



14th International EWODOR Symposium
Addiction, Criminal Justice System, Drug Treatment & Social Inclusion

Thessaloniki, 17-19 May 2012

In the current economic and social crisis substance abuse, delinquency, criminal behaviour and imprisonment are expected to increase. In this unstable climate drug-free treatment services and especially therapeutic communities could make an important contribution to treatment, rehabilitation and social integration of drug users and offenders within the prison setting and after prison release. This symposium: *Addiction, Criminal Justice System, Treatment and Social Inclusion* is the 14th initiative of the European Working Group on Drugs Oriented Research (EWODOR), a network of addiction researchers closely aligned to the European Federation of Therapeutic Communities (EFTC). This Symposium focuses on the need to develop strong links and drug-free programmes for drug addicted offenders in collaboration with the criminal justice system ensuring quality of continuous care and increasing the options for social integration. The programme of the symposium will not only explore the possibilities for developing treatment facilities within the criminal justice setting but it will also discuss these within the current climate of economic and social crisis. More importantly, the symposium will consider the research evidence that demonstrate the effectiveness of therapeutic community model and what can be learnt from the implementation of this model on the prison setting. The symposium, will contain a mix of plenary presentations and panel discussions.

Symposium Themes:

- Legislation and drug abuse.
- Treatment intervention in the criminal justice system.
- Penal System and social integration
- Drug addiction research in the criminal justice system

Programme Content

The programme consists of plenary sessions, working groups, panel discussions where participants are going to have the opportunity to present their research material and exchange views and ideas in relation to the Symposium Themes.

Participants

The Symposium is addressed to professionals, post-graduate and PhD students and academics in the field of drug abuse treatment and intervention at the criminal justice system. Number of participants **cannot exceed 80-100 people**.

Language of the Symposium

The working language of the Symposium is the **English language**. One or two panel sessions or/and workshop might be possible to run in the **Greek Language**. However, no translation facilities are available.

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 17th May 2012

16.00 - 17.30	Registration
18.00 - 19.00	Opening Remarks & Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rowdy Yates, Executive Director of EWODOR, Senior Research Fellow & Facilitator, Scottish Addiction Studies Group, University of Stirling, UK• Charalampos Pouloupoulos, PhD, KETHEA Director• Nikos Paraskevopoulos, Dean School of Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
19.00 - 20.30	Plenary Session I Chair: Kevin Knight Historical and Social Ideological Background of the Development of the TC for Addictions in Europe <i>Eric Broekaert</i> In Custody Therapeutic Community Treatment: Variations Matter <i>David Deitch</i> Effectiveness of Drug Abuse Treatment and Criminal Behaviour <i>Gerassimos Papanastasatos</i>
21.00	Welcome Reception

FRIDAY, 18th May 2011

09.30 - 11.00	Plenary Session II Chair: Eric Broekaert Stages of Recovery, Recovery Capital & Addiction Theory <i>Rowdy Yates</i> Alternatives to Imprisonment for Drug Addicts in Belgium: Different Possibilities for the Drug Treatment & Justice to Work Together <i>Dirk Vandeveldde</i> From Addiction to Rehabilitation: Providing Motivation for Harm Reduction through Legal Incentives <i>John Vlachos</i>
11.00 - 11.30	Break

11.30- 13.00	<p>Plenary Session III</p> <p>Chair: David Deitch</p> <p>Risk and challenges for drug policy and strategy on criminality and addiction in Greece in the era of socioeconomic crisis <i>Charalampos Pouloupoulos</i></p> <p>Treating Addicted Criminals - A continuum of Effective Practices <i>Kevin Knight</i></p> <p>Criminality among Drug Abusers in a Long-Term Perspective: A ten year prospective study of drug abusers recruited from 20 In- and Outpatient settings <i>Edle Ravndal</i></p>
13.00 – 14.00	Break
14.00 – 15.30	<p>Plenary Session IV- IN GREEK ONLY</p> <p>Chair: Gerassimos Papanastasatos</p> <p>Dealing with drug abuse within the criminal justice system: finding the golden mean between punishment and treatment <i>Maria Kaiafa-Gbandi</i></p> <p>Difficulties and Prospects in a Therapeutic Community within the Greek Correctional System <i>Yiannis Tentis</i></p> <p>Combating drugs availability today <i>Nikos Paraskevopoulos</i></p>
15.30 – 16.00	Break
16.00 – 18.00	<p>Plenary Session V</p> <p>Chair: Edle Ravndal</p> <p>Economic Cost of Incarceration in Europe: Figures, Trends & Aspects <i>Petros Triantos</i></p> <p>Coerced Prison Based Drug Treatment for Young Offenders: Implications for Retention, Criminal Recidivism & Desistance <i>Vivian Stagaki</i></p> <p>Qualitative evaluation of the Drug Treatment Court in Ghent, Belgium <i>Anne Dekkers</i></p> <p>The Therapeutic Community Residents' Process of Change Examined from a Psychotherapeutic Perspective. Lessons Based on 21 Single Cases <i>Virginie Debaere & Stijn Vanheule</i></p>
	<p>EFTC BOARD MEETING IS GOING TO TAKE PLACE BETWEEN 14.00 – 16.00</p> <p>ROOM TO BE ANNOUNCED</p>
20.30	Symposium Dinner – EFTC Hymn

SATURDAY, 19th May 2011

10.00 - 12.00	Plenary Session – VI Chair: Phaedon Kaloterakis Substance Misuse Treatment and Drug Offenders in Serbia <i>Foivos Papamalis & Darjia Koturovic</i> Therapeutic Intervention for Addicted Young Offenders, Prisoners in Adolescents-Young Adults' Prison of Avlona Greece <i>Panagiotis Chaldaios</i> Treatment process of (drug) offenders in therapeutic communities in Flanders <i>Ilse Goethals</i> The Conditions at the Greek prisons. The problems and the solutions of the drug addicted prisoners. The case of Counselling Unit for Drug addicted Prisoners in Thessaloniki - Northern Greece <i>Christos Vettas</i>
12.00 -13.00	Closing Remarks-End of Symposium Eric Broekaert, President EWODOR Phaedon Kaloterakis, Assistant KETHEA Director

Registration

PLEASE NOTE: Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Students and KETHEA Staff, may attend the symposium free of charge. However, places are limited and they must notify via e-mail KETHEA Department of Education should they wish to attend.

