



PRESS RELEASE

Tian Shan Policy Center Meets with NGO Community to Discuss Best Practices for the Prevention of Torture

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The Tian Shan Policy Center (TSPC, <http://auca.kg/eng/tspc/>), a think tank within the American University of Central Asia (AUCA), is now implementing its new project, “Program to enhance the capacity of NGOs and institutions to advocate for implementation of human rights decisions and standards to prevent torture.” This work is proceeding within the framework of TSPC’s human rights program. The project is funded by the European Union.

With the support of local and international partners, Open Society Justice Initiative, Golos Svobody, Independent Human Rights Group and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, TSPC is conducting research and analysis on international standards and best practices for the eradication of torture and abuse during arrest and detention in Kyrgyzstan. On 21 and 22 June 2013, TSPC presented its preliminary research findings on best practices as part of a meeting of the Anti-Torture Coalition in Kyrgyzstan.

Over the course of the meetings, participants engaged in productive and in-depth discussions about existing regional and international models for the prevention of torture. Based on their individual experiences, participants also considered the potential for institutional and law reform addressing these issues in Kyrgyzstan.

“We hope that the Government of Kyrgyzstan will seriously consider the recommendations resulting from this deeply researched project and corresponding civil society dialogue. Civil society organizations will continue to provide all assistance necessary for their implementation,” said Sardar Bagishbekov, Member of Kyrgyz Anti-Torture Coalition.

Throughout 2013 and 2014, TSPC will utilize the results of its research to convene further workshops and training where it can promote additional interaction and dialogue among all stakeholders on approaches to the prevention of torture.

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