

Annual Report 2022

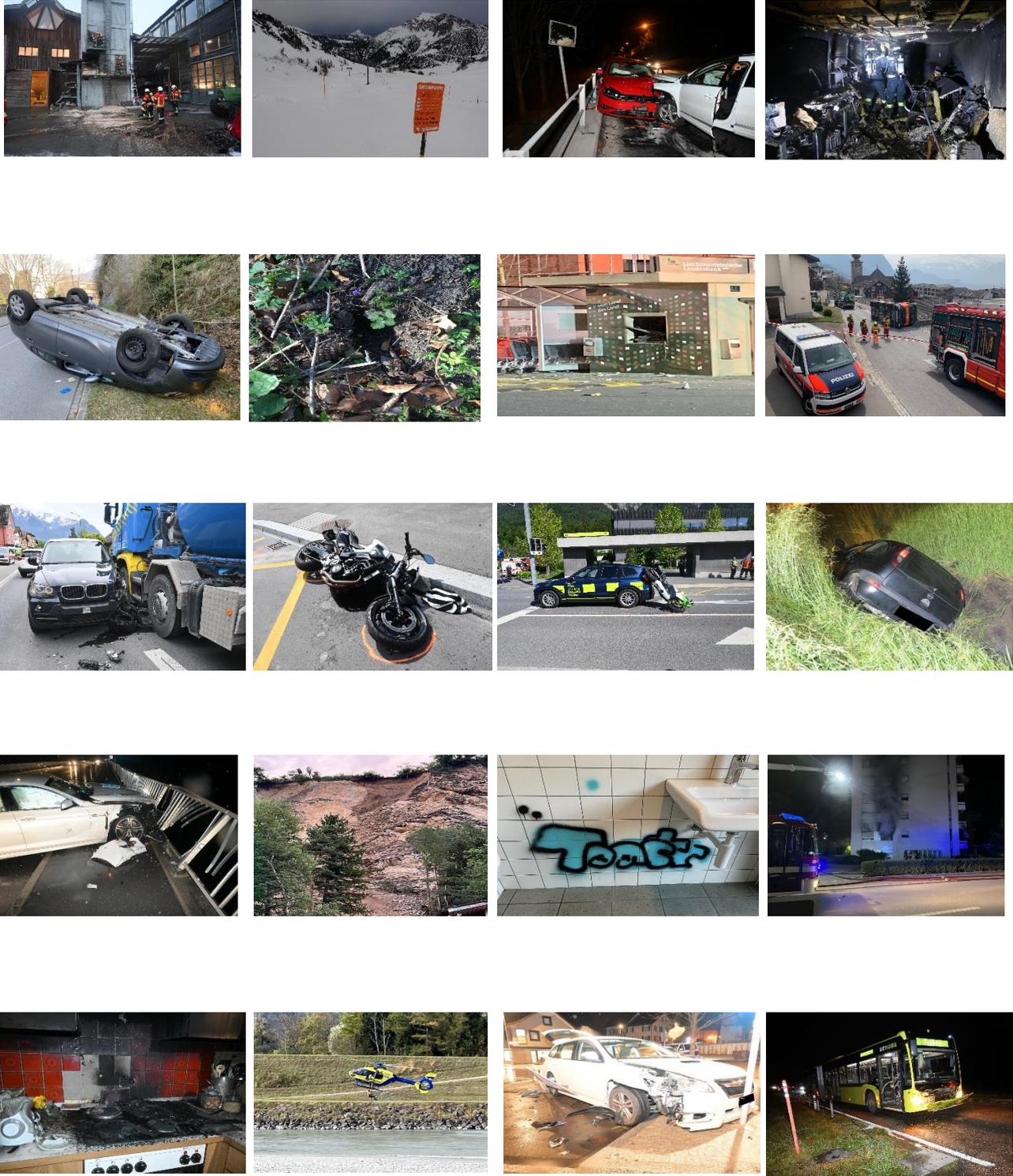


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Impressions of 2022



1 Focus Areas of the National Police

1.1. Focus areas of the police

The beginning of the year was still dominated by the pandemic and the fear that, in view of the highly contagious Omicron variant, the stamina of the National Police might be affected. Fortunately, this concern turned out to be unfounded and the National Police were able to fulfil their service mandate at all times.

Once 24 February arrived, the date of the invasion of Ukraine by Russian troops, the pandemic all but faded into the background. As a result of Russia's war of aggression, we have seen significant numbers of refugees fleeing Ukraine, with almost five million now registered in Western European countries. A total of around 500 refugees from Ukraine found their way to Liechtenstein and were taken in, housed and cared for. It is encouraging to note that this very high number of requests for protection in Liechtenstein due to the war in Ukraine has had no negative effects on internal security. There was no opposition or protest rallies, and the people seeking protection from Ukraine have not attracted special attention from the police.

The brutal actions of Russian troops in Ukraine and the evidence of war crimes committed prompted the public prosecutor's office to initiate preliminary investigations on suspicion of war crimes (§321 Criminal Code (StGB)). The National Police were tasked with questioning refugees about possible war crimes and collecting evidence. The public prosecutor's office's aim is to collect evidence and, if necessary, to make it available to an international court that will one day investigate Russian war crimes in Ukraine. The National Police have provided an information leaflet in Ukrainian to all refugees arriving in Liechtenstein, asking them to come forward if they can provide information on possible Russian war crimes. In one case of a family from Mariupol, statements were taken, evidence (videos and photos) secured and the facts reported to the public prosecutor's office.

As a result of the war, the dependence of Western states, including Liechtenstein, on Russian gas and the possibility of an energy shortage became the focus of political attention. The government established the National Command Staff (LFS), headed by the Chief of Police, as a planning staff and tasked it with developing an "Energy Shortage Contingency Plan", with particular focus on critical infrastructure. The basis for the work of the LFS should be the management measures of the Swiss Federal Council in the event of an energy shortage. This is because these would also have to be implemented in Liechtenstein, by virtue of the customs treaty. The LFS developed an emergency plan, in collaboration with numerous stakeholders in society, and submitted it to the government in December as an "interim report". The government subsequently commissioned the utility company Liechtensteinische Kraftwerke (LKW) to examine the technical feasibility. Based on the outcome of the technical review by LKW, the final emergency plan will be submitted to the government for approval in early 2023.

In parallel with the LFS, the National Police set up the Police Command Staff (PFS) to identify necessary measures to ensure that the police will continue to be able to perform its duties even in the event of a power shortage. For example, energy-saving measures were evaluated in the police building, an "energy-saving plan" was drawn

up and the fuel reserve tanks were filled. Energy consumption was also reduced as an immediate measure (e.g. by reducing lighting). On 12 November, the entire police building was also disconnected from the power grid and the functionality of the emergency generators was tested. The test provided a positive result, so that even in the event of a power shortage, Liechtenstein would have a functioning basis for ensuring public order and safety in the form of the police building. In addition, the review of Polycom's emergency concepts (police and blue light radio) shows that the security and rescue organisations can rely on a functioning radio network even in the event of a power shortage and thus the failure of the normal communication networks. On the basis of the Polycom radio network, an "alternative alerting concept" was also devised in cooperation with the management bodies of the municipalities (FOG), the fire brigade and community protection (emergency meeting points) in the event that due to a lack of power – i.e. total failure of the communication networks and thus also of the emergency numbers – normal alerting of the security and rescue forces would not be possible for people in distress or for the National Emergency and Operations Centre.

In connection with the war in Ukraine, there was also a very special deployment of the state police. From 22 to 24 November, the Liechtenstein Foreign Minister travelled to the Ukrainian capital Kyiv together with other European ministers. The National Police were tasked with accompanying the minister on this trip and ensuring her safety. The National Police have never had to carry out a personal protection mission in a war zone before. In this respect, the preparation and implementation of this operation posed a significant challenge for them. All the more so as the situation in Kyiv was assessed by the National Police as very critical to dangerous. The missile attacks on Kyiv during the visit and the transfer of the ministers to a shelter confirmed the National Police's assessment of the situation as critical. The excellent cooperation of the international personal protection team with the Ukrainian security authorities prevented anything worse from happening, ensuring that the mission was successfully completed and that the Liechtenstein delegation could return safely to Liechtenstein.

In addition to the war in Ukraine and its effects in Liechtenstein, normal police work has also provided a number of challenges. For example, the two-day meeting of German-speaking heads of state took place in Liechtenstein in September. In view of the tense security situation in Europe as a result of the war in Ukraine, a comprehensive security plan (personal and property protection) had to be drawn up and temporary road closures implemented. The preparations and arrangements with the security authorities of the participating heads of state began months in advance and were very time- and resource-intensive. Although all the forces within the National Police were deployed, this major security and traffic police event could not have been managed without the additional support of Swiss police forces.

Sporting events also kept the National Police busy in the reporting year. For example, it was heavily involved in planning the finish of the Tour de Suisse in Malbun and the individual time trials throughout the country. The unexpectedly successful performance of FC Vaduz at European level in the Conference League also caused unplanned additional work for the national police. The home matches against Rapid Wien (Austria) and Alkmaar (Netherlands), each of which was attended by a large

number of visiting fans who celebrated loudly in the centre of Vaduz, necessitated a large contingent of National Police. Fortunately, apart from a number of pyrotechnic flares being set off, the games were largely peaceful and without major incident.

Increased burglaries and cybercrimes, ATM burglaries in Ruggell and Gamprin, numerous complex fraud investigations, a dust explosion with serious injuries in Schaan as well as one fatal skiing accident and two fatal traffic accidents were further challenges that occupied the National Police in the reporting year. In virtually all fields of crime, an increase in the number of offences was recorded compared to the previous year. The crime rate increased by 16% to 1,332 offences in the reporting year and thus reached its highest level in ten years.

Fortunately, however, the clear-up rate has also increased slightly, to 69%.

In the case of property offences, an increase in offences was recorded for the second year in a row (+23%). This was primarily the result of an increase of 38% in theft offences and 24% in burglaries. The number of violent offences also increased by 25%. This increase was due to offences involving bodily harm, while threats have only slightly increased and coercion has actually decreased. Offences under the Narcotics Act have decreased for the second year in a row. There were 3% fewer narcotics offences registered, but 11% more suspects were reported. The highest number of convictions were due to personal use. However, since narcotics crimes are 'control offences' that are rarely reported and usually uncovered through police checks, it can be assumed that many such offences are simply going unnoticed. Fortunately, no drug-related deaths were recorded during the reporting year.

In the reporting year, 7% more economic offences had to be processed, with an increase in fraud and money laundering offences in particular. This resulted in more economic and financial offences being processed in the reporting year than ever before. Investigations into white-collar crime cases – some of which involve imprisoned suspects – tie up considerable human resources, as the majority of very complex white-collar crime cases often drag on for years. Extensive documents and records have to be evaluated, money flow analyses have to be made, countless people have to be questioned and often requests for legal assistance have to be made abroad. The efforts of the National Police to ensure professional financial investigations in spite of the steadily increasing number of cases have been worth it, though. In the reporting year, this was also reflected in the positive result of the country's evaluation by Moneyval, the body responsible at the Council of Europe for reviewing national defence mechanisms to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.

