



## Audit of IT tools and administrative processes Federal Criminal Court

### Key facts

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The Federal Criminal Court (FCC) is one of the Confederation's four courts. It is based in Bellinzona and deals with more than 50 criminal cases and 650 complaints on average per year. The FCC has a staff of 65, including 18 judges. Its operating expenses amounted to around CHF 14.2 million in 2015 and its receipts were almost CHF 1.1 million.

The Swiss Federal Audit Office (SFAO) examined the existence and effectiveness of the FCC's administrative processes and internal control system (ICS), as well as the IT tools used in this context. The SFAO believes that these processes allow for proper and effective management of criminal proceedings and that the IT tools meet the FCC's needs. The audit findings were positive from this perspective.

#### **The law still requires administrative management in paper format**

The SFAO examined all tasks and checks linked to the operation of the FCC's IT infrastructure. From a formal viewpoint, the FCC does not yet have IT regulations. From an operational stance, everything works well and there is proper security. The FCC has been using the program JURIS for the management of legal cases since 2005. This application, which is also used by the Federal Administrative Court and other cantonal courts, meets the needs of users, and they are generally happy with how it works.

From a strategic viewpoint, the SFAO was informed that the FCC is involved in a project called "Vision Joining Forces". The main aim is to assess the existence of alternatives to the programs currently used for managing case files. The administrative management of these files still has to be in paper format despite the evolution of IT tools. A change in this area requires an amendment of the legal provisions, and that does not come under the competence of the FCC.

#### **Risk analysis to be improved**

The SFAO found that, unlike the Federal Administration units, the FCC carries out several risk analyses but does not have an analysis of the strategic risks. Therefore, the SFAO recommended establishing such an analysis system based on the models that already exist.

#### **Original text in French**