



VIP: Vocational training in Prison
2012-1IT2-GRU06-37734-1



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Situation of prisons in Poland

This paper was prepared for the project VIP in which the Association Koinonia John the Baptist has been participating for over a year. Our project partners from other countries have also submitted papers describing prison systems in their countries.

ABOUT US

The Association of Koinonia Jan Chrzciciel - Oaza Wrocław has been engaged in the Wolow Penitentiary since the year 2000. For some time it was also actively working in the detention center and in the penitentiary in Wrocław located in the Kleczkowska str.

There are about 30 volunteers (men and women) members of the Association engaged in the Wolow penitentiary. The activities include organizing religious and prayer meetings, formation meetings, pedagogical and bible courses and seminaries, social group trainings, relationship building and guidance for living in society. In addition to this, some prisoners can declare their membership to the Association and take part in its activities in the Wolow penitentiary. They organize meetings for other prisoners several times a week in a prison chapel where they can share and spread the experience and knowledge gained during courses, seminaries and other meetings in which they take part regularly. The members of the Association from the penitentiary and outside comprise a group which is called a Family Fellowship. They meet regularly once a month. The main purpose of those meetings is to introduce and implement formation materials developed and used in the Association.

There is also a meeting called Koinonia organized once a month in which both the volunteers, prisoners and well-wishers take part.

Two times a year a conference together with a musical concert is organized.

In addition to the above mentioned activities there are two special holiday meetings on the Christmas Day and Eastern when both volunteers and prisoners can spend time together building mutual relationships, sharing experiences and tasting homemade cakes.

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The Association has been co-operating with the Wolow prison chaplain for many years.

Once a year some prisoners take part in the Confirmation celebration organized by the prison authorities and the District Chaplain.

During a year the Association holds several meetings with musicians, theologians, psychologists, pedagogists and others in order to recognize and meet different needs of the prisoners. The experience acquired in this way is further used to plan the annual meetings of the Association in the Wolow penitentiary.

The cost of work in the Wolow penitentiary is about 50% of a regular monthly salary, i.e. $\frac{1}{2} \times 3200 = 1600$ PLN and the cost of delegation for 5 people is about 500-750 PLN, i.e. $5 \times 50 \text{ PLN} \times 2$ or $\times 3$ standing for 2 or 3 visits a month. In addition to this there is cost of about 300 PLN connected with office work, office materials and others resulting in total amount of 2400 PLN.

All the expenses are covered by the Association from the private donations.

The following volunteers are engaged on regular basis in the permanent activities in the Wolow penitentiary :

Marek Maj, Marek Wojdon, Aleksandra Maj, Bogumiła Maj, Anna and Gerard Grzybowski, Andrzej Baumgart, Jan Malawski, Andrzej Rogala, Jerzy Jankowicz, Alicja Chomik, Maciej Sionek. Besides, there are about 20 volunteers who join the activities provided by the Association on a temporary basis.



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Volunteers, members of Koinonia John the Baptist under the prison of Wolow during Easter 2013

THE POLISH PENITENTIARY SYSTEM

Supervision over the operation of the Prison Service is exercised by the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Poland and directly by the Central Board of Prison Service (CZSW). Ministerial regulations and legislation establish and define the structure of the prison system.

The main headquarters of the Central Board of Prison Service (CZSW) is located in th Rakowiecka str. 37a in Warsaw.

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The Central Board of Prison Service (CZSW) is the executive department of the Director General of the Prison Service (CEO) who administers the Central Board with the deputies. They are delegated responsibility for the specified duties. According to the status of SW (Internal Service) permanent teams are formed as well as other collective bodies entrusted with various functions. Director General is responsible for the funds management to the extent specified in the Art. 6 of the Act of April 9, 2010 on the Prison Service.

The Central Board of Prison Service consists of the following units:

- 1) Budget Office;
- 2) Office of the Director General of the Prison Service;
- 3) Electronic Supervision Office;
- 4 Information and Statistics Office;
- 5) Information and Communication Office;
- 6) Personnel and Training Office;
- 7) Quartermaster-Investment Office;
- 8 Protection and Defence Office;
- 9) Penitentiary Office;
- 10) Legislation Office;
- 11) Health Service Office;
- 12) Team of Secret Information Protection;

The Central Board of Prison Service (CZSW) is located:

in the Rakowiecka str. 37a
02-521 Warszawa

Tel./Fax: +48 22 640 86 51 / +48 22 640 85 92

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CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES AND REMAND CENTERS ARE CLASSIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

Arrest - deprivation of liberty, which is compulsory. It is also the name of the institution used for different kinds of legislation purposes where compulsory isolation of people from the outside world is demanded.

