

ALBANIAN AUTHORITY ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION
ON THE FORMER STATE SECURITY SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Albanian Authority on Access to Information on the Former
State Security Service

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Authority on Access to Information on Former State Security Documents (AIDSSH) is established by Law No. 45/2015 "*On the right to information on the files of the former State Security of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania*", in respect of the access right of anyone interested to information on the former State Security documents, through a democratic and transparent process, protection of the individual's personality, as well as unity and national reconciliation.

AIDSSH is an independent institution, responsible for the collection, administration, processing of documents of the former State Security and for providing access to them, for all subjects of law No. 45/2015, in order to educate the public and support the democratic values of justice, truth, reconciliation and responsibility for future generations.

AIDSSH has based its activity and the continuation of projects undertaken in function of study and scientific research activity, aiming at the historical review of the activity of the former State Security or civic education.

The annual work report 2019 has been drafted and approved based on law No. 45/2015 and bylaws issued on the basis and for the implementation of the above-mentioned law, which regulate and norm the functional activity of the institution. According to this report, the institution's activity for 2019 is focused on some main pillars: consolidating the archive of former State Security documents, ensuring access to former State Security documents for all subjects defined by law, historical review of the activity of the former State Security, relying on scientific research, realized in cooperation with scientific research institutions in the country and partner institutions, as well as setting a communication platform and nationwide dialogue, in function of civic education, organizing work desks with different groups of interest, workshops, documentary exhibitions, international scientific conferences, etc.

In accordance with the resolution of the European Parliament 2019, on the importance of a common European memory, which expresses respect for all victims of totalitarian systems and supports their commemoration, AIDSSH has organized its activity of unveiling the past by opening files of the former State Security for groups of interest, family members, researchers and journalists; liable information on the cleanliness of senior officials; reassessing the victims and convicts of conscience and addressing the issue of missing persons in the dictatorship.

2. MESSAGE

Authority on Access to Information on Former State Security Documents has been established based on the spirit of the European and Albanian Resolutions for the necessity of convicting communism crimes, defending democratic values and the fundamental human rights.

AIDSSH concluded its third year of operation among challenges and achievements in its daily activity: 70 meetings and 843 decisions, of which 832 unanimous decisions, 9 cooperation agreements, 286 verified candidates or officials, 506 individual applications, 135 institutional requests, 29 requests for the clarification of collaborators, 5 requests for rehabilitation and compensation purposes, 158 requests for obtaining a certificate for the period of internment or imprisonment, 105 study and media requests, 1500 processed files, 92 777 declassified documents, 170 150 pages made available in 2019.

Throughout 2019, there have been an increased number of requests for information on documents of the former State Security Service, mainly submitted by the constitutional institutions or public administration authorities, researchers and media, especially requests received by the interested subjects to certify the recognition of internment or imprisonment time. In parallel with the priorities, AIDSSH has performed its functions answering to the requests received by citizens, institutions, groups of interest, scientific researchers, as well as local and foreign media.

Using a comprehensive communication strategy, focused on mankind, victims' families, human rights associations, youth and public in general, AIDSSH has significantly expanded its activity map, in cooperation with local communities in Tirana, Gjirokastra, Tepelena, Konispol, Korça, Voskopojë, Maliq, Belsh, Lushnjë, Përmet and beyond, reaching individuals, communities and homologous remembrance institutions.

The consolidation of all documents of the former State Security Service in a single archive which is very important for the national historical heritage still remains a challenge for AIDSSH. The process of accepting documents in accordance with DCM 98/2017 was suspended in mid-2019 by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which affected the fulfillment of the legal obligation to take over all the documentation administered by relevant institutions, according to law 45/2015.

Even in 2019, AIDSSH has exercised its functions in the temporary building near the Guard of the Republic of Albania, and the archive has still been located in two different buildings. This situation has had its difficulties in terms of service provided to citizens, appropriate working and study conditions, service of archival documents and making them available within a short time.

The November 26 earthquake affected work processes, paralyzing the movement to the document fund at the IPQP, a significantly damaged building and making it impossible for citizens and researchers to access documents. Also, the main hall of AIDSSH, located in the premises

of the Guard of the Republic of Albania, was evaluated as dangerous and, consequently, unusable for the functions of the institution: Authority's meetings, meetings with stakeholders, seminars, documentary exhibitions, etc.

The Albanian government did not allocate any budget for the reconstruction of the AIDSSH building in 2019. The institution managed to obtain a grant from the Swedish government to create contemporary working conditions and standards, including integrated ICT services. During 2019, there were signed the related agreements and were taken steps to allocate the fund and start the implementation of the project in 2020-2021.

Among the future challenges remains the completion of the organisational structure approved by the Parliament. The authority has performed its functions with 50% of the staff, a fact that has faced us with long waiting lines, increasing the waiting time of citizens to get services and has significantly affected the daily work processes.

After the provision of appropriate infrastructure and approved staff, to fulfill its role in clarifying the past, the Authority proposes the need for intervention in the laws related to its activity, mainly, the law 45/2015, the law on electoral reform, DCM no. 188, for the approval of the regulation on personnel safety, legal proposals that are presented to the Albanian Parliament and Council of Ministers aiming to strengthen the role of the institution in terms of transparency for officials during the process of their appointment or election, and the creation of an integrated archive.

Empowerment of AIDSSH as an institution charged with conducting research activities and scientific research, in order to historically review the activity of the former State Security Service and civic education, treating responsibly archive materials administered, informing individuals, families, researchers and media, re-evaluating personalities and historical events, following the issue of missing persons, publication and distribution on official and social platforms of scientific articles and qualitative publications of the past, in support of the society and new generations, can be achieved by getting it to a new dimension as a remembrance institution, with the relevant legal amendments, after the model of counterpart institutions.

On the 30th anniversary of the beginning of democratic changes in the country that led to the fall of communism and the 100th anniversary of the capital city-Tirana, AIDSSH is carrying out its activities being conscious for the history and responsible for the future, according to the Constitution of the Republic of Albania, in respect of European and pro-western values, where recognizing and raising awareness of the common European heritage of crimes committed by communist, Nazi and other dictatorships are of vital impact to the unity of Europe.

AIDSSH is working on important activities, according to the calendar of remembrance, supported by collaborators, remembrance institutions and counterparts. We will propose to the Albanian Government the relevant DCM on a two-year project #Democracy 30, a project that after approval by the Authority will pass the stages of its development to the other central and local institutions involved in it.

Inter-institutional cooperation in unveiling the past will deal with the treatment of historical events and personalities, proposals to honor models of resilience, marking remembrance places, meetings with survivors, gathering evidence, contribution and organization of study groups, declassification of documents and making them available, documentaries, archival and human profile exhibitions, for the renewal of the dignity of individuals and the promotion of social dialogue.

After three years of complex activity, the Authority finds itself with increased responsibility and increased expectations for informing the society and opening the civic dialogue for democracy.

3. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The Authority on Access to Information on Former State Security Documents, as a high, independent state organ in charge of administering the information process on the documents of the former State Security Service, for carrying out its mission is guided by the principles of reconciliation and national unity, transparency and cooperation between state institutions.

AIDSSH is organized and operates according to the rules set out in law No. 45/2015, “On the Right of Information on Former State Security Service Documents of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania” and in the regulation “On the Organization and Functioning of the Authority on Access to Information on Former State Security Documents”, approved by the Decision of Authority No. 21, dated 09.05.2017.

During the exercise of its functions, the Authority is assisted by the Technical Secretariat, which acts in accordance with the rules set out in the organic law and bylaws issued on its basis and for its implementation. Detailed rules for the functioning and activity of the Technical Secretariat are set out in the internal regulations of the Authority. In organizing and exercising its functions, AIDSSH is based on the following legal and sub-legal acts:

Legal and Sub-legal acts:

- Law No. 45, dated 30.04.2015, "On the Right to Information on the former State Security Service Documents of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania";
- Law No. 8480, dated 27.5.1999 "On the Functioning of Collegial Organs of State Administration and Public Entities";
- Law No. 8457, dated 11.02.1999, “On the classified information“ State Secret ”, as amended;
- Law No. 9154, dated 06.11.2003, “On Archives” and Technical-Professional and Methodological Norms of the Archival Service in the Republic of Albania”;

- Law No. 115/2016, “On the governing organs of the justice system”;
- Law No. 12/2018, “On the transitional and periodic evaluation of employees of the State Police, the Guard of the Republic and the Service for Internal Services and Complaints in the Ministry of Interior”;
- Law No. 23/2015, “On foreign service of the Republic of Albania” as well as the Decision No. 816/2015, “On the approval of the regulation for the foreign service of the Republic of Albania”;
- Law No.7514, dated 30.9.1991 "On innocence, amnesty and rehabilitation of former convicts and politically persecuted", (as amended);
- Law No. 9887, dated 10.03.2008, "On the protection of personal data", as amended;
- Law No. 119/2014 “On the right to information”;
- Law No. 152, dated 30.05.2013 “On the civil servant”;
- Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 98, dated 15.02.2017, “On determining the transfer procedure of archival materials found in the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Internal Affairs, the State Intelligence Service and in other public authorities to the administration of the Authority on access to Information on Former State Security Documents”;
- Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 935, dated 28.12.2016, “On the transfer of administrative responsibility, from the Ministry of Defense to the Authority on Access to Information on Documents of the former State Security, of the object No. 52, named “Arkivi i Ri-New Archieve”, within the Territory of Property No. 12, named “Komanda e Doktrinës dhe Stërviçjes-Doctrine and Training Command”, located in neighborhood No. 10, Rruga e Dibrës, Tirana and for an amendment in the Decision No. 515, dated 18.07.2003, of the Council of Ministers, “On the approval of the inventory list of state immovable properties, which are transferred to the administration of the Ministry of Defense”, as amended, which defines the premises where AIDSSH will exercise its activity;
- Decision of the Council of Ministers “On determining fees and charges for services provided by the Authority on Access to Information on Former State Security Documents to institutions or persons”;

AIDSSH Internar Regulatory Acts

- Internal Regulation “On the organization and functioning of AIDSSH”, approved by Decision No. 21, dated 09.05.2017 of the Authority, amended by Decision No. 234, dated 24.04.2019;
- Regulation “On the Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Exercising Public Functions in AIDSSH”, approved by Decision No. 13, dated 14.04.2017;
- Regulation “On Protection, Processing, Preservation and Security of Personal Data in AIDSSH”, approved by Decision No. 25, dated 25/05/2017, of the Authority;
- Regulation “On the publication of the activity of the Authority, in exercising its functional duties assigned by law, through the bulletin on paper or online on the Authority's website”;

- Decision of the Parliament No. 95, dated 22.12.2016, "On the approval of the organisational structure, categorization of job positions of the institution of the Authority on Access to Information on Documents of the former State Security Service";
- Strategic Plan and AIDSSH Action Plan 2017-2020, approved by Decision No. 42, dated 22.06.2017 of the Authority;
- “Code of Good Administrative conduct in the Authority on Access to Information on Former State Security Service Documents”, approved by Decision No. 449, dated 18.12.2018, of the Authority;
- “Code of Conduct” for Members of the Authority on Access to Information on Former State Security Documents, approved by Decision No. 450, dated 18.12.2018.

4. ADHERENCE AND FULFILLMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS, FULFILLMENT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EU "PROGRESS REPORT" FOR ALBANIA

International obligations

The opening and treatment of the documents of the former State Security Service for the clarification of the past, in function of transparency and consolidation of democracy, led to the creation of AIDSSH in 2016, after the adoption of law No. 45/2015.

AIDSSH has been operating for three years, in the spirit of international resolutions dealing with the legacy of the past, such as the European Parliament Resolution "On European Consciousness and Totalitarianism" (2009), the Prague Declaration "On European Consciousness and Communism" (2008), Resolution 1096 (1996) of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe "Measures to eradicate the legacy of totalitarian communist systems", as well as Resolution 1481 (2006) of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe "Need for international condemnation of crimes of totalitarian communist regimes ", ratified by the Albanian Parliament which followed with the approval of Resolution No. 11 "On the condemnation of crimes committed by the communist regime in Albania "(2006) and the Resolution "On the condemnation of the crimes of communism against the clergy, as well as the special gratitude for the role and activity of the clergy in defending democratic values and fundamental human rights and freedoms "(2016).

Albania is committed to strengthen the justice and human rights system, through the ratification of international and regional treaties and its inclusion in the United Nations Development Program 2030. International Convention on Civil and Civic Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights recognize equal treatment by law and other key elements that strengthen the justice system.

United Nations

The United Nations Development Program, with the objective 16 of sustainable development, aims at inclusive and peaceful societies, access to justice and effective and credible institutions as essential elements for development.

In addition, the United Nations claims that by strengthening the law, increasing capacity of justice institutions and improving transitional justice processes, helps ensure the truth, resizes it and gives voice to victims in Albania. Such elements lay the foundations for sustainable development and peace in society. In this context, AIDSSH has provided its contribution to meeting the recommendations of the UN Working Group on Missing Persons (WGEID), even during 2019.

European Union

The Progress Report of the European Commission -2019 for Albania emphasizes the monitoring of the processes of implementation of justice reform, in particular the re-evaluation of judges and prosecutors (vetting law).

According to the report, the re-evaluation of senior justice officials has produced concrete and credible results, which have strengthened the sector and consolidated the independence, impartiality, professionalism and accountability of judicial institutions. The implementation of justice reform has been consolidating progressively.

In this context, AIDSSH has the legal obligation to verify the purity of senior officials, who have been subjected to the process even during 2019, a process that involves many institutions and aims to increase professionalism in all areas, consolidating independence and impartiality, and restoring public confidence toward institutions.

Also in the EC report for 2019, Albania has been asked to take effective measures to protect human rights, according to ratified international conventions adopted by our country.

In the chapter Justice System and Fundamental Human Rights, in the document of the European Commission dated 29.05.2019, "Progress Report 2019 Albania", page 24, are mentioned recommendations for Albania related to crimes committed during communism, after the visit in place of the UN Working Group on Forced or Voluntary Missing Persons (WGEID).

In the section "Right to life", following the recommendations of the UN Group, it was managed to sign a cooperation agreement in July 2018 between the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) and the Government of Albania, ratified in November 2018 by the Parliament, allowing ICMP to begin collecting DNA samples, with EU financial support.

Through the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, the UN Working Group asked AIDSSH to fulfill the recommendations for Albania for 2019, for the treatment of crimes committed during the communist dictatorship.

Implementation of recommendations by AIDSSH

Based on the recommendations and functional tasks assigned by Law 45/2015, AIDSSH has been actively engaged and cooperated with the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) and other public institutions for missing persons in the country: the Institute for the Integration of the Politically Persecuted. It continues to make a concrete contribution to providing documentary information related to them; as well as raising awareness on the issue and lobbying with public and international institutions to advance research.

AIDSSH has participated actively in drafting acts, in discussions and roundtables, organising commemorative events, and by making available archival documents created by the former State Security Service related to the execution and mass-grave sites of the communist regime. Also, the institution is part of the "Inter-institutional working group for drafting and implementing measures for the search, identification and repatriation of the remains of the Italian citizen Giuseppe Terrusi".

In 2019, AIDSSH has escalated concrete actions regarding cooperation between central and local institutions for the missing in the dictatorship (complete information given in Chapter 4 “on the Implementation of the Resolution of the Parliament for 2019, section on the missing and institutional cooperation).

The report on the activities held on the missing issue has been submitted to the MEFA, which coordinates the institutional fulfillment of the recommendations for the Working Group on Forced or Voluntary Missing Persons in United Nations.

5. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANIAN PARLIAMENT ON THE EVALUATION OF THE ACTIVITY OF AIDSSH FOR 2019

Pursuant to the Decision of the Parliament of the Republic of Albania No. 134/2018, “On the approval of the annual and periodic monitoring manual ”, the Resolution of the Parliament of the Republic of Albania “On the evaluation of the activity of the Authority on Access to Information on Documents of the former State Security”, approved on 08.05.2019, following the evaluation of the activity exercised by AIDSSH during 2019, has listed some tasks and recommendations that had to be met during 2019, namely:

Improving the data verification process, in order to issue decisions that contain accurate and precise data, which do not need to be corrected.

To fulfill this task, during 2019, the directorates and sectors have worked as follows:

1. The Authority, by special decision, has decided to change the approved form used for the evaluation, according to the relevant legislation, of the ethical, moral and professional qualities of the candidates to be appointed or promoted, for officials, constitutional institutions and public authorities. This helps the Authority to better implement the provisions of Article 29, point 4 of Law 45/2015.
2. The work for the creation of an electronic database has been completed, in which have been registered all the documents of the funds “Mezini Commission” and “Bezhani Commission”.
3. Requests submitted by constitutional institutions or public authorities have been treated with priority. In cases where the generalities did not match, information was used, based on the National Registry of Civil Status for data confrontation, to eliminate or minimize inaccuracies in the provision of official information.
4. The search method in the archive has been improved, creating new searching tools and improving the search procedure with other elements, which help identify the required data.

Completion within 2019, of the process of receipt and inventory of all documents of the former State Security Service

Pursuant to the law 45/2015 and DCM 98/2017, it has continued the communication with institutions which have the obligation to identify and submit documents of the former State Security Service to AIDSSH. The process has been mostly focused on taking over the documents of the former State Security Service from the Archive System of the Ministry of Interior (ASMB), an institution under the Ministry of Interior.

The process has proceeded at a very slow pace and has not been completed. The process of taking over the documents of the former State Security Service from ASMB has been almost blocked since May 2019. For the resolution of this situation, on the basis of the law 45/2015 and DCM 98/2017 there has been continuous written communication and meetings with senior officials of the Ministry of Interior. The situation still remains the same.

Preparation of the necessary logistics and infrastructure for the completion of the transfer process from the archives of various institutions, of all documentation taken over by the Authority, as well as the maximum commitment of all parties involved in the process, for taking steps to prevent further damage and preserve existing archival material, within 2019.

In absence of financial means from the state's budget for 2019, AIDSSH has made maksimal efforts to get funds from potencial donors. Therefore:

1. In August 2019, has been signed a bilateral agreement between SIDA (Swedish Embassy) and AIDSSH, and followed all legal and financial procedures for the implementation of funds according to the project of reconstruction of the building, agreed with the donor. Work has already begun on the procurement item "Purchase and installation of shelves".
2. We have been in contact with the Ministry of Defense, regarding the security and physical protection of the new AIDSSH building. The Ministry of Defense has taken over the security and physical protection of the facility located within its territory.

At this time, AIDSSH is following up with the procurement procedures for the realization of the construction works for the reconstruction of the building.

1. There have been completed the routine archive procedures in terms of preventing damage and preserving existing archival material, specifically, the disinfection and deratization of the archive premises.

Increase cooperation with government institutions, to complete as soon as possible the process of identification and retrieval of the remains of those who disappeared or were executed during communism, as well as to take immediate measures to adequately preserve the places that are currently identified as massive graves.

In the context of being faced with the communist past in Albania, i.e. working with former political prisoners and victims and their families, relatives of missing persons, in support of civic education - to raise public awareness on transitional justice and reconciliation, - as well as for the organization of commemorative activities, it has been expanded the cooperation with local and foreign organizations, such as the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP).

The goal of this cooperation is to help the authorities implement the processes created to find and identify missing persons and to include the standards and norms of pluralist, democratic society in these processes.

The two institutions have been involved in discussions and roundtables and commemorative events. ICMP and AIDSSH have jointly agreed on the strategy, overall outcomes, objectives, activities and the role of each institution in this agreement.

Thus, AIDSSH has participated and has been active in drafting out acts, in roundtable discussions and commemorative events, has provided support in the identification process through making available archival documents created by the former State Security Service related to the executions and massive graves during the communist regime, on request and pursuant with law 45/2015, “On the right of information on the documents of the former State Security Service of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania ”.

AIDSSH is part of the "Inter-institutional working group for drafting out and implementation of measures for the search, identification and return to the homeland of the remains of the Italian citizen Giuseppe Terrusi".

AIDSSH has escalated concrete actions regarding cooperation between central and local institutions for the missing during dictatorship.

