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“After the corona pandemic in 2020 turned our lives upside-down, the year 2021 also brought many challenges.

Despite the sometimes very difficult circumstances that demanded much of our staff, both in the Sky ECC case (9 March) and in the operations surrounding the floods that hit part of our country (14-15 July) and our participation in Operation Red Kite (18-28 August), the Federal Police demonstrated professionalism and achieved remarkable results.

The results in this annual report are tangible evidence of this.

Moreover, 2021 was a particularly poignant and difficult year for the Belgian people. The July floods left a deep impression. Yet during that disaster, it became clear that solidarity remains a core concept among the Belgian people throughout the country. Police forces also participated in this wave of solidarity. Many members of the Integrated Police contributed through the performance of their tasks or through private initiatives. This shows that the police are an organisation that puts the interest and safety of our fellow citizens first.

I would like to thank once again all staff members of the Federal Police and the Local Police who have helped our affected countrymen and I congratulate them for their attitude of service and devotion to duty.

In addition to those "extraordinary" achievements, the Federal Police also continued to fulfill its basic missions with the same motivation and commitment. The results of our work are described in this report.

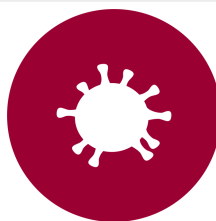
I invite everyone to continue on the same momentum and wish you much reading pleasure.



FIRST CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT MARC DE MESMAEKER
General Commissioner of the Federal Police

[The Integrated Police faced with the health crisis](#)

The health situation has affected various aspects of the functioning of our organisation, both the police missions in the field and the internal functioning.



[Security](#)

Our mission: to contribute to security and liveability in society. Every day, our people do their utmost to achieve this goal. Here are the figures of our activities for your safety.

[Information management](#)

Information is the basis for police action. Its effective management is essential to ensure safety. In this field, digital transformation is a challenge that we are gradually taking up.



[The Federal Police, an organisation](#)

Human, financial, logistical and ICT resources are essential to our smooth operation. We can see that the New Way of Working is gaining momentum at the Federal Police.

[The police as an employer](#)

Recruiting the right profiles, the right people, training them sustainably to the best of their ability remains a permanent challenge. An overview of our actions in these areas over the past year.



[PDF Version](#)

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The Integrated Police faced with the health crisis

- The evolving corona measures had a less drastic impact on policing than in 2020 ...
- ... in addition, the situation "normalised" in 2021.
- The recruitment process had only a brief corona interlude. In fact, in 2021, 1 790 inspector candidates passed their selection tests!

COVID-19 Task Force for the Integrated Police

Since the pandemic had not been contained, the COVID-19 Task Force for the Integrated Police was still active in 2021. It was important to maintain a central body to follow up on decisions in real time, to issue or update guidelines, and to maintain a central contact point for information, documentation, and questions. The Task Force continued to operate as before and was convened according to the rhythm of the Consultative Committee meetings.

These representatives continued to participate in the meetings of the various strategic bodies, allowing them to continue to play an active role in the decision-making processes.

Crisis management: the Business Continuity Plans

The use of Business Continuity Plans (BCPs) continued to help manage the crisis in 2021. Indeed, to enable continuous services, all services had developed their own BCP. Ten BCPs were activated in 2021. These plans provide an overview of the minimum services to be ensured. These BCPs are activated as soon as the number of absent staff members becomes problematic. In addition, police entities must alert the GPI Task Force as soon as they activate their BCP, so that the necessary arrangements can be made to strengthen them in order to guarantee the minimum service.

Public order missions in the context of the enforcement of the corona measures

Regardless of the crisis, the Federal Police is obliged to continue fulfilling its essential missions, taking into account the health measures in force and their evolution, in order to ensure the safety of society.

As a result of the health crisis and government decisions, the police have indeed been given additional tasks, such as:

- controlling the mandatory wearing of a mouth mask;
- controlling non-essential movements, including at the borders;
- controlling the closure of non-essential commercial and catering premises;
- controlling the mandatory completion of the Passenger Locator Form (PLF) for returning residents or the presentation of a negative test result for foreigners;
- controlling quarantine and testing;
- the control of not attending/organising a lockdown party;
- etc.



Number of official reports registered for COVID-19 offences

When comparing between the 2020 and 2021 corona years, there are two comments to be made: on the one hand, the evolving corona measures had a less drastic impact on policing in the second year, and on the other hand, the situation "normalised" in 2021. Nevertheless, conditions in the field were not always easy due to the growing discontent among the population as time went on and the (social) constraints that weighed more and more heavily.

The table below shows the top 20 numbers of violations of ministerial decrees and supplementary measures recorded by police forces at the regional, provincial and municipal levels in the fight against COVID-19. They are broken down by type of violation, from the start date of the measures (14 March 2020) to 31 December 2021, as well as by year.

The other violations are grouped under the category "Non-compliance with other COVID-19 measures".

Violation	2020	2021
Non-compliance with ban on gathering	58 708	20 185
Non-compliance with travel ban	57 626	19 035
Non-compliance with mask rules	25 599	8 276
"Public health" offence	29 344	2 489
Non-compliance with social distancing rules	10 051	3 003
Other offences with Public Prosecutor's Office index 62 (public health)	6 163	1 378
Non-observance ban on attending an illegal party	144	5 457*
Non-compliance with closure order	1 211	414
Non-compliance with alcohol rules	769	812
Non-compliance medical test research	6	1 326
Non-compliance with Passenger Locator Form rules	129	1 102
Non-observance opening hours	685	423
Non-compliance with prevention and hygiene rules (professionals)	569	520

Violation	2020	2021
Non-observance ban on organising an illegal party	25	728
Non-compliance with mandatory quarantine	43	663
Forgery/use of false documents: Covid document	-	683*
Non-compliance with rules on group/participant limitation	246	321
Non-observance ban on eating/drinking	192	298
Non-compliance with terms by customers	199	211
Non-compliance with ban on the use of water pipes	214	97
Non-compliance with other COVID-19 measures	384	683
Total	192 307	68 104

* The sharp increase in the number of official reports for attending an illegal party is not necessarily due to an increase in criminal behavior, but to the fact that this behaviour previously, in 2020, fell under a different category (namely the ban on gathering). Indeed, to meet the specific needs to follow up COVID-19 measures, new and more detailed categories of violations were created. This also applies to the official reports "forgery/use of false documents - COVID-19 documents".

Accelerated digital transformation

The expansion of the digital counter and the acceleration of immediate amicable settlements for minor offences through the CROSS COVID application are telling examples of the digital transformation. Digital tools such as Teams and BeSecure facilitate teleworking, in 2021 in accordance with the applicable corona measures either mandatory or recommended for the positions for which it was possible.

CROSS COVID - For better monitoring of violations

The ANG/CROSS application offers the possibility to issue and delete alerts on individuals in the General National Database (ANG) with regard to judicial police matters.

A specific version (CROSS COVID) was provided as part of the management of COVID-19 violations. Among other things, this application allows for the reporting and immediate collection for COVID-19 violations since the first phase of the tightened measures (April 2020).

During April 2021, CROSS COVID was modified to allow local police zones to check the test requirement, specifically based on the information entered in the Passenger Locator Form (PLF).

Police on Web - the digital counter at the service of the population

The [Police on Web](#) website offers citizens the possibility, thanks to the digital counter, to report or file a complaint online.

On this site, certain offences could already be reported digitally. However, in April 2020, it was expanded in response to the health situation due to the coronavirus by making the form "Temporary Digital Counter" available. It makes it possible to avoid physical travel to police stations as much as possible. This temporary digital counter was retained and further developed in 2021.

The digital transformation in society has led to a change in the behaviour of citizens. Online reporting, for example, significantly influenced their choice of whether or not to move.



The digital counter in a few figures for the year 2021:

- through Police on Web, 58 610 reports were filed;
- the number of reports filed through Police on Web is 2.6 times higher than in 2019 and is up nearly 30 % from the year 2020.

Digital counter	2019	2020	2021
Number of online reports and complaints	21 989	45 481*	58 610**

* of which 28 197 were sent to local police zones since the temporary digital counter was opened in April 2020.

** of which 36 774 were sent to the local police zones via the temporary digital counter between January and December 2021.

BeSecure - employee support

Since 2019, the BeSecure platform has allowed staff members of the Federal Police and local police zones to reliably access mobile police information wherever they are.

In 2020, the number of BeSecure users increased sharply as a result of the health situation due to COVID-19 and mandatory teleworking. This trend continues in 2021, with an increase in the number of licenses available.

At the end of 2021, there were 6 515 BeSecure users, almost double the number in 2020 (3 657).

Staff and well-being

The pandemic has had a major impact on the services of the Directorate of Internal Prevention and Protection at Work (CGWB).

- The Occupational Health Service was mainly called upon for managing the pandemic (PCR tests, drawing up guidelines in the context of the pandemic ...), while continuing to carry out its work in compliance with the government's health measures.
- The Development & Strategy service was heavily involved in the communication related to COVID-19. The note on mask wearing and the FAQ on the COVID-19 info portal were systematically updated in response to the Consultative Committee's new guidelines.
- Safety's prevention advisors have provided much advice and analysis to enforce COVID-19 prevention measures.
- In collaboration with the Stress Team and the ProLeader team, information and awareness campaigns were conducted on psychosocial risks to support the mental well-being of staff during this difficult period.



Success Story

Recruiting in times of COVID-19

For the Directorate of Staff, which is in charge of recruitment, the covid pandemic translated into a series of difficult questions: what to do about recruitment, selection, training, etc.? The answers didn't take long to come. Activities were organised in a Covid-proof manner. For example, the sports test with the functional course was temporarily replaced by the Léger test, also known as the "beep test". The candidates were able to perform that test at a safe distance from each other.

The Directorate of Logistics (DRL) lent a hand by installing dozens of plastic screens, among other things. This allowed for safe testing and, for example, interviews with psychologists. The recruitment process could resume after a break of only three weeks!

Thanks to the inventiveness and hard work of all the staff in the Recruitment and Selection Service, the police met their target of recruiting 1 600 inspectors in these exceptional circumstances. In fact, in 2021, 1 790 inspector candidates passed their selection tests!



Communication in times of corona: all hands on deck!

In terms of communication, the organisation faced an enormous challenge. Each time the authorities announced new or adjusted corona measures, and at the instigation of the COVID-19 Task Force of the Integrated Police, these measures had to be translated into clear, distinct and up-to-date guidelines for the police officers in the field. Furthermore, it was necessary to communicate succinctly and transparently to the police staff about the internal management of the corona situation: about the logistical support, the HR guidelines, the psychosocial support offered to staff members, etc.

Synergy and cooperation were the leitmotifs to accomplish all this within tight deadlines. The Directorate of Communication (CGC) of the Federal Police played a key role in organising communication, in close consultation with the Local Police Standing Committee. Many directorates and services contributed from their area of expertise, including the Legal Service, the General Directorate of Resource Management and Information (DGR), the Directorate of Internal Prevention and Protection at Work (CGWB), etc.

The spearhead of the corona communication was a complementary triptych:

- the **COVID-19 information** portal, the all-encompassing thematic site with the intervention manual for the enforcement of the corona measures, internal guidelines, official documents (decrees, notes, etc.), a FAQ Well-being COVID-19, videos, awareness material, etc. This information portal can be accessed from any device, anywhere and at any time. In 2021, 44 791 staff members of the Integrated Police visited the COVID-19 information portal. On a total staff of about 53 000 staff members, this corresponds to 85 % of the staff of the Integrated Police. These unique visitors had visited the information portal 1 341 483 times in total by the end of 2021.

COVID-19 info portal	2020	2021
Number of Integrated Police staff members who consulted the info portal	38 137	44 791
Number of consultations	942 680	1 341 483

- A thematic newsletter **GPI News COVID-19** with news and important updates linked to the COVID-19 information portal. In 2021, 19 editions were distributed to all staff members of the Integrated Police. A more frequent mailing is additionally provided for the management.

- A **COVID-19 Contact Center**, which the Federal Police established in March 2020 to quickly track positive COVID-19 cases or quarantine cases for the entire Integrated Police. The COVID-19 Contact Center also assists Integrated Police personnel by phone and email to respond to their questions and concerns about COVID-19, including those related to corona measures and their impact on statute, logistics, etc. These tasks continued in 2021.

In 2021, the Integrated Police's **COVID-19 Contact Center** answered 788 questions and registered a total of 15 113 files. Those 15 113 files are:

- 5 212 positive, confirmed Covid sick GPI employees;
- 2 529 sick police employees, not confirmed COVID-19;
- 7 372 police employees placed in mandatory quarantine.

With regard to external communication, the Federal Police has aligned itself with the communication strategy of the National Crisis Center, i.e. to inform and make the population aware of the importance of complying with the corona measures. On social media, the Federal Police, always in cooperation with the Local Police Standing Committee, continued the "11 million reasons" campaign.

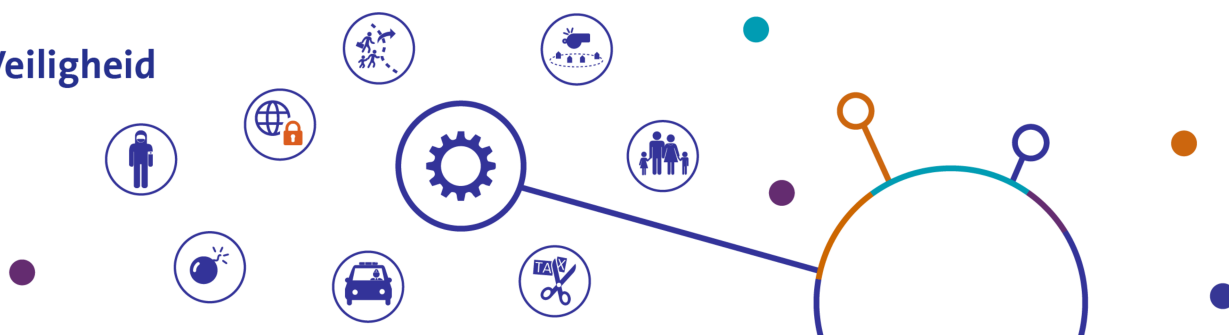


The logistical challenge

The Federal Police, as in 2020, has mobilised considerable resources to meet the challenges of the health crisis. To enable its employees to carry out their tasks as well as possible and in complete safety, it was necessary, among other things, to provide them with appropriate equipment. In particular, this included individual protection materials such as masks, disposable gloves, alcohol gel, care, cleaning and disinfection products for rooms, clothing, masks ..., fumigators (disinfection of service vehicles), disinfection wipes, etc.



Veiligheid



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- The Federal Police, as a component of the Integrated Police and as a link in the security chain, contributes to security and the quality of life in society.
- The members of the Federal Police carry out their missions with thorough professionalism in various fields: road safety, public order, the fight against violence, terrorism, illegal trafficking, human smuggling, exploitation, fraud ...
- In order to accomplish these missions, they attach great importance to partnership, information exchange and international cooperation.



[Drug trafficking](#)



[Police and citizens' security](#)



[Negotiated management of public space](#)



[Borders, migration and human trafficking](#)



[Road safety](#)



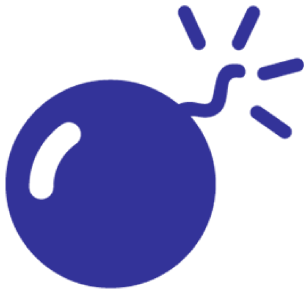
[Specialised teams](#)



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[International partnership: the
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Drug trafficking

- Throughout the territory, the year 2021 was marked by the largest intervention in the history of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office and the Federal Judicial Police, and a record number of seizures and the dismantling of numerous international organisations in the context of the Sky ECC case and its corollaries.
- A new technique for treating cocaine was uncovered in 2021: "cocaine laundries".
- Spurred by the Federal Judicial Police, an international network of experts has been established with a focus on hidden (smuggling) spaces in vehicles.

We all rose to the challenge together

"For the Federal Judicial Police, the year 2021 was marked by a technical and technological highlight: deciphering the code of messaging app Sky ECC. Dismantling this communication network has direct and indirect consequences for both the Federal Police and for all of Belgian society.

On the one hand, this represents a major turn in our perception of organised crime, which we discovered had become even more violent, mobile, technological and international. In a tense budgetary context, we all rose to the challenge together and organised ourselves in all areas: recruit, invest, innovate and strengthen and smoothen cooperation, first within the Integrated Police and then at the international level.

On the other hand, our actions protect our fellow citizens by combating the entanglement of the criminal world with civil society. Corruption, social and tax fraud, money laundering: we will not allow those mafia systems to gain a foothold in Belgium."

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT ERIC SNOECK
General Director of the Federal Judicial Police



Investigative capacity in drug cases

In the fight against drugs, Federal Judicial Police investigators worked 641 162 hours in 2021, or 22 % of the investigative capacity.

Federal investigative capacity in the fight against drugs	2019	2020	2021
Number of hours worked	428 756	521 722	641 162
Percentage relative to the total federal investigative capacity	15.9 %	17.6 %	22 %

The focus was on tackling:

- the import and export of cocaine;
- the professional and commercial production of cannabis;
- the production and trafficking of synthetic drugs, including precursors;
- the local narcotics market.

International police cooperation is an important link in effectively tackling this phenomenon. The Federal Police is involved in various international forums (EMPACT programs of Europol, international drug conference of Interpol, Groupe Pompidou of the Council of Europe, bilateral networks with the Netherlands, Benelux and Hazeldonk consultations, etc.).

In 2021, the Directorate of International Police Cooperation conducted its triennial evaluation of the **Liaison Officers** network of the Integrated Police abroad. The main recommendation made in the report is to place an additional liaison officer in Latin America to strengthen the fight against international cocaine trafficking.

Cocaine trafficking

In 2021, there were a total of 174 cocaine seizures (maritime, air and other); accounting for a total of more than 96 tons of the white powder.

Seaports are links in the trafficking of cocaine from South America to Western Europe. In close cooperation with customs, the Federal Police is increasingly involved in the fight against cocaine trafficking by collaborating with police services in the countries of origin and transit in South America (Colombia, Brazil, etc.).

Maritime cocaine seizures	2019	2020	2021
in Antwerp	61 796	65 443	90 750
to Antwerp	76 986	67 780	102 193
in Belgium, excluding Antwerp	1 877	2 451	940
Total (kg)	140 660	135 675	193 883

In addition to the maritime route, cocaine is also smuggled from South America to Belgium by air. For example, in early August 2021, 1.3 tons of cocaine were found by the Brazilian Federal Police at Fortaleza Airport (BRAZ) in a private jet bound for Belgium. The Federal Judicial Police (FJP) of Liège launched an investigation into this trafficking. General aviation (non-commercial civil aviation) is therefore certainly also a focus of attention in the fight against cocaine trafficking.

Trade in hashish

Twenty seizures yielded a total of 13 451 kilos of hashish. There was one seizure of 8.5 tons! Although the main seizures took place in the port of Antwerp, just under 750 kg was also seized in the port of Zeebrugge.

Heroin Trade

35 seizures for a total of 1 554 kg. This concerns both imports via the port of Antwerp or Brussels Airport and cross-border trafficking from the Netherlands to France.



Decryption of Sky ECC: a sledgehammer blow to the criminal world

On 9 March 2021, the largest operation ever in Belgium led by the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office and the Federal Judicial Police began.

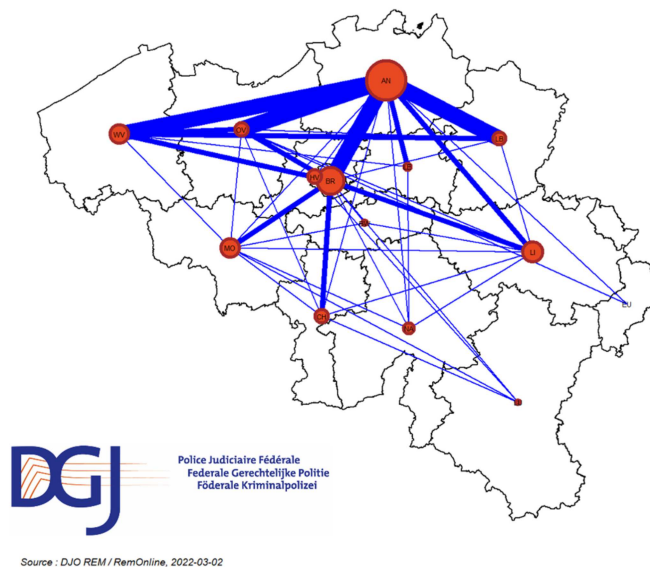
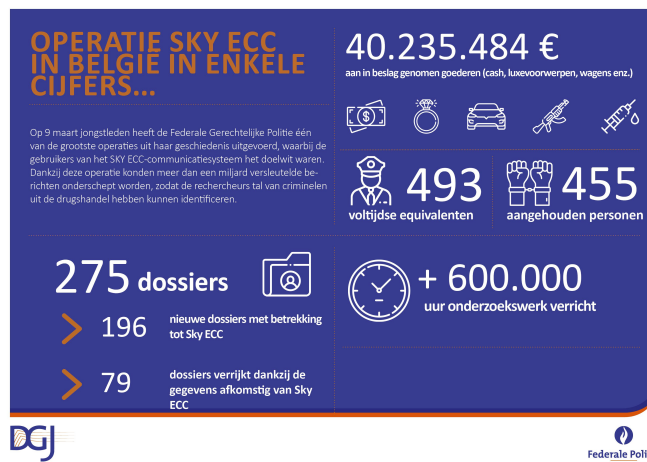
The Sky ECC case had its origins in 2019 in a case of the Federal Judicial Police (FJP) of Antwerp. This FJP, thanks to its expertise and strong international cooperation, has achieved what few had succeeded in before: crack the code of an encrypted messaging app and analyse the messages that had been sent through that app. Since then, more than forty actions of different FJPs have proved successful: Brussels, Charleroi, Liège, Limburg and Antwerp are the most important of these. Whether these are cases "enriched" with decrypted information from the Sky ECC case or new cases resulting from the intercepted data, they all have trafficking in or manufacturing of narcotics as well as related crime (violence, corruption, money laundering, etc.) in common. Those investigations lead to a better knowledge of organised crime, which behaves exactly like a classic economic (inter)national ecosystem: each entity has its specialty, enters into alliances and disposes of its most ruthless competitors. A new importation technique of cocaine has been discovered. It consists of soaking some inert material (used clothes, coal, coconut fibers, etc.) in the exporting country in a cocaine solution and then chemically extracting the cocaine in a "laundry" and repackaging them. The cocaine is then ready to be transported throughout Europe.



New trends have emerged such as the massive investment in legal assets in Belgium and abroad to launder money, the purchase of crypto currencies, and the increasing use of bribery, by force or for profit, of key persons.

Key figures from 9 March 2021 to 28 February 2022:

- 881 persons arrested;
- 272 new files;
- 117 files fed with new elements;
- 59 718 141 euros seized (reusable goods such as cash, watches, luxury cars ...);
- more than 90 tons of drugs seized;
- for a value of more than 4 500 000 000 euros;
- 862 full-time equivalents (FTEs), which represents the working time of all investigators combined (investigation, intelligence and special unit support - DSU) - In other words: a single investigator would have had to work 862 years to achieve those results!



Links between cases throughout the territory.



