

THE U.S. PRESENCE IN ROMANIA

Fact Sheet: U.S. Law Enforcement Programs in Romania

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS: \$5.2 million since 1995.

Law enforcement training and assistance projects for Romania were initiated in 1995 by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs – the primary U.S. Government entity responsible for the development of policies and management of programs to combat international crime. The funds provided in support of this initiative to strengthen Romania's law enforcement capabilities in the fight against criminal activities and organizations have been used for programs related to counter narcotics, cybercrime, police academies, management and leadership. Over 200 seminars, conferences, workshops and exchange visits were organized for officers and investigators working all over Romania and specialized equipment worth over \$1.2 million was donated to police units in all 41 counties.

With a track record of exceptional operational successes, law enforcement assistance programs in Romania have been funded through a mechanism of bilateral cooperation signed by the U.S. Government with the Ministry of the Administration and Interior (Letter of Agreement on Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement). Designed to counter the growing threat posed by international crime, strengthen national law enforcement institutions and foster global cooperation, these projects have focused on:

Cybercrime – \$850,000

With logistical and technical assistance provided through the INL program, the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police established and developed one of its most dynamic units, with outstanding investigative abilities in the fight against cybercrime. Through effective bilateral cooperation with U.S. Government law enforcement agencies and increased operability, this specialized division has made great contributions to the fight against a major criminal threat to individuals and businesses. Twelve training programs and five annual editions of the National Cybercrime Conference were organized since 2004 and equipment donations worth \$430,000 were made to all the local cybercrime teams in Romania.

Counter Narcotics – \$630,000

The Counter Narcotics Program has improved the Romanian Police's ability to detect and investigate criminal groups, conduct undercover operations and effectively perform intelligence analysis. Equipment donations to local units throughout Romania (worth \$525,000) and regular training interactions with investigators (over 30 events since 2002) have led to the development of an exceptional partnership with U.S. law enforcement agencies and to some of the greatest drug seizures in the history of the region.

Police Academies - \$200,000

One of the goals of the INL programs was to increase the professionalism of Romanian law enforcement academies by promoting improvements to course curriculum, enhancing knowledge

of modern police instruction techniques, developing train-the-trainer capabilities and providing equipment and training materials to improve infrastructure.

Law Enforcement Development – \$1 million

The leadership initiative is a key component of the Law Enforcement Development Program for Romania. It is designed to support the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police in its efforts to decentralize decision-making authority. More than 100 middle managers at the city and municipal level have attended training sessions on “Leading Law Enforcement Organizations in the 21st Century” in an effort to gain the necessary skills for effective leadership. As the country’s biggest police department, Bucharest City Police has been the main beneficiary of this assistance program and the first unit to implement a new approach to law enforcement leadership and practices. Forty-four precinct chiefs, unit managers and coordinators have been qualified to teach leadership, emotional intelligence and people skills to other managers within the organization and institutionalize some of these concepts. As part of this program, the first seminar exclusively designed for female police managers was conducted in Bucharest in 2010 and the success of this initiative led to its replication at several training academies around the world.

International Law Enforcement Academy – 207 alumni since 1995

The International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Budapest, Hungary, is the leading training center in Central Europe specializing in programs focused on international crime, transnational terrorism, rule of law and leadership. Romania was one of the first nations to join the ILEA program in 1995 and it currently has the fifth largest number of graduates in the region. Graduates include officers from the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police, the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Border Police, the Romanian Gendarmerie, the Protection and Guard Service and the “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” Police Academy.

United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA):

The DEA shares a close partnership and excellent working relationship with Romanian authorities. Together with the DEA office in Athens, Greece, DEA SECI, Romanian prosecutors and police officers, many joint investigations have yielded successful results in which international drug trafficking organizations and other organized criminal groups have been disbanded and their activities significantly disrupted.

In addition to joint operational efforts with Romanian authorities, the DEA also provides DEA-sponsored training to Romanian authorities. Training has been provided related to the detection of illegal narcotics trafficking, money laundering, structuring of assets obtained illegally, identifying drug transportation routes, the recognition of transborder smuggling techniques and the identification and dismantling of drug trafficking organizations.