



SURVEY ON MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE ARCHIVES IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

(Please, if you need more space for comments, add supplementary sheets)

Country

Republic of Slovenia

Name of institution

Archives of the Republic of Slovenia

Parent institution

Ministry of Culture

1) Do the following bodies transfer their archives to the National Archives or do they run their own independent historical archives (or neither)? (for Intelligence Agencies, please add as many entries as you need)

	They transfer their archives to the NA	They run their own independent historical archives	They do not make their archives available to researchers
Army, Navy, Air Force	Yes	/	/
Ministry of Defence	Yes	/	/
<u>Intelligence Agencies:</u>			
Slovene Intelligence and Security Agency	Yes	/	/

Comments:

The Slovene Intelligence and Security Agency is (as an entity under public law) legally obligated to transfer its records to the Archives of the Republic of Slovenia within thirty-year time period (the period starting with the creation of the records).



The same applies to the records of the Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces. Archives of the Republic of Slovenia has not yet ingested that kind of records. Following an agreement between the Archives of the Republic of Slovenia and the Ministry of Defence, the period of transfer of records was extended until the end of the year 2025.

☒ 2) In case such bodies run their own independent historical archives, are they staffed with professional archivists? (for Intelligence Agencies, please add as many entries as you need)

	YES	NO
Army, Navy, Air Force		
Ministry of Defence		
<u>Intelligence agencies:</u>		
Slovene Intelligence and Security Agency		No

Comments:

The Slovene Intelligence and Security Agency does not run its own historical archives. Regardless of that, some of its staff is (according to general provisions for entities under public law) obligated to obtain a certain degree of knowledge in the field of records-management and archival practice.

3) In case intelligence and/or military archives are transferred to the National archives, are such archives transferred only after declassification or do the National Archives receive and preserve classified information (top secret, secret, etc.)?

	YES	NO
Archives including classified records are transferred only after declassification		No
The National Archives receive and preserve classified information	Yes	

Comments: The documents can retain a classified status. Namely, after their transfer a special legal status of the documents can be demanded by their creator in cases when the documents contain information, important for defence, public security, foreign relations, and intelligence activities of the state. Such documents can be labelled as inaccessible for a time period of forty years after their creation (a special extension of this period is possible for a further ten-year period). Regardless of that, such documents can be accessible in special legally defined cases of scientific and legal interests. Therefore their accessibility is greater than the accessibility of "classic" classified documents.



4) After how many years are the archives the following bodies supposed to be transferred to the National Archives or other archival institution?

	Number of years	The rule is actually enforced (YES / NO)
Army, Navy, Air Force	30	Yes
Ministry of Defence	30	Yes
<u>Intelligence agencies</u>		
Slovene Intelligence and Security Agency	30	Yes

5) As far as selection and transfer of archives is concern, do military bodies and intelligence services have to follow guidelines issued by the National Archives or by the Directorate General of Archives?

	YES	NO
Army, Navy, Air Force	National Archives	
Ministry of Defence	National Archives	
Intelligence agencies	National Archives	

6) Do archivists from the National Archives participate in the decisions regarding the selection and transfer of military archives and of the archives of the intelligence agencies?

	YES	NO
Army, Navy, Air Force	Yes	
Ministry of Defence	Yes	
Intelligence agencies	Yes	



7) According to the ICA Principles of Access to Archives, art. 9, "Archivists have access to all closed archives and perform necessary archival work on them". Is this principle enforced in your country, as far as military archives and the archives of intelligence agencies are concerned?

	YES	NO
Army, Navy, Air Force	Yes	
Ministry of Defence	Yes	
Intelligence agencies	Yes	

Comments: Generally, archivists have access to all closed archives – with the additional condition of having previously obtained a permit for access to classified information.

8) Are there archivists from the National Archives who have security clearances (i.e. who can access classified information)?

YES	
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9) As far as the management of records and archives are concerned, do military corps and intelligence agencies have to follow guidelines and directives issued by the National Archives or by the Directorate General of Archives?

	YES	NO
Army, Navy, Air Force	National Archives	
Ministry of Defence	National Archives	
Intelligence agencies	National Archives	

Comments: Most of the provisions for the management of records and archives are determined by law and executive regulations.



10) Does your national legislation provide for automatic declassification of classified national security information after a given number of years?

YES	
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Comments: The legal arrangement of the issue is a bit unclear. However, all the documents lose their classified status in accordance to the provision of the archival law, if their declassification is not exactly defined upon their creation.

11) In case you answered YES to question no. 10, after how many years?

Forty years from the creation of the document.

12) Does your national legislation provide for automatic declassification of classified information regarding national defence (for example, information on weapons of mass destruction) after a given number of years? In case, after how many years?

YES	
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Comments:

There are no special provisions for automatic declassification of classified information regarding national defence – thus the general rules are applied in such cases.

13) In case you answered YES to question no. 12, after how many years?

Forty years from the creation of the document.

14) Does your national legislation provide for automatic declassification of classified information originating from a foreign government (or from a foreign intelligence agency, foreign police authority, etc.) after a given number of years? Or is such kind of information declassified only after consulting with the originating country?

	YES	NO
Classified information originating from a foreign government is declassified only with the agreement of the foreign government	Yes	



Classified information originating from a foreign government is automatically declassified after a given number of years, like other classified information		No
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Comments: No (foreign) classified information can be declassified without a specific consent of (foreign) government or other body, which created and classified the information.

15) Does your national legislation provide for special rules regarding the declassification of classified information originating from the NATO?

Yes

16) Are information originating from the NATO declassified after a given number of years or are decisions regarding the declassification of NATO documents left to NATO itself?

	YES	NO
Information originating from the NATO are declassified after a given number of years		No
Decisions regarding the declassification of NATO documents are left to NATO itself	Yes	

Comments: No such classified information can be declassified without a specific consent of NATO.

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