

Table: The implementation status of the measures from the Action Plan of 08.05.2019, based on the CPT recommendations as of 20.02.2026

Recommendation No.	Recommendation from Report	Measure No.	Measure	Implementation Status
Area: Ill-treatment and corruption				
1.	Recommendation under items (40-44)	1.	- The National Strategy on the Development of the Penitentiary System in the Republic of North Macedonia (2021-2025) includes strategic goal 4 – Enhancing the security of PCIs and ECIs. - A specific activity is planned - revising the existing SOP on the use of force, and training prison staff and management to identify cases of excessive use of force by the prison police officers.	Implemented
		2.	- As part of the Project "Enhancing the Capacities of the Penitentiary System and the External Oversight Mechanism in the Republic of North Macedonia", implemented by the Council of Europe, revising by-laws, including the Guidelines on the Use of Force and the Rulebook on Arming Prison Police Officers, is currently underway.	Implemented
		3.	- Initial and continuous training on the use of force is planned	Continuously implemented
2.	Recommendation under items (45-47)	4.	- The DES will revise the Prison Staff Training Program, including all training programs for prison staff - A training program for all prison staff will be developed, followed by the implementation of continuous training sessions in accordance with the annual training plan.	Implemented
		5.	- The training sessions for prison staff, which started in late 2018, will continue. Additionally, conditions will be created for the implementation of the Program for the Reduction and Prevention of Inmate Violence in PCIs, developed as part of the project "Strengthening the Protection of the Rights of the Sentenced Persons" in order to improve how prison staff handle cases of inmate violence.	Continuously implemented
		6.	- The National Strategy on the Development of the Penitentiary System in the Republic of North Macedonia (2021-2025) includes a strategic goal - Introducing a standardized form and registry of violent incidents in all PCIs and ECIs, ensuring greater transparency, uniform recording, and easier resolution of such cases.	Continuously implemented

3.	Recommendation under items 12 and 39	7.	- Regular professional oversight was conducted in the PCF Idrizovo, PCF Shtip, Kumanovo Prison, Skopje Prison, and Bitola Prison. During the oversight, DES officials reminded facility staff of: - The mandatory compliance with established procedures and the necessity of adhering to the Guidelines for Recording Signs of Violence among Detained and Sentenced Persons in the facilities. Doctors must immediately notify the director of the facility of any injuries for further processing by competent institutions. - The Injury Record Book must be maintained, and for each confirmed injury of a sentenced person, the competent basic public prosecutor's office, the competent basic court, and the Directorate for the Execution of Sanctions must be informed. - Additionally, when it comes to injuries caused by prison police officers, in line with the Standard Operating Protocol for the Use of Force, doctors are required to enumerate and document the injuries to the sentenced person, resulting from the use of force.	Continuously implemented
4.	Recommendation under item 52	8.	- The National Strategy on the Development of the Penitentiary System (2021-2025) includes strategic goal 7 – Improving corporate integrity, strengthening mechanisms for handling misconduct and corruption cases. Activities include: - systematic checks and keeping records of all staff and visitors at the entrance of every PCI/ECI - revising the Zero-Tolerance Corruption Strategy and Corruption Plan. - training sessions for prison staff on strengthening mechanisms for handling misconduct and corruption cases are also planned.	Implemented
		9.	- The Directorate for the Execution of Sanctions plans to sign a Memorandum of Cooperation with the State Commission for Preventing Corruption (SCPC). SCPC representatives will conduct training for prison management to improve the detection of corruption among prison staff and enhance measures to prevent corruption.	Implemented
5.	Recommendation under item 53	10.	- A new Law on the Execution of Sanctions (LES) was adopted. In collaboration with the Council of Europe, the DES developed new legal provisions in Articles 30 and 31 of the LES, detailing conditions and criteria for appointing the director of the DES and the directors of PCIs and ECIs. - The new provisions grant the director of the DES the authority to propose the directors of PCIs and ECIs to the Government. The aim is to strengthen the governance and oversight system over the operations of PCIs and ECIs by the DES, establish a strong and transparent mechanism for efficient and professional management of PCIs and ECIs, as well as a clear hierarchical structure between the DES and PCIs and ECIs.	Continuously
Area: Prison staff				
6.	Recommendation under items (48-49-50 and 53)	11.	- A functional analysis which serves as a systematic, comprehensive, and detailed tool accurately reflecting the available resources against identified issues has been prepared. - New acts on the internal organization and job systematization in the facilities have been developed in line with their needs and scope of work. - A Rulebook on Job Systematization has been developed, determining the total number of employees, job titles and descriptions per organizational unit, as well as the specific conditions required to perform tasks at different positions.	Implemented
		12.	- In 2021, a total of 68 new prison staff recruitments were planned for PCIs and ECIs in line with the Annual Employment Program, and the Ministry of Finance granted approval for those recruitments.	Implemented
		13.	Prison Skopje	Implemented

