



# The European Prison Rules as a Standard-Setter for European Prison Conditions

Strasbourg, 15-16 May 2025



EXCELLENCE IN  
**EUROPEAN LAW**<sup>1</sup>

## Speakers

**Iuliana Elena Cărbunaru**, Probation Inspector, National Probation Directorate, Ministry of Justice, Bucharest; Vice-President of the Confederation of European Probation (CEP)

**Vânia Costa Ramos**, Member of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT), Council of Europe, Strasbourg; Chair of the European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA); Partner, Carlos Pinto de Abreu & Associates, Lisbon

**Ramin Farinpour**, Senior Lawyer, European Criminal Law Section, ERA, Trier

**Dr Mykola Gnatovskyy**, Judge, European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg

**Dr Petar Jordanoski**, Project Manager, Division for Cooperation in Police and Deprivation of Liberty, Council of Europe, Strasbourg

**Jorge Monteiro**, Head of Unit, Centre for Studies, Research and Planning, General Directorate for Reintegration and Prison Services, Ministry of Justice, Lisbon

**Aleksandra Nowicka**, Specialist, National Preventive Mechanism, Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, Warsaw

**Petra Pavlas**, Head of Foreign National Prisoners' Affairs Unit, Directorate General for Correctional Services, Federal Ministry of Justice, Vienna; Foreign Nationals Expert Group Coordinator, EuroPris

**Dr Belinda Plattner**, Head of University Clinics for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Salzburg State Hospitals; Professor, Paracelsus Medical University, Salzburg

**Tanja Rakusic-Hadzic**, Head of Division for Cooperation in Police and Deprivation of Liberty, Council of Europe, Strasbourg

**Iilina Taneva**, Co-Secretary to the European Committee on Crime Problems, Secretary to the Council for Penological Cooperation, Council of Europe, Strasbourg



Co-funded by the European Union

## Key topics

- The European Prison Rules and their recent revision; the CPT's latest findings and the role of National Preventive Mechanisms in improving prison standards
- Good practices in prison management, including in relation to foreign national prisoners, juveniles and mental health, as well as possible alternatives to detention
- Workshops on imprisoned foreign nationals, juveniles and young adults, as well as mental health in prisons

Language  
English

Event number  
325DT74

Organiser  
ERA (Ramin Farinpour) in cooperation the Council of Europe, the Confederation of European Probation (CEP), the European Organisation of Prison and Correctional Services (EuroPris) and Antigone



# The European Prison Rules as a Standard-Setter for European Prison Conditions

**Thursday, 15 May 2025**

08:30 Arrival and registration of participants

09:00 **Opening of the seminar**  
*Tanja Rakusic-Hadzic, Ramin Farinpour*

## I. THE EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK FOR PRISON CONDITION STANDARDS AND THEIR MONITORING

*Chair: Ramin Farinpour*

09:10 **The European Prison Rules and their recent revision: the Council of Europe's standard-setting work related to prisons and probation and its impact in practice**  
*Petar Jordanoski*

10:00 Discussion

10:15 **Preventing torture and ill-treatment of persons in detention: the impact and latest findings of the Council of Europe's Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) on detention facilities in Europe**  
*Vânia Costa Ramos*

11:00 Discussion

11:15 Coffee break

11:45 **The work and role of the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) in supporting the judiciary to apply mutual recognition instruments**  
*Aleksandra Nowicka*

12:15 Discussion

12:30 Lunch

13:30 **Development of the European Court of Human Rights' case law related to prisoners' rights**

- Articles 3, 5, and 6 of the ECHR, Protocol No. 4
- Reference to the provisions of the EU Framework Decisions, including the EAW

*Mykola Gnatovskyy*

14:15 Discussion

## II. GOOD PRACTICES IN PRISON MANAGEMENT

*Chair: Vânia Costa Ramos*

14:30 **Insights into practical steps at different stages of the criminal justice process to deal with and overcome prison overcrowding recommendations from the Council of Europe's White Paper**  
*Iliana Taneva*

15:00 Discussion

15:15 Coffee break

15:45 **The Council of Europe's 2012 Recommendation concerning foreign prisoners and its planned revision: the need for specialised standards and challenges in implementation within the context of good and promising practices**  
*Petra Pavlas*

16:15 **Juveniles and young adults in prison: understanding the past, addressing the present and shaping the future**  
*Belinda Plattner*

16:45 Discussion

17:00 End of first day

19:30 Dinner

## Objective

This seminar, which forms part of a series of five co-funded by the European Union on enhancing cross-border mutual legal assistance and recognition of decisions within the context of detention will focus on the European Prison Rules, which have and still are acting as a standard-setter for European prison conditions, as well as the work of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT).

An overview of issues concerning actual prison conditions, as well as possible alternatives to imprisonment, will be given and assessed.

## Who should attend?

Judges, prosecutors, lawyers in private practice, prison and probation staff who are citizens of eligible EU Member States participating in the EU Justice Programme (Denmark does not participate), Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\* and Ukraine.

