



Confederation of European
Probation

Conference on Public Perception of Probation

5-7 May 2025 - Antalya, Turkey

This conference is organised in cooperation with:



**DENETİMLİ
SERBESTLİK**
DAİRE BAŞKANLIĞI



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Preface

Dear Delegates,

The public perception of probation is a significant concern for criminal justice professionals, particularly probation officers, in carrying out their fundamental duties. These duties include reintegrating individuals into society and enhancing public safety by preventing re-offending. The [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2010\)1 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the Council of Europe Probation Rules](#) gives very valuable guidance in the section dedicated to scientific research, evaluation and media and public relations. For example, Rule 106 states the following: "The media and the public shall be provided regularly with factual information about the work carried out by probation agencies. They shall be informed about the purposes and results of the work in order to encourage a better understanding of their role and value in society."

It is crucial to emphasise the significance of probation work, which often operates discreetly, and progress is incremental. This is particularly important given that a society that embraces the concept of second chances influences the opportunities available to offenders. It is also very important to work with all the stakeholders in the criminal justice system (police services, public prosecutors, judges, prisons) to ensure that interventions are consistent and respect each other's areas of responsibility. When it comes to the cooperation with other institutions, Rule 37 stipulates that "probation agencies shall work in co-operation with other agencies of the justice system, with support agencies and with the wider civil society in order to implement their tasks and duties effectively." Furthermore, Rule 38 states that "probation agencies shall encourage and facilitate support agencies to undertake their inherent responsibility to meet the needs of offenders as members of society."

It is also vital to collaborate with other institutions and civil society. This will allow us to achieve greater efficiency by mobilising the most appropriate resources in relation to the individual's situation. A comprehensive programme has been meticulously organised for the upcoming two days by the CEP, Turkish Ministry of Justice and the Directorate-General for Prisons and Detention Houses. This programme will provide a valuable opportunity for reflection and exchange, with a focus on enhancing cooperation within the criminal justice system, strengthening partnerships with the public, and exploring the historical evolution of the perception of probation. Additionally, the programme will address strategies to enhance the image of probation, thereby supporting the effective fulfilment of its assigned missions. The training centre of Turkish prison and probation offers an exceptional framework for encouraging these reflections and exchanges. It is incumbent upon each one of us to seize this opportunity to make it an outstanding moment to help us improve the public perception of probation.

I wish you an excellent conference!

Annie Devos
CEP President



It is with great honour and profound pleasure that I welcome you to the CEP Conference, hosted in the magnificent city of Antalya, a crossroads of civilizations where history, culture, and natural beauty converge. As the host country, Türkiye takes great pride in bringing together esteemed experts, academics, policymakers, and practitioners from across Europe and beyond to engage in a meaningful dialogue on the evolving role of probation in our societies.

In an era of rapid globalization, the significance of international cooperation and knowledge-sharing has never been more crucial. Our gathering today provides a vital platform to examine shared goals, address common challenges, and explore innovative, solution-oriented approaches to probation, justice, and public perception. Effective international collaboration is a cornerstone in developing sustainable and impactful policies in these fields, ensuring that our collective efforts yield lasting benefits on a global scale.

This conference presents an invaluable opportunity for distinguished participants from various legal and correctional systems to exchange insights, best practices, and forward-looking strategies. The diversity of perspectives represented here will not only enrich our understanding of contemporary probation practices but also foster a more comprehensive and inclusive approach to its future development. The exchange of experiences and expertise will serve as a catalyst for strengthening international partnerships, advancing evidence-based policies, and enhancing the effectiveness of probation systems worldwide.

I am confident that the discussions and deliberations taking place over the coming days will further solidify our commitment to cross-border collaboration and contribute significantly to the continuous improvement of the Turkish Probation System. As I have often emphasized, all international initiatives undertaken by our Directorate General represent crucial pieces of a larger puzzle, each playing a fundamental role in the advancement of our penitentiary system. It is my sincere hope that this conference will lay the groundwork for long-term collaborations and the successful implementation of impactful projects.