Success Story

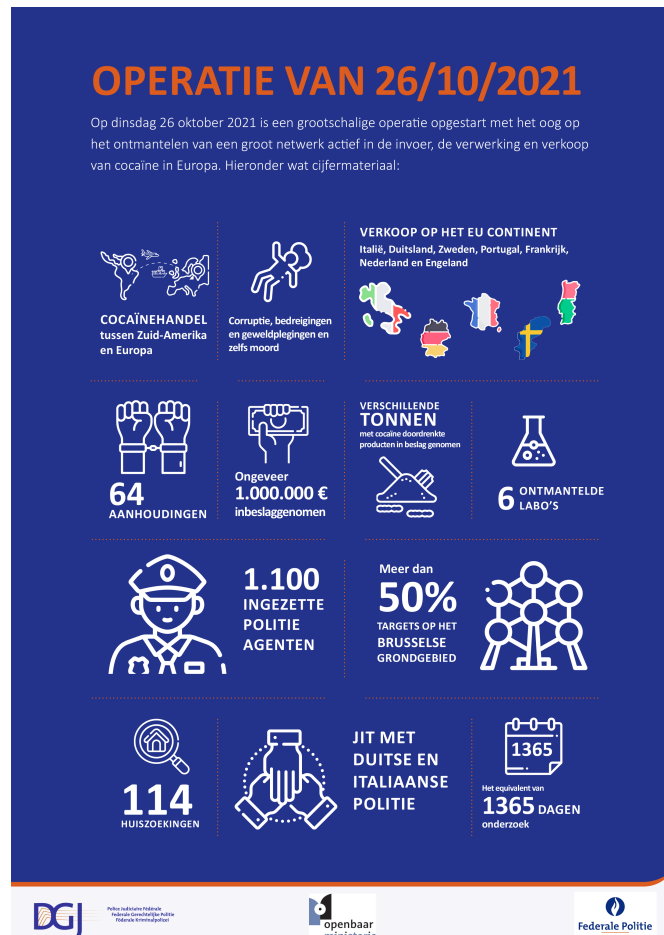
Brussels Federal Judicial Police dismantles 6 cocaine extraction labs

In one of the largest operations against drug trafficking in late October 2021 - since the cracking of the Sky ECC communications network - the Federal Judicial Police (FJP) of Brussels dismantled six cocaine extraction laboratories, a first in Belgium. The FJP was able to penetrate into the heart of a well-structured international criminal organisation, which in recent years smuggled tons of cocaine into our country and re-exported it.

The large-scale anti-drug operation led by the FJP Brussels, with the support of other FJPs and services of the Federal Police and Local Police, brought together more than 1 100 police officers. They executed about a hundred search warrants in Belgium, the majority of them in Brussels. These led to 64 arrests.

The dismantling of the cocaine extraction labs is undoubtedly the most notable result of the operation. More than 1 300 days or about 20 % of FJP Brussels' capacity led to the identification of these cocaine packaging and processing laboratories in Brussels, Flanders, and Wallonia, as well as several dumps of chemical products originating from these labs.

In addition to the six cocaine extraction labs, the police also seized the following impressive list: tons of products and various materials likely to be impregnated with cocaine, dozens of jerrycans containing chemical products, a dozen firearms, 57 seized vehicles including several luxury vehicles, luxury goods, a large quantity of gold coins, a money counting machine, about 1 million euros in cash and 300 m³ of smuggled tobacco. Also, equipment that criminals use as "countermeasures" or to stay under the radar: technical equipment, jammers, beacons, detectors, drones, and propulsion engines for divers.



The SPOC at the heart of exchanges

From the beginning of the operational phase, the Single Point of Operational Contact (SPOC) of the Directorate of International Police Cooperation (CGI) was at the heart of the exchanges in the Sky ECC case in its capacity as the single point of operational contact. Since the start of the Sky ECC case, [the number of messages exchanged with foreign countries increased by 25 %](#).

The SPOC could provide support as close as possible to the actions and investigations. The efficient coordination between both national and international partners and the availability of operators contributed to the successes.

The SPOC, meanwhile, provides significant daily capacity to provide support in this case, which regularly makes the front page.

The Etoile actions are a collaboration between the Federal Police, the Local Police, the General Administration of Customs and Excise and their colleagues from the Benelux countries and France. They are directed against drug trafficking and in particular against drug distribution networks and the criminal organisations involved in them.

In 2021, police services and customs checked 8 101 people and more than 6 690 vehicles during five action days. 138 trains and 80 buses of low-cost carriers were also checked. Overall, the actions led to the arrest of 90 persons and the seizure of 42 weapons and a sum of money of 214 119 euros.



Drugs seized as part of the Etoile actions

Quantity	2018	2019	2020	2021
Marihuana	12.5 kg	39.5 kg	14 kg	39.5 kg
Hashish	8 kg	1 kg	1 kg	7 kg
Heroin	5 kg	0.2 kg	3 kg	8.8 kg
Cocaine	2.5 kg	4.8 kg	11.4 kg	9.5 kg
Amphetamines	1.5 kg	0.4 kg	0.15 kg	6.3 kg
XTC	2 019 pills	1 168 pills	2 571 pills	1 275 pills



Not a "drug", but still dangerous: laughing gas

On 25 March 2021, the police and customs services from the Netherlands, Luxembourg, France and Belgium organised a large-scale and cross-border control action Etoile in the province of Luxembourg. A large amount of laughing gas was seized, totalling some 18 250 doses.

For several years, laughing gas (nitrous oxide) has been popular with young people and in nightlife. Not without danger! Inhaling laughing gas can cause oxygen deprivation in the brain resulting in serious health problems.

Seizures by police forces, as in this case by the Federal Highway Police of Luxembourg, help to get a better idea of the extent of the phenomenon.

To counter the increase in recreational use of laughing gas, cities and municipalities can adjust their general police regulations and address the phenomenon at the administrative level, including with administrative fines. A judicial approach is less evident because the sale, transportation and use of laughing gas in retail is legal and not covered by drug laws. The (online) sale of laughing gas cartridges to minors is prohibited, however.

To guide a comprehensive and proactive administrative approach by police and local administrations (enforcement, seizure, destruction, etc.) and in line with the public prosecutor's office's circular "Laughing gas", the Antwerp District Information and Expertise Centre (ARIEC) drew up a scenario.

The Central Directorate for Combating Serious and Organised Crime (DJSOC) monitors this phenomenon and provides support to police forces.



International expert network "Hidden Spaces"

Spurred on by the Drugs team of the Central Directorate for Combating Serious and Organised Crime (DJSOC), an expert group on "Hidden Spaces" was established. Colleagues from Customs, Local Police and Federal Police are part of this and provide an even broader view of this phenomenon.

One of the objectives of the expert group was to raise awareness. For this purpose, a training course "vehicle control in case of suspected presence of narcotics - hidden spaces" was developed. In 2021, 1 381 colleagues were trained and 115 sessions were given by the expert group.

Specific attention to this phenomenon is yielding results: in 2021, 108 hidden spaces in vehicles were discovered.

Not only nationally but also internationally this phenomenon is gaining more attention. For example, on 10 November 2021, an international congress "Vehicle concealments" was held in Oosterhout, the Netherlands, where participants came from operational, strategic and legal backgrounds. This congress facilitated the establishment of an international network.



Drug smugglers arrested in Brussels South

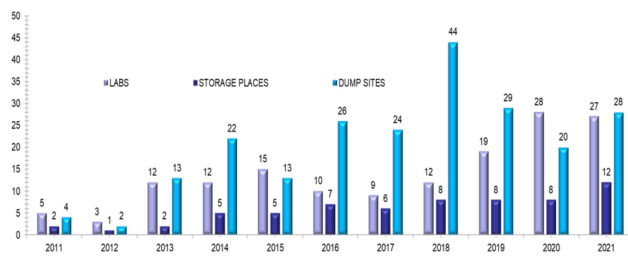
The Brussels Railway Police (SPC) was able to make three major seizures in 2021 in connection with drug smuggling by "drug swallows" (mainly cocaine) at Brussels South station (on 20 January, 12 September and 22 December). In total, they seized 196 cocaine capsules from the three people, with a total weight of 2 874 grams. These three cases were investigated with the congratulations of the Brussels Public Prosecutor's Office as part of the specialised BDO (Behaviour Detection Officer) activities of the service concerned.

In addition, a total sum of 703 387 euros was seized by SPC Brussels in 2021 as a result of money laundering.

Production of synthetic drugs

On 26 October 2021, DJSOC Drugs hosted a national synthetic drugs theme day at Vesta Campus. 85 participants from different disciplines (Justice, Customs, Local Police and Federal Police, Civil Protection, Sciensano, FAMHP, NICC/INCC and Dutch police and National Prosecutor's Office) participated. The new trends (cocaine laundries and methamphetamine labs) were discussed during the theme day.

Figures:



Synthetic drug seizures in 2021

- Amphetamines: 8 seizures for a total of 29 kg (+240 litres of amphetamine oil to produce amphetamine)
- XTC: 42 seizures for a total of 449 298 pills
- Ketamine: 33 seizures for a total of 219 kg
- MDMA: 25 seizures for a total of 76 kg
- Methamphetamines: 20 seizures for a total of 78 kg

Borders, migration and human smuggling

- Last year, transmigrants tried to reach the United Kingdom by *small boats* more often than by trucks. It led the Federal Police to establish intense and lasting collaborations nationally, internationally, internally and externally.
- The Federal Police was heavily involved in Operation "Red Kite," a humanitarian mission that involved evacuating some 1 250 people from Afghanistan following the Taliban's sudden seizure of power.
- The contribution of Federal Police units to Frontex missions has increased significantly.

Investigation into human trafficking and smuggling

Existing collaborations were consolidated and extended to other partners, other departments and other districts. In addition, the phenomenon-related information received a major update in the online knowledge management environment, WiKiPol, at the police procedures. This has the advantage that each investigator has access to all the information. A comprehensive compendium is also in the works with a view to future training for specialised investigators.

Furthermore, colleagues supported each other by sharing know-how and good practices and support was provided from and to colleagues in the field. In turn, new investigators received help from more experienced colleagues so that they could quickly be involved in investigations.

The components of the Federal Police are complementary in the phenomenon approach: the Federal Judicial Police (DGJ/FJP) conducts investigations into human trafficking and smuggling and the entities of the Administrative Police (DGA) detect and identify violations in the field. The smooth cooperation between the components, that too is necessary for the success of the investigations.

This way of working means that the Federal Police contributes to shaping policy and has a significant impact on strategic choices within the multidisciplinary chain.

Some findings:

- Investigations into transit smuggling in car parks, committed by East Africans, were unfortunately less successful than in previous years due to the lack of interpreters.
- Criminal organisations with ties in Southeast Asia were mapped and the central role that nail salons play in human smuggling and trafficking became clear.
- The focus remains on coordination and international cooperation with regard to Asian and East African prostitution networks.



In the fight against human smuggling and trafficking, Federal Judicial Police (FJP) investigators worked 186 810 hours in 2021. This represents 6.45 % of federal investigative capacity (total = 2 904 922 hours), about the same figure as last year. 272 files were opened.

Federal investigative capacity to combat human trafficking and smuggling	2019	2020	2021
Number of hours worked	191 364	202 461	186 810
Percentage relative to the total federal investigative capacity	7 %	7 %	6.45 %

Number of investigations opened by the Federal Judicial Police

	2019	2020	2021
Human smuggling	232	169	132
Sexual exploitation	128	130	101
Economic exploitation	51	59	46

* The figures in this table refer to the number of newly started cases. As of the current edition of the annual report, a new method of counting is used so the numbers may differ from previous editions.

The decrease in the number of human smuggling offences can be explained by the fact that criminal groups have changed their modus operandi to anticipate the health measures. Indeed, human smugglers have focused their activities on the *small boat* phenomenon rather than climbing into trucks along motorway car parks.

The number of sexual exploitation offences has decreased for the same reasons. Indeed, the health measures have forced the criminal world to reinvent itself by conducting its activities mainly on the web (online prostitution). This makes it harder to track down the perpetrators and certainly the victims.

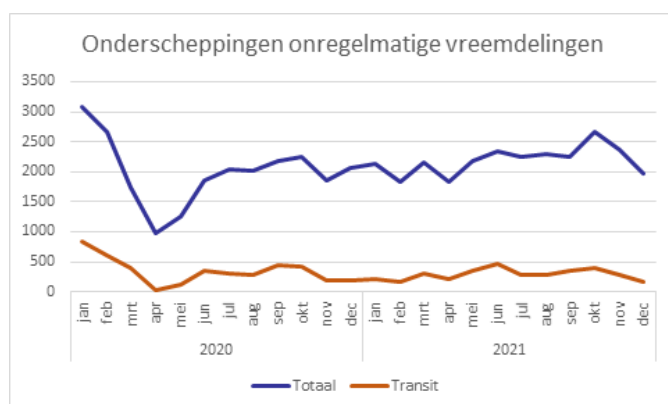
As for the acts of economic exploitation, the most likely explanation is also the health crisis. A lot of companies and workers are in trouble because of the health crisis. Some have continued or expanded their activities illegally or clandestinely, if necessary by exploiting persons made vulnerable by the effects of the pandemic and the health measures.

Interceptions of illegal residents

The police services often intercept persons who are illegally residing in Belgium. These are people who are suspected during a check of not meeting the conditions to stay or travel legally in Belgium.

On the basis of different criteria, the Immigration Office determines whether an illegal resident is also a transit migrant.

Since 2016, a specific service of the Directorate of Administrative Police Operations (DAO/Migration) has followed up this phenomenon.



The corona measures undoubtedly led to a decrease in the number of interceptions. After the sharp decline during the first lockdown in 2020, the number of interceptions increased again before stabilising. This stabilisation is still noticeable in 2021. Traffic within the European Union (and on a global scale) was restricted, which meant that migrants

were trapped in the countries where they were located at that time.



Police and judiciary focus on dangerous boats of human smugglers

By 2021, the trend toward reaching the United Kingdom in *small boats* - rather than in the cargo space of a truck - became increasingly apparent. It led the Federal Police to establish intense and lasting collaborations nationally, internationally, internally and externally.

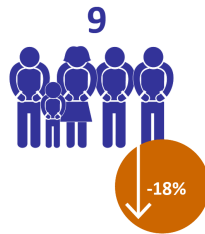
The Federal Police and Local Police, the French police services, the Immigration Office and the Belgian judiciary joined forces in the night of 23 to 24 June 2021, for a major operation targeting *small boats*, used by smugglers to bring transmigrants to the United Kingdom. Crossing in such a small boat can lead to life-threatening situations.

The focus of the action was to intercept persons and boats before boarding. Therefore, checks were held along motorways, approach roads, in the dunes and at sea. As a matter of fact, smugglers often purchase the equipment (boats, life jackets and so on) inland. Some 100 Belgian police officers were deployed. In France, 50 officers cooperated in the action. By interrogating people and reading mobile phones, the police and the judiciary aim to expose and prosecute criminal networks.

During the joint control operation, the Belgian police checked approximately 500 vehicles and found and questioned eight transmigrants.

Finally, since the spring of 2021, the Federal Police has been participating in the work of the Unité de Renseignement opérationnelle (URO), which allows the Belgian police to exchange information rapidly with France and the United Kingdom in the context of the transmigration problem and the *small boats* in particular.

Illegal migration – contribution of the Airport Police (LPA)



Arrests

Arrests in the context of human smuggling

- 2018: 23
- 2019: 34
- 2020: 11
- 2021: 9

Removals

Limited flight supply and travel restrictions due to the corona pandemic prevented certain removals from taking place.

International air travel in 2021 was heavily influenced by the prevailing and constantly changing covid restrictions. Some refusals and refolements are related to the covid measures (no valid PCR test, non-essential travel motive ...).

Removals	2018	2019	2020	2021
Refolements*	2 399	2 377	848	1 206

Removals	2018	2019	2020	2021
Repatriations**	3 509	3 119	1 615	1 451

* Refoulements: whenever a person arrives at the border without valid papers, he/she may not cross the border and is returned to the country where he/she comes from.

** Repatriations: whenever a person is found in an illegal situation on the territory, he/she must be repatriated to his/her home country or the last country through which he/she transited.

Illegal immigration - contribution of the Railway Police (SPC) in Brussels-South (Eurostar)

Illegal residents intercepted

- **2018:** 186
- **2019:** 130
- **2020:** 102
- **2021:** 85

Illegal immigration - contribution of the Maritime and River Police (SPN)

The covid measures continued to significantly affect the number of actions in 2021, allowing fewer actions than planned to proceed.

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Illegally residing persons intercepted by SPN (total regular operation and targeted actions)	4 256	2 951	2 612	2 359
- through the CO2 detector	901	573	3*	18*
- thanks to the dogs used in immigration checks	1 457	1 497	908**	830**
Judicial arrests (confirmed by the magistrate) in the context of illegal migration (human smuggling and transit migration)	3	15	3	10
Targeted actions	216	215	327	326

* The decrease in the number of interceptions by CO2 detection is because a private security firm has taken over this task.

** The decrease in the number of interceptions by dogs is because this task is divided between the Dog Support of the Federal Police and private security firms.



Success Story

Beautiful example of professionalism, perseverance and cooperation

On Christmas Eve, the Maritime and River Police Coast (SPN Coast) was notified of an emergency call of two transmigrants in a container at Zeebrugge.

While most people were at the banquet, the teams of SPN Coast, together with the Federal Judicial Police West Flanders (FJP West Flanders), the Coordination and Support Directorate West Flanders (CSD West Flanders), the Directorate of Administrative Police Operations (DAO), the Directorate of Judicial Police Operations (DJO), the Dog Support (DACH), Customs, the Maritime Information Crossroads (SPN MIK) and private security went looking among the thousands of containers on the quay and aboard the ships. With the information gathered like pieces of a puzzle and put together with the cooperation of all the services and the private sector, they were finally able to give a sigh of relief on Christmas Day around 6 p.m. Both transmigrants were found safe and sound aboard a ship in Le Havre, France, by the French Customs Service, at the instigation of Belgian police forces. It took some time eventually before they could be freed from a container at the bottom of the ship's hold.

Despite the corona measures that, as mentioned earlier, greatly reduced border traffic in 2020, we see a slight increase in numbers again in 2021. Indeed, despite the still strict corona measures, traffic resumed little by little, which also led to the resumption of checks on travellers at the borders.

Border control by the Airport Police (LPA) at airports

Passengers coming from a country outside the Schengen zone are subject to border control. If a problem occurs at the border checkpoint (entry requirements are not met, the passenger is the subject of an alert, an additional document check is required, etc.), the passenger is then directed to the second line for further control. In this way, the flow of passengers at the checkpoint is not interrupted or delayed.

If a passenger does not meet the entry requirements, then the Immigration Office must be contacted, which will make a decision. This can range from the issuance of a visa, a special passage permit ... to a refusal. In the latter case, the passenger must return to the airport of origin.



	2018	2019	2020	2021
Passengers checked in the 2nd line	39 185	41 939	16 820	21 709
Reports to the Immigration Office	7 054	7 560	3 795	4 213
Refusals	2 940	3 026	1 132	1 553

A **file** is opened whenever a false, forged or fraudulently used document, or a document subject to an alert, is discovered, or in case of an impostor. Several documents can be seized per file (for example, a false passport, a false driver's license, a false identity card, etc.).

False and forged ID documents	2018	2019	2020	2021
Cases	3 648	3 645	1 280	2 261
Seized documents	1 637	2 002	1 422	1 613
Impostors*	249	465	191	254
False documents**	620	863	561	989
Forged documents***	768	667	276	458

* An impostor uses an authentic and valid document for fraudulent purposes (usually based on his appearance).

** A false document is a complete counterfeit.

*** A forged document is an original document to which changes have been made. For example, a picture on an ID document, a date on a visa, a new identity page in an existing passport.

At Brussels Airport, EU citizens travelling to/from a non-Schengen country can have their identity digitally checked at automated border checkpoints (**e-gates**). There are 24 e-gates at Brussels Airport.

2018	2019	2020	2021

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Checks	3 142 108	3 047 019	470 639*	116 717*

* E-gates were used much less because they could not be used to check the Passenger Locator Form (PLF). The PLF is a measure to contain the risk of the spread of the coronavirus during international travel.



Operation "Red Kite", smooth cooperation for humanitarian mission

Several entities of the Federal Police were involved in Operation "Red Kite," a humanitarian mission in which a total of some 1 250 people were evacuated from Afghanistan by Belgium between 18 and 28 August 2021, following the Taliban's sudden seizure of power.

The Coordination and Support Directorate (CSD/DCA) Halle-Vilvoorde, as Gold Commander, was responsible for the coordination of the cooperation between the federal and local police services, more specifically the Directorate of Administrative Police Operations (DAO), the Airport Police (LPA), the Federal Highway Police (WPR), the Directorate of Public Security (DAS), the Directorate of Infrastructure Security (DAB) and the police zones Vilvoorde/Machelen and Kampenhout/Steenokkerzeel/Zemst.

The whole operation was under the direction of the National Crisis Center. There was also very smooth interdepartmental cooperation with Defence, the Red Cross, Fedasil, the Immigration Office, Foreign Affairs and the intelligence services.

Most of the operation took place at the Melsbroek military airport. The reception (medical care, covid tests, administration, psychological support, border control) was organised in the military quarter of Peutie where the Defence Department had set up the logistical support. In less than 24 hours, a complete multidisciplinary control system was established and tested.

The Airport Police, together with the Immigration Office, were in charge of the border control of the evacuated persons upon arrival in Belgium. The first 38 evacuated persons were picked up by LPA and Defence in Schiphol on 21 August and transferred to Peutie. The majority arrived in Melsbroek in the following days, from where they were transported to Peutie in military buses, escorted by the Federal Highway Police and the Directorate of Infrastructure Security. In total, about 1 250 persons were checked by the Airport Police in Peutie.



	2018	2019	2020	2021
Controlled trains	374	250	191	218
Official reports	143	89	23	25
Judicial arrests	79	30	6	0
Persons brought before (judicial) authorities	4	2	1	0
Administrative arrests	63	58	11	22

Border controls by the Maritime and River Police (SPN) at seaports

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Administrative controls of sailors	634 178	651 341	487 850	511 503
Physical controls of passengers	457 111	522 617	86 263	84 114
Individual visas granted	4 347	4 953	4 817	5 721
Stowaways intercepted	28	71	116	136

Tools to increase border security

Belvis

Through the **Belvis** application (**BEL**gian **V**isa **I**nformation **S**ystem), it is possible to check visas in C-VIS (Central Visa Information System) in order to prevent visa abuse. Belvis links the Schengen Information System (SIS) to the fingerprint database (AFIS). It is therefore possible to send on the fingerprints taken to the SIS for the control of visa holders.

The Belvis control comes in addition to the controls in the General National Database (BNG-ANG), the Schengen Information System (SIS) and Interpol databases ASF Nominals and SLTD (*Stolen and Lost Travel Documents*).

	2019	2020*	2021*
Number of users	510	510	510
Number of checks	164 366	31 636	26 008
Number of fingerprint checks via Belvis in AFIS	118 465	6 294	12 354

* Due to the corona measures, international travel was severely restricted in 2020 and 2021. This means fewer border crossings and therefore fewer checks.

Raavis, the e-connection with the Immigration Office

The **Raavis** application (Rapport Administratief – Administratief Verslag Informatie Systeem) enables police officers to contact the Immigration Office directly in connection with the decision following an interception on the territory or at the border of an alien who does not have the appropriate residence permit. The application has about 5000 users.

	2019	2020	2021
Number of reports created	28 826	21 264	23 706

Aquatask and Aerotask

Aquatask and **Aerotask** are applications used by the Maritime and River Police (SPN) and the Airport Police (LPA) respectively for administrative control of all maritime and air traffic (General Aviation) crossing the Schengen external borders. The applications are used 24/7 and make it possible to check crew and passengers in the General National Database, the Schengen Information System (SIS) and Interpol databases.

Aquatask	2019	2020	2021
Number of users	296	296	348

Aquatask	2019	2020	2021
Number of checks on passengers and crew members	1 968 896	565 722*	599 384*

* It only concerns administrative checks on passengers and crew. These checks are carried out on individuals included in the active passenger and seaman lists of a stay, both on arrival and departure. The big difference compared to 2020 is due to the closure of the Zeebrugge-Hull ferry and the ban on cruises since March 2020, that was still in place in 2021. One cruise necessitates 8 000 to 10 000 checks per day visit.

The control in Aerotask is done on the basis of the General Declarations for non-commercial flights.

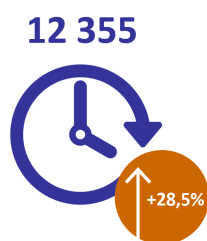
Aerotask	2020	2021
Number of checks of General Declarations	1 925	2 283

Contribution to Frontex missions

Frontex missions are control missions (identity, documents ...) at the external borders of the European Union.

