

2003, 26 June Event

Venue and date

Compact living area of Chechen Refugees in Tbilisi, Georgia

Details of the event/s:

Summary

The Chechen refugees hunger – strike was beginning in Tbilisi and Pankisi Gorge in Georgia in May, 2003. The main reasons for hunger strike were : (1) Lack of the medical and humanitarian aid for Chechen refugees. (2) abnormal leaving conditions. (3) human rights abuse and lack of attention from the Human Rights agencies to their problems. (4) Lack of the knowledge regarding the Human rights issue and not having the protection mechanizes too.

In May, 2003, during the hunger – strike the International Refugees Committee from Chechnya applied for medical and psycho – social consultations to the Centre « EMPATHY ».

The Centre EMPATHY decided to provide the meeting – training for Chechen refugees regarding the UN Convention Against Torture or Other Cruel and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment and Punishment, to increase their knowledge on human rights issue.

Event

On the UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, the first meeting – training was held with Chechen Refugees Committee organizational support. The IRCT materials were distributed during this meeting among Chechen Refugees, especially women and children. The Chechen Women's Refugees Committee Against Torture was established in the framework of the Refugees Committee from Chechnya. Plan of joint actions were elaborated for revealing of the torture victims and for client advocacy and for sending these patients for furthermore treatment and rehabilitation to the Centre EMPATHY.

Organizations that predicated in the event : Centre EMPATHY and International Committee of Refugees from Chechnya.

Approx. number of participants attending the event

About 25 persons, refugees from Chechnya, especially women's leaders and children.