

Varied modes of operation

The CGA has varied modes of operation, which are based on very broad powers of investigation both on site and evidence-based. They draw upon the techniques and audit procedures employed in large organisations, both public and private.

Alongside the investigations scheduled under an annual work plan and those conducted in response to urgent requests from the Minister of Defence, the CGA undertakes sector-based inspection, i.e. systematic



© R. Pellegrino - ECPAD

monitoring of all ministry activity. Each inspector monitors a cross-cutting function (human resources...), a sector (infrastructure...) or an arms company.

The CGA also directs or participates in interministerial assignments undertaken by several general inspection corps. It is also called upon for support or technical assistance assignments undertaken by European and international organisations.

The head of the CGA has special responsibilities: on the Executive Committee (COMEX) chaired by the Minister, he sits alongside the key subordinates (Chief of the Defence Staff, the Chief Executive of the Defence Procurement Agency and the Secretary General for Administration) and the Director General for International Relations and Strategy, and provides his view on the matters addressed. On the Ministerial Investment Committee (CMI), he examines investment proposals submitted to the Minister and provides his assessment before a decision is taken.

The work of the CGA

The work of the Armed Forces Inspectorate (CGA) takes the form of reports, investigation reports, government commissioners' reports, audits, etc.

Information is strategic to the proper performance of the CGA's assignments. This is why it is equipped with a structure, processes and tools, including the Spinoza software package, to ensure the collection, processing and dissemination of relevant and varied information, for the benefit of the entire department.

PROCEDURE

Compilation of the opinions of the departments inspected and collegiate review of output within the Armed Forces Inspectorate (CGA) are the rule.

The principle of procedural due process is employed during the assignment by means of requests for information or explanations sent to the relevant authorities in order to avoid any risk of legal, factual or evaluation error and, at the end of the assignment, through the opportunity provided to the relevant authorities to express their point of view on the conclusions.

Collegiality is achieved by means of review committees, which bring the person(s) preparing the report together with the inspectors with competences in respect of the subject addressed. Subsequently, presentation of the report enables the inspection committee to attest of the quality of work undertaken and determine subsequent actions. The reports are then sent to the Minister.



© CGA/COM