



Tweede Kamer
DER STATEN-GENERAAL

Annual report 2024

Report by the Committee for the Intelligence and Security
Services (CIVD) on its activities in 2024

Adopted on 15 May 2025

36 754 **Report by the Committee for the Intelligence and Security Services on its activities in 2024**

No. 1 **REPORT**
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The Committee for the Intelligence and Security Services has the honour of publishing a report on its activities in 2024.

Chair of the Committee,
Wilders

Foreword

The Committee for the Intelligence and Security Services (referred to below as the CIVD or the committee) is responsible for parliamentary scrutiny of the classified aspects of government policy regarding the General Intelligence and Security Service (referred to below as the AIVD) and the Defence Intelligence and Security Service (referred to below as the MIVD). The Committee believes it important to account for the way it carried out the tasks entrusted to it by the House. In this annual report the committee seeks to provide as transparent an overview as possible of its activities in 2024.

While performing its activities the committee addressed a wide range of national and international security issues. Political and military developments in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine and in the Middle East were frequently discussed, as were trends and cases relating to extremism and terrorism. When doing so a great deal of attention was paid to threats arising from jihadism, anti-institutional extremism and sovereigntists. Furthermore, the committee regularly asked questions about the AIVD and MIVD's investigations into China and criminal undermining, and regularly inquired about the status of the implementation of the Temporary act on investigations by the AIVD and MIVD into countries with offensive cyber programmes (*Tijdelijke wet onderzoeken AIVD en MIVD naar landen met een offensief cyberprogramma*) following its enactment. The committee also focused continuously on the case relating to the possession and disclosure of state classified information by (former) employees of the National Coordinator for Counterterrorism and Security (*Nationaal Coördinator Terrorismedebestrijding en Veiligheid, NCTV*) (referred to below as 'the case relating to (former) NCTV employees').

Although the committee met less frequently in 2024 than in previous years, the government made a fair number of commitments at the committee's request and the committee frequently requested letters from ministers with a view to providing additional information on a variety of topics. Several initiatives were also taken to further improve the committee's information position. For example, agreements were reached with the government to improve the way in which commitments are delivered on. The committee also spoke several times about the quality of the information provided to the CIVD with regard to the AIVD and MIVD budgets, partly in response to recommendations by the Netherlands Court of Audit (*Algemene Rekenkamer*). Finally, the committee decided to conduct a review of the budget and accountability documents for 2023 in order to analyse the extent to which they meet its information needs. This review is to be followed up in 2025.

Overview of the document

This annual report consists of two parts. The first part contains information on the committee's composition, work and activities in 2024. The second section describes the committee's method of working, with details being provided of the committee's composition and activities, the meeting documents discussed by the committee and the committee staff unit.

1 Work and activities in 2024

1.1 The committee's composition

The committee's composition is regulated in Section 7.5 of the Rules of Procedure of the House of Representatives. Consequently, from 1 January until 1 July 2024 the committee was made up of the parliamentary party leaders of the Freedom Party (PVV), the Green Left-Labour Party Alliance (GroenLinks-PvdA) and New Social Contract, in other words Geert Wilders, Frans Timmermans and Pieter Omtzigt respectively. Given that the parliamentary party leaders of the People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD) and Democrats '66 (D66) were still part of the caretaker government, Sophie Hermans (VVD) and Jan Paternotte (D66) replaced Dilan Yeşilgöz-Zegerius (VVD) and Rob Jetten (D66). Members Yeşilgöz-Zegerius and Rob Jetten joined the committee when the new government led by Dick Schoof took office on 2 July 2024. Consequently, from 2 July to 31 December 2024, the committee members were Geert Wilders (PVV), Frans Timmermans (GroenLinks-PvdA), Dilan Yeşilgöz-Zegerius (VVD), Pieter Omtzigt (Nieuw Sociaal Contract) and Rob Jetten (D66). Geert Wilders was committee chairman throughout the year.

2024	PVV	GL-PvdA	VVD	NSC	D66
Jan	Mr. Wilders	Mr. Timmermans	Ms. Hermans	Mr. Omtzigt	Mr. Paternotte
Feb	member for 6,607 days	member for 392 days	member for 1,151 days	member for 392 days	member for 903 days
Mar					
Apr					
May					
Jun					
Jul			Ms. Yeşilgöz-Zegerius		Mr. Jetten
Aug			member for 183 days		member for 1256 days
Sept					
Oct					
Nov					
Dec					

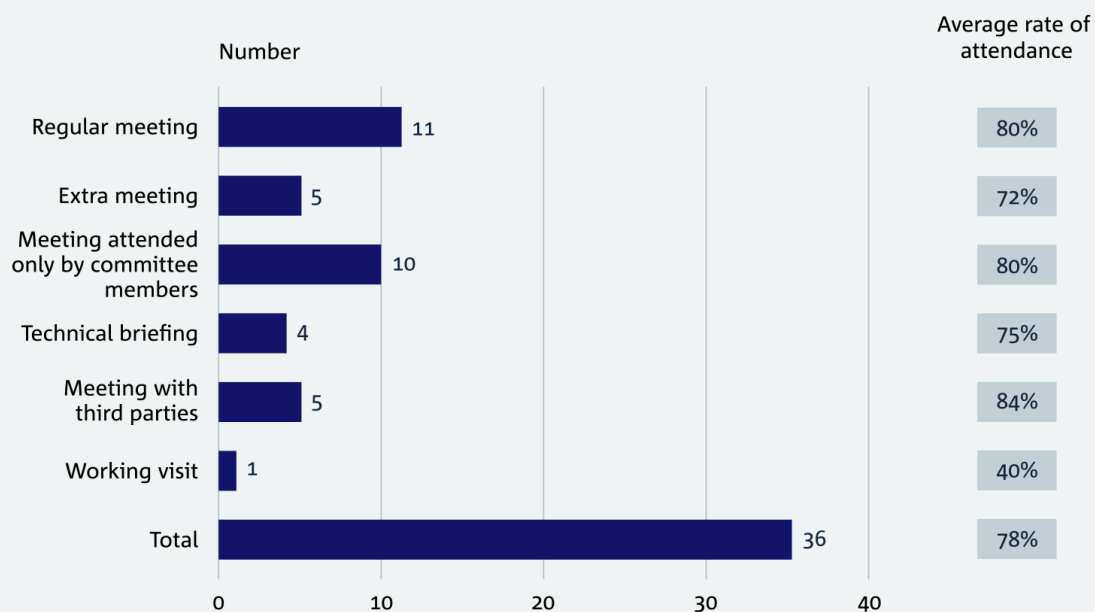
1.2 The year in figures

The illustrations below describe the work and activities of the CIVD in 2024.

