

# Project fact sheet



## Supporting the State and Civil Society efforts in combating torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in Kyrgyzstan

<b>Implementing organisation(s)</b>	<i>Penal Reform International (PRI)</i>
<b>Duration</b>	<i>January 2018 - December 2020</i>
<b>Project budget</b>	<i>Total budget - € 800.000 EU contribution - €760,000</i>
<b>Project partners</b>	<i>Ombudsman Institute, National Centre for Torture Prevention, Bar Association, Kylym Shamy, Bir Duino, Child's Rights Defence League</i>
<b>Location</b>	<i>Kyrgyzstan</i>
<b>Keywords</b>	<i>Torture prevention, National Preventive Mechanism, Istanbul Protocol</i>

### Program Development Objective

The overall objective is to strengthening the engagement of civil society with judicial authorities and law enforcement bodies to take concrete actions on prevention of torture. The estimated number of beneficiaries of the project is nearly 120,000 people.

### Main target groups

Governments, national human rights institutions, judicial authorities, law enforcement security services, CSO members, citizens in places of detention, including temporary detention facilities.

### Key challenges that the program helps to address:

- Actual capacity and willingness (including motivation) of law enforcement to move away from forced confession (which often requires the use of torture or degrading treatments) to modern investigative interviews;
- Actual capacity and willingness of the judiciary to treat alleged cases of torture as “torture” rather than “negligence” and/or “abuse of power”;
- With the enter into force of the new Criminal Procedure Code in January 2019 to see whether the crime of torture will be pursued as “crime against a person” rather than an “offence made by an official”;

- To check whether the cases of torture will be investigated by the Prosecutor and not anymore by the GKNB (if this is the case, it will be a positive development).

### Expected outcomes

- Better capacity of CSOs on prevention of torture through democratic dialogue with the government;
- Law enforcement bodies capable of conducting effective and lawful interrogations and criminal case management;
- Judicial system better able to hold torture perpetrators accountable for “torture” rather than “negligence” or “abuse of power”;
- Improved capacity of a newly established torture investigation unit at GKNB (Security services).
- More cases of torture and degrading treatment detected, investigated and brought to court.
- Less cases of torture and degrading treatment taking place.

**Implementation status:** Ongoing

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