

# **CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS AND DEFENCE RIGHTS IN HUNGARY**

## **This leaflet covers:**

- Information about FTI
- Definitions of key legal terms
- Criminal proceedings and defence rights in Hungary
- Useful links

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## **About Fair Trials International**

Since 1992 Fair Trial International has worked for the better protection of fair trial rights and defended the rights of people facing criminal charges in a country other than their own. Our vision is a world where every person's right to a fair trial is respected, whatever their nationality, wherever they are accused.

Fair Trials International was established to help people arrested outside their own country to defend their right to a fair trial. Every year we help hundreds of people and their families to navigate a foreign legal system by offering practical advice, including contacts of local lawyers, guidance on key issues encountered by people arrested abroad, and basic information on different legal systems and local sources of support. As a charity, we do not charge for any of the assistance that we provide.

We believe that respect for fundamental rights and the rule of law are the hallmarks of a just society, and that the right to a fair trial is at the heart of this. Sadly too many shocking cases of injustice demonstrate how, time and again, this most basic human right is being abused. We fight against injustice by lobbying for the legal reforms needed to ensure that the right to a fair trial is respected in practice. Working with our clients and international networks, we also campaign for changes to criminal justice laws which are being abused and overused.

To find out more about how FTI can assist you, please contact our legal team (contact details on the back cover).

Fair Trials International is a registered charity (No 1134586) and is registered with limited liability in England and Wales (No 7135273). We are a non-governmental organisation; as such, we are a wholly separate and independent organisation from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

**If you require this leaflet in large print, please contact us at the address on the back cover.**

## DEFINITIONS OF KEY LEGAL TERMS

**Appeal** (*fellebbezés*): An opportunity to dispute a decision made at trial by asking a higher court to review it. This can result in the decision being overturned, remitted to a lower court for a re-trial, or the criminal proceedings being terminated.

**Arrest Warrant** (*elfogatóparancs*): A document authorising an arrest relating to the administration of justice.

**Attorney at Law** (*ügyvéd*): A person whose profession is to give legal advice and assistance to clients and represent them in court or in other legal matters. In Hungary a 'lawyer' (*jogász*) refers to anyone with a law degree.

**Bail** (*óvadék*): The temporary release from detention of a person accused of a crime and awaiting trial.

**Bar Association** (*ügyvédi kamara*): An organisation whose role is to represent attorneys at law and help people in their dealings with attorneys.

**Charge/Indictment** (*vádirat*): An official statement of the prosecution accusing a person of committing an offence.

**Consulate** (*konzulátus*): The section of the embassy whose task is to assist its citizens.

**Court of Appeal** (*törvényszék / ítélőtábla*): The court that is competent to hear appeals (i.e. challenges) made to decisions of the lower courts

**Court of First Instance:** A lower court where a trial is initially heard. In Hungary, the court of first instance in most cases is the local court (*járási / kerületi bíróság*), but trials for more serious offences are heard at the county court (*törvényszék*)

**Embassy** (*nagykövetség*): The office of a government official who resides in a foreign country and represents his/her government's interests.

**European Court of Human Rights** (*Emberi Jogok Európai Bírósága*): The Court is based in Strasbourg, France, and hears human rights cases against the 47 countries which make up the Council of Europe (which is different from the European Union).

**Judge** (*bíró*): A person with authority to hear and decide on cases in a court of law.

**Judgment** (*ítélet*): A decision on a case provided by a judge in a court of law.

**Legal Aid** (*jogi segítségnyújtás*): Assistance provided to a person who needs an attorney and who cannot afford to pay for one. In Hungary, legal aid does not come in the form of financial assistance, but attorneys at law are appointed for people who cannot afford to pay for one.

**Police Custody** (*őrizet*): Detention of a suspect by the police after arrest. In Hungary, the maximum period for police custody is 72 hours.

**Pre-trial Detention** (*előzetes letartóztatás*): Detention in prison during the investigations (and often during the

trial itself as well), which happens before the decision on guilt or innocence is made by the court.

**Public Prosecutor** (*ügyész*): A person who conducts a case against a person who is accused of a crime. In Hungary the Public Prosecutor also oversees the investigation of criminal proceedings.

