



REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES IN AUSTRIA



Issued by
The Federal Ministry of Justice, Museumstrasse 7, 1070 Vienna

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES IN AUSTRIA

Status: 1 August 2016

*“Any society should be measured
by the way it treats its prisoners.”*

Winston Churchill



Dear readers,

Above all, fullest commitment is required of all persons involved in organising and implementing humane correctional services to achieve the paramount objective of re-integrating offenders into society. Therefore, we are increasingly emphasising training and further education, as well as useful work and leisure activities. But resocialisation of prisoners also places high demands on our judicial staff. I would like to use this opportunity to thank them for their responsible and disciplined performance.

Modern correctional services also require adequate structural framework conditions. For this reason, we have established the Directorate General for Correctional Services within the Federal Ministry of Justice in July 2015. This central control level shortens decision paths and illustrates the importance placed upon correctional services by the Austrian justice system.

In this context, one of the key challenges in the near term will be reforming involuntary forensic placement.

We shall continue also in the future to consistently work on reforming correctional services and continue to tread the good path Austria has taken towards modern, humane and internationally respected correctional services.

I wish you informative reading of this brochure about correctional services in Austria.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be "Wolfgang Brandstetter". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

Minister of Justice Dr. Wolfgang Brandstetter

Foreword by Federal Minister of Justice Dr. Wolfgang Brandstetter	3
1 General Comments	7
1.1 Basic Orientation of the Administration of Custodial Sanctions and Measures of Involuntary Forensic Placement.	8
1.2 Organisational Structure	9
1.3 Legal Basis for the Administration of Custodial Sanctions and Measures of Involuntary Forensic Placement.	10
1.4 Prison Facilities	11
1.4.1 Structural Standards	11
1.4.2 Prison Security	12
1.4.3 Prison Staffing.	13
2 Situation of Prisoners	15
2.1 Prison Conditions and Legal Status of Prisoners	16
2.1.1 Correctional Locations – Where are Prisoners being Detained?	16
2.1.2 Obligations of Prisoners	17
2.1.3 Procedure in Cases of Misdemeanour	17
2.1.4 Rights and Privileges	18
2.1.5 Requests and Complaints.	19
2.1.6 Contacts to the Outside, Relaxed Regime	20
2.2 Taking Care of Prisoners	22
2.2.1 Work and Vocational Training	22
2.2.2 Social Security Situation of Prisoners	24
2.2.3 Medical, Psychological, and Pastoral Care, Support by Social Workers	24
2.2.4 Treating Addicted Lawbreakers.	27
2.2.5 Preparation for Release	28
2.2.6 Leisure-time Activities and Sports	28
2.3 Economic Situation of Prisoners	29
2.4 Particular Features of Involuntary Forensic Placement	29
2.4.1 Forensic Placement of Mentally Disturbed Lawbreakers	30
2.4.2 Forensic Placement of Drug-addicted Lawbreakers	30
2.5 Particular Features of Electronically Monitored Home Detention – “Electronic Tagging” ...	31
2.6 Release from Detention, After-Care, Organisation NEUSTART.	33

3	Indicators	35
3.1	General Indicators of Correctional Services	36
3.2	Economic Indicators of the Administration of Custodial Sanctions and Measures of Involuntary Forensic Placement	39
3.3	Staff Indicators of the Administration of Custodial Sanctions and Measures of Involuntary Forensic Placement	40
4	Correctional Institutions in Austria	43
4.1	Prison Eisenstadt	44
4.2	Prison Feldkirch	45
4.3	Prison Garsten	46
4.4	Prison for Juveniles Gerasdorf	47
4.5	Prison Göllersdorf	48
4.6	Prison Graz-Jakomini	49
4.7	Prison Graz-Karlau	50
4.8	Prison Innsbruck	51
4.9	Prison Hirtenberg	52
4.10	Prison Klagenfurt	53
4.11	Prison Korneuburg	54
4.12	Prison Krems	55
4.13	Prison Leoben	56
4.14	Prison Linz	57
4.15	Therapeutic Centre Asten (TZA), Outpost of the Prison Linz	58
4.16	Prison Ried im Innkreis	59
4.17	Prison Salzburg	60
4.18	Prison Schwarzau	61
4.19	Prison Sonnberg	62
4.20	Prison St. Pölten	63
4.21	Prison Stein	64
4.22	Prison Suben	65
4.23	Prison Wels	66
4.24	Prison Vienna-Favoriten	67
4.25	Prison Vienna-Josefstadt	68
4.26	Prison Vienna-Mittersteig	69
4.27	Prison Vienna-Simmering	70
4.28	Prison Wiener Neustadt	71
4.29	Correctional Services Academy	72
4.30	Juvenile Court Assistance Vienna	73



1 GENERAL COMMENTS

- 1.1 Basic Orientation of the Administration of Custodial Sanctions and Measures of Involuntary Forensic Placement
- 1.2 Organisational Structure
- 1.3 Legal Basis for the Administration of Custodial Sanctions and Measures of Involuntary Forensic Placement
- 1.4 Prison Facilities
 - 1.4.1 Structural Standards
 - 1.4.2 Prison Security
 - 1.4.3 Prison Staffing



Commentary to the Criminal Code

1.1 BASIC ORIENTATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF CUSTODIAL SANCTIONS AND MEASURES OF INVOLUNTARY FORENSIC PLACEMENT

On an average, the 27 Austrian prisons and their 13 outposts have detained 8,800 persons over the last few years. Prisoners break down into remand prisoners, convicts and persons in precautionary forensic measures (forensic prisoners).

Remand prisoners are persons who have not yet been finally sentenced. They are detained in a regional context in regional court prisons with local jurisdiction for criminal matters.

Convicts are persons who are being subjected to custodial sanctions. Such sanctions up to 18 months duration are executed in regional court prisons, otherwise in custodial prisons.

Forensic prisoners are persons who are being detained in involuntary forensic placement (particularly for the criminally insane, to a small degree for addicted lawbreakers to be detoxified). Such detention takes place in special institutions or in special departments.

Administration of custodial sanctions and measures of involuntary forensic placement in Austria is understood as modern and caring correctional services based on European standards, as set forth in the recommendations of the Council of Europe on European Prison Rules¹. Adequate care, treatment and employment of prisoners have to be paramount. Mere custodial detention, consisting more or less in “locking up” prisoners, is clearly rejected.

During caring implementation of detention, prisoners are integrated in a structured daily routine and spend as much time as possible outside the cells, be it working, being educated or treated, with sporting exercises or other useful leisure-time activities. As a rule, the standard minimum time of one hour daily outdoor activities pursuant to the Austrian Correctional Services Act is being exceeded by far.

The key provision of the Correctional Services Act is Section 20. According to this provision, the enforcement of a prison sentence is meant to assist prisoners in acquiring an honest approach to life that is adapted to the requirements of society and prevent them from pursuing criminal leanings. Moreover, the enforcement of such sentence is to show the negative value of the conduct underlying the conviction.

In order to achieve such objectives and to maintain security and order in the prisons, prisoners are to be locked away from the outside world, to be subjected to other restrictions in their lifestyle and to be influenced by educational measures.

¹ http://www.ejpd.admin.ch/content/dam/data/sicherheit/straf_und_massnahmen/documentation/empfehlung-europarat-d.pdf; http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=2060

All correctional measures are aimed at re-integrating the prisoners into society. Such re-integration will only be successful, if each prisoner receives individual support and treatment. With prison sentences over 18 months, such support and treatment is laid down in the so-called correctional implementation plan, which structures the time in prison and sets forth the stages and objectives until release. The correctional implementation plan is flexible and can be adapted to changes in the development at any time.

The correctional objectives of Section 20 Correctional Services Act are in a relationship of tension to one another. It must be the task of correctional service staff not to overlook any of such divergent objectives, and strike a balance between them, which is sometimes quite difficult.

The efforts taken by the staff in the administration of custodial sanctions and measures of involuntary forensic placement are first and foremost characterised by the two key tasks of maintaining internal and external security, and of preparing the prisoners for a crime-free life after release. Considerable progress has been made in both areas over the last few decades. In the area of external security, technical developments (use of modern electronic devices) have considerably reduced the danger of prison breaks. In the area of internal security, by training and further education of the prison staff and their intensive integration into support tasks, but also by increased employment of social workers and psychologists, including effective medical care, a generally positive prison climate has been created.

1.2 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The administration of custodial sanctions and measures of involuntary forensic placement in Austria falls within the scope of responsibility of the State. The Federal Ministry of Justice, as supreme correctional service authority, is responsible for strategic planning and for top management of custodial sanctions and measures of involuntary forensic placement.

For this purpose, and for assisting and counselling the Federal Minister of Justice, a separate Directorate General for the Administration of Custodial Sanctions and Measures involving Deprivation of Liberty has been established within the Federal Ministry of Justice. Moreover, the Directorate General also covers medical superintendence and the assessment and evaluation office for violent and sex offenders (BEST).

The 27 prison managers are the enforcement authorities of first instance. They are entrusted with supervising the administration of custodial sanctions in the prisons they manage, and shall decide upon complaints against prison staff or against dispositions of such staff. The Correctional Services Academy, which is the central institution for training and further education of correctional services staff and the Juvenile Court Assistance Vienna also directly report to the Federal Ministry of Justice.

1.3 LEGAL BASIS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF CUSTODIAL SANCTIONS AND MEASURES OF INVOLUNTARY FORENSIC PLACEMENT

Pursuant to Section 10 (1), alinea 6, Federal Constitutional Act (hereinafter B-VG) the criminal justice system, including correctional services, are matters of the Federation concerning legislation and execution. The Correctional Services Act (hereinafter StVG) applies to the administration of custodial sanctions and of precautionary measures involving deprivation of liberty.

According to StVG, it is the objective of custodial sentences to re-integrate prisoners into society. Prisoners are to be assisted in achieving a lifestyle respecting values protected by (criminal) law, and adapted to the requirements of life in a community. Moreover, the enforcement of such sentences is to show the negative value of the conduct underlying their conviction. Measures for achieving such objectives and for maintaining security and order are firstly a regime of restrictions in the prisoners' conduct of life, i.e. mainly by locking them away from the outside world. For purposes of re-integration into society such regime – provided the conditions are fulfilled – shall be relaxed when the date of release is approaching. A further measure is exerting educational influences on prisoners (social learning). The educational mission is a task to be fulfilled by all staff members of the administration of custodial sanctions and measures of involuntary forensic placement, and among others includes imparting knowledge and vocational skills (by training and further education, and by useful leisure-time activities, fostering positive social contacts, causing prisoners to comprehend their guilt and the wrongfulness of their deeds, and providing therapeutic treatment (e.g. fighting drug addiction).

The principle of differentiation requires adequate forms of correctional services to achieve such objectives and to optimise social learning. The differentiation exists between sanctions for first-offenders, for offenders of negligence, sanctions for prisoners with psychic peculiarities, involuntary forensic placement, relaxed regime custodial sanctions, custodial sanctions in the form of electronically monitored home detention, pre-release custody and custodial sanctions for juveniles. For remand detention, finance crime detention and administrative detention the respective special provisions apply primarily (Code of Criminal Procedure, Financial Crime Act, Administrative Penalty Act), whereas the Correctional Services Act only applies in a secondary manner.

StVG regulates contacts to the outside world (correspondence, sending parcels and money, visits, telephone calls, escorted outings and bringing prisoners before the court, suspension of prison terms, the various forms of temporary absence, etc.). A further important area is constituted by the rules to maintain security and order, both external and internal, including coercive measures that may be applied by prison staff.

Considerable attention is being focussed upon rights and obligations of prisoners: The rules range from the provision of necessary goods and medical treatment, through leisure-time activities, work and social care, to the granting of privileges. The most important obligations are for instance complying with instructions issued by the prison staff, refraining from all actions endangering security and order, observing appropriate conduct and maintaining the daily schedules (structured daily routine). Any infringement of such obligations (misdemeanours) shall be punished pursuant to the respective

material and procedural provisions. There is major attention placed also upon the protection of rights (lodging complaints against instructions, decisions or other conduct by prison staff).

International rules concerning correctional services can be found mainly in the European Convention on Human Rights (hereinafter ECHR), which is an integral part of the Austrian legal order. Main features are the right to life, the prohibition of torture or of inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the right to liberty and security, the right to a fair trial under rule of law, the right to effective remedy in case of violation of rights and the prohibition of discrimination.

Although the European Prison Rules (hereinafter EPR) as mere recommendations by the Council of Europe to Member States are not binding, they nevertheless have great importance for national legislation and interpretation of law. EPR mainly apply to prison conditions (such as hygienic conditions, clothing, food, contacts with the outside world, work, mobility, leisure-time), medical care and order (security, measures of security, discipline, coercion and the right to lodge applications and complaints).

The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) – an institution established by the Council of Europe – conducts inspections of individual prisons at intervals of three to four years.

Due to the implementation of the optional protocol to the UN Convention against Torture (OPCAT), the commissions reporting to the Ombudsman Board are authorised to visit and review prisons.

1.4 PRISON FACILITIES

1.4.1 STRUCTURAL STANDARDS

The structural and security standards of Austrian prisons are outright up-to-date. The newest institution is the Prison Salzburg; it has been operational since 2015. The second most recently built prison is in Korneuburg; it was built together with the new court building and has been operational since 2012. The third most recently built prison in Leoben has been operational since 2004 and ranks Europe-wide as showcase model of modern prison architecture. Older prisons have all been structurally refurbished and partially expanded over the last few decades. Through these comprehensive building measures, these prisons could also be raised to modern standards.



