

DUE TO THE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS, THE MONITORING TEAMS OF THE HELSINKI COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE MACEDONIAN YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION WERE NOT ALLOWED TO VISIT THE PRISONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA.

10
MARCH

THE DIRECTORATE FOR EXECUTION OF SANCTIONS ISSUED AN ORDER RESTRICTING AND PROHIBITING THE BENEFITS CONVICTS HAVE, AS FOLLOWS:

- MORE FREQUENT CONTACTS WITH THEIR FAMILIES, VISITS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE INSTITUTION;
- HOME LEAVE;
- HOLIDAY AND
- WORK OUTSIDE THE INSTITUTION.

15
MARCH

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

- PRISON SURVEILLANCE MECHANISMS (E.G. THE NATIONAL PREVENTIVE MECHANISM) SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONTINUE MONITORING THE SITUATION WHILE TAKING PRECAUTIONS TO AVOID EXPOSING PEOPLE TO FURTHER RISKS.¹

20
MARCH

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR THE PREVENTION OF TORTURE AND INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT (CPT).

- TAKING PROTECTIVE MEASURES MUST NOT RESULT IN INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OF PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM.²

26
MARCH

OMBUDSMAN

- THE PROHIBITION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN, OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT IS ABSOLUTE AND NO DEVIATION FROM SUCH PROHIBITION CAN BE ALLOWED.³

1
APRIL

HELSINKI COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND MACEDONIAN YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

- JOINT RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE COMPETENT INSTITUTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF INCREASED MEASURES FOR PROTECTION OF PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR FREEDOM IN CONDITIONS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS.

24
APRIL

HELSINKI COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND MACEDONIAN YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

- JOINT INFORMATION FLYERS WERE SUBMITTED TO ALL HOTELS THAT WERE ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES FOR PERSONS IN STATE QUARANTINE. THE FLYERS CONTAINED THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PERSONS ACCOMMODATED IN THESE FACILITIES.

1 REGULATION WITH LEGAL FORCE FOR APPLICATION OF THE LAW ON EXECUTION OF SANCTIONS

- Prolonged issuance of referral acts until 1st September 2020 and postponed execution of issued referral acts until 1st September 2020

1. A temporary guide to the preparation, prevention, and control of COVID-19 in prisons and other detention facilities, available at: https://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/434026/Preparedness-prevention-and-control-of-COVID-19-in-prisons.pdf?ua=1

2. Principles relating to the treatment of people deprived of their freedom in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, available at: <https://rm.coe.int/16809dd40b>

3. Recommendations for dealing with people deprived of their freedom in conditions of a pandemic, Ombudsman, 26th March 2020, available at: http://ombudsman.mk/mk/novosti_i_nastani/241625/preporaki_za_postapuvanje_so_licata_lisheni_od_sloboda_vo_uslovi_na_pandemija_od_virusot_kovid-19.aspx