**Sentence** (*büntetőjogi jogkövetkezmény*): The punishment assigned to a person convicted of a crime as fixed by a court of law.

**Victim** is known as “*a sértett*” in Hungarian.

**Warrant**: A document issued by a legal or government official authorising the police to make an arrest, search premises, or carry out some other action relating to the administration of justice.

**Witness** is known as “*tanú*” in Hungarian.

## **INFORMATION ON CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS AND DEFENCE RIGHTS IN HUNGARY**

**We have prepared these notes with the assistance of local criminal lawyers, who tried to describe how things happen in practice, i.e. in the real world. Even within one country, however, practice can vary greatly from one place to another and it is therefore possible that your experience will sometimes differ from the descriptions below. This document does not constitute legal advice and only provides general information. If you need advice in relation to your specific case, or if you are concerned about a possible violation of your rights, you should discuss this with your local lawyer.**

### **1. LEGAL SYSTEM**

#### **Q1. Where do the laws of Hungary apply?**

Hungarian law applies to crimes committed in the Republic of Hungary. There are certain cases in which Hungarian law could apply to crimes committed outside its territory, even if it was not committed by a Hungarian citizen.

### **2. ARREST AND INVESTIGATION**

#### **I. What are my rights upon arrest?**

**(a) Right to information:**

**Q2. Will the police inform me of my rights? Will this be done orally or in writing?**

You must be informed of your rights once you are arrested. This does not have to be in writing and may be given orally.

You should also be informed of your arrest if you are taken into 'short-term' arrest (*előállítás*), which can take place if you are caught in the act of committing a crime.

**Q3. Do I have a right to be informed of the allegations/charges against me?**

You have the right to be informed about the nature of the accusations against you, and to be given a brief summary of the crime of which you are accused. You should, in particular, be informed which parts of the Hungarian Criminal Code you are suspected of having violated.

**(b) Right to inform people:**

**Q4. Do I have a right to have the consulate informed of my arrest?**

If you are not a Hungarian citizen, you have the right to have your embassy or consulate informed of your arrest.



**Q5. Do I have a right to inform my family of the arrest?**

You have the right to contact a member of your family to inform them of your arrest. A police officer may do this on your behalf, and the notification must be made within 24 hours of the request being made.

You could be denied your right to notify your family, if the police think this could interfere with ongoing investigations.

**Q6. Do I have a right to an attorney?**

You have the right to appoint an attorney, or to have one appointed for you. You should be informed of these rights before the police start to question you. In certain cases, you will be required by law to be assisted by an attorney at law. In these cases, you will be appointed an attorney by the prosecutor or the investigating authorities if you do not appoint your own within 3 days of your arrest.

The investigating authority must inform your attorney of the date and place of your police interrogation, but if your attorney does not arrive within 24 hours, the police may start to interview you without your attorney. This rule however, is not always respected. In urgent cases, the police could start questioning you immediately, but not before your attorney has been informed about it.

**Q7. Do I have a right to a translator/interpreter?**

If you do not speak Hungarian, an interpreter should be made available for every phase of the criminal process.

The costs of the interpreter are paid by the state, but you will have to pay for the costs of interpretation for consultations between you and your attorney. On certain occasions however, your attorney may be able to get the police to cover some of the interpretation costs.

**Q8. Do I have to talk to the police or can I remain silent during police interrogation? Will it work against me if I am silent?**

You must be informed of your right to remain silent before you are questioned. Under the basic principles of the Hungarian Criminal Code, no negative inference can be drawn from your silence. If at all possible, you should seek your attorney's advice on whether or not you should remain silent before your interview can start, because in practice, judges sometimes do consider silence to be evidence suggestive or indicative of guilt.

**Q9. When will I know about the case against me?**

You should be informed of the accusations ('*gyanúsítás*') against you immediately after your arrest, and at your first police interrogation, but the evidence on which the accusation is based may not be disclosed to you at this stage, if it would jeopardise the interests of the investigation. You should be made aware of any evidence being used to justify your pre-trial detention.

You will be able to view the whole case file once the investigation is over, and you are provided with the bill of indictment.

