УПОВНОВАЖЕНИЙ ВЕРХОВНОЇ РАДИ УКРАЇНИ З ПРАВ ЛЮДИНИ



UKRAINIAN PARLIAMENT COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

вул. Інститутська, 21/8 01008, м. Київ, Україна

Tel.: (+380 44) 253 2203 Fax.:(+380 44) 226 3427 E-mail: hotline@ombudsman.gov.ua http://www.ombudsman.gov.ua

21/8, Instytutska str. Kyiv, 01008, Ukraine

Nº 2014.2/20/23.2

«<u>09</u>» <u>04</u> 20<u>20</u> p.

UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention Chair-Rapporteur

Mr. Jose Guevara Bermúdez

wgad@ohchr.org

Dear Mr. Jose Guevara Bermúdez!

In response to your request for arbitrary detentions related to drug policy in Ukraine, I provide relevant information prepared with the participation of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine.

As of January 1, 2020, 52,863 convicts and prisoners were detained in the penitentiary institutions, including 5,635 persons for crimes related to drug trafficking, which is 10.65% of the total number of convicts and prisoners.

We also inform that as of the mentioned period, the pre-trial facilities contained 18 987 detainees, 1535 of which were suspected of committing the criminal acts related to drug trafficking and use.

The Law of Ukraine "On Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors" regulates public relations in the sphere of circulation of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, their analogs and precursors in Ukraine. This Law determines the procedure, conditions and peculiarities of carrying out activities related to circulation of drugs. It should be borne in mind that in accordance with the third paragraph of Article 3 of the said Law, if and when the international treaty of Ukraine establishes rules other than those stipulated by the legislation on drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors, there should be applied the provisions of the international treaty.

Depending (including) on the volume of narcotics and psychotropic substances, the purpose of their purchase and storage, the current legislation determines the degree of illegality and danger of the offense.

For example, in accordance with the requirements of Article 44 of the Code of Administrative Offenses, the illicit manufacturing, purchase, storage, transportation, transfer of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances in small quantities without intent to sell, entails a fine 425 UAH (15 euro) to 850 UAH (30 euro), or community service for twenty to sixty hours, or administrative arrest for up to fifteen days.

At this, the concept of "small amount of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances" is defined by the central executive authority, which provides public policy in health care, in conjunction with the central executive authority, which provides public policy in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, their analogue and counteraction to their illicit trafficking.

A person, who voluntarily surrendered narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances that were small in amount and that it has developed, produced, acquired, stored, transported or forwarded without the purpose of sale, shall be released from administrative responsibility for the above actions.

In other cases, the illicit manufacture, production, acquisition, storage, transportation, transfer or selling of narcotics, psychotropic substances or their analogues is a criminal offense.

In accordance with the requirements of Article 307 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, illegal production, making, purchasing, storage, transportation, sending for selling purposes, and also illegal sale of narcotics, psychotropic substances or their analogues shall be punishable by imprisonment for a term of three to eight years.

The same actions, if repeated, or committed by a group of persons upon prior conspiracy, or by a person who had previously committed any of such criminal offenses, or by engaging a minor, and also sale of narcotics, psychotropic substances or their analogues in places designated for educational, sports, and cultural purposes, and in other places of wide public attendance, or sale or transfer of these substances to places of imprisonment, or where these actions involved narcotics, psychotropic substances or their analogues in gross amounts or especially dangerous narcotics and psychotropic substances shall be punishable by imprisonment for a term of five to ten years with the forfeiture of property.

The above mentioned actions, if committed by an organized group, and also if these actions involved narcotics, psychotropic substances or their analogues in especially gross amounts, or committed by engaging a child or against a child shall be punished by the imprisonment for a term of eight to twelve years with the forfeiture of property.

Criminal law also provides that a person, who voluntarily surrendered narcotics, psychotropic substances or their analogues, and disclosed the source from which they were purchased, and assisted in uncovering the criminal offenses

related to their trafficking, shall be discharged from criminal liability for their illegal production, making, purchasing, storage, transportation, or sending (paragraph 1 of this Article and paragraph 1 of Article 309 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine).

