

*Preventing torture in places of detention through systems of regular visit to places of detention*

## **International conference**

### **Preventing torture in places of detention through systems of regular visits - Monitoring, documentation and research**

#### *Programme*



**Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims (RCT)**

**Venue: Alexandersalen, Bispetorvet 1-3, ground floor  
Copenhagen University, Copenhagen**

**25-27 May 2005**

**Wednesday 25 May 2005**

**Opening Session I**  
**Prevention of torture and the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention**  
**against Torture (OPCAT)**

- 8.30-9.00 Registration of conference participants
- 9.00-9.15 Welcome and outline of the purpose of the seminar  
*Prof. Bengt Sjölund, Director General of the Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims (RCT), Copenhagen*
- 9.15-9.45 Key note address on the OPCAT  
*Mr. Friis Arne Petersen, Permanent Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs*
- 9.45-10.30 The challenges of preventing torture in places of detention  
*Prof. Ole Espersen, Senior Consultant at the Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims (RCT), Copenhagen*
- 10.30-11.00 Coffee break
- 11.00-11.45 The Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture: Perspectives for preventing torture in places of detention  
*Mr. Mark Thomson, Secretary General of the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT), Geneva*
- 11.45-12.30 Panel discussion
- 12.30-13.30 Lunch

**Session II**  
**International monitoring mechanisms**

- 13.30-14.15 Visiting mechanisms and the protection of human rights  
*Prof. Malcolm Evans, School of Law, Bristol University, United Kingdom*
- 14.15-15.00 The model and experience of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT)  
*Dr. Ole Vedel Rasmussen, M.D., Senior Medical Consultant at the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) and Member of CPT and CAT*
- 15.00-15.30 Coffee break
- 15.30-16.15 The model and experience of the ICRC  
*Mr. Alain Aeschlimann, head of the International Committee of the Red Cross Central Tracing Agency, Geneva*
- 16.15-17.00 Panel discussions  
*Mr. Magne Barth, Norwegian Red Cross, Oslo*
- 17.00-19.00 Reception at the Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims**

**Thursday 26 May 2005**

**Session III**  
**National monitoring mechanisms**

- 9.00-9.45 Preventing torture via national systems of visits to places of detention:  
The case of the UK  
*Prof. Diana Medlicott, Faculty of Applied Social Sciences and Humanities, Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College, United Kingdom*
- 9.45-10.30 Preventing torture via national systems of visits to places of detention:  
The case of Nepal  
*Dr. Bidur Osti, People's Dental College, Kathmandu, Nepal*
- 10.30-11.00 Coffee break
- 11.00-11.45 Preventing torture via national systems of visits to places of detention: The case of Kenya  
*Mr. Evans Wafula and Dr. Ahmed Kalebi, Independent-Medico Legal Unit (IMLU), Kenya*
- 11.45-12.30 Panel discussion  
*Mr. Levent Kutlu, Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (HRFT)*
- 12.30-13.30 Lunch

**Session IV**  
**Medical documentation of torture in places of detention.**

- 13.30-14.00 The Istanbul Protocol: A tool for medical documentation of torture  
*Dr. Ole Vedel Rasmussen, M.D., Senior Medical Consultant at the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) and Member of CPT and CAT*
- 14.00-14.30 Preventive medical examination in police stations in Spain.  
A quality assessment.  
*Dr. Hans Draminsky Petersen, M.D. Consultant at the Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims (RCT)*
- 14.30-15.15 Challenges and possibilities of medical documentation of torture  
*Dr. Derrick Pounder, M.D., Dept. of Forensic Medicine, Dundee University, United Kingdom*
- 15.15-15.45 Coffee break
- 15.45-16.30 Practical challenges of medical documentation in the field  
*Dr. Hernán Reyes, M.D. Medical Coordinator for Detention- Related Activities, International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva*
- 16.30-17.00 Panel discussion  
*Dr. Bent Sørensen, International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT), Copenhagen*

**Friday 27 May 2005**

**Session V**

**The role of research in the prevention of torture in places of detention**

- 9.00-9.45      Analysis of (bad) prison practice and the implication for change  
*Mr. Andrew M. Jefferson, Ph.D., Researcher at the Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims (RCT)*
- 9.45-10.30    Identification of best practices within national and international visiting mechanisms  
*Ms. Ester Schaufelberger, Visit Programme Officer at the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT), Geneva*
- 10.30-11.00    Coffee break
- 11.00-11.45    Prison Governance in Bangladesh  
*Dr. Akram Chowdury, Executive Director of the Bangladesh Rehabilitation Centre for Trauma Victims (BRCT)*
- 11.45-12.30    Panel discussion  
*Mr. Peter Vedel Kessing, Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR), Copenhagen*
- 12.30-13.30    Lunch

**Session VI**

**Perspectives for the future and closing**

- 13.30-14.15    State-NGO cooperation and co-responsibility for the prevention of torture in places of detention: The case of Honduras  
*Dr. Juan Almandares, Director of the Centro de Prevención, Tratamiento y Rehabilitación de las Víctimas de la Tortura y sus Familiares (CPTRT), Honduras*
- 14.15-15.00    Perspectives for the future and closing  
*Mr. Henrik Ronsbo, Ph.D, Senior Researcher and Ms. Therese Rytter, Programme Manager, the Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims (RCT)*