All local government units, the Parliament and the Ministry of Justice, have been addressed officially, to take measures to protect and protect the shooting and secret/declared burial sites of the dictatorship period, while ensuring the prevention of illegal usage of those sites; non-alienation of the land surfaces; curbing the destruction of facilities and places where the actions of the communist state against individuals have been identified, by setting in place special security and protection, based on observations made by the Working Group on Enforced Disappearances of the United Nations Resolution -2017, which tasks with "marking the places where bones are thought to be found ", and calls for all necessary steps to be taken to find the missing.

Attached to the request, AIDSSH has submitted to the municipalities the preliminary map with reported burial sites (source IIPP and ICMP) and the results collected so far at the national level by the applications of ICMP, Online Research Center and Surveillance Tracker, within the cooperation agreement of 2018 between the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the International Commission on Missing Persons.

AIDSSH has asked each municipality and municipal council to mark the possible burial sites of missing persons in its administrative territory and at the same time, to set under protection (special supervision) the places of internment, labor camps and prisons, reported earlier by citizens.

So far, 75 requests have been submitted to AIDSSH for the rehabilitation and clarification of the fate of the dead or missing. All reports have been passed to the IIPP, which coordinates with AIDSSH and ICMP for the unification of information on about 6,000 people missing during the dictatorship.

In the framework of the International Day of the Disappeared, the International Day of Human Rights and the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Totalitarian Regimes there have been taken concrete initiatives and organized activities in cooperation with institutions and the Prosecution office to initiate the procedure of finding and identifying burial sites of persons missing during dictatorship.

In cooperation with the local government, there have been proposed the following memorial sites:

- Tepelena Camp (1949-1951), based on Order No. 45, dated 06. 06. 2017 " On the working group for the search of archival documentation for Tepelena Camp and designing a memorial to commemorate August 30 as the International Day of the Disappeared".
- Mëniku (in Peza), where the remains of 22 intellectuals shot without trial were exhumed on February 26, 1951, massive grave of many convicted of dictatorship, with the proposal of the Authority submitted to the Tirana Municipal Council, to make it the place of conscience. The road to Mëniku is already called "February 26".

The President of the Republic, with the proposal of AIDSSH, has honored with the title "For special civil merits" the human dignity of 14 people who faced the communist system, treating humanely their missing relatives, on August 23, 2018 in Tepelena camp, on February 25, 2019, for the discovery and exhumation of 22 intellectuals executed without trial for the "bomb" in the Soviet legation and on August 30, 2019, the first victims of the Tepelena camp.

In cooperation with the Foundation "Kujto.al", has been made the film "The Missing" by the journalist Luljeta Progni, based on evidence and archival documents on the missing during communism, which revealed history of the missing and shed light on inspiring personalities, previously unknown to Albanian society.

AIDSSH with the journalist Fatmira Nikolli have held the exhibition "The Imperfect Past" with profiles of the missing, a map and a list of reported burial sites, emphasizing the right to know and the right to truth, which cannot come without active engagement and responsible institutions.

The joint ICMP-AIDSSH project "Raising Public Awareness of Transitional Justice and Reconciliation: The missing during Communism" 2020-2021, supported by the EU, has been accepted. It aims to draftout and publish a guide on the rights and obligations set in the Albanian and international human rights legislation regarding persons missing in the dictatorship for political reasons and human rights violations. The guide will be supported by informative meetings, collection of evidence and research work in the archives.

A report has been prepared on the activity held at the United Nations Disappearance Group on the enforced disappearance in compliance with the relevant recommendations, coordinated by the MFA.

AIDSSH will propose to the Albanian Parliament legal improvements to better coordinate work between institutions, local government, the prosecution and families on the disappeared.

Publication of decisions and materials approved by the Authority, in function of transparency and information on the decision-making process, respecting the restrictions of the legislation for the protection of confidential data.

AIDSSH with the Decision of the Authority No. 22, dated 22.02.2019, has approved "The regulation on the publication of the activity of the Authority in exercising its functional duties charged by law".

The purpose of this regulation is to publish the activity of the Authority on the official website and through the bulletin (on paper or online), to determine the organizational and technical procedures, as well as in taking measures to protect personal data and their security, as much as it can, by anonymizing these data found in the materials to be published. For the sake of certification of this Regulation and for security, in order to be more correct and more protected, this process has gone through continuous consultations with the Commissioner for the Right to Information and Personal Data Protection. The decisions made in January-December 2019 have been published and can be found at <http://autoritetidosjeve.gov.al/vendime-2019/>.

In addition, there have been published online on the official website of the Authority all the decisions of the Albanian National Security Authority for the declassification of documents, which can be found at <http://autoritetidosjeve.gov.al/declassifications-2019/>; all the activities of the Authority, which can be found at <http://autoritetidosjeve.gov.al/njoftime-per-shtyp/>.

Completion as soon as possible of the process of implementation and development of systems of issues management and digital archive, which will serve in terms of well-organization and facilitation of the entire work process in the institution.

Pursuant to the requirements deriving from the resolution of the Parliament, the Technological Development Sector has reviewed the criteria and technical specifications of the management system case and the digital archive. A market survey has also been performed to determine reference prices for the project.

In the absence of funding from the state budget, AIDSSH has applied for funding from other sources. In this context, it has been drafted out a project proposal for funding to the Swedish Embassy. The draft proposal has been accepted and the financier signed the agreement in August 2019. During 2020, procurement procedures will be performed for the purchase and installation of the electronic archive system.

Due to the lack of funds from the state budget, it is impossible for the System of Issues Management to be implemented. To meet this point we are looking for other possible donors.

Consolidation of cooperation with ISKK, with special focus on issues related to access to archives by both institutions:

During 2019, AIDSSH has cooperated with ISKK, in particular for the realization of the scientific conference "Faces of the people's "Enemy" and the preparation of the conference "Albanian political emigration 1944-1990". ISKK cooperation consisted on being part of the scientific conference council and by presenting the relevant works. ISKK has been invited to be a co-organizer in all commemorative activities organized by AIDSSH.

Regarding the access to the archival documents of the former State Security Service that are stored and administered in the archive of AIDSSH, appreciating the role and importance of the ISKK, the Authority has treated and will treat with rigorosity and priority all requirements that will be presented by them. For 2019, no application has been submitted to AIDSSH, where the requesting subject is ISKK.

Continuation of the information process, in order to increase public awareness toward the crimes of communism through activities, publications and in particular, presence in media and social networks, given the important role they play in terms of transparency and clarification of public opinion.

There are organised:

- Exhibition in the area of Lushnja;
- Visual and audiovisual documentation of places and human and family profiles of the convicts;
- Identification of places of punishment and marking of 11 forced labor camps in Lushnja;
- Archival documentary exhibition in the area of Belshi;
- Screening of the film "Women in the midst of violence and stigma", collaboration with researchers and the media;
- Open conversation with survivors and citizens;
- The commemorative event of the European Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Totalitarian Systems, held in the Tepelena camp, to honour sufferings of the innocent, barbed wire internment camp in Tepelena in 1949-1953;

The list of AIDSSH publications has been enriched, after collecting and arranging the materials during the first part of the year:

Publications made in various activities:

- a. Publication of Maliqi Swamp Work
- b. Bilingual publication "When State Security Service dealt with science".
- c. Publication of the conference proceedings "Denied by the regime"
- d. Publication of the annual report 2018
- e. Publication of two-monthly bulletins for 2018
- f. Online publication of the exhibition of human profiles on the missing in the dictatorship "The imperfect past", www.issuu.com/aidssh.

Work has continued in order to increase public awareness to the crimes of communism by keeping the focus of information on researchers, media, groups of interest and young people, through activities, publications, conferences, audiovisual documentaries, etc.

1. The President of the Republic, with the proposal of AIDSSH, has honored with the title "For special civil merits" the human dignity of 14 people who faced the communist system, treating humanely their missing relatives, on August 23, 2018 in Tepelena camp, on February 25, 2019, for the discovery and exhumation of 22 intellectuals executed without trial for the "bomb" in the Soviet legation and on August 30, 2019, the first victims of the Tepelena camp.
2. In the framework of the International Day of the Disappeared, has been made the film "The Missing" by journalist Luljeta Progni, a collaboration between AIDSSH and the "Kujto.al" Foundation, based on evidence and archival documents on the missing during communism, which revealed history of the missing and shed light on inspiring personalities, previously unknown to Albanian society.
3. In the framework of the International Human Rights Day, AIDSSH, in cooperation with IIPP and ICMP (International Commission on Missing Persons) held the opening ceremony of the exhibition on the missing in the dictatorship "The imperfect past", on data and archival materials of AIDSSH and the families themselves, reports of missing persons and graves at AIDSSH, IIPP and ICMP, and interviews with family members.
4. Working visits were held for the organization of the Local Dialogue in Voskopoja, Korça and Maliq, in the framework of cooperation with the local government. These meetings aimed at preparing complex and inherent remembrance activities in this area. Local visits, with representatives of the municipality and persecuted in these areas, helped us determine the concrete steps that will be taken jointly in 2020.
5. In cooperation with the Municipality of Përmet and the Anti-Communist Association of the Politically Persecuted, took place the first Dialogue on Dictatorship in the city of Përmet. Archive materials of the area, registers, evidence books, processing files, investigative-judicial files, management files of different areas of Përmet, etc. were exhibited, giving the community the opportunity to get acquainted with them, and to apply for individual information and for study goals. Based on these documents, typologies of persecution files were presented, interacting with those present, who also shared personal experiences.

6. The Cooperation Agreement between AIDSSH and the “Remember” Foundation for the Remembrance of the Victims of Communism in Albania was signed between Mrs. Gentiana Sula, Chairperson of the Authority and Mrs. Blerina Gjoka, Director of the Foundation, with the object of institutionalizing the relations of mutual cooperation, for the support of scientific research during the historical review of the Security Service activity, through the creation and distribution of audiovisual materials created jointly.
7. Study visits were organised for exchange of experiences in counterpart institutions and in awareness-raising activities for the communism persecution in Albania, in Warsaw, Poland; in Sofia, Bulgaria, in Vienna, Austria.
 - 7.1. Work meeting with the European Network of Secret Police Archives in Bratislava, Slovakia.

All AIDSSH publications are available online at www.issuu.com/aidssh Chronicles, interviews, documentaries on the work and activities of AIDSSH are revealed in the vlog on Youtube, Autoriteti i Dosjeve.

At the same time, the official AIDSSH website is linked to the site “Even the walls have ears”, of the oral testimonies of the survivors and www.dosjet.gov.al with profiles of personalities on whom has been researched and done a multidisciplinary study.

The Authority's decisions and activities are shared through the official social networking sites Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

<http://www.autoritetidoseve.gov.al>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AutoritetiDosjeve/>

Instagram: [Autoriteti Dosjeve \(AIDSSH\)](#)

Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/aidssh>

Youtube: [Autoriteti i Dosjeve](#)

6. AIDSSH ACTIVITY FOR 2019

6.1 Activity of the Institution

Based on the Strategic Plan 2017-2020, with Decision no. 46, dated 22.06.2017, the Authority has approved the "Annual Work Plan of AIDSSH for 2019".

On the basis of this document, is based the entire institutional activity of AIDSSH for 2019, which is focused on several main directions, such as: acceptance and treatment of requests made by citizens or public institutions for information on former Security Service documents submitted, etc., setting a consolidated institution that focuses on increasing the quality of service to all subjects of law 45/2015, set up a thorough archive, which aims to apply the highest standards in terms of security and service of archival documents, and the historical revision of the documents of the former State Security Service, through scientific research and civic education, opening the institution for young and all people interested.

Achieving such goals requires human and financial resources, which have been limited since the creation of AIDSSH. Therefore, in addition to the functional tasks, the institution has worked hard to find the necessary financial means to achieve its objectives. As a result of the efforts of the last quarter of 2018, at the beginning of 2019 the project proposal for financing the reconstruction of the building provided by the Albanian Government and the purchase of ICT equipment for the creation of an integrated archive was finalized. Negotiations were successfully concluded and in August 2019 an agreement was signed with the Swedish Government to finance the proposed project.

According to the provisions of DCM 98/2017 and joint agreements with relevant institutions, even during 2019, the AIDSSH archive has been located in two different buildings. This situation has made the daily work of the institution extremely difficult, as all its activities depend on archival documents. However, within the conditions and circumstances, measures have been taken to keep the pace of work at a high level, especially in addressing the requirements of public and constitutional institutions, when this is required by law in the assessment processes of ethical, moral and professional qualities of candidates to be appointed or promoted.

Decision No. 95, dated 22.12.2016, "On the approval of the organisation, staffing and classification of salaries of the Authority on Access to Information on Former State Security Service Documents" has determined the organisation structure of AIDSSH, according to which, the number of its employees should be 60 in total.

During 2019, the Authority has operated with 50% of the structure / staff, of which 5 are members of the Authority (vacancy created by the resignation of a member of the Authority, not yet filled by the Parliament) elected by the Parliament by law No. 45/2015.

Under these circumstances, AIDSSH staff, in addition to functional tasks given in the job description, has performed other tasks charged by decisions of Authority and internal orders, engaging the staff in specific working groups, in order to meet the main institutional objectives, and to create the necessary conditions for the preparation of documentation for the realization of the meetings of the Authority, as well as for the organization and development of numerous annual activities.

6.1.1 Archive

Pursuant to Article 18 of Law No. 45/2015, "On the Right to Information on Former State Security Documents of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania", Article 40 of the Regulation on the Organization and Functioning of AIDSSH, Annual Work Plan for 2019 of AIDSSH, the Directorate of Archives during 2019 has focused the work in several main directions, specifically:

- Detailed inventory and receipt of archival documents of the former State Security by archival institutions provided in DCM 98/2017;
- Detailed inventory and receipt of archival documents of the former State Security Service by archival institutions defined in DCM 98/2017;
- Searching and making available archival documents according to the requirements approved by the Authority, including i) the requirements of constitutional institutions and public authorities, regarding the existence of information in documents of the former State Security Service, when required under the assessment procedures, of the ethical, moral and professional qualities of the candidates to be appointed or promoted, ii) requests submitted by different citizens in the capacity of the affected person or of the affected relative, iii) requests submitted by the researcher and media representatives;
- Study and drafting of reports on the proposal for declassification of classified documents, according to the provisions of law No. 8457, dated 11. 02. 1999 "On the information classified" state secret ", as amended, and the Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 662, dated 15.11.2017 "On the approval of the regulation on declassification and devaluation of information classified as" state secret ";
- Digitalization of archival documents;
- Security, administration and service of archival documents for the needs of the institution;
- Preparation of documentary exhibitions, according to topics approved by the Authority.

Detailed inventory and take over the documents of the former State Security Service

The process of detailed inventory and taking over the documents of the former State Security Service has been mainly focused on the documents stored in the Archive System of the Ministry of Interior, General Directorate of Archives, Service of Internal Affairs and Complaints at the Ministry of Interior, General Directorate of State Police.

Archive System of the Ministry of Interior

During March-June 2019, the working group has carried out the process of detailed inventory of documents of the Font no. 1, Investigative-Judicial File. During this process, 15,539 files were verified and inventoried, placed in 901 boxes, and their data are reflected in the relevant electronic database.

At the end of the process have been kept the records of taking over archival documents in which files were missing. We are still waiting for submitting party-Archive System of the Ministry of Interior to sign the records. In addition to the above fund, the joint working groups have identified and performed the physical verification of the following fonts:

1. Font No. 132, "Branch of Oil Security", which has a total of 254 files with archival documents placed in 4 (four) boxes. These boxes are numbered 3, 4, 5 and 7. The documentation is uninventered and relates to 1978-1983.
2. Font No. 49, "Investigation", which has a total of 203 files with documents related to 1950-1975, placed in 4 boxes.
3. Font No. 128 "State Security Brigade", which has 222 files with archival documents related to 1949-1973, placed in 4 boxes.
4. The documents of the former Army Security Branches (DSU), a total of 54 boxes with 2456 files with archival documents, have been physically identified and verified.
5. The inventory of the Font 135 "Committee of the Labor Party of the Ministry of Interior" for 1945-1991. This fund has 637 files with archival documents, placed in 44 boxes and is inventoried. We are waiting for the submission of documents according to the provisions of law 45/2015.
6. Font 144 "Events of July 2, 1990". It is a box with documentation as well as alphabetical folders, which have inside the cards with data and photos of different citizens.

The above fonts have been refused to be handed over by the staff of the Archive System of the Ministry of Interior. The Authority was informed of this matter, and then communicated officially with the Ministry of Interior. We are waiting for an answer from the Ministry. The

process of taking over the documents of the former State Security Service by ASMB has been almost blocked since May 2019. To resolve this situation, pursuant to the law 45/2015 and DCM 98/2017 we have been in ongoing communication with the Ministry of Interior.

Service of Internal Affairs and Complaints (SHÇBA)

The following archival materials have been taken over by SHÇBA:

1. Files of OSSH collaborators, a total of 113 files (work + personal) with 3321 sheets,
2. O.R.V files and Search / Direction files, a total of 19 files with 1307 sheets.
3. Files of O.R.V employees.
4. Folders with files for former employees of various structures of the Ministry of Interior, a total of 1279 folders with files.
5. Operational evidence and record of actions with T.O, etc.

General Directorate of Archives

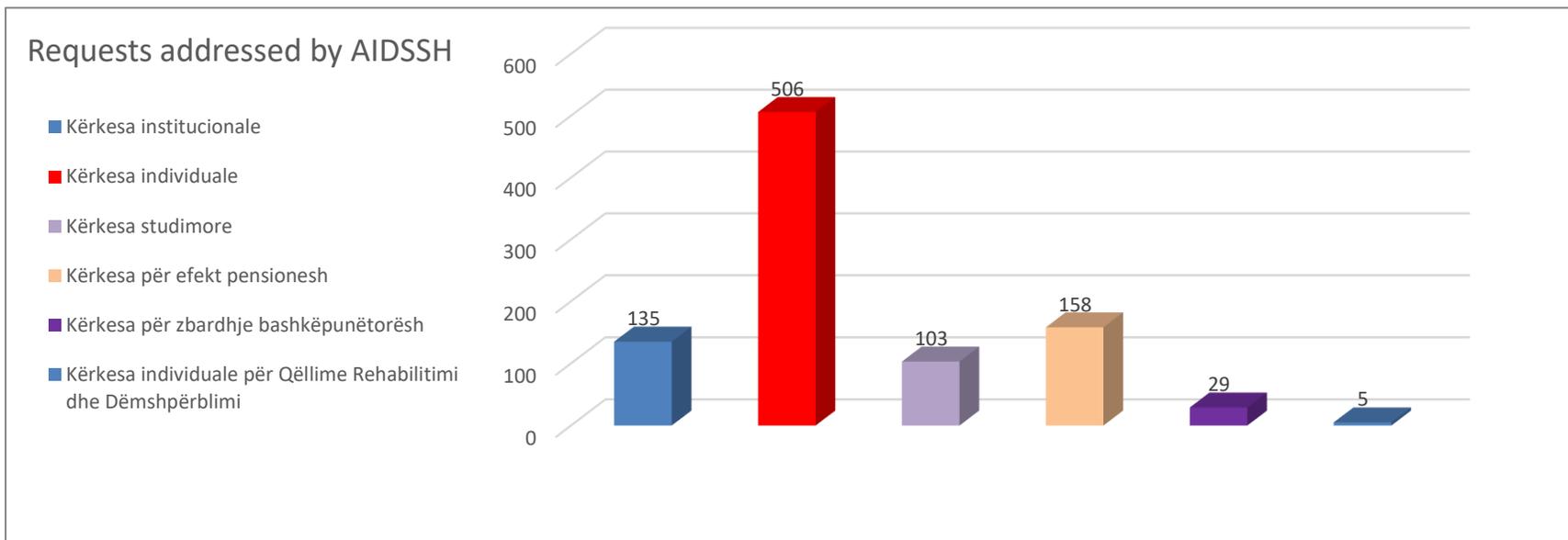
The division of the documentation of the “General Investigator” font has been completed over the years, from which in 1971-1985 there are a total of 143 boxes with archival documents, and in 1987 there are a total of 49 boxes with archival documents. The process is ongoing.

Searching and making available archival documents according to the requirements approved by the Authority

The Directorate of the Archive is responsible for searching and making available archival documents for all types of requests deemed legitimate by the Authority.