### **3. LEGAL REPRESENTATION**

For general information on why and how to appoint a local attorney, please refer to FTI's "Arrested in Another Country?" leaflet.

#### **Q10. How do I find an attorney?**

You can get in touch with the national or local bar associations, in case they can help you identify a suitable attorney. Both the Hungarian Bar Association and the Budapest Bar Association have online directories of local attorneys at laws.

If you are not a Hungarian citizen, your embassy or consulate may also be able to help you find a local attorney who speaks your language.

You can also request the investigating authority appoint an attorney for you.

#### **Q11. What is the role of my attorney? Will s/he investigate the case?**

The main role of your attorney is to advise you, and to ensure your rights are protected in your criminal proceedings.

Your attorney has a limited role in investigating your case, but s/he may be able to make requests for certain investigations to be carried out by the investigating authorities. S/he may, for example, ask certain witnesses to be interviewed, and to have experts appointed to provide evidence.

**Q12. I cannot afford to pay for a private attorney, what should I do? (Is there legal aid? How should I apply? What are the criteria to be eligible? What is covered by legal aid?)**

If you are unable to pay for the costs of your attorney privately, you could be entitled to legal aid. Legal aid is available for all stages of the criminal process.

You can obtain an application form to apply for legal aid from the court, police, prosecution, or at your place of detention. The application should be made to the investigating authority, if you have not yet been indicted, or the court, if you have been indicted. You may need to provide proof of your income and financial situation.

If you are granted legal aid, an attorney will be appointed from a list provided by the regional bar association. If you are refused legal aid, you may be able to appeal against the refusal.

In certain circumstances, you may be appointed an attorney, regardless of your income. These include cases in which:

- You are currently in detention;
- You are a minor;
- You do not speaking Hungarian; or
- If you are facing 5 years or more in prison for the accusations against you.

Even if you are not entitled to legal aid, the state can advance your costs associated with the criminal proceedings. You will have to pay this back, if you are eventually convicted.

**Q13. I am unhappy with my attorney: How can I change attorney? How can I complain about my attorney?**

You should be able to change your attorney as you wish, if you appointed one yourself, and are paying for his/her services privately.

If your attorney was appointed to you by the court or the investigative authority, you need to ask the court to appoint a different attorney, providing reasons why you need to change your attorney. The court is not obliged to grant your request.

If you would like to make a complaint about your attorney, you can register your complaint with the Hungarian Bar Association.

## **4. PRE-TRIAL MATTERS**

### **4.1 Pre-trial matters: detention**

The information given below is specific to Hungary. For general information and tips about how to obtain your release prior to your trial, please refer to the note of advice on “Applying for Release Pending Trial”.

**Q14. Will I have to stay in prison until my trial starts? Are there alternatives to detention**

13

Fair Trials International – January 2015

*This note is intended to be for information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Take local legal advice on your specific situation.*

### **pending trial?**

The court may decide to keep you in detention if:

- You could face a prison sentence for the accusations against you; and
- The court believes that you may try to avoid your trial if you are released;
- The court believes you may commit another criminal offence if you are released; and/or
- The court believes that you may try to interfere with ongoing criminal investigations.

If you are released pending your trial, you could be subject to various restrictions. You may, for example, be required to stay in a particular area, or to reside at a particular address. You could also be required to report to the police on a regular basis.

You can deposit bail money with the court as a condition of your release if the sole reason the court has for detaining you is that you may try to avoid your trial. This money should be paid back to you in the end, so long as you comply with all the conditions of your bail and you attend all required court hearings. You could also get another person to act as your guarantor and deposit bail money on your behalf.

The time you spend in pre-trial detention will be deducted from the final sentence.

**Q15. How long can I be detained before my trial?**

You can be detained following your arrested for an initial period of up to 72 hours. You should be informed of the accusations and brought before a court within this period.

The court may decide to keep you in detention for an initial period of 1 month. Your detention is reviewed thereafter every three months by the investigating judge until you have spent one year in detention. After one year, the court can extend detention by two months at a time until your trial goes ahead. Once the bill of indictment has been filed, your pre-trial detention is reviewed every 6 months.