			- The number of prison police officers on duty per shift has increased, with 21 to 23 prison police officers working shifts at the moment. This is a significant rise compared to the 2019 visit, when 101 officers were working in total. - The 2021 Annual Employment Plan has been drafted, and financial resources by the Ministry of Finance to recruit 1 staff member in the resocialization sector and 17 prison police officers have been approved.	
		14.	The PCF Idrizovo - According to the 2021 Annual Employment Plan, financial resources to recruit 10 prison police officers have been allocated. - The number of prison police officers per shift in the closed unit of the facility has increased—from 4 prison police officers during the 2019 visit to between 10 and 13 officers per shift. - Additionally, personnel from the Ministry of Defense has been reassigned, with 12 individuals set to be deployed to the PCF Idrizovo.	Implemented
7.	Recommendation under item 51	15.	The National Strategy on the Development of the Penitentiary System (2021-2025) includes a strategic goal - Enhancing a professional penitentiary service through structured and progressive training. Activities planned include: - Enhancing the functionality of the DES Training Unit, which will develop an Annual Prison Staff Training Program and corresponding annual training plans; - Revising the Prison Staff Training Program, incorporating the activities for continuous training programs offered to prison staff; - Initial and continuous training for prison staff.	Implemented
Area: Conditions in penitentiary-correctional institutions				
8.	Recommendation under item 8	16.	- Various measures have been taken to improve conditions in the PCF Idrizovo: - The construction of the roof has been repaired; - All the rooms where the sentenced persons are staying have been painted, including the common areas; - The electrical installation has been renewed; - The sanitary facilities have been renovated; - The facility has been connected to central heating; - Disinfection and pest control has been carried out in the unit;	Continuously implemented
		17.	- The 2021 Program for Financing the Construction, Reconstruction, Maintenance, and Equipment of PCIs and ECIs has been adopted by the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia.	Implemented
		18.	- The implementation of investment activities in the PCF Idrizovo is planned, with a total budget of 187,860,000 MKD, sourced from the Budget of the RNM (39,060,000 MKD from the basic budget) and a loan from the Council of Europe Development Bank (148,800,000 MKD).	Continuously implemented
9.	Recommendation under items 34-38	19.	- The National Strategy on the Development of the Penitentiary System (2021-2025) includes a strategic goal - Increased accommodation and spatial capacities, improved respective conditions in the penitentiary-correctional institutions (PCI) and educational-correctional institutions (ECI). Activities include: - Construction of facilities in the PCF Prilep and PCF Shtip;	ongoing
		20.	- Renovation, reconstruction, and construction of facilities in PCIs	Implemented