In the current conditions, where archival documents are stored in two different locations (IPQP and SHISH) and are administered respectively by the Font Storage Sector and the Processing Sector, their treatment is carried out by both sectors, which are responsible for searching, finding and making available the archival documents they have under their administration.

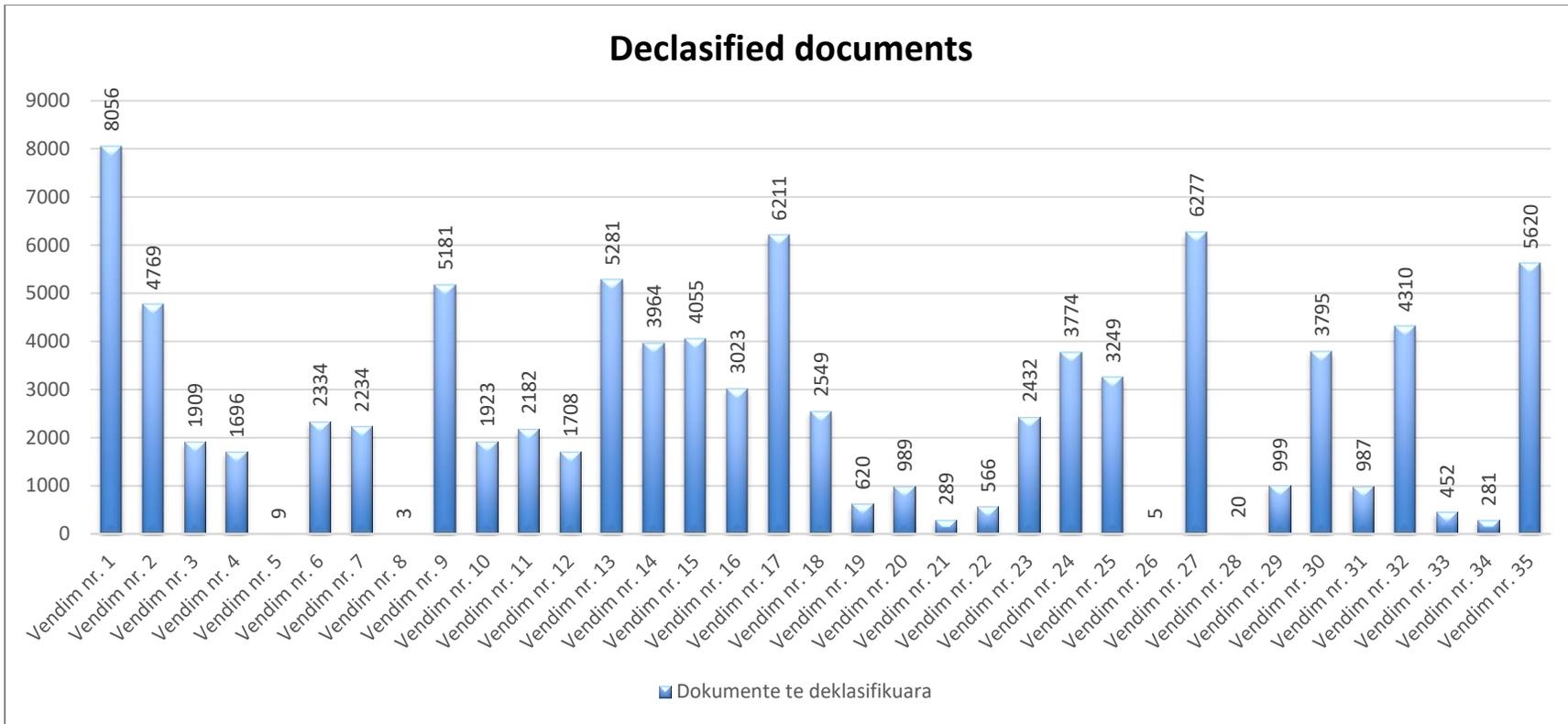
The year 2019 has started with 116 requests carried from 2018, requests received during the last months of 2018. During 2019, the Archive Directorate has completed 116 requests for 2018 and processed a total of 936 new requests for 2019, of which 135 requests submitted by constitutional institutions and public institutional authorities, according to which the verification of 286 citizens was required in relation to the assessment of the ethical, moral and professional qualities of candidates / officials before appointment or promotion; 506 individual requests submitted mainly by those affected or by relatives of those affected; 158 requests for proof of internment for the period of internment and / or imprisonment, 29 requests for clarification of collaborators and 105 study requests. The figure below shows the number of requests deemed legitimate by the Authority and forwarded for treatment to the Archive Directorate during 2019.



Declassification of information classified as "state secret"

Another very important work process, which is carried out by the Directorate of Archives according to the provisions of law no. 8457, dated 11.2.199, "On information classified" state secret "", as amended, and bylaws issued for its implementation is the study of classified documents and preparation of completed practices for KDZH meetings.

During 2019, 35 KDZH meetings were held, where **35** decisions were taken, through which KDZH has decided to declassify about **561** files with **92 777** sheets of documents, as illustrated below:

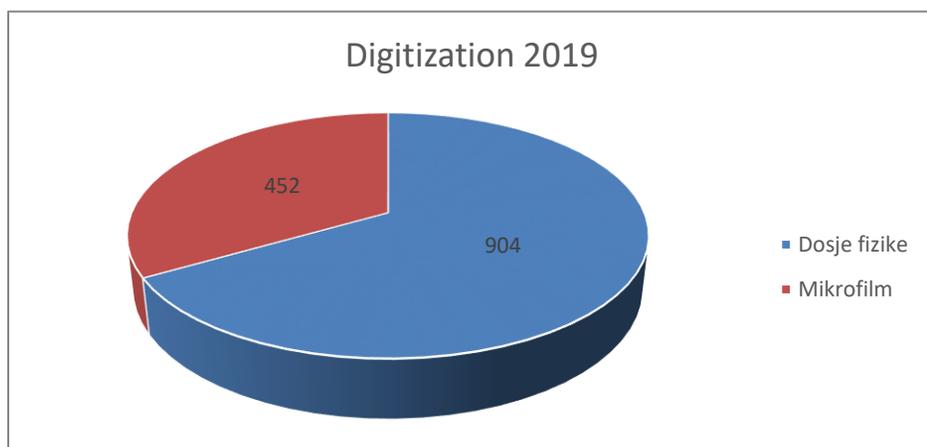


The bibliographies of the declassified documents were sent to the DSIK and published on the official AIDSSH website at the link <http://autoritetidosjeve.gov.al>.

Digitization of documents

The digitization of documents has been and still continues to be a necessary link in the processing of requests and informing citizens and institutions on the documents of the former State Security Service. This important process during 2019 consisted in the digitalization of documents and microfilms in meeting the requests of individuals, institutions, researchers and media. After the digitalization process, the documents have been further proceeded in the aspect of anonymization of sensitive and personal data by the relevant directorates.

Digitized documents are stored on specialized devices (NAS and server), which provide the right storage capacity and security mechanisms. The digital archive aims to serve, not only to meet the information requirements on the former Security Service documents addressed so far, but also as a cornerstone of the communication and interaction platform we intend to build, through which, users will have the ability to search and use archival documents created, owned or used by the former State Security Service structures, regardless of the form of storage in particular, but without being limited to them, as files, data , papers, maps, plans, films, picture recordings, audio and other recordings.



Professional digitalization equipment donated by the German Embassy has been used for the digitization and storage of documents and microfilms. During 2019, about 1356 files were digitized with 216,000 archival documents, of which 904 are physical files and 452 microfilmed files.

Security, administration and service of archival documents for the internal needs of the institution

The security of archival documents and archive environments is a very important issue and as such has been addressed, in accordance with the norms and rules set out in the applicable legislation. The entry / exit regime and access to archival documents is carried out only by authorized employees, who are provided with a security certificate, respecting the rules and identifying strictly certain actions made in the related registers.

The service of archival documents for purposes and according to internal requirements is carried out in full compliance with Law 45/2015, Regulation "On the Organization and Functioning of the Authority for Access on Information on Former State Security Service Documents", law "On Archives", Technical Professional and Methodological Service Norms of the Archive Service in the Republic of Albania, of law no. 8457, dated 11.02.1999 "On information classified as "state secret", as amended and other related bylaws.

6.1.2 Informacion

One of the responsibilities of the Authority, according to article 10 of law no. 45/2015 is the provision of access to information and announcements on the documents of the former State Security Service, review and submit it to the applicant. The law broadly provides the right to information for persons to whom the former State Security Service has collected data, on former State Security Service collaborators, favoured persons, institutions, parties interested in research, historical studies, political reassessment and media.

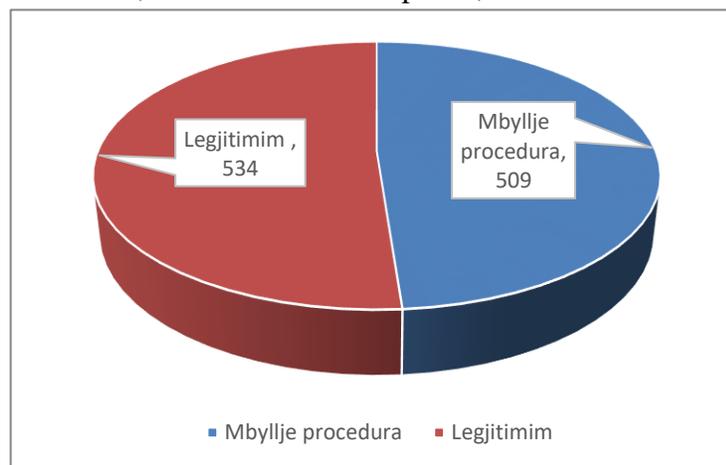
By determining detailed rules and procedures according to the request of the subject we do guarantee for each case, the right of private life to third parties, according to the assessment of legitimate interests. Pursuant to the annual work plan, based on the objectives set out in the Strategic Plan 2017-2020 of the Authority, for 2019, it has been taken into account the fulfillment of the objectives of the Authority in creating facilities in procedures for public institutions and citizens seeking information. In January-December 2019 it turns out that there have been submitted the following:

- 506 individual requests,
- 135 institutional requests for the verification of 286 candidates (citizens),
- 5 individual requests for rehabilitation and compensation purposes,
- 158 individual and institutional requests to ISSH for the effect of pensions,
- 351 requests carried over from 2018 have been treated and followed with priority.

During the reporting period, 833 new requests were submitted for identification, evaluation, information and response, which were handled through a standard process, a regular procedure accompanied by the related decision-making, verification and information of 851 individuals and subjects in compliance with the requirements, while in 158 cases it was processed with a standard letter and certificate. Pursuant to the obligations arising from the object, purpose and mission of this institution, Law 45/2015, as well as the regulation, orders and instructions, a total of 1090 individuals have been provided information, as given below:

Summary of figures for 2019:

- Legitimacy claims, **534**;
- Closing procedures, 509 requests, of which:



- With archival documents, **248** requests,
- Without archival documents, **261** requests.
- **69,413** pages of digitized archival documentation have been processed, of which **24,536** have been anonymised.

Also, work has been done to improve the standard forms (to be filled up by verified individuals or entities) in the context of clarifying and providing assistance to research entities, orders, instructions, information decisions on how to deal with the issues encountered through daily work practice, such as, requests to the Authority with the object of issuing a certificate for the period of internment for purpose of calculating the pension; or informative decisions on the processing and responding to requests with the object of clarifying the pseudonyms of collaborators, the attached files, etc.

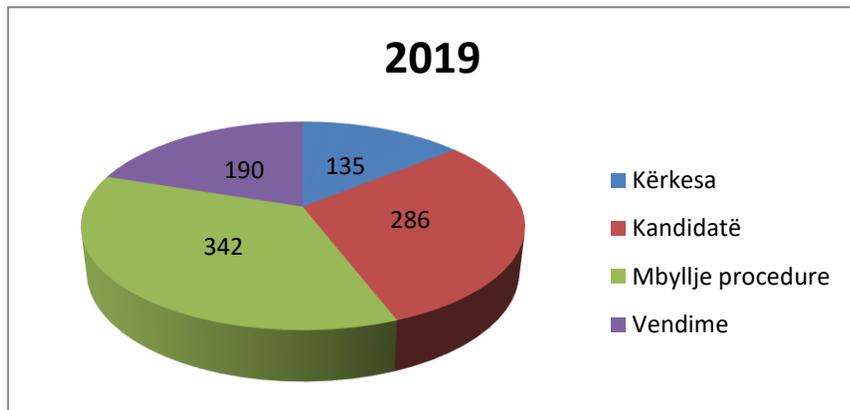
The biggest difficulty still remains unveiling of former State Security collaborators, due to the fact that a significant portion of the documentation created for this category, such as work files and personal files, has largely been destroyed. On the other hand, it is noticed that the interest for unveiling of the collaborators by the affected persons or their relatives has increased. In figures, a total of 60 requests for the unveiling of collaborators have been submitted to AIDSSH, according to which it is required to reveal 619 collaborators of the former State Security Service.

In exercising the duty and all the activity, the Authority, in addition to guaranteeing the integrity of the process during the provision of information, has tried to make the information easily accessible, accurate, and complete, in compliance with law no. 119/2014 “On the right to Information”.

Moreover, during the provision of information, it was always given priority to data protection. In particular, the data were processed in compliance with law no. 9887/2008 “On the protection of personal data”, as amended and the data that are considered classified information.

Addressing the requests on information to institutions and public authorities

Pursuant to Law 45/2015, the Authority has worked on addressing the requests related to the assessment of the ethical, moral and professional qualities of candidates / officials before appointment or promotion, as required by constitutional institutions and public authorities.



During 2019, 135 new requests were submitted by the constitutional institutions and public authorities for legitimacy, for the verification of 286 candidates, before appointment, promotion or decoration; The number of new requests does not include the treatment of some requests that were submitted for verification in 2018, by the General Police Directorate, the High Prosecution Council, the Guard of Republic, etc.

- Verification procedures for 342 candidates have been closed, of which 16 candidates are in the documents of the former State Security Service structures.

The requests submitted to AIDSSH by the constitutional institutions or public authorities have been addressed with priority in the meetings of the Authority, up to the conclusion of the procedure and answering on the verification outcome, to the requesting institutions.

Only in two cases has the Authority decided to interrupt the verification process initiated.

Regarding the first case, based on Article 13, points 3 and 4 of law no. 45/2015 “On the Right to Information on Documents of the former State Security Service of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania”, when the Authority considers that certain documents can be found at a public authority or archive, addresses them with a written request for identifying and making available documents.

Point 4 "When the public authority or archive receives a request, in accordance with the provisions of point 3 of this article, shall respond to the Authority within 15 days of the submission of the request, making available, as appropriate, their documents,copies or duplicates." .

Out of the verifications carried out so far, in the available archival materials, not having completed the new form, specifically its section C, which reflects the data on previous work experiences and the respective years, consequently without having official orientation with regard

to the years and institutions where the subjects of verification worked, the Authority found itself in a difficult and almost impossible situation to conduct the research, especially to respond the request according to the requirements of Article 29, point 2, letter "c" of Law 45 / 2015. Referring to the above legal situation emerged, in the absence of documentation for conducting full verifications and closing the procedure, the Authority found impossible to continue the verification procedure and decided to interrupt the procedure for 22 candidates at the management level of the requesting institution.

Regarding the second case, referring to the legal situation arised for a candidate, due to resignation and suspension in the exercise of duty, based on Article 29, point 1 of law No. 45/2015 “On the Right to Information on Former State Social Security Service Documents of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania”, the Authority decided to interrupt the verification procedure, arguing that it is not in the conditions provided to continue the the assessment procedure, according to the relevant legislation, of the ethical, moral and professional qualities of the candidates to be appointed or promoted, according to point b) “..... members of the senior management body in the state administration and their equivalent positions”.

Constitutional institutions or public authorities that have submitted requests during 2019, which have been addressed by AIDSSH:

- President of the Republic,
- Albanian Parliament,
- Judicial Appointments Council,
- High Prosecution Council,
- High Judicial Council,
- General Prosecutor's Office,
- Foreign Evaluation Commission,
- Ministry of Internal Affairs,
- Department of Public Administration,
- Albanian Intelligence Service,
- Academy of Science of Albania,
- Ministry of Finance and Economy,
- Institute for the Study of the Crimes and Consequences of Communism,
- Different municipalities, etc.

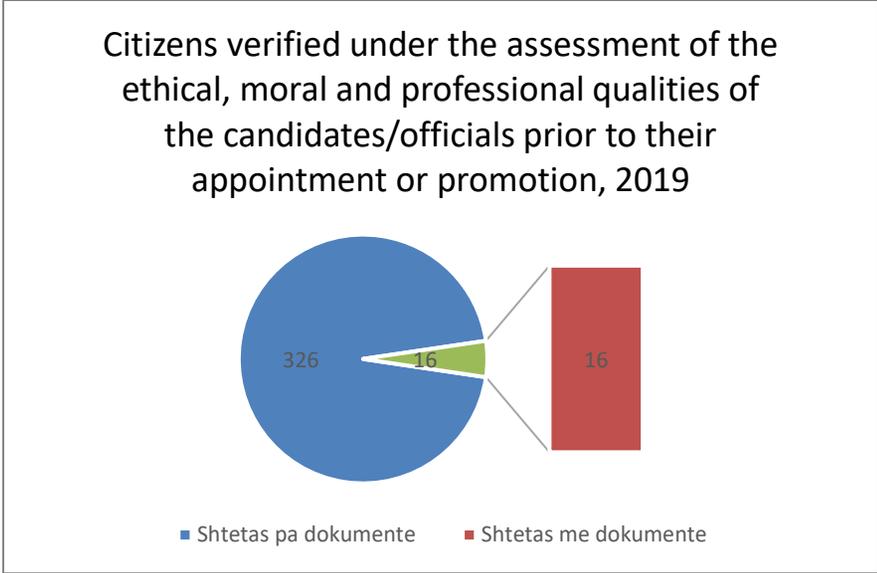
The Foreign Evaluation Commission, with relevant documents for each subject, pursuant to the legal obligations deriving from Law 12/2018 “On the Transitional and Periodic Evaluation of State Police Employees, the Guard of the Republic and the Service for Internal Affairs and Complaints in Ministry of Interior”, article 4, point 1, letter“ b ”article 25, point 1, letter “ a and c ” articles 36, 37 and 38 thereof, as well as the provisions of article 29, of Law no. 45/2015“ On the Right of Information on the Documents of the former State Security Service of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania ", has requested information on the subjects, if according to the provisions of law no. 45/2105 they were: persons wanted for espionage or terrorism; members; collaborators or favoured persons by the former State Security Service.

The provisions of Article 38, point 1, letter g) of Law 12/2018 "On the transitional and periodic evaluation of employees of the State Police, the Guard of the Republic and the Service for Internal Affairs and Complaints in the Ministry of Interior", also provides the criterion for verification whether the candidate has been a wanted person for espionage or terrorism, member, collaborator or favoured person by the former State Security Service before 1990, under Law 45/2015.

Being in conditions of indeterminacy or a clear definition regarding the definition of the term "member" in law No. 45/2015 "On the Right to Information on Documents of the former State Security Service of People's Socialist Republic of Albania", we have assessed the priority given to the interpretation and understanding of the terms pursuant to our law, as a law for information, recognizing and informing applicants on any document and data available in the existing archives, as far as possible and in a short time, in compliance with the obligations arising from the requirements of Article 29, point 2, on the obligation of the authority to be accountable to the constitutional institutions and public authorities for the official appointed or promoted, ie whether: a) he has been or is not a person in pursuit of espionage or terrorism; b) has been or has not been an active collaborator of the former State Security, according to the provisions of this law; c) appears or not in the documents of the former State Security Service.

In the decision-making process, the Authority took into account the reasoning and analysis of the Foreign Evaluation Commission, according to the content of letter No. 79 prot., dated 23.07.2019, in response to the concern raised by the Authority for not including the term "member" in none of the provisions of law No. 45/2015. In the content of the above-mentioned letter, it is assessed that the purpose and spirit of the law requires verification and control of the subject's image also in terms of the subject's involvement in the structures of the former State Security Service. It is also appraised that the term "member" refers to the qualities of the specific function / task that a functionary has had in the State Security Service, interpreting it case by case, within the operational and organizational work platform.

