



The Hungarian Prison Administration met its objectives for the year, and performed its duties of prisoner intake, housing, catering and court appearances safely, up to its high professional standards and in compliance with applicable legislation. There were no incidents affecting public safety in 2015.

There were two main changes in legislation applicable to prison service work: the Prison Code (Act no. CCXL of 2013), which entered into force on January 1, and the Law Enforcement Service Act (Act no. XLII of 2015), which entered into force on July 1. The Law Enforcement Service Act (Hszt.) introduced several new concepts, including a compensation system that takes professional development into account, which improved pay for many working in the field of law enforcement.

In order to increase prisoner employment, which reached 87% by the end of the year, we founded BV Holding Limited with the aim of coordinating all of our prison enterprises, and thus improving the efficiency of Central Procurement.

As a new challenge, the Prison Service had to detain large numbers of illegal aliens, and was requested to participate in the construction of a temporary border fence.

Legal compliance

Prison Service Headquarters conducted six comprehensive audits, audited 56 individual topics in 448 cases, conducted 149 targeted audits, four follow-up audits and 78 mobile audits. The internal auditors closed 85 cases and started 16 unscheduled investigations. Based on the evaluation of audit results, the institutions drew up action plans to address the problems detailed in the audit documents. This was the Complaints Office's first year of operation; it received 94 submissions concerning, among others, prisoner transfers, contact, healthcare, alleged assault, housing conditions, and unethical treatment by prison staff. 19% of all the submissions proved to be justified and were remedied.

There were eight external audits initiated under the National Prevention Mechanism of the Fundamental Rights Commissioner's Office and six more by various county authorities, concerning mainly prison conditions. Prosecutors' Offices conducted investigations on an ongoing basis, in a total of 1 380 cases. The United Nations investigated the detention of foreign nationals in two cases, while CPT conducted one investigation of the same.



Litigation

The number of legal cases brought against Prison Service Headquarters was similar to last year's (2015: 40; 2014: 38). In 31 cases prisoners initiated the proceedings; there were six employment lawsuits and one financial mismanagement case. The institutions were sued in 682 cases, most of them concerned prisoner compensation.

Prisoners typically sue about crowdedness, housing conditions and healthcare, similarly to previous years.

The Hungarian Prison Administration continued to have several ongoing cases at the European Court of Human Rights in 2015. These typically concern the crowdedness, the lack of separate hygiene facilities, and cell ventilation.

Experts estimate that the court has received a total of 3 000–3 500 Hungarian submissions; until now HUF 450 million is due for damages.