The objectives of arrest:

- Civil law (Code of Civil Procedure, Art.1056-1059): arrest is one of the methods used in the course of enforcement to force the debtor to behave in accordance with the duty imposed on him. Detention may be used only by the court.
- Law offenses (Code of Misdemeanors Art. 19, 26, 35, 38, 42-44): arrest is one of the penalties applied as equivalent of a prison sentence. Execution of the sentence is governed by the Criminal law enforcement (The Executive Penal Code)
- Military Criminal Law (Penal Code Art. 322 § 1, 329 and 330) the sentence is governed by the Executive penal law, including the provisions of the Military Executive Penal Code.
- In criminal proceedings (Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 249-265) as a precautionary measures of isolation, provisional detention and sometimes the preceding period of detention (Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 243-248)
- Prior to a trial, an individual can be held in detention on remand. In the Polish penitentiary system there are 70 detention centers (data from 2006). These centers act as independent and as a division of the correctional facilities.

TYPES OF CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES The Executive Penal Code Art. 84

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- JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

Juvenile correctional facilities are destined for convicts serving a prison service who are under 21 years of age and when appropriate after completion of 21 years of age. When justified by the needs of the impact of an adult convicted for the first time with outstanding good attitude, may, with his own consent, be punished in juvenile correctional facilities. In such case he takes advantage of the same entitlements as juvenile convicts. A juvenile convict who has at least six months to acquire the right to apply for parole or brings about the educational problems, is subjected to psychological tests. The provisions of Art. 83 regarding psychological and psychiatric tests of convicts, shall apply accordingly.

- CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES FOR FIRST TIME CONVICTS

W zakładzie karnym dla odbywających karę po raz pierwszy osadza się również skazanych odbywających zastępczą karę pozbawienia wolności orzeczoną w tej samej sprawie oraz skazanych na karę pozbawienia wolności nie wymienionych w **art. 86 zakład karny dla recydywistów penitencjarnych**.

In correctional facilities for first time convicts people sentenced to substitutive penalty may be imprisoned subject to the same case as well as those convicts not listed in Art. 86 regarding Correctional facilities for prison recidivists.

- CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES FOR PRISON RECIDIVISTS

In correctional facilities for prison recidivists adult convicts who serve a sentence for intentional offense are imprisoned and convicts sentenced to substitutive penalty or punished for intentional misconduct as well as those who had previously served in remand detention. In justified cases they may be sent to correctional facilities for first time convicts for resocialization reasons according to the Penal Code Art.65 and Tax Penal Code Art.35.

- CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES FOR PERSONS SERVING A MILITARY DETENTION SENTENCE

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Correctional facilities of this type are designed for professional soldiers or persons appointed to serve in military service. The shortest prison sentence lasts for a month, the longest for two years. The convicted person is required to work or study while in prison, and to respect military discipline and military training that apply to this type of correctional facility. Convicts are placed in separate holding cells while maintaining levels of military hierarchy and the sentence is served in full military uniform devoid of state emblems and military signs and ranks.

- **CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES FOR WOMEN**

Women serve a sentence separately from men usually in semi open correctional facilities . unless the degree of demoralization and social threat or security reasons militate in favor of serving a prison sentence in another type of correctional facility. Pregnant and breastfeeding women are provided with specialist health care. In order to allow the imprisoned mother to

maintain permanent custody of a child special homes for mother and child are organized at the designated prisons. A child can stay there on mother's request to complete three years of age, unless other educational or health reasons, confirmed by the opinion of medical doctor or psychologist enforce for the separation of the child from mother, or for an extension or shortening of the stated period.

Appropriate decisions in this area require the approval of the guardianship court of protection. Mothers serving a sentence and having permanent custody of a child are not subject to Art. 69 - Types of Correctional facilities. The Minister of Justice shall determine, by a special regulation, the procedure for accepting children of mothers deprived of their liberty to homes for mother and child at the designated prisons and the detailed rules for the organization and operation of these facilities, taking into account the situations referred to in § 3-4, as well as the need for ensuring the proper development of the child.

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES according to the Executive Penal Code Art. 88, 90, 91, 92

Correctional facilities may be organized as:

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- **CLOSED CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES**

The holding cells may be open during the day under specific regulations preventing unfavorable influence and ensuring safety demands. Prisoners may be employed outside the prison under full escort. The basic principle arising from the Executive Penal Code is that convicts are paid for their work. They may also be employed without financial compensation to do some service or support work for the benefit of their correctional facility. Work is first offered to convicts who must assume child support or having a particularly difficult financial or family situation. For the last several years large scale measures are taken by the prison authorities to increase employment levels among inmates, so there is no wonder that it is dynamically growing. While at the end of 2003, 18,263 inmates worked, at the end of 2004 this figure stood at 19,679, in 2005 at 21,100, and in 2006 at 26,372.

