

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

AGENDA

MULTILATERAL MEETING

**The COVID-19 pandemic in prisons and its impact on
prison reform priorities**

Strasbourg, 3-4 November 2022

Council of Europe, Palais, Room 10

Thursday, 3 November

08:30 – 09:15 **Registration of participants**

09:15 – 09:30 **Opening remarks**

Tanja RAKUSIC-HADZIC, Head of Cooperation in Police and Deprivation of Liberty unit, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe

Session 1

09:30 – 10:45 **Presentation of the Council of Europe study “The COVID-19 pandemic in prisons and its impact on prison reform priorities”**

Sharon CRITOPH / Vicki PRAIS, Council of Europe consultants

Part I: Findings

Questions

10:45 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30 **Update on the measures taken / lessons learned by penitentiary administrations of the Council of Europe member states participating in the study**

- *Ketevan SARAJISHVILI*, Head of Public International Law Department of the Ministry of Justice (Georgia)

- *Emmett CONROY*, Prison Service Infection Control Manager (Ireland)

- *Jorge MONTEIRO*, Head of Programmes and Projects Department, Prison and Probation Services, Ministry of Justice (Portugal)

Questions / Discussion

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break

Session 2

14:00 – 15:30 **Presentation of the Council of Europe study “The COVID-19 pandemic in prisons and its impact on prison reform priorities”**

Sharon CRITOPH / Vicki PRAIS, Council of Europe consultants

Part II: Recommendations

Questions / Discussion

15:30 – 15:45 Coffee break

15:45 – 17:15

Monitoring of prisons by the CPT and the impact of the COVID-19 restrictions

Petr HNATIK, Lawyer, European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)

Questions / Discussion

17:15

Conclusions / Main ideas of day 1

17:30

Reception

Friday, 4 November

Session 3

9:30 – 10:15

The COVID-19 pandemic and its impact of the prison populations in the Council of Europe member states from the perspective of the European Court of Human Rights and its case-law

Kresimir KAMBER, Lawyer, Directorate of Jurisconsult, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights

Questions / Discussion

10:15 – 10:45

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the prison population in Europe – report by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Eleanor HOURIGAN, Secretariat of the PACE Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Questions

10:45 – 11:15

Coffee break

11:15 – 12:30

Experiences of other Council of Europe member states in dealing with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their penitentiary systems and reform plans

Exchange and discussion on challenges and lessons learned

12:30 – 12:45

Conclusions and closing remarks

Tanja RAKUSIC-HADZIC, Head of Cooperation in Police and Deprivation of Liberty unit, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe