

Strasbourg, 17 September 2026

PC-CP (2026) 8

Council for Penological Co-operation
(PC-CP)

42nd Working Group Meeting

Strasbourg, 15-17 September 2026

List of Decisions

The Working Group of the Council for Penological Co-operation (PC-CP WG) held its 42nd meeting in Strasbourg on 15-17 September 2026 with Mr Jorge Monteiro (Portugal) in the Chair.

The PC-CP WG:

1. Opening of the meeting

- Took note of the opening remarks by the Secretary Ms Louise Riondel, the President, Mr Jorge Monteiro, and the Vice-President Ms Carla Ciavarella (Italy).

2. Adoption of the Agenda and the Order of business

- Adopted the Agenda and the Order of Business without amendments.

3. Information provided by the Secretariat

- Took note of the information provided by Ms Louise Riondel concerning the feedback received following the 31st annual Council of Europe Conference of Directors of Prison and Probation Services (CDPPS) which took place on 3-4 June 2026, in Valletta, Malta. Participants who responded to the evaluation survey overwhelmingly welcomed the new format of the conference and praised the quality of the content. Ms Riondel also informed the members of the Working Group of the publication of the SPACE II report on 9 July, and reported on the meeting of the SPACE National Correspondents which took place in Strasbourg on the eve of this meeting. Co-organised with the SPACE team from the University of Lausanne, the meeting brought together the contact points responsible for the collection and reporting of the SPACE I and SPACE II statistics. Ms Riondel gave a presentation concerning the process and timeline for preparing the PC-CP's Draft Terms of Reference for 2028-2031, and explained that the Working Group would need to agree, under agenda item 10 on Topics of interest for the PC-CP, on proposed deliverables to be submitted to the PC-CP Plenary in November. Finally, the Working Group was informed that due to the expiration of the mandates of the President and Vice-President, elections would be held for both positions during this meeting.

4. Latest CDPC meetings and decisions

- Took note of the information provided by Ms Eva Pastrana, Head of the Criminal Law Division and Secretary to the Council of Europe Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC), regarding the meetings and decisions related to the work of the CDPC including those of relevance to the PC-CP work and mandate.

5. Council of Europe Annual Penal Statistics (SPACE)

- Took note of the presentation by Professor Marcelo Aebi concerning the 2025 SPACE I and SPACE II Reports published on 19 May and 9 July respectively, as well as the outcomes of the meeting of the SPACE National Correspondents of 14 September.
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Marcelo Aebi, Mr Edoardo Cocco and Mr Ignacio Cid Pozo from the SPACE team of the University of Lausanne concerning the content and format of SPACE as well as the future work of the Committee.

6. National Focus

- Took note of the presentation delivered by Mr Rait Kuuse (Estonia) about the national prison and probation context, including recent reforms, challenges, innovations, or lessons learned from implementing Council of Europe standards, and held an exchange of views on these topics.

7. Preparation of the 32nd CDPPS (2-3 June 2027, Dublin, Ireland)

- Took note of the information provided by Ms Caron McCaffrey (Ireland) regarding the state of preparation of the 32nd annual Council of Europe Conference of Directors of Prison and Probation Services (CDPPS) which will take place on 2-3 June 2027, in Dublin, Ireland.
- Discussed the content of the Conference, including potential themes and speakers to be invited.

8. Revision of the Council of Europe Probation Rules and their Commentary

- Took note of a presentation by its Secretary regarding the work carried out since the last meeting of the PC-CP WG, including information regarding the revision process completed before the summer with the Rapporteurs Ms Danijela Mrhar Prelić (Slovenia) and Ms Iuliana-Elena Cărbunaru (Romania), the methodology adopted and the rationale underpinning the proposed amendments.
- Held a first reading of the draft revised text and made comments and suggestions for additional amendments.
- Instructed the Secretariat, in coordination with the Rapporteurs, to amend the draft revised text of the Probation Rules in light of the proposals made during the meeting, to prepare a revised text of the Commentary, and to distribute both revised documents to the PC-CP ahead of the Plenary meeting.

9. Revision of CM Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)12 concerning Foreign Prisoners and its Explanatory Memorandum

- Examined the amendments made to the draft Recommendation since its last meeting which were presented by the Rapporteur Mr Michael Sorger (Austria) and made additional modifications as appropriate.
- Took note of a presentation by the scientific experts working on this item, Ms Róisín Mulgrew and Mr Daniel Danglades, concerning the amendments made to the draft revised Explanatory Memorandum since the last meeting.
- Examined the draft revised Explanatory Memorandum and made comments and suggestions for additional amendments to be taken into consideration by the scientific experts in their subsequent work on the text.

10. Topics of interest for the PC-CP

- Held an exchange of views on the topics it has identified for its future work, and decided to propose the following deliverables for the PC-CP's Draft Terms of Reference for 2028-2031: Draft Recommendation on women in prison and under probation, Publication on good practices concerning children with imprisoned parents, Draft Recommendation on work in prison, Draft Recommendation on older persons in prison and under probation, Revision of the European Rules for Juvenile Offenders Subject to Sanctions or Measures, Publication of the annual Council of Europe Penal Statistics (SPACE I and SPACE II), Annual Council of Europe Conference of Directors of Prison and Probation Services (CDPPS) .

11. Gender mainstreaming

- Took note of the information provided the gender Rapporteur Ms Danijela Mrhar Prelić, namely that 31 persons attended the meeting and out of these 14 are men and 17 are women. 3 women and 1 man represented the Council of Europe Secretariat during this meeting. The Rapporteur welcomed the fact that a gender perspective is included in all deliverables of the PC-CP and especially that a

draft Recommendation on women in prison and under probation is included in the draft Terms of Reference of the PC-CP for 2028-2031. She also noted with pleasure that the CPT standard on women in prison will be published soon.

12. Any other business

- Took note of a presentation by Mr Jérôme Mangelinckx from Penal Reform International concerning their activities related to the topics of prison labor and women in prison.
- Took note of a presentation by Ms Vasiliki Artinopoulou, Member of the United Nations Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT), concerning the SPT's mandate and its links with the work of the PC-CP.
- Decided to elect Mr Jorge Monteiro (Portugal) as President of the PC-CP and Ms Carla Ciavarella (Italy) as Vice-President of the PC-CP for a period of one year starting 1 January 2027.

13. Dates of the next PC-CP meetings

- Decided to hold its meetings in 2027 as follows: 26-28 January in Lisbon (43rd WG meeting), 6-8 April in Strasbourg (44th WG meeting), and 14-16 September in Paris (45th WG meeting).

14. Adoption of the list of decisions

- Adopted the list of decisions.