



Република Македонија  
НАРОДЕН ПРАВОБРАНИТЕЛ  
Republika e Maqedonisë  
AVOKATI I POPULLIT  
**O M B U D S M A N**  
Republic of Macedonia

The Ombudsman as National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) on **24.04.2014** carried out follow up visit to the PS Debar which has for its purpose assessment of the implementation of given recommendations in the report of the regular visit conducted on **31.05.2012**. The visit was carried out with an external collaborator from the Macedonian Young Lawyers Association, registered association for free legal aid, involved in the procedures for legal aid to asylum seekers of the Reception center for asylum seekers.

The Ombudsman as NPM carried out **unannounced follow up visit** to the PS Debar in line with the mandate and competences arising from the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Law on Ombudsman.

Thus, the NPM concluded that most of the given recommendations to the PS Debar are partially implemented. From the follow up visit it was concluded that still the renovation and the construction of new detention premises has not been started, also this station does not have a separate room for interrogation of juveniles. The NPM also concluded that there has not been improvement in providing access to persons with disabilities, i.e. the entrance of the station does not have an access ramp. The same room used during the first visit of the NPM to this police station, is used as a detention room, the removal of the electricity cables was the only change this room had. The NPM was informed that during the winter season additional heaters are used.

During the follow up visit, the NPM concluded that the interrogation of persons deprived of liberty is carried out in the official premises since there is no specialized room for that purpose. In this police station there is no Shift Leader who will be responsible for the persons deprived of liberty, while as in the meantime there is an inspector in charge for a juvenile delinquency.

From this visit it was concluded that there has been improvement in the way the evidence of persons deprived of liberty is maintained, but not on a satisfactory level since the individual file's folder has not been in use yet (the documents are still kept in a regular white sheet of

paper). The NPM concluded that the individual files contain all necessary minutes and documents in accordance with the Operative Standard Procedures, but the minutes for detention is not always filled fully and regularly, hence the logical flow of events is well inserted (it is clearly shown when a person is deprived of liberty, and when he/she is detained in the police station).

The NPM team concluded that the rights of the summoned, apprehended and detained persons are clearly visible and pinned in more languages in the premises for detention, as well as in the room for acceptance and interview with persons deprived of liberty. In accordance with the received information, this police station has not had a budget for food for persons deprived of liberty in the last 10 years.

As a result of this visit, the Ombudsman as a 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 this police station with aim to eliminate the identified shortcomings.