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The
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European Research Council
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Source: <https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/protected-birds-%C3%A0-la-carte-thousands-of-rare-birds-illegally-sold-for-gourmet-food-business-in-italy>



‘If it flies, it dies.’ – The illegal bird trade from the Western Balkans into the EU

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News > UK > Home News

Organised crime finds a new type of contraband: goldfinches

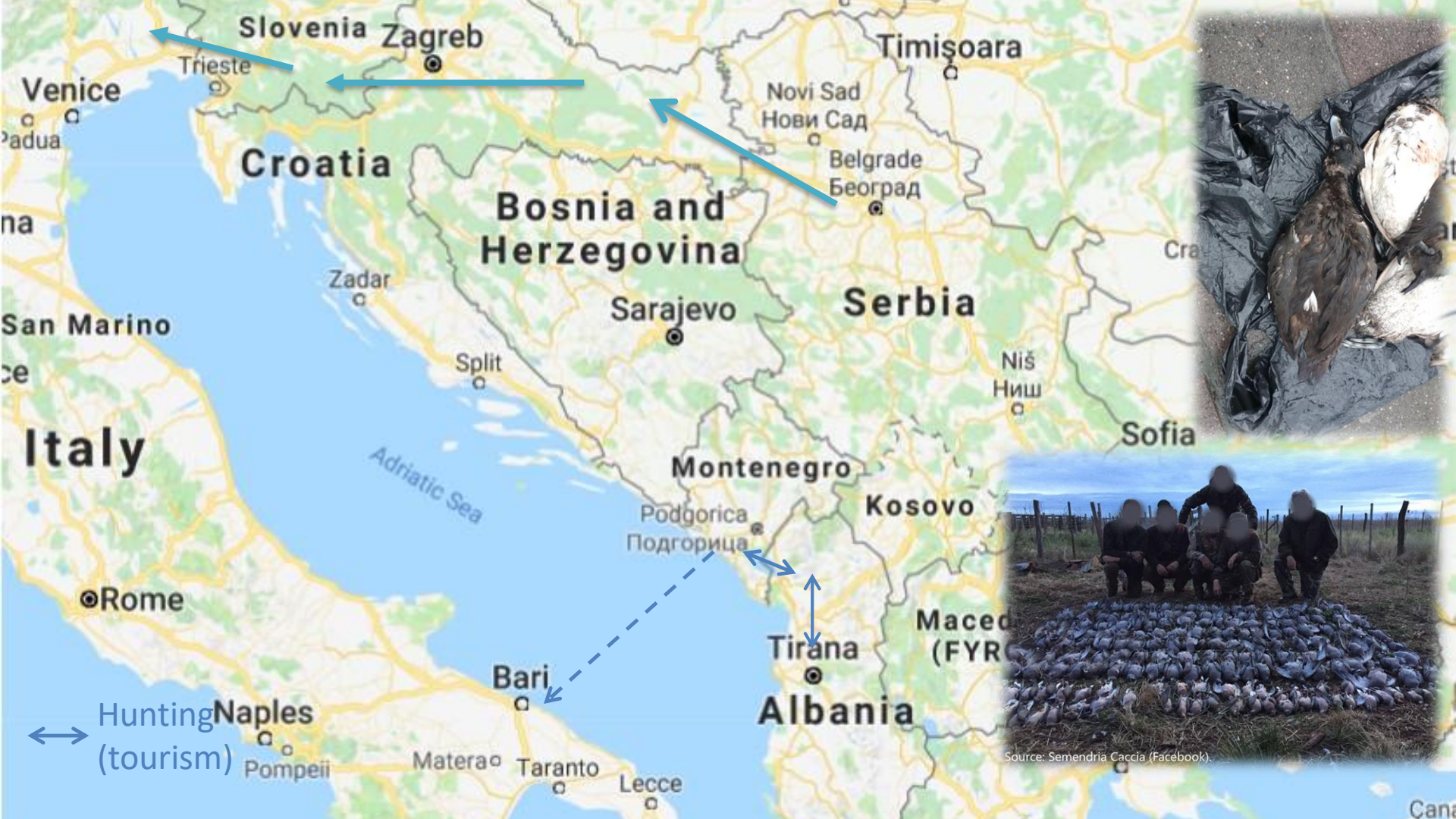
John Lichfield | Friday 6 May 2016 13:26 BST | 0 comments

Source: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/organised-crime-finds-a-new-type-of-contraband-goldfinches-a7016676.html>



- 11-36 million birds illegally killed or taken each year (BirdLife, 2015)
- Worth approx. €10 million per year (TRAFFIC, 2008)





