



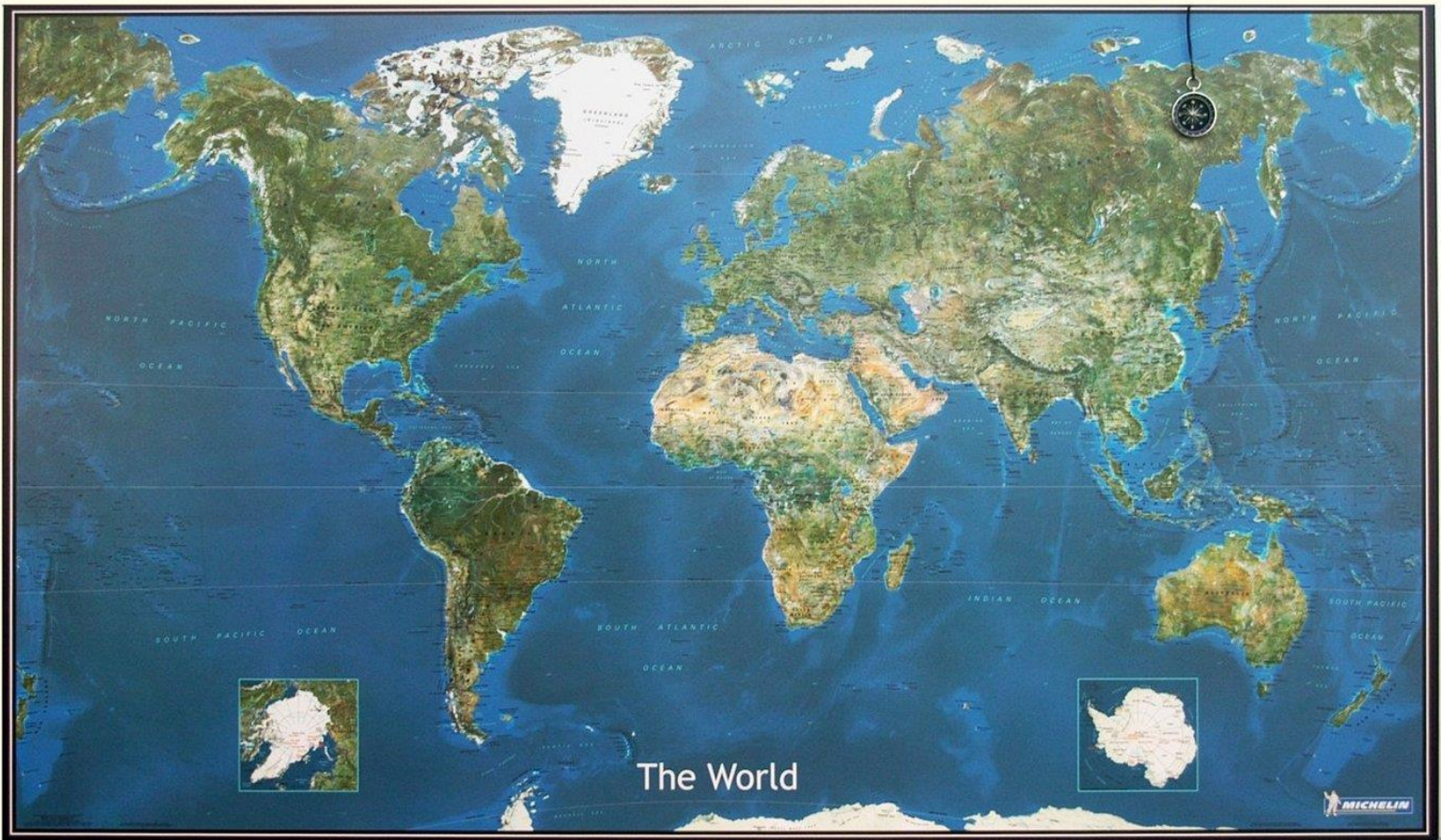
Expectations and needs for resettlement

Case of Dutch FNPs

Femke Hofstee-van der Meulen

FNP conference 20-21 October 2014 London

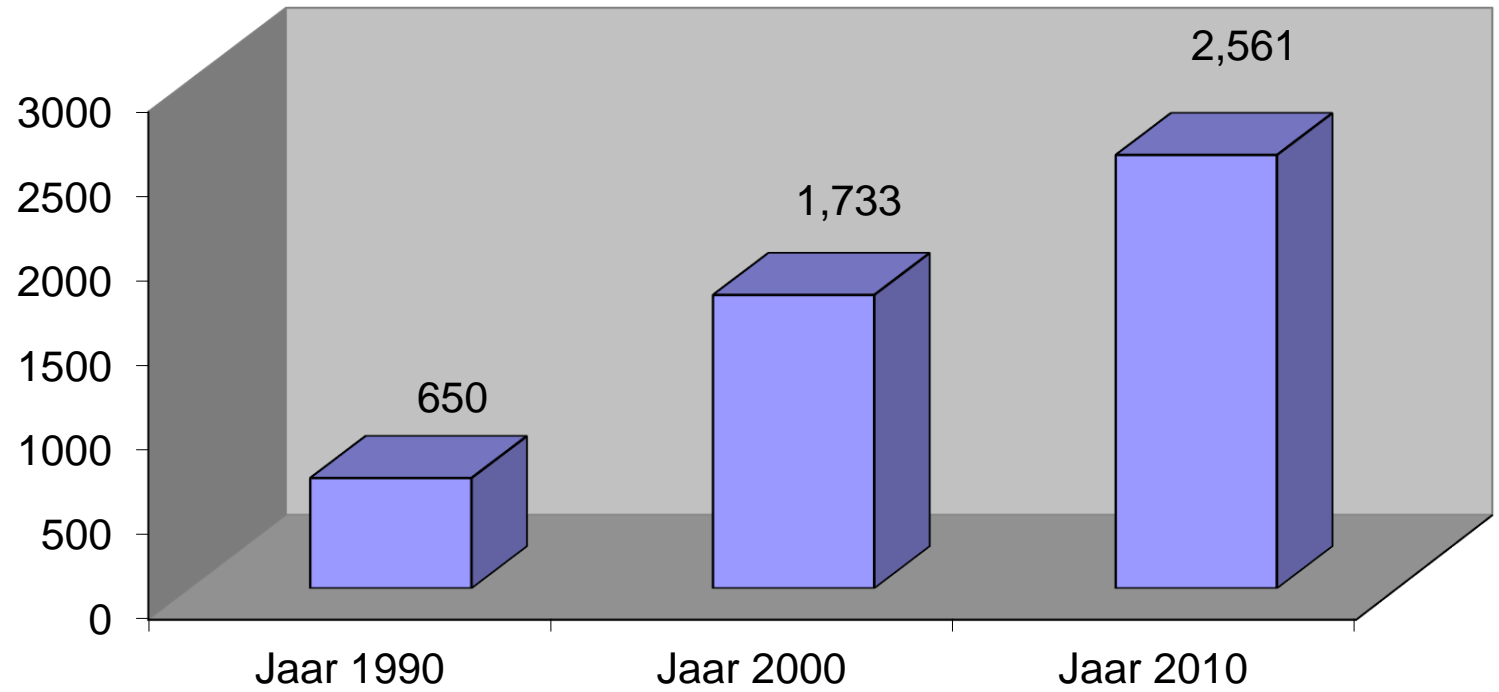
Prison Watch





Total number Dutch FNPs (1990- 2010)

Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs





Background

- 100 countries
- $\frac{3}{4}$ drugs
- Debts
- Relatively many females, average age 34 years
- Dutch tolerance with regards to drugs
- Production of xtc and marihuana in the Netherlands
- Dutch transport country

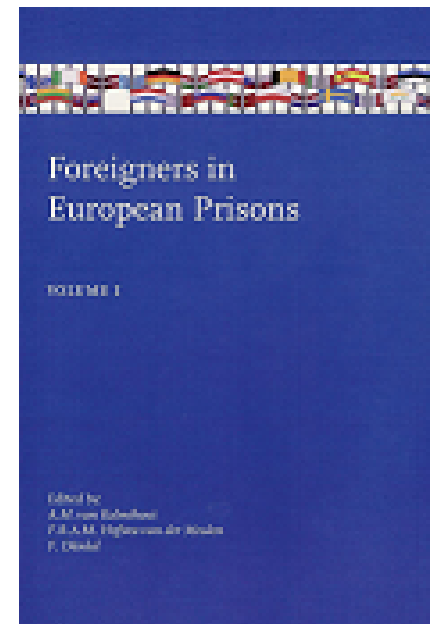




Reason to start study

- 120,000 FNPs in EU - 22% population
- Specific needs
- 450,000 FNPs worldwide – 5% population
- Specific needs during detention
- Omission to exclude resettlement
- Specific needs after release

- 584 returned questionnaires
- 480 interviews during detention, 11 interviews after detention, 15 interviews with relatives





PhD-study Femke

- Dutch assistance to Dutch FNPs a good practice?
- Involvement of volunteers
- On average 5 visits per year
- Consular staff
- Volunteers of the Dutch Probation Service
- Chaplains of Epafras
- Evaluation of assistance and impact on detention experience, special needs and resettlement



Experience with preparing for release during detention

1. Reintegration activities

- Two-thirds are not able/allowed to participate in activities
- General lack of activities
- 82% do not feel prepared for release
- Majority prisoners is anxious about release



