

## THEMATIC REPORTS

### Other Reports

#### Children and juveniles in detention, Report of the S-G to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/26, para. 2, Section I)

The report of the Secretary-General includes the following information provided by Malta.

- ▶ The Probation of Offenders Act (1957) allows for the supervision of an offender in a therapeutic programme involving reconciliation between victim and offender in a criminal act; these programmes are not obligatory and require mutual consent.
- ▶ A priority has been to establish in the national Correctional Facility a suitable building for young offenders between the ages of 16 and 24 who will not be in contact with other prisoners in the remaining part of the prison complex.
- ▶ A Substance Abuse Assessment Unit has recently been set up in the existing Correctional Facility, where imprisoned substance abusers (including juveniles) sentenced for less than two years can undergo an in-house rehabilitation programme. As well, a halfway house is planned to enable people in this programme to receive social reintegration assistance. This will include group therapy and family support to reduce the likelihood of recidivism.
- ▶ Probation officers have been recruited both to work within the Ministry and to facilitate mediation and reconciliation work between victims and offenders.
- ▶ Within the vice squad section of police headquarters, a victim support section has been given responsibility to trace runaway minors, to work with child and juvenile prostitutes and help them access mainstream services, to refer juvenile offenders to the Socio-Legal Unit of the Department for Children and Family Services, and to take other steps.
- ▶ A Code of Practice for the Interrogation of Arrested Persons came into effect on 1 April 1996 and establishes general rules and procedures for the questioning of suspects, including juveniles to be interviewed by the police. This stipulates that youths and children attending school or other educational institutions should not, as far as possible, be arrested or interviewed at school. If such action becomes necessary, the student should be interviewed in the presence of the head teacher.
- ▶ The Social Welfare Development Programme (SWDP) offers specialized services for abused children, including representation in court, a help-line for abused children and victims of domestic violence, assistance for battered women and their children, and a child crisis centre where abused children are medically examined.
- ▶ A service plan is being developed for a secure or semi-secure facility for young early offenders.
- ▶ Under the Juvenile Court Act, the Juvenile Court can appoint two non-legal assistants, chosen every court session from among social workers, sociologists, teachers and other professionals, to assist the magistrate in arriving at his decisions.
- ▶ The Juvenile Court is a closed court and the press and public are not admitted to its proceedings. Cases of

children and juveniles in conflict with the law are heard in an informal setting outside the formal national Law Courts building.

- ▶ Imprisonment or depriving juveniles of their liberty is only used as an extreme measure of last resort; preference is given to non-custodial measures such as community-based correctional methods. Suspended sentences and probation orders incorporating restitution and compensation measures are becoming more common.

#### Conscientious objection to military service, Report of the S-G to the CHR: (E/CN.4/1997/99, paras. 2, 15)

The report of the Secretary-General notes that there is neither compulsory military service nor conscription in Malta which has established voluntary military service.

#### UN Decade for Human Rights Education, Report of the S-G to the GA: (A/52/469, para. 42)

The report of the Secretary-General notes information received from the government on programmes to focus on human rights education in schools and other formal education settings, for instance, through the training of teachers and the organization of courses at the university level.

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## MONACO

Date of admission to UN: 28 May 1993.

### THEMATIC REPORTS

**Land and People:** Monaco has not submitted a core document for use by the treaty bodies.

#### Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Signed: 26 June 1997; ratified: 28 August 1997.

Monaco's initial report is due 30 June 1999.

*Reservations and Declarations:* Paragraph 2 of article 2; articles 6, 9, 11 and 13; paragraphs 1(a), (b) and (c) and 2 of article 8.

#### Civil and Political Rights

Signed: 26 June 1997; ratified: 28 August 1997.

Monaco's initial report is due 28 December 1998.

*Reservations and Declarations:* Paragraphs 1 and 2 of article 2; articles 3, 13, 19, 21, 22 and 25; paragraph 5 of article 14.

#### Racial Discrimination

Acceded: 27 September 1995.

Monaco's initial report was due 27 October 1996.

*Reservations and Declarations:* Paragraph 1 of article 2; article 4.

#### Torture

Acceded: 6 December 1991.

Monaco's second periodic report was due 4 January 1997.

*Reservations and Declarations:* Paragraph 1 of article 30.

#### Rights of the Child

Acceded: 21 June 1993.

Monaco's initial report was due 20 July 1995.

*Reservations and Declarations:* Article 7; paragraph 2 (b) (v) of article 40.

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