



The President
Le Président

Mr Irakli Giviashvili
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Georgia
to the Council of Europe
6, rue Jean Hermann
67000 Strasbourg

Strasbourg, 2 October 2018

Dear Ambassador,

Subject: Further to the visit to Georgia by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) carried out from 10 to 21 September 2018

At the meetings held in Tbilisi on 21 September 2018, I provided the Ministers of Internal Affairs and Justice, as well as the Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs, with the CPT delegation's preliminary observations. The full consolidated text of these observations is enclosed herewith.

During the above-mentioned meetings, the CPT's delegation *inter alia* invoked Article 8, paragraph 5, of the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and made two immediate observations, one in respect of the National Mental Health Centre named after Academician Bidzina Naneishvili ("Kutiri Psychiatric Hospital") and the other in respect of both Kutiri and Khevalchauri Psychiatric Hospitals.

As regards the first immediate observation, the Georgian authorities were requested to replace all patients' beds on the general psychiatric wards, female forensic wards and the so-called "shelter" in Kutiri Psychiatric Hospital, and confirm this fact to the CPT within three months.

As regards the second immediate observation, the Georgian authorities were requested to ensure daily access to outdoor exercise to all patients of Kutiri and Khevalchauri Psychiatric Hospitals, and to inform the CPT of the steps taken within three months.

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Further, in the light of its serious concerns regarding living conditions in Surami and Kutiri Psychiatric Hospitals and the general psychiatric wards in Khevalchauri, the CPT's delegation requested the Georgian authorities to provide the Committee with regular and detailed update reports, on a quarterly basis, regarding the progress in completing the renovation and building works in the three establishments. The first such report should be sent to the CPT within three months.

I should add that the responses of the Georgian authorities to the above-mentioned immediate observations and the aforementioned request, as well as any other comments made in response to the delegation's preliminary observations, will be fully taken into account when the CPT draws up the report on its visit to Georgia.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes. The signature is slanted to the right and appears to be a stylized representation of the name Mykola Gnatovskyy.

Mykola Gnatovskyy

Copy: Ms Elena Beradze, Head of International Relations Department, Special Penitentiary Service, Ministry of Justice