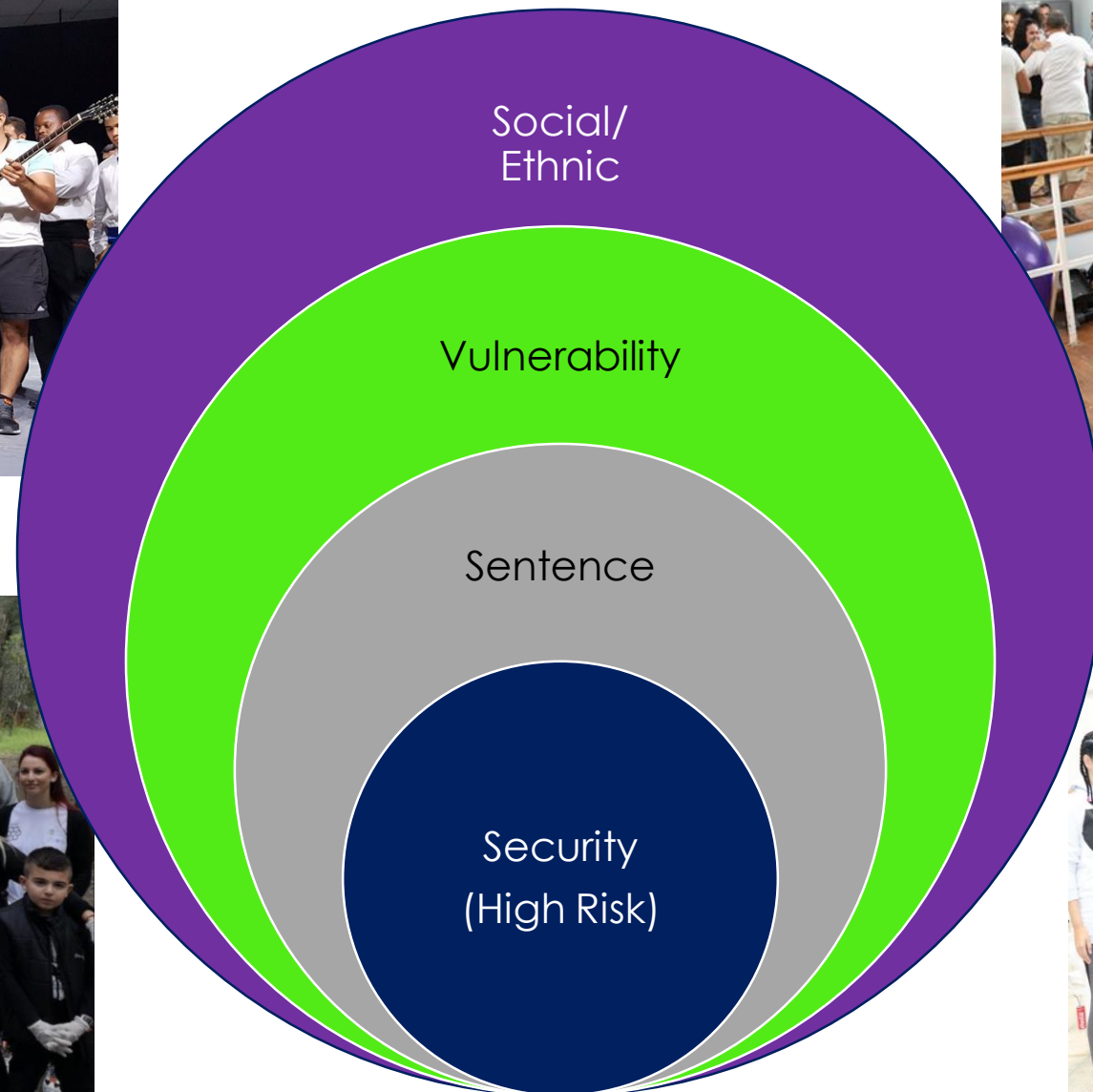




# Work with specific groups of offenders

*Athena Demetriou*  
*Cyprus Prisons Department*

# Groups of offenders



# SECURITY MODELS

## Category

- A
- B
- C
- D (open)

