

Strasbourg, 7 November 2024

PC-CP (2024)10

**COUNCIL FOR PENOLOGICAL CO-OPERATION**

**(PC-CP)**

**14th Plenary Meeting  
Strasbourg, 5-7 November 2024**

**SUMMARY MEETING REPORT**

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

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND DECISIONS TAKEN**

### **The PC-CP Plenary:**

- Welcomed the National delegations, the Members of the PC-CP WG, the Observers and the Scientific experts, taking part in person or online.
- Approved their Agenda and their Order of business.
- Took note of the meeting reports of the PC-CP WG meetings in 2024 and had no comments to make.
- Welcomed Mr Gianluca Esposito, the new Director General of DG I Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe, congratulated him for his recent appointment and took note of his presentation related to the latest work and achievements of the Council of Europe and to the forthcoming activities planned.
- Took note that the PC-CP Secretary, Ms Iliana Taneva, will retire in 2025 and agreed completely with the words of acknowledgement pronounced by Mr Esposito for her excellent work and commitment to the relevance of the overall achievements and success of the PC-CP in the course of their long history of standard-setting and promotional actions. Mr Esposito stressed that this is a committee with a long and respected history of existence which is always dealing with key issues of importance for the prison and probation services, including the collection of SPACE statistics and the holding of the annual Council of Europe Conferences of Directors of Prison and Probation Services (CDPPS).
- Took note of the recent adoption of CM/Rec(2024)5 on the ethical and organisational aspects of the use of AI and related digital technologies by the prison and probation services, which is the first-standard setting text adopted by the Committee of Ministers after the adoption and opening for signature of the Framework Convention on AI. Took also note of the acknowledgement of the quality of their work in this respect and of the request to promote this standard-setting text at their national level.
- Took note of the information provided by Ms Eva Pastrana, Head of the Criminal Law Division and Secretary to the CDPC, regarding the meetings and decisions related to the work of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) including those of relevance to the PC-CP work and mandate and in particular restorative justice and the fact that the Committee of Ministers approved the suggestion made to broaden the PC-CP mandate related to the revision of CM/Rec(2012)12 on foreign prisoners.
- Noted that there are less than two weeks left before the next CDPC plenary meeting and agreed that therefore the draft Recommendation on mental health and its explanatory memorandum which need to be approved by the CDPC and sent to the Committee of Ministers for adoption will be sent to the CDPC delegations in track changes after the end of their current meeting to draw the attention to any latest amendments made during the meeting.
- Thanked the scientific experts on mental health, Professor Dirk Van Zyl Smit and Mr Ronald Gramigna for their excellent work, considered the draft CM Recommendation on the promotion of positive mental health and the management of mental disorders of prisoners and probationers and its explanatory memorandum and made some minor changes to these texts.
- Took note with great interest of the presentation made by Professor Amanda Kirby on neurodiversity (online) and thanked her for this very informative and thought-provoking contribution to the work of the PC-CP.
- Thanked the scientific experts on education in prison, Ms Anne Costelloe and Mr James King for their work, considered the draft CM Recommendation on education in prison and made a number of proposals related to it and to its explanatory memorandum which will be ready for discussion at the next PC-CP WG meeting.
- Took note with great interest of the presentation made by Professor Marcelo Aebi of the latest SPACE I and SPACE II statistics and thanked him and his team for the work of excellent quality carried out by them since 2003.

- Took note with interest of the survey on deaths in prison made by Professor Philippa Tomczak and Dr Róisín Mulgrew and decided to include this topic in the programme of the 30th CDPPS in Poland.
- Took note with interest of the CEP proposal, made by Ms Jana Špero-Kamenjarin for a survey related to the updating of the Council of Europe Probation Rules and agreed to undertake it jointly (CEP and CoE) and based on the outcome take a decision which aspects of these Rules need revision (a task on the PC-CP mandate for 2024-2027) as these Rules are of high quality already and are very much appreciated and used by the European Probation Services.
- Took note with interest of the survey of some European probation services “Building Probation Capacity” carried out by Mr Steve Pitts and Mr Leo Tigges and held a round table discussion related to the variations of structure and tasks of the European probation services and their relations with the rest of the actors of the criminal justice system.
- Took note with interest of the presentation made by Mr Daniel Danglades, Chair of the CEP/EuroPris Foreign Nationals in Prison & Probation Expert Group, thanked him for this very informative contribution to the forthcoming PC-CP revision of CM/Rec(2012)12 concerning foreign prisoners and its explanatory memorandum and thanked him for accepting to liaise between the CEP/EuroPris work on this and the PC-CP standard-setting work to be started in 2025.
- Took note with interest of the presentation made by Ms Raluca Ivan, Co-operation in Police and Deprivation of Liberty Division (CPDL), Council of Europe on the current cooperation activities in the penitentiary field in 16 CoE member States.
- Took note with interest of the presentation made by Ms Francesca Gordon, CPT related to the protection of transgender persons in prison which was the focus of their 33rd General Report, published in April 2024 as well as of the recent judgement of the ECtHR (W.W. v. Poland, application no. 31842/20). Held a round table discussion regarding this topic. It was decided that at their next plenary meeting this topic needs to be further discussed and practices need to be shared as it was obvious from the debate that this issue is being considered by the prison services nationally and legislation and practices are being adapted to take into consideration the need to revise the approach to transgender persons in prison.
- Took note with interest and concern of the presentation made by Mr Vladyslav Klysha (Ukraine) on the functioning of their probation system in times of war and conveyed their appreciation to the Ukrainian authorities for the efforts made in this respect.
- Underlined the excellent organisation of the 29th CDPPS in June 2024 in Sofia, the richness and usefulness of the topics discussed, conveyed their gratitude to Ms Nadya Radkovska and to the Bulgarian authorities and thanked the Polish delegation for hosting the 30th CDPPS which will be held in Krakow on 24-25 September 2025.
- Agreed that some possible topics could be SPACE data presentation, deaths in prison and of offenders under probation, neurodiversity and education, overcrowding, healthcare (including mental health), women in the criminal justice system (including as staff members), children with imprisoned parents (and in this respect partnerships between prison, probation and NGOs), management of prison and probation services in times of crisis, foreign national offenders, trauma informed care, dealing with young offenders, halfway houses, prison hierarchies. It was decided that the final selection of topics will be done at the next PC-CP WG meeting in consultation with the Polish hosts and the national delegations were encouraged to send proposals for possible speakers.
- Noted that GREVIO’s Chair invited the PC-CP Chair to have an exchange of views on restorative justice and gender-based violence who will be joined by some other interested PC-CP delegates.
- Noted that last week was held a CEP/EuroPris workshop on foreign offenders in Vienna and at the beginning of October was held another CEP meeting on FD on foreign nationals. CEP also informed of several events in which their representatives were invited to take part. The CEP EM Conference will be held in Portugal at the beginning of December 2024 and the next regular webinar will be held next week on assessment.

