



The European Organisation  
for Probation



# **Overview of Developments in Sex Offender Supervision**

**World Probation Congress: 9th-10th October  
2013**

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# Content

## Introductions and Aims of the Workshop

- ✓ Workshop Part 1 SO-SIG: The CEP Special Interest Group. Survey results & future agenda
- ✓ Workshop Part 2: CIRCLES4EU: Expanding Circles of Support and Accountability in Europe



## Aims of the Workshop

- To highlight and discuss two activities focussing on a special group of Probation clients; sex offenders
- For the CEP SO-SIG (Sex Offender Special Interest Grp)
  - **To describe the SO-SIG and outline the findings of its Europe-wide survey into the management of sex offenders**
  - **To refer to connections with the CoE Probation Rules, EU current Framework Decisions and Directives**
  - **To shape the next steps of the CEP SO-SIG**



## Aims of the Workshop cont.

- For the Circles4EU
  - To give a full outline of the project
  - To give emergent findings
  - To give an overview of the COSA Model with the use of multi-media



# Workshop Part 1





# Speaker Introductions: Elizabeth Hayes

- **25yrs Criminal Justice experience – strategic, operational, and practice**
- **UK Probation Service and Ministries of Justice**
- **National lead positions in strategy, policy, practice development and implementation, research and monitoring**
- **Overseas Ministries of Justice and NGOs**
- **Areas of operation – Community and Custody**
- **Specialisms - High Risk and Sexual Offenders**



## CEP Values

- Social Inclusion
- Ability to change
- Human rights
- Delivery of effective sentences





## CEP Mission

- to promote pan-European cooperation
- to enhance Probation
- to achieve best practice outcomes
- to unite organisations and individuals all over Europe



## Description of CEP SO-SIG

- Established in February 2012
- Special Interest Groups (SIGs) come under CEP's 'Best Practice' priorities
- SO-SIG to concentrate on the management of sexual offenders in community and prison in Europe
- SO-SIG to link practice & research on strategic and operational levels



# SO-SIG – Initial Goals

## Goal 1:

co-ordination and co-operation in EU initiatives, joint funding for practice development with sex offenders across Europe

## Goal 2:

an overview of assessment tools, risk management, treatment/other interventions for sex offenders in EU



## Why is Sexual Offending a CEP priority

- ✓ **Sexual assault is harmful to victims**
- ✓ **Sexual Offenders are the most excluded citizens**
- ✓ **Best practice is to be promoted for:**
  - **Safety – objective of no more victims**
  - **Responsibility – holding individuals accountable**
  - **Ability to Change - access to treatment/interventions**
  - **Inclusiveness – risk managed through inclusion**
  - **Humanity and respect**