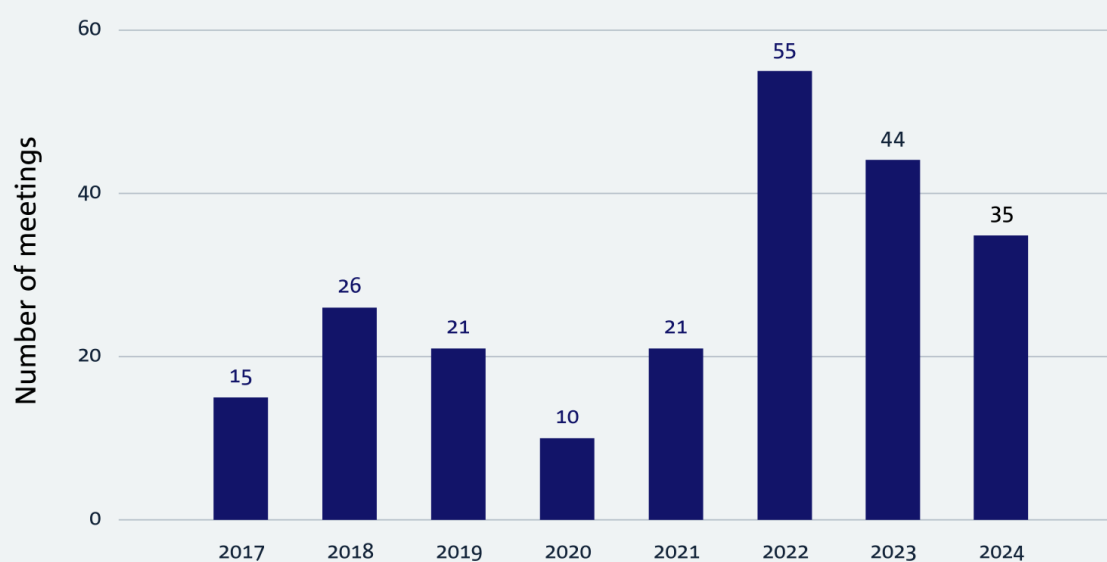
Activities and attendance rate

The committee held 35 meetings in 2024 and also carried out one working visit. It therefore engaged in fewer activities than in 2023. Given that the process of forming a new coalition was ongoing, the committee decided not to schedule in-depth activities, pending the final committee composition after that process had ended. The average rate of attendance by committee members was 78% in 2024, including working visits. Excluding working visits, the percentage was 79%.

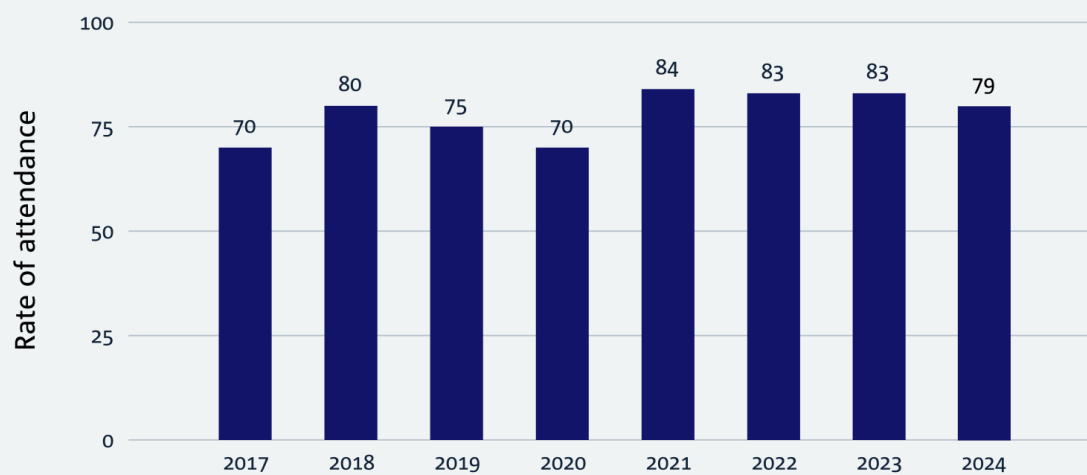
CIVD activities (incl. working visits) in 2024



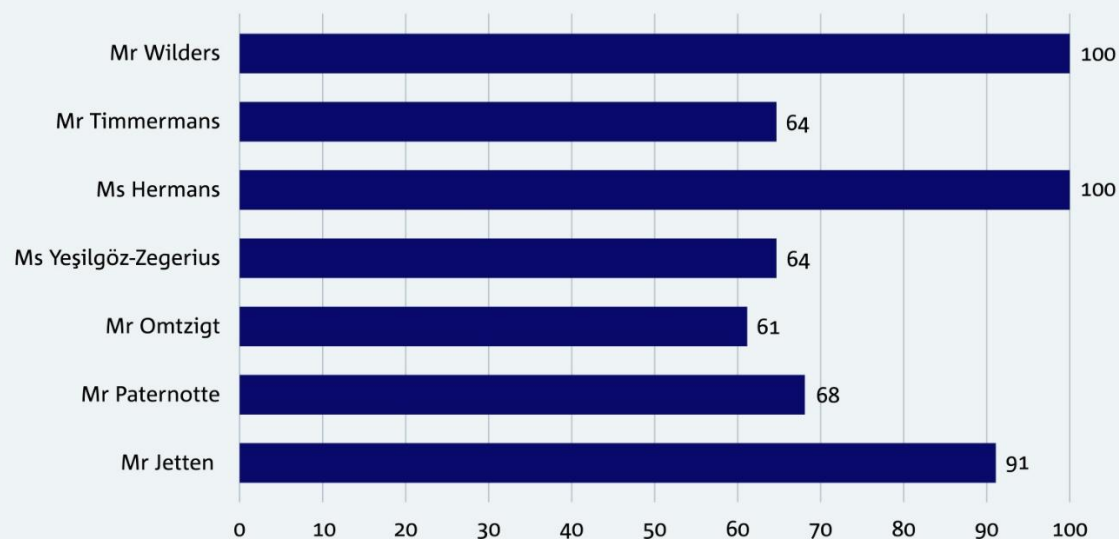
Frequency of meetings (excl. working visits) 2017-2024



Average rate of attendance for activities (excl. working visits) 2017-2024



Rate of attendance per member



Use of the right to information

Just like other parliamentary committees, members of the CIVD can exercise the right to obtain more information by asking questions. The illustrations below show the number of commitments made by the government as a result of such requests, the number of times letters from ministers with additional information were requested outside committee activities and the number of times extra meetings were requested.

