



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

Mrs. Olena Vysotska
Ministry of Justice of Ukraine
callcentre@minjust.gov.ua
themis@minjust.gov.ua

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Letter

Cooperation between the Estonian and Ukrainian Prison Services has been successfully developing since 2023. We are very thankful for the warmest possible welcome and highest level of cooperation by Mr Sergiy Hrechaniuk and Vyacheslav Bosakevych.

In collaboration with the Ukrainian Prison Service and with funding from ESTDEV, we launched a cooperation project on May 1, 2024. The aim was to use Estonian experience to contribute to the development of Ukraine's prison system and the adoption of European principles and standards. In return we got insights of your Prison Service practices during the war.

As part of this project, we conducted several training programs and study visits. In September, 10 Ukrainian officials participated in specially designed training programme consisting of theoretical knowledge and practical experience of our work in prisons. There were also reciprocal study visits and seminars, providing a broader platform for cooperation and knowledge-sharing between the prison systems of both countries.

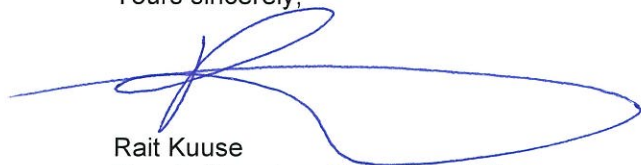
The Estonian delegation is planning to visit Ukraine from November 25 to November 29 as part of the final activities of our current project. Apart from visiting some Ukrainian prisons, we would also like to focus on reviewing the project outcomes and gathering feedback to think about follow-up activities. In addition, we have an opportunity to organize an online meeting with EUROPRIS members to discuss how European countries could provide coordinated support to the Ukrainian Prison Service in the future. We would be honored to have your participation at this important discussion.

Coming back to enhancing bilateral cooperation between Estonian and Ukrainian prison services I would like to request a separate meeting during our upcoming visit to discuss potential follow-up activities. As a result of this discussion, we will be able to elaborate on the further support from Estonia. Based on the experience I strongly believe that there is a great potential for follow-up exchange between our services.

We have noticed that wider support and aid to Ukrainian Prison Service is appreciated. Therefore we have the possibility of considering providing a special transport vehicle as part of our efforts to support the Ukrainian prison service. We would greatly appreciate it if you could kindly confirm whether you might have the capacity to receive it.

We greatly appreciate your time and consideration and hope that we can arrange a convenient time for this meeting during our visit. Please let us know your availability, and we will be happy to adjust our schedule accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal stroke and a final downward curve.

Rait Kuuse
Deputy Secretary General on Prisons
Ministry of Justice

Meribel Moldau
meribel.moldau@just.ee