*Visitor Room at the
Prison Graz-Karlau*

In addition to prisoners' accommodations, all prisons have the necessary building infrastructure for useful employment of prisoners (operational units and workshops), for medical, psychological, psycho-therapeutic and socio-pedagogical support (doctors' offices, surgeries, consultation rooms) as well as for leisure-time activities (sports and leisure-time areas). Specific visitors' zones facilitate



DECT-Mobile Phone

law-compliant visits to prisoners by family members, friends and acquaintances, lawyers and representatives from support institutions. As a rule, the prison administration premises are located in separate wings or buildings.

Prisons have been equipped with modern safety technology; there is a guard room in each prison as the centre of safety engineering. From hence, all safety-related systems are being centrally coordinated and monitored, such as video surveillance systems devices, door locking systems,

electronic security, etc. Pedestrian and vehicle access to prisons can exclusively be obtained through fully secure access control systems.

1.4.2 PRISON SECURITY

Correctional services in Austria strive to implement a three-pillar model of prison security. Security is hence broken down into instrumental, organisational and social security. The first, apart from the already described safety aspects of buildings, includes equipment, executive training and weaponry carried by prison guards. The prison guard is an enforcement body, whose tasks, in spite of similar outward appearance, are in principle and in many aspect different from those of the police force. Nevertheless, the equipment of prison guards can be compared to that of the police force. They carry service pistols and guns, Tasers², multi-purpose rescue truncheons and pepper spray. There is a special SWAT team in each prison for coping with special danger situations. The members of these teams are equipped with additional protective and operational devices, and they receive special training and are continually attending regular training sessions.

A wide range of measures is being applied to optimise organisational safety. Each prison has developed detailed alarm plans for professional intervention in case of concrete danger situations. Moreover, a security officer is employed in each prison, whose task is to continually monitor, evaluate and optimise security measures. Professionally founded correctional implementation plans, established and continuously updated by multi-professional teams, are the basis for decisions about detention and relaxed regime. A particular agency in the service of organisational security is the assessment and evaluation office for violent and sex offenders (BEST). Here, serious violent and sex offenders from all Austrian prisons are evaluated and assessed by experts of forensic psychology and psychiatry. The resulting expert opinions or reports on the one hand support planning and implementing suitable individual treatment measures, and on the other hand assist the professional teams and the prison managements in preparing relaxed regime forecasts or making relaxed regime decisions. In addition, this agency performs concomitant scientific research.

² Tasers are devices similar to pistols which can impart short-term but strong electrical impulses to target persons also from a distance, rendering them temporarily immobile.

Great attention is also paid to the aspect of social security. Social security means the degree and quality of relationship between prisoners and prison staff. A particularity of the Austrian prison system consists in prison staff, in addition to their executive tasks, to a significant extent also performing tasks of care and support. Such tasks require a different quality of human-to-human relationship than mere enforcement tasks. The fact that prison staff members are not only responsible for security, but also for the care and support of prisoners in the wards, for instructing and monitoring them during their work, for supporting them with measures of training and further education and for guiding them during leisure-time activities, can be interpreted as a contribution to the social security in Austrian prisons. This is where fundamentally different requirements come in for prison staff as against police officers.

A similar significant contribution towards security is constituted by the professional treatment, support and social re-integration of offenders. All staff members within the administration of custodial sentences have to participate in supporting the prisoners in their efforts of social re-integration. A range of “tools” are available for this purpose, such as relaxed regime detention (outside work, day release, temporary absence) or the option of electronically monitored home detention (see 2.5 on page 31). Prior to release from prison, particularly the professional services such as social services and psychological services support pre-release preparations, mostly in cooperation with prisoner aftercare institutions, such as the organisation NEUSTART, which has been entrusted with the tasks of probationary services.

1.4.3 PRISON STAFFING

In addition to the structural and technical infrastructure, prison staff members are the important “backbone” for implementing custodial sanctions. This backbone of the administration of custodial sentences in Austria consists of a total staff of 3.900. Details on prison staffing can be found under section 3.3.



Surveillance camera



2 SITUATION OF PRISONERS

- 2.1 Prison Conditions and Legal Status of Prisoners
 - 2.1.1 Correctional Locations – Where are Prisoners being Detained?
 - 2.1.2 Obligations of Prisoners
 - 2.1.3 Procedure in Cases of Misdemeanour
 - 2.1.4 Rights and Privileges
 - 2.1.5 Requests and Complaints
 - 2.1.6 Contacts to the Outside, Relaxed Regime
- 2.2 Taking Care of Prisoners
 - 2.2.1 Work and Vocational Training
 - 2.2.2 Social Security Situation of Prisoners
 - 2.2.3 Medical, Psychological, and Pastoral Care, Support by Social Workers
 - 2.2.4 Treating Addicted Lawbreakers
 - 2.2.5 Preparation for Release
 - 2.2.6 Leisure-time Activities and Sports
- 2.3 Economic Situation of Prisoners
- 2.4 Particular Features of Involuntary Forensic Placement
 - 2.4.1 Forensic Placement of Mentally Disturbed Lawbreakers
 - 2.4.2 Forensic Placement of Drug-addicted Lawbreakers
- 2.5 Particular Features of Electronically Monitored Home Detention – “Electronic Tagging”
- 2.6 Release from Detention, After-Care, Organisation NEUSTART

2.1 PRISON CONDITIONS AND LEGAL STATUS OF PRISONERS

2.1.1 CORRECTIONAL LOCATIONS – WHERE ARE PRISONERS BEING DETAINED?

Prisoners on remand are detained in 15 so-called regional court prisons. These prisons are all located at the sites of regional courts in all nine Austrian provinces. The specifics of remand detention are governed by the Code of Criminal Procedure, and remand detentions are executed according to the provisions of the Correctional Services Act, for that matter. This Act provides that prisoners on remand shall be detained separately from convicted prisoners, and that they are not obligated to work, as opposed to convicts. The responsibility for decisions, in particular concerning the contacts of such prisoners with the outside world, lies not with the prison management, but with the public prosecutor or the court.

As a rule, prison sentences of up to 18 months are executed in these regional court prisons as well.

Prison sentences exceeding 18 months are executed in custodial institutions, which are mostly located in the eastern parts of Austria. The prison term is mostly started in a court prison, upon transfer from remand detention, or if the persons involved voluntarily starts their prison terms. The decision which prison will eventually execute the custodial sanction is made by the Directorate General for the Administration of Custodial Sanctions and Measures involving Deprivation of Liberty at the Federal Ministry of Justice in the framework of the so-called prisoner classification. Such classification serves to achieve differentiation and greater specialisation in handling prisoners. In this context, the past lives of the convicts, their personal circumstances and the crimes committed are taken into account, in order to find the most suitable custodial institution. Certain prisons are specialising in certain areas such as work, education, day release, treatment of sex offenders or addiction therapy. Other specialisations concern the area of security. By classifying prisoners, efforts are made to support both considerations of security and social re-integration and to achieve maximum individualisation. The correctional implementation plan to be subsequently prepared by the prison management serves to formulate the details of the classification decisions and to structure the subsequent prison term.

There are special custodial institutions for women and juveniles: the Prison Schwarzau for women, the Prison Gerasdorf for juveniles. There are special wards for women and juveniles in the regional court prisons, in which remand detentions and short-term imprisonments are executed.

Special institutions are those for involuntary forensic placement³. There are two specialised institutions for placement of mentally disturbed lawbreakers who are *compos mentis*: the Prison Göllersdorf and the Therapeutic Centre Asten. Mentally disturbed lawbreakers who are *compos mentis* are detained and treated in the Prison Vienna-Mittersteig or in specialised wards in the three large prisons Garsten, Graz-Karlau and Stein. Treatment of lawbreakers to be detoxified takes place mainly in the Prison Vienna-Favoriten.

³ The concept of involuntary forensic placement is explained in section 2.4.

In spite of all differences in the above-mentioned institutions for the administration of custodial sentences and measures of involuntary forensic placement, the smallest common denominator for all detainees consists in different extents of deprivation of liberty, in extreme cases up to complete deprivation of liberty in closed security detention.

2.1.2 OBLIGATIONS OF PRISONERS

Under the Correctional Services Act, prisoners are subjected to numerous obligations of conduct, compliance with which shall guarantee safety and order in daily prison life. The most important obligations are:

- Following instructions issued by prison staff
- Observing safety and order
- Work
- Participating in one's own social re-integration
- Remaining in allocated rooms or allocated premises
- Contributing towards the cost of detention (see 2.2.1)

2.1.3 PROCEDURE IN CASES OF MISDEMEANOUR

The Correctional Services Act allows sanctions for violating these obligations, in order to communicate their special significance for a well-ordered imprisonment.

The violation of certain obligations of conduct is called a misdemeanour. Some misdemeanours are listed as examples:

- Escape
- Unauthorised communication or contact with other persons
- Unauthorised keeping of objects
- Refusal to work in spite of admonition
- Failing to resume detention after suspension of imprisonment or temporary absence
- Inappropriate conduct
- Damaging or severe contamination of prison property.

If the deed committed raises the suspicion of a criminal act, this has to be reported to the public prosecutor.

One or several of the following measures are ruled in as administrative sanctions which can only be imposed through misdemeanour proceedings conducted by the prison management:

- Admonition: formally pronounced, explicit reprimand
- Restriction or withdrawal of privileges
- Restriction or withdrawal of the disposition over prison allowance (see 2.3), of the right to watch TV, to correspondence, to receive visitors or to make telephone calls (only permissible when such rights have been abused)

- Fines: max. 200 euros, to be withheld in instalments from prison allowance
- Solitary confinement⁴: may only be imposed in predominantly aggravating circumstances.

With the exception of admonition, all administrative sanctions may be imposed on probation (probationary period of up to six months, ending at release at the latest).

If a misdemeanour is committed, a penalty must not necessarily be imposed. If the guilt is minor, a misdemeanour may have no or only minor consequences, and if no punishment is necessary to ensure future appropriate conduct of the prisoner, only an admonition is pronounced. In all other cases, the prison management has to initiate misdemeanour proceedings and impose administrative sanctions.

2.1.4 RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

Much like the personal ways of life of persons not in detention are governed by legally established rights and obligations, the daily routines of prisoners restricted by court ordained imprisonments also require standardised rules of conduct. Juridification of imprisonment complying with the rule of law essentially means observance of the principles of legality, and the granting of subjective rights applied by administrative action to be monitored by legal processes.

The granting of subjective rights can be deduced from the wording of individual legal provisions. The Correctional Services Act either explicitly mentions rights or entitlements, but also provides for the prisoners to be allowed to do something. The Correctional Services Act mainly uses the wording "... prisoners are to be allowed to...", when referring to the granting of subjective rights.

Important rights are for example:

- Receiving visitors
- Writing and receiving letters
- Making telephone calls
- Buying additional food and beverages
- Listening to the radio and watching TV
- Being granted temporary leave of absence and various relaxations of detention
- Buying own books, journals and newspapers
- Attending mass and receiving pastoral care
- Being fitted dental prostheses, receiving conservative dentistry, if required
- Painting, drawing, artistic activities during leisure-time
- Decorating the cell
- With female prisoners, caring for, and educating their children (up to the age of three)
- Marrying in prison

4 In this form of detention within the prison, which is not to be confused with electronically monitored home detention in one's own apartment, prisoners are temporarily detained in special solitary cells. During that time they lose certain rights and privileges, such as the right to watch TV or make telephone calls.

These rights have to be differentiated from the so-called privileges: prisoners indicating that they will participate in trying to achieve the purposes of imprisonment may apply for appropriate privileges. This means that they are entitled to be granted privileges, provided the conditions for such privileges exist.

The following privileges may be granted:

- Using own TV or radio sets, or other technical devices
- Using own sports equipment and clothing
- Making music on own instruments.

2.1.5 REQUESTS AND COMPLAINTS

Prisoners are entitled to make oral or written requests about matters concerning themselves. Forms are available in the prisons for formulating such requests.

Times and locations for voicing such requests during “office hours” or during “petition time” are laid down in the prison house rules. Moreover, prisoners have an opportunity to voice their concerns during admission interviews.

Such requests may involve various personal needs, the granting of subjective rights (such as relaxed regime detention and privileges), improving (claims of) shortcomings in the administration of the custodial sanctions or simply just debating general issues.

In urgent cases, the request may be voiced to the next available prison staff member, who will initiate the required measures. This form of personal and direct communication has proven its worth and is suitable to prevent problems in the administration of custodial sanctions.

In order to ensure expeditious handling of such matters, all requests, submissions and applications to the correctional authority have to be processed and answered without unnecessary delay. Notwithstanding the above, there is the legal obligation to decide upon requests and complaints within six months of their receipt.

As a matter of principle, requests of prisoners are to be decided upon without any formal (investigative) proceedings and without issuing any further order. As a rule, the decisions shall be communicated orally. If necessary, the essential contents of the order or decision shall be entered into the personal file, e.g. in the form of a file note. Only in exceptional cases, i.e. during misdemeanour and complaint proceedings, investigative proceedings and the issuance of an order – upon request also in written form – are envisaged.

Complaints against administrative penalties or other decisions of the prison management are dealt with by the enforcement courts at the venue of the higher regional courts (Section 16 (3) StVG), in whose court district the prison term is being implemented. Enforcement panels (Section 18 StVG) consist of two judges, one of them chairing the panel, and one informed lay judge. The chairperson

must be an active judge. The enforcement panels meet the requirement of a tribunal pursuant to Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

A complaint against the decision of the enforcement courts may be lodged with the Higher Regional Court Vienna (Section 16a (1), alinea 1 StVG).

2.1.6 CONTACTS TO THE OUTSIDE, RELAXED REGIME

For achieving the purposes of imprisonment and for maintaining safety and order in the prisons, prisoners shall be locked away from the outside world and be subjected to other restriction in their way of life. Unless otherwise ordained in the Correctional Services Act, prisoners may not leave the prison until their release, must be supervised when working outside and may not have contacts with persons outside the prison.

