



Office for Democratic Institutions
and Human Rights

ODIHR/PRI Trainer's Manual on the Nelson Mandela Rules

Presentation at the EPTA Annual Conference 2023


26 September 2023, Tallin

osce.org/odihr

Laura Jaffrey, Adviser on Torture Prevention



What are the Nelson Mandela Rules?

- Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners went through a revision process from 2011-2015  **Nelson Mandela Rules**
- NMR = **key set of international standards** governing the treatment of prisoners.
- Consolidate and reconcile criminal justice and human rights standards:
 - ✓ better protection of human rights of prisoners
 - ✓ safer work environment for prison staff to perform their duties
- Help achieving rehabilitation and reintegration of prisoners, for the benefit of society as a whole

ODIHR's work on the Nelson Mandela Rules

In 2016: started work on NMR, in cooperation with Penal Reform International (PRI)
Idea = provide guidance on their practical implementation

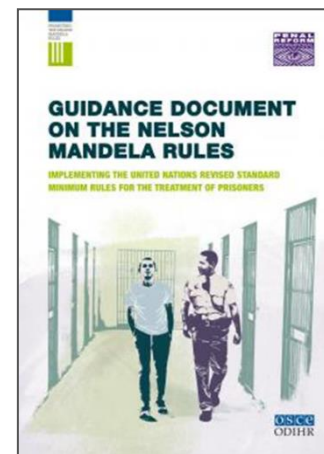
➤ **ODIHR/PRI Guidance Document** on the Nelson Mandela Rules – Implementing the UN Revised Standard Minimum Rules for the treatment of prisoners(2018)

(<https://www.osce.org/odihr/389912>)

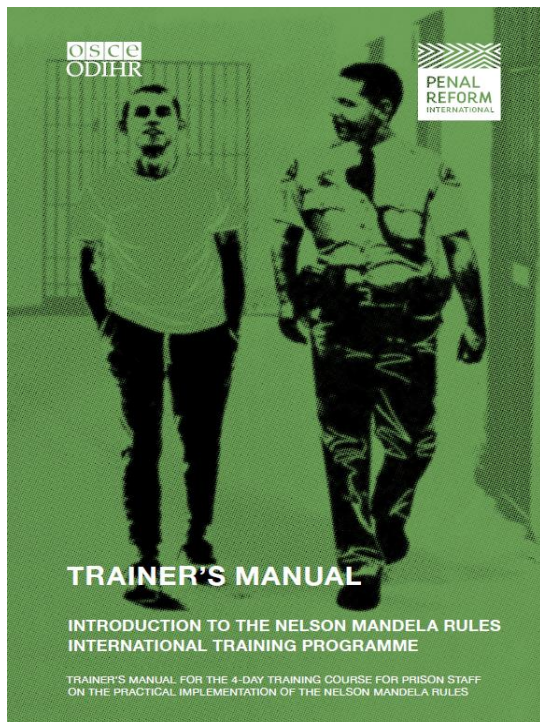
Available in English, Georgian, Russian and Ukrainian

This ODIHR PRI document provides **comprehensive and practical guidance** on the implementation of the revised Rules. Its **intended audience** is primarily prison staff, management, and other relevant practitioners in prisons

It has been designed to help **understand and implement** the Mandela Rules in practice and integrates a **gender perspective** in all aspects of prison management.



The NMR Trainer's Manual



- Idea to develop a comprehensive training curriculum for prison staff to **help them understand and implement the Rules in practice**, based on the Guidance document
- **ODIHR/PRI** partnership, in close cooperation with **UNODC** and the **Swedish Prison and Probation Service**
- **4-day training**, covering most aspects of prison management
- In 2022, we conducted a **pilot training in Sweden**, complemented by a **training in Italy**. In 2023, we conducted a regional **ToT in Serbia**.

Training curriculum on the Nelson Mandela Rules

WHY train prison staff?

- ❖ States have obligation of **duty of care** – obliged to ensure that prisoners are treated humanely
- ❖ Prison staff play **essential role** to ensure respect for the rights and dignity of detainees
- ❖ Training is essential to ensure that prison staff are well equipped to implement the Rules in practice
- ❖ Contributes to change **mindsets** and **institutional culture**

Intro – trainer's manual

The training curriculum is introduced by some considerations on **training methodology** about:

- *Training principles, incl. adult learning principles*
- *The trainers*
- *The participants*
- *Guiding notes and adapting the content*
- *Preparation of the training*
- *Agenda and introduction to the training*

Intro – trainer’s manual

Important!

