

**Prosecutor General's Report
on Activities of the Prosecution Service
in 2019
(extract)**



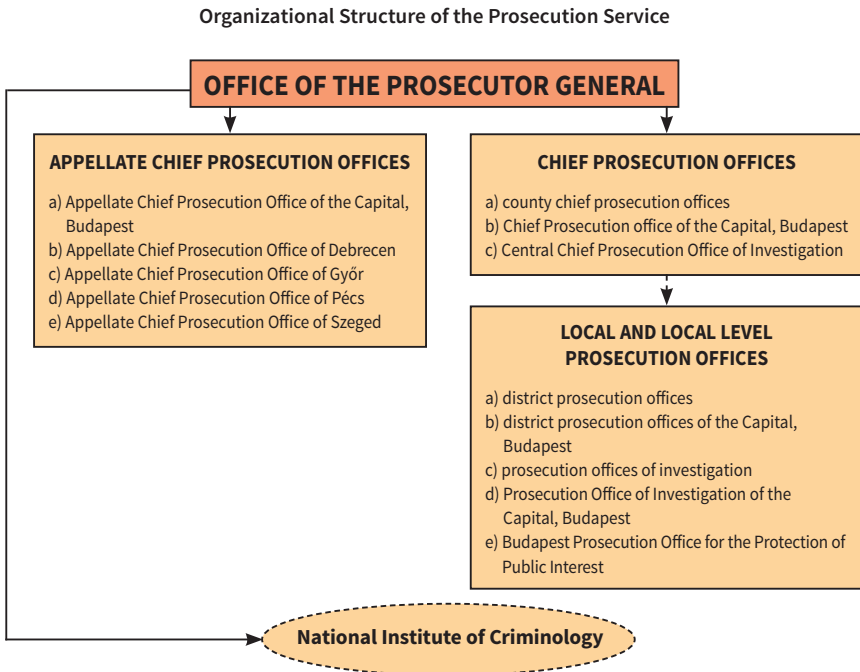
TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. The Prosecution Service	3
2. Activities of the Prosecution Service in the field of criminal law ..	4
3. Prosecutors' activities outside the field of criminal law	23
4. The Prosecutor General's activity	32
5. The international activity of the Prosecution Service	35
6. Personnel of the Prosecution Service	38
7. Communication activity of the Prosecution Service	40
8. Information technology and statistical activity of the Prosecution Service	41
9. Financial conditions of the operation of the Prosecution Service ..	44
10. Scientific activity of the prosecution employees and the National Institute of Criminology	45

1. The Prosecution Service

The bases of the functions and operation of the Prosecution Service are primarily contained by the Fundamental Law of Hungary and by cardinal acts concerning the Prosecution Service, more specifically by Act CLXIII of 2011 on the Prosecution Service (hereinafter referred to as the *Prosecution Service Act/PSA*) and Act CLXIV of 2011 on the Status of the Prosecutor General, Prosecutors and Other Prosecution Employees and the Prosecution Career (hereinafter referred to as the *Prosecutorial Employment and Career Act/PECA*).

The structure of the Prosecution Service relating to the concerned time period is shown by the following figure:



Last year there was a renewal in the Prosecution Service concerning prosecutorial investigation. Simultaneously with the termination of the prosecutorial investigation activities of the district prosecution offices, the Central Chief Prosecution Office of Investigation and the subordinated Regional

Prosecution Offices of Investigation of Budapest, Debrecen, Győr, Kaposvár and Szeged operating at district level shall investigate crimes in the exclusive jurisdiction of prosecutorial investigation.

2. Activities of the Prosecution Service in the field of criminal law

Supervision and direction of investigations and investigations made by the Prosecution Service

Main statistics on criminality

The number of the registered cases awaiting to be processed in the field of criminal law was continuously decreasing from 2012 until 2017. In the period following the entry into force on 1st July 2018 of Act XC of 2017 on the Criminal Procedure Code (CPC), cases awaiting to be processed by the Prosecution Service increased by hundreds of thousands.

The decreasing tendency experienced from 2013 relating to the number of registered crimes continued last year as well. The following diagram displays the changes of the last ten years:



In 2019 the decrease of the number of registered perpetrators continued, 73,765 perpetrators were registered.

Information about main data of certain crimes is presented by the following diagram:

Number of certain registered crimes in 2017–2019

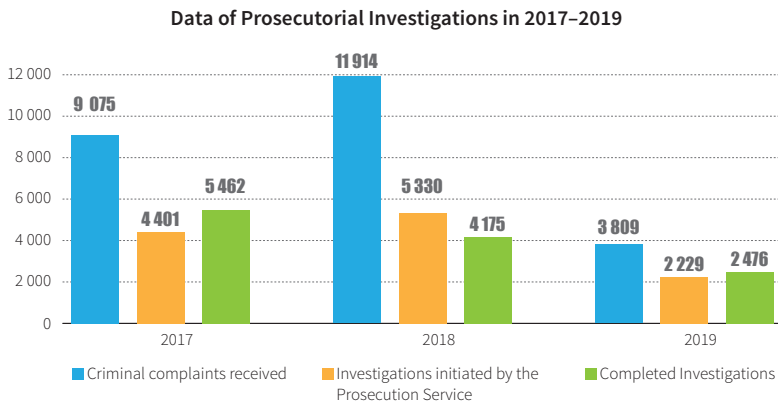
Crimes	2017	2018	2019
Completed intentional homicide	92	84	60
Attempted homicide	71	60	57
Theft	78 311	62 349	55 059
Fraud	22 197	19 180	14 350
Robbery	853	710	637
Infringement of Copyright and Certain Rights Related to Copyright	575	953	106
Offenses Against Traffic Regulations	20 651	20 922	18 458
Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol	15 732	16 008	13 773
Causing a Road Accident through Negligence	2 807	2 706	2 436
Human smugglings	179	215	90
Assault on a Public Official and on a Person Entrusted with Public Functions and Assault on a Person Aiding a Public Official or a Person Entrusted with Public Functions	916	756	564
Crimes against the Judicial System	2 867	2 637	1 449
Public Nuisance	10 547	9 386	8 587
Crimes related to Official Documents	19 689	19 876	13 758
Drug Abuse Crimes	6 544	8 146	6 566
Corruption Crimes	1 123	2 046	460
Bribery of Public Officials	945	1 653	242
Economic Bribery	50	146	115
Counterfeiting Currency	544	587	451
Forgery of Stamps	238	91	200
Crimes in connection with Cash-Substitute Payment Instruments	3 667	3 651	1 771
Budget Fraud	1 880	1 749	1 503
Fraudulent Bankruptcy	218	207	126
Money Laundering	90	259	188
Breach of Information System or Data	586	562	587

Crimes	2017	2018	2019
Compromising or Defrauding the Integrity of the Computer Protection System or Device	8	9	38
Environmental Offenses	37	32	19
Damaging the Natural Environment	81	450	165
Violation of Waste Management Regulation	748	372	402
Military Offenses	381	452	199

Prosecutorial Investigations

The CPC has not changed the earlier legal regulation according to which the Prosecution Service itself may also conduct investigation into any case, and the investigation of certain crimes exclusively belongs to the competence of the Prosecution Service.

Changes of some important data of prosecutorial investigations are presented by the following diagram:



It is a priority task for the Chief Prosecution Office of Investigation to deal with the fight against corruption, which has become more significant since the new CPC entered into force, as the investigation of corruption crimes regarding officials was moved into the exclusive competence of the Prosecution Service.

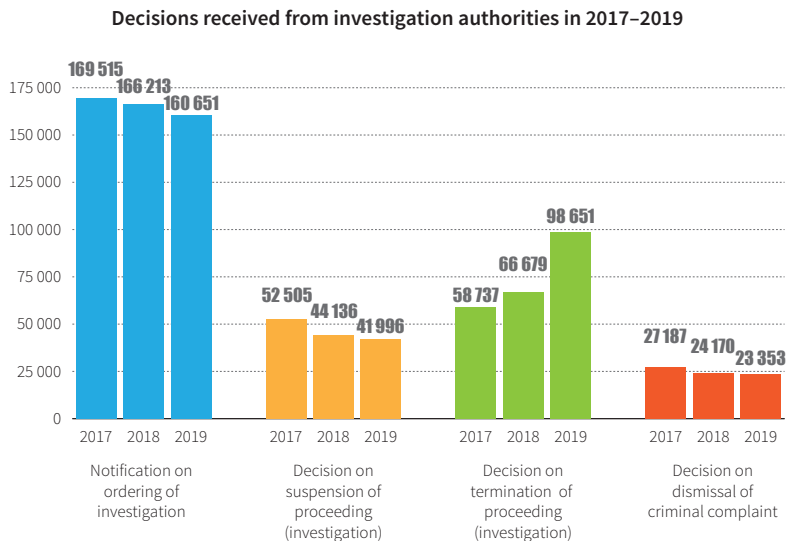
Supervision and Direction of the Investigation

Rights of the Prosecution Service in the criminal procedure changed from 1st July 2018 with the entry into force of the new CPC depending on whether the investigation is in its initial detecting stage (detection) or is already conducted against a reasonably suspected person (examination).

The divided investigation system has also changed the relationship between the prosecution service and the investigating authority.

Detection can be characterized by entire independence of the investigating authority but investigation – under the direction of the Prosecution Service – aims to decide about the accusation of a concrete person and other prosecution offices' measures, and it aims to obtain necessary proofs of evidence for them.

The number of decisions received from investigation authorities is shown by the following diagram:



Last year, the Prosecution Service received a total number of 324,651 decisions as indicated in the diagram. It supervised altogether 164,005 cases including the cases carried over from the previous year.