On this occasion, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to our esteemed Minister of Justice, Mr. Yılmaz Tunç, and our Deputy Minister of Justice, Mr. Ramazan Can, for their invaluable support. I also wish to express my appreciation to all distinguished guests whose presence here underscores the importance of this international dialogue.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank all those who have contributed their time, effort, and dedication to the meticulous preparation of this event. May this conference, which reflects a European perspective while embracing the unique contributions of our national system, serve as a beacon of progress and collaboration. I hope you will also take the opportunity to experience the hospitality, cultural richness, and natural beauty of Antalya, which proudly welcomes you as a bridge between continents and ideas.

Wishing you all a productive and enriching conference.

Enis Yavuz Yıldırım
Director General of Prisons and Detention Houses
Ministry of Justice - Türkiye



Conference Programme

ATGV Antalya Training and Social Facilities, Antalya, Turkey
5-7 May 2025

Chair of the Conference: Ms. Jana Špero Kamenjarin, CEP Secretary General

TUESDAY 6 MAY

- 08.30-09.30 Registration
- 09.30-10.00 Welcome and opening
Mr. Yılmaz Tunç, Ministry of Justice, Turkey
Mr. Enis Yavuz Yıldırım, Director General of Prisons and Detention Houses, Turkey
Ms. Annie Devos, CEP President, Belgium
- 10.00-10.45 Plenary 1: Perception of Probation in Turkey
Mr. Fatih Güngör, General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses, Turkey
- 10.45-12.00 Plenary 2: Probation - Important Part of the Criminal Justice System
Ms. Ingunn Seim, Norwegian Correctional Service, Norway
Dr. Danijela Mrhar Prelic, Slovenian Probation Administration, Slovenia
Mr. Daniel Danglades, Ministry of Justice, France
- 12.00-13.15 Lunch
- 13.15-14.30 Workshop sessions (parallel)
a) Probation Service Cooperating with Professional Stakeholders
Chair: *Dr. Danijela Mrhar Prelic, Slovenia Probation Administration, Slovenia*
Ms. Annie Devos, Houses of Justice, Belgium
Dr. Huseyin Şik, General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses, Turkey
- b) Probation Service Cooperating with the General Public
Chair: *Mr. Daniel Danglades, Ministry of Justice, France*
Dr. Andrea Matouskova, Ministry of Justice, Czech Republic
Mr. Joachim Tein, Ministry of Justice Schleswig-Holstein, Germany (retired)
- 14.30-15.00 Coffee/Tea break
- 15.00-16.15 Workshop sessions repeated

16.15-16.45 Summary of workshops and closing the day
Dr. Danijela Mrhar Prelic, Slovenia Probation Administration, Slovenia
Mr. Daniel Danglades, Ministry of Justice, France

20.00-22.30 Dinner with an accompanying programme

WEDNESDAY 7 MAY

09.00-10.00 Plenary 3: Changes in the perception of Community Sanctions and Measures during the years
Mr. Gerry McNally, Probation Service, Ireland (retired)
Mr. Vugar Aghayev, Ministry of Justice, Azerbaijan
Assoc. Prof. Hakan A. Yavuz, Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University, Turkey

10.00-11.15 Round Table Session: Promoting Probation
Ms. Annie Devos, Houses of Justice, Belgium
Dr. Andrea Matouskova, Ministry of Justice, Czech Republic
Dr. Huseyin Şik, General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses, Turkey
Mr. Joachim Tein, Ministry of Justice Schleswig-Holstein, Germany (retired)
Ms. Ingunn Seim, Norwegian Correctional Service, Norway

11.15-11.45 Coffee/Tea break

11.30-12.30 Public engagement with and support for Probation
Prof. Fergus McNeill, University of Glasgow, Scotland (UK)

12.30-13.00 Summary and closing words
Mr. Enis Yavuz Yıldırım, Director General of Prisons and Detention Houses, Turkey
Ms. Annie Devos, CEP President, Belgium

13.00- Lunch and departure

Abstracts

Plenary 1: Perception of Probation in Turkey

by Mr. Fatih Güngör

Probation plays a vital role in modern criminal justice, offering an alternative to imprisonment while focusing on rehabilitation and reintegration. In Türkiye, the probation system has evolved over time, influenced by legal reforms, public opinion, and international standards. This presentation will examine the perception of probation in Türkiye, looking at public attitudes, institutional practices, and challenges in implementation.

Probation's dual purpose protecting society and supporting offenders' reintegration often faces scepticism from the public, who question its security, effectiveness, and potential for reducing recidivism. To address these concerns, Türkiye has worked on improving policies, enhancing evidence-based practices, and fostering cooperation among various agencies.