## Level

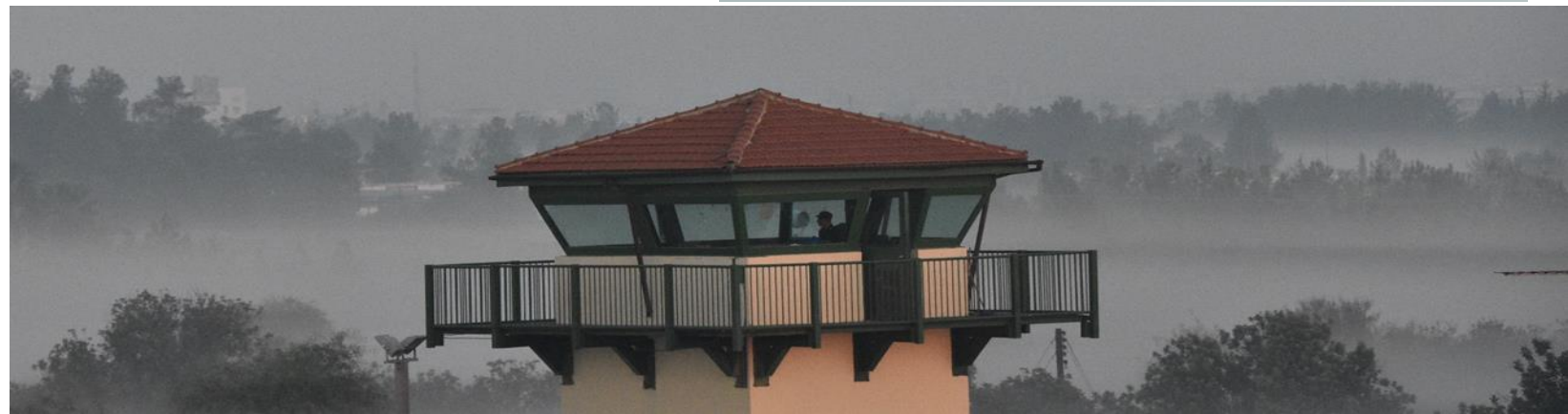
- Supermax/  
special
- Maximum
- Medium
- Low

## Supervision

- High
- Medium
- Low

# Security (High risk offenders)

- Terrorists
- Radicalized inmates
- Violent extremists
- Dangerous/Aggressive
- Gangs
- Sex offenders



# Sentences

- Short-term

- Long-term

- Lifers



# Vulnerability (high risk)

- Elderly inmates
- Foreign nationals
- Juveniles
- Women
- Pre-trial inmates
- Inmates with disabilities (incl. intellectually disabled offenders)
- Mentally ill
- Suicidal inmates
- Drug users
- **LGBTI**
- **sex offenders**



# Ethnic-social Structures

- Ethnic groups/ Cultural Dynamics
- Social (Minority) Groups / Dynamics
- Gangs



# Managing the risks and needs Cyprus Prisons Dept.

## *Why risk assessment?*

### RISK ASSESSMENT

1. [upon admission - priority]
  - ✓ Self-harm/suicides,
  - ✓ Harm others (staff, other inmates, people outside prisons, people from outside who come as visitors or as other professionals to work in prisons),
  - ✓ Escape (on his own or via assistance from inside or outside prisons),
2. Cause damage to prison property
3. Threat (procedural security) to,
  - ✓ good order and discipline,
  - ✓ harm someone outside prisons via associates,
  - ✓ smuggle illegal and/or dangerous things (incl. substances) in prisons via staff or visits or with their return from courts

### RISK MANAGEMENT

- ✓ Necessary & proportionate security measures
- ✓ Appropriate Allocation/ Distribution/ Placement
- ✓ Effective management of Risks and individual needs
- ✓ Sentence Plan
- ✓ Review – readjustments
- ✓ Reintegration
- ✓ Reduce reoffending – increase public safety