During 2024 the committee agreed that commitments should be processed in writing in the future, unless the committee decides that it is sufficient to do so verbally.



1.3 Chronological overview of committee activities

The following is an overview of all CIVD activities in 2024, including a description of the topics covered during these activities.

January

18 January 2024: Extra meeting

At the start of January the committee had requested a letter following media publications about the AIVD's alleged involvement in an operation to sabotage Iran's nuclear weapons programme and the provision of information to the CIVD in this regard.¹ The committee held an extra meeting to discuss this letter with the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations and the Minister of Defence on 18 January. The committee then saw no reason to ask further questions on the topic.

¹ See the article in the Volkskrant newspaper of 8 January 2024: [Sabotage in Iran: a mission in darkness \(Sabotage in Iran: een missie in duisternis\)](#).

25 January 2024: Technical briefing

The committee was updated by the AIVD and MIVD on the latest developments in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

31 January 2024: Meeting attended only by committee members

At this meeting attended only by committee members, the committee discussed a letter from the Review Committee on the Intelligence and Security Services (*Commissie van Toezicht op de Inlichtingen- en Veiligheidsdiensten*, CTIVD) regarding its investigation into the actions of the AIVD in the case of the possession and disclosure of state classified information by (former) NCTV employees (referred to below as the case relating to (former) NCTV employees). The committee had asked the CTIVD for a more detailed response, following its discussion with the CTIVD in December 2023 which focused on how the CTIVD investigation into the actions of the AIVD was related to the investigation of the Central Government Audit Service (*Auditdienst Rijk*) (referred to below as ADR) into the protection of state classified/confidential information within the NCTV and the police.² The committee decided to put the CTIVD's letter on the agenda for a discussion with the government, at its next regular meeting.

February

1 February 2024: Regular meeting

The Director-General of the AIVD briefed the committee on current developments regarding jihadist threats. The committee also discussed the AIVD and MIVD annual plans for 2025. The committee members asked questions on, among other things, the alignment between the various budget and accountability documents, the considerations in relation to, and the consequences of, the deprioritisation of certain investigations, the MIVD's staffing capacity, the intelligence positions with regard to certain specific investigations, anti-institutional extremism and right-wing extremism, and the national security implications of the Gaza conflict. The discussion of the annual plans also covered a number of recent developments, including the attack on the US Tower 22 military base in Jordan.

The committee again spoke at length with ministers about the case relating to (former) NCTV employees and indicated that it was keen for the ADR's independent investigation into the protection of state classified/confidential information within the NCTV and the police to carry the same weight as the CTIVD's investigation into the AIVD's actions. In response the Minister of Justice and Security promised to inform the committee by letter about the scope of the ADR investigation and how it is related to the CTIVD investigation. The committee also received an update on the investigation into the case from the Director-General of the AIVD.

28 February 2024: Meeting attended only by committee members

The committee members discussed a letter from the Prime Minister on an emerging situation at the CTIVD,³ as well as a possible foreign working visit, and exchanged views on the letter from the

² See also the CIVD 2023 annual report, under 21 December 2023.

³ A week after this meeting, on 4 March 2024, the Prime Minister sent a public letter to the House in which he stated he had recently been informed about dysfunctional internal working relationships at the CTIVD: "This resulted in us mutually agreeing that the current chairman will step down from the CTIVD." For the final public

Minister of Justice and Security on the scope of the ADR investigation into the protection of state classified/confidential information within the NCTV and the police, and the way in which this investigation is related to the CTIVD investigation.

28 February 2024: Regular meeting

Several outstanding commitments were delivered on during this meeting, including on anti-institutional extremism and right-wing extremism within the armed forces. The committee then discussed the December 2023 Terrorist Threat Assessment for the Netherlands (*Dreigingsbeeld Terrorisme Nederland*, DTN). Several committee members asked for attention to be paid to the issue of the future release of people convicted of terrorism. This led to an extensive discussion on this issue and the risks to national security. Committee members also asked questions about some specific developments regarding anti-institutional extremism and ISIS, for instance with regard to its leadership and its relationship with Hamas.

The committee also discussed the letter from the Minister of Justice and Security on the scope of the ADR investigation into the protection of state classified/confidential information within the NCTV and the police. Further to its discussion of this letter, the committee decided to initiate talks with ADR in order to obtain further clarification of how the investigation was being organised.

The committee discussed a number of letters on current issues which it had received from the AIVD, with regard to which it asked questions about covert interference by the Russians and economic developments in China. With regard to the MIVD letters on current issues, the committee spoke at length about developments in respect of Russia and Ukraine. The committee expressed satisfaction with the content of a letter sent at its request on the current intelligence assessment with regard to Venezuela.⁴

29 February 2024: Meeting attended only by committee members

The committee spoke again about the situation that had arisen at the CTIVD.

March

7 March 2024: Technical briefing

The committee was briefed by the AIVD and MIVD on the latest developments in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

28 March 2024: Extra meeting

The committee decided to convene this meeting with the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, the Director-General of the AIVD and the NCTV, following the terrorist attack by Islamic State in Khorasan Province (ISKP) at a concert hall in Moscow on 22 March 2024. Following a request, the committee had received a letter about the attack. During the meeting the committee mainly asked for greater clarification of the impact of the attack on the jihadist threat in Europe and in Russia.

information document sent to the House of Representatives on this issue, see Parliamentary Paper 36 294, no 9.

⁴ See the CIVD 2023 annual report, under 14 December 2023.

April

3 April 2024: Meeting attended only by committee members

During this meeting, the committee again discussed the situation that had arisen at the CTIVD, more specifically the resignation of the CTIVD chairman due to dysfunctional internal working relationships. The committee decided to request a letter from the Prime Minister, asking him to address the question of whether the resignation of the chairman had restored mutual working relationships within the CTIVD, whether the CTIVD was functioning properly again, and whether potential risks to national security had thereby been eliminated.

The committee also spoke about the duty of confidentiality of (former) members regarding information shared by members of the CIVD. The committee endorsed the position that, other than the information which the CIVD discloses every year in its annual report, its meetings and the documents it discusses should not be discussed with third parties. This means that, in addition to making announcements about information shared by members of the CIVD, it is also not permitted to disclose information about what has *not* been shared.

