

Moldova 2021

Prohibition of torture index 161,5 ↑



Key Challenges

Urgent need to reform prison medicine. Ensure in practice strict enforcement of due process guarantees for detainees. Raise the status of independent forensic expertise.

Population	2 604 000
Prison population	6 429, including 370 women and 59 minors
Convicted	5 251
In pre-trial detention	1 134
Detainees (under administrative arrest)	11
Law enforcement budget	180 976 240 EUR (3 758 876 500 MDL) — police 38 006 230.1 EUR (789 389 400 MDL) — prison service
Number of Penitentiary Service employees	2 951
Number of police officers	—

Judgments documenting the problem of torture

Judgments and decisions of international bodies documenting the problem of torture and ill-treatment	13 ECtHR judgments
Judgments of Moldovan courts	25
Judgments excluding evidence obtained under torture	No data

Criminalization of torture and ill-treatment

Explicit prohibition of torture in criminal law	Torture is explicitly prohibited by law
Criminalization of acts falling within the definition of torture	There are concrete and clear sanctions
Definition of torture consistent with international treaties	Consistent with relevant Conventions

Government body investigating allegations of torture and ill-treatment

There is a body authorized to investigate torture	The Bureau for Investigations of Torture and Ill-Treatment set up as part of the Prosecutor's Office. The Bureau has exclusive jurisdiction over investigations of torture and ill-treatment. There is no separate law regulating this body.
Number of investigators	40
Investigator workload	12.78
Investigating body's jurisdiction	Prosecutor General's Office
Geographic coverage	All regions of Moldova
Budget	The budget covers the minimum essential costs
Number of complaints of torture and ill-treatment	511
Including those from places of detention	306
Number of criminal cases instituted	46
Sent to court	21

Ratification of relevant international treaties

Relevant conventions	All relevant UN conventions are in force
Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (2002)	Signed and ratified
Istanbul Protocol	Partially implemented in national legislation

Procedural guarantees

Documenting the actual detention start time	The guarantee is established by law and applied consistently without exception
Lawyer notification at the actual detention start time	The guarantee is established, but in practice lawyer notification is selective
Family notification	The guarantee is established but applied selectively in practice
Medical examination	Required but performed selectively and with a delay following arrest

Preventive mechanisms

Independent external review mechanism	Created and operating throughout the Republic
Video surveillance	Some, but not all facilities are equipped
Access to, and safekeeping of video evidence	Protected and inaccessible to officials at places of detention