10.	Recommendation under items 8, 55-60	21.	- The “Reconstruction of Penitentiary-Correctional Institutions in the Republic of North Macedonia” will continue, focusing on the reconstruction, renovation, construction, and furnishing the PCF Idrizovo (Phase II);	Continuously implemented
		22.	In 2020, the following activities were carried out at PCF Idrizovo: - Wards no. 2, 5, and 8 in the closed unit of the PCF Idrizovo were shut down. The director of the PCF Idrizovo took urgent measures to relocate sentenced persons from the rooms in wards no. 2 and 8 of the closed unit of the PCF Idrizovo due to inadequate material conditions. They were moved to other rooms within the institution, and these rooms will no longer be used for accommodation. - The central room of the “ambulanta” unit, which housed the sentenced persons, has been closed and is now out of use.	Continuously implemented
		23.	- Some sentenced persons in the closed unit with a more liberal treatment regime were transferred to the new semi-open unit, while some sentenced persons were moved from the semi-open unit to the open unit of the PCF Idrizovo.	Implemented
		24.	- To address overcrowding in critical units, in the period between November 2019 and February 2020, following the proposal of the director of the PCF Idrizovo, a total of 70 sentenced persons were relocated to other penitentiary-correctional facilities to serve their sentences.	Continuously implemented
		25.	<u>Activities in 2021</u> - In June, the old semi-open unit was closed, and sentenced persons were transferred to Kumanovo Prison and other facilities. - The accommodation capacity of the PCF Idrizovo was revised following the closure of wards and the establishment of new facilities (semi-open and open units), based on CPT recommendations. - To comply with the recommendation of ensuring a minimum of 4 square meters of living space per sentenced person, the director of the Directorate for the Execution of Sanctions adopted a decision to relocate a total of 70 sentenced persons from the PCF Idrizovo to other PCIs.	Continuously implemented
11.	Recommendation under item 97	26.	- A regular oversight was conducted at PCF Idrizovo, and a written order was issued to ensure appropriate conditions for accommodation and hygiene in disciplinary confinement (solitary cells) as soon as possible, bringing them to an acceptable hygienic standard. - During the regular oversight, the DES issued a written order to the administration of the PCF Idrizovo to comply with Article 180 of the LES, which stipulates that sentenced persons are entitled to spend at least two hours a day outside of the closed premises of the institution in the open air.	Implemented
12.	Recommendation under item 61	27.	- Steps were taken to renovate the cells in the closed unit and the admissions unit. Ceiling holes were repaired, and the lighting was fully repaired and replaced where necessary. - Walls were whitewashed and repainted with oil-based paint.	Implemented

			- Water supply significantly improved with the installation of an additional hydrophore system, delivering water to the bathrooms on both floors in the facility. As such, a continuous 24-hour water supply in the bathrooms is ensured, although not in the rooms where the sentenced persons are staying. - To reduce overcrowding in the two cells, i.e. in the closed unit, the second floor was fully converted into closed-unit space. This approach creates additional accommodation space for sentenced persons under a closed treatment regime, preventing overcrowding in cells that do not meet adequate spatial conditions. - Immediate measures to repair the inventory and procure new inventory were taken, depending on the needs and number of sentenced persons in the institution. A full replacement of previous light bulbs was carried out. They were replaced with new energy-efficient bulbs to ensure that sentenced persons have the necessary lighting in their rooms.	
13.	Recommendation under item 62	28.	- The bathroom for sentenced persons, as well as the bathroom in the detention unit, was reconstructed. - Old tiles and water pipes were replaced, and new sanitary ware, water heaters, and doors were installed. - The doors of the rooms where the sentenced persons are accommodated have also been replaced. - Activities to improve lighting in the detention units have been undertaken.	Implemented
		29.	- No more than two persons are placed in a detention cell, as Bitola Prison has been operational since November 2020. It has a detention unit, which allows detained persons to be accommodated there and reduces the number of sentenced persons in the detention unit in Ohrid Prison.	Continuously implemented
14.	Recommendation under items 63 and 64	30.	- Skopje Prison has adopted an Annual Plan for the Renovation of Facilities in the Institution, based on which steps for the maintenance and renovation of all cells in the detention unit have been taken. - Painting and reconstruction works have been carried out on the plumbing, sewage, and central heating network in 12 rooms, as well as in the corridors of wards D and E. - In October 2020, the reconstruction of the rooms in ward C was initiated, including the installation of completely new tiles, refurbishment of the sanitary block, painting of the rooms, installation of new windows, and interior design improvements. - A thermal insulation facade was fully completed and installed on wards B and C, significantly increasing the institution's energy efficiency by improving insulation and replacing the windows. - A completely new roof was installed on ward B, and the installation of a new roof on ward C is ongoing. With these new roofs, energy efficiency has improved even further. - Work on converting the institution's heating system to natural gas is underway. All the necessary equipment has already been procured, and construction and installation work is ongoing. This transition will significantly improve heating within the institution. - Additionally, measures have been taken to procure lighting equipment for the walkways in order to extend the time inmates can spend in the open air. The equipment has been procured, and after a technical study on how to properly install it has been prepared, implementation will begin. - Skopje Prison regularly provides personal hygiene supplies for sentenced and detained persons, as well as cleaning supplies for maintaining hygiene in their living spaces.	Continuously implemented

			- These supplies have been secured through donations from NGOs and humanitarian organizations in order to improve hygiene conditions for detained and sentenced persons. - A new showering system for detained persons has been introduced, allowing them to shower 2 to 3 times per week. - Female detainees have been provided with hairdryers and access to electrical outlets in the barbershop, where they can dry their hair after bathing. - The carpentry workshop has been reinstated in order to ensure sentenced persons are provided an opportunity to work. - The toilet in the semi-open unit has been completely renovated. - A closed-type fitness gym has been opened and furnished, along with a barbershop workshop where sentenced persons undergo training. - In the detention unit, two 300-liter water heaters have been installed and connected to meet the needs in the bathrooms. A well was constructed as part of a hydrological research to secure technical water for PCI Skopje Prison's needs. - The video surveillance in the facility has been improved with the installation of eight cameras and a single recorder. Additionally, six new controllers and corresponding access readers have been installed in the detention unit to regulate restricted access. - The visitation area for detained persons has been upgraded with new booths and telephones for conversations. - Moreover, improvements in institutional workspaces have been made, including: the renovation and complete furnishing of the duty room for prison police in the detention unit, - The renovation of four attorney offices with new floors and furniture in the detention unit, and the renovation and complete furnishing of the reception office for visitor admissions. - A new energy-efficient facade has been installed on wards B and C, and windows in the rooms have been replaced with state-of-the-art, fully operational windows to address issues with humidity in the rooms and ensure appropriate heating. - The construction of the roof of the administrative building has been fully replaced, and solar collectors for producing electricity and hot water, both of which are available to both sentenced and detained persons, have been installed. - Ward C has been fully renovated. - The National Strategy on the Development of the Penitentiary System (2021-2025) includes a specific activity - Construction of new facilities in the PCF Shtip.	
15.	Recommendation under item 65	31.	- Additionally, the PCF Shtip has undertaken measures to improve the living conditions of sentenced persons. - New ceramic tiles and necessary materials have been procured. - Some of the sanitary facilities in the closed unit have been renovated, and upon securing financial resources, complete renovation is planned for the following year. - Ceramic tiles have been installed in the closed unit, ward no. 2, covering an area of 30m². - Ceramic tiles have been installed on the floors of the toilets in the first, second, and third wards of the closed unit. - A pedestrian walkway has been constructed on the football field on the grounds of the semi-open unit, measuring 2x40 meters. - Four refrigerators were procured—three for the three wards of the closed unit and one for the admissions unit. - Three transport vehicles were repurposed and equipped for escorting sentenced persons, where necessary.	Continuously implemented

