

**Prosecutor General's Report
on Activities of the Prosecution Service
in 2018**
(extract)



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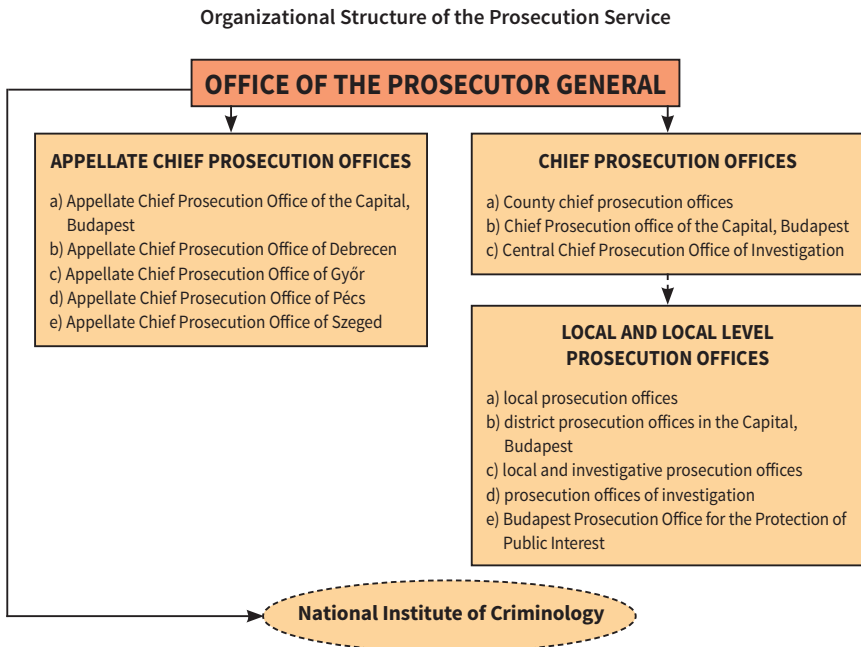
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1. The Prosecution Service and the effect of the new criminal procedure on the activity of the Prosecution Service and on statistical data

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:



No fundamental changes affecting the entire structural organization of the Prosecution Service occurred last year.

The effect of the new criminal procedure on the activity of the Prosecution Service and on statistical data

The effect of the new criminal procedure on the activity of the Prosecution Service

Act XC of 2017 on Criminal Procedure entered into force on 1st July 2018 (hereinafter: new Criminal Procedure Code/new CPC), which had a significant impact on activities of the criminal law branch of the Prosecution Service in 2018.

Prior to the entry into force of the new Criminal Procedural Code, the focus of criminal policy was gradually shifting from ‘traditional’ prosecution to the use of indictment-substituting measures and victim compensation tools, and the new CPC further reinforced this direction. One of the essential aims of the new CPC is to bring perpetrators to justice, even with a higher level of procedural guarantees, in shorter time and with less social input. In this spirit, the new procedure attaches great importance to the cooperation of the defendant, which may make the defendant’s voluntary confession possible.

The legislative effort to increase the efficiency of the proceedings permeates the new CPC, and its enforcement has led to a substantive change in the regulation of all stages of the procedure.

The new CPC divided the previously single investigation into two stages with different functions: detection and investigation under prosecutorial supervision. By introducing the stage of investigation linked with prosecutorial supervision, the possibility of open investigations has been opened up starting from the suspect’s interrogation, also allowing for the application of diverting tools. This affects the number of indictments and the form of the procedure after the indictment, allowing for shorter court proceedings.

Concentrated preparation of the trial and strict regulation of procedural evidence created the possibility for the court to complete and decide the case on the merits even before the trial began. In order to reduce the number of procedures repeated because of annulled cases, the new CPC has changed the review competence of appellate courts, and it introduced new legal remedies against annulment orders of the courts of second instance and third instance.

The application of the new Code introducing several new legal tools required, above all, the professional preparation of the Prosecution Service, including the development of a significant number of professional guidelines and the training of prosecutors. As a result, due to the application of the new and amended procedural provisions, the criminal justice activities of the Prosecution Service's in 2018 cannot be assessed in a uniform manner and according to the criteria developed in the previous CPC.

Changes in statistical systems

The changes described above necessitated a modification of the statistical data collection system. This mainly concerned the Standard Criminal Statistics of Investigation Authorities and Prosecutors (SCSIAP/ENyÜBS), to a lesser extent the Representation of Prosecution Information System (RPIS/VIR) and the Computerized Case Management System of the Criminal Law Branch (CCMSCLB/BÜR).

In addition, a statistical module on the initiated criminal proceedings has been added to the previous “output” approach of SCSIAP/ENyÜBS. The introduced new data sets are suitable for demarcating the detection and investigation under prosecutorial supervision stage, and for capturing the distinct role of the investigating authority and the prosecution service in the investigation, and for obtaining more and more detailed information.

Some modifications to the SCSIAP/ENyÜBS and the CCMSCLB/BÜR result in that the provision of data based on criminal decisions may not in all cases be comparable regarding the period before and after the new CPC's entry into force.

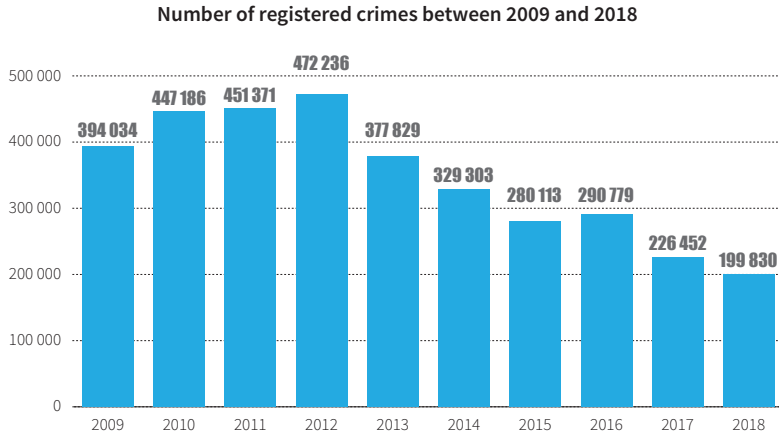
2. Activities of the Prosecution Service in the field of criminal law

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

Main statistics on criminality

Last year the number of the registered cases awaiting to be processed in the field of criminal law increased by hundreds of thousands, which is close to the caseload of the years 2015–2016.

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



In 2018 the decrease of the number of registered perpetrators continued, 87,733 perpetrators were registered.

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

Number of some registered crimes in 2016–2018			
Crimes	2016	2017	2018
Completed intentional homicide	101	92	84
Attempted homicide cases	98	71	60
Theft	92 149	78 311	62 349
Fraud	43 383	22 197	19 180
Robbery	1 141	853	710
Infringement of Copyright and Certain Rights Related to Copyright	1 073	575	953
Offences Against Traffic Regulations	19 830	20 651	20 922
Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol	14 638	15 732	16 008
Causing a Road Accident through Negligence	3 072	2 807	2 706

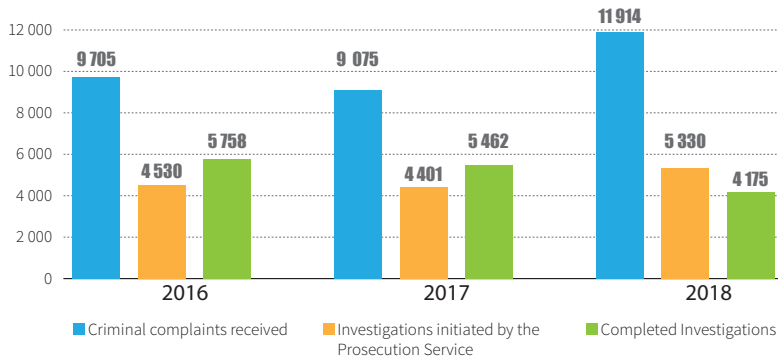
Crimes	2016	2017	2018
Human smugglings	351	179	215
Assault on a Public Official and on a Person Entrusted with Public Functions and Assault on a Person Aiding a Public Official or a Person Entrusted with Public Functions	948	916	756
Crimes against the Judicial System	3 148	2 867	2 637
Public Nuisance	11 509	10 547	9 386
Crimes with Official Documents	19 848	19 689	19 876
Drug Abuse Crimes	6 032	6 544	8 146
Corruption Crimes	984	1 123	2 046
Briberies of Public Officials	835	945	1 653
Economic Briberies	78	50	146
Counterfeiting Currency	501	544	587
Forgery of Stamps	207	238	91
Crimes in connection with Cash-Substitute Payment Instruments	24 999	3 667	3 651
Budget Fraud	2 444	1 880	1 749
Fraudulent Bankruptcy	259	218	207
Money Laundering	67	90	259
Breach of Information System or Data	702	586	562
Compromising or Defrauding the Integrity of the Computer Protection System or Device	44	8	9
Environmental Offenses	37	37	32
Damaging the Natural Environment	87	81	450
Violation of Waste Management Regulation	287	748	372
Military Offenses	575	381	452

Prosecutorial Investigations

According to Act XIX of 1998 on Criminal Procedure (former CPC) and to the newly adopted CPC as well, the Prosecution Service itself may also conduct investigation into any case, and the investigation of certain crimes exclusively belongs to the competency of the Prosecution Service.