3 April 2024: Discussion with the ADR

Following earlier deliberations by members of the CIVD⁵ on how the NCTV's actions in the case relating to (former) NCTV employees would be investigated, the committee decided to enter into discussions with the ADR. After the ADR investigators had given an initial explanation, the committee members asked questions to clarify in more detail how the investigation was being organised and the ADR's investigative powers.

4 April 2024: Discussion with the CTIVD

During the discussion with the CTIVD, the committee asked some questions about the classified annex to the CTIVD oversight report 76 on the management of intelligence services within the police and KMar by the AIVD and MIVD⁶ and discussed the CTIVD investigation into the AIVD's actions the case relating to (former) NCTV employees. In this context a letter from the CTIVD to the CIVD on the validation of the AIVD case timeline was discussed. At the AIVD's request the CTIVD had validated this timeline, which was presented to the committee at a later date⁷. During the discussion the committee was given an explanation of the CTIVD's findings. The discussion also focused on the status of other ongoing investigations and the impact of the accommodation situation of the CTIVD on the performance of its tasks.

4 April 2024: Regular meeting

When this regular meeting was opened, the committee raised two points from the previous discussion with the CTIVD, namely the CTIVD's accommodation and the validation of the timeline of the case relating to (former) NCTV employees. The committee also discussed a letter from the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations about a case of Russian covert interference. Committee members asked questions about the considerations relating to whether or not to make the case public, the options in terms of follow-up by the AIVD and how the committee should be informed whenever the AIVD and/or MIVD investigate a specific category of individuals. With regard

⁵ See the regular meeting of 28 February 2024.

⁶ For the public oversight report, see Parliamentary Paper 29 924, no 257.

⁷ See the regular meeting of 19 June 2024.

to CTIVD oversight report 76 on the AIVD and MIVD's management of intelligence services within the police and KMar, questions were asked about how the recommendations were being followed up.

The committee also discussed a letter about a case of a Chinese hack in the Netherlands. The committee had itself requested this letter and had asked, among other things, why the AIVD had not alerted the victims. With regard to the AIVD letter on current issues, the committee covered various topics, such as unwanted foreign interference, developments in China's global position and various groups within the sovereigntist movement. As a result of a notification in the MIVD letter on current issues, the committee requested a separate letter with more information on this topic. In view of recent developments, the committee suggested scheduling a technical briefing on the war between Russia and Ukraine.

11 April 2024: Technical briefing

At the request of the⁸ committee, it was briefed on the issue of criminal undermining in relation to national security. In order to obtain as comprehensive and complete a picture of the topic as possible, the committee decided, at the suggestion of the Minister of Justice and Security, to invite, by way of an exception, the police and the Public Prosecution Service (OM), in addition to representatives of the NCTV and the AIVD.

The police and the Public Prosecution Service outlined their perspective of the threat posed by criminal networks based on insights from criminal investigations. The AIVD briefed the committee on the threat to the democratic rule of law and national security posed by criminal undermining. Lastly, the duties and powers of the AIVD in relation to the police were discussed. At the committee's request, the AIVD promised to inform the committee about actions to follow up identified system vulnerabilities in the area of criminal undermining.

17 April 2024: Meeting attended only by committee members

The committee discussed the Prime Minister's response to the committee's question of whether the chairman's resignation had restored mutual relations within the CTIVD, whether the CTIVD was once again functioning properly, and whether potential risks to national security had been eradicated as a result.⁹ In his letter the Prime Minister confirmed that the CTIVD had informed him that, following the appointment of an interim chairman, there were no longer any dysfunctional internal working relationships nor any associated risk to national security. The committee accepted the document for information purposes.

18 April 2024: Regular meeting

Several topics were covered when delivering on commitments, including with regard to ISIS supporters in Europe and the CTIVD accommodation. After that the committee was briefed by the MIVD director and Director-General of the AIVD on the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, as has been decided in the previous regular meeting. The committee members asked questions about, for example, Russia's nuclear strategy, espionage cases in Europe, Ukraine's lines of defence and Russia's war aims.

⁸ See the CIVD 2023 annual report, under 29 December 2023.

⁹ See the meeting attended only by committee members of 3 April 2024.

The committee also discussed a letter from the Minister of Defence, which it had requested at an earlier juncture.¹⁰ At the meeting the MIVD director provided an additional verbal update, after which the committee asked several questions on various aspects of the letter's content. The committee explicitly asked the government to keep the committee informed about developments.

At the committee's request the MIVD director and the Director-General of the AIVD provided a short briefing on the Iranian attack on Israel on 13 April 2024 to supplement the content of the letters on current issues. The committee members asked questions about, for example, the role of Iranian proxies in the region. During the meeting the committee also raised questions about President Xi Jinping's position. With regard to the MIVD letter on current issues, the committee posed questions about, along other things, military cooperation between Iran and Russia and the relationship between Russia and North Korea. With regard to the AIVD letter on current issues, committee members asked questions about the level of insight that exists into individuals travelling to Europe from conflict zones, changes in the right-wing extremist landscape and Iran's geopolitical position. The government promised to provide more detailed information on a number of issues regarding the letters on current issues.

May

29 May 2024: Meeting attended only by committee members

The committee adopted its annual report for 2023 and discussed committee members' views on a government letter on how to inform the committee in the context of AIVD and/or MIVD investigations into a specific category of individuals. This letter was put on the agenda of the next regular meeting. Finally, the committee decided to conduct a review of the budget and accountability documents for 2023 in order to analyse the extent to which they meet the relevant information needs which the committee established at the end of 2022 and in response to which the services adjusted the reporting system and reporting style of various documents. The year 2023 was the first year in which all documents were prepared and dealt with on the basis of this new style and system.¹¹

29 May 2024: Discussion with the Netherlands Court of Audit

During this discussion, the committee received a clarification from the president of the Court of Audit of the classified accountability audits for the year 2023 of the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations and the Ministry of Defence, after which the committee asked several questions about the content of the audits. The committee also discussed the Netherlands Court of Audit's audit of spending differences between the AIVD and MIVD. In 2023 the committee decided to suggest that the Netherlands Court of Audit include this topic in its accountability audits, as the committee was interested in an explanation of the difference in the size of the AIVD and MIVD budgets.¹² The Netherlands Court of Audit concluded that the differences can be explained. The Netherlands Court of Audit advised the committee to ask the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations and the Minister of Defence to submit the budgets and outcomes in a standardised format in order to make the figures more transparent and easier for the CIVD to compare.

