

Government Report on Internal Security

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Abstract

The Report assesses the state of internal security in Finland and the drivers of change affecting it, and it defines the internal security objectives and the direction of development for the current decade.

Finland is the safest country in the world. The Report aims to ensure the further development of internal security so that Finland will be an even safer country for all people and population groups in the future. Finland's internal security policy is mainly based on prevention. The feeling of safety is an important part of internal security, and a strong feeling of safety and security also protects society from new types of security threats.

This objective will be implemented by shifting the focus of the authorities' activities from corrective services to prevention, by maintaining a high level of trust in internal security operators among all population groups and by ensuring that assistance is quickly available in emergencies throughout the country. Problems with security will be prevented through extensive cooperation. Crimes will be detected and investigated efficiently and effectively. Threats to national security will be identified and countered. Finland will be active and proactive in international cooperation in the field of internal security. High-quality internal security services require sufficient resources.

Keywords

crime, border control, customs control, public order, incidents, accidents, preparedness, internal security, security, police, rescue services, Ministry of the Interior's branch of government, security environment, judicial system

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Valtioneuvoston selonteko sisäisestä turvallisuudesta

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Tiivistelmä

Selonteossa arvioidaan Suomen sisäisen turvallisuuden tilaa ja siihen kohdistuvia muutosvoimia, sekä määritellään sisäisen turvallisuuden tavoitteet ja kehittämisen suunta alkaneelle vuosikymmenelle.

Suomi on maailman turvallisimaa maa. Selonteon tavoitteena on varmistaa sisäisen turvallisuuden kehittyminen edelleen niin, että Suomi on tulevaisuudessa entistä turvallisempi maa kaikille ihmisille ja ihmisryhmille. Suomen sisäisen turvallisuuden politiikka perustuu ensisijaisesti ennaltaehkäisyyn. Turvallisuuden tunne on tärkeä osa sisäistä turvallisuutta ja vahva kokemus turvallisuudesta suojaa yhteiskuntaa myös uudeltaisilta turvallisuushkilta.

Tavoitetta toteutetaan siirtämällä viranomaisten toiminnan painopistettä korjaavista palveluista ennaltaehkäisyyn, pitämällä luottamus sisäisen turvallisuuden toimijoihin korkeana kaikissa väestöryhmissä ja turvaamalla, että hätätilanteessa apua on saatavilla nopeasti koko maassa. Turvallisuusongelmia ennaltaehkäistään laajassa yhteistyössä. Rikoksia paljastetaan ja selvitetään tehokkaasti sekä tuloksellisesti. Kansallisen turvallisuuden uhat tunnistetaan ja torjutaan. Suomi toimii aktiivisesti ja ennakoivasti sisäiseen turvallisuuteen liittyvässä kansainvälisessä yhteistyössä. Laadukkaat sisäisen turvallisuuden palvelut edellyttävät riittäviä voimavaroja.

Asiasanat

rikollisuus, rajavalvonta, tullivalvonta, yleinen järjestys, onnettomuudet, tapaturmat, varautuminen, sisäinen turvallisuus, turvallisuus, poliisitoimi, pelastustoimi, sisäasiainhallinto, turvallisuusympäristö, oikeuslaitos

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I redogörelsen analyseras nuläget och förändringskrafterna i fråga om den inre säkerheten i Finland, och målen och den planerade utvecklingsriktningen för det innevarande årtiondet definieras.

Finland är världens tryggaste land. Målet med redogörelsen är att säkra att den inre säkerheten fortsätter att utvecklas så att Finland i framtiden är ett allt tryggare land för alla människor och människogrupper. Finlands politik för den inre säkerheten bygger i första hand på förebyggande arbete. En känsla av trygghet är en viktig del av den inre säkerheten; en stark säkerhetskänsla skyddar samhället mot både gamla och nya typer av säkerhetshot.

Målet genomförs genom att tyngdpunkten i myndigheternas verksamhet flyttas från korrigerande tjänster till förebyggande arbete, genom att förtroendet för myndigheterna med ansvar för den inre säkerheten hålls högt i alla befolkningsgrupper och genom att snabb hjälp i nödsituationer tryggas i hela landet. Det samarbetas brett för att förebygga säkerhetsproblem. Brott avslöjas och utreds effektivt och resultatrikt. Hoten mot den nationella säkerheten identifieras och avvärs. Finland agerar aktivt och proaktivt i det internationella samarbetet på området inre säkerhet. För att tjänsterna på området inre säkerhet ska hålla hög standard krävs tillräckliga resurser.

Nyckelord

inre säkerhet, trygghet, polisväsendet, räddningsverken, inrikesförvaltningen, säkerhetsmiljö, brottsbekämpning, Brottspåföljdsmyndigheten, tullkontroll, våld, allmän ordning, olyckor, säkerhetsplanering, gränskontroll, beredskap, krisberedskap

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1 Report examines internal security until 2030

This Report on Internal Security, submitted by the Government to Parliament, describes the state of internal security in Finland and the drivers of change affecting it. It also specifies the objectives for internal security and the direction of development for the present decade, as required by Parliament.¹ The Report is based on a comprehensive concept of security that takes into account not only national change phenomena but also the effects of global challenges on Finland's security.

Parliament arranged for parliamentary monitoring during the preparation of the Report. Aspects raised in the Parliament's position regarding the previous internal security report were taken into account in the preparation of the present Report. The parliamentary monitoring group also expressed its opinions on the draft report, which the Government has taken into consideration at its discretion. The Report and Parliament's positions will consistently define Finland's internal security policy in the coming years.

The Report examines the development of internal security in relation to how Finnish society is expected to change as part of Europe and the international community. The Report's scope extends up to 2030.

The second section describes the foundation and goals of Finland's internal security policy. The third section discusses the population's sense of security at present, and the fourth section deals with the forces of change affecting internal security, as well as the main large-scale threats to it. The Report's fifth section lays out measures for achieving the targets. The sources used in the preparation of this Report include research results, authorities' observations and assessments, as well as statements from key participants. Various ministries and authorities were involved in the preparation, and other parties were widely consulted.

1 Parliamentary Communication EK 8/2017 vp

2 Safety and security for all

Finland's internal security is primarily based on the prevention of problems and incidents. Activities carried out in the field promote the rule of law and human rights.

Finland is the safest country in the world. The purpose of this Report is to ensure the further development of internal security to make Finland an even safer country for all individuals and groups of people. A strong experience of security also protects society from new types of security threats.

Internal security means the characteristics of a society that allow people to enjoy the rights and freedoms of the legal system without fear or insecurity caused by crime, incidents, accidents and other equivalent national or international phenomena. In other words, internal security comprises many societal elements.

Finland's internal security policy is mainly based on prevention. The aim is to prevent as many accidents, disasters, criminal offences and other incidents as possible. The root causes of security problems are effectively influenced through actions other than those of the security authorities. Employment, education, social inclusion, human health, minimal drug-related problems, and strong wellbeing lay the foundation for good security in daily life.

The security authorities play a crucial role in ensuring internal security in the event of accidents, incidents and crime. Their work ensures that people can count on receiving help from society in the face of the most serious threats. People must have access to the services provided by security and judicial authorities so that they get the help they need across the country quickly, efficiently and equally. This requires adequate staff and equipment, as well as their development and effective cooperation between different authorities.

The key objective of internal and external security measures is to safeguard fundamental and human rights. Internal security is based on the promotion of human rights, the rule of law, democracy and freedom, stability, wellbeing, non-discrimination and equality in all spheres of activity. The assessment of impacts on human rights is a crucial part of internal security operations. Internal security also contributes to civil peace. This is manifested as

trust in the authorities and administration, good relations between population groups and the use of democratic measures to deal with various problems and tensions.

It is important to ensure the authorities have a safe work environment. The trust enjoyed by Finnish authorities is based on solid expertise, openness, fairness and the equal treatment of people. Strong internal control, as well as adequate and credible oversight of legality play an important role in building trust in the authorities. The proportionate use of force as the last resort, as well as the de-escalation of tensions and the avoidance of unnecessary escalation are emphasised in the work of authorities.

Finland's membership in the European Union and the Schengen system is also significant to internal security. Finland is an active and constructive member of the European Union. We ensure that we adhere to the jointly agreed rules.

The EU Security Union Strategy for the period 2020 to 2025² underlines the significance of security in guaranteeing fundamental rights and emphasises an approach that encompasses society as a whole. The strategy outlines four priorities concerning measures at the EU level: a future proof security environment, tackling evolving threats, protecting Europeans from terrorism and organised crime, and a strong European security ecosystem.

Sustainable development goals and the 2030 Agenda lay down a global framework which also has an impact on internal security. The way in which sustainable development challenges are solved globally will have a substantial impact on peace, stability and relations between states.

2 European Commission, 24 July 2020. EU Security Union Strategy. COM(2020) 605 final

3 We all have the right to feel safe

The majority of Finns consider their lives safe. Committing or being a victim of crime, as well as accidents and injuries are often linked to underprivileged groups. These are precisely the groups we must reach better and earlier than now. Maintaining civil peace requires effort. The burden on the authorities and the increasing complexity of their duties weigh on trust.

3.1 For the majority, everyday life is safer than ever

Finland ranks excellently in international comparisons that measure everyday safety and civil peace, i.e., the sense of safety and security, accidents, incidents and crime, as well as democracy, the realisation of fundamental and human rights, and trust in the authorities and the legal system. In key studies, Finland places among the top five countries and ranks as the number one Nordic country.³

Everyday life in Finland is safer than ever. The number of deaths in traffic has nearly halved over the last 20 years, and the number of deaths by fire has been decreasing steadily. The risk of being a victim of homicide is around half that registered in the 1980s. The same trend applies to many other areas of safety in everyday life. Meanwhile, hidden crime has become less prevalent in certain types of crime thanks to a decrease in the reporting threshold.

Internal security is often a personal experience. The kind of security problems that people face in their everyday lives, as well as their sources of fear depend on their personal characteristics, circumstances or experiences, such as age, gender, origin, health, mother tongue, place of residence, socio-economic status and other determining factors.

³ Finland tops the list of safest countries in the world compiled by the World Economic Forum (WEF) (2017, 2018, 2019), figures as the most stable state in the Fragile States Index (2017, 2018, 2019), and ranks as the top European country in Eurostat's assessment of trust in the police and legal system (2018, 2019). Finland also does well in the World Internal Security and Policing Index (WISPI) (2016) and in Transparency International's index of the least corrupt nations in the world (2016, 2017, 2018).