# Managing the risks and needs Cyprus Prisons Dept.

## *In-take procedure*

- Interview - Initial screening
- Assessment of risks and individual needs
- Vulnerable/ suicidal inmates?
- Assessment - Mental health services
- Health care services
- General and specific medical examination (AIDS and other transmittable diseases)/ Recording of any injuries
- Further medical or MHS assessment (on-call if necessary)

## *Risk assessment and management (loop) DECISIONS*

- Security measures
- Allocation (with instructions)
- Sentence plan
- Dynamic security
- Constant flow of information
- Review of assessment
- Follow-up (MHS)
- Readjustments

*Loop: reassessments lead to revised decisions  
(security, sentence plan etc.)*

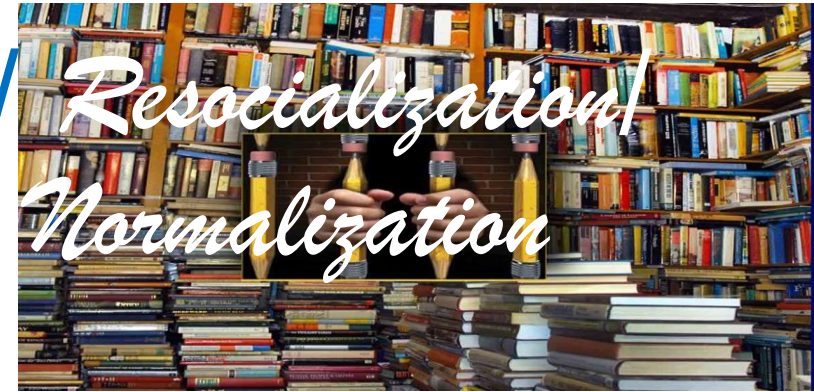
# Cyprus Prisons Department

## *Prison Regime*

- ✓ **Human-centered** approach/
- ✓ Constructive regime
- ✓ **Non-discrimination** principle
- ✓ Risk assessment & Risk mgt
- ✓ Multidisciplinary approach to treatment
- ✓ Majority of population (Medium security conditions)
- ✓ Specific groups (Medium to Max)
- ✓ Sentence plan
- ✓ Secure and safe environment
- ✓ Trained staff

## *Rehabilitation/ Reintegration/*

- ✓ Fair treatment
- ✓ Conditions of detention and security measures
- ✓ Fostering a **learning environment**
- ✓ **Work-life balance** (education, work, leisure)
- ✓ Increased contact with the outside world
- ✓ Participation in creative purposeful activities and sports, in charity and social events inside and outside prisons



# What if the regime was just high security? High Rates of...

- Increased costs
- Suicides
- Suicide attempts
- Self-harms
- Inter-prisoner violence/ Assaults against staff/ Riots
- **Radicalization**
- Gangs
- Dissatisfaction
- Uncontrolled powers/ uncontrolled dynamics
- Dangerous environment – disorder (staff & prisoners)
- Recidivism

# Effective management & Outcomes

## Cyprus Prisons Department

- Strong & effective leadership
- Humane and constructive prison regime
- Balance: security with human dignity
- Effective risk management
- Appropriate security regime and measures
- Effective management of and appropriate treatment to specific groups
- **TRAINING of the staff**
- Rehabilitation, resocialization, normalization, reintegration

### OUTCOMES - statistics

- Suicides 2013: 3; 2014: 3; 2015, 2016, 2017: zero, 2018: 1
- Attempts of suicides 2013 and 2014: 13; 2015, 2018: 1; 2016, 2017: zero
- Self-harms: 2013 -2014: 1-3 daily (700 - 900 annually); 2015: 5; 2016: 3; 2017/2018: 1
- Inter-prisoner violence: more than 500 annually, 2015 – 2018: 27 ( 18 tussles, 9 assaults)

**THANK YOU!**



**QUESTIONS?**

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