



RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS (RIRs)

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ALB102936.E

06 October 2008

Albania: When a serious crime is committed, whether the police have records or a database where resulting charges, the identity of the perpetrator, and follow-up are noted; whether this information is kept in an INTERPOL database

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Police records

According to an official at the General Consulate of the Republic of Albania in New York, the police have records of persons who have previously committed a crime or who have had "problem[s] with police" (11 Sept. 2008). An official at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) stated that when a crime is committed, the police record the crime and related details (5 Sept. 2008). The OSCE Official further stated that the prosecutor's office keeps criminal records and evidence related to specific crimes (5 Sept. 2008). However, in a report published in 2006, the OSCE expressed concern about the Albanian criminal justice system, noting that in a specific publicly prosecuted case in Kukës, neither the police nor the prosecution had any relevant records (OSCE 2006, 135).

The United States (US) Department of State provides the following information on obtaining Albanian police records in its Reciprocity Schedule:

Currently, to obtain a criminal document from the District Attorney's office concerning pending and final criminal and civil cases, one needs to go to the District Attorney's office in the district of their residence, present [an] ID and pay the necessary fee.

To obtain a document from the District Court concerning any active court cases, one needs to go to the District Court office in one's district of their residence, present and ID and pay the necessary fee.

To obtain a criminal court certificate from the Office of Judicial Status, one needs to go to the Office of Judicial Status in Tirana from Monday through Friday at 8:00 a.m., present an ID and pay the necessary fee. (US n.d.; see also OSCE Official 5 Sept. 2008)

The OSCE Official stated that police records for cases that are under investigation are not publicly available; however, police records for criminal cases in which a verdict