But since contacts with the outside world are also recognised as instruments of social re-integration, the Correctional Services Act provides for a number of exceptions to the principle of being locked away from the outside world. They include mainly correspondence, visits, telephone calls, escorted outings, unaccompanied temporary leaves of absence and day release. Day release means leaving the prison unescorted to perform work outside the prison for external companies or contractors or to receive outpatient medical treatment or vocational training.

There are three arrangements along which visits are organised, depending upon the security level and the social circumstances of the prisoners:

- **“Security visits”**: The visit room is subdivided by a ceiling-high glass wall. This arrangement should prevent unauthorised handing over of objects. Communication is carried out by intercom.
- **“Table visits”** are offered in various forms of intensity, depending on the type of prison. Visitors and prisoners may sit at a table and talk without interruption. But no objects may be handed over. In special cases monitoring may be dispensed with, or be restricted to mere observation.
- **“Family visits”** for the purpose of maintaining family ties and personal relationships are carried out in suitably adapted rooms without monitoring, an arrangement which also allows maintaining close personal relationships.

For well-founded reasons, telephone calls shall be allowed with relatives, custodians, social institutions, public entities, legal representatives and support centres. With the exception of telephone calls with relatives, the above mentioned telephone calls shall not be monitored. Monitoring of telephone calls with relatives may be dispensed with.

Should it be urgently necessary in the interest of local authorities, or for arranging particularly important and urgent matters of a personal, economic or legal nature, the prisoner may be escorted to the outside. Escorted outings requested for private reasons and paid for by the prisoner can be prohibited by security concerns predicated upon the personality of the prisoner.

Prisoners may request the prison management to grant a suspension of imprisonment for up to eight days. Such a suspension shall be made available, if the forecasted residual prison term does not exceed three years and the prisoner is not considered particularly dangerous. Reasons for such suspension could be e.g. visiting seriously injured or seriously ill relatives or attending the funeral of close friends or relatives.

Leaves of absence constitute an essential instrument of maintaining contacts with the outside world.

Under the same conditions as with the suspension of imprisonment, not particularly dangerous prisoners shall be granted temporary leaves of absence from prison a maximum of twice a quarter for up to twelve hours duration, if such absence is needed to arrange important personal, economic or legal matters, or for the maintenance of social ties. If appropriate and in case of longer journeys the leave of absence duration may be extended to 48 hours.

During pre-release preparations, prisoners shall be granted one or several leaves of absence in Austria for a maximum duration of three days, in case of longer journey for a maximum duration of five days, for the purpose of preparing them for the life outside, if no abuse is to be expected and if accommodation and support of such prisoners during their temporary absence are provided. The granting of temporary leaves of absence shall be communicated to the security authorities of the planned place of temporary residence of the respective prisoner.

Relaxed regime detention may generally include all measures in the jurisdiction of the correctional authority which interrupt locking away the prisoners from the outside world.

Relaxed regime detentions serve the purpose of preparing prisoners for their release in an optimal manner. If during imprisonment useful social connections have been maintained or established, if a so-called "social reception room" has been prepared, an essential and fundamental precondition for a return to normal life after detention has been created. Nevertheless, relaxed regime detention involving liberty may only be granted if abuse can be excluded with a high degree of probability and therefore a positive relaxed regime prognosis exists.

For convicted prisoners not expected to misuse such arrangement, the Correctional Services Act also provides for detention in the form of cells not being locked during the day, or for supervision of work outside the prison being restricted or dropped altogether. Furthermore, there is the option of granting prisoners temporary leave of absence for vocational training and further education or for outpatient medical treatment. In addition, extended leaves of absence may be granted.

These relaxed regime arrangements are carried out either in the form of separate in-house units or as "day release units" established outside the prison.

Control and correctional tasks continue to be performed by the prison. Among others, security and control monitoring is performed through electronic access controls, even electronic breathalysers testing the consumption of alcohol of prisoners returning from day release is available in some institutions. Before a prisoner leaves the prison for the first time, precise rules about return and times of absence are laid down. If the prisoner complies with these rules about such fixed time periods,

relaxed regime arrangements can be subsequently expanded. If prisoners infringe upon such rules, if they for instance return to the prison too late, fail to appear at their workplace or appear in an intoxicated state, the relaxed regime granted shall be withdrawn or restricted.

The highest level of relaxed regime is constituted by electronically monitored home detention⁵ (see section 2.5), the “detention in one’s own home”. This form of custodial sanction is available under certain conditions to prisoners whose (residual) prison term does not exceed twelve months.

The common feature of all forms of relaxed regime detention is their enormous impact upon achieving the correctional objective of rehabilitation and re-integration of prisoners into society. The ability of prisoners to lead an independent life is being developed, useful social contacts are maintained or re-established, and re-integration in the labour market is supported or enabled.

2.2 TAKING CARE OF PRISONERS

Taking care of prisoners is the common task of all staff members in correctional services. For this reason, in this central area of responsibilities of the administration of custodial sentences and measures of involuntary forensic placement, apart from professionals who are involved in the task of taking care of prisoners (social workers, psychologists, therapists, medical doctors, caregiving personnel...), much weight is given to prison staff members who are in contact with the prisoners around the clock in prison wards and in operational units and therefore can exert considerable influence upon their development.

2.2.1 WORK AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Convicts and prisoners in precautionary measures of forensic placement, who are fit to work, are obligated by law to take over work. Prisoners who are required to work have to do the work that has been allocated to them. They must not be employed for work which might endanger their life or subject them to serious health hazards. Juvenile prisoners must only be used for work that has also educational value. They should be primarily employed for work on the outside. Daily work-hours have to be interrupted by a minimum of two longer recovery breaks. The amount of work remuneration is in keeping with the wage of metal workers resulting from collective bargaining. 75% of work remuneration is withheld as contribution to prison costs. On an average, prisoners in an Austrian prisons receive 5 euros per day in detention, after deduction of their contribution to prison costs and of their contribution towards unemployment insurance (50% of this amount is freely available to the prisoners as prison allowance, 50% is saved in a so-called reserve fund for specific purposes, see section 2.3).

Increasing the employment rate of prisoners has also been defined as one of the outcome objectives in the framework of the outcome-oriented controlling the Ministry of Justice is performing.

⁵ Also called “electronic tagging”

All prisons have their own operational units and workshops, which are to provide opportunities for work activities. The work options range from workshops for classic handicraft trades, through so-called outsourcing units, where contract work for outside companies is carried out, through maintenance work (building cleaning, maintaining the prison premises), to work in agricultural or forestry operations. By way of day release, provided the conditions for relaxed regime detention exist, work deployment even outside the prison is ruled in.

Juvenile prisoners are to be employed and, as far as possible, to be educated.

For prisoners on remand, who are presumed innocent, the law does not ordain any work obligation. Adult prisoners on remand who are fit to work may volunteer to work under the conditions valid for convicted prisoners, if such work is possible without jeopardising security and order in the prison, and no disadvantage for the criminal court proceedings must be expected.

As a matter of principle, there are various options for training and further education available to convicted prisoners. Depending on the facilities available and the prisoner population in the prison, these options are exercised to different extents.

In some prisons there is the option of taking intensive courses for specialist worker training. In cooperation with the Public Employment Service and the Vocation Training Institute, abbreviated apprenticeship trainings in various handicraft trades are made available. Practical trainings take place in apprenticeship training units of the respective prison, lessons of theory are provided by external and internal trainers. Graduates from such intensive courses of specialist worker training shall receive a neutral certificate, which means that it does not show that the training was taken in a prison.

Shorter training paths are provided by so-called specialised courses. Specialised courses are mostly organised in cooperation with the Vocation Training Institute or the Institute for Economic Development, and include courses for waiters and cooks, language courses for English and German, courses for forklift operators, computer courses, welding courses and courses for personality development. As a rule, participants receive a certificate of having attended the specialised course.

It goes without saying, that regular multi-annual vocational training is available only to prisoners with prison terms of several years, for that matter. In some correctional institutions vocational training programmes for several trades are offered, some prisons have their own trade schools, which offer multi-annual regular vocational training.

Male juvenile prisoners in the Prison for Juveniles Gerasdorf may acquire their mandatory school-leaving qualification during detention, the same is true for the Prison Schwarzau (for female juvenile prisoners); if needed, mandatory school-leaving qualifications can also be acquired in the wards for juveniles at court prisons.

In many prisons it is possible to acquire the European Computer Driving License (ECDL) or obtain other qualifications in the computer field.

Several prisons run the project “Tele-learning for Prison Inmates”. These prisons are equipped with computer work-stations for tele-learning. Through a central server, interested prisoners are offered various learning courses. They range from general education, language courses, mathematics, basic CAD (Computer Aided Design) training and accountancy to theoretical contents from the fields of metal and wood processing, warehousing, etc.

A small number of prisoners avail themselves of the opportunity of distance learning courses or take various training and further education courses when on day release.

2.2.2 SOCIAL SECURITY SITUATION OF PRISONERS

As a rule, prisoners have no social security insurance – except for unemployment insurance. Unemployment insurance for prisoners is taken out as soon as they start their work obligations. Furthermore, prisoners, who have fallen victim to a work accident during detention with a corresponding reduction in earning capacity, are entitled to receive a disability annuity under the Correctional Services Act. Regardless of when they perform any work, medical care (financed directly by the Federal State – and not by the social security agencies) is provided by medical doctors or by own prison infirmaries. If needed, specialist doctors are consulted, or hospitals are used. As any difference in the treatment of prisoners for illnesses would not be justified vis a vis the general population, healthcare services are provided in keeping with similar services provided by the social security agencies. Any longer imprisonment can be most disadvantageous in particular for resulting pension entitlements – for lack of adequate contribution periods. Prisoners are therefore advised to take out optional continued insurance, which requires the necessary funds, however.

Any existing entitlements based on social insurance, such as old-age pension or unemployment benefits, are dormant during detention (as sustenance of prisoners is taken care of), with the exception of some claims by relatives. These entitlements are restored after release.

2.2.3 MEDICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND PASTORAL CARE, SUPPORT BY SOCIAL WORKERS

Medical Care

Medical care is ensured by the judicial administration which has to bear the cost thereof. In all prisons, general practitioners hold consulting hours at least once a week. In larger prisons there are infirmaries for sick prisoners, which are partly run as hospitals in the legal sense. In smaller prisons there are solitary cells to accommodate sick prisoners. For prisoners requiring hospital treatment so-called “closed hospital wards” have been established in some public hospitals – at least one larger hospital room with an anteroom for guard personnel. Public hospitals are under obligation, for that matter, to accept prisoners and allow them to be guarded.

When comparing medical care for prisoners to the situation in freedom, there are some peculiarities or issues, which originate directly from the logic of the correctional service system. Hence it is more difficult to establish a relationship of trust between doctor and patient, as the prisoners due to their

detention de facto have no free choice of doctors. Prisoners show considerably poorer health than the general population, because they frequently belong to socially marginalised groups. This is for instance reflected in the frequency of diseases such as tuberculosis, hepatitis and AIDS. A large portion of prisoners suffer from distinct mental problems and disorders. In recent years, the share of prisoners with mental disorders has considerably increased. Therefore, particular significance is attached to the work of consultant psychiatrists. Tasks of psychiatric services are mainly outpatient acute treatments, injection of depot medication, substitution therapy, crisis interventions, therapeutic interviews, as well as statements concerning the organisation of imprisonment and concerning relaxed regime decisions, and concerning the imposition of security measures, etc. In the prison environment, prisoners pay more attention to their own body and to personal sensitivities, than when they were in freedom. There are reasons to aggravate or simulate symptoms (to be allowed escorted outings for the purpose of medical examinations and treatments in public hospitals or to be granted privileges or relaxed regime detention). The functions of prison doctors are not only treatments, but also assessments (e.g. concerning fitness to work, solitary confinement, special security measures). These responsibilities make high demands upon prison doctors.

Psychological Care

As a rule, prisoners are examined by members of psychological services during admission, danger prognoses are prepared and the motivation to receive therapies is investigated and promoted. Statements and opinions of psychological services are frequently requested in connections with granting relaxed regime detention (relaxed regime prognoses) or with decisions on (early) release. In cooperation with other consultant services and the prison management, correctional and treatment schedules are established and suitability tests for relaxed regime detention or (vocational) training measures are performed. Psychological expert opinions are also gathered when assessing the risk posed by prisoners of self-harm or harm to others.

In special prisons and in large prisons psychologist have fixed consultation hours. Normally, they conduct individual or group therapy sessions and intervene in crisis situations. They provide help for personal problems and counsel relatives of prisoners. They participate in suicide prevention by providing preventive measures and interventions based on clinical psychology and in running the cell allocation programme VISCI. VISCI (Viennese Instrument for Suicidality in Correctional Institutions) is a screening tool for initial assessment of suicidality in newly admitted prisoners. Prisoners considered suicidal by this tool have to be examined by psychologists as soon as possible to assess their suicidal tendencies and to propose adequate preventive measures. Furthermore, psychologists establish special treatment programmes for violent offenders in prisons.

Therapy objectives are increasingly also substantiated in the form of courses, social training measures or special group programmes. The emphasis here is on learning social skills. This includes also relaxation exercises, training social competencies, and other programmes. The borderlines between psychological treatment and psycho-educational measures are blurred.

Psychologists are also involved in the selection of applicants for prison staff and other correctional services, as well as in the training and further education of the entire staff of correctional services as lecturers in the Correctional Services Academy.

For reasons of scarcity of resources, the area of research and development is still least developed. From time to time, theses and dissertations about correctional service topics are written and supervised by correctional psychologists. Accompanying research concerning forensic psychology in the meaning of scientific evaluation of forms of psychological treatments and of prognosis tools is scheduled to be expanded in the years to come.

Support by Social Workers

Social work in correctional services is a form of professional assistance aimed at offering psycho-social counselling and supervisions to prisoners and their social environment during detention. Social Services constitute an organisational unit in a prison indispensable for modern correctional services.

