

Annex 1 [Note verbale reference: CU 2023/225/DTA/CEB/CSS]

“Links between corruption and other forms of crime”

States parties are invited to provide relevant information in line with paragraph 22 of resolution 9/1¹, in which the Conference:

*Encourage[d] States parties to further explore and enhance their knowledge of the **links between corruption and other forms of crime, in particular organized crime and economic crime, including money-laundering, including during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery**, to better strengthen integrity, transparency and accountability, and invite[d] the secretariat, within existing resources, to compile a report in this regard on the voluntary information provided by States parties and submit it to the Conference at its tenth session [emphasis added].*

States parties may wish to take a broad view of “other forms of crime” when responding to this questionnaire, which may include all forms of organized crime and economic crime, as well as other crime, among others.

Contact Information

Please provide contact details for potential follow-up questions. Contact details will be treated confidentially.

Country: Slovak Republic

Government Agency: General prosecutors Office

Department: Special Prosecutors Office

██
██
██
██

¹ In July 2022, the secretariat sent out note verbale CU 2022/264(A)/DTA/CEB/CSS inviting States parties to provide information on good practices and challenges concerning international cooperation to further prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery, in line with paragraphs 22 and 23 of resolution 9/1 entitled “Sharm el-Sheikh declaration on strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery”. As at 11 October 2022, the secretariat had received responses from 23 States parties, which were analysed in a note prepared by the secretariat, entitled “Best practices and challenges concerning international cooperation in combating corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery, and efforts to further explore and enhance knowledge of the links between corruption and other forms of crime” [CAC/COSP/EG.1/2022/CRP.1]. Responses were received from the following States parties: Australia, Bahrain, Belarus, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chad, Chile, Egypt, El Salvador, European Union, France, Georgia, Italy, Mexico, , Myanmar, Panama, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Türkiye and the United States of America.

Questionnaire

Corruption may contribute to impunity for other types of crime by providing the leverage to facilitate and execute them, and to make them invisible, and often exacerbates those crimes through the involvement of powerful elites and individuals. Corrupt behaviour (such as violating duties, accepting or transferring bribes, and facilitating transactions, as well as ignoring or failing to follow-up on information that a crime may be taking place) may serve an enabler of other crimes by allowing for the enrichment of criminals and incentivizing individuals in the public and private sector to facilitate their operation. Other crimes can therefore flourish and in turn provide a basis for a wide range of corrupt behaviour.

This questionnaire is structured into two parts: Part 1 considers steps taken to understand the links between corruption and other forms of crime, while Part 2 focuses on the measures aimed at responding to corruption linked with other forms of crime.

I. Understanding the links between corruption and other forms of crime

1. Has your country undertaken any analyses or assessments to better understand the interlinkages between corruption and other forms of crime, including typologies of crime and how corruption may be used to facilitate and enable organized crime, economic and other crime, and vice versa? **YES/NO.**
 - a. If **YES**, was such analysis carried out through formal risk assessments or other methods? Please describe.
2. Please list the main typologies of other crime that have interlinkages with corruption in your country.
 - ✓ Drug trafficking
 - ✓ Money-laundering
 - Human trafficking
 - Migrant smuggling
 - Firearms trafficking
 - ✓ Crimes that affect the environment
 - Trafficking in cultural property
 - Cybercrime
 - Terrorism
 - ✓ Other forms of economic crime, organized crime or other crime with links to corruption (**please list**):

Abuse of authority of a public official, machinations in public procurement and public auction, damage to the financial interests of the European Union, subsidy fraud, tax crimes, extortion, embezzlement Public procurement manipulations,

misuse of public power, breach of obligations in the management of other people's property.

3. Please provide examples of corruption linked to these other crimes.

Please elaborate if you have or had any cases of the following in your country:

In the case of criminal acts of corruption, we can speak clearly about the so-called rational criminal activity, which is characterized not only by the qualified ways of committing it and concealing it, but above all by the goals that the perpetrators actually pursue by committing it. During 2020, 2021 and 2022, the National Crime Agency (NACA) carried out detection and investigation of corruption offences related to other crimes, in particular in the following cases:

A. Corruption as an enabler of crime

- a. Cases of public officials abusing their office to facilitate criminal activity or to protect certain criminal individuals and entities – or to gain support from them – for example, by providing funding or protection or to gain and control public resources?

