



Knight, Chad. Blood of My Blood. 2010, Digital Art. The White Room Gallery. Bridgehampton, NY.



Insights Into Interpol's I-Familia DNA Database To Facilitate Missing Person Identifications In Africa

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INTERPOL DNA Unit
Lyon, France

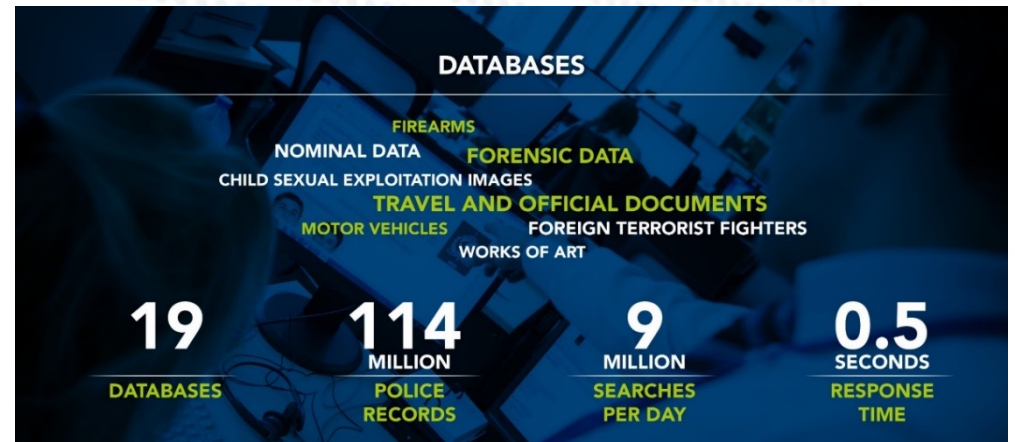


INTERPOL

International police cooperation via INTERPOL



- International organization established in 1923
- INTERPOL General Secretariat in Lyon, France
- Legal framework and technical infrastructure for secure international police data exchange (I-24/7)
- National Central Bureau in each member country





INTERPOL

INTERPOL Notices

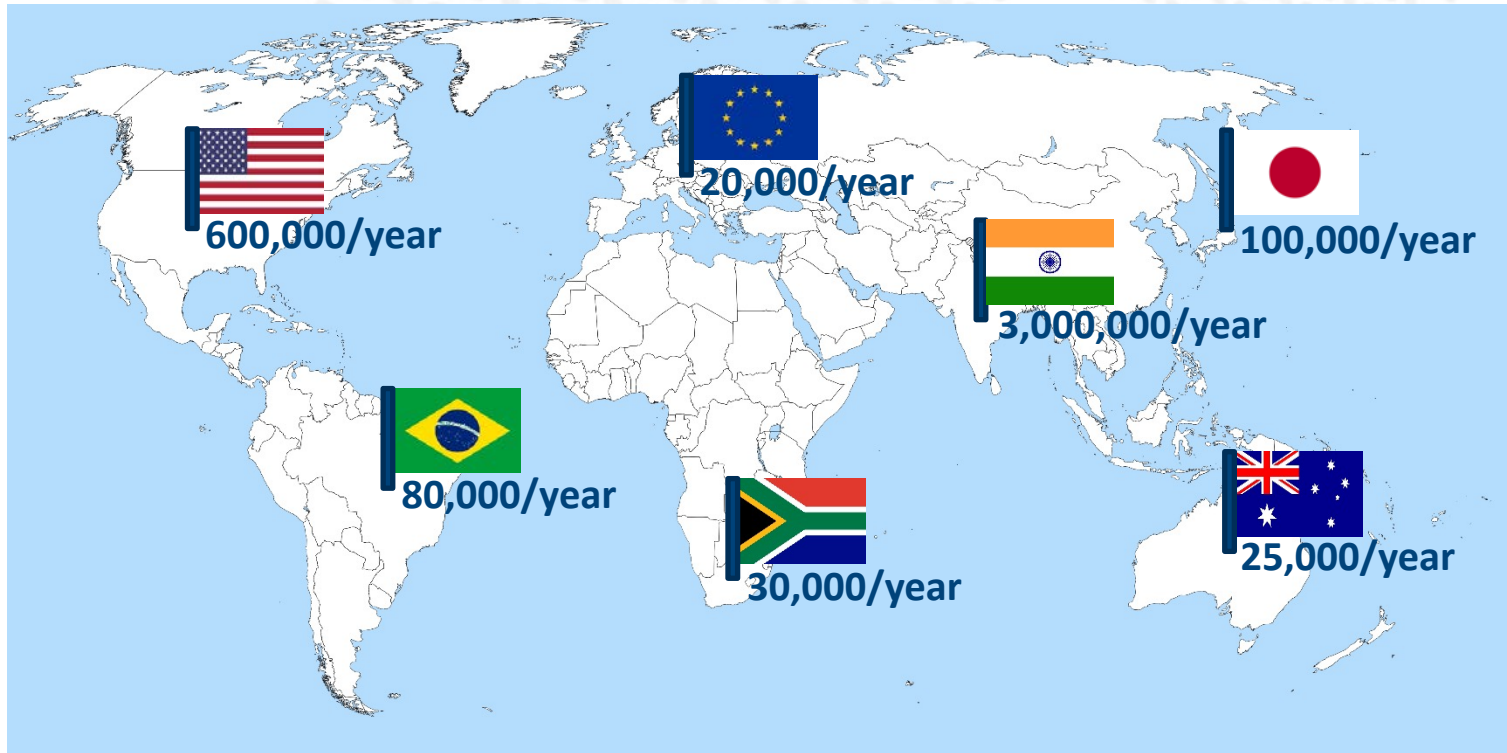


December 2022



INTERPOL

Missing persons: a global phenomenon



25% of missing person cases have a transnational dimension
(European Parliament 2016)



INTERPOL

INTERPOL Notices

INFORMATION CONCERNING AN UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

Control No.: D-124/10-2012

Requesting Country: Netherlands
File No.: 2012/338805
Date of Publication: 23 October 2012
Updated on: 3 June 2020



1. IDENTITY PARTICULARS



IDENTITY UNKNOWN

Sex: Female

Information pertaining to country of origin / nationality / Ethnic group / possible identity:

Some possible first names came to notice:

- * Carina;
- * Sue, a nurse from Derbyshire/GB who should move to Swiss in the years 1970-1980;
- * Irani (phon.) a Brazilian woman;
- * Maria a Colombian woman.

DNA profile: DNA profile available.

Physical description

Height (cm): 165

Distinguishing marks and characteristics:

Length 160 - 170 cm. Normal/Stout built.

The body was a little decomposed. No sick defects. The body has several cut and stab wounds.

Aged 25-45 / Height 1.60 m-1.70m

Normal stature / Wavy dark blond hair, shoulder length. Recently bleached / Shoe size 37- 37 ½ (4-4 ½)

Her uterus (womb) was surgically removed (scar on her abdomen)

Other personal effects:

The fingers of the victim were cut of so we do not have fingerprints but we are in the possession of prints of the palms of the hands.

2. DISCOVERY OF THE BODY

Discovery of the body

Town	Country	Date
AMSTERDAM	Netherlands	7 September 1992

Circumstances of discovery

Between September 6th and September 10th 1992, the bodyparts of a woman were found in the water and on the sidewalk of the canals: Lauriersgracht, Egelantiersgracht and Prinsengracht in Amsterdam/NL. Some of the bodyparts were put in a grey/blue suitcase (see pictures). The woman's head was not found.

Approximate age: 25 - 45 YEARS OLD

Estimated date of death: 1 September 1992

3. PURPOSE OF NOTICE

IDENTIFY

To be treated as a request to identify a body.

Please send any information available to NCB THE HAGUE Netherlands (NCB reference: KLR-U-2012048818 of 16 October 2012) and the ICPO - INTERPOL General Secretariat.

INTERPOL BLACK NOTICE

Control No.: D-124/10-2012

INTERPOL For official use only

Page 1/2

File No.: 2012/338805



Public Website :

<https://www.interpol.int/How-we-work/Notices/Yellow-Notices>

The screenshot shows the INTERPOL website's 'View Yellow Notices' page. The browser address bar displays the URL: <https://www.interpol.int/How-we-work/Notices/View-Yellow-Notices>. The page features a navigation menu with links for 'Who we are', 'Crimes', 'How we work', 'Our partners', 'What you can do', 'News', and 'Wanted persons'. A search bar is located in the top right corner.