## **'Go' Criteria**

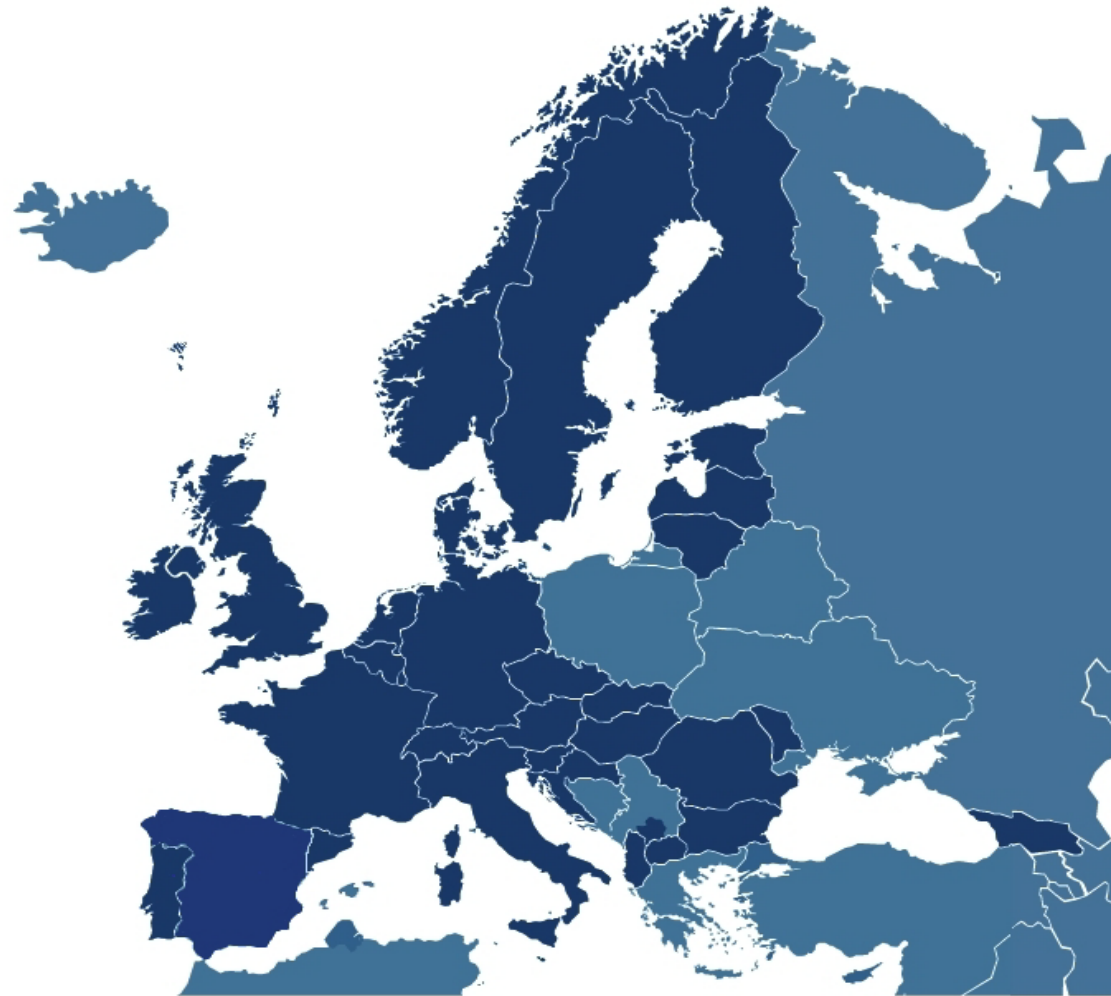
- ✓ **The problem of sexual violence is acknowledged by the government**
- ✓ **There is chance to find sustained financial support for provisions**
- ✓ **There are professional institutions involved in S.O. rehabilitation**
- ✓ **There is structured risk assessment available and professional expertise in S.O. treatment.**
- ✓ **There are legal possibilities for mandated supervision of S.O.s.**
- ✓ **There is willingness and arrangements for cooperation between key agencies**



# Survey Overview

- A Survey for work with sex offenders in Europe to:
  - identify existing practice,
  - establish a register of initiatives
- A questionnaire from SO-SIG to all 36 CEP member countries. Results analysed
- 7 substantive questions, covering key areas of assessment, management, treatment/other interventions for sex offenders

# CEP Member Countries



## Member countries:

- Albania
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Georgia
- Germany
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Jersey
- Kosovo
- Latvia
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Macedonia
- Malta
- Moldova
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom



# Survey results – summary 1

- 20/36 countries responded - a 54% return rate
- The Survey generated a first valuable set of practical Europe-wide research available in the area
- Some important countries missing: Spain, Belgium Portugal, Greece, Eastern Europe (except the Baltic States), Switzerland, Luxembourg





## Survey results – summary 2

- A broad spread in sex offender practice and provisions, custody and community: first steps, intermediate, extended
- Much interest in learning more and advancing practice and to have the assistance of CEP in this
- Particularly relevant for current Workshop - Questions 1,2 & 4 findings; to be taken forward



