

## Information Sheet on Psychosocial Process Support

At the beginning of the psychosocial process support, Mr / Mrs / Ms \_\_\_\_\_ (Process Consultant) provided me, Mr / Mrs / Ms \_\_\_\_\_, born on \_\_\_\_\_ (Consulted Party), with the following information:

Psychological process support comprises the provision of information as well as the qualified support and assistance of casualties throughout the length of the criminal proceedings. The process consultants are permitted to be present within the scope of hearings of the casualties and, jointly with the casualties, during the main proceedings.

By operation of law, any psychosocial process support always has to be implemented in accordance with the following principles:

- The process consultants are obliged to **maintain a neutral position** vis-à-vis the criminal proceedings. In particular, their activities must neither result in the witness being influenced nor have any impact on the witness statement. One essential principle of psychosocial process support is thus the **separation of counselling and assistance**.
- The process consultants are not involved in the elucidation of the facts underlying the criminal proceedings (the “crime”). Rather, they are required to **not hold any discussions** with the casualties **in relation to the actual crime**.
- Psychosocial process support **cannot replace either a therapeutic treatment or psychological consultation**. If there is any need for any such farther-reaching offers for assistance and counselling, however, the process consultants may help in the search for suitable professional institutions.
- Finally, the responsibilities of the process consultants do not include the task of providing the casualties with advice on **legal possibilities for action** or to **safeguard their legal interests**. For these purposes, the party concerned must contact a lawyer or solicitor, if required.

Psychosocial process consultants are **not entitled to any right to refuse to give evidence**. As a result, it may be the case, in particular, that, in their capacity as a witness, they have to provide the public prosecutor’s office or the court with information, including details on the contents of the conversations they had with the casualties consulted by them.

An imprint of the present information sheet has been handed over to me in written form.

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Place                      date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (of the parent or legal guardian,  
as the case may be)