

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES  
UNDER ARTICLE 19 OF THE CONVENTION**

**Concluding observations of the Committee against Torture**  
*(Extracts for follow-up of CAT/C/EST/CO/4)*

**ESTONIA**

(...)

**C. Principal subjects concerns and recommendations**

(...)

**Administrative detention**

10. The Committee is concerned about the possibility of “administrative detention in jail” and “administrative arrest” (paras. 89 and 215 of the State party report) and about the complete absence of information on such detention in the report as well as from the delegation, especially regarding the competent authority and the applicable legal safeguards (art. 2).

**The State party should provide the Committee with detailed information on such “administrative detention” and insure that the fundamental legal safeguards also apply in such cases.**

(...)

**Inter-prisoner violence**

16. The Committee is concerned about inter-prisoner violence, especially with regard to the incidents that occurred in Murru prison in 2006 where two prisoners were killed, as well as with the insufficient measures taken to prevent and investigate such violence (arts. 12 and 13).

**The State party should promptly, thoroughly and impartially investigate all deaths in detention and all violence amongst prisoners, including any cases involving possible negligence on the part of law enforcement personnel, and bring the responsible to justice, in order to fulfill its obligations under article 12 of the Convention.**

(...)

**Trafficking in persons**

20. While welcoming awareness-raising and prevention campaigns and programmes (including the EQUAL EU cooperation project) as well as the National Plan of Action on trafficking in human beings, the Committee remains concerned about this

persistent phenomenon and the absence of specific legislative measures to prevent, combat and punish human trafficking (art. 16).

**The State party should reinforce its legislation and adopt other effective measures in order to adequately prevent, combat and punish human trafficking, especially that of women and children, and should promptly investigate, prosecute and punish all perpetrators of such crimes. The State party should provide the Committee with statistical data on the incidence of trafficking as well as the objectives and results of the implemented measures, including investigations, prosecutions and convictions. The State party should also adopt specific training and sensitization programmes for law enforcement personnel on human trafficking.**

(...)

### **Stateless persons**

22. The Committee notes the concerns and recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on the Rights of the Child. While welcoming the reduction of statelessness in the State party, the Committee remains concerned at the fact that approximately 33 per cent of the prison population is composed of stateless persons, while they represent approximately 8 per cent of the overall population of the State party (art. 16).

**The State party should adopt all adequate legal and practical measures to simplify and facilitate the naturalization and integration of stateless persons and noncitizens. The State party should also adopt the necessary measures to guarantee that stateless persons and non-citizens are informed of their rights in a language they understand and have access to the fundamental legal safeguards from the moment they are deprived of their liberty, without any discrimination. The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation (CAT/C/CR/29/5, para. 6 (h) and (i)) that the State party should also address the causes and consequences of the disproportionate presence of stateless persons in the prison population and adopt the necessary measures to prevent this phenomenon.**

**The State party should further consider ratifying the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.**

### **Brutality and excessive use of force by law enforcement personnel**

23. While welcoming the establishment of a complaints hotline operated by a nongovernmental organization, the Committee remains concerned at allegations of brutality and excessive use of force by law enforcement personnel, especially with regard to the disturbances that occurred in Tallinn in April 2007, well documented by a detailed compilation of complaints (art. 16).

**The State party should promptly, thoroughly and impartially investigate all acts of brutality and excessive use of force by law enforcement personnel and bring the perpetrators to justice. The State party should also reinforce its training programmes for law enforcement personnel, especially for all special police forces, and encourage the State party to**

**adopt the draft code of ethics for the police.**

(...)

30. The Committee requests the State party to provide, within one year, information on its response to the recommendations in paragraphs 10, 16, 20, 22 and 23 above.

(...)

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