



CPT/Inf (2023) 25

## **Response**

### **of the Greek Government to the report of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) on its visit to Greece**

**from 8 to 11 November 2022**

The Government of Greece has requested the publication of this response.  
The CPT's report on the 2022 visit to Greece is set out in document  
CPT/Inf (2023) 24.

Strasbourg, 31 August 2023



**Μοναδικός  
Σειριακός  
Αριθμός:**

17i8r8koGaCscUC9lv-nWA



**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ**



Επιβεβαιώνεται το γνήσιο.

Υπουργείο

Ψηφιακής Διακυβέρνησης /

Verified by the Ministry of Digital Governance, Hellenic Republic 20230711161250+03'00'

HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
MINISTRY OF CITIZEN PROTECTION  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF ANTI-CRIMEL POLICY  
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF DETENTION CENTERS  
MANAGEMENT AND CRISES MANAGEMENT  
DIRECTORATE OF DETENTION CENTERS MANAGEMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF DETENTION CENTERS MANAGEMENT AND  
ISSUES OF DETAINEES' TRANSPORT

Post Address: 96 Mesogeion

Post Code: 11927

Tel.: 2131307244

Athens, 14/6/2023

Ref. No: 19551

To the Council of Europe, the European Committee for the Prevention  
of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)

Notification: Office of the Minister

**Subject: "Reply to the observations of the report of the visit of the  
European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or  
Degrading Treatment or Punishment - (CPT) in Greece from 8 to 11  
November 2022"**

**Re: The no. CPT (2023) 09/14-03-2023 Report issued on 10 March  
2023**

Regarding the recommendations-observations of your Committee, as  
they are specified in the above relevant Report of March 10, 2023, we  
address to you the following:

## **Developments regarding the relocation of the Korydallos Penitentiary complex to Aspropyrgos (paragraph 12)**

The project of the relocation of the Korydallos Penitentiary complex was approved by the Governmental Committee of Contracts of Strategic Importance and was included in the Development Program of Contracts of Strategic Importance of Law 4799/2021. In August 2022, a Contract was signed between the Ministry of Citizen Protection and the Public Private Property Development Fund SA. (TAIPED) which is going to undertake the implementation of the project through a public-private partnership (ΣΔΙΤ/Σ.Δ.Ι.Τ.). The indicative construction cost of the project is 299 million euros. The financial contribution of the State to the construction cost is 50 million euros, the duration of the partnership is 30 years, with 4 years of construction and 26 years of operation. The object of the partnership concerns the study, financing, construction and maintenance of the new judicial prison complex in Athens and the Directorate of Transportation of the Courts of Attica and the Fund for the Utilization of Private Public Property S.A. has been appointed as the agent. Already based on the decision no. ΑΠ 73-23/5/2023 of the Governmental Committee of Contracts of Strategic Importance, the maturing tenders and contract monitoring have been assigned to TAIPED.

The next phase of the project is the tender process, prior to which a working group will be appointed, whose task will be to assist in respect to the functional and technical specifications of the project, such as: the building plans, the specification indexes of all spaces determining the building specifications, the specifications of electromechanical equipment, furniture, security systems, surveillance, etc. At the beginning of the process, your Committee will be immediately informed about the relevant details of the project file.

### **Strategic Plan (paragraph 14)**

The implementation of the Strategic Planning and the achievement of the including goals is a challenge for the administration of the prison system of Greece, taking into account the difficult fiscal conditions prevailing in the country and the limited available resources. The Strategic Plan 2024-2026 is currently being drawn up, which takes into account the existing prison legislation, the European legislation and rules on the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty, the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights and the recommendations of the Council of Europe and your Committee. The main pillars of the Strategic Plan are:

1. Reorganization of the General Secretariat of Anti-Crime Policy
2. Upgrading of the training of the human staff of the Penitentiaries
3. Upgrading of the education and training of prisoners
4. Digitization of guarding and security services within Penitentiaries
5. Energy supply upgrading and modernization of Penitentiary facilities
6. Creation (construction) of new Penitentiaries
7. Upgrading of health services in Penitentiaries
8. Increasing the security level in Penitentiaries
9. Support of the post-prison welfare

### **Health care**

#### **Integration of the Psychiatric Hospital into the National Health System (paragraph 16)**

It has been foreseen the inclusion of the Special Treatment Centers in the National Health System (NHS), with the aim of improving the health services provided within the prison system. For the inclusion of the Korydallos Prisoners' Psychiatric Hospital (Ψ.Κ.Κ.) in the National Health System. a special Working Group set up by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, drew up a draft Presidential Decree, which regulates the details regarding the operation of the Prisoners' Psychiatric Hospital, prioritizing its therapeutic over its preventive nature and has its updating has already started. The draft

of the Presidential Decree will be sent to the co-competent Ministry for comments.