The sense of safety and security⁴ is high in Finland: 89 per cent of people consider Finland a safe country. Personal safety is rated even higher: 96 per cent of the population find their personal lives safe.⁵ The COVID-19 pandemic that began in 2020 has shown us that a strong sense of safety and security in everyday life also helps the great majority tackle crises.

Figure 1. The sense of safety and security is high in Finland



Source: Suomen Kyselytutkimus Oy

The widening inequality gap worries more than 60 per cent of people resident in Finland.⁶ Regarding security, inequality shows especially in relation to violence, accidents, discrimination and hate crime, as well as different forms of maltreatment. The main background factor in terms of security is the risk of poverty and exclusion, which affects around 860,000 individuals – a substantial part of the population, that is.⁷ There are also differences in how quickly people receive help, depending on their place of residence.

4 A sense of safety and security means an individual's personal impressions or circumstances in which risks and threats do not figure significantly (Limnell et al. 2014), and it has to do with the predictability, continuity and intelligibility of life (Karisto 2003). Insecurity and fear determine who uses public spaces, for example, since a sense of fear may cause a person to keep away from public spaces. (Pérez-Tejera et al. 2018)

5 Suomen Kyselytutkimus Oy (advance information from the Turvassa 2021 report on safety and security)

6 See e.g. [Finns' opinions on foreign and security policy, national defence and security 2020](#). The Advisory Board for Defence Information or [Turvassa 2019. Kansalaisturvallisuus Suomessa](#). The Finnish National Rescue Association 2020.

7 [Poverty Watch Report Finland 2020](#). European Anti Poverty Network Finland EAPN-Fin.

The relationship between social exclusion and security is two-way.⁸ Social exclusion⁹ gives rise to security problems, which in turn accelerate exclusion at the individual level. Social problems tend to accumulate, and crime increasingly affects groups that are already in a vulnerable position. At the same time, the security of other population groups has improved. Social exclusion often originates when disadvantages begin to accumulate and expand, weakening the individual's ability to control their own life. Their feeling of social inclusion also begins to wane. A low level of education, long-term unemployment and problems with subsistence are some of the main risk factors contributing to social exclusion.

Surveys carried out in 2020 by the Ministry of the Interior indicate that in Finland, people in a vulnerable position have a similar sense of safety and security as the population at large. People in the breadlines experience Finland as being a safe country, but their sense of personal safety is slightly lower than that of other people. While the general population considers society to be a factor that increases safety and security, those in the most vulnerable position experience more insecurity.

Finland has long enjoyed strong civil peace and social cohesion, and does well in international comparison in this respect. This can be explained by the country's long democratic traditions, social structures that support equal opportunities regardless of one's background, as well as low corruption, among other things. The third sector and an active civil society also contribute to inclusion and cohesion. Societal tensions are resolved through peaceful, official means. The safety of public spaces has improved over the long term.¹⁰ Demonstrations protected by the freedom of assembly and freedom of speech generally take place peacefully, and crimes are rarely committed in connection with them.

8 See e.g. Aaltonen, Mikko (2010): [Nuorten aikuisten koulupudokkuus, työttömyys ja väkivaltarikollisuus – väkivallan tekijät ja uhrit kansallisesti edustavan rekisteriaineiston valossa](#). Oikeus 39(3).

9 In a study on the social exclusion of young people commissioned by the Audit Committee of the Finnish Parliament "Nuorten syrjäytyminen: Tietoa, toimintaa ja tuloksia" (2013), social exclusion is primarily defined as meaning long-term and recurring unemployment, weak social relationships, including broken family relationships, social isolation and a decrease in solidarity founded on unionisation, working-class neighbourhoods experienced as problematic, as well as troubled social networks. Another common definition is the one used in the Hukassa report (2012) by the Finnish Business and Policy Forum, which adds to the previous list young people who have completed at the most comprehensive education and who are neither employed or studying.

10 Street security index 2020

Trust between people remains high in Finland, but it is challenged by polarisation trends. According to a survey, the majority believes that people are generally kind and well-intentioned, but they also identify tensions between different groups.¹¹ The polarisation trend carries the risk of increased tensions and social unrest.

Although social media provides the opportunity to engage in open social discussion, it also creates dividing lines. Challenges to democracy arise from hybrid and information influence activities. Examples of these include the harassment and online targeting and shaming directed at elections, politicians, public officials, journalists and people who actively participate in social debate¹².

Trust in security authorities is generally high among the population: according to the Police Barometer conducted every two years, at least 87 per cent of the respondents have quite a strong trust or a very strong trust in them. The trend in trust in security authorities has been rising throughout the 2010s. However, the 2020 barometer indicates a slight decline in trust, with the exception of rescue services. According to the 2018 Youth Barometer, young people's trust in the police and other social institutions is also high and has been rising in recent years. The 2019 Eurobarometer indicates that Finns are the third most satisfied in the EU with how democracy works in their country and also trust many other aspects clearly more than residents in EU Member States on average. Finns showed the highest trust in their president, security authorities and healthcare and education systems.¹³

Meanwhile, the opposition and violence shown towards the authorities, including the police, first responders, paramedics, prison staff and social welfare authorities, have increased steadily in the 2010s.

11 Juho Saari 2019, [Hyvinvointivaltio eriarvoistuneessa yhteiskunnassa](#).

12 According to the report on measures to combat online targeting and shaming (2021), prepared by a working group appointed by the Ministry of the Interior, "online targeting and shaming means an activity in which an individual, by means of their own actions or by mobilising others, initiates or encourages organised harassment against one target, which may be direct or indirect. The means include speaking ill of someone, dissemination of private information, or threats. Online targeting and shaming may also be directed at persons through their family members. The goal of online targeting and shaming is to influence people or society's structures and institutions and, in particular, trust in them."

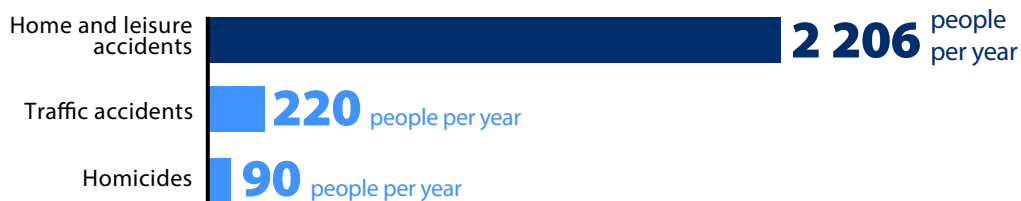
13 [Survey on Finnish Values and Attitudes 2020](#). Finnish Business and Policy Forum.

3.2 Accidents and injuries more common than in Denmark and Sweden

Accidents and injuries are a major threat to everyday safety in terms of human lives lost. In Finland, around 2,600 people die every year in accidents and injuries, the bulk of which occur at home and in leisure time. Accidents are the fourth most common cause of death among Finns and the most common cause unrelated to illness. The numbers have been steadily declining since the early 2000s, but in recent years, they have begun to rise again. Finland still has the EU's fifth highest death rate for accidents.¹⁴

Figure 2. Accidents are the main threat to safety in daily life

The number of annual fatalities from **accidents at home and in leisure time exceeds by far that of traffic accidents or homicides**



Source: Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare; Statistics on road traffic accidents and Statistics on offences and coercive measures, Statistics Finland 2020

Serious injuries resulting from accidents and incidents affect the wellbeing and ability to work of a large number of people. Accidents also burden the health and social services system. They cause the second most periods of treatment in specialised healthcare and are the most common cause of lost healthy years up to late middle age. Accident-related injuries and deaths to men, in particular, are at a high level in Finland – more than double the number recorded in Denmark, which is the best Nordic country in this respect, and a third more than in Sweden, for example. The difference can be largely explained by alcohol consumption and other factors related to the risk of social exclusion.¹⁵

¹⁴ Based on 2016 data published by Eurostat.

¹⁵ *Safely at All Ages: Programme for the Prevention of Home and Leisure Injuries 2021–2030*. Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2020.

Rescue services save more than 3,000 people every year. More than one third are saved from imminent danger involving a serious threat to life or health. The Finnish Border Guard saved nearly 4,000 people at sea in 2020. Major accidents number around 50 at an annual level. Most of these are classified as major accidents based on the resulting environmental and material damage.¹⁶

3.3 Serious crime is committed by a small percentage of the population and is becoming more international

Based on advance information, a total of 680,000 crimes were reported to the authorities in 2020. Of the total, 538,000 were offences punishable under the Criminal Code, and of these, property crimes accounted for 252,500. The crime rate and type reported in 2020 were influenced by, for example, the 2020 amendments to legislation on traffic offences as well as the COVID-19 pandemic. The crime rate has been declining in Finland for 30 years, in terms of both offences reported to the authorities and the overall crime rate determined through victim surveys. This matches the general long-term trend in the West. The crime rate and type show some regional variation in Finland and are partly connected to the socioeconomic characteristics of regions.

The background factors of crime, regarding both perpetrators and victims, include aspects such as a weak socioeconomic status, problems spanning generations, place of residence, young age, male gender, drug abuse, as well as personal traits and personality disorders. The majority of crimes in Finland are committed by quite a small group of people who are mostly marginalised or at risk of marginalisation. Studies show that less than five per cent of the population commits more than half of all crimes, and repeat offences are very common among this group.¹⁷ However, social exclusion alone does not explain the occurrence of repeat offences, but instead, several factors at the individual level come into play.

¹⁶ In rescue services, a major accident is an accident resulting in at least five fatalities or at least ten fatalities and injuries or in material damage amounting to at least EUR 500,000.

¹⁷ See e.g. Elonheimo, Henrik, et al. Criminal offending among males and females between ages 15 and 30 in a population-based nationwide 1981 birth cohort: Results from the FinnCrime Study. *Journal of Adolescence* 37.8 (2014).

Figure 3. Reducing social exclusion improves the security of all

Source: Finn Crime study 2014

The majority of children and young people residing in Finland are doing well and rarely commit criminal offences. Serious and repeat crime is committed by a small percentage of children and young people. Those who commit multiple crimes are often themselves victims of crime.¹⁸ Crime, trauma and ill treatment experienced in childhood and adolescence, such as family violence and bullying, also raise the risk of committing crime and becoming a victim as an adult.¹⁹ While bullying has decreased in the past decade, around one in every twenty child or adolescent still suffers from it weekly.²⁰ Bullying tends to become more severe the longer it lasts. According to the school health promotion study, children and adolescents with an immigrant background or a disability as well as those belonging to sexual and gender minorities are clearly more often victims of violence, bullying and sexual harassment. Adolescents placed in care away from home have very frequent experiences of violence. Adolescents who leave foster care without permission are at a particularly serious risk of committing or being victims of violence and crime.

