

Strengthening the human rights compliant criminal justice system in the Republic of Moldova

Project summary

Project title	Strengthening the human rights compliant criminal justice system in the Republic of Moldova
Country	Republic of Moldova
Budget	866,000 €
Funding	Council of Europe Action Plan for the Republic of Moldova for 2021-2024
Duration	30 months (1 March 2021 – 31 August 2023)
Partners and beneficiaries	Parliament, Ministry of Justice Ministry of Internal Affairs, Superior Council of Magistracy, Supreme Court of Justice, General Prosecutor's Office, Superior Council of Prosecutors, Bar Association, People's Advocate Office (Ombudsperson Institution), National Council for the Prevention of Torture (National Preventive Mechanism), National Institute of Justice
Main objective	The criminal justice system of the Republic of Moldova is effective, functions in line with the European human rights standards
Expected results	<p>Expected result 1: Justice stakeholders apply pre-trial detention in compliance with the Council of Europe standards.</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Justice stakeholders improve the quality of investigations into ill-treatment and management of places of pre-trial detention; - Justice stakeholders apply more non-custodial measures at the pre-trial stage of criminal proceedings. <p>Expected result 2: Justice stakeholders use a better criminal sentencing framework, including more effective community sanctions.</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More humanised approach to sentencing is applied by the criminal justice actors. <p>Expected result 3: Stakeholders, implementing external monitoring, are more effective in prevention of human rights violations within the criminal justice system.</p> <p>Outcomes:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The capacities and visibility of the Ombudsperson Institution and the National Preventive Mechanism in dealing with the human rights violations in criminal justice sector are improved.
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Skills and knowledge of prosecution to effectively investigate into ill-treatment in police custody and penitentiary institutions are increased; - Fundamental safeguards against ill-treatment, among them the right of access to a lawyer and the right of access to a doctor, are better observed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs; - The skills of police and seconded criminal investigation officers within the prosecution offices on evidence collection and presentation in courts are enhanced; - Legal framework in place puts emphasis on non-custodial measures (including house arrest, bail and judicial control) on pre-trial stage of criminal proceedings; - Increased capacity of criminal justice actors to use non-custodial preventive measures; - Recommendations and legal expertise are provided to put in place the relevant changes in the Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure with the view of decreasing the harshness of criminal sentences; - Knowledge and skills of judges, prosecutors and defence attorneys are increased to ensure the resulting decrease in harshness of sentences in criminal justice; - Legal framework of the activity of the Ombudsperson Institution and the National Preventive Mechanism is further enhanced to facilitate the exercise of their mandates; - Awareness of criminal justice actors, civil society and the general public concerning the mandate of the Ombudsperson Institution and the National Preventive Mechanism is increased; - Knowledge and skill of the staff of the Ombudsperson Institution and the members of the National Preventive Mechanism are further improved to ensure the quality of exercise of their mandate.