



The President
Le Président

CPT/MG/2018/40

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

Strasbourg, 27 August 2018

Dear Ambassador,

Subject: Visit to Georgia by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT); further to my letter of 28 March 2017

1. In pursuance of Article 8, paragraph 1, of the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, I hereby notify the Georgian Government of the intention of the above-mentioned Committee to carry out a visit to Georgia. The visit will become effective on **Monday, 10 September 2018**, and is expected to last twelve days.

2. The visit will be carried out by the following members of the CPT:

- Mykola GNATOVSKYY, President of the CPT (Head of delegation)
- Marzena KSEL, 1st Vice-President of the CPT
- Gergely FLIEGAUF
- Alexander MINCHEV
- Ceyhun QARACAYEV
- Vytautas RAŠKAUSKAS

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They will be supported by Borys WÓDZ (Head of Division) and Natacha DE ROECK of the CPT's Secretariat, and will be assisted by:

- Clive MEUX, forensic psychiatrist, Oxford, United Kingdom (expert)
- Kira CHOKHURI (interpreter)
- Nino GUDUSHAURI (interpreter)
- Tamar MIKADZE (interpreter)
- Mara TSAKADZE (interpreter).

3. The Council of Europe will issue the members of the delegation with identity documents. However, it would be desirable for the Georgian authorities to provide official **credentials** to all members of the delegation, explaining their mandate and powers to whomever may be concerned.

4. The delegation very much hopes to meet, *at the outset of the visit*, senior officials responsible for matters falling within the Committee's mandate, in particular from:

- the Ministry of Internal Affairs (including representatives of the Human Rights and Monitoring Main Division and the General Inspection);
- the Ministry of Justice (including representatives of the Special Penitentiary Service, the Medical Department and the General Inspection);
- the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs (including senior officials responsible for psychiatric care);
- the Prosecutor's Office (including senior prosecutors in charge of investigating complaints against law enforcement and prison officials);
- the Office of the Public Defender. The delegation would welcome an opportunity to meet the Public Defender, Nino LOMJARIA, and members of the Special Prevention Group.

I would be most grateful if the above-mentioned meetings could be arranged, in consultation with the CPT's Secretariat, on **Monday, 10 September 2018**. Some of the meetings can take place simultaneously, as the CPT's delegation intends to operate in sub-groups.

5. *At the end of the visit, on Friday, 21 September 2018*, the delegation would like to present to the Georgian authorities its preliminary observations and would particularly welcome the opportunity to meet, on this occasion, the Ministers responsible for matters falling within the CPT's mandate, and in particular 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.

6. *On the eve of the visit*, the CPT's delegation would like to have a short meeting with the liaison officer(s) appointed by the Georgian authorities, in order to discuss certain practical arrangements. It is proposed that this meeting take place on **Sunday, 9 September 2018, at 7 p.m.**, at the delegation's hotel (IBIS Styles Tbilisi Center, 4 G.Tabidze Street, tel. +995 322 00 24 24).

7. Shortly before the visit becomes effective, the notification process shall be completed by a further letter indicating the places which the CPT's delegation intends to visit.

8. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr Borys WÓDZ (tel. +33 3 88 41 32 21, e-mail: borys.wodz@coe.int) or Ms Natacha DE ROECK (tel. +33 3 90 21 52 43, e-mail: natacha.deroeck@coe.int) of the CPT's Secretariat if you require any further information about the Committee's forthcoming visit.

Yours sincerely,



Mykola Gnatovskyy

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