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

Data of Prosecutorial Investigations in 2016–2018



Investigations falling into the exclusive prosecutorial competence were also conducted in 2018 by the central unit of the Prosecution Service designated for this task, the Central Chief Prosecution Office of Investigation or by its regional organizational units (such as the Investigation Prosecution Office of Budapest, Investigation Prosecution Office of Pestvidék, local and investigative prosecution offices.)

The new CPC has changed the scope of crimes whose investigation belongs to the exclusive prosecutorial competence. It has transferred investigations into crimes of corruption in connection with officials to the exclusive competence of the Prosecution Service, at the same time it has removed from this competence crimes committed against jurisdiction except for crimes committed before the International Court of Justice (Obstruction of Justice in International Court).

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

Supervision and Direction of the Investigation

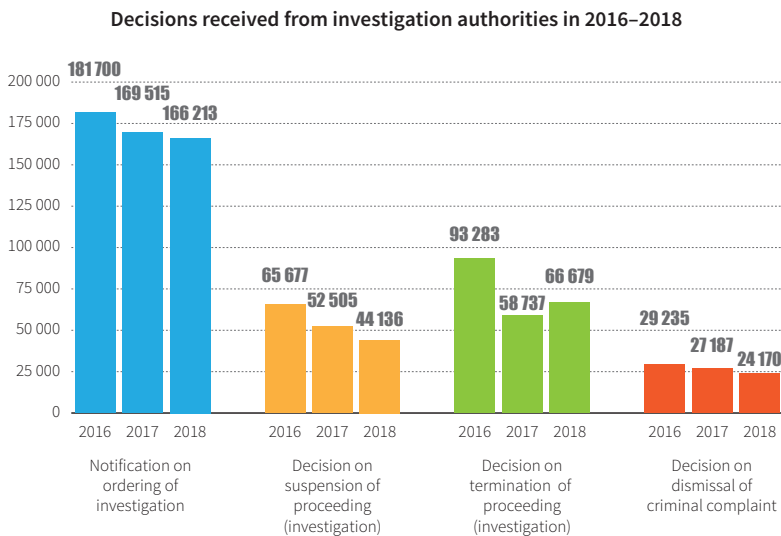
Rights of the Prosecution Service in the criminal procedure changed from 1st July 2018 with the entry into force of the new CPC depending on whether the investigation is in its initial detecting stage (detection) or is already conducted

against a reasonably suspected person (investigation under prosecutorial supervision).

The divided investigation system has also changed the relationship between the investigating authorities and the Prosecution Service, which appeared in the strict division of the responsibilities of the two bodies, and accordingly, in a clear definition of the procedural tools.

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 of other Prosecution Service’s 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 inspected a total number of 301,198 decisions including the cases indicated in the diagram together with the cases carried over from the previous year.

In accordance with the previous CPC an Order of the Prosecutor General regulated when the Prosecution Service should have increased supervision over the independent investigation of the investigating authority. Increased supervision was justified by the complexity of the case, by longer period of the coercive measures reducing personal freedom of the accused and by the seriousness of the criminal case.

In the first half of 2018, the Prosecution Service reported 2,129 increased supervisions, and the number of substantive measures taken on the basis of reviewing case files was 6,744.

Due to the fact that the procedural relationship between the investigating authorities and the Prosecution Service changed, increased supervision terminated from 1st July 2018. The Prosecution Service now decides about the continuation and the line of the procedure after the interrogation of the accused, so that is when the investigating authority conducts the investigation according to the instructions of the Prosecution Service.

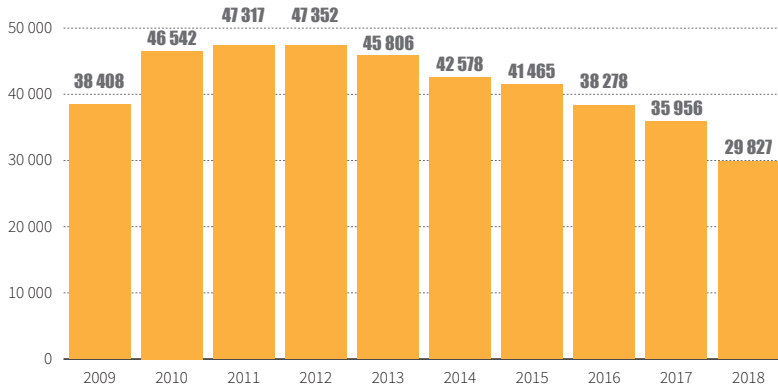
This, however, does not deprive the investigating authority of the possibility of taking the necessary procedural acts independently, but it has to report about such acts within a period of eight days at the latest, or – if the procedural act does not concern the subject of suspicion or the suspect's person – the investigating authority reports to the Prosecution Service in accordance with the instruction of the Prosecution Service within a period of three months at the latest.

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

From 1st July 2018, the new CPC has not changed the rules of handling complaints, but it has widened the scope of decisions against which complaints can be lodged. The new Code has made it possible for the defendant, the

defence counsel, the victim, the person affected in his assets and other persons concerned to submit a plea because of excessive duration of the proceeding.

Number of complaints submitted against decisions and orders of investigation authorities in 2009–2018



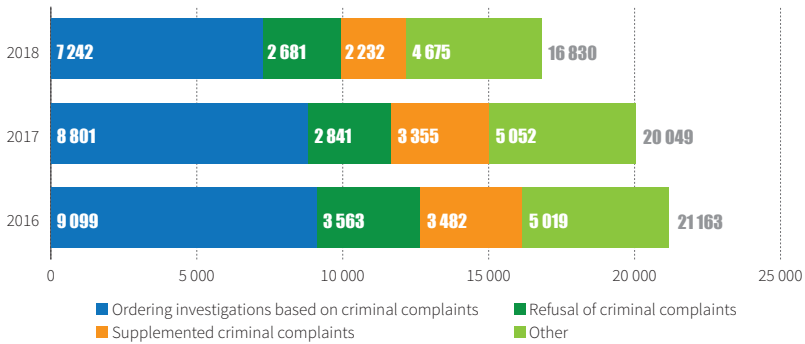
Complaints submitted against decisions of investigation authorities and waiting to be decided were further decreasing last year.

The Prosecution Service accepted 2,699 complaints, it refused 22,831 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 lower-level prosecution offices 471 complaints were accepted, 3,584 complaints were refused and with regard to the remaining part of complaints other measures were taken in 2018.

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 2016–2018



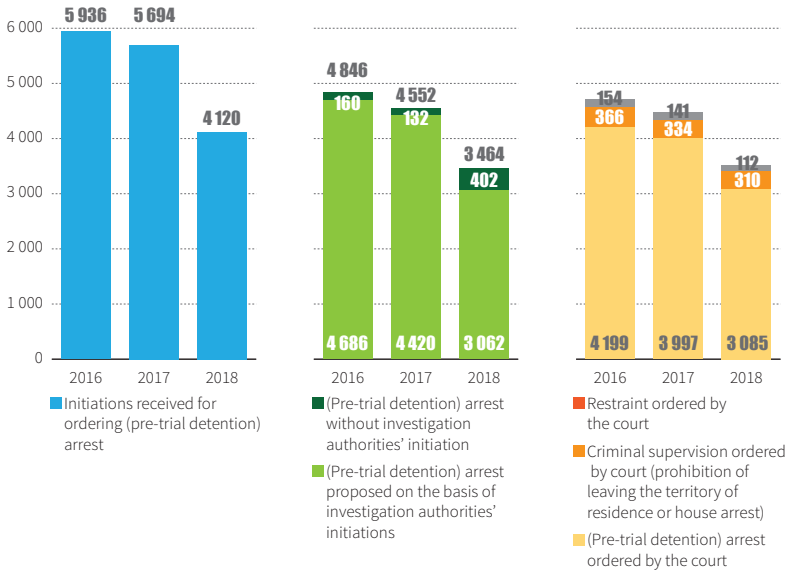
While laying emphasis on a gradual approach the new CPC shows a change in the viewpoint on deprivation or limitation of liberty in connection with the system of coercive measures.

As a complex alternative to arrest (according to the former CPC: pre-trial detention), criminal supervision was introduced, which includes house arrest, prohibition of leaving the territory of residence and the newly defined criminal prohibition, the obligation to report.

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.

