

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
CIVIL PROTECTION DIRECTORATE



MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
CIVIL PROTECTION DIRECTORATE
Nehajska 5, Zagreb, Croatia
<https://civilna-zastita.gov.hr>

The civil protection system is organised at a local, regional, and state level. It unites resources and capacities of its stakeholders, operational forces and citizens into a unique whole for disaster risk reduction, providing a rapid and optimum response to threats and dangers of emerging major hazards and disasters, as well as mitigating their consequences.

The Civil Protection Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Croatia is in charge of the following:

- coordinating the work of the Croatian Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
- establishing, developing, and managing the civil protection system, risk management, organising stakeholders, operational forces, and citizens to protect and rescue people, animals, material and cultural goods and environment
- specialist training within the civil protection system
- receiving calls to a single European emergency number, 112, and coordinating the actions of first-responders
- collecting and processing data and maintaining records on areas and facilities contaminated by mine and explosive devices, maintaining records on de-mined areas, a general survey of mine suspected areas/facilities, land, rivers, lakes and sea, drafting and maintaining of statutory documentation
- addressing matters in administrative and expert areas of radiological and nuclear safety
- technical supervision of plants, including the classification of premises, installations and devices intended for operation in areas endangered by the explosive atmosphere
- conducting inspections
- International cooperation.



PREPARATION AND COORDINATION OF THE CIVIL PROTECTION

The following operational forces conduct measures and activities within the civil protection system:

- civil protection headquarters
- firefighting operational forces
- operational forces of the Croatian Red Cross
- operational forces of the Croatian Mountain Rescue Service
- associations
- civil protection units and commissioners
- field coordinators
- Legal entities within the civil protection system.

Regional civil protection offices and departments initiate and organise civil protection measures and activities at the level of local and regional self-government.

STATE CIVIL PROTECTION INTERVENTION UNIT

The State Civil Protection Intervention Unit is organised to respond to major hazards and disasters. It consists of four units in the following cities: Zagreb, Split, Rijeka and Osijek, composed of professional and reserve members. Unit members undergo capability-based training programmes in search and rescue out of ruins, flood rescue, chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) detection and decontamination (only Zagreb and Split State Civil Protection Intervention Units), management, as well as technical and tactical support.

The units use state-of-art devices, equipment, and technology, as well as personal protective equipment necessary for the completion of tasks in missions of search and rescue out of ruins and in case of floods, and CBRN protection. They are also equipped with assets for providing for the population affected by major hazards. The units are reinforced by reserve members from the ranks of, among others, surveyors, diving associations, search and rescue dog training associations, and volunteer firefighting associations.



The members of the State Civil Protection Intervention Units take part in numerous international exercises within the EU Civil Protection Mechanism and other international organisations.

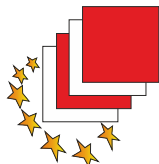
SPECIALIST TRAINING WITHIN THE CIVIL PROTECTION SYSTEM

The National Civil Protection Training Headquarters with its regional training centres in Split and Zagreb conducts specialist training within the civil protection system.



For the civil protection measures in cases of major accidents and disasters be implemented, specialist training of the civil protection stakeholders is set up for:

- authorised official persons and members of civil protection units
- mayors of municipalities, cities and counties, and the head of civil protection headquarters
- members of civil protection headquarters at any organisational level
- commanders of civil protection units
- civil protection commissioners and their deputies
- critical infrastructure security coordinators
- state administration bodies responsible for administrative, expert, and other tasks of interest to the civil protection system
- departments and units of legal entities primarily active in protection and rescue, upon obtaining opinion or at the request of competent authorities
- citizens.



DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Natural threats like earthquakes, floods, fires, epidemics and alike could develop into disasters unless we get adequately prepared. Any decision made and any activity implemented make us either more vulnerable or more resilient to disasters.

Disaster risk reduction implies the entirety of measures and activities for analysing the causes of disasters and reducing the vulnerability of citizens and property as well as increasing the readiness for hazardous events. They include activities such as the building of dams, increasing of green surfaces, education, risk assessment analysis, and influencing changes in behaviour.

Through the Croatian Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Civil Protection Directorate coordinates activities and drafting of documents identifying and assessing the risks, it creates their management strategy, and eliminates the causes of disasters and mitigates arisen effects. State administration bodies, scientific institutions and various stakeholders from both professional and private sector use the Croatian Platform for the exchange and streamlining of knowledge, experience, and positions on needs for action in disaster risk reduction.

REDUCING THE RISKS OF DISASTERS

IS THE TASK OF US ALL



112 SYSTEM

The Republic of Croatia introduced 112 as the single European emergency services number on 11 February 2005.

112 System ensures the efficient receipt of information to a single European emergency services number 112 through telephone, SMS messages, and automatic calls from vehicles, coordination of emergency services and receipt of information on immediate and emerging dangers. It also alerts citizens, making them aware and informing them of the danger and its type and measures to be undertaken.

County 112 Centres make up the foundation of the 112 System. Their task is to enable efficient communication with citizens, operational forces and other stakeholders within the civil protection system, and Civil Protection Operations Centre. The Civil Protection Operations Centre thus interlinks the communication and coordinates the work of the civil protection system at the national level.



The Civil Protection Operations Centre also acts as a national contact point for the information exchange in search operations or providing international assistance within the EU Civil Protection Mechanism and other international organisations.

The main activities in the area of mine action include collecting and processing of data and maintaining records on areas and facilities contaminated by mines and explosive devices and unexploded ordnances, maintaining records on demined areas, general surveys and marking of mine suspected areas (MSA), technical surveys, quality control in humanitarian demining, issuing certificates regarding the exclusion of areas demined from the mine suspected ones and cooperation with international stakeholders.

Since 1996, approximately HRK 6 billion has been invested into demining activities, out of which approximately HRK 1.3 billion has been secured through EU funds for demining in Croatia, with a constant upward trend of EU grants for demining over the last couple of years.



At the end of 2019, the mine suspected areas in the Republic of Croatia spread over 312 km² in 8 counties and 53 cities and municipalities, with 98% of them being forest land.

Long-standing experience in operations, competence, and knowledge of those implementing demining activities and the achievements achieved so far provide for a solid ground to have the Republic of Croatia cleared of mines by 2026.



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR SAFETY

Radiological and nuclear safety represents the sum of regulations and standards, design solutions, work instructions, safety culture of employees, competences and other factors that altogether contribute to the protection of people and environment from harmful effects of ionised radiation.

We are dedicated to ensuring the safe application of ionising radiation sources and strengthening of nuclear safety with acceptable and controlled risks for life and health of people and environment, as for the present, so for the future generations.

Radiological and nuclear safety is provided for by:

- issuing of permits and licences
- inspections supporting peaceful, justified, and safe usage of an ionising radiation source, nuclear technology and materials, and a satisfactorily high level of safety
- systematic testing and monitoring types and activities of radioactive substances in the environment
- measures of radiological and nuclear safety, as well as standards of nuclear security
- organising and setting up the system of emergency preparedness and response including ionised radiation sources
- monitoring the security situation of nuclear power plants in neighbouring countries and implementing risk assessments of possible nuclear accidents in them, especially for Krško Nuclear Power plant in Slovenia and Paks Nuclear Power Plant in Hungary.



EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES

Explosive Atmospheres Sector carries out activities of technical supervisions of plants endangered by explosive atmosphere, technical supervision of installation, maintenance and repairs of Ex devices and fittings, certifications of explosion-protected equipment, explosive substances and quality management system in production, laboratory testing of Ex equipment and education of personnel working in the plants endangered by explosive atmospheres.