			- Video surveillance equipment was procured, and an upgrade has been made to the existing surveillance system, ensuring 100% coverage for security and proper functioning of the facility. This includes a rack cabinet for DVR storage (security equipment), two DVRs, 30 cameras, and installation materials such as cables, power supplies, conduits, and plastic channels. - White PVC windows and balcony doors, fitted with Roto hardware and double-glazed with 4x16x4mm glass, were procured and installed. To be more specific, a total of 11 PVC windows and 20 PVC doors were installed in the closed unit of the facility. - Additionally, 20 six-chamber PVC windows (80x82 cm) were installed in the closed unit of the facility. - In 2021, during the preparation of the Annual Report, old wooden windows were dismantled, and 74 new PVC windows were procured and installed in the semi-open unit and the administrative building.	
16.	Recommendation under item 66	32.	- In line with the 2020 Annual Maintenance Plan, the following activities have been implemented: - Complete replacement of sanitary facilities, including new wall tiles. - Renewal of electrical installations and installation of new lighting. - Full whitewashing of rooms and repainting of detainees' beds. - Installation of new sinks, faucets, and sanitary facilities.	Continuously implemented
Area: Food, hygiene, regime and education				
17.	Recommendation under items 67 and 68	33.	- A regular oversight was conducted in February 2021 at the PCF Idrizovo, resulting in a written order from the director of the DES. The director of the PCF Idrizovo was instructed to implement measures in order to: - Ensure that food distribution, quality, and quantity comply with the Rulebook on the Food Preparation Regulations for Sentenced Persons in PCIs ("Official Gazette of Republic of North Macedonia" No. 10/2019). - Improve kitchen hygiene, including whitewashing the walls, ensuring proper ventilation, and repairing the food preparation kettles. - Ensure proper food storage in refrigerators in the new semi-open unit. Food must be neatly packed and arranged to prevent mixing different products that could lead to its contamination. - Ensure adherence to the Hygiene Maintenance Procedure, including the distribution of hygiene products to sentenced persons so that they can have greater access to hygiene supplies. - Monitor hygiene standards in the facility via several activities in accordance with Standard Operating Procedure – Hygiene Control.	Continuously implemented
		34.	- In April 2021, the DES conducted a regular oversight at Skopje Prison, focusing on facility operations, hygiene, and access to hygiene products. As a result: - Skopje Prison strengthened hygiene oversight in the institution, ensuring continuous access to hygiene supplies for detained and sentenced persons at all times. - Six new storage cabinets for each room of the Skopje Prison were made in the carpentry workshop, allowing inmates to store hygiene products and personal belongings.	Continuously implemented

			- The production of several other cabinets is planned in the upcoming period in order to ensure that all sentenced persons have their own storage.	
18.	Recommendation under items 69, 70 and 71	35.	- Regarding the regime of activities available to sentenced and detained persons, we would like to inform you that the Directorate for the Execution of Sanctions conducted an Assessment of Opportunities for Organizing Sports and Other Activities in PCIs and ECIs. Based on this assessment, the new National Strategy (2021–2025): - includes strategic goal 5.3 - Improvement of the conditions and opportunities for work engagement of sentenced persons in meaningful and constructive leisure activities. Under this framework, several actions have been planned, including: assessing the current situation in PCIs and ECIs and identifying opportunities to organize meaningful and constructive leisure activities for sentenced persons. - In addition, procuring necessary equipment and materials for sports, arts, creative and cultural activities is planned, and so is staff reinforcement.	Ongoing
		36.	- In November 2020, vocational training for sentenced persons - carpenters - resumed at Skopje Prison within the framework of a project with UNDP and the Ministry of Education. 15 sentenced persons from Skopje Prison were trained in carpentry so that they would be able to work in the prison's carpentry workshop.	Implemented
		37.	- At the PCF Prilep, vocational training for the occupation of chef for sentenced persons was conducted. The training was attended by a total of 15 sentenced persons.	Implemented
19.	Recommendation under item 72	38.	- As for education, the Directorate for the Execution of Sanctions (DES) has fully taken into consideration the recommendations for initiating the educational process in prisons. In collaboration with the MoES, DES, and UNDP, the primary education process has started at the PCF Shtip, enrolling 42 sentenced persons in six groups. A total of 16 women and children are enrolled in the educational process at the PCF Idrizovo and the ECF Tetovo. - The educational process will be initiated in other penitentiary-correctional institutions in the future.	ongoing
20.	Recommendation under item 73	39.	- An SOP for post-penal assistance for sentenced radicalized individuals has been developed with the support of the Council of Europe.	Implemented
		40.	- A two-day training for prison staff was conducted and completed by the end of the year.	Implemented
		41.	- Implementation of the SOP	Implemented
		42.	- As part of the new National Strategy (2021-2025), the strategic goal 5.5 has been established: Pre-release preparation and post-release care and support. Activities include developing an SOP for pre-release preparation, with a focus on individuals	Implemented

