



3.1.2. Federal Investigative Agency (FIA)

The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) describes itself as a ‘border control, criminal investigation, counter-intelligence and security agency’ under the Mol.[199](#) Created in 1975 under the FIA Act 1974,[200](#) the FIA is tasked with handling complex criminal cases requiring a response at federal level, including cases of a cross-regional or international nature.[201](#) The FIA’s responsibilities include fighting terrorism, espionage, human trafficking, illegal immigration, and corruption.[202](#) The FIA is empowered to conduct arrests, seize assets, and present legal cases before special courts.[203](#) It comprises a number of separate specialised departments,[204](#) including the Counter Terrorism Wing (CTW) whose work includes handling cases related to terrorism (including cyber terrorism), blasphemy and espionage.[205](#) Amongst others, during the reference period, there were reports of FIA members arresting media professionals[206](#) and torturing and temporarily detaining individuals and their family members.[207](#)

- [199](#)

Pakistan, FIA, About Us, n.d. a, [url](#)

- [200](#)

Pakistan, FIA, About Us, n.d. a, [url](#); Dr. Shahab Imam Law Associates, What is FIA: The Role of Pakistan’s Federal Investigation Agency, n.d., [url](#)

- [201](#)

Dr. Shahab Imam Law Associates, What is FIA: The Role of Pakistan’s Federal Investigation Agency, n.d., [url](#)

- [202](#)

Pakistan, FIA, About Us, n.d. [url](#)

- [203](#)

Dr. Shahab Imam Law Associates, What is FIA: The Role of Pakistan’s Federal Investigation Agency, n.d., [url](#)

- [204](#)

Pakistan, FIA, Wings, n.d., [url](#)

- [205](#)

Pakistan, FIA, Counter Terrorism Wing, n.d., [url](#)

- [206](#)

IFJ, Pakistan: Digital journalist Sohrab Barkat detained for over two months, 13 February 2026, [url](#); HRW, World Report 2026 – Pakistan, 4 February 2026, [url](#), p. 343

- [207](#)

Express Tribune (The), FIA cybercrime officers accused of abducting families, extorting millions, 23 January 2026, [url](#)