

CRIMINAL CASE TRAJECTORY IN RUSSIA

Description of arrows and comments

0 Accident reports registered by the Ministry of Internal Affairs (including those concerned with administrative offences, crimes, invalidated incidents, etc.)

Examination of accident reports

1 **Crime report registration.** This is the first action taken by MIA bodies (usually regional or district police departments) that involve checking/examination of submitted accident reports. The police determines whether the facts in the report can constitute a crime as defined by the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation. Citizen reports (including those by the police) are checked/examined in accordance with Articles 144-145 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (pre-investigation check). This check results in one of the decisions stipulated in the Criminal Procedure Code.

1.1 **Crime report registration by non-MIA agencies.** For the Investigative Committee, the Federal Drug Control Service and other agencies the situation is slightly different: they only publish the statistics of the number of registered crime reports. Thus we do not know how many accident reports remain unregistered. However, they account for over 1 million in the total number of crime reports.

Crime reports processing

- 2 **Criminal case file opened** after preinvestigation check.
- 3 **Refusal to open criminal case file** after preinvestigation check.
- 4 **Reversal of refusal to open criminal case file** by prosecution or the investigative body itself.
- 4.1 **Criminal case file opened after reversal of refusal to open criminal case file.**
- 5 **Transfer to other agencies:** crime report is sent to another agency or territory.
- 6 **Reversal of opening of criminal case file.** After reversal of the decision to open a criminal case file the crime report is re-examined and a new decision is taken. This decision may include opening of a new case file, refusal to open it, or transfer to other agencies.

Investigation of criminal cases

The bulk of criminal case files investigated throughout the year includes the case files opened in this year, reopened cases, and those in process at the end of the previous year. We refer to them as "cases in process". Their trajectories are shown at the third stage.

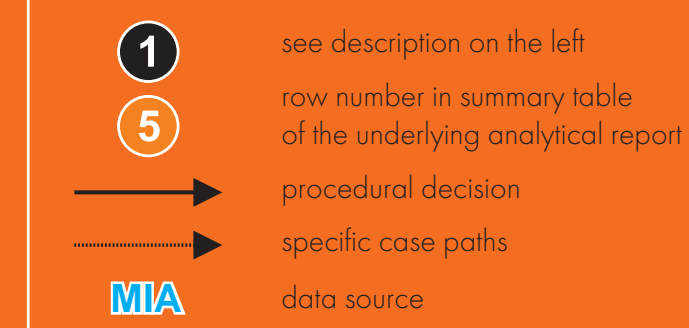
- 7 **Criminal case files sent to prosecution.** Before the case is referred to court, it is sent to the prosecutor, who takes the decision on whether s/he should proceed with this case to court at all.
- 7.1 **Criminal case files returned by prosecutor for further investigation.** These are the criminal case files that were sent to prosecutor for approval and future reference to court, but were returned for future investigation.
- 8 **Criminal case files dismissed** at pretrial stage.
- 9 **Criminal case files sent to court.** The majority of finished case files is sent to court.
- 9.1 **Cases involving pleas for educational enforcement measures in relation to juvenile offenders sent to court.**

Finished case files: sent to court + dismissed at pre-trial stage.

