



**Parliament of Montenegro
Parliamentary Institute
Research Centre**

Research paper:

**Direction and Coordination of Security-Intelligence Services and
Oversight over their work**

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Foreword

Democratic, civilian control of the security sector is a key precondition for the functioning of a democratic state, which protects and respects human rights and freedoms, and enables free expression of the citizens' will. An indispensable characteristic of a democratic establishment is transparency in the work of state institutions, as the main formal principle. In this context, a certain level of work transparency is expected from security-intelligence services, although, even today, secrecy continues to be one of their main working principles. Therefore, a great deal of attention is dedicated to control mechanisms of security-intelligence services, in order to ensure that citizens' interests are the ones being protected, not government's and interests of a certain political party or parties which constitute the government.

In order to prepare a comparative overview of provisions of basic legal acts governing the coordination of work of security-intelligence services, composition and competencies of bodies in charge of coordination, and oversight of the work of security-intelligence services, the Research Centre collected, analysed and presented the data concerning the establishment, character and competences of bodies in charge of direction and coordination of the work of security-intelligence services in the following 19 countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, Croatia, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Macedonia, Germany, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Serbia. In addition, the data concerning the type of oversight (including parliamentary, professional and public) conducted over security-intelligence services was also collected and provided in the paper, for the following countries: Czech Republic, Croatia, Latvia, Hungary, Germany, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Serbia.

The complete document in Montenegrin language can be found at:

http://www.skupstina.me/images/dokumenti/biblioteka-i-istrasivanje/Usmjeravanje_i_koordinacija_obavje%C5%A1tajno-bezbjednosnih_sluC5%BEbi_i_nadzor_nad_njihovim_radom.pdf