In accordance with the requirements of Article 309 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, illegal production, making, purchasing, storage, transportation or sending of narcotics, psychotropic substances or their analogues not for selling purposes shall be punishable by a fine of 850 UAH (30 euro) to 1700 UAH (59 euro), or correctional labor for a term up to two years, or arrest for a term up to six months, or restraint of liberty for a term up to three years, or imprisonment to the same term. The same actions, if repeated, or committed by a group of persons upon their prior conspiracy, or by a person who had previously committed any of such criminal offenses, or if these actions involved narcotics, psychotropic substances or their analogues in gross amounts shall be punishable by imprisonment for a term of two to five years. Any such actions if committed by engaging a minor, and also if these actions involved narcotics, psychotropic substances or their analogues in especially gross amounts shall be punishable by imprisonment for a term of five to eight years. A person, who voluntarily applied to a treatment facility and began the treatment of drug addiction, shall be discharged form criminal liability for actions mentioned at the beginning of this paragraph.

The notion of a "large and particularly large size" of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, their analogues or precursors, as well as toxic or potent substances or toxic, potent or counterfeit medicine used in this law acts, is defined by the central executive authority, which provides public policy in health care, in conjunction with the central executive authority, which provides public policy in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, their analogue and counteraction to their illicit trafficking.

Since special knowledge is required to determine the type, name and properties of a narcotic drug, psychotropic substance, analogue of such drug, substance or precursor, their origin, method of manufacture or processing, as well as the content of narcotic plants, this category of cases must necessarily be given expert opinion.

A person who committed a criminal offense in a state of intoxication resulting from the use of alcohol, narcotic, or any other intoxicating substances shall be criminally liable. Also, committing a crime by a person who is intoxicated or in a condition caused by the use of drugs or other intoxicants is a punishing burden.

A person who, while committing a socially dangerous act, envisaged by the Criminal Code of Ukraine, was not criminally liable, i.e. could not be aware of his actions (inaction) or control them due to chronic mental illness, temporary disorder of mental activity, dementia or other ill-health psyche. Such a person may, by a court decision, be subject to compulsory medical measures.

As regards the administration of justice by courts, we note that the procedure for criminal proceedings in the territory of Ukraine is determined only by the criminal procedural legislation of Ukraine (part one of Article 1 of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine.

In accordance with the requirements of Article 7 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the matter and manner of criminal proceedings must conform to the general principles of criminal proceedings such as: the rule of law, equality before law and court, respect for human dignity, presumption of innocence and providing proof of guilt; ensuring the right to protection.

In accordance with the requirements of Article 30 of the Criminal Procedure Code, only court shall administer justice in criminal proceedings in accordance with rules prescribed in the present Code.

Pursuant to Article 31, paragraphs 1 and 14 of the Criminal Procedure Code, criminal proceedings are conducted by the court within the territorial jurisdiction of which the criminal offense was committed. In the case where several criminal offenses have been committed, criminal proceedings shall be carried out by a court within the territorial jurisdiction of which a more serious offense was committed, and if they were the same in gravity, by a court within the territorial jurisdiction of which the most recent criminal offense was committed.

If the place of a criminal offense can not be established, criminal proceedings shall be conducted by a court within the territorial jurisdiction of which the pre-trial investigation has been concluded.

Criminal proceedings for consideration of an indictment against a minor, motions for dismissal of criminal responsibility, application of compulsory measures of medical or educational character, their continuation, amendment or termination, as well as criminal proceedings on appeal or cassation, in order to review the judgments taken from the said decisions shall be carried out by a judge authorized under the Law of Ukraine "On Judicial System and Status of Judges" for criminal proceedings concerning incomplete the minors.

As regards procedural safeguards, it is noted that Article 42 of the Criminal Procedure Code provides for the rights and obligations of the suspect and accused. Thus, in accordance with paragraph 3 of Part Three of Article 42 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the suspect, accused on his/her first demand has the right to have a counsel and consultation with him prior to the first and each subsequent interrogation under conditions ensuring confidentiality of communication, and also upon the first interrogation to have such consultations with no limits as to their number or duration; the right to the presence of defense counsel during interrogations and other procedural actions, refuse from services of counsel at any time in the course of criminal proceedings; have services of a counsel provided at the cost of the state in the cases stipulated for in this Code and/or the law regulating provision of legal aid at no cost, including when no resources are available to pay for such counsel.