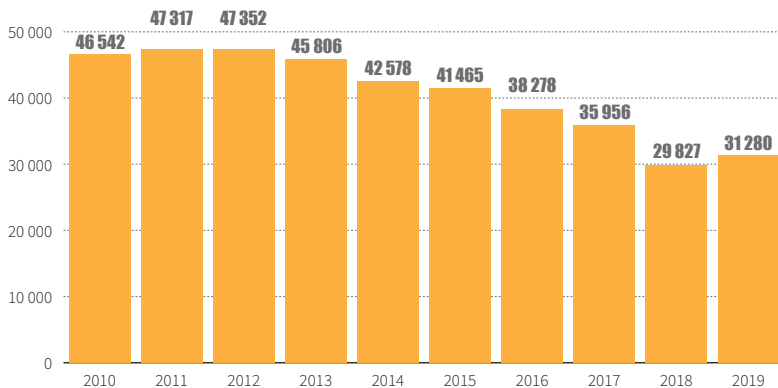
The reason for the decrease in the number of the supervised cases can be found in the regulations introduced by the CPC. Before 1st July 2018 the Prosecution Service had the possibility to change or repeal a decision or to give instruction for making a new decision at any phase of the investigation.

The CPC ensures such a wide range of rights only in the examination phase of the investigation but in the detection phase the Prosecution Service has only the right to repeal the decision violating the law or to warn the investigating authority to remedy the detected illegality. During the detection phase there is no possibility for the Prosecution Service to change the decision and it cannot give instructions for making a decision, either.

According to the rules of handling complaints, the Prosecution Service is entitled to decide on the complaint, if the decision was made by the investigating authority, and the superior prosecution office is entitled to decide on the complaint, if the decision was made by the Prosecution Service. Complaint is a one-level tool, there is no possibility for further legal remedy.

Changes in the number of complaints submitted against decisions and orders of investigation authorities is shown by the following diagram:

Number of complaints submitted against decisions and orders of investigation authorities in 2010–2019



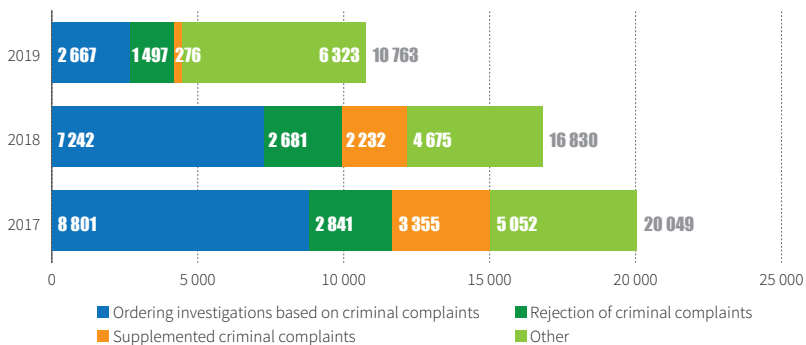
The number of complaints submitted against decisions of investigation authorities and waiting to be decided showed a small increase last year.

The Prosecution Service accepted 2,875 complaints, it rejected 23,107 complaints, whereas it took other measures with respect to the remaining part of the complaints.

Complaints may be submitted against decisions, measures or omitted measures taken by the Prosecution Service during its procedure before indictment. Out of the complaints lodged against the decisions of lower-level prosecution offices 411 complaints were accepted, 2,030 complaints were rejected and with regard to the remaining part of the complaints (562 complaints) other measures were taken in 2019.

The following diagram shows the decisions on criminal complaints submitted to the Prosecution Service:

Criminal complaints submitted to the Prosecution Service and decisions made on them in 2017-2019

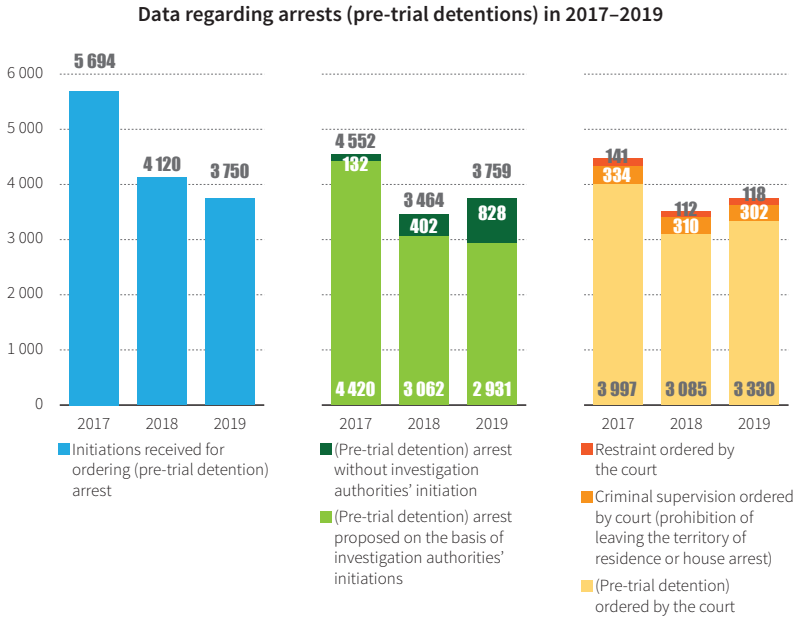


The CPC lays emphasis on the gradual approach concerning deprivation or limitation of liberty in connection with the system of coercive measures.

It is a statutory provision that the application and execution of a coercive measures shall correspond to the requirement of the principle of necessity and proportionality.

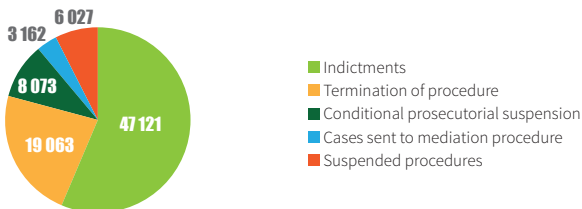
The possibility of using bail has been significantly expanded, indicating that the new CPC intends to reduce the number of arrests to a minimum, and it intends to limit arrest to the most necessary cases.

Regularly the investigating authority initiates that the Prosecution Service should propose arrests. The following diagram illustrates the follow-up measures of such initiations:



In 2019 there were 83,446 (2018: 78,558) prosecutorial decisions in connection with cases examined in view of being appropriate for indictment. These results are shown by the following diagram:

Prosecutorial decisions on cases examined in view of being appropriate for indictment in 2019



With regard to the examined cases the Prosecution Service filed indictment in 56.5% of the cases, terminated 22.8% of the cases, it applied conditional prosecutorial suspension in 9.7% of the cases and referred 3.8% of the cases to mediation. The types of indictments were as follows: the Prosecution Service filed indictments in 8,305 cases, arraignments were conducted in 6,920 cases, and it made a proposal for a penal order in 27,633 cases. Indictments were filed in 91 cases based on agreements.

The Prosecution Service has also the possibility to make motion in the indictment relating to the proportion and the period of the punishment or measure in case of the accused confesses to the commission of the crime.

In 2019 the Prosecution Service indicted 68,127 persons, which is 1.4% higher than in the previous year.

Certain cases can be quickly closed by arraignment. Arraignment can be applied in cases which are easy to decide or to prove, when the defendant makes a confession or was caught in the act of committing the crime.

In 2019 arraignments were conducted with regard to 14.7% of the total number of indictments (in 2018: 19.5%, 2017: 23.1%).

To simplify and significantly accelerate the procedure, decrease the workload, the court – upon a prosecution office's motion or ex officio – decides about the punishment or imposes measures without hearing the defendant or without conducting the procedure. The procedure aiming a penal order can even be applied if the defendant has not confessed the commission of the crime during the investigation.

In 2019 the Prosecution Service filed motions for penal order with regard to 58.6% of all indictments (2018: 44.8%, 2017: 32.3%). This represents a significant increase in the number of motions compared to the previous year.

Mediation is a conflict resolution procedure that can be applied to avoid infliction of sanctions for a minor offence. Its purpose is to reach a settlement agreement while also including compensation between the defendant and the victim to resolve their conflict. The agreement will also facilitate the defendant's future law-abiding behavior.

In 2019 the Prosecution Service suspended and referred 4,631 defendants' cases to mediation (2018: 3,782, 2017: 4,148) and rejected the suspension of proceedings in the case of 3,298 defendants (2018: 4,343, 2017: 3,125). Considering the success of the proceedings, the Prosecution Service terminated the proceedings against 2,483 defendants.

Further options to avoid court procedures are the following: termination of the procedure by application of reprimand, conditional prosecutorial suspension of the procedure.

In 2019 the Prosecution Service applied conditional prosecutorial suspension against 9,423 persons (2018: 10,119, 2017: 11,044). After applying this legal tool, procedures were terminated against 7,472 persons.

Besides the work represented by statistics, the activity of the Office of the Prosecutor General in monitoring and developing legal practice is also highly important.

The Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (Moneyval) in 2016 implemented the 5th round evaluation report of Hungary. As a result, Moneyval formulated as a recommendation the active initiation of court procedures in order to improve case law and to develop the requirement for proof of preparatory acts.

Point III/F/1 of the 1688/2017 (IX. 22.) Government Resolution on the action plan prepared for the implementation of the anti-money laundering recommendations of the Council of Europe Moneyval country report for Hungary ordered the establishment of a committee from practicing judges and prosecutors with the aim of developing case-law guidelines based on an analysis of indictments, substantive decisions and cases of the 2015–2017 period.

Based on the review and analysis of legal cases, this working group has identified problems that cannot be eliminated by legal interpretation, but may only be resolved through legislation. The working group has elaborated a draft for legislative amendment, which has been also forwarded to the Ministry of Justice.

Last year, in the frame of a national work plan examination, the Office of the Prosecutor General analyzed the practice of preparatory procedure. The Office of

the Prosecutor General has taken the necessary measures to resolve questions of legal practice and to prevent prospective errors.

In the frame of a national examination, the Office of the Prosecutor General examined the practice of the investigative authorities and the prosecution offices relating to access to case files, as well as the practice of the prosecution offices in issuing and executing European Investigation Orders.

