



GERMAN FUNDING TO CROATIAN BORDER ENFORCEMENT

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Executive Summary

This report by Border Violence Monitoring Network (BVMN), with the support of PRO ASYL, summarizes the results of an investigation into the support of German authorities for Croatian border authorities from 2016-2021 **(and for deployments of officers, until 2022)**. **It sheds a light on donations of equipment, the deployment of officers, and further kinds of support. In addition, the organisation of the Croatian police with regard to pushback operations is discussed.**

On both political and practical levels, Germany has heavily supported Croatia in border enforcement and securitization efforts. This support has continued over the last several years despite overwhelming evidence of systemic human rights violations perpetrated by Croatian police forces against people-on-the-move (POM).

From 2016 until the 1st quarter of 2021, at least 24 German officers were deployed in Croatia as liaison officers in different capacities, in addition to those working for the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex). In the same period, the total sum of the vehicle and equipment donations (including thermal cameras and other surveillance technology, as well as non-border related topics) amounted to €2,862,851.36. German institutions further conducted at least 87 trainings, official visits, or evaluations of Croatian police forces, on topics ranging from prevention, the use of police dogs, border management, and surveillance. The sum of the cost of the trainings in the period 2016 – 2021 calculated is €422,168.84.

Of particular concern is the heavy involvement and provision of equipment by German institutions to the Intervention Police, which among other sectors of the Croatian police, has been identified as a key actor in systematic pushbacks along Croatian borders. In total, the Intervention Police received €158,171.98 in equipment donations and €47,539.92 in trainings from 2016-2021. A further €321,527.70 was provided specifically to the Special Police.

The extent of the systematic violent pushbacks along the Croatian border and the structures behind them suggest that equipment provided by Germany could also be connected to pushbacks along the Croatian border that violate international law.

Despite evidence of Croatia's human rights violations against POM at its borders, Croatia is set to become a member of the Schengen Zone in January 2023. Germany has been a strong supporter both politically and logistically of Croatia's Schengen membership, while its support to Croatian border management seems to be aimed at closing gaps and technical shortcomings identified by the European Commission.

Both in the process of accession to the Schengen area and as a precondition for bilateral support, there has been a failure to address border violence, police brutality and systematic pushbacks at the Croatian border. There are still no protection mechanisms for victims. Violent pushbacks continue to occur on a daily basis.



Introduction

The Border Violence Monitoring Network (BVMN) is a coalition of 16 organisations that has documented illegal pushbacks, collective expulsions, and police violence at and within the EU's borders in Greece and the Western Balkans since the formal closure of the humanitarian corridor in 2016. **This BVMN project, supported by PRO ASYL, aims to investigate if donations of equipment and further support measures allocated by German authorities from 2016-2021 (and for deployments of officers, until 2022) have been used in operations that directly or indirectly violated the fundamental rights of people-on-the-move (POM) at Croatian borders.**

Methodology

This report draws on a combination of observations from grassroots actors and POM, open-source research, the submission of Freedom Of Information Requests (FOI) and parliamentary questions to relevant authorities. Questions posed to the parliament focused on finding out more about donated equipment, the general stance on the human rights violations on the border and the potential involvement of German officers or equipment. Using the platform [Frag den Staat](#) we sent out Freedom of Information (FOI) requests to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior, the Federal Police, and the Federal Criminal Police, as well as to the 16 individual police headquarters of the federal states or the ministries responsible for them. By drawing on different source materials and perspectives on the issue, this report seeks to provide a multifaceted approach to create greater visibility and accountability for human rights violations.

Systematic & well documented: Pushbacks by Croatia at its borders

Reports of collective expulsions from Croatia have been extensively documented since the closure of the so-called Balkan Route in 2016, with BVMN alone collecting 878 testimonies detailing human rights violations perpetrated against 10,032 people.¹ A significant number of documented cases were so-called chain-pushbacks, part of a coordinated practice of chain-refoulement that starts as readmission, usually at Italian-Slovenian borders, and ends up as a pushback over the Croatian green borders to Bosnia, out of EU territory.² In 59% of these cases, persons expressed the intention to seek asylum in Croatia, and in 39% persons were under the age of 18. In almost 90% of cases some form of torture or degrading treatment was recorded, including gun violence, forced undressing, mock executions, sexual violence and harassment, heavy physical violence, and the use of electroshock weapons.³ BVMN has also recorded and published testimonies that describe the punitive forced undressing of children as young as 13.⁴ Several

¹ For more on this see BVMN. 2022. Testimony Database. Available at: <https://t1p.de/s7vkm>

² See for example see BVMN. 2021. Papers Signed With No Translator, Request For Asylum Denied. Available at: <https://t1p.de/zkjp>

³ For more on this see BVMN. 2021. Annual Torture Report 2020. Available at: <https://t1p.de/77wvg>

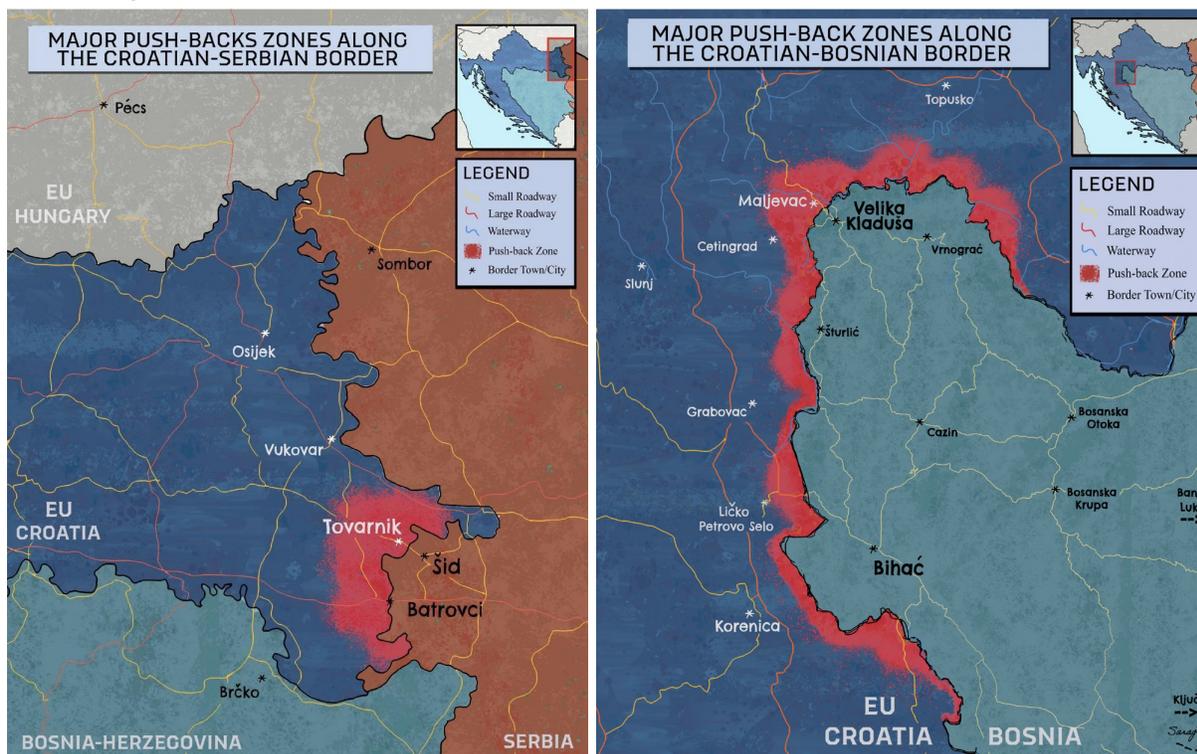
⁴ For more on this see BVMN. 2021. Annual Torture Report 2020. Available at: <https://t1p.de/77wvg>



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testimonies speak to the potential presence of foreign officers⁵ witnessing or directly participating in pushing people back, including testimonies mentioning German-speaking officers.⁶