The number of cases involving child sexual abuse that come to the attention of the police has increased steeply in the past ten years. The numbers vary from year to year, one reason being that in some years, the suspected crimes involve several serious offences. It has been estimated that only a small share of all offences are reported to the police. According to victim surveys and school health promotion studies, the experiences of children and adolescents regarding ill treatment have remained much the same in the 2010s. In the long term, such experiences have declined, meaning that more and more of the cases come to light these days.²¹

18 [Who will respond to crimes committed by young people?](#), Publications of the Government's analysis, assessment and research activities 2019:34.

19 [Nuorten syrjäytyminen ja rikollisuus](#). National Research Institute of Legal Policy 2014.

20 School health promotion study 2019

21 [Rikollisuustilanne 2019: Rikollisuuskehitys tilastojen ja tutkimusten valossa](#). University of Helsinki 2020.

Finland is a violent country compared to its reference countries in Western and Northern Europe. However, violence affects a very small percentage of the population. According to long-term victim surveys, less than ten per cent of people experience about two-thirds of all violence. The amount of violence has long remained at the same level, taking into account both crime that comes to the attention of the police and hidden crime.

In Finland, homicide is markedly a crime involving working-age men who have a low level of education, are inactive in the labour force and have a serious alcohol abuse problem. For example, the homicide death rate among unemployed men is fifteen times that of their employed peers, and more than 60 per cent have a serious problem of alcohol or other substance abuse.²²

Figure 4. Violence is experienced by few, but it accumulates. Alcohol still plays a big role.



Source: Rikollisuustilanne 2019 (crime situation in Finland), Suomalaiset väkivallan ja omaisuusrikosten kohteena 2019 (results of the national victim survey)

The prevalence of violence against women in Finland is a serious problem that has also been brought up in international surveys.²³ Nearly half of Finnish women have experienced some form of physical or sexual violence after the age of 15. Nearly all the victims of rape that come to the attention of the police are women, and usually young. The number of rapes that come to the attention of the police has increased. However, victim surveys indicate that the prevalence of sexual abuse has remained at prior levels, meaning that more and more cases are uncovered in the same way as cases of child sexual abuse. Violence against women is closely related to family and intimate partner violence. Around one in three women have experienced physical or sexual violence from their current or

²² Rikollisuustilanne 2019: Rikollisuuskehitys tilastojen ja tutkimusten valossa. University of Helsinki 2020.

²³ Violence against women: an EU-wide survey. Main results. European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, 2014.

former partner. Every year, around seven per cent of women and three per cent of men are victims of violence committed by their partner or receive violent threats from their partner. In 2000–2019, domestic violence was involved in 57.7 per cent of the homicides targeting women, compared to 6.9 per cent for male victims.²⁴ In Finland, women have an eightfold risk of being killed by their partner compared to men.

Figure 5. Intimate partner violence against women remains common



Source: Suomalaiset väkivallan ja omaisuusrikosten kohteena 2019 – Kansallisen rikosuhritutkimuksen tuloksia (results of the national victim survey) and Violence against women: an EU-wide survey, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) 2014

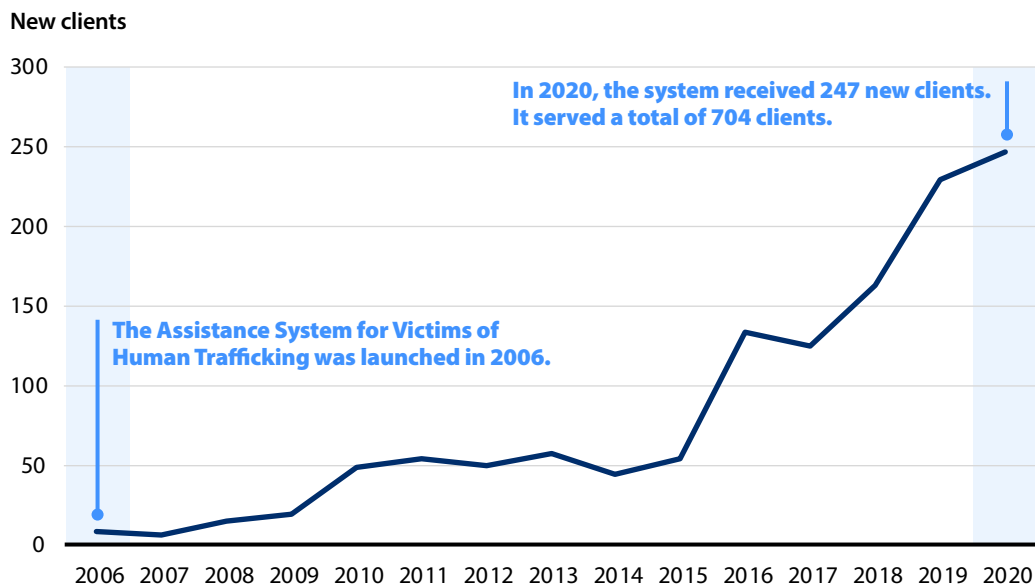
Around 70 well-established organised crime groups, with a total of 750 or so members, are active in Finland. Most of the groups are chapters of outlaw crime groups, and the bulk of these are biker gangs. Systematic organised crime is committed by networks that adapt flexibly to different situations and involve an increasing number of participants. This type of crime is largely of a cross-border nature. The authorities have noted a clear attempt by these groups to become part of legal social structures, even though membership in the groups has so far remained relatively low in Finland and organised crime does not visibly affect the safety of people's daily lives. The use of organised crime in hybrid influence activities must be monitored.

Trafficking in human beings is a serious, multidimensional form of international crime, including, for example, sexual and labour abuse, forced marriage and forced criminal activity. Trafficking in human beings has become increasingly common in Finland, but it is also better detected these days. The number of people helped by the Assistance system

²⁴ Rikollisuustilanne 2019: Rikollisuuskehitys tilastojen ja tutkimusten valossa. University of Helsinki 2020.

for victims of human trafficking has multiplied in recent years.²⁵ However, a significant share of human trafficking is still believed to remain hidden. At present, around one third of the cases involve victims who have been abused in Finland, while earlier, most of the victims in the cases uncovered had suffered abuse outside of Finland. The victims and perpetrators include asylum seekers and immigrants, but also Finnish citizens belonging to the majority population. Although most of the identified victims are adults, children and adolescents are also among them.

Figure 6. Trafficking in human beings has become more common, but it is also better detected



Source: Finnish Immigration Service

In the national crime victim survey, 55 per cent of the respondents indicated that they had been victims of online crime at some stage of their lives. Hidden crime is a considerable challenge in the case of cybercrime. In addition to offences targeting companies and public organisations, hacking, large-scale scams, blackmail and identity thefts targeting private individuals are on the increase. As information, capital and production move increasingly online, new vulnerabilities will emerge, which criminals in Finland and abroad, as well as certain national players, will seek to take advantage of.

²⁵ [Annual review 1 January–31 December 2020](#), The National Assistance System for Victims of Human Trafficking 2021

Discrimination and hate crimes usually target various minorities. Most (around 70%) of the suspected hate crimes reported to the police are related to the victim's ethnic or national background.²⁶ According to a survey, 68 per cent of Roma had experienced discrimination in the past 12 months.²⁷ Half of those belonging to sexual and gender minorities resident in Finland reported having met with harassment in the five years preceding the survey.²⁸ In addition to verbal harassment and hate speech, immigrants experience more physical violence or threat of violence compared to the rest of the population.

3.4 Border security, illegal entry and cross-border goods traffic

Finland controls the EU's longest external border. At the moment, border control is effective and credible, but it does not fully meet the EU requirements, based on Schengen inspections. The present stability on the eastern border relies on good cooperation with the Russian border authorities. However, stability cannot solely depend on cooperation.

A notable increase in external border crossings was recorded before the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. The safe and smooth flow of cross-border movement has been successfully maintained, but increased traffic calls for continuous operational development, the further adoption of automation, as well as personnel transfers from the eastern border and sea areas. Automation has helped curb the need for additional personnel that the growth in traffic would have otherwise required. Smooth cross-border movement and free movement in the Schengen area are of key importance to the Finnish economy and wellbeing.

EU Member States have enhanced external border control through concerted and national efforts and engaged in closer cooperation to eradicate human smuggling and organised crime. As Finland is not located along the main migrant routes to Europe, irregular border crossing has remained at a low level in recent years. Finland implements an action plan for the prevention of irregular entry and stay, which was updated in 2021. The purpose is to engage the authorities to jointly prevent and uncover any irregular entry into Finland, the organisation of irregular entry, unauthorised stay in the country and trafficking in human beings.

26 [Suspected hate crimes reported to the police in Finland in 2019](#). Police University College 2020.

27 [Erlaisena arjessa: Selvitys romanien syrjintäkokemuksista](#). Ombudsman for Minorities 2014.

28 [Survey on Fundamental Rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People in the EU](#). European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights 2012.

Finnish customs controls goods traffic across the Finnish border in the case of external border traffic, as well as postal traffic, passenger traffic and commercial goods traffic among EU Member States. Despite the principle of free movement of goods between Member States, unauthorised goods traffic does not have the right to free movement. The volume of cross-border goods traffic is influenced especially by the economic situation and people's interest in and opportunity to travel. In 2020, Customs carried out around one million different customs operations, the goal being to detect any irregular activity and prevent unauthorised goods from reaching the market and consumers. Around 27,000 inspections were carried out on passengers, and more than 110,000 on vehicles and cargo units. X-ray screening was performed on a total of 212,000 articulated lorries, shipping containers and railway carriages. The pandemic led to a steep decline in passenger traffic, which enabled control measures to be targeted increasingly on commercial goods traffic and online trade.

Electronic commerce, and especially the darknet market, have opened the Finnish consumer market to cross-border illegal goods trade. Owing to changes in the international trade in goods, private customers can now order any illicit material directly from external operators and have it quickly delivered to their doorstep. The challenges and volumes of illegal electronic commerce continue to increase. Customers of online shops have access to everything from weapons, explosives and their raw materials to drugs and a variety of dangerous substances. The explosive growth of online trade has led to steep growth in the number of parcel shipments. In 2020, parcel shipments to Finland numbered 40–50 million, which made their control challenging. The number is expected to continue to increase, creating further challenges to customs control.

