Operational use of Passenger Data:

Watchlisting,

Rule Based Targeting,

Historical Search.

Watchlisting

Is a process of using available data, tools and intelligence to identify KNOWN high-risk travelers…

…who may be inadmissible or may otherwise pose a national security threat based on the existence of critical information.

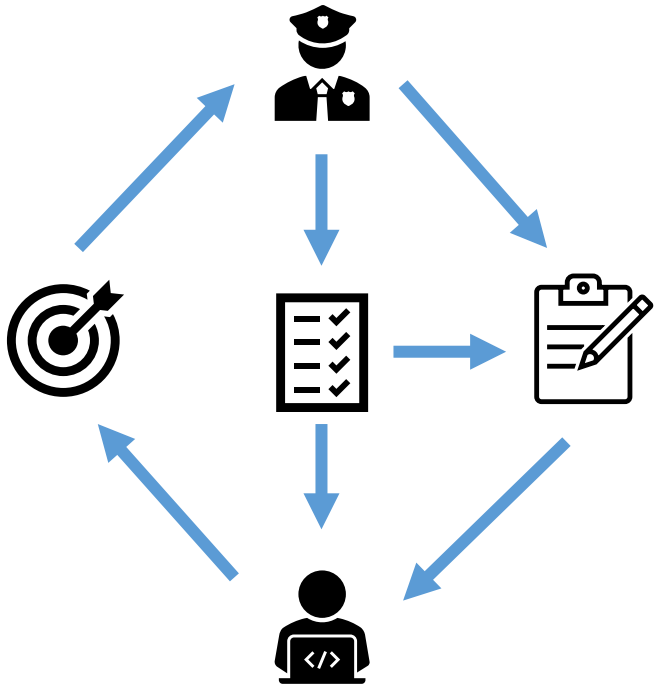
Rule Based Targeting

Targeting is also used for identifying high-risk travelers…

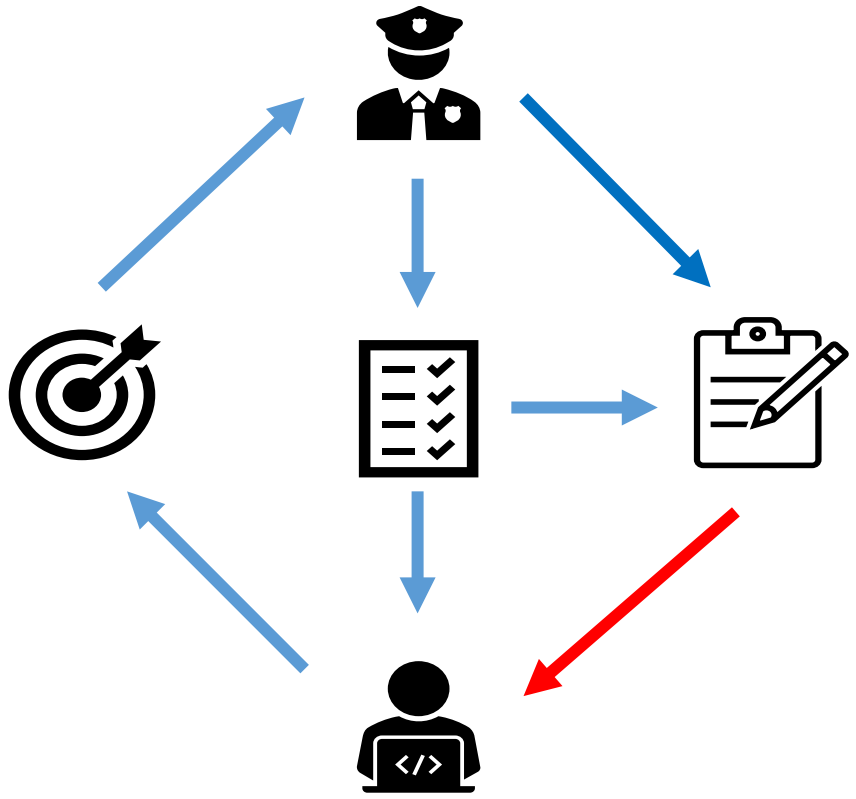
…for whom there are NO AVAILABLE critical information directly linking them to criminal activity but who may present a threat and thus justify additional research.

