

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 19 OF THE CONVENTION**

Concluding observations of the Committee against Torture
(Extracts for follow-up of CAT/C/LIE/CO/4)

LIECHTENSTEIN

(...)

C. Principal subjects of concern and recommendations

(...)

Definition of torture and statute of limitations

10. While noting that a working group is currently discussing the definition of torture and the statute of limitations relating to it and will report to the Government in June 2016, the Committee is concerned at the absence in the Criminal Code of a distinct crime of torture based on the definition in article 1 of the Convention and the continued existence of a statute of limitations with respect to offences that would amount to torture (arts. 1 and 4).

11. The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation that the State party should incorporate into its domestic criminal law a distinct crime of torture in conformity with article 1 of the Convention and ensure that offences that amount to acts of torture carry penalties commensurate with the gravity of this crime. The State party should also ensure that in the next revision of the Criminal Code acts amounting to torture are not subject to any statute of limitations. The Committee draws the State party's attention to paragraph 11 of its general comment No. 2 (2007) on the implementation of article 2 by States parties, which underscores the preventive effect of having the crime of torture defined as an offence in its own right.

(...)

Treatment of persons deprived of their liberty

16. While taking note of the size and holding capacity of Vaduz National Prison, the Committee is concerned at the continued absence of a full-time nurse or other medical personnel in the prison. It is also concerned that corrections staff continue to distribute medicines to persons deprived of their liberty. In addition, the Committee is concerned at the shortage of space in the prison, which has a negative impact on the work and leisure activities of prisoners (arts. 2, 11-13 and 16)

17. **The Committee reiterates its recommendation that the State party should review its policy of health services in Vaduz National Prison and consider the appointment of a nurse or other medical personnel in order to preserve medical confidentiality, convey requests of detainees to have a medical examination, control stocks and ensure that medicines are provided only by qualified medical staff, in line with international standards. All persons arriving in a penitentiary institution should be examined by an independent medical doctor within 24 hours of arrival. The State party should also find a solution to guarantee work and leisure activities of prisoners to facilitate their return to social life.**

(...)

Violence against women

20. While taking note with appreciation of the recent amendments to the State party's criminal and sexual criminal law, as well as the decrease in the incidence of domestic violence, the Committee is concerned that no plan has yet been established in follow-up to the National Action Plan on Violence against Women that was adopted in 2006. It is also concerned that victims of sexual or other forms of gender-based violence may, in practice, be overlooked during the refugee status determination procedures (arts. 2, 3, 12-14 and 16).

21. **The State party should take steps to adopt a new plan in follow-up to the National Action Plan on Violence against Women implemented in 2009. It should also ensure that a gender-sensitive approach is applied during the refugee status determination procedure that allows for the identification of victims of sexual or gender-based violence.**

(...)

Training

26. The Committee is concerned at the absence of specific training of law enforcement personnel and other public officials involved in work with persons deprived of their liberty, asylum seekers and migrants on the prohibition against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. It is also concerned at the lack of training of medical doctors and other medical personnel on the Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Istanbul Protocol) and at the absence of specific methodologies to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the training provided (art. 10).

27. **The State party should ensure that law enforcement personnel and other public officials involved in work with persons deprived of their liberty, asylum seekers and migrants receive training on the prohibition against torture and that the Istanbul Protocol is made an essential part of the training, in particular, for all medical professionals. The State party should develop and implement specific methodologies to assess the effectiveness and impact of such training.**

(...)

Follow-up procedure

28. **The Committee requests the State party to provide, by 9 December 2016, information on follow-up to the Committee's recommendations on the definition of torture, the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty, violence against women and training (see paras. 11, 17, 21 and 27 above). In that context, the State party is invited to inform the Committee about its plans for implementing, within the coming reporting period, some or all of the remaining recommendations in the concluding observations.**

(...)
