

SECURITY  
AND PROTECTION



DEPARTMENT

BANK OF ALBANIA

The central bank can perform normally when it exercises its basic functions and has access to safe and protected working conditions. In terms of the activity of the central bank, this “secondary” but most important task is carried out by the Security and Protection Department. This department is responsible for the protection and security of the headquarters, the branches and the objects of the Bank of Albania. It sees to it that the movements of employees and third parties in these environments comply with the regulations in force. It guards and secures the environments where monetary values are deposited. This department affords protection to their movements, and classified data in the areas where they are processed and saved.

Employees of the Bank of Albania and third parties move around in its environments observing certain established regulations. The latter consist in the identification of the individual, and his/her movement in the Bank. Arrangements are also made to place guards in the environments of the Bank of Albania, both in the centre and in the districts, giving priority to the prevention of criminal offences committed by the employees.

Guarding of the monetary values constitutes an important aspect of the work of this department, which consists in providing safe environments for their depositing, securing the transfer of funds in lekë and in hard currency, and applying appropriate procedures in cases where local money and foreign currencies have been forged.

#### Electronic security:

- Is concerned with the offering of the service of electronic protection to environments in the Bank of Albania, giving due attention to the areas where monetary values are deposited;
- Affects the integrated electronic system, including all the individual electronic protection systems installed in the Bank of Albania, its branches and objects. The department sees to it that the software used to this effect is protected through the determination of the entry levels into the system;
- Affects introduction of an electronic system of communication between the objects and branches of the Bank of Albania in the districts and the headquarters;
- organises the work for the saving of data in the E.D.P., telex and telegraphic keys.

The Security and Protection Department was set up as an organisational structure three years after the Bank of Albania was established. This department has gone through a number of changes. It had initially two experts who worked under the Governor’s Cabinet. Later on it was upgraded to the division level, and recently to the department level. This speaks both of its importance and of a number of achievements attained.

The following summarises some of them. This department has succeeded in:

- providing all the required necessary regulating and guiding framework governing the security and protection activity;
- ensuring that all the activity is carried out on the basis of this framework;
- providing electronic protection to objects housing monetary values; reconstructing the branches and building underground safe rooms; introducing electronic protection to all the branches; installing a walkie-talkie system for communication with the branches; introducing armoured vehicles during the transport of monetary values; and ensuring the functioning of the GPS system (individualisation of vehicles in movement)

The department has set itself the following objectives for the future:

- Designing and installation of contemporary electronic equipment to ensure the security and protection of the Bank of Albania, its branches and objects. Availability of information and signals on emergencies that might arise chiefly in the branches and in the objects.
- Maximum reduction of risks in the course of the monetary and hard currency operations carried out by the Bank of Albania in the branches and vice-versa, while strengthening the technical-organisational measures so as to further enhance its protective capacity in terms of people and equipment.
- Planning and application of measures of international standards for the purpose of promoting the level of physical security and protection in the main areas in the head quarters, the branches and objects.