6. Article 3: Freedom from torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

This chapter discusses Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights. Article 3 prohibits torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. It imposes a negative obligation on states not to engage in such treatment or punishment and a positive to act to prevent private persons from doing so. There is also a procedural obligation to investigate allegations of ill-treatment. Article 3 applies to treatment in all life contexts, including treatment in prisons. Unlike most Convention articles, Article 3 is expressed in unqualified terms so that proscribed ill-treatment is never permitted, even for the highest reasons of public interest.
6. Article 3: Freedom from torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

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