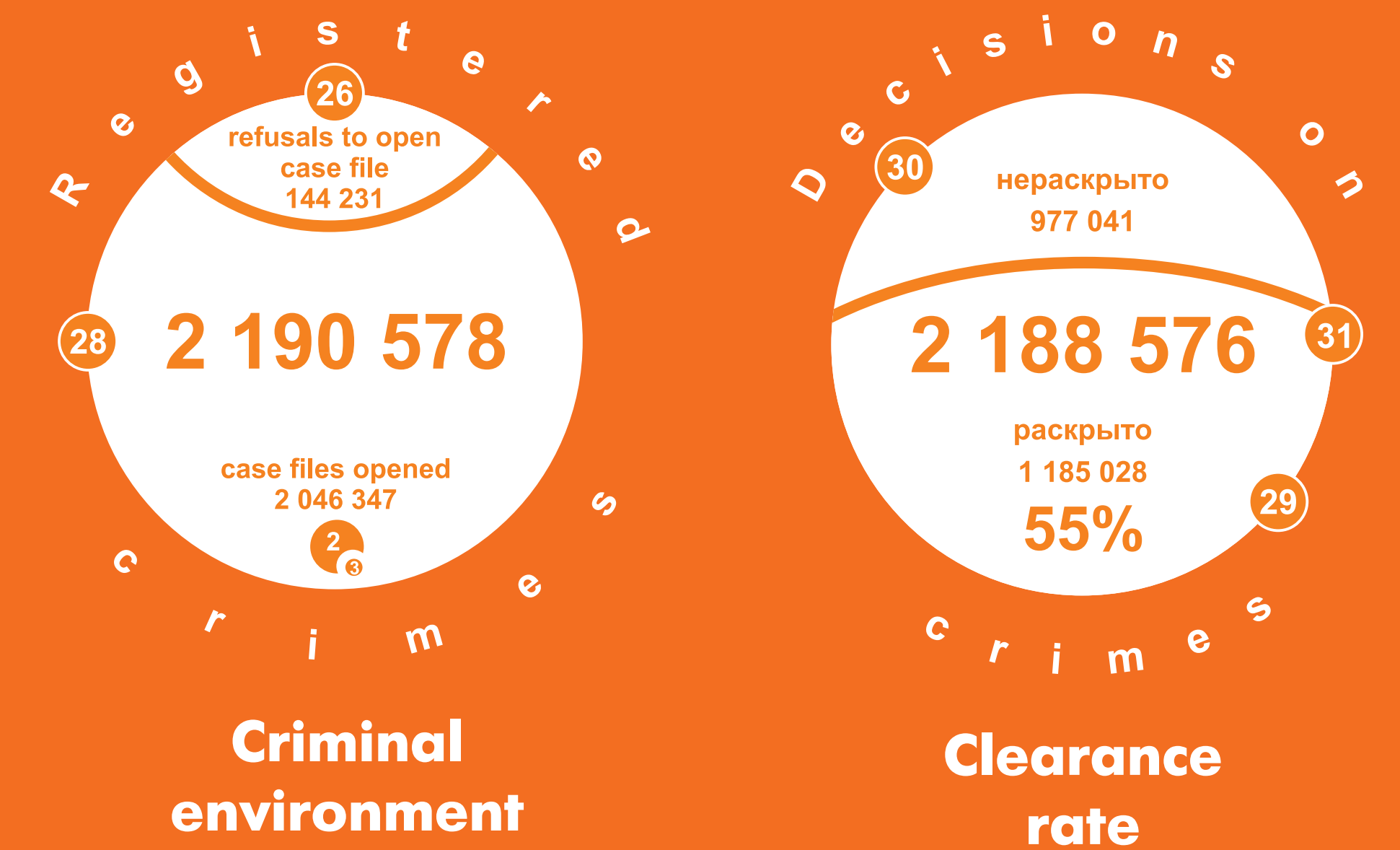
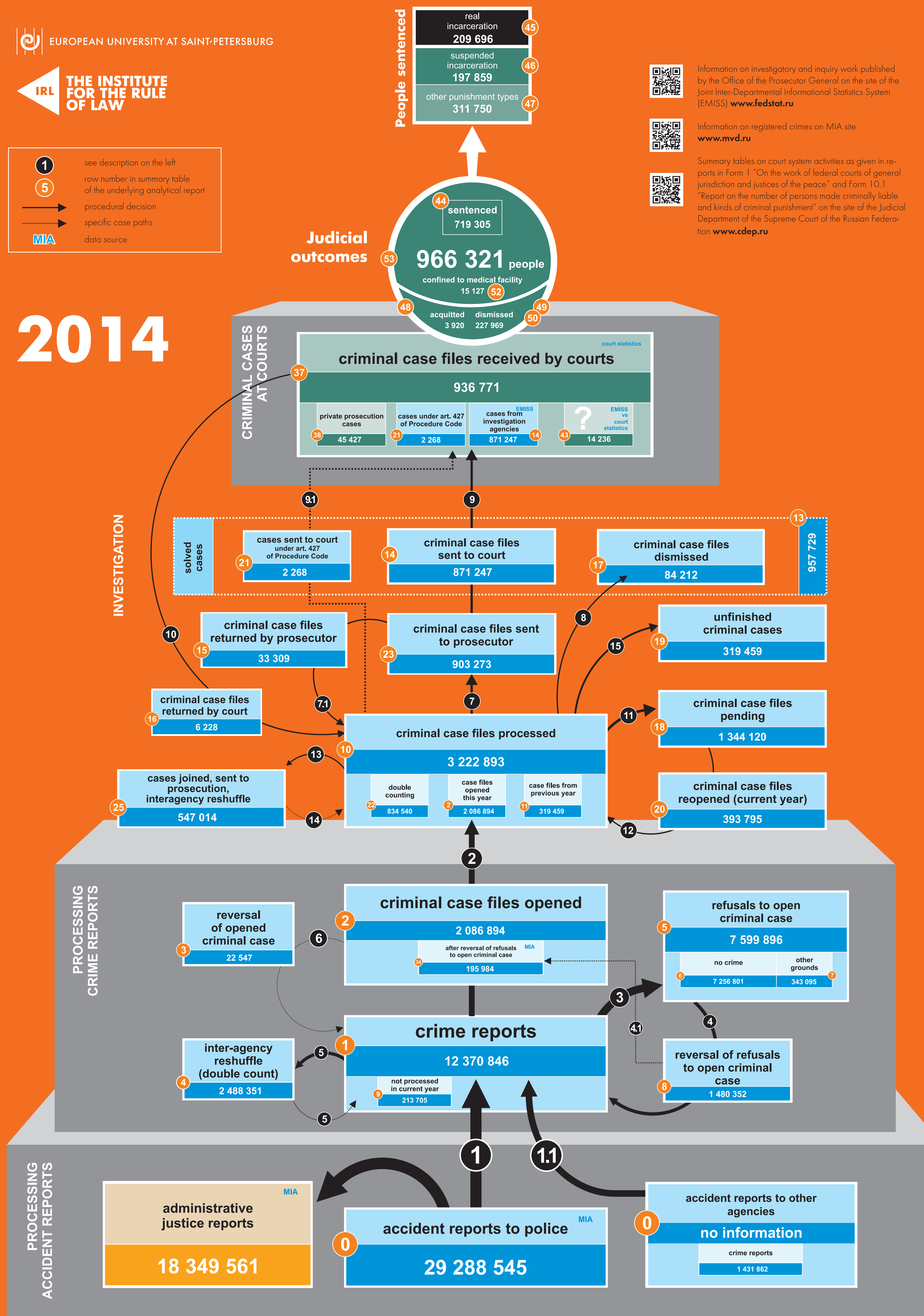
- 10 **Cases returned by court under Article 237 of the Criminal Procedure Code.** A small share of cases is returned by the court to eliminate violations or correct mistakes made at pretrial stage. These case files are processed and can take any path open for criminal case files under investigation.
- 11 **Pending investigation:** when there is no suspect, his/her location is unknown, or when s/he is sick.
- 12 **Investigation is resumed** the case files that were previously dismissed or suspended. The case obtains "in process" status.
- 13 **Case trajectories not published in official statistics.** This arrow combines cases under inquiry submitted by the prosecutor to investigators and arrow 14.
- 14 **Joined and transferred criminal case files.** Criminal case files transferred to other agencies are double-counted as cases processed. Joined cases are not counted as separate entities any more and follow the counting rules of the cases to which they are attached.
- 15 **Unfinished criminal cases.** Criminal cases processed by investigative agencies are counted at the end of the year and are transferred to the next period.