The maximum length for pre-trial detention is 1, 2, or 3 years depending on the maximum sentence you could be facing. If you have been accused of murder, or you are facing 15 years or more in prison, there is no legal limit for pre-trial detention.

**Q16. How and when can I apply for release while waiting for trial?**

During the investigation, it is up to the investigating judge to decide whether or not you should remain in detention. The prosecutor can also decide whether or not you should be released, before the bill of indictment has been filed. After the investigation is completed, this responsibility passes on to the judge handling your substantive criminal case.

Although there are regular reviews of pre-trial detention, it is relatively uncommon for courts to overturn decisions

to detain suspects.

Your detention is subject to periodic review, as outlined above. You can ask for release at any time, but it will only be considered only if it contains new arguments, or if there have been changes in your circumstances, or it has been 3 months since your detention was last reviewed.

**Q17. Can I go back to my home country after I have been released pending my trial?**

If you do not normally live in Hungary, and you are accused of a crime for which you are not likely to be sentenced to more than 8 years' imprisonment, you could be allowed to return to your home country (so long as the criminal offence you are alleged to have committed did not result in anyone's death), and you could request your criminal proceedings to continue in your absence, so long as you deposit money with the court as a form of security.

If this happens, you will not be required to attend pre-trial court proceedings, or the trial itself, and you will only be required to return to Hungary, if you are eventually convicted and sentenced to imprisonment.

**Q18. What will happen if I breach the conditions of my release?**

If you are found to have violated the conditions of your release, the court may order your arrest and detention, or you may be fined. Any bail money you have deposited could also be confiscated.



**Q19. Do I need an attorney to apply for release?**

You do not need an attorney to apply to the court for release, but it may increase your chances of successful outcome.

**4.2. Pre-trial matters: timing**

**Q20. How long before my case goes to trial?**

The timing of your trial depends on a number of different factors, but it is not unusual for suspects to wait for more than 6 months for their trial to begin.

**Q21. There are always delays with my case; does that mean my attorney is doing a bad job?**

Delays are sadly not uncommon in the Hungarian criminal justice system, and they could be caused by a number of different factors. You cannot assume that your attorney is doing a bad job because there are delays with your case.

**Pre-trials matters: pleading guilty**

**Q22. Can I plead guilty? What are the consequences of pleading guilty?**

You can plead guilty to the accusations against you. If you do so, your criminal proceedings could be shortened, and you may be given a lighter sentence.

If you have been accused of a minor offence (relating to crimes liable to no more than 3 years' imprisonment) you may avoid punishment altogether by participating in mediation and compensating the victim, provided that both the victim and the prosecutor agree. If you have already been indicted, you will need to seek permission from the court.

Pleading guilty could have major implications on your rights, so it is important that you speak to your attorney for advice before you enter your plea.

## **5. THE TRIAL**

### **Q23. What happens at the trial?**

Your trial is likely to take place in the local court in the area where the crime was allegedly committed. More serious cases are heard at the county court.

### **Q24. Do I have to be present?**

Yes. As a general rule, you need to be present at your trial.

However, you could be tried in your absence if you fail to turn up to court, despite being summoned to attend your trial, and the police could not find you within 15 days even after the arrest warrant had been issued. If your trial proceeds in your absence, an attorney will be appointed to defend you.

**Q25. Can I ask for the trial to take place in my home country?**

This can only take place if the Hungarian authorities believe that it would be more appropriate for the authorities of your home country to try you. If you are accused of a criminal offence that took place entirely within Hungary, you can, as a general rule, only be tried in Hungary.

**Q26. Is there a jury?**

There are no jury trials in Hungary. Your case will either be heard by a single judge, or a panel of judges, depending on the nature and the seriousness of the accusations against you.

**Q27. Can my attorney call and cross-examine witnesses?**

During the hearing, you and your attorney may put questions to all of the witnesses and may challenge their statements. As a general rule witnesses are first questioned by the judge, and then by the prosecution.

**Q28. I don't speak the language of the court; do I have a right to an interpreter? Is it free?**

If you do not speak Hungarian, the court must arrange for an interpreter to be present at your trial at no cost to you. You should be given an interpreter free of charge for every stage of your criminal proceedings even if you are paying for an attorney privately.

