



International Office Dutch Probation Service

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Probation Service



International Office
Dutch prisoners abroad



Tasks of the International Office

International Office – Dutch Probation Service

1. Transfer alternative sanctions
2. Participation in Rule of Law programs of the EU and RvE (developing probation agencies)
3. Assistance Dutch Caribbean Probation Service
- 4. Dutch prisoners abroad**



International Office – Dutch Probation Service

International Office is part of the Dutch Probation Service (15 employees)

Funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (50%) and the Ministry of Security & Justice

Started in 1975 as an experiment with a temporary coordination unit



International Office – Dutch Probation Service

Numbers Dutch nationals detained abroad:

1977 →	305
1994 →	1237
1997 →	1584
2000 →	1985

From 2005 – around 2500

Appr 800 in/out – high turnover





Top 10 detention countries

- Germany (395)
- Spain (238)
- France (150)
- United Kingdom (146)
- Belgium (124)
- Dominican Republic (115)
- Peru (95)
- Italy (69)
- Brasil (68)
- Marocco (60)



80% drug-related crimes

Education – work - income

- 25% can hardly read or speak Dutch!
- 70% have debts up to E20.000
- 40% unemployed
- 30% receives benefits
- 13% women



How do they come back??

- No income
- Debts
- No housing
- Lost relationships
- No current knowledge of society





Goals International Office

The International Office has the **aim**:

to contribute to the increase of **self-insight**,
self-reliance and **reintegration**
of the Dutch prisoners detained abroad by:



- Providing **information and advice**
- Deployment of **probation volunteers**

Target group:

Dutch prisoners who return to The Netherlands



International Office – Dutch Probation Service

Limit damages detention

Promote reflection on criminal behaviour

Prepare return to The Netherlands





Tasks / services

- Coordination of probation counselling
- Provide information and advice
- Home circumstances report
- Investigation rehabilitation in The Netherlands
- Coordination of volunteers
- Coordination education





Actionroute



Questions of home front

Probationform

- Problem inventory
- Permission to act

First aid and information

Home circumstances report

Volunteers

Education

Diagnose and
Plan of Action

Plan of reintegration





Volunteers

The probation volunteers are being coached and guided by the International Office

- 325 volunteers/visitors in 46 countries
- 1700 prisoners have been visited
- around 6000 visits a year
- Trained in Motivational Interviewing





Education Project

- 250 prisoners are studying
- Supplementary to the education in prison
- Individual coaching
- Preparation in finding a job



Reintegration / Aftercare

- Preparation for return to The Netherlands
- Application local municipality





Focus on returning nationals!

- Focus on returning nationals vs foreigners in prison.
- In the interest of detainee and society
- CEP–SIG: Special Interest Group Foreign Prisoners
- Promote Best Practice





International Office – contact details

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