During admission of prisoners, Social Services are involved in work allocation, cell allocation and in establishing the correctional implementation plan. Social Service members are helping to establish contact with relatives, to solve economic and financial issues and to settle legal claims under civil law.

Furthermore, they establish contacts during detention with various institutions, such as employment agencies, social services departments, youth welfare offices, probation officers, addiction advice centres, advisory services for debtors, etc. They provide support for personal problems and help to overcome crises.

Social Services play an important role in preparing for relaxed regime detention, such as leaves of absence and day release. Social workers provide escort for individual and group outings.

Social Services provide social prognoses for the purpose of conditional release, prior to release. Social Services inform the prisoners about support options after release (financial legal claims, housing, and job search, if needed) and support prisoners facing special release problems.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care for prisoners is the oldest care institution in correctional services. Pastoral care services have been in existence since prisons were established in modern times.

The legal basis for the work of prison ministries is the Correctional Services Act defining the right of prisoners to participate in worship services and church events in prison, and to talk with pastoral agents. In addition to full-time and part-time catholic and protestant prison ministers, pastoral agents from numerous other religious denominations are involved in providing pastoral care to prisoners. In practical work, pastoral care provides a wide variety of services, ranging from purely religious

matters (such as administering holy sacraments, confessions, celebrating mass) to showing an interest in any possible needs voiced by prisoners. The borderline to social work is sometimes blurry.

2.2.4 TREATING ADDICTED LAWBREAKERS



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The Correctional Services Act (StVG) obliges the judicial administration to preserve the physical and mental health of prisoners. Such obligation also includes measures of treating and caring for addicted prisoners. A relatively high percentage of prisoners have to be considered addicted. The Correctional Services Act offers addicted prisoners the option to undergo voluntary detoxification treatments.

The judicial administration endeavours to take over and maintain any treatment initiated before detention during remand detention or during custodial sanctions. The aim is to provide a possibly unbroken “continuous treatment” not excluding prisoners from public prevention and treatment programmes.

The measures against illegal consumption of drugs in Austrian prisons are essentially based on the objective to preserve the health of prisoners.

An interface function for this purpose is the mandatory admission examination when taken into custody. During such admission examination, every prisoner receives a so-called “Take Care Package”, containing information sheets about infection prevention, various hygiene articles and condoms. Condoms are also available in prisons to be taken anonymously. In cases of withdrawal problems, such withdrawal symptoms are “stabilised” through medication prescribed by the doctor, or a substitution treatment is initiated or continued.

Substitution Treatment

In addition to treatment programmes oriented towards abstinence run at special correctional institutions, there is a further focus on treatment by running substitution programmes. Such programmes are either run by prison doctors or medical specialists. The decision to provide substitution treatment to prisoners solely falls within the competence of the medical doctor, and is not dependent upon the duration of the prison term. This applies mainly to HIV positive prisoners, and to prisoners with a pronounced medical history of opiate consumption. In individual cases, prisoners are even offered substitution programmes prior to release, if a high risk of addiction recidivism has to be expected, or such recidivism has actually occurred during day release or outings.

Therapy

In addition to therapies for maintaining health or substitution treatment, therapies oriented towards abstinence through individual or group treatment are also offered. Special facilities for such therapies

are the Prison Vienna-Favoriten, as well as special wards in individual prisons. Therapies are administered on a voluntary basis. In addition to such therapies, also outpatient therapeutic measures in external drug addiction units are available.

All therapeutic measures in prisons are monitored by regular urine tests.

2.2.5 PREPARATION FOR RELEASE

Great importance in Austrian correctional services is attached to a thorough preparation of release from detention. Through such preparation, prisoners can cope well with their transition from detention to freedom.

For example, a continuous involvement of external drug addiction units in the care during detention is foreseen. Furthermore, there is the option of leaving the prison during the day for the purpose of work, leisure-time or therapeutic measures (as a rule within six to twelve months before release). Contacts with external social institutions are promoted, which provide housing accommodation and jobs after release from detention, if needed. In some cases, prisoners may test “living and/or working experience” in transition project or hostels by being granted multi-day leaves of absence during release procedures. The organisation NEUSTART [NEW BEGINNING] must receive special mention in this context, as it makes great contributions in helping newly released prisoners.

2.2.6 LEISURE-TIME ACTIVITIES AND SPORTS

Well-structured leisure-time activities contribute significantly to order and security in prisons.

All prisons have prisoners’ libraries from which prisoners may borrow books (also foreign language literature). Countrywide, there are around 180,000 books available in these libraries. In many prisons, journals and newspaper are also available.

In addition to the opportunity of listening to the radio or watching TV, there are numerous hobby, music and theatre groups supporting meaningful usage of leisure-time. As a privilege, prisoners may be allowed to use their own computers.

A focal point of leisure-time activities are sports. All prisons have suitable facilities for exercising sports, such as sports fields, gyms and fitness studios. In addition to table tennis, gymnastics and jogging, ball games and pumping iron are greatly appreciated. Physical exercise of prisoners contributes greatly towards release of aggressions, and thus towards maintaining order and security in prisons.

Furthermore, as a rule once a quarter, there are slide shows, readings, theatre performances and concerts as a structured form of leisure-time activity.

An important role for maintaining order and security in prisons is played by group counselling sessions. These are group discussions supervised by trained staff members aimed at releasing tensions in prisoners and enabling them to communicate problems and concern in a manner suitable for groups.

2.3 ECONOMIC SITUATION OF PRISONERS

Prisoners are not allowed to have any money nor any other objects in their possession than those left to them during admission, or those handed to them at a later stage. Prisoners are also prohibited from doing business with other prisoners or with correctional staff members. They may, however, upon approval, receive food and beverage of minor value as gifts.

The Correctional Services Act distinguishes three types property of prisoners: “proprietary money“, “prison allowance” and “allocation to reserve funds”.

Money prisoners had in their possession when admitted or which was sent to them thereafter will be credited to them as “proprietary money”. During imprisonment, such proprietary money may be used, e.g. for buying personal articles (toiletries, grooming products), for buying books for further education, writing and drawing utensils or for covering postage and telephone charges.

During imprisonment, apart from the restricted use of proprietary money, prisoners only have available the remuneration earned during their employment. After deducting prison cost and unemployment insurance contribution⁶ the residual remuneration will be credited by equal shares to prison allowance and the reserve fund. Prisoners, who cannot work by no fault of their own, and therefore cannot earn any remuneration, shall receive a small amount of unemployment money as prison allowance.

The prison allowance and any extraordinary remuneration awarded for special achievements are available to prisoners for buying goods and services pursuant to the Correctional Services Act. These include articles for personal use (permitted food and beverages, body care products and simple articles of everyday life).

The reserve fund is generally meant to cover the cost of living during the initial times after release, and for costs incurred for promoting the advancement after release (such as maintaining a flat). Half of the reserve fund may be used for debt repayments, for dependants and for restitution of losses/damages caused to crime victims.

2.4 PARTICULAR FEATURES OF INVOLUNTARY FORENSIC PLACEMENT

In addition to custodial sanctions, the Criminal Code also covers a system of so-called precautionary measures. Although their imposition is also predicated upon committing a crime, the purpose of such measures is not punishing the crime, but reducing the danger posed by the offender in the future. Society is to be protected from the danger posed by such offender. These precautionary measures are mainly applied with mentally disturbed lawbreakers who are subjected to such precautionary measures indefinitely, until it can be assumed that the danger which predicated forensic placement no longer exists. Frequently, release from involuntary forensic placement depends upon

⁶ Concerning work remuneration and prison cost contributions see section 2.2.1, concerning the social security situation see section 2.2.2.

availability of outpatient or hospital aftercare for the person released. Not least because of the prejudice entertained towards former forensic prisoners it is very difficult for the administration of measures of forensic placement to find suitable aftercare facilities. This calls for action by the Federal Provinces in the framework of their responsibility for social welfare.

2.4.1 FORENSIC PLACEMENT OF MENTALLY DISTURBED LAWBREAKERS

The Austrian penitentiary system distinguishes two groups of mentally disturbed lawbreakers to be accommodated in involuntary forensic placement:

Firstly, these are persons who have committed a crime punishable by a prison term of more than one year, but cannot be punished because they committed the crime under the influence of a mental state excluding their criminal responsibility, based on a higher degree of mental or psychic abnormality. Forensic placement is furthermore predicated on the danger that such persons, due to their personality, their state of mind and the nature of their crime, would otherwise, under the influence of their mental or psychic abnormality, commit another punishable crime with serious consequences.

The administration of measures of involuntary forensic placement has available two institutions for forensic placement and treatment of mentally disturbed lawbreakers who are non compos mentis: the Prison Göllersdorf and the Therapeutic Centre Asten. Both institutions are staffed with an adequate number of specialists to ensure professional treatment and supervision of this group of persons. Moreover, mentally disturbed lawbreakers who are non compos mentis are accommodated and treated in forensic wards of psychiatric hospitals all over Austria. This group of mentally disturbed lawbreakers poses a great challenge to the administration of measures of involuntary forensic placement, because their number has increased by 80% over the recent ten years. Additionally, enormous costs are incurred for accommodating and treating such persons in psychiatric hospitals, constituting a considerably burden on the correctional services budget.

The second group of persons to be accommodated in involuntary forensic placement are those who have committed a crime under the influence of mental or psychic abnormality but being compos mentis. In such a case, forensic placement is to be imposed together with the conviction. Also the number of these persons has almost doubled since the turn of the millennium. Placement and treatment of these mentally disturbed lawbreakers is carried out in the Prison Vienna-Mittersteig, as well as in special, separate wards in the large correctional facilities Garsten, Stein and Graz-Karlau, to a smaller degree also in the Prisons Schwarzau and Gerasdorf.

2.4.2 FORENSIC PLACEMENT OF DRUG-ADDICTED LAWBREAKERS

Persons who are addicted to misusing intoxicating or addicting substances and have been convicted for committing a crime in a state of intoxication or in connection with their addiction or for committing a crime in a state of full intoxication, shall be placed in an institution for addicted lawbreakers. Such placement shall be carried out under the condition that there is danger, due to their personalities and the nature of their crimes, that they otherwise would commit further criminal acts with serious

consequences in connection with their addiction to intoxicating or addicting substances or else commit criminal acts with not only merely slight consequences.

In practice, this form of ordained addiction treatment no longer has any major significance. As of 1 January 2016, only 17 persons all over Austria were being subjected to this measure. Much more frequently, prisoners with addiction problems are treated on a voluntary basis or upon application by the respective prisoners.

The Prison Vienna-Favoriten, a specialised institution is available for the treatment of drug addicted prisoners, and prison wards for the treatment of addicted lawbreakers have been established in two other prisons (Innsbruck and Stein).

2.5 PARTICULAR FEATURES OF ELECTRONICALLY MONITORED HOME DETENTION – “ELECTRONIC TAGGING”

Electronically monitored home detention (electronic tagging) represents the most recent form of custodial sanction in Austria, having been introduced in autumn 2010. As a matter of principle, this form of custodial sanction is only being used for persons who are adequately socially integrated and whose (residual) prison term does not exceed twelve months. Electronic tagging must be applied for and may entirely replace a prison term (“front door version”) or shorten such prison term (“backdoor version”). The decision about granting electronic tagging is made by the prison management as enforcement authority. In exceptional cases, electronic tagging can replace remand detention, which is decided upon by the competent court.

An application for serving a sentence by electronically monitored home detention can only be approved, if the following preconditions have been fulfilled:

- The sentence to be served or still to be served does not exceed twelve months or is not presumed to exceed 12 months, because a release on probation is to be expected
- Suitable accommodation in Austria is available
- Suitable job
- Income to provide means of subsistence
- Health and accident insurance
- Written permission by persons living in the same household
- Prognosis, that after checking housing conditions, the social environment and any possible risk factors, and provided the imposed conditions are being met, this form of serving a sentence will not be abused.



Electronic Tagging

Serving a sentence in the form of electronically monitored home detention means that the persons monitored must remain in their accommodation, have a suitable job and have to subject themselves

to appropriate conditions of lifestyle outside the prison. The accommodation may only be left for specific purposes.

Ordering home detention during remand detention is permissible, unless remand detention is replaced by more lenient measures and the purpose of detention can also be achieved by this form of remand detention.

Inasmuch as prisoners are able to do so, they have to contribute towards the cost of electronic tagging with an amount of maximum 22 euros/day. No costs have to be reimbursed for electronic tagging replacing remand detention.

Upon approval of electronic tagging, the procedure is implemented as follows:

A basic station will be installed in the accommodation of the person involved, which transmits radio signals from the electronic tag and which is used to make monitoring calls. In individual cases, it is also possible to invite the persons monitored to make a breathalyser test at the basic station, in this way performing an alcohol test at little cost. The persons monitored wear radio transmitters on their ankles which communicate with the basic station within reach. As a rule, only the times of presence at, and absence from, accommodation are being monitored. Permanent surveillance made possible by the use of GPS technology is only carried out in exceptional cases (particularly with sex offenders, provided this form of custodial sanction is permissible at all for this group of offenders).

In an individual monitoring profile, the concrete time and place components of daily routines, particularly the allowed times of absence from accommodation are laid down. Electronic monitoring of the system for all electronically monitored prisoners takes place in a monitoring centre in Vienna.

The necessary investigations for clarifying preconditions, e.g. by preparing a monitoring profile, are carried out with the support from social workers of the organisation NEUSTART. This organisation is a contractual partner of the Federal Ministry of Justice and responsible also for assistance to released prisoners, for probationary services, for out-of-court offence resolution and for arranging community work. The staff members of the organisation NEUSTART are responsible for social worker supervision and for support to prisoners during the entire duration of electronic tagging. They are in close contact with the prisoners, the responsible prison staff and the monitoring centre.