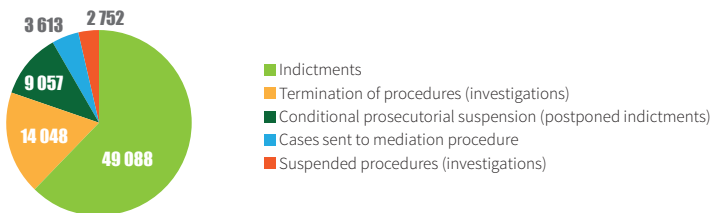
Regularly the investigating authority initiates that the Prosecution Service should propose arrests. The following diagram illustrates the follow-up measures of such initiations:

Data regarding arrests (pre-trial detentions) in 2016–2018



In 2018, there were 78,558 prosecutorial decisions in connection with cases examined in view of being appropriate for indictment. Results are shown by the following diagram:

Prosecutorial decisions on cases examined in view of being appropriate for indictment in 2018



The types of indictments were as follows: the Prosecution Service filed indictments in 18,273 cases, arraignments were conducted in 9,567 cases, and it made a proposal for a criminal decision (according to the former CPC judgement without trial,) in 22,005 cases. Indictments were filed in 37 cases based on agreements.

In 2018 the Prosecution Service indicted 67,195 persons, which was 7.5% less than in the previous year.

Appropriate cases can be quickly closed by arraignment. Arraignment can be applied in cases that are easy to decide, are devoid of proving with evidence, when the defendant makes a confession or is caught in the act of committing the crime.

The new CPC has modified the rules of application relating to arraignments.

In case the perpetrator is caught in the act of committing the crime, – provided other conditions of the law exist – arraignment can be conducted within fifteen days as of the act of crime. At the same time, if the defendant was not caught in the act, but he makes a confession, it is possible to initiate this procedure within one month as of the suspect's interrogation.

Furthermore, the new Code has extended the scope of crimes that can be decided with arraignment for crimes that are punishable with less than ten years of imprisonment.

In 2018, arraignments were conducted with regard to 19.5% of the total number of indictments (in 2017: 23.1%; 2016: 24.8%).

The aim is to simplify and significantly accelerate the procedure, decrease the workload, when – upon a prosecution office's motion or ex officio – the court decides about the punishment or imposes measures without hearing the defendant or without conducting the procedure. According to the new Code the name of the procedure has changed – as mentioned above – to “procedure aiming to make a penal order”, and it can even be applied, if the defendant has not confessed the commission of crime.

In 2018 the Prosecution Service filed motions for penal order (judgement without trial) with regard to 44.8% of all indictments (2017: 32.3%; 2016: 29.4%). This represents a significant increase in the number of motions compared to the previous year.

Mediation procedure is a conflict resolution procedure that can be used to avoid infliction of a sanctions for a crime in minor cases. 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 behaviour.

In 2018, the Prosecution Service referred 3,782 defendants' cases to mediation (2017: 4,148; 2016: 4,480) and rejected 4,343 requests for mediation (2017: 3,125; 2016: 3,248). Considering the efficiency of mediation proceedings, the Prosecution Service terminated the proceedings against 2,246 defendants.

Further possibilities of avoiding court procedures are the following: termination of the procedure (investigation) by application of reprimand, conditional prosecutorial suspension of the procedure (postponing the indictment).

In 2018, the Prosecution Service applied conditional prosecutorial suspension against 10,119 persons (2017: 11,044; 2016: 11,012) (postponed the indictment). After applying this legal tool, procedures were terminated against 6,522 persons.

Besides the work shown by statistics, the activity of the Office of the Prosecutor General to learn about and developing legal practice is an important activity.

In 2018, the Office of the Prosecutor General paid special attention to the legality of collecting and presenting evidence in criminal cases opened on the basis of integrity screenings for crimes of corruption. For this reason, in 2018 the Office of the Prosecution General carried out a complex analysis of criminal procedures launched in 2018 as a result of integrity screenings conducted by the National Defence Service and completed in 2017 with indictments, which aimed to ensure a nationally uniform and right judgement of procedural issues in relation to integrity screenings. Some systemic problems affecting most of the structural units of the Prosecution Service were identified, but it should be noted that at the end of this analysis, the guidelines issued jointly by the non-criminal

and criminal branches of the Office of the Prosecutor General showed an aim to remedy such problems.

Last year the Office of the Prosecutor General analysed the evolving practice of arrangement within the framework of an instructive inspection. Generally, it could be established that provisions of the new CPC regarding the conclusion of an agreement were adhered to.

Prosecutors in criminal courts

Similarly, to the previous years' tendency, as already mentioned, the number of registered crimes continued to decline in 2018, but the significant change in the regulating environment generated partly different and partly new tasks for the Prosecution Service as far as prosecutorial activity before the criminal court is concerned.

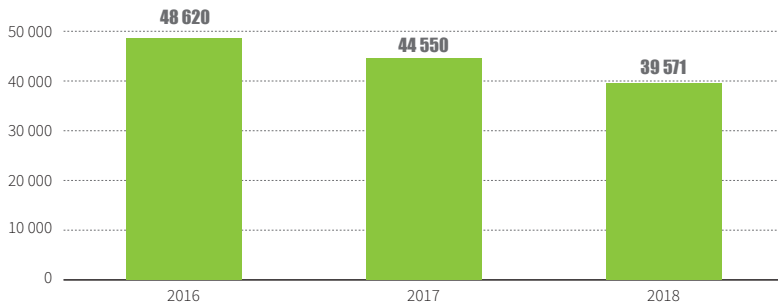
In 2018, the number of cases decided by courts with a final judgement continued to decrease by 6.9% in comparison to the previous year, and the number of defendants affected by them decreased by 7.4%.

The most important scene of prosecution has partly changed as a result of the new CPC's entry into force: in every "regular" case (where no arraignment is conducted and no penal order is made), it is obligatory to hold a preliminary session where the court – provided legislative conditions exist – may even decide the case on the merit.

According to the new CPC, the preliminary session has also become the main forum for submitting motions for presenting evidence. After the preparation of trial, this is only possible – apart from certain exceptions provided for by law – with disadvantageous legal consequences.

The number of cases at first instance, as illustrated in the diagram below, continued to decline in 2018, similarly to the previous period. This tendency can be partly explained by the fact that after 1st July 2018, part of the cases were finally closed at the preliminary session, so there was no need to hold a trial.

Number of cases concerned by first instance trial in 2016–2018



The number of cases completed at second instance continued to decline, reaching 11,070 in 2018, and the number of trials held with the participation of prosecutors decreased by 21.3%. In 2018, prosecutors took part in second instance public sessions for nearly one fifth of the cases. With the entry into force of the new CPC, the role of the Prosecution Service has also partially changed with regard to second instance procedures. In view of the extension of the possibility of appeals resulting in limited review, prosecutors handling cases at first instance have an increased responsibility to what extent they appeal against the first instance decisions. At the same time, the activity of the Prosecution Service in relation to these cases at second instance court is more simple compared to the previous ones, as in such cases it can no longer be examined in the appeal procedure whether the facts of the case are well founded.

The number of third instance procedures in 2018 was minimal: it was 94.

On the whole, it can be concluded that the workload of the Prosecution Service in relation to trials in 2018 decreased compared to the previous year, but at the same time putting the changes generated by the entry into force of the new CPC into practice has created additional workload for prosecutorial employees.

In 2018 the rate of procedures aimed at making a penal order (procedure without holding a trial) and the rate of the arraignments compared to the number of finally convicted offenders further increased compared to the previous year, it

was 41.7%. If we include the rate of accused persons whose cases were decided on the merit by court in preliminary sessions, the rate is 44.2%. 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 91.8% of the prosecutorial motions for arraignment procedures well-founded, and the arraignment procedures were finished within one trial day in the majority of these cases.

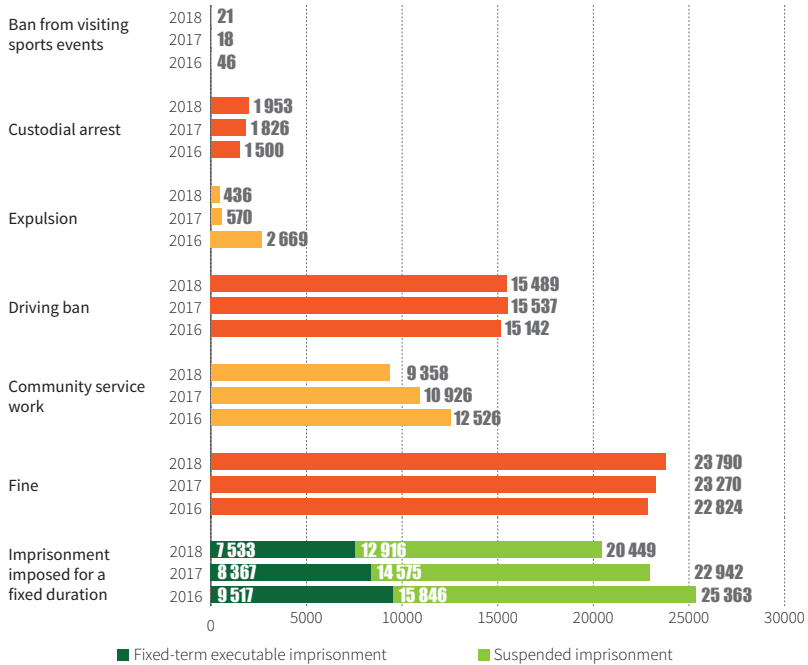
The quantity of procedures aimed at making penal orders (procedures without holding a trial) further increased in 2018 compared to the previous year; in the reported year the penal order became final with regard to 85.1% of the accused persons.