Compared to 2018, when 67 requests received from constitutional institutions and public authorities were addressed, through which 463 candidates or officials were verified, in 2019, 135 requests received from constitutional institutions were processed, through which 342 candidates were verified, of which 326 clean past candidates and 16 candidates appeared in the documents of the former State Security Service or were collaborators.



Also, based on some experiences in which there have been cases when there were data or documents of the structures of the former State Security Service on persons who were subsequently proposed for medals or honorary titles, pursuant to law no. 112/2013 "On decorations, honorary titles, medals and local honorary titles in the Republic of Albania", local government bodies provide decorations and honorary titles for cases that fulfill conditions set by law. In order to be transparent and for the protection of the public interest it is required officially to each municipality cooperation, regarding the verification of candidates before the decoration or awarding of honorary titles, in order to develop the procedures of verification of the purity of the image of the proposed citizens, for the period from November 29, 1944 to July 2, 1991, pursuant to law 45/2015.

6.1.3 Scientific Research and Civic Education

The Directorate of Scientific Research and Civic Education (DMSHEQ), supports scientific research aiming to historically review the activity of the former State Security Service, as well as civic education for democracy, through cooperation with institutions, media and stakeholders. During 2019 there has been an increase in the number of study requests and those submitted by various media, as well as an increase and consolidation of scientific and commemorative activities, organized in cooperation with partners, counterpart institutions, survivors and relatives of victims of dictatorship, in permanent coordination with the central and local government, groups of interest and media.

Out of 6 persons approved in organizational chart, the Directorate has operated with 1 specialist until June. The specialist has covered the work with information of researchers and media, contacts with the public, organization of conferences and has substantially supported the organization of dialogues at national and international level. In June, the Director was added to DMSHEQ and, for the second half of the year, it operated with 30% of the personnel.

The activity of DMSHEQ according to the object of work undertaken and carried out in 2019, in cooperation with other AIDSSH directorates, continued with partner institutions, public, central and local institutions, interest groups, national and international organizations, media, researchers and interested young people. Its activity was focused in:

1. Informing researchers and the media on materials of the former State Security Service;
2. Preparation of monthly bulletins and publication of AIDSSH's activity;
3. Organizing scientific conferences and maintaining contacts with partners;
4. Organizing local dialogue and other thematic activities inside and outside the country;
5. Evaluation of inspirational figures for "Special Civil Merits" by the President of the Republic;
6. Addressing and advancing the issue of missing persons in the dictatorship;
7. Projects with partners;
8. Cooperation with the media for information on AIDSSH, enrichment of the official website of the institution in interaction with social media networks;
9. Physical and online publications of AIDSSH.

Scientific research support

Scientific research support is mainly based on the processing of individual requests of researchers and media for study purposes and their making available the required archival documentation. This is a complex process in terms of study requirements, e.g. for a request are made available 1 to 400 files, therefore it takes time, from the search in the archive, file identification, digitalization, anonymization and making it available to researchers.

1. Informing researchers and media on materials from the former State Security Service

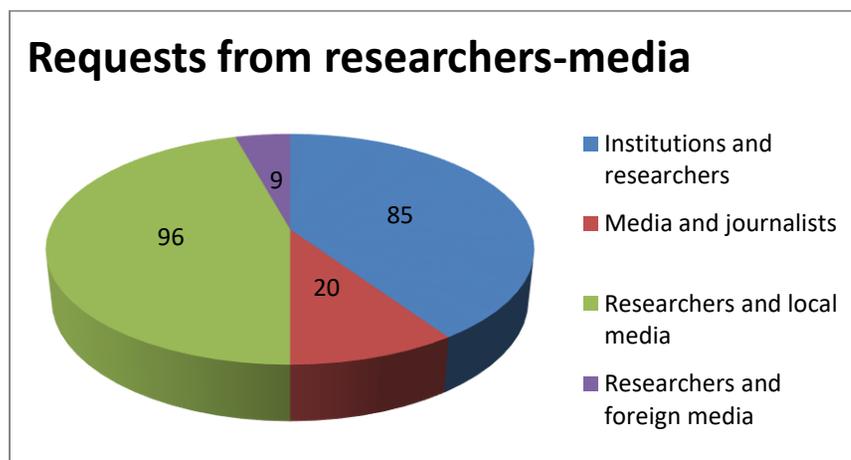
During 2019, 105 study / media requests were submitted to DMSHEQ, for which approximately 1500 files of media and historical interest were processed, by:

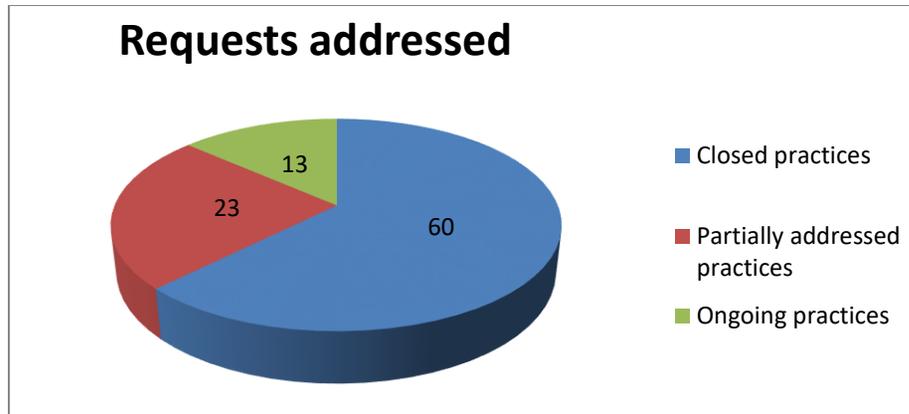
- representatives of local and foreign scientific research institutions;

- independent historians and scholars;
- students of different levels of postgraduate studies;

Out of those, 103 requests have been deemed legitimate, 2 have had incomplete documentation, and their legitimacy has been postponed;

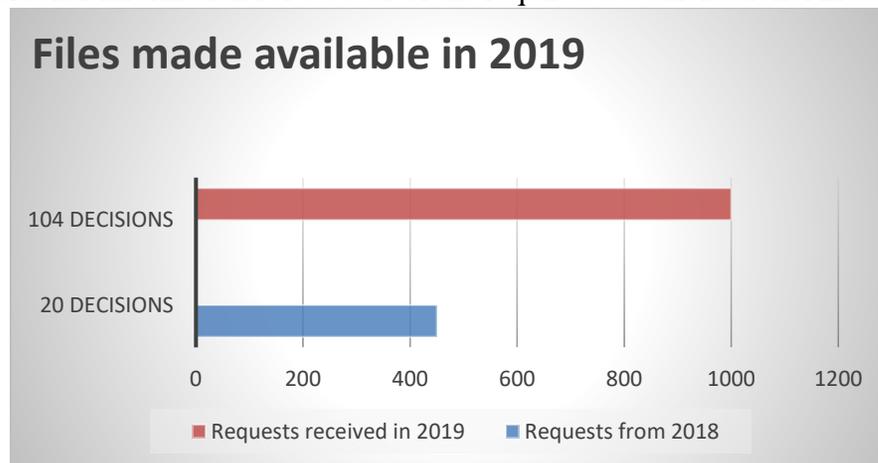
- **85 requests** from researchers and research institutions;
- **20 requests** from media institutions and independent journalists;
- **96 requests** from local researchers and media
- **9 requests** from foreign researchers and media.
- Over **50% of the 2019 requests** have been addressed, a total of **60** study requests, with **1500 files** made available.





– **All 2018 requests** have been addressed, a total of **45 requests**.

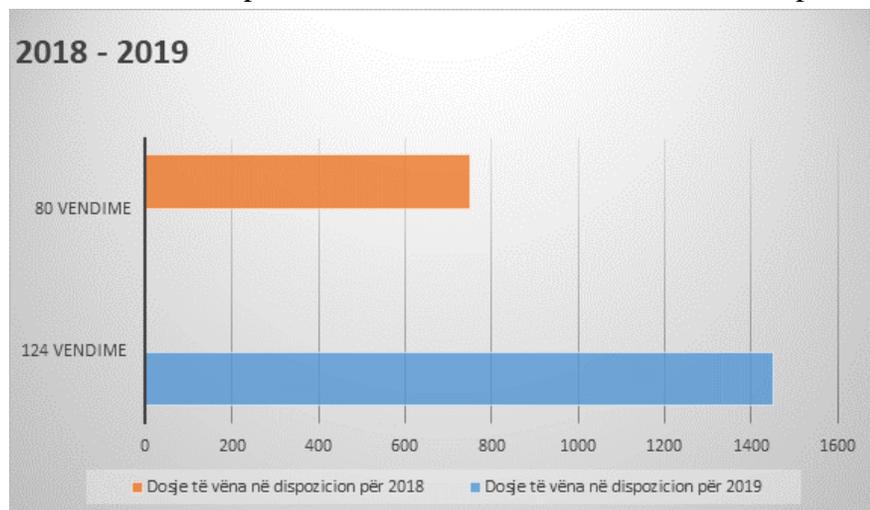
During the process of each request, the relevant sector has had constant communication with the applicants of the documentation, explaining step by step the stages through which the practice passes, as well as keeping them informed about their requests and requesting additional information for a better of the required documentation. All other requests received in 2019 are under consideration.



Also, AIDSSH has provided all the conditions and necessary infrastructure for researchers, for the interested subjects to have the widest possible access in the documents of the former State Security Service. Therefore, the Sector of requests for researchers / media has:

- Assisted/oriented according to the law the requesting subjects during the completion of the application forms;
- Inform researchers / media about the special requests they need to meet to access the documents of the former State Security Service;
- Provided information on the Decision No. 93, dated 27.02.2019 of the Council of Ministers, regarding the fees applied to researchers / media, for making available the duplicates of the required documents;
- Informed step by step the researchers on the process of practices and be in constant communication with them;
- For all researchers, to whom the documentation found by the Archive Directorate has been made available, has been taken a decision by the Authority and has been signed a confidentiality statement by the researcher in the presence of an employee and an AIDSSH member, with which the requesting researcher takes over the responsibility for not misusing the information obtained from the documents made available by the Authority and handling personal and sensitive data in conformity with the law.

On the other hand, pursuant to the law 45/2015, the law “On personal data protection”, the law “On classified documents”, the law “On archives”, etc., DMSHEQ makes more in-depth anonymization of individual data, as long as the files requested by researchers and the media are subject to the publication of studies or reports on personalities and historical events.



During 2019, DMSHEQ participated in 25 meetings, where 124 decisions were taken to make available the found documents. There were also drafted out and signed by the applicants the confidentiality statements in the presence of an employee of the Technical Secretariat. Also, in the meeting of AIDSSH were analysed all the activities of the institution, organized and coordinated by DMSHEQ.

2. Preparation of monthly bulletins and publication of AIDSSH activity, in the framework of transparency

In parallel with the work on informing researchers and the media, there have been prepared two-monthly bulletins- anonymizing and shortening the decisions of the Authority and prepared them for online and physical layout. The decisions of January-December 2019 have been published on the official website of AIDSSH and can be found at <http://autoritetidosjeve.gov.al/vendime-2019/>. All the activities of the Authority can also be accessed at <http://autoritetidosjeve.gov.al/njofitime-per-shtyp/>.

3. Organizing scientific conferences and maintaining contacts with partners

Scientific conferences

On May 17, 2019, the Authority for Access to Information on Former State Security Service Documents, in cooperation with the Institute of History at the Academy of Albanological Studies, the Institute for the Study of the Crimes and Consequences of Communism and the Institute for the Integration of Former Political Persecuted, organized the international scientific conference "The face of the " People's Enemy "during the dictatorship of the proletariat in Albania, 1944-1990". The conference took place at the premises of the National Historical Museum and was open to the public and the media.

Organizers and representatives of the diplomatic corps supported such a subject in post-communist Albania, which needs to review the regime's narrative and reassess the victims, still persecuted by stigma. Mrs. Sula, Mr. Marenglen Verli, Mr. Agron Tufa, Mr. Bilal Kola, Mrs. Elva Margariti, Minister of Culture and Mr. Petro Koçi, Deputy Minister of Defense, presented the relevant perspectives and the need of the Albanian society for deep recognition and study of the past, in the presence of scientific researchers, representatives of human rights associations, universities and students, international organizations, public and non-governmental institutions.

The diplomatic missions in Tirana, shown at the ceremony, Mr. Bernd Borchardt, OSCE Presence, Mr. Johann Sattler, Ambassador of the Republic of Austria, Mr. Alberto Cutillo, Ambassador of the Italian Republic, Mr. Karol Bachura, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland and Mrs. Monika Bylaite, the European Delegation to Albania, called for reflection on the fight against crimes of the past.

In parallel sessions, the "enemy of the people" was treated from a philosophical, historical, political, social, cultural point of view. Theoretical discussion on the concepts of "dissent", "dissident", "political opponent" was followed by classes' warfare, the typology of the new man during socialism, the regime's attitude towards the Albanian Catholic clergy, the Orthodox clergy in Albania, "yesterday's enemy". "Today's opponent"; similarities and differences in drawing the "enemy of the people"; American imperialism - a permanent enemy of the communist regime in Albania; the design of the "enemy of the people" and the ideology of alienation of the individual; the metamorphosis of the "class's enemy" among the People's Army, from the "declassified officer" to the "coup officer and polyagent officer"; the concept of the "enemy" in political acts in the late 1990s and early 1991s; images, enemies and vices in communist society; the typology of the "enemy of the people" in art, in novels of socialist realism; the clergy as the "enemy of the people" in Albanian literature; exclusion from the history of literature, as a punishment for "enemy" writers; the fate of "reactionary" cultural magazines after the establishment of the dictatorship; Albanian dissent between myth and reality; "Unfaithful Çam" as political opponents of the communist regime and other works, with concrete names and profiles "enemies of the people".

At the end of the conference, it was decided that the next conference of AIDSSH with partners will address numerous archival materials of the institution, shedding light on the "myths" of the past, specifically on "Albanian political emigration 1944-1990".

- b) The call for the conference on immigration and preparatory work with the archive, scientific commission and inter-institutional communication took place during the second half of 2019. The conference was scheduled for February 19, 2020, within the activities #Democracy 30.
- c) Thirrja për konferencën mbi emigracionin dhe puna përgatitore me arkivin, komisionin shkencor e komunikimin ndërinstitucional u zhvillua përgjatë gjysmës së dytë të 2019. Konferenca u caktua më 19 shkurt 2020, në kuadër të aktiviteteve #Demokraci 30.

The work for the conferences has been preceded by months of preparations, where dozens of Albanian and foreign scholars have responded to the call to participate. The evaluation commission has organized the works of the conference in panels of scientific research and remembrance. During this time, researchers have been able to use inventories, files, statistics and various archival materials made available by AIDSSH or other archives.

For the organisation of the conferences, AIDSSH has drafted out the written documentation with partner institutions; the work plan for the of the conference; reporting and decision for the meeting of the Authority for the continuation of the work on the organization of the conference; continuous communications with all applicants for participation in the conference and further with the winning local and foreign candidates; the occasional organization of organizational and scientific commission meetings; communication with all partner institutions for the coordination of works and the advancement of the organization; collection of study papers and orientation of researchers in the parameters for writing papers; the first draft of the book for publication.

Contacts with partners

During 2019, AIDSSH has signed 9 cooperation agreements with partners, which have been reached by continuous communication with institutions and associations interested in institutionalizing activities with AIDSSH. For this purpose, it has been a close coordination with the legal sector, which has drafted the agreements and submitted them to the Authority.

Exchanging experiences with counterpart institutions of the former communist East countries

Following the cooperation with the communities inside and outside the country, AIDSSH had a working visit to Poland on March 27 - March 31, invited by the counterpart Authority "Krzyżowa Foundation for Mutual Understanding in Europe", in the activity "Forgotten Stories". The seminar addressed the personalities of Sabiha Kasimati and Musine Kokalari, as well as the former internment camp of Tepelena, making clear the contribution of the Authority in clarifying the relevant stories. There were held also meetings with representatives of the European Network of Remembrance and Solidarity (ENRS) to promote dialogue on twentieth-century European history.

AIDSSH participated in the annual high-level meeting of the European Network of Official Authorities for Information on Secret Police Documents, held in **Slovakia**, Bratislava on 24-27 September. In the meetings, AIDSSH submitted the request to become a full member of the European Network of Official Authorities for Information on Secret Police Documents, and took an active part in activities focused on scientific research and civic education. "AIDSSH Research Challenges, in collaboration with academic institutions and universities" were presented to the Eastern counterparts, with the commitment to participate and contribute to the activities of the Network, to keep alive the memory of the past, where there can be no reconciliation, without truth and remembrance.

On November 11-15, AIDSSH paid a working visit to **Bulgaria** to exchange experiences on archives, decoding processes, digitalization and preservation of materials of historical importance for the country's transitional processes. All the stages that AIDSSH is going through for the treatment of archival materials were also seen in the experience of counterparts.

Civic education

Based on the remembrance calendar and the tasks set by the resolution of the Parliament, AIDSSH has undertaken and organized a series of projects and activities during 2019, where the historical review has served as a tool to encourage social dialogue, in the name of transparency and consolidation of democracy. A thorough and in-depth study of authentic archival sources of former State Security documents is a long and ongoing process. Meanwhile, it is the only tool that will guarantee a review of the dark history of the structures and machinations used by the communist regime for more than 45 years in Albania.

Listed below are the initiatives and activities through which the Authority has communicated with citizens and stakeholders regarding commemorative events or historical personalities.

1. Organizing local dialogue and other thematic activities inside and outside the country

During 2019, according to the remembrance calendar, AIDSSH has held commemorative activities throughout the country. In addition to opening files and documentary exhibitions in the respective cities, AIDSSH has organized open meetings with local communities, in country and abroad.

Memorial activities in Gjirokastra

February 12 - "Gjirokastra reads Musine". Shedding light on the figure of the well-known writer Musine Kokalari, the treatment of her figure in the dimension of literature creativity and the difficult life in persecution, were discussed in a meeting organized with local government, family members and interest groups. In the end, her profile on Wikipedia was enriched and clarified by the youths present, a visit was made to Musine's house and a visit to the Gjirokastra prison, denounced for the large number of people missing in communism.

Peza-Mënik, Tirana

February 20-26 - Activities on the announcement of a memorial site in Peza-Menik, the place where 22 intellectuals were executed, on charges of throwing a bomb at the Soviet Embassy,

-Exhibition of the installation "Even the walls have ears" on the frontside of the National Historical Museum, on the anniversary of the fall of the statue of the dictator.

-Naming "February 26" of the road to their place of execution, in cooperation with the Municipality of Tirana. The Deputy Mayor, Mr. Andi Seferi attended the protocol ceremony with the presence of the families of the executed, the local community, the youth and the representatives of the human rights associations.

-Awarding ceremony with honorary titles "For special civil merits" by the President of the Republic of 6 people involved in clarifying, commemorating and documenting the event of February 26.

-Screening of the film on the executed of February 26 to the youth of the high schools of Tirana in the "Metropol" theater.

The activities "Dignity in front of totalitarianism" in Lushnja, Belsh, Tepelena and Tirana, held in the framework of the European Day of Remembrance of Victims of Totalitarian Systems and the International Day of the Disappeared relied on civic awareness and information for the remembrance of victims of totalitarian and authoritarian regimes, commemoration of the missing and honoring of the survivors.

Human dignity and totalitarianism, Lushnja

August 18 - In cooperation with the Municipality of Lushnja and the administrative units of the villages of ex-internees, with the associations of the persecuted, survivors and their families, AIDSSH carried out the first phase of the Local Dialogue in the area. The homage at the National Memorial for the Internees precedes the annual meeting at the city theater "Vaçe Zela", of the former internees in the villages of

Lushnja. In parallel with the open dialogue, took place an exhibition of human profiles "Untold Stories of Lushnja" and a documentary exhibition with materials in the area of Lushnja.

The meeting was preceded by preliminary work on the visual documentation of the places, human and family profiles of the convicts, as well as the marking of the places of punishment in the forced labor camps in Lushnja, carried out by AIDSSH and collaborators, during June.



