

## DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

### The prevention of ill-treatment in places of detention in Europe: Progress under way

Friday 18 January 2008 - 8h30 – 18h00  
Maison du Barreau - 2 - 4 rue de Harlay - 75001 Paris

*« As of today 17 of the 47 member states of the Council of Europe have ratified the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention Against Torture. Only a few of these countries have adopted legislation setting up an independent mechanism to monitor all places of detention as required under the OPCAT and as had been recommended by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) for many years. Among the vanguard countries is France with its recent Act of 30 October 2007 on the creation of a “General Controller of places of detention”, after the state of French prisons had been harshly criticized on numerous occasions by both national and international bodies. The French ombudsman (Médiateur de la République) and the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights have supported and accompanied that project. That process raised both practical questions and matters of principle which needed to be solved by political decision. We have taken the initiative of this meeting to foster the sharing of thoughts and experiences amongst us, among those who are already on their way and those who are about to take that path. »*

*Jean-Paul DELEVOYE and Thomas HAMMARBERG*

8h30 – 9h00: Registration & coffee

9 h00 – 9 h20 : Opening

- **Christian Charrière-Bournazel**, President of the Paris Bar
- **Joël Thoraval**, President of the French National Consultative Commission for Human Rights
- **Thomas Hammarberg**, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Jean-Paul Delevoye**, Ombudsman of the French Republic

9h20 – 10h00 : Introduction

- **Bacre Ndiaye**, Director of the Human Rights Procedures Division of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Christos Rozakis**, President of the European Court of Human Rights
- **Robert Badinter**, former Minister of Justice of the French Republic, senator

→ *The presence of Rachida DATI, French Minister of Justice, has been announced but remains to be confirmed*

## 10h00 – 11h15: Prevention mechanisms and their functioning: European and UN requirements

Speakers:

- **Mauro Palma**, President of the Council of Europe Committee for the Prevention of Torture
- **Hans Draminsky Petersen**, vice-Chairman of the United Nations Subcommittee on the prevention of torture
- **Mark Thomson**, Secretary general of the Association for the prevention of Torture
- **Paul-Albert Iweins**, President of the National Bar Council of France

→ *Debate*

## 11h15 – 11h30: Keynote speech

**Rama Yade**, State Secretary in charge of Foreign Affairs and Human Rights

## 11 h30 – 12 h00: Break and press conference

## 12 h00 – 13 h30: Prevention mechanism: National options

Speakers:

- **Maria Luisa Cava de Llano**, Deputy Ombudsman of Spain
- **Eric Sottas**, Director of the World Organization against Torture
- **Giorgos Kaminis**, Ombudsman of Greece
- **Peter Kostelka**, Ombudsman of Austria and Chairman of the European branch of the International Ombudsman Institute\*

→ *Debate*

## 13h30 – 14h30: Lunch cocktail

## 14h30-16h00: The prevention mechanism and the ombudsman: Share of tasks

Speakers:

- **Marc Fischbach**, Ombudsman of Luxembourg
- **Janusz Kochanowski**, Ombudsman of Poland
- **Allar Jõks**, Ombudsman of Estonia

→ *Debate*

## 16h00 – 16 h30: Break

## 16 h30– 17 h15: Summing-up

- **Christine Chanet**, President of the United Nations Human Rights Committee, General Rapporteur of the colloquy

## 17 h15 – 17 h45: Conclusions

- **Thomas Hammarberg**, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Jean-Paul Delevoye**, Ombudsman of the French Republic

*In collaboration with*



French National Consultative Commission for Human Rights

*And in partnership with the National Bar Council of France and*

