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Council of Europe anti-torture Committee announces visits to ten states in 2013 to monitor the situation of persons deprived of their liberty

Strasbourg, 28.11.2012 - In 2013, as part of its programme of periodic visits, the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) intends to examine the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty in the following ten countries: Belgium, Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Montenegro, Poland, San Marino, Slovakia, Turkey and Ukraine.

Persons in possession of information concerning deprivation of liberty in any of these countries which they believe could assist the CPT are invited to bring it to the Committee's attention.

The CPT will also organise ad hoc visits whenever it considers this is required by the circumstances.

The CPT organises visits to places of deprivation of liberty in the Council of Europe's 47 member states in order to assess how detained persons are treated. Places visited include prisons, juvenile detention centres, police stations, holding centres for immigration detainees, psychiatric hospitals, social care homes, etc.

CPT delegations have unlimited access to places of deprivation of liberty, and the right to move inside such places without restriction. They interview detained persons in private, and may enter into contact with anyone else who may be able to provide relevant information.

After each visit, the CPT sends a confidential report containing its conclusions and recommendations to the state concerned. This constitutes the basis for a dialogue between the CPT and the national authorities in order to strengthen the protection of detained persons from ill-treatment

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