



European Prison Education Association

## July Newsletter



Welcome to our July summer edition of the EPEA newsletter. It's the holiday season, but prison schools never close and many prison teachers are still active with summer schools for our prisoners.

It is a time for alternative education and creative non-formal education activities. A good example from Denmark a few years ago came from the

closed state prison of Nyborg. The most popular summer school course was about the former DDR. It gave prisoners a possibility to study and try to think themselves into the old world of the eastern bloc countries. Most prisoners regarded DDR a prison itself when the course started, but ended up understanding that we all play a part in a process that forms us and the world we live in.

It's the same with the EPEA, we try to involve and form the world around us. Recently the EPEA is given the leadership of a world work group by the CoE that look into the influence of the Internet on Education and Media and we are involved in a newly formed expert group on education management at Europris. Two important institutions for us, giving us a chance to set marks for our field, prison education.

The CoE will from 2018 and 3 years onward work on the theme "The Digital Citizen" and we must take the token to talk about prisoners right as human beings that must be integrated into society also with the use on technology and Internet. Education without the use of internet and computers does not rehabilitate, it gives setbacks for integration. It is possible to make meaningful compromise between penal pedagogy and security and it should be in an recommendation frm the CoE that all member states sould work for a solution that fit their context, and if they can't, they have to chance the law to support it.

Over the next year you will hear more from the EPEA on this subject. We keep on going as good we can, but really need all the support you can give us. Please share your opinion with us, but best of all, persuade your colleagues to become members. We need more support.

Per Thrane  
RR, Northern Region



**Per Thrane**

**EPEA Northern Regional Representative**  
[north@epea.org](mailto:north@epea.org)

# Conference 2017



## Registration Vienna Conference

We are happy to inform you that the registration for our EPEA Conference in Vienna is really taking shape now.

If you haven't yet registered, please make sure to do so within the next month or so. It promises to be an interesting event to meet and greet your co-workers from Europe and beyond. Together we shape the content with our experience and knowledge.

Do not miss out on this opportunity to learn more about your profession and the way colleagues in other countries deal with the same challenges you face on a daily basis.

We will very soon send you the next program draft with almost all ingredients included.

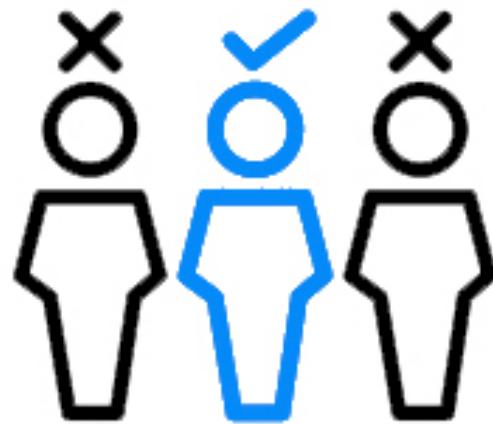
Our Vienna partner OCG and our local representative Paul Talbot are taking care of the last negotiations with the Ministry.

We hope you enjoy a well deserved holiday, as most of us are too at the moment, so more news to come after this small break!

[Conference Registration →](#)

## General Council Announcement

# GENERAL COUNCIL



*The Secretary of the EPEA announce that EPEA General Council will take place on:*

**Friday 17th of November 2017**  
**9.00 to 10.15**  
**at Flemming Hotel,**  
**Vienna, Austria**

Notices of motion shall be received by the Secretary no later than six weeks prior to the General Council.

**Cecilie Høisæter**  
*EPEA Secretary*

# PROJECTS



## We are curious to find out more about your projects!

We know many of you are in some way connected to Prison Education related projects or are applying for future projects. Are you entering projects through your own organisations or did you enter projects as a collective or a branch?

