



Breakout Session B: Eliminating incentives for torture in criminal justice systems Launch of ODIHR and Fair Trial's new publication

Webinar Title: Defending and promoting rule of law principles: Challenges and ways forward

Date and time: 14 October 2020, 14:30 CET

Registration: In order to participate registration to this event is required (see instructions at <https://www.osce.org/odihr/464520>). The launch of the publication will take place in a break-out session of this webinar starting at 16.30. The Zoom link to the break-out session will be provided at the end of the plenary session, shortly before 16.30.

Interpretation: Interpretation will be provided in English and Russian.

Webstream: A webstream in English language will be provided at <https://www.facebook.com/osce.odihr/live/>.

In the format of a moderated panel discussion, this session will introduce the publication **"Eliminating Incentives for Torture in the OSCE Region: Baseline Study and Practical Guidance"** jointly developed by ODIHR and Fair Trials.

The moderator will engage in a discussion with the panelists in order to:

- Highlight some of the most prevalent institutional incentives for torture in the OSCE region;
- Present ways in which the policy recommendations in this publication can be used;
- Create an opportunity for an exchange of challenges and promising practices in eradicating these remaining incentives for torture and ill-treatment between participating States and CSOs;
- At the end of the session, the moderator will provide space for participants to ask questions to the panelists. Recommendations can be provided in the chat function.

Panelists:

- Bruno Min, Legal Director, Fair Trials;
- Julia Kozma, Member of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT);
- Natalia Taubina, Coordinator, Civic Solidarity Platform's Working Group on the Fight Against Torture and Director, Public Verdict Foundation, Russia;
- Andrew Chernousov, Leading Expert, Kharkiv Institute for Social Research, Ukraine;
- Moderator: Andrea Huber, Head of Human Rights Department, ODIHR.

Opening speech: Barbara Schedler, Deputy Head, Human Security Division, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland

In partnership with Fair Trials, ODIHR embarked on a research project to identify existing incentives for torture in criminal justice systems. While torture is used for numerous, often intertwining reasons, some common aspects of domestic laws, policies, practices, and institutional and workplace cultures incentivize and facilitate its use by law enforcement officials and other criminal justice actors. Some of the existing incentives identified include: confession-based criminal justice systems, failing to exclude torture evidence, trial waiver systems, performance quotas, impunity as well as the abusive use of pre-trial detention and improper medical examinations. Each section of this publication includes detailed policy recommendations on how to effectively address and eliminate these factors and incentives.