As at the end of 2007, penitentiary units employed 27,937 people in total. It means that employment rate has exceeded 36% .

The convicts may also participate in cultural, social, educational, sports and other stimulation projects organized within the prison. Through their involvement in organized activities such as workshops, theatre and music groups, prison handicraft exhibitions and other programmes they may demonstrate their skills, vent stress and frustration connected with imprisonment and develop their interests. Movement of convicts within the prison premises is carried out in an organized and strictly supervised manner. Inmates may be allowed to use their own clothing and shoes with the permission of the director of the correctional facility.

Inmates are entitled to two visits per month in a closed correctional facility. A visit lasts sixty minutes. No more than two adults may take part in a visit. There is no limit on the number of under aged persons. Visits take place under the supervision of a prison officer in a manner allowing direct contact between an inmate and a visitor, at a separate table. A prisoner may receive a visit from a person who is not a member of the family or a close relative with the approval of the director of a correctional facility.

In a closed correctional facility, inmates' correspondence is subject to censorship by the administration, except for correspondence that is only subject to supervision, e.g. correspondence with a lawyer, the Commissioner for Civil Rights Protection, law enforcement authorities, justice authorities and other state authorities. Correspondence condemned censorship, prison administration with the exception of the correspondence referred to in Art. 8 pairs. 3, Art. 102 points. 11, Art. 103 pairs. One that can only be subject to surveillance as well as phone calls within the control of the criminal prison administration.

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Inmates are entitled to use, at their expense, pay phones. In a closed correctional facility, telephone calls are controlled by the administration;

In case public order or the institution's safety is under threat, the director of the correctional facility may deprive an inmate of his or her entitlement to use a pay phone during a specified time.

An inmate is entitled to receive a food parcel once every three months, which cannot exceed five kilograms. In some cases, he or she may receive a parcel weighing more, with the consent of the facility's director. An inmate, with the permission of the director, may also receive parcels containing clothes, underwear, shoes and other personal belongings and hygiene

products as are necessary, and where approved by a physician, e.g. a parcel containing medicines. Parcels are inspected in the presence of the prisoner. They may not contain

products which substance or content cannot be easily inspected, as well as objects which may pose a threat to order or safety in a prison.

- SEMI-OPEN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

The holding cells may be open during the day, but at night time may be closed. Inmates may be employed outside the prison under reduced escort or without escort including individual workplaces. They may be allowed to participate in school education and therapeutic activities organized outside the correctional facility or a group cultural and educational activities or sports. Convicts can move around the prison at the time and places described in the internal legal order, they can also use their own clothing, underwear and shoes.

Convicts may be given a pass from a correctional facility not more often than once every two months, including a period not exceeding 14 days per year. They are entitled to three visits per month, which with the approval of the director of a correctional facility may be combined.

Visits may be supervised by the institution's administration and correspondence is subject to censorship or supervision.

- OPEN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

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The holding cells may be open both during the day and at night time. Inmates may be employed outside the prison without escort including individual workplaces. They may be allowed to participate in school education and therapeutic activities organized outside the correctional facility or a group cultural and educational activities or sports. Convicts can use their own clothing, underwear and shoes.

They have unlimited visits and are offered an opportunity to prepare additional meals by themselves. Correspondence is not subject to censorship or supervision and telephone calls are not controlled by the institution's administration as well as visits.



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Below the data from the report of activities of the Prison Service is given.

- **General data on the population of detention on remand and correctional facilities as of 31.12.2012 Table 1**

Date	Specification	General data	Including:	
			Excluded places*	Convicts outside the prison**
31.12.2012	Capacity	86 906	177	
	State	84 156		169
	% population			

Date	Specification	General data	Holding cells	Other departments
31.12.2012	Capacity	86 729	83 380	3 349
	Occupancy	83 987	81 703	2 284
	%		98%	68,20%

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**correctional facilities upgraded or renovated or those without a permission to be used*
***inmates admitted to health care institutions, excluding detention on remand and correctional facilities or inmates kept in police stations, deported as witnesses to other countries and convicts who have not come back to detention on remand and correctional facilities or escaped. Since January 2010, in accordance with the Regulation of the Minister of Justice as of 25 November 2009 on the procedure followed by the relevant authorities if the number of inmates in correctional facilities or detention centers in the country exceeds the total capacity of these institutions - the capacity and occupancy units not included: holding cells, infirmaries, hospitals, homes for the mother and child, temporary housing units for convicts.*

