

### BRAZILIAN INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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## WHAT ABIN DOES

### What is it?



The Brazilian Intelligence Agency (ABIN) is Brazil's State intelligence body. It is responsible for supplying the Presidency of the Republic with timely, reliable, and strategic information and analyses that will inform its decision-making process.

In addition, ABIN is the central body in the Brazilian Intelligence System (SISBIN), whose goal is to integrate planning and execution actions pertaining to Intelligence Activity in Brazil. SISBIN is made up of Intelligence centers, ministries, secretariats, and agencies of the Federal Public Administration.





### What does it do?

To fulfill ABIN's institutional mission, intelligence professionals produce strategic knowledge by analyzing facts or situations that will allow the recognition of opportunities, risks and threats. Befitting its legal responsibilities and its institutional mission, ABIN has no law enforcement function.

### How does it work?

ABIN is a permanent, non-partisan and apolitical state body. Intelligence activities are carried out in full observance of individual rights and guarantees, loyalty to institutions and ethical principles that govern the interests and security of the Brazilian State.

Its work is based on the preservation of national sovereignty, the defense of the democratic rule of law and respect for human dignity.

### Where does it work?

The Agency's headquarters is located in Brasília/DF and it has 26 field offices – called superintendencies – one in each state capital. In addition, the agency has two other offices in strategic border locations: one in Foz do Iguaçu/PR and another in Tabatinga/AM.

ABIN also has 18 representations abroad, where officers of the Agency exchange information with foreign Intelligence services that produce knowledge about topics of interest to Brazil.





# **INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITY**

### **Intelligence Activity**

Intelligence activity is the permanent use of specialized actions aimed at the production and dissemination of knowledge. Its goal is to advise government officials on planning, executing, monitoring, and assessing State policies. Intelligence activity is divided into two major areas: **Intelligence** and **Counterintelligence**.



### Intelligence

Intelligence is an activity that aims to produce and disseminate knowledge to competent officials about facts and situations that take place domestically and abroad. It encompasses topics that might – immediately or potentially - influence the decision-making process, government action and the safeguarding of society and the State.

### Counterintelligence

Counterintelligence is an activity that aims to prevent, detect, obstruct, and neutralize adverse Intelligence\* and actions that pose a threat to the safeguarding of data, knowledge, people, areas, and facilities of interest to society and the State.

\* Adverse Intelligence:

1. Activity carried out by a state or a non-state agent, using specialized actions, to obtain undue or unauthorized access to data and knowledge, areas or facilities, to promote the interests of its sponsor.

2. Organizations and structures that support and sponsor such activity.

3. A foreign Intelligence service working against the security of society and of the state.

### **Intelligence Operations**

To collect relevant information for Intelligence and Counterintelligence, Intelligence Activity relies on specialized actions to obtain data and information that is not available on open sources, in a field called Intelligence Operations.



This field applies operational techniques that strictly comply with the precepts set out by Brazilian legislation. There is unrestricted observance of individual rights and guarantees, loyalty to institutions and to ethical principles that govern the interests and security of the State.



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## LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR INTELLIGENCE

### Legal Framework for Intelligence

The main pieces of legislation regulating Intelligence Activity in Brazil are:

- Law n° 9,883 of December 7, 1999, which established the Brazilian Intelligence System and created ABIN;

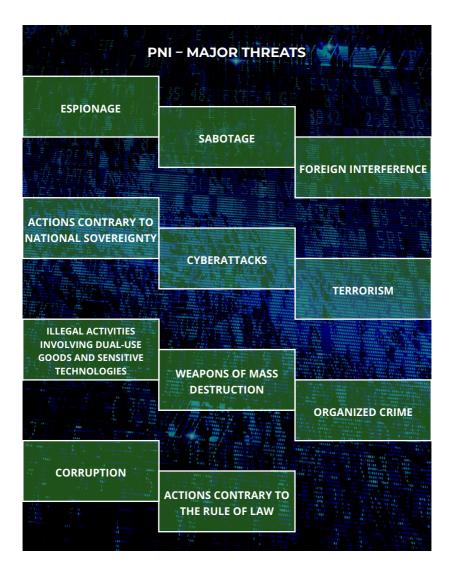
- Decree n° 8,793, of June 29, 2016, which established Brazil's National Intelligence Policy;

- Decree of December 15, 2017, which established Brazil's National Intelligence Strategy.

### National Intelligence Policy (PNI)

The PNI is the main guiding document for Intelligence Activity. It sets parameters and limits for Intelligence Activity, and establishes its premises, objectives, instruments, and guidelines for action.

In addition, it specifies the main threats that may jeopardize the integrity of Brazilian society and of the Brazilian State.