**Q29. Will the written evidence be translated for me?**

You should be given translations of court decisions and official court documents, but you will need to pay for written translations of other documents.

**Q30. Will the interpreter also help me if I need to talk to my attorney?**

You must pay for interpretations during private consultations between you and your attorney.

**Q31. Why is the victim taking part in the trial?**

The victim in your case can take part in your trial as a witness, but she could also join the criminal proceedings in order to seek compensation.

The victim can take an active role in the trial, and is given access to relevant evidence and documents in your case, after the investigation has been closed. S/he can also make observations and make applications at the investigation stage, which could influence the course of your criminal proceedings.

Furthermore, if the public prosecutor discontinues the proceedings against you the victim could assume the role of a private prosecutor and continue the criminal proceedings against you.

**Q32. Will I be informed of the decision of the court on the day of the trial?**

The court usually announces its judgment orally

20

immediately after it has made its decision.

**Q33. Can I receive a copy of the judgment in my mother tongue?**

Yes, you are entitled to a copy of the judgment in a language you understand. You should not need to pay for the translation.

**Q34. I was tried in my absence and was not informed of this, what can I do?**

You can either appeal against your conviction, or file a motion with the court that tried you to have your case retried. You have a right to be re-tried, if you were tried in your absence.

**6. APPEALS**

**Q35. I am not happy with the decision, can I appeal against it? How do I appeal?**

When the court hands down your sentence, you will be asked whether or not you wish to appeal. If you have not made up your mind, you can ask the court to give you three days to consider your options.

If you were present when the sentence was handed down, you can announce your right of appeal then, or say that you wish to make your decision within 3 days. If you were not present, and you are instead notified of your sentence in writing, you have 8 days to submit your appeal.

You can appeal to challenge both the factual findings made by the court, and the legal basis on which the decision was made.

If your appeal is successful, the appeal court can acquit you, reduce your sentence, or send your case back to the lower court for reconsideration, or terminate the whole procedure without imposing any sanctions.

**Q36. Do I need to pay my attorney more money if there is an appeal?**

You may have to pay you attorney more money if you are paying for your attorney privately. The fees will depend on your individual case and you should agree fees with your attorney.

If you have been granted legal aid you will not have to pay for the appeals procedure.

**Q37. What is the time frame for the appeal to take place?**

The court should fix your appeal hearing within 60 days of the date you filed your documents in support of your appeal. There is no fixed legal timeframe in which your appeal should be heard.

**Q38. Could things get worse during the appeal?**

If you appeal your conviction you will not face the possibility of a more serious sentence. However if the prosecution also appeals, you could end up with a worse result.

**Q39. If I am acquitted, can the prosecution appeal?**

The prosecution can appeal against your acquittal. You should be aware that it is possible for both you and the prosecution to introduce new evidence not available at the initial trial, and also rely on different facts to those established in the first court during appeal proceedings.

**7. PRISON CONDITIONS**

**Q40. Do I have rights as a prisoner? Where can I find out about my rights?**

The Hungarian Prison (*Magyar Büntetés-végrehajtási Intézet*) is required to inform of you of the prison's rules, as well as your rights as a prisoner when you first arrive at the prison. You can ask for information about your rights and obligations in other languages, including English.

**Q41. What can I do if my rights are violated? Where can I get assistance regarding my welfare issues? Regarding abuse and mistreatment?**

When admitted for detention, you will normally be assigned a conductor by the prison authorities (*reintegrációs tiszt*) who can help with any welfare problems you may have in prison.

If your rights are violated you should seek advice from your attorney, and discuss the possibility of filing a complaint. You may file a complaint to the prosecutor, or

23

the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights, which acts as the ombudsman for Hungary.

If you are not a Hungarian citizen, you can contact your consular official who may be able to report any alleged discrimination or ill-treatment with the authorities.

## **8. POST-TRIAL MATTERS**

### **Q42. Can I get my sentence reduced?**

Your sentence may be reduced by appealing against it, but you could also be eligible for early release.