Faster logistics and especially the huge increase in the volume of goods trade generated by electronic commerce have further highlighted the safety of transport chains. Finnish consumers receive more and more products from abroad that do not comply with EU or domestic requirements and are hazardous to human health or the environment. These products are used to meet a wide range of everyday needs. For the customs control of goods traffic to work effectively at entry points and in terminals, automation and analytics must be continuously developed. Controls that are supported by robust technology also ensure that the legal foreign trade important to Finland flows smoothly.

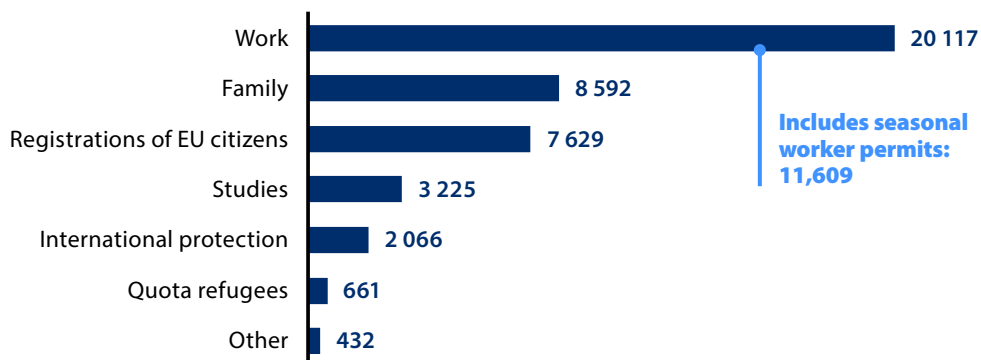
In view of the good logistics connections, the Finnish authorities' operations also have an impact outside Finland. Meanwhile, ensuring Finland's security in terms of foreign transport calls for wide-ranging support from the other EU Member States and non-EU countries, as well as regular communication with the relevant authorities. International cooperation between authorities is close in the efforts to prevent irregular goods transport, and it often plays a crucial role in preventing and uncovering cross-border smuggling.

3.5 Migration and immigrants a permanent part of society

Immigration policy helps promote the dynamism of the Finnish society and fulfil Finland's international obligations. Smooth, fair and individual permit, integration and citizenship services meet the needs of society and customers. A well-functioning, safe and secure Finland attracts international experts and students and their families.

More than 90 per cent of immigration to Finland is work-, family- and study-based. Humanitarian immigration accounts for less than 10 per cent of overall immigration. Immigration as such is not a matter of internal security, but if it is irregular, it can cause instability within and between countries. For the most part, global immigration is managed and is based on work, family relationship or studies. This type of immigration to Finland has increased steadily in recent years, except in 2020, when the pandemic reduced international immigration. Finland already relies on foreign and foreign-born workers in many respects. On the other hand, the number of asylum seekers has decreased notably in recent years. In 2020, around 1,700 applicants received a residence permit based on international protection, compared to 32,800 who received their first residence permit on other bases. More than 12,000 of them arrived in Finland for seasonal work.

Figure 7. Most immigration to Finland is based on employment, family and studies. The first residence permits granted by the Finnish Immigration Service in 2020.



Source: Finnish Immigration Service

Attitudes to different forms of immigration cause divisions in society. In addition to integration services and the individual's personal process, the success of integration depends on the society's receptiveness, general attitudes and level of discrimination. The challenges for integration and the increasing number of undocumented people, for example, may lead to social exclusion and ultimately the emergence of parallel societies, which is a phenomenon that undermines internal security and the sense of solidarity.

3.6 Cooperation between authorities as a resource for services

The scope and complexity of security authorities' duties have permanently expanded in the past five years. This has also radically raised the competence requirements. Changes in the operating environment, coupled with scarce resources, have called for more prioritisation and increased cooperation between authorities. Facilities expenses and ICT expenses have also increased.

In Finland, cooperation between different authorities has long traditions and is of a high international quality. The joint use of equipment and competence, as well as the clarity of decision-making, characterise Finnish cooperation between authorities and ensure higher efficiency and overall economic efficiency compared to reference countries. The security authorities' joint emergency response centre information system and Finland's Public Authority Network VIRVE are key strengths of field operations. Cooperation involving rescue services, health and social services, and the police is broad, close and daily. Cooperation among the police, customs, and border control authorities works smoothly, and internal security authorities also engage in close cooperation with the Defence Forces, which provide important mutual administrative support for internal security under normal circumstances. Rescue services, the Finnish Border Guard and other authorities, in conjunction with the third sector, provide seamless operational cooperation for maritime accidents and air rescue operations in the case of forest fire and other wildfires. Cooperation between different authorities is particularly important in sparsely populated areas.

The Emergency Response Centre Agency provides public services to many operators. Rapid emergency services contribute to the level of internal security services and alerts to authorities and thus to people's access to urgent assistance. The Emergency Response Centre Agency is a national service network. It annually receives around three million emergency calls, which lead to around 1.4 million authority assignments. More than half of the assignments involve health services. Around a third of the assignments are forwarded to the police. In 2020, it took on average five seconds to answer an emergency call. In 91 per cent of emergency calls, the response came in less than 10 seconds and in 99 per cent, in less than 30 seconds.

Rescue services annually handle more than 100,000 rescue and assistance tasks. On average, 69 per cent of them urgent. Contract fire brigades help ensure the equal provision of rescue services throughout the country. Contract fire brigades are involved in around 60 per cent of rescue services' annual emergency tasks.

Prehospital emergency medical services and social emergency service are part of the close cooperation network between authorities. The number of emergency calls and tasks in prehospital emergency medical services and social emergency services has increased for several years. Tasks of Prehospital emergency medical services relayed by the Emergency Response Centre Agency number around 800,000 annually and account for around 60 per cent of all the tasks relayed by emergency response centres. Paramedic services are provided by rescue departments, hospital districts and private service providers. In addition to their own duties, rescue departments participate in around half of the prehospital emergency services tasks. In 2020, emergency response centres relayed around 53,000 tasks to social emergency services.

The number of annual emergency tasks handled by the police has long been increasing, totalling around one million in 2020. Slightly under 10 per cent of these belonged to the priority A category and around 40 per cent to the priority B category, while the rest were less urgent inspection or surveillance tasks. The average response readiness is good, but has weakened slightly in the long term. There is great regional and temporal variation. The main reasons for the decline in response readiness are the increased number of tasks, the decrease in the number of police officers up to 2017, and the increasing qualitative requirements set for operations.

From the perspective of crime prevention and enforcement of criminal liability, Finland's challenges include the low crime clearance rates for a number of traditional crimes, such as property crimes, and the increasing need for resources to prevent new forms and methods of crime. The tasks of authorities have become more complex and investigations more laborious. The clearance rate for serious crime against life, physical integrity and children has remained relatively high. However, not enough resources are available for solving lesser offences and uncovering hidden crime.

The average clearance rate for offences punishable under the Criminal Code is 50 per cent. The clearance rate for homicides is high, over 90 per cent, while the rate for assault and battery exceeds 60 per cent and the rate for property crime remains at 37 per cent. The average duration of criminal investigation increased from 111 days to 136 at the end of the last decade.

Regarding the criminal procedure stretching from criminal investigation to the enforcement of penalty, the resources and performance of operators in the early stages have a direct impact on operations further along the chain. Police resources for criminal investigation, as well as the volume and quality of cases moving through investigation to the consideration of charges and ultimately to court proceedings play a key role in this respect.

The national prosecution authority has operated as a state authority since the structural reform carried out in 2019. The complexity and demands of cases have increased substantially, and the criminal proceedings have become more international. Changes in the operating environment, the steep increase in the workload and the simultaneous increase in ICT expenditure have weakened the enforcement of criminal liability overall. A considerably smaller share of the suspected crimes handled by prosecutors now lead to charges and the imposing of sanctions. In 2004–2020, the total number of cases moved from the authorities handling criminal investigation to prosecutors has been around 80,000–91,000. The share of cases concerning the termination or limitation of criminal investigation has increased from 1,000 to a maximum of 20,000. In turn, the number of cases involving the consideration of charges has decreased. In 2020, charges were brought in 67 per cent of cases, on average. The number of cases involving a prolonged consideration of charges has risen notably in recent years. This has an impact on the effectiveness of the criminal procedure and the legal protection of citizens.

Thanks to the structural reforms of the judiciary, resources can now be allocated more appropriately and judges have better opportunities for specialisation. The National Courts Administration, which has been operating since 2020, sees to the operating conditions of courts and handles their central administration. The case processing times are growing longer.

The Criminal Sanctions Agency contributes to the safety of society by maintaining a legal and safe system for enforcing sanctions and working to reduce repeat offences. Finnish prisons have on average 1.4 prisoners per person-year. Of the released prisoners, around half commit an offence within five years, which leads to a new unconditional prison sentence. To reduce repeat crime, prison and probation services offer programmed activities, and the Criminal Sanctions Agency participates in networked cooperation to support prison and probation service users and to coordinate the services with normal societal services. It is important to ensure the continued provision of education and employment services, health and social services, as well as housing services throughout the term of imprisonment and during the transition from prison to freedom. Repeat offences have decreased during the five-year monitoring period.

In recent years, the position of crime victims has improved overall, following legislative amendments prompted by international commitments, as well as the service system's development. The number of users of crime victim services has also increased. For example, in 2012, Victim Support Finland provided support person services to 1,740 people and by 2019, the number had risen to 7,100. This trend is expected to continue, as people's awareness increases. Some of the challenges to victim support activities that require development are how to reach different groups of victims, how to identify their

special needs, and how to adequately and equally address these needs in every part of the country. It is also important to ensure the continuity of adequate funding for services.

The state has been responsible for organising shelters for victims of domestic violence since 2015. Persons of families experiencing intimate partner violence or threat thereof can seek protection at a shelter at their own initiative or directed by authorities or other parties and can do so anonymously, if required. The number of round-the-clock shelters free of charge to clients has increased over the past five years from 19 to 29, and funding for shelters and shelter services has nearly doubled over the past six years. According to the preliminary figures of the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, shelters accommodated 5,178 clients in 2020, of which 2,921 were adults and the rest children.