Watchlisting

A watchlist is a list of known or suspected terrorists or criminals that is made available to national law enforcement agencies and intergovernmental organizations for security-related screening and vetting purposes.



Intelligence cycle

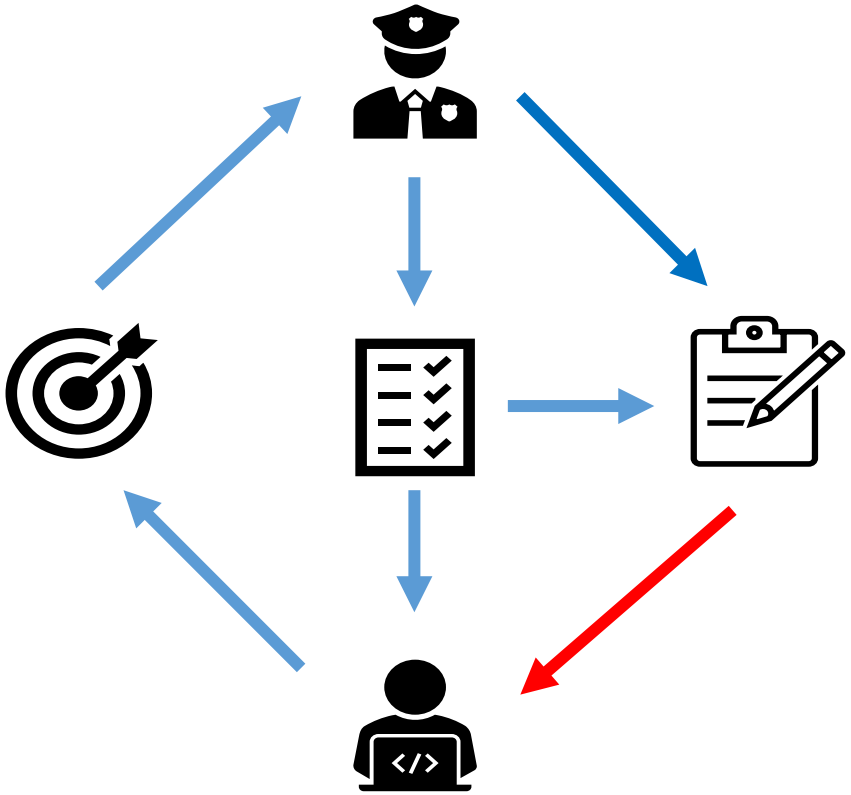


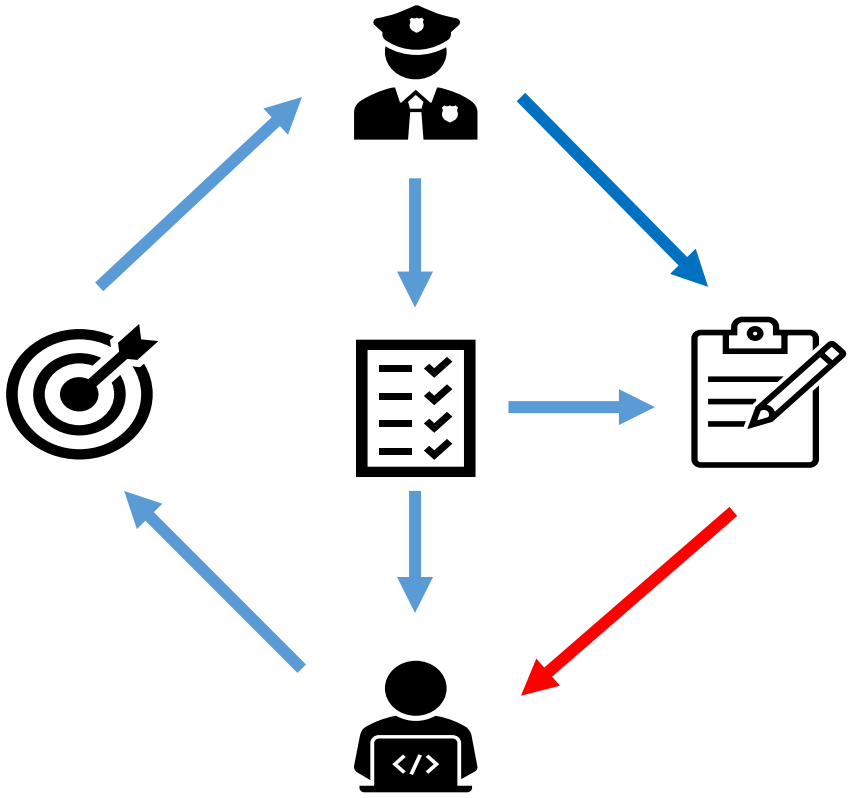
NEED FOR WATCHLISTING

- Known targets
  - Crime investigation
  - Intelligence operation
  - Sanction list
- Who will insert
  - Competent authorities
  - International organizations
- Different action to be taken
  - Arrest, surveillance, report etc.

