



association for
the prevention
of torture



INTERNATIONAL
OMBUDSMAN
INSTITUTE



SIVILOMBUDET
Norwegian Parliamentary Ombud

IOI WORKSHOP FOR NATIONAL PREVENTIVE MECHANISMS

“Preventive Monitoring in Mental Health Institutions”

“Creating Change for NPMs Fulfilling the Mandate for Many Years”

9 – 11 February 2026 | Oslo, Norway

INVITATION LETTER

Dear Members of the IOI,

Over the past years the IOI has offered training that caters to the specific needs of Ombudsman institutions who act as National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) in their respective countries.

It is our great pleasure to invite you to another **NPM workshop** offered by the IOI to its members. The workshop will be hosted by the Parliamentary Ombud of Norway. It will be held in **Oslo** (Norway) from **9 – 11 February 2026** and delivered by the IOI's long-standing partner, the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT).

The content of this next NPM workshop will address two different topics: mental health in detention (including OPCAT and CRPD mandates), and how to create change for NPMs who have been exercising the monitoring mandate for many years. Please see the attached concept note for more details.

To ensure the highest possible outcome, participation is limited to a maximum of 30 people and two representatives per member institution. In principle, participants will be accepted on a “first come, first served” basis, but staff from offices with an NPM mandated will be prioritized. Please also note that the training will be conducted in English and that a high level of English proficiency is therefore required from participants.

Registration is now open and you are kindly asked to register by completing and returning the attached registration form to the IOI General Secretariat (ioi@volksanwaltschaft.gv.at) as soon as possible but no later than **19 December 2025**.

The IOI offers this training free of charge to member institutions in good standing (i.e. with paid up fees up to the membership year 2024/2025). **Travel and accommodation costs must be covered by the participants themselves.** You can find a list of recommended hotels near the venue in the Practical Information (see attached).

A small number of **scholarships** will be available for institutions with limited financial resources. Scholarships may include refund for economy airfares and/or accommodation costs and are awarded by the IOI Executive Committee. In case you would like to apply for funding, please fill in the attached scholarship form and submit it to the IOI General Secretariat (ioi@volksanwaltschaft.gv.at) together with the requested information as soon as possible, but no later than **12 December 2025**.

We are looking forward to an active participation and to welcoming you in Oslo. If you have any further questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate and contact the IOI General Secretariat.

Yours sincerely,



Nicole Hogg
APT Secretary General



Bernhard Achitz
IOI Secretary General



Hanne Harlem
Parliamentary Ombud Norway