

Crime and criminal investigation activity in 2001

Staš Svetek, Senior Criminal Investigation Inspector of Crime Analysis Division, Crime Investigation Unit, Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia, Štefanova 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

In 2001 the extent of crime handled by the police increased, which is the result of more consistent filing of complaints for minor crimes, and a larger number of crimes committed by drug addicts. The police have investigated more criminal offences with less interventions resulting in deprivation of liberty. The terrorist attack on the United States has also had an indirect effect on police work in the field of crime. Within the framework of the international fight against terrorism, the police have provided security of premises and carried out preventive tasks.

Statistical data indicate that residents of Slovenia are still relatively safe from crime, although the predictions of experts concerning the strengthening of organisation and linkage of criminal offenders from different countries, an increase in crime with elements of psychological and physical violence and the exploitation of new, especially communication technologies and devices for the commission of criminal offences, have come true. Streams of illegal migrations across Slovenia have lessened, while a rise of abuse of illicit drugs and the so-called secondary crime, related to drugs, has continued. What is particularly concerning is a rise of violence and drug abuse among the young.

In 2001 the police submitted complaints to the state prosecution agency for 74.795 (67.617) criminal offences, for which there was a reasonable suspicion that they had been committed in the past year or in previous years, which is 10.6 % more than a year before. Among these offences, the largest rise was in minor property offences, offences of illicit drug manufacture and traffic, simple assault, threat to safety, maltreatment and sexual assault on a minor under 15 years.

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