ADDING TARGET ON THE WATCHLIST

- National databases
  - National legislation and processes
- International databases
  - INTERPOL databases, SIS II (EU), etc.
- Watchlist in the system
  - Inserting the target directly into the API and PNR system
  - Request from CA to be verified by PIU





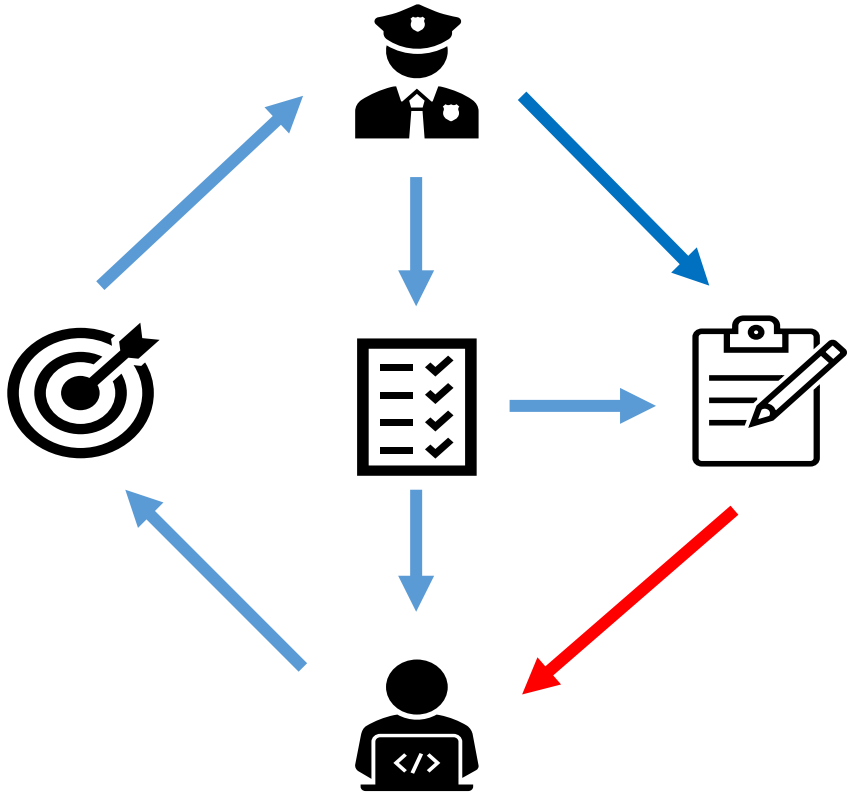
CROSS-CHECKING THE DATA

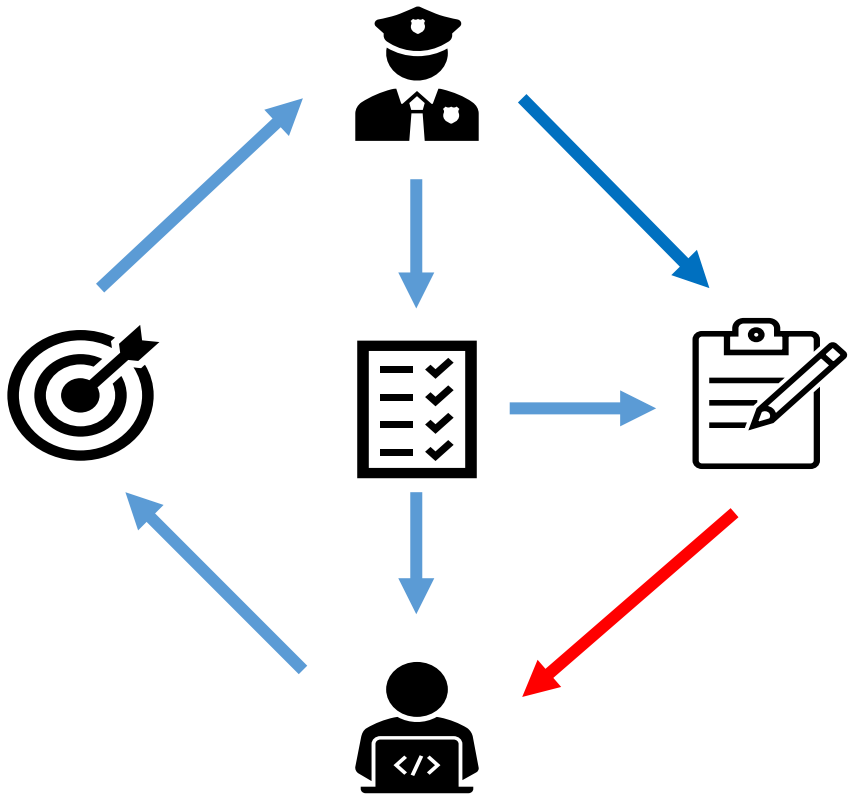
- API and PNR data is cross-checked against different watchlists
  - All different pushes of data
- Querying internal or external watchlists

CROSS-CHECKING CREATES MATCHES

- The matches are assessed manually
  - PIU or CA?
  - Other sources needed?

- Is the match allowed to be processed?
- MATCH → HIT
- De-confliction
  - If hit is with several different watchlists, which one is prioritized?