The establishment of a Digital Crime Commissariat two years ago and the staffing of this department has proven to be crucial. Offences committed using information and communication technology have increased by 10% compared to the previous year (2022: 172; 2021: 156). The digitalisation of our everyday lives has a direct impact on crime phenomenology and crime is also becoming increasingly digital. Keeping up with this development is a great challenge for the National Police. Only a continuous expansion of resources and expertise will allow the National Police to ensure law enforcement even in a digitalised world and ensure there are no lawless spaces.

In the reporting year, a technical solution for the automatic monitoring of the availability of emergency numbers was implemented in the National Emergency and Operations Centre (LNEZ). The “emergency call line check” is intended to inform the National Police at an early stage about problems with the accessibility of emergency numbers as a result of network or other technical problems. This is to ensure that no unnoticed interference with emergency phone traffic can occur. The importance of the LNEZ of the National Police for our country has been steadily increasing since the transfer of the emergency medical service from the National Hospital to the National Police in 2017. Emergency calls again increased in the reporting year by 15% to 7,314, reaching a new high. For the first time, most of the calls were received through the ambulance service emergency number 144. The police emergency number 117 came in second place. Based on the emergency calls, a total of 8,065 dispatches were dispatched. As the LNEZ is the only 24/7 centre in Liechtenstein and is designed as a multi-functional operations centre (police, fire, ambulance, SPOC for numerous international organisations, etc.), it is increasingly reaching the limits of its capacity. As the LNEZ is the backbone of any crisis management in Liechtenstein, an external review of its structures and resources was conducted. The experts identified a need for action at the LNEZ and recommended the detailed clarification of two solution approaches to ensure the quality of services in the long term. This is all the more pressing as the National Police are constantly confronted with further performance expectations, especially from the health, rescue and traffic sectors.

In view of the broad range of tasks of the National Police, the continuous recruitment and development of personnel is a growing challenge for police leadership, especially in times of an increasing shortage of skilled workers. This is the only way that the police’s basic mission of “preserving public safety and prosecuting crimes in Liechtenstein” can also be achieved, given the new types of activity and dangers. It is all the more gratifying that in the reporting year, after successfully completing the two-year basic training, one male and one female police officer were ceremonially admitted into the National Police. Alongside this, after successfully completing the first year of training at the Police Academy of Eastern Switzerland (PSO), one female and three male cadets started the second practical training year with the National Police in autumn. Accompanied by practical mentors, they will be introduced to everyday police life and attend special training sessions in parallel to their practical training placement. After passing the Federal Vocational Examination in the autumn of 2023, they will then be accepted into the National Police. At the same time, another male cadet and a female cadet also started their first year of training at the PSO in autumn of the reporting year. The parallel supervision of first-year cadets at the PSO and second-year cadets at the National Police is very time-consuming.

Also in autumn, six men and two women started the internal six-month, in-service training to become riot police officers. The riot police as a militia unit is an indispensable security police support element for the National Police. It is an important reserve of personnel for security and law enforcement operations and is also used to support shift work. Thanks to motivated employees who are also involved in the training of new colleagues and a training officer who coordinates everything, the state police can guarantee professional supervision and training for young police officers.

An e-learning tool is now also available for the training and further education of the National Police, which considerably facilitates the transfer of knowledge in an organisation with shift operations, as seminar dates no longer have to be coordinated in a time-consuming manner. Staff can work on the content when their workload allows.

In terms of equipment and mobile working, the National Police also made some changes in the reporting year. For example, there is an increased focus on sustainability in the vehicle fleet. When replacing service vehicles it is always examined whether electric vehicles could be a reasonable alternative. While electric vehicles are not yet an option for patrol cars due to limited storage space, they certainly meet the requirements for other police service vehicles. Thus, in the reporting year, a total of four electric vehicles were procured as civilian service vehicles.

With the police query portal “PAP”, the National Police is developing a central query solution that allows both stationary and mobile alphanumeric (and will later also allow biometric) searches of all European and national police-relevant databases. PAP was due to be introduced in the reporting year. However, since the introduction of the new Schengen Information System SISrecast has been postponed until 2023 due to technical problems in individual Schengen member states – with other systems such as EES, ETIAS and IOP taking even longer due to dependencies – the National Police were unfortunately unable to put PAP into operation as planned in the reporting year. The necessary interfaces to the European systems could not be achieved, due to these delays. In addition to the operational unavailability of PAP, the delay in the European projects also meant considerable additional expenditure of human and financial resources for the continuation of the interdependent projects for the National Police.

2 Headcount

In the reporting year, the National Police had a target headcount of 134 staff plus two jobs to be eliminated in the future (excluding National Prison). Of these, as at the end of the reporting year, there was a total headcount of 126.8 (excluding National Prison) (2021: 124.8): 85.3 police officer posts with official functions, 19.2 civilian staff posts with police functions (forensic science, international police cooperation, digital crime, etc.) and 22.3 administrative employees. In addition, four police cadets have been in training since October 2021 and four since October of the reporting year, and they will be admitted to the police force in autumn 2023 and 2024 respectively upon successful completion of their two-year basic training. The National Police was supported by 31 riot police. At the National Prison, 6.0 jobs were filled by prison officers.

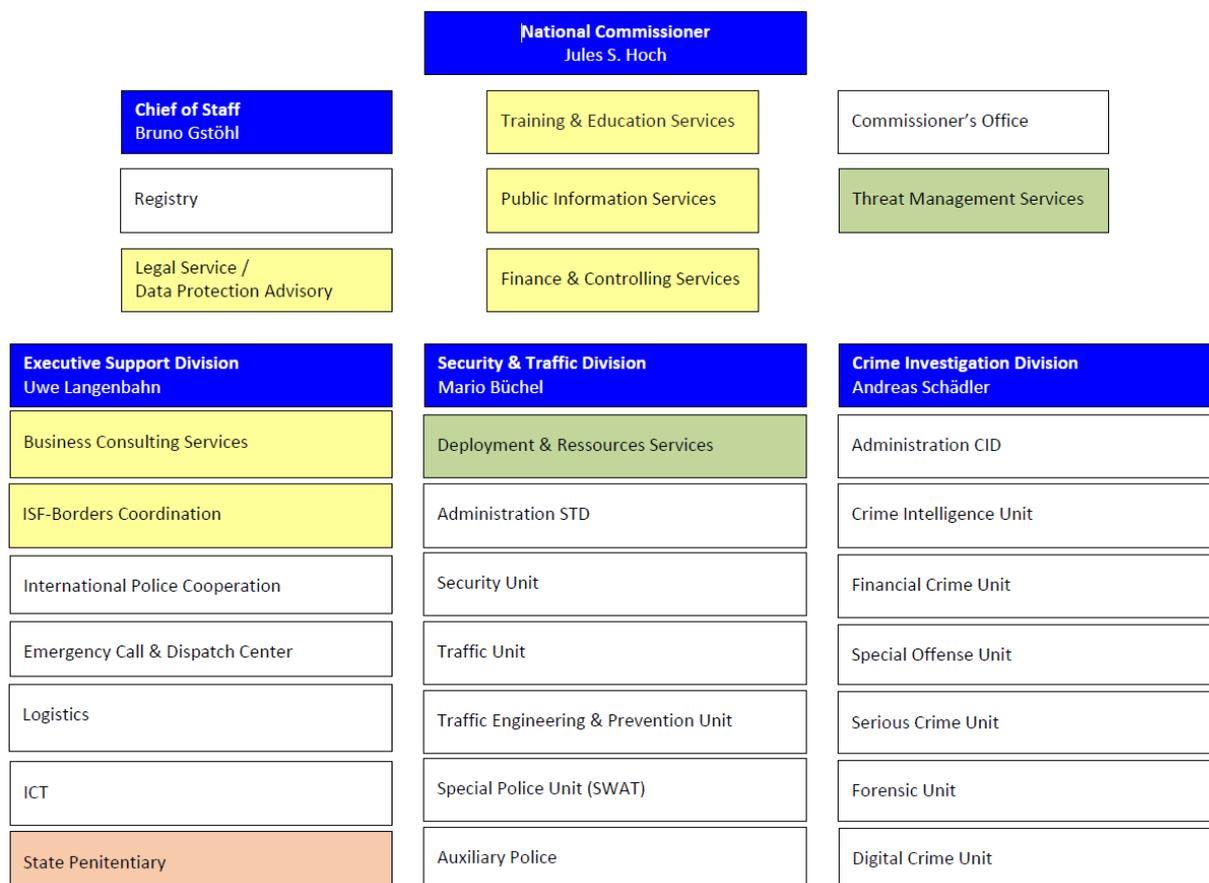


Fig.: National Police organisational chart

3 Education and Training

Internal and external education and training is highly valued in the National Police. Police officers completed various career-related forms of education and training in the reporting year in the area of leadership and on topics relating to security, criminal investigation and traffic. The employees of the National Police completed this training primarily at the Swiss Police Institute (SPI), at allied cantonal police forces and, for some topics, also at police training institutions in Austria and Germany.

Internal further training, which is regularly required on a wide variety of topics (e.g. SISrecast, LiVE, legal topics, etc.), involves a considerable amount of coordination due to the shift work at the National Police. For this reason, an e-learning system was procured in the reporting year, with which training content can be made available online, worked through by employees depending on their individual availability. Following the training, they can check their knowledge with test questions. The content is prepared in a multimedia format by the departments in cooperation with the staff unit Training and Further Education and made available to staff online via the “LP Web Portal”.

4 National Emergency Call and Operations Centre

The National Police are on duty 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This also applies to the force's centrepiece, the National Emergency Call and Operations Centre. Two dispatch officers are on duty around the clock, take all police and ambulance service calls and initiate the necessary immediate measures.

In the reporting year, a total of 7,314 calls (2021: 6,345) to the emergency numbers 112 (international emergency number), 117 (police emergency number), 118 (fire service emergency number) and 144 (ambulance service emergency number) were made. This was an increase of 15%. The majority of callers dialled the ambulance service emergency number 144, followed by the police emergency number 117 and the international emergency number 112. From the calls received, a total of 8,065 dispatches were made (police 5,405, ambulance 2,526 and fire 134), which was a significant increase (2021: 7,349). In total, this amounts to an average of 22 dispatches per day.

More ambulance calls than police calls for the first time. An average of 22 dispatches were made per day.