YES

– for example former head of the Special Prosecution office (SPO) taking bribes for decisions in favour of criminals charged with organized crime, also cases publicly referred to as Storm, Tempest, Judas, Publican, Purgatory.

- b. Cases of corruption being used to facilitate other types of crime, such as trafficking in persons, illicit trade or smuggling of drugs across borders? For example, have any cases involved the following:

the issuance of permits, licenses, visas or documents for border crossings

the purchasing of firearms

bribery of border agents

falsification of data in public registries

other

case publicly referred to as Pass

- c. Cases of corruption in public procurement to advance the interests of public officials and their associates? Cases of officials giving preferred access to contracts and tenders to their associates in cases involving other crimes?

Yes, some cases of corruption in public procurement, publicly referred to as Cattleman, Reserve, Pompeii.

- d. Cases of the protection of victims of crime and corruption being impeded by corruption involving public officials or persons in the private sector?

B. Corruption and crime linked to political patronage

- a. Criminal individuals and entities attempting to use corruption to obtain access to political leadership or to gain power and influence, such as through:

political party financing

trading in influence

case publicly referred to as Twilight

other

b. Cases of crime and corruption being used to attempt to influence or disrupt elections?
Yes, cases publicly referred to as River, Salt.

c. Cases of criminal involvement, including through the use of corruption, to attempt to influence appointments of public officials to build dependency?
Yes, cases publicly referred to as Cases Publican, Judas, Purgatory.

C. Corruption to make organized and other crime invisible

a. Cases of criminals and their associates using proceeds of crime and corruption for personal enrichment and to conceal the origin of the crimes and for money-laundering? In particular, cases of concealment of ownership being used to facilitate corruption and other forms of crime? *Yes, cases publicly referred to as Cattleman, Latifundist, Reserve, Pompeii, Publican, Judas, Purgatory .*

b. Cases of corruption being used to impede investigations, prosecutions and adjudications of organized and other crime, such as through bribery or allocation of political and other favors to law enforcement and judicial officers? Are there cases of corruption linked to organized and other crime not being pursued by the authorities ('blind eye')? *Yes, cases publicly referred to as Judas, Purgatory.*

c.

Cases of individuals and entities using corruption and other crimes to generate the funds needed to buy protection from the police? Cases of corruption in law enforcement authorities used to shield organized crime? *Yes, cases publicly referred to as Judas, Purgatory.*

d. Cases of law enforcement being impeded due to a lack of information and data, as well as reporting of crimes related to corruption?

No, the current social situation is marked by the revelation and investigation of massive corruption of high-ranking civil servants who held important positions in the state, as well as corruption of persons from the preferred business environment with an impact on the decisive components of the state apparatus and political structures.

The danger of illegal action by prosecuted persons from the environment of the police, courts and prosecutor's office lay in the fact that they were, as a rule, bearers of decision-making authority at the highest levels in the system of law enforcement bodies and the judiciary, whose primary task was to apply and enforce the application of the principles of the rule of law, to establish justice and ultimately as a result, support and strengthening of the stability of the democratic system of the Slovak Republic. However, many were misled by this attribute.

Several investigations concerning persons from the former leadership of the Police Force, the prosecutor's office, courts, central state administration bodies, the Financial Administration of the Slovak Republic, as well as persons from a creditable business environment, were legally terminated.

4. Has your country collected data or statistics to track and/or analyze trends related to the links between corruption and the types of crime outlined in Question 2 above?

YES/NO

- a. Are these data analysed and used systematically, such as in prevention and investigations or prosecutions? **YES/NO**.
- b. Please describe any methodologies used for strengthening measurement and terminological clarity, and achieving a deeper understanding of the different contexts (e.g. in times of peace or in emergencies or conflict situations) and sectors (e.g. law enforcement, border crossing, immigration, intelligence and security, procurement), as well as any corruption or organized crime threat assessments that take into account the interlinkages between corruption and other forms of crime.
5. Has your country collected data or statistics to track and/or analyse trends concerning international cooperation in this regard? **YES/NO**.
- a. Please elaborate and share any findings with regard to the good practices and challenges in international cooperation with regard to countering corruption as it relates to other forms of crime
6. Has your country taken any steps at national, regional or local levels to better understand and study the linkages between corruption and other crimes, such as criminological research, training or awareness raising? **YES/NO**. *Prosecutors of SPO took part in trainings organized by Prague CEELI Institute, Budapest ILEA Institute, OECD Working Group of Bribery LEO Meeting, UK Embassy and US Embassy, with best lecturers in field of high level corruption which were focused also on the linkages between corruption and other crimes*
- a. If **YES**, please elaborate, providing examples.
7. Which aspects of corruption as it relates to other forms of crime do you consider require further research, and what are the gaps in knowledge or understanding that, if addressed, could facilitate countering these crimes?

