



IN IUSTITIA

PORADNA JUSTÝNA (Justýna Counselling Centre)

PRAGUE BRANCH

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WORKING IN THE FIELD THROUGHOUT THE CR

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JUSTICE.CZ



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THE JUSTÝNA COUNSELLING CENTRE

• SOCIAL COUNSELLING SERVICES:

- Counselling sessions and consultations with a social worker.
- Help in preparing documents (criminal complaint, complaints, applications for financial assistance for victims).
- Accompany you when visiting authorities, doctors and the police, and help you during negotiations.
- Prepare a safety plan in case of a threat.

• LEGAL INFORMATION:

- Provide victims with information on their rights in criminal proceedings; help with enforcement of their rights.
- Prevent secondary damage resulting from hate crimes.

• REPRESENTATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY:

- Arrange for professional legal services, or the provision of legal services during criminal proceedings and damage compensation claims on the basis of a power of attorney.

• PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE:

- Arrange for psychological and therapeutic assistance.
- Support in crisis - in person or over the phone.

**OUR SERVICES ARE PROVIDED
FREE OF CHARGE.**

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ASSAULTED
BECAUSE OF YOUR
ISLAMIC FAITH?**

The **Justýna Counselling Centre**
will help you defend your right



ASSAULT CAN TAKE MANY FORMS

INCLUDING

- Verbal abuse and swearing
- Bullying, threats and extortion, ripping off headscarves
- Abusive graffiti and property damage (e.g., spilling pig's blood)
- Physical assault
- Sexual assault
- Arson
- Assault using a computer network and social media (e.g., Facebook).

Nowadays, there is a **lot of prejudice against Islam** in society resulting from a lack of knowledge and distorted media portrayal of this religion. For example, Islam is wrongly perceived as synonymous with violence, aggression and terrorism.

Hate and violence can result in the restriction of religious rights and disruption of prayers.

Often, **women wearing headscarves** and women who have converted to Islam become targets.

Assaults can be classed as crimes, in less serious cases, as **offences**.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- You can **contact the police on emergency line 158 or file a criminal complaint**.
- If you are facing **immediate danger**, try to reach a **public place** (hospital, post office, etc.)
- **Ask one specific person for help**; if you ask a group of anonymous people for help, it is less likely that some of them will help you.
- If you are injured, **seek medical assistance** and request a medical record documenting the injury. If you decide to file a criminal complaint later, the medical report will be useful proof. Confide in a person you trust.
- In the event of **less serious events** (i.e., a minor offence), ask the local municipal authority to investigate the matter.
- You can defend yourself against hateful behaviour by filing an action for **protection of your person** in civil-law proceedings.

The Justyna Counselling Centre will help you defend your rights.

YOU ARE ENTITLED TO:

- **Information** and free professional assistance.
- **Information in a language you understand**. If you do not understand the official language, you will be provided with an interpreter free of charge.
- **Safety:**
 - Short-term police protection.
 - Evicting people from shared accommodation.
 - Interim measures in case of a serious threat to your life, health, freedom or dignity by the assailant.
- **Privacy:**
 - You can ask the police to keep your identity and other data confidential (address, telephone, workplace)
- **Protection against secondary damage:**
 - You do not have to meet the assailant.
 - You can choose if you want to be interrogated by a man or a woman.
 - The interrogation should not be repeated and it should be carried out in a sensitive manner.
 - You are entitled to be accompanied by a person whom you trust (confidant).
- **Financial assistance** – this assistance is provided by the state upon application.
- **Compensation for damages** through criminal proceedings.