

Summary report on case AJB-510/2018 of the OPCAT Visit to the Central Holding Facility of Fejér County Police Headquarters

October 19, 2017, the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights, proceeding within the competence of the OPCAT National Preventive Mechanism, paid an unannounced visit to the Central Holding Facility of Fejér County Police Headquarters. The objective of the visit was to examine the treatment of and the catering to the detainees.

The members of the visiting delegation inspected the premises of the Holding Facility, the relevant documentation, conducted interviews with the detainees, the commander of the facility, the watch commander, and the members of the staff; they also examined the transport vehicle parked in the courtyard and its equipment. The delegation paid special attention to the meals and the healthcare provided to detainees (a physician and a dietitian were also members of the visiting delegation), as well as their possibilities to maintain contact with the outside world.

The inspection did not find any circumstances indicative of any act of torture defined in the international Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, promulgated by Law-decree 3 of 1988.

The visiting delegation found the premises clean and orderly. The working conditions of the guards were appalling.

The rather peculiar window opening devices in the cells were unsafe, dangerous to handle, and could be used for self-mutilation.

The absence of various life-saving and other medical devices, disposable gloves, as well as the insufficient equipment presented a danger not only to the provision of healthcare to the detainees but also to the health of the staff of the medical service.

The Commissioner for Fundamental Rights requested the Commander of Fejér County Police Headquarters to ensure the provision of proper working and eating conditions to the custodial staff, the change of the opening devices on the cells' windows, and the procurement of the life-saving devices missing from the medical office of the Holding Facility.

The detainees' medical reports were kept in an open wooden box, together with their other documents, in the office of the commander of the guards, where any member of the custodial staff had access to them.

The insufficient safety conditions of the transport vehicle, the lack of safety belts in its passenger compartment presented a danger to the detainees' personal integrity.

The Commissioner for Fundamental Rights requested the Commander of Fejér County Police Headquarters to ensure that the detainees' health-related and other personal data were stored in a closed place and to have safety belts installed in the transport vehicle.

Based on the visit's findings, the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights requested the Commander of Fejér County Police Headquarters to ensure that his subordinates attended training sessions on the detainees' treatment and human rights, on conflict and aggression management, and that meals prepared for the detainees were transported in special catering vehicles, food containers were not stored on the floor of the Holding Facility's corridor, and special antibacterial and antifungal dishwashing liquids were regularly used.