

D36.4 Global environment and sources to monitor

PUBLIC SUMMARY ONLY (PS)

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1 Public summary

Weak signals are “imprecise early indications about an impending impactful event”, which in this context can be defined to be imprecise early indications of scenarios that threaten the public transportation system. Weak signals can be identified anywhere – this document reports the findings of an analysis of weak signals in the global environment. The global weak signals may be detected from political, economic, social, technological or environmental changes. Therefore, the important trends, which may have an impact on security of mass transport, are studied in order to find weak signals and their sources. Weak signals may lead to the detection of a damaging scenario and thus allow early warning and the possible prevention of the incident.

The changes and developments in all areas of life worldwide are very fast. It implies that the basically ancient human features to get motivated for an attack may arise due to new, even surprising, developments. The other important fact is that the knowledge transfer is ever faster, knowledge and information are available everywhere. Moreover, new materials, technologies, services, procedures and their integrations allow new preparedness solutions but also new types of attacks. Therefore, this report at its best can only reflect the current situation, which is changing continuously. In the future, the different phases of the damage scenario can materialize in new different ways than what can be foreseen now.

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