### **Health Personnel (paragraphs 17 & 18)**

In order to improve the health services at the Psychiatric Hospital, the General Secretariat of Anti-Crime Policy cooperates continuously with the Ministry of Health and is working on a plan of comprehensive interventions targeting to the rationalization of the system that provides health services to incarcerated patients. In particular, a draft Memorandum of Cooperation, that will cover a wide range of health issues in Penitentiaries, has already been sent to the Central Health Council of the Ministry of Health. Specifically for the Psychiatric Hospital, in addition to its inclusion in the National Health System, has been planned the finding of a Psychiatric Hospital in the Prefecture of Attica, staffed with a scientific team, that will be assisted by specialized staff in order to be upgraded the psychiatric and medical care of the incarcerated patients. Furthermore, although there is a reduced interest and even fewer private physicians of various specialties respond to the Psychiatric Hospital requests for contracts in order to be met its medical staffing needs, are made continuous efforts at regular intervals of advertising of these positions. Finally, in order to deal with the issue of understaffing of the Psychiatric Hospital in terms of nursing staff, the General Secretariat is working on a Joint Ministerial Decision, in order to give the possibility to the Correctional Institutions (Penitentiary), including the Psychiatric Hospital, to enter into contracts with private nurses, who will visit the sick prisoners.

### **Conditions of detention at the Psychiatric Hospital (paragraphs 22-29 & 32-35)**

The recent repair of the cells in the basement (carried out in the context of a general improvement of all areas of the Center), makes possible that these cells can be used in exceptional management cases of unruly,

difficult-to-transfer prisoners and for a short stay in case of suspicion of drug import. In case of overcrowding these cells could also be used as a quarantine area.

Regarding the treatment of the cockroach existence, daily efforts are made by the cleaning crews to deal with it and at regular intervals are carried out disinfections. The phenomenon has been controlled to a significant extent, because the above works have been intensified.

With regard to the training and retraining of staff about mental health matters, we state that a special working group has carried out a training needs assessment and has been drawn up a training program for employees for the treatment of vulnerable groups of prisoners (mentally ill, people with special needs, transgender, etc.) . Following the recommendations of your Committee, is about to be planned the attention of a special program at the School of Prison Officers, by all employees who must attend this program.

Equipping the dormitories with wardrobes and further furniture and the installation of partitions in the sanitary annexes of the cells are avoided for safety reasons due to their height, taking into account the frequent hanging attempts by manipulative or non-manipulative, sick prisoners. The number of hosted patients in dormitories depends on the entry of emergency cases which in many cases is unpredictable. To date, the Psychiatric Hospital does not accommodate patients with special needs or physical disabilities, but only elderly, non-bedridden patients. Their transport to the sanitary facilities and their individual cleanliness are undertaken by working prisoners, who have been appointed as assistant nurses. It is noted that the recruitment of nursing assistants has been planned in order to be provided more personalized and specialized care.

The treatment of patients is individualized and agreed between the attending psychiatrist and the patient, when possible. Regarding your Committee's recommendation for an interdisciplinary therapeutic approach with the creation of integrated individual treatment plans and the implementation of an internationally recognized diagnostic treatment system, we note that this requires the presence of permanent

psychiatrists, occupational therapists, coordinated by the director of the psychiatric clinic.

Regarding your Committee's recommendation to appoint as interpreter from among the attending physicians, the Service will consider this possibility since it is not provided for in the regulations.

Regarding the two (2) quiet cells on the ground floor of your Psychiatric Hospital, we inform you that their construction has been completed and they have been handed over for use since 4-5-2023, in order to be applied (where medically necessary) supervised restraint techniques for the thereto-destructive (dangerous) patients, provided that there will be a sufficient number of custodial staff.

