ANNUAL REPORT 2013
This Annual Report of the Austrian Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAK) is a shortened version. The complete report (in German) can be found on our website: http://www.bak.gv.at/cms/BAK_dt/service/publikationen/start.aspx

**Responsible for the content:**
Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption
Austrian Federal Ministry of the Interior
Herrengasse 7, 1014 Vienna, Austria
Tel: +43-(0)-1-531 26 - 0
Fax: +43-(0)-1-531 26 - 10 85 83
E-Mail: BMI-IV-BAK-SPOC@bak.gv.at
# CONTENTS

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 **INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT**  

1.2 **BAK – LEGAL BASIS**  

1.3 **BAK – TASKS**  

1.4 **COMMISSION FOR LEGAL PROTECTION**

## 2 ORGANIZATION

2.1 **DEPARTMENT 1 – STRATEGY, ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONAL & MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE**  

2.2 **DEPARTMENT 2 – PREVENTION, EDUCATION, BASIC GROUNDWORK**  

2.3 **DEPARTMENT 3 – OPERATIONAL SERVICE**  

2.4 **DEPARTMENT 4 – INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

## 3 STAFF

## 4 STATISTICAL DATA

4.1 **GENERAL**  

4.2 **METADATA**  

4.3 **RELEVANCE FOR SECURITY POLICY**  

4.4 **NUMBER OF CASES**  

4.5 **CASE-RELATED DATA**  

4.6 **CLARIFICATION**  

4.7 **CRIME SCENES: REGIONAL BREAKDOWN**

## 5 PREVENTION

5.1 **HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT**  

5.2 **PREVENTION PROJECTS**  

5.2.1 General  

5.2.2 Project „Debt overload“

## 6 BASIC GROUNDWORK

6.1 **COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA**  

6.2 **IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS**  

6.3 **INTERNATIONAL EXPERT MEETINGS AND TRAININGS, LECTURING**  

6.4 **INTERNAL/EXTERNAL COOPERATIONS (THE „SCHOOL PROJECT“)**  

6.5 **NATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION STRATEGY – ROUND TABLE OF EXPERTS**

## 7 EDUCATION AND AWARENESS-RAISING

7.1 **GENERAL**  

7.2 **LECTURES BY THE BAK WITHIN THE MINISTRY**  

7.3 **ADVANCED TRAINING COURSE OF THE BAK**  

7.4 **AUSTRIAN ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY**  

7.5 **ANTI-CORRUPTION-DAY FOR THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR**  

7.6 **CORPORATE TRANSPARENCY DAY**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>Bi- and Multilateral Cooperation, International Police Cooperation and Administrative Assistance</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2.1</td>
<td>International Police Cooperation and Administrative Assistance</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2.2</td>
<td>Bi- and Multilateral Cooperation</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>Cooperation within the Framework of European and International Organizations, Bodies, Mechanisms and Networks</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3.1</td>
<td>Anti-Corruption Activities at EU Level</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 International Standards and Historical Development

Austria signed and subsequently ratified international conventions in the area of comprehensively combating the phenomenon of corruption, in particular, the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)1, thereby undertaking to implement wide-ranging measures – especially concerning legislation and organization law. Such measures include, inter alia, the establishment of specialized services vested with the necessary independence, since the UNCAC provides for the creation of an institution for the prevention of corruption (Art. 6) and a specialized prosecution authority (Art. 36).

Pursuant to Art. 65 of the UNCAC, each State Party shall - in accordance with the fundamental principles of its domestic law - take the necessary measures, including legislative measures, to ensure the implementation of the Convention. The Convention as such requires States Parties to transform, if necessary, its contents into national law, provided that provisions are not optional.

Until 31 December 2009, the tasks listed in the Convention were performed for Austria by the Federal Bureau for Internal Affairs (BIA). In the field of corruption prevention, the BIA, inter alia, held numerous presentations, trainings and workshops, launched the Austrian Anti-Corruption Day, and initiated and organized the International Anti-Corruption Summer School (IACSS), a project co-financed by the European Commission. In the field of fighting corruption, the BIA’s successful investigations led to a large number of solved cases of corruption and abuse of authority.

This successful strategy was continued by establishing the Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAK) as a specialized service within the Federal Ministry of the Interior based on a special law. Furthermore, the establishment of the BAK was another step to implement international requirements.

1.2 BAK – Legal Basis

The Federal Law on the Establishment and Organization of the Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAK-G) entered into force on 1 January 2010 and constitutes the BAK’s legal basis. Due to the new terminology of the Austrian Penal Code (StGB) defined by the “2012 Act amending the Criminal Law on Corruption” (KorrStrÄG 2012), the Federal Law Gazette (BGBl.) I, No. 65/2013, contains an adaptation of the BAK-G. Furthermore, § 310 StGB was added to the Bureau’s tasks defined by the BAK-G.

The BAK is an institution of the Austrian Federal Ministry of the Interior. Pursuant to Section 1 of the BAK-G, it is, organizationally speaking, established outside the Directorate-General for Public Security, namely within the Directorate-General IV (Services and Supervision), and thus directly responsible to the Director-General IV.

The BAK has nationwide jurisdiction over the prevention of and the fight against corruption, the cooperation with the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office for Combating Economic Crime and Corruption (WKStA), as well as over law
enforcement and criminal police cooperation with foreign and international anti-corruption institutions.

The BAK’s legal mandate thus includes and defines the 4-pillar approach to combating corruption recommended by experts: prevention, education, law enforcement and international cooperation.

1.3 BAK – Tasks

In accordance with Section 4 of the Federal Law on the Establishment and Organization of the Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAK-G), the BAK has nationwide jurisdiction over security and criminal police investigations concerning the following criminal offences:

1. abuse of official authority (§ 302 of the StGB [Austrian Penal Code])
2. corruptibility (§ 304 StGB),
3. acceptance of an advantage (§ 305 StGB),
4. acceptance of an advantage for the purpose of exerting influence (§ 306 StGB),
5. bribery (§ 307 StGB),
6. offering an advantage (§ 307a StGB),
7. offering an advantage for the purpose of exerting influence (§ 307b StGB),
8. illicit intervention (§ 308 StGB),
8a. breach of official secrecy (§ 310 StGB),
9. breach of trust due to abuse of an official function or due to involvement of an office holder (§ 153, para. 2, case 2; § 313; or in connection with § 74, para. 1, no. 4a, StGB),
10. acceptance of gifts by persons holding a position of power (§ 153a StGB),
11. agreements restricting competition in procurement procedures (§ 168b StGB) as well as serious fraud (§ 147 StGB) and commercial fraud (§ 148 StGB) on the basis of such agreement,
12. acceptance of gifts and bribery of employees or agents (§ 309 StGB),
13. money laundering (§ 165 StGB), provided that the assets arise from the offences 1 to 8, 9, 11 (second and third case) or 12; criminal associations or organizations (§§ 278 and 278a StGB), provided that they intend to commit the offences 1 to 9 or 11 (second and third case),
14. acts punishable pursuant to the StGB and supplementary laws, provided that they are related to the offences 1 to 13 and have to be prosecuted by the BAK by written order of a court or a public prosecutor’s office,
15. acts punishable pursuant to the StGB and supplementary laws that are committed by public employees of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, provided that they have to be prosecuted by the BAK by written order of a court or a public prosecutor’s office.

