

Promoting Professional Prison Practice



Staying informed in times of crisis

CDPPS - Directors of Prison and Probation Services
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Covid in prisons

Primary effects

- Higher risk of complications
- Increased mortality because of chronic diseases
- Multimorbidity
- Aging prison populations

Secondary effects

- Overwhelming health care services
- Vector for community transmissions



Photo credit: Anette Ostman



Photo credit: Getty images



Covid not a threat only in itself, it is equally a threat to the fundamental rights of persons in custody

European Committee for the Prevention of Torture
and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
(CPT)

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

CPT/Inf(2020)13

Statement of principles relating to the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty in the context of the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic

issued on 20 March 2020

The Coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic has created extraordinary challenges for the authorities of all member States of the Council of Europe. There are specific and intense challenges for staff working in various places of deprivation of liberty, including police detention facilities, penitentiary institutions, immigration detention centres,

Outline

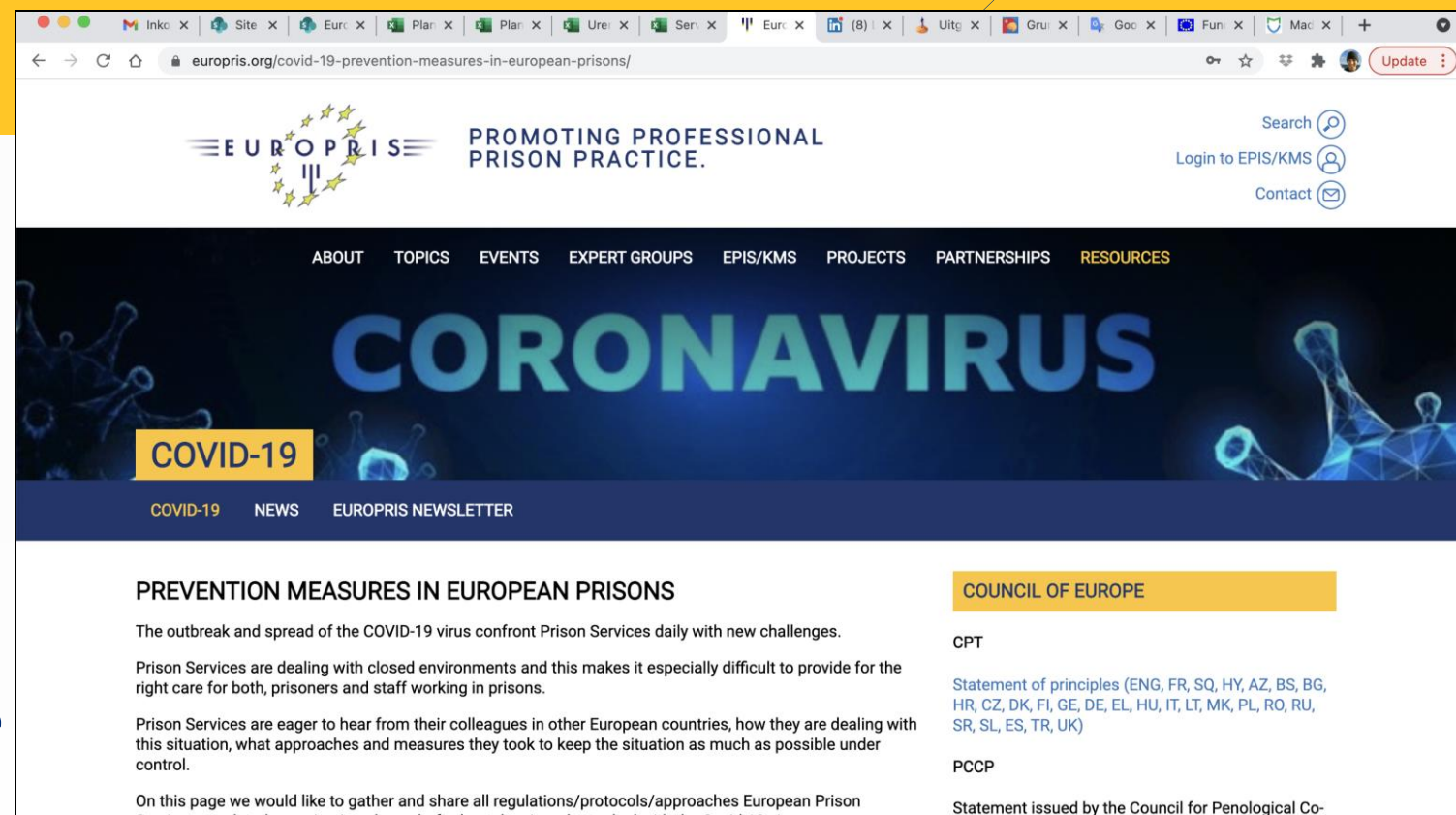
- What did we do?
- Results
- Lessons learned
- EuroPris website
- Knowledge Management System
- European Prison Information System

