

SESSION I: PRE-TRIAL PHASE: REDUCING THE INFLUX – SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

	YES	NO	NEUTRAL
1. Do you consider that reducing overcrowding in prisons in your country is a shared responsibility of prosecutors, judges, prison and probation services and the member of government responsible for the prison service?	74	5	
2. Do you think that in your daily work as prosecutor, judge or civil servant you could help to reduce the prison overcrowding in your country?	62	17	4
3. Was there in your country an increase in the use of pre-trial detention in the last 5 years?	41	28	12
4. When considering pre-trial detention, is the seriousness of the crime more important as a rule than de personal circumstances of the suspected person?	48	24	11
5. When considering pre-trial detention does it make difference whether the suspect is a national or a foreigner without legal residence?	55	24	5
6. Should the sentence that could be imposed influence the decision to request or order pre-trial detention?	58	23	3
7. Does the way of executing sentences in your country influence your decision to request or order pre-trial detention?	17	49	18
8. Do you in practice consider possible alternatives to pre-trial detention before requesting or ordering pre-trial detention?	60	7	16
9. Are there in your country sufficient alternatives to pre-trial detention available?	67	18	2
10. Should information on available places in pre-trial detention facilities play a role when deciding on requesting or ordering pre-trial detention?	26	50	8
11. Would a restriction by law of the use of pre-trial detention to a limited number of serious offences help reducing overcrowding?	59	13	9

SESSION II: CRIME RATES AND RATES OF IMPRISONMENT IN EUROPE

	YES	NO	NEUTRAL
1. Do you consider the crime rate in your country as being high?	15	29	5
2. Do you think that the increase/decrease of the number of prisoners in your country reflects the crime rate in your country?	12	36	3
3. Do you think that higher rates of imprisonment lead to lower crime rate?	4	42	5
4. Are alternative sanctions and measures in your country seen as an appropriate alternative for short term imprisonment?	44	6	1
5. Would regular information on the crime rate be useful in your daily work?	24	22	7
6. Are you familiar with the annual statistics of the Council of Europe on prisons (SPACE I)?	35	16	1
7. Are you familiar with the annual statistics of the Council of Europe on community sanctions and measures (SPACE II)?	30	21	2
8. Are you familiar with the European Sourcebook on Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics?	9	39	2

SESSION III: OPTIONS WHEN SENTENCING

	YES	NO	NEUTRAL
1. Have you visited pre-trial detention facilities or prisons in your country?	50	11	3
2. Do the probation or social services in your country draw up a report providing information before sentencing on the circumstances of the suspected person?	39	25	9
3. Would you like to receive more or other information before requesting a sentence or when sentencing, especially on the individual circumstances of the sentenced person and on the consequences of the offence for the victim?	47	12	9
4. Do you make now more use of alternative sanctions than five years ago?	51	6	11
5. Does overcrowding in the prisons in your country play a role when choosing an alternative sanction or measure?	16	45	11
6. Would replacing short term imprisonment sanctions by alternative sanctions help to reduce overcrowding of the prisons in your country?	56	10	5
7. Does the law in your country prohibit the use of alternative sanctions or measures for the sole reason that the person is a recidivist?	17	43	9
8. Do certain offences exclude effectively, because of their seriousness and nature, the imposition of an alternative sentence to imprisonment?	57	8	7
9. Does overcrowding in the prisons of your country play a role when suspending a sentence?	14	52	5

SESSION IV: MANAGING AND REDUCING THE PRISON POPULATION - THE NORDIC AND LATVIAN EXPERIENCES

	YES	NO	NEUTRAL
1. Do you agree with the principle defended by the Council of Europe that deprivation of liberty should be a sanction or measure of last resort and should be used only when the seriousness of the offence would make any other sanction or measure clearly inadequate?	30	4	0
2. Do you think that policy makers and politicians make sufficient use of expert knowledge and research results in their criminal justice policy decisions?	5	32	2
3. Do you think the public has sufficient knowledge of the effectiveness of imprisonment as a criminal sanction?	3	34	2
4. Do you think legal practitioners have sufficient knowledge of alternatives to pre-trial detention and imprisonment?	20	16	5
5. Should governments invest more in the production of accurate information on crime, the functioning of criminal justice systems and the dissemination of this information among judges, prosecutors, key-legislative actors, police, prison and probation services, media, and the general public?	38	1	3

SESSION V: ENFORCEMENT PHASE: TRANSPARENT EXECUTION OF SENTENCES

	YES	NO	NEUTRAL
1. Does the prison service or the responsible minister provide publicly information on the execution of prison sentences?	43	15	6
2. Does the probation service or the responsible minister provide publicly information on the execution of alternative sanctions or measures?	45	17	8
3. Would you, as a prosecutor or judge, consider it useful to have more knowledge about how and when sentences to imprisonment or alternative sanctions or measures are executed in your country?	50	7	11
4. Do you consider modalities in the execution of prison sentences such as semi-open prisons, prison leave and open prisons (working outside and sleeping in the prison) acceptable?	63	3	1
5. Do you consider the use of waiting lists for execution of prison sentences acceptable in order to avoid overcrowding?	19	43	9
6. Should the maximum capacity of each prison in your country be fixed by law?	25	40	8
7. Do you consider it acceptable when conditional or early release schemes are used to reduce the overcrowding of the prisons in your country?	52	16	1
8. Should the execution of prison sentences be monitored by the prosecution service or the judges?	46	15	10
9. Would you welcome awareness raising among the media and the public on the execution of penal sentences?	64	6	4
10. Do schemes to make the public familiar on how prisons work in order to create a better understanding exist in your country?	26	35	8

SESSION VI: PREVENTION, MONITORING AND COMPENSATION MEASURES

	YES	NO	NEUTRAL
1. Are you familiar with the work of the Committee on the Prevention of Torture (CPT)?	25	10	0
2. Are you familiar with the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) relating to prison conditions?	24	9	1
3. Are you familiar with the follow-up that is given to CPT reports or judgments of the ECtHR relating to your country?	19	17	2
4. Do you have sufficient access to reports and judgments as well as to the follow-up given to these?	22	7	4
5. Do you consider useful to have regular contacts of the prosecution service, the judges and the prison and probation services?	29	2	4
6. Do you play a role in handling complaints of prisoners?	8	20	3
7. Do CPT reports or judgments of the ECtHR in general play a role when handling complaints of prisoners?	19	5	11
8. Do you consider monetary compensation for justified prisoners' complaints sufficient?	12	16	7
9. Would you like to have other compensatory possibilities, such as reducing the execution of the prison sentence?	18	4	11
10. Are the decisions on complaints of prisoners publicly available?	9	17	7