¹⁰ See the regular meeting of 4 April 2024.

¹¹ See the CIVD 2022 annual report, under 13 October 2022, 19 October 2022 and 3 November 2022.

¹² See CIVD 2023 annual report, under 1 June 2023 and 30 August 2023.

29 May 2024: Regular meeting

This regular meeting started with a discussion of the classified annual reports of the AIVD and MIVD for 2023, with the committee including the accountability audits and the investigation into the AIVD and MIVD spending discrepancies by the Netherlands Court of Audit. Committee members asked questions about the choices to be made given the lack of capacity, the visibility of cyberthreats and the failure to meet investigation targets, as well as the related consequences. The committee also discussed a letter it had requested which contained details of the efforts to disrupt jihadist terrorism by the AIVD in 2023.

The discussion also dealt with a letter from the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations on how to inform the committee in the case of AIVD and/or MIVD investigations into a specific category of individuals. The committee felt that the approach outlined in the letter deviated from a previously agreed approach¹³ and requested a new letter. The letter in question also led to a discussion about the government's duty of information in relation to the interest of the state.

After the committee had asked several questions about a letter regarding a specific counterintelligence investigation by the AIVD, the committee discussed the letters on current issues. With regard to the AIVD, the committee was interested in a number of current issues relating to the field of jihadism, such as the AIVD's course of action and insight in a given situation. The committee also requested more information on an indication which had been given of a possible interstate attack in the near future. With regard to the MIVD letter on current issues, the committee asked about the level of knowledge security within Western companies and a number of current issues in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Due to time constraints, it was agreed that the committee's questions would be answered at a future meeting.

June

12 June 2024: Meeting attended only by committee members

The committee took a decision on how to deal with a letter from a member of the public and discussed a number of agenda items from the meeting with the Exercise of Special Powers Review Committee (*Toetsingscommissie Inzet Bevoegdheden*, TIB and the regular meeting.

12 June 2024: Discussion with the TIB

During this discussion the TIB chairman provided the committee with an additional clarification of the classified annex to the TIB's 2023 annual report. The committee's discussion with the TIB covered, among other things, the implementation of its review duties in practice, the supervision of the Temporary Act on investigations by the AIVD and MIVD into countries with offensive cyber programmes (referred to below as the Temporary Act), the working relationship with the services and the TIB's review of some specific investigation topics.

12 June 2024: Regular meeting

The committee talked about the revised version of the letter from the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations on how to inform the committee in the case of AIVD and/or MIVD investigations into a specific category of individuals. A promise had been made to submit this letter at the previous regular meeting. The committee members expressed their views on the approach set out in the

¹³ See the CIVD 2023 annual report, under 9 February 2023.

letter, whereupon some committee members had a discussion with the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations about the government's duty to provide information in relation to the interest of the state. When it came to the discussion of the classified annex to the TIB's annual report, the committee mentioned a number of issues which had been raised during a previous discussion with the TIB. This concerned, for example, the monitoring of the Temporary Act and the TIB's review of some investigations.

With regard to the MIVD letter on current issues, a committee member asked for more details on a case of Russian interference in Europe. A discussion of the AIVD letter on current issues was postponed due to a lack of time. The committee then discussed a letter from the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations on a Chinese hack in the Netherlands which the committee had discussed on a previous occasion.¹⁴ This letter was the result of a follow-up question by the committee. The committee noted that the information in this letter differed from the information provided in April and again asked why the AIVD had not alerted the victims.

Lastly, the committee discussed the AIVD and MIVD's damage assessment of the case relating to (former) NCTV employees. The letter in question contained the outcomes of the investigation into what damage has been caused to the services as a result of the leak and what this means for national security. The committee also enquired about the services' conclusions and raised questions about the methodology the services had applied when establishing the damage. The committee expressed concern about the outcomes.

19 June 2024: Extra meeting

This extra meeting was convened in order to discuss a number of documents concerning the case relating to (former) NCTV employees. The first part of this meeting was with the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, the Director-General of the AIVD, the Minister of Justice and Security and the NCTV. During the course of the meeting the committee discussed a letter it had requested. Further to media reports the committee had asked for an update and had focused on the working procedures at the NCTV when it comes to dealing with state classified information.

In line with a government request, only the Minister of the Interior and the Director-General of the AIVD were present during the second part of the meeting. The government had requested that this issue be dealt with without the regular government delegation being present because of the employer relationship that exists between the person concerned and the Minister of Justice and Security. During this part of the meeting, the committee discussed the AIVD timeline with regard to the NCTV employee involved in the case. The committee asked about some specific elements of the timeline, the quality of information provided to the CIVD and the lessons learned by the AIVD on the basis of the timeline. The minister promised to provide more detailed information on one element of the timeline at a later date.

27 June 2024: Meeting attended only by committee members

The committee took a number of decisions regarding its activities schedule and reflected on the impending end of the CIVD membership of members Hermans and Paternotte, who would no longer

¹⁴ See the regular meeting of 4 April 2024.

be members of the CIVD when the new government under Dick Schoof takes office on 2 July 2024 (see also 1.1, The committee's composition)

27 June 2024: Regular meeting

As promised the Director-General of the AIVD and the MIVD director provided additional information on, among other things, the position of President Xi Jinping and the relationship between Russia and North Korea. The committee also discussed a letter on Iran's geopolitical position. These four issues were the result of the meeting of 18 April 2024. With regard to Iran's geopolitical position, the committee requested further details on current developments in the region, the services' intelligence position and relations between Iran, Syria and Hezbollah. A commitment was made with regard to the latter issue. When dealing with this item on the agenda the services shared intelligence on the relationship between Iran and Russia. The committee also discussed a letter about a security screening.

Finally, there was a discussion of the (postponed) AIVD letters on current issues. The committee requested more information on a case of Chinese interference, spying at an international institution, arrests on suspicion of participation in a terrorist organisation¹⁵ and a possible case of foreign interference by Iran. With regard to the MIVD letter on current issues, the Minister of Defence and the MIVD director shared recent intelligence on the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

September

25 September 2024: Meeting only attended by members of the committee

The committee took decisions about two letters from members of the public. The committee decided to ask the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations for a response to one of these letters. The committee also decided to accept the classified annex to CTIVD oversight report 79 on virtual agents¹⁶ for information purposes and discussed putting some letters received on the agenda. Finally, committee members discussed their positions on requests from the government for a topic to be dealt with by members of the CIVD on a more restrictive basis, meaning that a topic cannot be dealt with in the presence of the regular full government delegation (Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, Minister of Defence, Minister of Justice and Security, Director-General of the AIVD, MIVD Director and NCTV). One such meeting took place on 19 June 2024.