The systematic practice of Croatian pushbacks have been further affirmed through the work of journalists, and national mechanisms such as the Croatian Ombudswoman,⁷ and testimonies of whistleblowers.⁸ In statements that later went public, police officers clearly described how they were ordered to “return everyone without papers, no traces, take money, break mobile phones or take for ourselves, and forcibly return refugees to Bosnia”.⁹



In 2019, BVMN published a large database of videos containing evidence of illegal pushbacks and rights violations along the Croatian border with Bosnia and Herzegovina.¹⁰ In 2019, Swiss media outlet SRF published footage of Croatian authorities engaged in the process of a collective expulsion close to Gradina

⁵ BVMN. 2019. “Driver very big problem.” Available at: <https://t1p.de/86uvv>

⁶BVMN. 2019. “They are giving torture to us. After [so] the guys not come back again.” Available at: <https://t1p.de/w9nh5>

⁷ National Report on the situation of human rights of migrants at the borders. 2021. Available at: <https://t1p.de/70cam>

⁸ “Croatia’s Illegal Migrant Pushbacks” uploaded by The Newsmakers (TRT). 2019. Available at: <https://youtu.be/1IzA0tVpDZM>

⁹ Push-backs in Croatia: Complaint before the UN Human Rights Committee. 2020. Available at: <https://t1p.de/wfm9p>

¹⁰ Border Violence Monitoring Network. 2018. “Unverifiable information from unknown migrants”? – First footage of push-backs on the Croatian-Bosnian border”. Available at: <https://t1p.de/lwgtm>



(BiH). Over the course of two days, the journalists filmed four pushbacks at this location, witnessing the return of around 70 individuals.¹¹

In 2021, Lighthouse Reports in collaboration with Der Spiegel, SRF, Rundschau, ARD Monitor, ARD Studio Wien, Libération, RTL Croatia, Novosti, and Pointer, released a groundbreaking investigation into systematic illegal, violent pushbacks from Croatia to Bosnia and Herzegovina, publishing video evidence of 11 pushbacks on camera at five different locations along the border. They achieved this over eight months by gathering testimonies, tracing chains of command, tracking social media and satellite imagery and following the money trails back to EU funds. The visual evidence was corroborated by interviews with more than a dozen serving and former police and coast guard officers, as well as witness accounts by pushback victims across the three EU countries. What emerged was evidence that in at least one of the pushbacks documented, the perpetrators had equipment and uniforms consistent with the Croatian police's riot control branch, the Intervention Police.¹²

Croatian Border Enforcement

In Croatia, border enforcement and the process of pushing people back is carried out by an interconnected web of actors within the country's interior and along its borders. While border police are nominally tasked with the surveillance and control of the state's borders, police forces from different divisions altogether assist them in the process. Intervention Police and Special Police play an active role in these structures, in addition to regular and criminal police units.

"Border guards, stations and mobile units, intervention and special police, city-based police officers, interceptors on highways - they all work to prevent migrants from passing through Croatia" - Croatian Police Whistleblower¹³

The Croatian Intervention Police was established on May 3, 2001, in the context of a reorganization and implementation of reforms within the Croatian Police. Through the framework of the 2001 Stability Pact for Southeastern Europe, the German Police was heavily involved in this process, in particular the formation of the Intervention Police from units of the Special Police. From there, numerous seminars and working meetings were held with the aim of transferring German experiences in the implementation of reforms, and millions of euros worth of equipment was donated to different units of the Croatian Police.¹⁴

The Intervention Police today undertake tasks of securing public gatherings of medium and low-security risk, and also assist different police units (basic, traffic, criminal, border) in arresting and apprehending people, searching for persons, escorts and insurance of protected persons, and state border security. In

¹¹Kroatische Polizei bei illegaler Abschiebung gefilmt. 2019. Available at: <https://t1p.de/2ujjp>

¹² Unmasking Europe's Shadow Armies. 2021. Available at: <https://t1p.de/crdiv>

¹³ "Croatia's Illegal Migrant Pushbacks" uploaded by The Newsmakers (TRT). 2019. Available at: <https://youtu.be/1IzA0tVpDZM>,

¹⁴Croatian Ministry of Interior. 2021. "Na prijedlog MUP-a RH odlikovani njemački državljani" Available at: <https://t1p.de/zwybf>



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practice, members of Intervention Units play an integral role in the border security apparatus of Croatia. Units from around the country are deployed to border areas on a rotating basis, similar to Special Police units. Furthermore, specially trained police dogs are used for search and protection by some Intervention Units in this capacity. Many of the testimonies collected mention dogs being used to threaten people-on-the-move¹⁵, or even attacking them, as well as the presence of officers with black uniforms and balaklava that may match the description of the uniform of the Intervention Police carrying out violent pushbacks.¹⁶ Whistleblowers and forensic investigations have confirmed the involvement of Intervention Police in perpetrating illegal and violent pushbacks at Croatian borders, as well as suggest that such actions have been part of a national operation code-named “koridor” since 2017 that is in part financed by EU funds.¹⁷ Operation “koridor,” according to whistleblowers, is organized on the principle of operational groups, which operate throughout the territory of Croatia (in border areas but also further inland), and aims to prevent migration through the “capture” of both smugglers and potential asylum seekers.¹⁸

The Special Police Unit is now centralized and there are seven organizational units: Command, Helicopter Service, Training Center in Mali Lošinj, Antiterrorist units, Lučko and Special Police units in Osijek, Rijeka and Split. They are present in each of the 20 police departments, and their command is within the MUP Police Directorate. Croatian Special Police units are notable for their easily identifiable green, olive-drab uniforms. These officers play an important role in the apprehension of transit groups in rural or forested areas but are less often described as being active in the process of pushing people back. POM sometimes refer to the Intervention Police (black masked men) as "commandos", and they describe Special Police (green uniforms) as "military", but further checks point to the previously described police units. Further, respondents recalled helicopters passing close to them prior to their apprehension.¹⁹

Pushback testimonies from the area have also consistently included the misuse of police equipment and vehicles during pushbacks. In particular, BVMN has identified the persistent use of forced overcrowding in police vehicles, inducing sickness by extremely dangerous driving, the manipulation of temperature to extreme highs or lows, and unnecessarily prolonged confinement. Detainees are routinely held unjustly in these inhuman conditions with up to twenty people for up to six hours at a time. The vehicles used are often described as white vans with no rear windows, either with the word “policija” written along the side, or without markings to identify it as a police van (see below). The most common types of prisoner transport vehicles used by the Croatian police are the Volkswagen Crafter, Mercedes Sprinter, and Ford Transit. These actions on the part of the Croatian police go against the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) standards for the

¹⁵ see testimonies such as this one from 2022 <https://t1p.de/3r3tt>, or this one from 2021 <https://t1p.de/ztry3> and others

¹⁶ see this testimony from 2022 <https://t1p.de/sp2jq> mentioning black uniforms and this one from 2022 mentioning <https://t1p.de/xkkgd> black uniforms and the Intervention Police

¹⁷ Unmasking Europe’s Shadow Armies. 2021. Available at: <https://t1p.de/crdiv>

¹⁸ “Croatia’s Illegal Migrant Pushbacks” uploaded by The Newsmakers (TRT). 2019. Available at: <https://youtu.be/1IzA0tVpDZM>

¹⁹ see e.g. this testimony from 2019 <https://t1p.de/x0i0y> or this one from 2021 <https://t1p.de/q1voz>



transportation of detainees, and amount to Cruel, Inhuman, and Degrading treatment as outlined in Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights.²⁰



Image description: Croatian police vans

[Image source](#)

Calls for accountability: few answers

From 2016 to 2020, the Croatian Ombudswoman’s activity reports have continuously highlighted the denial of access to international protection and other human rights violations perpetrated against people-on-the-move.²¹ In particular, reports describe how expulsions take place without implementing any procedure prescribed by the Act on Foreigners, thereby ensuring no remedy was available. The conduct of the Croatian police described in the complaints may present a violation of Article 3 of the ECHR, in both material and procedural aspects. This is related to breaches in the active torture and degrading treatment of persons, and the obligation of the state to carry out effective and detailed investigations. A now-retracted report of Croatia’s dysfunctional Independent Border Monitoring Mechanism stated “members of the Intervention Police acted illegally by returning irregular migrants from Croatia to BiH outside the framework of national and international law”²². In spite of such overwhelming evidence, Croatian authorities repeatedly claim pushback allegations are unfounded and have failed to investigate them effectively.