What did we do?

- Covid-19 webpage
- Daily feedback collection
- KMS inquiry
- DG meetings

Outputs: Daily feedback collection, reports to EC, topical fact sheets

Not verified data, neither representative for CoE region



Results

Four phases

- 1) Immediate actions (February-June)
- 2) Stabilising the situation (July-October)
- 3) Second wave/Persisting over time (November-July)
- 4) Preparing for the unknown (August-)

Four themes

- I. Protective measures
- II. Prison population
- III. Innovations
- IV. Professional culture

Total infected

	Infected	Deaths
Staff		
Prisoners		



COVID-19 Feedback Collection 1 July 2020



Supported by the Justice
Programme of the European Union

	<i>Infected</i>		<i>Isolated / quarantine</i>		<i>Dead</i>		
	<i>Prisoner</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Prisoner</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Prisoner</i>	<i>Staff</i>	
Slovenia	2	1	28	14			
Poland	6	7	59	52			
Slovakia	0*	0	6	2			*1 positive tested prisoner has recovered
Belgium	14	61*	50**				*25 of the 61 are recovered and back at work; **on average 50 per day in quarantine
Czech Republic	1*	2**	3	8			* in pre-trial detention prison hospital; ** 11 recovered
Israel	0	7*	7	56			*6 all recovered
Spain	72*	17**	101	112	2	4	*84 total, 16 already recovered; ** 278 total, 257 already recovered
Catalonia	4*	33**					*89 recovered; **128 already recovered
Sweden	125*	**	20-30	0			*107 recovered fully
Italy	132*	192**			1	2	* 2 of them are hospitalized; **184 of them penitentiary police / 8 administrative staff; 11 hospitalised
Austria	2*	7**	0	0			*2 already recovered, **7 already recovered, 481 inmates and 91 staff tested negative
Norway	0*	1**		69			*9 prisoners have recovered; ** 10 staff members have recovered
Netherlands	20*				1		*14 in prisons, of which 11 are recovered, 1 deceased and 1 released from prison; 6 in forensic care of which 5 are recovered
Hungary	0	1*	0	1*			*1 infected staff member that is in quarantine
Finland	0	0*	6	1			*5 already recovered
Lithuania	0	0	0	0			
Georgia	0	0	0	0			
Latvia	0	0	0	0			
Luxembourg	1	0	2*	0			*prisoners quarantined upon their arrival are not calculated. Every new detainee stays in isolation for 7 days before being transferred to regular sections.
Malta*	0	0	0	0			
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0			
Romania	0	9					
Estonia	0	4	some	some			
Denmark	0*	0					*1 prisoner is recovered
Moldova	1	7	9	28	0	0	
Croatia	0	2*	138**	27	0	0	*one staff member was quarantined immediately after returning from travelling abroad and has been on sick-leave since then (never entered a prison), **all newly admitted prisoners are isolated for reasons of precaution
France	35	51	127	312	1	1	
Portugal	0	7					
Ireland	0*	47**	15***				*10 awaiting testing (results) **337 cleared from isolation

