



## The Tax Agency increases by 10% collaboration with the judicial bodies

- In 2012 there were 766 acts of collaboration recorded between experts, witnesses and legal assistance
- The Anti-corruption Prosecutor has a special support unit. About 900 officials help the courts with criminal investigation work

**26 January 2013.-** The Tax Agency actively and permanently collaborates with the courts in the investigation and prosecution of crime, both in criminal proceedings brought by the Treasury and in other legal proceedings not strictly related to taxation.

During the criminal proceedings, there are numerous requests from expert investigation bodies, witnesses or legal assistance, from before the opening of proceedings through to their completion. These collaborative actions have increased by 10.4% in 2012, as indicated in the table:

Collaboration mode	2010	2011	2012
Experts	302	318	306
Legal assistance	104	99	119
Witness -Expert	56	60	74
Witness	170	217	267
<b>Total</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>766</b>

Under judicial supervision, the Tax Agency takes precautionary measures for securing potentially responsible parties which are declared in criminal proceedings and conducts investigations into the assets of those involved in the alleged crime. The tax authority helps the judges and courts in implementing the convictions for offences against the Treasury, with the procedure of enforced recovery of fines and civil liability ruled.

## ANTI-CORRUPTION PROSECUTOR

In addition to the Courts of Justice, the Tax Agency regularly sends information to the departments of the Public Prosecutor's Office. The actions are channelled through the collaboration agreement in force, regarding and for the transfer of tax information between the General Council of the Judiciary, the Ministry of Justice and the Tax Agency.

The Support unit to the Anti-corruption Prosecutor is staffed by nine civil servants from the Tax Agency. It carried out reports, audits and actions required by the chief prosecutor of the Special Prosecutor or the State Prosecutor-General's Office.

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT

Together with the actions mentioned above, also worthy of mention is the work of supporting the Judiciary carried out by the almost 900 civil servants from Customs Surveillance in their CID role. In 2012 there were 414 cases prosecuted with civil servants undertaking criminal investigation department tasks.

Customs Surveillance, and administrative police, are considered members of the criminal investigation department in specific cases relating to the prosecution of crimes such as smuggling and other connected offences like money laundering and industrial and intellectual property offences, among others.

They can act in investigations related to tax evasion and the underground economy, at the prior request of a court, tribunal or the Public Prosecutor. They may not be removed or separated from the investigation if not through a judge's decision. They are bound by the secrecy order.

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