According to the Penal Code of the Republic of Bulgaria an adult is criminally liable (with some specifics regarding minors) if he/she has reached the age of 18 and commits a crime while of unsound mind.

          A person acting in a state of insanity shall not be criminally liable if, by reason of mental deficiency or a prolonged or short-term disorder of the mind, he or she is incapable of understanding the nature or significance of what has been done or of directing his or her actions. No punishment shall be imposed on a person who has committed an offence where, by the time of sentencing, he has become of unsound mind as a result of which he is unable to understand the nature or significance of his acts or to direct them. Such persons may be subjected to appropriate compulsory medical measures under Chapter Eleven of the Penal Code of the Republic of Bulgaria - Article 89, Article 90, Article 91 and Article 92 of the Criminal Code.

The compulsory medical measures under Article 89 of the Criminal Code in respect of a person who has fallen into a state of insanity while serving a custodial sentence, consisting in compulsory treatment, shall be carried out in an ordinary psycho-neurological ward in the hypothesis of letter b/ and in a special psychiatric hospital or in a special ward in an ordinary psycho-neurological institution in the hypothesis of letter c/, which medical institutions are part of the system of state psychiatric hospitals in the country.

 The state of insanity excludes the criminal liability of the persons and, as long as this state lasts, they may not be accommodated in the psychiatric ward of the psychiatric hospital of the prison of the city of Lovech, where persons having the status of prisoners are treated.

          We note the difference between the psychiatric ward of the psychiatric hospital of the prison of the city of Lovech and the special psychiatric hospital in the city of Lovech, which, however, is part of the system of state psychiatric hospitals.

          As regards persons who have developed a mental disorder after their admission to places of deprivation of liberty, meeting the criteria of "prolonged or short-term disorder of consciousness or mental retardation" under Article 33 of the Criminal Code, the relevant prosecutor supervising the place of deprivation of liberty shall be notified. A forensic psychiatric examination shall be prepared and, if insanity is proved, the prisoner shall be placed under compulsory treatment pursuant to Article 89(a), (b) and (c) of the Penal Code.