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**EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON CRIME PROBLEMS**  
**(CDPC)**

**Council for Penological Co-operation**  
**(PC-CP)**

**5th Plenary Meeting**

**Strasbourg, 17-19 November 2015**

**SUMMARY MEETING REPORT**

**Document prepared by the Directorate General  
Human Rights and Rule of Law**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **The PC-CP plenary:**

- Took note of the opening address by Mr Jan Kleijssen, Director, Information Society and Action against Crime Directorate, DG Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe;
- Adopted its meeting agenda and its order of business;
- Took note of the report by its Chair, Mr Mauro Palma regarding the work carried out by its Working Group after its 4th PC-CP plenary meeting in November 2014 and considered its draft mandate for 2016/2017 and in particular the task to draft a manual (or a handbook) regarding tools for identifying and dealing with violent extremists and containing good practices in this respect;
- Adopted the summary meeting report of the last PC CP Working Group meeting;
- Took into consideration the opinion of the CDPC Bureau and of the CODEXTER plenary related to the draft Guidelines for prison and probation services regarding radicalisation and violent extremism and conveyed back to the CODEXTER plenary the outcome of the discussions at the PC-CP level in this respect;
- Took note of the commentary drafted by Mr Francesco Ragazzi, scientific expert, to the draft Guidelines, made some proposals for amendments or additions to it and agreed that it will be presented as the expert's view on the text of the Guidelines at the forthcoming CDPC plenary;
- Amended, finalised and approved the draft Guidelines and forwarded these to the CDPC;
- Considered the draft Recommendation on the European Rules on community sanctions and measures and its preamble, took note that the same will be further redrafted in 2016 and will also be discussed at the 21st Conference of Directors of Prison and Probation Services in June 2016 and had no comments to make on the text at this stage;
- Took note of the information provided by the representative of the Dutch Prison Administration and the Secretariat regarding the holding of the 21st Council of Europe Conference of Directors of Prison and Probation Services (14-15 June 2016, The Netherlands) and thanked the Dutch authorities for hosting this important event. It then approved its general format and working title "Community Involvement in Prison and Probation Work". It also agreed that radicalisation will be discussed again at the Conference in view of the importance of this topic for the prison and probation services;
- Took note of the presentations made by Ms Kirsten Hawlitschek, EuroPris, Ms Roisin Mulgrew, Assistant Professor, School of Law, University of Nottingham and Ms Femke Hofstee van der Meulen, Prison Watch regarding the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec (2012) 12 on foreign prisoners, debated the issue of implementation of Council of Europe standards by its member states and ways to improve it;
- Considered the draft White Paper on prison overcrowding and decided that in view of the fact that its current Chair and Vice-Chair had participated in the work of the Drafting Committee so far and the latter will hold its last meeting in April 2016, the same should continue to represent the PC-CP at this last meeting. It was further agreed that its next Chair, Mr Geiran will also attend in order to ensure continuity. The national delegations were invited to send their proposals for amendment and additions to the draft White Paper not later than 15 January 2016;

- Took note of the proposal made by the SPACE team to leave out data on small countries from charts and diagrams showing statistical trends in Europe over longer periods of time and decided that this issue requires further discussion at the next meeting of the Working Group in the presence of the SPACE team of experts. Took into consideration the appeal made to send data in time. The PC-CP approved the proposal made to hold a new meeting of the SPACE national correspondents in 2016. Some delegates requested that the data collected should be presented in a format which is more accessible to the national authorities;
- Took note with interest of the recently launched project on de-radicalisation presented by Mr Thony, General Prosecutor at the Court of Appeal of Colmar, France and decided to invite him to discuss the first results of its implementation next year;
- Took note that the mandate of four elected members of the PC CP Working Group will expire at the next CDPC plenary meeting on 2-4 December 2015 and that two candidates have been officially presented so far (by the Belgian and the Bulgarian authorities);
- Took note of the report concerning the co-operation activities in the prison and probation fields;
- Decided to hold its next plenary meeting in November 2016.