The function of the preliminary session to accelerate court procedures proved effective. During the statistically relevant period, in the second half of 2018, the court accepted the confession of 1,741 defendants (4.2% of all defendants charged throughout the year) and made decisions on the merit against 98.5% of defendants during the preliminary session.

In 2018 the number of defendants sentenced with punishments or measures continued to decline in line with the trend observed in the previous year: it was 65,020. The rate of punishments further increased, reaching 84% in 2018.

The number of defendants sentenced to life imprisonment continued to decline, with this sanction being imposed by the court against 16 accused persons in 2018.

Number of defendants affected by different sentences in 2016–2018



Last year – compared to the period before – the number of defendants sentenced to a definite term of imprisonment by court decreased significantly by 10.9%. The rate of executable imprisonment (36.8%) increased slightly compared to the rate of suspended sentences (63.2%)

Opposite to the punishment of imprisonment the increase in the number of imposed fines continued. Consequently, in 2018 – similarly to the year before – fine became the most frequently applied penalty by court.

Beside the slight increase in the number of imposed fines the community service work sentences decreased significantly by 14.4% in the reporting year.

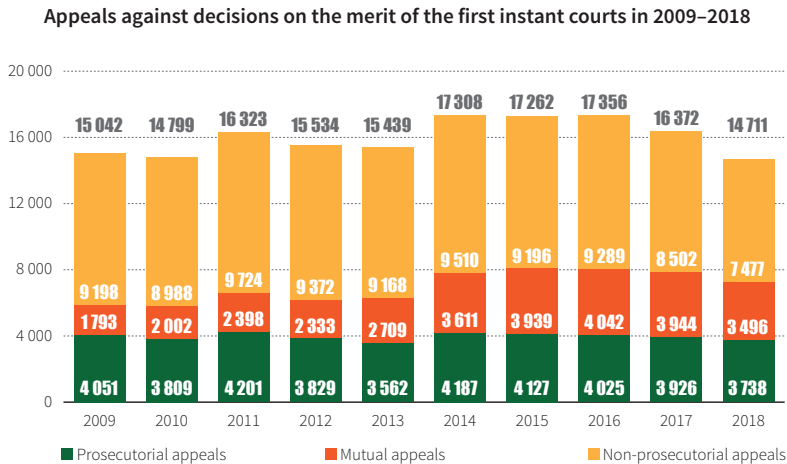
Despite the significant decrease in the number of registered crimes the number of criminal offences relating to driving under the influence of alcohol further increased by 1.8% in the reporting year. However, the number of defendants who were sentenced to driving ban by court dropped. The reason for this might be that there was also a drop in the number of criminal procedures initiated for causing a road accident.

In 2018 the number of expulsions decreased by 23.5% compared to the year before.

The number of custodial arrests continued to grow.

The number of probations continued to decrease in 2018, but it still remained to be the most commonly used criminal measure by courts.

The number of appeals against decisions on the merit of the first instant courts in the years 2009–2018 is illustrated by the following diagram:



In 2018, appeals against the decisions on the merit of the first instance courts were filed in the case of 28.7% of the defendants. The proportion of prosecutorial appeals has increased during the years and it was on the peak in 2018 with 49.2%.

In 2018, the efficiency rate of prosecutorial appeals was 52.5%. In most cases the Prosecution Service requested to increase the sentence, the number of prosecutorial appeals sustained because of unfoundedness, lessened. In 2018, we applied for the acquittal of the defendant in 6 cases, whereas in 39 cases we requested the mitigation of the sentence against the defendant.

The efficiency rate of indictment has been permanently increasing since 2013. In the reporting year, it was 98.1%, which is the highest figure in the past 10 years. In case of 83.1% of the defendants, the courts found the defendants guilty of the very same offences as the indictment or the final indictment.

Compared to the previous year the number of first instance final decisions repealed in the second instance decreased significantly by 39.7%.

In 2018, the number of defendants affected by appeals lodged against decisions of courts of second instance decreased to 140 and – in comparison to the year before – there is a significant decrease in the number of the defendants affected by appeals lodged by prosecutors against decisions of courts of second instance.

In 2018, the number of retrials initiated ex officio by the Prosecution Service decreased in comparison to the year before, the efficiency rate of these, however, was 89.8% which is an increase compared to the relevant data of 2017.

In 2018 too, the Prosecution Service monitored criminal cases of priority and of priority importance, furthermore cases of high interest to the public pending before a criminal court. Random sampling and in general the Prosecution Service examined procedures finished with a final acquittal in priority cases and drew the necessary consequences. Similarly to the years before we examined cases, which had been finished in a manner that undermined the efficiency rate of indictment. Based on the results of the examinations we took prompt specific or general

measures, our experiences were discussed 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 issues were discussed in a practical approach. All these measures have contributed to the maintenance of a favourable efficiency rate of indictment.

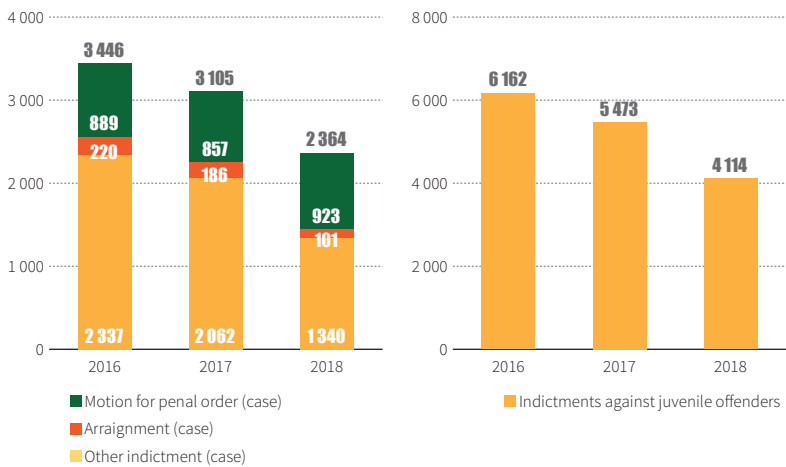
Prosecutors' activities with regard to criminal cases of children and juvenile offenders

In the first 6 months of 2018, 3,405 juvenile offenders and 873 children were registered¹, whereas in the second half of the year 3,715 minors over 14 years were registered as criminal offenders.

In the second half of 2018, 300 children not criminally responsible were registered as child offenders.

Cases closed in an accelerated procedure accounted for 43.3% of the indictments, which is an increase of 9.7%, compared to the respective figure 33.6% in 2017.

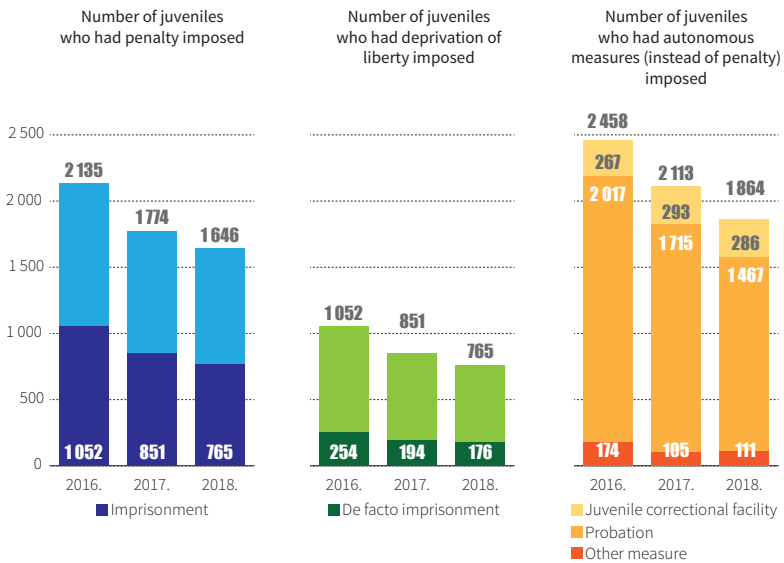
Data relating to indictments against juvenile delinquents in 2016–2018



¹ The data for the two half years of the reporting year, as already mentioned in point 1, may not always correspond to each other.

In 2018, the number of cases and defendants affected by court decisions showed a decrease compared to the data of the previous years, whereas the frequency of penalties and autonomous measures of courts did not change significantly. Courts brought final judgments against 3571 juvenile offenders in 2791 cases. In their final judgements courts imposed imprisonment on almost half (46.5%) of the juvenile delinquents. From among the autonomous measures, probation was applied most frequently against juvenile delinquents (78.7%).

Substantive data related to punishments and measures taken against juvenile delinquents in 2016–2018



In the second half of 2018 in the preliminary sessions of the first instance courts, final definitive decisions were delivered against 90 juveniles.