In accordance with Section 28, paragraph 1, 2nd sentence, of the Austrian Penal Code (Determination of the Maximum Penalty), the BAK is only
responsible for the cases 11 to 13 if the offences mentioned are relevant for the
determination of the level of penalty.

The BAK’s responsibilities in the field of international cooperation are clearly
laid down in Section 4, paragraph 2, of the Federal Law on the Establishment
and Organization of the Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAK-G): the Federal
Bureau of Anti-Corruption is responsible for investigations within the
framework of international police cooperation and mutual assistance as well as
for cooperation with the corresponding institutions of the European Union and
the investigating authorities of EU Member States in the above mentioned cases.
Regarding international police cooperation in the cases described above, the
Bureau acts as point of contact for OLAF, Interpol, Europol and other
comparable international institutions.

1.4 Commission for Legal Protection

The members of the Commission for Legal Protection are the Legal Protection
Officer of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Prof. Manfred Burgstaller, the
former President of the Supreme Court of Justice, Johann Rzeszut, and the
former Deputy Procurator-General at the Supreme Court of Justice, Robert
Jerabek. The members of the Commission are independent, not bound by
instructions, and subject to official secrecy.

The Commission’s main task is the investigation of substantiated allegations
against actions of the Bureau if there is no legal remedy available to the persons
concerned.
2 ORGANIZATION

2.1 Department 1 – Strategy, Administration, Operational & Management Assistance

The main task of Department IV/BAK/1 is to ensure the smooth running of all procedures and to provide the best possible support both for the operational field and the BAK’s management. Since the 2013 budget law reform, the BAK has been responsible for the management of its own budget. For this reason, the department has installed a comprehensive financial and management control system. By means of an adapted system of key performance indicators, the different areas of work – economic matters and resources, basic and advanced training (internal and external), all staff matters (overtime, labour turnover), as well as material resources (including weapons and motor vehicles) – are managed. On the basis of continually evaluated variance analyses carried out once a month, the BAK takes target-oriented measures, such as task-related training courses (e.g. investigation into the use of firearms, or bookkeeping and cost accounting for economic crime investigators), and other steps necessary for the day-to-day business.

An electronic information management system accessible to all employees guarantees that all files and information can be regularly updated, forwarded and archived.

A security officer is responsible for the BAK’s internal and external security. The Bureau’s security concept is subject to a continuous evaluation process. The necessary high level of structural and technical security measures has been further increased. An example in this regard is the purchase and commissioning of a walk-through metal detector in the BAK’s entrance area. The fields of operational technology and forensic data storage and analysis as well as the management and maintenance of the BAK-specific ICT infrastructure fall within
the remit of the Unit for Operational and Management Assistance of Department IV/BAK/1. The unit also acts as an interface to departments of the central office and subordinate bodies of the ministry. The successful implementation of a sophisticated software programme by this unit allows for a state-of-the-art analysis of seized data. Moreover, the “BAK goes BAKS” project (BAKS is the German acronym for “Office Automation and Communication System”), i.e. the integration of the in-house network into the BAKS, has been successfully completed.

2.2 Department 2 – Prevention, Education, Basic Groundwork

In 2013, the Department IV/BAK/2, supported by the BAK statistics, broke new ground in prevention and education in order to fulfil the legal mandate despite several changes in staff. It is our conviction that, in addition to the necessary prosecution and uncovering of corruptive processes, preventive projects as well as anti-corruption education play a seminal role.

The numerous scientific disciplines covered by the Department IV/BAK/2 (political science, psychology, law, educational science, history, sociology, philosophy, new public management, etc.) and the many years of experience in law enforcement ensure the success of the multidisciplinary prevention and training activities carried out at inter-unit level.

This department is responsible, inter alia, for measures of structural corruption prevention. Such measures are aimed at influencing structures and organizational processes as well as risk and protective factors faced by the target groups of prevention projects. In addition to the development of prevention concepts and risk analysis tools, the department carries out projects for organizations which, due to their area of responsibility, are considered to be particularly prone to corruption. The structures of these projects and their multidisciplinary approach were supported by an international exchange of experiences with the London Metropolitan Police/New Scotland Yard in 2013.

In November, the Department IV/BAK/2 in cooperation with the Lower Austrian regional school council for commercial schools held the first anti-corruption training for Lower Austrian commercial school teachers of business education and law/civic education. This train-the-trainer education uses the educational didactic training concept developed by the Department IV/BAK/2. The training concept is internationally renowned due to its presentation at the 12th training seminar of the OLAF Anti-Fraud Communicators’ Network (OAFCN) “Combatting Fraud by Educating with New Communication Tools” in Rome, Italy, and at the 4th EACT Workshop “Anti-Corruption Awareness Raising and Education Programmes for Children and Youth” in Ljubljana. Numerous workshops for students took place within the framework of this project in 2013.

The innovative cooperation with the University of Vienna, Department of Political Science, which started in 2012, has been successfully continued. In the spring of 2013, the comprehensive media analysis on the parliamentary commission of inquiry on corruption was presented and the final results were published in the Department of Political Science’s journal “Politix”, edition 33/2013.
In 2013, the team of this department played a leading role in the project “Compliance in the Federal Ministry of the Interior – Implementation”, which is part of the Ministry of the Interior’s overall strategy “INNEN.SICHER”. Members of the Department IV/BAK/2 were responsible for coordinating the project and chairing the working group “Risk Management”. They also participated in two working groups dealing with skills and value management as well as with organizational development. The experts in the fields of prevention and education are convinced that the credibility of ethical guidelines largely depends on to what extent an organization facilitates its employees to behave ethically correct and supports them by taking structural measures. In the course of the working group on risk management, consisting of members of the different relevant departments of all Directorate-Generals of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, a risk management system, which will be universally applicable to all organizational units of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, was developed within six months.