Slovenia Zagreb

Venice

Trieste

Croatia

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Sarajevo

Serbia

Novi Sad
Нови Сад

Belgrade
Београд

Timișoara

Zadar

Split

Niš
Ниш

Sofia

Italy

Adriatic Sea

Montenegro

Kosovo

Podgorica
Подгорица

Tirana

Albania

Macedonia
(FYROM)

Bari

Naples

Pompeii

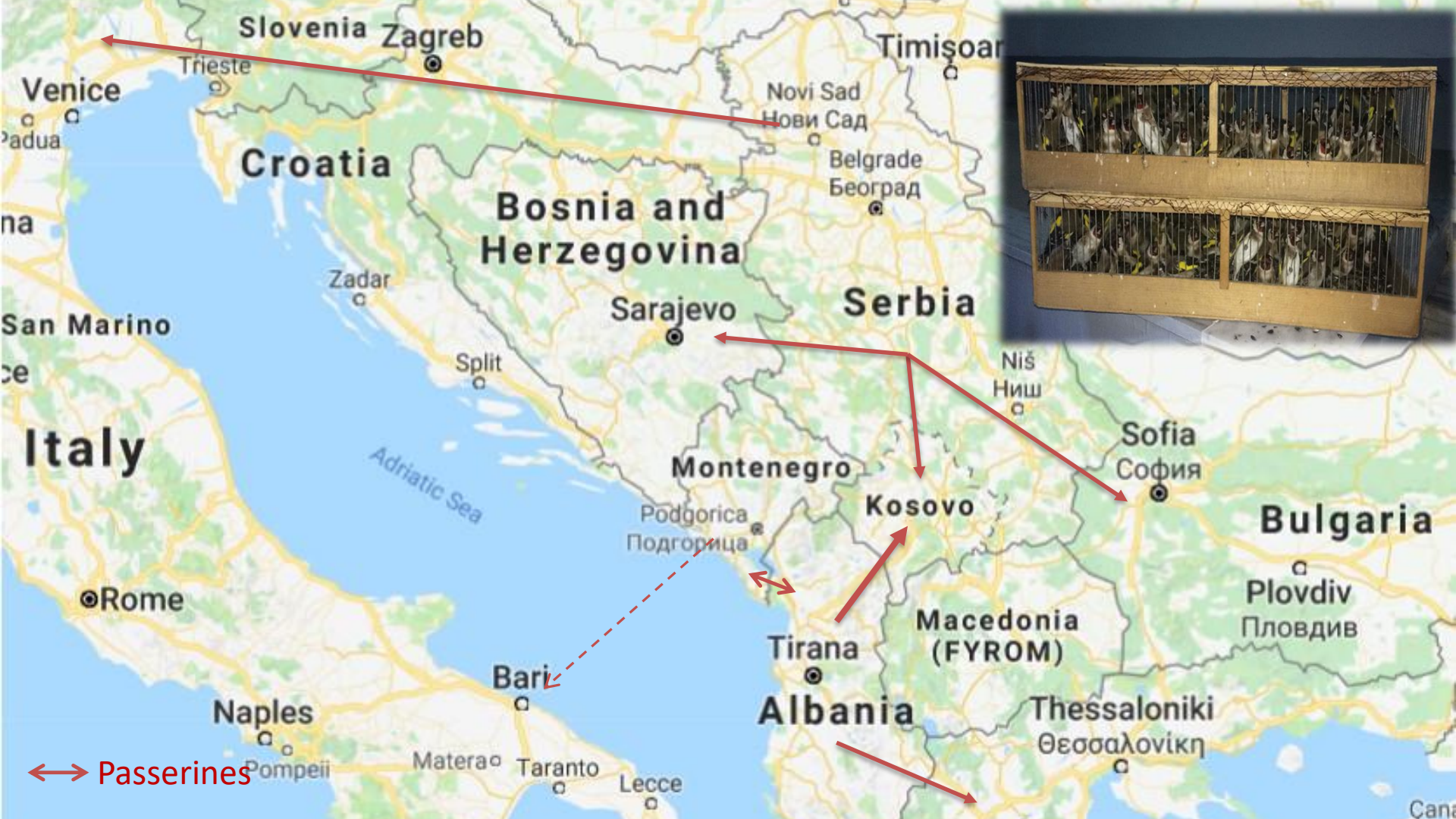
Matera

Taranto

Lecce

Hunting (tourism)

Source: Semendria Caccia (Facebook).



Drivers:

- a) Wealth and luxury
- b) Grey market



Outstanding questions:

How can we tackle EU demand for illegal bird products from the Western Balkans?

What role can EU institutions play in addressing the underlying drivers?





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