Crime in Slovenia in 2024

Matjaž Jerkič, M.A., Director of the Criminal Police Directorate, General Police Directorate, Slovenia. E-mail: matjaz.jerkic@policija.si

This article presents data on crimes investigated by the Slovenian police in 2024, as well as factors that affected the work of the police. The statistical data only cover crimes known to the police, i.e., reported and detected criminal offences. The priorities of the police are defined in the medium-term plan for the development and work of the police, 2023–2027, the annual plan for the work of the police for 2024 and other strategic documents. In 2024, the police dealt with security challenges including violence, especially peer violence, domestic violence and riots at sports events, illegal migration and increased level of terrorism threat which led to the continued temporary re-control of internal borders. Security in the local community in 2024 was also linked to causes stemming from the failure to address the issue of the multi-ethnic community, as well as foreigners as perpetrators of criminal offences. Already at the beginning of the summer, the police intensified their activities in municipalities with multi-ethnic communities, especially in the area of Southeastern Slovenia. Addressing open issues in multi-ethnic communities can only be successful with a real dialogue between everyone and in cooperation with all stakeholders in the local community. The investigation rate of criminal offences was 51.4%, and in the period 2015–2023, it was 50.9%. The number of criminal offences dealt with is mainly influenced by the number of general crime offences, where property crimes have the largest share. After several years of decline, the negative trend curve turned upwards in 2022, and in 2024, the number of criminal offences reached the level before the COVID-19 epidemic. A similar trend is also observed in the field of economic crime. General crime, at 83.4%, continues to represent the largest share of all crimes, while the remaining 16.6% of crimes are economic crime. Organised crime represents 1% of total crime. Criminal offences committed by juvenile offenders increased in the structure of total crime in the medium term and stabilised at 2.9% of all crimes in 2024, the same as in 2023.

Keywords: crime, Slovenia, criminal offences, criminal investigation, criminal police

UDC: 343.3/.7(497.4)"2024"