

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



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PC-CP (2020) 14

COUNCIL FOR PENOLOGICAL CO-OPERATION

(PC-CP)

**10th (hybrid) Plenary Meeting
Strasbourg, 13-14 October 2020**

SUMMARY MEETING REPORT

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND DECISIONS TAKEN:

The PC-CP Plenary:

- Adopted its Agenda and Order of Business;
- Took note of the opening words by Mr Jan Kleijssen, Director, Information Society - Action against Crime Directorate, Council of Europe who welcomed the participants, informed of the latest activities related to digital technologies and artificial intelligence (AI), which are particularly relevant in this times of COVID-19 pandemic and which also relate to the standard-setting work the PC-CP is expected to do in accordance with its current mandate. Mr Kleijssen also thanked the Irish Prison and Probation Services for their readiness to host the 25th Council of Europe Conference of Directors of Prison and Probation Services (CDPPS), which in view of the sanitary crisis was postponed, its programme amended and is now planned to be held remotely on 9-10 November 2020;
- Took note of the intervention made by Mr Gianluca Esposito, Head of the Action against Crime Department, who welcomed participants and drew the attention to recent developments in the penitentiary field. He also congratulated the PC-CP Working Group (WG) on the two COVID-19-related Statements it issued;
- Considered the Summary Meeting Reports of the WG and took note of the oral information provided by its Chair, Ms Annie Devos, regarding the said meetings held in 2020. Ms Devos underlined that the four new members have had the chance to meet each other and the rest of the WG only once, in January, after which the meetings were held remotely;
- Took note that Ms Devos and Mr Mykola Gnatovskyy, the CPT Chair will take part (remotely) in a thematic debate at the Committee of Ministers on 22 October 2020 dedicated to ensuring humane and socially effective treatment of prisoners;
- Took note of the information provided by the Secretariat concerning the three last remote meetings of the CDPC Bureau in May, June and October 2020 and in particular of the decision not to put the draft Recommendation regarding the assessment, management and reintegration of persons accused or convicted of a sexual offence on the agenda of the CDPC Plenary Meeting (3-4 November 2020, to be held in a videoconference format as well) but only to collect possible observations and comments. This decision was taken due to the very short time between the PC-CP and the CDPC Plenary Meetings which will not allow sufficient time for consultations at national level. Took also note of the decision to elect a new PC-CP WG member to replace the outgoing one at the CDPC plenary meeting in 2021;
- Considered their terms of reference for 2020/2021, took note of the information provided by the PC-CP Chair regarding the activities which are still to be carried out and of the decision taken at the last PC-CP WG meeting that work on mental health will have to start in 2021 and that a decision whether a CM recommendation on this subject needs to be drafted will be taken after a detailed stock-taking report is prepared and discussed by the PC-CP;
- Took note of the fact that the promotion of the standards developed in the area of radicalisation and violent extremism as indicated in their mandate, is carried out by the Criminal Law Co-operation Unit (CLCU) and the HELP project with the PC-CP WG members and Secretariat contribution;
- Took note of the decision of the PC-CP WG that at this stage it is premature to update the Handbook on radicalisation and violent extremism and that the work on a draft CM Recommendation for developing tailored strategies to address and counter terrorist narratives within the prison system will be carried out by the CDCT with a PC-CP involvement and contribution;
- Agreed that their next plenary meeting will be held during the first half of next year in order to finalise the draft Recommendation and reflect in it any possible comments and proposals from CDPC delegations and that to the said meeting will be invited a representative of the CDCT and an expert on AI used in prisons and by the probation services;

- Took note of the presentation made by Professor Marcelo Aebi related to SPACE I and II publications as well as of the information provided by him and by the Secretariat regarding the forthcoming Conference on measuring cybercrime, to be held 29-30 October 2020 (in a videoconference format);
- Took note of the presentations made by Ms Tanja Rakusic-Hadzic, Head of the CLCU Unit and Ms Eva Pastrana, Head of the HELP Unit;
- Considered the PC-CP WG Statement on COVID-19 made in April 2020 and their follow-up Statement made in September, as well as the comments made by Hugh Chetwynd, CPT Secretariat and revised points 14 and 16 of the Follow-up Statement;
- Considered and revised the draft Committee of Ministers Recommendation regarding the assessment, management and reintegration of persons accused or convicted of a sexual offence;
- Noted that out of the 82 participants 39 are women, out of whom 6 women are members of the PC-CP WG. Further noted that the participants took into consideration the gender mainstreaming aspects and the principle of non-discrimination and that particular importance was attached to these issues when discussing the draft CM Recommendation regarding the assessment, management and reintegration of persons accused or convicted of a sexual offence. It was further noted once again that in the 25th CDPPS draft programme there is a balanced distribution of men and women speakers and moderators, as well as balanced geographical distribution;
- Agreed on the dates of their next Plenary Meeting (to be held on 10-15 May 2021).

AGENDA

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| | 1. Opening of the meeting |
| | 2. Adoption of the agenda and the order of business |
| PC-CP(2020)1 PC-CP(2020)6 PC-CP(2020)11 | 3. Summary reports of the last meetings of the PC-CP Working Group Summary Meeting Report of the 23rd Working Group Meeting Summary Meeting Report of the 24th Working Group Meeting Summary Meeting Report of the 25th Working Group Meeting |
| CDPC-BU(2020)2 CDPC-BU(2020)3 CDPC-BU(2020)5 | 4. Information provided by the Secretariat |
| PC-CP(2020)5 PC-CP(2020)10 rev | 5. COVID-19: PC-CP Working Group statements and steps for the future |
| Conference website | 6. 25th Council of Europe Conference of the Directors of Prison and Probation Services (Strasbourg, 9-10 November 2020) |
| SPACE website SPACE Presentation | 7. Council of Europe Annual Penal Statistics (SPACE) |
| PC-CP(2019)3Rev11 | 8. Draft Recommendation regarding the assessment, management and reintegration of persons accused or convicted of a sexual offence |
| Criminal Law Co-operation Unit Presentation HELP Presentation | 9. Assistance and cooperation activities in the criminal law field |
| PC-CP Terms of Reference 2020-2021 | 10. Items for information: the PC-CP mandate to work on mental health, artificial intelligence and terrorism |
| | 11. Gender mainstreaming |
| | 12. Any other business |
| | 13. Dates of the next meetings |

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