



THE EUROPEAN ORGANISATION OF  
PRISONS AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

**PC-CP Meeting  
Strasbourg  
4-6 February 2015**

The Council for Penological Cooperation (PCCP) had its 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the PCCP working group in Strasbourg from 4 – 6 February. The main topics on the agenda were radicalization in prisons, implementation of recommendations and preparation of the Annual Conference of Prison and Probation Directors (CDPPS). The Committee of Ministers has requested the PCCP to develop recommendations on the role prison and probation services can play in dealing with violent extremism and radicalization which lead to terrorism. These recommendations will be in draft presented at the CDPPS in Bucharest 9 & 10<sup>th</sup> June and finalized until the plenary PCCP meeting in November. The meeting notes and draft agenda can be found under this link.

**4 February**

Jan Kleijssen

-PC-CP should formulate an approach to the issue of Radicalization before the Meeting of the Committee Ministers in June

- positive development: increase of participants to the PCCP plenary session; in November 55 representatives from 29 MS participated at the plenary session

Implementation of Recommendations on dangerous offenders and on electronic monitoring

- increased attention is paid to the discussion how the implementation of recommendations can be stimulated

- situation in the MS is very different – difficult to address all their needs together

- try to exchange with Criminal Law Cooperation Unit to reach out to practitioners

- Criminal Law Cooperation Unit of the CoE: for supporting dissemination and implementation of CoE recommendations; developed handbooks on prison management including the recommendations and training manuals for prison staff (projects in Turkey, Macedonia, Georgia etc); next meeting in April on ill-treatment in prison

Conference CDPPS

- approximately 120 participants with two parallel workshops

- Committee of Ministers asked CDPC/PCCP to draft guidelines on ‘How to prevent radicalization in prison’ need to be established – first draft to be presented at the CDPPS; focus should not only be on Islamic radicals;



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- other topics Family relations/Children of Prisoners, Training
- Reflection on the implementation of recommendations in practice

## **5 February**

### Radicalization

Ivan Koedjikov, Head of Action against Crime Department, Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, Council of Europe

International conference on terrorism and organized crime in Malaga; interesting to learn from gang related crime or terrorist behavior not based on religious grounds such as drug related offences

### Finn Grav, co-chair RAN

- RAN steering committee brings the leaders of the different working groups together
- all EU MS plus Norway are represented in the RAN
- activities: collection of good practices, development of policy papers, currently drafting recommendations/guidelines to be finished by September; train-the-trainer programmes are developed (how to identify radicals)
- currently tools are checked that can be used for assessment of prisoners
- different experiences in different countries concerning segregation/isolation or dispersion of radical inmates in general population
- desistent theory and Exit programmes were discussed in the RAN group (Swedish and German models)
- English probation service has done much interesting work on radicalization related activities
- peer support from de-radicalised prisoners has successfully been used in England
- support by prison imams is considered important; most of them are employed by the prison service
- currently gang-related experiences are also used for dealing with religious radicalization;

### Jesca Beneder, EC DG Justice

- EU is currently working on their security agenda - to be announced soon
- 5 priorities in the justice area:
  - enforcing existing legislation at EU level such as the FD on racism and xenophobia to;



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- coordination of law enforcement actors – exchange of prosecutors, exchange between MS and third countries; reinforcing of the EAW; increased use of ECRIS system for exchange of Criminal Records also for third country nationals;
- reinforcement of agencies such as EuroJust, EuroPol;
- reinforcement of the prevention of radicalization in prisons; possibly providing a forum for high level conference for EU MS to exchange best practice at the ministerial level (not practitioners level) / policy makers; suspicious money transfers;
- possibilities for confiscation and freezing of money

Francesco Ragazzi, Leiden University/Science Po Paris

- assistant professor university Leiden; works on project concerning the impacts of counter radicalization policies (UK, France, NL)
- societal violence (social exclusion etc) and state violence (involvement of Western countries in Mali, Irak etc) are both related to radicalization
- increase of social dialogue, mentoring, cooperation with police, general promotion of moderate islam
- moslims as a community feel targeted
- problems of social workers being included in security policies – use of them to produce intelligence:
- preventive measures appeared to be counter-productive; too much attention could result in a risk of vigilantism; what are the criteria for putting a person under mentoring?;
- prisons have a disproportionate amount of Muslim population; radicalization is a marginal phenomenon – rather limited number of persons concerned within a prison; reintegration is a challenge; prison is only one of the places where radicalization can occur
- signs of radicalization: there are no specific features, but a pathway; there might be no general profile for radicalized persons; statistically exist only very low numbers
- harsher responses are inclined to produce more radicalization;
- challenges for prison: due to overcrowding there is a risk of tensions that could lead to radicalization; structural racism and Islamophobia in prisons (lack of training and cultural awareness); unequal access to religious practice – relation between number of imams compared to Christian support is not reflecting the relation of religious prisoners (also issues such as the provision of halal food); fear of surveillance (as a result of securitization of social services; imams should be independent and given the possibility to have 'safe' discussions with prisoners without being also securitized) and restriction of freedom of expression in prisons; post incarceration & alternative paths (role of former detainees); regimes of exception (segregation/isolation) – is it useful to have prisons as a networking place for radicalized persons