In addition, according to Article 14 of the Law of Ukraine "On Free Legal Aid" the right to free secondary legal aid under this Law and other laws of Ukraine have the following categories of persons, in particular:

persons subject to administrative detention / administrative arrest are entitled to such legal services as representation of interests in courts, other state agencies, local self-governing authorities, other persons and drafting of procedural documents:

persons who, in accordance with the provisions of criminal procedural laws, are considered to be detained and in respect of whom a preventive measure in the form of detention has been chosen - for such legal services as the protection and drafting of procedural documents;

persons in criminal proceedings in respect of whom, in accordance with the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine, a defense counsel involved by the judge, prosecutor, investigator for protection in accordance with the appointment or to conduct a separate procedural action, as well as persons sentenced to imprisonment.

Regarding the detention and preventive measure, one should note that, in accordance with part one of Article 208 of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine, a competent official has the right to apprehend without investigating judge's, court's ruling, an individual suspected of the commission of crime for which a punishment of imprisonment is stipulated, only in case:

- 1) this person was caught upon committing a criminal offence or making an attempt to commit it;
- 2) if immediately after the commission of crime, an eye-witness, including the victim, or totality of obvious signs on the body, cloth or the scene indicates that this individual has just committed the crime;
- 3) if there are reasonable grounds to believe that an escape is possible in order to evade the criminal responsibility of a person suspected of committing a grave or particularly grave corruption offense ascribed to the jurisdiction of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine.

The term of apprehension of a person without the order of an investigating judge may not exceed seventy-two hours from the moment of detention, which is determined in accordance with the requirements of Article 209 of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine.

An individual apprehended without investigating judge's, court's ruling shall be released or brought to court for consideration of a motion to impose on him a measure of restraint no later than sixty hours after apprehension (Article 211 of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine).

Measures of restraint shall be enforced: during pre-trial investigation — by investigating judge upon motion of investigator approved by public prosecutor, or upon motion of public prosecutor; and during trial — by court upon motion of public prosecutor (part 4 of Article 176 of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine).

According to the first paragraph of Article 176 of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine the following are measures of restraint: personal commitment; personal warranty; bail; house arrest; custody.

Grounds for enforcement of a measure of restraint shall be the existence of reasonable suspicion of having committed a criminal offence, as well as the existence of risks that provide sufficient grounds to investigating judge, court to believe that the suspect, the accused or the convicted person can commit illegal actions. The investigator, public prosecutor may not initiate application of a measure of restraint without grounds provided hereunder in accordance to the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine.

The request for application or change of the preventive measure shall be considered by an investigating judge, the court without delay, but not later than seventy-two hours from the moment of the actual detention of the suspect, accused or from the moment when the suspect, the accused, his defense lawyer filed a corresponding request with the court (part one of Article 186 of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine).

Regarding the responsibility for the acquisition, use or possession of drugs.

In accordance with the requirements of Article 309 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, illegal production, making, purchasing, storage, transportation or sending of narcotics, psychotropic substances or their analogues not for selling purposes shall be punishable by a fine of 850 UAH (30 euro) to 1700 UAH (59 euro), or correctional labor for a term up to two years, or arrest for a term up to six months, or restraint of liberty for a term up to three years, or imprisonment to the same term.

The same actions, if repeated, or committed by a group of persons upon their prior conspiracy, or by a person who had previously committed any of this criminal offenses, or if these actions involved narcotics, psychotropic substances or their analogues in gross amounts shall be punishable by imprisonment for a term of two to five years.

Any such actions, if committed by engaging a minor, and also if these actions involved narcotics, psychotropic substances or their analogues in especially gross amounts shall be punishable by imprisonment for a term of five to eight years.

A person, who voluntarily applied to a treatment facility and began the treatment of drug addiction, shall be discharged form criminal liability for such actions.

In addition, Article 44 of the Code of Administrative Offenses of Ukraine establishes administrative responsibility for the illicit manufacture, purchase, storage, transportation, transfer of small-scale of drugs or psychotropic substances not for selling purposes.