The ways of committing crimes are changing, in accordance with the development of new information and communication technologies, as well as due to the dynamics of the development of society.

The actions of the perpetrators and the methods of committing the criminal activity of corruption are constantly evolving, the perpetrators of this criminal activity, mainly on the basis of knowledge from publicized cases, commit this criminal activity more cautiously, in a latent way, where a bribe is provided, or taken under various pretexts, disguised expressions or through confidential persons, which makes it difficult for the national crime agency to detect and investigate this criminal activity. The use of covert listening devices by the Police Force is also weakened by the modern ways of communication of criminals through some encrypted communication applications.

Also the crime of corruption is constantly evolving and becoming more sophisticated. These trends also imply the need for continuous training and strengthening of the professional profiling of the personnel capacities of the anticorruption police in order to use new procedures in the detection of criminal activities of corruption. This may include, for example,

the transfer of certain illegal activities and the funds derived from them to the virtual cyberspace, which requires increasingly active use of financial investigations.

II. Measures aimed at responding to corruption linked with other forms of crime

8. Has your government adopted or utilized any measures at national, regional or local levels aimed at **preventing** corruption linked with other forms of crime? **YES/NO.**

a. If **YES**, please elaborate. *Measures may include:*

- safeguards in specific sectors (e.g. law enforcement, border crossing, immigration, intelligence and security, procurement, local officials)
- development of targeted strategies, policies, action plans at national or sectoral level specifically addressing the links between corruption and other crime
- establishment of dedicated institutional frameworks
- specific rules, codes of conduct, or standards of transparency and integrity for public officials who are most exposed to the risk of being involved in crime and corruption
- systems for the disclosure of assets and private interests
- control mechanisms, such as internal approval systems to avoid having one-to-one meetings
- controls on issuances of visas, work permits, firearms licenses
- the use of information and communication technology (ICT) based tools to prevent (or detect) such crimes
- awareness raising and prevention measures for public officials that are vulnerable to corruption and other forms of crime
- other

9. Has your government adopted or utilized any measures aimed at **detecting, investigating and prosecuting** corruption linked with other forms of crime? **YES/NO.**

a. If **YES**, please elaborate. *Measures may include:*

- legislation criminalizing all forms of corruption related to other types of crime
- legislation providing for the liability of legal persons for their role in corruption linked to other forms of crime
- measures to identify beneficial owners of legal persons
- specialized investigative techniques
- strengthened institutional frameworks, including the establishment of dedicated bodies (such as those mandated to identify links between corruption and other crime), task forces or coordination mechanisms between authorities responsible for corruption and other crime
- capacity-building, including targeted training and peer-learning for relevant authorities
- measures to enable the identification, confiscation, tracing or seizure (and, where relevant, return) of assets that are proceeds of corruption-related crimes
- mechanisms to address the role of professional gatekeepers (*i.e.* financial, legal, accounting or other relevant professionals) in the transfer of proceeds of corruption and other crime
- measures aimed at encouraging the protection or participation of actors outside the public sector, including:

- ✓ reporting mechanisms, legal protections and incentives aimed at encouraging persons to report corruption and other crimes
- ✓ measures to protect victims, witnesses, and cooperating offenders
- ✓ measures aimed at ensuring the investigation and prosecution of acts of violence committed against journalists and civil society actors whose professional activity relates to corruption linked with other crimes
- other

10. Has your government adopted or utilized any measures aimed at facilitating **international cooperation** and the rapid exchange of information for cases that have interlinkages between corruption and other forms of crime? **YES/NO**.