In 2019, the Finnish Border Guard performed around 16.8 million border checks at all the border crossing points along the external borders, and a total of some 3.9 million border checks in 2020 (COVID-19 pandemic). In 2019, a total of 1,489 people were denied entry into the country or turned back at the border. In 2020, this figure was 2,441. The number of irregular entry attempts detected on the eastern border and border crossing points totalled 180 in 2019 and 54 in 2020. Russian authorities prevented around 420 irregular entries into Finland in 2019 and 130 in 2020. In connection with border crossings, 431 requests for asylum were received. In 2020, the Finnish Border Guard carried out 1,391 search and rescue operations, and the number is increasing. The number of oil spills detected in maritime areas has been around ten yearly. Spills in the economic zone and territorial waters have been minor in recent years.

Information exchange, good analytics and a shared situation awareness are key tools in successful cooperation between authorities. Information exchange is promoted by using the EU's common information systems and other international information systems, as well as by developing the operations of EU-wide information systems and their interoperability. The new national information systems of security authorities will further improve information management between authorities.

International and cross-border, cooperation between different authorities will help meet diverse challenges. The interruptions and major accidents caused by extreme weather conditions, serious organised international crime, cyber and hybrid threats, trafficking in human beings and the organisation of irregular entry into the country, as well as terrorism require harmonised and coordinated measures at the national and EU level.

The EU Home Affairs Funds play an important role in the organisation of internal security operations in Finland. In the funding period that ended in 2020, around EUR 170 million were distributed in Finland through the funds. The assets have been used to support the equipment purchases of the Finnish Border Guard, Customs and police, as well as to

develop information systems for the authorities to enhance information exchange, the registration of immigrants and permit procedures.

Finland is actively involved in international civilian crisis management. Every year, around 120 Finnish experts work in countries of operation to prevent terrorism and international crime, as well as to support border control and immigration authorities.

3.7 Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on internal security

The COVID-19 pandemic has also affected internal security. Most Finns have trusted the authorities to manage the COVID-19 crisis. However, according to various citizen surveys, the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts concern many Finns.²⁹

According to surveys, those with the weakest outlook in view of long-term coping are groups in a vulnerable position to start with, such as people with chronic diseases, including mental illness, the unemployed, homeless people and people facing financial challenges. The absence of social safety networks or restrictions to their use add to the challenges. During the prolonged pandemic, it has been found that at-risk groups are susceptible to increasing malaise, which may have an impact on internal security.

How children and adolescents cope with the crisis has been of particular concern. The pandemic has had a considerable impact on their daily lives, and the authorities began to detect alarming signs concerning children and adolescents early on in the pandemic. According to preliminary estimates, the pandemic has intensified internal family problems and related hidden crime. Special inputs into securing wellbeing are needed among children and adolescents whose families have suffered a loss of income due to the crisis, as well as children and adolescents who have disabilities or chronic illnesses, are placed outside their homes, whose family members have mental health or drug abuse problems or whose parents are dealing with other challenges related to their operating capacity or ability to cope with daily life. Parents are also burdened by the exceptional circumstances, which increases the need for parenting support.

The COVID-19 pandemic has increased care and service debt in health and social services, which may also have a detrimental effect on vulnerable groups. The drawn out pandemic and its consequences will lead to more mental health and drug abuse cases, which, in turn, affects security.

²⁹ [Citizens' Pulse 5/2021](#). Statistics Finland.

Owing to COVID-19 restrictions, the number of rescue and prehospital emergency services tasks decreased in spring 2020 along with the general decline in people's activity. In the summer, the number of tasks began increasing and gradually returned to the level typical of the season. As the pandemic picked up again in autumn 2020, the number of tasks decreased slightly, and the same trend continued in spring 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the overall crime situation to some extent. Criminals have quickly adapted to the new situation and developed their operations. In 2020, the number of offences punishable under the Criminal Code that came to the attention of the police increased by nearly 20 per cent from the previous year. The increase was notable in property crimes, especially in blackmail and fraud, as well as in traffic offences. An increase was also noted in cybercrime, drug offences and homicides, and attempts thereof.

Overall, police cases declined during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. A decrease was noted especially in incidents occurring in public spaces and restaurants, as well as in criminal offences. When the restrictions were lifted, case numbers returned to normal. However, the number of calls to homes increased considerably at an annual level, by 26 per cent from the previous year. In January–June 2020, the number of violent crimes reported to the police decreased from the previous year, but growth was recorded in some offences involving the most serious kind of violence. One explanation to this is that the consumption of alcohol moved from restaurants and bars to private homes. According to international sources, intimate partner violence has increased. In addition to drug abuse problems, perpetrators of violent crime often suffer from personality disorders. The pandemic may have aggravated these, and help has not been as readily available.

The police have also met self-destructive behaviour, and the crisis is believed to have made self-destructive messages, along with mental health problems more prevalent. However, preliminary information points to a decrease in the overall number of suicides in 2020. The crisis has hit young people hard, for example, through the availability of summer jobs, which affects young people financially and causes them to feel uncertain about the future. The importance of youth work has increased during the pandemic, especially outreach youth work and youth work carried out at schools has provided support to young people and those working with them.

The restrictions on movement imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic have not had much of an impact in curbing the availability of drugs. Based on police data and suspected drug offences, the availability of drugs has remained unchanged. According to the wastewater analyses carried out by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, drug use declined briefly in parts of the country during the state of emergency, but returned to previous levels when the restrictions were lifted. Overall, the upward trend in drug use continued in 2020. This must be addressed through crime prevention and cooperation

between authorities. Increased drug use may lead to a rise in property crime, because drug addicts often commit theft and property offences to finance their drug use.

The government's decision to restrict traffic along the external borders and reinstate internal border checks has led to hundreds of border guards being transferred from the eastern border and external border crossing points to internal borders. On the other hand, internal border checks have revealed offences that would otherwise have gone undetected due to a shortage of resources and opportunities.

The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the vulnerabilities in the cross-border movement of people and goods. It has also provided new opportunities for information influence activities and economic influencing in critical infrastructure sectors, for example. Despite considerable border crossing restrictions, the operations of commercial transports and international supply chains must be secured to ensure the functioning of society and the security of supply.

The COVID-19 pandemic has partly shifted the focus of espionage to the cyber environment, offering new ways to obtain information on Finland through intrusions into information systems, with much of society's key operations now online and reliant on remote connections.

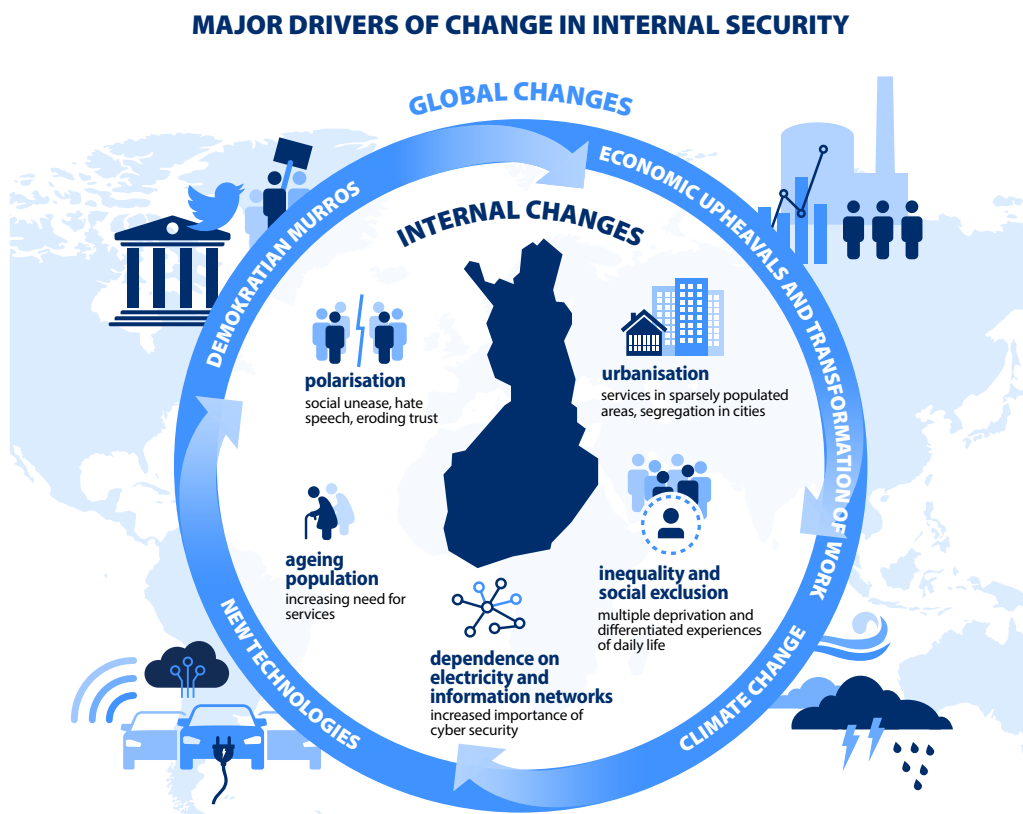
Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in spring 2020, courts have postponed the oral procedure of around 6,000 pending criminal cases. Court proceedings have been conducted increasingly over video links. The operating capacity of the National Prosecution Authority and the judiciary is heavily affected by the backlog of cases caused by the pandemic, as well as its clearing, which will stretch long into 2021 or even further into the future. The Criminal Sanctions Agency has had to postpone the enforcement of sentences due to the pandemic, which will lead to an increase in prisoner numbers in 2021, when the backlog will begin to be cleared.

Society's general preparedness for incidents and emergencies, as well as cross-administrative cooperation, must continue to be developed on the basis of the experiences gained from the pandemic. In an increasingly global world, it is more important than ever to ensure material preparedness and security of supply at the national level. It is essential to develop preparedness based on nationally harmonised principles, especially in the field of health and social services, and enhance the formulation and sharing of a national situational picture. Population groups in a weaker position must also be better taken into consideration when preparing for disruptions.

4 Changes in the operating environment and serious disruptions

Traditional threats remain, but they are becoming increasingly complex. Meanwhile, global developments and whole new threats challenge the authorities and their operations. The spread of disinformation chips away at civil peace.

Figure 8. Main drivers of change affecting internal security



WHAT GOOD SECURITY REQUIRES FROM SOCIETY

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 equal and high-quality services | 2 versatile use of new technologies | 3 emphasis on preventive action, an information-based approach and extensive cooperation |
| 4 good relations among the population and high trust | 5 adequate resources and competent personnel | 6 up-to-date legislation |

4.1 Phenomena affecting security

Global challenges, such as climate change and pandemics, affect our operating environment as independent phenomena, further intensifying the impact of previously identified developments. Rapid changes in the relationships of superpowers and their commitment to the rules-based international system also have a bearing on the security of areas around Finland and Europe. Global problems can cause inequality, bring on a lack of prospects, deepen dividing lines, and increase the attractiveness of populist movements.