Documentary exhibition with materials from Lushnja



Exhibition of human profiles "Untold Stories of Lushnja"

Human dignity and totalitarianism, Belsh

August 21 - In cooperation with the Municipality of Belsh, interest groups and survivors of the persecution, AIDSSH conducted the first phase of the Local Dialogue in Belsh, the area of internees displaced from the Tepelena camp and others, as well as the women's prison, among whom convicts of conscience. In the city promenade was presented the documentary exhibition with archival materials of the Belsh of the women's prison and the film "Women between violence and stigma", a collaboration of AIDSSH with the researcher Fiona Todhri and Tring TV.

The meeting continued with an open conversation with the survivors and citizens, after the exhibition and screening of the film.



Documentary exhibition with archival materials of the Belsh of women's prison



The film "Women between violence and stigma"

Human dignity and totalitarianism, Tepelena

August 23 - In the framework of the annual activities organized by AIDSSH on the European Day of Victims of Totalitarian Regimes, in cooperation with the Municipality of Tepelena, associations of political persecuted, IIPP, survivors of the camp and their families were held memorial meetings at the Tepelena camp, where minors' graves were reported on the outskirts of the camp. At the city theater it was also shown, the film "Azizi" by journalist Luljeta Progni, based on living in the camp, followed by an active conversation with the survivors.

Human dignity and totalitarianism, Tiranë

August 30 - With the proposal of AIDSSH, the President of the Republic awarded the titles "For special civil merits" citizens involved in the rare case of the missing of Petrela family, the first victims of the Tepelena camp, on the International Day of the Disappeared. The film "The Missing" by journalist Luljeta Progni in cooperation with AIDSSH and "Kujto.al" Foundation, was also shown at the ceremony.

Local dialogue on dictatorship in Konispol

September 20-22 - Members of the Authority had open meetings with the community in Konispol, on the 60th anniversary of the massacre in the area, as a first phase of expanding the dialogue across the province.

Local dialogue on dictatorship in Korça and Maliq

October 21-22 - AIDSSH held preliminary working meetings in Voskopoja, Korça and Maliq, in the framework of the the Dialogue that will be organized in this area in 2020. On spot visits, meetings with representatives of municipalities and local persecuted helped determine the concrete steps that will be undertaken jointly in 2020. There were set institutional commitments for the Municipality of Korça, the Art Center, the Association of the Persecuted in Korça and the Municipality of Maliq. The working visits and meetings aimed to prepare complex and inherent remembrance activities in the area for the following year.

Contacts with citizens, requests for study of the personalities' profiles and archival research in 2019 have laid the basics for the **Tirana Dialogue** in 2020, for the 100th anniversary of the capital city of Tirana.

Local dialogue on dictatorship in Përmet

December 13 - In cooperation with the Municipality of Përmet and the Anti-Communist Association of the Politically Persecuted, took place the first Dialogue on Dictatorship in the city of Përmet. Archive materials, registers, evidence books, processing files, investigative-judicial files, direction files of different areas of Përmet, etc. were exhibited, giving the community the opportunity to get acquainted with them, and to apply for individual information as well as for study purpose. Based on these documents, typologies of persecution files were presented, interacting with those present, who also shared personal and overlived experiences.

a) Organising AIDSSH work visits for meetings with communities inside and outside the country

During 2019, open meetings were organized with the Albanian community in Belgium and the USA. Some of the goals set during these visits continue to be followed in 2020.

Albanian community in Belgium

On April 24-27, the Authority for Access to Information on Former State Security Service Documents paid a working visit to Brussels, with the invitation of the Association of Former Albanian Political Persecuted in Belgium and the Albanian-European National Council. The meetings were organized following the activities held with the Albanian communities abroad, for information on the activity of the Authority, in line with the communication strategy of the institution. The symposium on the role of the State Security Service in Diaspora and the persecution orchestrated in special communities was opened by Mr. Lek Pervizi and Mr. Sulejman Gjana, on behalf of the Association of Former Albanian Political Persecuted in Belgium and the Albanian-European National Council, bringing to the participants the individual and family experiences of survival, and then integration. The AIDSSH activity, the pillars on which the institution organizes its work and the opportunities for cooperation were presented by the AIDSSH chairwoman, Mrs. Gentiana Sula, Mr. Simon Mirakaj, Mr. Marenglen Kasmi, members of the Authority, and Mr. Skënder Vrioni, General Secretary.

The early diaspora of the 1960s and the late one - Albanians with various and impressive experiences in Albania or Belgium, came together in an informative meeting, of dialogue and opportunities to deepen into the past, for transparency, recovery and prevention of violations of human rights and totalitarianism in the common present and tomorrow. Application forms were filled out by those interested and the foundations were laid for the continuation of the oral testimony project in Belgium, through Albanian journalists engaged in the prestigious local media.

Albanian community in the US

On June 3-8, the Authority for Access to Information on Former State Security Documents paid a working visit to the United States, invited by the Pan-Albanian Vatra Federation and the Victims of Communism Foundation. The meetings were organized following the presentation of the activities of the Authority for information. In cooperation with Voice of America, with which AIDSSH signed an agreement, 6 oral testimonies of the persecuted by the Security Service in Albania and America were collected. The interviewees live in the USA today and their interviews, part of the digital archive of AIDSSH oral testimonies, were also presented to the worldwide public, shedding light on the work of the institution with the files and survivors of the persecution.

The early and late 1990s diaspora, Albanians with different experiences in Albania or the US, in addition to special meetings, came together in a grand parade in New York, in defense of the rights of the “Çam” community, the persecution of which has been previously dealt by AIDSSH. The oral evidence project is intended to continue to enrich the archive of oral testimonies, which is made available to citizens and researchers, in addition to State Security files.

1. Evaluation of figures by the President of the Republic

AIDSSH has proposed 11 personalities for awarding the title for "Special Civil Merits", at the President of the Republic, on the anniversary of the massacre of February 26, 1951 and on International Day of the Disappeared of August 30.

On February 25, with the proposal of AIDSSH, the President of the Republic awarded the titles for "Special Civil Merits" the human dignity of persons involved in the revelation, commemoration and documentation of February 26 event, shocking in the history of the communist state. Through a survival narrative, tacit respect, human solidarity and unspoken humanism, based on facts, the Authority submitted to the President of the Republic the request for the appreciation of simple human personalities, at the same time, inspiring models for today's Albanian society. Honorable figures bring to attention the issues of lost graves and human dynamics for the discovery of the truth and its documentation: Mr. Kadri Hysa (posthumously), Mr. Faslli Hysa (posthumously), Mr. Gëzim Mullaj (posthumously), Mr. Alexander Dhima, Mr. Hysen Shehu, Mr. Osman Kaceli.



On the International Day of the Disappeared August 30, AIDSSH proposed to the President of the Republic the honorary title "For special civil merits" to persons involved in the human treatment of the first victims of the Tepelena camp, Fadil and Xhuma Petrela, history of extinction and solidarity spread over time, from 1949 to 1993, where the dignity of ordinary people triumphs: Mr. Bujar Petrela, z. Ylber Petrela, z. Halil Petrela, z. Seit Petrela, z. Albanian Topulli (posthumously). With deep respect for human acts, resilience to the family cause and its finalization with all due respect. Special gratitude for the uninterrupted personal and human involvement and commitment in the exhumation and detailed documentation of the event, with active, direct and deeply felt participation, representing inspiring human models of character survival, in appreciation of the hope kept alive and the courage to uncover the truth, in the name of human dignity.

President of the Republic of Albania awards titles of honor "For special civil merits"

1. Addressing and advancing the issue of missing in dictatorship

Throughout 2019, AIDSSH has developed and implemented "Local Dialogues on Dictatorship", in which it has engaged political persecuted, families of the missing and local institutions. The dialogues have been a successful initiative and instrument, where the target groups have shown a positive attitude towards the issue of transitional justice.

Concrete initiatives have been taken and activities have been organized in the framework of the International Day of the Disappeared, the International Day of Human Rights and the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Totalitarian Regimes, cooperating with institutions and the Prosecution to initiate the procedure of finding and identifying burial sites of persons missing in the dictatorship (complete information is addressed in Chapter 4, on the implementation of the Resolution of the Parliament for 2019, the issue of missing)

2. Cooperation with the media, updating of the official website of the institution and interaction with social media

On October 10, 2019, showed the premiere of the documentary "Even the walls have ears" at the "Millennium" cinema, produced by the Albanian-American journalist Kristale Ivezaj Rama, conceptual artist Alketa Xhafa Mripa and director Ervin Kotori. It was a project implemented by AIDSSH, to collect oral testimonies in the country and increasing society's awareness of the crimes of the communist past. Oral testimonies were collected all over Albania and the artistic installation was displayed on the facades of the central public buildings of 6 cities, Tirana, Shkodra, Berat, Tepelena, Korca and Gjirokastra.

At the same time, throughout the year, documentaries have been made on files of the AIDSSH archive, in cooperation with researchers and journalists mentioned above, as well as reportages on the activity of the Authority by Albanian and foreign television:

- France 24 and TV Monde 5, with two reports present the role of the Authority in transitional justice in the country,

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fD_J3ëM9CQA also, national televisions. Top Channel Exclusive and <http://www.tematv.al/2019/03/01/autoriteti-i-dosjeve-arkivi-i-ish-sigurimit-t-shtetit-21-mij-dosje-t-hapura-studim-video>

Local media regularly covered the institution's activities, following commemorative activities, documentary exhibitions and its decisions. This has made AIDSSH present on the main televisions in the country, on shows focusing on the files of the State Security, and chronicles on the work and daily challenges during the verification of senior officials.

The official AIDSSH website and interaction with social media

The Authority's official pages have been enriched and improved to have the best possible interaction with the followers:

There is a new official website of AIDSSH, with new and more complete interfaces: www.autoritidosjeve.gov.al

The three sites administered by AIDSSH, the official website www.autoritidososjeve.gov.al . "Even walls also have ears", oral testimonies of survivors and www.dosjet.gov.al with profiles of personalities on whom have been carried out multidisciplinary research and studies, are linked to one another.

All AIDSSH publications can be found online at www.issuu.com/aidssh . Chronicles, interviews, documentaries on the work and activity of AIDSSH can be found in the vlog on Youtube, the File Authority where the videos produced by the Authority are shared and distributed with the collaborators: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9ëWa7a5vcokOVKEoi2PFLQ/>.

The Authority's decisions and activities are made public through the official Facebook, Twitter and Instagram social networking sites. <http://www.autoritidosjeve.gov.al>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AutoritetiDosjeve/>

Instagram: [Autoriteti Dosjeve \(AIDSSH\)](#)

Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/aidssh>

Youtube: [Autoriteti i Dosjeve](#)

The materials posted on the AIDSSH vlog on Youtube and published on the official website have been widely shared by the social media of AIDSSH, which this year has been expanded to several virtual platforms: Youtube, Twitter and Instagram and ISSUU.

In order to be as much present as possible to those interested, AIDSSH has enriched the online media, making frequent publications, presenting files and archival materials, as well as shedding light on events of historical importance. For this purpose, press releases have been prepared and distributed for each activity of the Authority and on the dates of the remembrance calendar, all conceived and drafted for the focus groups, published on the official website and social media of the Authority

1. Projects in cooperation with partners

On the role of science in the development of society during the first years of the establishment of the communist regime (1945-1954) - with the Swiss Embassy

March 7 - AIDSSH and the PERFORM Project - Active and Responsible Social Sciences, of the Swiss Embassy cooperated throughout 2018 to build a narrative on the role of science, intellectual elites and research in the early years of the communist regime in Albania. The final activity of the project took place in the premises of the Academy of Sciences, where it had the kick start a year ago and treated in a multidisciplinary way the profiles of academics: Gjergj Kokoshi, Eqrem Çabej, Sabiha Kasimati, Arshi Pipa, Aleks Buda, Petraq Pepo, Gjovalin Gjadri, Petraq Qafoku and Kole Kamsi.

The interactive communication platform www.dosjet.gov.al and the book "When Security Service dealt with science", as project products became known to the attendees by presenting opportunities of youngsters, researchers or other stakeholders to get acquainted with information on Security Service files.

The disclosure of information until yesterday secret and the re-creation of the historical framework, through supported scientific research, giving the profiles of personalities, building the duration of everyone's life, combining it with the historical, political, ideological and social picture of the time is the first step of the project supported by the Swiss Embassy. Academic intellectuals of the first decade of communism will be followed by profiles of intellectuals of the following decades and other topics. The platform will be further enriched with information on State Security Service, always placed in a historical context, being accessible to all, Albanians and foreigners and useful at several levels of recognition. The site is active with all reviews of works, as well as complete works: <https://dosjet.gov.al/>

"Political Thought of the Left," with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Foundation

Following - The project aims to contribute to the debate on the political thought of the Albanian left and addresses 10 profiles that belong to different currents of political thought of the left.

Today's left in Albania has as part of its historical heritage not only the anti-fascist war, but also the ideas and thoughts of Selaudin Toto, Musine Kokalari, Gjergj Kokoshi and many other leftists who tried to establish a European left. Although it seems that has been much written and spoken about this part of Albania's history, the Albanian left has never been studied in depth and in its all dimensions.

The aim of the project is to, through the study of some basic figures of the persecuted Albanian left, to show all the dimensions of the history of the left in Albania. The project helps the younger generation of Albanians to understand the evolution of political thought in Albania. It also sheds light on the history of communist persecution of leftist Albanians, placing another stone in the study of the communist regime in Albania.

The AIDSSH and FES project is finalized in 2020, with a scientific session on the profiles of selected personalities, publication of scientific studies, exhibition of human profiles and their online coverage on the Authority's website www.dosjet.gov.al .

The disappeared in dictatorship, the "The Imperfect Past" exhibition in cooperation with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Foundation

December 11, 2019 - In the framework of the International Day of Human Rights, in cooperation with ICMP, IIPP and supported by KAS was held the exhibition "The Imperfect Past" at the National Historical Museum.

The exhibition of AIDSSH and journalist Fatmira Nikolli, on the profiles of those missing in the dictatorship, map and list of reported burial sites, highlighted the need for coordination and institutional responsibility. The representative of the Enforced Disappeared Group at the United Nations, Mr. Bernard Duhaime, who was present at the exhibition, said that “in order to better preserve the memory of the victims, it remains essential to develop a remembrance strategy, which takes into account the importance of officially preserving previous places of detention and labor camps as remembrance locations; as well as marking places, building monuments and memorials for the recognition and rehabilitation of victims. ”

“Raising Public Awareness on Transitional Justice and Reconciliation: The Disappeared under Communism” 2020-2021, ICMP-AIDSSH, EU-Supported

In November 2019, the EU adopted the project "Raising Public Awareness on Transitional Justice and Reconciliation: The disappeared under Communism" 2020-2021, where AIDSSH is a co-applicant.

The joint ICMP-AIDSSH project aims to draft and publish a guide on the rights and obligations of Albanian and international human rights legislation regarding persons disappeared in the dictatorship for political reasons and human rights violations. The guide will be supported by informative meetings, gathering of evidence and research work in the archives, to clarify their fate.

Also, in the exhibition of the profiles of the disappeared, there were held local awareness dialogues and made publications of research work and oral evidence to support the associations of the families of disappeared in the dictatorship.

2. Publications

The list of AIDSSH publications has been enriched, with the collection of materials and their organization according to the research work of the thematic commemorative activities. The publications have been made in cooperation with partners and researchers, thus increasing the number of publications on the past in archival materials of the former State Security Service and other archival sources belonging to the same period, evidence of former persecuted and their relatives.

The publications are a presentation of the administrative activity of AIDSSH during 2019 (annual report and decisions), as well as publications of scientific researchers' studies, in cooperation with the Authority, on topics like persecution and repression mechanisms in the academic and industrial field, forced labor, places of suffering, or profiles of those disappeared in the dictatorship, still missing:

- Annual report 2018, Albanian and English, handout and online.

- Two-monthly bulletins for 2018, printed and online.
- Study "The truth of the engineers of the Maliqi Swamp", printed and online.
- Bilingual book "When Security Service dealt with science", at the conclusion of the project with PERFORM, printed and online.
- Summary of the proceedings of the conference "Denied by the regime", printed and online.
- Realization of the exhibition of human profiles on the disappeared in the dictatorship "The imperfect past", published online in Albanian and English language at www.issuu/aidssh.com

In parallel, there have been collected materials and the first draft of the conference summary "The Face of the 'People's'Enemy" 'in 1944-1991 was prepared for publication. All publications are easily accessible at www.issuu/aidssh.com linked to the official website of the institution.

6.1.4 Security and Technological Development

Physical safety

For the implementation of law no. 45/2015, the public authorities refer to application of the legislation in force for the protection of personal data, and as much as it can to the legislation in force on the right to information, archives and information classified as "state secret". AIDSSH, during its activity has encountered classified documents and information and has acted in accordance with the legislation in force for information classified "state secret", according to the case and the level of classification.

Given that the collection, administration, processing, use and information on former State Security Service documents is related, inter alia, by the principles of the protection of the public interest of national security and the protection of data that constitute classified information. It has also been completed the internal legal framework of the institution, which has to do with the way of physical preservation of the archival documentation of the former State Security Service, which is one of the priorities of AIDSSH every year.

AIDSSH produces and administers information classified as "state secret", from the lowest level of "limited" classification to the highest level of "top secret" classification. These categories of information are treated only in the Secured premises. In order to ensure the security of classified information and the premises in which the above-mentioned categories of information are produced and administered, it has been drafted the Measures Action Plan by the responsible structures.

Given the fact that currently AIDSSH operates in the premises made available by the Guard of the Republic of Albania, part of the Plan of Measures for physical security of classified information is also the "Physical security scheme of this space". Currently, due to the lack of facilities, the archival fund of AIDSSH is located in different storage locations:

- I. near the premises made available by SHISH;
- II. near the premises made available by the MB;
- III. in the offices where the Authority exercises its activity, at the premises of Guard of the Republic of Albania.

In this context, there have been taken measures to share the responsibility for the archival material taken over for administration from the institution.

When the institution carries out the activity in the building determined according to the DCM no. 935/2017, part of the Measures Plan will be even the "Physical Security Scheme of the new Building of the Authority ".

By Order no. 60, dated 01.11.2017 "On the establishment of the Commission on Classified Information "state secret " in AIDSSH" was established the Commission for the Revision of Classified Information, which reviews the types of documentation produced by the institution and proposes that category of documents to be classified, reassessed, classification level and the due time of this level. The commission was set up in support of law no. 8457, dated 11.02.1999, "On classified information -state secret, as amended and of DCM no. 123, dated 15.03.2001, "On the rules of the process of classification "state secret", the procedures used for its identification and the delegation of the classification authority".

Technological development

In January 2019, the German Embassy donated digital infrastructure for oral testimonies, installed and configured the Data Storage NAS server, where all materials on oral testimonies are stored. Subsequently, for higher security and facilitated access, the entire archive of AIDSSH from the external HDD on this server has been transferred. Periodically, the maintenance and updating of the Data Storage NAS server has been done, *active directory* has been created, where it is possible to store the documentation of the institution as well as the provide each employee with *sharefolder*. The necessary equipment to carry out the registration and storage of evidence has been tested, installed and configured in the premises of AIDSSH.

Pursuant to the requirements left by the resolution of the Parliament, the Technological Development Sector, in cooperation with the Archive Directorate and with the independent consultant, Mrs. Enkela Kuka, has worked on the construction of the Case Management System. This system aims to manage and automate AIDSSH operations, supporting any request addressed to the Authority by citizens, government or independent institutions, media, researchers, etc. The criteria and technical specifications of the digital case management system and archive that are expected to be realized in 2020-2021 have been reviewed.

In the framework of the tasks that the Internal Regulation has foreseen for the Technological Development Sector, all new AIDSSH employees has been provided with official e-mail in the domain: *autoritetidosjeve.gov.al*, the configuration of the official e-mail in all staff's computers, as well as password updates according to the regulation of the National Agency for Information Society. The maintenance of the internet network and relevant equipment has been carried out, intervening to solve issues encountered or additional staff. In order to reflect

the work of AIDSSH on the Internet, in cooperation and with the supervision of DMSHEQ, the official website of the institution and each section has been reorganized, improving, restructuring and enriching it with information. Also, has been carried out the maintenance of the official website of the institution [www.autoritetidodosjeve.gov.al](http://www.autoritetididosjeve.gov.al), with new publications, updates, improvements, etc. In cooperation with the directorates of the institution, the site periodically reflects information on AIDSSH activities, press releases, scientific conferences, publications on vacancies, application forms, materials prepared by staff, etc., in order to reach as many citizens-users of online sites as possible to obtain complete and reliable information.