5 Anonymous Whistleblower System

In April 2020, the National Police introduced a whistleblower platform secured with state-of-the-art technology for giving open and anonymous reports of suspicious activity. Since then, people have been able to give reports on the following (focus) areas around the clock:

- Money laundering
- Financing of terrorism
- Economic crimes
- Corruption offences

No IP address data, time stamp or other metadata is logged when people use the whistleblower system. If the whistleblower does not leave their name when making the report, the communication is completely anonymous – which is ensured by technical means. Specialist employees from the criminal investigation department have their own dedicated mailbox, allowing communication with them via the system.

Twenty-four anonymous suspicious activity reports were processed from January to December.

In the period from January to December of the reporting year, a total of 1,196 accesses to the whistleblower platform were registered. Among these, 24 suspicious activity reports were filed, which were processed by staff specialising in corruption offences (15 of these reports were in the area of economic offences, seven in the area of money laundering and two in the area of corruption offences). In five cases, a report was made to the Liechtenstein public prosecutor's office, resulting in criminal proceedings being opened in two cases. These anonymous reports continue to be assessed with the appropriate level of scrutiny. If they are sweeping, insubstantial or inconclusive, they will not lead to investigations or any enforcement measures.

6 Threat Management Department

Networking at home and abroad, which is important for threat management, was able to take place again to a greater extent after pandemic-related restrictions were lifted. Intensive exchanges, especially with neighbouring Swiss colleagues, not only play a major role in individual case management, but also lead to further development in a dynamically developing field of work. Influences such as social or political circumstances shape both individual and communal ways of life. People react in different ways to this, sometimes even in ways that appear threatening to third parties, and are ready to use violence.

In the reporting year, 62 (2021: 94) reports were submitted to the Threat Management department. Twelve messages (2021: 16) were about reopening cases that had already been closed. Seven enquiries (2021: 15) were conducted as anonymous behavioural counselling. The incoming reports can be categorised as follows:

Categories of increased readiness to use violence	2022	2021
Domestic violence	22	23
Threatening behaviour towards a public authority/institution	16	20
Psychological abnormality	12	17
Threatening behaviour in general	4	16
Threatening behaviour at the workplace	3	3
Extremism	2	6
Stalking	2	6
Sexual assault	1	2
<i>Not specified</i>	0	10

As in the previous year, most of the enquiries concerned domestic conflicts.

A significant decrease was recorded in people who showed generally threatening behaviour. This could be related to the decline in pandemic-related increased public expressions of discontent, some of which appear aggressive, and the resulting uncertainty among the population.

After analysing the situation and making an initial assessment, the Threat Management department's measures primarily comprised behavioural counselling. In many cases, it was possible to bring about a de-escalation and achieve relief for those affected. When appropriate, the department also enters into direct dialogue with

threatening individuals to assess their point of view and offer help with getting out of the conflict spiral. Both the people involved and the perpetrators in many cases benefited from triage to the relevant departments, which are able to support them in solving problems and intervene early in the event of increasing stress. The department retains a coordination function here, especially in complex and medium to longer-term conflict situations.

6.1. Domestic violence

A total of 164 reports (2021: 101) in connection with domestic violence or conflicts were received by the National Police. In 41 cases (2021: 27), a report was made to the public prosecutor's office.

After the ratification of the Istanbul Convention by parliament in 2021, the National Police assigned the police psychologist a coordination function in the area of "Domestic Violence" and aligned the internal definition of "Domestic Violence" with the Convention's. Among other things, a distinction is made between physical (24 cases), psychological (129 cases; e.g. verbal disputes without criminal offences), sexual (four cases) and economic violence (seven cases). In addition, the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator is also now recorded: in 61 cases, they were current romantic partners, and in 62 cases, they were former romantic partners. 33 reports concerned intergenerational violence at home; in two cases it was not possible to clearly classify the relationship (e.g. siblings).

In 2022, 164 interventions were recorded due to domestic violence. Charges were filed in 41 cases.

Persons involved in cases of domestic violence at a glance:

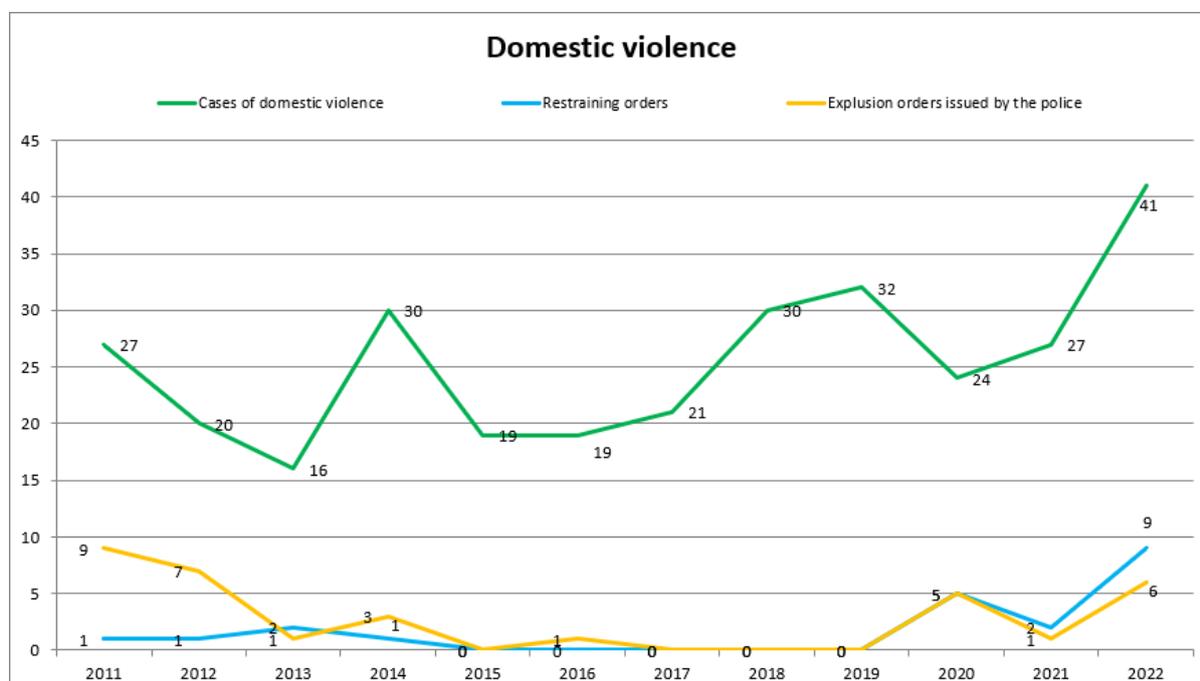
	2022	2021
Male perpetrators	41	21
Female perpetrators	17	8
Male victims	11	7
Female victims	39	17
Juvenile perpetrators	3	2
Young victims (of which 2 not directly involved)	24	12
Children (< 14 years old) (of which 13 not directly involved)	60	35
Male involved (in incidents without clear perpetrator/victim role, e.g. disputes)	114	85
Female involved (in incidents without clear perpetrator/victim role, e.g. disputes)	105	77

Particularly in the case of verbal disputes or other incidents without criminal offences, the classification into perpetrator or victim roles was dispensed with and those involved were simply recorded as 'participants'.

The National Police's measures at a glance:

	2022	2021
De-escalation dialogue	105	57
Triage/arrangement of further help (esp. Office of Social Services)	89	51
Bringing in other help on the ground (esp. crisis intervention team, emergency doctor)	33	7
Expulsion order issued by the police	6	1
Restraining order	9	2
Police custody	1	0
Direct dialogue with threatening individuals by the Threat Management department	10	11

In the reporting year, the National Police were again called out to numerous domestic conflicts without any need for police action on site, but rather for “social work” interventions such as de-escalating talks and providing information on possible support services and legal information. Almost half of the reports received (75 out of 164) concerned persons who repeatedly attracted attention because of domestic conflicts during the reporting year.



7 Security

7.1. Basic services

The security and traffic police are responsible for basic police services and are on duty around the clock in shifts. The security and traffic police are dispatched for an initial intervention on the ground in response to all emergency calls and accident reports. The employees cover a wide range of assignments here: traffic accidents, work accidents, domestic violence, alarm and other security police call-outs (e.g. suicide threats, missing person reports, etc.), burglary and thefts, criminal damage, bodily harm, and crimes and breaches of accessory criminal law (weapons law, environmental law, etc.).

7.1.1. Public order and security service operations

The National Police carried out 27 public order service operations at football matches in the reporting year (2021: 0). In the context of the Eastern Switzerland Police Concordat and the Conference of Cantonal Police Commanders (CCPCS), the National Police undertook six public order service operations in Switzerland.

There were 27 public order service operations in Liechtenstein in 2022.

A total of 79 special security services were provided (anti-Covid restriction protests, football matches, assistance operations by the intervention unit, etc.), which was three more than in the previous year (2021: 76)

Security police work and services (excerpt)	2022	2021
Public order service operations in Lichtenstein	27	0
Public order service operations abroad	6	3
Security service operations	79	76
Intervention unit operations	10	6
Personal protection operations	17	8

Operations of the special intervention unit increased in the reporting year compared with the previous year. For example, ten operations with high risk potential and 17 personal protection operations were recorded. This was also true of operations at international conferences and during state visits.

8 Traffic

8.1. Road traffic accidents

These statistics only concern accidents that were reported to the National Police and that were also documented by the National Police.

Traffic accidents in the reporting year increased slightly compared to the previous year (2022: 452/2021: 404). The number of accidents with injuries increased by 33, from 61 (2021) to 94. The number of people injured in these accidents also increased

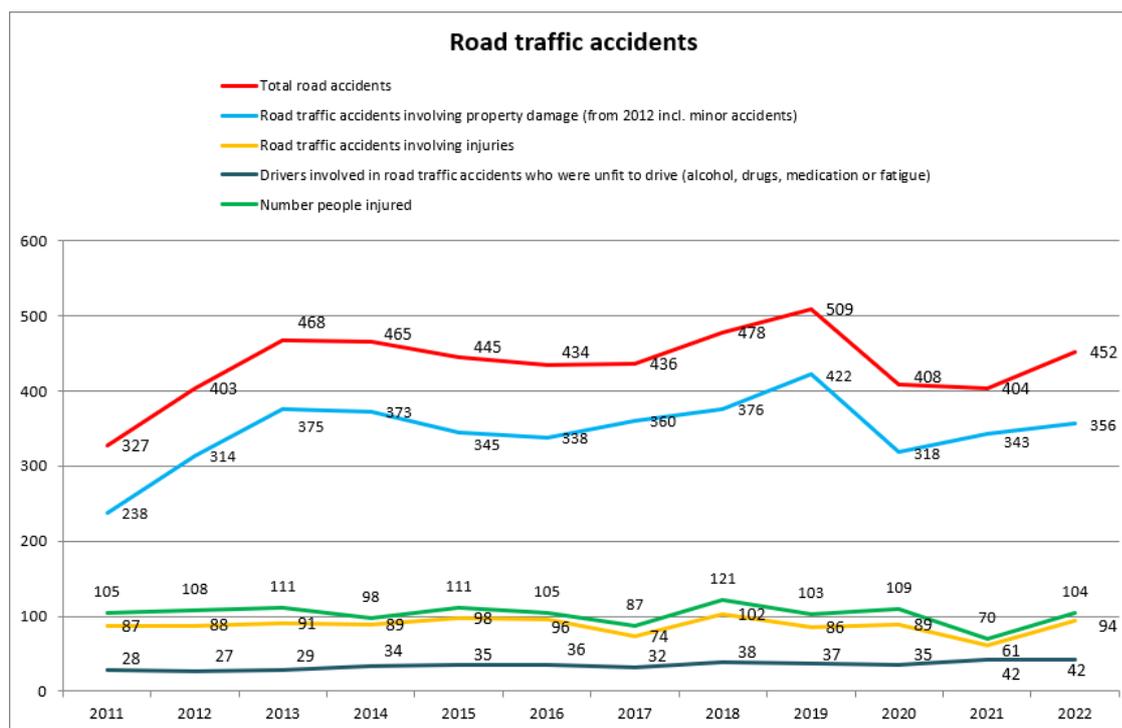
Accidents with injuries increased by about a third. There were two deaths in road accidents in the reporting year.

