

## TRACIT Outlines Vulnerabilities to Illicit Trade along the Belt and Road

TRACIT deepens the organization's capacity to shape policy responses to illicit trade

London, UK, 5 July 2018 – Today, the Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT) contributed views on fighting illicit trade and counterfeiting during a session on “One Belt One Road,” during the conference on Intelligence Led Anti-Counterfeiting Enforcement Strategies from Asia to the UK.

*“Rapidly expanding economic and infrastructure connections are expanding the space for cross-border crime, but a fully operational framework on tackling cross-border crime does not yet exist,” said Jeffrey Hardy, TRACIT’s Director-General. “That why investment in facilities connectivity must be accompanied by equal investment in security and customs.”*

The conference was hosted by the UK’s Anticounterfeiting Group (ACG) and the Asian Coalition Against Counterfeiting and Piracy (ACACAP). The central topic of concern amongst the participating brand owners was the specter of increasing risks for illicit trade along the rapidly expanding Belt and Road Initiative.

*“There’s a need for models of cooperation by Customs agencies operating along the transport lines,” said Mr. Hardy. “Certainly, more effective methods of information-sharing and risk-management practices should be pursued, but we also need policy alignment on issues such as the treatment of goods in transit.”*

### About TRACIT

The Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade ([TRACIT](https://www.tracit.org)) is an independent, private sector initiative to drive change to mitigate the economic and social damages of illicit trade by strengthening government enforcement mechanisms and mobilizing businesses across industry sectors most impacted by illicit trade. TRACIT draws from industry strengths and market experience to build habits of cooperation between business, government and the diverse group of countries that have limited capacities for regulatory enforcement. Connecting and mobilizing businesses across industries, sectors and national borders makes it possible to achieve results more effectively than any single actor can accomplish alone.

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