On the left side, there is a 'Filter criteria' section with the following options:

- Family name:** [Text input field]
- Forename:** [Text input field]
- Nationality:** [Dropdown menu]
- Gender:** Radio buttons for 'All' (selected), 'Female', 'Male', and 'Unknown'.
- Current age:** Range selector from 0 to 120.
- Keyword:** [Text input field]
- SEARCH** button

The main content area displays the following information:

- Total number of public Yellow Notices in circulation: **7172**
- Search results: **7172**

Below this information, there are two rows of search results, each containing four notices. Each notice includes a small yellow 'INTERPOL YELLOW NOTICE' icon, a photograph, and the individual's name and details:

Notice 1	Notice 2	Notice 3	Notice 4
 AL-KARAWI ZAINAB ABDULKAREEM 13 years old Sweden	 SANTANA ANDRADE LUIS ALBERTO 23 years old Ecuador	 RODRIGUEZ AGUILAR MIRIAM ISABEL 22 years old	 RODRIGUEZ GALEAS JOSHUA ANAEL 1 years old

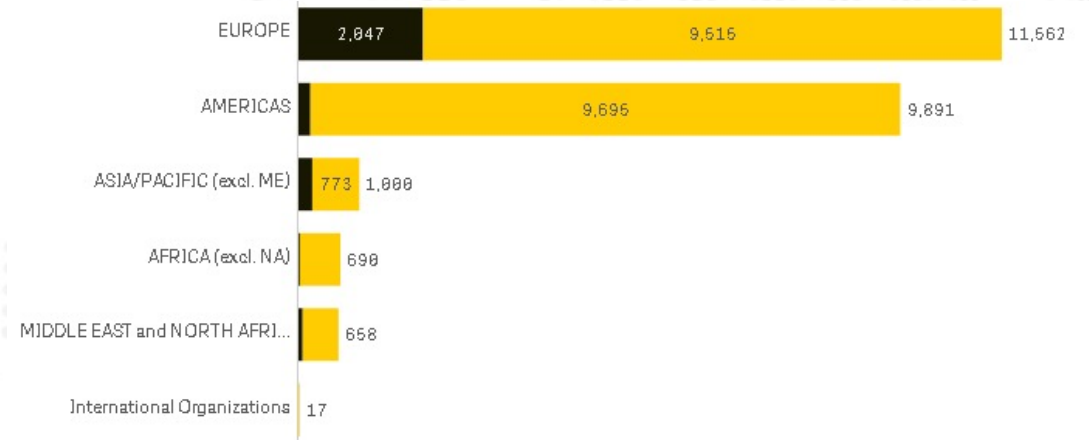
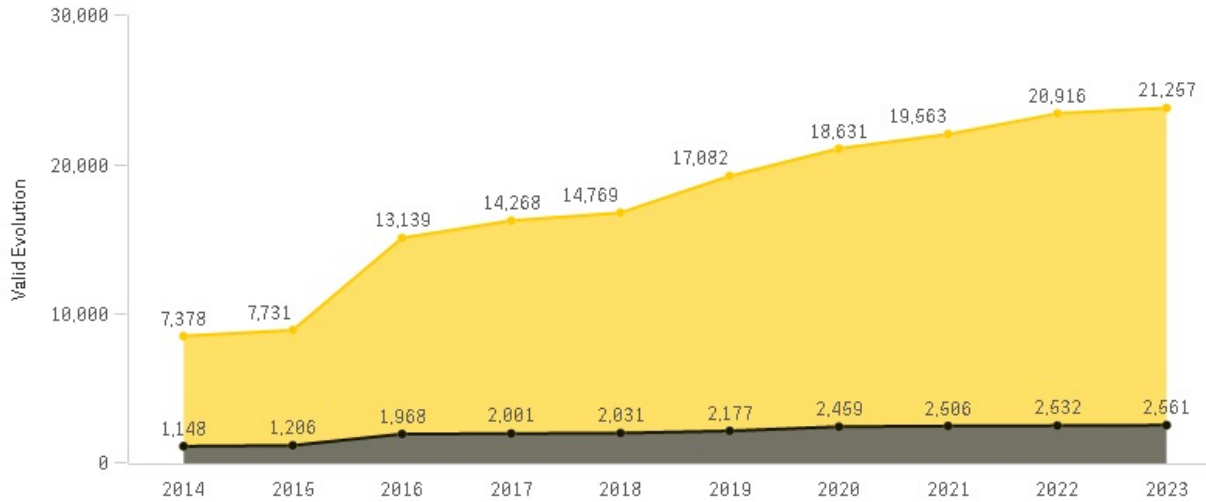
Notices and Diffusions



To help locate **missing persons**, often minors, or to help identify persons who are unable to identify themselves.



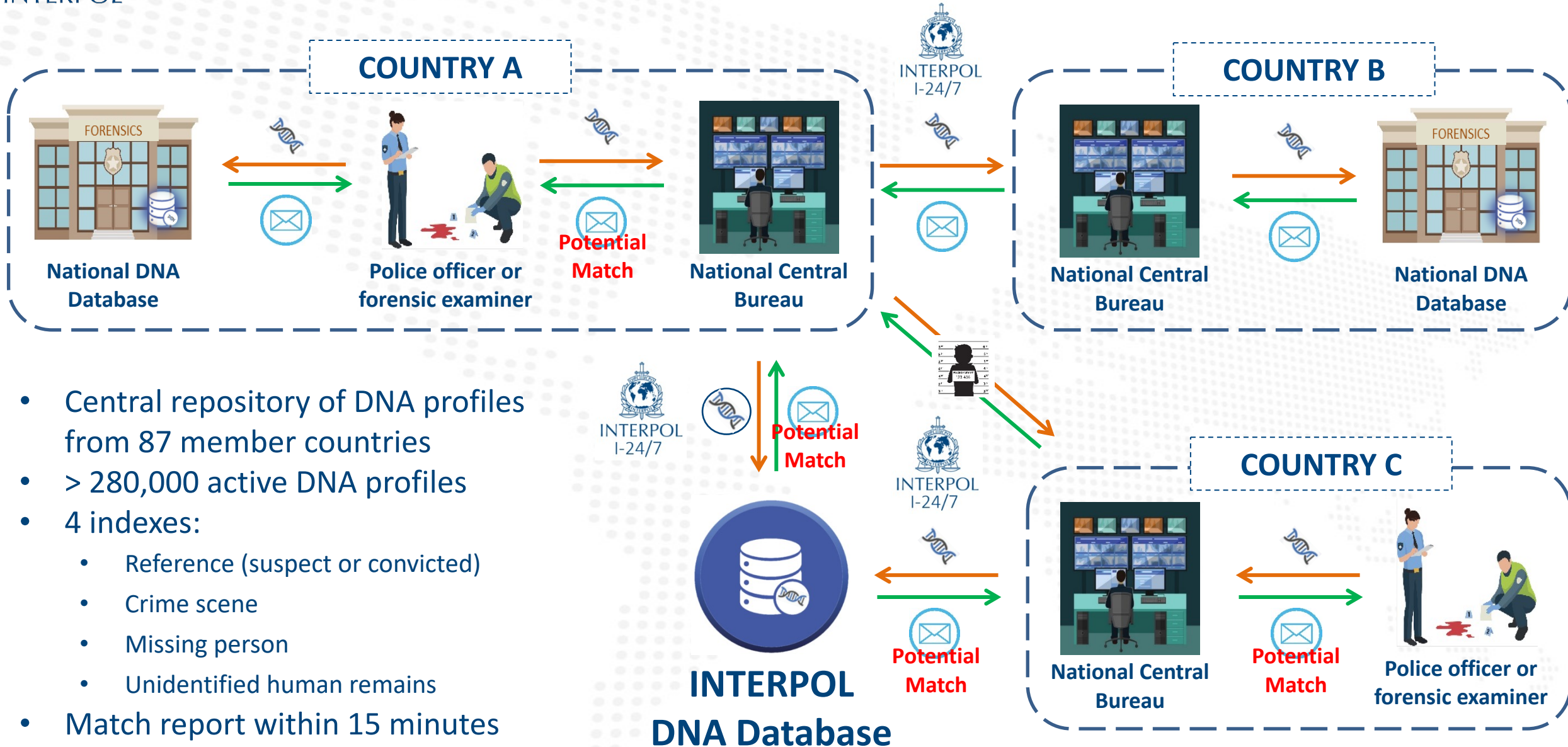
To seek information on **unidentified bodies**





INTERPOL

International police cooperation via INTERPOL



- Central repository of DNA profiles from 87 member countries
- > 280,000 active DNA profiles
- 4 indexes:
 - Reference (suspect or convicted)
 - Crime scene
 - Missing person
 - Unidentified human remains
- Match report within 15 minutes



INTERPOL

International DNA matching in INTERPOL Databases

DIRECT MATCHING



DNA from missing person:
prior medical sample
or personal item



DNA from
unidentified body
or human remains



INTERPOL DNA Database

**SINCE 2004
PROVEN SUCCESS**

DNA of the missing person only available in 30% of international requests (Laurent et al. in preparation)

- Case is too old
- No personal item/medical sample available
- No DNA capabilities in the country