The sanction of the aforementioned article of the Code of Administrative Offenses of Ukraine provides for the imposition of a fine of 425 UAH (15 euro) to

850 UAH (30 euro) of citizens or public works for a term of twenty to sixty hours, or administrative arrest for a term of up to fifteen days.

A person who voluntarily surrendered narcotics or psychotropic substances in small size and that he/she has developed, produced, acquired, stored, transported, without forwarding sales target is released from administrative responsibility for the actions provided for in this Article.

The concept of "small amount of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances" ealth care, in conjunction with the central executive authority, which provides public policy in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, their analogue and counteraction to their illicit trafficking.

This issue was settled by the order of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine of August 1, 2000 No. 188 "On approval of tables of small, large and especially large quantities of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors that are in illicit circulation", registered at the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on August 16, 2000 under No. 512/4733.

According to Article 32 of the Code of Administrative Offenses of Ukraine, administrative detention is established and applied only in exceptional cases for separate types of administrative offenses for a period of up to fifteen days. Administrative detention is appointed district, district in the city, by city or gorrayonny court (judge).

Administrative detention cannot be applied to expectant mothers, women who have children age up to twelve years, to persons who did not reach eighteen years, to disabled people of the first and second groups of disability.

With regard to the responsibility of minors for committing an offense under Article 309 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, we note that under Article 22 of the Criminal Code persons who have reached the age of 16 years before the commission of a criminal offense shall be criminally liable.

In addition, under Article 12 of the Code of Administrative Offenses of Ukraine, administrative responsibility is imposed on persons who have attained the age of sixteen by the time of making of administrative offense.

With regard to the release from punishment and its serving, we note that the release of the convicted person from punishment or his further serving, replacement with a softer one, as well as the mitigation of the imposed punishment, in addition to the exemption from punishment or mitigation of punishment under the Law of Ukraine on amnesty or Act on pardon, can only be applied by a court in cases provided for by the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

Article 75 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine establishes cases of release with test period.

Article 76 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine establishes Obligations imposed on a person discharged on probation. Thus, under paragraph 5 of part three of the said article of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, on persons released from serving a sentence on probation, the court may additionally impose, in particular, an obligation to undergo treatment for mental and behavioral disorders resulting from the use of psychoactive substances or a disease that poses a risk to health of other persons.

Article 78 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine establishes the legal consequences of release on probation. According to paragraph two of the aforementioned article of the Criminal Code, if a convicted person fails to comply with obligations imposed on him or her, or regularly commits offenses that entail administrative penalties and demonstrate his/her unwillingness to reform, a court shall send the convicted person to serve the imposed sentence.

In turn, the parole from punishment, replacement of the unserved part of punishment more lenient, pardon and amnesty procedure of Ukraine are provided for by Articles 81, 82, 87 and 82 of the Criminal Code respectively.

A person who has committed a crime in a state of condemnation, but before the sentence developed a mental illness, which renders him/her incapable of realizing his/her actions (or omissions) or controlling them, shall be discharged from punishment. For such a person by the court may apply compulsory medical measures, and after recovery the person may be subject to punishment.

A person convicted by a court of limited conviction is subject to criminal liability, that is, one who, at the time of committing a crime, because of a mental disorder, was not able to fully realize and (or) manage their actions (inaction). Recognition of a person with limited conviction is taken into account by the court in imposing a sentence and may be a ground for applying compulsory measures of a medical nature.

In the period of serving their sentences in the penitentiary institutions and in accordance with the requirements of Article 8 of the Criminal Enforcement Code of Ukraine, convicted persons are entitled including getting information about their rights and obligations, terms and conditions of execution and serving the court sentence. The administration of the institution or body executing the punishment is obliged to provide the convicted persons with the aforementioned information, as well as to familiarize them with the changes of the order and conditions of serving the sentences and to ensure their humane treatment and respect for their human dignity. Convicts should not be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

Exposure measures may be applied to convicts solely on the basis of the law. Condemned persons may not be subjected to medical or other similar research regardless of their consent. Convicts may apply, in accordance with the law, with proposals, statements and complaints to the administration of penitentiary bodies and institutions, their superiors, to the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, the European Court of Human Rights, and other relevant bodies of international organizations, where Ukraine is a member or a party, to the authorized persons of such international organizations, courts, prosecutor's offices, other public authorities, local self-government bodies and associations.