**Staffing of Penitentiaries (paragraphs 30 & 31)**

A) The staffing of the new Complex of Penitentiaries of Athens (Aspropyrgos) will be carried out with the existing staff of the penitentiaries under abolition as well as with those employees that will be hired in order to fill the existing vacant organizational positions which, we underline again, are going to be further increased by virtue of the new Organization (By-Laws) of the General Secretariat of Anti-Crime Policy, according to information already stated to your Committee. These positions, in present, are the following:

CENTRAL WAREHOUSE OF MATERIAL OF PRISONS	ORGANIZATIONAL POSITIONS
CATEGORY/ BRANCH/ SPECIALTY	
University education – Adults correctional /prison personnel	3
Technological education – administrative accountants	3
Technological education – health - welfare/ social work	1



Technological education – welfare / nursing	0
Secondary education – administrative accountants	7
Secondary education – administrative accountants (indefinite time employment of private law)	0
Secondary education – bread worker	1
Secondary education – drivers	0
Secondary education – drivers (indefinite time employment of private law)	4
Secondary education – guarding	25
Obligatory Basic education – assistant personnel	1
Totals	45

PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL	
CATEGORY/BRANCH/SPECIALTY	ORGANIZATIONAL POSITIONS
University education – prison officers for adults	4
University education - doctors	2
University education doctors (psychiatrists)	7
University education - doctors (internal medicine)	2
University education - pharmacists	1
University education – psychologists	3

University education – nursing	2
Technological education- administrative accountants	3
Technological education - health/welfare /social work	5
Technological education/ health/welfare/ nursing	12
Technological education/ ergotherapy (occupational therapy)	2
Technological education/ technology – agriculture	0
Secondary education /nursing	2
Secondary education / nursing assistants	8
Secondary education / administrative accountants	6
Secondary education/ administrative accountants (indefinite period of employment of private law)	0
Secondary education- guarding	61
Secondary education – guarding (definite period of employment of private law)	0
Obligatory basic education – assistant personnel	1
Obligatory basic education - health personnel	6
Secondary education – outer space guarding personnel	0
Total	127

SPECIAL HEALTH CENTER OF DETAINEES OF KORYDALLOS PRISON	
CATEGORY/ SPECIALTY	BRANCH/ ORGANIZATIONAL POSITIONS
University education-prison officers of adults	4
University education -prison officers of adults (indefinite time employment of private law)	0
University education – Doctors	3
University education - Internal Medicine	3
University education – General Medicine	7
University education - Doctors (Urologists)	1
University education -Doctors (Radiology)	2
University education – Psychiatrists	1
University education – Dentists	2
University education – Doctors (Surgeons)	1
University education – Doctors (Biopathologists)	2
University education – (Pulmonologist)	1
University education - Ophthalmologist	1
University education – Doctors (Orthopedics)	1
University education -Doctors	1

(Cardiologist)	
University education – Doctors (Neurologists)	1
University education – Doctors (Otorhinolaryngologists)	1
University education – Psychologists	1
University education – Pharmacologists	1
University education – Social Work	1
University education – Nursing	2
Technological education – Administrative Accounting	2
Technological education – Physiotherapists	1
Technological education – Medical Laboratory	4
Technological education – Health- Welfare- Social Work	3
Technological education – Health Welfare/ Nursing	16
Technological education – Radiology	4
Secondary Education - Nursing	15
Secondary Education – Pharmacy Assistants	2
Secondary Education – Administrative Accounting	5
Secondary Education – Administrative Accounting (indefinite period employment of private law)	0

Secondary Education – Guarding	68
Secondary Education – Guarding (definite period employment of private law)	0
Secondary education of personal of outer guarding	0
Total	157

B) From Proclamation 9K/2021 (416) of employees of the Department of Custody (of secondary education), and the Department of External Guard Personnel, (176) employees of the Department of Custody have already been appointed, according to the following allocation per Penitentiary:

PENITENTIARY	SECONDARY EDUCATION – GUARDING
Drama	85
Rural – Agia Chania	2
Korydallos I	16
Korydallos II	3
Special Health Center of Korydallos	2
Psychiatric Hospital	6
Drug addiction rehabilitation center for prisoners	1
Alikarnassos	4
Grevena	11
Domokos	2
Thessaloniki	5

Corfu	5
Komotini	3
Malandrino	4
Special Penitentiary of Youth in Avlona	2
Larisa	10
Nigrita	7
Trikala	8
Total	176

C) The employees who serve in the five large wards of the Korydallos Penitentiary I are divided into 4 shifts, as follows:

Morning shift: 2-3 employees in each ward

Afternoon shift: 2-3 employees in each ward

A Night shift: 2 employees in each ward

B Night shift: 1 employee in each ward

Regarding the existing staff of the Psychiatric Hospital (A), its staffing based on the new Organization (By-laws) (B) or, alternatively, following its planned transfer to the Ministry of Health (C), we submit to you the following:

A) According to the data of 7-6-2023, served at the Psychiatric Hospital:

PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL	
CATEGORY/BRANCH/SPECIALTY	SERVING
University education – Prison officers for adults	2
University education -Doctors	0
University education – Doctors (Psychiatrists)	0

University education – Doctors (pathologists)	0
University education – Pharmacists	0
University education – Psychologists	2
University education – Nursing	0
Technological education – administrative accounting	3
Technological education – Health/welfare/ social work	4
Technological education – health/welfare/nursing	1
Technological education – ergotherapy	0
Technological education – technology – agriculture	0
Secondary education – nursing	0
Secondary education – nursing assistants	0
Secondary education – administrative accounting	4
Secondary education – administrative accounting (indefinite period employment of private law)	0
Secondary education – guarding	53
Secondary education – guarding (definite period employment of private law)	0
Obligatory basic education – assistant personnel	1

Obligatory basic education – assistant health personnel	0
Secondary education – personnel of external guarding	0
Total	70

B) Visiting doctors:

In the current time period, the following number of Doctors per specialty has signed Contracts per visit:

7 General Medicine

3 Psychiatrists

2 Pathologists (Internal Medicine)

1 Cardiologist

1 Dermatologist

1 Dentist

1 Otorhinolaryngologist

1 Biopathologist

Also, 2 additional Psychiatrists visit the Psychiatric Hospital, one by virtue of the cooperation with Attikon Hospital, and the other provided by the Eleonas Drug Addicts Rehabilitation Medical Center.

In the ongoing design of the new Organization (By-Laws) of the General Secretariat of Anti-Crime Policy, an increase in the organizational positions of the Psychiatric Hospital is foreseen according to the following allocation:

CATEGORY	BRANCH	ORGANIC POSITIONS
UNIVERSITY EDUCATION	Penitentiary administration	7
	Doctors	11
	Dentists	1



	Pharmacists	1
	Ergotherapists (occupational therapist)	1
	Criminologists	1
	Psychologists	3
	Sociologists	2
	Social Work	1
TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION	Administrative accounting	4
	Social workers	5
	Nurses	11
	Ergotherapists (Occupational Therapists)	2
	Engineers	1
	Information systems	1
SECONDARY EDUCATION	Administrative Accounting	6
	Nurses	5
	Technicians	2
	Drivers	1
	Cooks	1
	Guarding	63

OBLIGATORY EDUCATION	Assistant personnel	1
	Assistant health personnel	6
	TOTAL	137

C) Staff of the Department of Security (of secondary education)

:

It is pointed out that according to the proclamation 9K/2021 (ASEP 58), six (6) positions of the Secondary Education Safeguarding branch are at the final stage of appointment in relation to the Psychiatric Hospital.

D) Personnel specified in the Presidential Decree for the transfer of the Psychiatric Hospital of detainees (prisoners) to the Ministry of Health:

From the moment of the promulgation of the Presidential Decree, the capacity of the Psychiatric Hospital will be one hundred and twenty (120) beds for hospitalization, of which one hundred (100) beds are for men, ten (10) beds for young adult males and ten (10) beds for females. The capacity may be redefined by joint decision of the Ministers of Citizen Protection and Health.

Also, in the Presidential Decree there will be a provision for the following organizational staff positions: a) Below are referred the provisions for the organizational positions of the health staff of the Psychiatric Hospital, which are divided into categories and branches or specialties as follows:

Healthcare staff:

- Thirteen (13) positions of qualified doctors of the NHS with the specialty of Psychiatrists.
- Seven (7) positions of University education of Doctors with the specialty of Psychiatrists

- Two (2) positions of University education of Doctors with the specialty of General Medicine or Internal Medicine.
- Two (2) positions of University education of Physicians
- One (1) position of University education of Pharmacists of the specialty of university education of Pharmacists
- Five (5) positions of University education of Nursing
- Thirty (30) positions of Technological Education of nursing
- Six (6) positions of technological education of Occupational Therapy
- Thirty (30) positions of secondary education of nursing assistants
- Six (6) positions of obligatory education of Assistant Health Personnel of the specialty of Assistant Nurses – Guardians of Patients of obligatory education.
- Ten (10) positions of Catering staff (waiters)
- Five (5) positions in the Department of Psychology of university education
- Five (5) positions in the Social Work branch of technological education and of the technological education of Social Workers
- Two (2) positions in the Faculty of Social Sciences of university education, specializing in Sociology of university education.
- One (1) position in the field of Criminology of university education.

b) Also, for the operational needs of the Psychiatric Hospital of prisoners, as a Penitentiary, the existing organizational positions of the administrative and other personnel provided for in article 46 of the presidential decree 96/2017, are maintained by branches and categories as follows:

Administrative and other staff:

- Four (4) Penitentiary Administration branch positions of university education.