			serving long-term sentences, and an SOP for coordinated post-penal care and support, as well as coordination with relevant institutions. - Prison staff training implementation - Implementation of the SOP	Ongoing
21.	Recommendation under items 74-76	43.	- A new Rulebook on the House Rules for Detained Persons has been adopted, including provisions regarding the employment of detained persons within the institution, provided they give their consent.	Continuously implemented
		44.	- Skopje Prison, in line with the Committee’s recommendations and legal obligations to ensure two hours of daily fresh air for detained persons, has procured lighting equipment for the walkway. After the preparation of a technical study on how to properly install it, the equipment will be installed, allowing detainees to spend at least two hours outside instead of the current 1 hour and 15 minutes. - Skopje Prison has also procured new protective nets for the walkway to enhance security and plans to install them soon.	Continuously implemented
		45.	- Installing appropriate exercise equipment in the walkway for detained persons is planned. At the moment, they use the newly constructed gym.	ongoing
Area: Healthcare				
22.	Recommendation under items 77-81	46.	- When it comes to implementing training sessions for healthcare workers, as part of the project "Enhancing the Capacities of the Penitentiary System and the External Oversight Mechanism in the Republic of North Macedonia", which is being implemented by the Council of Europe since September 2019, various activities have been planned between the MoH as the lead, and the DES. These include training sessions for healthcare workers on mental health and managing common psychiatric disorders among sentenced persons.	ongoing
		47.	- An online training on medical ethics for healthcare personnel has been conducted.	Continuously
		48.	- A visit to six penitentiary institutions was conducted as part of the assessment mission for the procurement of medical equipment used to deliver healthcare services in prisons. - The procurement process has been completed, with a total sum of approximately €50,000. Contracts for all three components: medical equipment, medical aids, and a dental chair were signed.	Continuously
		49.	- The delivery of medical equipment to the PCIs is planned for the upcoming period.	Continuously
		50.	- Complaint boxes to report healthcare concerns have been installed in all penitentiary-correctional institutions, including the PCF Idrizovo.	Continuously

		51.	- A written order has been issued to PCF Idrizovo to take measures for establishing a uniform approach to medical access in accordance with the Guidelines for Sentenced Persons' Access to Healthcare. This includes the distribution of medications and medical examinations outside the institution.	Continuously
23.	Recommendation under item 82	52.	- The National Strategy (2021-2025) also contains strategic goal 8 - Strengthening the provision of healthcare to sentenced persons, including mental health. As part of this goal, planned activities for the upcoming period include: - Improving coordination for functional healthcare services. - Ensuring decent working conditions for medical staff. - Providing initial and continuous training for healthcare workers. - Guaranteeing proper access to mental health services and establishing a separate forensic department, as well as other activities. - Additionally, a working meeting between the director of the DES and the director of the PHI Health Center Skopje is planned. - Regular oversights have been conducted in five PCIs, and the medical services were instructed on laws and by-laws regarding medical examinations for sentenced persons upon admission to PCIs.	Continuously implemented
24.	Recommendation under item 83	53.	- Strategic goal 8.6 - Quality monitoring for the healthcare services - is envisioned to establish proper oversight mechanisms for monitoring healthcare quality, including professional supervision for PCIs and ECIs. - Revising the SOP for Medical Examinations of Sentenced Persons and the Guidelines for Medical Examinations upon Admission is planned. - Article 10 of the Rulebook on the House Rules for Sentenced Persons mandates medical examinations for all sentenced persons upon admission.	Continuously
25.	Recommendation under item 93	54.	- Legal provisions were adopted and introduced in the new LES in May 2019, based on recommendations from the CPT, and with the support of Council of Europe and an international expert. A previous legal provision requiring a doctor's opinion before solitary confinement as a disciplinary measure has been removed.	Implemented
26.	Recommendation under item 94	55.	- A Suicide Prevention Strategy has been adopted, and prison doctors have been trained to document injuries indicative of misconduct. - Training on the implementation of the Suicide Prevention Strategy was conducted for 24 medical personnel and prison staff from all institutions. This hybrid training was led by international consultants. - Advanced training sessions will be held in the upcoming period, organized by the Council of Europe.	Implemented
Area: Other issues				