In 2018, prosecutors lodged appeals against decisions of the courts of first instance with regard to 219 defendants. Criminal proceedings of third instance were conducted against 1 defendant in 1 case.

The efficiency rate of indictment regarding cases, which fall into the power of prosecutors dealing with criminal cases of children and juvenile offenders,

was 98.99%, which corresponds to the average rate of the previous years (2017: 98.94%, 2016: 98.78%).

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

Issuing guidelines and opinions facilitating the uniform application of law received special importance in 2018 as the new CPC raised many questions of interpretation in connection with the changed attitude and new legal institutions.

In connection with the entry into force of the new CPC the Office of the Prosecutor General issued 116 resolutions in principle in 2018.

Of these, the guidelines, which settled the aspects of the settlement and the details of the tasks of the Prosecution Service in the case of a settlement agreement, are of paramount importance.

The Office of the Prosecutor General also issued guidelines on recovery and foreclosure proceedings, as well as the enforcement problems reported in relation to the search for assets.

The opinion of the Office of the Prosecutor General on the trafficking in human beings aimed at further adjusting case law to international standards.

The opinion resolving the uncertainty related to the changes in the procedural relationship, responsibilities and instruments of the investigative authorities and the Prosecution Service was crucial to the application of the law.

According to the guidelines issued by the Office of the Prosecutor General the procedural requirement, stemming from the prohibition of self-incrimination should be properly applied in all cases, including when deciding on the enforceability of legal assistance requests.

3. Prosecutors' activities outside the field of criminal law

Prosecutors' activities relating to the protection of public interest

The reform of the Code of litigious and non-litigious civil proceedings, the Code on taxation, Code on tax administration, Code on general administrative regulations, and the Code on administrative procedure, which entered into force on 1st January 2018, has had a significant impact on the activities of public prosecutors. The basic rules governing the position of the public prosecutor in civil litigation did not change, but in court cases, greater circumspection is required due to the changes in the conditions of bringing a case before court and the stricter content and form requirements thereof. The uniform application of the new laws, which fundamentally restructured the order of administrative procedures and the solution of the arising doctrinal and practical issues were of particular importance. The statutory provisions making electronic administration and communication obligatory also entered into force on 1st January 2018, according to which the Prosecution Service is considered to be an organ providing electronic administration in matters falling within its competence. Because of the successful preparation, the transition to electronic administration and communication was smooth.

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

In 2018, the number of cases registered in the field of the protection of public interest – as it can be seen in the figure below – decreased by 8.5% compared to the data of the previous year. Specifically, the number of cases related to legality review was 90.2% of the amount of the previous year. Priority measures related to legality review had to be taken 72,593 times which means a decrease by 12% compared to the year before. The effectiveness of these measures, however, increased by 7.3% since 99.3% of the reminders and signals issued in the reporting period led to positive results.

Caseload data in the field of the protection of public interest in 2016–2018



Due to the legislative amendments in 2017 the number of cases received from the courts in 2018 (3,550) decreased by 31% compared to the figure of the previous year (5,147), whereas the drop compared to the number of cases in 2016 (13,216) shows a 73% fall.

The number of requests aiming at prosecutorial actions (3,144) decreased by approximately 17% in comparison to the previous year (3,786).

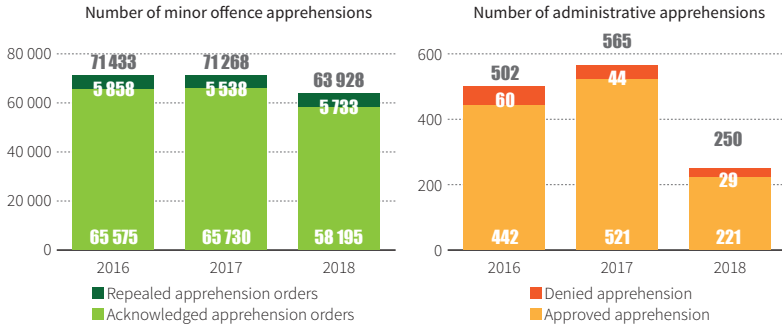
Experiences of legality of supervision procedure

In 2018 the number of requests (1,138) seeking prosecutorial actions related to decisions of public administration authorities decreased in comparison to the year before (1,338) but it went considerably beyond – by 14% – the number of requests received in 2016 (996). Specifically, the number of requests related to social benefits, medical care and other cases of public administration (e.g. requests for farm subsidies) continued to increase, whereas the number of requests related to construction, guardianship and custodial cases, tax, as well as finance and traffic administration cases has been decreasing.

The number of priority measures in cases of environment, nature and animal protection increased by almost 10%. Against the unfounded decisions of environmental authorities, reminders were issued in 6 cases and the authorities accepted the reminder in each case. Prosecutors issued 26 signals for minor offenses, whereas in 76 cases they initiated proceedings.

The following diagram illustrates prosecutorial activities related to apprehension orders of authorities of minor offences and administrative:

Number of minor offence or administrative apprehensions in 2016–2018



As shown in the diagram above the number of minor offence apprehensions in 2018 shrank by approximately 10%. At the same time the prosecutor repealed apprehension orders in a proportion (9%) higher than that of the previous year (7.8%).

In 2018, the number of requests for the approval of apprehensions submitted by administrative authorities was less than the half of such requests in 2017. However, apprehension was denied in a proportion (11.6%) higher than that of the previous year (7.8%).

The number of decisions (83,429) on the termination of proceedings transmitted to the Prosecution Service by minor offence authorities and police bodies conducting preliminary proceedings was by 5.6% less than in the previous year (88,386). In 4,219 cases, the prosecutor took measures ex officio in order to obtain the relevant documents of the case. The prosecutor took measures in almost every second case of the inspected cases. In 26.9% of them, the prosecutor issued a reminder in the interest of the revocation of decision or the resumption of the proceedings. In 60.9% of the cases where substantive measures were taken, the prosecutor issued a signal with regard to minor offences having lesser importance, whereas in 12.2% of the cases the prosecutor initiated (mostly criminal) proceedings.

In 2018 the number of complaints submitted in minor offence cases (1,270) decreased only by 2%. More than 25% of the appeals proved to be substantiated: prosecutors annulled actions of the minor offence authorities against which complaints had been filed in 320 cases and they established the violation of law in 6 cases.

In 2018 prosecutors initiated 1,134 retrials, which – presumably due to the decrease in the number of apprehensions – is by 37.5% less than in the year before.

Prosecutorial activities relating to reliability investigations

Chief Prosecution Offices assigned to fulfil the tasks relating to integrity screening approved 1,103 decisions ordering reliability investigations in 2018. In the case of 129 persons, the prosecutor on the grounds of the absence of certain legal requirements denied the approval of reliability investigations. Based on conducted reliability investigations 9 criminal proceedings were initiated.

The participation of the prosecutor in court proceedings

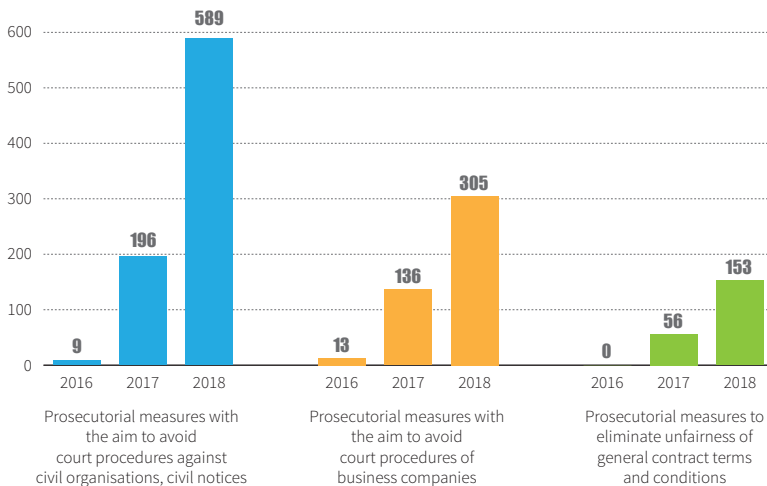
In 2018 – in conformance to the change in the prosecutorial powers related to civil organisations – prosecutors tended to bring actions in the field of company law and customer protection.

In 2018, prosecutors brought 96 actions and initiated 1,539 non-contentious proceedings before the courts in cases related to civil organisations and political parties. In 2018, there were about 10% less cases (1,299) where prosecutors participated in proceedings seeking restraining orders between family members before courts, than the year before (1,450). Upon authorization granted by laws regarding nature and environmental protection, prosecutors filed 12 lawsuits in 2018, most of them for cruelty to animals. In the proceedings that have already finished the courts upheld the claims. Prosecutors issued 2 reminders aiming at voluntary execution for acts threatening and damaging the environment; both reminders led to success.

The Prosecution Service initiated company legality supervision procedures in 2,280 cases mainly for omissions related to obligations of companies under company law and the absence of compulsory data from the company register. In 2018, prosecutors filed 49 company lawsuits in order to set aside company registration (registration of changes) writs.

