

14th European Electronic Monitoring Conference Electronic Monitoring in a Changing World – Perception Versus Reality

*Challenges in Acceptance Regarding the Implementation and
Expanding of EM for VOE*

Daniel Wolter, 06.10.2026

The Situation - A Few Impressions



**Returning to Extremism:
An Overview on Terrorist
Reoffending and Current
Challenges**

2020: about 1 500 prisoners in custody for terrorism-related offenses in the studied 9 European countries

RAN: ~3,080 radicalised/terrorist prisoners in in the studied 9 European countries

average length of sentence: between 4 and 16 years

https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-10/ran_overview_terrorist_reoffending_and_current_challenges_102021_en.pdf

The Situation - A Few Impressions from Germany



~50,000 potential extremists in the far-right movement

~15,600 people were classified as violent or potentially violent

right-wing sector: ~42,544 crimes were recorded in 2025, including 1,598 violent crimes

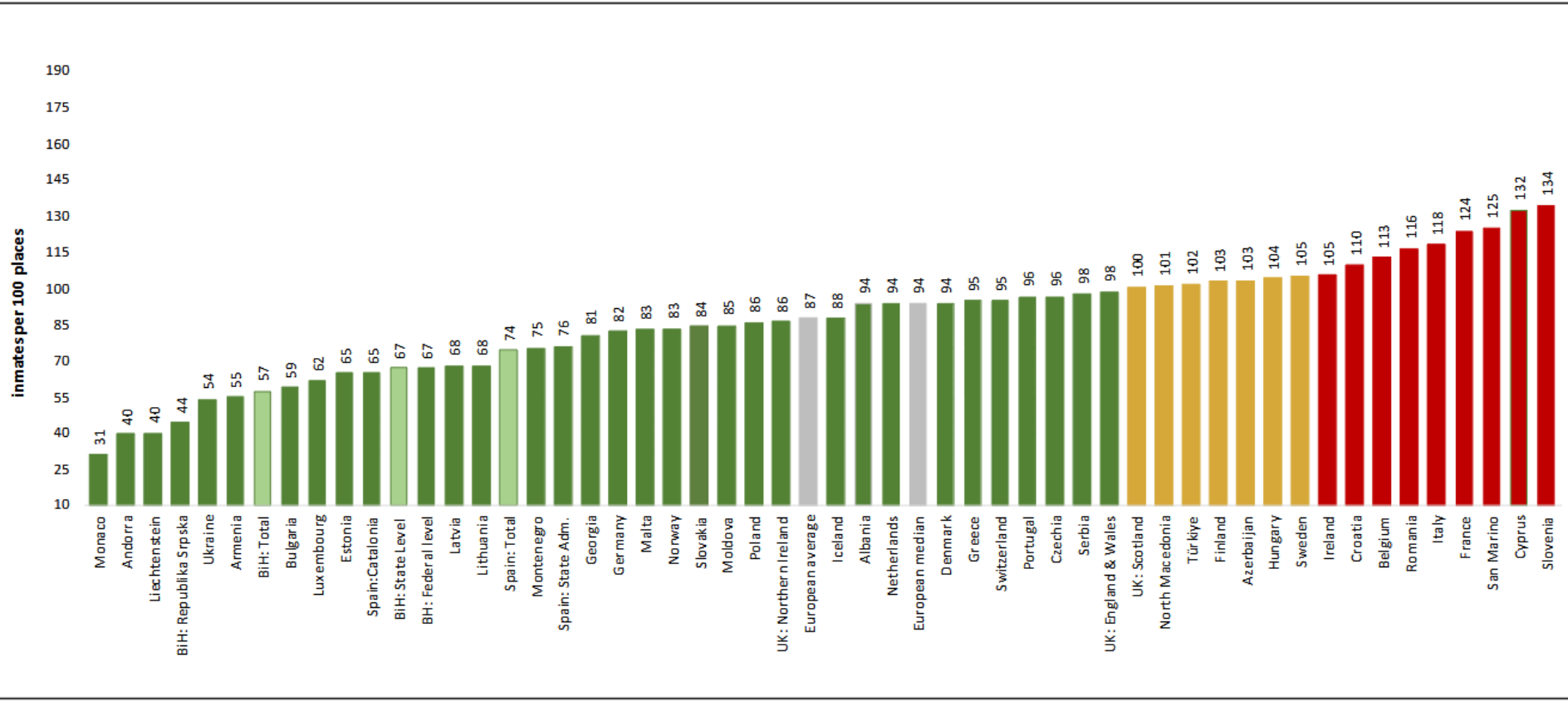
~44,450 individuals with extremist potential in the far-left extremist movement

~11,600 are considered to be potentially violent.

https://www.verfassungsschutz.de/SharedDocs/publikationen/DE/verfassungsschutzberichte/2026-06-30-verfassungsschutzbericht-2025-start.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=3