a. If **YES**, please elaborate. *Measures may include:*

- the implementation of mutual legal assistance through digital means
- ✓ measures aimed at enhancing the efficiency of extradition mechanisms
- ✓ the use of electronic communication channels or networks
- ✓ the use of joint or parallel investigations or the bilateral sharing of capacity and expertise on investigating and prosecuting corruption offences linked with other forms of crime
- ✓ cooperation with other countries or multilateral, international or regional bodies to address corruption linked with other forms of crime
- ✓ accession to bilateral, regional or multilateral treaties and agreements.
- other

Annex 1 [Note verbale reference: CU 2023/225/DTA/CEB/CSS]

“Links between corruption and other forms of crime”

States parties are invited to provide relevant information in line with paragraph 22 of resolution 9/1¹, in which the Conference:

*Encourage[d] States parties to further explore and enhance their knowledge of the **links between corruption and other forms of crime, in particular organized crime and economic crime, including money-laundering, including during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery**, to better strengthen integrity, transparency and accountability, and invite[d] the secretariat, within existing resources, to compile a report in this regard on the voluntary information provided by States parties and submit it to the Conference at its tenth session [emphasis added].*

States parties may wish to take a broad view of “other forms of crime” when responding to this questionnaire, which may include all forms of organized crime and economic crime, as well as other crime, among others.

Contact Information

Please provide contact details for potential follow-up questions. Contact details will be treated confidentially.

Country: [Slovak Republic](#)

Government Agency: [Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic](#)

Department: [National Crime Agency of the Police Force Presidium](#)

Contact Name: [Lt. Col. Ing. Helena Kanková, PhD.](#)

Position: [Head of the International Cooperation Department](#)

Phone Number: [+421-9610-52187](#), [mobile: +421-908-308-362](#)

Email: helena.kankova@minv.sk

¹ In July 2022, the secretariat sent out note verbale CU 2022/264(A)/DTA/CEB/CSS inviting States parties to provide information on good practices and challenges concerning international cooperation to further prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery, in line with paragraphs 22 and 23 of resolution 9/1 entitled “Sharm el-Sheikh declaration on strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery”. As at 11 October 2022, the secretariat had received responses from 23 States parties, which were analysed in a note prepared by the secretariat, entitled “Best practices and challenges concerning international cooperation in combating corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery, and efforts to further explore and enhance knowledge of the links between corruption and other forms of crime” [CAC/COSP/EG.1/2022/CRP.1]. Responses were received from the following States parties: Australia, Bahrain, Belarus, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chad, Chile, Egypt, El Salvador, European Union, France, Georgia, Italy, Mexico, [Republic of Moldova](#), Myanmar, Panama, Portugal, [Republic of Moldova](#), Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Türkiye and the United States of America.

Questionnaire

Corruption may contribute to impunity for other types of crime by providing the leverage to facilitate and execute them, and to make them invisible, and often exacerbates those crimes through the involvement of powerful elites and individuals. Corrupt behaviour (such as violating duties, accepting or transferring bribes, and facilitating transactions, as well as ignoring or failing to follow-up on information that a crime may be taking place) may serve an enabler of other crimes by allowing for the enrichment of criminals and incentivizing individuals in the public and private sector to facilitate their operation. Other crimes can therefore flourish and in turn provide a basis for a wide range of corrupt behaviour.

This questionnaire is structured into two parts: Part 1 considers steps taken to understand the links between corruption and other forms of crime, while Part 2 focuses on the measures aimed at responding to corruption linked with other forms of crime.

I. Understanding the links between corruption and other forms of crime

1. Has your country undertaken any analyses or assessments to better understand the interlinkages between corruption and other forms of crime, including typologies of crime and how corruption may be used to facilitate and enable organized crime, economic and other crime, and vice versa? **YES/NO**.
 - a. If **YES**, was such analysis carried out through formal risk assessments or other methods? Please describe.

As the way of committing corruption crimes is evolving, perpetrators are adapting to new trends in line with the dynamics of social development, it was necessary to increase the quality of analytical outputs for the needs of detection and investigation of the most serious forms of crime within the scope of National Crime Agency of the Police Force Presidium (hereinafter the NACA), including corruption.

