



Health in Prisons Project

Must Prisons Remain Dangerous to the Public's Health? November 06, 2007

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Purpose of the WHO Health in Prisons Project

The purpose of the Project is to support Member States in improving public health by addressing health and health care in prisons, and to facilitate the links between prison health and public health systems both at national and international levels



Member States involved

➤ 14 from West Europe:

- Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom (England, Wales and Scotland)

➤ 12 from Central Europe:

- Albania, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia (observers from Serbia, Kosovo and Montenegro)

➤ 9 from East Europe:

- Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan



International Organizations involved

- American Public Health Association
- Pompidou Group, Council of Europe
- AIDS Foundation East-West
- WHO Collaborating Centre for Promoting Prison Health, Department of Health, England and Wales
- International Centre for Prison Studies, Kings College, London
- International Committee of the Red Cross
- Cranstoun Drug Services
- European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation
- Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health, United Kingdom



Since Romania

- Steering Group as of May 2007
 - Representatives:
 - International organizations:
 - Pompidou Group, Council of Europe
 - AIDS Foundation East-West
 - WHO Collaborating Centre for Promoting Prison Health, Department of Health, England and Wales
 - International Centre for Prison Studies, Kings College, London
 - International Committee of the Red Cross
 - Cranstoun Drug Services
 - European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction
 - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
 - KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation
 - Member States:
 - National Agency of Correctional Services, Ministry of Justice, The Netherlands
 - Prison Health Services, Poland
 - Medical Services of the Russian Penitentiary System, Ministry of Justice, The Russian Federation