\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

## Venue

Council of Europe  
Palais de l'Europe  
1 Avenue de l'Europe  
67075 Strasbourg

## Your contacts



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## Friday, 16 May 2025

Chair: Ramin Farinpour

### 09:00 **Mental health in prisons: understanding and dealing effectively with the issue in order to reduce the risk of recidivism**

- Council of Europe White Paper regarding persons with mental health disorders
- Council of Europe 2025 Recommendation on the promotion of the mental health of prisoners and probationers and the management of their mental disorders

*Jorge Monteiro*

09:30 Discussion

### 09:45 **Alternatives to detention and good practices: reducing the prison population in Europe via community-based sentences**

*Iuliana Elena Cărbunaru*

10:15 Discussion

10:30 Coffee break

## III. **SIMULTANEOUS WORKSHOPS**

11:00 Workshops

- **Effective management of foreign national prisoners** (*Petra Pavlas*)
- **Individualised, person-centred approaches for juvenile and young adult offenders in prison: tailoring access models for rehabilitation** (*Belinda Plattner*)
- **Mental health in prisons** (*Jorge Monteiro*)

12:30 Workshop reports and participant discussion

13:00 End of seminar and light lunch

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Programme may be subject to amendment.



Times indicated are CEST  
(Central European Summer Time)



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### CPD

ERA's programmes meet the standard requirements for recognition as Continuing Professional Development (CPD). Participation in the full programme of this event corresponds to **9 CPD hours**.

A certificate of participation for CPD purposes with indication of the number of training hours completed will be issued on request. CPD certificates must be requested at the latest 14 days after the event.

### Save the date

#### **Annual Conference on White-Collar Crime in the EU 2025**

Trier & Online, 20-21 March 2025

#### **Annual Conference on AI Systems and Fundamental Rights 2025**

Online, 7-9 April 2025

#### **Annual Conference on EU Border Management 2025**

Trier & Online, 10-11 April 2025

#### **Summer Course on European Criminal Justice**

Online, 23-27 June 2025

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# Registration

The European Prison Rules as a Standard-Setter for European Prison Conditions  
Strasbourg, 15-16 May 2025 / Event Number: 325DT74



## Terms and conditions of participation

### Selection

1. Participation is only open to judges, prosecutors, lawyers in private practice, prison and probation staff from eligible EU Member States participating in the EU Justice Programme (Denmark does not participate) including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\* and Ukraine (*\*this designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence*).

The number of places available is limited (50 places). Participation will be subject to a selection procedure. Selection will be first come first served and according to nationality.

2. Applications should be submitted before **1 April 2025**.
3. A response will be sent to every applicant after this deadline. **We advise you not to book any travel before you receive our confirmation.**

### Registration Fee

4. €120 including documentation, coffee breaks, lunches and dinner.

### Travel and accommodation expenses

5. Participants will receive a fixed contribution towards their travel expenses and are asked to book their own travel. The condition for payment of this contribution is to sign all attendance sheets at the event. No supporting documents are needed. The amount of the contribution is determined by the EU unit cost calculation guidelines, which are based on the distance from the participant's place of work to the seminar location and do not take account of the participant's actual travel costs.
6. Travel costs from outside France: participants can calculate the contribution to which they will be entitled on the European Commission website (<https://era-comm.eu/go/calculator>, table 2). The distance is calculated from their place of work to the seminar location.
7. For inter Member States return journeys between 50 and 400 km from and to AT, BE, CZ, DE, ES, IT, LU, NL please consult page 11 on <https://era-comm.eu/go/unit-cost-decision-travel>
8. For those travelling within France, the contribution for travel is fixed at €64 (for a distance between 50km and 400km). Please note that no contribution will be paid for travel under 50km. For more information, please consult p.10 on <https://era-comm.eu/go/unit-cost-decision-travel>
9. Accommodation costs: international participants travelling more than 50km one-way will receive a fixed contribution of €166 per night for up to two nights' accommodation. National participants travelling more than 50km one way will receive a fixed contribution of €166 per night for max one night accommodation. For more information, please consult p.13 on <https://era-comm.eu/go/unit-cost-decision-travel>
10. For more information, please consult p.13 on <https://era-comm.eu/go/unit-cost-decision-travel>
11. Successful applicants will be sent the relevant claim form and information on how to obtain payment of the contribution to their expenses. Please note that no payment is possible if the registered participant cancels their participation for any reason.

### Participation

12. Participation in the whole seminar is required, and participants' presence will be recorded.
13. A list of participants including each participant's address will be made available to all participants unless ERA receives written objection from the participant no later than one week prior to the beginning of the event.
14. The participant will be asked to give permission for their address and other relevant information to be stored in ERA's database in order to provide information about future ERA events.

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### Venue

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Palais de l'Europe  
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### Language

English

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