Prosecutors in criminal courts

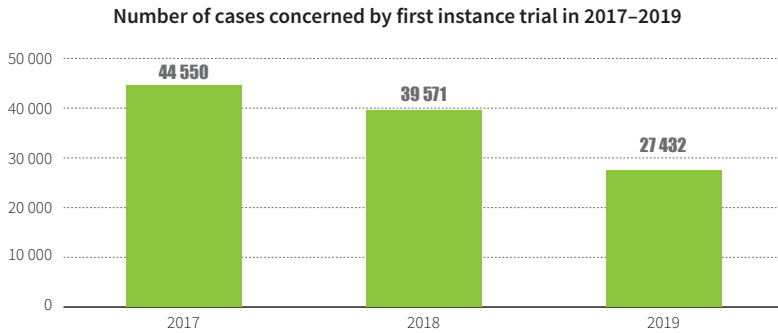
Similarly to the previous years' tendency, as already mentioned, the number of registered crimes continued to decline in 2019. At the same time, the Prosecution Service, just like other professional bodies acting in criminal matters, has had to face law application difficulties, which became recognizable only a few months after the actual application of CPC, and which neither the legislators nor the proceeding authorities could entirely foresee. Following the precise identification of the problems, quick and effective solutions had to be found, sometimes in consultation with other professional bodies, to ensure the smooth and standardized functioning of the judiciary. There were difficulties that we were able to solve through legal interpretation or law applicational techniques, in other cases, where legislative correction was found necessary, we indicated this to the drafters of legislation.

Contrary to the trend of previous years, the number of cases judged by the court with final decision slightly increased by 2.1% in 2019 compared to the previous year, and the number of accused persons involved also increased by 1.5%. This increase is mainly due to the fact that, as a result of the new function of the preliminary session, the courts were able to deliver a final decision after a simpler and shorter procedure, and the wider application of appeals which resulted in limited supervision has made a significant part of second-instance procedures simpler and faster. At the same time, as a result of the acceleration of criminal procedures courts were able to close more criminal cases, involving more defendants with final decision than in previous years.

Experience gained in 2019 has shown that the preliminary session held mandatorily in cases of indictment under the general rules has in practice become an important tool in prosecutors' activities. The function of the preliminary session to bring criminal procedures to a quick conclusion in the event of a confession of

the defendant has been proved to be well-functioning. Prosecutors providing the charge have increasingly taken the opportunity to propose a specific degree of legal sanction, in the event that the accused confesses at the preliminary session the commission of the offense. The other function of the preliminary session, namely the concentration of the trial, has proven to be effective in practice, the preliminary session has become the main forum for presenting motions of evidence.

The number of cases at first instance trial, as illustrated in the diagram below, continued to decline in 2019, even compared to the declining trend of the previous period. This change can be explained by the fact that courts were able to close cases by final decision at the preliminary session.



The number of cases completed at second instance continued to decline, reaching 10,068 in 2019, and the number of trials held with the participation of prosecutors decreased by 17.2%. In 2019 prosecutors took part in second instance public sessions in nearly one fifth of the cases.

According to provisions of the CPC, in many cases, the direction and content of appeals, submitted by the Prosecution Service essentially determine the volume of the appeal and by this the limits of the second instance court's procedure. Of particular importance in this respect is the provision under which it is no longer possible to extend appeals resulting in a limited review at a later stage. Based on the indicators of the efficiency of accusation, it can be concluded that the prosecutors handling cases at first-instance properly adapted the above requirements of the CPC, performed high-quality work and proceeded with increased attention during submission of appeals.

The CPC provides possibility for the second instance court to establish the criminal liability of an accused acquitted at first instance based on dissimilar facts. Whenever prosecutors proceeding in the representation of prosecution offices operating at the level of second instance court saw an opportunity to apply this rule, they acted, in order to reduce the number of cases in which the repeal of the first instance court's decision was necessary.

The number of third instance procedures in 2019 was minimal: it was 123.

On the whole, it can be concluded that in 2019 the workload of the Prosecution Service in relation to trials decreased compared to the previous year, but at the same time putting the changes generated by the new CPC into practice and consolidating them has created additional workload for prosecutorial employees.

In 2019 the rate of procedures aimed at making a penal order and the rate of arraignments compared to the number of finally convicted offenders increased significantly compared to the previous year, it was 51% (2018: 41.7 %). Based on these statistical data it can be concluded that the Prosecution Service efficiently contributed to the improvement of timeliness of criminal procedures last year as well.

The court found 91.9% of the prosecutorial motions for arraignment procedures well-founded, given that the procedural conditions for conducting this special procedure were met. The majority of the court procedures were finished within one trial day.

In 2019 the quantity of procedures aimed at making penal orders further increased compared to the previous year; in the reporting year the penal order became final with regard to 86.2% of the defendants.

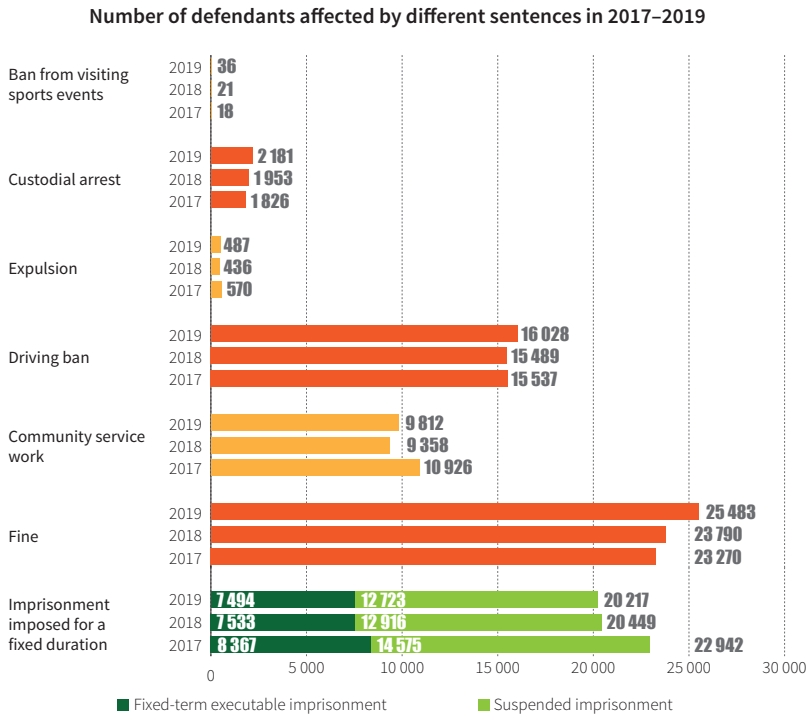
The function of the preliminary session to accelerate court procedures proved effective. In 2019 there were 9,125 defendants whose confession were accepted and after it the court brought judgment during the preliminary session. This was a 24.5% rate compared to the number of defendants in the case of which the court delivered a final judgement in a procedure other than an arraignment or penal order procedure. The judgment delivered during the preliminary session has become final relating to 8,075 defendants.

In 2019 the number of defendants sentenced to punishments or measures increased compared to the previous year: it was 66,103.

The rate of punishments further increased, reaching 85.4% in 2019.

In 2019 the number of defendants sentenced to life imprisonment increased, the court imposed the most serious punishment under the penal system on 25 defendants in the reporting year.

The number of defendants affected by different sentences – without the number of defendants sentenced to life imprisonment is shown by the following figure:



Last year – compared to the earlier period – the number of defendants sentenced to a fixed-term imprisonment by court decreased to a relatively lesser extent, by 1.1%. As far as imprisonment sentences are concerned, the rate of executable imprisonments (37.1%) increased slightly compared to the rate of suspended imprisonments (62.9%).

In 2019 – similarly to the previous year – fine became the most frequently applied penalty by court.

Beside the slight increase in the number of imposed fines, community service work sentences increased by 4.9% in the reporting year.

The number of defendants in 2019 against whom the court legally imposed a driving ban, although slightly (by 3.5%), but increased. Compared to the declining trend of previous years, it can be concluded that, in line with the opinion of the Prosecution Service, the courts also consider the impact of this sanction on the general and individual prevention objectives as decisive.

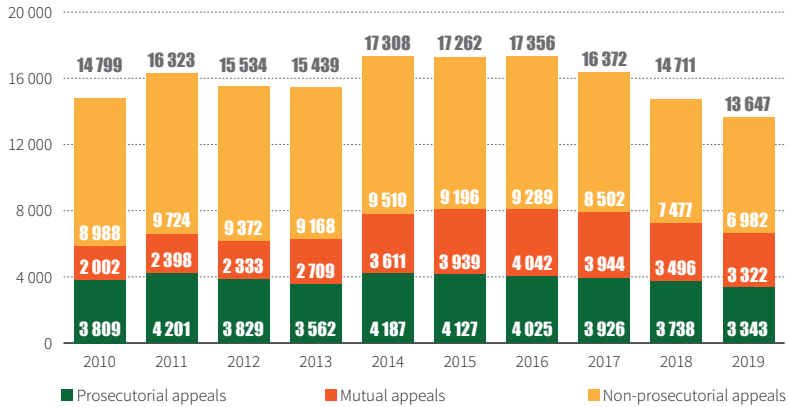
In 2019 the number of expulsions did not change significantly, it increased by 51 cases.

The number of custodial arrests continued to grow.

The number of probations decreased slightly in 2019, but it still remained to be the most commonly applied criminal measure by courts.

The following diagram illustrates the number of appeals against decisions on the merit of the first instance courts.

Appeals against decisions on the merit of the first instance courts in 2010–2019



In 2019, the number of accused concerned by decisions on the merit of first instance courts decreased by 26.9%. The number of appeals filed against these defendants decreased to a lesser extent than this, by 7.2%.

In 2019, appeals against the decisions on the merit of the first instance courts were filed with regard to 37.8% of the defendants.

