



This project is funded by the European Union



N°1

15 April-15 October 2016

Newsletter published by "Support to further development and strengthening of the Probation Service in Croatia"

**The European Union's Transition Facility for Croatia**

**This project**

The overall objective is to strengthen the efficiency of the judiciary in the Republic of Croatia.

The results expected to achieve are:

- To improve institutional capacity of the Probation Service.
- To further develop sustainable education in the Probation Service.
- To support the introduction of electronic surveillance – pilot project.
- To raise public awareness and enhance visibility of the Probation Service.

**Duration of the project: 15 months**

15 April 2016 – 15 July 2017

**Project team:**

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**Opening ceremony**

On 6 June the opening ceremony took place in the Ministry of Justice, Zagreb.

During the ceremony Mr Ante Šprlje, Minister of Justice of the Republic of Croatia, H. E. Mr Eduardo Aznar Campos, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain to the Republic of Croatia, Assistant Minister Ms Vedrana Šimundža-Nikolić, Team Leader for Political Reporting and Analysis of the European Commission Representation in the republic of Croatia Ms Mirella Rašić, Deputy Leader of the Law and Consular Section of the Embassy of the federal Republic of Germany to the Republic of Croatia Ms Andrea Bettina Schwalm and Deputy Director General of Alternative Sentences and Measures, Secretariat General of Penitentiary Institutions of Spain Ms Myriam Tapia Ortiz addressed the audience. They highlighted the relevance of this project and presented the content of its four components.



**Activity 1.1.1**

Conducting analysis of the existing relevant legislative framework and preparing analysis report with recommendations for improvement of the existing legislative framework related to the execution of all probation tasks.

In two missions experts conducted a working group with representatives from the Ministry of Justice, Probation Department and

electronic monitoring staff, to make an overview of legislative system, to assess the Croatian legislation against the European standards during the round tables, in order to improve the Croatian legislation.



**Activity 1.1.2**

Conducting analysis of the existing work practice of the Probation Service and preparing an analysis report with recommendations for improvement of work practice in order to meet the best EU practices and standards.

This activity was implemented through two missions during which the experts developed a skill assessment tool (SAT) for direct observation assessment and self-evaluation questionnaire. Pilot implementation of the SAT was conducted in the probation office in Zadar; after that SAT and self-evaluation questionnaire were implemented in the Probation Office Zagreb I, Probation Office Bjelovar and Probation Office Rijeka.

In the second mission of this activity the experts analyzed the Conditional Release practices looking at the coordination among the different agencies involved. They also reviewed the pre-sentence reports and the community work reports that the Probation Service produces.



For more information about the project please mail [laura.negredo@pravosudje.hr](mailto:laura.negredo@pravosudje.hr)

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## Activity 2.1.1

### Conducting analysis of the existing training programmes in the Probation Service for treatment of specific categories of offenders and preparing corresponding report.

In two missions experts analysed national legal framework and the number of probation cases that require treatment. The experts had meetings with Croatian experts, representatives of universities and scientific societies, representatives of NGOs, Penitentiary centre and Society for Psychological Assistance. Experts also visited Probation Local Office Zagreb II. All of this was done in order to compile information on the treatment needs of the target population and the training needs of the professionals that work with offenders.

## Activity 2.2.1

### Conducting (TNA) based on previous trainings and future training needs for probation staff and preparing TNA report.

The experts held meetings in Probation Offices Zagreb I, Zagreb II and Bjelovar, as well as in Probation headquarters; to analyse the structure of the organisation and specify training needs. A corresponding report with designed training plan will be prepared. It will include the duration of training, the materials and the evaluation protocol.

## Activity 2.1.2

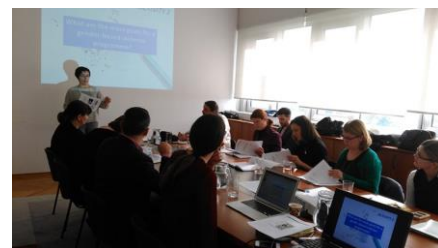
### Preparing comparative overview of the existing programmes of probation services in MS for individual and group treatment of specific categories of offenders.

The analysis of the European Probation recommendations, standards and rules on training programmes was conducted, as well as analysis of the existing training programmes in other European countries. The experts held meetings with Croatian experts, visited Probation Local Office Zagreb I and they presented power point presentation on best practices in Europe on treatment and training programmes, to representatives of Zagreb Probation Local Offices.

## Activity 2.1.3

### Developing and introducing in the Probation Service special long term training programmes, including curricula and teaching materials, for the future training of the Probation Service employees.

The experts were developing treatment programmes for sex offenders and for gender-based violence offenders. The goal was to present the programmes to the representatives of the Head Office of the Sector for Probation and to the Probation Offices Zagreb 1 and Zagreb 2, in order to introduce the designed materials and obtain their feedback on whether they meet their real work needs.



## Activity 3.1.1

### Conducting analysis of the existing national legislative framework which regulates ES.

Expert was gathering information, and was analysing legislation and the current reality of the electronic surveillance (ES). Meetings with Croatian experts were held, in order to get a higher awareness of the benefits of the implementation of ES, as well as a greater visibility. A working group focused on electronic monitoring was also held.

## Activity 3.3.1

### Preparing comparative overview of ES system in the Member States.

This activity was a review of the existing legislative framework of the Probation System and review of the best practice and European standards in Spain, Belgium, Sweden and UK, which will allow comparing the advantages and disadvantages that each selected member state has or has had in the implementation of the electronic surveillance. The main target was to present the results of the comparative research on national criminal legislation applicable to Electronic Monitoring.



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### Activity 3.3.3

#### Conducting cost-benefit analysis for introduction of ES system.

The expert had meetings with representatives of the Central Office of Probation Sector, General Secretariat and Directorate for Prison system, in order to prepare a cost-benefit analysis of electronic monitoring in Croatia. The cost of electronic monitoring compared with the cost of prison and probation was presented in a workshop with representatives of the aforementioned institutions along with a representative from the Ministry of Interior. The good practices regarding electronic monitoring in Belgium were also presented.

### Activity 3.2.1

#### Conducting at least 4 meetings with at least 1 representative of key partners in ES pilot project

During this activity two workshops were conducted, with representatives of the Probation Head Office, probation officers and Probation Managers. The goal was to identify the core elements of the electronic monitoring and probation models, the strategic competencies, offer value and client segmentation, as well as the key resources and partners.



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