INTERPOL

International DNA matching in INTERPOL Databases

DIRECT MATCHING



DNA from missing person:
prior medical sample
or personal item

KINSHIP MATCHING



DNA from
unidentified body
or human remains



DNA from
biological relatives
of missing person

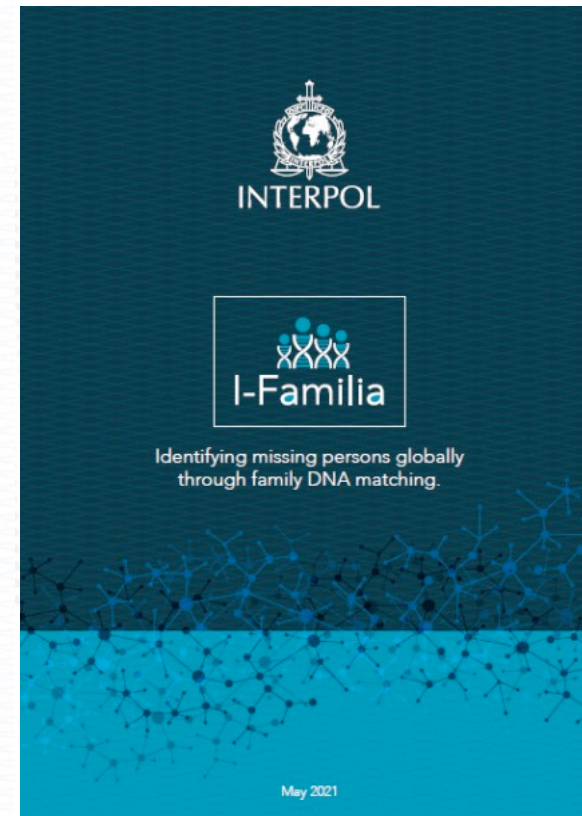


INTERPOL DNA Database

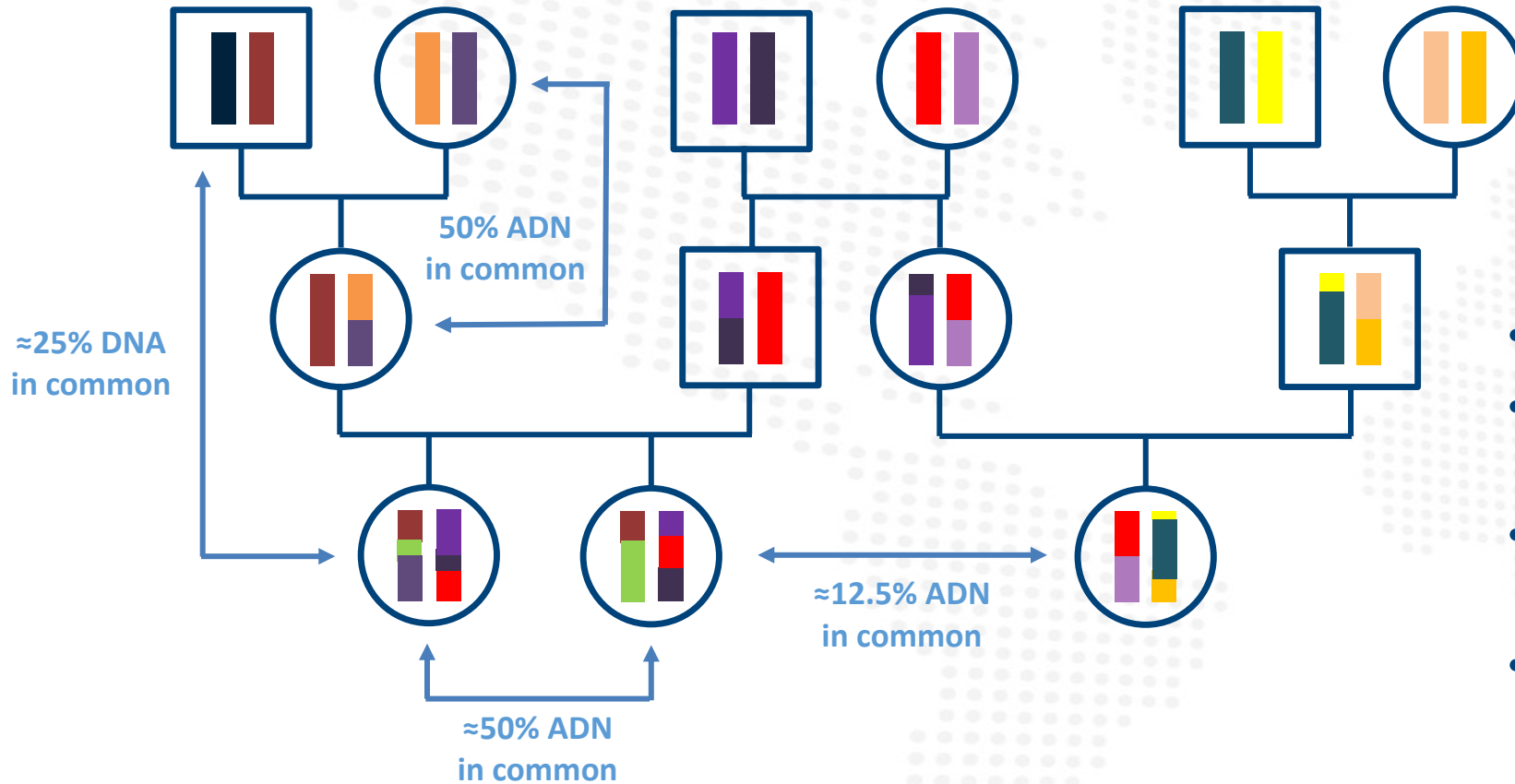
Family DNA matching service

**SINCE 2004
PROVEN SUCCESS**

**FROM 2021
OPENING NEW POSSIBILITIES**

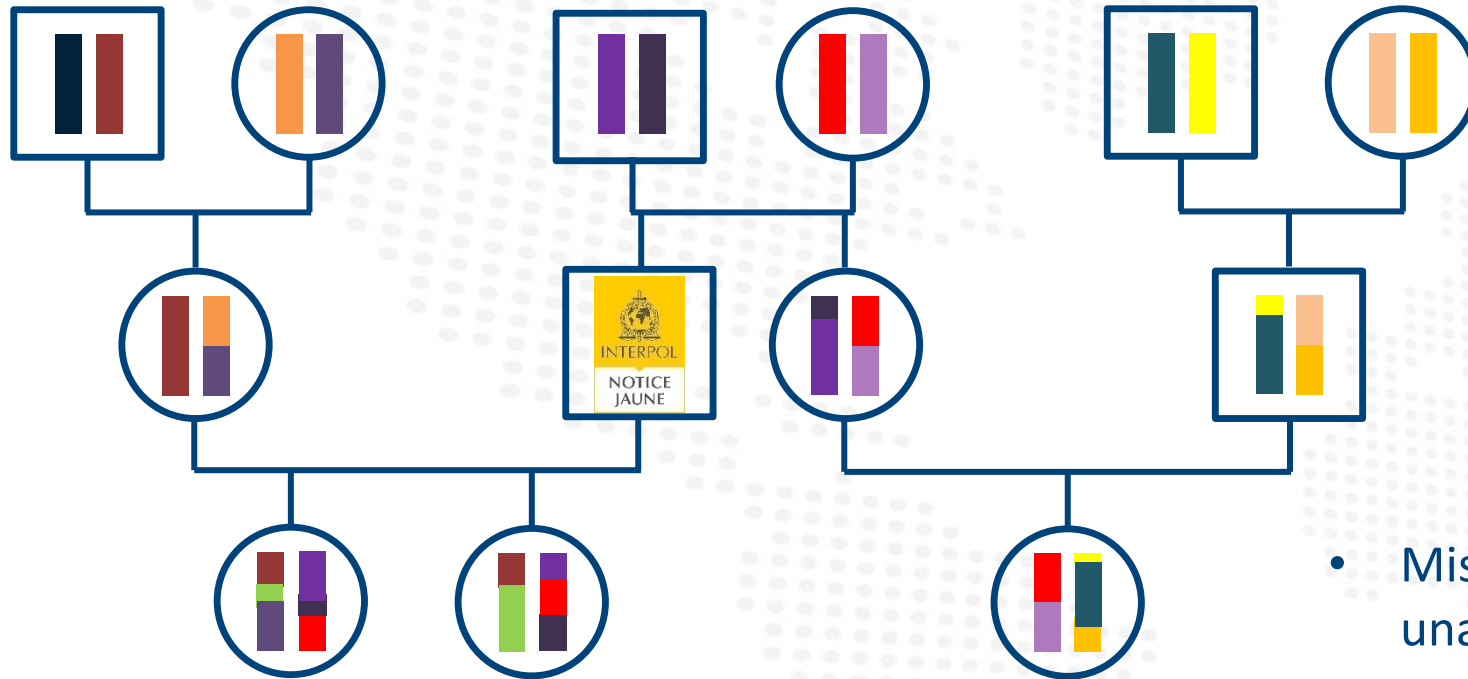