26 September 2024: Regular meeting

In line with a commitment made at the previous regular meeting, the MIVD director returned to a development in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. The committee also discussed a letter it had requested on relations between Iran, Syria and Hezbollah and Hezbollah's weapons arsenal. Under this agenda item the committee was briefed on current issues in the Middle East. The committee asked questions about current issues in the country in question and asked about the AIVD's and MIVD's intelligence position with regard to a number of actors. The committee also discussed two other letters it had requested, including on the MIVD obligation to notify. This letter

¹⁵ For the press releases of the Public Prosecution Service, see [Two suspects arrested for participating in terrorist organisation \(Twee verdachten aangehouden voor deelname aan terroristische organisatie\) | News item | Public Prosecutor's Office](#) and [Radical sovereigntists also prosecuted for terrorism \(Radicale soevereinen ook vervolgd voor terrorisme\) | News item | Public Prosecution Service](#).

¹⁶ For the public oversight report, see Parliamentary Paper 29 924, no 264.

had been requested in response to the CTIVD's public letter on the MIVD's failure to comply with the obligation to notify.¹⁷ The committee concluded that deliberations on the issue could take place in public.

With regard to the MIVD letter on current issues, the committee requested more information on various recent developments relating to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. The committee also asked for more details about Russia and Ukraine's willingness to negotiate about ending the conflict. With regard to the AIVD letter on current issues, the committee asked about the nature and follow-up of recognised system vulnerabilities in the area of criminal undermining and promised to address this issue at a later date, along with the follow-up of the system vulnerabilities which were discussed during the technical briefing on 11 April 2024. The committee also inquired about various recent developments relating to ISIS, current issues relating to Venezuela, a recognised vulnerability in vital infrastructure and the recent arrests of radical sovereigntists. Following the deliberations, a promise was made to outline a broader analysis of developments in the field of jihadism.

October

2 October 2024: Extra meeting

Because the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations was unable to attend the regular meeting on 26 September, the committee decided to convene an extra meeting to deal with a number of documents relating to terrorism and extremism.

To begin with, the committee received an analysis on jihadism from the Director-General of the AIVD, as promised during the previous regular meeting. The committee members asked questions about the different types of attack threats and the AIVD's intelligence position. When discussing the DTN the committee asked about, among other things, the AIVD's view of online radicalisation, people convicted of terrorism who are going to be released in 2025 and 2026, the level of organisation of individuals with a particular extremist ideology, as well as specific developments relating to ISIS, such as ISIS's position in Somalia. The committee asked the government to provide additional information on a number of topics at a later date. Finally, the committee dealt with a letter on the stabbing incident in Rotterdam which might have been motivated by terrorism and two letters as a result of arrests of sovereigntists for terrorist offences.

3 October 2024: Extra meeting

The committee received a letter about a cyber incident within the police force which it believed gave grounds to convene an extra meeting. The committee spoke at length about the intelligence positions of the AIVD and MIVD, police resilience and the (potential) consequences of the cyber incident and asked to receive more information on some specific aspects before the next regular meeting.

9 October 2024: Meeting attended only by committee members

The committee discussed a number of agenda items from the regular meeting and took stock of the topics it wanted to cover during its next working visit.

¹⁷ For the related public documents, see the CTIVD news item of 22 July 2024: [CTIVD reminds MIVD of failure to comply with obligation to notify \(CTIVD wijst MIVD op niet voldoen aan notificatieplicht\) | News item | CTIVD](#).

10 October 2024: Discussion with the Netherlands Court of Audit

This meeting was scheduled with a view to preparing for the discussion of the 2025 AIVD and MIVD budget letters. During the discussion the president of the Netherlands Court of Audit explained the issues that had caught his eye, along the lines of financial resources, intended objectives and possible risks. This included a reference to the accountability audits and the examination of expenditure differences between the two services.¹⁸ Several topics were covered during the discussion, including the committee's understanding of budgets and investments, the services' accommodation, the implementation of the General Security Requirements for Central Government Contracts (*Algemene Beveiligingseisen voor Rijksoverheidsopdrachten*, ABDO) by the Joint Unit on Industrial Security (*Joint Unit Industrieveiligheid*), ICT vulnerabilities and control of undisclosed expenditure.

10 October 2024: Regular meeting

When he opened the meeting, the committee chairman explained that the committee wished to refine its approach to delivering on commitments. From now on all commitments need to be in writing and delivered on before the next regular meeting, unless otherwise agreed. After that, a commitment in relation to Hezbollah was delivered on and the committee discussed the AIVD and MIVD's progress reports for the first quadrimestre of 2024. The committee asked about the realisation of cyber objectives combined with the outcomes of the Temporary Act, the outlook in terms of the investigations into criminal undermining and China, the intelligence position on Iran and the accommodation situation of both services.

With regard to the AIVD and MIVD budget letters for 2025, the committee noted that it had insufficient insight into the spending of additionally allocated funds by the Rutte-IV and Schoof governments. Following on from this, the committee received a verbal explanation from the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations and the Director-General of the AIVD on how these extra funds from the Schoof government are being used. The committee also expressed some criticism about how the AIVD's budget had been presented. According to the committee it was insufficiently possible to see what funds had been spent on and therefore whether they were being spent effectively. This led to a discussion of the recommendation by the Netherlands Court of Audit for the AIVD and MIVD budgets and outcomes to be submitted in a disaggregated standardised format. With regard to the budget letters, the committee members also focused on the capacity of the Joint Unit on Industrial Security and the ABDO, the objectives of the China investigation and the management of equipment by the services. The committee asked the Minister of Justice and Security to provide more information at a later date on the parliamentary scrutiny of the National Police's classified spending, as it believed that a vacuum might exist in terms of checking that spending.

The committee also discussed a letter on a cyber incident within the police force, in which a number of commitments made in the extra meeting of 3 October were delivered on. The committee asked about the safety of police personnel and the government's considerations regarding whether or not to publish information on who was responsible for the incident. The committee also discussed a letter on a specific aspect of ISKP in Pakistan and Afghanistan, which had been requested when the

¹⁸ See, for example, the meeting with the Netherlands Court of Audit of 29 May 2024.