The Federal Police organised the mandatory secondment of (police) personnel to the European Border and Coast Guard Agency Frontex in 2021. Specifically, this involved seven individuals for longer-term missions, including six from the Federal Police and one from the Immigration Office. In addition, the Integrated Police also carried out 71 short-term missions, 55 of which were carried out by the Federal Police and 16 by the Local Police and the Immigration Office. The nature of the missions and complex circumstances require continuous structural monitoring.

The table below shows the units' contribution to Frontex missions (in particular to international joint operations) in number of hours worked.



Hours worked

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Railway Police	575	1 175	204	546
Maritime and River Police	5 031	5 955	1 566	2 342
Airport Police	8 505	10 967	4 827	6 077
Highway Police	280	1 108	244	523
Directorate of Administrative Police Operations	2 027	1 886	349	598
Directorate of Infrastructure Security*	-	-	202	0
Coordination and Support Directorates*	-	-	556	413
Directorate of Judicial Police Operations*	-	-	377	224
Federal Judicial Police*	-	-	866	403
Directorate of International Police Cooperation - General Commissioner's Office	-	-	-	363
Local Police*	-	-	423	866
Total	16 418	21 091 (+28 %)	9 614 (-54.42 %)	12 355 (+28.51 %)

* Counting from 2020 onwards.

Police and citizens' security

- In the days following the severe weather and floods that hit Belgium in July 2021, no fewer than 1 000 Federal Police personnel were deployed to the hardest hit areas.
- The Directorate of Infrastructure Security (DAB) is slowly but surely becoming more important in the police landscape.
- The first year of operation of FUPHEC has already proven its effectiveness in the fight against environmental crime, with 45 arrests.

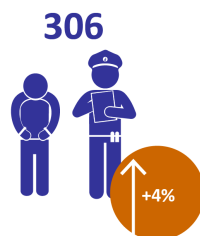
Combating crime phenomena

In 2021, efforts around the economic and financial component of judicial investigations, as well as the increase in investigations into social and tax fraud, have paid off.

Investigative capacity broken down by phenomenon

Phenomenon	2018	2019	2020	2021
Financial-economic crime	13.5 %	23 %	21.5 %	21.5 %
Drugs	12 %	17 %	17.5 %	22 %
Violence (murder, manslaughter ...)	10 %	16 %	15 %	14 %
Thefts	5.5 %	14 %	12 %	9 %
Terrorism	9 %	10 %	7 %	7 %
Human trafficking/smuggling	7 %	8 %	7 %	6.5 %
Other	43 %	12 %	20 %	20 %
Total	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %

Arrests*



Fugitive criminals arrested

Phenomenon	2018	2019	2020	2021
Drugs	751	906	881	1 036
Thefts	418	772	624	381
Ecofin	235	387	352	437
Violence – murders and manslaughters	223	451	441	437

Phenomenon	2018	2019	2020	2021
Human trafficking/smuggling	171	265	235	262
Unknown (arrests not linked to a phenomenon)	1 497	176	236	137
Terrorism	112	98	62	86
Forgery	/	82	41	53
Special cases	/	21	19	40**
Environment	/	10	/	35
Medication fraud (and fraud related to food supplements)	/	8	/	4
ICT	/	/	26	51
Other phenomena	/	88	60	89
Total	3 407	3 264	3 108	3 048

* The term "arrest" here refers to any judicial deprivation of liberty of a person identified as a suspect in accordance with the Saldus legislation (category IV).

** This significant increase is related to the sharp increase in the number of cases of violation of professional secrecy, most of which can be equated with cases of corruption.

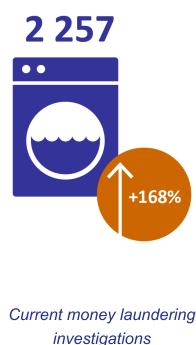
Money laundering cases

Money laundering is a specific part of the Ecofin phenomenon. It is defined as the concealment or disguise of the movement of (financial) income from any criminal activity (main offence) committed in Belgium or abroad and/or the disguise of the illegal origin of pecuniary advantages or profits.

Money laundering techniques have evolved in recent years. The criminal world has adapted itself to developments in civil society and is digitising its methods: money mules and money transports are decreasing, while foreign currency exchange and deposits of money via radio and telephony (SMS, MMS, wrap, etc.) are increasing explosively. Money laundering via bank transfers, on the other hand, is steadily and consistently increasing. Other strategies are based on entries that involve real trade in goods (TBML for trade-based money laundering) or fictitious trade (SBML for service-based money laundering).

In 2021, an increasing number of crypto wallets were seized in searches conducted as part of various Federal Judicial Police investigations: the various crypto currencies such as bitcoin are an emerging safe haven outside the banking system, and thus much harder to track.

Money laundering from criminal activities has concrete consequences in civil society: at the financial (injection of criminal money into legal activities), social and, indirectly, physical (aggression) and psychological (corruption, various forms of pressure) levels.



	2018	2019	2020	2021
Current money laundering investigations	1 134	836	842	2 257



Police Crime Statistics: 20 years!

Crime figures for the full year 2020 were published in the summer of 2021 and are available to the general public on the website <https://www.stat.policefederaale.be>. They are available for the years 2000 through 2020 and from the national level down to the municipal level.

For the past two decades, the same production method has been used. This means that Belgium has a very long-term picture of the crime recorded by police services and committed in our country. These figures function as an indicator or a barometer concerning the evolution of recorded crime and they are used to determine strategies and policies in the fight against crime phenomena.

Detection and alert

Wanted notices in the media: an added value



Wanted notices published in the media

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of wanted notices	418	444	396	392
Clearance rate	60 %	69 %	72 %	71 %

The wanted notices and calls for witnesses in the media help to achieve the clearance rate.

The television programme FAROEK made 36 reports in 2021 (69 in 2020), and 24 crime clips were made (22 in 2020).

Identification of offenders thanks to the Information and Investigation Bulletin (RIB/BRI)

The Information and Investigation Bulletin aims to facilitate the identification of perpetrators. This instrument has been developed for all members of the Integrated Police, and in particular for field police officers. Thanks to a secure SharePoint site, they can see the wanted notices anywhere, anytime and on any device (PC, laptop, smartphone ...) and react immediately.

Consultations RIB/BRI	2020	2021
Unique visitors	19 000	14 200
Identified offenders	900	622



Launch of the 10th edition of the security monitor

By means of a simple questionnaire sent to a large sample, citizens have the opportunity to directly influence the elaboration of the security policy of their municipality/city, by sharing their impressions about their feeling of insecurity, neighbourhood problems, prevention, victimisation and the quality of the police forces' actions.

Letters containing the security monitor questionnaire were sent to 400 000 citizens on 14 October 2021. It is already the 10th edition of this large-scale survey.

This initiative is organised by the police, in cooperation with the FPS Interior and local authorities. In 2021, 132 police zones have taken part in it, in cooperation with the Federal Police. Citizens could take part in writing or online until 12 November 2021. Results are expected in the second semester of 2022.



"In 2021, operations gradually resumed, but without reaching pre-corona levels. This was reflected in particular in an increase in border controls and contributions to Frontex missions, as well as in a sharp increase in missions abroad of the Directorate of Protection (DAP). In total, DGA provided reinforcements for 335 events in 2021.

However, the year 2021 was especially marked by the floods in July. All police forces, including those of DGA, were deployed to the emergency plan, to save lives and assist the victims, ensuring their safety and that of their homes and property, and to help the other emergency services carry out their missions to the best of their ability.

In the category of good news, we can mention the purchase of the stud farm of Wisbecq. This infrastructure, after some work, will become a workplace that respects both the well-being of the members of the mounted police and animal welfare. A great opportunity for an even more professional cavalry! In addition, the relocation of the cavalry will free up space on the site of the de Witte de Haelen barracks."

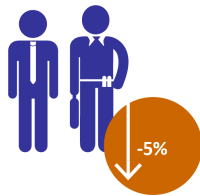


FIRST CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT ANDRÉ DESENFANTS,
General Director of Administrative Police (DGA)

Protection missions

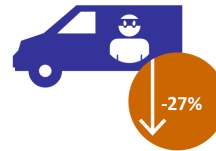
In general, the number of missions carried out by the Directorate of Protection (DAP) increased last year: in particular, the missions abroad (due to the resumption of activities after Covid), escorts of cash transports and escorts of the National Bank (NBB) (due to the health situation, recommending the use of ATMs). In contrast, the number of VIP missions, transfers of dangerous prisoners, and other transports decreased very slightly.

2 361



2 361 VIP missions** of which
194*** abroad in 2021.

110



Transfers of dangerous prisoners

1 157



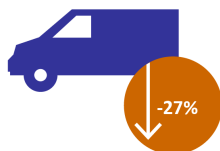
Escorts of cash transports

42



Escorts of the National Bank of
Belgium (NBB)

11



Other types of transport
(diamonds, works of art and
nuclear material)

	2018	2019	2020	2021
VIP missions (1 mission = protecting one VIP per day)	3 428	3 133	2 480	2 361**
Of which abroad	105	282*	83	194***
Transfer of dangerous prisoners (1 mission = protecting one prisoner per day)	388	346	151	110

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Escorting transport of valuables (intercity/intracity) (1 mission = protecting one cash transport vehicle per day)	923	869	708	1 157
National Bank of Belgium (NBB) escort missions	62	41	15	42
Other types of transport (diamonds, works of art and nuclear material)	31	11	15	11

* This sharp increase can be explained by the permanent protection of two additional VIPs who travel frequently and who also enjoy this protection during their trips abroad

** Decrease by 5 % in the number of visits by foreign delegations compared to 2020 (these had already decreased by 55 % between 2019 and 2020).

*** Increase by 134 % in the number of trips abroad (which had decreased by 70 % between 2019 and 2020).

Directorate of Infrastructure Security: when "blue" replaces "green" in sensitive places

The Directorate of Infrastructure Security (DAB) has deployed in the European Quarter and has taken over the protection of the U.S. Embassy and the Chancellery, as well as the Israeli Embassy.

Operation "Vigilant Guardian" was launched after the January 2015 attacks to provide a rapid response through a large deployment of military personnel. Given the evolution of the threat, the security missions of the European institutions (European Parliament, European Council, European Commission, Parliamentarium ...) were taken over by the Directorate of Infrastructure Security on 1 February 2021, to allow for a complete withdrawal of the military.

On 1 September, still in the midst of this transfer of missions, DAB took over other critical points: the Belgian Parliament, the U.S. Embassy and the Israeli Embassy.

DAB is slowly but surely taking a more important place in the police landscape. This directorate had 1 173 staff members in 2020 and 1 233 by the end of 2021.

In addition to the security of nuclear sites and critical infrastructure, support missions for other police entities/services or in the context of large-scale events, and the police of courts and tribunals, DAB also carries out transfers of prisoners.

In 2021, DAB carried out 65 947 missions with regard to the police of courts and tribunals and transfers of prisoners. In numbers, this amounted to:

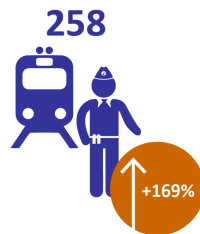
- 4 192 national transfers (transfers of prisoners between prisons);
- 10 009 medical transfers (presentation of prisoners in the context of urgent and non-urgent medical transfers);
- 1 662 transfers of minors (transfers from, to and between community institutions and also the various juvenile courts);
- 49 442 transfers to courthouses (presentation in the context of hearings in courthouses);
- 522 border transfers (transfer-takeover of prisoners in the context of transfers between states);
- 120 humanitarian transfers (transfers (escorts) of prisoners for social, family and humanitarian purposes (e.g. deceased person)).



The phenomenon of track walking

The phenomenon of track walking (formerly known as "trespassing") consists of illegally crossing railroad tracks.

The figures below include traffic violations in stations and on tracks (e.g., track walking) as well as violations at level crossings when road users (pedestrians as well as cyclists, motorists, etc.) cross the level crossing while the signalling system no longer allows it.



Official reports drawn up by the
Railway Police

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Official reports drawn up by the Railway Police	137	226	96	258*

* This increase is due to a broader definition of the phenomenon than in previous years. The 2021 figure includes offences of illegal movement in railway stations and on tracks as well as illegal movement at level crossings, committed by road users while the signals are in operation.



National day of action against track walking

On 29 October 2021, the Railway Police (SPC) and Infrabel held a national day of action against track walking. Targeted checks were carried out near stations and level crossings at some thirty locations in Wallonia, Brussels and Flanders between 6:30 a.m. and 10 p.m. On the eve of the autumn vacations, the aim was to make young people - and by extension all road users - aware once again of the safety rules near the railroad.

In this targeted action, 18 pedestrians, 44 motorists and 2 cyclists were fined and one person's driver's license was withdrawn.

The Railway Police, the Local Police and Securail (NMBS/SNCB) regularly organise these checks. Belgian law imposes severe penalties for dangerous behaviour near railway tracks. Violations at crossings can result in fines of 320 to 4 000 euros and a withdrawal of a driver's license of 8 days to 5 years.

Missing persons

Last year, the Missing Persons Unit was contacted for 863 worrying disappearances. That is a increase of 10 % compared to the previous year. 808 cases were closed (93.6 %), of which 680 missing persons were found alive.

In addition, the Unit was also deployed 40 times as a result of finding unidentified bodies or body parts, 27 of which were identified.

A total of 57 searches were conducted in the water, marking 100 interesting search locations, where 80 vehicles and 20 bodies of missing persons were eventually found.

	2020	2021
Worrying disappearances	785	863
Closed cases	745	808
Persons recovered alive	658	680
Searches in the water	38	57
Recovered vehicles	69	80
Recovered bodies	10	20



Support of the different entities of the Federal Police in the floods

While the COVID-19 crisis continued to require an extraordinary effort from all staff members, another disaster struck our country in July 2021. The bad weather and floods in Belgium took the lives of many people.

In this emergency situation, there was very good cooperation and [solidarity](#) between all levels of the Integrated Police and with our partners from the other emergency disciplines, both at the local and provincial level and with the Federal Support Cell.

In the four days following the flooding, as many as 4 000 Local Police personnel and 1 000 Federal Police personnel were deployed to the hardest hit areas. The Directorate of Administrative Police Operations (DAO) relied daily on hundreds of staff members from the Directorate of Public Security (DAS), the Directorate of Infrastructure Security (DAB), the Intervention Corps (CIK) and local police zones.

Support services were also called in to help those affected. Thus, the Air Support (DAFA) was able to rescue 18 people and the Dog Support (DACH) deployed 5 search dog teams to search for missing persons, reinforced by 4 Dutch dog teams. In addition, 2 patrol dog teams were deployed to stop looting. The Missing Persons Unit and DVI were actively deployed in the search and identification of victims.

The deployment of these various services and the good cooperation with other disciplines was only possible thanks to the [Communication and Information Centers](#) (CICs), which masterfully handled the emergency calls and dispatching of the teams in the field.



@belgianfederalpolice
Cartographier les zones les plus touchées / Map the most affected areas.
#protectioncivile
#civilprotection
🎵 Mad World (feat. Michael Andrews) - Gary Jules

Fight against environmental crime

In 2021, the first year of operation of FUPHEC (Federal Unit Public Health and Environmental Crime), the unit has already proven its effectiveness in combating environmental crime, with 45 arrests. Many cases involve illegal waste management, ranging from storage to trading and processing of waste.

Whether it is waste from agriculture, from industry, or simply residues from our daily consumption, waste is a major source of pollution to our environment and can pose risks to populations living closer or further from the affected sites. In Flanders, fraud involving green energy certificates is also detected. These are tax credits awarded to citizens who have their own means of producing green energy, such as solar panels.

Road safety

- Cases of driving under the influence of drugs are increasing exponentially.
- The number of speeding offences has risen sharply.
- However, awareness of seat belt wearing and the use of child car seats seems to have grown.

Speeding offences detected by speed radars and cameras

The technical sections of the Federal Highway Police (DAH) are responsible for conducting speed checks (with fixed or mobile equipment) and for processing the resulting reports. The regional processing centres (CRTs/GVCs) process the automatically detected traffic violations (radars, average speed cameras ...).

3 461 413



*Speeding violations processed
by the so-called regional
processing centres (CRTs/GVCs)
and technical sections of the
Federal Highway Police*

Total number of speeding offences processed by the CRTs/GVCs and the technical sections of DAH:

- 2018: 2 108 858
- 2019: 2 479 444
- 2020: 2 710 357
- 2021: 3 461 413



Street racing: guide for administrative seizure of "show-off cars"

Together with the traffic magistrate of the public prosecutor's office, the Limburg District Information and Expertise Centre (ARIEC) drew up a guideline that determines how and under what conditions a vehicle can be seized administratively. The model regulations have since been introduced in fourteen municipalities in Limburg. In 2021, this led to the seizure of 12 vehicles in the municipalities of Genk, Beringen and Heusden-Zolder.

Limburg mayors are therefore increasingly seizing the opportunity to temporarily seize the cars of street racers. At the request of a number of municipalities, additional research is being conducted to determine whether disturbing factors, such as noise nuisance, can also be linked to the measure.

Driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs

Due to the registration process of official reports, figures from previous years can still be updated. The 2020 figures were updated on the basis of the most recent closing date of the database (18-03-2022).

153 744



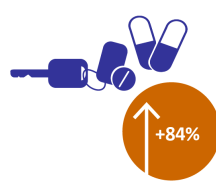
Number of breath tests performed

2 576



Number of alcohol-related offences recorded

858



Number of drug-related offences recorded

Number of breath tests performed:

- 2018: 247 169
- 2019: 247 503
- 2020: 108 957
- 2021: 153 744

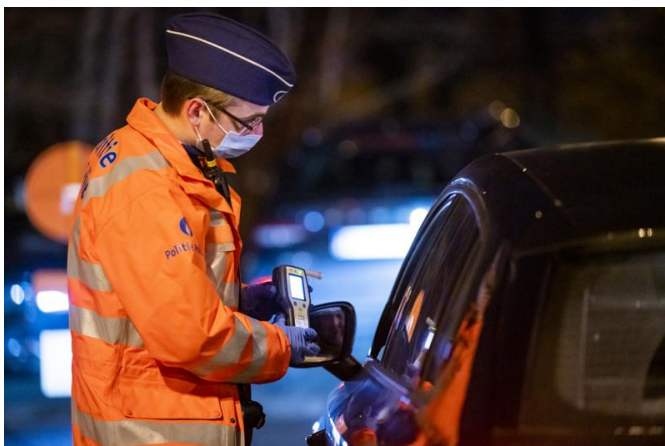
Number of alcohol-related offences recorded*:

- 2018: 3 727
- 2019: 3 978
- 2020: 1 663
- 2021: 2 576

* Alert + positive + refusal + possible blood tests

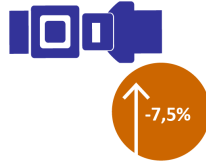
Number of drug-related offences recorded: in addition to the simplification of detection (saliva analyses rather than blood tests), the sharp increase in the number of offences detected since 2020 is probably related to the more systematic imposition of saliva testing in the event of an accident by the public prosecutor's offices and the provision and use of a greater number of saliva tests.

- 2018: 287
- 2019: 384
- 2020: 466
- 2021: 858



Belt and child seat

4 913



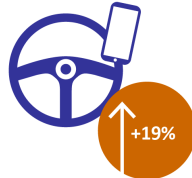
Offences

Number of recorded offences against seat belt wearing and the use of child seats:

- 2018: 5 595
- 2019: 5 684
- 2020: 5 312
- 2021: 4 913

Using your mobile phone while driving

14 964



Offences

Number of recorded violations against mobile phone use while driving:

- 2018: 10 585
- 2019: 11 840
- 2020: 12 568
- 2021: 14 964

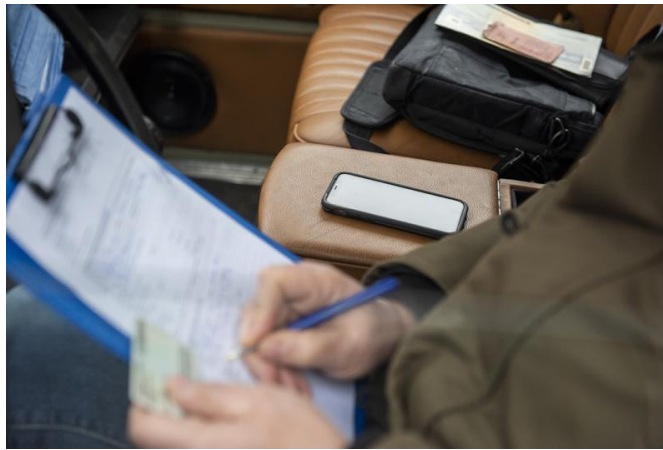


Success Story

First action "Distraction while driving" by the Highway Police

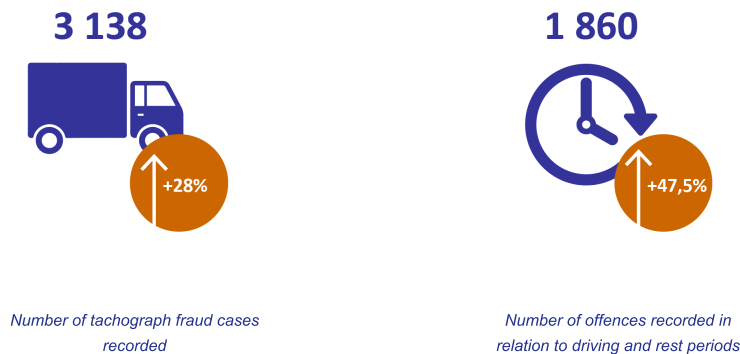
The first national "Weekend Against Distracted Driving" took place on 20 and 21 November 2021. During this control action, the Federal Highway Police recorded 185 violations against mobile phone use while driving. The offenders were drivers of cars (141), trucks (29) and vans (21). They were clearly talking on the phone without hands-free kit, sending a message while holding their mobile phone, or in a few cases even watching videos.

Some forty other offences of distracted driving were also recorded during the same action. Eating, shaving, reading a book, applying makeup ... It all passed in review, and causes drivers to be unable to keep their attention on the road.



Heavy goods vehicles

Number of tachograph fraud cases recorded: This steady increase since 2018 can be explained by the strengthened checks, the purchase of the Tachoscan control program, and the increased workload of carriers due to covid restrictions.



- 2018: 1 375
- 2019: 2 034
- 2020: 2 451
- 2021: 3 138

Number of offences recorded in relation to driving and rest periods:

- 2018: 1 207
- 2019: 938
- 2020: 1 261
- 2021 : 1 860

Number of fatal accidents and accidents with injuries reported on motorways and similar roads by the Federal Highway Police

The number of accidents with physical injuries recorded in the Federal Highway Police's priority field of action increased by 22 % between 2020 and 2021 (number of deaths at the scene: +8 % compared to 2020). However, the year 2020 is not an optimal basis for comparison. Indeed, the restrictive measures in terms of travel and work organisation (mandatory telework) resulted in a decrease in the number of accidents and victims. Unsurprisingly, the numbers have increased in 2021 compared to 2020. A comparison with the year 2019 gives a very different picture: the number of accidents with physical injuries decreased by 14 % and the number of deaths at the scene decreased by 19 %.

	2018	2019	2020	2021
--	------	------	------	------

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Accidents with injuries*	3 102	3 097	2 187	2 668
Fatal accidents*	94	114	81	83
Fatalities**	93	105	79	85
Seriously injured victims	363	378	240	283
Minor injuries	4 400	4 169	2 839	3 575

* During an accident, several persons can get seriously or slightly injured. The same holds for fatal accidents.

** Number of deaths on site. The victims who did not die on the spot and who die within a period of 30 days are not mentioned here.

VIP escorts and European summits

The Federal Police contributes to maintaining order and security at European summits and other events, particularly in Brussels. It does this in partnership with the Brussels CAPITAL Ixelles police zone. In addition to the involvement of several entities and directorates, including the Directorate of Protection (DAP), the Federal Highway Police provides escorts for Heads of State, Heads of Government and other VIPs.