DNA kinship matching



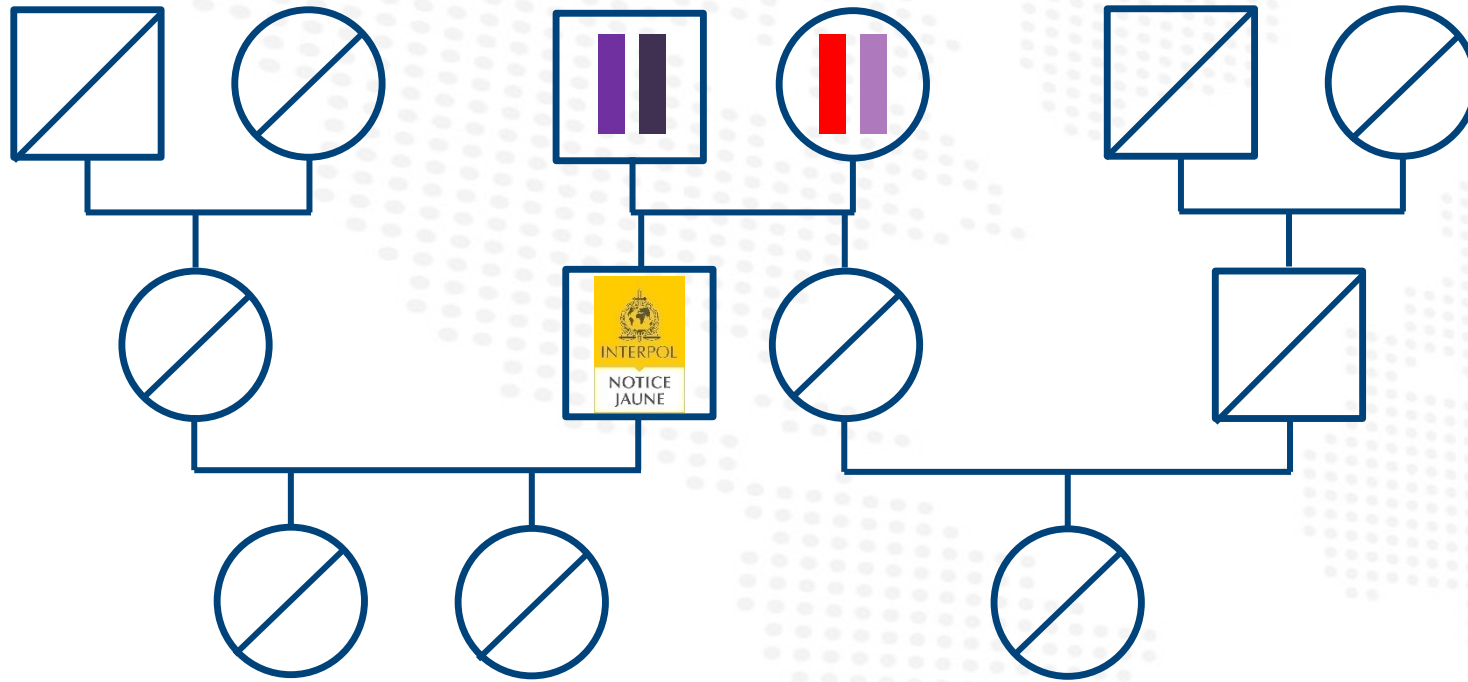
- Genetic inheritance
- All biological relatives from a same family share a part of their DNA
- It is possible to establish biological relationships based on DNA analysis
- **Family DNA kinship matching**

DNA kinship matching

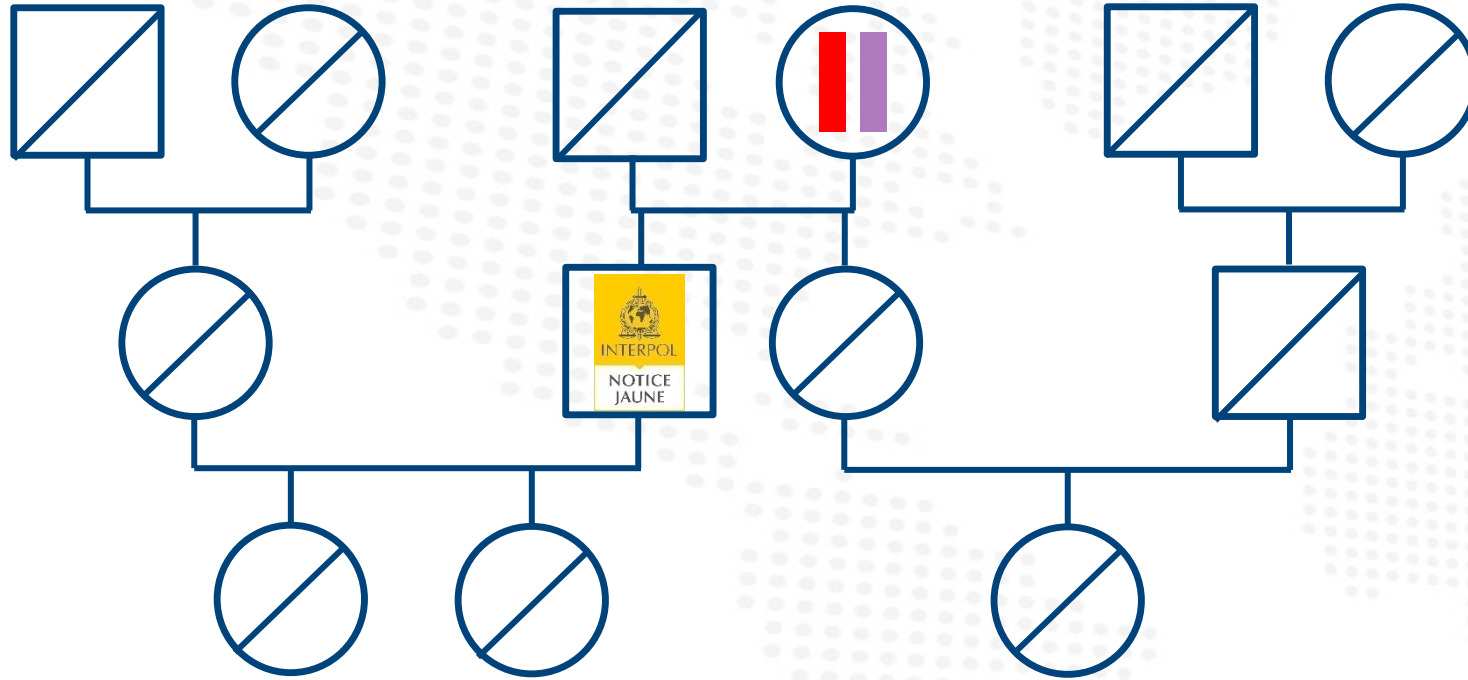


- Missing person whose DNA is unavailable
- DNA kinship matching to estimate likelihood of potential biological associations between the relatives of a missing person and an identified body

