

News bulletin

of the Association of Ukrainian Human Rights Monitors on Law Enforcement

October–December 2013

Awareness raising activity

Specialized training on places of detention monitoring, Kyiv



The new team of monitors of places of detention passed a specialized training

On 25-27 October 2013 in Kiev Association UMDPL ran a special training “Monitoring of places of detention in Law Enforcement Bodies and of Pre-trial Detention Centers (PTDC) controlled by the State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine” for

20 activists from different NGOs. Participants who had already had basic skills of conducting monitoring within the framework of the national preventive mechanism in Ukraine acquired new knowledge of visiting “police” institutions and PTDCs.

The aim of such training was to prepare specialists who, together with

the representatives of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, will be able to conduct qualified monitoring visits of places of detention controlled by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine.

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Association UMDPL continues raising the level of legal awareness of the vulnerable groups of population and persons taking care of them

On 14-15 November 2013 in Kyiv Association UMDPL conducted training “On the protection of the vulnerable groups from violations by law enforcement authorities”.

During the training participants learned the types and reasons of violations of rights of drug addicts and sex workers, main provisions of national and international legislation on the mandate of state authorities with regard to the vulnerable groups of population including the standards for detention conditions in

the internal affairs bodies and healthcare for the detainees. An important topic for the participants was the information on the activity of the Ombudsman aimed at the protection of the human rights and renewal of the violated rights.

The training was conducted by the Head of the Project Mr. Andriy Tolopilo and the officers of the Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights Mr. Serhiy Shvets and Mr. Petro Hryban.

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Awareness raising activity

The new instrument of human rights protection – civil and parliamentary investigations

On 4-6 October in Kiev activists from 10 regions of Ukraine who in the future will be conducting investigations of the human rights violation cases together with the representatives of the Office of the Ombudsman passed a special training. Among the participants there were people who had already had experience in dealing with violations by law enforcement officers and were ready to be engaged in the new form of activity – civil and parliamentary investigations.

During the training participants learned more about the mandate of the staff of the Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights and their role in civic and parliamentary investigations.

Among the trainers were an expert of Association of Ukrainian Human Rights Monitors on Law Enforcement (hereinafter – Association UMDPL), Ombudsman's regional coordinator on public relations in Cherkassy Region Mr. Volodymyr Batchaev, and the officers of the Secretariat of the Commissioner Mr. Serhiy Shvets, Mr. Petro Hryban and Mr. Yevhen Prusov.

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Human rights defenders training on civil and parliamentary investigations, Kyiv



New team of administrative services provision monitors

A training on the new sphere of Association UMDPL activity – administrative services provision by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Migration Service

Association UMDPL together with the Center for Political and Legal Reforms conducted a training dedicated to the monitoring of administrative ser-

vices provision by state authorities that took place on 8-10 November in Kyiv and on 22-24 November in Odessa.

During the training participants acquired knowledge of state policy in the sphere of administrative services, relevant legislation, organization of the activity of the Centers for Administrative Services Provision (CASP), Ukrainian and foreign experience of such centers functioning, methods of civic monitoring of the quality of administrative services provision as well as of the problems of legal regulation of administrative services provision by the State Migration Service of Ukraine and units for public security of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine and State Automobile Inspection.

The aim of such training was to prepare specialists who would be able to knowledgeably detect and record violations during administrative services provision.

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Presenting certificates to participants of the training



Thorough analysis of legislation – a key to successful monitoring

International activity

An International conference took place where participants from 7 countries discussed issues of combating tortures

On 2-3 December 2013 in Kyiv Association UMD-PL together with the Association of the Independent Monitors, Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, Council of Europe and Penal Reform International (Great Britain) conducted International conference "National Preventive Mechanism and Other Forms of Combating Tortures: achievements and perspectives of development". Among the participants were experts from Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Tajikistan, Russia and Poland with the total amount of 80 people.

