



Effective Alternatives to the Detention of Migrants

**International Conference organised jointly by the Council of Europe,
the European Commission and the European Migration Network**

4 April 2019

**Council of Europe
Strasbourg**

PROGRAMME

- 08:30** **Registration**
- 09:00** **Opening remarks**
- 09:15** **Keynote speeches: *The detention of migrants and the use of alternatives – the current context***
- The opening session and keynote speeches will set the scene and provide participants with insights into the current legal and political context in the field.*
- 09:45** **Video screening: Examples of alternatives**
- 09:50** **Panel I: Essential elements of effective alternatives to the detention of migrants**
- The session will outline essential elements of effective alternatives and explore the processes by which alternatives have worked successfully in different contexts. It will address the ways in which authorities may ensure effectiveness in their specific circumstances and how critical challenges have been tackled. Particular attention will be paid to vulnerable individuals and groups, including children and their families.*
- 10:45** **Coffee break**
- 11:15** **Panel I continued**
- 12:00** **Lunch**
- 13:15** **Video screening: Examples of alternatives**
- 13:20** **Panel II: Testing and evaluating alternatives in practice**
- The session will highlight ways in which States can test different alternatives to detention in practice. The use of pilot programmes has been shown to offer efficient learning opportunities on a small scale before launching bigger platforms of alternative approaches. Concrete examples will be explored to identify key factors for successful implementation of effective alternatives and evaluation of their outcomes.*
- 15:00** **Coffee break**

15:30

Panel III: Good practices and lessons for the future

Collaboration between diverse stakeholders and sharing of good practices are key aspects in the implementation of alternatives to the detention of migrants. The session will bring together actors from authorities, international institutions and civil society to discuss good examples of cooperation in achieving results. Joint avenues for future work will be explored, taking into account practical challenges and lessons learnt so far.

17:10

Closing remarks

17:30

Departure