‘If it flies, it dies.’ –
The illegal bird trade from the Western Balkans into the EU
Organised crime finds a new type of contraband: goldfinches

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