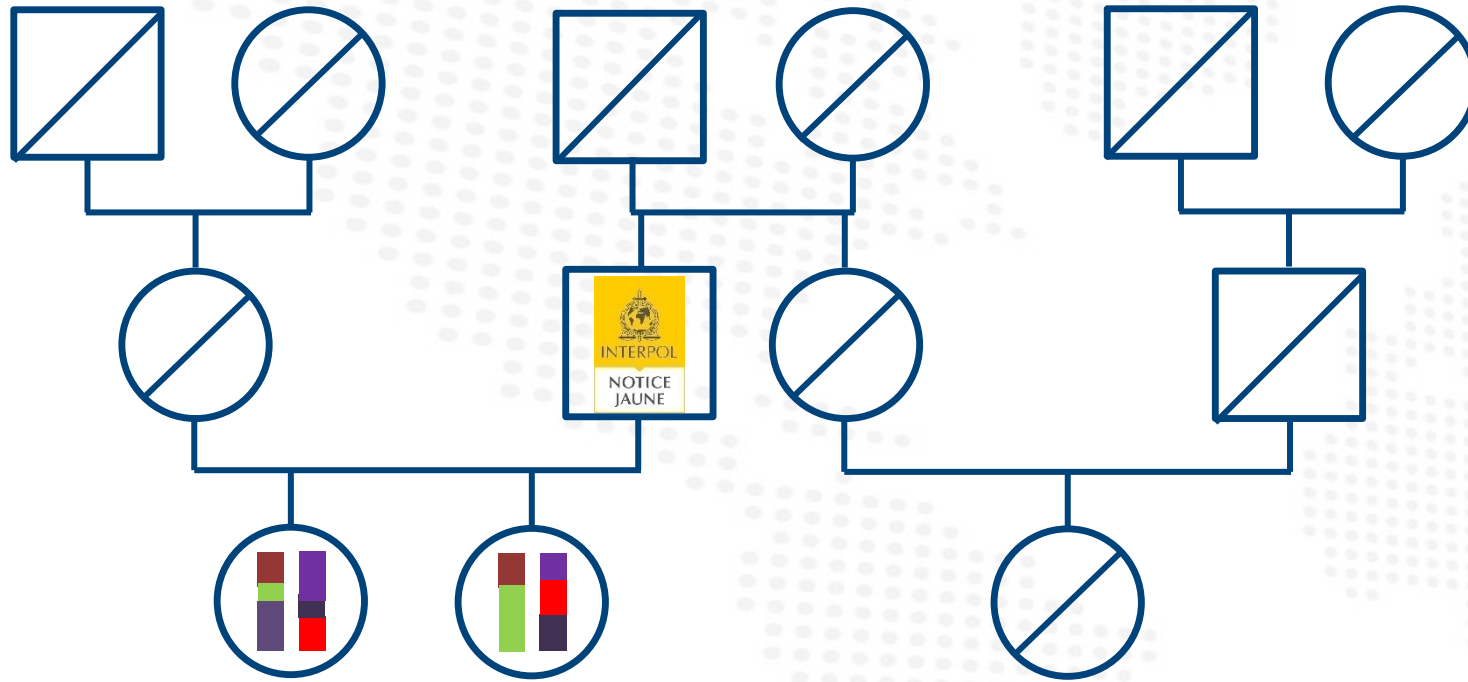
DNA kinship matching



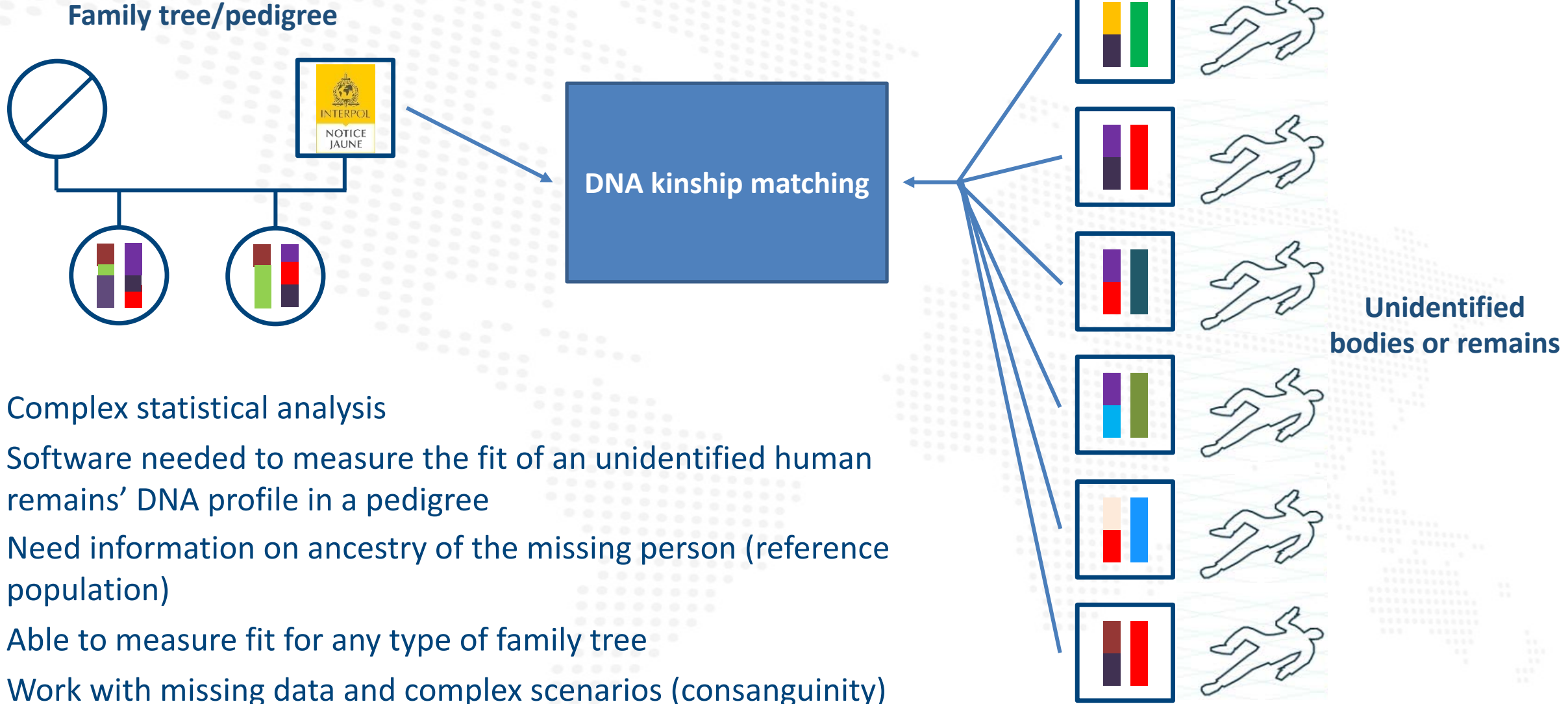
DNA kinship matching



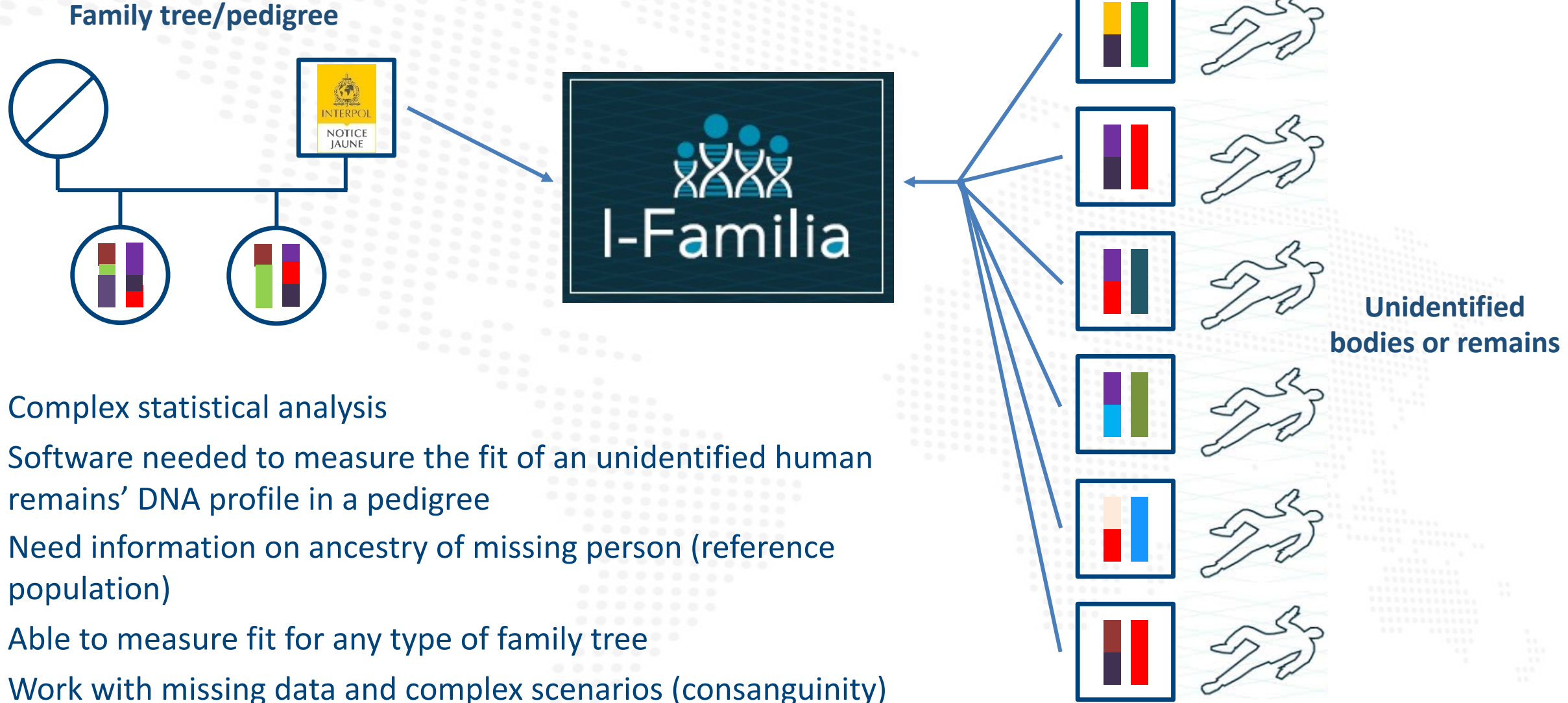
DNA kinship matching



DNA kinship matching

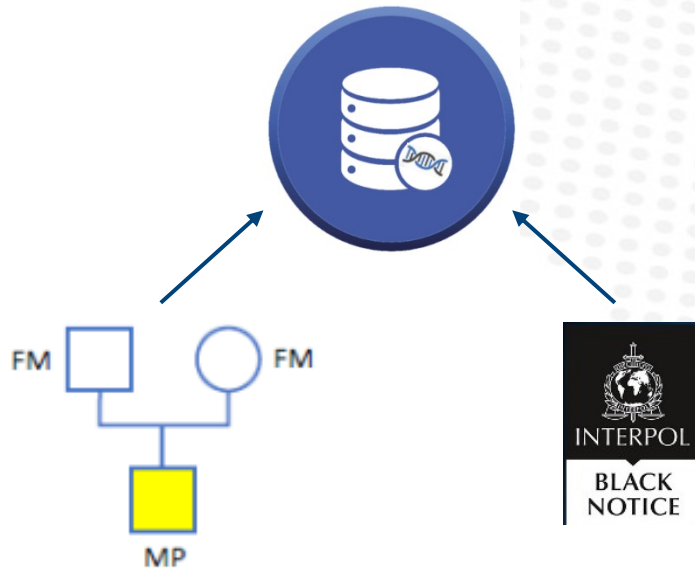


DNA kinship matching



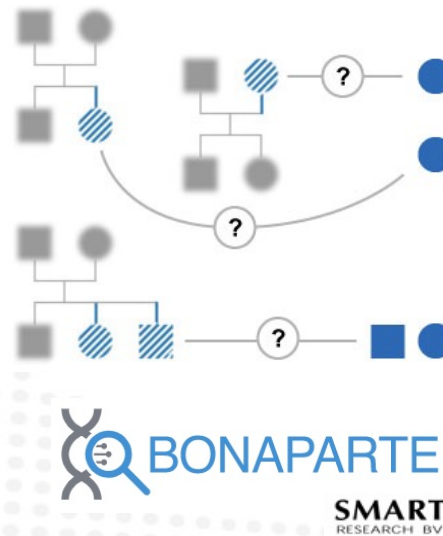
The 3 components of I-Familia

I-Familia DNA database



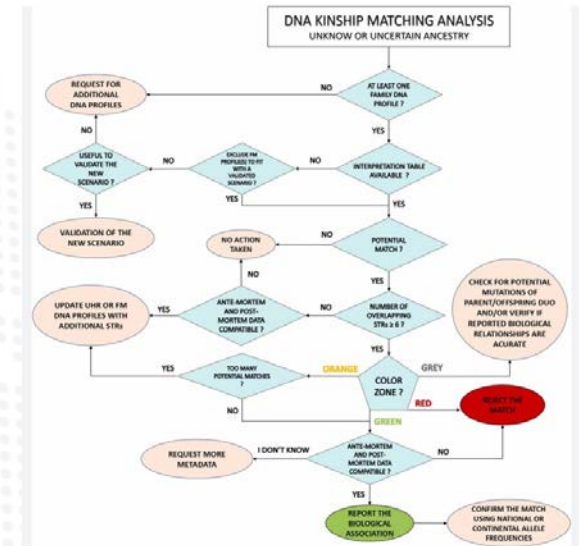
- No criminal DNA data
- No nominal information (only biological relationships, date and DNA profiles)
- Only accessible to the INTERPOL DNA Unit
- Retention period: 5 years for family DNA and 15 years for unidentified human remains