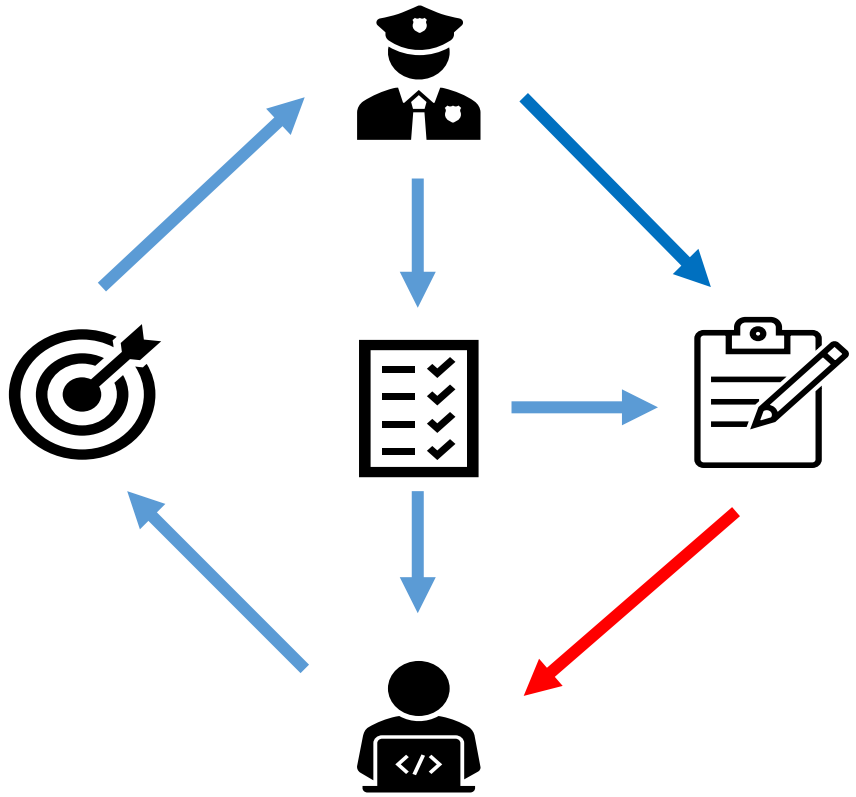


ACTIONS!

- Based on the hits shared
  - The final confirmation of hit will be done when authorities are in contact with the target
- Authority will use its powers based on the national legislation

FEEDBACK

- To the authority who watchlisted the target
- To the database
  - Based on the request
- To the PIU



Historical Search

- What is a Historical Search ?

- Intelligence Cycle for Historical Searches

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

INTERPOL

World Customs Organization
Organisation mondiale des douanes

AIRCOP CONTAINER CONTROL PROGRAMME

Duly reasoned requests from competent authorities (national and international) to request travel movements of known targets.