DTN was discussed on 2 October. Among other things, the committee asked about the AIVD's intelligence position. The committee also discussed a letter it had requested on the position and activities of a president in the Middle East.

With regard to the AIVD letter on current issues, the committee raised questions about the activities of a foreign intelligence service in the Netherlands and a jihadist traveller. With regard to the MIVD letter on current issues, the committee asked for more information on two notifications relating to arms technology. Lastly, the committee asked both services to provide more detailed information on Russia and Ukraine's willingness to negotiate about ending the conflict.

November

7 November 2024: Regular meeting

The government returned to a number of commitments on foreign interference and the extent to which the services were able to use cable interception operations after the Temporary Act came into force. The committee also discussed the updating of the Integrated Intelligence and Security Order (*Geïntegreerde Aanwijzing Inlichtingen en Veiligheid*), which is referred to below as the IISO. The committee members asked about the consequences of the increased focus on primary task one within the Ministry of Defence on the objectives in the IISO, the dilemmas that the government had experienced in adopting the IISO, international cooperation, threats in the Caribbean area and the outcomes of a number of investigations. The committee also asked for attention to be paid to the CIVD's monitoring role with regard to the IISO, in conjunction with the timing of the presentation of the document.

Furthermore, the committee discussed a number of letters it had requested, starting with the sabotage of Nord Stream 1 and 2 and security risks resulting from issuing Hungarian National Cards to Russian and Belarusian migrant workers. A letter requested by the committee was also discussed regarding the course of action taken by the AIVD and other government agencies in a given situation.¹⁹ The committee asked to be informed more precisely about the AIVD's operational strategy at a later date. The committee also discussed a letter on accommodation for the services and noted when doing so that the information in the letter was not very clear. It was agreed that the committee should be periodically informed about the (non-public) aspects of accommodation from now on. Finally there was a discussion of letters on the intelligence position on a particular country, the activities of a foreign intelligence service in the Netherlands and the funding of the CTIVD compared to the funding of the AIVD and MIVD. The conclusion with regard to the latter issue was that it could be discussed in public.

With regard to the National Cybersecurity Assessment 2024 (NCSA 2024), the committee stated that it was satisfied because it was already familiar with a large number of classified passages thanks to having seen other AIVD and MIVD documents. The committee asked about the focus of the AIVD and MIVD on two specific cyber actors mentioned in the NCSA and asked, for example, about the trade-offs between whether or not to take disruptive action in certain cases. With regard to the AIVD letter on current issues, questions were asked about, among other things, some terrorism news, the impact of the US presidential election result on developments in the Middle East and a

¹⁹ See also the regular meeting of 29 May 2024.

foiled Russian sabotage operation in Europe. With regard to the MIVD letter on current issues, the committee asked for more information on the military cooperation between Russia, North Korea and Iran.

14 November 2024: Technical briefing

The committee was briefed by the AIVD and MIVD on the latest developments in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. As a result of the briefing, the committee was promised further information on a scenario analysis of the conflict prepared by the services.

18 November 2024: Working visit

The committee paid a working visit to the joint AIVD and MIVD team that is investigating China.

28 November 2024: Regular meeting

To begin with the committee discussed a letter in which the government delivered on a number of commitments on a variety of issues. The discussion led to some new commitments. The AIVD and MIVD's progress reports on the second quadrimestre of 2024 were also discussed. The committee members discussed the effects of the Temporary Act on the AIVD and MIVD's investigation outcomes, the consequences of the CTIVD's accommodation issue on the execution of powers under the Temporary Act, the strategy behind the investigations into China, the outcomes of some specific areas of investigation and the reasons for not attaining a target. Lastly, the committee dealt with a letter it had requested about the cyberthreat posed by Venezuela. Further to the letter, the committee decided to schedule a technical briefing on this issue in 2025. A letter on bulk datasets and related problems with authorisations and internal logging by the AIVD and MIVD was also discussed. The discussion of the letter resulted in a number of commitments being made.

The committee also discussed a number of letters about the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. One letter delivered on the commitment from the most recent technical briefing. Among other things the committee asked about the follow-up to the scenario analysis. Other letters addressed, at the committee's request, reports of an imminent Russian air strike on Kyiv²⁰ and that Russia had allegedly deployed a long-range missile in Ukraine for the first time.²¹ At the meeting committee members asked for further clarification of these current issues.

With regard to the AIVD letter on current issues, the committee inquired about, among other things, Russian interference in a European country, the deployment of North Korean soldiers in the conflict in Ukraine and an intelligence analysis on right-wing extremism. With regard to the MIVD letter on current issues, the committee asked for more information on an offensive Russian actor, ISIS activities in Iraq and Russian military losses in the conflict in Ukraine. The committee again asked both services for more details about Russia and Ukraine's willingness to negotiate about ending the conflict.

²⁰ See the NOS news article of 20 November 2024: [US embassy in Kyiv remains closed after warning of major air strike \(Ambassade VS in Kyiv blijft dicht na waarschuwing voor grote luchtaanval\)](#).

²¹ See the NOS news article of 21 November 2024: [Ukraine: Russia fires long-range missile for first time \(Rusland vuurt voor het eerst langeafstandsraket af\)](#).

2 Working method

In principle the government provides information about the AIVD and the MIVD to the House of Representatives publicly wherever possible. In practice the information is provided to the permanent committees on the Interior and Kingdom Relations and Defence respectively. In cases where the interests of the state override the need for such information to be made public, the Intelligence and Security Services Act 2017 allows for the provision of information to the Senate and the House of Representatives to be made on a confidential basis.²² In the House of Representatives such information is provided to the Committee for the Intelligence and Security Services.

2.1 Composition

The committee's composition is regulated in Section 7.5 of the Rules of Procedure of the House of Representatives. Consequently, the CIVD is made up of the leaders of the five largest parliamentary parties. The committee can decide to expand the committee with two additional parliamentary party leaders. In addition, it is not possible for someone to be a member of the CIVD and a (caretaker) Prime Minister at the same time. As necessary such a member will be replaced by a member from the same parliamentary party. As a rule, the leader of the largest parliamentary party will chair the committee.

2.2 Activities

The committee meets for regular meetings, extra meetings, meetings attended only by committee members, technical briefings, discussions and working visits. Because the information and documents provided to the committee are classified as state secret, the committee holds meetings attended only by committee members and reports of committee activities are classified.