In order to enforce consumer rights and to protect the interests of consumers, prosecutors submitted 19 claims for unfairness of general contract terms and conditions. The number of claims for unfair terms of and conditions fell compared to the previous year (42), but as the figure below shows, the number of reminders issued with the aim to avoid court procedures has increased significantly.

Prosecutorial measures with the aim to avoid court procedures, civil notices in 2016–2018



Due to the motivation of NGOs, enterprises and business organizations to voluntarily comply with the law, the number of cost-effective prosecutorial reminders issued with the aim to avoid court procedures increased significantly, more than two and a half times compared to 2017. Also, such measures generally result in the faster elimination of the violations of law.

The diagram shows a three-fold increase in the number of such prosecutorial measures in connection with NGOs compared to the previous year. In company cases, the proportion of such prosecutorial measures more than doubled, and the number of prosecutorial actions for unfair terms and conditions increased approximately threefold. As a result, the number of unfair terms and conditions against which the prosecutor took measures nearly doubled in 2018. In addition, one consumer protection lawsuit was filed against a retail telecommunication service provider for a consumer infringement involving a wide range of consumers and a prosecutorial reminder was issued against a company retailing network operator.

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 the comprehensive inspection of 24 child protection institutions providing specialized care and 66 permanent and provisory children's homes. 227 prosecutorial measures had to be taken due to infringements of law detected in the course of the inspections.

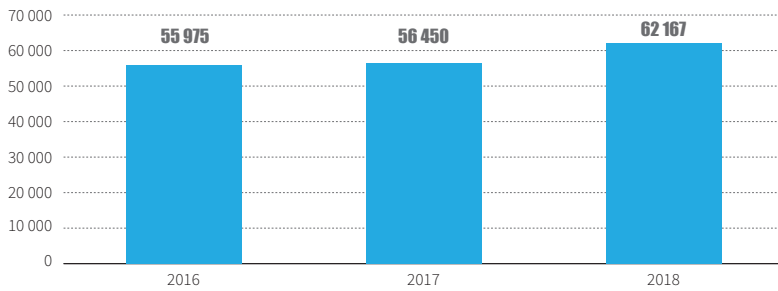
In restraint cases applied for violence among family members prosecutors had to issue 941 awareness-rising signals to the guardian offices, responsible for the coordination of family services. 234 official proceedings were initiated to refer the child in a protected status.

In child protection cases of juveniles the number of priority measures taken in 2018 (2,937) showed rise of 5.5% compared to the year before (2,784).

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.

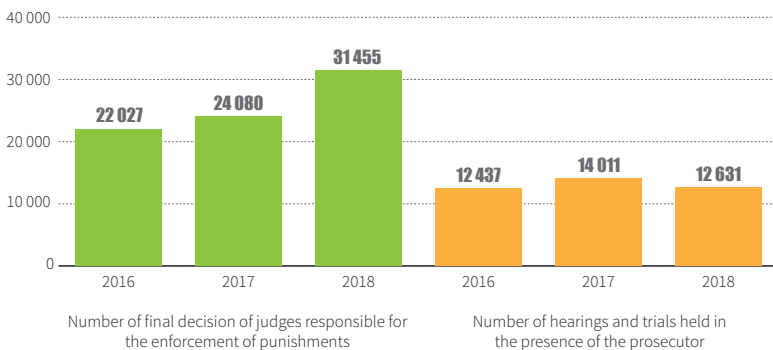
The changes in the workload in the field of legality supervision of the enforcement of punishments and the protection of human rights in 2016–2018



Unlike in 2017 an increase could be observed in the number of complaints, requests and notifications received by the prosecutors last year (2018: 7,282; 2017: 6,160). The proportion of the sustained complaints, requests and notifications (2018: 10.2%; 2017: 9.8%) also shows a slightly rising tendency.

The participation in the judicial proceedings connected to the enforcement of punishments account for a significant proportion of the workload of prosecutors specialized in this field.

Number of final judgements of judges responsible for the enforcement of punishments and the number of hearings and trials held in the presence of the prosecutor in 2016–2018

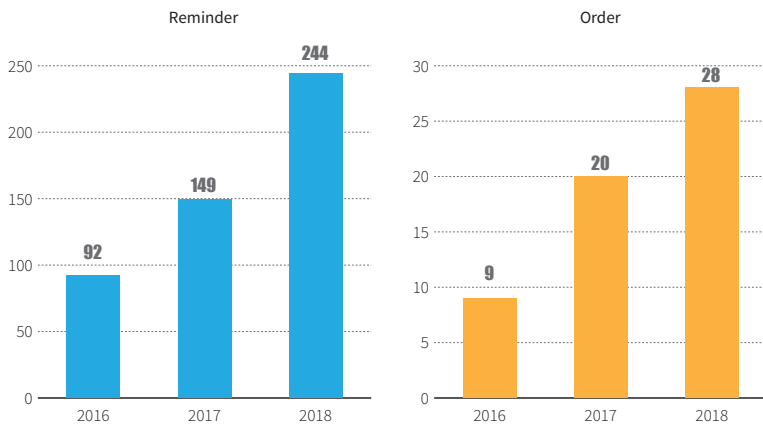


The steady increase in the number of final court decisions in judicial procedures conducted by judges responsible for the enforcement of punishments is essentially the result of the extension of the powers of these judges (compensatory remedy complaints concerning conditions of detention violating fundamental rights, review of compulsory treatment, etc.).

The decline (9.8%) in the number of hearings and trials held in the presence of the prosecutor in 2018 compared to the previous year can be mainly explained by the further increase in the workload of the specialized prosecutors due to the growing number of decisions in sentence 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.

Number of prosecutorial reminders and provisions in 2016–2018



The steady increase in the number of prosecutorial measures clearly indicates an increase in the activity in this field.

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 2018 found that similarly to the previous years' detainees' treatment in Hungary, despite some occasional mistakes and deficiencies,

generally complied with requirements set forth by international norms and recommendations as well as with the law in force.

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.

In 2018, the Office of the Prosecutor General reviewed from a legality point of view the provisions of the National Prison Commander's Special Guide on the tasks of operators of the no publicly available Telekom Network of mobile telecommunication services for prisoners. The examination found that the provisions of the Special Guide on the bail/security for the possession of mobile phones by detainees were not in accordance with the law. At the initiation of the Office of the Prosecutor General, the National Prison Commander reviewed the Special Guide and modified it accordingly.

4. The Prosecutor General's activity

Activity related to the Parliament

In 2018, the Prosecutor General continued to exercise fully his constitutional obligations regarding the Parliament, both orally and in writing. In the reporting year, Members of Parliament addressed 78 questions requiring written responses, 5 urgent questions and 2 questions requiring verbal responses to the Prosecutor General.

Exercising certain powers of the Prosecutor General

In order to ensure compliance of final judgements with the law, the Prosecutor General sought legal remedies with the Curia in 11 cases. The Curia ruled in favour of the prosecutorial motions in all of the cases.

Section 2 (2) (a) of the Act CXXX of 2000 on the establishing the nullity of convictions for the 1956 revolution and fight for freedom authorizes the Prosecutor General to file motions ex officio to the Curia to issue a certificate of nullity to those affected by the Act. In 2018 in accordance with the prosecutorial

motions, the Curia confirmed the nullity of the proceedings in 12 criminal cases, against 62 persons.

The most important tool to standardize judicial practice is uniformity decisions adopted by the Curia, which are binding for lower courts. In 2018, in the criminal law field of the prosecutorial activity 3 uniformity decision proceedings were opened, 1 of which was initiated by the Prosecutor General. The Prosecutor General issued written statements in 3 uniformity decision proceedings in the field of public interest activity in 2018.

In 2018, the Prosecutor General requested the waiver of the immunity of two Members of Parliament in order for a criminal proceeding to be opened. Based on the request the Parliament waived the immunity in respect of both Members.

During the 2018 parliamentary elections, parliamentary candidates also enjoyed immunity. The Prosecutor General proposed to the National Election Office that this immunity be waived for two candidates; both requests were successful.

The Prosecutor General waived three prosecutors' immunity and proposed the waiver of six judges' immunity. The proposals led to the waiver of immunities. The Prosecutor General proposed the waiver of four foreign diplomats' immunity to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the ground of diplomatic immunity.

In the reporting year the number of draft legislations sent for opinion exceeded 140. The Prosecutor General and head prosecutors of the Prosecution Service in their transferred competence made observations about more than 30% of the draft legislations.

In 2018 the most important preparatory legislative work was the codification of decrees relating to the newly adopted Criminal Procedure Code. Based on the authorizing provisions of the newly adopted Criminal Procedure Code several lower-level laws (government decrees, decrees issued by the Ministry of Justice or by the Ministry of Interior) were made and revised.

The Prosecutor General is authorized by law to regulate in 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 and the cooperation of the branches of prosecutorial activities. In 2018 26 orders and 4 circulars were issued by the Prosecutor General.

