



European Prison Education Association

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October Newsletter



Romanian prisons celebrate *The National Day of Education in Prison*

When education transcends a prisons' bars, punishment becomes lore and time wins new valency. Thereby, given that evolution depends on knowledge, the Romanian prison system celebrates, day after day, education, this toilsome journey from darkness to light.

Seeing that an institution in which custodial sentences are executed is effete without enforcing their educational function, The National Administration of Penitentiaries in Romania supports and encourages any initiative which aims to further the positive, attitude and behavioural change of the inmates, by improving their knowledge level as well as by understanding and internalizing nowadays social demands.

Part and parcel of the social reintegration process of the inmates, the instructive-educational segment pursues exactly the discernment of the human being inherent dualities, good and evil, beautiful and grotesque, ignorance and knowledge, giving the carceral universe the attribute of reconfiguring destinies. So, all inmates' executional routes begin with this premise, of changing demeanours through education, being provided, from the beginning , with educational and tuition activities and programs, til their last day behind the bars when the relay is handed off to the society.

In line with this goal, within the collaboration with the European Prison Education Association, starting from 2014 The National Administration of Penitentiaries in Romania celebrates, each October 13, The National Day of Education in Prison. The educational activities carried out continuously among the inmates gain a new echo on this day, highlighting the importance of the civil society's involvement in all institutionalized approaches, whether we are referring to local personalities, art and culture institutions, educational institutions or ordinary people.

Through debates, thematic contests, lectures, special editions of prison magazines, occupational workshops, exhibitions, artistic moments, round tables and visits to the penitentiaries of students from schools in the community, prisoners manage to break down the barriers of social prejudices sustaining knowledge and communication. Based on the principle of institutional transparency, these manifestations are an excellent way to present to the public the efforts of the Romanian penitentiary system in promoting education in all its forms.

Directed to the recovery of the inmates, not only as an institutional requirement, but also as a human imperative, the educational activities carried out in the Romanian penitentiaries aim to reduce the recidivism and the criminal phenomenon by doubling the perception of punishment and encumbrance with the notions of education, knowledge and beautiful.



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Vienna Conference Update

Conference Plans:

The count down is on for our biennial conference & the finishing touches are being put on all activities & plans. It is an exciting yet busy time for the committee & we are looking forward to meeting with colleagues & members to share project results, best practices & plan for future collaboration.

With a full programme, there are excellent keynote speakers planned with vast experience in the field of prison education, a diverse range of workshops to choose from & some extra-curricular activities planned to showcase the beautiful Vienna. We look forward to happy faces, good discussions and new collaborations with our colleagues. This is what our conference is about; meeting, guiding, connecting and sharing valuable experiences.

Some items to note:

General Council:

Please remember the EPEA general council will take place during the conference on **Friday 17th November 09:00 – 10.30**. Important items will take place and all relevant information & documentation can be found [here](#).

European Training Network about education and learning in prisons throughout Europe:

During the EPEA training conference in Vienna, there is a timeslot

During the EPEA training conference in Vienna, there is a timeslot during which interested people can discuss ‘strategic alliances in research and projects’ (Thursday 16th of November, between 12 and 15h45). We invite you to participate in this roundtable discussion.

Prof. Liesbeth De Donder en Dr. Dorien Brosens of the Vrije Universiteit Brussels (Belgium) already have an idea that can be discussed during this roundtable. They want to set up a European Training Network (ETN) about education and learning in prisons throughout Europe. ETN is a funding scheme in the Marie-Curie actions under Horizon 2020, and aims to set up a joint research and training programme at doctoral level. Not only universities can become part of this network, also non-governmental organisations/organisations outside academia. Each participatory country can get funding for 2 PhD students. The call for ETN’s will be published in one of the upcoming weeks. The deadline for submission is 16th of January 2018.

Prison University Partnerships:

Please remember a recurring theme throughout this conference is the role of universities and their partnership with prisons: at the end of the conference, we will be forming an EPEA Special Interest Group on University-Prison Partnerships, to establish a work programme to explore, promote and develop this aspect of prison education. We hope that this will be the first of many Special Interest Groups (SIGs) for our members to get involved with.

Please keep an eye on our conference website for upcoming details in the weeks ahead! Please find the link below:

[Conference Website →](#)

International Day of Education in Prison

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION IN PRISON
OCTOBER 13th**





IDEP 2017

IDEP Nigeria 2017

Activities in celebration of 13th October International Day of Education in prison was observed in Medium Prison, Ikoyi, Nigeria. Apart from Educational Materials gifts, Career counseling to inmates, APCEN, in Nigeria through Esther Ojeah, Deputy Controller, NPS presented an award to Zachcheus Onumba Dibiaezue Memorial Library . ZODM is a leading, outstanding Educational supporter to Nigerian Prisons Service, building, equipping prisons across the Nation with Libraries and gradually extending across West Africa. Let's consolidate IDEP for Educational advancement of Prisoners and a safer World.

Grace Osamika.