The number of prosecution appeals filed against the decision on the merit of the first instance court decreased by 7.9% in 2019.

In 2019, the effectiveness of prosecution appeals increased to 53.6%. In some cases, it could still be perceived that case-law was mild, and the provision on the imposition of imprisonment in view of the statutory average was not properly enforced. In such cases, the Prosecution Service sought to enforce this statutory requirement by appealing for aggravation.

In 2019, we filed an appeal for the acquittal of the accused in 9 cases and for the mitigation of the penalty imposed on the accused in 40 cases.

The efficiency rate of indictment has been permanently increasing since 2013, in the reporting year the highest rate of the last ten years was registered, it was 98.3%. Besides that, in case of 57,988 defendants, which is 85.1%, the courts established the criminal responsibility for the very same offences as included in the indictment or the final indictment.

Compared to the previous year the number of first instance decisions on the merit that were quashed at the second instance increased significantly, by 54.8%.

In 2019, the number of defendants affected by appeals lodged against decisions of courts of second instance increased to 232, within which the number of defendants affected by appeals submitted by the Prosecution Service increased to 154.

In 2019, the number of retrials initiated ex officio by the Prosecution Service decreased in comparison to the year before, the efficiency rate of these was 77.5%.

In 2019 too, the Prosecution Service paid special attention to priority criminal cases and to cases of high interest to the public pending before a criminal court. The Prosecution Service thoroughly examined this kind of procedures, whereas it generally examined procedures finished with final judgements of acquittal, and it drew the necessary conclusions. Similarly to the years before, random sampling was taken of cases which had been finished in a manner that undermined the efficiency rate of indictment. Based on the results of the examinations we took specific or general measures, and our experiences were shared in trainings for prosecutors in the field of criminal law. We offered consultations to the appellate chief prosecution offices and chief prosecution offices in ongoing cases where substantive and procedural law issues were discussed by a practical approach, so that they could be used in cases pending before court. All these measures have contributed to the maintenance of a favorable efficiency rate of indictment.

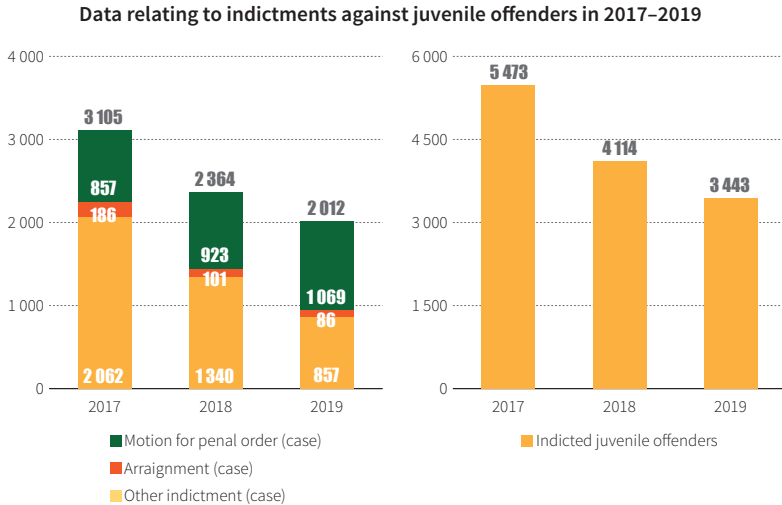
Prosecutors' activities with regard to criminal cases of juvenile offenders

In 2019 the number of criminal offenders was 136,669, and 7,863 of them were registered as juvenile offenders over the age of fourteen.

In 2019 the number of minors registered as criminal offenders - who cannot be held criminally liable - was 1,826.

Cases closed in an accelerated procedure accounted for 57.4% of the indictments, which is a significant increase of 14.1%, compared to the respective figure 43.3% of the previous year.

The number of cases resulting in indictments and the number of indictments against juvenile offenders are shown by the following figure:

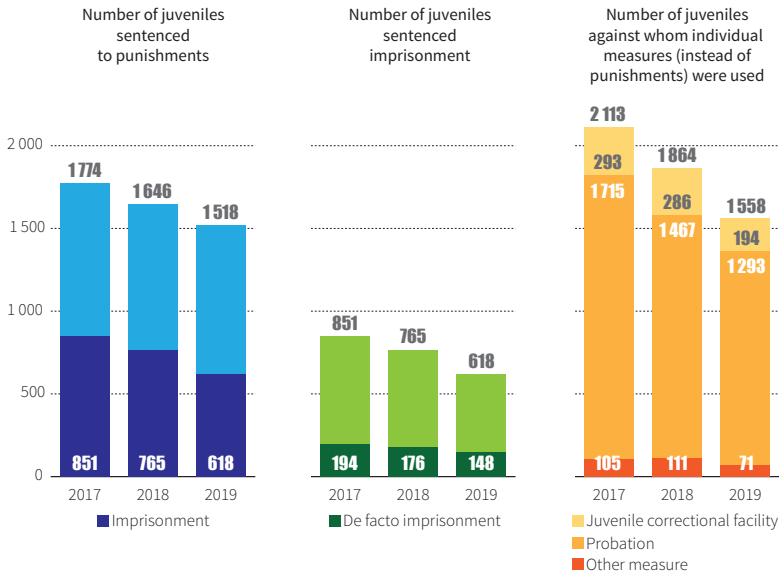


In 2019 the number of cases and defendants affected by court decisions showed a further decrease compared to the data of the previous years.

Courts brought final judgments with regard to 3,121 juvenile offenders in 2,410 cases. In their final judgements courts imposed imprisonment on less than half (40.7%) of the juvenile offenders.

From the group of measures, which can be applied individually instead of criminal punishment, most frequently probation was applied (83%). The data are shown by the following figure:

Substantive data related to punishments and measures taken against juvenile delinquents in 2017-2019



The function of the preliminary session which aims to ensure that criminal procedures are concluded as soon as possible, even in the case of indictment, has proved to be particularly effective in juvenile cases. In 2019, at the preliminary session, the court accepted the confession of 639 juvenile defendants (86.5% of juveniles charged with indictment), from which 609 defendants (95.3%) were sentenced and out of this 609, 585 defendants' judgement became final at the preliminary session.

In 2019 prosecutors lodged appeals against decisions of the first instance courts with regard to 181 defendants, which led to a result in the second instance involving 52.7% of the defendants (97 defendants). Criminal proceedings of third instance were conducted against 6 defendant in 5 cases.

The efficiency rate of indictment regarding the juvenile cases was similar to the data of the previous years, 99.33% (2018: 98.99%, 2017: 98.94%).

Opinions aiming at the uniform application of law in the criminal section

During the application of criminal law, it is essential that prosecutorial organs represent the same position on contentious issues. During the application of criminal law, it is essential that prosecutorial organs represent the same position on contentious issues. The CPC entering into force on 1 July 2018 raised also in the course of 2019, a number of issues of interpretation, in connection with the Office of the Prosecutor General assisted the law enforcement of the Prosecution Service with guidelines, including the following.

In 2019, the Office of the Prosecutor General issued a newer supplementary guideline in connection with the 2018 opinion on trafficking in human beings, in which detailed the circumstances and indicators used to identify victims of trafficking in human beings for the purpose of exploitation facilitating to establishment of the correct classification of the offenses committed against them.

The Office of the Prosecutor General took a position – first in an individual case guideline, then in a circular from the Head of Department – on the issue of whether it is a criminal offense, if, in the course of the investigation aiming the detection of a criminal offense committed by several offenders or due to its expecting investigation order, one of the offenders seeks to give or promise a financial advantage to the other offenders to influence their future confessions, to encourage his/her co-perpetrators to make confessions that reduce or exclude the liability of his/her own and their co-perpetrators.

In its resolution issued on an individual case, the Office of the Prosecutor General explained that crimes against property and damage to the budget can also realize corruption crimes, the cumulation of such crimes is real.

It should be emphasized the guidelines on the rights of the Prosecution Service during the detection in connection with supervision of legality and the resolution about the applicability of special treatment of victims of human trafficking, and the aspects of their interview.

The guideline on submission of the motion for imposition of the sentence in case of the confession of the defendant served the unification of the application of law.

The resolution on the application of substantive criminal law provided guidance to the Member States of the European Union on the interpretation of the concept of enforceable decision in criminal matters relating to the offense of non-maintenance and the lawful determination of the degree of deprivation of liberty relating a juvenile.

3. Prosecutors' activities outside the field of criminal law

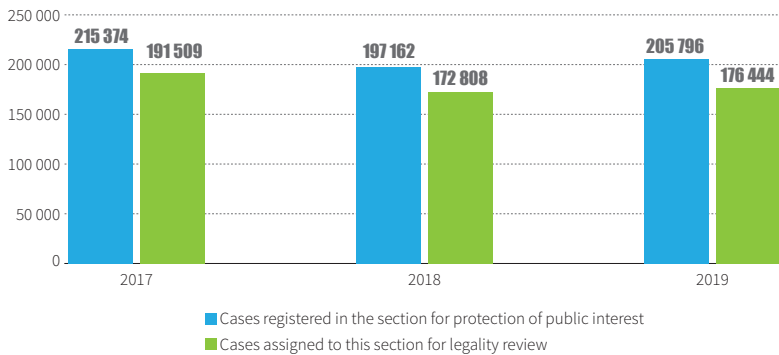
Prosecutors' activities relating to the protection of public interest

In 2019, the legal environment affecting the field did not change significantly. However, the uniform application of the new procedural codes, which entered into force in 2018, raised a number of theoretical and practical issues, and it was also a priority to give an opinion on the draft legislation related thereto. The Prosecution Service has successfully adapted to the evolving case law, constantly monitoring the enforcement, amendments and application of the procedural codes, which significantly restructure the conditions of access to court and the rules of court activity.