The interest of citizens on access to informing for the documents of the former State Security Service on the official website is measured by the statistics of the site visitors, which are enabled by Google. In this context, monthly reports and analyzes have been made based on these statistics, both general and based on states / cities, age group, gender, language, various pages of the site, etc.¹

¹ The total number of users who have visited our official website during 2018 is 5439 while during 2019 it is 6751, of which 59 new visitors and 5380 existing visitors for 2018, compared to 6624 new visitors and 127 existing for 2019. The average duration of a user's visit to the site was 2 minutes and 15 seconds for 2018 and 2 minutes and 3 seconds for 2019. The predominant age group is mainly 25-44 years old, but a higher percentage of the age group is observed. 25-34 years old during 2018, percentage which is more distributed during 2019.

Based on the statistics of the most clicked pages, the interest during 2018 has been mainly in: 1. Applications - Access for citizens (1260 clicks), 2. Chairman (802 clicks), 3. Structure (658 clicks), 4. Post "Former Department 303 Spac-Mirdite" (360 clicks), 5. Member - Simon Mirakaj (294 clicks), 6. Applications - Access to private and state agencies (216 clicks), 7. Post "Political pluralism begins in Albania , 12 December 1990 "(201 clicks), 8. Post" Former re-education department 311 Qafe Bari, Puke "(189 clicks), 9. Member - Altin Hoxha (178 clicks), 10. Member - Marenglen Kasmi (173 clicks)

While the interest during 2019 has been in: 1. Applications - Access for citizens (1340 clicks), 2. Post "Albania was admitted to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization NATO April 4, 2009" (529 clicks), 3. Post " Political pluralism in Albania begins December 12, 1990 "(345 clicks), 4. Post" Agreement between AIDSSH and the Interfaith Cooperation Center "(171 clicks), 5. Structure (497 clicks), 6. Applications - Access for private and state agencies (314 clicks), 7. Applications - Meeting and Complaint Request Format (215 clicks), 8. Post "Winning abstracts for the international scientific conference" "The face of the "People' Enemy" during the dictatorship of the proletariat in Albania 1944-1990 "(197 clicks), 9. Post "Communist concentration camps of the past haunt today's Albania" (196 clicks), 10. Post "Reaction of the Authority to the accusations on the situation of the archives of the former State Security Service today" (128 clicks)

In terms of location-based statistics, in both cases the largest number of visitors was from Albania, but the percentage of visitors is higher in 2019 (81%) compared to 2018 (68%). The rest of the clicks came from users living outside Albania. Specifically, during 2018 the interest has been from countries such as America, France, Kosovo, Germany, Italy, Great Britain, Russia, Holland, Greece. If we make a comparison with 2019, the number of visitors from Kosovo and Italy has increased and there have also been visitors from Switzerland, Belgium and Canada.

In relation to the channels used to reach our site, in both years the search engine Google has dominated, which has brought 3357 visitors during 2018 and 4918 visitors during 2019; continuing with direct clicks on the website, where the number of visitors was 1175 during 2018 and 1093 during 2019; viewership has also increased from social networks (Facebook), through posts that have been published (400 visitors during 2018 and 799 visitors during 2019); while a part of the users come to us from the reference page where during 2018 Wikipedia prevails and during 2019 there are more such as evenwallshaveears.org, wipediaikipedia, ResPublica.al, dosjet.gov.al. We can say that the visibility that comes to us from social networks has increased, as a result of their wider use over time and also the reference pages where the Authority is mentioned and through the link users are directed directly to our site. In a general comparison, the ratio of figures and viewership during 2019 is higher and has increased.

In addition to the technical part and the problems related to the infrastructure of the institution, it has been worked on the implementation of the institution's projects, such as: connection with AKSHI and maintenance of the platform **dosjet.gov.al** – outcome of the project "Study the role of science in society development during the first years of the establishment of the communist regime (1945-1954)" with PERFORM.

Maintenance of the webpage "Even the walls have ears" made of oral testimonies, in Albanian and English. It is supported by recording devices of oral evidence and their storage, in the relevant equipments donated by the German Embassy, configured in the premises of the institution. Both platforms are linked to the official website of the Authority. During this year, a Vlog / YouTube Channel for AIDSSH has been created, where videos of activities, sections from the media, documentaries, etc. were published. The blog is constantly maintained, enriched and updated, in close collaboration with DMSHEQ.

A dedicated website has been created for scientific conferences, with summarized and well-organized information *konferencashkencore.wordpress.com*, with topics, participants, winners, abstracts, researchers' bio, photo galleries, publications, media, etc. Also the Blog "*Muze Memorial Tepelenë*" <https://muzememorialtepelene.wordpress.com>, where have been published data and materials of Tepelena Camp. The blog is maintained, enriched and updated depending on the available data.

ISSUU online publishing platform has been widely used in terms of online presentation of all AIDSSH publications. The profile of the institution on the platform has been enriched and the publication continues for every new article to be published, with a brief description about the content. All AIDSSH publications in Albanian and English are available at www.issuu/aidssh.com linked to the official website to facilitate access to publications.

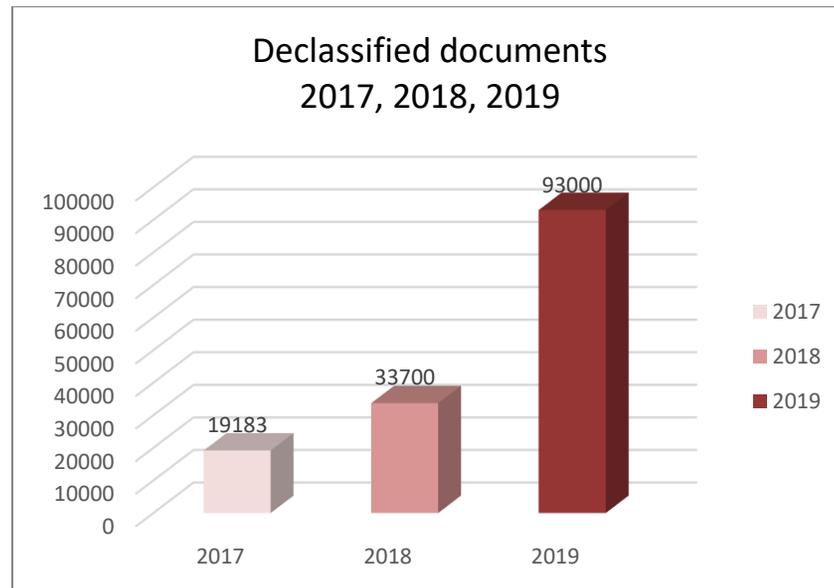
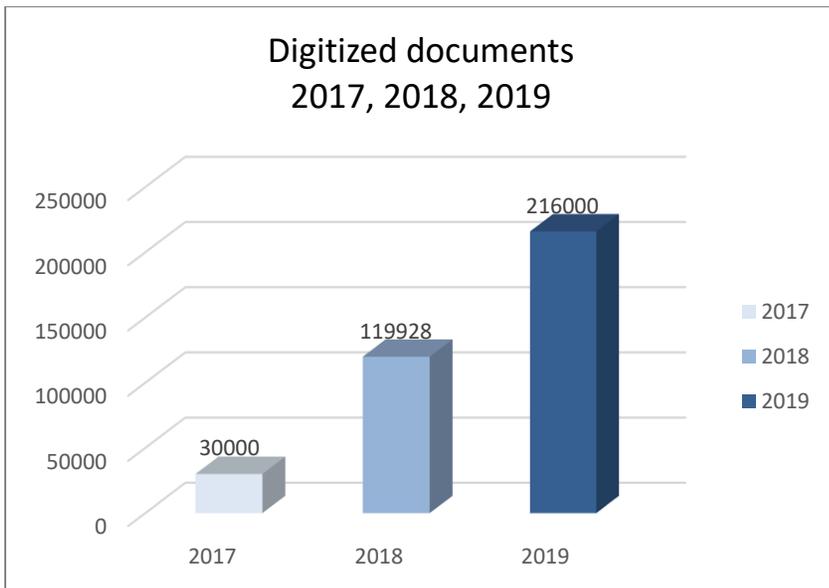
Pursuant to the Regulation "*On publications of the activity of the Authority in frame of functional duties charged by law*" approved by Decision of the Authority No. 88, dated 22.02.2019, it has continued the work for the online publication on the official website of AIDSSH of all decisions and activities of the institution. Therefore, there have been published all the decisions of 2019, divided into months accordingly. In addition, the KDZH's decisions on the declassification of documents and all AIDSSH activities have also been published online on the official website.

6.1.5 Data and figures on AIDSSH activity compared to 2017, 2018, 2019

Digitization and declassification of archival documents

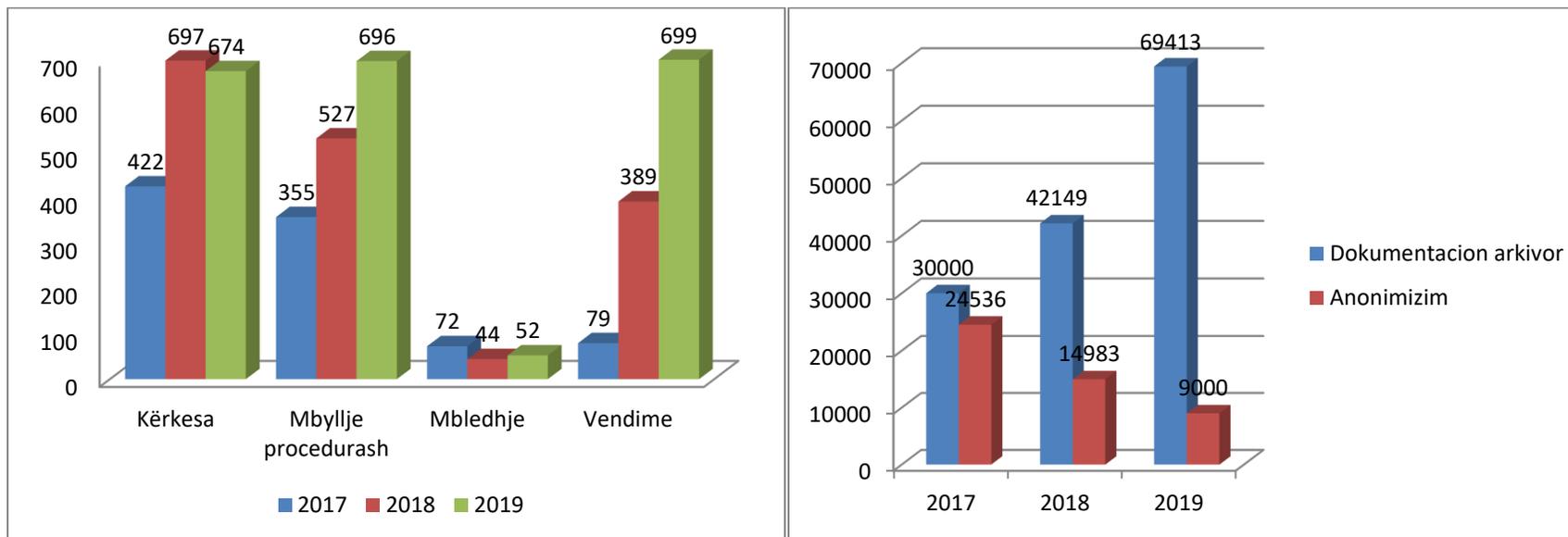
During 2018, both processes: digitalization and declassification of documents have had a significant increase in the number of digitized documents and declassified documents. The graph below shows the comparative data, on both processes during 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Graph: Graphic form of digitized and declassified documents during the last three years:

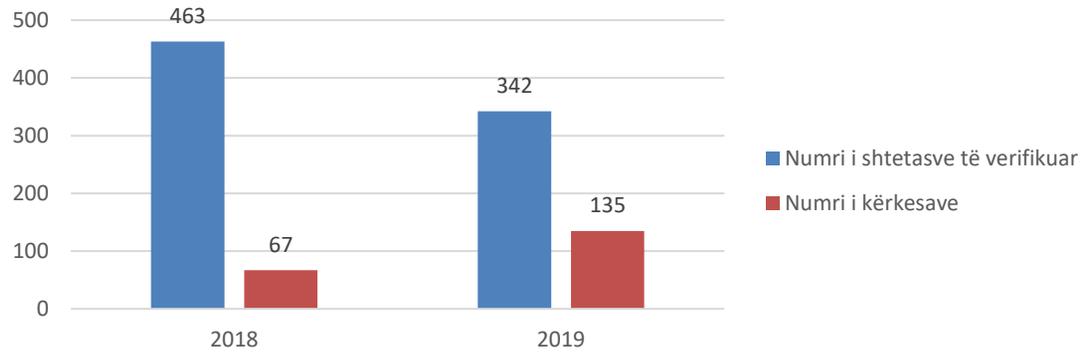


Individual and institutional requests submitted to AIDSSH during 2019:

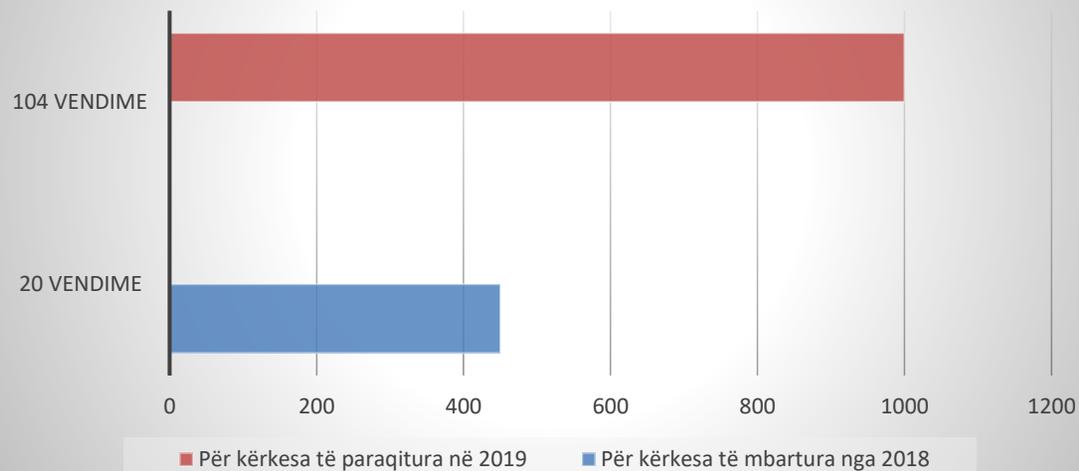
- A total of 674 requests;
- Procedures concluded for 696 requests, of which:
 - 248 requests on archival documentation,
 - 261 requests without archival documentation;
- 69,413 pages of archival documentation have been processed, of which:
 - 24 536 pages of digitized archival documentation have been anonymized;
- Participated in 52 AIDSSH meetings and prepared all necessary materials;
- 699 decisions have been drafted out (509 individual + 190 institutional)

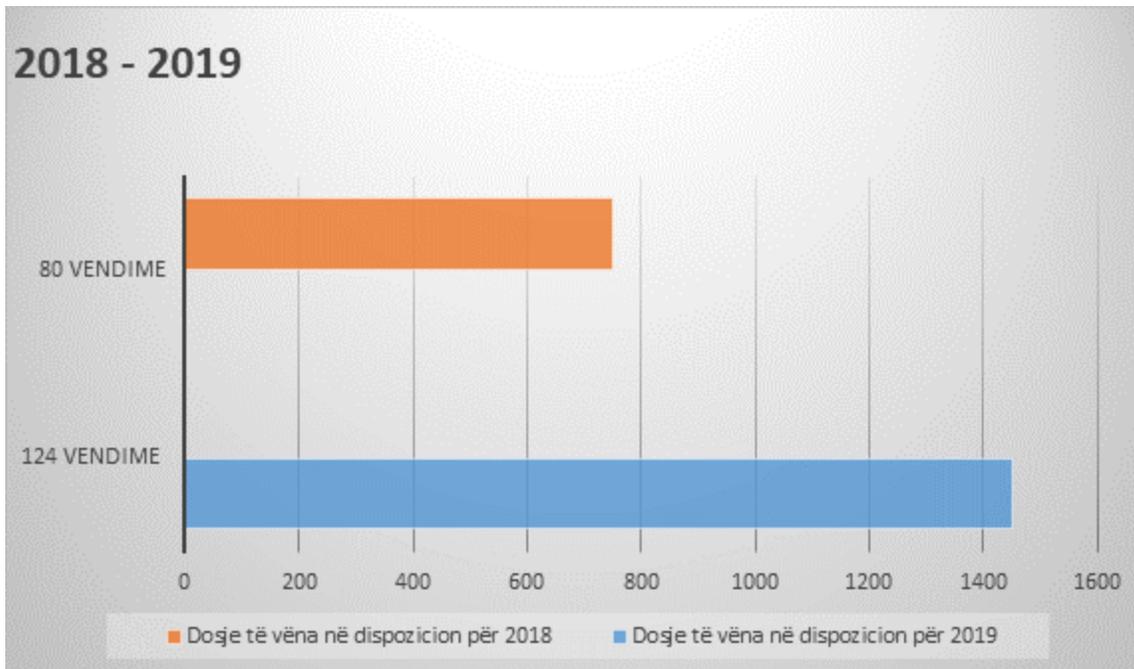


Citizens verified in the frame of the assesment of ethical, moral, professional qualities of the candidates/officials prior to their appointment, 2018 - 2019



FILES MADE AVAILABLE





5.2 Objectives of the institution for 2020

The main objectives of the Authority for Access to Information on Former State Security Service Documents for 2020 are based on the Strategic Plan 2017-2020 and are grouped into several main categories:

1. Objectives related to improving infrastructure and increasing administrative capacities

- Completion of the reconstruction of the building according to the project designed by the Institute of Construction, and its provision with shelves and other facilities necessary for the archive;
- Increasing cooperation with all domestic and foreign partner institutions, as well as establishing contacts with new partners, in order to improve the infrastructure and increase administrative capacities.

- **Objectives related to the establishment of the Authority as a central archival source for research on Security Service activities**
- Completion of the process of taking over all the documents of the former State Security Service from the archival institutions in country;
- Drafting out the plan of transfer of archival documents to the new building and transferring them according to the approved plan;
- Establishment of a digital archive system to facilitate the process of searching and consulting archival documents.

- **Objectives relating to the provision of the right to access information on former State Security Service documents**
- Revision and improvement of internal procedures for handling individual, institutional and study requests;
- Completion within the deadlines, as much as it can, all requests for information on the documents of the former State Security Service, submitted to AIDSSH.

- **Objectives related to the promotion of scientific research and civic education**
- Organizing research and interactive activities, according to the approved plan and the remembrance calendar;
- Implementing the communication strategy in country and abroad, with target groups, and collaborators in order to reveal the past;
- Successful finalization of projects launched during 2019, according to the principles of the European Network of Remembrance and Solidarity, ENRS.

- **Objectives related to promoting transparency and transitional justice**
- Supporting the work on documenting the crimes of communism, including the contribution to the administration of justice; publication and dissemination of decisions and scientific research
- Cooperation with institutions, national and international organizations and other stakeholders of transitional justice process.

- **Objectives related to management**
- Completion of the structure of the Authority, functioning as a professional body;
- Improving results by creating appropriate working and study conditions;
- Use of assets to build partnerships and resources.
- **Objectives related to the expansion of AIDSSH activity, making amendments, additions and improvements to the law.**
- Adaptation of homologous institutions models of the former communist countries, with the activity of AIDSSH;
- Presentation of the necessity for changes, additions, amendments to the functional law at the legislative structures;
- Expanding the scope of action of AIDSSH in function and with the aim of historical revision of the activity of the former State Security Service and civic education.

5.3 Goals for the future

AIDSSH is led by the legal mission to provide information on documents of the former State Security Service, to educate society and support the democratic values of justice, truth, reconciliation and responsibility for future generations.

The Authority's vision is to provide a reliable platform from which to access the documentary heritage of the former State Security Service; to provide Albanian citizens inside and outside the country with the opportunity to request data, information and context from the Security Service archives on the experience of communist oppression; to serve as an accessible institutional resource for assessing the Albanian communism experience, so that it won't be repeated in the future.