Experience with preparing for release during detention

2. Prison leave

- In general are Dutch FNPs not allowed to go on prison leave
- 4% (6% EU and 2% non-EU)
- Reasons: no permanent home address / risk of escape
- Result: FNPs hampered in looking for a job / house / papers
- Problem: unawareness about date of release



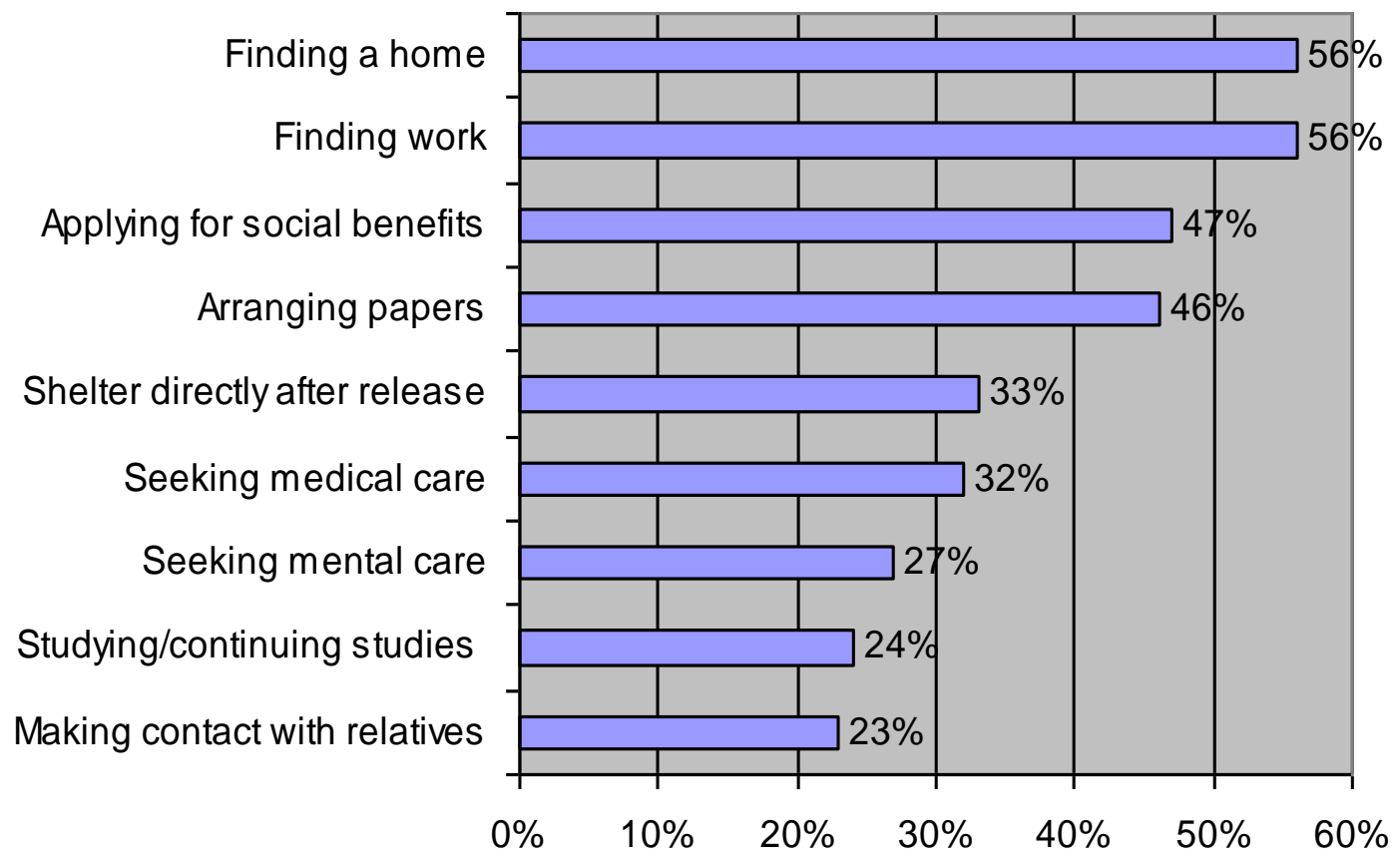
Expectations for resettlement

- High expectations about fair chance to resettle
- 86% returns to the Netherlands (650 annually)
- 43% to Amsterdam or Rotterdam
- 45% to small cities / villages





Expected needs upon return to the Netherlands





Resettlement in the Netherlands

- Efforts to arrange for prisoners in Dutch prisons 5 major needs (income/housing/papers/health/debts)
- Municipalities informed about needs beforehand
- Municipalities responsible for aftercare

- Automatic deregistration of citizens after 8 months when not in municipality
- No aftercare organisations for ex-FNPs