Regular meetings

During regular meetings, the committee discusses various (policy) documents (see also 2.3, meeting documents), in the presence of the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, the Minister of Defence, the Minister of Justice and Security, the Director-General of the AIVD, the MIVD Director and the National Coordinator for Counterterrorism and Security. A discussion of commitments previously made by the government is a fixed item on the agenda. Classified documents from the Review Committee on the Intelligence and Security Services, the Netherlands Court of Audit, and the Exercise of Special Powers Review Committee are also discussed, including any relevant responses by the ministers in question. Lastly, the committee is informed verbally and in writing about current issues, and is given presentations on specific topics or countries.

Extra meetings

Extra meetings are scheduled on an ad hoc basis with the minister or ministers concerned, for example as a result of a specific event.

²² See primarily Articles 12 and 113 of the ISS Act 2017, and the Explanatory Memorandum (Parliamentary paper 34 588, no. 3, p. 186).

Meetings attended only by committee members

These are meetings of committee members which are held behind closed doors. Such meetings are generally of a decision-making nature. The committee also uses these meetings to hold preliminary discussions of issues that have been placed on future agendas.

Technical briefings

Technical briefings are intended to provide the committee with a clarification of (technical) aspects of a certain theme or dossier. Generally speaking this concerns themes which the committee wishes to discuss in more detail because it considers more knowledge of the theme in question to be desirable for its scrutinising role.

Discussions

Apart from meetings and technical briefings the committee holds discussions with the CTIVD, the Netherlands Court of Audit, and the TIB. Topics of discussion include the classified annexes to CTIVD oversight reports, classified reports from the Netherlands Court of Audit, and classified letters from the TIB.

Working visits

The committee aims to pay several working visits to the AIVD, MIVD and/or the NCTV every year. The committee may also go on a working visit abroad.

2.3 Meeting documents

The committee discusses a variety of documents, with a distinction being made between AIVD and MIVD budget and accountability documents and other documents.

AIVD/MIVD budget and accountability information

The CIVD discusses various AIVD and MIVD budget and accountability documents presented by the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations and the Minister of Defence. Public versions of these documents are discussed by the Home Affairs and Defence Committees, while classified versions are discussed by the CIVD.

Integrated Intelligence and Security Order

The Integrated Intelligence and Security Order (referred to below as the IISO) describes the agreed investigation targets for the AIVD and MIVD, based on the various parties' intelligence needs. The classified part of the IISO is discussed by the CIVD. This document contains the investigation targets for the next four years and the division of work between the AIVD and MIVD. The IISO is evaluated every year and amended as desired. These updates are also discussed by the committee.

Budget letters

The committee receives the (classified) budget letters for the AIVD and MIVD on Budget Day. These letters deal with the classified aspects of the budgets, focusing on the budget breakdown for the various sections of the AIVD and the MIVD, staffing levels and the trends that will be relevant to national security in the forthcoming year.

Annual plans

The Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations and the Minister of Defence draw up the annual plans for the AIVD and the MIVD respectively on the basis of the budgets and the IISO. The annual plans contain the investigation plans for the coming year and the objectives with respect to organisational developments. The annual plans consist of a public and classified part. The public parts are dealt with by the Home Affairs and Defence Committees. The CIVD discusses the classified versions of the annual plans.

Progress reports

The AIVD and the MIVD issue classified progress reports three times a year, one of which is the classified annual report (see below). In these progress reports, the services account for the progress of their operational activities, as established in the annual plans, for the period concerned.

Annual reports

Every year the AIVD and the MIVD issue a public report on how they performed their tasks in the previous calendar year. The public annual reports are discussed by the Home Affairs and Defence Committees. The public annual report makes no reference to information that reveals the resources used by the security services in specific cases, the classified resources used by the security services, staffing levels and the services' current level of knowledge. These details do appear in the classified annual reports, which are submitted to the CIVD.

Other meeting documents

In addition to budget and accountability information, the CIVD discusses the following documents provided by the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, the Minister of Defence and the Minister of Justice and Security.

Terrorist Threat Assessment for the Netherlands (Dreigingsbeeld Terrorisme Nederland)

The committee also discusses the state classified version of the Terrorist Threat Assessment for the Netherlands (referred to below as DTN) which is drawn up by the NCTV. The DTN is a periodical analysis of radicalisation, extremism and the terrorist threat facing the Netherlands and is based on information from, among other sources, the AIVD and the MIVD. The Committee for Justice and Security discusses the public version of the DTN.

National Cybersecurity Assessment (Cybersecuritybeeld Nederland)

The committee also discusses the classified version of the National Cybersecurity Assessment (referred to below as NCSA). The NCSA provides an insight into the digital threat, the interests that may be affected as a result, the level of resilience and the risks in relation to cybersecurity. The Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Digital Affairs discusses the public version of the NCSA.

Letters on current issues

Before every regular meeting the Committee receives a letter on current issues from the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations and the Minister of Defence. These letters update the committee on current events or developments, generally on the basis of intelligence reports and intelligence analyses released by the AIVD and MIVD.

Other letters from ministers

The committee can ask the responsible minister(s) to provide additional information on specific topics or investigations, whether as a result of a commitment or otherwise. The ministers can also send letters to the committee of their own volition. When the committee receives (non-public) letters on topics other than the intelligence and security services, it first decides in a meeting attended only by committee members whether it indeed wishes to discuss these documents because these documents can, in principle, also be submitted to the select parliamentary committee.

Documents from the CTIVD, TIB and the Netherlands Court of Audit

The committee discusses classified documents from the CTIVD, the TIB or the Netherlands Court of Audit on two occasions:

- In a discussion with the document's author: The CTIVD, TIB, or Netherlands Court of Audit then clarifies the document and answers any questions the committee might have. These discussions take place in the presence of the ministers and representatives from the AIVD, the MIVD and the NCTV.
- In a regular meeting: The committee then questions the responsible minister(s) about the document. This meeting has not attended by the CTIVD, TIB, or Netherlands Court of Audit.

Letters from third parties

Lastly, the committee receives letters from members of the public and institutions. The committee decides on how to deal with these letters in meetings attended only by committee members.

2.4 Committee staff unit

The committee is supported by its own official staff unit whose members are a clerk, an advisor, an advisory assistant, a knowledge coordinator, an information specialist and two members of staff from the Parliamentary Reporting Office. The position of advisory assistant constitutes an expansion of the committee staff unit compared to 2023 and previous years.