## **ABIN AND SOCIETY**

### **Security Consulting Services**

The National Program for Protection of Sensitive Knowledge (PNPC) is one of ABIN's security consultancy services, and aims at fostering protection of sensitive knowledge in national institutions, both public and private.



With a focus on preventing espionage, sabotage, and information leakage, the PNPC works to identify threats and vulnerabilities in an institution's protection systems and recommends measures that will reduce the likelihood of incidents.

The PNPC provides risk assessments and delivers lectures to institutions to help raise their security awareness. Since its creation in 1997, the PNPC has carried out awareness activities to more than 50 thousand people.

### Cybersecurity

ABIN is on the lookout for threats and opportunities presented to Brazil in the cyber environment, which has become the main repository of strategic and sensitive information and knowledge in the world. The Agency operates in the cyberspace, seeking data and information relevant to national interests and producing intelligence knowledge in order to assist the country's decision-making bodies.



Threats from cyberspace can undermine the State's operational capacity and compromise its critical infrastructure. ABIN carries out cybersecurity-related analyzes and assessments for national strategic bodies and institutions, supporting them in adopting effective protection measures.

To ensure that communications in these bodies and institutions are secure, ABIN provides information and communications security solutions. This measure provides Brazil with significant advantages stemming from the mastery of more advanced technological solutions to deal with cyberspace.



State-owned solutions and cryptographic algorithms are developed by the **Research and Development Center for Communication Security (Cepesc)**. The center was created on May 19, 1982, and is part of ABIN's structure.

Some of the products developed by Cepesc are:

- A Secure Telephone (TSG): encryption device for telephone communications, which offers security in voice and data traffic and is attached to landlines or cell phones;

- A High Performance Cryptographic Platform (PCAD): cryptographic equipment to protect data traffic in a computer network;

- A Portable Cryptographic Platform (PCP): portable encryption device, which allows storage, destruction, and secure transmission of sensitive files.

All of ABIN's secure products are built on cryptography owned and used exclusively by the Brazilian government.

### **Training**

One of ABIN's statutory duties is the development of both human resources and Intelligence doctrine. Furthermore, the Agency is responsible for carrying out studies and research for the exercise and improvement of Intelligence Activity. At the Agency, the **School of Intelligence (Esint)** is in charge of these duties.

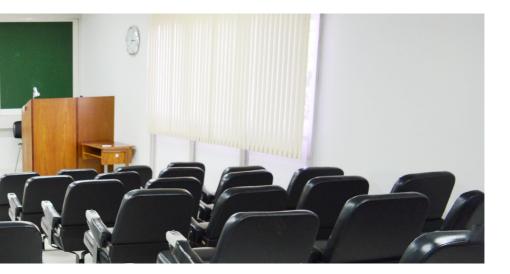
Esint offers a wide range of training courses – from introductory to advanced, specialized and extension courses – to in-house employees and employees of other SISBIN members. The School also provides training, through terms of cooperation and agreements, to other federal



and state agencies that carry out Intelligence functions or even to government or private institutions that hold confidential and strategic knowledge.

Dozens of courses are offered, and more than a thousand students are trained annually.

Esint conducts studies and research in new methods, processes, and techniques to keep Brazilian Intelligence professionals constantly up to date. By building partnerships or interacting with public and private institutions, Esint promotes the evolution of Intelligence Activity and seeks to disseminate Brazilian Intelligence doctrine, which is common to the entire SISBIN.





# CONTROL OF INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITY

### **Control of Intelligence Activity**

ABIN is subject to several control mechanisms. These mechanisms ensure that Intelligence Activity is in compliance with the Federal Constitution and individual rights and guarantees. Moreover, they ensure that Intelligence Activity is making proper use of public resources.

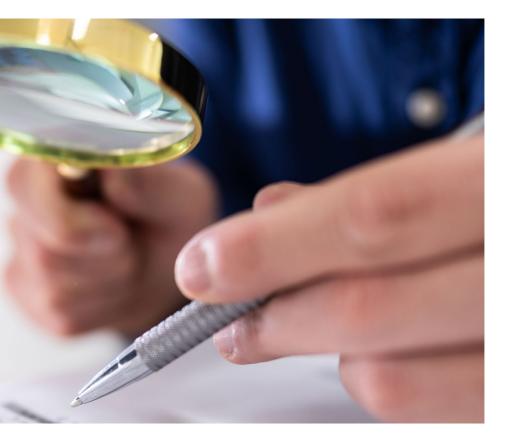


- Joint Committee for Control of Intelligence Activity (CCAI) of the National Congress;

- Federal Court of Accounts (TCU);

- Secretariat for Internal Control of the Presidency of the Republic (CISET/PR);

- Office of the Comptroller General (CGU).









#### BRAZILIAN INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

2023





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