Another important activity of the employees of the Department IV/BAK/2 was the anti-corruption training for senior officials of several ministries and police units of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Within the project “EU Support to Law Enforcement”, established by the European Union and organized by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), employees of the department held an anti-corruption training for managers of the Anti-Corruption Agency of Bosnia-Herzegovina (APIK), the Department Police Cooperation (PDC), the Criminal Investigation Department (SIPA), the Public Prosecutor’s Office of the Republika Srpska (MOD) and other authorities of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Several employees of the department visited Sarajevo as short term experts for corruption statistics, data analysis, risk management, risk and vulnerability assessment, case analysis for the purpose of prevention, implementation of prevention projects as well as educational measures. The work of these short term experts was valuable and they contributed to a fruitful exchange of information.

In 2013, the national anti-corruption strategy for the field of prevention was an important task for the Department IV/BAK/2. Within the framework of this strategy, the Federal Bureau held a round table of anti-corruption experts involving various public bodies. In 2013, this round table of experts, in which senior officials of the various ministries, of the Court of Audit, of the Courts of Audit of the Länder, of the Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, of the Austrian Association of Municipalities, of the Liaison Office of the Länder and of the governments of the Länder from the fields of internal audit, staff, etc. participate, met six times at the Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption. The invited experts from the private sector and public administration gave lectures on, inter alia, anti-corruption and compliance. The results of all round tables of experts will be integrated into the national anti-corruption strategy.

According to its legal mandate, the BAK shall analyse corruption phenomena, gather information on preventing and combating them and develop appropriate preventive measures. In 2013, the Department IV/BAK/2 succeeded in fulfilling this mandate by implementing the aforementioned measures, compiling the BAK statistics, participating in projects of fruitful international cooperation and organizing numerous training courses as well as various information and discussion events.
2.3 Department 3 – Operational Service

Department IV/BAK/3 is responsible for all law enforcement measures regarding the fight against corruption, i.e. all national and international security police and criminal police investigations falling within the remit of the BAK. Another area covered by the department is operational analysis.

On 1 January 2013, the “2012 Act amending the Criminal Law on Corruption” (KorrStrÄG 2012) came into force. On top of the modifications provided for by this act was the amendment of § 74 of the Austrian Penal Code (StGB). The new version of this section includes a more extended definition of the term “office holder”: it also covers all members or employees (not only at management level) of government-related entities, with the exception of those working at the lowest level of the hierarchy.

The following companies are some of those covered by the new § 74: ASFINAG (Motorway and Expressway Network Operator), Vienna International Airport, ORF (Austrian Broadcasting Corporation), Wien Energie and Wiener Linien (i.e. the energy service provider and the public transport service of the City of Vienna), ÖBB (Austrian Federal Railways), Post AG (Austrian Post), etc. The measures taken to enhance the fight against corruption in the private sector include the creation of § 309 StGB defining several offences to be prosecuted by the public authorities on their own motion, a more exact categorization of offences, and increased penalties (up to five years of imprisonment).

In addition, the provisions regarding offences committed in the preparation phase of corruption have been strengthened in §§ 306 and 307b StGB. Finally, it must be mentioned that all national deputies (members of the National Council, the Federal Council and the regional parliaments) are now covered by the relevant provisions.

As the new provisions have been in force for one year, the BAK’s Investigation Department (Operational Service) is able to draw initial conclusions about the consequences of the amendments for the department’s responsibilities and workload: it can be stated that a total of 12% (24 cases) of the cases assigned to the responsible units of the Investigation Department were, at least to a certain extent, related to the regulations of the new criminal law on corruption.

Due to the entry into force of the KorrStrÄG 2012, the Federal Law Gazette (BGBl.) I, No. 65/2013, contains an adaptation of § 4, paragraph 1, of the Law on the BAK (BAK-G) to the provisions of the StGB. Furthermore, § 310 StGB (Breach of Official Secrecy) was added to the Bureau’s tasks defined by the BAK-G. Therefore, since January 2013, cases covered by the above mentioned new regulations fall under the Bureau’s jurisdiction.

2.4 Department 4 – International Cooperation and Mutual Legal Assistance

Department IV/BAK/4 deals with the management and implementation of all international tasks of the BAK. In particular, it acts as the contact point for cooperation with comparable international institutions, authorities, networks
and organizations as well as corresponding institutions of the European Union. In addition, the department is in charge of all tasks related to mutual assistance between the BAK and foreign authorities.

Experts of the department represent the BAK in the framework of the UNCAC implementation process, of GRECO, the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention, and international projects.

One of the top priorities in the field of international cooperation is the European Anti-Corruption Training (EACT), an initiative launched by the BAK in September 2011 to develop new and practice-oriented methods of combating corruption.

The Legal Affairs Unit is responsible for answering complex legal questions on corruption and general issues (data protection, video surveillance, use of specific software) as well as requests for information in accordance with § 26 of the Data Protection Act. Another important task is to prepare legal documents (e.g. decisions) as well as replies and opinions addressed to the public law courts, other collegial bodies (tribunals) with judicial powers, and the Ombudsman Board. The unit also evaluates draft laws and assesses and prepares contracts. It manages and coordinates all BAK-related issues if a parliamentary committee of inquiry is established.
3 STAFF

As of 1 January 2013, the BAK’s number of staff was 111. 46 of its employees, most of them working in the Operational Service, were persons assigned to the Bureau from other services.

The BAK’s personnel selection is guided by the principle of voluntariness. The minimum duration of assignment to the BAK is three months. Usually, however, the Bureau offers a long-term cooperation. The advantage of the system of assignment is that it is a relatively flexible tool for human resource planning. A key aspect of this model is the permanent exchange of experience. Public officials assigned to the BAK from all over Austria incorporate their specific knowledge into their work and, at the same time, they benefit from the experience gained while working at the Bureau. When returning to their former departments at the end of the assignment, the employees will share their new knowledge regarding the prevention of and fight against corruption with their colleagues, thus creating a multiplying effect.