During a two-day conference participants were presented with the results of the first year of functioning of the national preventive mechanism in Ukraine, participation of the civil society in its activity according to the "Ombudsman +" model and discussed the strategy of the NPM development for 2014. Besides that, experts from the Eastern Partnership countries shared their experience in the sphere of prevention of and combating tortures, discussed the mechanisms of civic investigations of tortures and other forms of cruel treatment as well as the creation of the relevant national bodies for investigations of cases of unlawful violence by law enforcement authorities.

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International Conference in Kyiv

Cooperation with the Ombudsman

Regional Coordinator of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights in Cherkassy Region visited police places of detention

On 24 October Regional Coordinator of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, member of the Association UMDPL Mr. Volodymyr Batchaev together with the local prosecution officers visited police units in the city of Cherkassy - Pridniprovskii and Sosnivsk District Police Stations of the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Cherkassy Region as well as the Temporary Detention Center of Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs for persons being under administrative arrest.

Visits were conducted within the framework of the joint activities aimed at the inspection of the state of observance of rights of persons held under administrative arrest in the law enforcement bodies.

There were no severe human rights violations detected however the leadership of the police units received several recommendations with regard to the improvement of the conditions of citizens who are being apprehended and delivered to the law enforcement bodies.

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Ombudsman conducted a subsequent ad hoc visit to the Lviv PTDC

On 6 November 2013 the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights Ms. Valriya Lutkovska together with the representatives of the Department for Realization of the National Preventive Mechanism and a civic monitor of human rights observance in places of detention, the Head of the Association UMDPL Board Mr. Taras Hatalyak conducted a subsequent monitoring visit to the Lviv PTDC.

Previous visit to the institution was made on 2 April 2013 and was concluded with recommendations of the Commissioner with regard to the observance of human rights in correspondence with requirements of the national legislation and European penitentiary rules.

As a result of the first visit this institution has begun repair works in some places and 2 cells are no more used. However, having held confidential talks with prisoners held in this institution, numerous complaints were received concerning ill-treatment by police officers during pre-trial investigations.

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National preventive Mechanism in Ukraine celebrated its first year of work

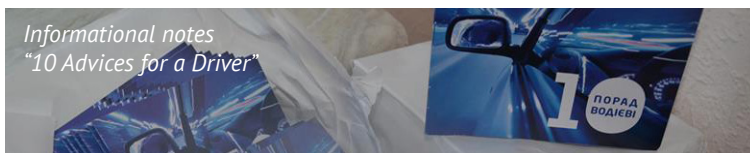
On 5 November 2013 a press conference was held at the Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights that was dedicated to the first year of work of the National preventive Mechanism (NPM).

During the meeting the Commissioner for Human Rights together with the representatives of organizations and international institutions discussed the results of the NPM activity during this year.

For the time of work of the Department for the NPM Realization, its officers together with the civil activists conducted more than 400 monitoring visits to the places of detention (255 visits in 2013), directed more than 400 letters to the competent authorities with recommendations on the improvement of the conditions of detainees. According to the experts, it is the foreseen by the NPM regularity of the visits to places of detention that brings the most positive result for the human rights and freedoms.

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Informational notes "10 Advices for a Driver"



Association UMDPL developed 10 advices to the driver

Association UMDPL developed an informational note for a driver that would help protect own rights from arbitrariness of State Automobile Inspection Officers in different situations: starting from the stop of your vehicle and talking to visual inspection of your car if an administrative protocol is being drawn up against you and imposition of a fine upon you, you are being asked to pass the alcohol test or put your vehicle to the police compound etc. The note is supplemented with the telephone numbers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Directorate Generals and Departments of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in regions. Informational note can be downloaded at the Association UMDPL website by the link.

[Learn more](#)

Association UMDPL presented a digest "Administrative services of the State Migration Service and the Ministry of Internal Affairs: Analysis of the legal grounds for administrative services provision and results of the sociological research"

On 2 October, during the press-conference "Who and why we pay: analysis of the administrative services provision in the Ministry of Internal Affairs and State Migration Service" a digest "Administrative services of the State Migration Service and the Ministry of Internal Affairs: Analysis of the legal grounds for administrative services provision and results of the sociological research" was presented. It was prepared by the Association UMDPL and Kharkiv Institute for Social Researches experts with the financial support of the European Union. The electronic version can be downloaded on the website of the Association UMDPL.