A last Impression: Increasing overcrowding in European prisons

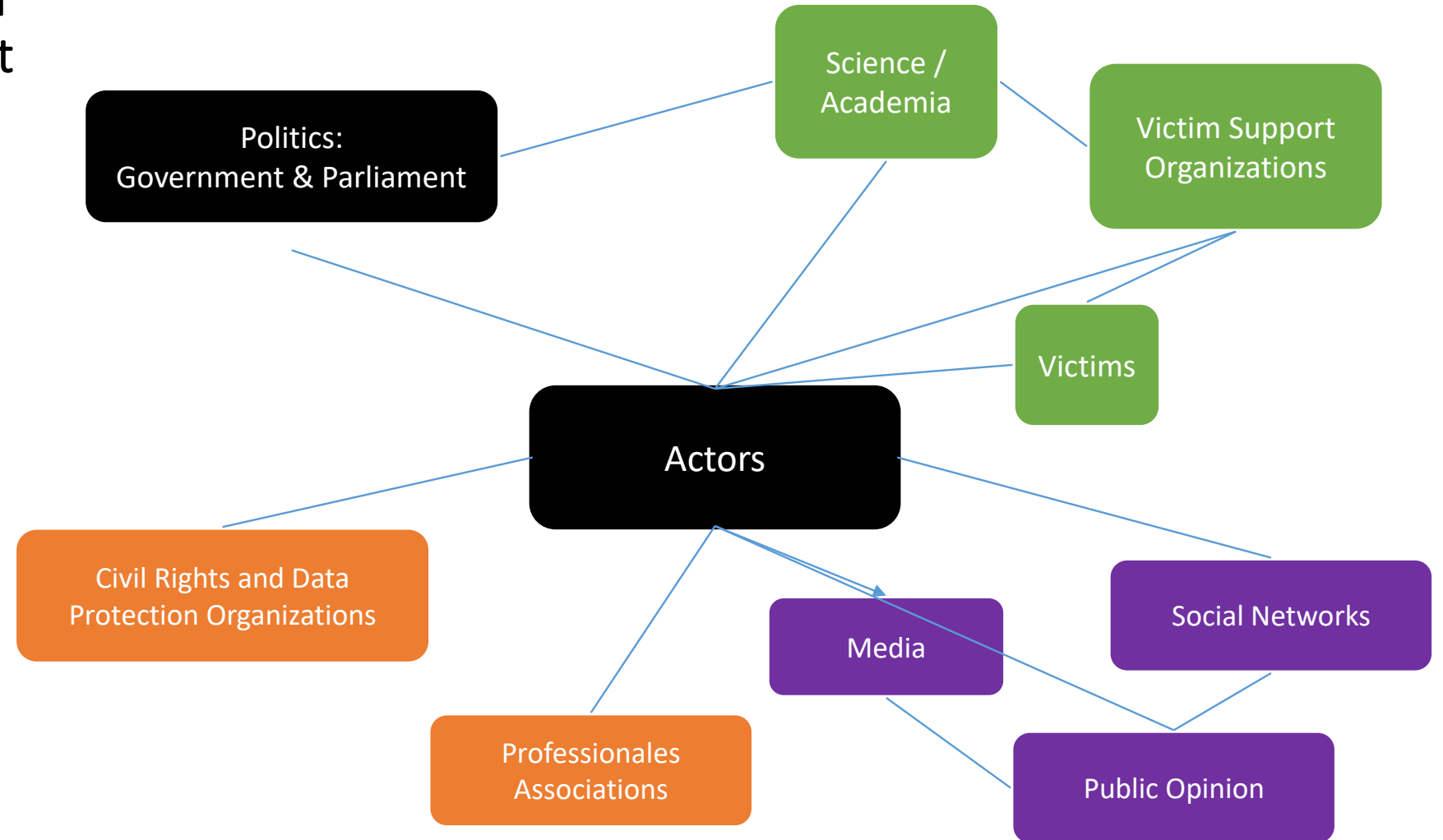
Figure 9. Prison density (number of inmates per 100 detention places) on 31 January 2024 (N=50 PA)