Four European summits with physical presence took place in 2021 (including one extraordinary summit on 25 May 2021) and a NATO summit for Heads of State and Government in the presence of President Biden (United States). These events required the commitment of considerable forces and important organisational and coordination efforts.

In 2021, the Federal Highway Police worked **32 295 hours** during escort missions (compared to 27 881 hours in 2020).

Besides these large-scale events with the presence of many VIPs requiring several police escorts, Belgium received the visits of 170 VIPs from 44 different countries, who were protected and escorted by the Federal Highway Police. The average duration of these missions was 2 days, for a total of 313 'one-day' VIP escorts.



Negotiated management of public space

- The General Directorate of Administrative Police (DGA) provided reinforcement for 335 events.
- The challenge was enormous for the police services that were deployed for a high-security NATO summit, but they passed with flying colours!
- The helicopter of the Directorate of Air Support (DAFA) is an asset for protecting VIPs during European and NATO summits.

Reinforcements for the Local Police zones

In order to organise the public order missions to manage different events (demonstrations, football matches, festivals, etc.), a Local Police zone can request non-specialised reinforcements from:

- other Local Police zones: in police language, this is called HyCap, which stands for *capacité hypothéquée/gehypothekeerde capaciteit*. This is the solidarity mechanism between police zones regarding reinforcements for administrative police missions.
- the Federal Police, through the Intervention Corps (CIKs) of the decentralised Coordination and Support Directorates (CSDs) and the Directorate of Public Security (DAS), which together constitute the Federal Intervention Reserve.

In 2021, 49.7 % of reinforcements for police zones were provided by other police zones (40.5 % in 2020) and 50.3 % by the Federal Police (59.5 % in 2020).

Within the framework of the reinforcement missions for police zones, 484 members of the thirteen Intervention Corps together worked a total of 249 599 hours; 461 members of DAS worked 32 287 hours for this purpose.



Deployment of resources

In 2021, the directorates of the General Directorate of Administrative Police (DGA) provided reinforcement for 335 events on Belgian soil. These include events related to Brexit, football matches, cycle races, European and NATO summits, festivals, demonstrations, etc.

A total of 7 925 members of DGA were deployed, including staff from the Directorate of Public Security (DAS), the Federal Highway Police (DAH), the Directorate of Infrastructure Security (DAB), the Railway Police (SPC), the Maritime and River Police (SPN) and the Airport Police (LPA).

A high-security NATO summit

Some 30 heads of state and government, including U.S. President Joe Biden, were in Brussels to participate in the NATO summit on 14 June 2021



were in Brussels to participate in the NATO summit on 14 June 2021.

The challenge was enormous for the police services that were deployed for this summit, not least because it was also marked by Joe Biden's first official visit to Belgium as President of the United States. We emphasise the importance of the cooperation between the Local Police zones and the Federal Police. Although the Brussels CAPITAL Ixelles police zone assumed command during this NATO summit, the flag of the Integrated Police flew over this important event. Local and Federal Police officers, operational staff and members of the support services, of all ranks and levels, have relentlessly demonstrated professionalism, availability and vigilance. Thanks to those essential qualities, together we were able to ensure the security of our country, of its people, of visiting heads of state and government, and the aura of our democratic institutions. In doing so, we have tried to minimise the impact on ordinary life.

Support in the field of public security: focus on DAS

The Directorate of Public Security (DAS) also provides specialised support to the police zones (mounted police, water cannon, video team, etc.) in order to prevent or resolve violent and/or potentially dangerous situations in the field of public security.

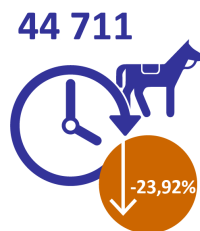
Both specialised and non-specialised support provided by DAS required the deployment of **499 staff members** (compared to 486 in 2020) for all these missions.

Federal reserve for interventions in case of unforeseen events (non-specialised support)

Daily deployment (average) of staff members

- 2018: 62
- 2019: 81
- 2020: 92
- 2021: 101

Mounted police public order missions

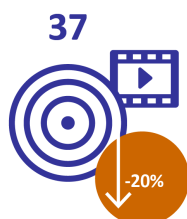


Hours worked*

- 2018: 365
- 2019: 326
- 2020*: 226
- 2021*: 207

* The "classic" mounted police public order missions (demonstrations, events, etc.) decreased to make way for the patrols related to COVID-19.

Video team

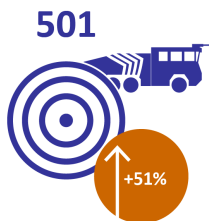


Missions:

- 2018: 105
- 2019: 136 (+30 %)
- 2020: 46 (-66.17 %)
- 2021: 37* (-19.56 %)

* The reduced deployment of this team is again due to the health crisis (fewer "classic" events despite a gradual return to normal life).

Water cannons



Missions

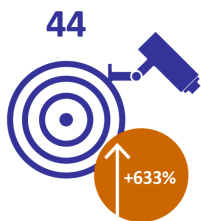
Missions:

- 2018: 659
- 2019: 669 (+1.5 %)
- 2020: 331 (-50.52 %)
- 2021: 501 (+51.35 %)*

* This increase can be attributed to a readjustment of missions and a gradual return to normal life.

Fixed temporary cameras (ARGOS)

Named ARGOS, from the name of this Greek giant with a hundred eyes spread over his head and body, this technical support has proven its added value and effectiveness since it was put into operation in 2018. ARGOS is also mainly used for large-scale events, which explains the sharp decrease in 2020.



Missions

Missions:

- 2018: 48
- 2019: 58 (+21 %)
- 2020: 6* (-89.65 %)
- 2021: 44 (+633.33 %)

* Spread over 33 days.



BePad: sharing information for the sake of public order

BePad is a computer application for managing events, individuals, groups and phenomena being (possibly) of importance for or representing a (potential) danger to public order (public security, peace, health and public cleanliness).

BePad centralises all administrative information of the Federal Police and the Local Police and makes it available for everyone. The aim is that all users work with one and the same programme, so that the information is entered, managed and shared in an identical manner. That way, double entries can be avoided. All police officers have access to this application.

	2018	2019	2020	2021
New created events	47 536	46 166	33 748	33 710
Total number of events	151 036	197 202	230 950	264 660

The helicopter, an asset in the air

Air Support (DAFA) is also used for public order missions. From above, valuable information is transmitted in real time to the ground teams.

	2018		2019		2020		2021	
Helicopter missions	Numbers	Hours worked	Numbers	Hours worked	Numbers	Hours worked	Numbers	Hours worked
Football	56	157	56	134	5	15	16	33
Mass events (festivals, etc.)	64	114	58	127	16	52	18	56
Support to fire brigades and the Civil Protection in the event of disaster (fire, etc.)	28	19	10	11	41*	39	21	55**
Demonstrations	35	62	36	60	57	82	24	46
VIP protection (European summits, etc.)	65	113	40	56	23	27	49	60***
Total	248	465	200	388	142	215	128	250

* A remarkable increase due to dry and warm spring and summer months. There were more calls for assistance from DAFA to fight fires by using the Bambi Bucket (water bag hung under a helicopter or aircraft).

** Large increase due to the interventions during the July floods.

*** Strong increase due to the NATO summit and the visit of U.S. President Joe Biden.



Specialised teams

- Through smart investments in new technologies, experts from the Technical Support Units of the Special Units provided valuable support in a record number of legal cases.
- Zennah, the first "vice dog" of the Directorate of Dog Support, helps Technical and Scientific Police laboratories to trace biological traces when they are difficult to detect at the crime scene.
- In 2021, the Fugitive Active Search Team of the Directorate of Judicial Police Operations (DJO/FAST) arrested three "Most Wanted Fugitives".

Special Units

Specialities	2019	2020	2021
Observations	144	584	671
Technical operational support (NTSU) - number of legal cases	294	105	845*
Undercover Team (cases)	40	28	36
Real-time interceptions (telephone and data tapping) in the context of judicial investigations	8 839	7 724	8 168
Real-time observations (metadata) in the context of judicial investigations	1 193	2 142	1 263**

* This increase can be explained by the growing use of new technologies.

** Normalisation of the situation after a special year 2020 marked by the preparation of the Sky case.

Crisis situations	2018	2019	2020	2021
Fort Chabrol interventions	37	41	58	48
Hostage takings	5	3	3	4
Abductions	7	8	12	15
Extortions	5	4	3	3
Enhanced searches	174	185	209	252

Air Support

Helicopter (RAGO)	2018	2019	2020	2021
Arrests and arrests after pursuit	160	179	79	80
Recovered stolen vehicles	1	6	1	1
Infrared targets scanned	348	407	422	302
Positive infrared scans	84	106	147	71
Laser incidents	9	5	3	2

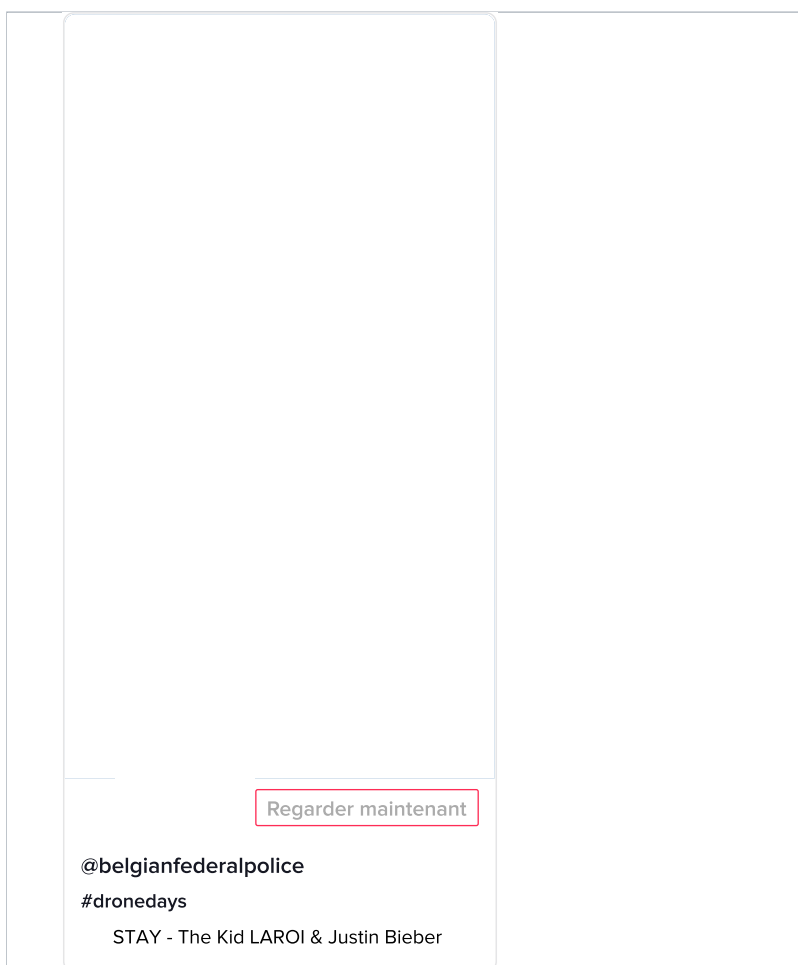
Helicopter (RAGO)	2018	2019	2020	2021
Control assistance	284	243	135	91
Search assistance	432	511	464	584
Photos	139	117	173	65
Videos	200	264	211	163
Image transmission	496	534	380	312

Drones	2018	2019	2020	2021
Operational missions	80	88*	55**	51***
Arrests (smugglers)	-	-	-	9

* The 88 missions with drones correspond to approximately 95 flight hours.

** The 55 missions with drones correspond to 60 flight hours (-36 % compared to 2019).

*** The 51 missions correspond to 66 flight hours.



The flair of our police dogs

The Directorate of Dog Support (DACH) and its 151 police dogs (as of 31 December 2021) carried out a large number of specialised interventions.

Number of interventions	2018	2019	2020	2021
Tracker dog teams	1 441	1 375	1 552	1 485
Drug dog teams (active + cash and passive)	3 221	3 290	2 009	1 963
Human remains detection dog teams	74	51	44	65
Seat of fire detection dog teams	408	386	288	185
Immigration control dog teams	59	57	44	119
Explosive detection dog teams	4 301	4 716	3 502	3 718

The decrease in the number of interventions of certain dog disciplines compared to previous years can be explained by the corona crisis.



Zennah, the first "vice dog" for the Belgian police

In September 2021, the Directorate of Dog Support of the Federal Police presented the very first Belgian "vice dog" to the general public. The dog, a bitch called Zennah, will help the lab to trace semen traces when they are difficult to detect. It will thus contribute to the resolution of often complicated sex cases.

Every year, more than 4 000 sex offences are reported to the police. In about a third of the cases, the offender is unknown, at least initially. Biological traces such as semen are extremely important in identifying such offenders. When it is not immediately clear whether there are traces and where they are, the "vice dog" can be used to supplement the resources available to the Technical and Scientific Police laboratory. It will then proceed to safeguard and investigate these traces.



Technical support from the Maritime and River Police

The technical facilities of the Maritime and River Police (SPN) are implemented by specially trained staff, included in a specific section called TST (Technical Support Team).

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the figures are lower than in previous years because many actions could not and/or were not allowed to take place.

Number of actions	2018	2019	2020	2021
Side Scan Sonar	142	108	55	55

Number of actions	2018	2019	2020	2021
CO ₂ detector	337	329	280	246
Other detection means	184	87	56	37
• Videoscope	21	14	13	18
• Metal detector	36	17	13	9
• Camera	2	3	1	3
• Mobile trace > HTDS*	63	53	20	15 (HTDS)
• Stabilised night vision device	9	0	1	5

* Mobile trace has been discontinued, therefore figures are no longer available for mobile trace. Mobile trace was replaced by HTDS. Therefore, for 2021, the figures with HTDS are listed. HTDS is a detection device that can detect both narcotic drugs and explosives. A swab (sample taken with absorbent material) is taken from the person's hands, steering wheel, gearstick ... and that swab is put into the device. The substances on the swab are analysed through internal heating of the device. In case of an explosive substance or a narcotic, we get an alarm on the device as well as the name of the substance that was detected.

Technical facilities and expertise supporting investigations

In general, the decrease in the number of cases handled is mainly due to the health situation since March 2020.

Behavioural analysis

On the basis of their scientific expertise (psychology, sociology, etc.), the behavioural analysts (GACs) of the Federal Police offer support to investigators through three main missions:

- expertise in hearings;
- analyses (profiles, threats, etc.);
- *assessments* in cases requiring a multidisciplinary approach in partnership with the Directorate of Judicial Police Operations (DJO).

Number of cases in which behavioural analysts provided support	2019	2020	2021
Expertise in hearings	155	131	91
Analyses	39	21	27
Assessment interviews	9	2	6
Total	203	154	124

Lie detection

A team of experts is specialised in hearing techniques, particularly those conducted with a polygraph (or lie detector). Because of the health situation, the team did not resume testing until August 2021.

	2019	2020	2021
Number of polygraph tests	271	77	47
Number of untruthful results	104	15	9
Number of confessions	33	1	1

Audiovisual hearing of minor victims or witnesses of offences (TAM)

The main task of a team from the Directorate of Technical and Scientific Police (DJT) is to standardise hearings of minors, which are very specific. To this end, the team has developed the TAM network, which operates at the tactical and operational levels.

The missions of the TAM team can be divided into three main activities:

- the management of specialised hearing equipment within deconcentrated hearing rooms;
- the organisation of and participation in training courses for TAM interrogators;
- the follow-up of the TAM network through research and development.

	2020	2021
Number of TAM interrogators within the Integrated Police	723	723
Number of hearings*	5 206	5 732
• hearings on "voyeurism, indecency and violence"	3 054	3 413
• hearings on "intentionally inflicted bodily injuries"	1 528	1 677
• hearings on "child pornography" and "indecency"	134	130

* Some remarkable observations regarding the 2021 hearings:

- 4 696 victims (81.9 %), 394 witnesses (6.9 %) and 70 suspects (1.2 %);
- twice as many women as men were interviewed;
- not all victims are minors: among them also 177 vulnerable adults (+18).

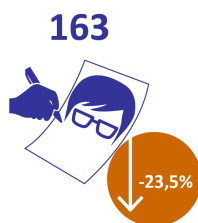
Analysis of sex offences

A team specialised in the analysis of sex offences (ZAM-ViCLAS) establishes links between different sex offence cases, i.e. sexual or violent offences.

To this end, it uses the ViCLAS (Violent Crime Linkage Analysis System) tool, among others. By means of this database, 65 sex offence analyses were carried out in 2021, uncovering 19 links to other offences and cases.

Composite drawings and facial reconstructions (2D & 3D)

The ROBOT department has portraitists who, in addition to producing composite drawings, master other techniques such as facial reconstruction (2D & 3D). In addition to their pencil, the portraitists now use high-performance tools (tablets) to make composite drawings.



Composite drawings

	2019	2020	2021
Composite drawings	386	213	163
Post-mortem drawings	-	5	4 + 2 (expert assistance to the Netherlands)
Facial reconstructions	-	5	2
Total number of requests handled	444	234	188



Technical and Scientific Police laboratories

The Technical and Scientific Police laboratories provide specialised support to the investigation services of the Local Police and the Federal Police (trace sampling, analysis and comparison of traces).

10 318



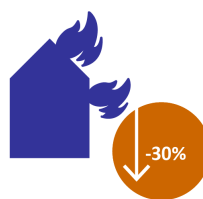
Thefts

542



Robberies and other types of violent thefts

578



Fires (arson and accidental fires)

483



Murders and homicides

322



Suicides

1 158



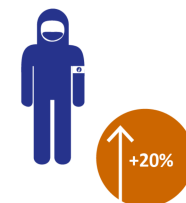
Suspicious deaths

173



Sex offences

2 571



Other (drugs, road accidents, false documents, etc.)

Support for investigations (number of files)	2018	2019	2020	2021
Thefts	22 245	20 286	13 163	10 318*
Robberies and other types of violent thefts	1 238	1 161	769	542
Fires (arson and accidental fires)	1 064	1 117	820	578
Murders and homicides	583	562	535	483
Suicides	415	400	366	322
Suspicious deaths	1 398	1 390	1 358	1 158
Sex offences	214	229	182	173

Support for investigations (number of files)	2018	2019	2020	2021
Other (drugs, road accidents, false documents, etc.)	2 040	2 137	2 571	5 708

* Since the COVID-19 crisis, support related to thefts has decreased significantly. The most credible hypothesis is that the tightened measures led to a decrease in thefts, including in homes where occupants were more likely to be present.



Success Story

Sound quality for the sake of investigations

Technical and technological evolutions enable remarkable advances in judicial investigations that require specialised support. In 2021, for example, new audio software proved particularly effective and decisive in two separate investigations. Among other things, the software can adapt to sound changes or reduce interference, achieving previously unthinkable sound quality.

In the first case, a murder case, it was possible to tap directly in a room where the sound environment was largely disturbed by low-frequency interference. The second case was related to an association of criminals. Again, the same software allowed for direct tapping, this time in a highly reverberant room.

The new technologies are not just gadgets: their use provides important support in many circumstances and at many times in the investigation.

FAST, a specialised unit that tracks down fugitive criminals

Last year saw the publication of the circular of the Board of Prosecutors-General (COL) on the tracking of fugitives and escaped persons. This COL establishes the division of tasks between the Fugitive Active Search Team of the Directorate of Judicial Police Operations (DJO/FAST) and other police services (Local Police and other units of the Federal Police). The circular also emphasises the core tasks of DJO/FAST and provides additional clarification on the execution of the team's operational core tasks.

In addition, 569 new cases were started, 171 (+4 %) of which were closed in the same year.

The team also made a major effort to update open cases, resulting in a reduction of 28 % (approximately 1 550 cases remain open).

Overall, 306 fugitives (+4 %) were arrested, 78 of them on Belgian soil. 55 of these arrests were made directly by the Fugitive Active Search Team of the Directorate of Judicial Police Operations.

DJO/FAST arrested, among others, three "Most Wanted Fugitives", namely Youssef Ben Hamou (murder), Eric De Coq van Delwijnen (attempted murder) and Aldo Iamandi (attempted murder).

Since mid-2021, DJO/FAST has also been responsible for detecting HVTs (High Value Targets), for which it dedicated 25 % of its capacity.

Identification: making the dead talk

The Disaster Victim Identification Team (DVI) not only intervenes in disaster situations, but also for the identification of victims in general. In addition, this team focuses on new challenges such as necrosearch (forensic archaeology) and searches on difficult terrain (MTD, which stands for *Moeilijk Terrein/Terrain Difficile*) to find solutions when deceased victims are difficult to identify.

The DVI Team consists of a permanent core within the Directorate of Technical and Scientific Police (DJT) and a DVI pool with staff spread throughout the country.

In 2021, the DVI Team made 131 interventions (compared to 149 in 2020), of which 100 led to identification (compared to 93 in 2020).

Partnership is a key element for DVI. A professional approach in the field requires careful organisation and cooperation. In order to effectively coordinate this cooperation, realistic exercises are organised every year. However, due to the health crisis, no exercises could take place.

Identity fraud and counterfeiting

The Federal Judicial Police has a team specialised in counterfeiting and identity fraud using false documents. To this end, this team maintains contacts with national and international partners.

False documents

The expert team analysed a total of 57 611 identity or travel documents for identity fraud.

43 268 documents were analysed as part of the European fraud prevention procedure, 589 of which were found to be false (compared to 278 in 2020).

10 318 driving licences were also checked (compared to 6 543 in 2020), of which 696 were found to be false and invalidated after analysis (compared to 245 in 2020).

The remaining 4 025 documents analysed were from border controls and from seizures from forgers.

Counterfeiting

Number of counterfeit banknotes detected	2019	2020	2021
Euros	46 088	56 968	60 105
Foreign currency	515	1 497	23 083*

* In one case, the Liège Federal Judicial Police was able to seize 22 227 counterfeit \$100 banknotes.

Online safety

- In 2021, the constantly increasing trend of scams via phishing emails was confirmed.
- The Federal Computer Crime Unit (FCCU) started 18 new investigation files.
- The Federal Judicial Police, together with its partners, participated in numerous public awareness campaigns on cybersecurity for private individuals and companies.

Internet investigations

The i2-IRU section (Internet Referral Unit) of the Directorate for Combating Serious and Organised Crime (DJSOC) carries out various missions:

- internet investigations;
- blocking websites and/or content in cooperation with internet providers and web platforms;
- prevention communication;
- training, information and sharing of expertise;
- participation in Europol activities.

For terrorist files (terrorist propaganda and related violent extremist activities on the internet) i2-IRU cooperates with the Internet Referral Unit set up by Europol (IRU EU). Europol has an automated tool to make detected propaganda inaccessible. Files with a link to Belgium are further handled by i2-IRU.

In 2021, i2-IRU detected 367 terror-linked contents on the basis of a police assessment. 183 of these contents were voluntarily removed by the provider or publishing platform.

i2-IRU also detected 82 *fake news messages* that led to withdrawal requests. Platforms voluntarily removed them 16 times.

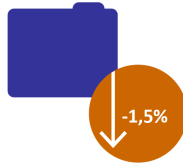
Detecting and blocking websites/online content	2021
IRU - Terror	367 (183 withdrawals)
IRU - Hate speech	232 (31 withdrawals)
IRU - Fake news	82 (16 withdrawals)
IRU - COVID-19	105 (28 withdrawals)

In addition to detecting and blocking online content on the basis of a police assessment, the i2-IRU section provides support to investigation units. In 2021, the number of files in this field remained stable.

The evolution concerns the categories of files related to the pandemic and the lockdown. The most remarkable phenomenon of 2021 is that of a phishing email that circulated throughout the year. The names of top police officials such as General Commissioner Marc De Mesmaeker, General Director of the Federal Judicial Police Eric Snoeck and former General Commissioner Catherine De Bolle were misused.

Despite the numerous reports of this scam in Belgium and France, i2-IRU handled about a hundred cases in close cooperation with France. From this country came the majority of the emails received.

1 082



files

Support from i2-IRU to investigations (number of files)	2019	2020	2021
Terrorism	314	244	286
Information	132	151	134
Fraud	118	194	144
Thefts	91	32	23
Suicide attempts	66	69	65
Child abuse	54	53	52
Trafficking in human beings	47	35	36
Narcotic drugs	40	57	42
Public order	40	97	47
Online hate	37	47	30
Cybercrime	31	37	40
Weapons	26	20	25
Disappearances	/	23	20
Hormones	13	15	11
Homicide	2	16	20
Patrimony	/	6	4
Fake news (call for riots, falsified medicines)	/	2	2
Revenge porn	/	1	12
Management of scams (phishing via email) of the "squad to protect minors" type	/	/	89
Total	1 011	1 099	1 082

Since 1 November 2021, the Belgian police also has a fourth contact officer working for Europol in The Hague. More specifically, he was appointed to the Joint Cybercrime Action Taskforce, which supports EU member states in their fight against serious forms of cybercrime.

Federal Computer Crime Unit

The mission of the Federal Computer Crime Unit (FCCU) is to combat complex and organised forms of cybercrime, especially those affecting critical infrastructure or providers of essential services. In addition, FCCU has developed expertise in certain high-tech areas and provides specialised support to the central investigation services and the

inspection services (AIG/Committee P) in the analysis of digital data carriers. Finally, together with the Directorate of Communication (CGC), FCCU also contributes to informing and raising public awareness about cybersecurity, current digital trends and online safety, among others through the social media channels of the Federal Police.

In 2021, FCCU started 18 new investigation files.



Terrorism, extremism and radicalism

- The Federal Judicial Police puts part of its capacity (18 %) at the disposal of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office. In this context, 106 713 hours were spent in the fight against terrorism.
- As many as 2 343 Federal Police staff members took part in the 33-day search for Jurgen Conings.
- Both left- and right-wing political extremism are on the rise and becoming increasingly violent.

Federal cases

The Federal Judicial Police puts part of its capacity (18 % compared to 15.5 % in 2020) at the disposal of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office.

In 2020, 428 982 hours of investigation were commissioned by the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office, including 119 424 hours in the fight against terrorism. In 2021, the "terror" part decreased despite an increase in investigation hours. Indeed, the reduced terror threat level observed in recent years has led to the capacity being used to monitor other phenomena. However, the number of hours spent on monitoring strong or emerging potentially destabilising and violent trends ("non-terrorism" in the table below) increased even more in 2021.

The Federal Judicial Police, for example, notes a strong presence of extremisms on both sides of the political spectrum. Those movements are growing in size and, noteworthy fact, are increasingly arming themselves. They tend to replace the "classic" religious terror threats that society faced a few years ago.

We are also seeing an **internationalisation** of groups through social media and messaging, among other things: people who adhere to the same ideology communicate across borders these days. **Information** circulates quickly (including fake news) among supporters of political and religious movements or conspiracy theorists. Financial flows, particularly **financing**, are also globalising.

Capacity of the Federal Judicial Police at the disposal of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office

	2018		2019		2020		2021	
Phenomenon	Hours	%	Hours	%	Hours	%	Hours	%
Terrorism	236 881	60	174 016	45	119 424	28	106 713	24
Non-terrorism	159 423	40	213 102	55	309 558	72	335 827	76
Total	396 304	100	387 118	100	428 982	100	442 540	100



The search for Jurgen Conings

The disappearance of professional soldier Jurgen Conings and the accompanying threat to public security has kept Belgium and part of Europe in suspense for several weeks.

On Tuesday, 18 May 2021, the Limburg Coordination and Support Directorate (CSD) was notified of the disappearance of Jurgen Conings, who was known as a potentially dangerous extremist. Conings was in possession of heavy weapons. Because of the severity of the situation, the federal phase of the terrorism emergency plan was declared. A massive police operation followed, with the Hoge Kempen National Park at its epicentre, which would eventually last more than one month.

The large-scale operation started on 19 May 2021, and included both a judicial police component and an administrative police component. The operation finally ended on 21 June 2021, one day after the body was found.

As many as 2 343 Federal Police staff members took part in the 33-day search. They worked a total of 21 769 hours. A wide range of entities participated in this large-scale operation, particularly the Limburg Coordination and Support Directorate (CSD) including the Intervention Corps (CIK), the Missing Persons Unit of the Directorate of Judicial Police Operations (DJO), the Directorate of Public Security (DAS), the Directorate of Dog Support (DACH), the Directorate of Air Support (DAFA) and other CIKs. The Special Units (DSU and NTSU) were also called upon, spending a total of 19 682 work hours on the search. Other entities such as the Federal Highway Police, the Maritime and River Police (SPN) and the Directorate of Infrastructure Security (DAB) provided support as part of their regular missions.

In addition, 930 Local Police staff members were called in for the search or case-related actions (protective measures, public order missions at support demonstrations ...), as well as foreign police forces, the army and Civil Protection.

The case also came to international attention and temporarily increased the workload and vigilance within the Single Point of Operational Contact (SPOC) of the Directorate of International Police Cooperation (CGI). Information was exchanged through all possible national and international channels. Via Siena, Interpol and Sirene, the necessary international information was exchanged and international alerts were created.

Finally, the judicial investigation was conducted by the Antwerp Federal Judicial Police (FJP), under the direction of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office and two specialised examining magistrates. The Federal Judicial Police eventually spent 10 284 work hours on the judicial investigation, which concluded on 25 April 2022.

“Availability, expertise and professional composure

"The threat can come from different sides and emerge at any time. We as a police service must be prepared for this, constantly vigilant and ready to intervene. During the searches for the fugitive Jurgen Conings, I saw for myself that this is the case. I saw solidarity and unconditional availability, motivation and commitment, expertise and professional composure.

The diligence and perseverance with which numerous staff members of the Federal Police, together with many partners (Justice, Local Police, Defence, Red Cross, Civil Security, foreign special units, etc.) and in consultation with many authorities, conducted this operation illustrate the dedication and will to contribute to a safe and livable society."



FIRST CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT MARC DE MESMAEKER
General Commissioner of the Federal Police

Behaviour Detecting Officers

The task of Behaviour Detecting Officers (BDOs) is to recognise any unusual or deviant behaviour on the basis of a number of indicators. Following the wave of terrorist attacks in Belgium and our neighbouring countries, the demand for training in this technique, which can be used to detect (potential) terrorists, among others, increased.

At the end of 2021, about 2 300 staff members of the Integrated Police were trained in BDO (with a certificate), 136 of whom are active trainers. Some 1 300 BDOs are members of the Federal Police, mainly in the Airport Police (LPA), the Railway Police (SPC), the Directorate of Public Security (DAS) and the Intervention Corps (CIK).

For the Airport Police (LPA), BDO has become a basic function for policing at an airport. On a daily basis, BDO teams work alongside traditional patrols. New staff members in the Airport Police receive training as quickly as possible so they can be deployed in the field for this basic function.



Screening

Security notices and certificates

A *screening* consists in a security check for the purpose of issuing a security notice or certificate. The aim is to give certain persons access to "sensitive" locations in order to perform a specific job or task.

Notices and certificates	2018	2019	2020	2021
Airports	20 625	20 068	15 491	19 956
National Security Authority (NSA)	13 278	6 569	5 507	5 901
Miscellaneous	6 200	6 488	3 368	4 355
Military	5 000	4 993	7 337	27 672
Federal Agency for Nuclear Control (FANC)	5 822	4 994	4 519	3 018
Recruitments Integrated Police	4 845	5 916	3 437	6 628
Support to police zones	1 000	578	295	338
Honours	17 368	20 207	13 181	14 971
Total	56 770	69 813	53 135	82 739

In 2021, there was an increase in the number of screenings prior to recruitment of candidates for the operational and civilian staff, and in the number of screenings requested by Defence.

Security clearances

Staff members of the Federal Police and the Local Police who, on account of their position, (must) have access to classified information or rooms, meetings, etc., need to hold a specific clearance. The purpose of these "security clearances" is to protect sensitive information by limiting its availability.

Since 2018, we note that the number of security clearance requests within the Integrated Police is relatively stable, even though there has been a very slight increase.

Granted security clearances	2018	2019	2020	2021
Confidential	19	10	76	52

Granted security clearances	2018	2019	2020	2021
Secret	735	753	713	732
Top secret	147	195	247	259
Total	901	958	1 036	1 043

76 % of the requests for (the renewal of) a clearance came from members of the Federal Police in 2021.

Economic and social security

- MOTEM provides a more efficient approach to social fraud.
- In a number of districts, significant investments were made in tackling economic exploitation and social dumping.
- The administrative approach to combating these security phenomena is growing.

Tackling social and tax fraud: MOTEM

The cooperation between the Federal Judicial Police and the specialised services in the form of a multidisciplinary investigation team or MOTEM (which stands for *Multidisciplinair Onderzoeksteam/Team d'Enquête Multidisciplinaire*) is an important tool for tackling social and tax fraud.

In the field of social fraud, this cooperation runs very smoothly. The approach is important because social fraud not only has a severe impact on victims, but also on the economy and the government. Social fraud distorts competition and pushes honest businesses out of the market. The government loses hundreds of thousands and even millions of euros in social contributions. The worker is in a weak position, at risk of being exploited and has no right to an income in case of illness or accident. In the meantime, the employer is pocketing millions of euros by, among other things, using foreign letterbox companies that are supposedly responsible for the posting to Belgium. In the case of social dumping, one worker is estimated to provide a benefit of about 38 000 euros per year to the employer.

From 2018 to 2021, the Federal Judicial Police in Belgium opened 282 social fraud cases, including 91 in East and West Flanders, 61 in Antwerp and Limburg, 60 in Brabant, 44 in Liège and Luxembourg, and 25 in Hainaut and Namur. In terms of capacity, this means that 80 investigators worked permanently on organised social fraud. In some 60 % of these 282 cases, there was intensive cooperation with social inspection services.

Specifically in 2021, the Federal Judicial Police in Belgium opened 57 social fraud cases, including 21 in East and West Flanders, 19 in Antwerp and Limburg, 9 in Brabant, 6 in Liège and Luxembourg, and 2 in Hainaut and Namur. In some 76 % of these cases, there was intensive cooperation with social inspection services according to the MOTEM concept.

In about 20 % of the cases, valuable seizures could be carried out for the purpose of final forfeiture in court. Investigations that were ongoing in 2021 (started in 2021 or earlier) saw a total of 52 million euros seized. This only concerns the part that was realised by MOTEM judicially; the regularisations by the inspection services in these cases or their own social fraud cases are not counted here.

Within the framework of MOTEM, the Federal Judicial Police (FJP) usually cooperates with the National Social Security Office (NSSO), followed by the Labour Inspectorate (Social Laws Inspection) and the National Employment Office (NEO). The Social Intelligence and Investigation Service (SIRS/SIOD) coordinates social inspection services in large-scale operations.

The absolute advantage of MOTEM is that each service contributes to the investigation through its strength and specialisation. This provides a better picture of criminal organisations. The approach is determined in consultation with the labour prosecutor. This is done according to a fixed investigation plan in an efficient manner and with extensive information exchange. In addition to arresting the suspects, the main concern is to calculate and maximise the recovery of illegally obtained benefits. In this approach, the following clearly applies: $1 + 1 = 3$.

With regard to the fiscal MOTEM, there is already intensive cooperation between the FJP and the tax officials at the public prosecutor's offices to thoroughly investigate fiscal cases. Again, the action is complementary and mutually reinforcing. The future expansion with fiscal specialists who are specifically appointed to work directly with the FJP will enhance the high-performance approach to tax fraud, which often goes hand in hand with social fraud.



Success Story

Organisation involved in counterfeit cigarette trafficking dismantled

The exemplary cooperation between the Federal Judicial Police, customs and the French authorities led to the identification and dismantling of a criminal organisation involved in **counterfeit cigarette trafficking** to the United Kingdom. Although the subject may seem trivial, this investigation, started in July 2020 by the Leuven Federal Judicial Police (FJP) and coordinated by Europol and Eurojust, has yielded remarkable results. On 4 and 5 May 2021, investigators conducted 28 simultaneous searches in Belgium, France and the Netherlands. Twelve suspects were arrested, including the leaders of the organisation. More than one million euros in cash, eleven luxury cars, equipment for the production of one million eight hundred thousand packs of cigarettes were seized and two production sites were dismantled.



Success Story

Straw men and ghost companies

Following a complaint from a luxury car rental company, the Limburg Federal Judicial Police (FJP) identified a criminal organisation in Heusden-Zolder.

Through fictitious companies and individuals, the criminals rented seventeen luxury cars and then sold them on the illegal market in Germany, causing a loss of 1 903 000 euros for the rental company. The investigation led to eight arrests, the seizure of 83 142 euros from bank accounts and 33 775 euros in cash.

As a result of this case, investigators discovered that since 2018, the criminal organisation also conducted other types of fraudulent transactions through straw men and ghost companies. This parallel investigation allowed the FJP to seize two real estate properties, four vehicles, two luxury watches and 313 000 euros in cash.

Administrative approach to social and economic fraud

In the fight against organised crime and security phenomena, a proactive administrative approach exists alongside the reactive criminal approach. The concept of administrative approach aims to undermine organised crime by using an additional pillar (in addition to the traditional judicial, the police and the financial pillars), i.e. the administrative pillar.

Three district information and expertise centres (Antwerp ARIEC, Limburg ARIEC and Namur ARIEC) follow this approach.



Cross-border approach to holiday parks

The reasons for such controls are, for example, permanent residence in the parks, housing of foreign workers in non-compliant caravans or houses, fire safety problems, residence that is not permitted under zoning regulations, illegal logging, inadequate registration of residents, (nuisance) complaints from residents, etc.

The actions are organised at the initiative of the Limburg ARIEC in cooperation with Tourism Flanders. Furthermore, in addition to municipal officials (environment, spatial planning, housing, foreigners department, population service), the Local Police zone, fire brigades, various federal inspection services and the Flemish Housing Inspectorate also participate. There is often close cooperation with the Dutch social inspection services and EURIEC.



Focus on fraudulent car wash

Following nuisance complaints from residents of the Limburg municipality of Leopoldsborg, an integral "flex control" action - a concept developed by the Limburg ARIEC - was carried out against a car wash. Several partners (police, fire brigades, Immigration Office, National Social Security Office, other social and financial inspection services) were involved. Violations by the car wash included: exceeding the maximum number of cars allowed per day as stipulated in the environmental permit, uninhabitability of the living area, non-compliance with fire standards (presence of gas cylinders, storage of flammable products, lack of control of the electrical system, etc.), undeclared work, working without a work or residence permit ... Previous controls had already shown that the opening hours were exceeded. Irregularities related to the financial statements were also found.

International partnership: the key to success

- The Federal Police contributes substantially to the development of adapted and new European information systems ...
- ... and to the civilian crisis management missions of the European Union and the United Nations.
- The joint "Without Worries across the Border" training remains a Belgian-Dutch success story. This cross-border training course is now also organised with the French police.

Bilateral and multilateral agreements

On 1 November 2021, the bilateral police cooperation treaty with Serbia (dating back to 2017) entered into force. This treaty, relating to all major forms of organised crime and terrorism, provides a strong legal basis for bilateral information exchange between the Belgian and Serbian police, providing the necessary guarantees on the protection of personal data and classified information. The treaty also contains provisions relating to the appointment and deployment of bilateral liaison officers.



On a mission in the United States

In November 2021, Minister of the Interior, Institutional Reform and Democratic Renewal Annelies Verlinden, General Commissioner Marc De Mesmaeker and Director-General of the National Crisis Center Bart Raeymaekers made a joint working visit to the United States. They had meetings there with top officials from the security services (including FBI, DEA, FEMA, the Terrorist Screening Center).

The Minister also consulted with U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas. Furthermore, the Belgian delegation held discussions on anti-terrorism and civilian crisis management with representatives of the United Nations. The visit was managed by the liaison officer for the Integrated Police in the United States. The liaison officer is part of the Directorate of International Police Cooperation (CGI) of the Federal Police.



Implementation of new EU regulations

The Federal Police has further prepared the implementation of several European Union (EU) regulations, such as the Entry Exit System, interoperability and the new SIS Regulations (on the use of the Schengen Information System). These preparations take place within a multidisciplinary implementation mechanism and aim, among other things, to better coordinate the different European information systems and to enable the exchange between databases.

Furthermore, the Federal Police – where relevant together with the Local Police – closely followed the negotiations for the new Europol Regulation, the proposal for screening at external borders, the Artificial Intelligence Act, the Prüm II Regulation, the Council Recommendation on operational police cooperation and the Directive on information exchange (replacing the Swedish Framework Decision).

Schengen evaluations

After being postponed several times due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Schengen evaluations with regard to "SIS/SIRENE" (international information exchange) and "Police cooperation" took place in 2020. The Schengen Evaluation Committee report identifies points for improvement, mostly technical in nature, which will be tackled over the next two years.

With regard to "SIS/SIRENE", the report has gone through all the necessary steps at EU level in 2021 and has finally been approved. The European Commission monitors progress by the services concerned through an action plan that the Directorate of International Police Cooperation (CGI) co-coordinates.

As soon as the Schengen evaluation report with regard to "Police cooperation" is final, an action plan with points for improvement will also be drawn up for this.

Police cooperation at borders

Without Worries across the Border

Because of the restrictive Covid measures, few joint "Without Worries across the Border" training courses were organised. This training focuses on what is possible and what is allowed in the countries concerned with respect to cross-border actions or interventions. The trainers and the trainees are members of the Belgian or Dutch police.

The new Benelux police cooperation treaty, signed on 23 July 2018 by the competent ministers of Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, will have an impact on the learning content of these courses. Belgium ratified the new treaty on 4 March 2021.

Given the success of this training format and at the request of several police services, the Directorate of International Police Cooperation (CGI), in collaboration with partners in the Netherlands and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, developed new modules for specific target groups: the Maritime and River Police (SPN), the Railway Police (SPC), the Federal Highway Police (WPR) and the Special Units (DSU). A training course for the local investigation departments is also in the pipeline.

In order to organise the same type of phased training in the French-Belgian border region, the learning content and the recognition file were completed. Last year, a three-day train-the-trainer session was organised for some twenty candidate trainers at the Hainaut Police Academy (Jurbise).



Enhanced cooperation with France

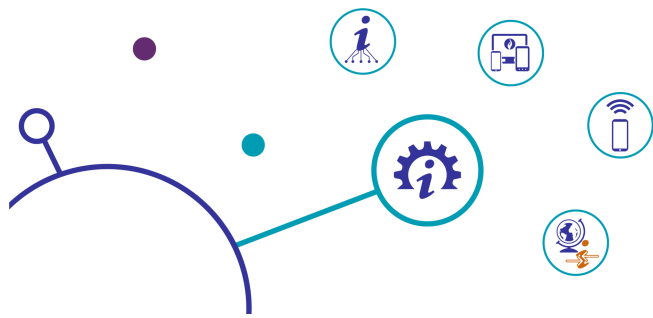
At the request of the Minister of the Interior, the Integrated Police, under the direction of the Directorate of International Police Cooperation (CGI) of the Federal Police, developed an action plan to implement the recommendations formulated by the Committee P in 2020 in the report of its 2018 inspection inquiry on cross-border police cooperation between Belgium and France for the police zones of the provinces of Hainaut and West Flanders. This plan, approved by the Integrated Police Coordination Committee on 18 May 2021, aims to enhance police cooperation with France through numerous actions, ranging from the creation of a joint security plan to the better use of the ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) systems in both countries and the organisation of training courses and joint exercises.

Civilian crisis management

In 2021, four members of the Federal Police worked as counter-terrorism experts for the European Union delegations in Bosnia-Herzegovina (EUDEL Sarajevo), Libya (EUDEL Tripoli), Indonesia (EUDEL Jakarta) and Lebanon (EUDEL Beirut).

In addition, the Integrated Police – through the Directorate of International Police Cooperation of the Federal Police (CGI) – deployed a total of 13 staff members (including 11 from the Federal Police) for civilian crisis management missions of the European Union (in Niger, Mali, Iraq, Ukraine and the Palestinian Territories) and the United Nations (Standing Police Capacity based in Brindisi). By taking part in these missions, Belgium intends to help local authorities deal with the terrorist threat and other security challenges in these regions.

For the same reason, the Integrated Police continued to carry out projects of the Belgian Development Agency ENABEL to strengthen the security services in Burkina Faso and Benin.



Information management

[Home](#) / Information Management

- Information is perhaps the most important working tool of the police.
- It forms the basis for police action, and not the other way round; smooth and efficient information management is essential for fighting crime and ensuring public safety.
- The challenges in the field of information management are many: technological innovation and advanced digitalisation must make information exchange and police work faster, more focused, more efficient and, above all, more mobile.



[Information exchange](#)



[ICT, the driving force behind
our actions and management](#)



Information exchange

- The *Single Point of Operational Contact* (SPOC) of the Directorate of International Police Cooperation (CGI) processed 247 511 information messages and alerts through multiple channels.
- Theft, drug trafficking and fraud/deception are again among the most common crimes dealt with by the SPOC.
- In 2021, the Communication and Information Centres at district level (SICAD/CIC) handled over 2.7 million emergency calls through the emergency numbers 101 or 112. Among these, approximately 2 400 000 were urgent calls.

International information exchange: Single Point of Operational Contact

The *Single Point of Operational Contact* (SPOC) of the Federal Police is the hub for international police information exchange and international alerts in our country.

The SPOC handles all messages from and to foreign police services, whether for investigations, public order or security purposes. All international alerts also go through this service: persons wanted by the Belgian or foreign police, reports of missing persons, stolen vehicles, or requests to foreign colleagues to check or locate a person. These communications all flow through secure channels, such as the Europol SIENA channel or the Interpol 24/7 application.

The SPOC, which has more than 100 staff members, is available 24/7 to foreign police services that have a request to make to their Belgian colleagues, or vice versa. In addition to the main headquarters in Brussels, the SPOC also includes three Police and Customs Cooperation Centres in Tournai, Luxembourg and Kerkrade (NL). These centres exchange information on police cooperation in border regions.

International information exchange

247 511



Operational messages

2018	2019	2020	2021
215 189	218 856	205 506	247 511

Information exchange refers to operational messages (within the framework of investigation files, measures concerning persons or vehicles, etc.) registered and processed at SPOC level through Interpol, Europol, liaison officers, Belgian or foreign police services, etc.

Information sharing in the field of organised crime is increasing. Whether it is about fugitive criminals appearing on the Federal Police's Most Wanted list who can be arrested abroad, the collection of information about a foreign suspect in a Belgian drug case or the dismantling of an international arms trade, the SPOC is always a crucial link. For example, the number of exchanged messages with foreign countries has increased by 25 % since the SKY ECC file opening.



Cross-border phenomena

Top 5 crimes coming within Europol's remit, on which the SPOC exchanged information:

	2018	2019	2020	2021
1	Theft and aggravated theft	Illicit drug trafficking	Theft and aggravated theft	Theft and aggravated theft
2	Illicit drug trafficking	Theft and aggravated theft	Illicit drug trafficking	Illicit drug trafficking
3	Fraud and deception	Fraud and deception	Fraud and deception	Fraud and deception
4	Illegal immigration	Illegal immigration	Money laundering	Money laundering
5	Money laundering	Vehicle crime	Illegal immigration	Illegal immigration

International alerts

8 968



International alerts

	2018	2019	2020	2021
SIS*	6 818	7 596	9 227	6 530
Interpol**	1 828	2 028	2 927	2 438
Total	8 646	9 624	12 154	8 968

* SIS: Schengen Information System System through which international alerts are issued in the Schengen area.

** Interpol: allows international alerts (diffusions or notices) to be issued outside the Schengen area.

International alerts are a special type of information exchange: the police service issuing the alert sends information, but at the same time asks for a measure to be taken in its own interest. The main measures that may be taken in connection with an international alert are as follows:

- arrest of a person;
- refusal of entry or stay in the territory;
- search for and/or protection of a missing person;
- investigation for a judicial procedure;
- specific or discrete control with or without immediate contact with the SPOC;
- seizure.