In order to be able to fulfil the Bureau’s demanding responsibilities, particular emphasis is placed on a certain balance and variety of professional and personal qualifications when selecting new staff. A large number of the BAK’s employees are criminal investigators with many years of experience, partly in leading positions of district police stations. Various staff members have a university degree (e.g. in law, political science, psychology, translation), expertise in a specific area (e.g. economic crime), or other additional qualifications (conduct of negotiations, surveillance and operational training, crime scene investigation, preservation of evidence, prevention, forensic data storage). This high level of professionalism is being maintained by offering advanced training courses and international secondments, as well as by promoting the continuous exchange of experience.
4 STATISTICAL DATA

4.1 General

The BAK statistics are based on a criminological approach. In German-speaking countries, modern criminology is nowadays usually considered as part of jurisprudence, whereas in Anglo-American and Scandinavian countries, criminologists are predominantly oriented towards social science. While criminology primarily aims to gain knowledge about the reasons and different forms of crime without focusing on a particular case, criminalistics deals with the specific – practice-oriented – question of how to prevent, combat and solve crimes.

The descriptive BAK statistics cover cases already at the time when police investigation has just started (statistics on incoming cases). The statistical data is constantly being updated and adjusted on the basis of the results of the investigation. If the criminal investigation starts and ends within the survey period, the final data of the investigation will be taken into account.

It is to be noted that the BAK figures do not contain information on settled cases or legal convictions. Many of the persons covered by the statistics are only suspected of a crime but later not convicted due to lack of evidence or because they are proven innocent.

Regarding the statistics presented in this annual report, the following information should be added:

- All statistics relate exclusively to allegations and/or suspicions concerning the facts of the complaints made. There may also be multiple mentions or classifications (e.g. suspicion of §§ 302 and 304 Austrian Penal Code [APC] or of § 83 in connection with § 313 APC in one complaint case) - for example, due to the fact that from the criminological perspective, corrupt acts usually include two offenders.

- As the BAK was newly established as of 1 January 2010, the field of statistical analysis and research was reorganized. Therefore, the available time series of the BAK statistics are, so far, limited to the years 2010 to 2013.

- The supposedly high proportion of organizational units and employees of the Federal Ministry of the Interior and its subordinate bodies is due to the BAK’s primary responsibility in this context and, in particular, due to the exclusive obligation to report existing in all departments and authorities of the Federal Ministry of the Interior (there is no such obligation in other ministries, agencies, departments or local authorities!) as well as the general right for all federal employees to report outside the official channels. Thus, from these data, it is definitely not possible to derive a higher delinquency rate or probability of complaint concerning employees of the Federal Ministry of the Interior. The BAK not only receives reports on suspicious circumstances or possible offences from security authorities/departments or federal employees: every individual,
without exception, can report to the BAK a suspicion or complaint concerning criminal offences falling under the remit of the Bureau.

- The presumption of innocence applies to all parties in proceedings or complaint cases until the responsible courts make a final and legally binding decision. Furthermore, it should be noted that the BAK often has to deal with unfounded and/or anonymous allegations against employees of the ministry or other public bodies. As a result of the Bureau’s objective investigations, the integrity of accused persons can be proven in many cases. For us, this task is at least as important as the necessary and rigorous prosecution of offenders.

### 4.2 Metadata

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject of the statistics</th>
<th>The BAK statistics cover all incoming cases of the Austrian Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statistical population</td>
<td>All complaints received by the BAK, without being assessed or sorted out in advance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of statistics</td>
<td>Descriptive primary statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data sources / form of survey</td>
<td>Data records created for incoming complaints / full-coverage survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period under review (t)</td>
<td>Calendar year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodicity</td>
<td>yearly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level of regional breakdown</td>
<td>Land (Austrian federal province)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability of the data</td>
<td>Final data: integration of the results into the annual report: t + 3 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target group</td>
<td>Federal Ministry of the Interior, the media and the general public</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4.3 Relevance for Security Policy

In 2013, the BAK recorded around 1,700 complaints, with 1,500 of them leading to investigations. From the number of criminal offences reported to the police and convicted by the court one may therefore conclude that corruption is one of the less common crimes. As corruption is a “victimless” offence mainly revealed by monitoring, it depends to a large extent on the financial and human resources used for control and inspection if and how many cases can be detected.

For this reason, it cannot necessarily be derived from the official number of offences that corruption is at a relatively low level in Austria. Experts from academia and practice estimate that up to 95% of the corruption offences remain unreported.
The lack of empirical studies on the number of unreported cases in this field is particularly due to the circumstance that conventional research methods to determine dark figures are virtually not effective because of the specific structure of this criminal offence (there is no directly injured party). The fact that in many corruption cases new suspects are identified in the course of the preliminary proceedings suggests that the dark figure could be very high.

4.4 Number of Cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>Diff</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>Diff</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>absolut</td>
<td>in %</td>
<td>absolut</td>
<td>in %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1703</td>
<td>- 143</td>
<td>1846</td>
<td>+ 170</td>
<td>1676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Investigation Cases</strong></td>
<td>1483</td>
<td>- 190</td>
<td>1673</td>
<td>+ 238</td>
<td>1435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigation Cases (criminal police)</td>
<td>1217</td>
<td>+ 6</td>
<td>1211</td>
<td>- 100</td>
<td>1311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Cases</strong></td>
<td>429</td>
<td>- 150</td>
<td>579</td>
<td>+ 240</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thereof § 26 DSG</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>- 203</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>+ 312</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thereof administrative assistance</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>+ 8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>- 5</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thereof legal assistance</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>- 2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>+ 8</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thereof cases not relevant under criminal law</td>
<td>57</td>
<td></td>
<td>53</td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thereof cases „on standby“</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The total number of cases recorded by the BAK declined from 1,846 in the year 2012 to 1,703 in the reporting year (i.e. 2013). In the year-on-year comparison, this is a decrease in cases of 8%. This decline, however, is due to the one-off explosion of the number of requests for information in accordance with § 26 of the Data Protection Act in 2012, because compared to 2011, the amount of cases rose by 2%, and is even 6% higher than in 2010, the BAK’s founding year. The number of the so-called “other cases”, including an important amount of the above mentioned requests for information, dropped by 26% in 2013.

### 4.5 Case-Related Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases reported by</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Police Directorates</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>511</td>
<td>523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Intelligence Services of the Länder</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Individuals</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Prosecutor’s Office</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Ministry of the Interior</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Prosecutor’s Office for Combating Corruption / Public Prosecutor’s Office for Combating Economic Crime and Corruption</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anonymous reports</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Inspectorates</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1703</strong></td>
<td><strong>1846</strong></td>
<td><strong>1676</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to the Implementation Decree on the Establishment and Organization of the BAK, the Bureau receives reports from different sides: organizational units and subordinate bodies of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, courts and public prosecutor’s offices, other ministries, bodies or local authorities, as well as private individuals. All federal employees can, at any time, contact the BAK directly and without going through the official channels for any questions or for filing a report. The BAK received 1,703 complaints of which 1,483 resulted in investigation cases.