In this context, on 1 February 2022, analytical departments were established in the executive sections of NACA - Bratislava, West, Centre and East, whose aim is to provide operational and thematically focused analyses and to develop output products supporting the performance of professional activities in the field of detection and investigation of criminal offences, including corruption.

2. Please list the main typologies of other crime that have interlinkages with corruption in your country.
 - Drug trafficking
 - Money-laundering
 - Human trafficking
 - Migrant smuggling
 - Firearms trafficking
 - Crimes that affect the environment
 - Trafficking in cultural property
 - Cybercrime
 - Terrorism
 - Other forms of economic crime, organized crime or other crime with links to corruption (please list):

abuse of authority of a public official, machinations in public procurement and public auction, damage to the financial interests of the European Union, subsidy fraud, tax crimes, extortion, embezzlement

3. Please provide examples of corruption linked to these other crimes.

Please elaborate if you have or had any cases of the following in your country:

In the case of criminal acts of corruption, we can speak clearly about the so-called rational criminal activity, which is characterized not only by the qualified ways of committing it and concealing it, but above all by the goals that the perpetrators actually pursue by committing it. During 2020, 2021 and 2022, the NACA carried out detection and investigation of corruption offences related to other crimes, in particular in the following cases:

A. Corruption as an enabler of crime

- a. Cases of public officials abusing their office to facilitate criminal activity or to protect certain criminal individuals and entities – or to gain support from them – for example, by providing funding or protection or to gain and control public resources? cases referred to as Storm, Tempest, Judas, Publican, Purgatory.
- b. Cases of corruption being used to facilitate other types of crime, such as trafficking in persons, illicit trade or smuggling of drugs across borders? For example, have any cases involved the following: case Pass

- the issuance of permits, licenses, visas or documents for border crossings
- the purchasing of firearms
- bribery of border agents
- falsification of data in public registries
- other

- c. Cases of corruption in public procurement to advance the interests of public officials and their associates? Cases of officials giving preferred access to contracts and tenders to their associates in cases involving other crimes? Some cases of corruption in public procurement: Cattleman, Reserve, Pompeii.

- d. Cases of the protection of victims of crime and corruption being impeded by corruption involving public officials or persons in the private sector?

-

B. Corruption and crime linked to political patronage

- a. Criminal individuals and entities attempting to use corruption to obtain access to political leadership or to gain power and influence, such as through:
 - political party financing

- trading in influence
- other case [Twilight](#)

- b. Cases of crime and corruption being used to attempt to influence or disrupt elections? [cases River, Salt](#)
- c. Cases of criminal involvement, including through the use of corruption, to attempt to influence appointments of public officials to build dependency? [cases referred to as Cases Publican, Judas, Purgatory](#)

C. Corruption to make organized and other crime invisible

- a. Cases of criminals and their associates using proceeds of crime and corruption for personal enrichment and to conceal the origin of the crimes and for money-laundering? In particular, cases of concealment of ownership being used to facilitate corruption and other forms of crime? [cases referred to as Cattleman, Latifundist, Reserve, Pompeii, Publican, Judas, Purgatory](#)
- b. Cases of corruption being used to impede investigations, prosecutions and adjudications of organized and other crime, such as through bribery or allocation of political and other favors to law enforcement and judicial officers? Are there cases of corruption linked to organized and other crime not being pursued by the authorities ('blind eye')? [cases referred to as Judas, Purgatory](#)
- c. Cases of individuals and entities using corruption and other crimes to generate the funds needed to buy protection from the police? Cases of corruption in law enforcement authorities used to shield organized crime? [cases referred to as Judas, Purgatory](#)
- d. Cases of law enforcement being impeded due to a lack of information and data, as well as reporting of crimes related to corruption? [No](#)

[The current social situation is marked by the revelation and investigation of massive corruption of high-ranking civil servants who held important positions in the state, as well as corruption of persons from the preferred business environment with an impact on the decisive components of the state apparatus and political structures.](#)

[The danger of illegal action by prosecuted persons from the environment of the police, courts and prosecutor's office lay in the fact that they were, as a rule, bearers of decision-making authority at the highest levels in the system of law enforcement bodies and the judiciary, whose primary task was to apply and enforce the application of the principles of the rule of law, to establish justice and ultimately as a result, support and strengthening of the stability of the democratic system of the Slovak Republic. However, many were misled by this attribute.](#)

[Several investigations concerning persons from the former leadership of the Police Force, the prosecutor's office, courts, central state administration bodies, the Financial Administration of the Slovak Republic, as well as persons from a creditable business environment, were legally terminated.](#)

4. Has your country collected data or statistics to track and/or analyze trends related to the links between corruption and the types of crime outlined in Question 2 above?

