

## 9. International Law Enforcement Academies and Bilateral Training

The keystone to achieving enduring gains against corruption is to provide training for law enforcement, judicial and other officials involved in upholding the rule of law that equips them with the technical competence and professional integrity to carry out their functions in an efficient, impartial manner. Such officials are indispensable to assure the integrity of the justice and security institutions of government that are vital to political legitimacy and the acceptance of democratic political systems. Moreover, without efficient, impartial and incorruptible law enforcement and judicial systems, accountability -- the invariable partner of transparency in anticorruption regimes -- cannot be maintained in national life.

The Department of State has for over two decades carried out substantial international training activities in areas relating to narcotics control, in close cooperation with the Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Customs Service and the U.S. Coast Guard. Since the 1980's, the United States has carried out a growing range of training activities, particularly in Latin America, in the general field of administration of justice, many of whose aspects relate issues of professional integrity of law enforcement and judicial officials and preventing corruption among them. Since the late 1980's, United States agencies have provided substantial assistance, including training and other assistance in fields relating to maintaining the rule of law, criminal justice and public order, in the countries of central and eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union under the Support for East European Democracy Act and Freedom Support Act.

Since the early 1990's, the United States has carried out a number of major institutional reform or rehabilitation activities in countries whose public order institutions were debilitated or destroyed, typically in post-conflict situations. Beginning in 1995, a portion of the International Narcotics Control part of the foreign assistance appropriation was excluded from earlier limitations to narcotics control, and was provided specifically to support assistance activities related to improving the institutional capacities of criminal justice and public order institutions of foreign countries in areas other than drug control. The bulk of the activities supported with these funds, which have increased each year, is directed to supporting training by law enforcement or other competent U.S. Federal agencies. In Fiscal Year 1997, training by U.S. Federal agencies for drug and other law enforcement, public order and judicial institutions of foreign governments totalled approximately \$179,322,000.

Such training necessarily encompasses a wide range of technical and professional training covering virtually every aspect of law enforcement. Much of this training addresses issues of public integrity, professional responsibility, impartiality and other anticorruption matters as fundamentally inseparable from the conduct of any law enforcement or judicial activity. In Fiscal Year 1997, \$386,000 was employed for training specifically in subjects relating to professional responsibility, internal affairs and preventing corruption, in four countries or regional projects. In Fiscal Year 1998, this increased to \$493,400 in eight countries or regional projects.

In Fiscal Year 1999, the Department of State presently anticipates providing \$1,920,000, an fourfold increase over the previous Fiscal Year, for training that is specifically designed for promoting official integrity or fighting corruption. These funds will support activities in twenty seven countries or regional projects, a threefold increase over Fiscal Year 1998. The United States has decided as a matter of policy that it will continue to augment foreign assistance resources devoted to training for officials of institutions of government which have responsibilities for maintaining public order and the rule of law. The United States will seek further augmentation of resources devoted to this purpose during 1999 and in future years.

## B. International Law Enforcement Academies

Since 1994, the United States has cooperated with the Government of Hungary to operate in Budapest an International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA). Training is provided at the ILEA/Budapest for personnel of police or other law enforcement and criminal justice institutions of the countries of Europe and the Newly Independent States. The ILEA/Budapest now offers a core professional development course for mid-level career professionals in police or law enforcement institutions. The curriculum for this course includes a fully-integrated Human Dignity and Police, Professional Ethics and Personal Integrity course, aggregating some 30 hours training in each course. It also offers specialized courses in a variety of subjects. Since its opening, nearly two thousand officials from governments in that region have received training there.

In 1998, based on the success of the example in Budapest, the United States and the Government of Thailand initiated a second ILEA in Bangkok, whose purpose is to provide a framework to offer similar types of training to law enforcement and criminal justice officials of the countries of Asia. Planning is in progress to initiate a similar institution in Africa, and possibly later in other regions.

Early in 1999, the United States will develop and offer a new specialized course at the ILEA/Bangkok whose course topic will be fighting corruption in law enforcement institutions. The course will be designed to acquaint investigators, prosecutors and judges with techniques that can be used to investigate and prosecute cases of public corruption. Depending on the legal frameworks in the countries from which participants in the course come, the course will address in depth technical issues such as:

- witness protection;
- gathering evidence of public corruption offenses;
- financial analysis and financial investigative techniques;
- protection of human rights and civil rights.

The course will include a strong practical focus; as appropriate, instructors will assist participants with advice in how to create and operate anticorruption task forces or strike forces within their own institutions or countries. It will also place these offenses in the larger context of addressing the profound domestic and international consequences of

public corruption. To develop this course, the United States will draw to the fullest extent on the expertise of all Federal agencies related to investigating and punishing cases of official corruption. It will analyze and draw upon this experience to develop analogous courses to be offered at the ILEA/Budapest, and at other ILEAs, as they become operational. This new course represents a first step toward making effective measures to safeguard official integrity and fight corruption a permanent, significant element of the programs of the ILEAs, and of other United States training activities abroad.

Training of honest and effective police, prosecutors and judges must be the foundation of any lasting anticorruption strategy. The Department of State will continue to broaden and deepen its human and material investment in such anticorruption training.