The Prosecutor General's international activity

In 2018 the Prosecutor General's international activity focused on the further development of relations with neighbouring countries and other EU Member States. In this context, a delegation led by the Prosecutor General of Austria visited Hungary on 30–31st January. The Prosecutor General of Hungary met his Slovenian counterpart in Ljubljana on 1–2nd October. An official meeting with the Prosecutor General of Croatia took place in Nagykanizsa in December. On 25th April Dr. Péter Polt visited Karlsruhe upon his German counterpart's invitation.

In order to develop international relations outside of Europe, upon the invitation of the Attorney General of Cuba, the Prosecutor General of Hungary attended the 14th International Meeting on Criminal Sciences in Havana on 14–16th March 2018, where he also delivered a presentation. During his stay in Havana Dr. Péter Polt entered into an agreement of cooperation with his Cuban counterpart. The agreement of cooperation aimed at strengthening the efficiency of international cooperation in criminal matters between the two prosecution services.

Upon the invitation of the Prosecutor General of Vietnam Dr. Péter Polt visited Vietnam on 17–24th September. During the bilateral consultations the idea of a legal training on cybercrime, corruption, money laundering and asset recovery organized in Hungary for Vietnamese and Hungarian prosecutors and lawyers arose. During his visit Dr. Péter Polt held a presentation at the Hanoi University for prosecutors of the Supreme People's Procuracy of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

In 2018 the meeting of the Network of Public Prosecutors or Equivalent Institutions at the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States of the European Union, where the Prosecutor General of Hungary also delivered a presentation, was held in Paris.

The 7th meeting of Prosecutors General of the Visegrád Four Group was hosted by Dr. Péter Polt in Visegrád, where at the end of the meeting a Declaration was signed by the Prosecutors General of the Visegrád Four Group.

The Council of the European Union organized the Consultative Forum of Prosecutors General and Directors of Public Prosecutions of the Member States of the European Union, which was also attended by the Prosecutor General of Hungary, in The Hague.

The Prosecutor General of Hungary participated in the work of the Consultative Council of European Prosecutors (CCPE) in 2018 as well.

Dr. Péter Polt attended the conference titled “The Criminal Law Protection of the Financial Interests of the European Union” organized by the University of Miskolc. The Prosecutor General of Hungary held a presentation titled “Hungarian Regulation on the Protection of the Financial Interests of the European Union and Prosecutorial Actions against Budget Fraud in Practice”.

In 2018 the Prosecutor General of Hungary also held official negotiations with several high-ranking non-prosecutor partners.

On 27th March he received Nguyen Hoa Binh, Chief Justice of the Supreme People’s Court of Viet Nam, who visited Hungary as a guest of the Curia, and on 4th April he met Tayeb Louh, the Algerian Minister of Justice, who came to Hungary upon the invitation of the Hungarian Ministry of Justice. On 29th March the Prosecutor General of Hungary held talks with the delegation of the Limited Election Observation Mission to Hungary of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR). On 12th November he received the European Commission delegation visiting Hungary within the framework of 2019 European Semester.

Upon the invitation of Dr. Péter Polt, Ladislav Hamran, President of the Eurojust as a guest of honour attended the ceremony of Prosecutors’ Day held on 11th June.

5. The international activity of the Prosecution Service

International relations

Participation in training events (conferences, seminars, study trips) aimed at exchanging experience, invitations to events as experts or lecturers and travelling abroad to discuss concrete cases with foreign partners accounted for a significant part of the international activity of the Prosecution Service. Most training programs were organized and financed by the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN).

Similarly to the previous years, one-week-long exchange programs organized for prosecutors within the framework of EJTN continued. During these programs eight prosecutors visited prosecution offices in other EU Member States and received foreign prosecutors in Hungary.

In 2018 the Prosecution Service was represented by 244 persons attending 176 international events, by 116 persons participating in 81 training events, seminars and study trips.

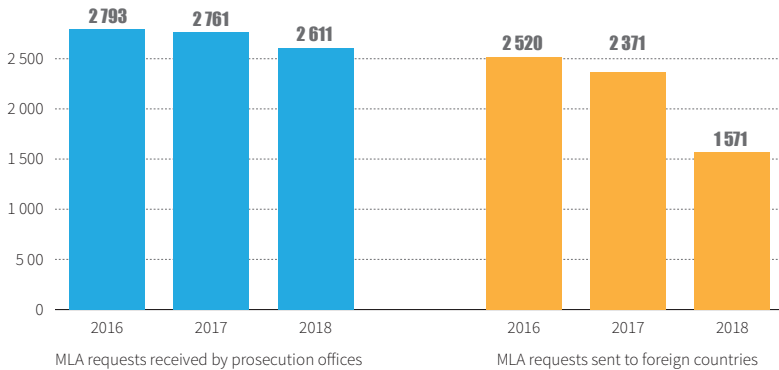
42 persons on 31 occasions took part in meetings held with foreign partner authorities with regard to concrete criminal cases. Most of these meetings were coordination meetings financed by Eurojust.

Contact points for international organizations representing the Prosecution Service attended 23 events, and another 20 persons were invited as experts to hold lectures at 18 international professional events.

Mutual Legal Assistance Cases

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

Number of MLA requests in criminal matters received by prosecution offices and sent to foreign countries in 2016–2018



The Office of the Prosecutor General is the central authority to handle mutual legal assistance matters. In 2018 it decided to forward legal assistance requests sent to non-EU countries in 49 cases, while it received 484 requests for legal assistance from foreign judicial authorities including judicial authorities of EU Member States.

Direct cooperation among judicial authorities of EU Member States has proved to be the most typical one for years as far as legal assistance matters are concerned. After 1st May 2018 direct cooperation with judicial authorities of most of the Member States of the Council of Europe also became possible.

The transfer of criminal procedures from foreign authorities was accepted on 192 occasions in cases where the crime was committed abroad by a Hungarian national. On the other hand, criminal procedures were transferred on 31 occasions in cases where the crime was committed by a foreign national in Hungary.

In the first half of the year the number of registered foreign perpetrators was 2,218, while in the second half of the year the number of foreign perpetrators of registered crimes was 3,101.

In the first half of 2018 the number of registered foreign national victims was 2,256, while in the second half of 2018 the number of foreign national victims of registered crimes was 1,857.

In 2018 the number of cases seeking legal assistance in administrative offence matters (3,476) slightly fell by 6% compared to the previous year (3,693), but compared to 2016 (number of such cases was 3,026) was some 15% higher. Foreign authorities initiated legal assistance proceedings in 3,388 cases, while Hungarian administrative offence authorities did that in 88 cases.

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. At the seat of Eurojust Hungary is represented by the Eurojust National Member for Hungary, who is a prosecutor deputy head of department. The activity of the Eurojust National Member for Hungary is supported by 6 seconded national experts rotating every 6 month.

In 2018 the number of cases opened before Eurojust (3,317) shows a significant, 19% increase compared to the previous year. Hungary is still considered to be a very active member of the judicial cooperation in the EU and ranks 13th in the list of the requesting countries, while it ranks 11th among the requested countries.

Eurojust organized and financed 359 coordination meetings with regard to 431 cases. Hungarian prosecutors participated in 25 coordination meetings, out of which 9 were held upon their initiation. In addition to the coordination meetings Hungarian judicial and law enforcement actors also participated in the operation of three, so called coordination centres that coordinate procedural acts carried out in more than one Member States on the same day.

In 2018 Eurojust supported 235 already operating joint investigation teams (2017: 200). Out of the 85 joint investigation teams, newly set up during the year, 7 involved Hungarian members. The total number of the already operating joint investigation teams – including the formerly set ones –, involving Hungarian members was 16.

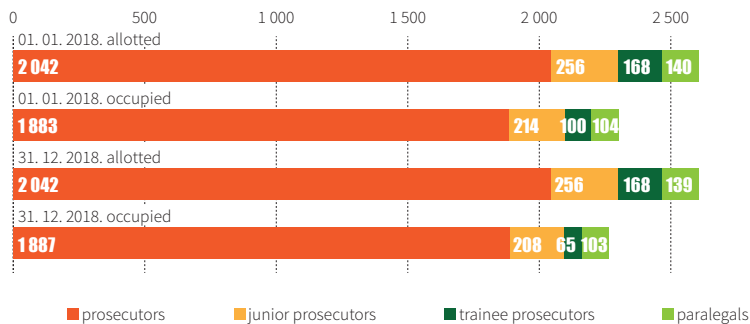
6. Personnel of the Prosecution Service

Personnel conditions

As of 1st September 2018 Act XL of 2018 on the Foundation of the 2019 Central Budget of Hungary modified provisions of the Prosecutorial Employment and Career Act regarding managerial, position and title supplements.

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

Allotted and occupied job positions for prosecutors, junior and trainee prosecutors and paralegals in 2018



Out of the number of allotted prosecutor positions the number of prosecutor positions slightly increased from 2,001 to 2,005 until the end of the year compared to the situation on 1st January 2018. At the end of 2018 the number of reserve, non-allotted prosecutor positions was 37, out of which 2 positions were temporarily used to fill junior prosecutor positions.