The answer could contain details of other persons linked to the target.

Duly reasoned requests could also include unknown targets to fit a specific criteria.

REQUEST

- Competent authority sends a request
  - National or international authorities
- Justified and proportional
  - Terrorism and serious crimes
  - Data re-personalization
- Request to the national PIU or to other countries
  (National PIU preferred)

VERIFYING THE REQUEST

- PIU verifies if the request can be accepted or not
  - If needed, more details should be asked from the requester
- PIU verifies if there are any other requests made before on the same target
  - De-confliction

DATABASE SEARCHES

- PIU searches the databases
- PIU makes the international requests to other PIUs
  - PIU-PIU requests are recommended
  - Cooperation with other SPOC if needed

SHARE OF RESULTS

- The results of the database searches should be shared
  - In understandable way
  - Allowing the use of data in other analysis software
- PIU could help the CA to interpreter the answer from other PIUs
- Can the data be used as evidence in the court?

DATA IS COLLATED WITH OTHER INFO

- The CA conduct the analysis with the data received
  - New requests if needed

FEEDBACK

- Feedback could be part of the new request
- Feedback is needed to improve the analysis conducted at the PIU

Watchlisting

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…who may be inadmissible or may otherwise pose a national security threat based on the existence of critical information.

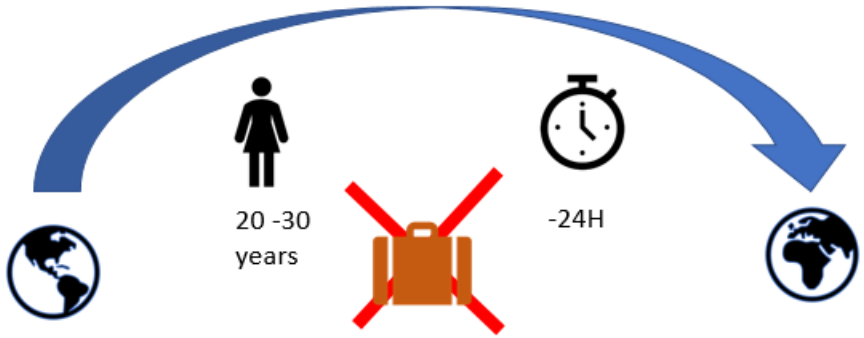
Rule Based Targeting

Targeting is also used for identifying high-risk travelers…

…for whom there are NO AVAILABLE critical information directly linking them to criminal activity but who may present a threat and thus justify additional research.

1) SCENARIO-BASED TARGETING

The process of identifying possible high-risk travelers using travel patterns or scenarios collected from intelligence, information, threat reporting and analysis of the travel and modus operandi of known suspects.



2) LIST-BASED TARGETING

The process of identifying possible high-risk travelers based on a connection to a data element contained within travel records that is associated with a watch listed suspect and/or critical information.

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime | INTERPOL | World Customs Organization Organisation mondiale des douanes | AIRCOP CONTAINER CONTROL PROGRAMME

3) AFFILIATE-BASED TARGETING

The process of identifying potentially high-risk travelers based on a direct or indirect affiliation with an individual for whom there is existing critical information.

Intelligence cycle

REQUEST

- Sponsor (CA) creates a request for a rule
  - From the profile of known suspect
  - From other intelligence or analysis
  - Required actions should be included

WHAT CAN THE PIU DO ?

- search for patterns within PNR data via algorithmic analysis tools. Once an algorithm has identified a pattern in past data, it can be used as the starting point for modelling criminal or terrorist phenomena that authorities had no prior knowledge of

- conduct targeted searches in archival PNR data to trace the past travel behavior of known offenders and find ‘clues’ about the modus operandi of criminal and terrorism networks

- Rules coming from other PIU’s → networking !

