



The European Organisation
for Probation



Setting the scene

Leo Tigges, Secretary
General



Origin

- Established in 1981
- Concern at time: growing number of European foreign nationals in national prisons

2008: Conference in The Netherlands about the Foreign Offender



Values

CEP believes in:

➤ Social Inclusion

A society built on the principles of social inclusion provides the best protection for communities from the harm and distress caused by crime. Crime is committed in society and must therefore be resolved in communities

➤ Ability to change

Human beings are able to change their behaviour and take responsibility to take steps to stop offending and to make reparation



Values

CEP believes in:

- Human rights
Social inclusion requires a response from the community, which recognizes a mutual responsibility. Probation therefore closely relates to the basic human rights and responsibilities as formulated by the UN and the CoE
- Delivery of effective sentences
To reduce re-offending, consistent and fair options, stemming from evidence-based practice and from principles that ensure human dignity, have to be developed



Mission

CEP is committed:

- to promote pan-European cooperation in the development and delivery of community sanctions and measures
- to enhance the profile of probation and to improve professionalism and best practices



Mission

CEP is committed:

- to achieve just outcomes, increased public protection and community involvement in the reduction of offending across all the countries of Europe-based on the tenets of human rights, well thought out policies, evidence based practice and the best use of public resources
- to unite organisations over Europe sharing these same principles



Trends and issues in probation in Europe

- ❖ Increased number of probation organisations in Europe
- ❖ Position of probation in realm of security has changed: growth in probation (capacity and tasks), but great differences in appearances of non-custodial sanctions and measures, and involvement of probation
- ❖ *EU*: Framework Decision on the Transfer of Probation Measures/Alternative Sanctions
- ❖ *Council of Europe*: Draft Probation Rules
- ❖ *Academic world*: development of a science of probation
- ❖ More EU-funding possibilities for Probation



Priorities (1)

CEP's current priorities:

- EU Framework Decision
Implementation in a co-ordinated way & supported by the EU; contribution to avoid “detention discrimination” of foreigners
- Research and Statistics
Development of research into prison and probation and collection of statistical data for development of EU policy



Priorities (2)

CEP's current priorities:

- Resettlement of Offenders
Improvement of arrangements to assist offenders on release
- Electronic Monitoring
Development of a regulatory framework as private companies providing these services operate in many jurisdictions



Priorities (3)

CEP's current priorities:

➤ Best Practices

Promotion of knowledge exchange in assessment and treatment of offenders, thus reducing unnecessary duplication and promoting cross boundary co-operation (Centre of Probation Excellence?)



Challenge

- **In FD all these trends and priorities fit together**
- **We as Probation have to show that this FD can be a success**
- **So: a thorough and concerted implementation**
- ***That is why we are here today!***