

The fight against torture and inhuman and degrading treatment

Why is the issue relevant

Torture and related acts constitute one of the most common and devastating challenges to health and civil society. In spite of a number of international standards, it is still common in many countries and can be seen as an important challenge to public health, as victims can develop long-term psychological and physical impairment and suffering. From a legal and sociological perspective, torture has been named the “most destructive weapon against democracy” and a major risk for the development of peaceful civil society and rule of law.

Solutions

While the universal and absolute prohibition of torture and degrading treatment have been well established by

international standards, the implementation and effective prevention still require substantial work and international collaboration. The collection of evidence and investigation of alleged torture is a key issue.

What is ART-IP?



The acronym ART-IP stands for “Awareness Raising and Training Measures for the Istanbul Protocol in Europe.”

The purpose of this project is to increase the knowledge and actual usage of the Istanbul Protocol, an UN-adopted manual for the investigation and documentation of cases of alleged torture and other forms of ill-treatment, in European countries.

Under the lead of Vienna Medical University a series of educational material will be prepared to reach that purpose. Via a website and several dissemination events this material will further be provided and presented to a professional audience.

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This communication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

You are invited to either participate in the project as a trainer (if you are an IP expert), or to participate in pilot trainings that will be organized during the project.

Please contact our website for further details:

www.istanbulprotocol.info

ART-IP NEWSLETTER

No. 2 (January 2012)



(Source: Centre for Victims of Torture, Nepal)