Coordinator, APCEN



Other Updates



Erasmus+ Online Consultation relating to Adult Education

Our colleagues of EAEA sent us information for an Erasmus+ online consultancy/discussion with focus-areas of Adult Education. It is important that you our members know about this and participate in the discussion to address prison education in Erasmus future plans.

Have your say in the Erasmus+ Generation Declaration!

2017 marks the 30th anniversary of Erasmus+, one of the EU's most successful initiatives. Over the last 3 decades, Erasmus+ has offered a generation of over 9 million Europeans the chance to study, train, teach, volunteer or gain professional experience abroad.

Now is the time to celebrate everything we have achieved so far and to work out how we can build on the success and reach of Erasmus+ after 2020. We can only make a success of this by working together. We need the talent, brains and ideas of the Erasmus+ generation – **we need you!**

Become part of this exciting initiative! **Forward this message**, spread the word and help us shape the future of Erasmus+!

What is the Erasmus+ Generation Declaration?

A concrete set of proposals that reflect the Erasmus+ Generation's vision of the future programme beyond 2020. These proposals will be presented to EU decision makers on November the 30th in Brussels.

When and where will the discussions take place?

On the [Erasmus+ Generation Online Meeting Point](#), an open space for the Erasmus+ Generation to have a say on the future of Erasmus+ beyond 2020.

The online discussions are already taking place and on 15 October 2017 the drafting of the Erasmus+ Generation Declaration will begin. The discussions will focus on 6 key topics chosen based on the feedback from the Mid-term evaluation of the Erasmus+ programme and [the debates of 13th June](#) at the European Parliament:

1. Societal challenges
2. Skills gap
3. Civic engagement
4. Inclusion
5. Global dimension
6. Simplification

Sign up [here](#) and join the online discussions!

Who will moderate the online discussions?

One discussion leader has been nominated by each Erasmus+ programme country and assigned as a moderator for one of the 6 key topics. They will be in charge of moderating the online discussions, collecting input from the Erasmus+ Generation, and drafting and presenting the Erasmus+ Generation Declaration.

Who makes up the Erasmus+ Generation?

All the participants and beneficiaries of Erasmus+ and its predecessor programmes: young people, students, adult learners, teachers, trainers, volunteers and youth workers, as well as organisations, including schools, universities, training institutions, businesses, youth organisations and sports clubs and federations.

Sign up here for the [Erasmus+ Generation Online Meeting Point!](#)

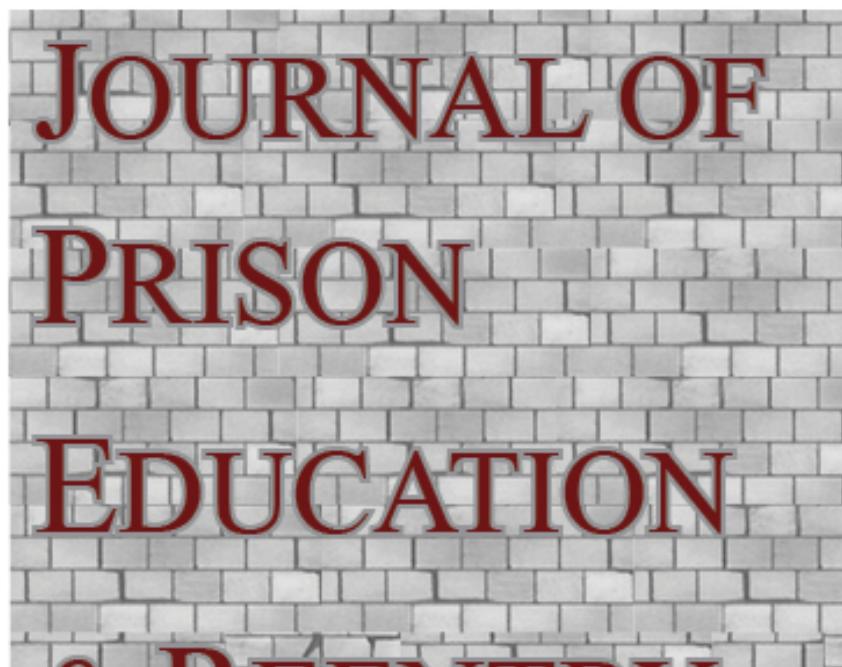


Every second year the EuroPris & CEP Expert Group on Foreign Nationals in Prison and Probation holds a workshop to keep stakeholders updated on policy and operational initiatives and research. Our next workshop will be in 2018. Since there are so many developments happening in the area of foreign offenders and prisoners, the Expert Group initiated the launch of a Special Newsletter in between workshops, to keep you posted about ongoing projects and initiatives in policy and operational practice.

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For the entire Europris Newsletter click [here](#).





JPER Invitation for Proposals

JPER is inviting proposals for inclusion in a special issue dedicated to higher education for prisoners.

The deadline for abstract submission is 11 December 2017, and authors will be notified of the editors' decision by 26 January 2018.

Please consider submitting a proposal and/or passing along the attached Call for Papers to colleagues.

If you have questions about the upcoming special issue, or questions about JPER in general, please contact Ginger at
gmwalker@mymail.vcu.edu.

[JPER Website](#)

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