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY AT SAINT-PETERSBURG

IRL THE INSTITUTE FOR THE RULE OF LAW



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How is criminal investigation statistics related to crime statistics?

Registered crimes

Crimes registered per year comprise:

- Criminal case files opened in the respective year.
- «Refusals to open case files». Crimes are still registered when the fact of crime or corpus delicti is evident but there was a refusal to open a criminal case file due to death of the person that committed the crime or due to expiration of limitation period.
- «Private prosecution cases». Criminal cases brought to courts at the initiative of a private citizen that resulted in the verdict of guilt.

Crime clearances

Clearance rate is one of the key performance indicators of law enforcers. For this reason we provide a detailed explanation of its calculation. Clearance rate is a ratio of solved and unsolved crimes.

Solved crimes

- Solved crimes include criminal cases sent to court and cases dismissed due to non-rehabilitating reasons, but when the fact of crime was acknowledged. If such criminal case files were initiated in current year, they are also counted as registered crimes.
- Solved crimes also include crime reports that resulted in refusals to open criminal case files (refusal to open criminal case on other grounds), but when the fact of crime was acknowledged. This happens when the person that committed the crime is dead, or due to expiration of limitation period.

Unsolved crimes

Unsolved crimes statistics is based on the number of criminal case files pending, except case files that were reopened for investigation (if the case file was opened in 2013, later became pending and then was reopened throughout the year, it will be counted as an unsolved crime only once).

Therefore, 100% decisions on crimes are decisions resulting from investigations carried out in the reported period. That is why the number of registered crimes and the total number of cleared and unsolved cases are never the same: the crime registered in the current year can be solved or stay unsolved in the following year.

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