At the end of 2018, out of the number of prosecutor positions divided among structural units of the Prosecution Service 118 were vacant, which, considering the central reserve positions as well, showed a 7.6% staff shortage.

In 2018 62 prosecutors, 42 junior prosecutors and 9 trainee prosecutors were appointed.

In 2018 – which showed the smallest number in the recent years – disciplinary proceedings were started on 12 occasions, which, compared to the total staff number of the Prosecution Service (4,500 persons), cannot be considered as significant. Out of the imposed punishments the less serious ones still dominate.

Continuous training of employees of the Prosecution Service

1 three-day-long, 2 four-day-long and 1 five-day-long trainings for trainee prosecutors and 1 four-day-long training for junior prosecutors were held in the Hungarian Training Centre for Prosecutors.

20 centrally organized trainings were held for prosecutors. The criminal forensics training was held divided into three one-week-long sessions. Training on the newly adopted Criminal Procedure Code organized for all prosecutors ended in the first quarter of 2018. Preparation for the application of the new Criminal Procedure Code continued in trainings organized for prosecutors, junior and trainee prosecutors.

In addition to the training for head prosecutors a consultation for deputy chief prosecutors heading the criminal law and non-criminal law branches was organized. Prosecutors heading the IT field, unit head prosecutors handling criminal court cases, investigating prosecutors, prosecutors handling traffic offence cases, prosecutors supervising the legality of the enforcement of punishments and protection of human rights, prosecutors handling juvenile offenders' cases, prosecutors working in the field of protection of public interest and spokespersons participated in centrally organized trainings. A one-day-long training was organized in the context of fight against terrorism and money laundering. From each structural unit of the Prosecution Service at least one prosecutor, and in the prosecutors' network dealing with cybercrime cases one prosecutor and one IT staff member from each chief prosecution office were trained to support the handling of international legal assistance cases. Prosecutorial officials and clerks had the opportunity to participate in 11 trainings.

Postgraduate studies and participating in foreign legal language trainings were also supported. New study contracts were concluded with 21 prosecutorial employees.

7. Communication activity of the Prosecution Service

In 2018 the communication activity of the Prosecution Service maintained its outstanding achievements shown in 2017, as it proactively performed the complex task of informing the general public on a great number of occasions and at a persistently high level. Most chief prosecution offices could increase or maintain their press activity at the same level compared to 2017, which is considered to be the record year.

By participating in and using press backroom talks, brief videos, written publications, diagrams and TV interviews the Office of the Prosecutor General helped journalists and the general public to understand the new, changing role prosecutors take according to the newly adopted Criminal Procedure Code. From July on the appellate chief prosecution offices and the chief prosecution offices also became involved in this legal awareness raising activity bringing examples from general and concrete cases.

Spokespersons of the Prosecution Service foster stable and good working relations with colleagues of other authorities responsible for communication and have laid special emphasis on keeping contact with the local press.

Photos and videos were also regularly published on the official website of the Prosecution Service to the general public in accordance with law.

8. Information technology and statistical activity of the Prosecution Service

Information technology of the Prosecution Service

The Prosecution Service operates a national remote data transport network (Praetor Net) which accesses every premise. Services of the Praetor Net cover access to internet, email system ensuring quick information exchange, internal

and external databases and registers supporting the work of the Prosecution Service.

The newly adopted Criminal Procedure Code has introduced several legal concepts that require information technology support. In line with this, it was a priority task for the information technology of the Prosecution Service to get prepared for the application and entry into force of the newly adopted Criminal Procedure Code. The required IT infrastructure and services were developed by deadline. The extension of data network was completed, and the bandwidth of internet used by individual prosecutorial employees got at least six times higher. Electronic case management complying with relevant laws and keeping contact with cooperating authorities electronically was ensured as of 1st January 2018 by starting to use the Electronic Case Management System. Due to IT investments in 2018 technical conditions for being present by using telecommunication devices, accessing case files and documents electronically, making audio, image and sound recordings as well as distorting individual features suitable for identification by using technical devices are provided in the Prosecution Service.

With consent of the Hungarian National Archives Order 26/2018. (XII.28.) on document management in the Prosecution Service was issued by the Prosecutor General in 2018. This Order replaced the former provisions regarding paper-based case management and contains up-to-date provisions that can be applied to electronic case management and contact keeping as well.

In 2018 the widening of external relations and areas of cooperation with partner organizations, authorities and telecommunication companies continued. The cooperation agreement with the National Police Headquarters about the use of Robotcop system in the Prosecution Service – which is an integrated case management, case processing and electronic document management system – was renewed. With regard to prosecutorial data relating to the Central Storage Media the Office of the Prosecutor General entered into data processing agreements with the Ministry of Interior, the National Infocommunications Service Company Limited by Shares (Nemzeti Infokommunikációs Szolgáltató Zrt.) and IdomSoft Company Limited by Shares (IdomSoft Zrt.). In 2018 the Prosecution Service took measures to implement Government Decree 466/2017. (XII.28.) on Government Data Safety Deposit Box used to secure electronic case management data.

Connected to the tasks of the network of prosecutors handling cybercrime cases several events attended by representatives of investigating authorities and of the judiciary were organized.

As far as our international cooperation is concerned it must be highlighted that prosecutorial information technology played a key role in the implementation of Eurojust Decision. The system developed by the Prosecution Service secured national access to the internal case management system of Eurojust in 2018, too.

In 2018 the Prosecution Service also performed the duty of electronically providing public interest data 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. Pursuant to this Act the President of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office exercises rights of control over the statistical activity of the Office of the Prosecutor General as it is a member of the Official Statistical Service. As a part of this control, the Office of the Prosecutor General was the first member of the Official Statistical Service to receive accreditation from the President of the Hungarian Central Statistical Service for a period of five years within the framework of a so called accreditation procedure on 5th April 2018. The aim of the accreditation procedure was to monitor compliance with the National Statistical Code of Practice and with European Regulation on Statistics.

In 2018 every statistical information and data was electronically collected by the Prosecution Service. Our self-developed case management applications can provide up-to-date information on the criminal and non-criminal law activities of the Prosecution Service, and the recorded data and information form the basis of the centrally controlled and approved information systems, which are part of the Government's national statistical data collection program.

The Prosecution Service actively contributes to the development of official statistics. The representative of the Office of the Prosecutor General is a member of the National Statistical Coordination Board, and delegates of the Prosecution Service are involved in the activity of the Board's thematic working groups.

In the project of the 6th Edition of the European Sourcebook on Crime and Criminal Justice, started in 2018, data collection and compilation is coordinated on behalf of Hungary by the Office of the Prosecutor General. As part of this, national data was forwarded about the activity of the Police, the Prosecution Service, the Judiciary and the Hungarian Prison Service.

9. Financial conditions of the operation of the Prosecution Service

The necessary financial resources were available within the budgetary chapter of the Prosecution Service in 2018 as well. Special emphasis in financial management was laid on the provision of daily operation, and special attention was given to the improvement and upgrading of information technology equipment, to covering the increasing operational costs incurred by the territorial growth and modern infrastructure of newly occupied buildings.

Last year the original appropriations allocated for the performance of professional duties of the Prosecution Service increased by 45.1 million HUF compared to 2017.

Due to changes in appropriations expenditure appropriation rose by 8,375.9 million HUF to 51,643.4 million HUF.

Personnel-related expenditures and contributions relating thereto made up 81.5%, developments 9% and operational costs 9.5% of the used appropriations.

The sum used for personal allowances (33,400.5 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.

In 2018 81.6 million HUF was loaned interest-free by the Prosecution Service as employer for home purchase and refurbishing purposes to 47 employees of the Prosecution Service.

4,316.3 million HUF was spent on non-personnel expenditures, which includes operation-related expenses of services, costs of maintaining and repairing buildings and equipment as well as the value added tax payable on improvements.

In 2018, together with the funds provided to cover several-years of improvements, 6,153.8 million HUF original appropriation was made available to cover cumulative expenses in the budgetary chapter.

As far as changes in assets are concerned the net value of machines, equipment, accessories and vehicles increased to the biggest extent, namely by 768.9 million HUF. The balance sheet value of intangible assets increased by 44.2 million HUF, that of real estates and relating rights of property net value by 15.7 million HUF, and that of the incomplete investments by 1,190.3 million HUF.

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

Prosecutors are respected participants in the community of legal sciences, they are authors of books, university textbooks and of other higher educational publications. Every superior leader of the Prosecution Service has a scientific degree. 27 prosecutors and 18 other prosecutorial employees possess academic titles: 4 of them have a habilitation degree and 2 persons have a doctoral degree of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. 61 prosecutors, junior and trainee prosecutors are Ph.D. students at various universities. 93 prosecutors and researchers are lecturers and examiners in higher educational institutes. In the summer of 2018 65 prosecutors were appointed examiners of bar exams for a period of five years.

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, 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 were authors of 81 publications, out of which 19 were published in foreign languages. They held altogether 111 lectures and presentations at various conferences and other professional events. Out of these lectures and presentations 18 were delivered in foreign languages at 16 foreign conferences.