# Survey results – detail 1

**Survey Question 1: *What initiatives/programmes do you currently operate inside the prison system? Include assessment, interventions and supervision***

- A diverse and scattered landscape.
- Countries operate in isolation, except for Baltic and Nordic countries.
- Few report use of recognized sex offender assessment tools; unclear how treatment is informed and monitored



## Survey results – detail 2

### Survey Question 1 cont:

- Most report treatment in prisons but each prison provides themselves; not standardized, national, specialist provision
- In the majority of cases funding is structural rather than incidental
- In-prison program links with community for re-integration (transitional supports) lacking.
- Content and effectiveness of treatment delivered is largely unknown

# SO-SIG Survey Results Grid – Q1

Question 1: What initiatives/programmes do you currently operate inside the <u>prison system</u> ? Include assessment, interventions and supervision + : existing/available (green) - : non-existent (red) empty cell : unknown (orange)	Austria	Baden-Württemberg (Germany)	Catalonia	Estonia	Finland	France	Italy	Latvia	Liechtenstien	Lithuania	Malta	Netherlands	Northern Ireland	Norway	Scotland	Sweden	England and Wales
<b>PROVISION</b>																	
Special sex-offender prison or wing	-	-	-	+		+	-	-	-		+	+		-	+	+	+
Prison treatment available	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+/-	+	+	+
Nationwide vs local initiatives	N		N	N	L	N	L	+	-		N	L		L	N	N	N
Structural / incidental funding	S	S		S		S	I		-	+	S	S		S	S	S	S
Provider (prison or external professionals)	E	P	P	P	P	P	P/E	P	-	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P
<b>THEMES / GOALS</b>																	
Social-behavioural – (cognitive) skills				+			+		-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Relapse prevention			+	+		+	+		-	+		+	+		+	+	+
Alternative (art, pets)							+		-								
Discussion groups							+		-	+							
Re-integration						+			-			+			+		
<b>ASSESSMENT / MONITORING</b>																	
- questionnaires	RRASOR. Static 99		Riscanvi	Stable & Dynamic	Static99 Stable & Dynamic		-		-	SVR20 Static99		SVR20 Stable & Dynamic			Stable & Dynamic		Risk Matrix 2000
- interviewing / psychiatric							-		-			+					
- physical / neurological							-		-			+					
<b>EFFECTIVENESS RESEARCH</b>		+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+



## Survey results – detail 3

**Survey Question 2: *What initiatives/programmes do you currently operate in the community for sex offenders? Include assessment, interventions and supervision***

- A diverse and scattered landscape.
- Countries operate in isolation, exception in community treatment provisions appeared to be UK & Latvia.
- Few report use of recognized sex offender assessment tools, so it is unclear how treatment is informed and monitored



## Survey results – detail 4

### Survey Question 2 cont:

- In the majority of cases funding of treatment is structural rather than incidental
- Few countries indicate links existing between community and prisons for transitional supports and re-integration
- Content and effectiveness of treatment provided is largely unknown
- Probation is the major provider