By providing information on Security Service activity, the Authority aims to raise public awareness of the communist regime, to help prevent intolerance, extremism, anti-democratic movements and the repetition of totalitarianism; encourage an open discussion of the communist past and its consequences, based on transparency, integrity, cooperation with individuals and institutions, as well as encourage public engagement, upholding the democratic values of justice, truth and reconciliation.

The Strategy Document for 2017-2020 serves as a guiding document for the activity of the Authority and aims to direct and concentrate its activities, enabling periodic revisions of goals and objectives.

The goals for the future are based on the vision of the institution, the realization of its mission and the fulfillment of the strategic objectives mentioned above.

5.4 Three-year projection regarding the vision of the institution

The vision of AIDSSH in the next three years consists of:

- Improving the existing legal framework;
- Completion of the structure / staff of AIDSSH;
- Establishment of legal and logistical infrastructure for the transfer of documentation available in AIDSSH, from the current locations in the new building of the Authority;
- Total declassification of files, excluding those that violate national security;
- Digital indexing of administered documentation;
- Inclusion of the issue of the disappeared in the field of action of the institution, through relevant legal acts;
- Carrying out legal procedures for the processing of 1000 requests per year;
- Shortening the time limits of the documentation service, in order to respond to the requests submitted by the interested subjects;
- Organisation of scientific conferences, local dialogues, documentary exhibitions and human profiles;
- Re-dimensioning personalities, based on scientific research and collaboration with partners.
- Functional and interactive platform that flows information on AIDSSH activities, adapted for all target groups, in Albanian and English.

7. AIDSSH LEGAL OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN CASES WHEN THE LAW IS BREACHED OR NOT REFERRED

Through an active communication with the public and all interested for carrying out its duties, AIDSSH is guided by the principle of lawfulness, personal data protection and provision of duly information to public, institutions and media. In fulfilling its legal obligations, there have been no cases of exceeding or misusing the competencies in exercising functions for which law No. 45/2015 and the Internal Regulation charges it.

7. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS GIVEN TO AIDSSH FROM OTHER CONSTITUTIONAL OR INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS

During 2019, were held local elections for local government. In accordance with DCM No. 283, dated 10.5.2019, "*On taking measures and monitoring the activity, behavior or use of human, financial and logistical resources of the state administration, during the election process for the local elections for 2019*"; and in particular in the explanations, guidelines and recommendations of the Commissioner for the Oversight of the Civil Service (CPCC), were drafted out, approved and followed all relevant procedures, documentation and reports regarding the

monitoring of the activity, behavior or use of human, financial and logistical resources of the state administration during the election process of 2019 local elections.

Based on the law No. 9887, dated 10.08.2008, "On the protection of personal data" as amended, the orders, instructions and decisions of the Commissioner for Personal Data Protection, in the procedure followed "On the publication of the activity of Authority in the exercise of its duties given by law ", materialized by decision No. 88, dated 22.02.2019, the Authority took into account the opinions and suggestions given by the Commissioner for Data Protection, related to processing personal data and their anonymization, guaranteeing the protection of personal data.

In cases of complaints submitted to the Commissioner for Personal Data Protection or within the framework of the Right to Information, there have been initiated procedures for administrative investigation of cases, whereas in the relevant decisions it came out that the Authority has correctly implemented information and the activity of the appointed coordinator for this purpose has been in accordance with the law.

9. CHANGES IN THE REGULATORY FRAME FOR 2019 AND THEIR EFFECTS

1- Considering the legal basis of the Authority, the Constitution of the Republic of Albania, law No. 119/2014, "On the right to information", law No. 9887, dated 10.08.2008, "On the protection of personal data" as amended, has arisen the need and a working group has been established for drafting the Regulation on the publication of the activity of the Authority, in the framework of the functional duties assigned by law. Based on the Constitution of the Republic of Albania, Chapter 1, "General Principles", Article 1 of Law No. 119/2014, "On the Right to Information", the general principles of the Transparency Program of the Authority, for a clearer and transparent decision-making and activity, it has been decided to draft a series of rules summarized in the regulation of publication of the Authority's activity.

Therefore, with the Decision of the Authority No. 88, dated 22.02.2019, it was approved the "Regulation on the publication of the Authority's activity in exercising functional duties given by law", in which are given the categories of documents that will be published, the method and form of personal data anonymization, the way of publication and timing, the possibility of access, etc., in accordance with the aforementioned legal basis, making the activity of the Authority transparent and strong in terms of integrity.

2-The Authority organizes its work pursuant to the Regulation "*On the Organization and Functioning of the Authority for Access to Information on Former State Security Service Documents*", approved by Decision of the Authority No. 21, dated 09.05.2017.

After three years of experience, it became necessary to make an addition to the Regulation, which deals with the timing of procedures that help some directorates/sectors of the Authority to be correct with their work, which has to do with the essence of work in AIDSSH, i.e collection, administration, processing, use of documents of the former State Security Service and informing subjects defined in this law. Determining procedures and time limits, which are not provided in the specific law No. 45/2015, there are greater opportunities to perform correctly the task assigned by law, minimizing the possibility for the correction of the act.

Thus, pursuant to Article 5, point 7 of Law No. 45/2015, was approved the Decision of the Authority No. 234, dated 24.04.2019, "For an addition to the Regulation on the Organization and Functioning of the Authority for Access to Information on Documents of the former State Security Service" with Decision No. 21, dated 09/05/2017 of the Authority; which includes some detailed rules on deadlines for responding to requests for information submitted from subjects.

3-In the framework of the duties that the law No. 45/2015 imposes on the Authority, taking into account the staff of the institution, approved by Decision of the Parliament No. 95/2016, and strategic objectives set in the Strategic Plan of the Authority (2017-2020) the Technical Secretariat drafted out the annual plan for 2019, which after being discussed, was approved by Decision No. 89, dated 22.02.2019 of the Authority.

The 2019 annual plan defined the main directions of AIDSSH for the fulfillment of the tasks provided by law No. 45/2015, DCM No. 98/2017 "On determining the transfer procedure under the administration of AIDSSH of the archival materials of the former State Security Service, located in the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Interior, the Intelligence State's Service and other public authorities ", in other legal and sub-legal acts that regulate the activity of the institution, as well as in the Strategic Plan and Action Plan (2017-2020). The content of the annual plan of each directorate / sector set objectives, activities that will be developed to achieve the objectives, time frame, responsible structure that will achieve the objectives, as well as proof of achievement of objectives.

4. AIDSSH has drafted a DCM project for the expropriation for public interest, of the owners of real estate, private property, affected by the realization of the project "transform to execution and burial remembrance place of the victims of February 26, 1951", which was forwarded to the Municipality Tirana for further proceedings.

5. At the same time, it has been worked on the project proposal until the approval by the Council of Ministers of the DCM No. 93, dated 27.02.2019, "*On determining fees and charges for services to institutions or persons provided by the Authority for Access to Information on Former State Security Service Documents*", which was a legal obligation arising from the correct application of law 45 / 2015.

During 2019, a number of orders were issued by the head of the institution, in organizational and functional terms, which mainly regulate and discipline the activity of the Technical Secretariat of AIDSSH, based on the organic law and its bylaws.

10 PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED THROUGHOUT THE ACTIVITY OF AIDSSH AND THE MOST EFFICIAL WAYS TO SOLVE THEM BY THE PARLIAMENT AND COUNCIL AND MINISTERS

AIDSSH activity, based on the organic law 45/2015, "On the Right for Access to Information on Former State Security Service Documents of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania" and other legal acts that regulate the functioning of the institution, as mentioned above, is focused on three main directions:

First, access of each citizen to the documents of the former State Security Service according to law 45/2015, "On the right for Access to Information on Documents of the former State Security Service" and bylaws issued for its implementation.

Second, the evaluation of the ethical, moral and professional qualities of the candidates/officials prior to their appointment or promotion, when this is required by the constitutional institutions and public authorities, according to a hierarchy provided by law, as well as of all elected by the people, MPs and local elected;

Third, establishing the proper infrastructure to enable scientific research and inform the media about the activity and history of the former State Security Service.

Pursuant to law no. 45/2015 "*On the Right for Access to Information on Documents of the former State Security Service of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania*", in 2017, the government approved the DCM No. 98, dated 15.2.2017 "*On determining the transfer procedure to the administration of the Authority for Access to Information on Former State Security Service Documents of the archival materials of the former State Security Service, that are in the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Internal Affairs, The State Intelligence Service and other public authorities.*

Based on the aforementioned DCM, AIDSSH has signed a cooperation agreements with the Ministry of Interior, the State Intelligence Service and the General Directorate of Archives. The State Intelligence Service, as previously communicated, based on law 45/2015 and DCM No. 98, dated 15.2.2017, has completed the delivery and transfer of all archival documentation defined in Article 1, of DCM No. 98, dated 15.20.2017, archival search tools and computers with relevant data to the administration of AIDSSH. Regarding the process of transfer of the archival materials of the former State Security Service from the Archive of the System of the Ministry of Interior to AIDSSH, the process has proceeded very slowly, exceeding any deadline and moreover, since May 2019 it is almost blocked.

AIDSSH, based on the provisions of law 45/2015, DCM 98/2018 and the resolution of the Parliament dated 13.5.2019, has had continuous written communication and bilateral meetings with representatives of the Ministry of Interior, discussing and explaining in detail the process and the problems and with all their attention to understand the situation, but the problem has not been solved yet. This situation directly affects the activity of AIDSSH and moreover, the service provided to citizens and other entities as envisaged by law.

Another difficulty, as highlighted above, is the lack of funds to complete the reconstruction and equipping the building with the necessary logistics, such as computers, desks, chairs, shelves, etc.

For a relatively long time in 2019, there has been evident the problem of declassification of internal documents, which has hindered the process of availing acts for use and made it impossible to serve researchers in a short time, therefore, adopting a legal provision for the complete declassification of documentation included in one of the four levels of classification, excluding those documents that violate national security, would be the solution to the problem.

Highly appreciating the cooperation with the Albanian Parliament and hoping to address and solve the problems, there are reflected below the concerns and priority needs for the proper functioning of the institution.

We do express our concern for the truncated budget for 2019, also in the Mid-Term Draft-Budget 2019-2021, mainly in the Investments item, compared to the frequent requests, argued with concrete projects. Due to the Order of the Ministry of Finance and Economy for the suspension of all procurement procedures, despite the fact that the procedures for concluding the contract with the economic operator are being finalized, this minimum budget has not been realized.

It would be for the best functioning of the Authority's full membership, if the Parliament completes the procedures initiated to replace one of the members of the Authority, who has resigned for more than two years ago. This fact complicates the collegial decision-making of the institution.

Among the challenges for the future still remains the completion of the organisational structure/staff as approved by Decision No. 95/2016 of the Parliament of Albania "On the approval of the organisational structure, staffing and classification of salaries of the Authority for Access to Information on Former State Security Service Documents". Currently, out of 60 employees, the Government has budgeted only 50% of the staff of AIDSSH.

11. NEED FOR AMENDMENTS IN THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK THAT REGULATES AIDSSH ACTIVITY

Possible amendments in the Law 45/2015 "On the right to access information on the documents of the former State Security Service of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania"

Based on the best experiences of counterpart institutions in Eastern European countries, as well as on addressing and resolving the problems encountered during the development and implementation of the procedures provided by Law 45/2015, “On the Right to Access Information on Documents of Former State Security Service of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania” and latterly, Law 12/2018“ On the Transitional and Periodic Assessment of State Police Employees, the Guard of Republic and the Service for Internal Affairs and Complaints in the Ministry of Interior ” as amended, the Authority expresses the need **for some priority legal additions and amendments** to the Law 45/2015, which fully regulate the activity of this institution for the fulfillment of the tasks assigned by law.

In particular, one amendment is directly related to the implementation of the deadline set for March 31, 2020, for the verification of the figures of officials prior to their appointment or promotion, as well as of elected officials. These proposals have been part of the discussions in several meetings of the Authority. There have been debates their content and at the end in the majority of the Members of the Authority assessed and considered reasonable to send these proposals to the respective organs of the Albanian Parliament.

OSCE, as a partner in providing technical and legal assistance on the Law 45/2015, has still expressed its readiness to get engaged in improving the aforementioned legal framework, not only for priority legal amendments, but also for others, mainly related to the disappeared, as well as to the determination and procedure to be followed with remembrance places (museums, commemorial dates, decorations, medals, etc.), as far as they are within the scope of law 45/2015, and in other organic laws of the field, in order to unify and harmonize this legislation.

In this context, there is need for some additions and legal amendments to the law 45/2015, "On the Right to Access Information on Former State Security Service Documents of the Republic of Albania", which would create the opportunity for a better product of the institution and its normal functioning, for the successful fulfillment of the AIDSSH mission.

Likewise, the staff is already working to amend the functional law, taking into account the Polish model, to expand the Authority's activity even with activities on collective memory and the issue of finding the disappeared in the dictatorship.

At the same time, it has been worked on some amendments to the law 139/2015 "On local self-government", in order to put under the scan of AIDSSH all local government candidates who will participate in the election process, both in chairmanship positions and members of local councils, as well as some additions and amendments to the law 112/2013 "On Decorations, Honorary Titles, Medals and Local Honorary Titles in the Republic of Albania", in terms of AIDSSH verification of the purity of the figure of the person proposed to receive medals, decorations or honorary titles.

In the last two electoral elections, held in June 2017, respectively, the parliamentary elections and local elections of June 2019, the political parties registered in the elections i.e. the major parliamentary political parties, such as SP and those outside parliament, such as DP and SMI, etc., have not submitted any request to AIDSSH, regarding the existence of information in the documents of the former State Security Service for their candidates for deputies or mayors, pursuant to law 45/2015, "On the Right to Access Information on Documents of the former State Security Service of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania".

In this context and in the framework of the evaluation of the figure of the candidates for deputies or candidates for mayors, for purposes of transparency of their figure during election campaigns, pursuant to article 30 of law 45/2015, "On the right to access information on documents of the former State Security Service", it is necessary to intervene in certain provisions of the electoral legislation, making the necessary amendments, made present to the Co-Chairs of the Special Commission for Electoral Reform.

The amendments have been drafted and forwarded to senior election officials aiming to increase credibility and have candidates with a clean moral figure in general and local elections, in function of the transparency of the election campaign, where voters would have the opportunity to be informed about the figure of the candidates.

On some additions and amendments in the Decision No.188, dated 04.03.2015, "On the approval of the regulation for personnel security", as well as in the Security Questionnaire, from the legal point of view of AIDSSH

Comparing special provisions of the law 45/2015, "On the right to information on the documents of the former State Security Service of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania" with special provisions of Law No. 8457, dated 11.02.1999, "On classified information", as amended, there are similarities between them, mainly in general principles and rules for the administration of classified documentation.

Regarding the above, as well as on the basis of and for the implementation of law 45/2015, "On the right to information on documents of the former State Security Service of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania" with which AIDSSH operates, we believe that there exist possible conditions for the involvement of the Authority in this process, if it would be intervened in certain articles of Decision No.188, dated 04.03.2015, "On the approval of the regulation" On personnel security", or the security questionnaire. In this context, it has been prepared a draft for some additions and amendments to the aforementioned DCM, in consultation with senior DSIK officials and it has been forwarded to the Council of Ministers.

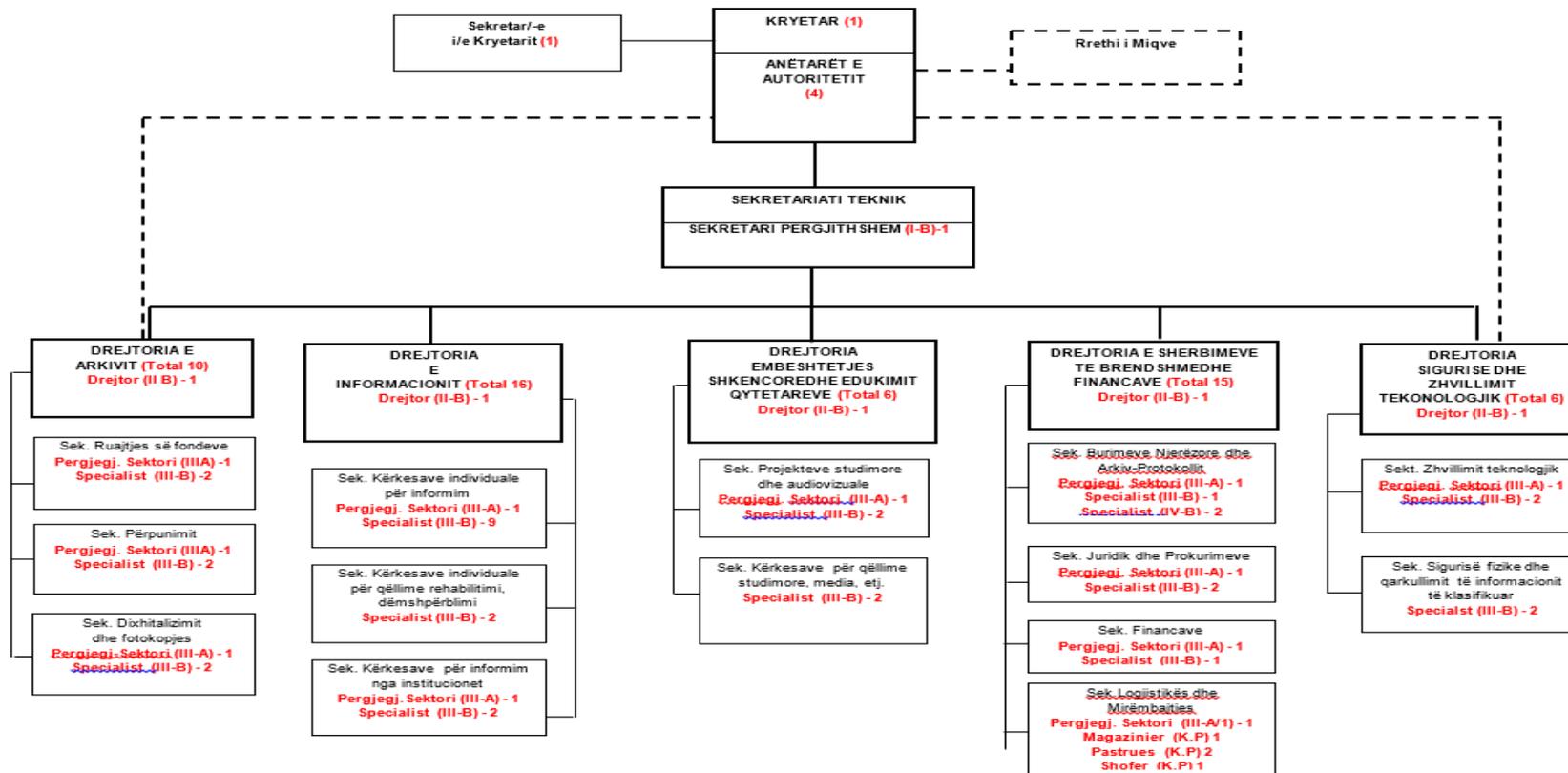
Attached as Annex are given the legal changes required in law 45/2015, "On the right to information on the documents of the former State Security Service of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania".

2 INTERNAL ORGANIZATION OF INSTITUTION

AIDSSH structure and organisational chart

The decision of the Parliament No. 95, dated 22.12.2016 "On the structure and organisational staff" determines that the Authority for Access to Information on Documents of Former State Security Service must have a staff of 60 employees, where 5 of them are Members of the Authority, elected and appointed by the Parliament by relevant Decisions; No. 79, No. 80, No. 81, No. 82, No. 83, dated 17.11.2016.

The structure and organisational chart of AIDSSH is as follows:



At the beginning of 2019, AIDSSH had 30 employees out of 60 that it should have in accordance with the above structure and organigram approved by the Albanian Parliament.

Despite the constant demands, argued and based on real needs to cope with the growing burden and expansion of AIDSSH activity, at the Albanian Parliament and the Ministry of Finance and Economy, for additions to the salary fund in the 2019 budget, to increase the number of employees, by law No. 99/2018, dated 3.12.2018, "On the Budget of 2019", AIDSSH was not provided with any additional salary fund for new employees for the budget year 2019.

