

Appendix 2

Information on the trainings in Ministry of Interior in 2023

The Academy of the Ministry of the Interior conducts initial training for investigative police officers.

Courses and training for updating professional qualifications are also provided in the form of centralised courses at the AMoI and training for investigating police officers in the field (both face-to-face and distance learning).

In 2023, **102** investigative police officers were trained, with a further **40** newly recruited trainee civil servants expected to complete the initial professional training courses in early February 2024.

Investigative police officers are also involved in training organised by the National Institute of Justice and other training institutions at home and abroad.

In 2023, police officers participated in trainings organized by the National Institute of Justice on the following topics:

- "Protecting the financial interests of the European Union. Criminal offences. Functions of OLAF. European Public Prosecutor's Office;
- "Correlation of qualified theft and offence under Article 249 of the Criminal Code";
- "Preventing and combating trafficking in women for the purpose of their exploitation. Inter-institutional cooperation and exchange of good practices".

Specialised training on the recovery of assets acquired through criminal activity was conducted under the Anti-Corruption Commission project.

Six three-day training seminars on prevention and counteraction of corruption, the first two of which were international, were held in Varna, Burgas and Blagoevgrad districts between 25 September and 17 November 2023 under the Norwegian Financial Mechanism's Home Affairs Programme. During the seminars, 210 police officers from the SVD and the 27 regional directorates of the Ministry of Interior were trained.

Other topics on which trainings have been conducted in 2023 within the framework of projects funded by the Norwegian Financial Mechanism are as follows:

- "Applying risk assessment in cases of domestic and gender-based violence, including to combat Roma stereotypes";
- "Training of experts for the protection of victims of domestic and gender-based violence";
- "Training for police officers responsible for fixing, collecting and preserving physical evidence";
- "Identification and Referral of Victims of Human Trafficking – Methods and Practices, Indicators and Interviewing Potential Victims";
- "Improving police and judicial capacity related to physical evidence in pre-trial proceedings";
- "Improving the capacity and interaction of institutions in dealing with unaccompanied minors";
- "Training of professionals in the field of criminal law, social and administrative activities, to work in cases of children at risk";
- "Increasing the capacity of police officers working in a multi-ethnic environment";
- "Prevention of radicalisation, violent extremism and hate speech, in particular against the Roma community", etc.

In 2023, Ministry of Interior officers participated in courses of various international training institutions, including:

- "Cyber Exploitation and Investigations" at the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) – Budapest, Hungary – 8 officers trained;
- "Financial Investigation Techniques" at ILEA – Budapest, Hungary – 9 staff trained;
- "Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation" at ILEA – Budapest, Hungary – 5 officers trained;
- "Human Rights" at AMoI – 18 officers trained;
- "Countering Hate Crimes Motivated by Sexual Orientation and/or Gender Identity" organised by USA – 37 officers trained;
- "Methods and Techniques for Investigation of Human Trafficking Cases" under the US Structures;
- "Countering Diversion of Pharmaceutical Components in the Chemical Supply Line" under US in Sofia – 2 officers trained;
- "Identification of Portable Air Defense Systems" under US line in Ruse – 10 employees trained;
- "EU-NATO Cooperation" at the George Marshall Centre in Brussels, Belgium – 1 officer trained;
- "Transatlantic Security Cooperation – Jointly Overcoming Challenges" at the George Marshall Centre in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany – 1 staff member trained, etc.