Confederation of European Probation
Prisons of the Future

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Confederation of European Probation

**Founded - 1981**

**Aim**
knowledge exchange

**Concern**
Growing number European foreign nationals in national prisons

**Today - 2016**

60 EU Member organizations
34 Countries
38 Jurisdictions

Organizations and Institutions acting in the judicial field
Universities
Individual members

**Challenge**
Protect Society + Desistance with a Decreasing budget
Prisons of the Future

CEP launched a consultation process to find the answers of:

- **What are the main developments in probation/alternatives to prison in your country since the year 2000?**

- **Which development(s) do you consider as innovative?**

[ 17 jurisdictions from all over Europe responded to this call ]
Organisation

• Eastern European countries (after 2000) **Probation established by law**: Croatia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Baltic States

• Western European countries **re-defined the mission of Probation**:
  
  **Before**
  
  • “Distributing Welfare”

  **Today**
  
  • “Reduce recidivism and promote resocialization”
Organisation

- **Organisational reform**
  France, England and Wales, Estonia, Switzerland and Italy

- **Connection** between **Probation** services and “other stakeholders”

- **Externalization or privatization** of Probation activities
  Austria, Netherlands, Catalonia and England
Probation Practice

- **Information management** → important component in modern daily Probation practice

- Use of general and specific **risk management tools** (OASYS, RISc, LSR, STATIC 99)

- **Intervention programs** on:
  - Domestic violence
  - Sexual offenders COSA (Circles of Support and Accountability)

- **Concern for victims**: Family group conferencing **restorative conferences in probation routines** (Czech Republic and Latvia)

- ‘Probationers’ changed **from national to ‘foreign’ national**
Sentencing & Procedure

- Procedural justice elements more and more are introduced in the decision making process

- Probation services implemented more sentences:
  - Electronic Monitoring the most important development after 2000
  - Community Service is also very popular

- Probation services report high caseloads

- Conditional release becomes more sophisticated

- Combination of early release + prison regime + electronic monitoring

“Mass Supervision” “Net-Widening” effect?
Innovative

Innovation refers to initiatives in a particular jurisdiction:

Digital Solutions

- Introducing EM
- Apps
- Integrated IT systems
- Domestic violence program with technique of “virtual reality”
Innovative

Other innovations worthwhile to be mentioned:

Analogue Solutions

- New rehabilitation programs
- Table of Social Participation, Catalonia - Safety houses, Netherlands - Justitiehuizen, Belgium
- Community Return Program, Ireland
- Supervision
- Prison-probation staff joint training
Conclusions

• Probation and prison interplay has the potential to generate a new form of experiencing imprisonment

• To explore more potential of Probation services to replace more custodial time

• Probation service may fulfil the prophecy of becoming the ‘virtual prison’. In this case more should be done to ensure the right balance between risk, public safety and rehabilitation
Thank you!
Merci!
Dank!
感激
Gracias!
Благодаря!
Grazie!

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Supported by the Justice Programme of the European Union