



Refugee Documentation Centre (Ireland)
LEGAL AID BOARD

Ghana - Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on Wednesday 23 July 2014

Information on state protection including police ability to investigate crime and prosecute perpetrators

A report issued in February 2014 by the *United States Department of State* commenting on events of 2013 notes:

“Police brutality, corruption, negligence, and impunity were problems. There were delays in prosecuting suspects, rumors of police collaboration with criminals, and widespread perception of police ineptitude during the year” (United States Department of State (27 February 2014) *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2013, Ghana*, Section 1d, Arbitrary Arrest or Detention/Role of the Police and Security Apparatus).

Commenting on events of the preceding year, a publication released in January 2014 by *Freedom House* notes:

“There were numerous reports of police brutality, negligence, and corruption in 2013” (Freedom House (23 January 2014) *Freedom in the World 2014 – Ghana*).

A document issued in June 2014 by the *United States Department of State Overseas Security Advisory Council* points out that:

“The police have a poor record of investigating and solving serious crimes” (United States Department of State Overseas Security Advisory Council (17 June 2014) *Ghana 2014 Crime and Safety Report*, p.4).

Voice of America in April 2014 states:

“Ghana parliamentarians have asked the police to increase protection for legislators and the population after expressing concern about the recent surge in unsolved murders in the country, especially in the capital, Accra and surrounding areas. But, the police administration says its Criminal Investigation Division (CID) has launched an inquiry into the killings after reassuring the public that the country is safe. Some Ghanaians however say they are worried since the police have yet to arrest anyone in connection with the killings” (Voice of America (1 April 2014) *Ghana Police Increase Public Protection*).

References

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This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

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