The granting of electronic tagging shall be withdrawn, if:

- required preconditions no longer exist,
- orders or conditions imposed have been violated,
- cost contributions imposed have not been paid over a longer period of time,
- the persons monitored have declared that they can no longer comply with the conditions set forth,
- there is strong suspicion that a crime has been committed or than an escape is planned.

By 30 June 2016, 305 persons, i.e. somewhat more than 3.5 % of all prisoners wore electronic tags. So far, the courts have very rarely ordained electronic tagging as a form of remand detention. Since introduction of electronic tagging until 31 December 2015, a total of 3,152 prisoners have concluded

the procedure of electronically monitored home detention. Only with 248 prisoners the procedure had to be terminated early.

2.6 RELEASE FROM DETENTION, AFTER-CARE, ORGANISATION NEUSTART

NEUSTART

An essential element for social re-integration after release from prison is constituted by a well-planned and supervised transition from detention into life in freedom. In the most favourable case, a prisoner's correctional implementation plan during release procedures culminates in a plan of re-integration,

the release is well prepared by suitable relaxed regime detention and (any) necessary or expedient aftercare is planned to follow the custodial sanctions or measures of involuntary forensic placement. Many detainees have personal and social deficits hampering their re-integration into society.

One of the essential pillars of aftercare of released prisoners is constituted by the organisation NEUSTART⁷. The organisation NEUSTART, which is mainly financed from the budget of the justice system, covers the following task fields:

Probationary services, assistance to released prisoners, electronically monitored home detention, offence resolution and community work. Moreover, NEUSTART is also involved in trial support for victims and in crime prevention.

During assistance for released prisoners, it is mainly support that is being offered. All prisoners are informed by Social Services that for the preparation of their release they may avail themselves of the support provided by staff members of NEUSTART. Upon request by prisoners, personal contacts are already established during detention. In addition to support in social matters, such as job search and search for accommodation, supporting prisoners in resolving issues pertaining to social insurance laws and of debt settlement, preparing solution strategies to reduce the risk of personal recidivism constitutes an important part of counselling. Prisoners, who have not been ordered by the court to receive probationary service, can either use the offer of prison releasee support or seek probationary service on a voluntary basis.

Over and above the activities of the organisation NEUSTART, contacts are mostly arranged by professional services in prisons to various organisations, such as addiction help centres, male counselling facilities or other institutions of socially supportive networks are facilitated. Quite a large number of such institutions have their own consulting hours inside prisons and are visiting prisoners.

For the purpose of aftercare of psychically conspicuous prisoners in forensic placement, the Ministry of Justice has stricken partnerships with forensic outpatient stations of some psychiatric hospitals. Here, court orders during release on probation of forensic prisoners can be implemented, such as continuation of psychotherapeutic outpatient treatment and monitoring of medication treatments.

⁷ www.neustart.at



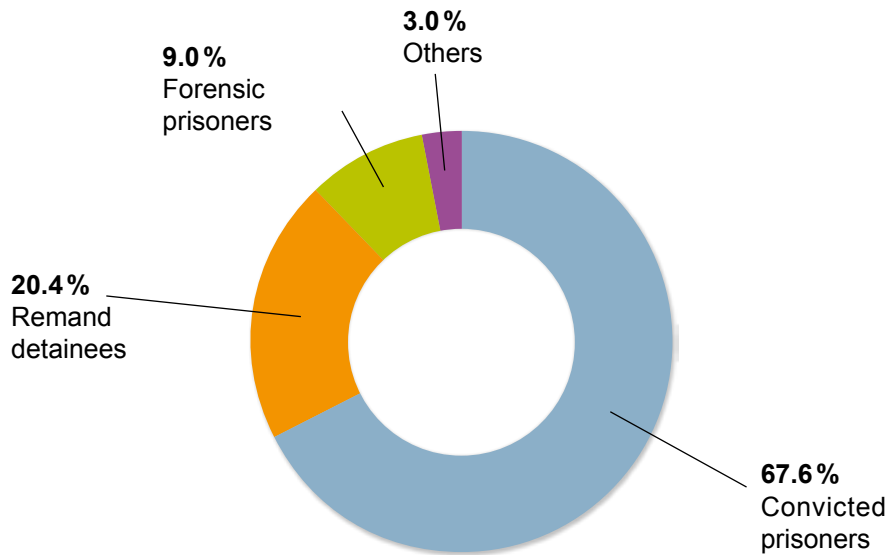
3 INDICATORS

- 3.1 General Indicators of Correctional Services
- 3.2 Economic Indicators of the Administration of Custodial Sanctions and Measures of Involuntary Forensic Placement
- 3.3 Staff Indicators of the Administration of Custodial Sanctions and Measures of Involuntary Forensic Placement

3.1 GENERAL INDICATORS OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

BREAKDOWN OF PRISON POPULATION AS OF 1 JUNE 2016

Overall capacity	8,805	
Prisoner population	8,867	100 %
thereof in prisons ⁸	8,177	
thereof female prisoners	518	5.8 %
thereof convicted prisoners <i>and thereof in electronically monitored home detention</i>	5,994 307	67.6 % 3.5 %
thereof in remand detention	1,802	20.4 %
thereof forensic prisoners ⁹	796	9.0 %
thereof others ¹⁰	266	3.0 %



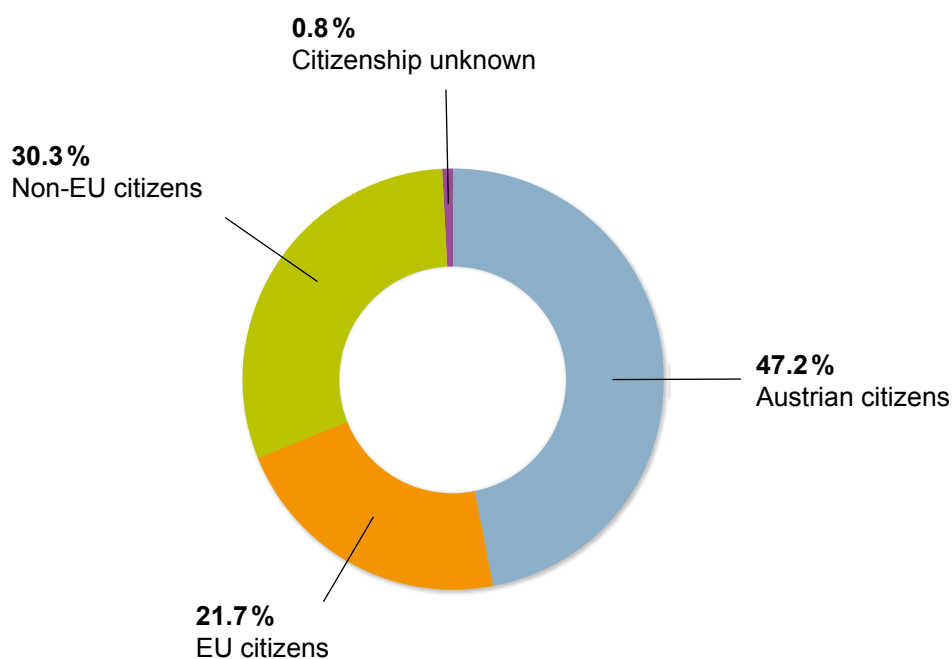
8 The other 690 prisoners are mainly detained in psychiatric hospitals, in electronically monitored home detention, or their prison term is being interrupted.

9 Forensic prisoners are mentally disturbed and addicted lawbreakers.

10 This number includes the enforcement of prison sentences on behalf of administrative authorities, finance authorities or foreign judicial bodies (extradition custody).

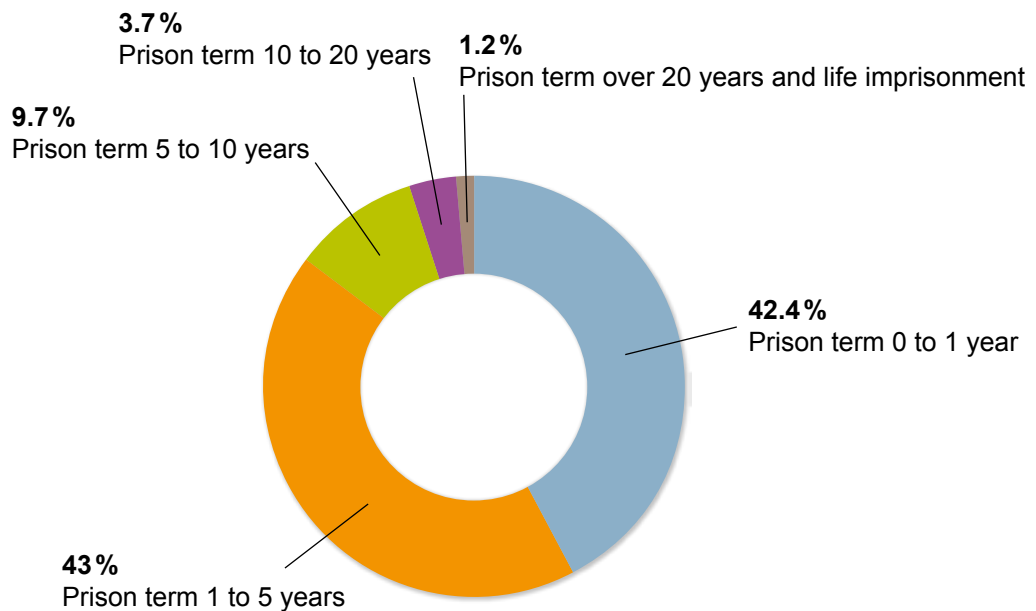
**AVERAGE PRISON POPULATION AS TO CITIZENSHIP 2015
(ANNUAL AVERAGE)**

Average Prison Population 2015	8,880	100 %
thereof juveniles	125	1.4 %
thereof Austrian citizens	4,194	47.2 %
thereof EU citizens	1,922	21.7 %
thereof non-EU citizens	2,693	30.3 %
thereof citizenship unknown	71	0.8 %



BREAKDOWN OF PRISONERS 2015 CONSIDERING THEIR PRISON TERM

Prison term 0 to 1 year	42.4 %
Prison term 1 to 5 years	43.0 %
Prison term 5 to 10 years	9.7 %
Prison term 10 to 20 years	3.7 %
Prison term over 20 years and life imprisonment	1.2 %



The high share of foreigners is one of the many challenges faced by the Austrian justice system. In particular with a view to successful social re-integration, the aim is to accelerate transfers to the states of origin. Foreign prisoners mainly hail from Romania, ex-Yugoslavia, Hungary, Nigeria and Turkey.

The above graph clearly shows that almost one half of the prison sentences served in 2015 were relatively short-term, up to one year (with a downward trend). Another 43 % were medium-term sentences of one to five years (with an upward trend). Prison sentences of five to ten years duration tend to also increase their share, whereas the share of long-term prison sentences of ten to twenty years, and very long and life sentences is stable.

3.2 ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF CUSTODIAL SANCTIONS AND MEASURES OF INVOLUNTARY FORENSIC PLACEMENT

The total budget of the administration of custodial sentences and measures of involuntary forensic placement, including probationary services, amounted to approximately 444 million euros in 2015. Around 206 million thereof are personnel costs.

The total budget contains about 38 million euros as single budget item for probationary services.

The average cost of a prisoner in custody or a person in forensic placement amounts to 123 euros per day in detention. This cost rate includes the costs for remand detainees and convicted prisoners, as well as the costs of placement and treatment of forensic prisoners (in particular the so-called “criminally insane”). These costs are based on full cost accounting, including personnel costs, building costs and material expenditure. The justice system incurs considerable costs for mentally disturbed lawbreakers who are non compos mentis and who are placed in public psychiatric hospitals.

The income budgeted of about 56 million euros consists by 60% of the so-called correctional service contributions, which are deducted from the work remuneration of prisoners as a contribution towards the cost of correctional services (compare section 2.2.1), and in addition of the income from products and services, as well as of contribution by regional authorities towards the cost of health care for prisoners.

Prisons of the Austrian justice system represent a considerable economic factor.

According to the Correctional Services Act provisions must be made that every prisoner can do useful work. Austrian prisons have more than 350 operational units which may employ around 5,000 prisoners. 350 jobs are taken by prisoners during day release. Work assignments are mostly performed on behalf of judicial offices, federal offices, judicial staff members and the prison itself.

The Austrian penitentiary system is also interested in cooperating with free economy enterprises, so that prisoners can be adequately employed or trained. The Austrian economy may utilise all 24 prisons as “extended workbenches” or as high-performance production units. Cooperation with Austrian prisons constitutes a serious alternative for entrepreneurs to relocating production abroad.

The outsourcing units of prisons can offer the following:

- Continuous production without operational downtimes
- Production sites and warehousing
- Continuous supply and collection.

The specialties are: metal processing, dispatching, inserting in envelopes, bonding and folding work, various sorting work, printing and bookbinding, and various jobs during day release.



Member of a SWAT team

Every year, 11 million euros are earned from companies and private principals. These earnings are supplemented by services provided for the prisons themselves (prison kitchens, bakeries, laundry facilities, manufacture of cell appliances, cell bars and doors, in-house maintenance, etc.).

The agricultural prison units provide products valued at about 1 million euros every year (food produce, raw materials and process material, energy, etc.). A future objective is partial energy self-sufficiency (thermal energy generated from wood chips, electrical current from biogas which among others will be produced by fermenting food leftovers), in order to comply with increasing ecological requirements.

3.3 STAFF INDICATORS OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF CUSTODIAL SANCTIONS AND MEASURES OF INVOLUNTARY FORENSIC PLACEMENT

Austrian correctional services employ a total staff of over 3,900. Prison staff breaks down into three essential groups.

Prison guards are the most numerous among the staff, counting about 80% of the entire correctional service personnel, about 14% of prison guards are female. So the above mentioned group of prison guards forms the staff “backbone” of correctional services in Austria. The requirements for admission as prison guard are among others Austrian citizenship, completed vocational training (certificate of apprenticeship) or Higher School Certificate, adequate state of health and passing a multi-level aptitude test.