In Barcelona at the end of November will be held a Workshop on mental health and an online meeting of Directors General of probation which will be opened to invited participants only.

- Also noted that there will be a big ICPA Conference on Women in Corrections to be held in Bangkok in February 2025 to celebrate 15th anniversary of the UN Bangkok Rules. In Vienna at the end of January will be held the final meeting to approve the UN Model Strategies on Reducing Reoffending.
- Noted the information provided by the gender rapporteur, namely that there were 75 participants in total and out of these 36 were men and 39 were women (of these there were 4 women and 5 men scientific experts). Issues related to gender perspective were considered during the work on the draft CM Recommendation on education in prison as well as on the draft CM Recommendation on mental health, SPACE I and SPACE II data collection, the survey of deaths in prison, the presentation on neurodiversity, the CEP survey related to the update of the Council of Europe Probation Rules, the treatment of transgender persons in prison, the forthcoming ICPA Conference in February 2025 on women in corrections and the contents of the 30th CDPPS.
- Noted that the dates of the next meetings are: 37th PC-CP WG (4-6 February 2025, Malta), 38th PC-CP WG (20-22 May 2025, Madrid, to be confirmed); 39th PC-CP WG (7-9 October 2025, Strasbourg); 15th PC-CP Plenary meeting (18-20 November 2025, Strasbourg).

**AGENDA**

	<b>1. Opening of the meeting</b>
	<b>2. Adoption of the Agenda and the Order of business</b>
PC-CP(2024)2 PC-CP(2024)3 PC-CP(2024)6	<b>3. Summary meeting reports of the 2024 PC-CP Working Group meetings</b>
CDPC(2024)04 CDPC-BU(2024)03 CDPC-BU(2024)05	<b>4. Information provided by the Secretariat</b>
PC-CP(2024)8 PC-CP(2024)9	<b>5. Draft CM Recommendation regarding the Promotion of Mental Health and the Management of Mental Disorders of Prisoners and Probationers and its Explanatory memorandum</b>
PC-CP(2024)1Rev5	<b>6. Updating Recommendation (89)12 on education in prison</b>
Presentation by Róisín Mulgrew & Philippa Tomczak	<b>7. Survey on deaths in prison</b>
Presentation by Marcelo Aebi	<b>8. SPACE Statistics</b>
<a href="http://www.coe.int/cdpps2024">http://www.coe.int/cdpps2024</a>	<b>9. Outcome of the 29th CDPPS (24-25 June 2024, Sofia, Bulgaria) and preparation of the 30th CDPPS (24-25 September 2025, Krakow, Poland)</b>
Presentation by Amanda Kirby	<b>10. Presentation on neurodiversity</b>
Presentation by Francesca Gordon, CPT	<b>11. Round table discussion on the treatment of transgender persons in prison</b>
Presentation by Róisín Mulgrew & Daniel Danglades	<b>12. Revision of CM Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)12 concerning foreign prisoners and of its Explanatory memorandum</b>
Presentation by Jana Špero Kamenjarin	<b>13. CEP - Survey on updating the Council of Europe Probation Rules</b>
Presentation by Raluca Ivan	<b>14. Co-operation activities in the penitentiary field</b>
Presentation by Vladyslav Klysha	<b>15. A Study of European probation development - lessons for the future</b>

	<b>16. Gender mainstreaming</b>
	<b>17. Feedback from participation in other meetings</b>
	<b>18. Any other business</b>
	<b>19. Dates of the next PC-CP meetings</b>

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