Source: Biuro Informacji i Statystyki CZSW/ Office of Information and Statistics

▪ **Number of detainees, convicted and punished - Table 2**

	Total		Detainees	Convicted	Punished
	2011	2012			
Average	82 558	84 339	75 88	76 221	590

▪ **Including women:**

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	Total		Detainees	Convicted	Punished
	2011	2012			
Average	2 634	2 699	331	2 322	46

▪ Structure of women and men inmates - Table 3

Date	Total		Provisional detention			
	2011	2012	Juvenile		Adults	
			2011	2012	2011	2012
31.12.2012 r.	81 382	84 156	874	748	7 285	6 261

Date	Convicted			
	Juvenile		Adults	
	2011	2012	2011	2012

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31.12.2012 r.	2 016	2 071	70 676	74 586
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Date	Punished			
	Juvenile		Adults	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
31.12.2012 r.	25	31	506	459

▪ Structure of women inmates - Table 4

Date	Total		Provisional detention			
	2011	2012	Juvenile		Adults	
			2011	2012	2011	2012
31.12.2012	2 529	2 695	28	28	336	287

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Date	Convicted			
	Juvenile		Adult	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
31.12.2012	44	29	2 094	2 327

Date	Punished			
	Juvenile		Adult	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
31.12.2012	1	0	26	24

- The structure of male inmates - Table 5

Date	Total		Provisional detention			
	2011	2012	Juvenile		Adult	
			2011	2012	2011	2012
31.12.2012	78 853	81 461	846	720	6 949	5 974

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Date	Convicted			
	Juvenile		Adult	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
31.12.2012	1 972	2 042	68 582	72 259

Date	Punished			
	Juvenile		Adult	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
31.12.2012	24	31	480	435

- **Number of prisoners in correctional facilities of various types (women and men) - Table 6**

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Correctional facilities

	Closed		Semi-open		Open	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Total	36 085	36 532	34 277	37 581	2 861	3 034

▪ Self-aggression in prisons - Table 7

Period	Total		Food refusal	Self aggression	Attempted suicide
	2011	2012			
I quarter	166	82	15	26	41
II quarter	100	69	10	19	40
III quarter	83	61	6	24	31
IV quarter	84	69	4	27	38
Ogółem	433	281	35	96	150

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- Self-aggression - the reason - Table 8

Period	Total		Self aggression - reason:				
			Administration activities	Pressure of the criminal sub culture	Participation in a criminal subculture	Court and prosecutor activities	Other
	2011	2012					
I quarter	166	82	24	1	0	10	47
II quarter	100	69	31	0	0	3	35
III quarter	83	61	20	0	0	3	38
IV quarter	84	69	22	1	1	4	41
Total	433	281	97	2	1	20	161

- Decisions made by type of offense (as defined in the Criminal Code, 1969) where:

A – Valid decisions

B – Not valid decisions

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C - Temporary detention

D - In conjunction with Article 65 or 58a *

E – Judicial decisions on women

F - Decisions regarding juvenile

Offense against:			Total	Decisions made on 31.12.					
				A	B	C	D	E	F
As defined in the Criminal Code, 1969			741	729	2	10	10	16	0
Including unintentional			5	5	0	0	0	0	0
Life and health (Art. 148 - 164)	manslaughter	Art. 148§1	458	453	1	4	5	9	0
		Art. 148§2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other		25	25	0	0	0	0	0
freedom (Art. 165 - 177)	Rapes	Art. 168§1	15	14	0	1	0	0	0
		Art. 168§2	5	5	0	0	0	0	0
	Other		4	4	0	0	1	0	0
the institutions of family, guardianship and against young	maintenance Art. 186		2	2	0	0	0	0	0
	Other		0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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persons (Art. 183 - 188)									
property (Art. 199 do 216)	burglary Art. 208		79	78	0	1	0	0	0
	robbery	Art. 210§1	29	29	0	0	1	0	0
		Art. 210§2	23	22	0	1	0	0	0
	Other		63	60	0	3	1	6	0
company assets and forgery (Art 217-232)			26	25	1	0	2	1	0
participation in a criminal group or an organized criminal group (Art 276)			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
military (303-331)			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other crimes			12	12	0	0	0	0	0

- Decisions made by type of offense (as defined in the Criminal Code 1997), where:

A – Valid decisions

B – Not valid decisions

C - Temporary detention

D - In conjunction with Article 65 or 58a *

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E – Judicial decisions on women