- Two (2) Administrative - Accounting positions of technological education.
- Five (5) positions in the Department of Administrative – Accounting of secondary education.
- One (1) position in the Department of Administrative and Accounting of secondary education (indefinite period employment of private law)
- Sixty-four (64) Security Guard positions of secondary education
- One (1) position in the sector of General Duties Workers of obligatory education

### **General Data for the recruitment planning**

A) It should be noted that our Service has requested from the Supreme Personnel Selection Council (ΑΣΕΠ) to issue a Notice for (126) positions of all branches and specialties in the Penitentiaries, namely:

- (21) positions for Doctors of university education
- (2) Adult Penitentiary personnel positions of university education
- (5) positions of Criminologists of university education
- (4) Social Work positions of university education
- (2) Psychologist positions of university education
- (2) positions of Sociologists of university education
- (4) Administrative-Accounting positions of technological education
- (14) Health and Welfare positions Social Work specialist pf technological education
- (29) Health and Welfare positions, Nursing specialty of technological education
- (3) Engineers' positions of technological education
- (10) computer information systems positions of technological education
- (1) position of Babysitters of technological education

- (24) Administrative-Accounting positions of secondary education

- (4) Nursing positions of secondary education

- (1) position of bread workers of secondary education

B) By the Deed No. 50/04.11.2021 of the Council of Ministers, (275) positions of various sectors have been approved for recruitment in the Penitentiaries and we are waiting for their announcement by the Supreme Personnel Selection Council (ΑΣΕΠ).

- (6) positions of Nursing of secondary education

- (1) position of Drivers of secondary education

- (79) External Guard posts of secondary education

- (177) Security Guard posts of secondary education

- (2) positions in Agriculture of university education

- (1) position of Sociologist

- (1) Nursing position of university education

- (1) position of Pharmacists of university education

- (2) Occupational Therapy positions of technological education

- (3) Engineers' positions of technological education

- (2) Social Work positions

C) Also, due to the non-acceptance of an appointment position, has been requested the replacement by the Supreme Personnel Selection Council (ΑΣΕΠ) of (59) positions in the Security branch of secondary education, and (12) positions of External Guard Personnel of secondary education based on the Proclamation Announcement 6K/2018.

D) Finally, there are expected the carrying out of Health examinations and the Sports and Psychotechnical Tests of candidates for positions in the Department of Security, and the Department of External Guard Personnel, in accordance with the provisions of Law 2643/1998 "Care for the employment of persons of special categories and other provisions", in order to

draw up the final lists of the appointed persons for the specific category of candidates.

### **Upgrading of the education and training of prisoners**

A key priority of the penitentiary policy is the expansion of the network of education and training structures in the Penitentiaries and the Detention Center of Juveniles of Volos (I.A.A.A.) in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs as well as the strengthening of education, employment and professional training programs for prisoners, with the aim of acquiring knowledge and strengthening their skills in order to prepare themselves for their social reintegration after their release. In particular:

#### **> Expansion of the network of education and training structures**

- A legislative regulation of the new Correctional Code (article 35 par. 1 L. 2776/1999, as amended by L. 4985/2022) specifies that it is mandatory to establish educational structures in every Penitentiary and in the Detention Center of Juveniles of Volos (I.A.A.A of Volos).
- Attached is Table 1 with a list of educational structures that operated in Penitentiaries and the Detention Center of Juveniles of Volos (I.A.A.A. Volos) during the school year of 2022-23.

It is also underlined the possibility of access to formal education through the institution of "private teaching" (where there are no primary and secondary education structures) and in higher (third -degree) education, according to the relevant legislative framework.

- In the context of our cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs (Law 4763/2020), and after a request for interest from the General Secretariat of Vocational Education, Training, Lifelong Learning and Youth, was issued

the decision of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs with number ΑΠ 22512/Κ1/28-02-2023 for the secondment of primary and secondary education teachers to the Penitentiaries and the Institution for the Education of Juvenile in Volos (in the Detention Center of Juveniles in Volos), in the position of Directors of Education and Training, who will be responsible to propose new educational structures, in accordance with the prescribed procedure.

