
Prison and Probation in Romania

Shared visions. One mission

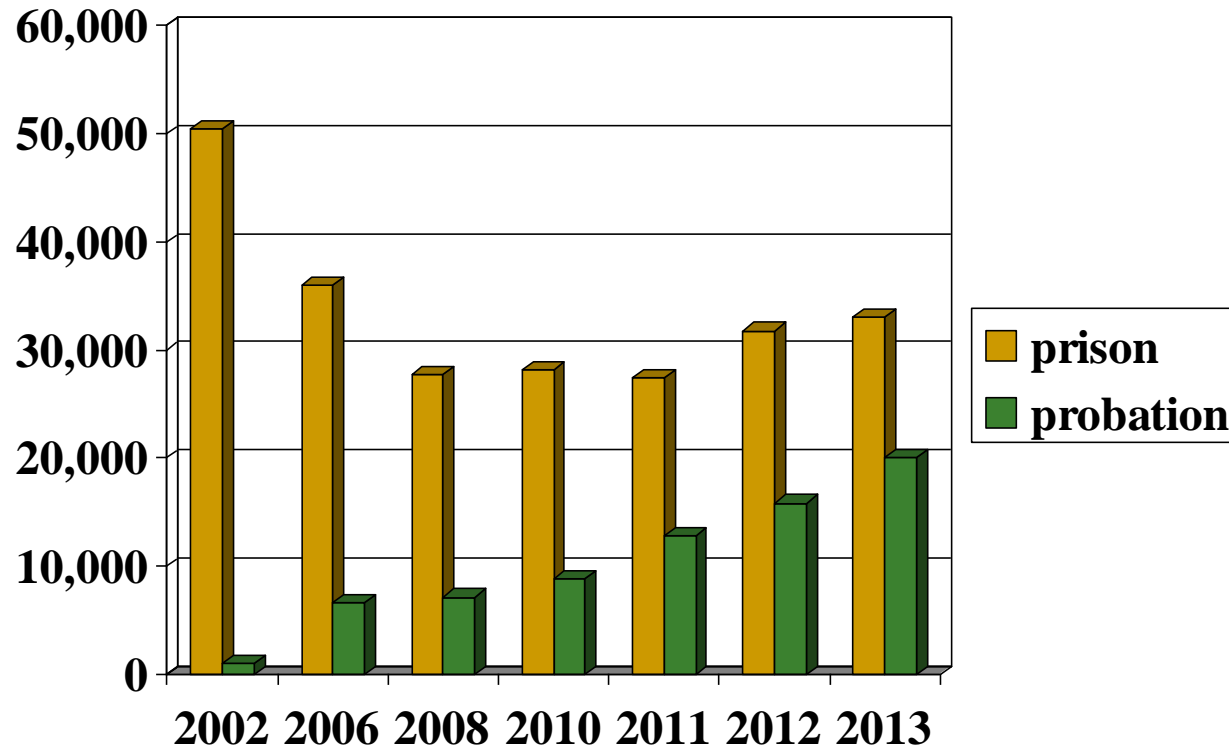
Helsinki, 17-18 June 2014

Romania



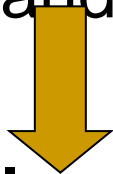
- by area, the 11th largest Member State;
- by population, the 13th largest of the CoE, with 21.5 million people.

Prison & Probation – numbers



Context

- Constant **increase of the prison and probation activity;**
- **Legislative reform** starting with 1st of February 2014 – New Criminal Codes, new laws for prison and probation;



New challenges for the management of the services.



Shared visions

● Prison

We seek to:

- develop a modern prison service harmonized with international standards;
- promote an integrated intervention for the reintegration of the inmates;
- develop educational side of the imprisonment & increase self motivation;
- increase number of those who do not reoffend.

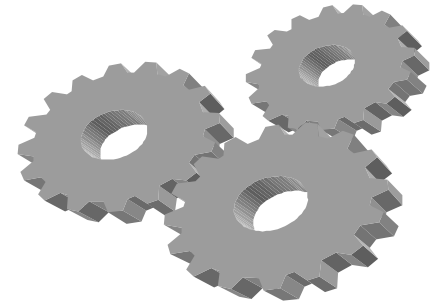
● Probation

We seek to:

- reduce the social costs related to custodial sanctions and measures by decreasing the prison population;
 - maintain the safety of the community by appraising the social and economic potential of offenders.
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Challenges – Perception

- **Prison** – safety & isolation instead of intervention & reinsertion;
- **Probation** – soft measure.



Solutions:

- to address to our own staff and public mentality;
 - to organise joint programs, working groups, events.
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Challenges – limited budgets

● Prison

- understaffed;
- lack of motivation;
- no salaries increased since 2009;
- stress and overload problems.

Solutions:

- modern technologies for security and surveillance;
- own revenue growth.

● Probation

- insufficient training for our staff;
- no salaries increase since 2009;
- motivation decrease.

Solutions:

- use of alternative sources of funding for the probation activity.

Challenges – overcrowding

● Prison

- failure to comply entirely with international standards;
- some violation of prisoners' rights;
- low intervention effects.

Solutions:

- support of EU & COE;
- to build modern prisons and close the oldest ones.

● Probation

- less time allocated/offender;
- quality of intervention affected.