[Learn more](#)

"Pocket attorney" – "arm" yourself with knowledge to protect yourself from police at Euromaidans

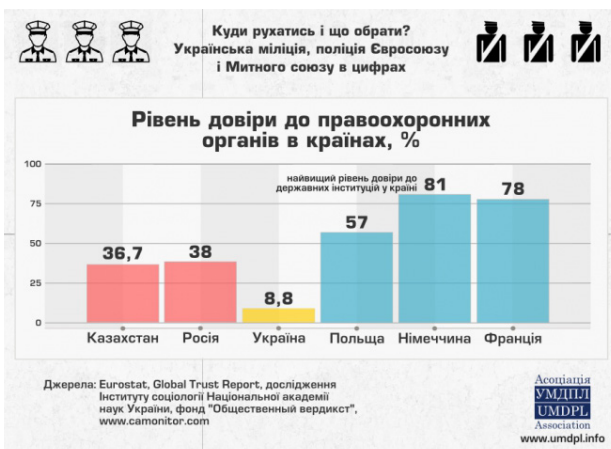
Association UMDPL prepared information which can be especially useful taking into account recent developments in Ukraine. This is a "Pocket attorney" which includes 6 easy notes on how to behave with police having description of the right behavior in situations like: "You were detained for administrative offence", "You are being detained and charged with a criminal offence", "Meeting a policeman on the street", "You are being called to the District Police Station", "A policeman came to your house", "A policeman wants to search your house". Notes can be given out in print at the office of the Association UMDPL or can be downloaded at the website.

[Learn more](#)

Where to move and what to choose? Ukrainian police, police of the European Union and Customs Union in numbers (info graphics)

Everybody is used to say that Ukrainian police works badly and other countries, on the contrary, have the rule of law and order. Association UMDPL made an analysis under which conditions police becomes better and more effective, and society becomes healthier. Results of the analysis are shown in the info graphics "Where to move and what to choose? Ukrainian police, police of the European Union and Customs Union in numbers".

[Learn more](#)



Other news



Ministry of Internal Affairs and State Migration Service – biggest violators of the law on administrative services: experts

On 2 October 2013 in Kyiv a press conference took place that was dedicated to the analysis of administrative services provision by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and State Migration Service.

Questionnaires and analysis of the legislation in this sphere were done by the Association UMDPL together with the Kharkiv institute for Social Researches. According to its results every third recipi-

ent of administrative services in Ukraine considers such system ineffective.

During the press-conference Association UMDPL presented a digest "Administrative services of the State Migration Service and the Ministry of Internal Affairs: Analysis of the legal grounds for administrative services provision and results of the sociological research" that was prepared by the Association UMDPL and Kharkiv Institute for Social Researches experts with the financial support of the European Union.

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News from the regions

Youth – on European week of local democracy

On 15 October 2013, within the framework of the European week of local democracy (EWLD) that took place from 14 to 20 October, Chuguiv City Council in Kharkiv Region had an Open Doors Day for representatives of school self-government of the city.

Mr. Yuriy Chumak, a member of Association UMDPL, coordinator of the “Center for Legal Information and Consultations” of the Chuguiv human rights group, was talking of Ukraine as a full member of the Council of Europe and the importance of the EWLD, leading topic of which became “Active civil stance: voting, engagement, participation”.

[Learn more](#)

Unemployed will know of their rights – they will not become slaves

On 18 October 2013 in the city of Chuguev in Kharkiv region a multidisciplinary legal awareness event was organized for unemployed being registered in the employment center.