(2022: 104; 2021: 70). Of these, 25 people were seriously injured. There were two fatal road traffic accidents in the reporting year.

In close to a third of road traffic accidents with property damage, there was failure to comply with the reporting obligation. In total, the National Police was able to identify 60% of the perpetrators. 84% of all road traffic accidents took place in a built-up area. Only 63 accidents were recorded on roads in rural areas.

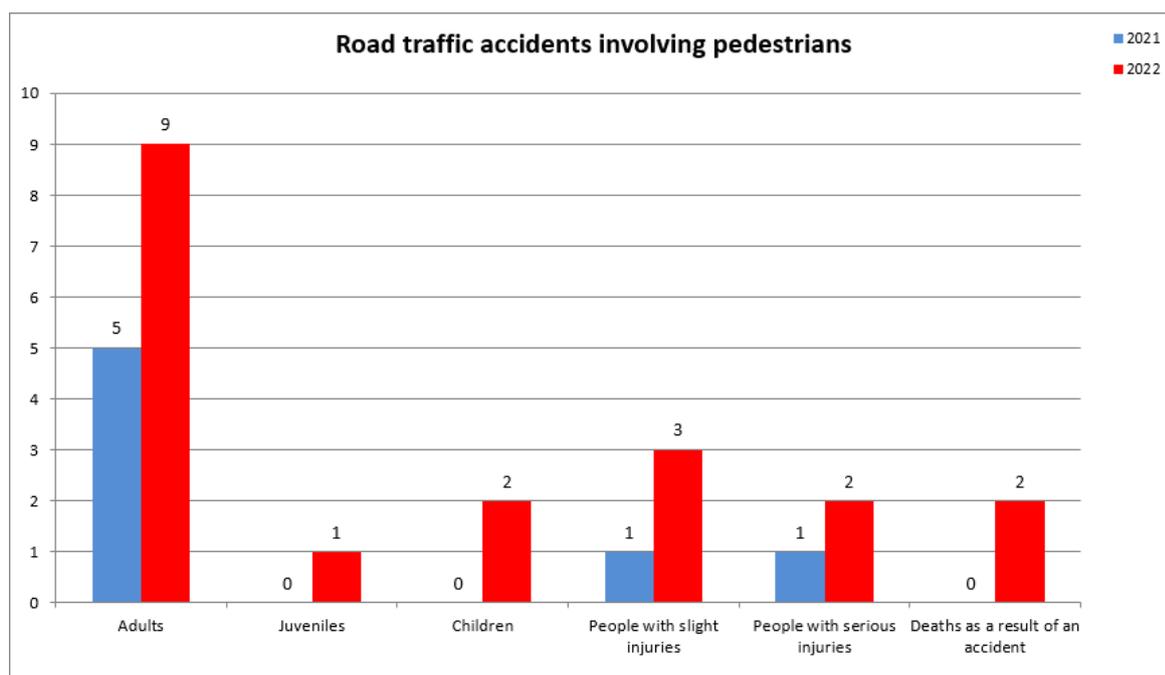
The number of accidents caused by drivers unfit to drive was 42, the same as the previous year (2021: 42). These included drivers of vehicles who were under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medication or were exhausted.

Road traffic accident statistics	2022	2021
Total road traffic accidents (including cases of failure to comply with the reporting obligation)	452	404
of which the accident took place in a built-up area	389	338
of which the road traffic accident was fatal	2	0
thereof road traffic fatalities	2	0
of which the road traffic accident resulted in injuries	94	61
thereof people injured	104	70
of which the road traffic accident resulted in property damage (including minor accidents and parking damage)	356	343
of which cases of failure to comply with reporting obligation	116	113
of which perpetrator identified	60%	59%



8.1.1. Road traffic accidents involving pedestrians

The number of road traffic accidents involving pedestrians increased in the reporting year. Twelve accidents were recorded in the reporting year, which is seven more than in 2021. Two children and one young person were involved in accidents. Three people involved in the accident had minor injuries and two were seriously injured.

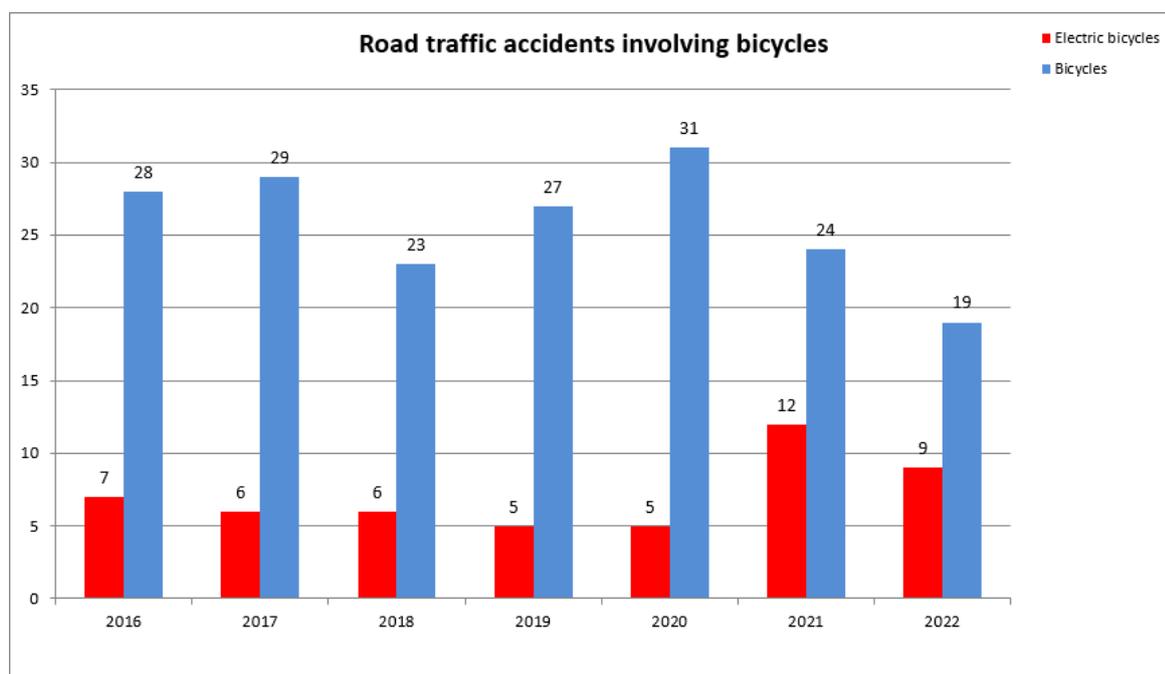


8.1.2. Road traffic accidents involving bicycles

The number of road traffic accidents involving bicycles increased by seven compared with the previous year. The increase occurred in accidents involving e-bikes.

E-bikes were involved in 48% of bicycle accidents.

Riding an e-bike is an activity with increased risk, as other road users and e-bikers themselves often underestimate their speed and longer stopping distances.



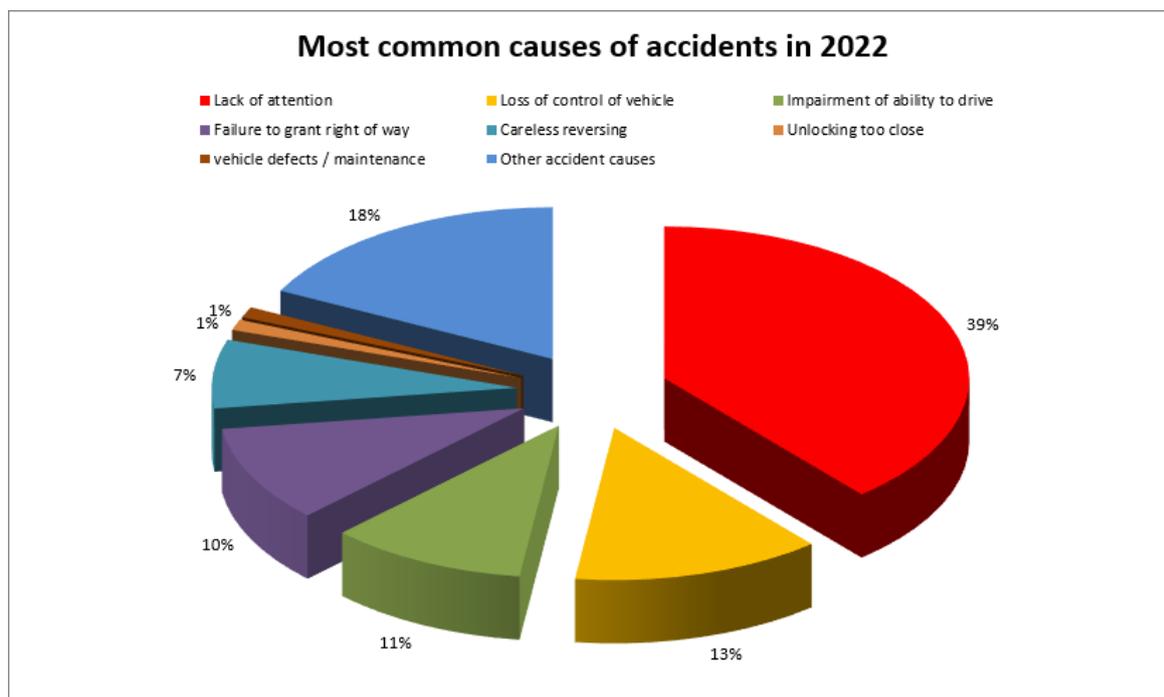
8.2. Accident causes

As in previous years, a lack of attention was also the main cause of accidents on Liechtenstein's roads in the reporting year. Almost 40% of all accidents are caused by the operator of the vehicle being distracted – whether by the environment, passengers or mobile phones.