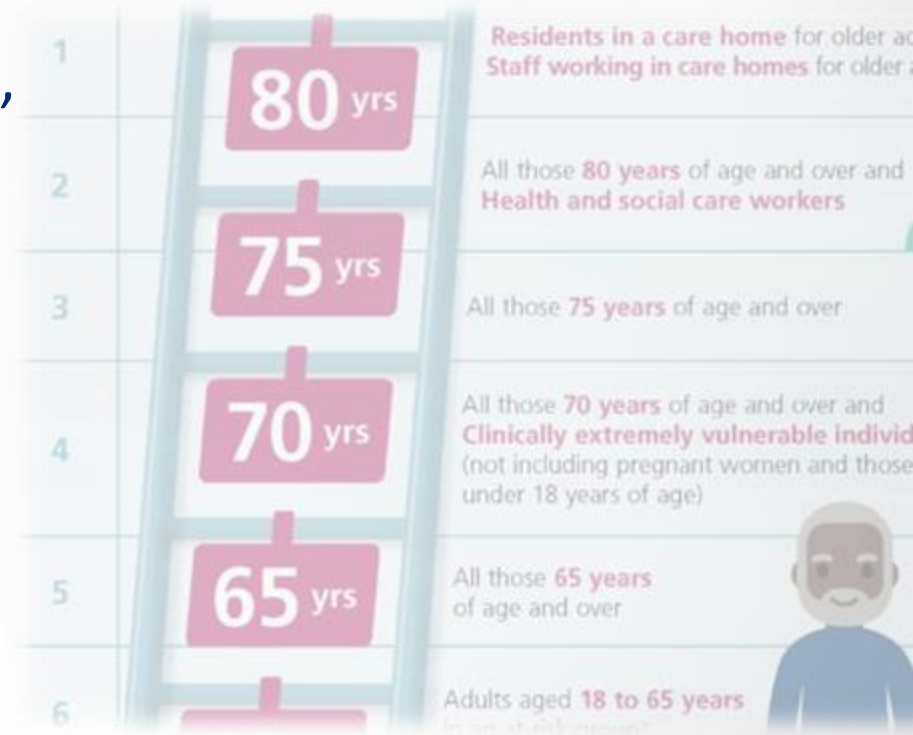
Protective measures - prisoners

- Prison visits
- Activities
- Canteens and kiosks
- Transfers
- Leaves
- Quarantine units
- Screening for symptoms
- Testing
- Face masks
- Information



Protective measures - staff

- Protective gear - Investments in protective equipment, prison workshops producing masks etc.
- Risk groups asked to stay home
- Staff training suspended
- Holidays cancelled
- Grouping of staff
- Home work arrangements
- Information



Prison population

- Postponing execution of sentences
- Alternative sentencing
- Early release
- Delay influx easier than reducing it



Innovations

- Video visits
- Screen separated visits
- Unlimited phone credits
- One to one activities
- Helplines for relatives and staff
- Cooperation prison staff / medical staff
- Step-by-step normalization strategies
- Reduce overcrowding

Costs

Work compensation
Video equipment
Phone credits
Protective equipment
Crisis Management
Teams

Lessons learned

- Information, information, information!
- Telemedicine/Online consultation
- Normalisation of the exceptional?
- e-learning for staff and prisoners
- Interagency cooperation
- Alternatives to detention succesful – if implemented
- Overcrowding
- Legislative changes (protective measures/reducing overcrowding)
- Safeguard human rights standards

EuroPris

Rapid sharing of
information online

Data collection -
operational relevance,
not statistics

Long term effects?

Are you confident that the effects of these measures have changed professional cultures on a long term?

18 %