Since its inception, the probation system in Türkiye has aligned with European standards and international principles. Reforms have focused on improving rehabilitation programs, risk assessment tools, and collaboration with social service institutions. However, misconceptions persist, fuelled by media and public misconceptions.

I will touch upon the recent efforts by the General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses, such as innovative rehabilitation strategies and initiatives to prevent reoffending. The presentation will provide insights into how Türkiye can improve public confidence in probation as a rehabilitative tool and strengthen its justice system by addressing both legal reforms and societal perceptions.

Plenary 2: Probation – Important part of Criminal Justice System

by Ms. Ingunn Seim

Probation – an important part of the criminal justice system: how probation is both part of the progression towards release from prison and as an independent part of serving sentences in the community.

by Dr. Danijela Mrhar Prelić

In Slovenia, the powers and responsibilities relating to the enforcement of community sanctions have in the past been dispersed among different actors. Most of the tasks were carried out by the Social Work Centres, while some tasks were performed by public prosecutors, courts, prisons and the Police. The system of community sanctions was therefore not comprehensively organised at national level. The presentation will outline the reasons for the establishment of the Slovenian Probation Administration, a body within the Ministry of Justice, and will show how probation has fitted into the broader justice system, how it cooperates with justice

stakeholders today, and what opportunities remain for development.

by Mr. Daniel Danglades

In France, probation is a crucial component of the criminal justice system, focusing on offender rehabilitation and public safety. However, its effectiveness depends on public understanding and trust. This presentation examines the context of probation in France, emphasizing societal attitudes and collaboration among probation services, institutions, and various stakeholders. By addressing misconceptions and promoting transparency, it aims to enhance public confidence and awareness. Drawing on both national and European best practices, this session highlights that probation is more than just an alternative sanction; it is essential for societal integration and cohesion.

Plenary 3: Changes in the perception of Community Sanctions and Measures during the years

by Mr. Gerry McNally

Probation originated in a volunteer-based missionary zeal to rescue, reform and save souls at a time when punishment for offending was ruthless, extreme and ineffective. Probation offered hope that change was possible through support reflected in the duty of the Probation Officer in 1907 to 'advise, assist and befriend'.

Since then probation practice has, in many places, evolved through stages of development and multiple pressures to a 21st century 'offender management' approach marked by a loss of confidence in rehabilitation, fear, reliance on risk assessment and attendant risk aversion, bureaucratisation and disengagement from communities. Technology, compliance, enforcement are key measures in some jurisdictions as justice has again become more punitive. Can probation's mission, principles and commitment to rehabilitation be sustained, and can it achieve meaningful and effective working alliances with people supervised and their communities into the future?

by Mr. Vugar Aghayev

This presentation explores the evolving perception of community sanctions and measures in Azerbaijan over recent years. It reflects on the gradual shift from a punitive mindset to a more rehabilitative and socially integrative approach. Drawing on national developments and public sentiment, it highlights how increased awareness, legislative reforms, and the involvement of social actors have contributed to changing attitudes toward probation. The presentation also examines challenges in overcoming stigma and building public trust, while aligning with broader European trends in community-based justice.

by Prof. Hakan A. Yavuz

Probation was introduced into the Turkish criminal justice system with the reform in 2005. Although it is a short period compared to the long experience in European countries, these twenty years of practice should be considered as a very important experience. Over time, the institutional structure of the probation administration has been strengthened and it has performed an important function in the fulfillment of community sanctions and measures that are expanding day by day. With the diversification of alternative solutions in the Turkish criminal justice system, the positive outcome of the more intensive and effective implementation of non-prison sanctions has increased the public's confidence in the criminal justice system. The presentation will be made on the review of this transformation process over the last two decades.

Public engagement with and support for Probation

by Prof. Fergus McNeill

In many countries, probation began not as a state-sponsored organisation, but as a civil society initiative to divert people from damaging forms of punishment by addressing their personal and social problems. In most western countries, as probation professionalism increased, public involvement declined. Fergus's talk will explore the links between, perceptions, support and involvement, arguing that renewing civic involvement might be the best way to build probation's legitimacy and its effectiveness.