²⁰ Torture and cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment of refugees and migrants in croatia in 2019. Available at <https://t1p.de/s0xr1>

²¹ see reports on the Performance of Activities of the National Preventive Mechanism Available at: <https://t1p.de/40xhi> (2016) ; <https://t1p.de/6spm5> (2017) ; <https://t1p.de/mhg1f> (2018) ; <https://t1p.de/4r9ig> (2019)

²²Balkan Route: CPT and Border Monitoring Reports Confirm Croatian Violence and Pushbacks, Commissioner Praises Accountability Efforts, Slovenia Blames Croatia for Asylum Requests, New Lipa Camp Opens. 2021. Available at: <https://t1p.de/o9lhc>



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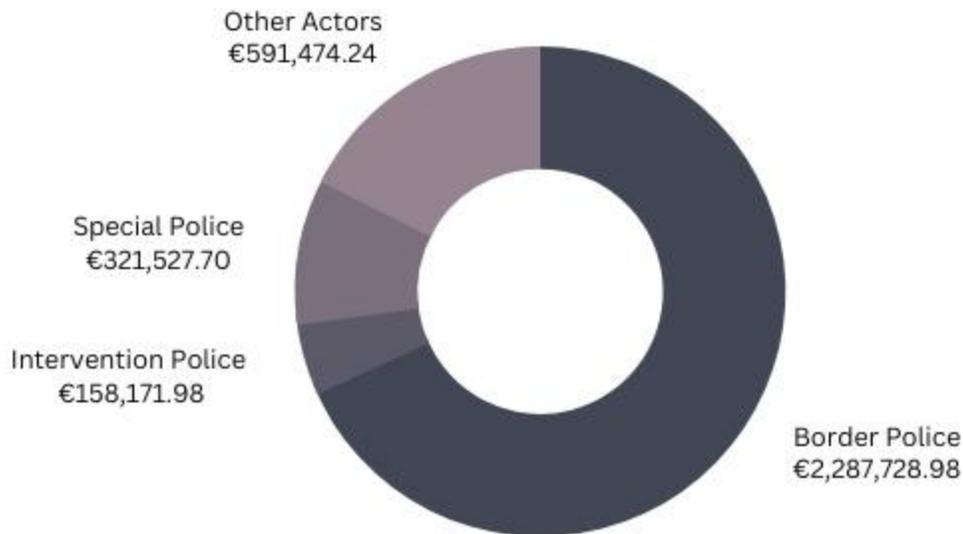
Croatia is in a unique position when it comes to European Commission-backed efforts to establish independent monitoring mechanisms as Croatia first received funding through an emergency assistance grant to implement such a mechanism in 2018. The Croatian state later drew heavy criticism as the mechanism was never functionally established, and evidence to the point was withheld by Croatian and EU Commission officials to avoid potential backlash.²³ In July 2021, Croatian authorities announced the commencement of a one-year pilot project of the ‘Independent Mechanism for Monitoring the Conduct of Police Officers in the Area of Illegal Migration and International Protection’. Independent Croatian civil society actors including BVMN members Are You Syrious and Centre for Peace Studies raised several alarms regarding this mechanism. The main criticism concerned the scope of the mechanism: without the option of unlimited and unannounced visits to the so-called green border areas, the monitors would not be able to freely observe the area where most of the human rights violations happen. Further concerns had to do with the selection process of the actors which will carry out the monitoring, the independence of the mechanism, and the competency of the organizations involved. Overall, the project was not extended past the pilot phase, the final report of the mechanism was taken down shortly after its publication, and to date, there is still no functional independent border monitoring mechanism. These events are crucial to consider in the context of current steps toward the creation of independent monitoring mechanisms throughout the region in the way they could set a precedent for mechanisms established in other member states. From a critical perspective, it also provides insight into potential pitfalls and problems to be avoided. Despite evidence of Croatia’s human rights violations against POM at its borders, Croatia is set to become a member of the Schengen Zone in January 2023. Germany can be seen as a Schengen member state that strongly supported Croatia’s Schengen membership – both politically and logistically. When the European Commission²⁴ gave its “green light” to Croatia’s full membership it defined several technical shortcomings in Croatia’s border management like lacking surveillance equipment or police dogs. Germany’s support seems to have been aimed at closing these gaps and making Croatia ready for Schengen.

²³ The Guardian. 2020. EU ‘covered up’ Croatia’s failure to protect migrants from border brutality.” Available at: <https://t1p.de/hpb1h>

²⁴ European Commission. COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL on the verification of the full application of the Schengen acquis by Croatia. 2019. Available at: <https://t1p.de/o48jn>



German Support to Croatian Border Enforcement (2016-2021)



According to Croatian Interior Minister Bozinovic, Germany is among those most familiar with the work of the Croatian Border Police.²⁵ Through the provision of trainings to Croatian police forces and the donations of vehicles and equipment. On an international level, German officials have consistently voiced their support for Croatian border enforcement efforts. In 2019, then-German Ambassador Robert Klinker spoke out in defense of the Croatian police, claiming that Amnesty International’s allegations of Croatian police’s violence against migrants (that were later confirmed to be true) lacked tangible evidence. He later stated that “relations between the countries have never been so strong”.²⁶ In January 2020, former German Minister of the Interior Horst Seehofer stated he agreed “one hundred percent” with Bozinovic regarding issues of migrations and security. He later added that Germany would help Croatia as much as it could in protecting the EU’s external border.²⁷ These statements of support have come at the same time as civil society actors were denouncing systematic human rights violations being perpetrated by Croatian police forces,²⁸ raising the question of to what extent German authorities knew about human rights violations occurring, and if German liaison officers in Croatia or equipment donated was involved somehow in pushbacks. The current German Chancellor, Olaf Scholz, has also voiced support for Croatia

²⁵ Croatiaweek.Germany donates vehicles for Croatian border police worth €835,000. 2020. Available at: <https://t1p.de/xv0rs>

²⁶ Njemački veleposlanik Klinker: ‘Za navode Amnestyja o nasilju hrvatskih policajaca prema migrantima nema dokaza’. 2019. Available at: <https://t1p.de/jrn76>

²⁷ German Interior Minister: Croatian police is protecting EU border properly. 2020. Available at: <https://t1p.de/219r3>

²⁸ see Croatia: Migrants Pushed Back to Bosnia and Herzegovina. 2018. Available at: <https://t1p.de/fm90t> ; Croatia: President Admits Unlawful Migrant Pushbacks. 2019 Available at: <https://t1p.de/sh19o> ; Croatia: EU complicit in violence and abuse by police against refugees and migrants. 2019. Available at: <https://t1p.de/s5he1>



despite ongoing allegations of human rights violations, stating “Croatia, Romania, and Bulgaria fulfill all the technical requirements for full membership. I will work to see them become full members.”²⁹

German Officers in Croatia

From parliamentary questions, we identified how many liaison officers from various German institutions (Grenzpolizeiliche Unterstützungsbeamte Ausland (GUA), Bundeskriminalamt (BKA), Bundespolizei (BPol)) were in Croatia and in some cases in which cities they are stationed. However, there are discrepancies between information from past parliamentary questions and parliamentary questions submitted this year resulting in gaps in the information available regarding the roles and place of operation for many officers sent.