The Explosive Atmospheres Sector is active in the prevention of explosions in plants endangered by explosive atmospheres and in the reduction of risks of technological explosions and disasters. Technical supervisions, equipment testing and certifications contribute to the safety of a large number of facilities and plants (i.e. gas platforms, oil refineries, and gas and oil transport, chemical, food, and pharmaceutical industry, storages of flammable substances, silos, and other).



INSPECTIONS

The inspections tasks are carried out in the area of fire protection, production and trafficking in explosive substances, weapons, private protection and detective affairs, mine action, civil protection, as well as radiological and nuclear safety. Their purpose is to inspect the fulfilment of the requirements and the operating mode of legal entities and physical persons in the areas of work as mentioned above and to implement the administrative procedure.

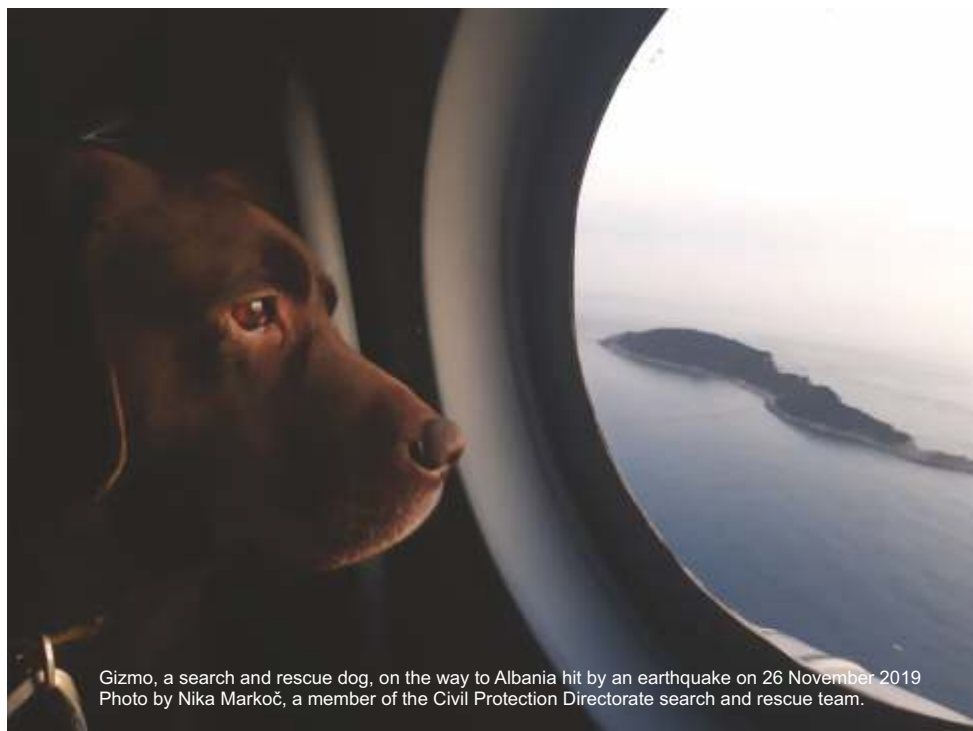
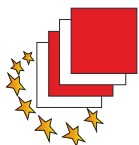
Inspections are conducted in the following areas:

- fire protection
- explosive substances and weapons
- private protection and detective affairs
- demining
- civil protection
- radiological and nuclear safety.



REGIONAL CIVIL PROTECTION OFFICES AND DEPARTMENTS

Regional civil protection offices and departments are active in the areas of counties and the City of Zagreb. They are competent for the inspection implementation, initiating and coordinating civil protection measures, and activities at the level of local and regional self-government, receiving calls to a single European emergency services number 112, issuing alerts and educating the population.



Gizmo, a search and rescue dog, on the way to Albania hit by an earthquake on 26 November 2019
Photo by Nika Markoč, a member of the Civil Protection Directorate search and rescue team.

**MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
CIVIL PROTECTION DIRECTORATE
Nehajska 5, Zagreb, Croatia
<https://civilna-zastita.gov.hr>**