YES/NO

- a. Are these data analysed and used systematically, such as in prevention and investigations or prosecutions? **YES/NO**.
- b. Please describe any methodologies used for strengthening measurement and terminological clarity, and achieving a deeper understanding of the different contexts (e.g. in times of peace or in emergencies or conflict situations) and sectors (e.g. law enforcement, border crossing, immigration, intelligence and security, procurement), as well as any corruption or organized crime threat assessments that take into account the interlinkages between corruption and other forms of crime.

From the point of view of the effectiveness of detecting crimes of corruption, the decisive criteria are the timeliness and quality of information about the crime of corruption. This dominant position of information in terms of its recognition places high demands not only on the method of its acquisition, but also on the method of its analytical processing and effective use.

As part of the application of the NACA, these are methodologies aimed at efficient processing of input information and, in conjunction with existing knowledge in operational screening and investigation, creating their added value in criminal proceedings.

5. Has your country collected data or statistics to track and/or analyse trends concerning international cooperation in this regard? **YES/NO**.

- a. Please elaborate and share any findings with regard to the good practices and challenges in international cooperation with regard to countering corruption as it relates to other forms of crime.

From the point of view of strengthening activities in the field of detection and investigation of the most serious crimes, including crimes of corruption, in the terms of the NACA, with effect from February 1, 2022, financial investigation departments were also established within the executive departments of the NACA- Bratislava, West, Centre and East, aimed at uncovering complex schemes of serious economic and corrupt criminal activity and the creation of necessary prerequisites for the identification and securing of proceeds from criminal activity.

The simultaneous execution of a financial investigation, which was mainly focused on the transfers of funds in bank accounts, the examination of the circumstances of the suspicious acquisition of property that does not correspond to the declared income, as well as the causal analysis of business-legal relations, which were suspected of only serving to cover up previous corrupt practices, also proved effective proceedings, possibly for the legalization of income from corrupt criminal activity.

In this context, international cooperation in the identification of assets for the purposes of seizure and forfeiture of proceeds and other property of crime is evaluated.

6. Has your country taken any steps at national, regional or local levels to better understand and study the linkages between corruption and other crimes, such as criminological research, training or awareness raising? **YES/NO**.

a. If **YES**, please elaborate, providing examples.

The criminal activity of corruption is constantly evolving and becoming more sophisticated, which implies the need for continuous training and strengthening of the professional profiling of the staff capacities of the NACA.

In 2022 NACA in cooperation with the OECD Directorate for Public Administration, organised a training seminar entitled "Strengthening the Integrity of Police Officers - Training of Trainers" for members of the Police Corps. The project resulted in the training of 52 trainers from the Police Force, focusing on the prevention of corruption, the application of the principles of integrity, transparency and ethical culture in police departments, with the aim of prioritising the public interest and service to citizens over personal interests, in line with the OECD Recommendation on Integrity in the Public Service.

In order to increase the professional level and educational potential of the created analytical departments in the course of 2023, a number of trainings supporting the performance of professional activities in terms of analysis of cash flows, personal and property relations of suspicious entities, corruption relations in public procurement, obtaining subsidies from the budget of the Slovak Republic and the budget of the European Union are being carried out from the funds of the Recovery and Resilience Plan of the Slovak Republic, high-value public contracts and other crimes related to wasteful use of public funds.

Training and education in the field of detection and investigation of corruption offences continues on a continuous basis. This is done by participating in training activities carried out primarily in cooperation with the Office of the Special Prosecutor of the General Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic, as well as by sending representatives to international courses such as courses and seminars organised by the European Criminal Office (Europol), the European Union Training Agency (CEPOL), the Central European Police Academy (MEPA), the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA), the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), as well as training programmes and internships conducted bilaterally with the Czech Republic and Italy.

7. Which aspects of corruption as it relates to other forms of crime do you consider require further research, and what are the gaps in knowledge or understanding that, if addressed, could facilitate countering these crimes?

