



**Generalitat  
de Catalunya**

## **Children of Prisoners Workshop**

11 November 2021 Leiden, Netherlands

# **Lessons learned during the Covid\_19 pandemic in Catalonia in relation to children of prisoners**

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THE EUROPEAN ORGANISATION OF  
PRISONS AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



Generalitat de Catalunya  
Departament de Justícia  
**Secretaria de Mesures Penals,  
Reinserció i Atenció a la Víctima**

Organized back-to-back with



## **REGARDING INMATES' CHILDREN THE COVID HAS TAUGHT US THAT:**

### **01. Two platforms which turned out to be perfect tools to cope with Covid\_19**

- Parental Responsibility Groups
- Participation Social Tables

### **02. Measures that seemed difficult to take before Covid\_19**

- Video calls
- Liaison officer
- Early releases
- Actions led by social workers of the Penitentiary Social Services



# 01. Two platforms which turned out to be perfect tools to cope with Covid\_19

- **Parental Responsibility Groups**

Important aspects are:

- Transversal composition
- They go beyond the idea between primary goals of Prison Services and NGOs





## 01. Two platforms which turned out to be perfect tools to cope with Covid\_19

- **Participation Social Tables**

Regulated by law

There is one in each prison

A body of relations and consultation between:

- Local Administration
- Prison's Governor, Rehabilitation Staff, Surveillance Officers and Penitentiary Social Services
- NGOs
- Inmates' representatives

**tps**  
TAULA DE PARTICIPACIÓ SOCIAL  
DE CATALUNYA



## 02. Measures that seemed difficult to take before Covid\_19

- **Video calls**

- A matter of security + children's rights + willingness + necessity
- A great opportunity for progress



## 02. Measures that seemed difficult to take before Covid\_19

- **A liaison officer responsible for each of the following areas:**
  - Gender
  - Inmates with special needs (Intellectual)
  - Foreigners
  - Inmates with mental health issues
  - +
  - Children's liaison officer

## 02. Measures that seemed difficult to take before Covid\_19

- **Early releases**

- To foster proposals for early release paying particular attention when children are involved





## 02. Measures that seemed difficult to take before Covid\_19

- **Actions led by social workers of the Penitentiary Social Services**

- To be proactive in calling families
- Guidelines for better communication with families and children
- Direct phone line
- New rule for data collection
- Cut down on red tape





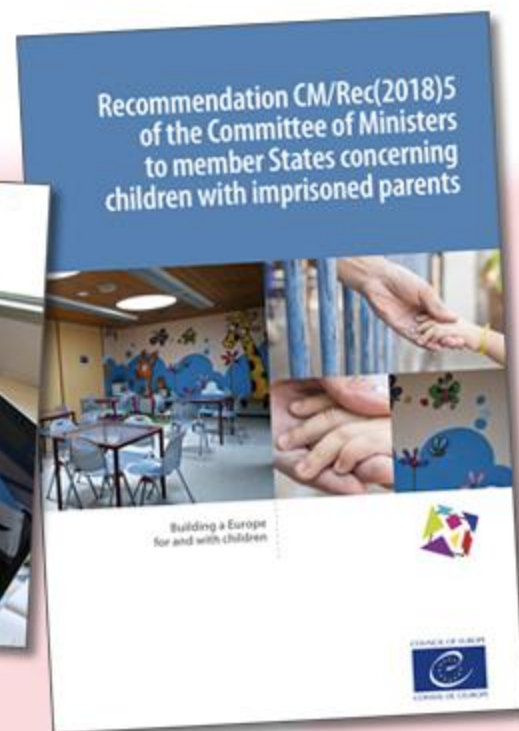
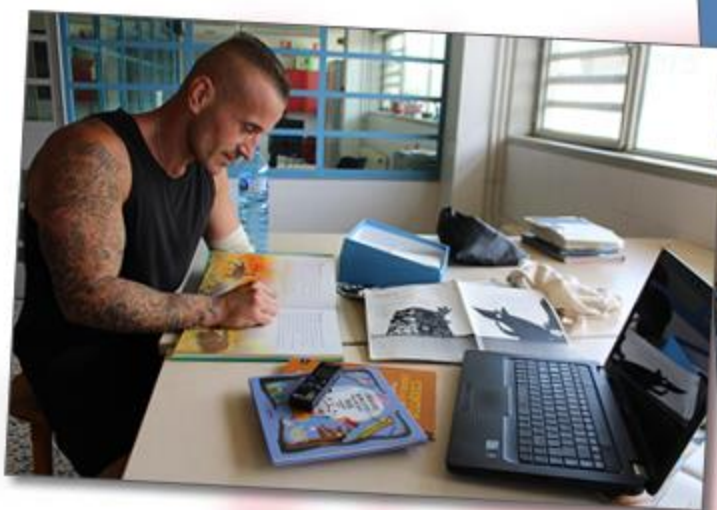
## THE SECRETARIAT OF CRIMINAL SANCTIONS' ULTIMATE AIMS:

- To create a Specific Child Protection Policy
- Video calls must become a kind of family visit
- We still need a strong NGO which works directly with children



## THE STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE CATALONIA'S GOVERNMENT INCLUDES:

- A Parenting Strategy Policy
- To implement gradually the Council of Europe's Recommendation CM/Rec(2018)5 under the Ombudsperson's supervision.



**Thank you for your attention**



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