Statistical indicators and tendencies of cases relating to the protection of public interest

In 2019, the number of cases registered in the field of the protection of public interest – as it can be seen in the figure below – increased by 4.4% compared to the data of the previous year. The increase was 2.1% in cases related to legality review, which account for a significant proportion of the protection of public interest cases, and was particularly significant (21%) in private law cases, which account for the rest of the caseload.

Caseload data in the field of the protection of public interest in 2017–2019



The negative effects of the 2017 legislative changes affecting prosecutors' powers related to civil organizations and causing a significant decrease in the number of cases, were less pronounced in 2019.

The growing trend is well reflected in the fact that the number of cases received from the court has increased for the first time since 2017, with 11.2% more cases compared to the previous year (2019: 3,947, 2018: 3,550, 2017: 5,147). From among these cases the number of requests aiming at prosecutorial actions decreased slightly by 2.5% in 2019 (2019: 3,065, 2018: 3,144).

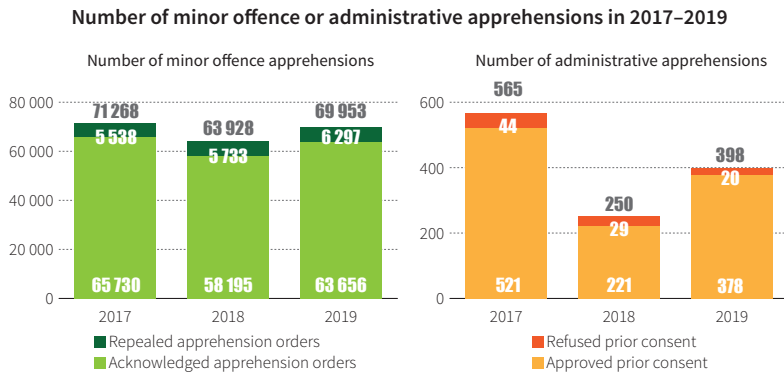
Experiences of legality review procedures

In 2019 the number of requests (1,106) seeking prosecutorial legality review of proceedings and decisions of public administration authorities practically did not change and in comparison to 2018 (1,138); the decrease in this number is less than 3%. Specifically, the number of requests related to guardianship and construction cases increased by 7.6% and 21%, respectively. No significant change was recorded in the number of requests related the proceedings in custodial, tax, finance, social benefits and medical care cases. At the same time, a constant decrease can be witnessed in the number of requests for prosecutorial actions in traffic administration and land registry cases.

Compared to the previous year, the number of priority measures in cases of environment, nature and animal protection increased by more than 7%. Prosecutors issued 28 signals for minor offenses, whereas in 87 cases they initiated proceedings while exercising their supervisory and control powers.

Against the unfounded decisions of administrative authorities, reminders were issued in 5 cases and the authorities accepted the reminder in each case. Due to acts seriously endangering or damaging the environmental values (violation of the order of waste management, damage to nature), criminal proceedings were initiated in 8 cases.

The following diagram illustrates prosecutorial activities related to apprehension orders of administrative authorities in 2017–2019:



In 2019, by 59% more requests for consent in administrative authority cases were received by the Prosecution Service than in the previous year. The reason for the drop in the number of refusals of prior consent is that while in 2018 more than 11% of the issued apprehension orders did not meet the legal requirements, this proportion sank to 5% in 2019.

In 2018 the number of minor offence apprehensions increased by 9.4%. Prosecutors repealed apprehension orders in a proportion (9%) similar to that of the previous year.

The number of decisions (78,669) on the termination of proceedings transmitted to the Prosecution Service by administrative authorities and police bodies conducting preliminary proceedings in matters falling within the jurisdiction of the courts was by 5.7% less than in the previous year (83,429). Based on the electronically submitted decisions on the termination of proceedings prosecutors took measures in 2.6% of the cases. Prosecutors issued a reminder in more than 25%, and a signal in 57.8% of these cases. In the rest of the cases

prosecutors initiated proceedings. There was a slight increase in the number of reminders (2019: 572, 2018: 564) and in the number of initiated proceedings (2019: 294, 2018: 255), whereas the number of signals issued by prosecutors with regard to minor offences having lesser importance decreased by 3% (2019: 1,187, 2018: 1,277). In most cases, the initiation of proceedings was aimed at conducting criminal proceedings due to the criminal nature of the act.

In 2019 the number of complaints submitted in minor offence cases decreased by 18.4% (2019: 1,036, 2018: 1,270). Similarly to the data of 2018, more than 25% of the complaints proved to be substantiated. Based on the detected breaches of law prosecutors annulled decisions of authorities against which complaints had been filed in 267 cases and they established the violation of law by authorities in 3 cases.

In 2019 the number of retrials increased by 15,4% (2019: 1,309, 2018: 1,134).

The number of initiatives taken by the minor offence authorities to let their own decisions be supervised by prosecutors was 529 in 2019, which is an increase of 18.6% compared to the year before. The number of reminders following these initiatives increased by 9.6% and the number of requests for retrial almost doubled.

Prosecutorial activities relating to reliability investigations

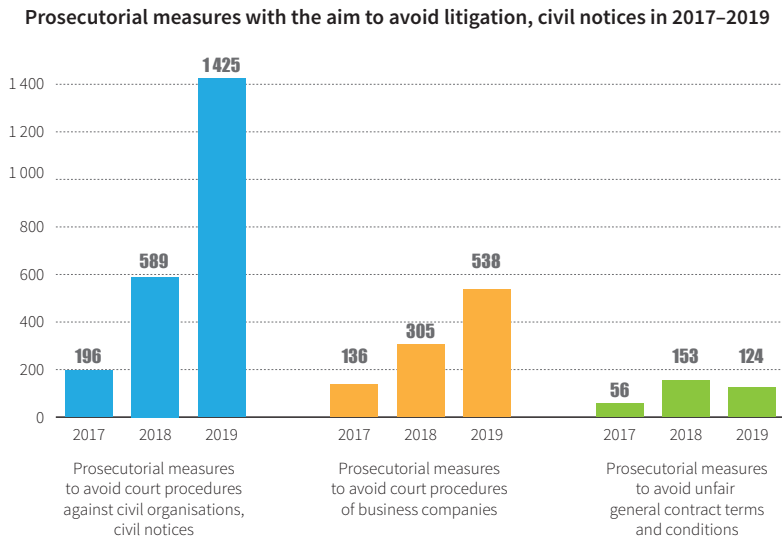
Chief Prosecution Offices assigned to fulfil the tasks relating to integrity screening approved 1,146 decisions ordering reliability investigations in 2019. In the case of 39 persons, the prosecutor denied the approval of reliability investigations. Based on conducted reliability investigations 7 criminal proceedings were initiated concerning 4 staff members of government offices and 3 police staff members.

The participation of the prosecutor in court proceedings

In the field of private law, following the changes in the prosecutorial powers related to civil organisations in 2017, there was a comprehensive reorganization of the activities of the Prosecution Service. In 2019, the shift in focus towards company law and consumer protection activities continued.

Prosecutors working in the field of the protection of public interest seek to apply prosecutorial measures where they – as the contributors to the administration of justice - have the right of access to justice with the aim to avoid litigation in all cases before the initiation of court proceedings, if the opposing party, acting in its own authority, can voluntarily terminate the unlawful situation or state.

The following diagram illustrates the number of prosecutorial measures with the aim to avoid litigation in 2017–2019:



Prosecutors exercised their statutory powers resulting in the reduction of the number of court proceedings in many cases. The majority of the measures were effective, the affected civil organizations and companies mostly complied with the prosecutorial reminders.

The increase in the number of prosecutorial measures to avoid litigation concerning civil organisations is 2.5-fold compared to the previous year.

The number of prosecutorial measures to avoid litigation in connection with company law has been steadily increasing over the past few years: reminders for

companies were issued in 76.4% more cases than in the previous year in order to terminate minor violations of law with significant impact, which can be eliminated in a short time by voluntary compliance of the company. If the company failed to comply with the reminder of the prosecutor, a company legality supervision procedure was initiated in each case.

In order to protect the interests of consumers, prosecutors – after the careful consideration of all circumstances – often issue reminders to companies to eliminate the reasons for unfair general contract terms and conditions. Parallel with E-commerce becoming more widespread, the significance of consumer protection is also increasing. In view of the dangers of the very popular online shopping, the majority of prosecutorial actions with the aim to avoid litigation were taken against businesses operating web stores. In several cases, prosecutors took measures against tour operators, as well they took measures to avoid litigation against accommodation providers for unfair terms of contract.

The number of litigation proceedings initiated by prosecutors (255) increased by 24.4% compared to the previous year. However, the number of contentious proceedings is still significantly lower than in 2017, as the claim previously enforced in litigation proceedings has become a non-litigation claim in the changed regulatory environment for civil organisations as of 1st March 2017.

Compared to the year before, in 2019 there was a 26.4% increase in the number (1,642) of prosecutorial actions in non-litigation proceedings seeking restraining orders between family members before courts. Based on the violations brought to their attention, prosecutors issued by 23% more awareness-rising signals (1,238) to the competent family protection coordination offices in order to protect the victims of domestic violence, especially the minors concerned.

In parallel with the 76.4% growth in the number of prosecutorial measures taken to avoid litigation, the number of company legality supervision procedures initiated by the Prosecution Service (1,761) decreased by 23% in 2019.

In 2018, prosecutors filed by 84% more company lawsuits (90) in order to repeal unlawful decisions on company registration and the registration of changes in the Company Register.

In 2019, in order to protect the interests of consumers prosecutors submitted 20 claims for unfair general contract terms and conditions which is by 5% more than in the year before.

Prosecutorial activity relating to child and juvenile protection outside the field of criminal law

In the framework of the legality supervision of child protection institutions the Prosecution Service carried out inspections in 23 child protection institutions providing specialized care and 72 small group homes.

The number of prosecutorial measures due to violations of law detected in the course of the inspections has been constantly growing over the past few years, in 2019 it was by 10.6% more than in the previous year (2019: 251, 2018: 227).