During this event Mr. Yuriy Chumak, the Head of Kharkiv regional center of the Association UMDPL, the President of the Center for Legal and Political Researches “Duma”, told about the main rules that have to be kept when talking to the representatives of law enforcement authorities. All of the participants received notes on the mandate of the police officers and rights of citizens when contacting police prepared by the Association UMDPL. The issue of modern slavery was also raised, it’s when persons belonging to vulnerable groups of population, including unemployed, sometimes become victims of human trafficking in their search for better life. An expert warned from spontaneous steps when searching for a job in other regions of Ukraine and abroad and gave relevant advices.

[Learn more](#)

In the “Trust Club” teenagers were told about their rights when talking to police

On 2 October 2013 in the Kharkiv City Center for Social Services for Family, Children and Youth “Trust” the next

group event was organized for children-orphans and children deprived of parental care. It was organized within the framework of work of the “Trust Club”.

Mr. Yuriy Chumak, a representative of Association UMDPL, the Head of the “Center for Legal and Political Researches “Duma” NGO, held a very useful legal conversation about the key moments one should know of when talking to the representatives of law enforcement authorities.

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Police officers of Kharkiv region watched a documentary on human rights

Within the framework of the All-Ukrainian week of law in Kharkiv region representatives of the human rights NGOs took part in organization of more than 80 events – lectures, round-tables, discussions, disputes etc. Movies from the repertoire of the Travelling International Documentary Human Rights Film Festival “Docudays UA” such as “Roma Dream”, “Open Class”, “Lack of Proof”, “Slaves” were also included into the program.

Mr. Yuriy Chumak, the Head of Kharkiv Regional Center of the Association UMDPL, the President of the Center for Legal and Political Researches “Duma” prepared and gave DVD-discs (total number - 34) with a range of documentary movies from this year’s “Docudays UA” repertoire and short commentaries and annotations to them to the territorial units of the Directorate General of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in Kharkiv region and to the Center of Gender Education of Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs.

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A round table: “European choice of Ukraine. Human rights in the context of observance of the Convention for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms”

On 10 December 2013 at the King Daniil Halitskiy Ivano-Frankivsk University took place a round table dedicated to the 65 anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on the topic: “European Choice of Ukraine. Human

Rights in the Context of Observance of the Convention for the Protection of Human rights and Fundamental Freedoms”. Among the organizers were the Scientific Unit of the University, Directorate General of Justice in Ivano-Frankivsk region and Ivano-Frankivsk Local Department of Justice.

Among the participants, some distantly, were 14 scientists and those working in the field. Regional Coordinator of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights on Public relations in the region Mr. Vasyl Kostiv delivered a speech “Human rights. Community and Authorities”.

[Learn more](#)

Graduates of the Kherson Boarding School listened about their rights when talking to police

On 18 December 2013 in Taras Shevchenko Kherson Educational Complex Regional coordinator of the Commissioner for Human rights Ms. Natalya Kozarenko initiated a seminar for children-orphans and children deprived of parental care on the topic: “You and Police: How to act in order not to become a victim of police arbitrariness”.

During the seminar they discussed legal issues one could be facing in his/her life as well as the most widespread conflict situations arising out of talking with police, the order of appeal against the unlawful actions of law enforcement officers and the renewal of the violated rights.

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Master-class on human rights protection

On 10 December a master-class on human rights protection which was led by Ms. Maryna Novikova, the Head of the Crimean Center of the Association UMDPL, took place in the Crimean Center for Professional Development under the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and within the framework of the All-Ukrainian Week of Law. Among the issues that were raised were: gender policy, family violence (legal, social and economic aspects) as well as human trafficking.

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News from the regions

“Human rights. Community and Authorities”

On 14 November 2013 on the premises of the Verkhovina District Center for Social Services for Family, Children and Youth a round-table was held on the topic: “Human rights. Community and Authorities”.