**> Support of programs for prisoners**

- The tender process has been completed in relation to the action "Training and Certification of Prisoners", of 24 million euros, approved by the Special Secretariat of the NSRF, with the aim of implementing an integrated plan to strengthen the future reintegration of released prisoners, adults and minors, in society and the labor market. It is a project that aims to provide a combination of psychosocial and vocational counseling actions, vocational training, certification of knowledge and skills. It is noted that the preparation for the implementation of the above action has begun.
- The training of prisoners in parenting skills was strengthened through the implementation of the European program NESTOR (Erasmus+), lasting three years (from December 2020) and implemented by the Center for Security Studies of the Ministry, which concerns the creation of a network of parenting schools in prisons to strengthen the fatherhood role of prisoner-parents and their substantial reintegration into society. The completion of its implementation is expected within 2023.
- In the context of strengthening the agricultural production of the Agricultural Detention Centers (Α.Σ.Κ.) and the development of agricultural vocational training for prisoners, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed with the Agricultural University of Athens (30/11/2022), with the aim of generally facilitating the extraction and spreading of

geotechnical knowledge in the service and in the Agricultural Penitentiaries, as well as the organization of educational programs, oriented to enhance prisoners with agricultural skills, accompanied by relevant certification. Therefore, it is worth noting that, according to the statistics maintained, from 2-6-2022 until today, more than one thousand (1000) prisoners have been transferred from the closed Penitentiaries, resulting in the decongestion of the closed Penitentiaries and at the same time the strengthening of agricultural production activity.

- A standard questionnaire form was drawn up for the "recording of the educational, training and vocational training/vocational orientation needs of prisoners", as well as a form for periodic (six-months) recording of the educational needs per Detention Center, in order to introduce a uniform and clear way of recording the said data and to implement more targeted programs for prisoners.

> In relation to the Prisoners' Psychiatric Hospital of Korydallos and the implementation of programs for prisoners, is highlighted the implementation of training programs (learning the Greek language), culture (theatre, dance), creative employment (crafts), counseling as well as psycho-educational programs during 2022. Relative activities have also taken place within the first quarter of 2023. Participation in programs and actions is done at the request of the patient-prisoner and the relative participation approval by the attending psychiatrist and according to the therapeutic and educational needs of the prisoner. Participation in the actions usually takes place at the stage of stabilization of the disease and according to the interests and needs of the patient-prisoners, after having been informed and become aware thereto by the scientific staff of the Center. At the same time, social and cultural events are organized in collaboration with the community with the aim of the creatively utilization of their free time and their gradual reintegration into society (such as



attending theatrical performances, musical events, charity visits).

> In relation to Korydallos II Penitentiary and the improvement of transgender prisoners' access to activities, it is noted that, in collaboration with the "Positive Voice people+HIV" Association, the Department develops and organizes targeted actions with sexual health counselors, activists for the rights of transgenders, lawyers, psychologists (of Red Umbrella Athens). It is pointed out the possibility of their participation (as for all prisoners) in the institution of formal education, either in the form of individually taught gymnasium and high school students, or in the form of distant university education. Transgender prisoners also attend the artistic and sports activities that take place at the Center, following strict adherence to security measures.

**Policy - framework for transgender people (paragraphs 42-47)**

The General Secretariat of Anti-Crime Policy will immediately adopt the parameters of your Committee's proposal for the development of a clearer framework policy for transgender people, according to the YOGYAKARTA principles, which will regard issues of investigation, use of force, personnel, health care, etc.

**Protocols for handling prisoners exhibiting self-destructive behavior (paragraph 37)**

The research results establish that the knowledge of the special characteristics of the self-inflicted prisoner allows in many cases to predict the self-destructive action and therefore provides the possibility of preventing it. The General Secretariat of Anti-Crime Policy has adopted relevant proposals-recommendations of the Council of Europe and your

Committee regarding the prevention of suicides based on the following basic axons:

- Staff training to identify prisoners who are at risk of suicide and to provide appropriate assistance to those who exhibit self-destructive behavior
- Diagnostic screening of prisoners - both during their admission stage and in intermediate phases of their stay in prison - to identify those who belong to the high suicide risk group.
- Communication mechanism between staff and prisoners at risk of self-destructive behavior
- Strengthening of communication with the outside world
- Creation of safe storage areas
- Provision of psychological assistance by qualified staff on mental health matters.
- Daily surveillance and close monitoring of prisoners at high risk of adopting self-destructive behavior
- Removal of personal items, which can be used as means of suicide

On the initiative of the General Secretariat of Anti-Crime Policy and with the cooperation of specialized scientists, has been already drawn up a practical suicide prevention guide for Detention Center staff and distributed to prison staff.

