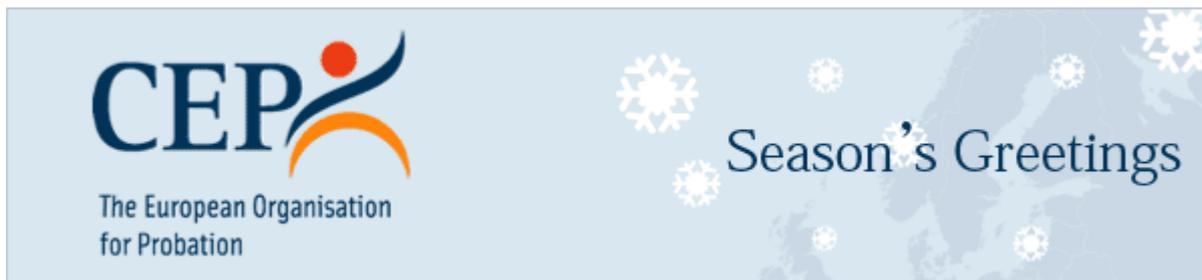


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Stockholm programme: more money for development of alternative sanctions

In the previous Newsletter CEP President Patrick Madigou stated that "It would be a huge success if 'probation' would be mentioned explicitly in the Stockholm programme." The official version of the Stockholm Programme, which contains the EU priorities in the realm of Justice for the period 2010-2014, was published by the beginning of this month. Particularly relevant for the sector of probation in Europe are the stipulations that 'exchange of best practices in alternatives to imprisonment should be promoted' and that the Directorate General for Justice, Freedom and Security (DG JFS) of the EU should "examine the possibilities of using the existing programmes to finance pilot schemes in the Member States testing alternatives to imprisonment".



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Recap: Expert meeting on the Implementation of the Framework Decision on Probation

As the EU Framework Decision was adopted in 2008, it seemed timely to organise a conference for all experts involved, in order to share information about the implementation. CEP in conjunction with the Probation Service in Ireland hosted the expert meeting on the EU Framework Decision on 8th and 9th October 2009. The conference was attended by policy makers from relevant Ministries and delegates from key probation organisations. The report of the conference, as well as all presentations given and other documents which may be of help for the implementation of the Framework Decision, are now available via the CEP website.



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Circles project: innovation in sex offender programmes in Europe

The reintegration of sex offenders usually causes a lot of commotion in the community. Moreover, the recidivism rate of sex offenders is considerably higher than other types of offenders. Circles of Support & Accountability, a Canadian concept, is an effective strategy to reduce the risk of reoffending. In November 2009, a grant by the EU funding programme Daphne III was awarded to Avans University of Applied Sciences in The Netherlands in order to spread the use of Circles in the Netherlands and to start in Belgium as well. Bas Vogelvang, lector of Probation Services & Public Safety Policy at Avans University: "One of the project aims is to gather knowledge about the implementation of this method in specific situations, so that Circles can be applied in other European countries too."

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CEP in progress: Board Meeting results

Budapest, the city of the famous Chain Bridge, spanning the second longest River in Europe and connecting the planes with the hills, symbolically was the location of the 67th CEP Board meeting. Central in this session of the Board was a report by the external consultant David Perry, who had reviewed the work of CEP in the past two years on request of the Board. The Board discussed his findings and his recommendations and more on the 15th and 16th of October.

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Miscellaneous News

At the offices, CEP regularly receives (e)mail on events, publications and developments in the field of probation in Europe and even beyond. As some of these items may be of interest of our member organizations, CEP brings you a selection of this news. In this article you can read about what works in the implementation of best practices, pod casting by young inmates, the involvement of the Council of Europe in European prison reform, and more.

[Read more](#)

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