



Fachhochschule
Polizei Brandenburg

FAIR TREATMENT OF PERSONS IN POLICE CUSTODY

International Conference, Oranienburg/Berlin, Germany,
16 and 17 October 2018

PROGRAMME (updated 13 September 2018)

Conference venue:
Brandenburg University of Applied Police Sciences –
Fachhochschule der Polizei des Landes Brandenburg
Bernauer Strasse 146
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The Brandenburg University of Applied Police Sciences is hosting a conference on FAIR TREATMENT OF PERSONS IN POLICE CUSTODY. This event will bring together a variety of participants and distinguished speakers from academia, the police forces, other government authorities, international organisations and the human rights movement.

In order to fulfil their primary task – providing security and protecting citizens' rights – police forces have the power to arrest and detain persons for a brief period, in order to bring them before a competent judicial authority. While many of these persons are being treated correctly, all over the world complaints are raised, more or less frequently, about inappropriate treatment and human rights violations in police custody, including verbal abuse or physical assaults which may amount to inhuman treatment or even to torture. Again and again such allegations are confirmed by the findings of national or international courts, or other bodies. The police is an institution of central significance for upholding the Rule of Law, and at the same time additional safeguards have to be put in place to ensure that this institution acts only within the legal powers conferred to it.

In the last decades, the international community has introduced many instruments and institutions designed to ensure correct treatment of detainees, and in particular to implement and enforce the prohibition of torture. While activities of international courts, inspection committees,

special rapporteurs, national preventive mechanisms and others have indeed contributed to securing humane treatment of persons in police custody, there is still much potential for improving the human rights performance of police forces in the world.

This conference will analyse and evaluate these international activities and efforts, in order to provide an assessment of how far the world has come in preventing torture and other ill-treatment in police custody. In workshops and plenary sessions, international experts and participants will share their experiences and discuss success stories and setbacks. They will develop visions and ways how fair treatment of all persons in police custody may be ensured in a global perspective.

The conference language will be English. The Brandenburg University of Applied Police Sciences is located in Oranienburg on the outskirts of Berlin, Germany.

Tuesday 16 October 2018

8:30 **Registration**

9:00 **Welcome addresses**

9:30 **Introduction** Prof Ralf Alleweldt, Professor for Constitutional and European Law, Brandenburg University of Applied Police Sciences

Opening Keynote Lecture

10:00 **Ensuring fair treatment of persons in police custody: theory and reality**
Dr Richard Carver, Senior Lecturer in Human Rights and Governance, Centre for Development and Emergency Practice, Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom

10:45 Discussion

11:30 *Coffee break*

12:00 **Parallel Workshops**

Workshop 1: Fundamental safeguards against ill-treatment

- Mr Krassimir Kanev, Chairperson, Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, Sofia, Bulgaria: Fundamental safeguards against ill-treatment: good practices and challenges.
- Mr Hartmut Seltmann, former Polizeidirektor/ Ms. Christina Hof, Operations Manager, National Agency for the Prevention of Torture, Wiesbaden, Germany: The practical challenge of respecting fundamental safeguards during the G20 summit in Hamburg, July 2017.

Workshop 2: Police capacity building and the prevention of ill-treatment

- Ms Hanna Meyer, Adviser, Police Program Africa, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Berlin: Achieving more professional policing and better human rights protection: the GIZ Police Program Africa in Nigeria
- Ms Cristina Sganga, Independent Expert on Human Rights, London, United Kingdom

Workshop 3: Investigative interviewing and human rights

- Dr Asbjørn Rachlew, Police superintendent, Oslo police district, Guest researcher, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Oslo, Norway
- Ms Frances Surmon-Böhr, PhD candidate, University of Liverpool, United Kingdom

13:30 *Lunch break*

14:30 **Parallel Workshops 1-3 (continued)**

16:00 Opportunity to visit the Sachsenhausen Memorial and Museum

20:00 Dinner in Berlin

Wednesday 17 October 2018

9:15 **Parallel Workshops**

Workshop 4: Mobilising potentials and strengths within police organisations to realise human rights

- Mr Walter Suntinger, Human Rights Consultant and Trainer, Vienna, Austria
- Mr Moritz Birk, Senior Researcher and Head of Team 'Human Dignity and Public Security', Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights, Vienna, Austria

Workshop 5: International peace missions and the prevention of ill-treatment: specific challenges

- Ms Judith Thorn, PhD Candidate, Chair for Public Law and International Law, University of Giessen, Germany
- Mr William O'Neill, Independent Consultant on Human Rights, Refugees and Rule of Law, New York, United States

Workshop 6: National Preventive Mechanisms: experiences, success stories, problems

- Ms Audrey Olivier Muralt, Director of Regional Programmes, Association for the Prevention of Torture, Geneva, Switzerland
- Mr Nika Kvaratskhelia, Head of the Department of Prevention and Monitoring (NPM unit), Office of the Public Defender, Tbilisi, Georgia

10:45 *Coffee break*

11:15 **Parallel Workshops 4-6 (continued)**

12:45 *Lunch break*

13:45 **Reports from workshops to the plenary; general discussion**

15:15 *Coffee break*

Closing Keynote Lecture

15:45 **Strategies for ensuring fair treatment of persons in police custody: past, present and future** Dr Wolfgang S. Heinz, Senior Policy Adviser, German Institute of Human Rights, Berlin, Germany, Former Vice President of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture

16:30 Discussion

17:15 **Conclusion** Ralf Alleweldt/ Walter Suntinger

17:45 End of conference

Registration fee is € 150,00 per person and includes attendance at the conference, lunch and coffee breaks.

Please find the registration form at www.fhpolbb.de/humanrights.

After sending the form, you will receive an automatic confirmation by e-mail.

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This conference is a follow-up to the first Oranienburg Human Rights Conference held in 2016, whose proceedings have recently been published: [Ralf Alleweldt/Guido Fickenscher \(eds.\), *The Police and International Human Rights Law*](#), Berlin: Springer 2018.