The Council for Penological Co-operation (PC-CP) held its 5th plenary meeting in Strasbourg on 17-19 November 2015 with Mr Mauro Palma in the Chair and Ms Alina Barbu as Vice-Chair. The list of participants is appended to this report (Appendix II).

**I. Opening of the meeting, adoption of the agenda and the order of business and report of the PC-CP Chair**

1. The agenda was adopted (see Appendix I). The order of business was also approved.
2. Mr Jan Kleijssen, Director, Information Society and Action against Crime Directorate, DG Human Rights and Rule of Law invited all participants to take a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the deadly terrorist acts in Paris on 13 November 2015. He then welcomed the participants and thanked the four outgoing elected members of its Working Group, including its Chair and Vice-Chair for their contribution in the course of the past four years to the achievements of the PC-CP. These relate to the elaboration of texts adopted by the Committee of Ministers, namely Recommendation (2012) 5 on the European Code of Ethics for Prison Staff; Recommendation (2012) 12 concerning foreign prisoners and Recommendation (2014) 4 on electronic monitoring; the holding of four Conferences of Directors of Prison and Probation Services - in Rome, Brussels, Helsinki and Bucharest; the current finalisation of draft Guidelines for prison and probation services regarding radicalisation and violent extremism as well as the White Paper on prison overcrowding.
3. The Chair of the PC-CP, Mr Mauro Palma provided a summary of the PC-CP Working Group activities between the two plenary sessions (November 2014 - November 2015), including participation of its members in other meetings and promotion of the PC-CP work outside the Council of Europe.

**II. Summary report of the meetings of the PC-CP Working Group**

4. The PC-CP considered the summary meeting report of the above meetings and had no comments to make.

**III. Items for information**

5. The participants took note of the information provided by the Secretariat regarding the expected time line for adoption of the draft Guidelines and the White Paper as well as regarding the draft terms of office of the PC-CP for 2016-2017 which are expected to be adopted by the Committee of Ministers in the coming weeks.

**IV. Draft Guidelines for prison and probation services regarding radicalisation and violent extremism**

6. The PC-CP took note that in line with the decisions taken at the last CDPC meeting in June 2016 all CDPC delegations were sent the draft text in October and were requested to forward to the PC-CP Secretariat any written comments they might have. The participants further examined the observations made at the last meeting of the CDPC Bureau and the opinion of CODEXTER on the draft text. The PC-CP Chair conveyed back to the CODEXTER plenary (taking place at the same time) the outcome of the discussions at the PC-CP level in this respect
7. The participants noted that five CDPC delegations had sent their written comments and that four of them had made specific proposals for amendments, took into consideration the proposals made and examined and amended the draft Guidelines accordingly.
8. The PC-CP further took into consideration the commentary to the draft Guidelines prepared by the scientific expert, Mr Francesco Ragazzi, thanked him for his work, made some additional proposals and decided to forward it to the CDPC for information.
9. In the light of the above the PC-CP finalised and approved the draft Guidelines and forwarded these to the CDPC for final approval before the adoption by the Committee of Ministers.

**V. Draft Recommendation on the European Rules on community sanctions and measures**

10. The PC-CP considered the draft text and took note that it will be finalised in the course of 2016 and that before that it will be discussed at the 21st Conference of the Directors of Prison and Probation Services in June 2016. It had no additional comments to make at the present meeting.

**VI. Draft White Paper on prison overcrowding**

11. The PC-CP considered the draft White Paper and took note of the information provided by its Chair, Mr Mauro Palma who is also chairing the Drafting Committee meetings. It took note of the fact that the White paper will be finalised in April 2016 by the Drafting Committee and that afterwards the PC-CP, in accordance with its mandate for 2016-2017, will have the task to consider, and if necessary introduce further amendments to it in view of its forwarding to the CDPC for final approval in June 2016.
12. In the light of this the PC-CP suggested that its new Chair, Mr Vivian Geiran should attend the last meeting of the Drafting Committee which will take place on 21-22 April 2016.