These alerts are currently still issued manually. Alerts in the *Schengen Information System* (SIS) for seizure purposes are automatically issued after entry into the General National Database (BNG-ANG) by the police.

Hits

A *hit* means that there is a match with an entity subject of an international alert and for which a measure has been requested. The entity concerned may either have taken the measure or not.

- Belgian hits on foreign international alerts

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Schengen Information System (SIS)	8 830	11 738	8 691	8 093
Interpol (IP)	591	590	*	*
Total	9 421	12 328	-	-

* Figure no longer available due to the discontinuation of the Interpol registration system

- Foreign hits on Belgian international alerts

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Schengen Information System (SIS)	6 056	7 370	4 573	4 956
Interpol (IP)	74	199	*	*
Total	6 130	7 569	-	-

* Figure no longer available due to the discontinuation of the Interpol registration system

Translation

In order to meet the requirements of international operational message handling in the field of languages, the SPOC has a Translation Service that translates messages with an operational character (i.e. linked to a file of judicial or administrative police) within the set deadlines. The messages are mainly sent via Schengen, Interpol, Europol and the liaison officers by both Belgian and foreign police forces.

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Translations carried out*	15 284	13 774	11 718	10 591
FLASH cases**	33,5 %	34 %	37 %	41,5 %

* Almost all translations concern operational files.

** Translations related to FLASH cases to be processed within the hour.

Proactive screening of Interpol and Schengen alerts

Proactive screening is checking the lists of foreign Interpol alerts and the lists of Schengen A forms (notifications of new foreign SIS alerts for arrest purposes). The SPOC compares those lists with Belgian databases. This not only allows for quick and systematic processing of the lists, but also for provision of local operational information to the colleagues in the field and any interested units or services.

The system is currently used for all the Interpol alerts and the Schengen A forms (notification that a Member State has issued an international SIS alert for arrest purposes). This makes it possible for the SPOC to screen them proactively.

Foreign Interpol alerts

INTERPOL	2018	2019	2020	2021
Alerts screened	8 983	23 426	16 691	16 591
<i>Match*</i>	13	34	28	198

* In this case, a "hit" means that a link with Belgium was found, for example: registered in Belgium, known with a measure to be taken in the General National Database (BNG-ANG).

A forms in the Schengen Information System (SIS)

	2019	2020	2021
A forms checked (notifications of new foreign alerts for arrest purposes)	19 064	28 986	12 618
Aliases checked (any A form relating to a person may contain several aliases for that person and each alias is checked)	26 086	32 118	15 142
Hits generated by checking the A forms received	626	776	998



Success Story

N.SISnew: police applications are modernising too!

The NSIS application, or "National Schengen Information System", allows the management of the national part of the Schengen Information System (SIS). It is through this system that the 26 Member States can exchange police data.

This NSIS application was replaced on 4 October 2021 with a renewed application called N.SISnew. A major adaptation could be made to its architecture thanks to a new technology. Therefore, the police no longer depend on the obsolete central unit, but work via Web Services, in other words, via a common platform that allows applications to intercommunicate. This enables us to use newer technologies, which then make it possible to acquire a greater independence and to create more opportunities.

The existing functionalities of the NSIS application have been taken over. However, the interface has been modernised and redesigned with some adaptations to make the application more user-friendly for police officers in the field.

SIRENE for supplementary requests

SIRENE stands for *Supplementary Information Request at the National Entries*.

Each state operating the *Schengen Information System* has set up a national SIRENE Bureau that is responsible for international alerts. The activities of those SIRENE Bureaux range from validation to provision of supplementary information on alerts.

	2019	2020	2021
Forms sent by SIRENE-Belgium	15 349	12 927	35 428
Forms received by SIRENE-Belgium	42 267	52 328	58 531
Total of forms dealt with	57 616	65 255	93 959

International Information Exchange and International Alerts training

The National Police Academy (ANPA) organised the International Information Exchange and International Alerts training for staff members working in this field. Experts within the Directorate of International Police Cooperation (CGI) and trainers in this complex subject matter collaborated on this training. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, this training could hardly be conducted last year.

In addition to the training, a new reference brochure "International Information Exchange and Alerts" has been developed. The new edition of this reference booklet has been divided into two parts: the part on the international exchange of police information has been revised and adapted to new developments. The second part deals with international alerts. The reference booklet was virtually presented at an information session for ANPA trainers and accredited schools. The booklet will be used for the training of all members of the Integrated Police who deal with international alerts or information exchange.

As part of the Schengen evaluation and in addition to the training, the Directorate of International Police Cooperation (CGI) has developed new posters explaining the procedures for international exchange of information and alerts. These tools are part of an information kit designed to improve the knowledge of the Schengen Information System among police officers in the field.

Information exchange and the key role of the districts

The district level plays a key role in operational information management through the District Communication and Information Services (SICADs). A SICAD unites the provincial Communication and Information Centres (CIC), which receives and handles emergency calls, and the District Information Crossroads (CIA-AIK).

Number of calls in the CICs

Urgent calls are calls received by the CICs from the population via the 101 or 112 call numbers, from a call transfer via 100/112, from certain alarms or from the National Bank.

Non-emergency calls are all other calls received, for example, from a Local Police zone or from a tow truck driver who directly calls a CIC dispatcher via his workstation number.

									Total			
									2018	2019	2020	2021
West Flanders	217 454	212 201	190 012	191 482	13 283	12 580	11 770	12 190	230 737	224 781	201 782	203 675
East Flanders	248 776	250 749	235 004	242 036	10 749	10 558	10 468	11 159	259 525	261 307	245 472	253 195
Antwerp	318 490	317 192	281 660	295 843	98 346	98 787	80 043	81 224	416 836	415 979	361 703	377 067
Limburg	161 753	161 673	149 429	148 504	15 942	16 506	12 461	12 570	177 695	178 179	161 890	161 074
Flemish Brabant*	168 540	183 194	164 024	165 060	20 197	18 680	16 266	15 367	188 737	201 874	180 290	180 427
Brussels	442 899	443 932	361 199	355 798	32 534	35 312	32 939	38 457	475 433	479 244	394 138	394 255
Walloon Brabant	80 772	82 922	74 978	71 566	16 860	18 766	19 083	16 533	97 632	101 688	94 061	88 099
Hainaut	471 468	462 495	412 056	375 611	13 936	16 374	16 029	16 816	485 404	478 869	428 085	392 427
Namur	146 927	155 594	146 443	141 676	15 511	15 493	14 676	14 616	162 438	171 087	161 119	156 292
Liège*	358 335	365 564	341 041	347 208	71 454	77 912	79 362	81 946	429 789	443 476	420 403	429 154
Luxembourg	67 851	69 415	66 382	61 622	18 936	19 541	17 957	17 197	86 787	88 956	84 339	78 819
Total	2 683 265	2 704 931	2 422 228	2 396 409	327 748	340 509	311 054	318 075	3 011 013	3 045 440	2 733 282	2 714 484

* The emergency calls for the districts of Halle/Vilvoorde and Eupen – which do not have their own CIC – arrive at the Leuven CIC (responsible for the whole of Flemish Brabant) and the Liège CIC (responsible for the districts of Liège and Eupen).



Availability and solidarity to cope with floods

In July 2021, the Information and Communication Centres (CICs) played a vital role in emergency management following the severe weather and flooding in Belgium.

The coordination challenge was daunting: in the days following the rising waters, as many as 4 000 Local Police officers and 1 000 Federal Police officers were deployed to the most affected areas.

The deployment of the different services and the good coordination with other disciplines could only be done thanks to the Information and Communication Centres (CIC) which managed, in a masterly way, the emergency calls and the dispatching of the teams on the field.

Furthermore, following the floods, the CIC of Liège had to be temporarily moved to the CICs of Leuven and Namur. Thanks to the flexibility and solidarity between the staff of the different CICs, the service could be provided at any time.

Police information management

In addition to the Information and Communication Centres (CIC), other services also play a crucial role in the dissemination and analysis of information.

At the district level, some 400 members work in the District Information Crossroads (CIA) to manage police information. They centralise, analyse and revise police and other information to provide added value for fieldwork. How? By building bridges and establishing links, by uncovering new security phenomena and criminal or security trends, by guiding police actions and by ensuring information sharing with and between police services to enable them to carry out their missions.

At central level, the Directorate of Judicial Police Operations (DGJ/DJO) and the Directorate of Administrative Police Operations (DGA/DAO) specifically deal with police information management. Last year, 46 staff members of DJO and 42 staff members of DAO worked on this. The two directorates, together with the *Single Point of Operational Contact* (SPOC) of the Directorate of International Police Cooperation (CGI), form the National Contact Point (PCN-NIP), a 24/7 on-call service.



Communication in video images and in real time!

The video platform of the Integrated Police aims to communicate, in real time, video images to support the police services in the execution of their missions.

For the past few years, images from helicopters of the Air Support Unit (DAFA) have been made available to the Directorate of Administrative Police Operations (DAO) and the 11 Information and Communication Centres (CIC). The latter have been equipped with Video Management Systems (VMS) that allow them to relay these images to other police services in their province.

Since 2021, the Directorate of Police Information and ICT Resources (DRI) has strengthened this offer by its immediate nature. The images from DAFA's drones as well as from other police services' drones, which would use the appropriate router, can thus also be broadcasted in real time to all police services that would need them for the execution of their mission.

Protection of personal data

The Information Security & Privacy Office service of the General Commissioner's Office (CG/ISPO) analyses the evolution of legislation and provides support in the development of regulations and legislative adaptations in the field of personal data protection and information security.

The service acts as a contact point for all questions and problems related to personal data protection and information security, both within the police services as the second line of the DPOs and outside the police services with the DPOs of the other federal public services and the two offices of the competent ministers. With permanent representation in the Information & ICT Committee, the service also advises its members on the subject.

CG/ISPO provides support to the Data Protection Officers (DPO) of the Federal and Local Police. To this end, it allows the necessary consultations, either specifically per file or in general, such as the Privacy Network with all DPOs of the Federal Police every four months, during which important developments, changes and problems are discussed.

The service is also in close contact with the Police Information Review Board and carefully analyses and reviews all its opinions.

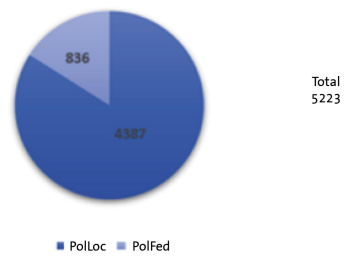
In 2021, various actions were taken by the Federal Police services and directorates to guarantee (personal) data protection.

So, the CG/ISPO service has, among other things:

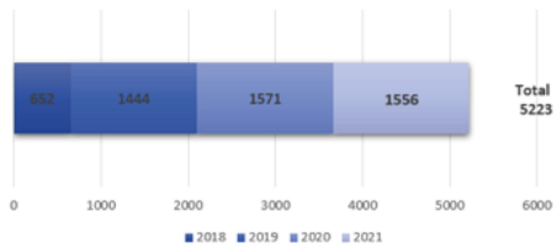
- provided training on data protection and presentation of the single register of personal data processing of the Integrated Police "RegPol" within the Police Academy of Hainaut;
- organised specific awareness sessions for the General Directorate of Administrative Police (DGA) and the General Directorate of Judicial Police (DGJ);
- analysed and followed up personal data breaches;
- analysed and followed up, together with the Directorate of the Police Information and ICT Resources (DRI), news related to cybersecurity threats (Belnet, Hafnium, etc.);
- drafted the information security policy describing the general framework and the guiding principles in this matter for the Integrated Police;
- participated in the evaluation of the EU directive 2016/680 "police-justice" within the European institutions, etc.

RegPol, the register of all the Integrated Police's processing operations, continues to be actively fed and, as of 31 December 2021, it will have a total of 5 223 registered processing operations, of which 836 are carried out by the Federal Police (see graphs).

Traitements enregistrés dans RegPol
en 2021 (PolLoc/PolFed)



Traitements enregistrés
dans RegPol par an



ICT, the driving force behind our actions and management

- New technologies and digital applications provide the organisation with better and more efficient support.
- Digitalisation and innovation for staff members and new candidates!
- Knowledge, establishing links and fighting against crime anytime, anywhere: our databases are up to date.

Digital transformation

i-Police and the police of the future



The i-Police project will replace about eighty different applications (such as ISLP, FEEDIS, BNG). It will bring together all the information currently dispersed in different databases on a single integrated information platform, with a new National General Database (BNG) offering more information than before. This information platform will be the foundation par excellence of the entire i-Police project.

On 6 December 2021, the Minister of the Interior awarded the i-Police contract to a consortium led by Sopra Steria, with Microsoft, Niche, TA9, Orbit and KPMG as partners.

This is the result of an intensive procurement process, which owes its success to the cooperation and contribution of numerous technical and functional experts and experienced staff.

According to the planning, i-Police will be globally rolled out in 2026, but quick wins can be achieved in the next few years.

i-Police : Ensemble, pas à pas vers la police du futur !



Through the FOCUS@GPI application, it is possible to use several functions on the field, such as consulting the national register or the General National Database (BNG-ANG), registering a vehicle, monitoring incidents through emergency line 101, having access to briefings, entering an offence, etc.

As of 21 October 2021, the Conditionally Released Persons application (FOCUS-PSC) has been added to the FOCUS ecosystem. That application supports the police follow-up for the terms and conditions imposed by the judiciary to the conditionally released persons. It allows the police officers on the field to encode data directly from their smartphone, for example. The application also offers a direct link to ISLP (Integrated System for Local Police), which allows the police officers to be directly alerted in case of a problem with citizens.

In addition, FOCUS-PSC makes it possible to exchange data and information with i+Belgium. This integration with the i+Belgium application facilitates the flow of information to the PSC application and vice versa.

As a reminder, i+Belgium is an application that allows collaborative management between the judiciary and the police.



SaRA, for better selection and recruitment management

SaRA, which stands for "Selection and Recruitment Administration", is the new application for managing the selection and recruitment processes, and it was launched in September 2021. Since 15 September 2021, every HR service of the Integrated Police has been able to create their job offers in this new application. These are then almost instantaneously published on the new [Jobpol.be](https://jobpol.be) website. This is the first step in the [digitalisation and modernisation of the recruitment and selection management process](#).

National ANPR camera shield

The national camera shield connects all ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) cameras to a central management system (AMS – *ANPR Managed Services*) allowing for a fast police response when criminals are detected in a vehicle (based on a reported number plate). The ANPR network also includes average speed cameras.

The AMS has been operational since 29 January 2021.

This tool offers three basic features:

- average speed cameras within the framework of road safety;
- processing of hits from blacklists for police intervention;
- support for research investigations.

By the end of December, 14 656 police officers had access to AMS, which is now made of 1 531 connected cameras (and average speed cameras).

New cameras and additional average speed cameras steadily fed this system throughout 2021. It resulted in a distortion of the system by the end of the year. In order to further expand and cover more roads, the architecture will be adapted in 2022, including the development of an improvement plan at the same time. In the coming years, these developments will allow to add new cameras, to implement new average speed cameras and to create new features and establish new connections to other ANPR systems.

Strengthened digital links with the judiciary

Cross Border Exchange: a 99 % success rate!

Cross Border Exchange (CBE) is a module integrated in the police applications as regard immediate collections that are related to driving offences. Within this framework, the Integrated Police records and reports Belgian or European residents before it passes on the information to the judiciary through an electronic flow. The judiciary subsequently prints and sends these immediate collections, and follows up their payment.

In 2020, the fine collecting system was improved by the Federal Police, in collaboration with the judiciary. The improvement was made possible due to the increase in the number of cameras and average speed cameras, as well as the development of digital signatures and seals (among others, *MultiFactor Authentication* [MFA]).

In 2021, we saw that Cross Border Exchange achieved a success rate of 99 % with an ever-increasing number of processed cases.

Every two years, the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) awards the most innovative, effective and co-creative projects of public entities at local, regional and national/European level. This year, **CrossBorder Exchange has been nominated in the "Digital Public Administration" category**, much to the pride of the Directorate of Police Information and ICT Resources (DRI).

Number	2019*	2020	2021
Reports drawn up	6 300 000	5 801 781	5 819 503
Reports sent to the judicial General National Database	2 160 000	2 190 253	1 983 847
Immediate collections	2 270 000	2 088 910	1 957 245
Data registered	5 500 000	4 995 666	5 043 089
Documents drawn up	13 260 000	11 745 608	11 663 555
Interrogations entered	1 450 000	1 228 335	1 266 219
Physical persons registered	/**	24 935 159	24 986 764

* The figures for 2019 were rounded for technical reasons.

** Figure not available.

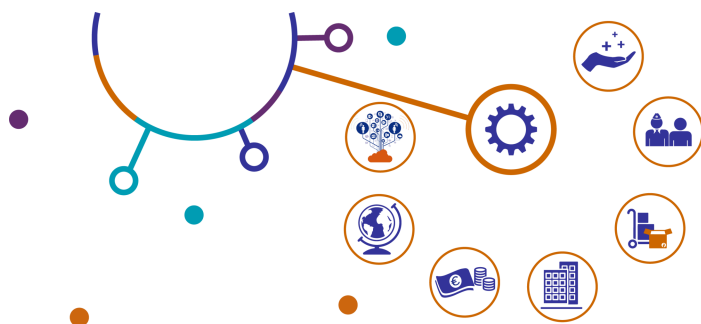
PacOs: barcodes on exhibits for more efficient tracking

PacOs is the application used to digitally manage exhibits by means of barcodes. The operational roll-out progressively occurred in 2020 in a district at a time on the websites of the police and the judiciary. By the end of 2020, PacOs covered 55 % of the Belgian territory. The roll-out ended everywhere in the country in 2021, both in the Integrated Police and the judiciary*.

In addition, training has been provided in order to better support staff members who use this application, both at the police and the judiciary level.

	2019	2020	2021
Judicial seizures	1 565	53 440	163 682
- Exhibits seized (total)	6 445	50 802	430 182
- within the Integrated Police	2 953	18 043	153 613
within the judiciary	3 492	32 759	276 659

* Trial Courts, Central Office for Seizure and Confiscation, National Institute for Criminalistics and Criminology.



The Federal Police, an organisation

[Home](#) / The Federal Police, an organisation

- As at 31 December 2021, the total strength of the Federal Police staff stood at 13 965, including 10 658 operational staff (Ops) and 3 307 civilian staff (CALog).
- The total number of vehicles purchased has increased significantly.
- The Mutual Respect campaign, which was initiated by the SPF Interior, aims to convey a positive message about the police and other security professionals, whose essential principles are mutual respect, mutual knowledge, openness of dialogue and trust.



[Our values](#)



[Our material](#)



[Our budget](#)



[Our staff](#)



[Our infrastructure](#)

Our values

- The solidarity to face the consequences of the floods that hit the province of Liege was exceptional.
- In 2021, a virtual version of Dossin's Holocaust, Police and Human Rights training was successfully organised in compliance with health measures.
- The Mutual Respect campaign, which was initiated by the Federal Public Service Interior, aims to convey a positive message about the police and other security professionals, whose essential principles are mutual respect, mutual knowledge, openness of dialogue and trust.

A Mission Statement based on values

The values that the Federal Police emphasise in their Mission [Statement](#) are:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Open-mindedness
- Flexibility
- Service-mindedness
- Pride

The Federal Police are taking initiatives to raise awareness of these values among their staff members (e.g.: Human Rights and Kazerne Dossin training, value compass, etc.) and to draw their attention to the various areas where these can be applied (e.g. the Mutual Respect campaign). Furthermore, they intend to continue building a working environment for their staff that promotes solidarity and diversity, where workers feel respected and see their professional commitment recognised.



Solidarity and unity

The floods of July 2021 heavily hit our country, and more particularly the province of Liege. This disaster has caused many victims and has also affected many colleagues.

In this emergency situation, there was very good collaboration between the Local Police and the Federal Police, as well as with the partners of the other emergency services. Besides, the solidarity was exceptional.

In addition to their professional commitment, many police officers from across the country voluntarily and of their own free will decided to help the victims in clean-up and solidarity actions. Even some of their relatives came to lend a hand.

Several members of the Local Police and the Federal Police were also heavily affected by the floods. Some literally lost everything. In order to meet the most urgent needs in the short term, six empty state dwellings were made available, renovated and equipped with the necessary facilities, with the support of the Social Service (SSD), the Régie des bâtiments and countless volunteers.

Solidarity and general mobilisation in the aftermath of the catastrophic floods



"The terrible floods of 14 and 15 July hit our country hard. Many police officers provided assistance to victims, both as part of their duties and as volunteers. Even some of their relatives came to lend a hand.

For many, the summer of 2021 was far from peaceful, both personally and professionally. Solidarity in the Integrated Police often had a restorative effect. Through impressive or more modest acts, individually or collectively. Thank you to all our staff for their commitment, motivation and professionalism during this second consecutive summer, which was exceptional in many ways. I am especially grateful for that."

FIRST CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT MARC DE MESMAEKER

General Commissioner of the Federal Police



The General Commissioner himself visited the site to encourage the teams.



The Federal Police turn to innovation with a new service

As an organisation, the Federal Police turn to innovation to provide sustainable added value in the realisation of their missions, and so contribute more effectively to the security and quality of life in society.

In August 2021, an Innovation Service was created for this purpose within the General Commissioner's Office of the Federal Police. A logical place, close to the policy, covering all components and ideal as a general contact point for internal and external partners.

The tasks of the Innovation Service and the support it is to provide have been identified in close consultation with the Innovation contact points in each general directorate:

- to ensure the design and follow-up of an innovation strategy within the Federal Police, in consultation with the various general directorates and the General Commissioner's Office. This strategy will be translated into concrete actions in an annual innovation calendar;
- to act as a central point of contact within the Federal Police for innovation at national and international level;
- to support the identification of innovative projects that will be implemented with the Federal Police budget dedicated to innovation and to follow up on the use of these means;
- to contribute to a structured approach of innovation within the Integrated Police by capturing, channelling and facilitating innovative ideas and proposals and by transposing them into concrete achievements or experiences;
- to analyse the evolutions within the society (trend watching) for the benefit of the Integrated Police in order to identify the opportunities and to detect

- or the Integrated Police in order to identify the opportunities and to detect the possible threats that the new developments/new technologies involve;
- to create and maintain a network dedicated to innovation, both inside and outside the Integrated Police;
- to actively contribute to the promotion of a culture of innovation within the Integrated Police by providing training, organising theme days, hackathons...

In 2021, an Inno|Formation-Day was organised, with workshops on research management, police dilemmas, virtual team building days, advanced analytics and chatbot client care, among others, allowing colleagues from both police levels to present their innovative initiatives in these fields. The day was closed with a debate on artificial intelligence, which is an innovation of great importance for police missions.

Other activities following the Hackathon 2020 were the integration of virtual reality in training courses, the integration of an application for traffic control in the current FOCUS application and a possible chatbot to facilitate the interaction between the police and the citizens.

The Innovation Service has established an inventory of the international innovation networks in which the Integrated Police participate in order to be able to direct offers and requests for information to the colleagues concerned.

Integrated Police and Kaserne Dossin: the collaboration continues, virtually!

The Integrated Police have been working with Kaserne Dossin since 2014 to train future police officers on diversity, internal relations and workplace wellness. The Holocaust, Police and Human Rights course has been offered for the past seven years and has a prominent place in the training program for our recruits.

It consists of four different courses developed in collaboration with UNIA, the Interfederal Center for Equal Opportunities:

- Guide – Holocaust, Police and Human Rights
- Holocaust, Police and Human Rights (Dealing with dilemmas)
- Holocaust, Police and Human Rights for managers. Concretely dealing with integrity in my department
- Polarisation: threat or opportunity for the police?

During the health crisis, trainers changed their approach and transitioned to online sessions. They became familiar with the new virtual format through scenarios and training sessions.