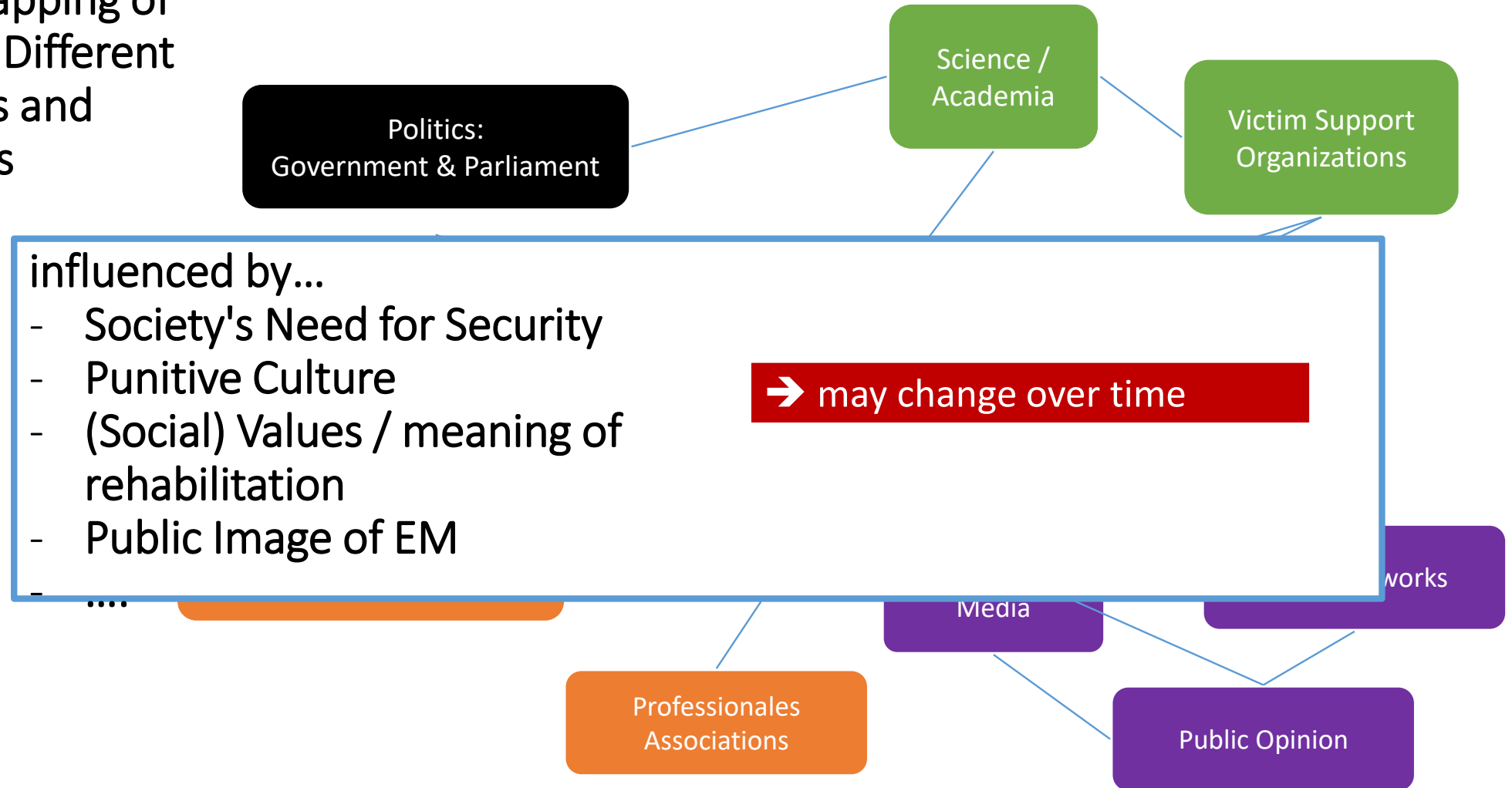
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/increasing-overcrowding-in-european-prisons>

Let's Talk about the Core Decision-Makers

Systemic Mapping of the Actors - Different Perspectives and Expectations



Systemic Mapping of the Actors - Different Perspectives and Expectations



Objectives of EM: Different Narratives

reduce use of short
custodial sentences

reduce mass
incarceration / jail
populations / number
of prison?

reduce cost reduction

reduce the
probability of
reoffending?

reduce preventing
negative
consequences of
incarceration

protecting the public
and victims

improving
rehabilitation and
reintegration of
offenders

reducing the risk of
further radicalization

better access to
community-based
treatment programs

remain in the context,
surroundings and
circumstances (family,
friends, employment)

technical limitations

No physical
protection against
acute violence

dignity, autonomy
and emotional well-
being of offenders

not punitive enough:
offenders are getting
off easy

Objectives of EM: Different Narratives

reduce use of short custodial sentences	reduce mass incarceration / jail populations / number of prison?	reduce cost reduction	reduce the probability of reoffending?	reduce preventing negative consequences of incarceration
protecting the public and victims	improving rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders	reducing the risk of further radicalization	better access to community-based treatment programs	remain in the context, surroundings and circumstances (family, friends, employment)
technical limitations	No physical protection against acute violence	dignity, autonomy and emotional well-being of offenders	not punitive enough: offenders are getting off easy	online activity?

The Key Challenge



How can a consensus **on the topic of violent extremism and EM** be reached among the **various stakeholders**, who have **different expectations, attitudes, values, and cultures**?

A Few Thoughts on Practical Implementation...

The Integration Principle

- Communication
- Transparent Information
- Evaluation
- EM should not be used in isolation
- Objective Risk Assessment
- Multi-Agency Cooperation

Thanks!

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