27.	Recommendation under items 100 and 101	56.	- In response to the recommendation to extend visitation times, we would like to inform you that sentenced persons are entitled to two visits per month, each lasting 60 minutes, as per the LES and the Rulebook on the House Rules for Sentenced Persons. Additionally, under Article 73 of the Rulebook on the House Rules for Sentenced Persons, inmates may be granted extended visits of up to 90 minutes once every two months, provided they meet the required conditions.	Continuously implemented
		57.	- The DES has issued instructions to Skopje Prison to comply with the Rulebook on the House Rules for the execution of the detention measure in detention units within prisons.	Continuously implemented
		58.	- To improve communication with the outside world, a total of 30 tablet devices were distributed across institutions, donated by the German organization HELP. All institutions now provide free Viber communication for sentenced persons with their families.	Implemented
28.	Recommendation under item 102	59.	- To enhance the process of filing complaints, grievances, or petitions by sentenced persons and children, the DES, in cooperation with OSCE, prepared brochures informing sentenced persons of their rights during imprisonment, which were distributed in 2019. - All institutions were required to appoint an employee responsible for maintaining a registry of the complaints submitted by sentenced persons. The brochures and informational posters were prepared in three languages (Macedonian, Albanian, and Romani). - Standardized forms (requests) for submitting complaints to the director of the facility and the director of the DES were also developed. - OSCE organized two-day training sessions on filling out and using these forms. - During oversights, the DES regularly checks whether sentenced persons and juveniles are familiar with these documents and whether they are visibly displayed. - All PCIs and ECIs were paid a visit by the NGO Macedonian Society of Penology, which was engaged by OSCE in order to monitor the application of these documents.	Continuously implemented
29.	Recommendation under item 103	60.	- Regarding the recommendation concerning the State Commission for the Execution of Sanctions, we would like to inform you that, despite being included in the previous LES, the Commission never became functional and contributed nothing to the execution of sanctions or the improvement of the rights and conditions of sentenced persons. For this reason, the working group tasked with drafting the new LES, composed of judges, professors, and DES employees, concluded that such a commission is unnecessary.	Unimplemented