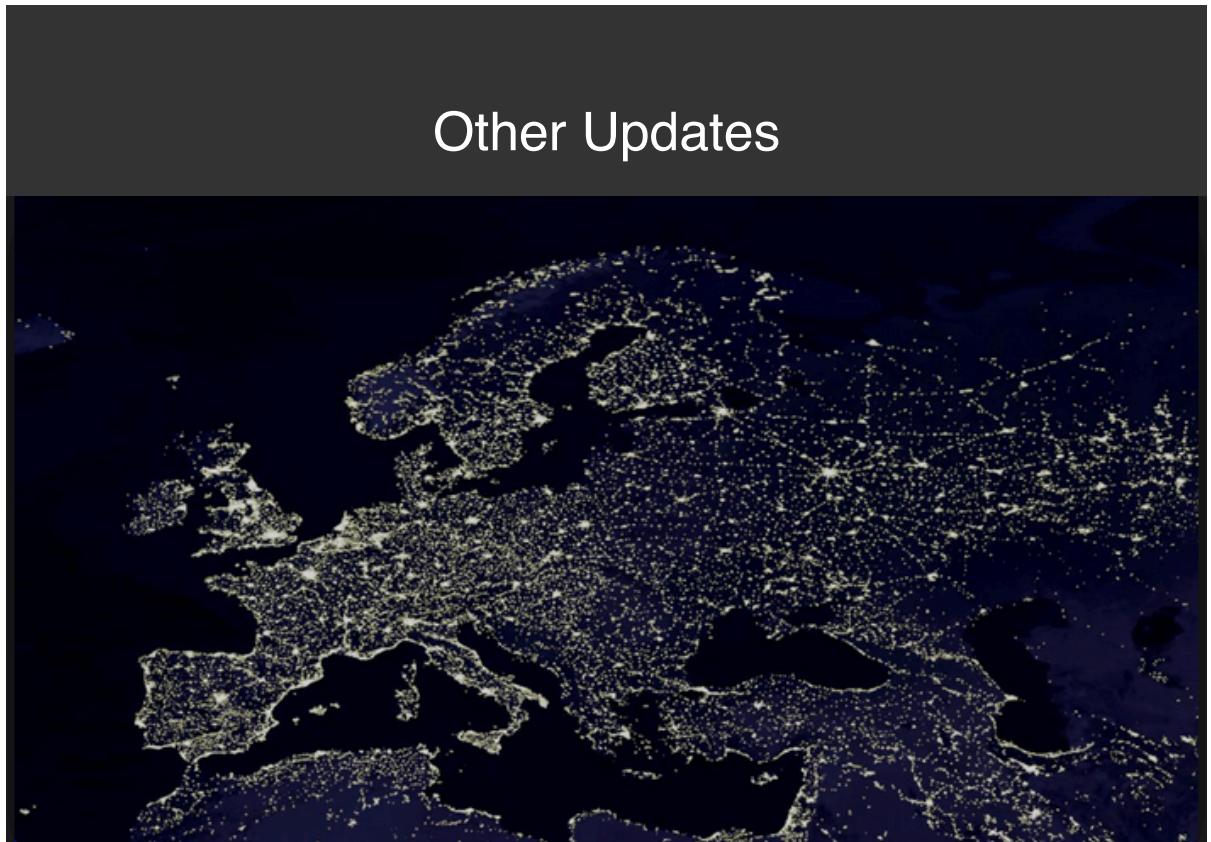
At some point you may be looking for partners. Please inform us about your work and use this platform (our monthly newsletter) when you are looking for partners, or if you want to inform your European colleagues about your project. We sometimes get questions for possible partnerships, after you tried to find partners in different ways. A lot of time may be wasted and by the time we publish your request, the ERASMUS deadlines are near!!

Please be aware that this medium is here for you, and you can inform your colleagues directly by sending a request for partnership or an article to your regional representative who will be aware of what is happening and will post your request directly in the next newsletter.

Looking forward to hearing from you!!!

Regions & Reps →

## Other Updates



## Scandinavian Penal History

We would like to bring to your attention a book which was published in London in May **Scandinavian Penal History, Culture and Prison Practice**. This book draws on historical and cross-disciplinary studies to critically examine penal practices in Scandinavia and contains chapters from researchers in Scandinavia. EPEA long life member Torfinn Langelid was asked to write a chapter about *The Development of Education in Norwegian Prisons*.

For more information about this publication click below.

[Learn More →](#)

Use of the internet for prisoners



The EPEA will reply to a hearing on the suggested recommendation on the role and responsibilities of internet intermediaries.

The EPEA argue that prison services should provide internet for prisoners for education and other rehabilitation purposes. The EPEA finds support in R(89)12, R(87)20, R(76)2, R(2003)22 for the arguments.

**Education:** Recommendation R(89)12 on prison education “Education for prisoners should be like the education provided for similar age- groups in the outside world, and the range of learning opportunities for prisoners should be as wide as possible;”

*As a multitude of education resources today are online, it is important that inmates are granted access to education resources in a way that is secure and leveled to the security category of the prisoner.*

For more information on our reply click below.

[Read More →](#)



## Technology in Prison

The 2<sup>nd</sup> international conference on technology in prison last May 2017 had prison education as one of their main themes for the conference.

Besides education providers of offender management systems, foot chain systems and surveilles equipment, major providers of Prison Education systems presented their solutions.

In general, many providers use the Moodle Learning Management System (LMS) in reprogrammed versions for prisoners' education. Sadly, the tailored Moodle was in my point of view closed down too much and I begin to doubt that Moodle is useful in further needed development of Prison Education Systems. We have to beyond just presenting files for our students.

Very promising new use of ICT in education and rehabilitation was presented:

- American provider DTL presented small secured tablets that can be used in the cell. It can be loaded with education materials and the results can be send to the teacher when the prisoner have finished the task. It is a promising solution.
- Almost like a science fiction feature a company presented the use of virtual reality glasses in education and rehabilitation.
- Sweden has developed an app for rehabilitation of prisoners after release.
- Singapore presented a tool for analysis of data in rehabilitation.

- Core from Ireland has started with gamification of their education system. It can give you a little reward in the kiosk if you complete a course.
- Prison Cloud combines many features besides education. It makes the cell digital.

A longer report from the conference will be in the next magazine.

Per Thrane

[Full Article →](#)

## Summer session 2017 at CoE



This year it was the occasion to look back 40 years to the first meeting of the Conference of INGOs and to reflect on the progress made over

the years.

It was also the occasion to welcome new NGOs to the Conference, not only INGOs recently granted participatory status but also some new faces elected to the posts of Chair and Vice-Chairs of the thematic committees. The new leadership of the thematic committees is as follows:

- **Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges**  
Chair: Thierry Mathieu; Vice-chairs: Gerhard Ermischer and [Alexandra Luminata Petrescu](#)
- **Education and Culture** Chair: Claude Vivier le Got; Vice-chairs: Karl Donert and Julianne Lagadec
- **Human Rights** Chair: Simon Matthijsen; Vice-chairs: Miguel Cabral and Iamvi Totsi

Addressing the Conference of INGOs, the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe reiterated her support for the Conference and welcomed the positive developments of the past few years ensuring that the Conference has its place as a true partner in the Organisation. Among the many varied debates organised during the week, some of the highlights were:

- A Side event organised in co-operation with PACE Committee on Equality and non-discrimination: “Women’s mobilization in Europe 2016: What impact on policies?”;
- A debate/training session “How to fight against discrimination and hate speech in the post-truth era”
- A debate on the “populist wave in Europe” on the basis of the Secretary General’s latest report
- The situation of NGOs in member States with reports from the visits led by the President of the Conference to Hungary and Ireland and the meetings held with NGOs from Cyprus and Turkey
- The Conference adopted a Recommendation “Human Rights and Business” encouraging members States to implement the actions recommended in Committee of Ministers Recommendation (2016)3. See the text [here](#).

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