A large part (33%) of the reports presented to the BAK were made by the Police Directorates of the Länder (2012: 28%). 15% of the reports were received by employees of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, which is the most significant decrease (12%) compared to the previous year. 11% of the complaints, a slightly higher percentage than in 2012, originated from private individuals (primarily persons concerned by official acts and proceedings).
4.6 Clarification

82% (2012: 84%) of all investigation cases handled by the BAK were concluded. The clear-up rate of 67% represents the ratio, in percent, of the investigation cases solved to those concluded during the period under review. In 2013, the clear-up rate decreased by 8% in the year-on-year comparison. This means that since the BAK’s founding year (2010), the clear-up rate has decreased slightly but regularly.

4.7 Crime Scenes: Regional Breakdown

As in the previous years, the majority of the offences were committed in Vienna (55%), followed by the Länder of Lower Austria (12%) and Upper Austria (8%). Salzburg (3%) and Burgenland (3%) brought up the rear.

The high number of cases in Vienna does certainly not imply that the Viennese population is particularly prepared to make reports.
The reason for this phenomenon lies in the fact that all federal ministries as well as most of the federal agencies are located in Vienna and, respectively, the majority of public employees work in the Austrian capital and not in the other Länder.

Furthermore, the distribution of the Austrian population\(^2\) (21\% live in Vienna) as well as the fact that most of the major demonstrations and events – and thus the bulk of all police operations – take place in Vienna and its surroundings contribute to the relatively high number of reports in this region.

5 PREVENTION

5.1 Historical Development

In the previous years, the BAK strived to raise awareness among the Austrian population and promote discussion on corruption as much as possible. Taking into consideration analyses of the media coverage as well as Austria’s further decline in Transparency International’s Corruption Perception Index, the Bureau came to the conclusion that this objective had already been achieved. Since 2012, following its four-pillar approach to fighting corruption, the BAK’s focus has shifted towards prevention projects.

5.2 Prevention Projects

5.2.1 General

The BAK’s understanding of corruption prevention differs in some points from the general understanding of corruption prevention. Many institutions concerned with prevention use prevention strategies limited to more or less successful staff training processes and leaving decisions to the person ultimately responsible. However, in the course of prevention projects, taking a comprehensive look at organizations is of crucial importance for being able to make effective and efficient recommendations for prevention.

At the BAK, the structural corruption prevention is carried out only in the form of projects and, basically, complies with the general guidelines for drawing up a project definition, but is complemented or amended according to special needs. Due to the fact that hierarchy structures have to be taken into consideration and that the core team of the corruption prevention is based on a homogenous and consistent composition of staff, the projects do not fully meet the requirements of a project in terms of project management.

The projects in the field of prevention are implemented by a multidisciplinary team taking into account legal, sociological, criminological and psychological aspects. Generally, the prevention projects focus on the following: structure/organization and workflow, weak points, law and identification of motives. The results of the analysis are the basis for the development of specific preventive measures, which are prepared in cooperation with the department or authority having requested the service. The implementation of the recommendations will be overseen by the project team.

In order to structure the project, different teams of the Department of Prevention are involved. Furthermore, the projects are divided according to the necessary process steps as follows:

1. defining the project together with the department or authority having requested the service with relation to the desired outcome; what is expected and what can we achieve based on our resources until when?
2. analysing the status quo (diagnosis) by means of various methods (for example, analysis of files, visits to bodies and departments, structured and unstructured interviews). Our aim is to not only “explore” some parts. We want to get an overview of the whole organization and all persons concerned (diagnostics of the persons, organization and situation).

3. determining the desired condition in cooperation with the responsible persons in the department or authority having requested the service by taking into account the legal and organizational rules, standards and guidelines;

4. developing and providing the necessary skills and measures in order to implement the appropriate changes;

5. implementing the suggested recommendations – theoretical findings are put into practice;

6. comparing the new status quo with the predefined desired condition (evaluation).

For this purpose, a manual on the implementation of projects for the prevention of corruption was developed in previous years in order to implement such projects in a transparent, comprehensible way and according to consistent standards. The implementation of the Department of Prevention’s projects is based on the criteria and processes determined in the manual.

5.2.2 Project „Debt overload“

Research and case analyses of the Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption have shown that in most investigated cases of abuse of official authority and corruption, the precarious financial situation of the accused is given as the main reason for counterproductive behaviour at work. On the basis of internal analyses and literature research, it is assumed that financial problems of civil servants are a significant corruption risk factor on an individual level².

Based on the current financial crisis and, especially, the credit crunch³, social developments, e. g. a general increase in private debt among young adults⁴, and the upcoming cost-cutting measures in the whole civil service, which will involve potential loss of income due to overtime cuts or cuts in the field of external activities, it can be assumed that there is a significant amount of people affected at the Federal Ministry of the Interior. Additionally, a high number of cases in

---

this field remain undiscovered as many persons with financial problems shy away from approaching superiors or other institutions of the ministry.

For that reason, the BAK’s Department of Prevention attended to the matter “debt overload” and initiated its own prevention project.

_Aim of the project_

- raising awareness among managers of human resources and senior officials on “debt overload”, especially regarding debt overload as a risk factor for counterproductive behaviour at work;

- bringing together external debt advisory centres and managers of human resources, staff representatives and other relevant persons within the Federal Ministry of the Interior that offer assistance to civil servants in critical situations;

- initiating working groups with the above mentioned centres and persons in all Länder;

- offering open and uncomplicated assistance and possibilities for handling financial problems for all employees of the Federal Ministry of the Interior so as to be able to prevent official misconduct;

_Target groups of the preventive measures_

- police trainees, trainees, young adults

- persons affected – attachment of earnings is known

- civil servants in general who are affected by loss of pay

_Proposals for measures for the respective target groups_

- awareness-raising and information: target group oriented training lectures within the framework of education and training, addressing this issue especially during the basic police training;

- removing the taboo and decriminalisation of the persons affected;

- providing easy access to counselling and assistance, such as accompanying information for the payslip, reference to debt advisory centres, invitations to counselling interviews;

- lecture and information events on the topic “Budget optimisation”, showing cost-saving opportunities;

- within the framework of training and information lectures: education on money management and personal resources, dangers/risks regarding borrowing, overdraft, lease agreements and credit cards, etc.
Since 2013, talks have been held with the debt advisory centres of the Länder (as debt advisory falls within the remit of the Länder), the police directorates of the Länder (LPD) and the staff representatives.