30.	Recommendation under item 104	61.	- The ECF Tetovo has been put into operation, and all juveniles from Ohrid Prison have been transferred to the new facilities.	Implemented
		62.	- The Rulebook on the House Rules for Juveniles is in the final stage and its adoption and entry into force is expected. Additionally, in cooperation with UNICEF, working groups tasked with drafting by-laws on juvenile treatment have been established.	on going
		63.	- In the new ECF Tetovo-Volkovija, juveniles continued with their education (primary education) in cooperation with the MoES, UNDP, and the DES.	Continuously
31.	Recommendation under item 106	64.	- An ad hoc oversight was conducted at Ohrid Prison in 2020, instructing the prison police officers that all forms of child maltreatment are unacceptable. - The DES consistently reminds all PCI and ECI directors, including the director of Ohrid Prison, that such behavior by prison police officers is prohibited and must not be tolerated.	Continuously implemented
		65.	- In September 2020, the DES conducted an ad hoc oversight at Ohrid Prison to investigate allegations of excessive use of force. As a result, DES officers prepared and submitted a report with direct recommendations to the director of Ohrid Prison.	Continuously implemented
		66.	- The DES requested that the director of Ohrid Prison conduct a detailed investigation to determine which prison police officers had used excessive physical force against the two children in Ohrid Prison. - The disciplinary procedure against the prison police officers was completed, and the disciplinary commission (composed of prison police officers) concluded that there was insufficient evidence to establish disciplinary responsibility for the accused prison police officers.	Continuously
32.	Recommendation under item 107	67.	- The National Strategy (2021-2025) includes initial and continuous training for the prison police on the use of force, including de-escalation techniques.	Implemented
33.	Recommendation under item 109	68.	- Three rooms have been renovated—two are used as bedrooms, while one has been repurposed as a leisure and activity room for juveniles serving sentences.	Continuously implemented
34.	Recommendation under item 110	69.	- Regarding treatment activities, we would like to inform you that in Ohrid Prison, while the ECF was located on the same premises, structured activities for juveniles were organized throughout the day for a period of five years, in accordance with individual treatment programs.	Continuously implemented

			- The daily schedule included educational activities on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, covering learning units in Mathematics, Macedonian, and English. The learning units were tailored to each juvenile's needs and aligned with their educational level. The educational process was organized by the Ministry of Education, UNDP, and teachers from a primary school in Ohrid. During the COVID-19 crisis, education continued online until September 2020, when an assessment of the knowledge juveniles acquired was conducted. During online classes, two staff members from the Resocialization Sector and two prison police officers actively participated. - Group workshops on creative and educational topics, including mental health, were conducted every day. Part of the workshops were carried out on Tuesdays and Thursdays, in cooperation with HOPS and UNICEF. Educators conducted the workshops online and the sessions lasted 60 minutes. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, additional educational and recreational group workshops were conducted by two employees from the Resocialization Sector at the PCI Ohrid Prison.	
		70.	- The individual program, tailored to each juvenile's needs and goals, was conducted daily and continuously. Individual sessions included counseling, motivation, persuasion, and psychological support. - They were led by two psychologists from the Resocialization Sector at the PCI Ohrid Prison. - Physical activities took place daily for at least two hours, partly indoors and partly outdoors, depending on weather conditions. Prison police officers actively participated in these activities as per the Rulebook on the Participation of Prison Police in the Resocialization Process. All activities were documented in the official records for each juvenile. Sports equipment such as balls and other materials were provided by the PCI Ohrid Prison. - These activities have continued in the new ECF Tetovo-Volkovija and the Ohrid Prison.	Continuously implemented
35.	Recommendation under items 111-115	71.	- In ECF Tetovo, juveniles are provided with healthcare services through weekly visits by a general practitioner, a weekly visit by a dentist, and daily presence of a nurse. Since healthcare services fall under the Ministry of Health, institutions without a resident doctor operate through agreements with public healthcare institutions in the respective area. - Every newly admitted juvenile at ECF Tetovo undergoes a mandatory medical examination upon admission, conducted by a healthcare worker from the respective PHI. During the admission period, the professional team conducts an assessment using scientific methods, including social, medical, psychological, and pedagogical evaluations of the juvenile's personality, in accordance with Article 349 of the Law on the Execution of Sanctions. - Juveniles are familiarized with the House Rules for Juveniles, their rights, and the obligations they need to fulfill while they serve the educational measure in the facility. - The Directorate for the Execution of Sanctions will issue a written order stating that this measure should be applied only in exceptional cases, as stipulated in the LES.	Continuously implemented

			- Additionally, the DES will consider the possibility of further revising the legal provisions regulating this area.	
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