Past parliamentary questions provide the information that:

- In 2016, one Federal Criminal Police Office Liaison Officer (BKA-VBA) was deployed in the 4th quarter in Zagreb
- In 2017, one Criminal Police Office Liaison Officer (BKA-VBA) was deployed in the 4th quarter in Zagreb
- In 2018, one Criminal Police Office Liaison Officer (BKA-VBA) was deployed in the 2nd to 4th quarter in Zagreb and Border Police Liaison Officer (VB-BPOL) was deployed during the whole year, no location was disclosed
- In 2019, one Criminal Police Office Liaison Officer (BKA-VBA) was deployed in the 1st quarter in Zagreb and one Border Police Liaison Officer (VB-BPOL) was deployed during the whole year, no location was disclosed
- In 2020, one Criminal Police Office Liaison Officer (BKA-VBA) was deployed during the whole year in Zagreb, one Border Police Liaison Officer (VB-BPOL) was deployed during the whole year, no location was disclosed
- In 2021, one BKA-VB was deployed in the 1st quarter in Zagreb, one Border Police Liaison Officer (VB-BPOL) was deployed during the 1st to 3rd quarter of 2021, no location was disclosed and one Border Police Assistance Officer (GUA) was deployed in the 3rd quarter in Split³⁰

²⁹ German Chancellor Supports Schengen Membership for Bulgaria, Croatia & Romania. 2022. Available at: <https://t1p.de/onkhj>

³⁰ numbers were calculated using the questions: How many liaison officers of the BKA are currently deployed in which countries (please indicate in each case the countries and places of deployment as well as the corresponding number of officers)?, How many German police officers are currently deployed abroad as b) Border Police Liaison Officers? c) Support forces as well as advisors on border security issues? Kleine Anfrage “Polizei- und Zolleinsätze im Ausland” first quarter 2016 to third quarter 2021 BT Drucksache 18/8380 <https://t1p.de/eomnj>, BT Drucksache 18/9450 <https://t1p.de/c4vab>, BT Drucksache 18/10330 <https://t1p.de/dnfb0>, BT Drucksache 18/11391 <https://t1p.de/fd6un>, BT Drucksache 18/12723 <https://t1p.de/x9s5s>, BT Drucksache 18/13364 <https://t1p.de/j5anp>, BT Drucksache 19/115 <https://t1p.de/tb6a1>, BT Drucksache 19/892 <https://t1p.de/voyxe>, BT Drucksache 19/2142 <https://t1p.de/sy3op>, BT Drucksache 19/3782 <https://t1p.de/ula9t>, BT Drucksache 19/5521 <https://t1p.de/atufm>, BT Drucksache 19/8783 <https://t1p.de/ahyrk>, BT Drucksache 19/10445 <https://t1p.de/kb38r>, BT Drucksache 19/12554 <https://t1p.de/044pp>, BT Drucksache 19/16671 <https://t1p.de/c9yi1>, BT Drucksache 19/19467, <https://t1p.de/dy6hh>,



Conflicting information however between these numbers and the numbers provided in a parliamentary question from this year and past requests for information. According to information from the past parliamentary questions, 11 officers were deployed in Croatia between 2016 and the third quarter of 2021. According to the information in the new parliamentary question the Bundespolizei (German Federal Police), the Bundeskriminalamt (Federal Criminal Police Office), and the Customs Administration (Zoll) have each deployed a liaison officer in Zagreb. Furthermore, a Grenzpolizeiliche Unterstützungsbeamte Ausland (Border Police Support Unit) (GUA) is sent to Split by the Bundespolizei (Federal Police) every year in July/August to provide support during the tourist season. This would bring the total number of officers during the same time period to 24.³¹

German support to Frontex Operations in Croatia

German officers are also deployed in several cities in Croatia through Frontex operations as members of the "European Border Guard Teams" as part of joint operations, pilot projects, or for rapid border interventions. The Bundespolizei (Federal Police) have participated in the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) Support Officer Training and Land Border Officer training, a total of 129 federal police officers have been deployed in Frontex operations in Croatia so far (2017-2022). A further breakdown regarding German officers deployed is as follows:^{32 33}

- In 2017, a total of eleven officers of the Federal Police were deployed
- In 2018, a total of 17 officers of the Federal Police were deployed
- In 2019, a total of 14 officers of the Federal Police were deployed
- In 2020, a total of six federal police officers were deployed
- In 2021, a total of 62 federal police officers were deployed
- In 2022, a total of 19 federal police officers have been deployed so far.

The deployed law enforcement officers were/are deployed as:

- a. Border Guard Officer - Border Check (BGO-BC).
- b. Advanced Level Document Officer (ALDO)
- c. Motor Vehicle Crime Detection Officer (MVCDO).
- d. Cross-Border Crime Detection Officer (CBCDO)

BT Drucksache 19/21625 <https://t1p.de/7b597>, BT Drucksache 19/25444 <https://t1p.de/yzd6a>, BT Drucksache 19/27951 <https://t1p.de/svuqh>, BT Drucksache 19/30821 <https://t1p.de/sqdpr>, BT Drucksache 19/32245 <https://t1p.de/cjz8h>, BT Drucksache 20/229 <https://t1p.de/qptub>

³¹ numbers were calculated using the questions: How many German police officers, customs officers and other (civilian) personnel are currently deployed in Croatia (also for training or education) (please break down by affiliation to federal states, federal police, BKA, etc.) and where are they stationed? Reply of the Federal Government to the parliamentary request of die Linken, DS 20/3197, 26.08.2022. Answer to question 13. Available at: <https://t1p.de/qcd7b>

³²Frontex was not officially active in Croatia until 2017, so there is no data from 2016

³³Reply of the Federal Government to the parliamentary request of die Linken, DS 20/3197, 26.08.2022. Answer to question 13. Available at: <https://t1p.de/qcd7b>



e. Dog Handler

FOIs sent to Frontex, including serious incidents reports (SIRs) from 2016 to 2022 in the Croatian operations area, as well the Fundamental Rights Officer's (FRO) opinion on operational plans, mostly contained information on human rights compliance during operations, proposals to establish benchmarks to evaluate this compliance, and potentially including the VEGA handbook Children at Land Borders to operational handbooks. From 2016-2020, at least³⁴ 6 SIRs were submitted regarding rights violations at Croatian borders. Rights violations carried out by Croatian authorities in the incidents described include beatings, theft, refusal of access to food and water, denial of the right to seek asylum, and asylum seekers being pushed back to Serbia or Bosnia and Herzegovina.³⁵ According to the documents provided, In none of the cases was there follow-up by the Croatian state. Further, it is still unclear how many of the recommendations made by the FRO were carried through, and how much is still only to be found in the FRO observation documents.

Trainings

German authorities have conducted 86 seminars and visits involving German and Croatian actors on a range of topics, including border security between the first quarter of 2016 and the third quarter of 2021.³⁶ Germany also financially supported 13 Frontex trainings with an undisclosed amount. In most cases, no specification of the Croatian recipients was named, and the titles were kept very broad, which makes it difficult to get an understanding of the impact they had on the area of border monitoring/surveillance. It is worth mentioning that much of the information gathered regarding the trainings held between German and Croatian officers comes from publicly available sources. This total includes:

- 72 Seminars/ trainings/ training aids/ workshops³⁷
- 13 Visits
- 1 Evaluation
- 1 Internship

³⁴ In the documents provided through the FOIs, not all months were included, so it is possible that SIRs were submitted in periods for which we do not have access to the reports.