Workshops

Workshop A

Probation Service Cooperating with Professional Stakeholders

by Ms. Annie Devos

In order to accomplish their mission, probation services must be able to draw on the resources available in society to support the offender's reintegration. These resources encompass structures that facilitate access to employment, therapeutic care for mental health issues, addiction treatment, and training.

Professional stakeholders can play an important role in supporting reintegration. However, most services are facing an increase in demand, and we see that waiting lists are often getting longer. How can we mobilise professional stakeholders to address situations arising from the criminal justice system that are not generally perceived as a priority?

While it is necessary to prioritize situations in view of limited resources, it is essential to guarantee quality care by ensuring differentiation according to individual needs. Effective coordination of care is necessary. Achieving this balance at a structural level between institutions is essential. It is essential to establish a framework that clearly defines the objectives of collaboration, acknowledges the legitimacy of each stakeholder, and facilitates effective communication channels.

During this workshop, the conditions for successful collaboration will be discussed, as well as some of the pitfalls to be avoided.

by Dr. Huseyin Şik

Effective probation services require a multi-stakeholder approach, integrating public institutions, civil society, and the private sector to enhance rehabilitation and reduce recidivism. In Türkiye, the Probation Department collaborates with a diverse range of stakeholders, including the Green Crescent (Yeşilay), the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Family and Social Services, the Turkish Red Crescent (Kızılay), universities, the Presidency of Religious Affairs (Diyamet), bar associations, NGOs, private enterprises, and local administrations. These partnerships ensure a holistic approach to offender rehabilitation by addressing social, psychological, educational, and vocational needs.

Inter-agency cooperation is essential for creating sustainable reintegration mechanisms. By leveraging the expertise of different sectors, probation services can provide tailored interventions, from addiction treatment and rehabilitation to vocational training and employment support.

The integration of academic and social service institutions enhances the effectiveness of rehabilitation efforts, dealing with best practices, successful

collaborative models, and areas for improvement in Turkey's probation system. Comparative insights from other countries will also be presented to assess global trends in multi-stakeholder probation services. The discussion will emphasize the necessity of strengthening partnerships to build a more effective, inclusive, and community-oriented probation system that fosters long-term social reintegration.

Workshop B

Probation Service Cooperating with the General Public

by Dr. Andrea Matouskova and Mr. Joachim Tein

Andrea Matouskova and Jo Tein have long standing experience in public administration as well as in civil society organisations related to probation in the Czech Republic and in Germany.

In this workshop you will take a look at what the Council of Europe Probation Rules recommend concerning the cooperation with the media and the general public and what the reasons and aims behind these recommendations might be.

On the basis of research and of lived experience inside public administration they will reflect on possible pitfalls and structural boundaries of such a cooperation, but they will also highlight concepts and examples of good practice in the Czech Republic, in Germany and on the level of the Confederation of European Probation.

The presentation will include recent film material aiming at the information of experts as well as the general public about probation.

Short biographies of speakers

Mr. Fatih Güngör



Mr. Fatih Güngör is a Judge and Deputy Director General at the General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses, Ministry of Justice, Türkiye. He oversees international relations, probation, and corporate communication. Holding a law degree, a master's in civil law, and pursuing a PhD in criminal justice, he began his career in 2005 as a Judge and transitioned to managerial roles in 2011. From 2017 to 2022, he led the Foreign Relations Department, managing key partnerships. In 2024, he took on probation and communication responsibilities, launching initiatives to prevent reoffending. He also serves as an ICPA Board Member.

Ms. Ingunn Seim



Ms. Ingunn Seim is an educated jurist (law degree) from the University of Bergen, Norway in 1996. She has worked as a public prosecutor for 2 years, and thereafter had different jobs within the Norwegian Correctional service – first as a probation officer and later as a legal advisor. From 2006 she has been leading the the Norwegian model of Drug Treatment Courts (DTC) as a project in Bergen and running the DTC-centre. The project was a pilot for 10 years in the cities of Bergen and Oslo. The DTC-team in Bergen consists of 6 team-members from different agencies (The Correctional service, the Health service, the Educational service and the Local government). Ingunn also worked closely with the DTC-judges in the District Court.

In 2016 the Norwegian government decided to make the Norwegian DTC-model permanent and nationwide. For 1 ½ years She worked for the Directorate of Correctional Service, being responsible for implementing the DTC in the Norwegian system.