DNA kinship matching software



- Compare ante-mortem and post-mortem DNA data
- All pedigrees accepted
- Calculation of likelihood ratio (LR)
- Propose a list of potential biological associations

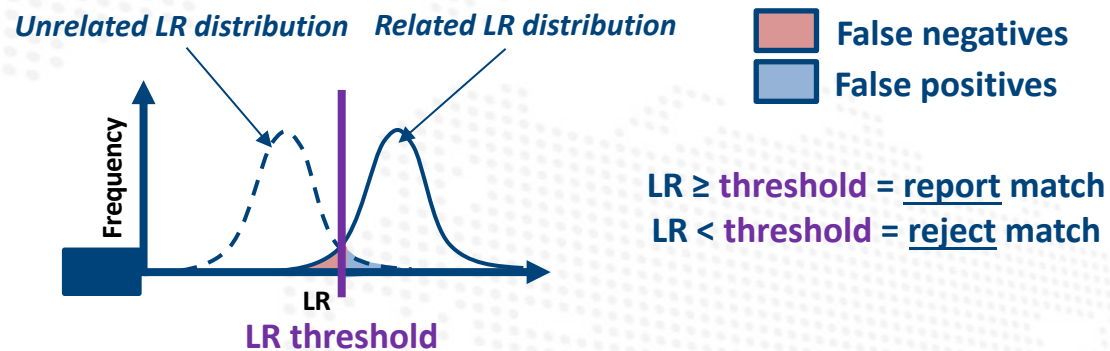
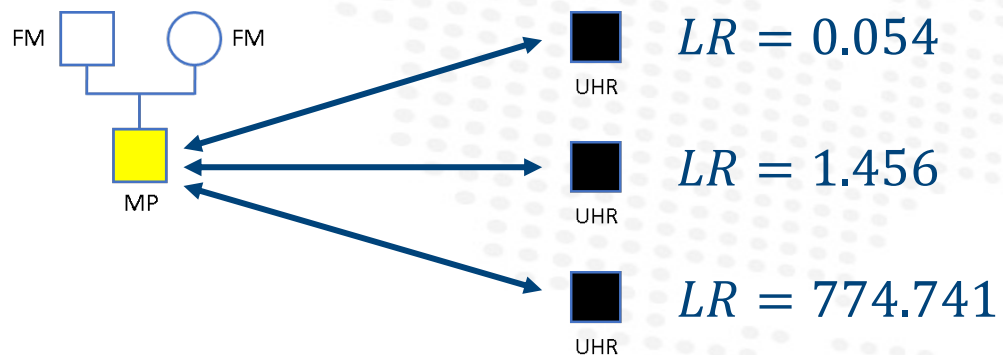
Statistical interpretation



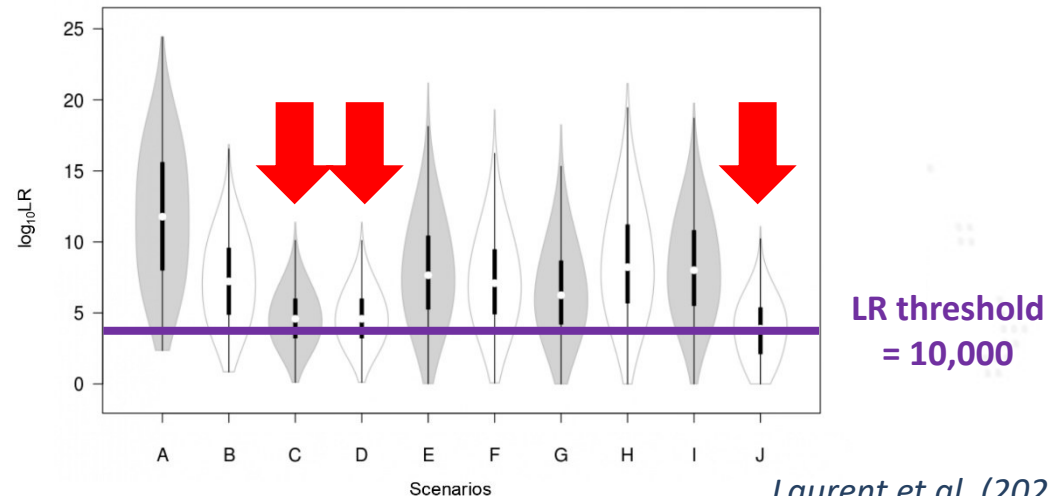
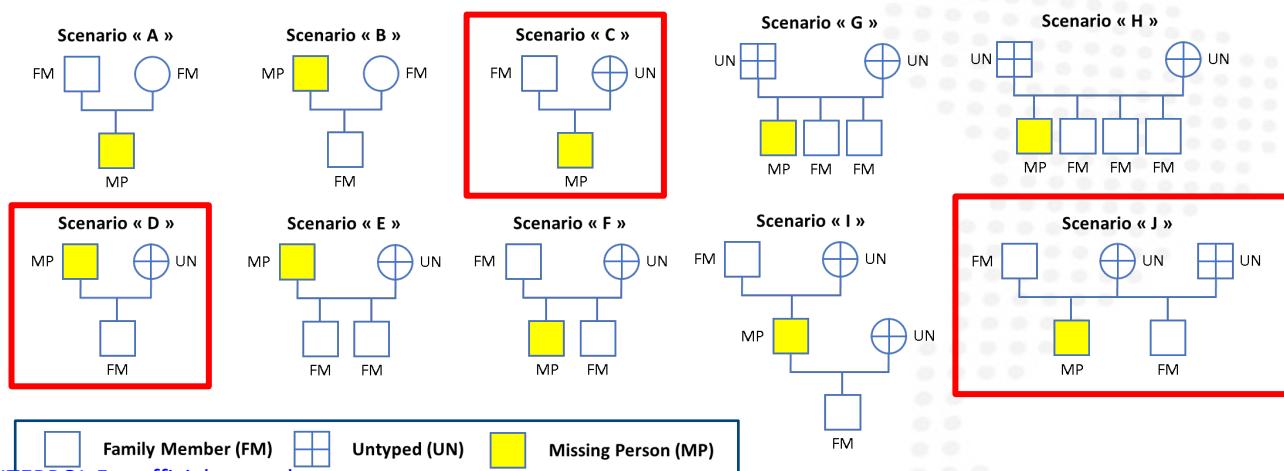
- Interpretation tables developed by INTERPOL
- Quickly evaluate the statistical relevance of the proposed associations
- Report to countries / Reject / Additional information required

Challenges of international DNA kinship matching

LR interpretation and report of potential biological relationships

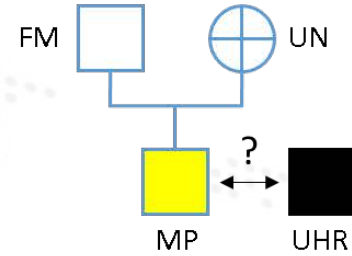


A unique arbitrary LR threshold is often applied to all DNA kinship cases regardless of the pedigree



Streamlined interpretation of kinship matching results

Interpretation table for scenario « C »



↓

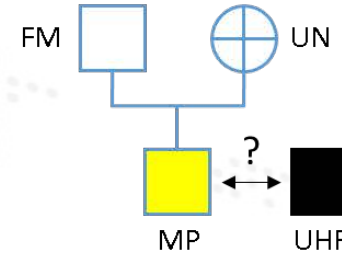
		Number of typed overlapping STRs																		
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
log ₁₀ LR	<0	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
	0	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
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14	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	
≥15	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	

→

■ **Reject the match**
 → log₁₀LR value is too low to be considered

Streamlined interpretation of kinship matching results

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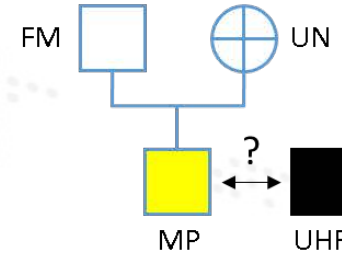
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Streamlined interpretation of kinship matching results

Interpretation table for scenario « C »



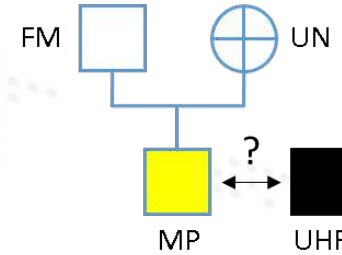
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- Additional DNA data may be required**
 → More than 50 adventitious matches (on average) per 100,000 UHR
 → High risk of heavy workload
 → Suggest adding another relative to the pedigree or include additional typed loci
- Review the potential biological association**
 → Less than 50 adventitious matches (on average) per 100,000 UHR
 → Compare *ante mortem* and *post mortem* data

Streamlined interpretation of kinship matching results

Interpretation table for scenario « C »





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	1	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
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- **Reject the match**
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 - High risk of heavy workload
 - Suggest adding another relative to the pedigree or include additional typed loci
- **Review the potential biological association**
 - Less than 50 adventitious matches (on average) per 100,000 UHR
 - Compare *ante mortem* and *post mortem* data
- **Further interpretation may be required**
 - Risk of germinal mutation or drop-out
 - Pedigree may not be accurate (half-siblings)

How to send data?

