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НАРОДЕН ПРАВОБРАНИТЕЛ

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AVOKATI I POPULLIT

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

According to the Law on the Ombudsman ("Official Gazette" no.60/03 and 114/2009), the Ombudsman, among the other authorities, has the authority to monitor the respect and protection of the constitutional and legal rights of the persons placed in bodies and institutions where the freedom of movement is restricted.

The Ombudsman as a National Preventive Mechanism has a mandate established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment, thereby authorized to conduct visits to places of deprivation of liberty and detention places as well as monitor the material conditions and the treatment in order to identify risks and prevent torture and other cruel and inhuman treatment and punishment.

According to its mandate and powers, on 6th of October 2016, the National Preventive Mechanism carried out regular unannounced visit to the Police Station Cair and had meetings with the officials. The visit to the police station started at 11 a.m. and ended at 15 p.m. (with total duration of 4 hours).

The visit to the police station was consisted of conversation with the chief of police, the deputy and assistant chiefs, monitoring of the premises of the police station, gaining insight into the following registers (the one daily events, the register for detained and retained persons, the register for use of force, the register for citizens' complaints), inspecting the files of several detained and arrested persons and gaining insight into the transport vehicles as well as talk with the officials, the shift manager and the inspectors from the Department for property crime and juvenile delinquency.

During the conversation with the chief of police, NPM was informed on the area of work of the police station Chair, which is responsible for the following municipalities: Butel, Suto Orizari and Cucer Sandevo, where according to the 2002 census live around 69880 inhabitants.

Despite the police station in Cair, there is also a police department in the village Mirkovci, with 19 police officers.

Based upon decision of SVR Skopje, the police station Cair is no longer used as a place for detention. All the persons that should be detained are transferred in PS Gazi Baba and PS Bit Pazar.

Since the police station is placed in an old and dilapidated which is divided into two parts, ground floor and basement, the general impression in terms of material conditions in PS Cair is that it is in very bad condition.

During the visit it was found that the rights are displayed in the office of the shift manager in the hallway, but the persons deprived of liberty are orally informed and immediately acquainted on their rights as well.

As a result, the Ombudsman as a National Preventive Mechanism after the visit prepared a special report which noted the positive and the negative conditions as well as appropriate recommendations to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the PS Centar in order to overcome the identified deficiencies.