Corresponding appeals (correspondence) are submitted to the administration of the penal institution. On receipt of the request (correspondence), the administration issues for the convicted person a confirmation coupon on receipt of the correspondence. Within three days (and in the cases stipulated by the legislation, within one day) from the date of issue of the coupon — confirmation, the said request (correspondence) shall be sent to the addressee.

The implementation of the functions of the national preventive mechanism is carried out by the Commissioner in accordance with Article 19¹ of the Law of Ukraine "On the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights" (hereinafter - the Law). The monitoring visits of the national preventive mechanism are carried out in the Ombudsman + format, which involves the representatives of public organizations, experts and specialists to participate in such visits. Number of public monitors involved in visits during 2019, has grown to 175 people.

In 2019, there were conducted 711 monitoring visits to places of detention (there are 5 044 such places in Ukraine). As a result of these visits, there were initiated pre-trial investigations in 63 criminal proceedings on the facts of illegal actions by law enforcement officials, prosecutors, personal injury, torture, abuse of power, leaving in danger, including 40 proceedings initiated by the State Bureau of Investigation.

One of the strategic activities of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights for 2020 is monitoring of the observance of peoples' right to personal safety and health in the places of detention of state and private ownership.

Since the beginning of 2020, within the framework of the implementation of the national preventive mechanism, employees of the NPM Department of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights Office together with members of the public society have made 3 initial visits to private rehabilitation centers providing a range of services aimed at rehabilitation and re-socialization of chemically/non-chemically dependent persons and their families (Kyiv City Branch of the International Charity Rehabilitation Center "Stairs", "The New Way" Rehabilitation Center ("The Movement of Changes" NGO), "Doctor Dolinsky Clinic" Rehabilitation Center.

A typical problem has been identified - the lack of proper facilities for the rehabilitation of minors. As a result of the visits, relevant recom- mendations were provided to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine and to the heads of institutions to ensure the rights of persons in rehabilitation centers for chemically / non-chemically dependent persons and their families.

There are no compulsory treatment centers for drug addicts in Ukraine. Convicts have the right to health care to the extent established by the Basics of the Ukrainian legislation on health care, with the exception of restrictions provided by law. Health care is provided by a system of health and wellness and preventive measures, as well as by the combination of free and paid forms of medical care. The prisoner is guaranteed the right to freely choose and be admitted by a doctor to

receive medical care, including at his own expense. Convicts who have a psychiatric disorder and behavior as a result of alcohol, drugs, psychotropic substances or their analogues or other intoxicants may, in their written consent, undergo treatment for these diseases.

The use of alcohol, drugs, psychotropic substances or their analogues or other intoxicants, their manufacture, storage, purchase, distribution, systematic avoidance of diseases that pose a danger to the health of others is a malicious violation of the established order of serving the sentence with negative consequences for the convicted person.

Head of the penitentiary institution has the right to place the convicted person in the disciplinary cell for up to one day before the decision on the application of penalties in case of violation of the regime of serving a sentence, which consisted in being in a state of alcoholic or narcotic intoxication, participation in a conflict situation, fights, mass actions or other activities that pose a serious threat to maintaining order in the institution.

Please be informed, that the current criminal and penal legislation provides grounds and procedure for release from imprisonment and its further serving. The convicted person may exercise his/her right to release personally or through his/her representative, defense counsel.

Persons with mental and behavioral disorders due to the use of opioids from custody who were in substitution maintenance therapy programs (hereinafter referred to as the SMT program) at the institutions of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as the Ministry of Health of Ukraine) before being sent to pre-trial detention facilities received treatment using substitution maintenance therapy drugs in accordance with the procedure, regulated by a joint order of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, Ministry of Justice of Ukraine and State Service of Ukraine on Drugs Control of 22.10.2012 No.821 "On approval of the interaction of health care institutions, internal affairs, detention centers and correctional centers to ensure continuity of treatment with replacement therapy" (hereinafter - the Order No. 821).