- ❖ *The training materials are designed to be **flexible**, as national/local context and training needs and experience of participants may differ. **Pre-training assessments** are encouraged in this regard*
- ❖ *However, while trainers are encouraged to use their judgement and discretion when adapting the curriculum, they should stay as close as possible and **should not deviate from the main messages of each module***
- ❖ *Some sections / group exercises/videos are marked as **optional**, depending on their relevance and the time available.*
- ❖ ***A dedicated set of PowerPoint slides is available to accompany the training course***

Training curriculum on the Nelson Mandela Rules: what it covers

Module 1: the Nelson Mandela Rules

Module 2: people in prison and prison conditions

Module 3: Prison organization and administration

Module 4: Safeguards

Module 5: Incident prevention and response

Module 6: Restrictions, discipline and sanctions

Module 7: Healthcare

Module 8: Rehabilitation and preparation for release

How are the modules structured

In each module, you will find:

- ✓ an introduction and **learning objectives**
- ✓ Some **substantial content** (duration of each section indicated); see also annexed PPT presentation
- ✓ Some **notes for trainers in purple**
- ✓ Some **exercises** (including some optional)
- ✓ Additional resources

Module 1: The Nelson Mandela Rules

- 1.1 Background and introduction to the Nelson Mandela Rules
- 1.2 Nelson Mandela Rules – basic principles
- 1.3 Thematic areas covered by the Nelson Mandela Rules
- 1.4 The role of prison staff
- 1.5 Particular groups of people in prison/vulnerable groups

Module 2: People in prison and prison conditions



2.1 Who is in prison

2.2 Separation of categories

2.3 Prison conditions and basic services

Module 3: Prison organization and administration

- 3.1 Admission processes, classification, risk and needs assessments
- 3.2 Prison allocation and separation of categories
- 3.3 Prisoner transfers
- 3.4 Prisoner file management
- 3.5 Pre-trial detainees

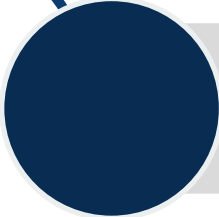
Module 4: Safeguards

- 4.1 Access to information
- 4.2 Requests and complaints
- 4.3 Contact with the outside world
- 4.4 Inspections and monitoring (internal and external)

Module 5: Incident prevention and response

- 5.1 Physical, procedural and dynamic security
- 5.2 Conflict resolution
- 5.3 Searches
- 5.4 Use of force and arms and instruments of restraint
- 5.5 Investigations

Module 6: Restrictions, discipline and sanctions

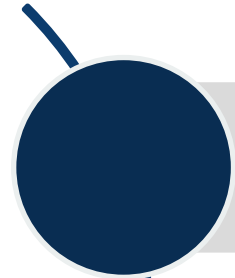


6.1 Disciplinary sanctions and procedures

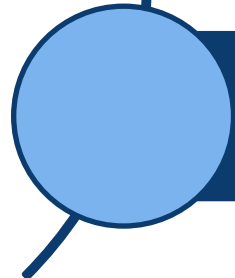


6.2 Solitary confinement

Module 7: Healthcare




7.1 Healthcare



7.2 Prisoner mental health

Module 8: Prisoner rehabilitation and preparation for release



8.1. Prisoner activities, training, education and work



8.2 Preparation for release and post-release support

The training curriculum puts a lot of emphasis on exchange and exercises, such as:

Brainstorming

Discussion in pairs/small groups

Role play

World cafe

Fill the gaps

Case study

Find the Rule(s)

Mock file



Scan the QR code and explore the Trainer's Manual:





Office for Democratic Institutions
and Human Rights

THANK YOU for your attention



facebook.com/osce.odihr



[@osce_odihr](https://twitter.com/osce_odihr)



linkedin.com/company/osce-odihr

osce.org/odihr

Laura Jaffrey, Adviser on Torture Prevention: Laura.Jaffrey@odihr.pl