With the Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 16, dated 16.1.2019 "*On determining the number of temporary contract employees for 2019 in central government units*", AIDSSH was given the right to employ 9 employees with temporary contract, with 6 working hours/day, with employment deadline until 31.12.2019.

With the Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 483, dated 10.7.2019 "*On some amendments in the Decision No. 16, dated 16.1.2019 "On determining the number of temporary contract employees for the year 2019 in government units"*", AIDSSH was given the right to employ 4 additional employees with a temporary contract, with a working time of 8 hours/day, with an employment deadline until 31.12.2019.

By the normative act of the Council of Ministers No.2, dated 3.10.2019 "*On some changes in the law No. 99 / 2018, "On the budget of 2019"*", an additional salary fund was made available to AIDSSH for 10 new employees.

Human resources

With the entry into force of the normative act of the Council of Ministers No.2, dated 3.10.2019 "*On some changes in the law No.99 / 2018," On the budget of 2019 "*", with Decision No.638, dated 11.10.2019 , The Authority approved the recruitment plan for 10 additional employees for 2019, respectively:

- 1 employee in the middle management category;
- 2 employees in the lower management category;
- 7 employees in the executive category

Based on law No. 152/2013, "On the civil servant", Labor Code, relevant DCMs, practices and instructions of the Department of Public Administration (DAP), which regulates the process and procedures of recruitment, AIDSSH began the process of staff recruitment allowed by the supplementary salary fund, approved by the aforementioned normative act.

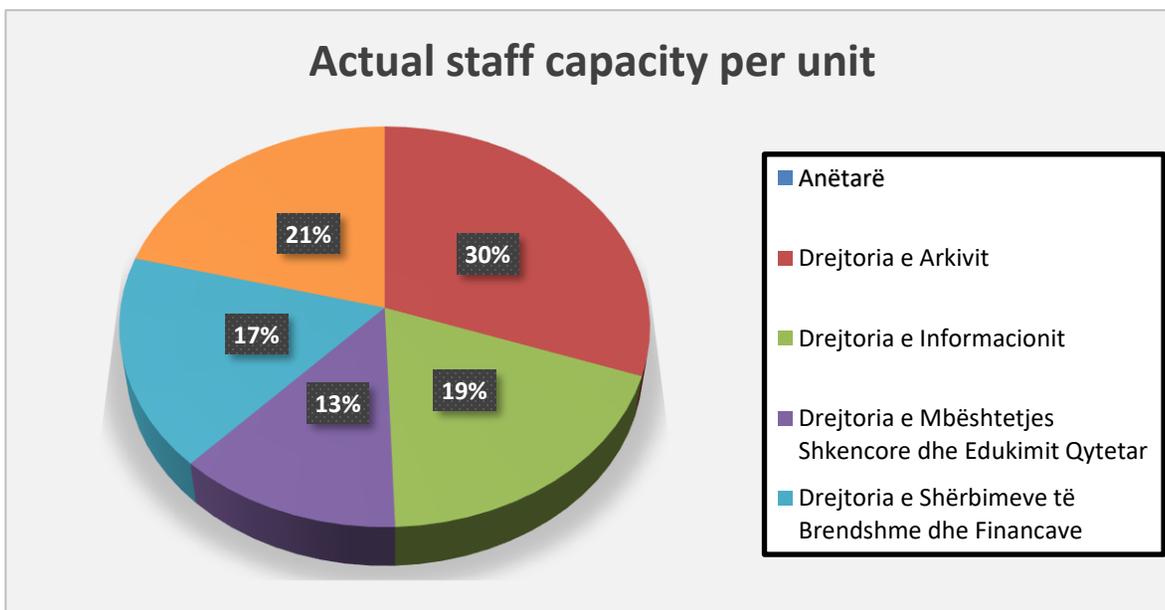
Due to the short time from the entry into force of the normative act until the end of the budget year, as well as the mandatory duration of the relevant recruitment procedures, it became possible to open and close successfully the recruitment procedures within 2019, with the announcement and respective appointments of the winners, as follows:

- 1 employee in the lower management category;

- 6 employees in the executive category.

During 2019, the recruitment procedures of 13 employees with temporary contracts were successfully developed and completed pursuant to the Decisions of the Council of Ministers no. 16, dated 16.1.2019 “*On determining the number of employees with temporary contracts for 2019 in the central government units*”, as well as no. 483, dated 10.7.2019 “*On some changes in the Decision No. 16, dated 16.1.2019 “On determining the number of employees with temporary contract for 2019 in the government units*”.

During 2019, recruitment procedures have also been developed to fill existing positions, covered by salary fund, from which employees, due to competition for another position announced in the recruitment plan for 2019, have moved within AIDSSH, or who for various reasons, have left, have terminated their contractual relations with AIDSSH.



At the end of the recruitment procedures for 2019, taking into account the positions filled during 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019; the number of staff currently covered by the budgetary fund, which are completed; the number of positions which are covered by the salary fund but are currently vacant, even though the competition procedures have been announced; the real rate of completion of AIDSSH employees, at the end of 2019, compared to the number of employees given in the structure and organisational chart, approved by the Decision of the Parliament No. 95/2016, is given in the following table:

Unit based on organigram	Authority / Directorate	Sector	Position	On organigram		No. employees on solary fund	No. recruited employees	real % e of recruitments pursuant to the organigram	
Authority	Authority		Member	5	5	5	4	80%	
	Assitant to the Chairwoman		Sekretary	1	1	1	0		
Technical secretariat	Technical secretariat		General Secretary	1	1	1	1	100%	
	Directorate of Information		Director	16	1	1	1	1	50.0%
		Sector of Individual Requests for Information	Head of Sector		1	1	1		
			Specialist		9	3	3		
		Sector for Institutional information	Head of Sector		1	1	1		
			Specialist		2	1	1		
	Sector of Rehabilitation and Compensation Requests	Specialist	2	1	1				
	Directorate of Archieves		Director	10	1	1	1	80.0%	
		Sector of Fund Preservation	Head of Sector		1	1	1		
			Specialist		2	2	2		
		Sector of Processing	Head of Sector		1	1	1		
			Specialist		2	2	2		
		Sector of Digitization	Head of Sector		1	1	1		
	Specialist		2	1	0				
	Directorate of Scientific Support and Civic Education		Director	6	1	1	1	33.3%	
		Sector of Study and Audiovisual Projects	Head of Sector		1	1	0		
			Specialist		2	0	0		
		Sector for Research Purposes, Media, etc.	Specialist		2	1	1		
	Directorate of Internal Services and Finance		Director	15	1	1	0	46.7%	
		Sector of Finance	Head of Sector		1	1	1		
			Specialist		1	1	1		
		Juridical and Procurement Sector	Head of Sector		1	1	1		
			Specialist		2	1	1		
		Human Resources Sector	Head of Sector		1	0	0		
			Specialist		3	2	2		
		Sector of Logistics and Maintenance	Head of Sector		1	1	0		
			Warehousekeeper		1	0	0		
Driver			1		1	1			
Sanitary staff	2		0	0					
Directorate of Security and Technological Development		Director	6	1	1	0	50.0%		
	Sector of Technological Development	Head of Sector		1	1	1			
		Specialist		2	1	1			
	Sector of Physical Security and Circulation of Classified Information	Specialist		2	1	1			

				60	60	60	40	33	55.0%
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As it can be seen in the table, throughout 2019, AIDSSH has worked almost with half of the capacity of human resources defined in the Decision of the Parliament No. 95, dated 22.12.2016. Lack of sufficient human resources, in the context of daily increased activity and workload of AIDSSH, has made ever greater the difficulties and especially delays in the timely performance of the AIDSSH mission to inform public and institutions.

The staff is provided with the relevant level security certificates, in accordance with the requirements of the job positions. There have been successfully completed the necessary trainings related to the specifics of the work of AIDSSH with the classified information (certified with the relevant certificates) at the Directorate of Classified Information Security (DSIK).

During 2019, based on the training plan drafted and approved at the beginning of the year, in cooperation with ASPA (Albanian School of Public Administration), DPA, HIDAA, were carried out a series of trainings to increase the knowledge and capacity of AIDSSH employees on respective fields. Specifically, the type of training and the number of employees who participated in it is summarized in the following table:

Number of topic	Topic of Training	Number of employees	Training institution
1	Security aspects of classified information	2	DSIK
2	Gender equality and responsible gender budgeting	1	ASPA
3	Public investment	3	ASPA
4	On the training plan for the Financial Management Information System, the BPPM module	1	Ministry of Finance
5	On the training plan for the Financial Management Information System, the PBA module	2	Ministry of Finance
6	Public procurement, basic level	2	ASPA
7	Public procurement, intermediate level	1	ASPA
8	Internal financial control and audit	2	ASPA
9	EU Fund Management	3	ASPA
10	Strategic management	1	ASPA
11	Budget planning and financial statements	2	ASPA

12	The right to information and protection of personal data	2	ASPA
13	Information on completing the self-assessment questionnaire of management components	5	Ministry of Finance
14	Code of Administrative Procedure	6	ASPA
15	Basic knowledge on official statistics	2	ASPA
16	The Role of Responsible Authorities in the Electronic Declaration System of Public Interests	1	HIDAACI
17	Online training, foreign language, "German" module	1	ASPA
18	Computer security, basic level	5	ASPA
	Introduction to public administration		ASPA

Activity in the framework of pursuing and implementing the law on conflict of interest control, part of the AIDSSH Responsible Authority

- Drafting the annual report of 2019 and sending it within the legal deadlines to HIDAACI, as well as notifying and following the legal deadlines for completing and submitting declarations of private annual periodic interests, before appointment and after resigning the function of the declarant subjects of the institution.
- Preparation and administration of all necessary documentation for the implementation of the Directive for the Responsible Authority, in order to make it available to the control and monitoring institution of HIDAACI.
- Follow up within legal deadlines and with all the necessary steps, of the conflict of interest case by case of the Head of the Monitoring Sector of the Funds of the Archive Directorate, based on the legal and sub-legal acts on which HIDAA operates.
- Delivery within the legal deadlines of declarations of private periodic annual private interests, of all declaratory subjects of AIDSSH.
- For the identification and registration of cases of conflict of interest by the Responsible Authority, the authorizations for the prevention of conflict of interest by each official have been completed, which have been administered in the relevant file for 34 officials, of which 4 Chairpersons / Members and 30 staff members of the Technical Secretariat.
- Follow-up and completion within legal deadlines and with all the necessary steps, of the ongoing conflict of interest which appeared in the case of the Head of the Funds Protection Sector of the Archive Directorate, based on HIDAA legal and sub-legal acts. Based on the recommendations for taking measures to avoid the ongoing conflict of interest, the case has gone to the end, as it resulted in a conflict of interest, and measures have been taken to avoid it.

Revenues and expenditures, including funds of donors

AIDSSH for the implementation of the 2019 budget, has worked based on the following principles:

- Based on budget funds for the realization of the main goal of AIDSSH, information based on the requests of affected individuals, constitutional institutions, public authorities, researchers and the media.
- Based on budget funds to increase staff performance through various trainings.
- Based on budget funds for membership in international organizations and participation in activities organized by them.
- Based on budget funds for the transport and collection of all documents and archival funds from all archives of the system in all regions of the country.
- Based on budget funds to ensure transparency and credibility through digitization of the institution's activity and periodicals.
- Based on budget funds for the progress of work in AIDSSH

For 2019, the evidence of the realization of budget expenditures for the program "Planning, Management and Administration" compared to the annual plan as amended, is given in the table below:

In thousand ALL

No	Item	Initial Budget 2019	Budget amended 2019	Budget realization 2019	
				Amount	%
1	Planning-Management-Administration	58 000	61 000	47 815	78 %

The budget expenditures, according to the economic classification of expenditures, according to the budget realization in 2019, is given in the following table:

In thousand ALL

Account	Item	Initial Budget 2019	Budget as amended 2019	Budget realization 2019	
				Amount	Percentage %
600	Solary fund	32 500	35 500	33 533	94 %
601	Social & Health Insurance Contributions	5 500	5 500	5 238	95 %
602	Other goods and services	18 000	18 000	8 923	50 %
230	Intangible Assets	120	120	120	100 %
231	Tangible Assets	1 880	1 880	0	0 %
	T o t a l	58 000	61 000	47 814	78 %

From the general budget fund, for the reported period, AIDSSH has realized the budget as follows:

The Solary and Social Insurance Fund, (item 600-601), is realised, pursuant to the approved organizational chart, with the Decision of the Parliament No. 95/2016, “On the approval of the structure, organics and salary classification of the Authority for Access to Information on Former State Security Service Documents”. By law No.99 / 2018, “On the budget of 2019” was approved the number of 30 employees and with the normative act No.2, dated 3.10.2019, the number of employees increased by 10, and the salary fund raised to 3 million ALL.

For 2019, have been approved 13 employees with temporary contracts, who got their payments and social insurances.

Therefore, the budget of salaries and social insurance is realized for the actual number of employees respectively in the amount of **33 533** thousand ALL for salaries and **5 238** thousand ALL for social and health insurance contributions, about 95% of the planned annual fund.

The level of 97% is positive for AIDSSH, as the calculation of expenses for this item and the addition of funds has been done correctly.

The fund for expenditures in the item Goods and Services (item 602 -606), for 2019, is 18,000 thousand ALL

According to the transactions carried out with the Treasury Branch, this item of expenditures was realized in 8 923 thousand ALL or 50%, of the total annual plan of operating expenses.

The abovementioned fund is realised on the following:

1. Payment of liabilities for postal, internet and telephone services.
2. Expenses for the purchase of various supplies such as stationery, cleaning materials, toners for the operation of computer equipment, printers and photocopies, etc.
3. Expenses for maintenance of cars.
4. Expenditures on the purpose of the Authority, providing standards on books and professional publications.
5. Expenditures on translation, printing and publishing.
6. Expenditures for the representation and participation of the Chairwomen, Members and staff of the Authority in various activities and working meetings inside and outside Albania.

The level of 50% expenditures is not good for AIDSSH, as long as in the annual plan of expenditures was planned a fund of 6 million ALL for renting premises. In October, following the confirmation of the Guard of the Republic and the obligation to pay for electricity and water, the Strategic Management Group met and decided that this fund should be used for the publication of the Authority's activities and reports, as requested by the Directorate of Scientific Support. They have worked on the technical specifications and drafted the procurement order to carry out this expenditure. The Treasury, did not accept this practice and, as a result, the operating expenses were not realized for 2019.

➤ **Capital expenditure fund (item 230-231)**

Through monitoring it is found out that the structure of capital expenditures of the initial budget has been amended by an addition of fund for intangible assets' expenditures in the amount of 2 000 thousand ALL.

➤ **Tangible Assets expenditure fund (item 230-231)**

In this item of expenditures, there were purchased 2 programs by request of the Technological Development Sector in the amount of 120 thousand ALL. The fund of 1 880 thousand ALL was not realized for the purchase of computers and office furnitures, because the procurement procedures were suspended following the order of the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

The Finance Sector, in the framework of the agreement between AIDSSH and the Swedish Embassy, has opened accounts to enable the transfer of the grant and has continued with the liquidation of expenses for salaries and social insurance of the Project Coordinator.

13. CRIMINAL CHARGES AND JUDICIAL PROCESSES

Regarding the criminal charges addressed to the Authority during the reporting year 2019, it turns out that only one criminal charge has been filed, by the complainant Ll. K., which was initially dismissed by the Prosecutor's Office of the Judicial District of Tirana and the competent Court returned it to complete the documentation. This process is not over yet.

AIDSSH court cases where the institution has been a party to the proceedings, are given below:

No.	Plaintiff	Status of the process	Comments
1	B. Sh.	Completed the process in the Administrative Court of First Instance, Appealed to the Administrative Court of Appeal.	The judgement process at the Administrative Court of First Instance, Tirana, Plaintiff B. Sh. and defendant AIDSSH. The court upheld the claim.
		Appealed to the Administrative Court of Appeal.	Prepared the appeal for the court case with the plaintiffs B. Sh. to the Administrative Court of Appeal, filed with the Court (followed the case for the appeal due time, after the letter received from the State Advocacy, for the appeal in the Administrative Court of Appeal. Meeting with the Chancellor of the Administrative Court of First Instance, Tirana, on the case; meeting with the Secretary of the Administrative Court of Appeal) Complaint to the Administrative Court of Appeal in Tirana.
2	P. P.	Completed the process in the Administrative Court of First Instance	After the transfer of the case from the Administrative Court of First Instance, Shkodra, in that of Tirana as a matter of territorial jurisdiction, it was followed step by step in court hearings and the case ended up with the dismissal of the lawsuit, in favor of the Authority. After the complaint of the plaintiff P. P. in the Administrative Court of Appeal, Tirana, the counter-denunciation was prepared and filed by the Legal Sector of the Authority.
3	S. V.	Ongoing the process in the Administrative Court of First Instance	The court case with applicant S.V. with AIDSSH, who has been summoned to judgment process as a third person. It has completed the legal objections and pursued the case in the Judicial District Court, Tirana; the case is concluded, as the applicant S. V. forwarded it for judgment to the Administrative Court of First Instance, Tirana.

		In the Administrative Court of First Instance	There have been prepared legal objections and participated in the court hearing sessions of parties S. V. vs AIDSSH. The Administrative Court of First Instance, Tirana, finding incompetence, forwarded the case to the High Court, to determine the legal competence.
4	S. N.	Ongoing the process in the Administrative Court of First Instance, Tirane	There have been prepared legal objections, participated in the court session and prepared conclusions on the court case with plaintiffs S. N. at the Administrative Court of First Instance Tirana; followed the process session after session.... The stage of presenting the final conclusions and the issuance of the decision by the court. The process ended with the dismissal of the lawsuit filed by S. N. and in favor of AIDSSH. S. N. appealed the decision to the Administrative Court of Appeal, Tiranë.
5	L. K.	Ongoing the process in the Administrative Court of First Instance, Tiranë	There have been prepared legal objections, participated in the court session on the court case with plaintiffs L. K., at the Administrative Court of First Instance, Tirana; L.K.'s representative did not request the abrogation of the Authority's Administrative Decision, as the case was no longer administrative, the judge declared the Administrative Court's legal incompetence and forwarded the acts to the Civil Court, as the case was considered civil.
6	Ll. K.	Ongoing the process in the Administrative Court of First Instance, Tiranë	There have been prepared legal objections, participated in the court session on the case with plaintiffs Ll. K., at the Administrative Court of First Instance, Tirana; hearings were held and experts were appointed to substantiate the plaintiff's claims. After attempts to present the experts appointed by the Court, at the last session were presented the acts of expertise, "forensic assessment" and "psychological assessment". The court upheld the claim. AIDSSH has appealed the decision of the Administrative Court of First Instance, Tirana to the Administrative Court of Appeal, Tirana. At the same time, AIDSSH has appealed against the unfair decision of Judge G. H., to the KLGJ and KPK.
7	G. Z.	Ongoing the process in the Administrative Court of First Instance, Tiranë	There have been prepared legal objections to the Administrative Court of Tirana District for the administrative case with the following parties: plaintiff G. Z. and defendant AIDSSH, with the object of ascertaining the partial invalidity of the decision No. 593, dated 04.10.2019, as well as the correction of decision No. 333, dated 24.05.2019 received from the Authority.

			In December, the Administrative Court held a preparatory session, where each party presented concisely the claims and legal objections. The defendant AIDSSH has filed a request for being summoned as a third party in the judgement process of the General Directorate of State Police. The request was not accepted by the Court. The next hearing was set for February 17, 2020.
8	Xh. Sh.	Judgement process at the Judicial District Court, Tirana	Preparation and declaration of defense for the judgment process of the civil case: requesting parties Xh. Sh., third person – AIDSSH. The object was judicial confirmation of the fact that State Commission established pursuant to Law no. 8043, dated 30.11.1995, "On the control of the officials and other persons related to the protection of the democratic state", as amended, has issued for the applicant Xh. Sh. the verification letter, where it is proved that the latter is not limited to the exercise of the public functions defined in the abovementioned law for the function of the Director of the Criminal Police Directorate, held by the applicant, for the period subject to verification by the State Commission. On 30.01.2020, a preparatory session was held at the District Court, where each of the parties presented its explanations and legal objections. The Court instructed the requesting party to prove the fact of being a verified official by the Commission.