Other causes of accidents included loss of control of the vehicle (13%), impairment of the ability to drive as a result of alcohol, drugs, medications or fatigue (11%), failure to grant right of way (10%) and careless reversing (7%).

The “other causes of accidents” category (18%) includes failing to maintain a sufficient distance, failure to heed signals, careless lane changes, vehicle defects or inappropriate behaviour by pedestrians.

Almost 40% of all accidents occurred due to lack of attention.



8.3. Road safety

Road safety remains an effective aid for preventing road traffic accidents. This starts with the youngest road users, who were taught by two traffic safety instructors from the National Police in 194 practical and theory lessons. Practical road safety education also includes the road safety training facility in Schellenberg, where students can learn various traffic signals in a sheltered environment and practice the correct way to behave in road traffic on a bicycle.

A key focus was also placed on routes to school in the reporting year. These were regularly policed by the National Police – also in collaboration with the local police. The two road safety instructors organised safety training on the way to school, particularly at busy junctions, roundabouts and traffic lights, and were thus focused on the youngest road users.

Mobile speed checks focused on monitoring routes to school, traffic calming and reacting to reports by citizens. Mobile speed checks were carried out within normal limits (2022: 41/2021: 41).

A total of five traffic monitoring units were used: one mobile and two semi-stationary speed monitoring devices that monitor in both directions of travel. Fortunately, no monitoring systems failed for technical reasons in the reporting year, so the number of operating days was largely the same as in the previous year. Compared to the previous year (2021: 46,644), however, 25% fewer administrative fines (2022: 34,986) were issued to offending drivers. One reason for this was that the systems remained at the same location for a longer period of time. Due to the longer standstill time, a sustainable adapted driving behaviour is established in the respective road section, which inevitably leads to fewer violations.

Road safety education and campaigns are important measures for preventing road traffic accidents.

34,986 traffic violations were detected with a total of five traffic monitoring units.

8.4. Road safety campaigns and traffic controls

The National Police was involved in several road safety campaigns throughout the year and is trying to give the general public a better understanding of a wide variety of issues and draw their attention to dangers on the road. To increase road safety and thus minimise the risk of accidents, nine campaigns were also launched together with the Commission for Accident Prevention (KfU) in the reporting year.

To support the traffic campaigns and increase road safety, 145 accompanying traffic checks were carried out throughout the country (2021: 140). Some of the checks were organised in cooperation with the police forces of Eastern Switzerland (Ostpol) and with European police forces (Tispol). On the initiative of the Liechtenstein hunting community, the wildlife accident campaign “Achtsamkeit” was also developed in cooperation with the KfU and the National Police.

Our own road safety campaigns



At the start of the cycling season, cyclists are reminded of the importance of wearing a cycling helmet.



This campaign reminds drivers of the importance of always wearing a seatbelt.

Our own campaigns and campaigns adopted from Switzerland contribute to road safety.



The #streetfluencer campaign raises awareness of people not paying adequate attention in traffic.



The campaign when school starts in August makes drivers aware of children in traffic.

Blickkontakt schafft



With the message “Eye contact creates clarity”, the campaign provides a clear and easy-to-implement course of action to improve safety.



The topic of better visibility of pedestrians or cyclists in low light or darkness was also the subject of a campaign again in the reporting year.



In December, this campaign raised awareness of the risks of drinking and driving.



The campaign aims to raise awareness of wild animals that are often found near forest and road edges and cause traffic accidents.

Other road safety campaigns from Switzerland



In the summer months, motorbike riders were asked to drive with due care.

9 Crime

The police crime statistics are police report statistics. They include figures and graphs on all reported crimes with the crime scene in Liechtenstein that are collected in the National Police's case database. These cover laws such as the Liechtenstein Criminal Code (StGB), the Narcotics Act (BMG), the Aliens Act (AUG) and other secondary criminal law (penal provisions of the administrative laws).

The criminal statistics reflect the crimes the police are aware of in Liechtenstein. However, the dark figure of crime (i.e. unreported and undetected crimes) must also be assumed to exist. Thus, these crime statistics are only an approximation of the actual crime situation in Liechtenstein. To enable a more meaningful assessment of the crime situation and crime trends, *interpreted crime statistics* are published (see 9.7 and 9.8).

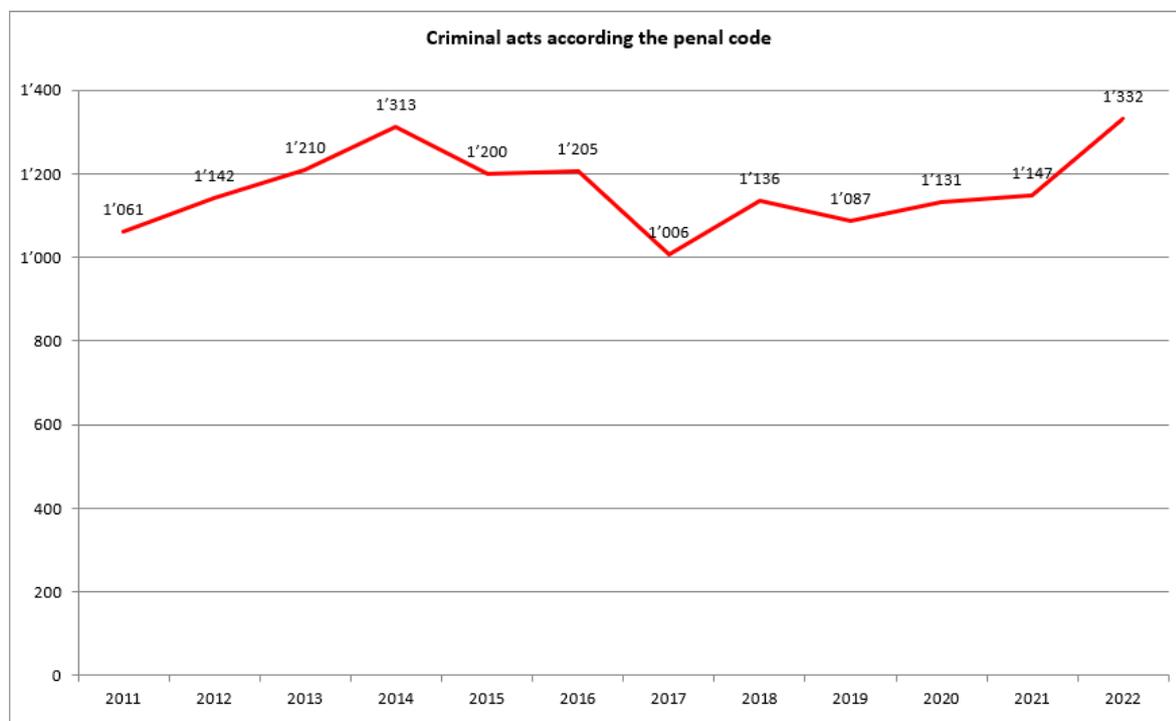
9.1. Total crime and clear-up rate

There was an increase in the number of offences under the Criminal Code in the reporting year 1,332 offences were recorded in the reporting year, compared with 1,147 in the previous year. In a ten-year comparison, the crime rate in 2022 was thus higher than the annual range of 1,000 to 1,200 offences.

Offences increased; the clear-up rate increased to 69%.

The clear-up rate increased by three percentage points to 69% compared with the previous year, although this is also a good figure when compared internationally.

In addition to offences under the Criminal Code, offences under the Narcotics Act are also taken into account when calculating the clear-up rate.



9.1.1. Suspects

In the reporting year, 544 people committed offences under the Criminal Code, an increase of 10%. The breakdown of nationalities is similar to the previous year. In 2022, a total of 32% of the suspects identified had Liechtenstein citizenship, whereas the remaining 68% had foreign citizenship. As in past years, the percentage of female suspects was also lower than the percentage of male suspects. Women were only identified as suspects in 20% of offences.

Overwhelming majority of suspects identified were foreign nationals.

9.2. Youth violence

In the reporting year, 31 (2021: 24) underage suspects were identified. They were responsible for 45 acts of violence. This number has almost doubled since the previous year (2021: 25). The reasons for this are a doubling in damage to property and an increase in threatening behaviour.

A total of 31 underage suspects were held responsible for 45 offences in area of youth violence.

Twenty-seven suspects were male and four were female. Seven of the suspects were below 14 years of age, with the remaining 24 aged 14 to 18. Property damage made up the large proportion of the offences, followed by bodily harm and threatening behaviour.

Looking at the nationality of the underage suspects, it can be seen that 55% of acts were committed by Liechtenstein youths in the reporting year. This was a decrease compared with the previous year (2021: 63%).

9.3. Right-wing violence

As in previous years, 2022 can also be described as a quiet year in the area of right-wing extremism. There have been no major incidents of violence or criminal events with a background of right-wing extremism in Liechtenstein for many years.

National Police takes a zero-tolerance approach to all forms of extremism.

9.4. Alpine police

In the reporting year, the Alpine police were called out on six occasions (2021: 8). Two deployments involved skiing; a collision accident in the Malbun ski area and a fatal accident involving a ski tourer in the Sass area, Malbun. Other deployments were in connection with the dispatching of partner organisations of the National Police, which were particularly concerned with mountain walkers who could no longer continue or had lost their way. In the field of aviation sports, an accident occurred with a paraglider and passenger in Triesenberg. In addition, the Alpine Police provided administrative assistance to the Office for the Environment in controlling the wildlife refuge zones in Malbun.

Alpine police supported Department of the Environment in checks on wildlife refuge zones.

9.5. Criminal police work

In the reporting year, the number of house searches carried out on behalf of the National Court plus voluntary house inspections totalled 74, an increase of two compared with the previous year (2021: 72). There were no cases of telephone surveillance measures and internet surveillance carried out on behalf of the National Court. The number of cases with observation measures fell by three, to two.

The number of people who had to be repatriated or extradited doubled to 48 persons compared to the previous year. Due to negative asylum decisions, 35 people were sent to their home country or to another Schengen state. In addition, there are

three people who were returned to Liechtenstein under the Schengen Agreement. Furthermore, a total of 10 people had to be extradited to or from Liechtenstein on the basis of an international arrest warrant. This doubling compared to the previous year is due to the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions.

There was an increase in the number of people who were subjected to procedures to establish their identity (fingerprints, photo, buccal swab) to 83 in the reporting year (2021: 68). The number of back-ups of mobile phones, computers or similar devices increased by almost 12% to 220 (2021: 197)

The number of back-ups carried out increased by almost 12%.

The number of unusual deaths (suicide, discovery of a corpse, etc.) remained the same. Again, 16 cases (2021: 16) were registered in the reporting year. One case of these unusual deaths was by suicide.