The so-called supporting or professional services include psychologists, physicians, caregivers, social workers, pedagogues and teachers. This group represents about 11% of correctional personnel. The share of women here is 61%. Their mission is to provide professional care for prisoners from a medical, psychological, social worker and educational perspective.

In addition to this personnel directly employed by the justice system, 300 other professionals are made available by a judicial support agency. They mainly are comprised of 58 doctors and 101 nursing staff, as well as 38 psychologists. In addition, social workers, occupational therapists, physiotherapist, teachers and special and remedial pedagogues are employed in this fashion. 60% of such personnel are female.

Finally, 8% of the personnel belong to administrative services and handle administrative matters. Close to 86% of administrative personnel are female.



Prison Guards

Prison managers must have graduated from university or must have completed category E1 basic military training (officer).

Training and further education in correctional matters is provided by a special Correctional Service Academy. This Academy provides basic training and further education of the entire correctional personnel. Special training and further education programmes for different professional groups and hierarchies are continuously being developed, applied and evaluated.



4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA

- | | | | |
|------|---|------|----------------------------------|
| 4.1 | Prison Eisenstadt | 4.16 | Prison Ried im Innkreis |
| 4.2 | Prison Feldkirch | 4.17 | Prison Salzburg |
| 4.3 | Prison Garsten | 4.18 | Prison Schwarzau |
| 4.4 | Prison for Juveniles Gerasdorf | 4.19 | Prison Sonnberg |
| 4.5 | Prison Gollersdorf | 4.20 | Prison St. Pölten |
| 4.6 | Prison Graz-Jakomini | 4.21 | Prison Stein |
| 4.7 | Prison Graz-Karlau | 4.22 | Prison Suben |
| 4.8 | Prison Innsbruck | 4.23 | Prison Wels |
| 4.9 | Prison Hirtenberg | 4.24 | Prison Vienna-Favoriten |
| 4.10 | Prison Klagenfurt | 4.25 | Prison Vienna-Josefstadt |
| 4.11 | Prison Korneuburg | 4.26 | Prison Vienna-Mittersteig |
| 4.12 | Prison Krems | 4.27 | Prison Vienna-Simmering |
| 4.13 | Prison Leoben | 4.28 | Prison Wiener Neustadt |
| 4.14 | Prison Linz | 4.29 | Correctional Services Academy |
| 4.15 | Therapeutic Centre Asten (TZA),
Outpost of the Prison Linz | 4.30 | Juvenile Court Assistance Vienna |

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.1 PRISON EISENSTADT

7000 Eisenstadt, Wiener Strasse 9a, Tel. 02682/75555



The Prison Eisenstadt became operational in 1968 after a construction period of 6-years as first new construction of an Austrian prison after the war. The first renovation of the interior was carried out in 1997 to 1999. To meet the requirements of modern correctional services, it was rebuilt in autumn 2010 to become the Judicial Centre Eisenstadt, which in the meantime has been completed. From this point in time forward, a day release unit and a women's ward have been available for remand detentions and for time-limited custodial sanctions, accommodating a total of 190 prisoners.



The prison is a court prison structurally adjacent to the Regional Court Eisenstadt.

The prison has a four-storied cell block, an administrative wing with in-house operational units, such as a carpentry workshop, a laundry service and an outsourcing unit. The total area of about 11,000 m² houses a farmyard, a basketball court and a prison courtyard for outside activities. A gymnasium with variable appointments is available for sports activities.



In addition to various training and further education programmes (language classes, courses at the Institute for Economic Development, vocational training at the Prison Vienna-Simmering) prisoners are offered differentiated social and psychological counselling.

Photo 1: Gym

Photo 2: Security Visit Facility

Photo 3: Canteen for Employees or Operational Personnel



4.2 PRISON FELDKIRCH

6800 Feldkirch, Graf-Hugo Wuhrgang 2, Tel. 05522/72374

The Prison Feldkirch is a regional court prison with a cell capacity for 160 prisoners, including the satellite prison in Dornbirn, and is the only correctional institution in the Federal Province of Vorarlberg. The facility is used for male, female and juvenile remand detainees, and for convicts with prison terms of up to 18 months.

The Prison was built from 1903 to 1905 and completely renovated from 1992 to 1996.

Behind the walls, there are two prison courtyards and a farmyard. In the eastern block, there are three stories of cells, which are used partly as single-bed and partly as two-bed cells. In the basement, there are operational units such as carpentry and locksmith workshops, on the upper floor there is a ward for relaxed regime detention and on the ground floor there are two cells equipped for disabled prisoners.

Among leisure-time activities and support measures, prisoners are offered participation in various sports groups, group discussions, painting courses, and they may complete secondary modern school.



Photo 1: Training Room

Photo 2: Church

Photo 3: Library

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.3 PRISON GARSTEN

4451 Garsten, Am Platzl 1, Tel. 07252/576



Situated on the premises of a former monastery from baroque times, the Prison Garsten combines historical environment with modern correctional services. The prison accommodates, including the outstation for day release prisoners in Steyr, 392 male convicts, forensic prisoners pursuant to Section 21 (2) Criminal Code (mentally disturbed lawbreakers who are *compos mentis*) and remand detainees.



By virtue of a comprehensive offer of a total of 18 operational units and workshops (such as kitchen, laundry service, carpentry workshop), prisoners can be employed in a meaningful manner and educated for their life after prison in courses and training sessions. Many prisoners are released from the prison with a completed apprenticeship or a school-leaving certificate.

Modern security installations and surveillance systems enable prisoners to move inside the prison with a large degree of independence.



Special attention is paid to support services. Meaningful employment and comprehensive leisure-time activities are to familiarise prisoners with a regular daily routine, facilitating their later re-integration into society in the best possible manner. Leisure-time offers in the prison range from sports facilities to further education options, courses and discussion panels. The historical prison church accommodates the weekly worship services, but events also take place there.

Photo 1: Main Building

Photo 2: Fitness Studio

Photo 3: Courtyard



4.4 PRISON FOR JUVENILES GERASDORF

2731 St. Egyden, Puchbergerstrasse 1, Tel. 02638/77431

The Prison for Juveniles Gerasdorf is the only correctional institution in Austria specialising in administering custodial sanction and measures involving deprivation of liberty for male juveniles and young adults. The prison accommodates 122 prisoners.

Work with young delinquents poses special challenges which are coped with in close cooperation of all professional services (prison guards, psychologists, psychiatry, social workers, social pedagogues, occupational therapists, psychotherapists, school and apprenticeship workshops) and focus on three areas:

Education:

Schooling: completion of secondary modern and special schooling, attending external schools

Vocational training: apprenticeships in 15 vocations

Courses: data processing, languages, job application and communication training, forklift driving, First Aid

Therapy and Training in Groups and Individually:

Psycho- and addiction therapies, anti-violence and social trainings, animal based therapy, group outings, therapeutic climbing, group counselling

Leisure-time Activities:

Guided and/or independent leisure-time, sports and entertainment activities in outdoor sports and leisure-time facilities, in the culture hall, in the gym, in the fitness studio and in the community rooms in living units.



Photo 1: Outdoor Fun Court

Photo 2: Table Visit Facility

Photo 3: Prison Kitchen

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.5 PRISON GÖLLERSDORF

2013 Göllersdorf, Schlossgasse 17, Tel. 02954/2411



Photo 1: Workshop

Photo 2: Corridor

Photo 3: Recreation Room

The Prison Göllersdorf is a special institution for the placement of the criminally insane who are non compos mentis. It accommodates 136 forensic prisoners pursuant to Section 21 (1) Criminal Code and 29 regular prisoners as system maintenance personnel.

During their detention, forensic prisoners are to be treated according to the principles and recognised methods of psychiatry, psychology and pedagogics, which means that the entire range of biological, psychotherapeutical and socio-psychiatric measures are being employed. Principally, the treatments can be compared with treatments in a psychiatric hospital. In addition to medication, various forms of psychotherapy (individual and group therapies) as well as socio-psychiatric measures indispensable for rehabilitation are being utilised.

The forensic prisoners are accommodated in living units where through environment therapeutic measures (structures daily routines, guided leisure-time activities) efforts are made to achieve maximum autonomous and active behaviour of the patients.

The necessity of maintaining the placement, which has been ordered for an unlimited time, is once a year examined by the competent enforcement court. The aim is to achieve mental stability, understanding of the disease, and cooperation in the treatment, to enable the forensic prisoners to live a life in freedom or in an environment which is more or less protected, should they be release on probation.

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.6 PRISON GRAZ-JAKOMINI

8010 Graz, Conrad v. Hötzendorfstrasse 43, Tel. 0316/832832

The Prison Graz-Jakomini is a regional court prison located in the centre of the city, and accommodates 538 prisoners (men, women and juveniles) in remand detention and in custodial detention of up to 18 months. The main institution has an outstation Paulustorgasse located in the building of the former district court for criminal matters Graz in the I. district of Graz.

In the main prison and in the outstation Paulustorgasse a large number of workshops and operational units has been established for the employment of the female and male prisoners (locksmith's shop, electrician's shop, car repair shop, paint shop, varnisher, carpentry workshop, glazier, art workshop, shoe making, tailor, book binding, concrete products, laundry service, prison kitchen, plant nursery, building maintenance and waste disposal, three outsourcing units). Moreover, under certain legal framework conditions there is the option that prisoners work outside the prison for an enterprise not belonging to the prison (note: day release, electronically monitored home detention). In addition, one of 12 apprenticeship trades can be learned.

For purposes of education, entertainment, group discussions and sports activities, the prisoners can access recreation rooms, a library and a gym with sports equipment during leisure-times. In the prison, prisoners can undergo various therapies aimed at resolving problems in the area of addiction and at reducing dispositions for aggression and violence.

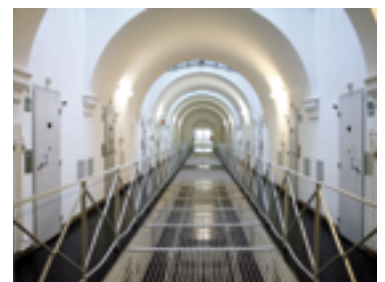


Photo 1: Kitchen

Photo 2: Corridor

Photo 3: Sports Facility

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.7 PRISON GRAZ-KARLAU

8020 Graz, Herrgottwiesgasse 50, Tel. 0316/2705



Prison Graz-Karlau is a correctional facility accommodating 522 adult males for prison terms exceeding 18 months. In addition there are departments for the placement of mentally disturbed lawbreaker who are compos mentis pursuant to Section 21 (2) Criminal Code.

The Prison Graz-Karlau is considered a prison with very high standards of security. The focus of the prison is: Maintaining work capabilities of prisoners or introducing them to work, opportunities for vocational training in 9 various apprenticeship trades, and learning to carry out meaningful activities during available leisure-times (sports and educational opportunities).



Various support and therapy offers are aimed at fixing personal and social deficits, at resolving problems in the areas of alcohol and other addictive substances, at acquiring strategies to cope with debt problems and at reducing dispositions for aggression and violence.



A further focus is placed on relaxed regime detention (such as day release) and in particular on empowering prisoners to gain a foothold on life outside the prison, to find a job and to live an honest and autonomous life. To a great extent, this task is fulfilled by the outstation Lankowitz accommodating 52 prisoners, where prisoners are detained in relaxed regime and are mainly employed with agricultural chores.

Photo 1: Main Building

Photo 2: Surveillance

Photo 3: Cell Block

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.8 PRISON INNSBRUCK

6020 Innsbruck, Völserstrasse 63, Tel. 0512/5323

Prison Innsbruck is a regional court prison accommodating 473 prisoners. The prison accommodates male, female and juvenile prisoners in remand and custodial detention. At the moment, it is the only regional court prison which is not directly adjacent to a court building.

An outstation in the building of the Regional Court Innsbruck is used for organising the bringing of prisoners before the Higher Regional and the Regional Court Innsbruck. In recent years, the Prison Innsbruck was completely renovated, and two additional buildings were added.

Workshops such as carpentry, locksmith, car repair shop, economy workshop, prison kitchen, butcher's and baker's shop offer an opportunity to properly employ know-how and skills in these areas and to pursue a regular daily routine.

Meaningful leisure-time actions are encouraged by comprehensive offerings of sports activities, expanded by offerings of various further leisure-time activities (such as cooking, baking, crafts, carving, sewing and computer courses). A wide range of counselling by psychologists, social and pastoral workers, physicians and various therapists is another element of prison daily routines. This is complemented by discussion groups in the framework of group counselling.



Photo 1: Table Visit Facility

Photo 2: Gym

Photo 3: Single-bed Cell

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.9 PRISON HIRTENBERG

2552 Hirtenberg, Leobersdorferstrasse 16, Tel. 02256/81192



Prison Hirtenberg is a correctional institution for prison terms of more than 18 months' and up to six years' duration to be served by male prisoners. The Prison Hirtenberg accommodates a total of 421 prisoners, 46 thereof at the out-station Münchendorf.

Detention procedure are differentiated by various requirements and broken down as follows: Admission department, detention of first offenders, regular detention and relaxed regime detention. Day release is organised exclusively from the out-station Münchendorf.



In addition, there are 19 prison workshops at the Prison Hirtenberg, with meaningful employment of prisoners in productive work being specially emphasised. The objective is that prisoners are motivated and guided by cooperative actions of the prison staff to promote their re-integration into society.



In the context of further education and meaningful leisure-time activities, the Prison Hirtenberg offers carpentry apprenticeship training, as well as a wide range of courses, such as language courses, forklift training and ECDL classes. Prisoners are counselled during individual and group activities and in group counselling sessions run by own expert staff and by external therapists. Moreover, modern infrastructure facilities for sports activities are made available.