### **Deaths of prisoners at Korydallos Complex I - 2021 (paragraphs 36-38)**

As a result of the reports that were submitted to the service from the Penitentiaries, regarding the deaths of prisoners, in respect to the majority of cases, the General Secretary of Anti-Criminal Policy has ordered the carrying out of a Disciplinary Preliminary Examination, by the locally competent prosecutorial authorities, in order to investigate, on the one hand, the conditions under in which the death took place and

on the other hand the possible existence of disciplinary responsibilities of employees under our jurisdiction. In particular, the Piraeus District Attorney's Office is responsible for investigating cases of death of inmates of the Korydallos Complex of Penitentiaries. In cases of deaths of prisoners who were hospitalized, our service usually addresses the competent forensic services of the Ministry of Justice, in order to be forwarded a copy of the Forensic Autopsy Report and to put the case on file, with an act of the General Secretary of Anti-Crime Policy, as long as no disciplinary responsibility of our authorized officers arise. In particular, with regard to the respective cause of death, our service awaits the conclusion of the Disciplinary Preliminary Examination or the relevant Forensic Report, since what is requested is, as stated above, the verification of the committal or not of disciplinary offenses by the employees of the Penitentiaries, while in the event that the aforementioned Report is received by the Disciplinary Preliminary before the completion of the Examination, it is forwarded to the competent prosecuting authority, for connection with the disciplinary case file. In any case, however, the Forensic Services are responsible for ascertaining the cause or causes of death, while for the circumstances of death are responsible the police and prosecutor's authorities. In cases of death where the existence of disciplinary - and usually criminal - responsibility of the employee/s is established, our service proceeds with disciplinary proceedings, through a referral to the competent Primary Disciplinary Council. At this point, it should be noted the special case of recommending archiving without a prosecutor's report, regarding the deaths of prisoners in hospitals, after a long hospitalization and/or in cases where the deceased prisoner suffered from a serious incurable disease, a fact that is clearly evident from the official documents of public hospitals, such as the medical death certificate. Attached is a table (attachment 3) with the incidents

of deaths of inmates of the Korydallos Complex of Penitentiaries, including the deaths of inmates of other Penitentiaries in the country, who were treated for some time at the Korydallos Special Prisoner Health Center and died there or in a public hospital. Not included in this table are prisoners who were transferred to the Special Health Center of Prisoners in Korydallos (E.K.Y.K.K.) from other Penitentiaries in the country, in order to be referred to a public hospital on the same day. As reflected in the table, twenty-five (25) total deaths occurred in the Korydallos Penitentiary Complex in the year 2021, of which five (5) took place inside the Penitentiary, while the rest in a nursing institution. Three (3) deaths were due to suicide, with one (1) of these occurring within a psychiatric hospital. The last column of the table lists the actions of our service in detail, as well as the stage at which they are.

**Special detention area in the 3rd Wing of Korydallos Penitentiary I (paragraphs 48-51)**

Taking into account the preliminary observations of your Committee, by order of the General Secretary of Anti-Criminal Policy, as you have already been informed, it was immediately decided the temporal closing of the Special Area of the 3rd Wing, in order to renovate it. Since then, the technical crews proceeded to its complete renovation. Specifically:

- (a) the damaged walls were plastered and fixed and all the cells were painted.
- (b) the central door was replaced
- (c) the electronic wiring in the cells was replaced and a new power supply channel was installed in the common area. There were replaced the broken sockets in cell walls. New lighting fixtures were installed in the common corridor and in the cells. There were replaced power supply panels.
- (d) extensive plumbing renovations were carried out, in particular the water heater was moved out of the bathroom for

more safety, the worn pipes in the bathroom and the central water supply pipe were replaced, 4 new wash basins were installed in the cells in place of the worn ones, 5 broken taps were replaced in the cells, new switches were installed in the taps.

(e) a new payphone was installed in the second part of the Special Area of the 3rd wing.

(f) the partition wall in the common area was removed to increase the available Space.

After the completion of the above works, the special area of the 3rd wing was put into operation again in order to keep vulnerable prisoners under protection status. Specifically, the following categories of prisoners are placed in this area:

(a) those who request it themselves, with a written solemn statement, because they consider that their life and physical integrity are at risk if they are detained with the general population, for example because they have legal disputes with other prisoners, or is rumored to have cooperated with the Prosecution Authorities or have other types of personal differences with fellow prisoners.