In Vienna, this stage is already completed. Due to the excellent contact with the Federal Security Academy (SIAK), the police trainees of the SIAK Vienna already have training courses on the topic “Budget planning”.

In the field of the police directorate Vienna, it was possible to win over the personnel support for this project which has already formulated and communicated an offer. Since 2013, we have spoken to the remaining police directorates of the Länder and debt advisory centres so as to establish a comprehensive advisory system in all Länder.
6 BASIC GROUNDWORK

In 2013, the Department IV/BAK/2 was entrusted with the following main tasks:

- cooperation with the University of Vienna
- implementation of projects
- international expert meetings and trainings, lecturing
- internal/external cooperation (the “school project”)
- national anti-corruption strategy – round table of experts

6.1 Cooperation with the University of Vienna

The cooperation with the University of Vienna, Department of Political Science, which started in 2012, was completed in May 2013.

Within the framework of a two-semester seminar in the Bachelor studies “Political Science” at the University of Vienna, a group of dedicated students analysed data on media monitoring collected by the Federal Bureau. For this analysis, the BAK provided 3,423 print media articles of the print media “Kronenzeitung”, “Der Standard”, “Kurier”, “Profil”, “Falter” as well as “Kleine Zeitung” and “Salzburger Nachrichten” dealing with the parliamentary commission of inquiry on corruption.

Within this analysis, the students examined the representation of this commission of inquiry in the Austrian media.

The final report of the University of Vienna was published in the Department of Political Science’s journal “Politix”, edition 33/20135.

5http://typo3.univie.ac.at/fileadmin/user_upload/inst_politikwiss/Politix/politix_33_online_63seiten.pdf, S. 22-25.
6.2 Implementation of Projects

In 2013, Department IV/BAK/2 played a leading role in the project INNEN.SICHER “Compliance in the Federal Ministry of the Interior – Implementation”. The Unit Basic Groundwork was responsible for the leadership of the sub-working group on risk management. The knowledge (part of it was specifically gained for this project) in the fields of cause analysis, vulnerability assessment and risk analyses was the reason why the leadership was assigned to the Department IV/BAK/2. In the course of the working group on risk management, consisting of members of the different relevant departments of all Directorate-Generals of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, a risk management system, which will be universally applicable to all organizational units of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, was developed within six months.

6.3 International Expert Meetings and Trainings, Lecturing

The expertise of the employees of the Department IV/BAK/2 as trainers and lecturers (Short Term Experts) is in demand internationally. For example, the Unit Basic Groundwork made a substantial contribution to the EU project “The Experience of European Police Anti-Corruption Units: Austria, Belgium and the UK”, which was offered by the Center for the Study of Democracy in Pravets, Bulgaria, as a one-week workshop and training for senior officials. The purpose of this workshop was to train 25 senior officials of the Bulgarian and Romanian police and anti-corruption authorities interactively and dynamically on experiences and application methods, such as risk, cause and case analysis within the prevention of corruption.

Another international contribution was the anti-corruption training in Sarajevo (Bosnia-Herzegovina) for senior officials of several ministries and police units of Bosnia-Herzegovina carried out by the Units Basic Groundwork, Prevention as well as Statistics and Analysis. This EU project was called “EU Support to Law Enforcement” and was organized and carried out by the ICMPD (International Center for Migration Policy Development). This anti-corruption training in Sarajevo, which was carried out by the Department IV/BAK/2 in two parts, dealt with the history, fundamentals and methods of static data analysis on the one hand and with various educational measures for administration and law enforcement, events, risk analysis and vulnerability assessment within prevention projects, risk management and anti-corruption training for adolescents. So as to be up to date regarding issues and tasks and to monitor trends, a one-day meeting and exchange of experience with anti-corruption experts of Scotland Yard took place. Also, an employee of the BAK’s Unit Basic Groundwork completed training as certified Risk Manager according to Austrian
Standard ÖNORM, EN, ISO/IEC 17024. This knowledge influences the prevention work and projects.

6.4 Internal/external Cooperations (the „School Project“)

Cooperation and support regarding projects at inter-department level are an essential part of the daily work.

One of the most important and complex activity of the Unit Basic Groundwork was the preparation of a training concept for adolescents. It began with the thought that prevention work should start very early. Then the idea developed to sensitise students, who attend schools with a focus on the business sector, for the topic corruption prevention, to take the fear out of corruption, to address and show possible “stumbling blocks” in situations of corruption, to outline and offer ways to act and react right up to ways of prevention in everyday working life. Therefore, a training concept (anti-corruption training for secondary school students) was developed, which is applicable to grammar schools, higher vocational schools and vocational schools.

In 2013, the training concept developed by the BAK was presented at international level. The participants of international meetings and conferences showed great interest in the content and aims of the anti-corruption training for adolescents. The concept was, inter alia, presented at:

- the 12th training seminar of the OLAF Anti-Fraud Communicator’s Network (OAFCN), Rome, Italy
- the 4th EACT Workshop “Anti-Corruption Awareness Raising and Education Programmes for Children and Youth”, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- the 4th UNCAC Working Group on Prevention, Vienna

In 2013, the BAK successfully applied this training concept several times. For instance, various classes from a Viennese vocational school (insurance brokers, logistics managers, industrial sales representatives, etc.) and students from a Viennese grammar school were invited to the BAK, where the one-day anti-corruption training based on the training concept was held. That way, more than 165 students, who will later work responsibly in business professions, were trained.

In order to increase the reach of the anti-corruption training concept, the training concept was expanded at the end of 2013 and the first knowledge disseminators for anti-corruption trainings, which are not held at the BAK, were trained. 13 teachers of Lower Austrian commercial schools finished the first anti-corruption training for teachers. The purpose of this method is to reach
and train students, who will work in business professions, even faster and more efficiently. It is planned to further develop this model in the following year and, in the end, to cover whole Austria.

6.5 National Anti-Corruption Strategy – Round Table of Experts

The national anti-corruption strategy for the field of prevention was also an essential task of Department 2 in 2013. Within the framework of this strategy, the round table of anti-corruption experts involving various public bodies was established at the Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption.