A country of high technology, free flow of information and increased wellbeing, Finland is at the crossroads. Technology can be used to improve security in many ways. Road safety improves thanks to the enhanced safety features of vehicles, various types of safety equipment improve safety at home and help seniors continue living in their home, while the authorities' information systems contribute to faster public services and help to people. For example, the number of emergency calls has increased annually by 1–1.5 percentage points. The growth trend is expected to remain much the same, as people are making more and more use of technology to communicate with the authorities and the threshold for contacting them becomes lower. Artificial intelligence also makes the investigation processes of law enforcement authorities more efficient. The continued technological development and increase in electronic services emphasise the importance of information security. Meanwhile, care must be taken to ensure the participation and full inclusion of all.

Marginalisation, social unease and multiple deprivation are still the biggest threats to Finland's internal security. Raising the level of security is increasingly related to improving the situation of people affected by these phenomena. Special attention must be placed on the prevention of multigenerational marginalisation. The experienced and measured safety of various vulnerable population groups is lower than that of the population on average. To end multigenerational problems, it is crucial to engage in multisectoral cooperation to support parenting and help children cope, as well as ensure the availability of comprehensive attention at all stages of life.

Polarisation is a global phenomenon that is also found in Finland. The life circles of population groups differ from each other, and people resort to simplifications in an attempt to make sense of a complex world. In contrast to other Nordic countries, Finns with a low level of education feel that they have a poor understanding of politics and the functioning of society.³⁰ The risk of this is that the security fears and concerns of more and more people will be directed at other people and groups instead of concrete issues. Such

30 [Political and social trust. Pathways, trends and gaps](#). Ministry of Finance 2019.

a phenomenon feeds off itself and is very susceptible to hostile influencing from outside and within. Hate speech can culminate in hate crime, and the threats and intimidation present in online discussions, as well as the fear of online shaming, already affect people's interest in running in elections.

Segregation caused by an unequal distribution of income, housing costs and wellbeing has become more salient in the largest Finnish cities, although it is still quite moderate from an international perspective.³¹ In the absence of policy measures, the trend may pick up steam and also affect security. Polarisation and the segregation trend feed social unrest, which may increase the forming of gangs, strengthen the pull of extremism and raise the threat of terrorism. Factors engendering crime and weakening trust in society will continue to strengthen if they define entire neighbourhoods and social groups. The resulting impacts will not be limited to the neighbourhood in question but will have wide-ranging effects on society.

Urbanisation and the ageing of the population will pose challenges to the service system, especially in sparsely populated areas. Finland is ageing faster than most other European countries, and according to population forecasts, one in every four Finns will be over 65 in 2030. With an average of 16 inhabitants per square kilometre, Finland has the lowest population density in the EU, and the number of residents in sparsely populated areas continues to decrease. The downward trend in the overall number of accidents and incidents is expected to continue, but the focus will shift from working-age people to the group of older citizens with a higher risk of accidents and incidents due to impaired functional ability.

As the population ages and the younger age groups become smaller in size, the overall number of criminal offences is expected to continue to decrease. The amount of daily crime will crucially depend on the degree to which younger age groups suffer from drug abuse and multiple exclusion. The development of suburbs in growing cities is another key factor in the trend in daily crime. Criminal offences increasingly target specific vulnerable groups.

Drug use and related crime are on the rise. Only part of it comes to the attention of the police, and the share of hidden crime is significant. The use of drugs in traffic increases the risk of outsiders becoming victims of accidents. The number of drivers under the influence of drugs caught in drink-driving cases equals that of drivers under the influence of alcohol, and if the long-term trend remains the same, drugs will replace alcohol in this respect.

31 [Sosiaalinen kestävyys: asuminen, segregaatio ja tuloerot kolmella kaupunkiseudulla](#). Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare 2018.

Online and network-dependent crime as well as cybercrime are increasing and developing rapidly. Leaks of sensitive information may have wide-reaching consequences in different forms of crime many years into the future. Criminals use the internet, among other things, to obtain information and build networks, as well as to take advantage of the anonymity provided by strongly encrypted marketplaces. In one form or another, computers, smartphones and the internet are involved more and more frequently in traditional crime investigation. The development of space technology offers new opportunities but also gives rise to security threats.

By producing and sharing biased information on social media platforms, large groups of people can be mobilised and general unrest and antagonism in society can be intensified. The opposition faced by security authorities and the related violence and cyber targeting are expected to continue to increase.

According to predictions, organised crime will increase and become more international and serious, mirroring the general development seen in other EU Member States. Curbing this development in Finland calls for international cooperation between authorities, adequate measures and resources in crime prevention, as well as a better ability of other authorities and communities to identify organised crime and protect themselves from it. Growth platforms for organised crime can be weakened through preventive work. The largest threat of serious violence, such as mass killing or a terrorist attack, comes from individual operators, whose motive may be linked to violent extremism. Individual operators usually network online with groups harbouring similar ideas.³²

The European integrated border management system is developing quickly, and the principle of solidarity is strengthening. The role of the European Border and Coast Guard, responsible for enforcing integrated border management, will increase significantly in the future. Enforcement also calls for joint performance planning. The gradual creation of a standing corps for the European Border and Coast Guard will introduce a whole new operational element into European border management, which must also be taken into account nationally. Active participation in the deepening European cooperation will help prevent the impacts of cross-border crime in Finland.

The European Commission has launched an action plan for raising the customs union to a new level. By enforcing the action plan, the union aims for joint activities between the Member States, common analytics, harmonised operating models and interoperable technologies. The goal of development efforts is to ensure that the customs authorities of

32 [Violent extremism in Finland – situation overview 2020](#). Publications of the Ministry of the Interior 2020:8

each Member State protect the customs union as a whole but also the security of other Member States alongside the security of their own country. The deepening cooperation in cross-border goods traffic also supports the security of Finland and helps prevent cross-border crime in Finland.

In the changing global security environment, traditional threats remain, but they are becoming increasingly complex. At the same time, completely new threats challenge the authorities and their operations. Finland must ensure that resources are targeted appropriately and that the personnel's expertise, equipment and legislation meet present needs. Increasingly better preparedness is also required for cross-border situations. The importance of a shared situational picture, information acquisition and information-based operations is highlighted at both the strategic and operational levels.

Despite technological development, the provision of services related to internal security will continue to require human workforce. In addition to adequate staff, investments are needed in facilities, equipment and information technology. In recent years, internal security authorities have carried out significant information system projects, which have increased the costs of maintenance. Continued system development will help replace outdated information technology, increase digitalisation and attract new talent. New technology plays a big role in reducing the carbon footprint of the authorities, as vehicle emissions along with facilities are the most significant sources of climate emissions. The equipment of rescue services, including material preparedness and the provision of material assistance in major accidents and emergency conditions require investments. The launch of the European Border and Coast Guard in 2021 will gradually increase the obligations of the Finnish Border Guard until 2027.

4.2 Serious and extensive incidents may become more common

Serious and extensive incidents are sudden incidents that target Finland, its population or one of its areas and that require the authorities and other operators to engage in unusual activities or even request help from other countries. Such incidents are rare, but if they occur, they cause substantial human, economic or environmental damage. The main sources of serious and extensive incidents disrupting internal security are maritime or regional major accidents caused by humans or nature, violent movements of large groups of people, extensive immigration, activities targeting critical infrastructure and terrorist attacks. Preparations for these and other extensive threats are made in accordance with the comprehensive security cooperation model involving the authorities, business operators and the third sector.

Global warming increases the frequency and intensity of known weather and climate-related hazards and changes their typical time of occurrence. Climate change and biodiversity loss raise the risk of extensive forest fires and other forest damage, in addition to having unpredictable impacts on ecosystems and, consequently, on food production. Ecosystem changes create suitable conditions for the development and spread of dangerous diseases. A warmer climate will lead to strong winds, high temperatures and low humidity becoming more common, increasing the risk of fires spreading. Changes will also be seen in the risk of sea, inland water and stormwater floods. In northern Finland, the risk of spring floods will increase due to there being more snow.

The risk of a multisectoral, serious maritime accident is especially high in the Gulf of Finland and the Archipelago Sea, and the probability of an accident occurring is expected to rise in the future. The volumes of maritime transports are expected to increase by approximately 30–50% from the level of 2020 by 2030. Storm winds are also expected to grow stronger in the Finnish maritime area because of climate change.³³

The pressure of large-scale migration will rise especially in areas where living conditions are most severely weakened by climate and environmental change and that are densely populated. Conflicts, insecurity and a deteriorating human rights situation may increase migration worldwide. Immigration is large-scale when people arriving in the country can no longer be steered to the appropriate authorities and procedures through normal border control arrangements or when the requirements for entry into the country or the registration of immigrants is not possible through normal arrangements. If large-scale immigration becomes excessively wide in scope and involves unwanted side effects, it may turn into a serious incident. Such situations can be prevented, for example, by ensuring preparedness, clearly specifying the roles of different authorities and ensuring good cooperation between authorities, training for situations in advance and ensuring good communication. The experiences from 2015 and the measures adopted based on them have improved the preparedness of Finnish society for such situations.

The risks and threats related to the safety of communication networks and the vulnerabilities of infrastructure critical to society's operations have increased. Societies and economies depend increasingly on new generation communication networks, including 5G and artificial intelligence. They connect things and systems, such as energy networks and other critical infrastructure. Increasingly digital and networked societies are more efficient, but the vulnerabilities of networks also give room for harmful operations. Disturbances and harmful or hostile activities conducted over networks or with the help of

33 [Projected climate change in Finland](#). Finnish Meteorological Institute 2017.

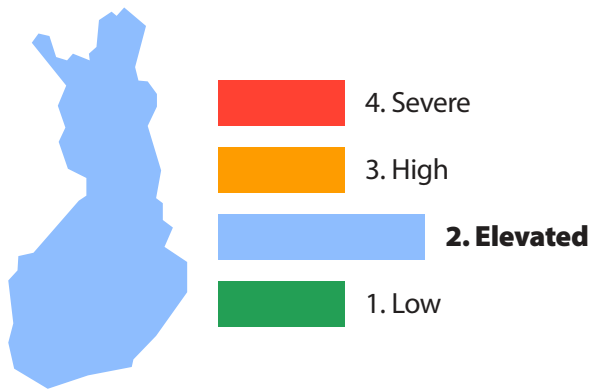
artificial intelligence can affect the dissemination of information, integrity of information, functioning of the infrastructure and operating capacity of states in crisis situations.