(b) those transferred, for procedural reasons, from penitentiaries in which those accused of crimes of a sexual nature are detained, some of whom for cases which have received so much publicity that it would be extremely dangerous for their personal safety to communicate with the general inmate population. The stay of prisoners of this category in the special area of the 3rd ward is generally short, however, in some cases, it is prolonged quite a bit, due to the many interruptions during the carrying out of their trial.

(c) prisoners who have created problems in the regular functioning of the Korydallos I Prison and have been proposed to the Central Committee for Transfers and who will be transferred to other prisons, but the relevant proposal of the Prison Council has not been examined yet.

The possibility of the participation of the first two categories of prisoners in creative activities (education, organized entertainment, cultural events and actions) is extremely limited because if they come unaccompanied by the staff in contact with the general population, their physical integrity is at risk. But also prisoners of the third category, often have hostile relations with their fellow prisoners that could lead to fights. The occupancy of the special area C depends mainly on the progress of the court cases of those who have been transferred to be tried for crimes of a sexual nature, and it is currently quite large (31 people are currently held in the renovated special area of the C ward).

It is pointed out, however, that, following a relevant proposal from your Committee and an order from the General Secretary of Anti-Crime Policy, the required works are being completed within the current month, in order to render to the Korydallos Penitentiary I an empty Wing of the Korydallos Penitentiary II (of the women's prisons) , with a capacity of one hundred and twenty (120) detention places, in order to be used for prisoners who are transferred for procedural reasons, especially for vulnerable prisoners who need protection. In this case, the special space of the 3rd Wing will be completely decongested and will not be used at all, unless there is another special reason.

**Case of a person with a severe physical disability in the Special Prisoner Health Center (paragraphs 52-53).**

Further to our communication of 15-12-2022 at which your Committee was informed about our actions for the care of the prisoner H.A., we confirm that he has received a second carer to meet his daily needs and the company REHABLINE completed the manufacture of his prosthetic upper limbs and after tests, they were delivered to the patient. Nevertheless, Mr. H.A. informed the company that he does not use them because,

as he claimed, he is not used to the particular design anatomy of the prosthetic items. Therefore, the company, according to their written assurance, which we received on 17-5-2023, proceeded to duplicate the original upper extremity prostheses items and will manufacture a new one, which is copy of the old one.

Dear gentlemen,

Allow me, as the head of the General Secretariat of Anti-Crime Policy, responsible for drawing up, implementing and monitoring the country's prison policy, to point out the special institutional role and contribution of your Committee as a helper and companion in the efforts made by the Greek state for the treatment of the chronic problems plaguing our prison system. The radical reform of the country's penitentiary policy with the aim of the safe operation of the penitentiary system and the simultaneous protection of the rights of prisoners, is, as you know, a huge challenge for the penitentiary system of our country, which is indeed plagued by chronic problems, understaffing and overcrowding which have implications for both detention and working conditions for staff.

However, the General Secretariat of Anti-Crime Policy makes continuous efforts to immediately address deficiencies and malfunctions on the basis of our common goals and aspirations for a sustainable and modern penitentiary system, which respects and protects human rights, while providing the appropriate and necessary guarantees for the normal and successful reintegration into society of all those serving custodial sentences.

Attachments:

1. Table of educational structures in Penitentiary Centers. and in the Juvenile Detention Center of Volos (I.A.A.A.B) for the school year 2022-23.

2. Table of the programs of the Korydallos Psychiatric Hospital for the year 2022 and the first quarter of 2023.
3. Table of dead prisoners in the Korydallos Complex in 2021.

THE GENERAL SECRETARY  
OF ANTI-CRIME POLICY  
KONSTANTINOS PAPATHANASIOU

Exact copy The Head of Department: Athanasios Charalambous. Official seal of the Ministry of Citizen Protection.

Certified translation ne varietur of the shown document from Greek to English (Art. 147 of Law 4781/2021 – Official Journal of the Hellenic Republic 4561/28-2-2021 & Ministerial Decision Π23MET-34908/2021, Official Journal of the Hellenic Republic 149/B/19-7-2021. Pages of translation: 23. Certified translator of the MFA, <https://www.mfa.gr/ypiresies-gia-ton-politi/metafrastiki-ypiresia/i-metaphrastiki-ypiresia.html>, Ch. Frygana, Rec. No. 131. Athens, 10/7/2023.