Guidelines on the role prison and probation services can play in dealing with violent extremism and radicalization which lead to terrorism

Terminology: Violent extremism and radicalization leading to terrorism (VERLT). It is a self-proclaimed process and may happen because of different personal motivations: ideological, political, religious, economic, personal revenge



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Scope: Any process of radicalization and any violent extremist views which may lead to terrorist acts.  
Prisoners and former prisoners.

Structure:

- I. General policy of prevention of VERLT (structure, working methods, opportunities for prisoners etc) to avoid creating conditions conducive to VERLT  
- staff selection and training; orderly prisons, feeling of equity and justice, good management, variety of activities and interventions; techniques to induce personal change, dynamic security; alternatives to detention
- II. Community sanctions /Alternatives to imprisonment  
Quality of assessment, detection, personal plans
- III. Detection and prevention of VERLT (Detection of signs of difference from the rest of the prison population – external appearance, tattoos, behavior, food, peers, visitiros, literature (media) etc. and evaluation of their significance as to VERLT. Detection of vulnerable prisoners, work with them to avoid them being influenced by radicalized prisoners.
- IV. Risk and needs assessment
- V. Dealing with prisoners / Management of prisoners who may pose problems from a VERLT point of view (Religious representatives; mentoring programmes; family contacts and visits; mental health support; alternative identity programs – disengagement, de-radicalisation;
- VI. Preparation for release and ensuring through care; Exit programmes (what happens after release) / Link from prison to probation services; sharing information with police and intelligence – cross border cooperation/exchange of information; data protection issues/degrees of confidentiality; MAPPA arrangements



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## **6 February**

### Drafting CDPPS Conference Program

## **8 June** - arrival and registration of participants

*19h00 – 21h00 - Welcome cocktail*

## **9 June**

*08h00 – 9h00 – continuation of the registration of participants*

*09h00 – 10h00 - Official opening*

MJ – Romania

Ph. Boillat (CoE)

Esa Vesterbacka (FI)

*10h00 - 10h30 - Keynote speech:*

Translating policies and standards into practice – major challenges

From practice to policies

*William Rentzmann (DK)*

*10h30 - 11h00 – coffee break*

*11h00 – 12h30 – Work in panels*

### **Panel I – E/F/R interpretation**

Transferring Probation Rules into practice – results of a recent survey

*Rob Canton (UK)*

Preserving family relations – challenges and good practices (+ supervised and unsupervised visits)

Marianne Vollan and COPE

### **Panel II – English only**

Transferring Probation Rules into practice – results of a recent survey

*Charlotte Knight (HD) (?)*

Preserving family relations – challenges and good practices (+ supervised and unsupervised visits)

*COPE and Attila Juhasz (HU)*

*12h30 – 14h00 - Lunch*

*14h00 – 15h00 - Plenary speeches:*



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- Prison and probation management in times of economic crisis (+ work with outside agencies and local authorities)  
*Catalin Bejan (RO) and ?*
- Use of modern technologies and the role and quality of staff  
*Kristel Beyens*

*15h00 – 15h30 coffee break*

*15h30- 18h00 – Work in panels*

**Panel I – E/F/R interpretation**

Staff recruitment via video conferencing  
*Iuliana Carbutaru (RO)*

Work with other agencies and local authorities for better reintegration of offenders  
*Sue McAllister (UK- Northern Ireland)*

E-learning for criminal justice social work  
*Bas Vogelvang (NL) (?)*

**Panel II – English only**

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*20h00 -22h00 – Official dinner*

**10 June**

*09h30 – 10h30*

“The examination” – a practical example  
*Jörg Jesse (DE)*

*10h30 - 11h00 – coffee break*

*11h00 – 12h30*



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- General overview of the issue of violent extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism  
*Francesco Ragazzi (FR)*
- Draft Guidelines  
*Mauro Palma (PC-CP)*

**12h30 – 14h00 - Lunch**

**14h00 - 16h00** Introduction to the discussion in groups  
*Finn Grav (NO)*

Discussion in groups on issues related to the role of prison and probation services in dealing with violent extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism

**16h00 - 17h00**

Closing speeches