



Refugee Documentation Centre (Ireland)
LEGAL AID BOARD

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Information on police corruption

A report issued in February 2014 by the *United States Department of State* reviewing events of the preceding year, notes that:

“State police officers did not always enforce the law equally. Personal associations, political or criminal connections, poor infrastructure, and lack of equipment or inadequate supervision often influenced enforcement of laws. Low salaries, poor motivation and leadership, and a lack of diversity in the workforce contributed to continued corruption and unprofessional behavior. Impunity remained a serious problem, and few police officers were prosecuted for abuses” (United States Department of State (27 February 2014) *2013 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices – Albania*, Section 1d Arbitrary Arrest or Detention/ Role of the Police and Security Apparatus).

In September 2014 *Balkan Insight* states:

“Two surveys by the Tirana-based Institute for Democracy and Mediation, IDM, conducted between February and March 2013, but yet to be published, show 51 per cent of the public say corruption among police is considerable” (Balkan Insight (18 September 2014) *Albanians See Police as Corrupt, Surveys Say*).

A paper issued in January 2015 by the *Institute for Democracy and Mediation* states that:

“Findings show that police corruption is endemic” (Institute for Democracy and Mediation (January 2015) *Police integrity and corruption in Albania*, p.10).

References

Balkan Insight (18 September 2014) *Albanians See Police as Corrupt, Surveys Say*
<http://www.balkaninsight.com/en/article/corruption-in-albania-s-police-force-high-surveys-say>

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Institute for Democracy and Mediation (January 2015) *Police integrity and corruption in Albania*

<http://pasos.org/13677/police-integrity-and-corruption-in-albania/>

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United States Department of State (27 February 2014) *2013 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices – Albania*

<http://www.refworld.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/rwmain?page=printdoc&docid=53284b6bb>

Accessed Friday 6 February 2015

This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

Sources Consulted

Amnesty International
BBC News
Electronic Immigration Network
European Country of Origin Information Network
Freedom House
Google
Human Rights Watch
Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada
Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
International Crisis Group
IRIN News
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Refugee Documentation Centre Query Database
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