You could be eligible for parole in the following circumstances:

- If you do not have previous convictions, after serving 2/3 of your sentence;
- If you have previous convictions, after 3.4 of your sentence; or
- If your sentence is five years or less, after serving half of your sentence.

You may not be eligible for early release in the following circumstances:

- If you have multiple previous convictions;
- If you have been convicted of an organised crime; or



- If you fail to start serving your sentence voluntarily.

**Q43. What would help me get an early release?**

Good behaviour in prison and successful completion of educational programmes could help you get early release.

**Q44. I have been sentenced to pay a fine, what will happen if I don't pay it?**

If you have been sentenced to a fine, you need to make the payment within 15 days of being ordered to make the payment. You can ask to make the payment later, or to make the payment in instalments.

If you do not pay your fine, your fine could be converted to a prison sentence, which you will need to serve until you pay your fine.

**Q45. Can I ask for a transfer to my home country?**

You can ask to be transferred to a prison in your home country, if there is a treaty between Hungary and your country, which facilitates such a transfer.

Please refer to our 'Prisoner Transfers' note of advice for more information.

**Q46. I have exhausted all legal remedies, is it still possible to get my case reviewed?**

Your case could be reopened if there is significant new

25

evidence unavailable at the time of your trial that strongly supports your defence. You should ask for your attorney's advice to find out if there are any other grounds on which your case could be reviewed.

**Q47. I have exhausted all legal remedies; can I apply for a pardon?**

Pardons can be granted by the President of Hungary, or by means of a parliamentary act. Pardons are only very rarely granted.

**Q48. Can I be expelled instead of serving my sentence?**

No, you cannot be expelled instead of serving your prison sentence.

**Q49. Is there a risk that I will be deported after serving my sentence?**

If you are not a Hungarian citizen, there is a risk that you will face deportation from Hungary after serving your sentence, depending on your nationality and the seriousness of the crime with which you were convicted.

If you are a citizen of an EU country, you could be deported from Hungary if you were convicted of an offence that carries a sentence of at least 5 years' imprisonment.

If you have been living in Hungary legally for the past 10 years, and your family is also based in Hungary, your deportation may be ordered if you have been convicted of a particularly serious offence (usually if you have

been sentenced to 10 years or more).

You also cannot, by law, be sent to a country where you face torture, or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

## USEFUL LINKS

ORGANISATION	MANDATE	CONTACT DETAILS
<b>LAW GOVERNING BODIES</b>		
<p><b>Hungarian Bar Association</b></p> <p><i>Magyar Ügyvédi Kamara</i></p>	<p>The Hungarian Bar Association is the national association regulating and representing attorneys in Hungary.</p> <p>The Bar Association keeps a register of practising attorneys and attorneys struck off the register.</p> <p>Regional committees accept complaints against unsatisfactory attorneys.</p>	<p>Website : <a href="http://www.magyarugyvedikamara.hu">www.magyarugyvedikamara.hu</a></p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:muk@muknet.hu">muk@muknet.hu</a></p> <p>T: +36 (0)1 3119 800, +36 (0)1 3311 773</p> <p>1054 Budapest, Szemere u. 8.</p>
<p><b>Budapest Bar Association</b></p> <p><i>Budapesti Ügyvédi Kamara</i></p>	<p>Keeps a register of practising attorneys in Budapest and attorneys in Budapest struck off the register.</p>	<p>Website : <a href="http://www.bpuagyvedikamara.hu">www.bpuagyvedikamara.hu</a></p> <p>T: +36 (0)1 353 0155</p> <p>1055 Budapest, Szalay u. 7.</p>
<b>OMBUDSMEN and COMPLAINTS COMMITTEES</b>		
<p><b>The Commissioner for Fundamental Rights</b></p> <p>Alapvető Jogok Biztosának Hivatala</p>	<p>The Commissioner for Fundamental Rights acts as the ombudsman for Hungary, whose role is to ensure effective implementation of human rights law. The Commissioner takes particular interest in the rights of children, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable social groups.</p> <p>You can complain to the</p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.ajbh.hu">www.ajbh.hu</a></p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:panasz@ajbh.hu">panasz@ajbh.hu</a> , <a href="mailto:hungarian.ombudsman@ajbh.hu">hungarian.ombudsman@ajbh.hu</a></p> <p>T: +361 (0)475 7100</p> <p>1387 Budapest</p>