Photo 1: Operational Block

Photo 2: Plant Nursery

Photo 3: Factory Workshop



4.10 PRISON KLAGENFURT

9020 Klagenfurt, Purtscherstrasse 2, Tel. 0463/57560

The Prison Klagenfurt is regional court prison accommodating 307 prisoners (women, men and juveniles) serving remand detention and correctional detention of up to 18 months.

11 workshops and operational units provide employment and training for prisoners. In cooperation with the vocational college, prisoners receive theoretical and practical training in many popular trades. In addition to demand-oriented therapy offers, there are special therapeutic programmes for alcohol and drug addicted prisoners, and for sex offenders. Moreover, the Prison Klagenfurt has an outstation in Rottenstein and a day release unit.

The outstation Rottenstein is located at around 25 kilometres distance from the main prison in St. Georgen/Längsee and accommodates 50 prisoners, who fulfil the condition for serving their custodial sanction in relaxed regime detention. In addition to agriculture and forestry, animal husbandry, truck gardening, day release to work at companies and outsourcing operations, there are also offers of therapy and measures of social education.

In Grafenstein a new day release unit was established in 2011, which accommodates 18 prisoners. From hence, suitable prisoners may work at companies without supervision and are being prepared for their life in freedom in the best possible manner.



Photo 1: Women's Ward

Photo 2: Outstation Rottenstein

Photo 3: Day Release Unit

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.11 PRISON KORNEUBURG

2100 Korneuburg, Landesgerichtsplatz 1, Tel. 02262/64273



A modern judicial centre was erected in Korneuburg (completion 2012), with the prison (13,200 square metres floor space) and the court building clearly being separated from each other. An underground connecting tunnel between the two buildings serves to bring prisoners to the court area without them coming into contact with witnesses or victims.



The Prison Korneuburg is a regional court prison accommodating 267 prisoners for female and male remand prisoners and convicted prisoners with prison terms of up to 18 months' duration.



Up to 180 prisoners can be training and employed in eight workshops and operational units (prison and operations kitchen, laundry service, carpentry workshop, locksmith, maintenance workshop, waste disposal and outsourcing unit). In addition to recreational facilities for prisoners as prescribed by law (courtyards for being outside, sports field, gym, and multi-purpose room for cultural events), modern interrogation rooms, a visitor centre with separate facilities for security visits and table visits, and two rooms for long-term visits have been established.

A training room for the SWAT team and a shooting range in the basement are available to the prison staff, which can also be used by staff from other agencies, if needed.

Photo 1: Entrance

Photo 2: Entrance Area

Photo 3: Room for Long-term Visits



4.12 PRISON KREMS

3500 KremS, Kasernstrasse 9, Tel. 02732/77722

Prison KremS is a regional court prison accommodating 162 prisoners. Male, female and juvenile remand prisoners and convicted prisoners serving prison terms of up to 18 months are detained there.

The prison was built from 1930–1933 together with the court building with which it forms a functional and spatial building complex. In the years 2008 to 2011, the prison was completely renovated with not only security technology reaching state of the art, but also maximum building measures possible due to the existing space restrictions in the middle of the urban space of the town of KremS being taken, to raise the quality of accommodations, support, medical care and treatment, and leisure-time activities for prisoners to a level adequate for contemporary correctional services.

Moreover, reconstruction work was undertaken with a view to considerably improving work conditions of the prison staff.



Photo 1: Cell Block

Photo 2: Corridor

Photo 3: Sports Facility

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.13 PRISON LEOBEN

8700 Leoben, Dr. Hanns Grossstrasse 9, Tel. 03842/44443



Prison Leoben is a regional court prison accommodating 205 prisoners. Male, female and juvenile remand prisoners and convicted prisoners serving a final prison term of up to 18 months are detained there.

The prison became operational in February 2005 and is still considered one of the most modern prisons in Europe, with bright rooms for prisoners and staff members and a unique architectural concept being emphasised in the new construction. Special attention was placed on inserting window grates only in places where they are absolutely necessary from a point of view of security; otherwise, much glass was used for the premises to be especially pleasant and bright.



In spite of all interior latitude and liberality, the prison is efficiently secure on the outside, so that it is possible to a very ample extent for prisoners to freely move about within the prison. Accordingly, the Prison Leoben, in addition to various courses and leisure-time groups, also has employment opportunities in altogether five operational units (kitchen, laundry service, maintenance workshop, outsourcing unit and general workshop). Two sports halls, two outdoor fields and two gyms are available for sports activities.



Photo 1: Main Building

Photo 2: Entrance Area

Photo 3: Gate Building

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.14 PRISON LINZ

4020 Linz, Pochestrasse 9, Tel. 05760121/14201

Prison Linz is a regional court prison accommodating 504 prisoners including its two outstations Asten and Therapeutic Centre Asten. Male, female and juvenile remand prisoners, convicted prisoners serving final prison terms of up to 18 months and male forensic prisoners pursuant to Section 21 (1) and (2) Criminal Code are detained there.

The Prison Linz was erected in the years 1861–1864, and at that time was considered the most modern imperial and royal prison of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. Since then, the prison has been renovated and expanded several times. In 1963, the former “camp for ethnic German immigrants Asten” was purchased and integrated into the Prison Linz as an outpost. In 1993, the training centre Linz was established at the Prison Linz as one of three regional branches of the Prison Guard School Vienna. Since December 2010, male forensic prisoners pursuant to Section 21 (1) Criminal Code are treated in the outstation Therapeutic Centre Asten.

In ten operational units and workshops (such as kitchen, laundry service, and agricultural unit) prisoners are employed in a meaningful manner and prepared for their life after detention through courses and training sessions (data processing, languages, communication, etc.). Moreover, there are opportunities to complete an intensive professional training as cook, or façade and building cleaner. In addition, support programmes such as group counselling, alcohol groups and socio-pedagogical counselling for juvenile prisoners are offered. Fitness studios, sports courtyards, a well-stocked library, a worship and event room are available for leisure-time activities room. By this comprehensive offer a solid basis is created for a crime-free life after detention.



Photo 1: Church

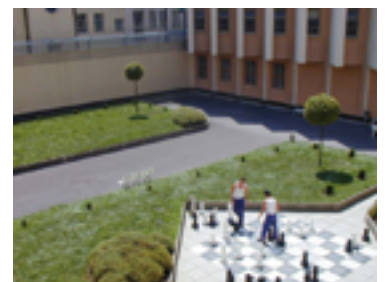


Photo 2: Courtyard

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.15 THERAPEUTIC CENTRE ASTEN (TZA), OUTPOST OF THE PRISON LINZ

4481 Asten, Technologiestrasse 5, Tel. 07224/661607900



Photo 1: Entrance Area

Photo 2: Recreation Room

Photo 3: Occupational Therapy

The TZA, in addition to the Prison Göllersdorf, is Austria's second correctional institution for mentally disturbed lawbreakers pursuant to Section 21 (1) Criminal Code, who committed a crime under the influence of a state of mind excluding sanity (Section 11 Criminal Code). The competence centre TZA accommodates 91 male prisoners in five openly designed living units in single-bed and two-bed cells. Placement requires advanced reduction of the danger they pose and which was relevant for such placement.

The emphasis of the patient-centred treatment and supporting programme is placed upon reaching a stable condition so that prisoners must not be feared to again commit any crimes. Treatment is administered according to the principles and recognised methods of psychiatry, psychology and pedagogics. Apart from reducing danger - the treatment is aimed at (re-) gaining socially stabilising competences for practical life, in order to achieve release on probation, because a "crime-less life management" is considered possible. To achieve this objective, the multi-professional teams at the Therapeutic Centre Asten (doctors, caregivers, psychologists, social worker, and special and therapeutic pedagogues, occupational and physiotherapists, prison guards) focus on compensating deficits, promoting understanding of disease and interpersonal skills, on promoting active cooperation concerning (medication) treatment, utilising personal resources and on progressing work.

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.16 PRISON RIED IM INNKREIS

4910 Ried im Innkreis, Bahnhofstrasse 56, Tel. 05760121/53400

The Prison Ried im Innkreis is a regional court prison accommodating 144 prisoners. Male, female and juvenile remand prisoners and convicted prisoners serving prison terms of up to 18 months are detained there.

The Prison Ried was built in 1880 together with the regional court building. The prison became operational on 12 December 1889. In the 120 years of its existence, the prison was adapted to the respective purposes and circumstances by continual restructuring, renovation and adaptation measures, so that the Prison Ried today meets the requirements of modern correctional services.

In December 2008, a day release unit newly established on the prison premises became operational, accommodating 12 prisoners.

The prison is subdivided in four wards, with all male prisoners in one ward being detained in a so-called relaxed regime. In their ward, female prisoners who are mostly detained in relaxed regime have a recreation room with a kitchen counter at their disposal.

Support programmes available for prisoners within the prison include participation in a discussion group of Alcoholics Anonymous, in meetings of the association for helping risk prisoners or in group counselling sessions. When prisoners are suitable for relaxed regime detention, they receive other therapies mainly as outpatients outside the prison in appropriate institutions.



Photo 1: Entrance



Photo 2: Courtyard

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.17 PRISON SALZBURG

Puch bei Hallein, Urstein Nord 73, Tel. 06245/90246



The Prison Salzburg is a regional court prison which is located 12 kilometres southeast of the Provincial capital in Puch/Hallein. The interior was reconstructed in 2014–2015 in a bright style, befitting the requirements of modern correctional services. The space of 16,000 m² now available covers mostly single-bed cells, a sports field and a sports hall, as well as a multi-functional event room. As from 2018, the old location (upon completion of renovating the Regional Court Salzburg) will be used as modern outstation.



The prison accommodates 227 prisoners. It is primarily used for detaining male, female and juvenile remand prisoners, and convicted prisoners serving prison terms of up to 18 months, for pre-release detention, for the detention of juvenile delinquents and for detaining convicted female prisoners from Western Austria.

Great emphasis is placed on employing prisoners in operational units. So that as many prisoners as possible can be given work according to their skills and aptitudes, the following operational units are available: kitchens, laundry services, outsourcing units, art workshop, car repair shop, locksmith's workshop, carpentry workshop, maintenance workshop, waste disposal, and day release. In addition to work and mandates from within the justice system and public authorities, work is also taken over from free economy enterprises.

Photo 1: Building

*Photo 2: New Construction
(Visualisation)*



4.18 PRISON SCHWARZAU

2625 Schwarzaau/Steinfeld, Wechselbundesstrasse 23-25, Tel. 02627/82352

The Prison Schwarzaau is a special institution for all forms of custodial sanctions of women and female juveniles who have to serve prison sentences ranging from 18 months to life imprisonment, and for involuntary forensic placement pursuant to Sections 21 (2) and 22 Criminal Code (mentally disturbed lawbreaker who are compos mentis, and addicted lawbreakers. The prison is located in a former imperial hunting lodge, which was completely renovated in the late 90s and equipped with state-of-the-art technology (camera surveillance, cell intercom units, etc.). The prison has a capacity to accommodate 194 prisoners. The area of the Prison Schwarzaau is about 24 hectares, which are used for agricultural and horticultural purposes. Agricultural work is performed by male prisoners, who are accommodated separately from the women. The women are accommodated in wards for first and juvenile offenders, in wards for regular custodial sanctions, in forensic placement wards, in wards for relaxed regime detention, in wards for day release prisoners, and in a mother-child ward. The prison has an in-house kindergarten for up to 23 children. In this kindergarten, the children of detainees, together with the children of employees are taken care of by two kindergarten pedagogues and one civilian serviceman.

In addition to various operational units, the Prison Schwarzaau offers diverse training facilities (such as system catering, floriculture). For leisure-time activities prisoners have available a library, for sports activities a gym and a volleyball court. The following all-season programmes are offered: Nordic walking and group counselling. There is also a theatre group.



Photo 1: Mother-Child Recreation Room

Photo 2: Workshop

Photo 3: Main Building

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.19 PRISON SONNBERG

2020 Hollabrunn, Sonnberg 1, Tel. 02952/2308



The Prison Sonnberg is a correctional facility accommodating 350 prisoners. It serves to detain male prisoners serving prison sentences from 18 months to 10 years. The prison is located in a former palace (built in 1596) a cell block (built in 1985, expanded in 2005), a workshop tract (erected in 1985, expanded in 2010), one perimeter wall and two day release units. The prison is surrounded by green areas and farmland, which are used among others for running a prison-owned gardening unit (2 hectares) and for boarding horses.



The Prison Sonnberg is well represented in the area of active environment protection by generating alternative energy from ecological woodchip heating, including an own energy forest, and from a modern photovoltaic panel system. The security technology of the Sonnberg is state of the art – as a case in point, there is round-the clock camera surveillance of all interior areas and the perimeter wall is secured within and without by proximity sensors.



Emphasis is placed on work (kitchen, laundry service, maintenance workshops, special workshops and outsourcing units), on treating and supervising sex offenders, and on a modular intensive professional training for metalworkers. Various courses round off the training opportunities (languages ECDL, forklift licence, etc.). There is individual counselling in personal matters and group sessions (group counselling, managing daily routines, etc.) performed by in-house experts, by staff members of all professions and by external therapists. Several recreation and fitness rooms and a beach volleyball court are available for sports activities. There is also a well-stocked library.

Photo 1: Guard Room

Photo 2: Recreational Room

Photo 3: Plant Nursery



4.20 PRISON ST. PÖLTEN

3100 St. Pölten, Andreas Hoferstrasse 3, Tel. 02742/840

The Prison St. Pölten is a court prison accommodating 229 prisoners for the detention of male adults and juveniles in remand detention or serving prison terms of up to 18 months. The Regional Psychiatric Hospital Mostviertel accommodates up to 70 forensic prisoners who are also administered by this prison.

The focus of the prison is on administering lawful, modern and humane custodial sanctions and includes an external facility for detaining day release prisoners accommodating 16 prisoners.