- hints provided by other authorities operating at the frontline of crime prevention and counterterrorism

CREATING THE RULE

PIU analyst creates the rule

- PNR (and API) data elements

The rule is tested and adjusted

- PNR data quality may limit
- Cooperation with the Sponsor

RULE IS APPROVED

- Prioritizing
  - National strategy
- Resources to handle the results
- De-confliction!
- The rule is approved for limited time period

RULE IS ACTIVATED

- The rule is active in the system and starts creating matches

RULE CREATES MATCHES

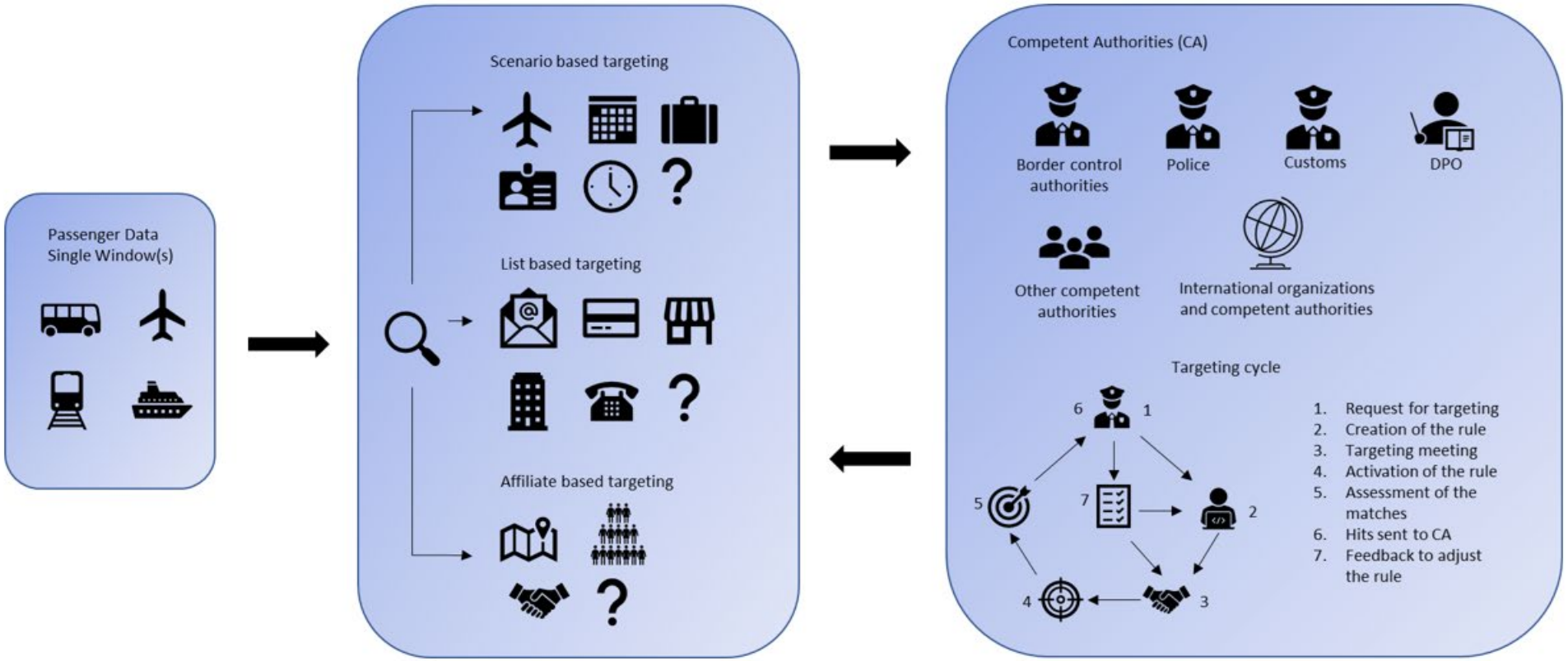
- The matches are assessed manually
  - PIU or Sponsor (CA)?
  - Other sources needed?
- MATCH → HIT

ACTIONS!

- Based on the hits shared
- Authority will use its powers based on the national legislation

FEEDBACK

- Sponsor sends feedback to the PIU
- Feedback is used to adjust the rule
- Feedback is also used to decide, if the rule should be de-activated


Passenger Data
Single Window(s)
Scenario based targeting
List based targeting
Affiliate based targeting
Competent Authorities (CA)
Border control authorities
Police
Customs
DPO
Other competent authorities
International organizations and competent authorities
Targeting cycle
1. Request for targeting
2. Creation of the rule
3. Targeting meeting
4. Activation of the rule
5. Assessment of the matches
6. Hits sent to CA
7. Feedback to adjust the rule

THANK YOU | QUESTIONS?

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