Solutions:

- involvement of volunteers and local community institutions in the probation activity.
-

Solutions – overcrowding

- **Hearing by the videoconference system.**
 - **Electronic monitoring.**
 - **House arrest.**
 - **Adapting the national legislation to the new trends of the punishments and non-imprisonment measures.**
 - **Drawing the development potential of the national and foreign private sector.**
 - **Opening some European financing lines or accessing the existing ones.**
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One mission – P&P



The National Administration of Penitentiaries and the Probation System are public services contributing to the enforcement of the justice in the community interest, respecting humane dignity, parts of the continuum of the activities developed during the execution of the imprisonment/non-imprisonment punishments or during the post execution period of time:

- pursuing the social reinsertion of the persons that are offending;
- diminishing the risk of reoffending;
- increasing the degree of community safety;
- maintaining the public order and national safety.

One mission – P&P

Reducing the risk of reoffending



Elaborated by a team of national and international experts, in cooperation with the representatives from Probation and Prison – PHARE 2006 project.

- **principle of permanent co-operation** between the prison specialist and the probation counsellor;
- **principle of the intervention continuity** for the assistance of the persons preparing for release and subsequently released from the prison.

Common projects – National Strategy for Social Reintegration of Inmates

- Aiming to create the preconditions to facilitate the **social reinsertion** of the persons that executed imprisonment punishments;
- Aiming to **reduce the reoffending**.



Common projects – National Strategy for Social Reintegration of Inmates

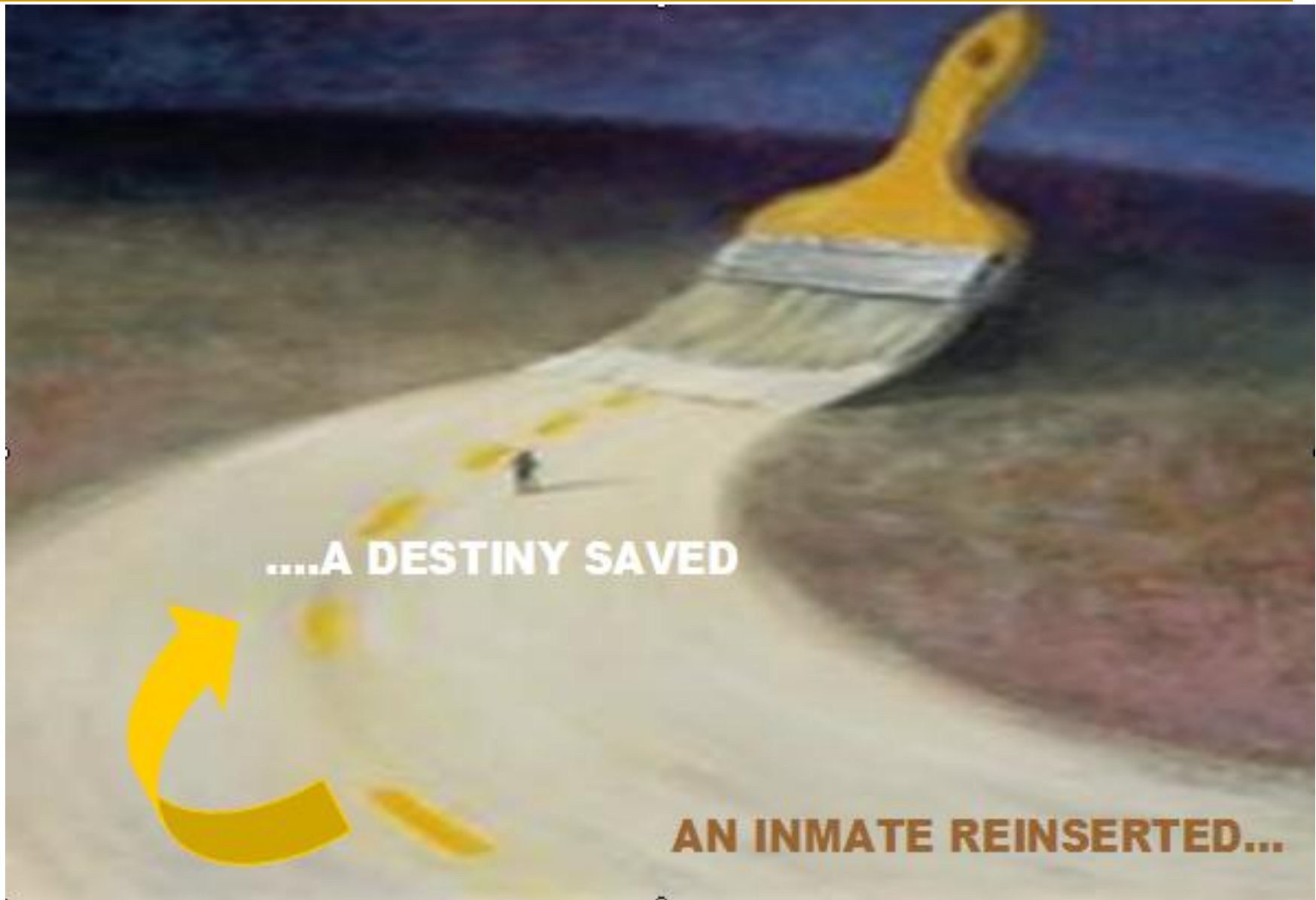
Aims to:

- Create an **interactive, functional, articulated inter-institutional co-operation mechanism**, with clearly defined responsibilities in gradual stages of the social reinsertion process;
- **Co-interest the public institutions, associations and non-governmental organisations** relevant for the social reinsertion domain;
- Attract **resources for the assistance granted to the inmates.**



Key ingredients for P&P activity





....A DESTINY SAVED

AN INMATE REINSERTED...

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Prison and Probation