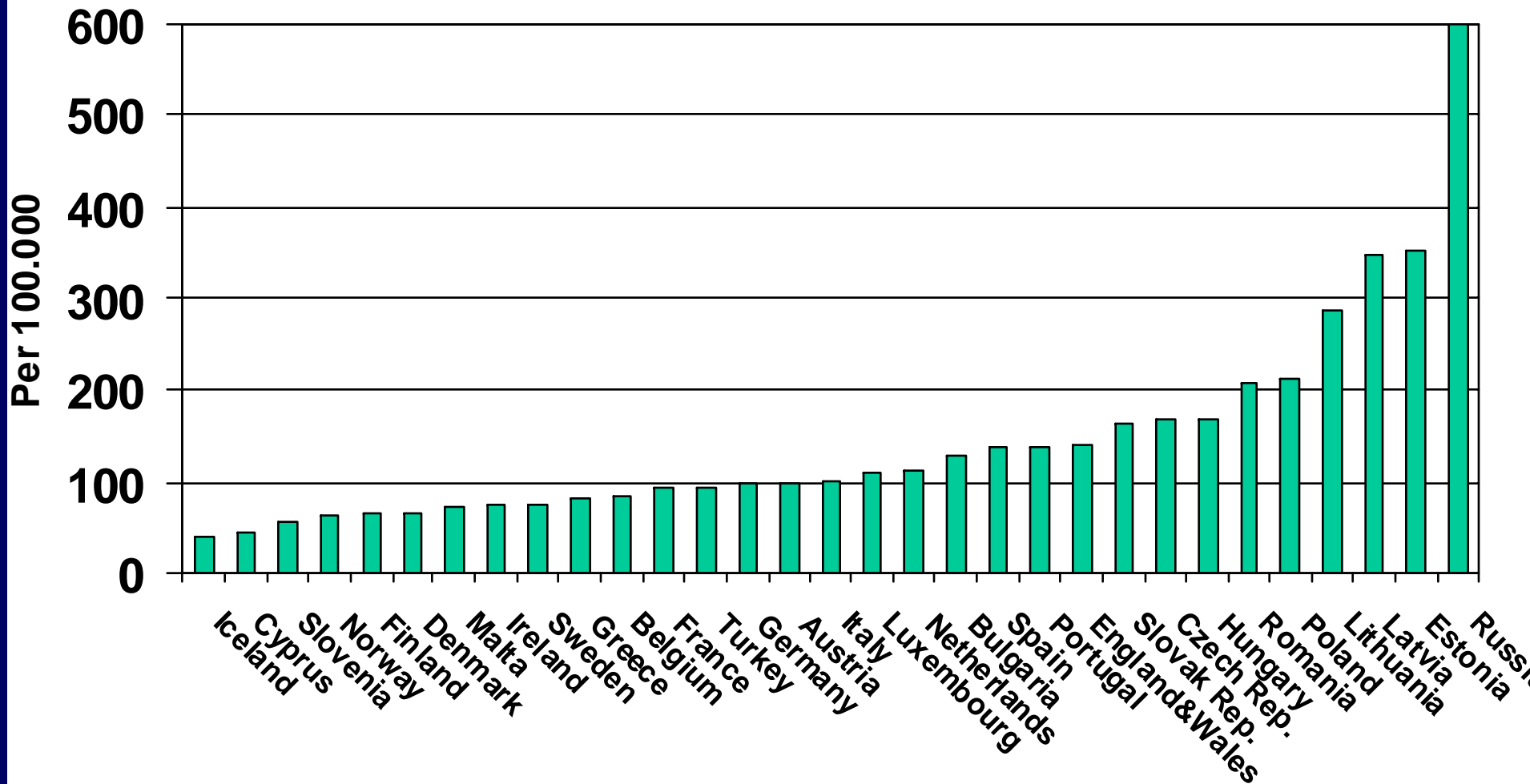
EUROPE



Health in Prisons Project

Prison population

Source: International Centre for Prison Studies

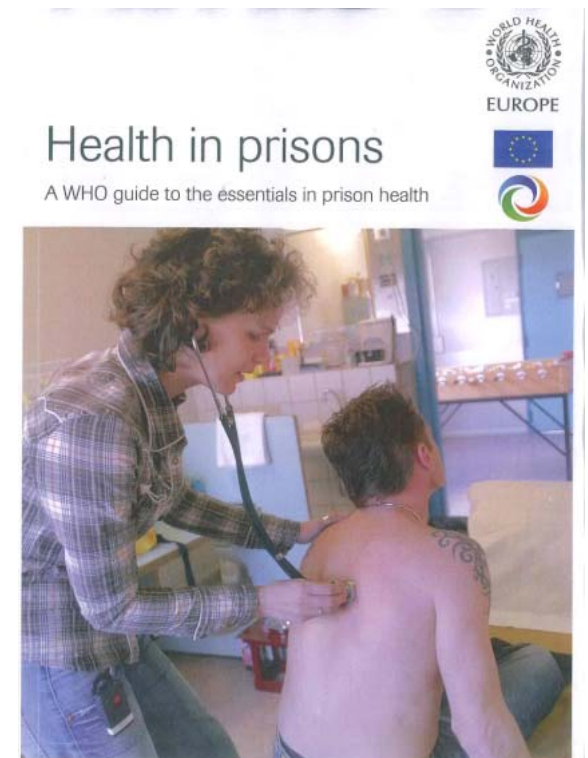




The WHO Health in Prisons Project

Actual activities

- Best Practice award
- Prison Health Database
- Guide on prison health
- Status Paper on Prisons and Tuberculosis
- Prisons and Mental Health
- Prisons and Women
- Country work





Drug users in two prisons of Kyrgyzstan

- n=1004
- n=977 been more than 3 months in survey prisons
- 79% used drugs during last 3 months
- 55% used Marihuana
- 72% used Heroin
- 64% used Opium
- 73% injected during last 3 months
- 18% shared needles/syringes during last 3 months
- 37% had their first drug experience in a prison



Country work

Example: Kyrgyzstan

- Demonstration project
 - Renovation of facilities
 - Training of prisoners and staff
- Needle exchange programmes
 - Closed prisons
 - Open prisons
- Methadone substitution therapy
 - Public system
 - Prisons and remand facilities
 - Study tour
 - Clinical protocol
 - Working group
 - evaluation
- Evaluation of prison health system
 - Collaboration with ICRC
- Clinical protocol's on prison health issues (MST, HIV)



Health in Prisons Project

Web site:

<http://www.euro.who.int/prisons>

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