

Name and first name:

Victor Zaharia

Date and place of birth:

21 August 1978, Republic of Moldova

Working languages:

English, Russian, French (basic knowledge), Romanian (native)

Current position/function:

UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT), member (2013-2016)

European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT), member (2013-2017)

Institute for Penal Reform, Director

National Legal Aid Council, Chairman, certified defense lawyer

Moldova State University, Law Department, university associate professor

Main professional activities:

Monitoring visits to places of detention (IRP, 2003-2011; OSCE, 2011-2012; SPT, 2013-2015; CPT, 2014-2015); Coordination of Penitentiary Reform Program (IRP, 2001-2015); Training NPM members, police and prison employees, medical doctors and forensic experts, defense lawyers, prosecutors and judges in torture prevention (UNDP, 2005-2015); Drafting legislation /amendments to Ombudsperson and NPM regulatory framework, Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code on torture prevention (UNDP, MoJ, Atlas of Torture Project, 2009-2014); Performing evaluation and research, expert in Criminal Justice and Human Rights with UNDP, UNODC, UNICEF, OSCE, CoE, EUD in Moldova, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ombudsperson Office, Probation Service, Prison Department, 2005 - 2015).

Educational background:

Moldova State University: Doctor of Law (2006), LLM (2001), university degree (2000); Specialized trainings: "UN treaty monitoring bodies", Geneva, ISHR (2008); "International Human Rights Training Program", Montreal, EQUITAS, (2008); "Client oriented defense in criminal proceedings", UK, OSI (2007); "Education in prison", Bergen, CoE (2005); "International School on Protection of Human Rights", Warsaw, PHC (2001).

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the SPT:

Preparation of alternative report to the Republic of Moldova report, UN CAT 2003; Development, evaluation of implementation of human rights and torture prevention programs (Baseline Study on Preventing and combating Torture in Moldova, Prisoners rights, Rights of juveniles in custody, National Mechanism of HR protection, HR education in school and universities, Functioning of the local commission of monitoring places of detention, 2006-2015); Monitoring the activity of Ombudsperson for Children (2008); Legal Aid policy formulation (NLAC, 2008-2015); Monitoring implementation of the Justice Sector Reform Strategy, Council for Reform of Law Enforcement Agencies; Participation as expert, trainer in more than 360 conferences, workshops in criminal justice and human rights (2001-2015).

List of most recent publications in the field:

Methodology of documenting and reporting current country situation on torture and ill treatment, IRP, 2014; Personal security in prisons, 2012; Research on retainment in the

Republic of Moldova, 2011; Baseline Study on Preventing and combating Torture in Moldova, UNDP 2010; Monitoring report of Respect of the rights of the persons under pretrial arrest, 2010; Guide for Local Committees of monitoring Places of Detention, UNDP 2010; Compliant Committee. Guide for detainees and prison administration, 2007.