**VII. 21st Council of Europe Conference of Directors of Prison and Probation Services (CDPPS) (2016, the Netherlands)**

13. The PC-CP took note of the information provided by the Dutch delegation regarding the organisation of the 21st CDPPS and conveyed their gratitude to the Dutch authorities for hosting this important annual event. It approved its general format and working title, namely "Community Involvement in Prison and Probation Work" and agreed that radicalisation will be discussed again at the Conference in view of the importance of this topic for the prison and probation services. It also approved the discussion in small groups of the draft CM Recommendation on community sanctions and measures.

**VIII. Foreign Prisoners**

14. The PC-CP took note of the presentations made by Ms Kirsten Hawlitschek, EuroPris, Ms Roisin Mulgrew, Assistant Professor, School of Law, University of Nottingham and Ms Femke Hofstee van der Meulen, Prison Watch regarding the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec (2012) 12 on foreign prisoners. It shared the opinion that foreign prisoners rarely come forward to the attention and concern of the national authorities which explains to a great extent why this recommendation is rarely translated and known to the prison and probation services. The experts appealed to the participants to take the necessary steps to promote this text and to include it in the training curricula of prison staff.
15. The audience further debated the issue of implementation in general of Council of Europe standards by its member states and ways to improve it like translation, publication, promotion among the relevant bodies, inclusion in the training curricula, etc.

**IX. Presentation by Mr Jean-François Thony, General Prosecutor of Colmar, High Court of Mulhouse**

16. The PC-CP took note of the very interesting presentation made by Mr Thony regarding a recently launched project on de-radicalisation and following the discussions and the questions and answers session decided to invite Mr Thony next year to share some further experience on the subject once the project is launched in a fully fledged manner.

**X. Co-operation activities in the prison and probation field**

17. The PC-CP took note of the information provided by Ms Tanja Rakusic regarding the co-operation activities with some recent Council of Europe member states funded by outside sources.

**XI. SPACE statistics and the work with the national correspondents**

18. The PC-CP took note of the proposal made by the SPACE team to leave out data on small countries from charts and diagrams showing statistical trends in Europe over longer periods of time and decided that this issue requires further discussion at one of the next meetings of the Working Group in the presence of the SPACE team of experts. It took into consideration the appeal made to send the requested data in time in order to allow the SPACE team to process it and publish the statistics in a timely manner. The PC-CP approved the proposal made to hold a new meeting of the SPACE national correspondents in 2016. Some delegates requested that the data collected is presented in a format which is more accessible to the national authorities, namely in the form of Excel tables and not in a locked format.

**XII. Elections**

19. The Secretariat informed that the mandate of four members of the PC-CP WG expires in December 2015 at the CDPC plenary meeting and that so far only two candidates were officially presented by the CDPC national delegations. The delegations were requested to speed up the sending of suitable candidates.
20. The PC-CP thanked the four outgoing members, namely Mr Mauro Palma, Ms Alina Barbu, Mr Peter Lindström and Mr Harald Føsker for their excellent work and for their contribution to the success and the quality of the work carried out by the PC-CP in the course of the past four years.

**XIII. Any other business**

21. The meeting was attended by 60 participants out of whom there were 18 women. One of them is Vice-Chair of the Committee.
22. In the process of discussing the draft Guidelines the issue of women radicalisation and violent extremism was also debated as well as the role of women (more specifically of mothers) in the preventing and countering violent extremism was also considered and reflected in the commentary to the text. It was decided to examine this issue in more details when drafting a Handbook on identifying and dealing with radicalisation and violent extremism in prison.