Criminal police work and services (excerpt)	2022	2021
House searches/voluntary house inspections	74	72
Telephone/internet surveillance	0	2
Observations	3	5
Deportation/extraditions (number of people)	48	24
People subjected to procedures to establish their identity	83	68
Back-ups	220	197
Unusual deaths	16	16

9.6. Crime prevention

The National Police is not only active in prosecuting law enforcement, but also in crime prevention to a limited extent. The National Police therefore provides information to the entire population and also to special risk groups to prevent them from becoming the victim of crime (victimisation) or from committing crimes themselves. The latter is especially the case with drug prevention among young people.

Prevention material (information sheets, leaflets, codes of conduct, etc.) on www.landespolizei.li

Information relating to different areas of criminal prevention can be obtained from the National Police or downloaded from the website www.landespolizei.li.

The resources available for the prevention work are very limited, which is why enquiries regarding talks and taking part in prevention events are answered in very limited detail.

9.7. Crime statistics

To make it easier to assess crime levels and trends in Liechtenstein, *interpreted crime statistics* have been published since 2007. These group multiple offences into groups of offences and, in turn, group these into crime fields. Individual offences can also be allocated to multiple crime fields (e.g. rape can be allocated to the “violent crimes” and “sexual crimes” fields).

As this is a condensed selection of crime-field-specific offences, only a limited comparison of the figures in these *interpreted crime statistics* with the figures before 2007 is possible. A crime field (e.g. migration offences) does not have to include all offences under special laws (e.g. Aliens Act: failure to comply with the deadline for leaving the country).

The same applies to the number of suspects in the interpreted crime statistics. Here too, suspects may be counted multiple times if they have committed multiple offences at once or have committed the same offences at different times. The total number of suspects in the interpreted crime statistics is therefore not the same as the total number of people suspected of offences.

9.7.1. Economic crimes

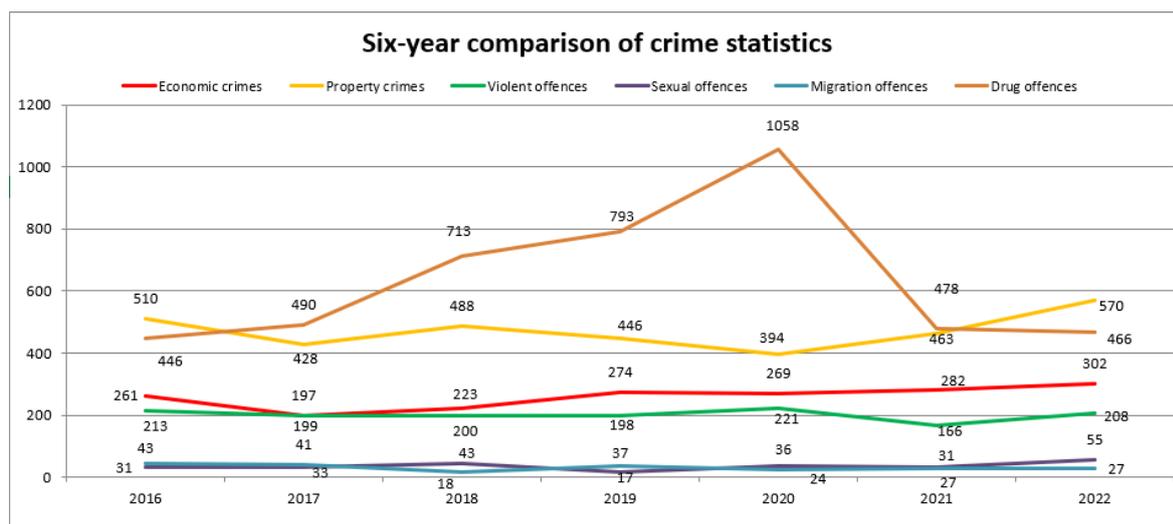
The number of economic crimes increased by 7% in the reporting year to 302 offences (2021: 282). Most cases were in the fraud/embezzlement category (197 offences).

The number of economic crimes increased by 7%.

9.7.2. Property crimes

Property crimes increased by 23% from 463 to 570. Theft was the most committed offence, followed by property damage and burglaries. There was an 24% increase in burglaries to 138 offences (2021: 111). This means that the crime rate in this area of crime is back at pre-pandemic levels.

The number of property crimes recorded increased.



9.7.3. Violent and sexual offences

The number of offences recorded in the field of violent offences increased year on year to 208 (2021: 166). The main reason is a sharp increase in assaults. There were no homicides to report.

Violent and sexual offences increased in the reporting year.

Compared with the previous year, the number of sexual offences increased by 24 to 55 (2021: 31). This change was mainly due to the fact that the number of offences involving the sexual abuse of minors and sexual harassment increased.

9.7.4. Drug offences

Offences under the Narcotics Act fell slightly. There were 466 offences (2021: 478) and 137 suspects (2021: 123) recorded by the police.

The number of drug offences decreased slightly; most reports were due to personal use.

There were 3% fewer drug offences and 11% more suspects than in the previous year. Most police reports (394) were due to personal use, whereas 59 reports were

due to production/growing/purchase/sale of drugs. In 13 cases, it was possible to prove drug smuggling. No drug deaths were recorded in the reporting year.

9.7.5. Digital crime

In digital crime, a distinction is drawn between cybercrime in the stricter sense and cybercrime in the broader sense. The cybercrime category of offence (in the stricter sense) was included in the crime statistics for the first time in 2019. Reports on mass phenomena (advance fee scam, etc.) in which no loss has occurred are not listed in the crime statistics.

Cybercrime in the stricter sense comprises all offences where attacks are made on data or computer systems using information and communications technology. Specialist information technology knowledge and special technical evidence-based methods are needed to investigate such attacks (e.g. hacking, phishing, DDoS attacks, etc.). In the reporting year 2022, a total of 12 offences of cybercrime in the stricter sense were recorded, which was virtually the same as the figures from the previous year (2021: 13).

Digital forms of various offences rose continuously.

In addition, digital crime also includes cybercrime offences in the broader sense. This includes offences where information and communications technology is used for planning, preparing and committing offences. These are thus conventional criminal offences (e.g. economic crimes or sexual offences) that are committed in the digital space or have a digital component. In the case of cybercrime in the broader sense, the statistics show the number of cases processed, where one case may include several traditional offences. The number of processed cases assigned to cybercrime in the broader sense increased by 10 % to 172 cases in the reporting year (2021: 156). A large proportion of the 172 cases concern cyber fraud (38%), followed by cyber sexual offences (27%), crypto enquiries (22%) and other digitally perpetrated offences (13%).

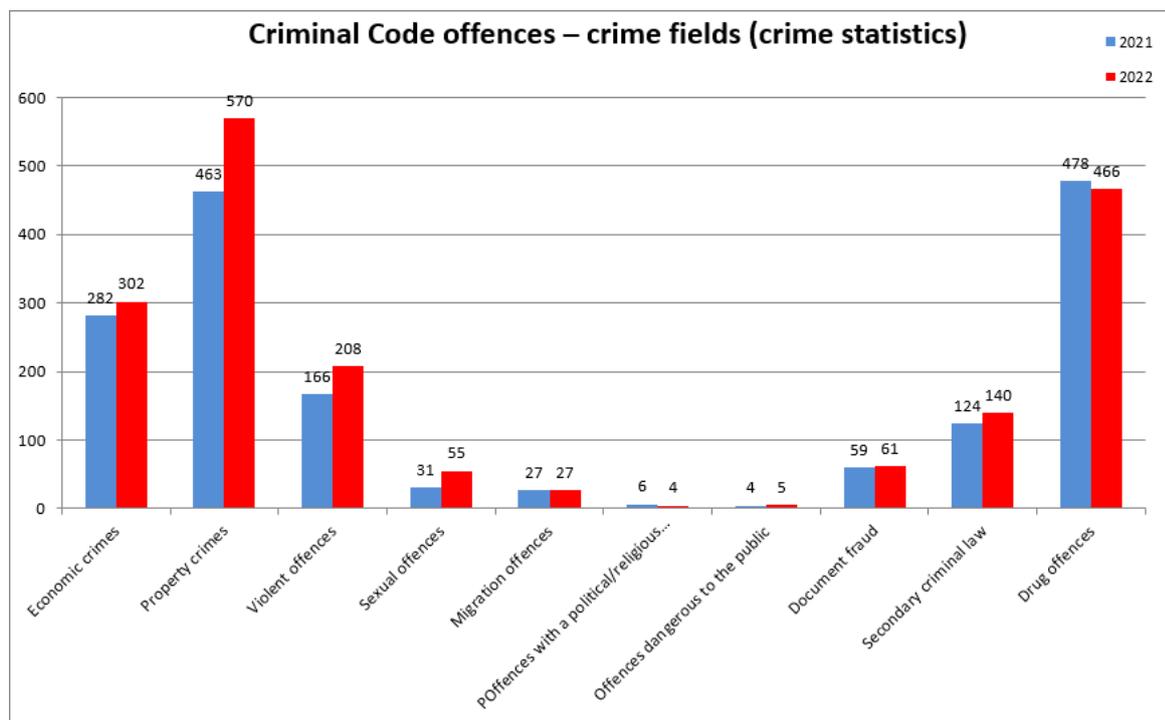
9.7.6. Migration offences

In the reporting year, the number of migration offences remained the same at 27. The main reports were made for breaches of the entry and residence regulations (20). Three offences were recorded due to aiding and abetting illegal immigration (people smuggling).

Migration offences have remained the same.

9.7.7. Other secondary criminal law

The National Police is responsible for prosecuting numerous offences in accordance with administrative law and secondary criminal law. A total of 140 such offences were recorded in the reporting year, which represents an increase compared with the previous year (2021: 124). Offences under the Youth Act increased from 18 to 59. With 32 offences against the Weapons Act, fewer offences were registered than in the previous year (2021: 40).



