EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR THE PREVENTION OF TORTURE AND INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT (CPT)

COMITE EUROPEEN POUR LA PREVENTION DE LA TORTURE ET DES PEINES OU TRAITEMENTS INHUMAINS OU DEGRADANTS (CPT)





The President Le Président

CPT/MG/2019/17

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

Strasbourg, 22 March 2019

Dear Ambassador,

In pursuance of Article 10, paragraph 1, of the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 1 enclose herewith the report to the Georgian Government drawn up by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) following its visit to Georgia from 10 to 21 September 2018. The report was adopted by the CPT at its 98th meeting, held from 4 to 8 March 2019.

The various recommendations, comments and requests for information formulated by the CPT are highlighted in bold in the body of the report. As regards more particularly the CPT's recommendations, having regard to Article 10, paragraph 1, of the Convention, the Committee requests the Georgian authorities to provide within six months a response giving a full account of action taken to implement them. The CPT trusts that it will also be possible for the Georgian authorities to provide, in the abovementioned response, reactions to the comments and requests for information formulated in this report.

As regards the <u>recommendation in paragraph 130 of the report</u>, the CPT requests that the Georgian authorities provide their response within **one month**.

The CPT would ask, in the event of the response being forwarded in Georgian, that it be accompanied by an English or French translation.

I am at your entire disposal if you have any questions concerning either the CPT's report or the future procedure.

I would also like to this opportunity to encourage the Georgian authorities to consider adopting the automatic publication procedure by which States authorise in advance the publication of all future visit reports by the CPT, as well as the responses to the reports. Several States have already agreed to this procedure in recent years. The CPT considers early publication as a means to enhance transparency and to foster debate on the contents of its reports among relevant State actors and other stakeholders.

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As background, I refer you to Resolution 2160 (2017) by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on "25 years of the CPT: achievements and areas for improvement" and the response of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted at the 1301st Meeting of the Ministers' Deputies on 29 November 2017. The Secretariat of the CPT is at your disposal to provide further explanations about the modalities of this procedure.

Yours sincerely,

Mykola Gnatovskyy

Copy: Ms Ketevan Sarajishvili, Head of Public International Law Department,

Ministry of Justice