- Contact your National Police → INTERPOL National Central Bureau
- Submit UHR and Family DNA Data to INTERPOL
- UHR using INTERPOL Black Notices or secured email via I-24/7
- Family DNA using the new I-Familia search request form
- Autosomal DNA (Y-STR and mtDNA optional)
- Statement of compliance and consent
 - The source hereby confirms that its provision of these DNA profiles of the missing person's relatives for their inclusion and use in the I-FAMILIA database, in accordance with the INTERPOL Policy on using family DNA profiles of missing persons for kinship matching, complies with its national law. The source further confirms that it has obtained the free, express and informed consent of the said missing person's relatives, or has national legal provision, for the purpose of international search.
- Mass-upload options (xlsx and xml) available

INTERPOL DNA SEARCH REQUEST FORM FAMILY MEMBERS OF A MISSING PERSON	
	
PURPOSE OF THE FORM	
This form is intended for the submission of <u>DNA profiles from family members of a missing person</u> to the INTERPOL General Secretariat. This form can also be used to communicate family DNA profiles directly with selected member countries or international entities. The acceptance criteria for profile upload and the available options for searching and storing of data may vary between member countries. INTERPOL encourages member countries to contact the selected recipients of the DNA profiles in order to be informed of their criteria.	
STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE AND CONSENT	
By submitting this form, the source hereby confirms that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The DNA profile of the missing person cannot be obtained. - All investigative steps to locate the missing person were taken nationally before requesting an international search. - The provision of these DNA profiles of the missing person's relatives for their inclusion and use in the I-FAMILIA database, in accordance with the INTERPOL Policy on using family DNA profiles of missing persons for kinship matching, complies with its national law. - It has obtained the free, express and informed consent of the said missing person's relatives, or has national legal provision, for the purpose of international search. 	
PROCESSING OF FAMILY DNA DATA AT THE INTERPOL GENERAL SECRETARIAT	
All DNA profiles received by the INTERPOL General Secretariat will be processed in accordance with INTERPOL's Rules on the Processing of Data and the INTERPOL Policy on using family DNA profiles of missing persons for kinship matching available at http://i247.icj247/ . The family DNA profiles are kept in a separate database, called I-Familia, and will not be recorded in any other INTERPOL database. Family DNA profiles will not be compared against DNA data held by INTERPOL that has been provided for criminal purposes.	
INSTRUCTIONS	
In addition to complying with the above conditions, your request must comply with the below criteria to be accepted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All fields must be completed. Failure to do so may result in the profile not being searched. - Do not change the order of loci in the form. - The DNA profile must contain at least 10 full designated loci (Amelogenin is not included in the minimum number) and should be submitted with as many DNA loci as possible (loci are listed on pages FM1 to FM4). - Both alleles must be written for homozygotes (e.g. 12 - 12). - A decimal point must be used to delimit incomplete repeat units (e.g. 9.3). Commas should be avoided. - In case of allele drop-out, type "NS" (Not Specified) in that locus or use your national nomenclature. Based on the availability of family members, please fill in the appropriate forms : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fill in page MP1 (missing person case information) for every separate case. - If DNA profile from one or both parents of the missing person is available, fill in page FM1. - If DNA profile from a biological child is available, fill in page FM2 providing information of the other biological parent if possible. In case of multiple children, fill in one copy of FM2 per child. - If DNA profile from sibling is available, fill in page FM3. In case of multiple siblings, fill in one copy of FM3 per sibling. - If DNA profile from another biological relative is available, fill in page FM4. 	
CHOICE OF FAMILY MEMBERS	
In order to increase the chances of identifying human remains and to reduce false positive associations, special attention should be paid to the <u>number of family members</u> included in the request and their <u>genetic relatedness</u> with the reported missing person. Ideally, the request should include the DNA profiles of <u>at least 2 biological family members</u> . The following guidelines are recommended in choosing family members for missing person identification, depending on their availability. The list below ranks, from highest to lowest, the most genetically informative family members based on their relatedness which should be prioritized, if possible : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Parents of the missing person 2) Children of the missing person (include the DNA profile of the other biological parent if available) 3) Full siblings of the missing person (brothers or sisters) 4) All other distant family members, such as grandparents/grandchildren, half-siblings, aunts/uncles and cousins. In this case, the request should include at least 3 family members Please note that if the missing person is a male, it is advised to include at least one male family member from the paternal line (for Y-STR analysis).	
	

INTERPOL Resolution on I-Familia



NEW DELHI, INDIA 2022
90TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GENERAL ASSEMBLY – 90th SESSION
NEW DELHI, INDIA, 18-21 OCTOBER 2022

INTERPOL'S SUPREME GOVERNING BODY GENERAL ASSEMBLY



ATTENDEES

- Senior law enforcement officials including Ministers and Chiefs of Police
- Representatives from the Commission for the Control of INTERPOL's Files (CCF)
- Observers



APPROVES

Decisions on:

- policies
- resources
- finances
- programmes of activities
- General Assembly location



ELECTS

the Organization's:

- Secretary General
 - Executive Committee members
- and
- CCF members



195 MEMBER COUNTRIES

ONE COUNTRY
=
ONE VOTE

Each member country appoints a **head of delegation** to vote on its behalf

All Resolutions are published on www.interpol.int



INTERPOL

CONNECTING POLICE FOR A SAFER WORLD



INTERPOL Resolution on I-Familia



Resolution No. 6

GA-2022-90-RES-06

Resolution No. 6
GA-2022-90-RES-06

Subject: Identification of missing persons through optimal use of INTERPOL's I-Familia database

The ICPO-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in New Delhi, India, from 18 to 21 October 2022 at its 90th session:

RECOGNIZING the increasing number of unidentified human remains and individuals in relation to missing person cases, global mass migration and human trafficking in INTERPOL member countries,

NOTING that many member countries have missing person investigations that cannot be solved and human remains that cannot be identified using their national systems alone,

ACKNOWLEDGING that the INTERPOL DNA Monitoring Expert Group recommends that identification efforts should apply equally to all and should not take into account a person's wealth, ethnicity or the circumstances of disappearance,

RECALLING INTERPOL's long-standing success in the direct matching of missing persons' DNA profiles with unidentified human remains data stored in the INTERPOL DNA database, and that countries are encouraged to provide INTERPOL both with missing persons' DNA profiles and unidentified human remains data,

FURTHER RECALLING that INTERPOL recommends – in the absence of the missing person's DNA – collecting and comparing the DNA profiles of family members of the missing person in accordance with national law and applicable procedures,

HIGHLIGHTING that INTERPOL's unique I-Familia missing person DNA database, launched in 2021, has already proved successful in helping member countries with the identification of missing persons through DNA kinship matching,

BEARING IN MIND that family members' DNA data are recorded in I-Familia for non-criminal purposes only without nominal information and is not connected to INTERPOL's criminal databases, nor compared against DNA data held by INTERPOL that has been provided for criminal purposes,

EMPHASIZING that I-Familia and INTERPOL's DNA expertise in interpreting DNA matching results is available to all member countries,

CONSIDERING that for the purpose of providing scientific credibility and transparency to member countries, INTERPOL published a forensic peer-reviewed article on the scientific rationale behind I-Familia,

AWARE that accurate DNA data are crucial in order to maximize the effectiveness of I-Familia to help solve international missing person cases through DNA kinship matching,

MINDFUL of the need to comply with national legislation and procedures when sharing DNA profiles,

URGES member countries to make effective use of the I-Familia database, notably through:

- The lawful provision of DNA profiles of unidentified human remains in unsolved national investigations;
- The lawful provision of DNA profiles of biological relatives of missing persons who are the subject of unsolved national investigations;
- Ensuring that the data are accurate, regularly updated and in accordance with the legal and technical requirements as detailed in the I-Familia policy;
- Responding promptly and accurately to requests for further information following a potential biological association report issued by I-Familia;

ASKS that, where necessary, INTERPOL member countries consider making appropriate legislative and policy efforts, including amending existing legislation, to enable the storage and comparison of DNA profiles in the I-Familia database, in order to best meet and fulfil the purposes of the database.

Adopted



GENERAL ASSEMBLY – 90th SESSION
NEW DELHI, INDIA, 18-21 OCTOBER 2022

INTERPOL Resolution on I-Familia



URGES member countries to make effective use of the I-Familia database, notably through:

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ASKS that, where necessary, INTERPOL member countries consider making appropriate legislative and policy efforts, including amending existing legislation, to enable the storage and comparison of DNA profiles in the I-Familia database, in order to best meet and fulfil the purposes of the database.



NEW DELHI, INDIA 2022
90TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GENERAL ASSEMBLY – 90th SESSION
NEW DELHI, INDIA, 18-21 OCTOBER 2022

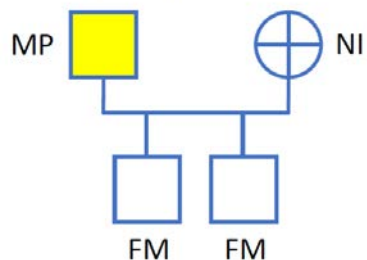
ADOPTED!



