

Enhancing human rights protection of detained and sentenced persons in Serbia – phase II

What is the goal?

- ▶ To strengthen human rights of detained and sentenced persons in Serbia, in line with the recommendations highlighted in the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) reports and the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) judgments.

Who benefits from the Action?

- ▶ Detained persons, prisoners, psychiatric and forensic patients and their families
- ▶ Prison staff, police, staff of psychiatric and social care institutions
- ▶ Decision makers and national authorities and civil society organizations
- ▶ Citizens of Serbia

How will the Action work?

- ▶ By building on the results of co-operation achieved under the HF Phase I (2016-2019).
- ▶ Through expert advice/opinions, round tables, working groups, training, piloting of programs, peer-to-peer networking and publications
- ▶ Interventions based on clear and specific recommendations and inter-sectoral coordination/cooperation (holistic approach), ensuring strategic, legislative and operational changes based on real needs and set European standards and national priorities

What do we expect to achieve?

- ▶ To strengthen the safeguards against ill-treatment of persons arrested and detained by police through better compliance with the Council of Europe standards
- ▶ To enhance the human rights protection of prisoners through improved policy and reintegration measures
- ▶ To strengthen human rights protection of persons with mental disabilities detained in psychiatric (general and forensic) or social care institutions
- ▶ To ensure networking of this Action and pertinent regional initiatives regarding CPT standards and recommendations enhancing synergies and impact

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How much will it cost?

- ▶ The Action has overall budget of 900.000 EUR.
- ▶ The budget allocated to the overall Horizontal Facility programme amounts to ca. 41 Million EUR (85% funded by the European Union, 15% by the Council of Europe).

How do we get more information?

- ▶ Criminal Law Cooperation Unit (CLCU), Action against Crime Department, Directorate General I Human Rights and Rule of Law: website: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/criminal-law-coop>
- ▶ Horizontal Facility website: <https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/horizontal-facility/home>
- ▶ Marija Simić, Horizontal Facility Communication Officer, Marija.SIMIC@coe.int, +381 63 601 337
Besnik Baka, Horizontal Facility Communication Officer, Besnik.Baka@coe.int, +355 69 217 8430

About Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey

The “Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey 2019-2022” is a joint initiative of the European Union and the Council of Europe that enables the Beneficiaries to meet their reform agendas in the fields of human rights, rule of law and democracy and to comply with the European standards, including where relevant within the framework of the EU enlargement process. This three-year programme covers actions in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, as well as Kosovo* and it is implemented by the Council of Europe from May 2019.

**This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.*

The Council of Europe is the continent’s leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

www.coe.int

The Member States of the European Union have decided to link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.

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HORIZONTAL FACILITY FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY 2019-2022

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