

**26 JUNE – UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY IN
SUPPORT OF VICTIMS OF TORTURE**

PRESS-RELEASE

IV CONFERENCE

“Together Against Torture”

DONORS:



RCT/EMPATHY

Partner
Organizations:



GMA



Crisis
Intervention
Centre of the
Women's
Association of
Nabakevi and
Darcheli
(Georgia/
Abkhazia)

***We Have to Implement UN CAT Articles, Istanbul
Protocol, and OP CAT***

***On 26 of June, 2007, the Forth Conference “Together
Against Torture” will be held at the Courtyard Marriott
Hotel, Ballroom. The Conference will start at 10.00
(participants' registration from 09.30 till 10.00).***

***Working languages: Georgian, English (with
simultaneous translation)***

Conference organizers are:

- 1. “Empathy”, Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture
(RCT/EMPATHY, Georgia)***
- 2. Georgian Medical Association (GMA)***
- 3. Penal Reform International (PRI)***
- 4. Women's Association (Abkhazia/Georgia) Crisis
Intervention Centre in Gali Region.***

***The Conference will be held within “The Program of
Rehabilitation for Victims of Torture in Georgia”, project of
“Empathy”, Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture.***

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- International Rehabilitation Council for Victims of
Torture (Copenhagen, Denmark).***



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On December 12, 1997, the General Assembly of the UN declared June 26 International Day in Support of Victims of Torture (Resolution No. 52/149). On this day, June 26, in 1987, the UN Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment entered into force.

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Crisis Intervention Centre of the Women's Association of Nabakevi and Darcheli (Georgia/Abkhazia)

Georgia joined the above mentioned Convention in 1994, but unfortunately all relevant amendments have not yet been made in the legislation of Georgia, which significantly hinders the struggle against torture. In our opinion, important combined efforts should be made in this direction by governmental as well as non-governmental structures, international organizations, the mass-media and society in general

We are also marking the fact that on December 18, 2002 a significant event took place. After a 10-year preparatory period, at the 57th session of the UN General Assembly an additional Protocol to the Convention against Torture was adopted. It has already been signed by 21 countries and it will enter into force on June 22, 2006. The Protocol was ratified by the Parliament of Georgia on July 7, 2005. The extent to which it is correctly implemented by the Georgian side will have great importance, and contribute to the fight against torture in Georgia.

We are today participating in a campaign against torture taking place in approximately 200 countries worldwide on this day. We are holding the Fourth Conference in Georgia (the first conference was held on June 26, 2002, the second on June 26, 2004, third Conference on 26 of June, 2006) “Together Against Torture”, in participation with governmental organizations as well as international organizations and the mass-media.

We will present real materials, reports specific facts, and the Forth Declaration “Together Against Torture” - *We Have to Implement UN CAT Articles, Istanbul Protocol, and OP CAT*

-this will include notes and recommendations for the Government and Parliament in relation to prohibition of torture and will be approved at the Conference. After the declaration is signed, it will be sent to Mr. Michael Saakashvili, the President of Georgia; Mrs. Nino Burjanadze, the Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia; and Mr. Zurab Noghaideli, the Prime Minister of Georgia.



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An exhibition-sale of artworks by women prisoners and teenage offenders, as well probationers and former prisoners, will be organized during the Conference.

The Conference materials will be published in Georgian and English and they will be distributed at both local and international level.



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GMA

We strongly invite you to participate in this action.

RCT/EMPATHY, President



/Mariam Jishkariani/



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