

Swiss Criminal Procedure Code (extract)

(Criminal Procedure Code, CrimPC)

of 5 October 2007 (Status as of 1 January 2015)

Please note: this translation does not yet include the amendments of 1.1.2016

The Federal Assembly of the Swiss Confederation,

on the basis of Article 123 paragraph 1 of the Federal Constitution¹, and having considered the Federal Council Dispatch dated 21 December 2005²,

Chapter 2: Principles of Criminal Procedure Law

Art. 6 Principles governing investigations

¹ The criminal justice authorities shall investigate ex officio all the circumstances relevant to the assessment of the criminal act and the accused.

² They shall investigate the incriminating and exculpatory circumstances with equal care.

Art. 7 Obligation to prosecute

¹ The criminal justice authorities are obliged to commence and conduct proceedings that fall within their jurisdiction where they are aware of or have grounds for suspecting that an offence has been committed.

² The cantons may provide:

- a.
for the exclusion or limitation of criminal liability for statements made in the cantonal parliament of the members of their legislative and judicial authorities and of their governments;
- b.
that the prosecution of members of their authorities responsible for the execution of sentences and measures and judicial authorities for felonies or misdemeanours

committed while in office be made subject to the authorisation of a non-judicial authority.