³⁵ Direct Communication. FRONTEX. FOI Response. 2022

³⁶ see Croatian Police Commended over Frontex Training Programme. 2019. Available at: <https://t1p.de/4puv1>; Frontex trains border guards as part of Mid-level Management Course. 2017. Available at: <https://t1p.de/mwpjn> ;

³⁷ This number excludes five trainings as we assumed that they were double mentioned due to the same or similar name and same time period named



The sum of the cost of the trainings in the period 2016 – 2021 calculated is €422,168.84^{38, 39} 17 trainings were conducted on the topic of prevention, the funding accounting to €196,733.93. 5 trainings were conducted on the topic of police education, the funding amounting to €21,948.41. 11 trainings were conducted in various other topics including negotiations and diving trainings, without further information, seeming not to be related to border management and surveillance. The funding for those amounted to €60,525.03. 15 trainings were conducted in topics that were described very broadly, such as "Bilateral police training assistance for Croatia" or "Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe" where we therefore cannot exclude that they were related to border management and surveillance. The sum of their financing by Germany amounted to €43,422.78.⁴⁰

Of particular interest are the 11 trainings conducted for the Intervention Police, the funding amounting to €47,539.92. Additionally, one evaluation was conducted regarding the Intervention Police in 2021 for the cost of €614.76. However, few details on these trainings or the results of the evaluation could be acquired. The other trainings were focused on such things as “prevention” with a focus on drugs and general police education and training, if the topic of border control and protection was a focus or a topic in these could not be determined. Crucially, trainings on the handling of K9 units (police dogs) were also included, and two additional trainings are planned with the Intervention Police in 2022 including an “Exchange of the Lower Saxony state police on service dogs”⁴¹. The use of police dogs by perpetrators, identified by respondents as the Intervention Police, to attack POM during pushbacks has been repeatedly documented in the last few years.⁴² Further, on one official visit of representatives of the German Ministry of Interior, German Federal Police, a liaison officer from Baden-Württemberg and other officials to the Intervention Police of the Karlovac Police Administration, the units demonstrated techniques and equipment used, including the Tonfa multipurpose baton.⁴³ The Tonfa baton is used only by the Intervention Police, and in the recent

³⁸ Kleine Anfrage “Polizei- und Zolleinsätze im Ausland” first quarter 2016 to third quarter 2021
BT Drucksache 18/8380 <https://t1p.de/eomnj>, BT Drucksache 18/9450 <https://t1p.de/c4vab>, BT Drucksache 18/10330 <https://t1p.de/dnfb0>, BT Drucksache 18/11391 <https://t1p.de/fd6un>, BT Drucksache 18/12723 <https://t1p.de/x9s5s>, BT Drucksache 18/13364 <https://t1p.de/j5anp>, BT Drucksache 19/115 <https://t1p.de/tb6a1>, BT Drucksache 19/892 <https://t1p.de/voyxe>, BT Drucksache 19/2142 <https://t1p.de/sy3op>, BT Drucksache 19/3782 <https://t1p.de/ula9t>, BT Drucksache 19/5521 <https://t1p.de/atufm>, BT Drucksache 19/8783 <https://t1p.de/ahyrk>, BT Drucksache 19/10445 <https://t1p.de/kb38r>, BT Drucksache 19/12554 <https://t1p.de/044pp>, BT Drucksache 19/16671 <https://t1p.de/c9yi1>, BT Drucksache 19/19467, <https://t1p.de/dy6hh>, BT Drucksache 19/21625 <https://t1p.de/7b597>, BT Drucksache 19/25444 <https://t1p.de/yzd6a>, BT Drucksache 19/27951 <https://t1p.de/svuqh>, BT Drucksache 19/30821 <https://t1p.de/sqdpr>, BT Drucksache 19/32245 <https://t1p.de/cjz8h>, BT Drucksache 20/229 <https://t1p.de/qptub>

³⁹ This number excludes the cost for 11 of the 13 visits, the 12 trainings conducted under Frontex in Croatia (13 if we count the one that was sent into the group this year), the safe tourist season project, the internship and three trainings of the Intervention Police that were not mentioned in the initial parliamentary questions, but only in the new question sent out that does not mention the cost.

⁴⁰ for one of these trainings, no cost was mentioned

⁴¹ Kleine Anfrage (BT-Drucksache 20/3073) Available at: <https://t1p.de/oszng>

⁴² see this testimony from (2022): shorturl.at/uzHRT, (2022) shorturl.at/any8 (2021) shorturl.at/kopN6

⁴³ Karlovac Police Administration. 2021. Posjet predstavnika njemačke policije IJP PU karlovačke. Available at: shorturl.at/bzD48



investigation by Lighthouse Reports, perpetrators identified as members of the Intervention Police are seen using this specific style of baton while pushing people back.⁴⁴

Answers to parliamentary questions and FOIs revealed little new or crucial information, yet included reassurance that all training given, either by the German government or Frontex include lessons on human rights and the rights of POM. They are also welcoming the Croatian willingness to cooperate with the EU to establish an independent monitoring mechanism, and are certain that all allegations against Croatian forces have been investigated internally and sufficiently dealt with. Again, this comes at a time in which there is no functional independent border monitoring mechanism in place to investigate potential human rights violations. The titles of the visits that were provided in the parliamentary questions, as with the trainings, did not give much information on the topics discussed. Furthermore, all but one request for more information on the meetings were denied. Press releases from the Croatian Ministry of Interior, however, do mention that the topic of “illegal migration” was discussed at least in some of them⁴⁵.

Equipment Donations

The total sum of the vehicle and equipment donations between 2016 and 2021 (including thermal cameras and other surveillance technology, as well as non-border related topics) amounted to €2,862,851.36⁴⁶⁴⁷. The majority of the value of the donations, €2,287,728.98, went to the **Border Police, including thermal imaging devices for use in border control and surveillance, as well as 10 Volkswagen Transporter and 10 Toyota Landcruiser which, according to the **Croatian Ministry of Interior**, are to be used to control the land border and combat “illegal migration”⁴⁸. The use of thermal imaging**

⁴⁴ Lighthouse Reports et al. 2021. Unmasking Europe’s Shadow Armies. Available at: shorturl.at/CFT36

⁴⁵ Croatian Police Academy. 2021. The liaison officer of the Federal Police of FR Germany visited the Police Academy Available at: <https://t1p.de/dymp5>; Croatian Ministry of Interior. 2019. The Bavarian minister supports the entry of the Republic of Croatia into Schengen. Available at: <https://t1p.de/fpjlm>; Croatian Ministry of Interior.

2018. Horst Seehofer supported Croatia's entry into the Schengen area. Available: <https://t1p.de/azuom>

⁴⁶ Kleine Anfrage “Polizei- und Zolleinsätze im Ausland” first quarter 2016 to third quarter 2021

BT Drucksache 18/8380 <https://t1p.de/eomnj>, BT Drucksache 18/9450 <https://t1p.de/c4vab>, BT Drucksache

18/10330 <https://t1p.de/dnfb0>, BT Drucksache 18/11391 <https://t1p.de/fd6un>, BT Drucksache 18/12723

<https://t1p.de/x9s5s>, BT Drucksache 18/13364 <https://t1p.de/j5anp>, BT Drucksache 19/115 <https://t1p.de/tb6a1>, BT

Drucksache 19/892 <https://t1p.de/voyxe>, BT Drucksache 19/2142 <https://t1p.de/sy3op>, BT Drucksache 19/3782

<https://t1p.de/ula9t>, BT Drucksache 19/5521 <https://t1p.de/atufm>, BT Drucksache 19/8783 <https://t1p.de/ahyrk>, BT

Drucksache 19/10445 <https://t1p.de/kb38r>, BT Drucksache 19/12554 <https://t1p.de/044pp>, BT Drucksache 19/16671

<https://t1p.de/c9yi1>, BT Drucksache 19/19467, <https://t1p.de/dy6hh>, BT Drucksache 19/21625 <https://t1p.de/7b597>,

BT Drucksache 19/25444 <https://t1p.de/yzd6a>, BT Drucksache 19/27951 <https://t1p.de/svuqh>, BT Drucksache

19/30821 <https://t1p.de/sqdpr>, BT Drucksache 19/32245 <https://t1p.de/cjz8h>, BT Drucksache 20/229

<https://t1p.de/qptub>

⁴⁷ Including donations to Croatian non-border force police

⁴⁸ Germany donates vehicles for Croatian border police worth €835,000. 2020. Available at: <https://t1p.de/xv0rs>



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devices, or “night vision” by officers in the context of apprehending and pushing people back has been mentioned in several testimonies from pushback survivors.⁴⁹



Thermal cameras donated to the Croatian Ministry of Interiors for the Border Police for use in border surveillance

[Image Source](#)



10 Toyota Landcruiser and 10 VW Transporters donated to Croatian Border Police by the German Federal Police

[Image source](#)

Donations worth €158,171.98 went to the **Intervention Police**, this included body armor, fire extinguishers, equipment support of evidence documentation and cameras. Another donation of body armor might have also gone to the Intervention Police, the cost is however unclear, as there was no differentiation made between them and another donation of bicycles in the parliamentary question. Specific details were missing, such as the brand/model, year of manufacture, and the precise purpose of most of the equipment.

