



Evolution of the Prison Service through the implementation of therapeutic programmes



The objective of enforcement of the sentence



Objective of enforcement of the sentence (Executive Penal Code)

Execution of the penalty of imprisonment is aimed at **stimulating the will of the offender to cooperate** and to shape his socially desirable attitudes, in particular, the sense of responsibility and the need to comply with the legal order and thus withdraw from returning to crime.

Exerting impact on the convict, while respecting their rights and requiring them to fulfill obligations includes **therapeutic instruments**

The modern programme offer of the Prison Service



We conduct the social rehabilitation programmes in the following areas:

- Preventing agression and violence
- Preventing addiction as well as drug and alcohol abuse
- Counteracting pro-criminal attitudes
- Professional activity and the promotion of employment
- Developing social and cognitive skills
- Integration of families
- Preventing negative effects of isolation



Penalty types systems



- 1) Program's impact
- 2) Regular
- 3) Therapeutic, including:
 - Therapeutic units for alcohol-addicted inmates
 - Therapeutic units for drug-addicted inmates
 - Therapeutic units for offenders with psychic dysfunction's or mentally disabled

Development of the therapeutics

- The first therapeutic units were created in the 70s (for alcoholic addicts) and the 80s (for drug addicts);
- In the 1980s, the Independent Self-Governing Trade Union
 "Solidarity'80" has developed actively in Poland, which, as a result
 of the opposition activities led by Lech Walesa, contributed to
 the politicial transformation in Poland;
- The above activities also have affected the prison system, including the prison therapeutic system;
- Between 1990 and 2000 the offer of the therapeutic impact on the offenders grew strongly

Development of the therapeutic offer in the Prison Service

Number of prison therapeutic units in years 1950-2017



Specificity of prison therapeutic work methods





The specificity of prison therapeutic work methods

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- Prison therapeutic unit This is a special place in the penitentiary unit, isolated from the whole unit
- In the unit, apart from the generally applicable legal regulations, there are also legal regulations that take into account the specifics of therapeutic impact;
- The way of working with inmates specialised, customised, deepened;

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The specificity of prison therapeutic work methods



- Therapeutic work takes into account the importance of substance abuse as the risk factor for returning to the crime
- Opportunities of working time with convicts, both in individual and group contact, are much longer than in general units
- The therapist convict relationship is adjusted to the rules of work in the therapeutic unit.

Prison staff – therapeutic units 5

- The therapeutic staff specialised personnel (mainly psychologists, addiction therapists, occupational therapists, educators);
- The therapeutic staff training system(specialised) :
 - The obligation to have a higher education (the fields of study: psychological, medical, pedagogical, and related);
 - 2-year specialized training system The Addiction Treatment Study
 - (training financed from the Norwegian funds in the last years);
 - The work placements and internships at national clinical centers
 - Supervision of conducted therapeutic impact
 - The certification exam supervised by government agencies dealing with alcohol (PARPA) and drug addiction (KBdsPN).





Map of Poland with location of therapeutic units for addicted convicts





Number of inmates involved in addiction treatment in 2006-2016



Research on the effectiveness of prison therapy



- In the years 2014-2016, the Prison Service conducted a stu dy on the effectiveness of prison therapeutic impact;
- Approximately 1700 convicts who participated in the therap eutic interventions were included in the study
- In the study a number of variables were examined that could affect the effectiveness of the impact

Research on the effectiveness of prison therapy



The research resulted in the following findings:

- Identification of positive changes among around 75-80%
 of convicts as a result of participating in addiction treatment.
- The greatest positive effects of changes arising when the therapeutic staff is focused on building cooperation and activating of convicts.
- A positive evaluation of the therapeutic impact by a number of government institutions (the Supreme Chamber of Control, the Ombudsman) as well as international (CPT).



- Further development of therapeutic units;
- Increasing the capacity and staffing of currently existing therapeutic units;
- The therapeutic staff training financed from the funds of EU and new Financial Perspective of the NFM





- Developing a new therapeutic offer for convicts with behavioral addictions (the gambling addiction, the internet addiction, etc.)
- Continuous monitoring of the quality of therapeutic impact
- Consideration of therapeutic system development needs in the Penitentiary Academy (new training system)

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Education







Thank you for your attention

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