

OPCAT visit at the Balassagyarmat Strict and Medium Regime Prison (15 September 2023)

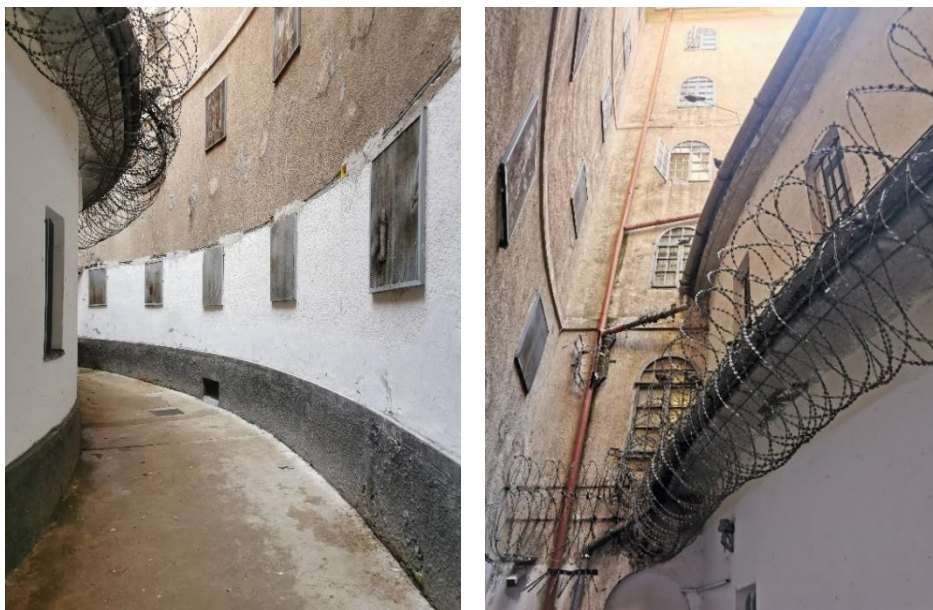
On 15 September 2023, the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights of Hungary, responsible for performing the tasks of the National Preventive Mechanism, and his staff members visited the Balassagyarmat Prison and Detention Centre (hereinafter: the "Facility").



Employment department in the Object



Sports and walking yard of the Balassagyarmat Prison



Walking courtyard for women at the Balassagyarmat Prison and Penitentiary

The purpose of the visit was to examine the treatment of detainees and the conditions of detention, with particular attention to the labour wards and the conditions of accommodation of female detainees in the Facility.

The members of the visiting team interviewed detainees, management and staff, and inspected the relevant documents.

The visiting team visited the working areas, the detainees' cells and the separated walkways allowing them to be in the open air, and was informed about the medical quarantine still applied during the reception procedure due to the experience of the COVID-19 epidemic.

The visiting team included:

- Dr. Ákos Kozma, Commissioner for Fundamental Rights
- Dóra Deák-Kondákor, lawyer
- Dr. Júlia Tóth, lawyer
- Dr. Norbert Mézes, lawyer

The National Preventive Mechanism will report on the visit.