Since June 2021, it has been possible to visit the Kaserne Dossin Museum virtually, in compliance with health measures. Interaction is ensured through break-out rooms and collective missions!

Holocaust, Police and Human Rights training

In 2021, a total of 57 sessions were held, including 18 online, and resulted in 697 staff members being trained. The participants are delighted with the online training. For them, this format is successful and is a very good alternative. In addition, it reduces waiting times and allows participants to avoid travel. In other words, this is a win-win situation.

Since the launch of the project, 12 005 staff members of the Integrated Police have already participated in this training, as trainees during their basic training or later in their careers to improve their knowledge.

	2018		2019		2020		2021	
Training	Sessions	People trained	Sessions	People trained	Sessions	People trained	Sessions	People trained
Users	93	1 636	129	2 390	40	530	57	697
Managers	2	23	1	8	/*	/	/*	/

* In 2020 and 2021, no sessions were held for leaders.

Polarisation Training: threat or opportunity for the police?

The attacks in Brussels in 2016 caused a great upheaval within the Integrated Police. They again highlighted the importance of recognising, understanding and, most importantly, addressing the polarisation of our society. The Diversity Unit of the Federal Police has developed a one-day training course on this topic. In the second part of this training, participants take the theory and apply it to some practical examples.

During the first semester of 2021, the course was only offered online. Once the sanitary measures allowed it, the training could again be organised on site, with some adaptations in order to respect the sanitary measures in force. 314 people completed the training in 2021. Evaluations reveal that participants are delighted with the training and the knowledge they have gained!

The future chief superintendents have also benefited from this training as part of their management certificate.



A fresco sets tone for the Mutual Respect campaign

On 3 September, a fresco, painted on the Herrmann-Debroux viaduct in Brussels, was inaugurated. It illustrates the gesture of the Mutual Respect campaign between security professionals and citizens, i.e. the "check". This inauguration officially marks the launch of this awareness campaign, which was initiated by the Minister of the Interior, Institutional Reforms and Democratic Renewal, Annelies Verlinden.

In recent years, the relationship between security professionals and citizens has deteriorated. New protest movements "against authority", and therefore "against the police", reinforced by the polarisation and the oil spill effect on social media, have caused a rupture between the police forces and the population. Health measures, which have restricted the freedoms of citizens, have further widened the gap between them. The police are on the front lines of enforcement and, therefore, have regularly encountered frustration and misunderstanding.

This **Mutual Respect** campaign is intended to counter tensions between security professionals and citizens by conveying a positive message, the essential principles of which are mutual respect, reciprocal knowledge, openness of dialogue and trust.

The symbol par excellence of the campaign is the "check". Since the beginning of the health crisis, this sign has become one of the ways to greet each other. Young and old alike have widely adopted it as a playful gesture of greeting. The "checks" symbolise the fact of "creating a link".

The campaign is the result of the collaboration between the Federal Police, the Local Police Standing Committee, the General Directorates Civil Security and Security & Prevention of the Federal Public Service Interior, and the Social Service of the police (SSD).

All the information, as well as the campaign material (including the "Security Professions" brochure), is available on the website www.besafe.be.



Regarder maintenant

@belgianfederalpolice

Check=Respect #Wederzijdsrespect
#RespectMutuel #police #fyp #streetart

The Avengers Theme - Movie Sounds
Unlimited

RESPECT for everyone

The internal RESPECT campaign is the result of a solid partnership between the Diversity Service, the Integrity Service of the General Commissioner's Office (CG/Integrity) and the Directorate of Communication (CGC) of the Federal Police. It targets seven themes: sexual orientation, gender, disability, age, differences in rank and level, multiculturality and status differences.

The goal of this awareness campaign launched in May 2019 is to stimulate reflection on the values of our organisation and remind us of the rights and duties that underlie it. Each theme is accompanied by a poster campaign, the publication of testimonials and good practices and, where available, a training offer.

Last year, the internal communication RESPECT campaign of the Federal Police continued with a sixth theme: respect for everyone, regardless of their origins. This theme was associated with the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on 21 March.

The seventh and final theme of the campaign is the diversity of statuses, a major asset for our organisation: everyone deserves respect, regardless of their status! The complementarity and interactions between the operational members and the civilian members of the administrative and logistical staff of the Federal Police were highlighted to illustrate this aspect of the campaign.

International thematic days are levers to raise awareness among staff about RESPECT campaign themes.

This was particularly the case for the theme of "inclusion of people with disabilities" on the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Showing how inclusion strengthens our organisation stresses the importance of integrating disabled people. However, there is still some work to be done. A royal decree stipulates that people with disabilities must make up 3 % of the staff in each federal organisation. For the Federal Police, this only applies to civilian staff (CALog). This number is on the rise: people with disabilities represented 0.51 % of the staff in 2021, compared to 0.16 % in 2019 and 2020. We are doing everything in our power to achieve this goal.



Coping with police dilemmas: a serious game

"Coping with police dilemmas" is the name of an innovative integrity training project in the form of a serious game. This concept was developed by a working group consisting of the initiator, Superintendent Anjuli Van Damme of the Lokeren Police Zone, the CG/Integrity Service, as well as representatives of the Federal Police and the Local Police Standing Committee.

The purpose of this training is to raise awareness of integrity issues among police staff, facilitate group discussions on sensitive dilemma situations and sharpen their ethical skills. Debating dilemmas is an ongoing process. The game can be seen as the beginning of this process. Dialogue, ethical decision-making and a culture of open debate are timeless aspects of broad, multidimensional integrity management.

After months of work, the game has been in a test phase since mid-September 2021 on the Dutch-speaking side, including in the police schools PAULO (East Flanders) and PIVO (Flemish Brabant).



"Valuable" leadership tools

"Ethical leadership" training

In 2021, a one-day training session on ethical leadership was provided to the management certificate candidates. It is essential to dialogue with future leaders of the Integrated Police about what this concept means and all that it entails, as well as the ethical issues they will face and how they can inspire their staff through their behaviour and actions. Ethical leadership, i.e. a process of influencing others, brings attention to the importance of influencing other leaders, middle managers, and staff members in the right way. This means continually modelling the desired behaviour, putting measures in place to discourage undesirable behaviour, and most importantly, actively encouraging the ethical behaviour of others.

During this day, the management certificate candidates were also given an overview of the ETHICOMPAS exercise that they had to solve during their knowledge exam.

ProLeader: focus on core qualities and challenges

"In the police force, you can evolve continuously, throughout your life." From this perspective, it is important to dare to question oneself in order to identify aspects that can offer room for improvement and learning: "What are my strengths and areas for improvement?"

The ProLeader team of the Directorate of Staff (DGR/DRP) supports managers and their staff in this reflection process. A tutorial explains to participants how to do this using Ofman's core quadrant.

The goal is to build teams where staff members are aware of each other's qualities and challenges, where everyone can help each other and where everyone can continue to grow!

Transparency and accountability: parliamentary questions

In its oversight role, the Parliament has, inter alia, the possibility of putting written or oral questions to members of the government.

For questions relating to the functioning of the Federal Police or the Integrated Police, the responsible ministers receive our support in preparing answers via the Administrative and Technical Secretariats (SAT-ATS).

In 2021, 1 369 oral and written parliamentary questions about the Federal Police were addressed to the responsible ministers (compared to 1 190 in 2020).

Our staff

- As at 31 December 2021, the total strength of the Federal Police staff stood at 13 965, including 10 658 operational staff (Ops) and 3 307 civilian staff (CALog).
- The number of women in the Federal Police has increased by more than 8 %!
- The Stressteam had to intervene more often to deal with crisis situations and violence against police.

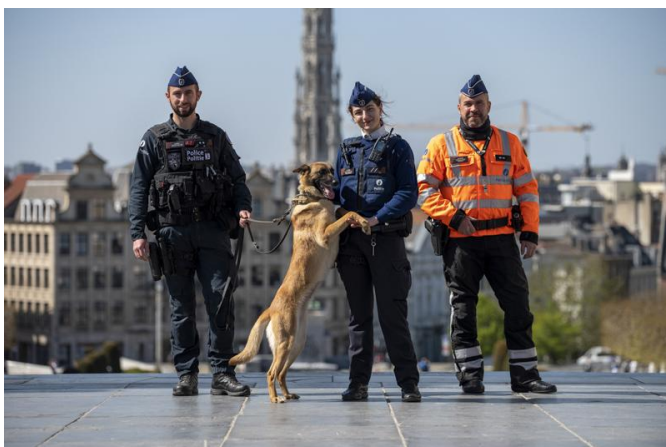
Federal Police workforce

The analysis of the Federal Police workforce as of 31 December 2021 compared to 31 December 2020 indicates that the shortfall (lack of staff compared to planned capacity) of operational staff remains relatively stable (15.49 % in 2020 versus 15.14 % in 2021). The administrative and logistic staffing shortfall has decreased significantly (9.53 % in 2020 versus 3.92 % in 2021).

	Men				Women				Total			
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021
Operational staff												
Chief superintendent	183	160	175	169	20	16	23	24	203	176	198	193
Superintendent	979	927	858	828	119	129	137	144	1 098	1 056	995	972
Chief inspector	2 368	2 328	2 331	2 354	372	409	414	463	2 740	2 737	2 745	2 817
Inspector	4 089	4 125	4 208	4 272	1 082	1 161	1 221	1 318	5 171	5 286	5 429	5 590
Constable	10	9	8	5	15	14	14	12	25	23	22	17
Protection assistant	42	37	29	22	/	/	/	/	42	37	29	22
Security constable	148	401	522	580	23	71	91	115	171	472	613	695
Security assistant	/	332	311	301	/	49	48	48	/	381	359	349
Security coordinator	/	4	4	3	/	/	/	/	/	4	4	3
Administrative and logistic staff												
A level	261	263	260	277	425	452	448	500	686	715	708	777
B level	344	362	364	381	454	518	531	587	798	880	895	968
C level	402	417	427	455	671	710	699	745	1 073	1 127	1 126	1 200
D level	238	228	219	222	162	158	151	140	400	386	370	362
Total	9 064	9 593	9 716	9 869	3 343	3 687	3 777	4 096	12 407	13 280	13 493	13 965
Difference	Men: 1.57 %				Women: 8.45 %				Total: 3.50 %			

Explanation of the above table

These figures represent, as on 31 December 2021, the staff of the three general directorates and the General Commissioner's Office of the Federal Police, excluding staff recruited with funding of the Road Safety Fund, as well as aspiring security constables who did not successfully complete their training and have been seconded while awaiting a new training session. These figures also do not include: persons to whom alternative financing applies (such as staff seconded to the Standing Police Monitoring Committee and the Belgian Standing Intelligence Agencies Review Committee), cleaning staff, aspiring police officers, staff members of the Social Secretariat (SSGPI), catering staff, staff of the General Inspectorate (AIG) and the Supervisory Body for Police Information (COC), staff members seconded to the Local Police against payment, persons working for the Administrative and Technical Secretariats, for the Coordination Unit for Threat Assessment (CUTA) and for SHAPE, and finally all staff members who requested non-activity prior to pension.



Activities of the Medical Service for the Integrated Police

The Medical Service is responsible for the organisation and execution of medical expertise, administration, monitoring and advice. Staff members of the Federal Police and the Local Police can visit provincial medical centres (PMCs) to consult a curative physician. Consultations for curative care are carried out by external doctors, who use the existing infrastructures but organise the consultations themselves.

The medical data of the Integrated Police staff are managed and centralised in the MedOne database. In 2019, this database was first used on an exploratory basis in order to support the human resources policy.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced the Medical Service to suspend its activities for some time. Consultations, which by definition involve contact with a sick staff member, were limited from mid-March 2020. This does not mean that physicians and provincial medical centres did not follow up the files, but that physical consultations were reduced to protect police staff.

Consultations	2018	2019	2020	2020
Control and advice*	10 052	11 217	4 321	5 403
Curative care**	11 893	9 012	5 519	3 618
Operational missions***	334	352	170	329
Emergency care	118	75	47	28****
Total for Provincial Medical Centres (PMCs)	22 487	19 447	10 010	9 378

* Control and advice: carried out by the same doctors. Generally speaking, it should be noted that registration methods with regard to follow-up, consultation, preparation, control, etc. may vary from one PMC to another.

** Curative Medicine: carried out by doctors who manage their own agenda independently. The Medical Service no longer provides curative care. Therefore, we do not have all the figures for these consultations.

*** The Medical Service offers support for activities or exercises involving risk (law enforcement, Molotov exercises, Special Units, etc.). The

difference between 2019 and 2020 is due to COVID-19. All missions were cancelled during the first lockdown, followed by a partial resumption of activities (July-October). During the second lockdown (November-December 2020), missions were cancelled for a second time.

**** Significant decrease due to work at home and cancellation of sports events due to the pandemic.



Stress Team activities

The Federal Police Stressteam works for both the Federal and Local Police.

Many police zones have their own Stress Team/prevention service or collaborate with external prevention services and/or provincial assistance teams. This is why the figures for the Local Police are lower.

Interventions/consultations (talks)* relating to psychosocial problems

Stress Team support to the Federal Police	2018	2019	2020	2021
Crisis intervention	247	187	171	262
Emotional debriefing	15	15	10	26
Trauma	217	333	490	495
Burnout	422	504	580	591
Depression	164	212	260	192
Violence against police officers	35	187	40	70
COVID-19**/td>	/	/	52	13

* An intervention is equivalent to one appointment or a long phone call.

** Interventions/consultations (talks) relating to COVID-19, e.g. violence against police officers linked to enforcement of Covid measures.

Stress Team support to the Local Police	2018	2019	2020	2021
Crisis intervention	54	56	96	104
Emotional debriefing	30	23	19	5
Trauma	42	51	82	71
Burnout	21	37	143	64
Depression	3	3	30	6
Violence against police officers	20	56	87	63
COVID-19*	/	/	4	4

The general upward trend is partly explained by the health crisis. The number of targeted Stress Team interventions is not predictable and is to a large extent related to current events and incidents, especially with regard to "burnout" and "trauma".

Well-being and prevention (CGWB) for the Federal Police

The Directorate of Internal Prevention and Protection at Work (CGWB) of the Federal Police has the task of assisting the employer, management and staff members in the implementation of regulations relating to the well-being of workers. It is also involved in all prevention measures and activities.

CGWB has prevention advisors with a specialisation (occupational safety, occupational medicine, psychosocial aspects, ergonomics, occupational hygiene). This network also manages the network of trusted persons.

Training and awareness-raising for the Federal Police

Campaigns/Awareness-raising/Training	2018	2019	2020	2021
Prevention InfoNews Publications (newsletter for the Federal Police)	27	7	12	12
PolNews articles (internal police website)	/	27	29	20
Information sessions on the different aspects of well-being at work	36	28	71	22
Training given on the different aspects of well-being at work	35	47	45	48

Individual files on psychosocial aspects of the Federal Police

In total, 202 Federal Police staff members requested psychosocial support from trusted persons and specialised prevention advisors.

Informal procedures*	2018	2019	2020	2020
Advice	127	84	90	77
Consultations (talks)	/	79**	66	83
Intervention by a third party	28	14	16	26
Conciliation	13	14	15	16
Subtotal	168	191	187	202

Formal procedures***

Collective	/	/	1	2
Individual	/	/	0	0
Violence/harassment at work	10	13	9	11
Subtotal	10	13	10	13

Register of offences by third parties****

Physical violence	/	/	4	13
Psychological violence	/	/	3	1
Moral harassment at work	6	12	0	1
Sexual harassment at work	2	0	0	0
Physical & psychological violence and other*****	2	1	12	12
Subtotal	10	13	19	27

Total	178	204	216	242
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* Informal interventions are intended to restore a serene working climate by advising the worker concerned, by having talks with them to help solve their problem, by turning to a third person who is involved in the problem (colleague/superior) or by organising conciliation.

**Refining statistics: there is a difference between advice and consultations. Each applicant receives advice. If this advice is sufficient, no consultation is needed.

*** In case of a formal procedure, the psychosocial risks of the situation are described in a report to the employer. Prevention and protective measures are proposed so as to solve the problem mentioned in the request and to avoid recurrence.

**** In case of violence, moral or sexual harassment at work by a third party, the worker concerned can, anonymously or not, inform his/her employer through the register of offences by third parties.

***** Physical & Psychological violence (and other): includes all the points listed above.

Medical surveillance of workers' health

The Occupational Medicine Service carries out the tasks related to the health surveillance of the members of the Federal Police. For this purpose, the service is composed of prevention advisors, occupational physicians, nurses and administrative staff.

Annual periodic health assessment	2018	2019	2020	2021
Workers subject to at least one annual periodic health assessment	13 130	12 700	12 994	14 158

Workers who have received an annual periodic health assessment

Workers who have a safety function	5 670	6 415	3 572	3 057
Workers who have a position with increased vigilance	263	247	187	173
Workers at particular risk	1 558	1 308	766	611
Special categories (disabled persons, trainees, pupils, students, pregnant or breastfeeding workers, temporary workers, LEA workers)	3	40*	8	9
Total	7 494	8 010	4 533	3 850

* More students have been hired and data entry relating to worker types is also more accurate thanks to the improved MedWAN monitoring programme.

Staff safety

The Safety Service carries out tasks relating to safety at work. To this end, it is composed of safety prevention advisors.

The health crisis had a large impact on work in the field of staff safety. Furthermore, the Committees for Prevention and Protection at Work organised more meetings in order to discuss the measures taken by the organisation with the trade union partners.

	2019*	2020	2021
Analysis activities <i>Detailed reports about serious work accidents, indicative measures, purchase files, observation</i>	477	399	252
Formulation of opinions <i>Risk analyses, material requests (DMat), Material Evaluation Committee (CEM), submission, fire prevention files, work site visit reports</i>	473	650	604
Collaborative activities <i>Drafting of risk analyses of tasks and missions, committee, working groups</i>	219	195	280
Handling of occupational accidents, including analysis work**	1 260	934	1 068

	2019*	2020	2021
Activities in the Committees for Prevention and Protection at Work <i>(including those of the director)</i>	84	133	224

*Reports completed by prevention/Safety advisors were adapted in 2021 to better understand the types of activities performed. However, in 2019, we were not distinguishing between risk analyses for advice/recommendations and participation in risk analyses.

** A work-related accident may lead to incapacity to work; a work incident, however, implies an event or dysfunction that does not lead to injury.

Veterinary activities for the Integrated Police

Our faithful four-legged auxiliaries also need care. The Federal Police have a veterinary service for this purpose, which also treats some of our colleagues' dogs of the Local Police.

Consultations	2018	2019	2020	2021
for Federal Police dogs	443	787	845	782
for Local Police dogs	180	214	573	168
for horses	5 784	2 700	4 281*	3 912*
External consultations for unfit horses**	171	242	269	242
Total	6 578	3 943	5 968	5 104

* This increase is largely due to the average age of the horses, which is rather high at the moment. All sorts of problems occur (arthrosis, dental problems), requiring rehabilitation and regular checks.

** "Retired" or "unfit" horses are horses that can no longer be engaged in missions and are housed with people who look after them during their retirement. However, they remain the property of the Federal Police.



Our material

- Every year, the Federal Police provide material and equipment to the Integrated Police staff in the field.
- In 2021, 10 149 945 euros were spent on equipment (excluding aspiring police officers), of which 5 198 406 euros (51 %) were allocated to the Local Police.
- The total number of vehicles purchased has increased significantly.

Vehicles

The total number of vehicles purchased has increased significantly. This can be explained by the fact that halfway through 2020, the government allocated an additional budget to the Federal Police, enabling units to improve their fleet.

Vehicles purchased	2019	2020	2021
Anonymous vehicles	82	278	384
Vehicles with police logo	142	157	208
incl. vehicles from special DAB (Directorate of Infrastructure Security) budget (non-recurring)	78	27	27
incl. heavy-duty vehicles (> 3.5 tonnes, including buses, armoured vehicles, water cannons, etc.)	3	4	1
incl. hybrid vehicles	26	30*	52*
Total	224	496	672

* 48 mild hybrids + 2 rechargeable hybrids + 2 electric vehicles.

Federal Police service vehicles*	2018	2019	2020	2021
Anonymous vehicles (not including the Directorate of Security (DAB))	2 258	2 285	2 267	2 453
Vehicles with police logo	1 151	1 172	1 401	1 451
Heavy-duty vehicles	86	93	110	3 904**

* Do NOT add the three numbers together to get the total number of vehicles. In fact, heavy-duty vehicles (e.g. 110 for 2020) are already counted as anonymous or police-striped vehicles.

** A major vehicle purchase was made in late 2021.

Changes in the fleet

26 million euros were invested in 2021 for the purchase of 672 vehicles for the Federal Police. This is a renewal of almost 15 % of our fleet in one year.

This important work of ordering and fitting out vehicles is the result of a collaboration between the Directorate of Finance (DRF) and the Directorate of Police Information and ICT Resources (DRI) of the Federal Police on the one hand, and our importers and fitters on the other.

All together, we provide optimal support to our police officers in the field!



Redesign in the vehicle workshop

Six Federal Police vehicles were used to launch a new training course in roadside arrest techniques for the Federal Highway Police (DAH) and the Directorate of Protection (DAP).

The objective of this training is to acquire the skills needed to implement a new arrest technique called "framing", which is carried out with four vehicles, i.e. a target vehicle and three intervention cars.

Careful thought was given to setting up a 360° protection of these vehicles (to limit the damage in case of collision). Therefore, for user safety and efficiency reasons, all six vehicles were equipped with a fixed protection system.

The redesign followed several steps:

1. mounting of front and rear shields ;
2. fixing of sheets on the four doors ;
3. installation of absorbent foam blocks on the shields and on the sheets;
4. installation of anti-burglary film on the glass of the doors;
5. airbag disconnection.

In September 2021, after a few months of development and realisation, a full-scale test was carried out on the Weelde circuit with the first four equipped cars.

The Directorate of Logistics (DRL) has some incredible talent!



Weapons and ammunition

In terms of individual weapons (batons and spray), we spent 1 164 698 euros for the Federal Police.

Purchases of weapons and ammunition*	2020	2021
Individual weapons	€ 1 288	€ 0**
Amount	512 907	139 269

Purchases of weapons and ammunition*	2020	2021
Ammunition	5 560 000 cartridges	4 538 000 cartridges
<i>Amount</i>	€ 945 544	€ 781 476
Grenades, tear gas and smoke	€ 189 828	€ 53 324
<i>Amount</i>		
Cougar grenade launchers	/	€ 15 791
<i>Amount</i>		
Batons + accessories	3 206	3 477
<i>Amount</i>	€ 144 807	€ 122 702
Pepper spray + accessories	13 426	7 715
<i>Amount</i>	€ 204 824	€ 155 754
Accessories	€ 339 741	€ 278 456

* Not accounted for: Special Units (DSU) and National Police Academy (ANPA)

** There were no orders for individual weapons, but for spare parts.

In 2021, the Federal Police purchased 423 new collective weapons, 64 blue guns and 64 red guns, totalling 1 903 835 euros. A blue gun is a weapon that fires blank cartridges or paintballs. A red gun has all the characteristics of a weapon, but is completely inert. Both guns are used for training purposes.

Measurements for the outfit via Booking

Aspiring police officers are one of the priorities of the Directorate of Logistics (DRL).

The police equipment requires different measurements in order to offer an outfit adapted to the measurements of everyone in the exercise of their missions in the field.

In order to modernise, DRL has decided to implement a new procedure (based on digitalisation) for making appointments at the "Fitting room" via the creation of a specific application called Booking. Through close collaboration with the Recruitment and Selection Service (DPRS) of the Directorate of Staff, aspiring police officers are provided with a QR code that allows them to easily schedule an appointment before they begin their training.

This customer-oriented application is simple and efficient; it brings flexibility and time savings to aspiring police officers and colleagues in DRL's Fitting room.



Our infrastructure

- In total, the Federal Police have 145 buildings on the Belgian territory.
- Thanks to the acquisition of the Wisbecq stud farm, the Federal Police now have infrastructure adapted to the needs of their riders and their horses.
- Westakkers, "our" 50 hectare training ground, was officially opened on 6 July.