9.8. Interpreted crime statistics at a glance

Criminal offences	2022	2021	2022/2021 change		Offences cleared up in		Suspects identified		
	Number	Number	Number	%	Number	%	Total	under 18 y.	foreign
1. Economic crimes	302	282	20	7	193	64	203	5	167
Fraud/embezzlement	197	184	13	7	118	60	111	5	90
Bankruptcy offences	9	4	5	125	7	78	14	0	10
Money laundering/organised crime	71	66	5	8	54	76	88	0	78
Asset forfeiture/deprivation order	0	1	-1	na	0	na	0	0	0
Financing of terrorism	2	0	2	na	1	50	13	0	13
Corruption/insider trading	11	14	-3	-21	6	55	7	0	1
Cybercrime	12	13	-1	-8	7	58	4	0	3
2. Property crimes	570	463	107	23	228	40	176	41	116
Thefts	254	184	70	38	123	48	98	22	73
of which motor vehicle thefts	14	6	8	133	5	36	6	4	4
of which bicycle thefts	62	35	27	77	4	6	7	3	5
Misappropriation/embezzlement/deprivation of property	26	29	-3	-10	16	62	19	5	12
Burglary	138	111	27	24	20	14	24	2	18
Receiving stolen goods	4	1	3	300	4	100	4	2	3
Criminal damage	148	138	10	7	65	44	67	22	34
3. Violent offences	208	166	42	25	187	90	155	18	86
Homicides	0	4	-4	na	0	na	0	0	0
Bodily harm/bravls	102	60	42	70	98	96	113	13	59
Blackmail/kidnapping	12	19	-7	-37	1	8	1	0	1
Robbery	2	2	0	0	2	100	2	0	0
Threat	47	38	9	24	42	89	42	5	22
Coercion	22	27	-5	-19	22	100	22	3	14
Sexual assault	14	6	8	133	13	93	9	1	4
Violence against public servants	9	10	-1	-10	9	100	7	0	2
4. Sexual offences	55	31	24	77	45	82	33	4	12
Rape/sexual Coercion	4	2	2	100	4	100	4	0	2
Sexual abuse of minors	12	3	9	300	11	92	6	0	2
Sexual harassment/exhibitionism	11	3	8	267	7	64	7	0	3
Pimping	0	2	-2	na	0	na	0	0	0
Pornography	28	21	7	33	23	82	20	3	6
5. Migration offences	27	27	0	0	22	81	21	0	19
Entry and residence	20	22	-2	-9	17	85	18	0	17
Aiding and abetting	3	4	-1	-25	3	100	3	0	2
Use of identification	3	1	2	200	2	67	2	0	2
Work	1	0	1	na	0	0	0	0	0
6. Offences with a religious motive	4	6	-2	-33	3	75	14	0	13
Discrimination	1	5	-4	-80	1	100	1	0	0
Terrorism	3	0	3	na	2	67	13	0	13
Espionage	0	1	-1	na	0	na	0	0	0
Regulatory offences	0	0	0	0	0	na	0	0	0
7. Offences dangerous to the public	5	4	1	25	3	60	3	1	2
Arson	3	4	-1	-25	3	100	3	1	2
Explosives offences	2	0	2	na	0	0	0	0	0
Radiation offences	0	0	0	0	0	na	0	0	0
Environmental offences	0	0	0	0	0	na	0	0	0
8. Document fraud	61	59	2	3	39	64	41	6	33
Forging documents	23	24	-1	-4	22	96	21	0	18
Forging money and securities	38	35	3	9	17	45	20	6	15
9. Administration	140	124	16	13	118	84	125	4	67
Weapons/explosives	32	40	-8	-20	32	100	34	1	19
Youth Act	59	18	41	228	58	98	58	0	30
Construction/industry/trade/tourism	10	13	-3	-23	7	70	10	1	6
Banks/fiduciaries/duty of care	15	9	6	67	2	13	3	0	2
Protection of personal security/work/intellectual property	2	1	1	100	2	100	2	2	1
Animal welfare/hunting/fishing/dog ownership	5	10	-5	-50	5	100	6	0	0
Health/environment/refuse	10	9	1	11	6	60	6	0	4
Legal closing time/peace/order	0	1	-1	na	0	na	0	0	0
Other administrative law	7	23	-16	-70	6	86	9	0	7
10. Drug offences	466	478	-12	-3	442	95	137	19	77
Personal use	394	434	-40	-9	373	95	121	19	68
Production/growing/purchase/sale	59	41	18	44	57	97	35	4	18
Smuggling	13	3	10	333	12	92	12	0	6
11. Incidents handled by the Crime Investigation Division	54	45	9	20	0	0	0	0	0
Missing persons cases	28	20	8	40	0	0	0	0	0
Fires	10	9	1	11	0	0	0	0	0
Unusual deaths	16	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suicides	1	3	-2	-67	0	0	0	0	0
Drug deaths	0	3	-3	na	0	0	0	0	0
Death by illness/accidents without traffic	15	10	5	50	0	0	0	0	0

10 International Police Cooperation

The *International Police Cooperation* (IPK) unit is the National Police's central hub and coordination unit for international information sharing. As NCB Vaduz (INTERPOL), SIRENE (Schengen), NCP SIENA (EUROPOL) and NFPOC (FRONTEX), the IPK is the Liechtenstein contact point for various international security organisations and systems. The IPK also acts as the central office for Switzerland and Austria on the basis of the trilateral police cooperation agreement. Having a central point of receipt IPK means the National Police has an efficient and streamlined solution in international police cooperation, enabling it to quickly process the numerous enquiries to and from various channels. As a result of Brexit, correspondence with the UK can unfortunately no longer be handled via the "Schengen Information System", but only via the Interpol channel.

The decline in individual areas is due to the worldwide restrictions on travel and Covid protection measures as a result of the pandemic (border closures, suspension of search measures, home office in partner offices, etc.). The increase in correspondence with Europol reflects the growing importance of the European police agency for the National Police.

10.1. Focus areas of international cooperation

Migration, the associated crime, and dangers arising from international terrorism also strongly influenced international police information sharing in 2022.

10.2. Schengen/SIRENE

The key element in the Schengen police cooperation is the Europe-wide alert database, known as the Schengen Information System (SIS). The SIS contained more than 86 million data sets at the end of 2022 (2021: 90 million), in which the police authorities record data on searches for persons and objects, which is immediately available to every police officer throughout Europe.

In the reporting year, four (2021: 3) people for whom Liechtenstein had issued an alert for arrest were stopped and detained abroad on the basis of searches in the Schengen Information System.

The Liechtenstein judiciary also arranges for searches for the purpose of locating people. Thanks to the Schengen Information System, information on the location of witnesses and other parties to the proceedings is obtained more often and earlier, as a result of which pending proceedings can be dealt with quickly and efficiently. In the reporting year, the locations of 174 wanted persons were discovered for the National Court in the Schengen area (2021: 129).

Regular checks are also conducted in Liechtenstein to see who is residing in the country illegally or is subject to a Schengen entry ban (2022: 16/2021: 16).

Within the framework of Schengen, 1,027 requests were made by Liechtenstein law enforcement agencies to European police authorities (2021: 946), while 28,894 requests for information (2021: 29,052) were received from Schengen countries.

Liechtenstein criminal prosecution authorities made 1,027 information requests to other Schengen

As a result of optimised cross-border police cooperation, our country is seen as a reliable partner in the fight against crime. International cooperation is also very valuable in the case of newly emerging phenomena and is intensively cultivated and used. The focus of future Schengen development will include the retrieval and storage of fingerprints in the Schengen Information System.

10.3. INTERPOL National Central Bureau

In addition to Schengen, INTERPOL with its 195 member states around the world continued to be an indispensable partner for the National Police in day-to-day police cooperation. The search information from INTERPOL is available electronically to every police officer.

Liechtenstein criminal prosecution authorities made 1,191 information requests to police authorities.

In the reporting year, queries from INTERPOL Vaduz to foreign police services fell (2022: 1,191; 2021: 1,301). In the same period, foreign authorities circulated 21,848 queries globally through INTERPOL, which were also addressed to Liechtenstein (2021: 26,357).

10.4. Search hits

In the reporting year, there were numerous hits from searches for people and property (SIS, INTERPOL and other such search systems). With 286 search hits, 64 of which were domestic (2021: 89) and 222 abroad (2021: 166), these were 12% higher than in the previous year (2021: 255). Arrests within Liechtenstein increased to 8 (2021: 6).

Due to the National Police's alerts, there were 222 hits abroad.

10.5. EUROPOL

The cooperation with EUROPOL continued in the tried and tested manner. In the reporting year, Liechtenstein made 585 enquiries to foreign police services (2021: 437) on the EUROPOL channel. Foreign authorities addressed 1,605 enquiries to Liechtenstein on this channel (2021: 1,316).

10.6. Cross-border networking

Thanks to participation in INTERPOL, Schengen and EUROPOL, the National Police is extremely well connected internationally. In an alliance with Switzerland, the National Police participates in the Swiss search system RIPOL and in the criminal police communication platform VULPUS. This mail system received 3,370 (2021: 3,109) criminal intelligence reports.

Regionally, the memberships of the Lake Constance Police Chiefs' Association and the Police Concordat of Eastern Switzerland ensure optimum cross-border cooperation. It is encouraging that it was possible to realise a secure communications system at regional level in the Lake Constance area in cooperation with EUROPOL. The regional exchange of information via the European "SIENA" system between police authorities in Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria, Vorarlberg, St. Gallen, Thurgau, Schaffhausen and Liechtenstein proved its worth in the reporting year and is to be expanded.

Nowadays, security can only be guaranteed in an international alliance. This applies to Liechtenstein more than any other country.

The police chief also maintains both an annual exchange of information with his colleagues in Austria and Switzerland and with the police chiefs of all the Schengen countries in the annual European Police Chief Conference (EPCC). In May of the reporting year, the police chief attended the conference in Berlin.

These international and regional networks are essential for successful police work in Liechtenstein. This is because security can nowadays only be guaranteed in an

international alliance. This applies to a small country such as Liechtenstein even more than any other country.

Work and services of the International Police Cooperation (excerpt)	2022	2021
Correspondence from LI to foreign authorities through INTERPOL	1,191	1,301
Correspondence from foreign authorities to LI through INTERPOL	21,848	26,357
Correspondence from LI to foreign authorities under Schengen	1,027	946
Correspondence from foreign authorities to LI through Schengen	28,894	29,052
Correspondence from LI to foreign authorities through EUROPOL	585	437
Correspondence from foreign authorities to LI through EUROPOL	1,605	1,316
Search hits (SIS, RIPOL, INTERPOL, LI wanted list)	286	255

10.7. Internal Security Fund ISF (external borders and visas)

Liechtenstein participates in the Internal Security Fund for External Borders and Visas (ISF-Borders) as part of its association with Schengen/Dublin. With this fund, Schengen states that bear high costs for the protection of the external Schengen borders due to their extensive land or sea borders, as well as significant international airports, are supported with funds linked to specific projects. The aim of the fund is to help improve the efficiency of controls and thus the protection of the external borders, as well as to reduce the number of illegal entries. The total financial budget for the implementation of the Fund is EUR 2.76 billion. Liechtenstein will contribute around EUR 1.12 million over the seven-year period (2014–2020). However, expenditure from ongoing projects is still eligible under this fund until the mid-2024.

The National Police, the Immigration and Passport Office and the Office for Information Technology implement various projects that also serve the protection of the external borders and are largely co-financed within the framework of ISF Borders: further development of the Schengen Information System SISrecast, Police Query Portal PAP (biometric and alphanumeric queries), funding of a Swiss border guard expert, Entry/Exit system, European Travel Information and Authorisation System as well as the Schengen/Dublin programme management.

