. Globalization has facilitated the traffic in arms, and Russian criminal organizations are heavily involved in the arms market.

Zalisko, Walter. "Russian Organized Crime: Trafficking in Women, and the
Government's Response." Law and Order 47, no. 10(October 1999): pp. 219-27. Abstract: Due to the weakened economies and social structures of the newly independent countries of the former USSR, Ukraine and Russia in particular, these countries have become the latest targets for the recruitment of women and children into sexual slavery and as indentured servants. Zalisko examines this disturbing trend, and the growth of criminal operations in the U.S.
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