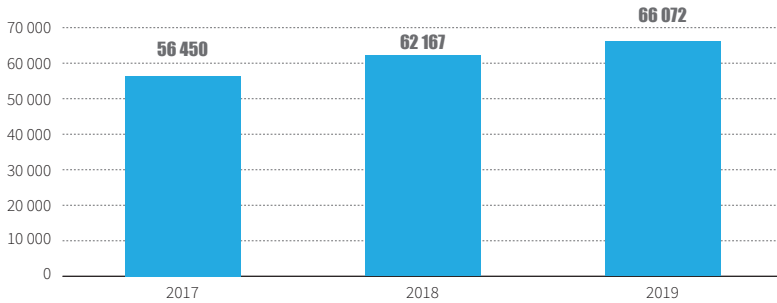
Prosecutors fully accomplished their warning duties related to endangered children and the danger of violence among family members. Addressing the guardian offices responsible for the coordination of family services, the number (250) of official proceedings initiated to refer a child in a protected status increased by 6.8%, whereas the number (1,238) of awareness-raising signals in restraint cases applied for violence among family members showed a significant growth of 22.8%.

Prosecutors issued 147 reminders for substantive violations of the law in authorities' decisions concerning juveniles, and 639 signals for minor violations of the law. Prosecutorial actions were aimed at establishing criminal liability in 360 cases.

Legality supervision of the enforcement of punishments

The increased workload in the field of legality supervision of the enforcement of punishments and the protection of human rights (supervision of the enforcement of punishments) is reflected in the growth of the number of assigned cases. As the diagram below shows, this indicator has been constantly growing in the past few years.

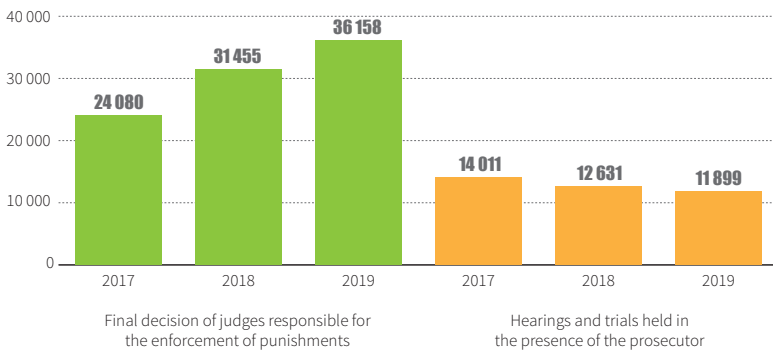
Changes in the workload in the field of legality supervision of the enforcement of punishments and the protection of human rights in 2017–2019



A similar tendency could be observed in the number of complaints, requests and notifications received by the prosecutors last year. No trend-like change in the proportion of sustained complaints, requests and notifications (2019: 9.5%, 2018: 10.2%, 2017: 9.8%) can be detected.

Participation in court proceedings connected to the enforcement of punishments account for a significant proportion of the workload of prosecutors specialized in this field. The following diagram illustrates the number of final judgements of judges responsible for the enforcement of punishments and the number of hearings and trials held in the presence of prosecutors:

Number of final judgements of judges responsible for the enforcement of punishments and the number of hearings and trials held in the presence of prosecutors in 2017–2019



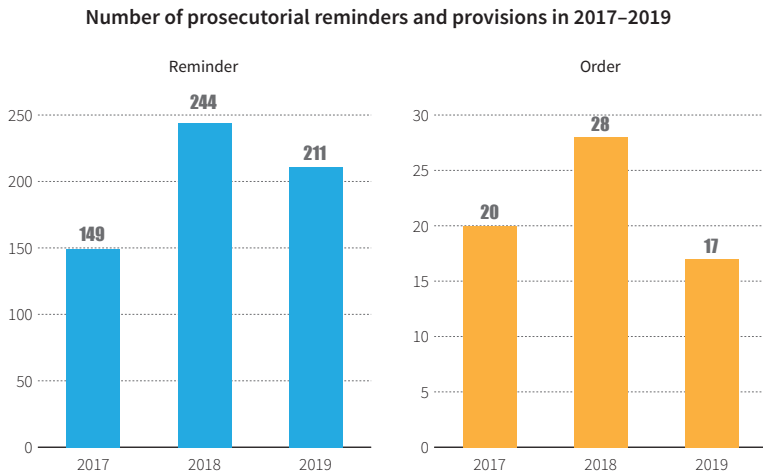
The steady increase in the number of final court decisions in judicial procedures conducted by judges responsible for the enforcement of punishments is essentially

the result of the extension of the powers of these judges (compensatory remedy complaints concerning conditions of detention violating fundamental rights, review of involuntary treatment, etc.).

The constant decline in the number of hearings and trials held in the presence of the prosecutor can be mainly explained by the further increase in the workload of the specialized prosecutors due to the growing number of decisions in punishment enforcement cases. This allowed prosecutors to attend fewer hearings where their attendance is optional.

With the help of their inspections, prosecutors in this field continued to detect infringements of the law and took definite measures to eliminate and prevent them.

The following diagram illustrates the number of reminders and orders issued by prosecutors working in the field of punishment enforcement:



Continuous monitoring of the legality of detainees' treatment has long been a priority task for prosecutors supervising the enforcement of punishments. The national examination in 2019 found that similarly to the previous years the legal provisions ensuring the legality of the treatment of detainees have generally been implemented by detention bodies and the method of implementation generally complied with the requirements set forth by international norms and recommendations.

The necessary prosecutorial measures to rectify and eliminate occasional deficiencies were taken, and the prosecution offices contributed to the remedy and prevention of deficiencies by using lawful means and tools available for them.

Last year – based on a detainee complaint – the Office of the Prosecutor General investigated the rules of the organisation for the enforcement of punishments on the closed-loop sending of parcels to detainees placed in correctional institutions. In the course of the investigation it was found that the provision of the relevant professional instruction, which prohibited that parcels ordered from the Internet contained tobacco products, was in conflict with the relevant provisions of the penal institutions law. In view of this, the Office of the Prosecutor General initiated the review and appropriate amendment of the internal norm governing the issue with the Commander of National Prison Service Headquarters. As a result of the measure, the national commander issued a new normative instruction that no longer prohibits the purchase of tobacco products online.

Last year, based on a report of a chief prosecution office, the Office of the Prosecutor General was informed that in one of the correctional institutions inmates with different custody levels were placed in an unlawful manner, without separation within the section separated for the so-called “first offenders”. At the enquiry of the Office of the Prosecutor General, the Commander of National Prison Service Headquarters provided the information that this practice had been introduced nationally and uniformly by the penitentiary organization because, in their interpretation, it was in line with the relevant legal provisions. Given that the placement of inmates without segregation actually took place without a legal mandate, the Office of the Prosecutor General took action to put an end to the illegal practice.

4. The Prosecutor General’s activity

Activity related to Parliament

In 2019 the Prosecutor General continued to exhaustively fulfill his constitutional obligations towards the Parliament, both orally and in writing in 2019. In the reporting year, Members of Parliament addressed 63 questions requiring written

responses (one of which was withdrawn) and 3 urgent questions to the Prosecutor General.

Exercising certain powers of the Prosecutor General

In 2019, in order to ensure final judgements' compliance with the law, the Prosecutor General sought legal remedies at the Curia in 18 cases.

Section 2 (2) (a) of the Act CXXX of 2000 on establishing the nullity of convictions in connection with the reckonings of the 1956 revolution and fight for freedom, authorized the Prosecutor General to file motions ex officio to the Curia to issue a certificate of nullity to those affected by the Act. Such occurred in 13 criminal cases in 2019 by which 46 persons were concerned. The Curia confirmed the nullity of the proceedings in accordance with the filed motions.

The most important tool to standardize judicial practice is the uniformity decision adopted by the Curia, which is binding for lower courts. In 2019 5 uniformity decision proceedings were opened in the field of criminal law, 3 of which were initiated by the Prosecutor General. Last year the Prosecutor General issued written statements in 3 uniformity decision proceedings outside the field of criminal law.

In 2019, in order to initiate criminal procedures the Prosecutor General requested the waiver of the immunity of four Members of Parliament in five cases. Based on these requests the Parliament waived the MP's immunity in all the five cases.

The Prosecutor General requested the waiver of five judges' immunity, and all the requests led to the waiver of their immunity. In 2019 there were no prosecutor whose immunity was waived by the Prosecutor General. The Prosecutor General proposed the waiver of foreign diplomats' immunity to the Minister responsible for foreign affairs in two cases, both proposals were rejected.

In the reporting year the number of draft legislations sent to the Prosecution Service for issuing an opinion exceeded 110. The Prosecutor General and within their delegated power the head prosecutors of the Prosecution Service made observations on more than 25% of the sent draft legislations.

In 2019 the most important legislative preparatory work in the field of criminal law was the draft of amendments to the CPC.

The Prosecutor General is authorized by law to regulate in internal orders the structure, operation and activities of prosecution offices and units headed, directed and supervised by him and to issue circulars to facilitate the operation and activities of the Prosecution Service as well as the cooperation of the branches of prosecutorial activities. In 2019 23 Orders of the Prosecutor General have been issued.

The Prosecutor General's international activity

In 2019 the Prosecutor General's international activity focused on strengthening bilateral relations and on more perceivable representation of the Prosecution Service at the highest level at international events. In this context, accepting his Austrian counterpart's invitation, the Prosecutor General of Hungary made an official visit to Vienna on 19–20th March.

To continue the bilateral meetings between the Prosecutors General of the two countries held in the previous years, the Prosecutor General of Slovenia visited Hungary on 28–30th October.

During his stay in Hungary, Northern Ireland's Attorney General paid an introductory visit to Dr. Péter Polt, Prosecutor General of Hungary.