From the results of the analysis of the cases that were the subject of the implementation of the NACA, it can be concluded that the ways of committing crimes are changing, in accordance with the development of new information and communication technologies, as well as due to the dynamics of the development of society.

The actions of the perpetrators and the methods of committing the criminal activity of corruption are constantly evolving, the perpetrators of this criminal activity, mainly on the basis of knowledge from publicized cases, commit this criminal activity more cautiously, in a latent way, where a bribe is provided, or taken under various pretexts, disguised expressions or through confidential persons, which makes it difficult for the national crime agency to detect and investigate this criminal activity. The use of covert

listening devices by the Police Force is also weakened by the modern ways of communication of criminals through some encrypted communication applications.

Also the crime of corruption is constantly evolving and becoming more sophisticated. These trends also imply the need for continuous training and strengthening of the professional profiling of the personnel capacities of the NACA in order to use new procedures in the detection of criminal activities of corruption. This may include, for example, the transfer of certain illegal activities and the funds derived from them to the virtual cyberspace, which requires increasingly active use of financial investigations.

II. Measures aimed at responding to corruption linked with other forms of crime

8. Has your government adopted or utilized any measures at national, regional or local levels aimed at **preventing** corruption linked with other forms of crime? YES/NO.

a. If YES, please elaborate. *Measures may include:*

- safeguards in specific sectors (e.g. law enforcement, border crossing, immigration, intelligence and security, procurement, local officials)
- development of targeted strategies, policies, action plans at national or sectoral level specifically addressing the links between corruption and other crime
- establishment of dedicated institutional frameworks
- specific rules, codes of conduct, or standards of transparency and integrity for public officials who are most exposed to the risk of being involved in crime and corruption
- systems for the disclosure of assets and private interests
- control mechanisms, such as internal approval systems to avoid having one-to-one meetings
- controls on issuances of visas, work permits, firearms licenses
- the use of information and communication technology (ICT) based tools to prevent (or detect) such crimes
- awareness raising and prevention measures for public officials that are vulnerable to corruption and other forms of crime
- other

9. Has your government adopted or utilized any measures aimed at **detecting, investigating and prosecuting** corruption linked with other forms of crime? YES/NO.

a. If YES, please elaborate. *Measures may include:*

- legislation criminalizing all forms of corruption related to other types of crime
- legislation providing for the liability of legal persons for their role in corruption linked to other forms of crime
- measures to identify beneficial owners of legal persons
- specialized investigative techniques
- strengthened institutional frameworks, including the establishment of dedicated bodies (such as those mandated to identify links between corruption and other crime), task forces or coordination mechanisms between authorities responsible for corruption and other crime
- capacity-building, including targeted training and peer-learning for relevant authorities

- ✓ measures to enable the identification, confiscation, tracing or seizure (and, where relevant, return) of assets that are proceeds of corruption-related crimes
- ✓ mechanisms to address the role of professional gatekeepers (*i.e.* financial, legal, accounting or other relevant professionals) in the transfer of proceeds of corruption and other crime
- ✓ measures aimed at encouraging the protection or participation of actors outside the public sector, including:
 - ✓ reporting mechanisms, legal protections and incentives aimed at encouraging persons to report corruption and other crimes
 - ✓ measures to protect victims, witnesses, and cooperating offenders
 - ✓ measures aimed at ensuring the investigation and prosecution of acts of violence committed against journalists and civil society actors whose professional activity relates to corruption linked with other crimes
- other

10. Has your government adopted or utilized any measures aimed at facilitating **international cooperation** and the rapid exchange of information for cases that have interlinkages between corruption and other forms of crime? **YES/NO**.

a. If **YES**, please elaborate. *Measures may include:*

- ✓ the implementation of mutual legal assistance through digital means
- ✓ measures aimed at enhancing the efficiency of extradition mechanisms
- ✓ the use of electronic communication channels or networks
- ✓ the use of joint or parallel investigations or the bilateral sharing of capacity and expertise on investigating and prosecuting corruption offences linked with other forms of crime
- ✓ cooperation with other countries or multilateral, international or regional bodies to address corruption linked with other forms of crime
- ✓ accession to bilateral, regional or multilateral treaties and agreements.
- other