⁴⁹ See testimonies from 2018: <https://t1p.de/k70hk>; see testimony from 2019: <https://t1p.de/mfmk2>; see testimony from 2022: <https://t1p.de/ml9px>



Further probing uncovered vehicle donations undeclared in the parliamentary questions. One such example was a handover of vehicles whose recipient was stated in a press release by the Croatian Ministry of Interiors to be the ‘Special Police’⁵⁰. This raises concerns given allegations of systematic human rights violations carried out by officers within these units. However, contradictory information regarding the exact number and type of vehicles donated emerges: following an ensuing request to parliament on the said handover, a vehicle donation in reference to the handover is confirmed, however claimed to consist of 2 Mercedes Benz Sprinter and 1 Ford Transit⁵¹, while in photos published by Croatian media, at least 4 Mercedes Sprinters, but no Ford Transit, are visible. According to the Croatian Ministry of Interiors, the cost for the donated Mercedes Benz Sprinter amounted to 2,437,180.00 HRK/€321,527.70. We could not find any information regarding the cost of the Ford Transit.

Another donation of fire extinguishers with carrying devices worth €25,000 in 2016 was also not mentioned in the referred-to parliamentary questions, but in a new parliamentary question from this year. The total sum of the donations stated in the parliamentary requests together with the additional donation of the Mercedes Sprinter and fire extinguishers amounts to €3,209,385.06 Euros.



Mercedes Benz Sprinter donation to the Croatian Special Police

[Image Source](#)

Concerning the issue of whether equipment donated to Croatia could be used in pushbacks, the answers received through FOIs and parliamentary questions were vague, again reassuring that all donations are gifted with a purpose-related contract, and lies within the sovereignty of the beneficiary state.⁵² Responses further stated that any allegation of misuse of equipment or misconduct on the part of officers would be investigated by the beneficiary state, with the EU Commission monitoring compliance with European law. These responses we find somewhat lacking, given the documented failure of the Croatian state to implement a functional independent border monitoring mechanism, statements by the Ombudswoman and

⁵⁰ see here for more information: <https://t1p.de/zmn9p>

⁵¹ Kleine Anfrage (BT-Drucksache 20/3197). 2022. Available at: <https://t1p.de/qcd7b>

⁵² Kleine Anfrage (BT-Drucksache 19/26328). 2021. Available at: <https://t1p.de/wc5md>



civil society actors on the lack of adequate follow-up or accountability in instances of pushbacks perpetrated by Croatian authorities.

Support of German States

Further FOIs were sent to the individual police headquarters of the federal states or the ministries responsible for them. The focus was on trying to acquire information on police officers in Croatia, equipment donated to Croatia, training conducted for Croatian police forces and collecting meeting notes and minutes, also from training conducted as well as official visits. Out of the 16 federal states, we received twelve answers.

Generally, very little new information was provided from the institutions contacted. The Berlin Police Directorate was among one of the federal states that responded (and provided more information than most others), saying that they had an allocation for 17 officers and 15 work trips, and there was some degree of exchange between units.⁵³ In some of the information provided, however, there were discrepancies to information already accessible, yet this may have been a simple definition and wording issue, e.g. Bavaria first responded that there was no equipment given to Croatia, but they did provide aid after the earthquake in 2021 by providing IT equipment, which they only confirmed after direct inquiry and references to press statements on the donations. Rhienland-Pfalz responded that they had attended a meeting in 2019 organized by the German Federal Police. Baden-Württemberg responded that they support only in the form of the BMI project "[Polizei in der Gemeinschaft](#)".

Conclusion

Statements from the Croatian Directorate of Police have described the German police as “one of the key strategic partners through systematic financial and professional support.”⁵⁴ This support has continued over the last several years despite overwhelming evidence of systemic human rights violations perpetrated by Croatian police forces against POM. At this stage, more field visits, and observations would be needed to identify any direct links between the equipment provided or German officers in Croatia with pushbacks along Croatian borders, as in a landscape of such systematic practices their involvement cannot be ruled out.

On both political and practical levels, Germany has heavily supported Croatia in border enforcement and securitization efforts, through the statements of key government officials, the provision of equipment and training to Croatian border enforcement authorities, as well as in the direct presence of German officers on the ground. From 2016 until the 1st quarter of 2021, 24 German officers that we know of were

⁵³ Direct Communication. Berlin Police Directorate. FOI Response. 2022.

⁵⁴Croatian Federal Police. 2020. Svečana primopredaja opreme za Specijalnu policiju. Available at: <https://t1p.de/zmn9p>



deployed in Croatia as liaison officers in different capacities, in addition to those working for Frontex. In the same period, The total sum of the vehicle and equipment donations (including thermal cameras and other surveillance technology, as well as non-border related topics) amounted to €2,862,851.36.⁵⁵ German institutions further conducted at least 87 trainings, official visits, or evaluations of Croatian police forces, on topics ranging from prevention, the use of police dogs, border management, and surveillance. The sum of the cost of the trainings in the period 2016 – 2021 calculated is €422,168.84⁵⁶. Of particular concern is the heavy involvement and provision of equipment by German institutions to the Intervention Police, which among other sectors of the Croatian police, has been identified as a key actor in systematic pushbacks along Croatian borders. In total, the Intervention Police received €158,171.98 in equipment donations and €47,539.92 in trainings from 2016-2021. When requests were made for further information as to the content of these trainings or for more information about materials donated, in large part the German institutions contacted (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior, the Federal Police, and the Federal Criminal Police, as well as to the 16 individual police headquarters of the federal states or the ministries responsible for them) provided little to no new information or did not respond at all. The answer of the German Minister of Interior regarding requests for further information was that said information could have a negative impact on international relations as well as the relationship between the two states. Given the context, this answer raises only more questions and concerns.

Despite evidence of Croatia's human rights violations against POM at its borders, Croatia is set to become a member of the Schengen Zone in January 2023. Germany has been a strong supporter both politically

⁵⁵ Kleine Anfrage "Polizei- und Zolleinsätze im Ausland" first quarter 2016 to third quarter 2021
BT Drucksache 18/8380 <https://t1p.de/eomnj>, BT Drucksache 18/9450 <https://t1p.de/c4vab>, BT Drucksache 18/10330 <https://t1p.de/dnfb0>, BT Drucksache 18/11391 <https://t1p.de/fd6un>, BT Drucksache 18/12723 <https://t1p.de/x9s5s>, BT Drucksache 18/13364 <https://t1p.de/j5anp>, BT Drucksache 19/115 <https://t1p.de/tb6a1>, BT Drucksache 19/892 <https://t1p.de/voyxe>, BT Drucksache 19/2142 <https://t1p.de/sy3op>, BT Drucksache 19/3782 <https://t1p.de/ula9t>, BT Drucksache 19/5521 <https://t1p.de/atufm>, BT Drucksache 19/8783 <https://t1p.de/ahyrk>, BT Drucksache 19/10445 <https://t1p.de/kb38r>, BT Drucksache 19/12554 <https://t1p.de/044pp>, BT Drucksache 19/16671 <https://t1p.de/c9yi1>, BT Drucksache 19/19467, <https://t1p.de/dy6hh>, BT Drucksache 19/21625 <https://t1p.de/7b597>, BT Drucksache 19/25444 <https://t1p.de/yzd6a>, BT Drucksache 19/27951 <https://t1p.de/svuqh>, BT Drucksache 19/30821 <https://t1p.de/sqdpr>, BT Drucksache 19/32245 <https://t1p.de/cjz8h>, BT Drucksache 20/229 <https://t1p.de/qptub>

⁵⁶ Kleine Anfrage "Polizei- und Zolleinsätze im Ausland" first quarter 2016 to third quarter 2021
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and logistically of Croatia's Schengen membership, while its support to Croatian border management seems to be aimed at closing gaps and technical shortcomings identified by the European Commission. The need for accountability on issues of border violence, police brutality, and systemic pushbacks along Croatian borders remains, however, as pressing as ever.

