



Awareness Raising and Training Measures for the Istanbul Protocol in Europe

Documenting Torture in Europe

International Multiplier Conference
Friday 15 March 2013
University of Leuven (Belgium)

*Venue: Small Aula (room 00.15), Faculty of Theology,
Maria Theresia College, Leuven*

Free participation but advance registration required

*Organised with the financial support of the European Commission, DG Education
and Culture – Leonardo Lifelong Learning Programme,
In cooperation with the International Society for Criminology (ISC) and the Leuven
Institute of Criminology (LINC)*



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INTRODUCTION

Torture and related acts constitute one of the most common and devastating challenges to the physical and mental health of individuals, groups and society. Not only do they affect the well-being of individuals in their countries of origin or in host countries in Europe, they also have an impact on the way in which government services and professionals deal with their consequences. Ill-treatment and torture still occur in many parts of the world and also Europe faces the problems associated with this social plague.

The Istanbul Protocol (Manual on Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment) is the joint United Nations and World Medical Association standard for training in the “assessment of persons who allege torture and ill treatment, for investigating cases of alleged torture, and for reporting such findings to the judiciary and any other investigative body”. It sets out concrete strategies to make the existing standards about torture better known around the world and became an official UN document in 1999.

OBJECTIVES AND STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE

On Friday 15 March an international conference on ‘Documenting Torture in Europe’ will be held at the University of Leuven (Belgium). It is designed as a multiplier conference and foremost aimed at professionals from the health and legal sciences and professions, who are keen to learn about the Istanbul Protocol and its practical use in medical protocols and legal procedures. It is therefore open to private practitioners, government officials and civil servants, non-governmental organisations, the media, and other professionals interested to further disseminate the information.

After a general introduction of the existing international instruments against torture and the specific contribution of the Istanbul Protocol, two sets of parallel workshops will focus on the particular aspects for the health profession and the legal profession. Specific attention is also given in two consecutive creative workshops to the elaboration of visual training aids for the further dissemination of the Istanbul Protocol and the fight against torture in general. These workshops are run by high-level facilitators who possess ample experience in working with the Istanbul Protocol and presenting it to professional audiences. All participants are offered a broad introduction into the interdisciplinary aspects of the Istanbul protocol that will support them when participating in the fight against torture and inhuman and degrading treatment.

PRACTICAL ASPECTS

The multiplier conference ‘Documenting Torture in Europe’ is organised under the auspices of ART-IP project (Awareness Raising and Training Measures for the Istanbul Protocol in Europe), by a local team from the Leuven Institute of Criminology (LINC) composed of Prof. Stephan Parmentier, Zoë Cosemans, Ben Heylen, and Sonja Wellens. Questions about the conference programme can be directed to zoe.cosemans@law.kuleuven.be. More information about LINC can be found on its website: www.law.kuleuven.be/linc.

The conference is held on the premises of the University of Leuven (Belgium), in particular in the Small Aula (room 00.15) of the Faculty of Theology, situated in the Maria Theresia College, Sint Michielsstraat 4, Leuven. The main entrance can be found right off the Hogeschoolplein in the historic centre of Leuven: www.leuven.be.

Participants coming by public transport can take buses to the city centre and get off at the Pieter De Somerplein (close to the town hall), and walk ten minutes to the conference venue. Participants coming by car can use the underground parking space on Ladeuzeplein (close to the central university library) and walk ten minutes to the conference venue.

REGISTRATION

The multiplier conference is organised with the financial support of the Leonardo Lifelong Learning Programme, DG Education and Culture of the European Commission in Brussels. **It is free for all participants but all have to register beforehand, and by 8 MARCH at the latest, with the secretariat of the Leuven Institute of Criminology.** Please send an email to sonja.wellens@law.kuleuven.be with the following information:

- the name and first name of the person(s) attending
- the institutional affiliation or specific area of interest
- contact details (telephone, fax and email address) to allow for further communication about the conference.

Please note that there are a limited number of places available and it is therefore highly advisable to register as soon as possible.

ABOUT THE ART-IP PROJECT (Awareness Raising and Training Measures for the Istanbul Protocol in Europe)

The multiplier conference marks the final event organised under the auspices of the ART-IP project (Awareness Raising and Training Measures for the Istanbul Protocol in Europe). Coordinated by Prof. Thomas Wenzel and Dr. Wolfgang Eisenreich, the ART-IP project has run between January 2011 and March 2013 and included the following partners: Medical University of Vienna (MUW, Austria), University of Leuven (Leuven Institute of Criminology, Belgium), University of Vienna (Boltzmann Institute for Human Rights, Austria), Greek Academic Network (GUnet, Greece), University of Erlangen (Nürnberg, Germany), Wissenschaftsinitiative Niederösterreich (Austria), Gerechtigkeit heilt (Bochum, Germany), Integra (Velenje, Slovenia) and KTP (Brno, Czech Republic). Please find more information on www.istanbulprotocol.info.

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This communication reflects the views only of the author(s), and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

MORNING

Chairperson: Em. Prof. Marc Bossuyt, University of Antwerp, and President, Constitutional Court of Belgium

- 9:30-9:45 Welcome and introduction to the conference
Prof. Bernard Tilleman, Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Leuven
Prof. Stephan Parmentier, University of Leuven
- 9:45-10:15 Introducing the ART-IP project (Awareness Raising and Training Measures for the Istanbul Protocol in Europe)
Prof. Thomas Wenzel, Medical University of Vienna and ART-IP project coordinator
Dr. Wolfgang Eisenreich, Wissenschaftsinitiative Niederösterreich and ART-IP project coordinator
- 10:15-11:00 The International Fight Against Torture and the Istanbul Protocol
Prof. Manfred Nowak, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights, Vienna
Prof. Sebnem Korur Fincanci, Istanbul University and Galatasaray University
- 11:00-11:30 Health break
- 11:30-13:00 Parallel workshops:
1. Health profession, facilitated by Prof. Duarte Nuno Vieira, University of Coimbra and European Council of Legal Medicine
 2. Legal profession, facilitated by Dr. Anna-Lena Svensson-McCarthy, Human Rights Consultant, Switzerland
 3. Creative workshop on The Map of Torture Prevention, facilitated by Beáta Holá and Alžběta Strnadová, KTP, Brno
- 13:00-13:45 Lunch break

AFTERNOON

Chairperson: Em. Prof. Franz Baro, University of Leuven, and EXIL Centre for Victims of Human Rights Violations, Brussels

13:45-15:15 Case-study and discussion:

1. Medical aspects, facilitated by Dr. Joost den Otter, International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, Copenhagen
2. Legal aspects, animated by Ms. Nieves Molina Clemente, Copenhagen University
3. Creative workshop on The Ten Commandments of the Istanbul Protocol, facilitated by Beáta Holá and Alžběta Strnadová, KTP, Brno

15:15-15:45 Health Break

15:45-17:00 Roundtable with experts and general discussion

Dr. Jorge Barudy, EXIL Centre for Victims of Human Rights Violations, Brussels

Dr. Dadimos Haile, Redress, London

Dr. Caroline Schlar, Coordinator of the Istanbul Protocol, Istanbul

17:00-17:15 Closing

Prof. Thomas Wenzel, Medical University of Vienna and ART-IP project coordinator