Dear Mrs. Critoph,

as to the call for submissions on the topis „Current issues and good practices in prison management“, on behalf of the Czech NPM I would like to briefly mention few notes.

For many years we face overcrowding which worsten the conditions for inmates and limits posibilities of their social rehabilitation and reintegration. Hence it also rise pressure on underresourced prison system and especially prison employees.

Thats the reason, why we recommended to Prison Service to establish the position of prison ombudsman. Another issue, we are currently discussing with Czech Prison Service is to make their instructions and other papers for inmates (e.g. Prison Rules) more comprehensible. You know, all of the administration and documentation, which should a newly imprisoned people read, are quite hard to understand. The instructions are often drawn up from parts of the laws, which is usually not fully understandable for most of the people. Moreover, quite frequently  prisoners send us complaints about things they do not understand.

We suppose, that if the instructions will be written through easier language and thus will be more comprehensible, it will lead to less complaints and less conflicts. Also the employees of prisons will have less consultations, the instruction of inmates upon arrival will be easier and so on.

Best regards

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