



BUNDESMINISTERIUM  
FÜR JUSTIZ

# PREVENTING RADICALIZATION IN DETENTION - AUSTRIA

ERA-Seminar, October 12/13 2017,  
Vienna



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# Overview

- Austrian Prison System in General
- accused and convicted FTFs in Austrian Prisons
- measures of De-Radicalisation – Overview
- more in depth Care and Rehabilitation Programmes
- future steps to be made



## Facts (as per 01.10.2017)

- 8860 detainees (93% total capacity)
  - 3,97 % electronic monitoring (352)
  - 6% female (520)
  - 1% juveniles (144)
  - 54% foreign countries, 100 different nationalities

## Facts

- 3900 prison staff
  - 3200 uniformed staff
  - doctors, psychologists, social workers, pastors, pedagogues, therapists, nurses, administrative personnel and more staff with specialised training history

## Accused or convicted prisoners pursuant to sections 278b et seqq. Criminal Code (as per 01.10.2017)

- 64 detainees
  - separated in 22 prisons
  - 26 have been legally convicted
  - 3 female
  - 11 young adults

## Exchange concerning De-Radicalisation within Austrian Prison Service

- MoJ Task Force “De-Radicalisation in Prisons”
- semi-annual executive conference with all prison directors (+ 2 optional additional meetings)
- profession seminars with special focus (social worker meeting, executives, etc.)

## Bilateral/Multilateral exchange concerning extremism and new phenomena

- cooperation with Federal agency for state protection and counter terrorism
- networks on national level  
(nationwide, federal provinces)
- cooperation of international level  
(Council of Europe, EuroPris, MECR, RAN, ICPA)



# Dealing with extremism phenomena in Austrian Prison Service

- Prevention
  - Sensibilization of
    - Staff
    - Prisoners
  - Screening tool for social workers
  - DERAD
  - Federal agency for state protection and counter terrorism
- Deradicalisation
  - Training of Staff
  - Multidisciplinary network
  - Screening
  - Workshop Multipliers

## Measures of De-Radicalisation in Austrian Prison Service

- mandatory sentence planning
- support concept with NEUSTART and the DERAD (social cohesion network for dialogue, prevention of extremism and democracy)
- Training skills for psychologists and social workers in cooperation of the Violence Prevention network

# Comprehensive counselling mode concerning De-Radicalisation

- Multiple check
  - interdisciplinary teams
  - external professionals
  - Federal agency for state protection and counter terrorism
  - release preparation (NEUSTART, DERAD, Aussteigerprogramm, etc.)

## Current steps

- DARE-Project Start November 2017: training of risk assessment VERA-2R
- workshop for multipliers (prison staff) start 2018
- coaching and mentoring with support of VPN
- improvement of the cooperation between prison staff and Federal agency for state protection and counter terrorism: kick-off meeting spring 2018



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**