Since Liechtenstein's participation in the ISF Borders (2018 until mid-October 2022, the end of the last EU budget year), EUR 3.8 million in project costs have been refinanced through the fund. This corresponds to a very good refinancing ratio of 86%.

The organisationally and functionally independent ISF department at the National Police is responsible for the proper administration of the fund money, monitoring of the national programme and its projects, and for all communications with the European

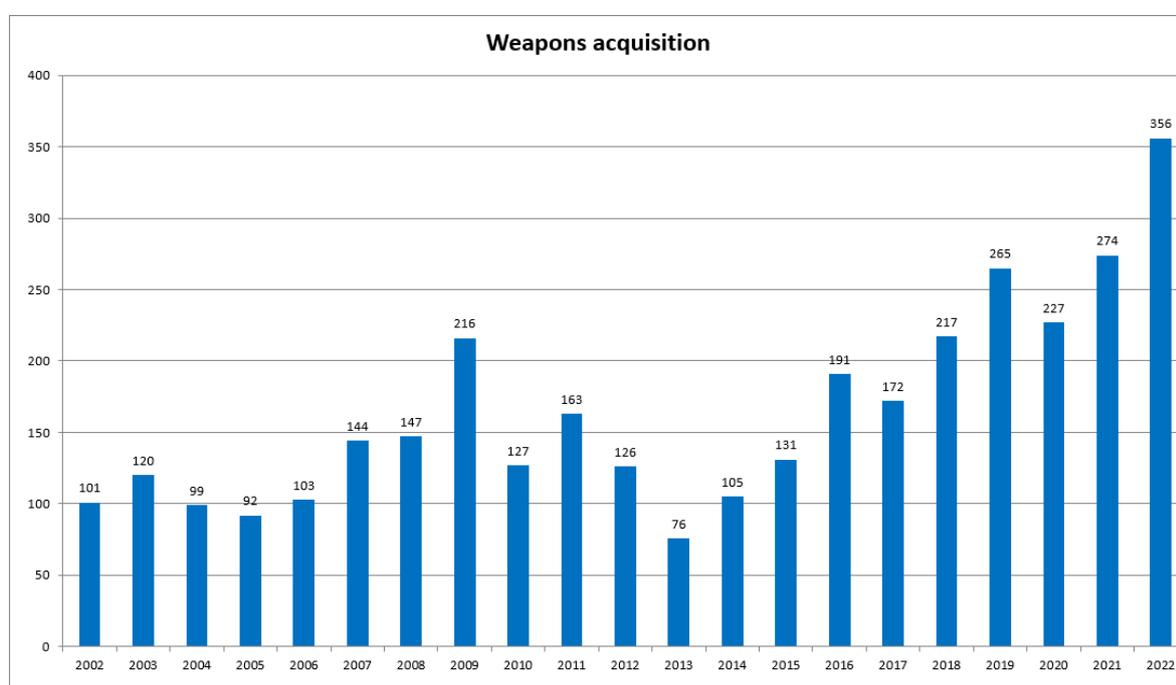
Commission. The costs of the ISF staff unit and the expenses for the audit of the financial control are refinanced 100% by the EU.

11 Weapons

Around 9,900 weapons and essential weapons components are recorded in the National Police's weapons register. However, it can be assumed that more weapons are in the possession of individuals, since the duty to register all firearms on purchase has only been in force for a few years and presumably not all weapon owners have complied with this retroactive obligation.

11.1. Weapon purchase licences

The number of weapon purchase licences issued increased in the reporting year. Thus, 356 weapon purchase licences were issued, compared with 274 in the previous year.



11.2. Weapons carrying licences

Anyone who wishes to carry a weapon in publicly accessible places in Liechtenstein and can prove a justified need to do so must first pass a theoretical and practical exam at the National Police. The number of weapons carrying licences issued increased by 14 in the reporting year to 47 (2021: 44), with all licences being issued exclusively to people from the security industry.

11.3. European Firearms Pass

The European Firearms Pass simplifies cross-border travel with firearms, especially for hunters and sports shooters. The number of European Firearms Passes issued in the reporting year increased; 53 passes were issued (2021: 35). There were no significant reasons for a fluctuation in this area.

12 National Prison

12.1. Special measures due to Covid-19

As part of precautions in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, various measures were taken from spring 2020 to reduce the risk of virus infection as far as possible in the National Prison. The development of and compliance with the internal protection concept have proven successful.

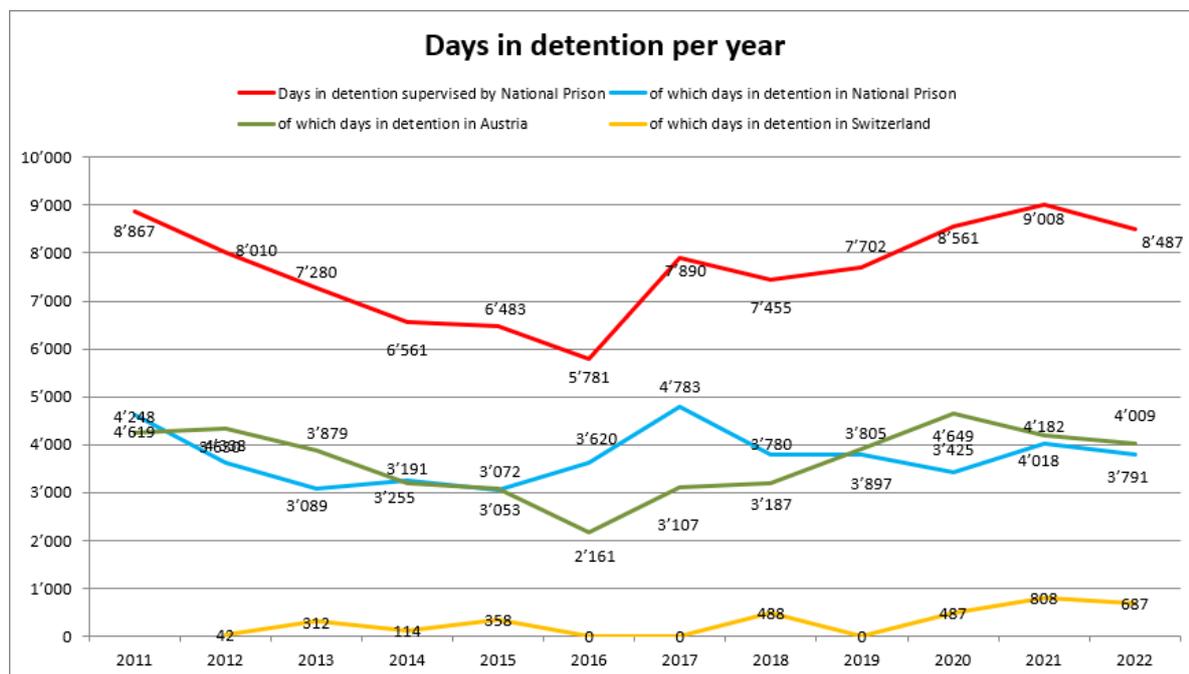
With the expiry of the period of validity of the legal basis for the pandemic-related restrictions on freedom, the protection strategy was lifted again from April 2022. In the reporting year, there were individual incidences of infections or illnesses among inmates. However, these did not seriously hinder prison operations, thanks to isolation and internal medical care.

12.2. National Prison occupancy

In the reporting year, a total of 58 people were incarcerated in the National Prison in Vaduz, which is six more than in the previous year. The majority of the prisoners were men (56), while only two women were incarcerated. The number of days in detention decreased compared with the previous year to 3,791.

Detentions in the National Prison	2022	2021
Total detentions	58	52
of which men	56	47
of which juveniles	0	2
of which women	2	5
of which juveniles	0	0
Total days in detention	3,791	4,018
of which men	3,755	3,908
of which juveniles	0	206
of which women	36	110
of which juveniles	0	0
Detentions by law/reason	58	52
of which criminal law (total)	31	32
of which Aliens Act	14	13
of which Police Act	2	1
of which extraditions	7	5
of which imprisonment for failure to pay a fine	4	1

It continues to be the case that the most common reasons for incarcerations were violations of the Criminal Code, followed by incarcerations for violations of the Aliens Act (including deportations) and extradition requests.



12.3. Support

A total of 246 regular visits to the inmates in the National Prison were recorded in the reporting year. In addition, detained persons received 192 visits from their legal counsel and 82 visits from psychosocial professionals. The prison doctor visited the National Prison a total of 72 times, carrying out 195 consultations.

Fewer days in detention were served in National Prison in 2022.

A particular challenge for the National Prison is posed in each case by psychologically conspicuous remand, deportation or extradition prisoners with indicated inpatient treatment. This is because, due to the current legal situation, these inmates can only be transferred to special facilities in Austria. In Vorarlberg in particular, however, the places available for such inmates are very scarce and often unavailable. As was shown in the reporting year with very aggressive remand prisoners who are addicts, the outpatient psychiatric care in the National Prison quickly reaches its limits.

The independent correctional commission appointed by the government visited the National Prison unannounced four times in the reporting year and attests to the professional and clean management of the prison. The treatment of the inmates is impeccable and very respectful. Various recommendations for improvement were all positively received.

12.4. Remands

People who are detained on certain legal grounds during the investigation procedure on suspicion of committing a criminal offence are said to be remanded in custody. In the reporting year, more new incidences of imprisonment on remand were recorded than in the previous year. Of the total of 14 people remanded in custody in the reporting year, two people had Liechtenstein citizenship, two had foreign citizenship with their place of residence in Liechtenstein, and the remaining ten people remanded were foreign citizens with the place of residence abroad.

Remands	2022	2021
Total remands	14	8
of which Liechtenstein citizens	2	1
of which foreign citizens with place of residence in LI	2	2
of which foreign citizens with place of residence abroad	10	5

12.5. Sentences served abroad

Due to the treaty with Austria from 1983, prison sentences for convicted offenders were primarily served in Austrian prisons. The same applies to the execution of court-ordered measures. Since the start of 2017, shorter prison sentences are also no longer served in Vaduz due to the revamp of the penal system, as the legal requirements for timely and lawful execution of sentences can no longer be met in full (e.g. employment, free time, etc.). It has been agreed with the Canton of St Gallen that the Saxerriet Cantonal Prison can be used to prepare Liechtenstein prisoners for release.

Transfers abroad to carry out custodial sentences or measures are generally arranged as soon as the sentences take legal effect. Thus, a total of 22 prisoners spent 4,009 days in detention in Austrian prisons serving their sentences or carrying out the measures imposed on them. Of this figure, 263 days were served by a woman. This is fewer days of imprisonment than in the previous year (2021: 4,182), although two more people were detained in Austrian prisons. Five people were detained in Saxerriet in Switzerland for 687 days in 2022.

Prisoners were also placed in Austrian prisons in 2022.

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