In November 2020 she started her current position as assistant director of the Correctional service region west – responsible for all the prisons and probation services in the region.

Dr. Danijela Mrhar Prelič



Dr. Danijela Mrhar Prelič is Director General of Slovenian Probation Administration, Body of the Ministry of Justice. She holds a Master Degree in Social Pedagogy, a Master of Science in Criminology and Doctorate in Law (the field of Criminology). From the beginning of her career, she has been working within the field of enforcement of criminal sanctions. She has served as Senior Advisor – Counselor for juvenile offenders, as Director of Women’s Prison and as Project Manager – Secretary at Ministry of Justice. As

Project Manager she was responsible for preparation of an Action plan for Establishment of Probation Service in Slovenia with all necessary normative and legal changes. In October 2016, she became the Head of Probation Service at the Ministry of Justice, responsible for establishing the new state body. In December 2017 she became an Acting Director of Slovenian Probation Administration, followed by position of Director General in 2018, reappointed in 2023.

During her professional career she attended numerous conferences and international meetings as a speaker regarding the execution of criminal sentences and community service, her special field of interest is re-offending. She also served as a Short-term Expert in the project related to contribute to the improved treatment programs for juvenile offenders and visiting expert to UNAFEI’s First ASEAN-Japan Criminal Justice Seminar. Currently, she is also involved in education trainings carried out by the Slovenian Prison Administration while holding a position of a University Assistant Professor (Criminology, Penology). During the 2022 CEP General Assembly, Danijela Mrhar Prelič was elected as CEP Board Member, in November 2023 she became a member of Working group of PC-CP CoE.

Mr. Daniel Danglades



Seasoned and dedicated professional with over twenty years of experience in the prison and probation sector, currently serving as the Acting Head of the European and International Relations Unit within the French Prison and Probation Services in Paris. Daniel Danglades began his career as a correctional officer and progressed to probation officer, managing cases in both prison and community contexts. His role as an international liaison officer has equipped him with the skills to cultivate robust relationships

across borders. Since October 2022, Daniel has been honored to serve as a Board Member of the Confederation of European Probation (CEP), collaborating with international experts to promote best practices. He participates in the Council for Penological Cooperation (PC-CP) as a representative for France and belongs to various expert groups, including the CEP Electronic Monitoring Group and the CEP/EuroPris Expert Group on Foreign Nationals in Prison and Probation, which he chairs. He also serves as a scientific expert for the Council of Europe, revising recommendations on foreign nationals in prison.

Ms. Annie Devos



Ms. Annie Devos has acquired a large experience throughout her career in the field of prison and probation. She has consecutively been prison governor (1988-1991), technical expert on prison policy for the Minister of Justice (1991-1995), seconded head of the department for policy and general affairs (1995-1997) and head of the department in charge of the individual inmates' file (1997-1999) at the Ministry of Justice. Afterwards, Annie has run the Belgian probation department – called "Houses of Justice" – since its creation in 1999. At the time, the services depended on the judicial organisation and were then transferred to the services of the Ministry of Justice until late 2014. In 2015, the services were divided between the 3 linguistic communities due to the 6th State reform. She has been appointed as Director-General for the Wallonia-Brussels Federation, which comprises the head office, the 13 local houses of Justice, the Centre for Electronic Monitoring and the Centre for Assistance to People concerned by any Radicalism or Extremism leading to Violence (CAPREV) and subsidises partner services in charge of offenders' and victims' support.

Annie Devos was the Vice-President of the Council for Penological Co-operation (PC-CP) of the Council of Europe until 2023. In October 2022 at the General Assembly in Dubrovnik, Croatia, Annie was elected the President of the Confederation of European Probation.

Dr. Hüseyin Şık



Dr. Hüseyin Şık is a jurist who graduated from Marmara University Faculty of Law, earning his master's and doctorate degrees. He began his career as a public prosecutor in 2007 and appointed as judge to the General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses/MoJ/Türkiye in 2015. He played a key role in international penal projects within the Foreign Relations Department. In 2021, he was appointed Head of Rehabilitation and Reintegration, and in 2024, Head of the Probation Department. Dr. Şık has presented on radicalization and terrorism at international conferences and has authored books and peer-reviewed articles on criminal law.