In 2013, this round table of experts, in which senior officials of the various ministries, of the Court of Audit, of the Court of Audit of the Länder, of the Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, of the Austrian Association of Municipalities, of the Liaison Office of the Länder and of governments of the several Länder from the fields of internal audit, staff, etc. participate, took place six times at the BAK. These round tables are chaired by the Director of BAK. The invited experts from the private sector and public administration gave lectures on topics such as anti-corruption and compliance. The round tables of experts, chaired by Andreas Wieselthaler, Director of BAK, and organized by the Unit Basic Groundwork, dealt with the following topics:

- “Five years code of conduct as a tool to prevent corruption” – value management in public administration – a basis for the national anti-corruption strategy? (lecturer: Wolfgang Keck, Transparency International, Institute of Internal Audit)
- “Compliance as an overall system” (lecturer: Erwin Ackerl, Siemens Austria)
- “Network of anti-corruption officials for the implementation of a multiplier system (lecturer: Peter Pasecky)
- “Corruption and the mass media” (lecturer: Christoph Virgl, University of Vienna)
- “Involvement of the civil society in the prevention of corruption” (lecturer: Hubert Sickinger, University of Vienna)
- “National standards for the prevention of corruption” (lecturers: Robert Gmeiner, Liaison Office of the Länder, and Paul Jauernig, City of Vienna)

The results of these round tables of experts will be integrated in the national anti-corruption strategy.
7 EDUCATION AND AWARENESS-RAISING

7.1 General

Lasting success in the fight against corruption requires continuous awareness-raising of problems related to this phenomenon within society as a whole. Therefore, the BAK has constantly extended its range of (advanced) training measures for target groups inside and outside of the Ministry of the Interior since its establishment. For example, the training course held in 2011 for trainers not employed at the BAK took full effect: these newly trained officers as knowledge disseminators considerably contributed to the increased number of realised (advanced) training courses. Furthermore, the Bureau organized numerous events and campaigns aimed at raising awareness in all sections of society. For example, the Bureau initiated the “Corporate Transparency Day” in cooperation with the Danube University Krems as well as an Anti-Corruption Day for the Federal Ministry of the Interior in 2013.

In total, 114 lectures (760 hours) on preventing and combating corruption were offered to approximately 2,650 participants. Since the establishment of the Bureau in 2010, 499 events (3,152 hours) were offered to some 11,730 participants. The decrease compared to the previous year is due to the discontinuation of the “Advanced Training Week Lower Austria”.

7.2 Lectures by the BAK within the ministry

The BAK provided essential support for the organization and planning of the project “Fight against Corruption”, which is part of the Ministry of the Interior’s strategy for the future (“INNEN.SICHER”). By way of example, the Bureau implemented the interactive e-learning programme “Code of Conduct” in cooperation with the Federal Security Academy (SIAK). These modules, offered on the SIAK’s “virtual campus”, are open for all employees of the Ministry of the Interior. Moreover, the BAK developed and distributed a trainer’s manual for senior officials.

By means of these training media, the implementation phase of the Federal Ministry of the Interior’s code of conduct started in 2012. For this purpose, information and training events for senior officials were held in the police directorates of Vorarlberg, Tyrol, Salzburg and Lower Austria as well as in Directorate-General I and IV of the Federal Ministry of the Interior in 2013. In 2014, these events will be held in Styria. In addition to lecturers of the BAK, experts of the Federal Ministry of the Interior (especially criminal law, employment law) participated, too.

It is the senior officials’ responsibility to convey the code of conduct to their subordinate civil servants. Due to a reform of the Austrian public administration, the Federal Ministry of the Interior decided to take up these events at the beginning of 2013.
7.3 Advanced training course of the BAK

Since 2005, two training courses on the topic prevention of and fight against corruption are planned, organized and held twice a year. Due to budgetary reasons, the originally three-week training courses were reduced to two-week courses in 2012.

In 2013, a total of 47 participants completed the 15th and 16th advanced training course. The target group of these courses are interested employees of all grades and other organizational units within civil service.

The backgrounds and mechanisms regarding corruption and possible ways to combat corruption are explained to the participants. The participants’ awareness for problems and dangers connected with the phenomenon of corruption, especially in the field of public administration, is raised. Other topics of the advanced training course are international components of the prevention of and the fight against corruption, professional ethics, communication as well as theoretical and practical aspects of prosecution and uncovering of offences in the field of economic crime in relation to corrupt behaviour.

7.4 Austrian Anti-Corruption Day

Under the motto “Identifying Synergies through Cooperation”, the BAK has organized the Austrian Anti-Corruption Day since 2007 once a year. This event is a meeting of experts on the topic prevention of and the fight against corruption involving various public bodies and aims at providing a framework for anti-corruption experts for the discussion of current challenges and aspects of the fight against corruption. On 14 and 15 May 2013, more than 100 scientists and practitioners participated in the 7th Austrian Anti-Corruption Day in Altlengbach, Lower Austria, and exchanged experiences and information.

7.5 Anti-Corruption-Day for the Federal Ministry of the Interior

On 10 September 2013, the BAK organized an all-day information event for senior officials of the Federal Ministry of the Interior in the Ministry’s great conference hall for the first time. Several senior officials of the Federal Ministry of the Interior and of the police directorates of the Länder accepted the invitation and informed themselves of the progress regarding the implementation of compliance in the Ministry and of relevant amendments to the Criminal Law on Corruption. The information event was
topped off with approaches to anti-corruption work from the point of view of legal philosophy and the premiere of the new BAK film.

7.6 Corporate Transparency Day

As the first university in the German-speaking world, the Danube University Krems deals with security and safety from the point of view of economics, social science, law and technics. Security and safety are examined interdisciplinary. Therefore, the focus is on identifying synergies, reorganization and interaction of various organizations and their teaching and research focus.

On 14 February 2013, the first CTD for the private sector with approximately 20 participants under the theme “2012 Act amending the Criminal Law” took place. Thus, the event focused on the 2012 Act amending the Criminal Law on Corruption (KorrStrÄG 2012), which came into force on 1 January 2013.
8 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

8.1 General

In order to implement the legal provisions as well as the requirements arising from the ratification of international conventions and bi- and multilateral agreements, the Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption has an international department divided into three units:

• Bi- and multilateral cooperation, international police cooperation and administrative assistance,
• International instruments, mechanisms, networks and bodies as well as EU cooperation, and
• Legal affairs

8.2 Bi- and Multilateral Cooperation, International Police Cooperation and Administrative Assistance

8.2.1 International Police Cooperation and Administrative Assistance

Since June 2013, the BAK uses the Secure Information Exchange Network Application (SIENA) to securely exchange data. SIENA is a secure system of information exchange run by Europol. It was set up as of July 2009 and serves to transfer operational and strategic information between EU Member States, Europol and other cooperation partners. When using SIENA, the participating authorities must comply with data protection regulations and various other legal provisions. As the system speeds up the handling of requests for administrative assistance, it is an essential part of the BAK’s international communication.