In total, the Federal Police have 145 buildings on the Belgian territory.

Specific amounts paid by the Federal Police	2018	2019	2020	2021	Evolution
Energy (electricity, gas, water, heating oil)	€ 8 684 410	€ 8 481 796	€ 6 443 110	€ 8 257 805	+28.2 %
Maintenance and development costs and infrastructure rental	€ 6 858 048	€ 7 960 413	€ 8 319 150	€ 9 237 866	+11 %*
Total	€ 15 542 458	€ 16 442 209	€ 14 762 260	€ 17 495 671	+18.5 %*

* The Federal Police offer partial solutions when the Régie des bâtiments is not able to provide a solution quickly. If necessary, the Federal Police stabilise the situation until the Régie des bâtiments can provide a structural solution.



The Wisbecq stud farm for the welfare of the horse police

The Régie des bâtiments has signed the deed of acquisition of a 15-hectare stud farm to house the Federal Police cavalry.

This acquisition will provide the Federal Police with infrastructure adapted to the needs of the riders and horses of the Directorate of Public Security (DAS). In addition to the ten hectares of meadows, the domain also includes two indoor tracks and 145 stalls that comply perfectly with animal welfare regulations.

And to top it all off, the stud farm was designed to be virtually energy neutral, thanks to 450 solar panels, well-insulated interiors and a one million-litre rainwater tank.

In addition, the relocation of the cavalry will free up some 28 000 m², notably on the sites of the Witte de Haelen and Gêruzet barracks, for which the Régie des bâtiments is examining the options, including the various possible reuses for other police services.



Security notices

The Directorate of Logistics (DRL) of the Federal Police issues security notices and carries out audits in terms of infrastructure, standards for certain equipment or identity/identification documents.

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Files for the Federal Police	76	44	66	38
Files for the Local Police	19	15	17	10
Management of police legitimization and identification cards	2 529	2 198	1 768	7 945*
<i>for the Federal Police</i>	892	742	607	5 165
<i>for the Local Police</i>	1 637	1 445	1 161	2 618

* Large increase due to replacement of old cards



Official opening of Westakkers, "our" 50 hectares

The "Westakkers" domain in East Flanders was officially opened on 6 July 2021. This 50-hectare site, which is located between Sint-Niklaas and Beveren, is the largest training site for the Integrated Police in Belgium. Several authorities, members of the Integrated Police and media came to see the many possibilities of the domain.

The Integrated Police have been using this former military estate for training for about ten years now, mainly in the field of negotiated public space management. The domain offers many more possibilities. Since 1 January, 2021, it has been the property of the Régie des bâtiments; its management is entrusted to the

Federal Police. For the future of the site, the police have developed a vision that takes into account the wishes of the Province of East Flanders and the municipalities of Sint-Niklaas and Beveren. This aims to make Westakkers a sustainable, ecological and multiple-use site, by integrating it as well as possible into its environment.

Our budget

- In 2021, the Federal Police received an additional budget of 50 million euros.
- Among other things, this budget was used to cover the additional cost of recruiting the 1 600 aspiring inspectors.
- In 2021, the Federal Police obtained European subsidies for nine of their projects.

Overall budget

The budget, which amounts to 2 291 749 euros (excluding separate terrorism funds), is structured around three main axes:

- the Federal Police
- the Integrated Police (GPI)
- the Local Police

It is divided into five categories:

- Staff
- Operations
- Investment
- Allocations
- Subsidies

Federal Police	2018	2019	2020	2021
Staff	756 700 000	813 689 000	920 463 000	917 951 000
Operations	91 580 000	90 653 860	94 743 000	98 029 835
Investment	27 025 000	20 883 000	45 517 500	47 339 081
Allocations	/	/	/	
Subsidies	1 170 000	1 170 000	1 344 000	1 346 000
Total	876 475 000	926 395 860	1 062 067 500	1 064 665 916

Integrated Police	2018	2019	2020	2021
Staff	103 759 000	108 745 000	97 637 000	90 907 774
Operations	70 673 000	73 522 929	82 469 122	138 983 348
Investment	13 633 000	6 559 657	10 877 445	32 551 962
Allocations	/	/	/	/
Subsidies	13 986 000	14 149 000	14 231 000	14 392 000
Total	202 051 000	202 976 586	205 214 567	276 835 084

Local Police	2018	2019	2020	2021
Staff	/	/	/	/

Local Police	2018	2019	2020	2021
Operations	/	/	/	/
Investment	/	/	/	/
Allocations	915 640 000	947 998 000	957 585 000	917 333 000
Subsidies	42 420 000	36 878 000	97 000 000	32 915 000
Total	958 060 000	984 876 000	1 054 585 000	950 248 000

Total	2018	2019	2020	2021
Staff	860 459 000	922 434 000	1 018 100 000	1 008 858 774
Operations	162 253 000	164 176 789	177 212 122	237 013 183
Investment	40 658 000	27 442 657	56 394 945	79 891 043
Allocations	915 640 000	947 998 000	95 585 000	917 333 000
Subsidies	57 576 000	52 197 000	112 575 000	48 653 000
Total	2 036 586 000	2 114 248 446	2 321 867 067	2 291 749 000

Envelopes for essential investments and structural needs

In 2021, the 2021-2024 multi-year budget for the Federal Police was revised; there was a budget expansion based on the following growth trajectory (excluding the savings imposed on all federal public services, including the Federal Police):

Year	Additional mount (in KEUR)
2021	+ 50 000
2022	+ 70 000
2023	+ 90 000
2024	+ 100 000

These envelopes allow the Federal Police to cover essential investments that have not been possible until now. Indeed, the annual budget alone does not cover all the structural needs of the organisation. The structural needs such as maintenance, telephones, servers, clothes, etc. are dealt with in a second phase.

In order to use these envelopes wisely, the Federal Police therefore sought a balance between different needs. On the one hand, the necessary refinancing (upgrading), and on the other, the new policy. Both are based on the goals set out in the government agreement.

Among the goals of the new policy are the recruitment of 1 600 aspiring police officers and the digitalisation of the organisation.

Part of the additional appropriations will be used to cover the shortfall in structural operating appropriations and to ensure the necessary reinvestments (among others 18 600 KEUR for the renewal of the car fleet, 2 600 KEUR for the implementation of the new salary engine, a boat for the Maritime and River Police for 3 443 KEUR, the purchase of new software licenses, etc.).

In the area of recruitment, appropriations were first provided to cover the additional cost of 1 600 aspiring inspectors, amounting to 4 624 KEUR. These costs were split between school subsidies, advertising campaigns and equipment (uniform).

In addition, the emphasis was placed on digitalisation in order to allow the expansion of police processes and mobile working, on the one hand, and the necessary replacement and expansion of the ICT architecture, on the other. This includes monitors, laptops and desktop PCs as well as projects related to SKY. A total of 13 705 000 euros was invested in this area in 2021.

European funding as a lever for more resources

In 2021, the Federal Police obtained European subsidies for nine of its projects, representing a total amount of 1.18 million euros (total amount of projects: 1.24 million euros). Subsidies were therefore allocated to two projects to fight against transit migration through the purchase of technical equipment and to one project to combat international drug trafficking.

The Federal Police are also participating as a partner in ten projects financed by Europe and set up by external partners. For our services and expertise in these projects, we received a grant totalling 1.86 million euros (total project budget: 2.02 million euros). These include projects focusing on barrier models to combat international drug trafficking, the development of ICT tools to fight against corruption and participation in the creation of a European cybercrime network.

However, 2021 was a transitional year. The preparation of the new multi-annual budget of the European Union continued, and the Federal Police prepared about 20 new project proposals, both in terms of content and finance, with a view to their actual submission in 2022.



The police as an employer

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- There was a slight increase in the number of candidates who applied for an operational job.
- The selection procedure has been reviewed and made more efficient; several tests have been adapted or digitised.
- The Federal Police have launched a new project for young people aged 14 to 18, namely "The Rookies".



[Recruitment & selection](#)



[Training](#)

Recruitment and selection for the Integrated Police

- There was a slight increase in the number of candidates who applied for an operation job.
- The selection procedure has been reviewed and made more efficient; several tests have been adapted or digitised.
- The Federal Police have launched a new project for young people aged 14 to 18: "The Rookies".

Summary table of recruitments

The Recruitment and Selection Service of the Federal Police (DPRS) is responsible for external recruitment of both operational and civilian staff of the Integrated Police (Local Police and Federal Police) as well as for internal promotion exams.

The tables below contain interesting figures relating to recruitment and selection procedures for the various target groups.

External recruitment	2018	2019	2020	2021
Candidates for the operational staff*	17 654	14 594	12 989	13 218
Selected candidates for the operational staff*	1 802	1 667	1 626	2 269
Candidates for the administrative and logistic staff	8 227	8 274	8 241	10 370
Selected candidates for the administrative and logistic staff	1 552	1 706	2 079	1 550
Total	29 235	26 241	24 935	27 407

* Candidates in a specific year are not necessarily selected candidates in the same year.

Internal recruitment	2018	2019	2020	2021
Candidates for the operational staff*	1 326	1 213	1 311	1 157
Selected candidates for the operational staff*	689	747	591	600
Candidates for the administrative and logistic staff	1 587	995	541	0**
Selected candidates for the administrative and logistic staff	54	117	92	0**
Total	3 656	3 072	2 536	1 757

* Candidates in a specific year are not necessarily selected candidates in the same year.

** No CALog promotion was organised in 2021.

Total recruitment	2018	2019	2020	2021	Evolution
Candidates for the operational staff*	18 980	15 807	14 300	14 375	+0,52 %
Selected candidates for the operational staff*	2 491	2 414	2 148	2 869	+33,57 %
Candidates for the administrative and logistic staff	9 814	8 269	8 782	10 370	+18,08 %

Total recruitment	2018	2019	2020	2021	Evolution
Selected candidates for the administrative and logistic staff	1 606	1 823	2 171	1 550	-28,6 %
Total	32 891	29 313	27 470	29 164	+6,16 %

* Candidates in a specific year are not necessarily selected candidates in the same year.

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Medical files handled by the Occupational Health Service	2 021	1 982	1 844	1 907

Selection tests

A detailed description of the selection tests for "uniformed duties" and "civilian duties" is available on www.jobpol.be.

Totals	2019	2020	2021
Occupational tests	1 380	2 692	2 016
Sports tests	15 271	8 306	10 246
Cognitive tests	13 709	13 040	12 031
Language tests	9 104	6 926	6 408
Personality tests	11 909	10 403	10 947
Background checks	4 471	2 607	3 307
Selection boards	5 402	3 990	4 395
Deliberations	6 706	5 084	5 693

New recruitment and selection procedure

The recruitment and selection procedure was completely revised in 2021 and was launched on 14 September of that same year. The main objective was to increase the role and responsibility of the Local Police zones and the Federal Police entities by allowing them to carry out the selection and recruitment themselves. Through media campaigns, job days and new partnerships, they have the opportunity to promote themselves and convince potential candidates to opt for a job in their zone or service. The zones and entities also conduct their own interviews to find the right candidates for their teams. Pre-selection tests such as the knowledge and personality tests are still managed by the Recruitment and Selection Service of the Federal Police.

This new procedure also allows us to improve the quality of the recruitment, to save time and, given the local nature of the recruitment, to have applying candidates from diversified backgrounds.

Innovation and digitalisation: SaRA and the new JobPol.be

In conjunction with the new recruitment and selection procedure, a completely redesigned www.jobpol.be website was launched in September 2021. The new site is more user-friendly and in line with the latest trends and technologies. In short, the police are getting a new image on the web.

The brand new SaRA application (Selection and Recruitment Administration), which has been developed by the Directorate of Police Information and ICT Resources (DRI), is linked to Jobpol.be. Candidates are now able to create their own account on Jobpol.be, and the Local Police zones and the federal entities can directly put their job advertisements online. SaRA also allows us to manage the recruitment reserve.

The application will be further expanded in the future, so that the administrative side will almost entirely become digital.

Important steps for candidates

Candidates can take the personality test and the situational judgment test, and complete the motivation questionnaire at home. It is not possible to cheat with these tests. However, candidates still have to take some tests at the police buildings, namely the cognitive test and the language test. Once they have passed these tests, candidates can take

the sports tests. At stage 3, a psychologist will assess their personality. In addition to these tests, a background investigation is conducted by the police zone where the candidates live.

A decision is then made as to the candidates' suitability for police work. Successful candidates are referred to as "selected candidates".

The latter can then apply for a specific zone or service. If they are recruited by the zone or service, a medical examination is conducted and police training can officially begin. If the selected candidates pass the training, the Local Police zone or the Federal Police service will welcome the new colleagues.

“2021, the year of change

"2021 is the year of change: the role and responsibility of the Local Police zones and the Federal Police services in charge of the recruitment and the selection of their new colleagues have been considerably strengthened. Thanks to digitalisation, our staff members can work faster and candidates can take some tests at home, which is much more comfortable. This allows more candidates to start and complete the process more quickly. The needs of the Local Police zones and the federal services are also better met.

This is a real change, but I'm sure our staff members will embrace this new logic."

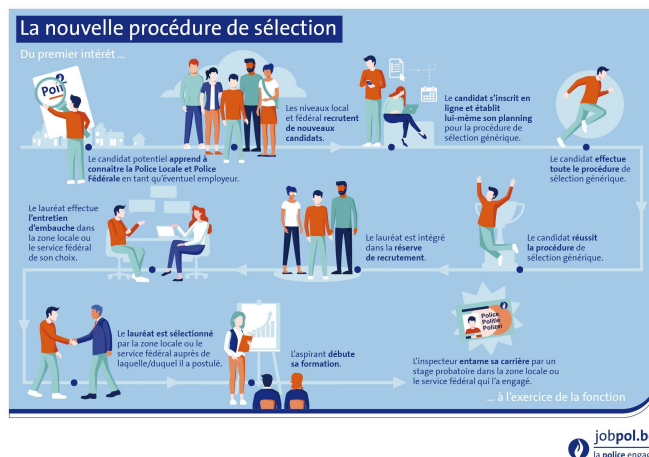
SENIOR ADVISOR DOMINIQUE VAN RYCKEGHEM
General Director of Resource Management and Information (DGR)



“

"This evolution is the result of many years of work. New candidates can finally be recruited in a more modern and efficient way. I look forward to seeing the new selected candidates begin exciting and rewarding careers within the Integrated Police. I hope they will be a source of inspiration."

FIRST CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT MARC DE MESMAEKER
General Commissioner of the Federal Police



Success Story

Partnerships, a new approach to recruitment!

In 2021, the recruitment process was extensively revised under the guidance of the General Directorate of Resource Management and Information (DGR). With this new approach to recruitment, we want to increase awareness of police jobs, recruit more candidates, conduct joint recruitment (with the Local Police) and

improve the image of the police by highlighting its societal relevance. The fundamental principles are cooperation, partnerships, focused work and surprising innovation.

Joint recruitment by the Local Police and the Federal Police is anchored in the provincial action plans coordinated by the governors and is a counterbalance to competition in the labour market.

We are looking for partners and candidates who share the same values and interests as the members of the police services, such as team spirit, perseverance, and sports and social commitment. In this context, agreements have been made with new partners in 2021, including the non-profit organisation Capital for the young people of Brussels, Belgian Cycling (the former cycling league) and Ghent University.

The non-profit organisation Capital aims to guide young people from Brussels and its suburbs within the labour market. In collaboration with the latest, the police have produced an exclusive video in which police officers talk about their work and the reasons why they love it: a wide range of tasks, many development opportunities, friendly colleagues and the daily contribution to a safer society.

For many, the collaboration with Belgian Cycling in terms of security and recruitment was both a great surprise and almost obvious. Cyclists are athletic, persevering and team players. And when they end their cycling career, while still very young, they are often looking for a meaningful job.

In 2021, together with Ghent University, we addressed the following question: "How and with what message can the police best recruit IT specialists?" Master students examined this issue during their academic year.

We hope to see the first results of these new partnerships in 2022.

Communication and marketing

On a regular basis, (new) communication channels and tools are used to inform the public of vacancies for operational and civilian staff.

Marketing tools	2018	2019	2020*	2021
Brochures and flyers	40 000	69 000	/	10 000
Telephone calls	/	20 985	41 984	56 530
Emails (dealt with)	/	14 158	25 985	28 433
Jobpol website visitors	/	1 414 750	1 858 442	1 599 843
Facebook messages	2 925	3 782	2 551	3 978
Training sessions in police zones	9	8	5	/
Info days in police schools	8	36	7	25
Followers on the Jobpol Facebook page	28 452	31 846	36 916	40 630
Followers on the Jobpol Instagram page	/	/	6 936	8 816
Recruitment events (info sessions, job fairs, etc.)	293	265	214	574
Other events (festivals, sports events, etc.)	432	241	/**	/**



Rookies discover the Federal Police during an immersion course

On 1 December 2021, the Federal Police launched a new project for young people aged 14 to 18 from all over Belgium. The project, called "The Rookies" and ending in July 2022, is intended to strengthen the relationship between youth and the police.

Thirty teenagers discover the work of several units of the Federal Police through different activities. For example, the participants accompany the Federal Highway Police, visit the Special Units, get to know our four-legged friends of the Directorate of Dog Support, discover how the laboratory examines traces...

The launch of this project also coincides with the Mutual Respect campaign, which intends to rebuild bridges between the safety professionals and the citizens. That implies in the first place one of the objectives of "The Rookies", namely getting to know each other better.

The goal of this project is to connect young citizens with different entities of the Federal Police. The idea is to achieve the following objective through different activities and meetings:

- drawing young people and the Federal Police to each other and stimulating dialogue;
- introducing young people to the police profession and the various opportunities within the Federal Police;
- raising youth's awareness of social issues such as violence, racism and harassment.



Training for the Integrated Police

- Compared to 2020, when the pandemic began and many training sessions had to be suspended, more than twice as many people were trained in the police schools last year.
- Some particular trainings have started at the National Police Academy.
- International relations and exchange of expertise through training: CEPOL and FRANCOPOL.

Basic training

Sessions*	2018	2019	2020	2021
Constable	4	4	2	3
Inspector	23	23	28	28
Chief inspector	10	10	10	10
Chief inspector with specialisation	2	2	2	2
Preparatory training for middle-ranking officers	2	2	2	2
Superintendent	4	1	2	2
Preparatory training for senior officers	2	1	2	2
Accelerated training social promotion constable to inspector	4	2	2	2
Security constables and assistants (DAB)	21	14	9	14

* Number of sessions that have begun.

** These figures include the number of people who have begun their basic training.

*** The number of people who completed their training successfully may be different from the number of people trained since the former also include people who started their training the previous year.

People trained**	2018**	2019**	2020**	2021**
Constable	90	69	66	86
Inspector	1 136	1 168	1 133	1 116
Chief inspector	385	355	409	433
Chief inspector with specialisation	23	24	38	27
Preparatory training for middle-ranking officers	39	47	25	25
Superintendent	110	154	118	120
Preparatory training for senior officers	33	16	9	10
Accelerated training social promotion constable to inspector	99	54	39	46
Security constables and assistants (DAB)	414	290	157	249

** These figures include the number of people who started their basic training.

People who successfully completed their training	2019***	2020***	2021***
Constable	34	21	82
Inspector	1 170	1 186	1 099
Chief inspector	389	346	408
Chief inspector with specialisation	42	16	27
Preparatory training for middle-ranking officers	39	23	24
Superintendent	110	152	119
Preparatory training for senior officers	33	15	10
Accelerated training social promotion constable to inspector	63	41	43
Security constables and assistants (DAB)	320	261	231

*** The number of people who completed their training successfully may be different from the number of people trained since the former also include people who started their training the previous year.



Total number of people trained

In 2021, a real catching-up process was organised at the training level. Compared to 2020, when the pandemic began and many training sessions had to be suspended, more than twice as many people were trained in the police schools last year (including distance learning).

The figures in the table below include both basic and other training. For basic training, the figures include the number of people who started their training this year. For other training (promotional, continuous, functional, certified), this is the number of people who completed their training this year.

Schools	2018	2019	2020	2021
ANPA (Berg, Brussels, Ghent, Jumet, Vottem, Wilrijk)	23 778	25 923	14 626	34 377
Académie de police de Namur	3 918	4 402	2 035	2 930
APPH (Jurbise)	5 849	6 896	4 272	6 804
Campus VESTA (Antwerp)	6 625	10 765	6 115	7 596
École de Police de la Province de Liège	4 224	6 169	2 051	5 789
ERIP-GIP (Brussels)	5 532	6 277	4 099	13 609

Schools	2018	2019	2020	2021
PAULO (Ghent)	6 182	6 745	3 478	7 766
PIVO (Asse)	4 040	3 272	2 17	3 223
PLOT (Limburg)	3 214	3 897	2 680	4 812
WPS (Zedelgem)	4 757	5 349	3 238	6 109
Total	68 119	79 695	44 769*	93 015

* The decrease in the number of staff members trained is due to the corona crisis. The training sessions were partly cancelled, since it was impossible to organise them respecting security measures on the one hand and since they were not yet available digitally on the other hand.

Milestones in the National Police Academy

Pursuit and Interception training

After a police pursuit in 2020 that ended tragically, the National Police Academy (ANPA) developed a new Pursuit and Interception training course in line with the recommendations of the supervisory bodies (Standing Police Monitoring Committee - Comité P). This training provides a uniform method of working for the Integrated Police. The aim is to improve and harmonise vehicle pursuit and interception skills. The learning content combines violence control techniques and driving skills.

An initial pilot session of the Vehicle Pursuit and Interception training was held in the spring of 2020 and looked very promising. This was confirmed in 2021 as 1 534 police officers were trained in this technique.

Excited Delirium Syndrome

Police authorities, in particular the Minister of the Interior and the Coordinating Committee of the Integrated Police, expressed their desire to train all police staff, as well as call takers in emergency call centres, who are in direct contact with citizens, in specific interventions involving "confused people". Police services are daily confronted with "unruly people", in particular those suffering from *the Excited Delirium Syndrome* (EDS). The personality, the attitude, as well as the place of intervention can play a role. These are often difficult and delicate situations.

In 2021, 192 police officers were trained in that issue.

The National Police Academy goes international with Francopol

The National Police Academy (ANPA) is a member of Francopol, an international French-speaking police training network. This organisation includes a number of technical committees, where experts and professionals from many countries and organisations exchange online on policing issues and responses.

The ANPA is directly involved in the "police behaviour" committee which deals with various issues related to ethics, such as the use of social networks, presentation, dress and posture of police officers. In this context, the ANPA was a main participant in the sixth international congress of the organisation that was held on 17 and 18 November 2021, for the first time in videoconference. The general theme of this event was "Police and citizen: trust at the heart of interventions". In collaboration with Swiss and Canadian colleagues (Lausanne police and Sûreté du Québec), it led a workshop entitled "Hipsters, tattooed, dolled up... Too stylish! In a diverse society, the dilemmas of police posture and dress to inspire with confidence: define, guide, monitor, react". This presentation and these exchanges, combined with a further reflection process within the committee, will lead to the drafting of a summary document that will be available to the police organisations.

Online CEPOL training courses

CEPOL, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training, which aims to promote European and international cooperation through training, provides training courses in various forms: on-site, but also *covid-proof* through webinars, online courses and modules.

The sessions cover several topics such as sexual exploitation of children, environmental crime (such as the fight against illegal fishing), the *dark web*, cryptocurrencies, or gender-based hate or violence crimes.

	2019	2020	2021
Webinars	261	839	682
Modules	6	127	107
Online sessions	54	35	28
On site	80	3	52



Postal parcels in the sights of CEPOL

In November 2021, the National Police Academy (ANPA) organised the CEPOL Drug Trafficking Methods - Mail & Postal Parcels training in Leipzig (Germany). Its main goal was to analyse the risks and to improve the search and detection processes of postal parcels used to carry drugs.

A total of 26 participants from the police and customs services of 20 EU member states and the Republic of Northern Macedonia, as well as some 15 experts (police, customs and private sector) from all over the world exchanged their experiences and best practices during one week.