Dr. Andrea Matouskova



Dr. Andrea Matouskova graduated from Charles University in Prague in 1995, majoring in social work. After that, she began working at the District Court for Prague 10, as one of the first probation officers in the Czech Republic. Since 1995, she has been involved in the introduction of probation and mediation into Czech practice and later in the preparation process and establishment of the Probation and Mediation Service. After its establishment back in

2001, she worked at the Headquarters of the Service in Prague as a methodologist and later as the Head of the Department for Conceptual, Analytical and Methodological activities. During her time at the Probation and Mediation Service, she collaborated on the implementation of several projects with domestic and foreign partners – Phare, Transition Facility, the project for the development of the probation service in Croatia, the project for the development of a restorative approach to victims of crime and many others.

From November 2015 to January 2016, under the authority of the Minister of Justice, she was temporarily in charge, and effective from 1 February 2016, she was appointed the Director General of the Probation and Mediation Service. She left the position at her own request in November 2024. She has currently worked as an external consultant at the Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic and as an advisor to the Deputy Minister of Justice in Slovakia. She lectures at CEVRO University in Prague and practices mediation, facilitation and supervision.

In November 2023 she was co-opted as an interim Board Member from 2023 to 2025.

Mr. Joachim Tein



Mr. Joachim Tein holds university degrees in Social Work (Lutheran University of Applied Sciences Hamburg) and Theology (Christian Albrechts University Kiel). He worked for the Ministry of Justice of Land Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, from 2014 until his retirement in 2024 as Head of the Executive Department for Victim Protection as well as Head of the Division for Probation Services. Among other things Jo was responsible for the draft of the Schleswig-Holstein Act on Ambulant Reintegration of Offenders and

on Victim Protection which was adopted by the SH Parliament in October 2021 and entered into force in July 2022.

From 2004-2014 Jo was Executive Director of the Schleswig-Holstein umbrella organization for NGOs in the field of probation and victim support as well as Director of the Schleswig-Holstein foundation for offender support services. Before that he worked as social worker, lecturer and as a social entrepreneur. He co-founded several for profit and not for profit organizations in the field of support for poor, homeless, and delinquent people. In 2010 he was awarded the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany for the development of innovative approaches in social work for marginalized groups.

Jo is a member of the CEP Board since October 2022 and after he retired from his job at the Ministry of Justice he has started to publish interviews with probation experts on his Youtube Channel Referat_Y/Divison_Y."

Mr. Gerry McNally



Mr. Gerry McNally is currently an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminology at University College Cork (UCC). He retired as Assistant Director in the Probation Service in Ireland in 2024. Gerry is a Past President (2016-22) of the Confederation of European Probation (CEP).

During his more than 45 years in the Probation Service Gerry worked in all areas of the Service, in prisons, courts and community supervision, as a Probation Officer and as a Manager. He has published papers and made conference and workshop presentations on probation related issues and topics over many years. He has served as editorial board member and as joint-editor of the Irish Probation Journal (published by the Probation Service and Probation Board for Northern Ireland). Gerry has particular interest in the history and development of probation practice as well as the principles, ethics and standards underpinning probation and parole work.

Mr. Vugar Aghayev



Mr. Vugar Aghayev holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Law from Baku State University (1997–2004). He has enhanced his professional expertise through participation in international programs, including the Human Rights Programme in Lund, Sweden, and the Open World Programme in the United States.

Throughout his career, Mr. Aghayev has played an active role in justice reform initiatives, serving as a focal point at the Ministry of Justice in various projects supported by the European Union and United Nations organizations. He began his career as a probation officer (2002–2006) and later held several senior roles within the Ministry of Justice Apparatus (2008–2020). From 2021 to 2024, he served as Deputy Head of the Inspectorate for Supervision over the Execution of Punishments, overseeing both penitentiary and probation services.