In addition to the application described above, the BAK was nominated as a “Global Focal Point” by Interpol in 2013 and has been involved in this network since then. The “Global Focal Point on Asset Recovery” initiative was launched on 10 January 2009 by law enforcement authorities with a focus on combating corruption within the framework of the UNODC and World Bank initiative “Stolen Asset Recovery” (StAR). The platform of “Global Focal Points” offers the participating countries a secure form of communication and data exchange and thus enhances international cooperation in the field of anti-corruption.

8.2.2 Bi- and Multilateral Cooperation

In 2013, bilateral study visits and work meetings contributed to further strengthening cooperation with important foreign – particularly European and Asian – anti-corruption, police and judicial authorities.

In December 2013, for example, the Secretary-General of the National Anti-Corruption Commission of Thailand (NACC) and the Director of BAK signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) negotiated between the two institutions to enhance bilateral cooperation.
This MoU fills an important gap in the cooperation between Thailand and Austria in the field of anti-corruption and represents another step forward in the implementation of the recommendation contained in art. 48, paragraph 2, of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).

On 28 February 2013, representatives of Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo) visited the BAK. The delegation, consisting of two members of the Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA) and 14 high-ranking officials from the field of anti-corruption, was headed by the ReSPA, an international organization mandated by the EU to promote regional cooperation in the field of public administration in the countries of the Western Balkans.

Furthermore, several workshops on combating corruption took place in Sarajevo in the context of the EU project “Support to Law Enforcement in Bosnia-Herzegovina”. The project aimed at bringing Bosnia-Herzegovina as close as possible to EU security standards and, consequently, supporting the country on its way to the European Union. BAK experts from the fields of prevention, operational service and international cooperation participated in this project by giving lectures in Sarajevo. A one-week study visit to the BAK undertaken in April 2013 by representatives of different Bosnian-Herzegovinian authorities also formed part of this project.

On 3 and 4 July 2013, a delegation of representatives of the Department of Corruption of the Bavarian State Criminal Police Office, the Munich Police Headquarters and the Bavarian Ministry of the Interior visited the BAK. The meeting focused on a comparison of the legal frameworks, investigative techniques and organizational structures of the participating institutions.

On 29 August 2013, one delegation from Finland and one from Sweden paid a visit to the BAK. The Finnish delegation consisted of three representatives of the Ministry of the Interior (“Police Department”, “International Anti-Corruption Unit” and “National Bureau of Investigation”). The Swedish delegation was also made up of three members of the Ministry of the Interior (“National Anti-Corruption Unit” and “National Bureau of Investigation”).
From 1 to 3 October 2013, senior representatives of the Hungarian National Protective Service (NPS) visited the BAK. Its fields of activity are crime prevention and detection as well as monitoring and advising. The NPS carries out investigations in cases of, inter alia, abuse of authority and corruption (partly) committed by public servants.

On 11 December 2013, a bilateral work meeting with the Assistant Minister of the Interior and Head of the Department "Internal Control and Professional Standards" (SICPS) of the Republic of Macedonia took place in the BAK. The purpose of this visit was to present the structure and responsibilities of the Federal Bureau and to discuss opportunities for strengthening cooperation.

A study visit to the BAK by members of the Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission (ACRC) of the Republic of Korea facilitated an exchange of experience between Korea and Austria. The delegation, headed by the Director of the Corruption Inspection Division, consisted of six members of different public authorities.

8.3 Cooperation within the Framework of European and International Organizations, Bodies, Mechanisms and Networks

European and international organizations as well as international conventions, resolutions, evaluation mechanisms and other instruments initiated and/or implemented by them play an important role in the prevention of and fight against corruption. Major players in this context are the United Nations, the Council of Europe’s Group of States against Corruption (GRECO), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and the European Union. In particular, mutual evaluation systems as tools for implementing international conventions contribute to significantly improving the member countries’ legal framework and structures relevant for preventing and combating corruption.

Anti-corruption networks, such as the European Partners Against Corruption (EPAC), the European contact-point network against corruption (EACN), and the network of the European Anti-Fraud Office OLAF (OAFCN), play a vital role in promoting cooperation and the exchange of best practices.

The Austrian Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption is represented by members of the international department at relevant meetings held by international and European organizations and is thus involved in the work of these bodies and networks.
8.3.1 Anti-Corruption Activities at EU Level

Based on the Communication of the European Commission on Fighting Corruption in the EU, published in 2011, the preparations for an anti-corruption report of the European Union, which had been carried out since 2012, were continued in the reporting year.

An example of this preparatory work is the visit to the BAK by two representatives of the European Commission on 27 February 2013, which aimed at discussing the Bureau’s position regarding the prevention of and fight against corruption in Austria. In this context, the “Compliance” project including the implementation of the code of conduct of the Ministry of the Interior, the training project for senior secondary school students, as well as the international EACT (European Anti-Corruption Training) project were positively acknowledged and classified as good practices in the BAK’s fight against corruption in Austria.

8.3.2 IACA – International Anti-Corruption Academy

Founded in 2010 on the initiative of UNODC, OLAF, the Republic of Austria and other parties, the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) in Laxenburg, Lower Austria, received the status of an international organization on 8 March 2011. Currently, the Academy has 54 States Parties. From 9 to 11 December 2013, the second session of the IACA’s Assembly of Parties took place in Bangkok.

On the basis of the Memorandum of Understanding on enhancing cooperation in the field of anti-corruption, which was signed by the directors of the Austrian Federal Security Academy and the BAK as well as by the Chair of the Transition Team of the IACA in 2011, the three institutions continued to provide support to each other in 2013 in organizing events as well as in the framework of the BAK’s bilateral relations. In this spirit, numerous working meetings between the BAK and foreign delegations held in 2013 included a visit to the IACA enabling the delegations to get an insight into the Academy and its activities. Furthermore, the BAK continued to provide human and logistical resources to the IACA.