As a continuation of the highest-level Vietnamese-Hungarian meetings held in 2015 and in 2018 the Prosecutor General of Vietnam paid an official visit to Hungary on 23–27th April. As a result of consultations between the Prosecutors General of the two countries a supplementary protocol to the agreement of cooperation was signed, in which the Prosecution Service of Hungary encourages the launch of a postgraduate program on law for Vietnamese prosecutors.

On 6th June Dr. Péter Polt met the Prosecutor General of Russia in Saint Petersburg. Moreover, he also attended and delivered a speech at the 23rd St. Petersburg International Forum. The Prosecutor General of Russia, heading a 22-member delegation, held talks with Dr. Péter Polt in Budapest on 13th November.

In 2019 the Prosecutor General of Hungary participated in several European and regional events – including the meeting of Prosecutors General of the Visegrád Four Group in Warsaw – dedicated to develop the parties' cooperation, the annual meeting of the Network of Public Prosecutors or Equivalent Institutions at the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States of the European Union in Estonia, and in the international conference titled „International Terrorism and Illegal Migration” organized for prosecutors general and presidents of court of EU Members States and countries of the region in Budva.

In 2019 the Prosecutor General of Hungary also held official negotiations with several high-ranking non-prosecutor partners. On 1st March he met the delegation of the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) of the Council of Europe, on 25th March the delegation of the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro, on 19th June the Moroccan Minister of Justice, who was visiting Hungary upon the invitation of the Minister of Justice of Hungary. Moreover, on 21st November the Prosecutor General of Hungary held talks within the framework of the European Semester with experts of the European Commission visiting Hungary.

5. The international activity of the Prosecution Service

International relations

Participation in international training events, aimed at exchanging experiences, which prosecutors attended as experts, lecturers or members of the audience, as well as foreign official trips aimed at discussing concrete criminal cases with foreign partners accounted for a significant part of the international activity of the Prosecution Service in 2019, too. Most training programs were organized and financed by the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN).

Foreign exchange programs organized by the EJTN also continued in 2019, and within the framework of such programs thirteen Hungarian prosecutors visited prosecution offices of other EU Member States and hosted foreign colleagues in our country.

In 2019 the Prosecution Service was represented by 290 persons attending 182 international events, and out of this number 116 persons participated in 73 training programs, seminars and study trips.

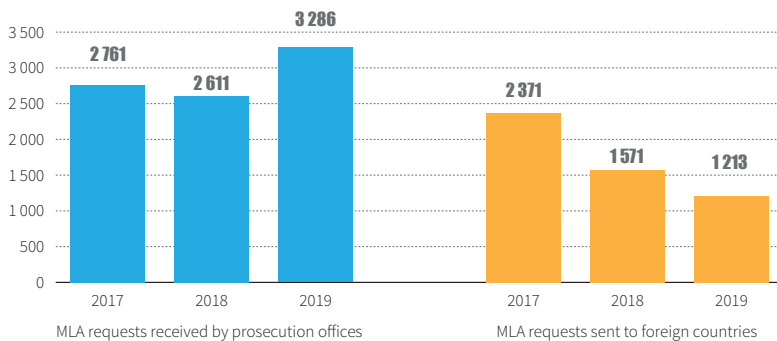
Altogether 39 persons on 31 occasions took part in meetings held with foreign judicial authorities to discuss concrete criminal cases. Most of these meetings were coordination meetings financed by Eurojust.

Contact points for international and EU organizations or agencies representing the Prosecution Service of Hungary attended 30 events, and another 20 persons participated in 17 international professional events, where they were invited to hold presentations either as experts or guest speakers.

Mutual legal assistance cases

Due to the fight against transnational organized crime and other adverse global phenomena international cooperation between judicial authorities, including prosecution services, also remained intensive last year, similarly to the previous years. This is illustrated by the following graph:

The number of MLA requests in criminal matters received by prosecution offices and sent to foreign countries in 2017–2019



The Office of the Prosecutor General is the central judicial authority to handle mutual legal assistance matters. In 2019 it decided to forward legal assistance requests to non-EU countries in 13 cases, while it received 583 requests for legal assistance from foreign judicial authorities.

Cooperation with EU Member States is the most typical one as far as legal assistance matters are concerned. As of 1st May 2018, however, direct cooperation with judicial authorities of most of the Member States of the Council of Europe has also become possible, which causes a continuous decrease in the number of MLA requests in criminal matters sent by the Office of the Prosecutor General to non-EU countries.

The field of international cooperation among judicial authorities assigned to the Prosecutor General's jurisdiction includes acceptance of the transfer of criminal proceedings ongoing abroad as well as the transfer of criminal proceedings conducted in Hungary to foreign countries. The transfer of criminal proceedings from foreign authorities was accepted in 159 cases, while criminal proceedings were transferred in 35 cases to foreign authorities.

The number of perpetrators of registered crimes who were foreign nationals was 4,529 in 2019.

In 2019 the number of foreign national victims of registered crimes was 4,425. Once more, most of the crimes committed in Hungary against foreign national victims were property crimes.

Compared to the previous year, the number of cases seeking legal assistance in administrative offence matters increased significantly – by 38.6% – in 2019. The majority of cases seeking legal assistance in administrative offence matters – close to 98%, 4,716 cases – were received from foreign judicial authorities. Hungarian judicial authorities requested legal assistance in administrative offence matters in 101 cases, in which they made proposals for conducting procedural acts.

Activities of the Eurojust National Member for Hungary

Eurojust is an agency seated in The Hague, which deals with judicial cooperation in criminal matters between the Member States of the European Union. Hungary is represented at the seat of Eurojust by the Eurojust National Member for Hungary, who holds the position of a deputy head of department as a prosecutor. The activity of the Eurojust National Member for Hungary is supported by a seconded national expert rotating every 6 month.

In 2019 the Eurojust handled altogether 7,804 ongoing cases. The number of judicial requests newly registered by the College was 3,892, which shows a significant increase, namely 17% compared to the previous year (2018: 3,317).

Out of the high number of domestic cases received – which was actually 250 –, the number of cases opened officially by the Hungarian desk of Eurojust before the College was 63% higher than in the previous year. The cases initiated by Hungary made up 5.3% of the new Eurojust cases, which ranked Hungary as the 5th country in the list of Member States opening the highest number of cases. Out of the 136 requests received from foreign countries and seeking Hungary's cooperation, the number of cases opened before the College was 7.8% smaller than in the previous year. In this way, Hungary is ranked as the 13th country in the list of Member States receiving the highest number of requests.

In 2019 the Hungarian desk of Eurojust participated in 25 bilateral or multilateral coordination meetings, which made up almost 6% of the total number of coordination meetings in Eurojust. 26 Hungarian prosecutors attended these coordination meetings and represented their viewpoints in person as well, and on 12 occasions such coordination meetings were held on Hungary's initiative.

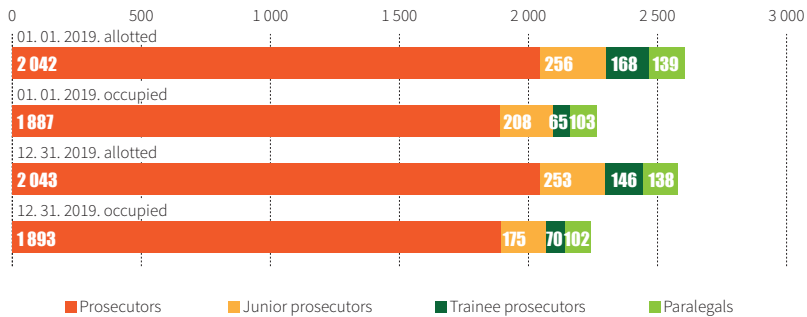
The Hungarian desk of Eurojust was involved in the conclusion of 7 new joint investigation team agreements, where Hungary was also a member of the JITs, and it also took part in the actual operation of the JITs. These joint investigation teams form almost 7% of the total number of JITs supported by Eurojust. Altogether 17 joint investigation teams involving Hungarian members operated in 2019.

6. Personnel of the Prosecution Service

Personnel conditions

At the end of last year there were 4,763 job positions allotted (allowed) by the Prosecutor General to the Prosecution Service. Last year the number of positions for prosecutors, junior and trainee prosecutors and paralegals changed within that number as follows:

The allotted and occupied job positions for prosecutors, junior and trainee prosecutors and paralegals in 2019



Out of the number of allotted prosecutor positions the number of prosecutor positions divided among the various structural units of the Prosecution Service minimally increased, from 2,004 to 2,008, until the end of the year compared to the situation on 1st January 2019. At the end of 2019 the number of reserve, non-allotted prosecutor positions was 35, out of which 1 position was temporarily used to fill a junior prosecutor position.

At the end of 2019, out of the number of prosecutor positions divided among the structural units of the Prosecution Service there were 115 vacant positions. 6 prosecutors were on duty on 31st December 2019.

In 2019 42 persons were appointed as prosecutors, 15 as junior prosecutors and 23 as trainee prosecutors.

In 2019 disciplinary proceedings were started on 13 occasions, which, compared to the total staff number of the Prosecution Service (close to 4,400 persons), cannot be considered significant.

Continuous training of employees of the Prosecution Service

For trainee prosecutors 1 three-day-long, 2 four-day-long and 3 five-day-long trainings, whereas for junior prosecutors 2 four-day-long trainings were organized by the Hungarian Training Centre for Prosecutors.

For prosecutors 18 centrally organized trainings were held. Prosecutorial officials and clerks were afforded the opportunity to participate in 8 trainings. Superior prosecutors and officials could delegate 3,065 participants to some 110 training days.

In addition to the training for head prosecutors in higher positions a consultation meeting was organized for deputy chief prosecutors heading the criminal law and non-criminal law branches. Prosecutors supervising the legality of the enforcement of punishments and protection of human rights, unit head prosecutors and subordinate prosecutors handling criminal court cases, prosecutors handling juvenile offenders' cases, prosecutors heading the IT field, beginner prosecutors, prosecutors working in the field of protection of public interest, prosecutors handling traffic offence cases, and spokespersons, inter alia, participated in centrally organized trainings. A one-week-long training on criminal forensics was organized on three occasions, whereas a one-week-long training for deputy chief prosecutors heading prosecutorial activities in the criminal law field and for investigating prosecutors was held on two occasions.