	Commissioner about violations of your fundamental rights committed by acts or omissions of public authorities. You can only take your complaint to the Commissioner after you have attempted to have your concerns addressed by the public authority in question.	Pf. 40.
<b>INTERPRETERS</b>		
<b>Association of Hungarian Translators and Interpreters</b>  <i>Magyar Fordítók és Tolmácsok Egyesülete</i>	The Association of Hungarian Translators and Interpreters ('AHTI') has an online directory of local interpreters.	Website: <a href="http://www.mfte.hu">www.mfte.hu</a> E: <a href="mailto:info@mfte.hu">info@mfte.hu</a> T: +36 (0)20 9710 876
<b>NGOs</b>		
<b>HUMAN RIGHTS</b>		
<b>Amnesty International Hungary</b>	Amnesty International is a campaigning organisation. Its aim is to protect people wherever justice, fairness, freedom and truth are denied. AI's campaigns differ from country to country.	Website: <a href="http://www.amnesty.hu">www.amnesty.hu</a> E: <a href="mailto:info@amnesty.hu">info@amnesty.hu</a> T: +36 1 321 4799  1064 Budapest Rózsa u. 44. II/4
<b>Hungarian Helsinki Committee</b>  <i>Magyar Helsinki Bizottság</i>	The Hungarian Helsinki Committee ('HHC') monitors the human rights of people in Hungary with respect to international human rights standards Hungary has signed up to.	Website : <a href="http://www.helsinki.hu">www.helsinki.hu</a> E : <a href="mailto:helsinki@helsinki.hu">helsinki@helsinki.hu</a>

	<p>They inform the public about human rights abuses and provide victims of human rights violations.</p> <p><u>Criteria to receive assistance:</u></p> <p>You can contact the HHC if you wish to seek legal advice in relation to human rights abuses. Advice phone lines are open between 10:00am and 6:00pm on Mondays and Thursdays.</p>	<p>T : +36 (0)1 321 4323, +36 (0)1 321 4327, +36 (0)1 321 4141</p> <p>1054 Budapest, Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 36-38</p> <p>1242 Budapest, Pf. 317</p>
<p><b>Hungarian Civil Liberties Union</b></p> <p><i>Társaság a Szabadságjogokért</i></p>	<p>The Hungarian Civil Liberties Union ('HCLU') is a non-governmental organisation to promote human rights in Hungary and throughout Central and Eastern Europe.</p> <p>The HCLU carries out advocacy activities and they also operate a legal assistance service through their telephone hotline.</p>	<p>Website : <a href="http://www.tasz.hu/en">www.tasz.hu/en</a></p> <p>E : <a href="mailto:helsinki@helsinki.hu">helsinki@helsinki.hu</a></p> <p>T : +36 (0)1 209 0046</p> <p>F: +36 (0)1 279 0755</p> <p>1136 Budapest, Tátra ut. 15/b</p>
<b>ASSISTANCE FOR PRISONERS</b>		
<p><b>Hungarian Prison Service</b></p> <p><i>Büntetés-végrehajtás Országos Parancsnoksága</i></p>	<p>The Hungarian Prison Service runs the prisons and support services in Hungary.</p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.bvop.hu">www.bvop.hu</a></p> <p>E: <a href="mailto:koordinacio@bv.gov.hu">koordinacio@bv.gov.hu</a></p> <p>1903 Budapest Pf.: 314</p>

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**If you think that an important question is not covered in this fact sheet, please let us know.**

# FAIR TRIALS INTERNATIONAL

**Vision: A world where every person's right to a fair trial is respected.**

## THANK YOU

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Fair Trials International  
Temple Chambers  
3/7 Temple Avenue  
London EC4Y 0HP  
United Kingdom

T: +44 (0)20 7822 2370  
F: +44 (0)20 7822 2371  
[casework@fairtrials.net](mailto:casework@fairtrials.net)  
[www.fairtrials.org](http://www.fairtrials.org)

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32

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