F - Decisions regarding juvenile

Crimes against:		Total	Decisions made on 31.12.						
			A	B	C	D	E	F	
As defined in the Criminal Code, 1997		80 827	72 743	1 125	6 959	1 867	2 585	2 775	
Including unintentional		204	183	4	17	0	6	4	
Peace, humanity and war crimes (Art.117-126 kk)		2	2	0	0	0	0	0	
The Republic of Poland (Art.127-139 kk)		3	2	0	1	0	0	0	
Defence (Art.140-147 kk)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
life and health (Art. 148 - 162kk)	manslaughter	Art. 148§1	4 111	3 221	211	679	62	412	118
		Art. 148§2	1 139	1 014	35	90	44	35	18
		Art. 148§3	17	15	0	2	0	1	1
		Art. 148§4	8	7	1	0	0	2	0
	Other (149 - 162 kk)	4 573	3 899	109	565	25	194	191	

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Public safety (Art.163-172 kk)			226	176	6	44	18	8	7
Communication safety (Art.173-180 kk)			6 691	6 551	23	117	0	75	96
environment (Art.181-188 kk)			3	2	1	0	1	0	1
freedom (Art.189-193 kk)			1 159	974	14	171	34	39	38
freedom of conscience and religion (Art.194-196 kk)			2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual freedom and morality (Art. 197-205 kk)	rape	Art. 197§1	1 460	1 205	55	200	6	4	32
		Art. 197§2	105	75	4	26	0	0	4
		Art. 197§3	730	532	52	146	1	13	9
	Other (198 - 205kk)		1 036	801	44	191	31	13	9
(Art. 20 the institutions of family, guardianship and against young persons 6 - 211 kk)	cruelty (207)		5 242	4 710	58	474	1	81	23
	maintenance (209)		3 204	3 183	1	20	1	59	0
	Other (206,208,210,211)		9	8	0	1	0	1	1
honour and body inviolability (Art. 212-217 kk)			15	14	0	1	0	2	1
employee's rights . (Art. 218-221 kk)			6	6	0	0	0	0	0
Activities of State and social institutions (Art. 222-231kk)			1 435	1 293	3	139	34	45	48

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jurisdiction (Art.232-247 kk)	escape (242§1 i 4)		37	37	0	0	0	0	0
	failure to return to prison from leave (242§2)		45	45	0	0	0	1	0
	failure to return to prison from break (242§3)		34	32	0	2	0	2	0
	Other (232-241, 243-247)		4 629	4 563	7	59	15	48	29
Corrupt and illegal electoral practices (Art.248-251 kk)			1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Public order (Art.252- 257,259-264 kk)	Organized group (258)		886	357	47	482	645	30	4
	Other (252-257,259-264)		527	375	20	132	96	6	8
Information safety (Art.265-269 kk)			3	3	0	0	0	0	0
Credibility of documents (Art.270-277 kk)			570	527	0	43	19	36	7
property (Art. 278 - 295 kk)	theft (278)		6 674	6 524	6	144	16	440	276
	robbery (279)		11 921	11 250	26	645	183	111	546
	brigandage	280§1	10 922	9 467	185	1 270	150	264	749
		280§2	2 694	2 037	156	501	146	50	252
	Extortion by threat (282)		652	501	14	137	34	4	40
	Other (281,283 - 295)		9 574	8 946	33	595	231	582	217



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economic turnover (Art.296-309 kk)	146	110	0	36	40	10	1
money and trading in securities turnover (Art.310-316 kk)	321	263	14	44	34	17	6
specified in the military (Art.317-363 kk)	15	13	0	2	0	0	0
Crimes and offences specified in other legal acts	3 856	2 899	46	911	385	121	147

SUMMARY

The most important definitions, institutions, and data on the prison system in Poland are presented in this report. The data used can be found amongst others in

The paper is focused on the presentation of the main issues connected with prison system, its structure and organization in Poland as well as general description of different types of correctional facilities.

Furthermore, it should be noted that some changes relating to the number of seats in prisons or development of education and rehabilitation systems should be seriously considered in order to maximize prisoners' potential by increasing their qualifications, acquiring basic skills and ensure a new route to rehabilitation.

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This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein



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<http://agb.waw.pl/cms/index.php/literatura/10-literatura/31-pozycje-ksikowe-przydatne-przy-opracowywaniu-pracy-dotyczej-wiziennictwa>

Pawlak K., Za kratami więzień i drutami obozów, Zarys Więziennictwa w Polsce, Centralny Ośrodek Szkolenia Służby Więziennej, Kalisz 1997

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