



THE EUROPEAN ORGANISATION OF
PRISONS AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Transfer of Norwegian Prisoners to the Netherlands

The Dutch Secretary for Security and Justice, Fred Teeven, and the Norwegian Minister of Justice, Anders Anundsen, have agreed that the first Norwegian prisoners will be transferred to the Netherlands already in September 2015. The parliaments of both countries still need to approve this agreement. EuroPris was present at the signing of the agreement on 2 March in Veenhuizen, Netherlands. Once the agreement has been ratified, 242 Norwegian prisoners will be placed at the Norgerhaven site of the detention centre in Veenhuizen.



This international cooperation ensues from an access cell capacity in the Netherlands and a shortfall of space in Norway. For the moment the term of the agreement is three years, with an option to annually renew it for a year. A Norwegian governor will be appointed in Norgerhaven for the general management. A Dutch staff and facility manager will manage the prison. The site of the prison remains Dutch territory, but the Norwegian penitentiary and execution law apply inside the prison. The language of communication inside the prison will be English and staff will be trained in English language and Norwegian detention rules and culture. Norway will be responsible for the transfer of the prisoners to the Netherlands and back. The Netherlands are in charge of transferring the Norwegian prisoners within the Netherlands. The total estimated expense per year is 25.5 million Euro.