A one-day-long training was organized within the framework of the fight against terrorism and money laundering. Considering the cross-border nature of terrorism and money laundering, regional trainings aimed to support the handling of international legal assistance request were also organized in cooperation with the Eurojust at 5 training venues. A one-day-long training, attended by one prosecutor and one IT staff member from each chief prosecution office as members of the Prosecutors' Network Dealing with Cybercrime Cases, was held on two occasions.

Participation in postgraduate studies and specialized foreign legal language trainings was also supported. New study contracts were concluded with 24 prosecutorial employees.

7. Communication activity of the Prosecution Service

In 2019 the communication activity of the Prosecution Service maintained its outstanding achievements shown in the previous years. Compared to 2018, the majority of the chief prosecution offices and appellate chief prosecution offices further intensified their communication activities.

The Office of the Prosecutor General assisted and coordinated the press relations activities of the appellate chief prosecution offices and the chief prosecution offices by analyzing weekly overall press reports, summarizing experiences, issuing briefs and opinions, organizing individual and team training events and by editing the press and media section of the official website of the Prosecution Service.

The chief prosecution offices benefited from the wider communication competences provided for by the CPC, so they more frequently informed the public about the prosecutorial measures even in the judiciary phase of the criminal proceedings.

Last year the chief prosecution offices made continuous presentations on the new legal tools set forth by the recently adopted CPC by illustrating them through individual criminal cases.

A more effective representation of victims' interests and the protection of minors are primarily important, therefore the Prosecution Service regularly informed the public about issues of this kind.

8. Information technology and statistical activity of the Prosecution Service

Information technology of the Prosecution Service

By use of the Electronic Case Management System (hereinafter referred to as eÜR), the Prosecution Service carries out continuous electronic case management in compliance with law and keeps contact with cooperating authorities and bodies electronically. In 2019, the rate of cases (files of documents) received – through the eÜR – by the Prosecution Service was 13% higher (2019: 1,538,415; 2018: 1,361,100), while the rate of files of documents sent to partner authorities was 13.6% higher (2019: 998,413, 2018: 878,760) compared to last year.

The Prosecution Service operates a national remote data transport network which accesses every workstation. The necessary integrated data- and central internet services are provided by the National Infocommunications Service Company Limited by Shares (Nemzeti Infokommunikációs Szolgáltató Zrt./

NISZ Zrt.), and the Prosecution Service has the ownership rights and the right to operate the network devices essential for data protection and security reasons. This network is continuously developed to secure the adequate standards of electronic case management and internal information technology services. In 2019 capacities of our central systems were further increased in order to ensure effective communication with partner authorities.

The fact that some information technology services are also accessible from outside of the Prosecution Service makes work at prosecution offices highly effective. For this reason we more frequently provide workstation with devices which support office work with the use of the existing computer monitors and other peripheral devices, while they support out-of-office work through their mobility, by use of proper security measures. A significant part of prosecutors possesses portable computers, so they can manage electronic documents even in court rooms or when procedural acts are taken at external locations.

The Prosecution Service continuously increases the number of its qualified electronic signature creation devices. When they are used, digital certificates are installed to provide qualified electronic signature and secure online access to company and land registers as well as online access to the Official Data Providing System of Hungarian Telekom Ltd. By the end of the reporting period some 2,200 prosecutorial employees were given such devices.

In 2019 we continued to extend external relations and widen areas where we cooperate with partner authorities. The Ministry of Interior, the Office of the Prosecutor General, the National Office for the Judiciary, the National Police Headquarters and IdomSoft Ltd. set up a joint working group to share their work experiences, good practices, and problems encountered during electronic contact keeping.

The information technology working group set up by the Office of the Prosecutor General and the National Office for the Judiciary to coordinate IT developments of the Prosecution Service and the judiciary operated as a permanent consultation forum in 2019 as well.

In 2019 the Prosecution Service was a key participant in the national electronic archives project of the Hungarian National Archives as well. The Prosecution

Service continuously provided data from its database which processes case management data of the prosecutorial activity of the field of criminal law.

In 2019 the Prosecutors' Network Dealing with Cybercrime Cases further enhanced cooperation in relation to the fight against cybercrimes among its members national and international partner authorities that have similar competences. In 2019 several events were organized for representatives of investigation authorities and of the judiciary.

With regard to international cooperation of the Prosecution Service it must be highlighted that the IT staff was concerned and affected by the implementation of the Eurojust Decision. In 2019 the system created by the Prosecution Service ensured national access to the Eurojust's internal case management system as well.

In 2019 the Prosecution Service performed as well the duty of providing public interest data electronically, as defined by law. In addition to the requirements set by the freedom of information, public procurement related announcements as well as information and statistical data – which, as experience shows, the public may be most interested in – were regularly published on the official website of the Prosecution Service (www.ugyeszseg.hu).

Statistics of the Prosecution Service

The Prosecution Service carries out its official statistical activity as a member of the Official Statistical Service in accordance with Act CLV of 2016 on Official Statistics.

By collecting and disclosing data originating from the data collection activity the Prosecution Service gives a realistic and objective picture about crimes, prosecutors' activity in criminal courts, as well as about the case management data regarding prosecutors' activity in and outside of the field of criminal law. The Prosecution Service collects statistical data within the framework of the Government's national statistical data collecting programme.

The Prosecution Service is actively involved in the generation and development of statistical data. The representative of the Office of the Prosecutor General is a member of the National Statistical Coordination Board, and delegates of the

Prosecution Service take part in the activity of the Board's thematic working groups.

Standard Criminal Statistics of Investigation Authorities and Prosecutors (SCSIAP/ENYÜBS) is a joint data collection system of the Office of the Prosecutor General and the Ministry of Interior. The Prosecution Service also participates in this system as a data owner and as a data provider.

In 2019 it was again the Office of the Prosecutor General that coordinated data collection on behalf of Hungary during the 6th publication of the statistics of the European Sourcebook on Crime and Criminal Justice. This included the transmission of national data regarding the activities of the police, the prosecution service, the judiciary and the penitentiary system.

9. Financial conditions of the operation of the Prosecution Service

In 2019 the necessary financial resources were available within the budgetary chapter of the Prosecution Service as well. Special emphasis in financial management was laid on the provision of daily operation, and special attention was given to increase the number of available IT devices, to cover the increasing operational costs due to the territorial growth and modern infrastructure of the newly occupied buildings.

Last year the appropriations allocated for the performance of professional duties of the Prosecution Service increased by 6,887.9 million HUF compared to the original appropriations set in 2018.

Due to changes in appropriations, expenditure appropriation rose by 2,314.6 million HUF to 52,470.0 million HUF.

Personnel-related expenditures and contributions relating thereto made up 84.2%, developments 4.9% and operational costs 10.9% of the used appropriations.

The sum used for personal allowances (35,213.6 million HUF) guaranteed that the individual rights and entitlements specified by the Prosecutorial

Employment and Career Act as well as payments falling under the category of external personnel allowance would be sufficiently covered.

5,108.1 million HUF was spent on non-personnel expenditures, which was by 791.8 million HUF more than non-personnel expenditures of the previous year. 42.5% of the non-personnel expenditures was spent on service expenses (rental fees, costs of maintenance and repair etc.), 9.7% on the acquisition of professional and operational materials, 19.1% on the operation of the national computer network of the Prosecution Service, 0.6% on official trips to foreign countries and 28.1% on other non-personnel expenses (pre-paid input VAT, payable VAT).

In 2019 2,819.2 million HUF was available to cover cumulative expenses in the budgetary chapter, which, due to in-year changes in appropriations – mainly due to the budgetary balance of the previous year – and due to the financial scheduling of several-year-long investments changed to 4,711.7 million HUF.

In 2019 109.1 million HUF was loaned interest-free by the Prosecution Service as employer to 53 employees for home purchase purposes. They were granted, on average, 2.1 million HUF.

As far as changes in assets are concerned the net value of real estates and relating property rights increased to the greatest extent, by 3,049.2 million HUF. The balance sheet value of intangible assets slightly decreased by 93.6% million HUF, the net value of machines, equipment, accessories and vehicles by 60.4 million HUF, and the values of incomplete investments by 1,660.0 million HUF.

10. Scientific activity of the prosecution employees and the National Institute of Criminology

Prosecutors are respected participants of the community of scientific legal experts, their articles, studies and essays are regularly published, and they are also authors of handbooks, university textbooks and other publications used in the higher education. Every superior leader of the Prosecution Service has a scientific degree. 28 prosecutors and 16 other prosecutorial employees possess academic titles: 5 of them have a habilitation degree and 2 persons have a doctoral degree of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. 60 prosecutors, junior and trainee prosecutors as well as non-prosecutor employees are Ph.D.

students at various universities. 99 prosecutors, non-prosecutor employees and researchers are lecturers and examiners at faculties of law of universities, various higher educational institutes and postgraduate programs. 67 prosecutors are on the board of examiners of bar exams.

As a scientific and research institute, the National Institute of Criminology carries out comprehensive researches on the causes of crime, the possible ways of crime prevention, and on the current theoretical and practical issues of criminality and law enforcement.

The results and outcomes of researches of the National Institute of Criminology are used in the codification and law interpretation activity of the Prosecution Service, they enrich the theoretical achievements of criminal sciences, and they are also used in higher education and postgraduate studies.

In the reporting year 40 research programs were carried out. Researchers of the National Institute of Criminology authored 69 publications, out of which 6 were published in foreign languages. They held 155 lectures and presentations at various conferences and other professional events. Out of these lectures and presentations 9 were delivered in foreign languages at 8 foreign conferences.