



FACILITIES VISITED BY THE NMPT:

- pre-trial detention facilities and prisons
- youth shelters and juvenile detention facilities
- open facilities for minor offenders
- police emergency centres for minors
- police stations
- detention facilities managed by the police, border guard and military police
- psychiatric hospitals
- social care homes, facilities for chronically ill persons and other residential care centres
- sobering-up facilities
- guarded centres and detention facilities for refugees

**HAVE YOU BEEN A VICTIM OR A WITNESS
OF TORTURE OR INHUMAN TREATMENT?
REPORT THE CASE!**



800 676 676
FREE-OF-CHARGE HELPLINE



Write to:
Office of the Commissioner
for Human Rights
al. Solidarności 77
00-090 Warszawa



Write an e-mail to:
biurorzecznika@brpo.gov.pl



COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

KRAJOWY
MECCHANIZM
PREWENCJI
TORTUR*



**NATIONAL MECHANISM
FOR THE PREVENTION
OF TORTURE*

**WHAT IS IT
AND HOW DOES
IT WORK?**

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL MECHANISM FOR THE PREVENTION OF TORTURE AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

It is an independent national body that pays inspection visits to places where people are, or may be, kept against their will.

The NMPT has been established pursuant to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT).

On 18 January 2008, the role of the NMPT in Poland was assigned to the Commissioner for Human Rights.

WHAT ARE THE INSPECTION VISITS?

The NMPT visits are preventive in nature and are not paid upon a complaint.

The visits are not announced in advance.

Their purpose is to verify whether mechanisms are in place to protect persons deprived of their liberty against violence or other forms of ill-treatment.



EVERY VISIT INCLUDES:

- an initial meeting with the head of the facility,
- an inspection of the facility's rooms and outdoor area,
- meetings with groups of detained persons and with individual detainees,
- meetings with staff members,
- review of documentation.

At the end of the visit, the NMPT presents its preliminary findings to the head of the facility. More specific information is contained in the post-inspection report.

ART. 21 OPCAT:

No person or organization shall be prejudiced in any way for having communicated any information to the national preventive mechanism.

THE NMPT IS ALSO CONDUCTING THE "STATE WITHOUT TORTURE" CAMPAIGN.

WHAT IS TORTURE?

Torture is any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person.

If this is done or permitted by a state service officer or employee of any public facility (e.g. a police officer, social care home staff member, juvenile facility employee)
- report this to the NMPT!

TORTURE IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED!

WHAT ARE THE MOST FREQUENT REASONS FOR TORTURE?



to get specific information



to intimidate



to exert pressure

ANYONE MAY BECOME A VICTIM OF TORTURE!