

## What is the budget for the project?

- The total budget of the project is 850,000 EUR.
- The duration of the project is 36 months (October 2022 – September 2025).
- The project is implemented by the Council of Europe, and co-funded by Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Norway, and the Council of Europe.

## How to get additional information?

Council of Europe, Cooperation in Police and Deprivation of Liberty unit;

**[www.coe.int/cpd](http://www.coe.int/cpd)**

Council of Europe Office in Pristina:

**<https://www.coe.int/en/web/pristina/home>**

Social network accounts: **<https://www.facebook.com/CoE.Pristina/>**

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# IMPROVEMENT OF THE TREATMENT OF PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY

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](http://www.coe.int)

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## What is the goal?

- To further strengthen the protection of the rights of persons deprived of their liberty, with a focus on the provision of mental healthcare in prisons, as well as the rights of patients detained during involuntary psychiatric hospitalisation, and persons with mental and physical disabilities placed in special social welfare institutions.
- To assist the local authorities in overcoming the shortcomings identified by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) related to the provision of mental healthcare and safeguards against ill-treatment in prisons and other closed institutions.
- To further enhance the knowledge and skills of medical and non-medical staff in prisons, other closed institutions, and other relevant stakeholders, to provide adequate mental health care and strengthen the safeguards against ill-treatment in line with Council of Europe standards and CPT recommendations.

## Who stands to benefit from the project?

- Project partners: Ministry of Health (Prison Healthcare Department, Institute of Forensic Psychiatry of Kosovo), Ministry of Finance, Labour and Transfers (Special Institute for Persons with Mental and Physical Disabilities), Ministry of Justice (Kosovo Correctional Services).
- Target groups: healthcare and other categories staff in prisons and closed institutions.
- Direct beneficiaries: patients in prisons, forensic institute patients and persons with mental and physical disabilities accommodated in the special social welfare institutes.
- Indirect beneficiaries: society as a whole

## How will the project be implemented?

- The project will be implemented in line with the Council of Europe project management methodology, strengthening the link between cooperation programmes and the overall strategy and values of the Organisation.
- The project will strengthen cross-institutional coordination and cooperation, aiming at protection of the rights of persons deprived of their liberty, with a focus on the provision of mental healthcare in prisons, as well as the rights of persons detained during involuntary psychiatric hospitalisation, and people with mental disabilities placed in other institutions.
- A multidisciplinary approach will be utilised throughout the project, thus allowing for all stakeholders involved in the project to be fully aware and informed timely of all project developments.
- All project outcomes will be achieved by providing expert assistance to the authorities in revising existing/developing new legal, policy and operational documents, including mental health care protocols, standard operating procedures, tools, and guidelines, as well as conducting different capacity building activities for the project's target groups, such as trainings, seminars, workshops.

## What are the expected outcomes?

- Co-operation enhanced and continuous co-ordination is ensured between all relevant stakeholders in the provision of healthcare in places of detention and closed institution.
- The Prison Healthcare Department's professional performance has further improved through the development of relevant protocols and enhanced skills of the staff in the fight against ill-treatment.
- Legislation and policies regulating involuntary psychiatric hospitalisation and treatment and the status of relevant closed institutions are revised in light of the Council of Europe standards and best practices.
- Human rights of patients with mental disabilities in closed institutions further enhanced through their inclusion in rehabilitation programmes and occupational therapy.