INTERPOL

First international confirmed match with I-Familia

- **October 2020**
- Request from NCB Rome
- Missing Person since April 2004
- No DNA profile available for the missing person
- DNA profile from 2 children
- Upload of pedigree information to I-Familia



- **April 2004**
- Body found in Adriatic Sea by Croatian Police
- No fingerprints or face data
- DNA profile from human remains
- No match in National DNA database
- DNA profile shared by NCB Zagreb in April 2004

Confirmation of the missing person's identity by both NCBs

Potential match report

Dear NCB Colleagues,

Please be informed that a potential biological relationship has been identified using international DNA kinship matching through I-Familia, the new INTERPOL missing persons' family DNA database.

The potential biological relationship was found between 2 profiles submitted by your NCBs:

- The DNA profile barcode 2013-000829798472, submitted by NCB "A" on 27/09/2011, obtained from unidentified human remains.
- The DNA profile with the NCB reference 2021-43897539875, submitted by NCB "B" on 10/05/2021, belonging to the relative of a missing person.

For your information, the \log_{10} LR likelihood ratio calculated with the available pedigree reaches a value of 8.20, which is above the minimum value threshold set by INTERPOL allowing the report of promising biological kinship relationships. The match was found on 16 overlapping STR markers and with no mutation to be reported. Meta-data (dates of disappearance and discovery of human remains) were not available and therefore have not been cross-checked.

As this potential association could lead to the identification of the missing person and help bring closure to the family, we highly encourage your NCB to officially confirm the identity of the human remains using your national procedures.

- **No information given on DNA profiles**
- **No information about the case / family pedigree and familial relationships**
- **Only the countries can decide if they wish to cooperate with the other source of data**

STATISTICS FOR I-FAMILIA

Date	Region	Country	ID Data	type	NCB Reference	gender	Family Link	Discovery Date	...
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155

Nr Unidentified Human Remains

As of 22/05/2023

11,186



I-Familia

Nr Family Members

As of 22/05/2023

1,336

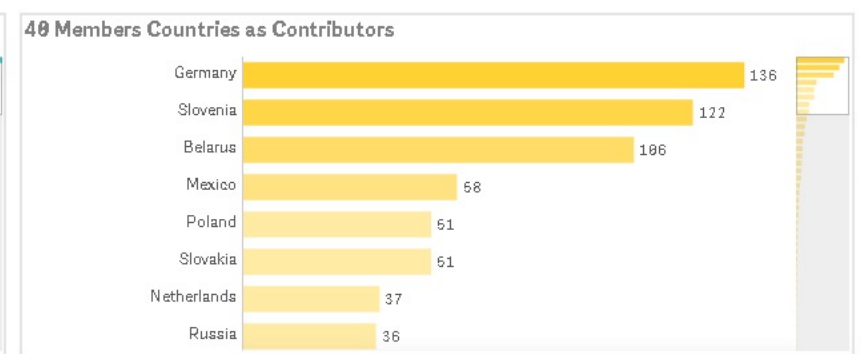
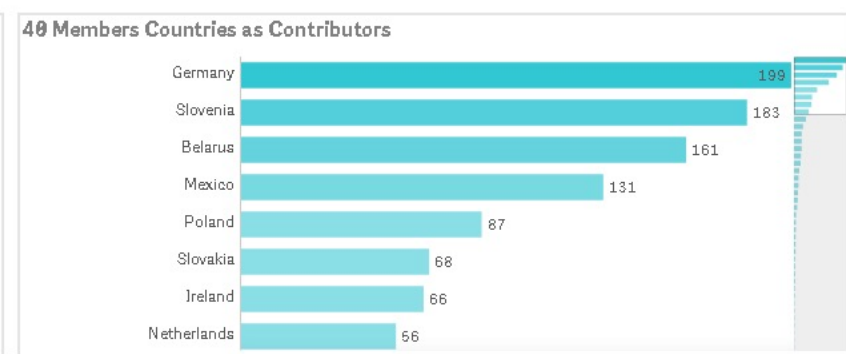
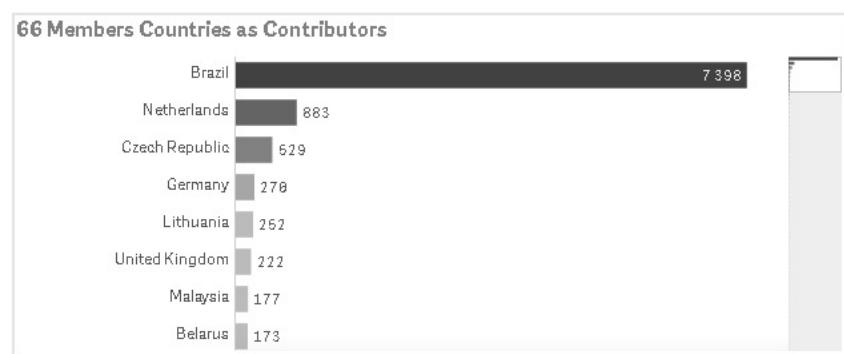


302


Nr Missing Person Cases

As of 22/05/2023

863



I-FAMILIA MATCHES

Status	Date of I-Familia Match		Family DNA Data	Likelihood Ratio
Confirmed	28 Oct 2020	2004	2 Sons	1.562×10^8
Confirmed	12 May 2021	2011	Father	1.617×10^8
Confirmed	15 Oct 2021	2009	1 Daughter	5.761×10^6
Confirmed	04 July 2022	2018	Mother	2.836×10^7
Confirmed	11 Aug 2022	2015	Mother, Brother	1.962×10^9
Pending	16 Aug 2022	2019	Mother, Father	9.584×10^{20}
Pending	10 Nov 2022	2002	Mother	15.871

64
Pending
matches

Verbal Scale:
Extremely
Strong
Support

Match Confirmation



31 January 2023 : 4th confirmed match by I-Familia



Ireland - DNA from mother & sister of missing person



United Kingdom - Human remains caught in a commercial fishing net



We are all heartbroken but we will finally have him home.
Rest in paradise my brother we love you so much 💔💙💔

1 K

176 31



Missing Persons Helpline Ireland

4 j

Very sad news from the family of Jason Macken. May he rest in peace, keep his family in your prayers as they come to terms with their loss
[#HelpBringThemHome](#)



Latest Match Confirmation



21 March 2023 : 5th confirmed match by I-Familia




Slovakia - DNA from mother of missing person




Hungary – Body found in River Danube



 **Rescue System Slovakia** Missing persons ▾

BERTÓK DAVID

November 28, 2021 / Bratislava region , Missing persons , District Bratislava I



28/11/2021
MISSING PERSON - **BERTÓK DAVID**

David's mom begs to share again. tacted his family.

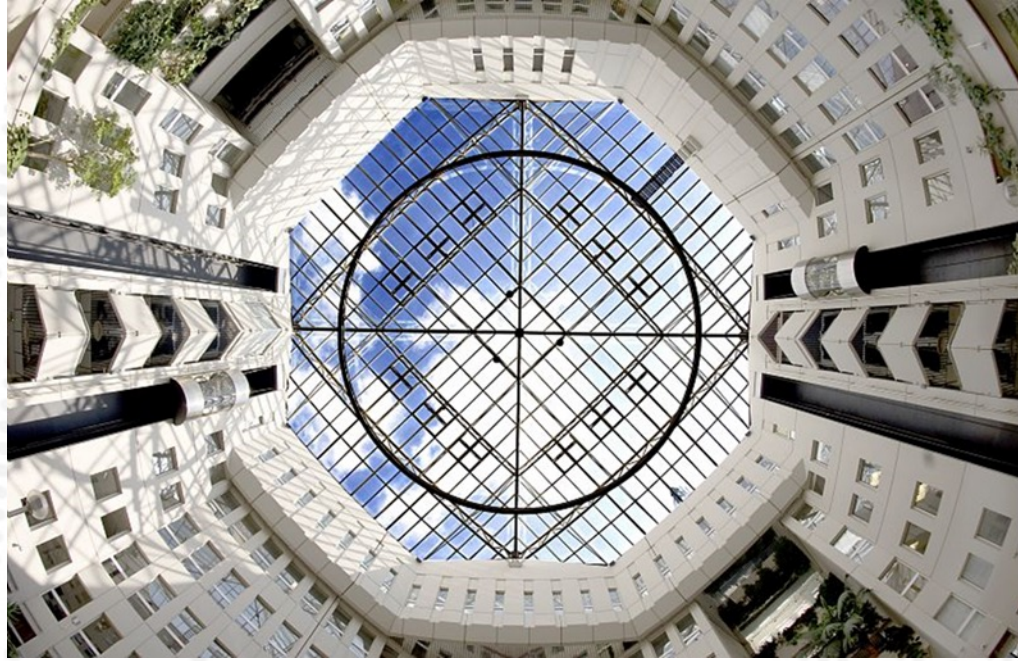
First name: **David**
Date of birth: **17/03/1991**
Nationality: **SR**
Residence: **Bratislava I**
Date of declaration: **13/04/2018**
Reason for search: **Missing person**
Declaring department: **OR PZ BA I**



OPERATION IDENTIFY ME



Seeking the names of unidentified victims of murder



Thank you for your attention

DNA@interpol.int