

Invitation

Training course: How to apply the Istanbul Protocol in Switzerland

28 February – 2 March 2018

GRAVITA – Swiss Red Cross
Bahnhofplatz 5, St Gallen



The **Manual on Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment**, commonly known as the Istanbul Protocol, is the first set of international guidelines for documentation of torture and its consequences.

The Istanbul Protocol is intended to serve as a set of international guidelines for the assessment of persons who allege torture and ill treatment, for investigating cases of alleged torture, and for reporting such findings to the judiciary and any other investigative body.

The Protocol was the outcome of a long process of sharing of expertise and experience among more than 75 forensic scientists, physicians, psychologists, human-rights monitors and lawyers, coordinated by professionals of the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey, the Turkish Medical Association, and Physicians for Human Rights-USA. The Protocol was submitted to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on 9 August 1999, and the principles were endorsed by the UN General Assembly and the UN Commission on Human Rights in 2000.

This is the first training course for professionals in Switzerland on how to apply the Istanbul Protocol. It will be facilitated by international experts from France, Turkey, Switzerland and Taiwan, all members of the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims IRCT.

The course is organized by the St Gallen Section of the Swiss Red Cross and supported by the national *Support for Torture Victims Network*.

- Fee per participant:** CHF 575, including training material and coffee breaks
- Training language:** English
- Target audience:** Medical doctors, psychologists, legal advisors, lawyers and social workers, who are in contact with refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants, either for treatment or support in legal issues
- Registration:** Please register by 9 February 2018 at info@gravita.ch (limited places available). A more detailed agenda of the training will follow in early 2018.
- Additional information:** Please contact ulrich.schoch@gravita.ch (English, German) or c.schlar@appartenances.ch/c.schlar@icloud.com (French, English, German)
- Accommodation:** If you need help finding accommodation please let us now. We have booked a limited number of rooms (Hotel Metropol and Hotel Einstein, St Gallen) at special rates.