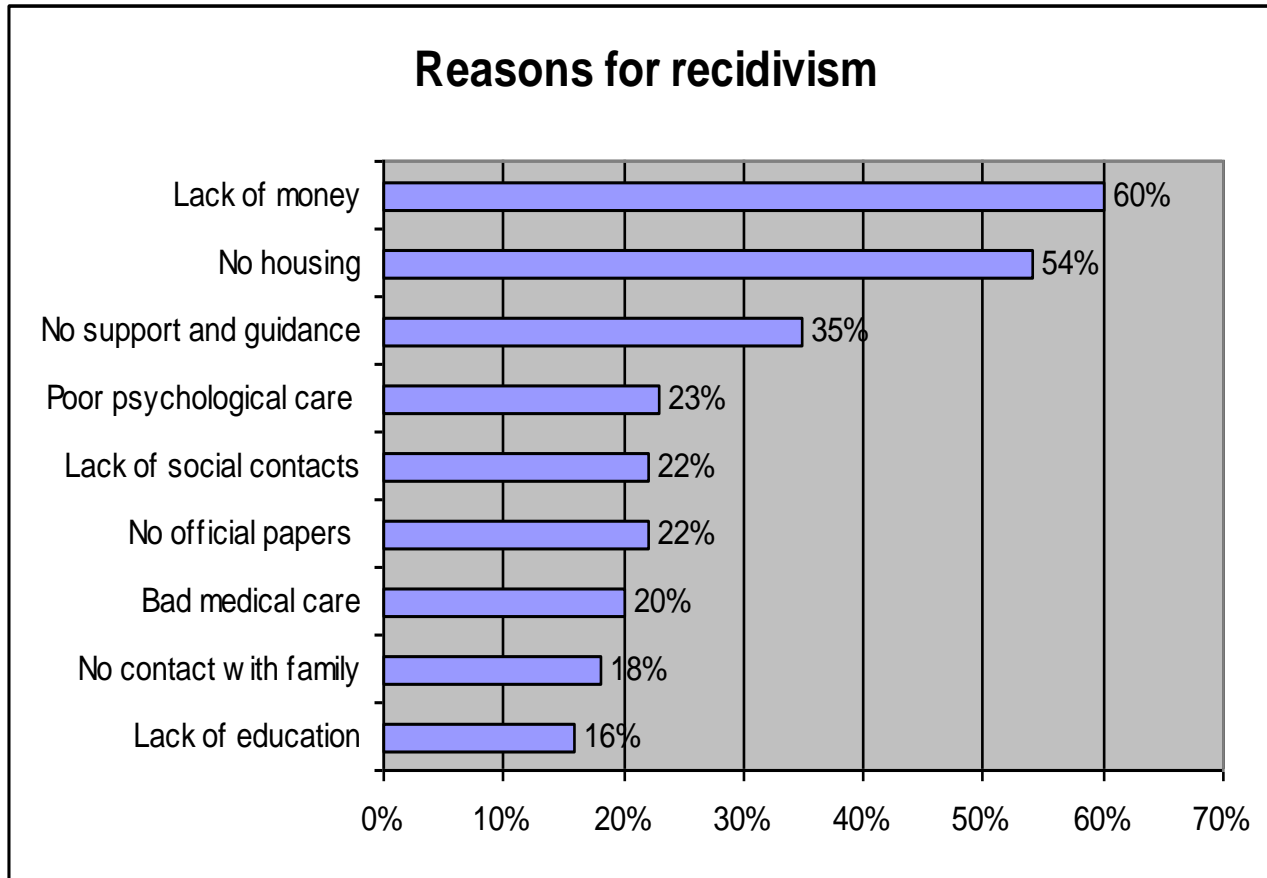


Situation in the Netherlands

- 86% Dutch FNPs return to the Netherlands
 - 650 annually
 - 1/2 to four big cities
 - 1/2 to small cities / villages
 - > 1/2 expect support from families and friends
 - 1/2 expect support from the Dutch Probation Service
 - 1/3 expect support from the municipality
- = **Social exclusion / bureaucratic obstacles of ex-FNPs**



Dutch FNPs and recidivism





Evaluation of assistance to Dutch FNPs

1. Assistance has positive impact on detention experience
2. Assistance addresses special needs:
 - well-being and treatment
 - awareness rules and procedures
 - social inclusion in prison
 - contact outside world
 - preparing for release and aftercare

Key ingredients:

- official status consular staff
- powerful impact of volunteer
- professional chaplain



Belief effect



10 recommendations for resettlement ex-FNPs

1. Evaluate upon admission in prison issues at home
2. Start addressing concerns directly
3. Draft an individual resettlement plan
4. Make contact with prison authorities / create awareness
5. Make contact with authorities / municipality country of origin
6. Monitor first period after release
7. Stay in contact about developments
8. Provide guidance/assistance in the first weeks
9. Create physical location for advice and support
10. Include ex-FNPs in government policy for ex-prisoners