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Annex: Training/Visits/Seminars 2016 - 2021

Year	Location	Country	Type	Description	Date	Foreign Part.	GER Part.	Cost	Organization
2016		Croatia	Visit	German Ambassador pays inaugural visit to Minister Orepić	26.02.2016				
2016		Croatia	ABH	Study Visit on the occasion of the 21st German Prevention Days in Magdeburg	05.-10.06.2016			€6,000.00	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2016		Croatia	ABH	Analysis Workshop II - Sub-project Promotion and Development of Crime Prevention	02.-06.05.2016			€2,000.00	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2016		Croatia	ABH	Development and implementation of prevention work in a police presidium	05.09.-08.09.2016		5	€1,584.79	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2016		Croatia	ABH	Deployment observation of Croatian executives	07.09.-12.09.2016		5	€3,490.00	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2016		Croatia	ABH	Development and implementation of prevention work in a police headquarters	17.10.-24.10.2016		6	€9,298.50	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2016		Croatia	ABH	Operational and exercise evaluation for police and police academy executives	20.10.-26.10.2016		14	€13,045.98	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2016		Croatia	ABH	Training/advanced training event for instructors in the riot police	24.10.-28.10.2016		9	€7,858.77	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2016		Croatia	ABH	Mission Observation , OSCE Foreign Ministers Conference	48./49. KW		5	€8,000.00	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2016		Croatia	ABH	Seminar intercultural competence	24.10.-28.10.2016		43	€8,835.50	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2016		Croatia	ABH	Workshop for full-time police prevention officers	28.11.-02.12.2016		3	€5,000.00	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder



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2016			ABH	Development and implementation of prevention work in a police headquarter	10.2016	6	4	€8,782.32	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2016			ABH	Deployment and exercise evaluation for police executives and police academy executives.	10.2016	14	1	€13,045.98	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2016			Training	Training/advanced training event for trainers in riot police	10.2016	9	2	€7,858.77	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2016			Seminar	Seminar intercultural competence	10.2016	3	2	€8,296.34	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2016			ABH	Workshop for full-time prevention officers	12.2016	3	1	€12,480.62	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2017	Zagreb	Croatia	ABH	Development and implementation of preventive work in a police force	27.01.-01.03.2017		4	€2,263.60	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2017	Zagreb	Croatia	ABH	Training Event Participation in the EBCGT Land Border Surveillance Officer Training II/2017.					Zoll
2017	Berlin	Croatia	ABH	Subproject deployment teaching (seminar for EL lecturers)	08.05.-12.05.2017	4	1	€4,029.11	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2017	Berlin/ Hamburg	Croatia	ABH	Seminar special occasion situations - G 20	08.05.-10.05.2016	4	2	€4,286.22	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2017	Valbandon	Croatia	ABH	International Negotiator Seminar "Blackmail Situations with Ransom Demands"	28.05.-04.06.2017		5	€1,307.70	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2017	Zagreb	Croatia	ABH	Workshop with German and Croatian preventive films on current key topics	21.05.-25.05.2017	4	7	€13,425.09	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2017	Hannover	Croatia/ Serbia	ABH	Study Visit on the Occasion of the 22nd German Prevention Days	18.06.-22.06.2017	12	3	€16,774.81	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2017	Hamburg	Serbia Croatia Poland	ABH	Mission monitoring G 20	05.07.-09.07.2017	9	2	€13,881.04	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder



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2017	Zagreb/Va razdin	Croatia	ABH	Bilateral police training assistance for Croatia	26.07.-28. 07.2016		4	€1,069.99	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder	
2017	Mainz		ABH	Working meeting organization and functioning of police headquarters	28.08.-31. 08.2017		2	€1,159.00	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder	
2017	Berlin	Croatia/ Serbia	ABH	Working meeting and ceremony 25 years of riot police Berlin	04.09.-06. 09.2017		14	2	€4,819.82	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2017	Berlin	Croatia		Seminar Deployment Theory/Workshop Negotiator / Advisor Group	12.09.-18. 09.2017		13	2	€13,059.84	Inspekteur der Bereitschaftspolizeien der Länder
2017	Valbandon	Croatia		Training Event EBCGT Land Border Surveillance Officer Training IV/2017						Bundeskriminalamt
2017		Croatia		Participation in the "Safe Tourist Season" project						Bundeskriminalamt
2017			Semi nar	Seminar Riot Police Croatia	02.10.201 7 - 06.10.201 7			7	€2,651.97	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspo lizeien
2017			ABH	Workshop for full-time prevention officers	09.10.201 7 - 13.10.201 7			6	€14,977.01	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspo lizeien
2017			ABH	Exchange of information and experience on prevention topics	17.10.201 7 - 20.10.201 7			2	€501.04	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspo lizeien
2017			ABH	International Cooperation with the police headquarter Zagreb	27.10.201 7 - 30.10.201 7		3		€1,411.40	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspo lizeien
2017			ABH	Observation of operations during large-scale police situations	08.11.201 7 - 10.11.201 7			4	€1,206.70	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspo lizeien
2017			ABH	Workshop for full-time prevention officers and deputy PD-Leaders	12.12.201 7 - 15.12.201 7		3	4	€17,147.71	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspo lizeien



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2017		Croatia	Visit	Meeting between German liaison officer, Martin Daske, and the Chief of Police, Nikola Milina	08.11.2017				
2018	Valbandon	Croatia	Training	EBCGT Land Border Surveillance Officer Training II/2018					Bundespolizei
2018	Valbandon	Croatia	Training	EBCGT Land Border Surveillance Officer Training III/2018					Bundespolizei
2018	Rovinj	Croatia	Training	Frontex Training Course for Screening Experts IV/2018					Bundespolizei
2018	Zagreb	Croatia	Training	EBCGT FRONTEX Support Officer Training					Bundespolizei
2018		Croatia	ABH	Meeting about the organization and functioning of police headquarters	09.10.2018 - 12.10.2018		2	€503.64	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2018		Croatia	ABH	Hospitation on the functioning of negotiating groups	04.10.2018 - 11.10.2018		6	€3,722.34	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2018		Croatia	ABH	Meeting organization and functioning of police headquarters	06.11.2018 - 09.11.2018		5	€1,359.25	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2018		Croatia	Workshop	Annual workshop for full-time prevention officers	11.12.2018 - 14.12.2018		3	€13,109.57	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2018			Seminar	Seminar "Organization and functioning of police headquarters"	23.04.2018 - 27.04.2018		4	€2,810.59	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2018			Seminar	Operational theory in police education and training	25.04.2018 - 02.05.2018		3	€3,302.61	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2018			ABH	Observation of the teaching of deployment and setting up of a negotiating team	15.04.2018 - 26.05.2018		1	€11,522.74	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei



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2018			ABH	Exchange of information with BP Lower Saxony on the topic of women in the riot police	04.06.2018 - 08.06.2018	8		€7,761.88	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2018			Seminar	International seminar for police negotiators	26.05.2018 - 03.06.2018		4	€824.53	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2018		Croatia	Visit	Study Visit for the Deutschen Präventionstages (German Prevention Day)	10.06.2018 - 14.06.2018	23	7	€35,682.01	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2018			ABH	Stability Pact South East Europe with Croatia / PD Istria	17.06.2018 - 24.06.2018		6	€11,455.87	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2018			Seminar	Teaching of police education and training	19.08.2018 - 20.06.2018		1	€724.41	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2018	Berlin	Germany	Visit	Meeting between former Croatian Minister of Interiors Davor Božinović and former German Minister of Interiors Horst Seehofer	15.06.2018				
2018		Croatia	Visit	Meeting between Secretary of State for International and European Affairs, Theresa Gras, with a German delegation led by the Director of the Intervention Units of the Federal States of Germany, Wolfgang Lohmann	19.06.2018				
2019			ABH	Observation of the functioning of police headquarters	14.10.2019 - 17.10.2019		2	€512.37	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizeien
2019	Valbandon	Croatia	Training	EBCGT Support Officer Training III / 2019					Bundespolizei
2019	Valbandon	Croatia	Training	EBCGT Land Border Surveillance Officer Training IV / 2019					Bundespolizei



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2019	Potsdam	Germany	Visit	Visit of the Croatian Ministry of Interior					Bundespolizei
2019	Dubrovnik	Croatia	Internship	Internship within the framework of EIPOP as "observer" at Cilipi Airport					Bundespolizei
2019	Valbandon	Croatia	Training	EBCGT Land Border Surveillance Officer Training I/2018					Bundespolizei
2019			ABH	Exchange of information and experience on prevention and current topics within the framework of the department partnerships	03.12.2019 - 06.12.2019		3	€783.00	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2019			ABH	Annual workshop for full-time prevention officers	01.12.2019 - 05.12.2019		7	€15,236.00	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2019		Germany	ABH	Seminar "Organization and functioning of police headquarters"	01.07.2019 - 04.07.2019		2	€773.10	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2019		Germany	ABH	Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe PD Hanover / PD Istria	03.09.2019 - 10.09.2019		6	€11,742.85	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2019		Croatia	Training	Training for divers (condition)	07.09.2019 - 14.09.2019		6	€291.00	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2019		Croatia	Seminar	Teaching of police education and training	10.05.2019 - 19.05.2019		2	€846.30	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2019	Berlin	Germany	Visit	Study Visit for the 24. Deutschen Präventionstages (24th German Prevention Day)	19.05.2019 - 23.05.2019		22	5 €28,000.00	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2019		Germany	ABH	Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe PD Hanover / PD Istria	11.06.2020 - 18.06.2020		6	€3,828.58	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei



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2019		Croatia	Seminar	Police Negotiators	01.06.2020 - 09.06.2020		4	€874.81	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2019		Croatia	Workshop	Exchange of experiences "Women in the police force".	17.06.2019 - 21.06.2019		9	€5,412.44	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2019		Germany	Workshop	Exchange of experience between managers on the direction of the technical task forces	??01.2019 - 02.02.2019		6	€3,947.30	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2019		Croatia	Seminar	Prevention of corruption and handover of a prevention car	18.03.2019 - 23.03.2019		3	€14,950.80	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2019		Germany	Workshop	Exchange of experience : Working methods of police divers at major events and state visits	24.03.2019 - 30.03.2019		6	€7,800.35	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2019		Croatia	Visit	Meeting between German Liaison Officer, Uwe Dietrich with the Head of the Federal Police Germany, Jochen Gruben	08.08.2019				
2019		Croatia	Visit	Meeting between Croatian Chief of Police, Nikola Milina, and German Liaison officer, Gregor Zboralski	27.08.2019				
2019		Croatia	Visit	Meeting between Bavaria's Minister of Interior Joachim Herrmann and Croatian Minister of Interior Davor Božinović	24.10.2019				
2020	Valbandon	Croatia	ABH	Land Border Surveillance Training					Bundespolizei
2020	Valbandon	Croatia	Training	Land Border Surveillance Training I/2020					Bundespolizei
2020	Valbandon	Croatia	Training	Land Border Surveillance Training I/2021					Bundespolizei



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2020	Zagreb	Croatia	Visit	Arbeitsbesuch und Übergabe KFZ in KRO	27.02.2020 - 28.02.2020		4	€919.98	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2021			Workshop	Trilateral project (MKD/HRV/DEU)				€1,552.79	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2021				20th anniversary BePo Croatia (Ceremony)				€1,753.35	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2021			Evaluation	Evaluation Riot Police Croatia				€614.76	Inspekteur der Bundesbereitschaftspolizei
2021	Zagreb	Croatia	Visit	Meeting between the German Liaison Officer, Uwe Dietrich, with the Chief of the Police Academy, Davorkom Martinjak	27.05.2021				
2021	Karlovac	Croatia	Visit	Visit of the representative of the German police IJP PU Karlovac	18.08.2021				

Equipment 2016 - 2021

Equipment	Amount	Time	Funding	Recipient	Brand, Model
Service bicycles and body armour for police stations		2016/Q2	€70,874.00	Bicycles for Police stations in Split and Zadar, body armour for intervention police?	
Prevention Media		2016/Q3 (12/16)	€15,000.00		
Bicycles for citizen-oriented police operations		2016/Q3 (07/16)	€6,074.40	Police stations in Split und Zadar beschafft	
Body armor		2016/Q3 (07/16)	€64,799.60	New parliamentary question: Intervention police	
Equipment support for		2016/Q4	€30,000.00		



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police media center					
Equipment support - establishment of two prevention centers		2016/Q4	€200,000.00		
Equipment support prevention center		2016/Q4	€39,000.00		
Equipment support of evidence documentation device of the Police		2016/Q4	€13,872.38	Intervention Police	
Helmets		2017/Q2	€30,000.00	Innenministerium Bereitschaftspolizei	Busch, BK-R-SAELSI
Equipment with service tools (FEM)		2017/Q4	€10,400.25	Präventionszentrum Osijek	
Equipment with service tools (FEM)		2017/Q4	€19,494.31	Polizeiakademie Zagreb	
Additional Equipment for prevention vehicle (trailer)		2017/Q4	€7,292.41	Polizeidirektion Medimurska	
Operational Documentation		2017/Q4	€24,500.00	Kroatische Bereitschaftspolizei	Cameras Sony FDR-AX53/B (+SD Cards, Battery)
Vehicles		2017/Q4	€126,000.00	Verhandlungsgruppe	Mercedes-Benz Sprinter, Modell 319 CDI KB (Baujahr 2017, Leistung 140 KW)
Equipment for prevention centers		2019/Q4	€21,096.54	Präventionszentrum Zagreb	Canon cameras ...
Prevention Vehicles		2019/Q4	€53,466.49	Generalpolizeidirektion	
Thermal Cameras	10	2019/Q4	€344,066.18	Innenministerium	Safran Vectronix
Thermal Cameras	10	2020/Q1	€342,482.00	Innenministerium	
Thermal Cameras	10	2020/Q2	€342,482.00	Innenministerium	
Thermal Cameras	10	2020/Q3	€342,482.00	Innenministerium	Safran Vectronix



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All-terrain 4x4 vehicles	10	2020/Q4	€492,997.80	Grenzpolizei HRV	Toyota Toyota Landcruiser Modell 2,8 D - 4D, Comfort 6AT
Transport vehicles	10	2020/Q4	€357,559.80	Grenzpolizei HRV	VW-Transporter T6.1 Kombi 2,0 mit langem Radstand
Earthquake relief - Transport	1	2021/Q1	€3,784.20	Grenzpolizei HRV	
Fixed cameras with vehicle reading function	3	2021/Q2	€61,875.00	Grenzpolizei HRV	
Donations from other sources (Our Parliamentary Question and news (funding from news))					
Other vehicle donation with special equipment --> scroll to articles	4	28.02.2020 (Handover)	around 323.000,00 Euro/ 2.437.180,0 0 Kuna	Interior Ministry of Croatia for the need of Special police	Mercedes-Benz Sprinter mit Ausbau, Modell 319 CDI 4325, Baujahr 2020
Ford	1				Ford Transit, Modell V362 mit Standardausstattung sowie polizeilicher Beleuchtung, Baujahr 2019
Fire extinguishers and carrying devices	60	2016	25,000	Intervention Police	P6 GT Gloria, Fa. Ziegler