In accordance with Order No. 821, persons who were in the Substitution Maintenance Therapy Program at the institutions of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine and got into the detention center, should be taken to the territorial institution of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, where they should continue to receive substitution maintenance therapy in the context of continuity or they will be provided with a detoxification procedure using substitution maintenance therapy drugs. The duration of this procedure is determined individually by a narcologist by the respective territorial institution of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine and ranges from 5 to 20 days, depending on the average dose and general condition of the patient.

It should be noted that Order No. 821 does not provide for the provision of substitution medication (detoxification or continuous treatment) for patients who

were not previously participants of the Substitution Maintenance Therapy Program in the civilian medical sector, nor does it cover persons with legal status — convicted.

Ministry of Justice of Ukraine signed order No. 4092/5 of 12.26.2018 on the implementation of the "Comprehensive treatment with the use of substitute maintenance therapy for convicts with mental and behavioral disorders due to opioid use, the state institution" in Bucha Correctional Colony (No. 85)" Pilot project). A Working Group on the preparation and implementation of the Pilot Project has been set up to coordinate the work.

The Order of the Health Care Center of the State Criminal Enforcement Service of Ukraine of March 7, 2019 No. 59-OD approved the Protocol of the Pilot Project "Comprehensive treatment with the use of substitute maintenance therapy for convicts with mental and behavioral disorders due to opioid use, the state institution" in Bucha Correctional Colony (No. 85)", which carefully prescribes the very procedure of complex treatment with the use of substitute maintenance therapy for persons with opioid dependence among convicted persons. Implementation of the Pilot Project is currently underway, and the first patients participating in the Pilot Project are receiving treatment. It is planned to expand in the future these services to penitentiary institutions.

Along completed work on formation of amendments to the order of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine of 27.03.2012 No.200. "On approval of the substitution therapy of patients with opioid dependence".

Major changes discussed and identified at numerous working meetings at the Ministry of Health of Ukraine with the participation of authorized representatives of the State Institution "Center for Public Health", the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, the Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine, the National Guard of Ukraine and the State Security Service of Ukraine concerned the expansion of opportunities for the implementation of treatment programs for persons with mental and behavioral disorders resulting from opioid use with substitution maintenance therapy drugs in hospitals with appropriate conditions, regardless of their subordination and ownership. The adoption of these changes that will allow unimpeded expansion of programs of complex treatment with the use of substitute maintenance therapy for persons with opioid addiction in medical institutions, medical units of the Health Care Center of the State Penal Enforcement Service of Ukraine, which belongs to the Ministry of Justice. In the current wording of the Order No.200, only medical institutions under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine have the opportunity to implement the Programs of Substitute Supportive Therapy.

Among other things, in institutions, remand prisons of the State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine for persons with mental and behavioral disorders, harm reduction services are provided through well-established cooperation with relevant non-governmental organizations.

In 2019, the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, together with the EU-ACT project, translated and adapted the methodological guide "Rehabilitation program for convicted persons and persons in custody with mental and behavioral disorders due to psychoactive substance use (for the State Criminal Enforcement Service of Ukraine)" - Rehabilitation program). This guide is the first in Ukraine based on scientifically sound models that have proven effective in their practical use in other developed countries of the world, a program to work with dependent persons in penitentiary facilities.

In September 2019, work began on piloting the Rehabilitation Program at several institutions of the State Criminal Enforcement Service. The interim result will be to assess of the effectiveness of implementation and identify the next steps and necessary initiatives by the EU-ACT project with the involvement of local experts.

By the Decree No. 56-p of 06.02.2019 the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved the document "On approval of the plan of measures for 2019 - 2020 on the implementation of the State Drug Policy Strategy for the period up to 2020" (hereinafter - the Action Plan), which has been developed at the state level with the involvement of all the interested entities.

The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine and the Center for Health Protection of the State Criminal Enforcement Service of Ukraine were directly involved in the formation of fundamental aspects and definitions of the Section of the Action Plan "Organization of Treatment in the Institutions and Agencies of the State Criminal Enforcement Service of Ukraine of sentenced and detained persons with behavioral disorders due to the use of psychoactive substances" within the work of the working group on the document.

The Action Plan outlined clear, realistic objectives that underpin the conventional initiatives previously identified with partners.

Best regards Commissioner

Lyudmyla Denisova

Belokoz Yuriy, Kovtun Oksana +38-044-253-00-13