# Laws about IMEI

The problem of combatting abuse of IMEI is that it is a global problem. UK has made laws, which make it illegal to change the IMEI on a phone[[1]](#footnote-1). There are several similar laws around the world, with the porpoise to prevent illegal activities, using the IMEI. The problem is the lack of a global law of IMEI abuse. When it is legal to change the IMEI of a telephone in the UK there are no law about it in China, which will make it possible to legal change the IMEI in China, and sent it to the UK, og other countries with more strictly laws.

There are no global laws, but there is a Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR), which is a database of stolen og lost IMEI. The central is located in Ireland, and is maintained by GSMA (GSM Assosiasion).[[2]](#footnote-2)

There are many countries that check this CEIR, far from all.

There is therefore no worldwide cooperation against stolen phones using the IMEI number.

1. <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/31/pdfs/ukpga_20020031_en.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://borger.itst.dk/lov-og-ret/adgang-til-internet-og-telefonlinjer/mobiltelefonen-er-stjalet-hvad-gor-du/din-mobiltelefon-eller-sim-kort-er-stjalet-hvad-gor-du> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)