# SO-SIG Survey Results Grid – Q2

Question 2: What initiatives/programmes do you currently operate in the community for sex offenders. Include assessment, interventions and supervision. + : existing/available (green) - : non-existent (red) empty cell : unknown (orange)	Austria	Baden-Württemberg (Germany)	Catalonia	Estonia	Finland	France	Italy	Latvia	Liechtenstein	Lithuania	Malta	Netherlands	Northern Ireland	Norway	Scotland	Sweden	England & Wales
<b>PROVISION</b>																	
Special sex-offender unit/facility	-	+	+		-		-	+	-		-	+	+	-	+	-	+
Community treatment available	+	+	+	+	-		+	+	-		+	+	+	-	+	+	+
Nationwide vs local initiatives	N	N	N	L	-		L	N	-		L		N	-	N		N
Structural / incidental funding	S	S	S	S	-		S	S	-		S	S	S	-	S	S	S
Provider (State sector or external professionals)	SS	SS	SS	SS	-		SS&E	SS	-		SS & E	SS	SS	-	SS	SS	SS & E
<b>THEMES / GOALS</b>																	
Social-behavioural – (cognitive) skills					-			+	-		-	+	+	-	+	+	+
Psychological therapies			+		-			-	-		+			-			
Medication							+					+					
Relapse prevention			+	+	-			+	-		-		+	-	+		+
Alternative (art, pets)			-		-			-	-		-		-	-	-		-
Discussion groups			+		-			+	-		-		+	-	+	+	+
Re-integration					-				-		-		+	-	+		+
<b>ASSESSMENT / MONITORING</b>																	
- questionnaires	Stable & Acute			Stable & Acute	-			Static 99 Stable & Acute	-		-		Risk Matrix	-	Stable & Acute	Stable & Acute	Risk Matrix 2000 & SARN
- interviewing / psychiatric					-			+	-		+	+		-			
- physical / neurological					-				-		-			-			
-who monitors (police / probation / prison)		Po & Pro	Pri	Pro	-		Pro	Pro			-	Pro & Po	Pro & Po	-	Pro & Po	Pro	Pro & Po
<b>EFFECTIVENESS RESEARCH</b>	+	-	+	-	-	+			-		-		+	-	+		+
<b>INTEREST IN EXCHANGING WITH OTHER COUNTRIES</b>	-	+	+	-		+	+	+			+	+	+		+		+



## Survey results – detail 5

***Survey Question 4: Are volunteers as well as professionals involved with the rehabilitation of sex offenders in your country?***

- In a significant minority of countries, volunteers are currently engaged in the rehabilitation of sex-offenders (like COSA)
- More countries use volunteers in rehabilitation programmes/services for offenders in general
- COSA seems to be an important generator for an increasing trend of using volunteers in rehabilitation.





## Survey Questions 3/5/6/7

**Qu. 3 What legal controls are in place in your country to monitor repeat sex offenders (i.e. electronic monitoring, extended supervision orders, multi-agency public protection panels, etc)? How long can these be fixed for?**

**Qu. 5 Is there anything else you wish to tell us about your initiatives or programmes for sex offenders?**

**Qu. 6 Is there anything that you would like our assistance with regarding initiatives for sex offenders in prisons and in the community?**

**Qu. 7 Would you be interested in sending delegates to a meeting in Brussels in the next year to discuss this subject?**



## Survey results - Conclusions

- An appetite for:
  - sharing and exchange
  - developing evidential base
- Research needed : offender numbers, offence types, tools and techniques (what's promising)
- Collaboration needed to advance practice:
  - research
  - professional forums
- Requested SO-SIG to take a central position in the above



# Salient CoE/EU Rules, Decisions & Directives

- CoE Probation Rules (2010) – setting standards
- EU Framework Decisions (2010-12)  
Probation cooperation and promotion of alternatives to prison/community sanctions and measures
- Stockholm Programme of EU (2009)  
enhanced cooperation between authorities in member states for prevention of child sexual abuse
- Directive of EU on Combating Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation of Children and Child Pornography (2013)



## CoE/EU Rules, Decisions & Directives cont.

- Nearly every European country has/is setting up/is improving its Probation system
- Similarities in tasks....but maturity, appearances varying
- Probation can reduce the prison population, protect the public, rehabilitate offenders
- Probation needs effective organisation and cooperation for improved methods and outcomes



# CoE/EU Rules, Decisions & Directives cont.

## Directive of EU on Combating Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation of Children and Child Pornography (2013)

**Article 22**: Member States to ensure that people who may commit sexual offences against children have access to effective interventions to prevent such offences being committed

**Article 24(1)**: Member States to put in place effective intervention programmes designed to minimise/prevent the risk of repeat offending and to be accessible inside or outside prison



## **SO-SIG - Next Steps**

**Discussion Exercise:**

**to inform next steps for CEP SO-SIG**



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