



Република Македонија
НАРОДЕН ПРАВОБРАНИТЕЛ

Republika e Maqedonisë
AVOKATI I POPULLIT

O M B U D S M A N
Republic of Macedonia

On **28.10.2014** the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) carried out unannounced visit to Police Station (PS) Demir Hisar (first visit of the NPM team to this police station).

The purpose of the visit according to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, is identifying risks with aim of prevention of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

The visit of this police station was conducted in a manner that at first the team inspected the premises for detention, then met with the Assistant Commander of this PS (acting Commander of this police station), at the end the team inspected several registries and evidence:

- The evidence of daily events;
- The evidence of persons deprived of liberty and detained persons;
- The registry of usage of means of restrain;
- The evidence of detained persons, and
- 4 individual folders for detained persons.

In this police station there is one room for individual detention with one bed. During the visit there were no persons deprived of liberty in the room for detention whom the NPM could have interviewed about the police conduct towards them and the detention condition in this police station.

During the inspection of the detention room the NPM team concluded that the room is equipped with one bed, fixated to the floor which prevents from improper usage and abuse. The bed is equipped with partially clean and tidy means for rest (short term and overnight detentions), as blanket, pillow, however the bed does not have a mattress and linen but sponge and several old blankets.

In terms of the light, the room satisfies the standards related to the daily and artificial light, however the room is lacking an outlet for cleaning the air, there is natural ventilation through small opening in the upper part of the door. The room does not have neither central system for heating nor cooling-during the visit the NPM concluded that the temperature is below the overage of around 16.5°C, while as the humidity of the air is 62% which is above the recommended standards.

The room does not have a calling device although the office of the Shift Leader is on the ground floor which imposes the question how would a detained person call an official in case of emergency, having in mind that the detention room is in the basement.

The NPM team did not find means of intimidation or any other suspicious objects neither in the detention room nor in the other rooms.

The evidence of daily events is kept properly, all the columns in the form are clearly filled, there is a detailed description of the event and it contains all the necessary information with a signature of the police official who filled the information. The inspection of this book gives a clear picture of all the activities within the work of the PS Demir Hisar.

During the inspection of the Evidence for persons deprived of liberty and detained persons, the NPM team concluded that the evidence is kept properly, all the sections are well filled and clear and no corrector is used. Positive remark is the information given for the reasons why a doctor was called. However, this evidence did not contain a clear distinction whether a person was detained or deprived of liberty.

The inspection of the individual folders was made randomly, on the basis of which one could conclude that they are properly kept with all necessary documents regarding the detention and the rights of the person deprived of liberty, aside of the minutes for detention. In some of the folders the NPM noted a minutes for the right to a doctor, and a written report about the doctor' opinion and undertaken measures by him with a signature and a stamp which presents a good practice and should be used in the other police station too.

As a result of this visit, the National Preventive Mechanism prepared a separate report where the positive and the negative situations were duly noted and gave appropriate recommendations to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Police Station with aim to eliminate the identified shortcomings.