



association for the prevention of torture
association pour la prévention de la torture
asociación para la prevención de la tortura

Malta

Updated 17.05.2019

OPCAT status

OPCAT Ratification : September 24, 2003

UNCAT Ratification : September 13, 1990

NPM Designated :

Two Boards:

- [Board of Visitors for Detained Persons](#)
- [Board of Visitors of the Prisons](#)

NPM Type :

Multiple Institutions

NPM Legal Framework :

[Regulation](#) of the Board of Visitors for Detained Persons (18 September 2007)

[Prison Regulations](#) (Part IV on the Board of Visitors for the Prisons, 1 October 1999, amended in 2007)



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CAT: [Concluding Observations](#) (November 1999)

Communication to the SPT: [Official Correspondence](#) from Malta (29 October 2008)

CPT: [Report](#) (September 2011) and latest visit in September 2015 ([news flash](#))

Documents relating to other UN human rights mechanisms are available [here](#)

OPCAT Situation

Although Malta ratified the OPCAT in 2003, the NPM was only established in 2007. Two Boards were appointed for this purpose: the Board of Visitors for the Prisons and the Board of Visitors for Detained Persons. The two Boards have distinct Regulations and discussions have been ongoing for years about the possibility to gather the two institutions.

The SPT member who is the focal point for Malta is available [here](#).

NPM Reports



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Annual Reports

Both Boards of Visitors send their annual reports to the Minister of Justice and Home Affairs. According to APT information, those reports are not made public and there is no coordinated and compiled NPM annual report in Malta.

Other Reports

The reports of both Boards of Visitors are confidential unless the Minister of Justice and Home Affairs decides to publish them.

Following its visit to Malta in January 2009, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention recommended the government to strengthen the mandate and powers of both Boards, including the publication of their reports.