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CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN PROSECUTORS (CCPE)

Questionnaire concerning "The relationships between prosecutors and prison administration"

According to the Finnish legislation the prosecutor has no powers at all

- within matters of prison administration or supervision of prisons,
- regarding protecting of human rights of persons taken into custody or of remand prisoners,
- regarding enforcement of imprisonment or supervision of enforcement.

The prosecutor is not involved

- in decision-making concerning an imprisoned person's disciplinary measures,
- or in granting a person's pardon
- or in decision-making of releasing a person on parole.

In Finland this kind of legality control belongs to the Parliamentary Ombudsman.

The only legal provision giving the prosecutor an opportunity to influence the circumstances of a remand prisoner, is in the Coercive Measures Act, Chapter 1, Section 18b. During the pretrial investigation communication of a remand prisoner with another person can be restricted if there is a reasonable cause to suspect that the communication seriously endangers the purpose of the remand imprisonment. Except the prison governor or the officer in charge of the investigation, a proposal of restricting the communication of a remand prisoner can also be made by the prosecutor to the court which will give the final decision.

Yours faithfully,

Leena Metsäpelto

State Prosecutor