The event was initiated by the Regional coordinator of the Ukrainian

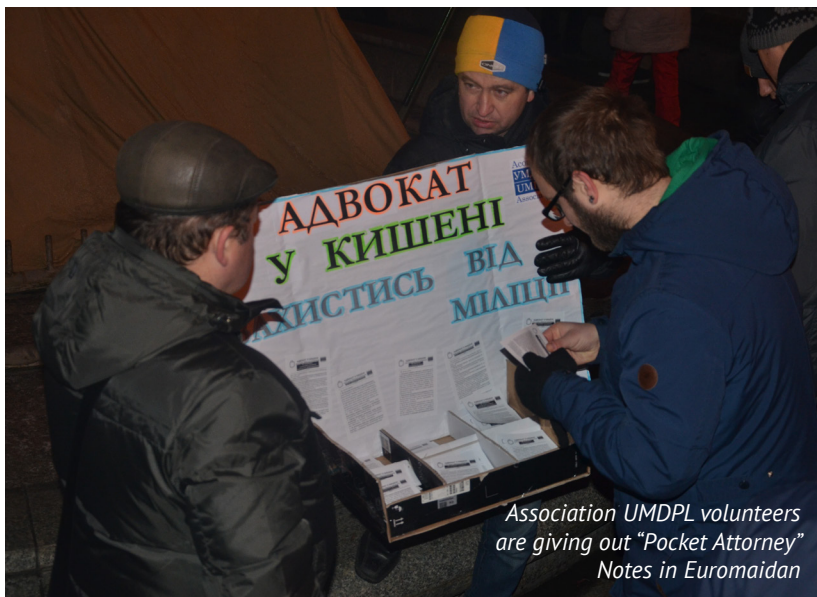
Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights in Ivano-Frankivsk region Mr. Vasyl Kostiv who told the participants about the structure of the Secretariat as well as about powers of the Ombudsman in exercising parliamentary control.

At the end of the round-table a Memorandum of cooperation was signed between the Head of the Civic Council under Verkhovina District Police Station of

the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in Ivano-Frankivsk Region, local civil activist Ms. Olga Solomiychuk and the Representative of the Commissioner in the region Mr. Vasyl Kostiv. Besides that, it was agreed to create a Public Reception Office of the Representative for receiving people which would be headed by Ms. Olga.

[Learn more](#)

#Euromaidan



Association UMDPL volunteers are giving out “Pocket Attorney” Notes in Euromaidan

Participants of Euromaidan received “Pocket Attorney” letters on human rights when talking to police

The Association UMDPL team developed bright stands and using them during December informed Euromaidan participants of 6 easy notes “Pocket Attorney” on how to behave with police

Taking into account the situation Ukraine is facing now, the society needs to be more informed of their rights to protect them. Therefore the information turned out to be very handy and became interesting to the protesters and bystanders.

Having given out the notes on the streets, the stands were installed at the “revolutionary headquarters” – Kyiv City State Administration and October Palace. Such notes can be given in print at the Association UMDPL office or can be downloaded at the Association UMDPL website.

[Learn more](#)

Human rights defenders together with the Ombudsman are carrying out a civil investigation of the violations during the detention of the Euromaidan activists on 30 November and 1 December

Association UMDPL together with the Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights started civil investigations of violations during the administrative and criminal detentions of the participants of peaceful demonstrations in Kyiv on 30 November and 1 December 2013. Within the framework of the opened proceedings we conduct a detailed inspection of the lawfulness of police actions. Association UMDPL already has an

experience of carrying out joint investigations of the facts of human rights violations with the Secretariat of the Commissioner for Human Rights. Such violations include unlawful detentions, unlawful fingerprinting and torture of detainees.

[Learn more](#)

Experts of the Association UMDPL analyzed actions of the special forces officers during the disperse of the peaceful demonstration

Association UMDPL experts prepared a legal analysis of the law enforcement officers actions during the disperse of peaceful protesters on the Independence Square

at night on 30 November and during the clashes on Bankova street on 1 December. These actions are very well shown on the photo and video footage which gives the possibility to analyze the situation and violations of law enforcement officers. This material along with other legal analysis of law enforcement officers actions will be published in the open sources and submitted to the Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine investigating the facts of violations by law enforcement officers in order, so to say, to help the competent authorities not to miss any violation and to find and punish the guilty.

[Learn more](#)

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