A large number of workshops provide employment for prisoners. There is an outsourcing unit, a maintenance workshop, a carpentry workshop, a locksmith's workshop, an economy department, a laundry service, a staff kitchen, a prison kitchen and a handicraft workshop. German courses to achieve better communication between prisoners and personnel, and various offers (weights' room, volleyball workshop, Nordic walking group, etc.) provide meaningful leisure-time activities. A cooperation agreement has been concluded with the Austrian Institute of Economic Development for the purpose of providing further education for prisoners.

Also here, psychological and social professional services are available to facilitate re-integration of prisoners into society in the best possible manner.



Photo 1: Tennis Court

Photo 2: Fitness Studio

Photo 3: Day Release Unit

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.21 PRISON STEIN

3500 Krems, Steiner Landstrasse 4, Tel. 02732/890



The Prison Stein is a correctional institution consisting of one main prison and three external correctional units, the outstations Mautern and Oberfurcha, and the relaxed regime detention department Krems/Danube. The prison accommodates a total of 817 male convicted prisoners and forensic prisoners. The main prison is a high security prison; the external correctional units serve for detention in preparation for release and relaxed regime detention. In addition to custodial sanctions for prisoners serving prison terms from 18 months to life imprisonment, also measures of involuntary placement for mentally disturbed lawbreakers who are *compos mentis* and for addicted lawbreakers are executed. A further emphasis is placed on substitution treatment. The prison has its own special hospital; moreover, a closed department in the university clinic Krems/Danube has been established. In 29 different workshops the prisoners detained in Stein – if necessary – are trained and employed as far as possible. Great importance is attached to intensive counselling of prisoners, to meaningful leisure-time activities, to learning a trade (such as catering expert, media designer, metal-working professions, etc.), and to further education (language courses, ECDL, basic school education etc.). The prison is organisationally broken down into so-called “Departments” according to the forms of custody. At present, the following departments exist: regular detention, detention of first offenders, security detention, relaxed regime detention, placement of prisoner with mental peculiarities, detention in preparation for release, forensic placement, substitution detention and special hospital.

Photo 1: Guard Room

Photo 2: Cell Block

Photo 3: Key Safe-Box



4.22 PRISON SUBEN

4975 Suben, Kirchenplatz 1, Tel. 07711/2311

The Prison Suben is a correctional institution for male adult prisoners serving prison terms of more than 18 months. The Prison Suben accommodates a total of 289 prisoner, 30 thereof in the day release unit, and 42 thereof for the detention of prisoners of advanced age.

The Prison Suben is located in a former monastery. The building has been used as a prison since 1856.

Prisoners have an option to work in a total of 18 workshops. Due to the wide array of offers – ranging from utility workshops such as kitchen or bakery, through professional workshops such as carpentry and locksmith, to outsourcing units – there are employment opportunities for almost any qualification and interest. The educational offer includes courses in general knowledge, language and computer courses, and in addition the opportunity to learn the profession of baker.

For leisure-time activities there is a wide array of sports facilities.

In the course of renovating the monastery tract, most of the cells have been transformed to serve for group detention. These groups are run by prisoners in their own responsibility much like shared living units. Together with the work, therapy and educational opportunities, the Prison Suben offers the prisoners a good basis for a crime-free life after release.



Photo 1: Workshop



Photo 2: Welding Shop

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.23 PRISON WELS

Hamerlingstrasse 1, 4600 Wels, Tel. 05760121/43104



The “Courthouse and Prison of the City of Wels” was opened in 1900. The Prison Wels has been restructured and renovated several times; most recently it was expanded and completely renovated in 1998 to 2002.

The Prison Wels is a court prison accommodating 156 male, female and juvenile remand prisoners, convicted prisoners serving prison terms of up to 18 months and male forensic prisoners in the forensic department (placement pursuant to Section 429 (4) Code of Criminal Procedure) from the court district of the Higher Regional Court Linz.



Photo 1: Prison Courtyard

Photo 2: Remand Department

The focus of prisoner care and organisation of prison time is placed on apprenticeship training to become a cook, on training and further education, on social training, on communicating problem-solving strategies and on drug and alcohol therapies. During detention, prisoners have an opportunity to reprocess their personal and social deficits in groups, to share their experiences with others, to reintegrate themselves emotionally and rationally, and to develop strategies of “managing their lives” and of interacting with others.

In the prison, great value is placed on work and a well-ordered daily routine. Many outsourcing units and in-prison workshops and operational units provide considerable work load of prisoners.

The Prison Wels also has its own day release unit.



4.24 PRISON VIENNA-FAVORITEN

1100 Vienna, Hardtmuthgasse 42, Tel. 01/60121

The Prison Vienna-Favoriten is a special institution for addicted lawbreakers and is dedicated to the treatment of male and female drug addicts and alcoholics. Together with its outstation Münchendorf it can accommodate 113 prisoners.

Following a strictly controlled admission and diagnosing phase, detention takes place in living units run according to a special therapeutic concept. A special feature is the cooperation of all organisational units of the prison (team structures). The prison not only stands out for its modern and variable treatment concept, but also for its highly qualified support team and the adequately trained prison guards serving there. Furthermore, the concept is partly characterised by a relatively high share of relaxed regime detentions aimed at testing in practice and consolidating the stability acquired during therapy, and the number of departments established for this purpose. In addition to work options in the workshops (e.g. wage work, laundry service and kitchen), numerous leisure-time and sports activities are offered.

Special correctional conditions for prisoners are offered by the outstation Münchendorf, which combines prisoner-specific detention conditions with a gardening workshop, small animal breeding and an outsourcing unit. The therapeutic aspect is emphasised in the outstation Münchendorf. In addition to group therapy, day release, work opportunities in the prison and meaningful leisure-time activities are fixed elements of the treatment.



Photo 1: Data Processing Facility



Photo 2: Library

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.25 PRISON VIENNA-JOSEFSTADT

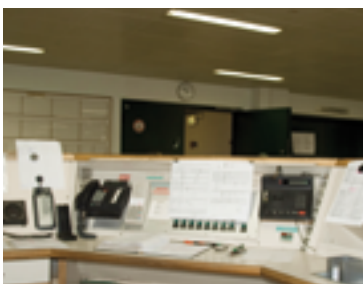
1082 Vienna, Wickenburggasse 18-20, Tel. 01/404033473



The Prison Vienna-Josefstadt is a regional court prison accommodating 921 female, male and juvenile remand prisoners, and convicted prisoners serving prison terms up to 18 months. Since about 12 years, the share of remand prisoners has been very high. For this reason, prisoners with prison terms of up to 18 months, who would normally serve their terms in this prison, are mostly transferred to other prisons. Also the share of foreign prisoners is above average in this prison, resulting in additional challenges, such as difficulties in communication, etc.



Juvenile remand prisoners are detained in specific wards – separated from adults – but will be transferred as quickly as possible to the Prison for Juveniles Gerasdorf or in the case of female juveniles to the Prison Schwarzau.



In about ten years of construction time, the Prison Vienna-Josefstadt, Austria's largest prison, was newly erected in the 1980s during current operations. The building, which is owned by the Federal Real Estate Agency (BIG), is being continuously adapted to enable regular operation. The location in the city centre, directly adjacent to the competent court, offers the advantage of good reachability. A disadvantage is the rather restricted availability of space for the prisoners and the staff working here. About 1,400 persons are detained or work here every day in tight space.

Photo 1: Main Entrance

Photo 2: Handcuffs

Photo 3: Guard Room



4.26 PRISON VIENNA-MITTERSTEIG

1050 Vienna, Mittersteig 25, Tel. 01/5451691

Since the penitentiary reform of 1975, the Prison Vienna-Mittersteig has been used as special institution for the placement of mentally disturbed lawbreakers who are *compos mentis* pursuant to Section 21 (2) Criminal Code. Since the general renovation was completed in 1983, the prison, including the outstation Floridsdorf, can accommodate 142 prisoners.

As part of its legal mandate, the Prison Vienna-Mittersteig is considered as institution for treating offenders for the purpose of protecting the victims. The supporting pillars of the necessary treatment concept are the principles of risk, need and accessibility. Treatment and counselling are risk-level oriented, focussed upon criminogenic needs and are designed in keeping with the learning abilities and styles of the forensic prisoners. Regular training and further education, as well as supervision of the staff are the basis for state-of-the-art performance.

In addition to treatment and supervision of the forensic prisoners, a wide array of training and further education offers are available, ranging from compensatory education to fix school deficits to computer courses with certificates or from gymnastics to mental exercises (such as chess). The therapeutic approach towards prisoners in the Prison Vienna-Mittersteig does not mean that security – within and without – plays only a secondary role. The prison is equipped with an up-to-date video surveillance system. Without exception, staff members have to wear personal alarm devices, facilitating immediate alarm activation and exact localisation.



Photo 1: Courtyard

Photo 2: Corridor

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.27 PRISON VIENNA-SIMMERING

1110 Vienna, Kaiser-Ebersdorferstrasse 297, Tel. 01/7696919



The Prison Vienna-Simmering is a correctional institution for male adult prisoners serving prison terms of more than three months up to about five years, and can accommodate 452 prisoners.



The Prison Vienna-Simmering has a total of 17 workshop and outsourcing units, where prisoners can be employed to work according to their individual skills or may learn an apprenticeship trade. The following training and further education programmes are offered: warehouse management, German for foreigners, forklift courses, First Aid courses, intensive professional training for carpenter, painter and house painter, brick-layer, cook, catering expert, tinsmith, metalworker and baker.



When qualifying for day release, prisoners have an opportunity to learn a trade and attend courses also outside the prison. The same holds true for attending advanced technical colleges or the like. Also the comprehensive support programmes and units must be mentioned, including various individual and group therapy measures and discussion groups (such as group counselling, anti-violence training, coping with addiction problems, a social therapy unit and a detention unit for preparing prisoners serving long prison terms for their release).

Since 1 September 2010, the Prison Vienna-Simmering supervises electronically monitored home detention in the court district Vienna.

Photo 1: Sports Facility

Photo 2: Visit Facility

Photo 3: Security Gate

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.28 PRISON WIENER NEUSTADT

2700 Wiener Neustadt, Maximiliangasse 3, Tel. 02622/90600

The Prison Wiener Neustadt is a court prison in which men, women and juveniles are subjected both to remand detention and to imprisonment up to a duration of 18 months.

The building, which partly dates from 1893, was completely renovated and enlarged in 2002 to 2006. Since its completion in 2006, the Prison Wiener Neustadt can accommodate 211 prisoners. A day release unit accommodating 16 and correctional living groups accommodating 82 have been established. By establishing new correctional living and day release units, important correctional measures for a better social re-integration of convicted offenders have been implemented.

In der Prison Wiener Neustadt custodial sanctions are served in a modern fashion corresponding to European standards. Employment, education, support and leisure-time activities of prisoners are being implemented by multi-professional teams of experts in a high-quality, comprehensive and sustainable manner. The high quality level of custodial sanctions is guaranteed by various measures improving the working conditions of the prison staff at the Prison Wiener Neustadt.



Photo 1: Outside View

Photo 2: Administrative Wing

Photo 3: Operations Tract

4 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRIA



4.29 CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ACADEMY

1082 Vienna, Wickenburggasse 12, Tel. 01/40403 3928



The Correctional Services Academy is the central educational institution of Austrian correctional services. The high demands of correctional services are reflected in the establishment of this educational facility. Under the “roof of the Academy”, the two departments “Prison Guard School” (basic education) and the “Centre for Further Education” (further education) have been joined together in 2006. Since 2015, the Academy has also taken over the function of “IT service centre”.



The demands placed upon correctional staff are most complicated and challenging. This fact is also shown by the number of events held, ranging from jurisprudential seminars to management training and coaching.



Staff members in the administration of custodial sanctions and measures of involuntary forensic placement perform their work under most difficult conditions and in considerable conflict areas. The Correctional Services Academy frequently provides development work, to meet all requests and demands of correctional service staff. All academy members use their best efforts to meet the demands posed in their proven high level of quality, to organise the contents of the services offered within the framework agreed upon by their superiors and to support prisons in their special education and development needs in the best possible manner.

Photo 1: Classroom

Photo 2: Computer Classroom

Photo 3: Prison Guard Class

Training and further education of about 4,000 correctional services employees is being administered by ten staff members and one department head. The Academy is supported by three outstations of the Prison Guard School established at the Graz-Karlau, Linz and Stein Prisons.



4.30 JUVENILE COURT ASSISTANCE VIENNA

1082 Vienna, Wickenburggasse 18-20, Tel. 01/40403-3400

The Juvenile Court Assistance Vienna was founded in 1911, and since 1947 has been an agency of the judiciary. It supports courts and public prosecutors in the area of juvenile jurisdiction and is responsible for monitoring the detention of juveniles and young adults in Vienna.

Investigating juveniles: On behalf of courts and public prosecutors all circumstances of accused persons essential for an assessment of their personalities and their living conditions are investigated. Contacts are established with support institutions, on the basis of investigation results most precise and reliable profiles of the accused persons' personalities and all relevant circumstances are communicated and measure are proposed to remedy any deficits.

Assistance in deciding about further detention: The staff members make contributions for the prevention and reductions of remand detention for juveniles and young adults, by establishing comprehensive personality profiles, clarifying their social reception room, networking with support institutions, and if needed, providing alternative accommodation replacing remand detention.

Providing community work: Juvenile delinquents are instructed on behalf of public prosecutors and of courts that they might avoid being prosecuted should they perform community work, suitable community jobs are arranged and communication to principals is carried out.

Support during detention: Juveniles and young adults detained in the Prison Vienna-Josefstadt are counselled and supported by psychologists and social workers, and prepared for their release. Juvenile Court Assistance Vienna promotes re-integration into society.



Photo 1: Waiting Zone

Photo 2: Waiting Zone

Photo 3: Interview Room