



VOLKSANWALTSCHAFT

# The Austrian Ombudsman Board – Human Rights in Austria

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# AOB - Organisation

⇒ NHRI

⇒ Received A-status with GANHRI

⇒ Ombuds institution

⇒ NPM

⇒ Art. 16/3 CRPD independent authority

⇒ Pensions for Victims of Children's Home Act



# Issue 1 – Unaccompanied Minors

- ⇒ Do not enjoy same support as others in child welfare facilities
- ⇒ Reason: Smaller budget per child allocated
- ⇒ Delays in the assignment of legal guardianship



# Recommendations – Unaccompanied Minors

- ⇒ *Raise daily rates per child in facilities for UMR to the level of other child welfare facilities.*
- ⇒ *Introduce a standardised system for assuming custody of UMR starting immediately after their arrival in Austria.*



## Issue 2 – Prisons and Forensic Institutions

- ⇒ Lack of staff
- ⇒ Lock-up times increase
- ⇒ Overcrowding
- ⇒ Increased risk for violence



# Recommendations – Prisons and Forensic Institutions

- ⇒ *Intensify efforts to employ more staff in correctional and forensic institutions. To this end increase starting salaries and increase the respective budget for staff accordingly.*
- ⇒ *Take additional measures to combat overcrowding in correctional and forensic institutions.*



## Issue 3 – Rights of Persons with Disabilities - Deinstitutionalisation

- ⇒ No coherent strategy; breach of CRPD
- ⇒ Federal system of Austria makes endeavour complex
- ⇒ Nationwide participation of all relevant stakeholders and clear commitment necessary



## Recommendation – Deinstitutionalisation

⇒ *Set up a process to plan for a coherent strategy for deinstitutionalisation for all persons with disabilities with the participation of all relevant federal and regional stakeholders including organisations of and for persons with disabilities.*



Thank you!