

FRIC

**FRAUD RESEARCH &
INTELLIGENCE CONSULTANCY**

Capability Statement

Evidence-based intelligence for a safer digital world.

RESEARCH

Rigorous empirical inquiry

INTELLIGENCE

Actionable threat insight

IMPACT

Practical institutional solutions

Based in Ostrava, Czech Republic | Serving European, African and international partners
fricconsultancy.com | info@fricconsultancy.com

ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE

Research that explains fraud. Intelligence that supports action.

Fraud Research and Intelligence Consultancy (FRIC) is a research-driven consultancy dedicated to fraud, cyber-enabled crime, financial harm and transnational cybercrime ecosystems. We combine academic rigour with operational insight to help institutions understand evolving threats, protect affected people and design evidence-led responses.

Our distinctive contribution

Research-led

Ethnography, interviews, digital methods, legal analysis and quantitative evidence are used to reveal how fraud operates in real social and institutional settings.

Cross-regional perspective

FRIC bridges Europe and Africa, connecting global threat patterns with the cultural, legal and local conditions that shape cybercrime and its harms.

Human-centred

We examine offenders, victims, intermediaries, communities and institutions without reducing complex behaviour to technical indicators alone.

Action-oriented

Evidence is translated into risk indicators, intelligence briefs, policy recommendations, training materials and prevention tools.

OUR VISION

A world where decisions on fraud and cybercrime are informed by evidence and human understanding.

OUR MISSION

To produce independent, usable knowledge that strengthens prevention, policy, training and institutional practice.

Services designed around institutional needs

01

Fraud Intelligence & Analysis

Mapping fraud typologies, offender behaviour, victim risk, enabling infrastructures and emerging threats; producing intelligence that supports prevention and operational decision-making.

02

Cybercrime Research & Ethnography

In-depth qualitative, digital and ethnographic research on cybercrime communities, victims, institutions, platforms and digital cultures.

03

Policy Advisory & Institutional Consulting

Evidence-based advice for governments, regulators, law enforcement, banks, platforms, universities and civil-society organisations.

04

AML & Financial Crime Training

Tailored training on fraud prevention, money-mule dynamics, AML/CFT, victim-sensitive response and evolving digital financial crime.

05

Academic-Industry Collaboration

Joint research, programme design, independent evaluation, knowledge exchange and validation across academic and operational environments.

Typical deliverables

- Strategic intelligence and threat assessments
- Research reports and evidence reviews
- Typology and risk-indicator development
- Policy briefs and implementation guidance
- Training programmes and workshops
- Independent evaluation and advisory support

Social intelligence for complex digital harms

FRIC studies fraud as a technical, social, cultural, financial and institutional phenomenon. This integrated approach helps clients move beyond surface-level indicators and understand the relationships, incentives and systems that permit harm to develop.

Research themes

Online Romance Fraud Trust, deception, grooming, identity construction, financial extraction, victim-offender overlap and prevention.	Cyber-enabled Fraud Offender networks, methods, platforms, infrastructures, adaptations and cross-border dynamics.	Victims & Vulnerability Manipulation, reporting, recovery, institutional response and the criminalisation of victims.
Financial Crime & Money Laundering Money-mule recruitment, laundering practices, AML responses and legal treatment.	Digital Cultures Digital identity, moral narratives, online-offline interaction and culturally situated behaviour.	Prevention & Institutional Response Evidence-led interventions, victim-sensitive practice and implementation evaluation.

Methods selected to fit the problem

- Ethnography, netnography and qualitative interviewing
- Digital-platform, media and communication analysis
- Legal, policy and institutional-document analysis
- Surveys, quantitative analysis and evidence synthesis
- Cross-national and interdisciplinary comparative research
- Co-design, stakeholder engagement and programme evaluation

Ethical practice FRIC prioritises informed consent, confidentiality, data minimisation, research integrity and respectful engagement with victims, communities and hard-to-reach populations.	Independent analysis Findings are reported transparently, with attention to limitations, competing explanations and the practical conditions required for implementation.
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Specialist knowledge with practical ambition

Dr. Yushawu Abubakari

Co-Founder & Research Director

Sociologist and cybercrime researcher specialising in economic cybercrime, online romance fraud, victimisation, victim-offender overlap and digital cultures. His work draws on long-term ethnographic research and comparative European and African evidence.

Dr. Suleman Lazarus

Co-Founder & Intelligence Director

Cyber criminologist with expertise in economic cybercrime, cultural contexts and the translation of research into intelligence, prevention and institutional practice.

FRIC FLAGSHIP PRODUCT

Connection Safety AI

A privacy-preserving safety copilot being developed to help people assess new online connections, verify identity claims and recognise grooming or manipulation before harm occurs.

Designed to support:

- pre-contact identity and risk checks
- recognition of manipulation, urgency and isolation
- high-friction warnings before sensitive transfers
- explainable guidance without labelling a person a fraudster

PILOT OPPORTUNITIES

Collaborate with FRIC

FRIC welcomes conversations with victim-support organisations, financial institutions, platforms, regulators, researchers and public agencies interested in responsible validation and pilot development.

Important: Connection Safety AI is an informational risk-support concept in development. It is not an emergency, legal or law-enforcement service.

An evidence base built for real-world application

Selected research informing FRIC’s expertise includes:

Modelling the modern spread of online romance fraud

An empirically grounded model tracing false identity construction, reconnaissance, trust-building, extraction and relationship abandonment.

Politicization of Economic Cybercrime: Perceptions Among Ghanaian Facebook Users

Analysis of political, economic and postcolonial interpretations of economic cybercrime.

Media Presentation of Online Romance Fraud in the Czech Republic

Research on the visibility, framing and sentiment of Czech media reporting on romance fraud.

How we work with partners

1. Define Clarify the problem, users, decision context and intended outcomes.	2. Design Agree methods, safeguards, deliverables, milestones and responsibilities.	3. Deliver Conduct the work, communicate findings and support implementation.	4. Learn Evaluate value, document lessons and identify the next evidence need.
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DISCUSS A PROJECT

Let’s turn evidence into action.

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Consultations and project discussions
consultations@fricconsultancy.com

Privacy and data-protection matters
privacy@fricconsultancy.com

FRIC

Fraud Research and Intelligence Consultancy

Ostrava, Czech Republic
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Company registration: pending

This capability statement describes FRIC’s planned and current professional capabilities as of July 2026. Formal company particulars will be added after registration is completed. Specific engagements are subject to agreed scope, ethics, confidentiality and contractual arrangements.