Since June 2024, Mr. Aghayev has been serving as the Director of the Probation Service at the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan, where he leads strategic initiatives aimed at modernizing the probation system and promoting community-based sanctions and measures.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hakan A. Yavuz



Hakan A. Yavuz graduated from Ankara University Faculty of Law in 2002. He completed his PhD in 2011 with his thesis titled Probation in the Criminal Justice System. After serving as a public prosecutor for nearly twenty years, he became a lecturer. Between 2014-2018, he served as a judicial counselor at the Embassy of Turkey in the Netherlands. Academically, he focused on the search for alternatives in the criminal justice system and

alternative criminal sanctions. In addition to his books titled "Penal System and Probation" and "Alternative Methods to Prosecution in Criminal Procedure", he has many articles published in national and international academic journals in Turkish and English. He is a member of the Ministry of Justice Ankara Prison Monitoring Board. He is currently a faculty member at Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University Faculty of Law, Department of Criminal Law.

Prof. Fergus McNeill



Fergus McNeill is Professor of Criminology and Social Work at the University of Glasgow. Prior to becoming an academic in 1998, Fergus worked for a decade in residential drug rehabilitation and as a criminal justice social worker. His research projects and publications have focused mainly on institutions, cultures and practices of punishment, rehabilitation and reintegration. As well exploring how increasingly knowledge about desistance from crime might re-shape rehabilitation and reintegration (both within and

beyond criminal justice), Fergus's work has increasingly used creative and ethnographic methods to better understand how criminal justice is experienced, both by those subject to it and by those whose job is to try to realise it in practice. His 2018 book, '[Pervasive Punishment: Making sense of mass supervision](#)', was the winner of the European Society of Criminology's book prize. His next book co-edited with Mary Corcoran and Beth Weaver), '[Generative Justice: Beyond crime and punishment](#)', is due for publication by Bristol University Press in January 2026.

Ms. Jana Špero Kamenjarin



Ms. Jana Špero Kamenjarin is CEP Secretary General from September 2022. Prior to it, she was the Director General for Prison and Probation in Croatia and board member/vice president of CEP. She is a Master of Law and Master-Specialist in criminal investigation. As an International Consultant of the Council of Europe, she was involved in different activities regarding the development of probation services: workshops, round tables and projects. She is a regular speaker/lecturer at seminars and workshops regarding probation.



Antalya and Venue

About Antalya

Antalya, often referred to as the “Pearl of the Mediterranean” is one of Türkiye’s most captivating cities, celebrated for its rich history and stunning natural beauty. The city is renowned for its picturesque coastline, crystal-clear waters, and a seamless blend of ancient landmarks and modern amenities. Visitors can explore remarkable historical sites, such as Hadrian’s Gate and the ancient city of Perge, while also enjoying exquisite dining and luxurious resorts. Thanks to its mild Mediterranean climate, Antalya is a year-round destination, with May offering particularly warm and sunny weather.

Conference Venue

Our conference venue, nestled by the sea, provides an inspiring and tranquil setting, ideal for fostering meaningful discussions and collaboration. Located just 45 minutes from the heart of Antalya and 25 minutes from Antalya International Airport, the venue offers excellent accessibility for international participants.

Equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and exceptional services, the venue boasts breath-taking sea views, creating a perfect backdrop for networking and professional engagement in a relaxed and inviting atmosphere. Attendees will also have the chance to explore nearby cultural and natural attractions, enjoy world-class hospitality, and immerse themselves in the unique allure of Antalya.

We eagerly await the opportunity to welcome you to this distinguished gathering, set against the spectacular backdrop of Antalya!

Thank you for attending and participating in the conference.
Your feedback is important to us, and we kindly ask you to take a
few minutes to complete the survey.

To access the survey, you can scan the QR code below.



CEP is the Confederation of European Probation. It aims to promote the social inclusion of offenders through community sanctions and measures such as probation, community service, mediation and conciliation. CEP is committed to enhance the profile of probation and to improve professionalism in this field, on a national and a European level.

Confederation of European Probation
P.O. Box 8215 - NL-3503 RE UTRECHT - The Netherlands
Telephone: +31 30 2324900
www.cep-probation.org
secr@cep-probation.org



Confederation of European
Probation

Upcoming events

Webinar on Violent Extremism and Assessment

22 May 2025, online

CJPE summer course

30 June-4 July 2025 in Barcelona, Catalonia-Spain

International Training School on Core Correctional Skills

29 September-3 October 2025 in Barcelona, Catalonia-Spain

Conference on Gender Based Violence in Probation

15-16 October 2025 in Vienna, Austria

CEP & EuroPris Workshop on Transition from Prison to Probation

2-3 December 2025 in Barcelona, Catalonia-Spain

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