**XIV. Dates of the next meetings**

23. The PC-CP decided that the dates of the next PC-CP plenary will be in November 2016 and that the exact dates will be communicated by the Secretariat at the beginning of 2016. As regards the meetings of the PC-CP WG, it was agreed that the dates of their meetings will be fixed once the new members are elected.

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**APPENDIX I**

**AGENDA / ORDRE DU JOUR**

**1. Opening of the meeting / Ouverture de la réunion**

**2. Adoption of the draft agenda and the draft order of business /  
Adoption du projet d'ordre du jour et du projet d'ordre des travaux**

**3. Report of the PC-CP Chair / Rapport du Président du PC-CP**

**PC-CP ToR 2014-2015**

[English](#) / [Français](#)

**PC-CP ToR 2016-2017**

[English](#) / [Français](#)

**4. Adoption of the summary meeting reports of the PC-CP Working  
Group / Adoption des rapports sommaires des réunions du Groupe de travail  
du PC-CP**

**PC-CP (2015) 1**

[English](#) / [Français](#)

**PC-CP (2015) 5**

[English](#) / [Français](#)

**PC-CP (2015) 11**

[English](#) / [Français](#)

**5. Information provided by the Secretariat / Informations fournies par le  
Secrétariat**

**CDPC-BU (2015) 4**

[English](#) / [Français](#)

**6. Draft Guidelines for prison and probation services regarding  
radicalisation and violent extremism / Projet de lignes directrices pour les  
services pénitentiaires et de probation concernant la radicalisation et à  
l'extrémisme violent**

**PC-CP (2015) 2 rev 3**

[English](#) / [Français](#)

**PC-CP (2015) 14**

[English only](#)

**CM Decision**

[English](#) / [Français](#)

**CM Action Plan**

[English](#) / [Français](#)

**7. Draft Recommendation on the European Rules on community  
sanctions and measures / Projet de Recommandation sur les Règles  
européennes concernant les sanctions et mesures appliquées dans la  
communauté**

**PC-CP (2015) 10 rev**

[English](#) / [Français](#)

**PC-CP (2015) 9 rev**

[English](#) / [Français](#)

**8. 21st Council of Europe Conference of Directors of Prison and  
Probation Services (2016, the Netherlands) / 21<sup>e</sup> Conférence du Conseil  
de l'Europe des Directeurs des services pénitentiaires et de probation (2016,  
Pays-Bas)**

[Presentation Femke  
Hofstee van der Meulen](#)

**9. Foreign Prisoners / Détenus étrangers**

[Presentation  
Roisin Mulgrew](#)

**10. Presentation by Mr Jean-François Thony, General Prosecutor of Colmar, High Court of Mulhouse** / Intervention de M. Jean-François Thony, Procureur Général de Colmar, Tribunal de Grande Instance de Mulhouse

**11. Co-operation activities in the prison and probation field** / Activités de coopération dans le domaine pénitentiaire et de probation

[Presentation](#)  
[Tanja Rakusic](#)

**12. Review of the Recommendations and Resolutions in prison and probation fields** / Examen des Recommandations et des Résolutions dans les domaines pénitentiaires et de probation

**PC-CP (2014) 16 rev 2**  
[English](#) / [Français](#)

**13. Draft White Paper on prison overcrowding** / Projet de Livre blanc concernant le surpeuplement carcéral

**PC-CP (2015) 6 rev 2**  
[English](#) / [Français](#)

**CDPC (2015) 20**  
[English](#) / [Français](#)

**14. SPACE statistics and the work with the national correspondents** / Les statistiques SPACE et le travail avec les correspondants nationaux

**15. Elections** / Elections

**PC-CP (2015) 13**  
[English](#) / [Français](#)

**16. Any other business** / Questions diverses

**17. Dates of the next plenary meeting** / Dates de la prochaine réunion plénière



**APPENDIX II**

**MEMBER STATES / ETATS MEMBRES**

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**NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF  
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