Hybrid influence activities have become more common and employ a wide range of means, such as political, diplomatic, economic and military methods, as well as information and cyber operations. Hybrid influence activities can also harness migration, refugees or citizens of nations conducting hybrid influence activities in other countries. A cross-sectoral approach and close cooperation between the private and third sectors play a key role in the prevention of hybrid influence activities. Efforts are also taken to prevent hybrid influence activities through legislative means and both international and EU cooperation. To prevent information influence activities, it is crucial to improve the awareness of citizens and the media and to provide media education. Through their presence in social media, the authorities can rein in targeted disinformation and the operators spreading it, as well as reduce the opportunities for creating social unrest. Some social media companies have also adopted measures to prevent the spread of disinformation.

Terrorism is a threat to internal security as well as to Finland's national security. Finland continues its international cooperation to fight terrorism, violent extremism and violent radicalisation. No changes in the likelihood of a terrorist attack have been seen in recent years. According to the Finnish Security and Intelligence Service, the threat of terrorism is on the second level of the four-level scale introduced in 2017, signalling an elevated threat. The level has remained the same since 2017. Counter-terrorism measures focus on cooperative prevention, the success of which depends on wide and regular cooperation involving different operators. Successful counter-terrorism also requires appropriate and updated legislation. The Finnish Security and Intelligence Service estimates that there are terrorism supporters as well as individuals and groups with the motivation, ability and readiness to carry out a terrorist attack in Finland. Readiness for serious violence has been identified especially in relation to radical Islamism but also the far right.³⁴

34 [Violent extremism in Finland – situation overview 2020](#). Publications of the Ministry of the Interior 2020:8

Figure 9. Threat of terrorism in Finland



Source: Finnish Security and Intelligence Service

The threat of the use of military force and changes in it also affect internal security. Owing to the shorter period of advance warning and the unpredictability of military threats, the requirements made on military defence should be extended to the authorities' management system, decision-making ability and preparedness. Nordic cooperation in comprehensive national defence, as well as the civilian response cooperation conducted between Finland and Sweden and with NATO will continue to play an important role.

5 Finland as the world's safest country in 2030

The focus of the authorities' operations will shift emphatically from corrective services to preventive measures. A high level of trust in internal security authorities will be maintained. Technology will be employed in services, where possible. Help is quickly available in emergencies throughout the country.

Maintaining internal security is one of the main duties of the state. Good security services are crucial to the enforcement of human and fundamental rights and to maintaining Finnish democracy and people's trust in society. Internal security services are produced efficiently, equally and achievably throughout Finland. The realisation of citizens' linguistic rights will be secured in practice.

Ensuring security and the sense of security throughout the country and among all people is at the core of a socially sustainable society. For this to be possible, safety and security in daily life must be shared equally by all. Changes in internal security further highlight the differences in the situations of different people and groups. To ensure the same level of security and a sense of security for all people, we need different types of solutions to an increasing degree.

Security must continue to be provided in a way that supports sustainability on a wide scale, as well as biodiversity and respect for all forms of life. Combatting environmental crime and disasters and paying attention to climate goals in security operations also support this objective. The animals used by the authorities are treated non-violently and in a way that takes into account the behaviour typical of the species.

5.1 We prevent security problems through wide-scale cooperation

The focus of the authorities' activities will increasingly shift from reactive services to prevention and early support. Preventive action maintains the security of society, people and the environment, as well as their sense of security and trust in the authorities. It also helps reduce social exclusion. They also prevent the accumulation of various problems among specific people or areas. Preventive action is economically viable, as it reduces the

costs of damage caused by crime and disruption, as well as those of criminal proceedings and probation services. The lost labour input of crime and accident victims and criminals is also economically significant. The experience of social inclusion, good health, employment, income and close relationships are the most effective ways of preventing social exclusion. In addition, universal and functioning health and social services, as well as adequate social security benefits are of key importance in preventing exclusion. Multisectoral measures promoting wellbeing, health, safety and security in cooperation with municipalities, organisations and other participants must also be strengthened.

Coordination between administrative branches to reduce inequality and social exclusion and improve daily safety and security must be boosted in cooperation with municipalities. Any need for the reorganisation or strengthening of existing structures and activities, such as the national cooperation model for internal security, the National Council for Crime Prevention and the Advisory Board for Public Health, must be surveyed to improve their impact. The Advisory Board for Public Health will prepare a proposal for the structural reform of the cross-sectoral promotion of wellbeing, health and safety in central government. The legislative base for operations following the repeal of the Primary Health Care Act will also be determined in this context. Implementation of the government resolution entitled 'Promotion of wellbeing, health and safety 2030' will continue as part of the activities of different administrative branches and operators. A survey will also be carried out to determine the forms of social exclusion and inequality that are most closely linked to different security problems and based on this, cross-sectoral measures will be drawn up to reduce them. Accidents will be prevented by implementing the Safely at All Ages: Programme for the Prevention of Home and Leisure Injuries 2021–2030.

In the communication of security operators, closer attention will be paid to the societal communication environment. Facts will be contributed to discussions that intentionally create antagonism and visions of threat. People's sense of their personal safety must be based on verified facts about the amount and targets of crime and other problems. The authorities must listen to people's concerns and engage them in security planning. The follow-up work focusing on the sense of safety, launched in the Ministry of the Interior, will be further developed. Cross-sectoral cooperation on strategic security communication will be established among key players.

Security services will be developed, taking into account the different needs of people and striving to reduce inequality. Preventing the accumulation of victimisation experiences will be a key task of security authorities in the future. The authorities must ensure that in the process of the criminal procedure, victims and perpetrators are efficiently and systematically referred to assistance that prevents problems from recurring. In addition to general health and social services, these include services for crime victims, as well as services and programmes designed for perpetrators to help them break away from

violence. This will help mitigate social exclusion and its negative impacts on security, such as the accumulation of violence, as well as the distortion of competition between companies due to the use of illegal labour. The compilation of statistics and the monitoring of the state of internal security will be revised to ensure that the security problems typical of different population groups and their root causes can be identified better and addressed effectively.

Under international agreements, Finland is committed to combatting domestic and intimate partner violence, as well as the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children. Finland implements the agreements through the measures laid out in the Action Plan for Combating Violence Against Women and the Action Plan for Non-Violent Childhoods.

In preventive work, the police ensure that they meet young people in a positive spirit to strengthen their trust in the police and lower the threshold for contacting the police in the case of problems. Anchor activities, aimed at preventing young people being pulled into a cycle of crime, will be expanded and integrated with the anti-bullying activities of schools and educational institutions. Cooperation between the police and schools will be strengthened widely, for example through designated police officer work. Anchor activities also prevent gang forming and violent radicalisation. Inclusion, wellbeing and safety will be improved at schools. A programme of measures to prevent bullying, violence and harassment at schools and educational institutions will be implemented. A national programme for promoting the safety of children and adolescents will be implemented to prevent accidents, suicides and violence against children. The situation of particularly vulnerable children, that is, those who run away from foster care will be improved through increasingly efficient cooperation involving multiple authorities. The relevant legislation and operating methods will be revised to ensure that they are brought up to date.

Local and regional security cooperation involving different operators will be strengthened, taking into account the role of the new wellbeing services counties. Preventive cooperation will be secured by defining the related responsibilities, relationships between operators and operating conditions in connection with the reforms in regional government. The ability of local authorities to carry out security work will be strengthened by providing them with information and tools. The police, rescue services and other authorities will participate in national and local preventive collaboration. The operating models for contingency planning and incident management in regional government, as well as their harmonisation nationwide will be developed to ensure that they match the risks in the operating environment. Through security cooperation, security can also be maintained in the most remote areas.

The third sector will be given more responsibility in coordination and supporting the authorities under normal circumstances, as well as during disruptions and emergency conditions. This applies to, for example, the Finnish National Rescue Association and its member organisations, voluntary search and rescue service and the Finnish Red Cross. Partnership between the public and private sectors is also very important when implementing security of supply measures. The ability of people, especially vulnerable groups, to cope during disruptions will be improved by addressing their needs as part of the contingency measures and planning.

5.2 We ensure that all population groups can trust the authorities and society

A high level of trust in internal security authorities will be maintained. The regional coverage and visibility of services will be ensured. Trust is built in daily interaction. The authorities contribute to this by handling their responsibilities efficiently, understandably and according to the principles of good governance, treating all people equally and with respect. The presence and visibility of the police will be strengthened especially in areas with the weakest service level. Attention will be focused on training and recruiting to ensure that security authorities can in practice provide service in both Finnish and Swedish (especially the police, emergency response centres and rescue services). The practical implementation of obligations under the Sámi Language Act will be strengthened in security authority operations. Public services and communication in sign language, and in the foreign languages most commonly used in Finland, will be increased.

Measures will be adopted to prevent the emergence of neighbourhoods with a high risk of crime, high sense of insecurity and low confidence in the authorities. The goals of the programme for suburban areas will be pursued, and the situation and its development will be monitored and assessed regularly. The preventive work of the police will be targeted especially at these areas.

An action plan to fight racism and promote good relationships among the population will be implemented. The competence of the authorities and other security operators will be improved to ensure they can contribute to reducing antagonism that undermines security. The authorities will also be provided with further training to help them deal with various minority groups and victims of crime and accidents.

People from different backgrounds will be encouraged to apply for police and rescue service education and for other duties in the security sector. To secure a high level of trust in security authorities, the personnel of the authorities must mirror society at large, representing different genders, language groups and ethnic groups.

5.3 Our emergency services work well and assistance is quickly available

Emergency calls must be responded to quickly in all parts of Finland. Regional equality in access to urgent help will be secured. The availability of emergency services and the visibility of the authorities will be improved especially in areas with the weakest service level. A national, coherent and interoperable address information system will be created. Emergency response centre services must be accessible and secure. The networked emergency response centre data system will be further developed. In accordance with the survey of maximum response times, special attention will be placed on reasonable response times from the police, and the data-based measures aimed at allocating police resources to areas with the weakest service levels, initiated in 2020, will continue. The Finnish Border Guard's presence on the eastern border and in the sparsely populated areas of the archipelago will be maintained at least at present levels. Equipment renewals will improve the Border Guard's response in emergency situations. A reorganisation of rescue services will ensure the high level of rescue operations, accident prevention and preparedness for disturbances throughout the country.

