

EMPOWERING CORRECTIONAL SERVICES TO ADDRESS ISOLATION RISK FOR CONVICTED CHILDREN

Assessing the Risk of Isolation of Sentenced and Accused:
Enhancing the Capacity of Correctional Services to Work
with Convicted Children



Newsletter, Issue 2, October 2023

Dear colleague,

Despite UNICEF's efforts to support governments and civil society organisations in diverting children from formal criminal proceedings and advancing alternatives to detention, many children still receive criminal convictions. This highlights the need for justice professionals to receive specialised training to identify children's needs and understand the different vulnerabilities they face when encountering the justice system.

Therefore, this second issue of the [ARISA CHILD](#) newsletter brings you the latest insights and updates from our collaborative initiatives in the realm of juvenile justice. In this edition, we are excited to unveil the profound impact of our recent Experience Exchange Visits in Lisbon and Rome.

Experience Exchange Visit in Lisbon

12 – 13 September 2023

The Experience Exchange Visit in Lisbon, Portugal was organised by [IPS Innovative Prison Systems](#). The study visit brought together 16 dedicated partners and professionals from Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, and Portugal working in the field of juvenile correctional services and criminal justice. The participants shared practices and exchanged knowledge from their experience in working with young offenders serving sentences.

On September 12th, the day kicked off with a warm welcome and introduction to the **ARISA Child** project providing valuable insights into its concept and objectives. The hosts gave a brief overview of the Portuguese juvenile justice system. In the afternoon, the participants visited the [Navarro de Paiva Educational Centre](#). The attendees were welcomed by the director, Mr José Falcão Amaro, and explored the facilities. They also discussed the specifics of the Portuguese juvenile justice system with the educational centre's staff.

On September 13th, the day commenced at the [National Commission for the Promotion of the Rights and Protection of Children and Young People](#) (CNPDPJC). Participants delved into the institution's work, learning about the latest initiatives promoting child-friendly justice. In the second part of the day, the attendees headed to the [Institute for Child Support](#) (IAC). There, the focus was on the training for legal professionals representing children in legal proceedings. The day concluded with a fruitful debriefing session and planning for future site visits.



Experience Exchange Visit in Lisbon

The Experience Exchange Visit in Portugal was a testament to the power of international collaboration. Participants actively engaged in discussions, shared invaluable insights, and built lasting professional relationships.



Navarro de Paiva
Educational Centre



Navarro de Paiva
Educational Centre



National Commission
for the Promotion
of the Rights and
Protection of Children
and Young People



Experience Exchange Visit in Rome

11 – 12 October 2023

The Experience Exchange Visit in Rome, Italy brought together 20 professionals from Bulgaria, Greece, Portugal, Spain, and Italy. Organised by the [Associazione Antigone](#), the visit aimed to enhance participants' understanding of the Italian juvenile justice system and foster discussions on best practices for working with young offenders.

On October 11th, the day began with a welcome session and an introduction to the ARISA Child Project by hosting organisations. Participants engaged in discussions led by Susanna Marietti, exploring the milestones of the Italian juvenile justice system's development. After a stimulating debate, the attendees visited [Borgo Amigò Juvenile Community Center](#), gaining insights into its structure, activities, and support services provided to minors in conflict with law and children at risk.

On October 12th, the participants visited [IPM Casal del Marmo Juvenile Prison](#), where they interacted with the facility's directors, explored the common areas, and engaged in professional discussions among each other.

The visit facilitated valuable knowledge exchange, comparison of national juvenile justice systems, and identification of effective approaches for interactions with children in conflict or contact with criminal justice.



Experience Exchange Visit in Rome

The Experience Exchange Visit in Italy offered the opportunity to get first hand observation of the Italian correctional services accommodating young offenders. At the end, the participants emphasized the importance of collaborative learning and cross-border partnerships.



CSV-Lazio ETS



Borgo Amigò Juvenile Community Center



IPM Casal del Marmo Juvenile Prison



October, 2023

As we embark on this journey, we invite you to join us in this endeavour. Together, we can create more compassionate, understanding, and child-friendly justice systems across the EU. Stay tuned for more updates, inspiring stories, and valuable insights as we continue to champion the rights of young individuals within the EU's justice system, and empower correctional services personnel to work effectively with convicted children, ensuring their rights are safeguarded and their unique needs are met.



Are you a practitioner in the field of juvenile criminal justice?
[Contact us](#) to share your views and best practices!



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