

## **Relations between the CPT and National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs)**

### **“New partnership for torture prevention in Europe”**

In its 22<sup>nd</sup> General Report the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) published “some provisional thoughts on the means of promoting synergy “ between the Committee and National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs) and asked for comments on this section. The main ideas for future cooperation which are now open for discussion are the following:

#### **- Exchange of knowledge to support and inspire each other:**

The CPT envisages the organization of regular exchanges on human rights standards and visiting methodology with NPMs to avoid diverging approaches and contradictory recommendations.

#### **- CPT/NPM interaction in the context of visits:**

Before and during the visit the CPT asks for continuous communications and an update on the most recent information at the NPMs disposal and offers to disclose the places of liberty the CPT intends to visit. What is however rejected by the CPT is the proposal that NPM members join the CPT’s delegation during a visit to their country, or of CPT members being invited to participate in an NPM visit.

#### **- NPM follow-up after CPT visits:**

Lifting confidentiality vis á vis the NPM is proposed when the CPT encourages national authorities to invite representatives of the NPM to be present in the end-of-visit talks, when the CPT’s delegation will provide its preliminary remarks as well as any observations of an urgent matter. This immediate information of the NPM about the CPT’s critical findings is considered as decisive to ensure follow-up by monitoring the implementation of the international preventive body’s recommendations by the national one.

See the CPT 22<sup>nd</sup> General Report <http://www.cpt.coe.int>