The education systems in rescue services and emergency response centre operations will be renewed. This will ensure the adequate availability of competent personnel for services in the field. Cooperation between national and regional rescue service authorities will be enhanced. Synergies concerning the prehospital emergency medical services that rescue departments provide to healthcare and social welfare will be secured, and multi-professional expertise will be harnessed in all security situations. The operations and capacity of prehospital emergency medical services will be secured. Hospital districts can provide such services independently or procure them from rescue services and private service providers.

The management system for maritime rescue services and environmental emergency response will be kept reliable by renewing the management information systems.

5.4 We will detect and investigate crime efficiently and effectively

The capacity of the police to effectively fight all crime, including less serious offences, will be restored. More crimes will be detected and investigated by developing analytics, for example.

The clearance rate of serious crime against life and other offences with significant social impacts will be retained high and investigation times will be kept reasonable. The fight against financial, environmental and drug offences and the recovery of illicit profit, as well as uncovering human trafficking, hate crime and threats, and crime against children, especially sexual offences, are clear priorities.

Criminal proceedings will be expedited by ensuring better cooperation between prosecutors and the police. The quality of cooperation in criminal investigation and ways to enhance the criminal procedure will be assessed by a working group appointed by the Ministry of Justice and in a related research project. Several measures will be adopted to enhance the enforcement of criminal liability and smoothen the criminal procedure, the goal being to shorten the overall case processing times.

Low-threshold reporting options and other ways to help victims in a particularly vulnerable position will be developed. Many of the most serious, recurring crimes against individuals, such as human trafficking, intimate partner violence and sexual offences, are mainly hidden crime, and the victims are in a particularly vulnerable position. Developing the victim support system will help uncover more crimes and maintain trust in the legal system. The authorities' resources and practices will be strengthened in both uncovering and solving offences. Obstacles to the detection of human trafficking will be removed and the authorities' means to tackle human trafficking will be developed. Cooperation will be carried out with different organisations.

Cross-border crime calls for increasingly close international cooperation and a more efficient use of international information systems.

5.5 We identify and counter threats to national security

To prepare for and tackle threats to national security, cooperation will be enhanced in the government and between authorities. Joint contingency plans, the powers of security authorities, and emergency powers legislation will be developed systematically, taking a risk-based approach.

The national critical infrastructure will be defined and the legislative needs concerning its protection will be determined. The authorities' operating capacity will be ensured for unexpected, quickly escalating situations that are difficult to predict or define in advance. The cyberspace is an increasingly significant interface used to influence Finland's national security. Cyberspace threats and related national development measures will be assessed on a wide scale with the help of the measures determined in the Cyber Security Development Programme and the survey to be launched, which will assess the authorities' capacity to ensure national cyber security, fight cybercrime, ensure cyber defence and act in quickly developing situations that threaten society's cyber security, taking into account the continuous development of national and international threats.

The security environment is changing in a more unpredictable direction, emphasising the significance of intelligence data and products. The control and supervision of intelligence services will be further developed. Measures will also be taken to ensure that intelligence reaches all the parties involved in the protection of national security at the right time and supports the enforcement of fundamental and human rights, as well as the normal operations of the authorities and society. The resource needs arising from intelligence legislation will be coordinated jointly with the administrative branches of the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Defence. Government will submit a report to Parliament regarding intelligence legislation by the end of 2021.

The ability to protect the population also from military threats and threats related to radiation is partly based on a comprehensive civil defence system. The main challenges in this respect concern the maintenance of civil defence shelters. In 2021–2022, a survey will be conducted on the state of civil defence, as well as the condition and allocation of civil defence shelters and places of refuge.

The national management and control of civil response will be strengthened.

The Finnish Border Guard's capacity for area supervision and its ability to secure territorial integrity and provide national defence will be developed in close cooperation with the Finnish Defence Forces.

5.6 We work actively and proactively in international cooperation

International operations in rescue services and civil response efficiently support national arrangements.

Involvement in international crisis management tasks also provide security for Finns. Crisis management can help fight terrorism and influence the causes underlying migration, for example. The resources of civilian crisis management will be increased to enable the dispatch of at least 150 experts annually to international duties. The information gained by Crisis Management Centre Finland will be put to greater use in anticipating the external dimensions of Finland's internal security. This will also support decision-making concerning Finland's foreign and security policy. Experts will be dispatched to duties prioritised based on the focal areas of foreign and security policy, which include duties that can contribute to the prevention of terrorism, international crime and uncontrolled migration.

The national performance of rescue services and their ability to offer and receive international assistance will be developed, making full use of international arrangements and financing mechanisms, especially the EU's rescEU funding. Nordic cooperation will be invested in.

Finnish Immigration Service will focus on the quality of decision-making and on ensuring that cases are handled within the prescribed time limits, respecting fundamental and human rights. It will also systematically develop the competence of its personnel. Permit processes will be designed to be more customer-oriented, smooth and as highly automated as possible, taking into account the special features of different permit types and the requirement of individual processing. The services of the Finnish Immigration Service secure the dynamism of society and meet the needs of business and the labour market. The maintenance and supervision of reception centres and specialised detention facilities, as well as the assistance system for victims of human trafficking must be of a high quality and the number of places must correspond to the actual need. The asylum process and the related forced removals handled in compliance with international obligations must be efficient and ensure legal certainty. By developing the EU's common and comprehensive system, Finland can, jointly with the other Member States, meet the opportunities and challenges arising from global migration.

Participation in the operations of the European Border and Coast Guard will be increased annually to prevent and stop the detrimental impacts of cross-border crime. Common resources and support will be also used in Finland.

5.7 High-quality services require adequate resources

Matters concerning the authorities' funding needs will be handled and decided in the Budget, within the central government spending limits, and in the general government fiscal plan, coordinating them with other general government expenditure needs. The available EU financial instruments will be employed to cover funding needs. Any further commitments set by the EU will be financed, where possible with increasing resources from the EU.

The outlook for central government finances is uncertain in the 2022–2025 general government budget planning period, and it is unlikely that all the additional resource needs can be fully met in the various administrative branches. This is also true of the resource needs in internal security services.

To ensure that Finland remains the world's safest country in the future, investments are needed in high-quality internal security services and a competent personnel. The authorities' basic needs are becoming increasingly demanding, and new obligations arise from EU and national legislation. The requirements of international information exchange and collaboration capacity will increase.

Maintaining and developing internal security services throughout Finland requires adequate, properly allocated funding for personnel expenses, facilities expenses, equipment and ICT systems, as well as the continuous development of the employees' professional competence. Additional resources are required to maintain the permanent number of staff in internal security and administration of justice at the 2020 level.

Adequate resources are required especially to maintain and renew the basic vehicle fleet of the police, Finnish Border Guard and Customs. Investments are also needed for the equipment of rescue services, including material preparedness and the provision of material assistance in major accidents.

Internal security authorities make diverse and proactive use of new technology. This frees up personnel resources and curbs cost pressures in the long term. Robotics, automation and artificial intelligence can help identify deviations and balance off the increasing complexity and quality requirements of duties.

The person-years in the police will be increased in accordance with the Government Programme. This will raise the presence of the police in areas of a weaker service level, enhance the fight against human trafficking, financial offences and IT offences, as well as increase preventive work targeting young people, in particular.

The criminal process will be reviewed as a whole. It should be kept in mind that as the number of police officers increases, the additional police resources allocated to crime prevention call for an equal addition of resources to the later stages of the criminal process in the prosecutor's office, legal aid, courts and the enforcement of sentences.

The national performance of the Finnish Border Guard will be secured. The project for renewing two offshore patrol boats will be completed. The renewal of the land and maritime border surveillance system is underway.

According to estimates, to raise the response readiness of rescue services to the level provided for in the Rescue Act, the permanent staff of rescue departments must be increased by 750 person-years from the current 6,200, and 450 contract firefighters are required in addition to the present 15,350. Replacing the stand-by system in rescue services calls for an additional 200 full-time employees. The operating conditions of rescue services and the required staff numbers will be assessed in connection with the rescue services reform included in the health and social services reform.

Several areas of development have been identified in the authorities' operations. It is important to tackle them by 2030 to ensure the security of Finland and the safety of people in Finland.

- The adequate presence and response of the police must be ensured in all of Finland under normal circumstances, as well as during disruptions. Preventive work must be strengthened, and the ability to combat less serious offences must be secured. This calls for an estimated 8,200 police officers in 2030, a figure that could be achieved without substantial additional investments in the police education system.
- The impacts of the increased number of police officers needed to reinforce the administration of justice and the enforcement of sentences must be taken into account in the workload of the administrative branch.
- Healthy and safe facilities are needed to support the authorities' operations and needs. The renewal of facilities and equipment will have a significant impact on the achievement of climate goals.
- The performance of the security authorities' equipment must be secured. The maintenance backlog must be cleared to ensure good performance.
- It is important to ensure the development and maintenance of the information systems that the Finnish Security and Intelligence Service needs to carry out its new intelligence service role.

- The Finnish Border Guard's ability to handle the expected increase in border traffic and prepare for changes in the border situation must be ensured. This means that the number of staff must be raised to approximately 3,000 person-years. The technical service life of the Dornier surveillance aircraft will end at the latest in 2025. In addition, the AB/B 412 helicopter equipment and the maritime rescue vessels used in frost-damaged areas and shallow waters will reach the end of their service life in the late 2020s.
- The ability of Finnish Customs to ensure the security of cross-border transports must be ensured, as electronic commerce continues to increase and the cross-border traffic of people and commercial goods returns to the previous, high level. This means raising the number of public officials employed in internal security duties by an estimated 120 person-years to a total of 1,070 people.
- The high-quality services provided by the Emergency Response Centre Agency must be ensured under normal conditions as well as during disruptions. This means increasing the number of staff by 40 person-years from the current figures.
- The information systems and data connections used in emergency response centre operations must be developed, as must an emergency warning system that complies with EU requirements.
- The capacity and resources of rescue services and emergency response centre operations must be ensured, taking national and regional service needs into consideration.
- The resources required for the national management of rescue services and civilian response, as well as the supervision of the new wellbeing services counties must be secured by the government.
- The education systems in rescue services and emergency response centre operations must be renewed.
- It is important to ensure that Finland attracts international talent and to secure high-quality, rapid permit processes in immigration and a system for international protection that guarantees legal protection. This means that the number of staff in Finnish Immigration Service must be maintained at around 900 person-years, in addition to which the digital development of the agency and its services must be secured.

According to the ministries' estimates, addressing these needs of internal security and the administration of justice, as well as securing adequate services requires the level of permanent funding to be increased by around 10 per cent from the 2020 level by 2030, provided that central government resources permit this.

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