Registration costs DO NOT include accommodation. Participants wishing to book accommodation should click on the HOTELS button to see a list of recommended hotels in the immediate area.

Neither KETHEA nor EWODOR nor Aristotle University have any responsibility for covering travel, accommodation, living expenses and symposium and dinner fees for any of the speakers including invited speakers from Greece and EU countries.

Registration Costs

Symposium Fee	€30
Daily Rate (No daily rate is available for Day 3)	€10
Symposium Dinner	€30

Notes

Bank Transfer - Payment can be made at any bank to the following KETHEA account:

Bank: National Bank of Greece

Swift Ref: ETHNGRAA **IBAN:** GR4801101170000011729600012

You must quote "**EWODOR Symposium 2012**" as the reference, as this is used to identify payments.

Alternatively payment can be made directly at the registration office during registration.

ΚΕΟΕΑ



14th International EWODOR Symposium

Addiction, Criminal Justice System, Drug Treatment & Social Inclusion

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Book of Abstracts

Main Presentations

MP1 Historical and Social Ideological Background of the Development of the TC for Addictions in Europe. Eric Broekaert, President of EWODOR, Professor, Ghent University, Belgium

In this lecture we define the essential characteristics of a TC as a locus of social interaction in group, an educational process within a structured environment for people with addictive problems. The TC emerged during the golden sixties in a climate of economic welfare, existentialism and left engagement. Synanon: the first therapeutic community was part of raising counter cultures such as the hippie movement, the love and flower power cult. The Haight Ashberry Park becomes an open drug using spot for hundreds of youth. It was a time that pleads for the de-institutionalization of institutes. Basaglia realized the closure of psychiatric hospitals in Italy, community mental health services got promoted and Foucault promoted a radical social critical position. During the fruitful seventies the human potential movement and the many forms of humanistic psychology based on existential philosophy blossomed. Frits Perls, Carl Rogers, Abraham Maslov, influence the therapeutic Community movement. In Europe, the disappointment with failing psychiatric treatment for addiction leads to an explosion of the therapeutic community movement. During the eighties the TC movement became mature. Founded in 1978 and formalized in 1981 on the initiative of a group of therapeutic communities for residential drug treatment, the EFTC is a European federative organization supporting the psycho-pedagogical approach helping drug addicts to return to a drug free life got created. At the end of the eighties the reduction of payment of taxes to governments in the USA, led to a drop of investments in building of homes and introduced the 1990 economic recession, which touched Europe and its rich investments in social welfare. During the nineties the anti-psychiatric and de institutionalization movement, community mental health suffers under the pressure of economic crisis. This leads to an accent on efficiency, partialization of care and individualization. The group as method comes under pressure. It is meant that the complexity of substance abuse disorders requires a more outspoken professionalism. Biology and pharmacology gain monumental. Ex addicts become a smaller part of the solution. TC reacts by putting accent on special target groups such as dual diagnosis, prisoners, homeless, mothers and children etc. It integrates methadone treatment in its programs and position them vis-a-vis harm reduction. Encounter groups lose their harsh character and become forums of dialogue. During the two thousands TC tries to survive by broaden up their action radius. They act as a provider of services on different levels: prevention services: information and active engagement in schools, day centre and harm reduction, in prison services, family services: support and placements at home educational services: formation, training, skills. For the moment a second economic crisis takes place witch once again might hit the TC in its basic structures.

MP2 In Custody Therapeutic Community Treatment: Variations Matter. David Deitch, Emeritus Professor Clinical Psychiatry, University of California, San Diego, USA

This plenary presentation will focus on the history of in prison TC Approaches; the various models that have been implemented---model impact on effectiveness as well as the necessity of after - continuing care; recovery management, also outcome on quality of life findings for custody staff who work in TC Settings will be discussed!

MP3 Effectiveness of Drug Abuse Treatment and Criminal Behaviour. Gerassimos Papanastasatos, PhD, Head of KETHEA Department of Research, Greece

Substance abuse as well as dependence constitute of the most important concerns of public health. Individuals, families and societies experience in everyday life serious implications due to illicit substance misuse. Addiction is highly correlated with criminal behaviour exposing them to multiple risks. Treatment of addiction is not only effective in managing illicit drug use, but when the treatment

plan includes support to the abusers' legal problems it helps reduce their illegal behaviour. In a five-year follow-up study of 388 subjects admitted to treatment, the reduction of criminal behaviour was correlated to a reduction in illicit drug use. For those who abstain from substance use illegal behaviour five years later was significantly reduced; while considerable reduction was also reported even for those who dropped-out of treatment.

MP4 Stages of Recovery, Recovery Capital & Addiction Theory. Rowdy Yates, Executive Director of EWODOR, Senior Research Fellow & Facilitator, Scottish Addiction Studies Group, University of Stirling, UK

In the 1970s, Zinberg, Engel and others developed the bio-psycho-social theory of addiction which is generally accepted by addiction treatment services today. More recently, theorists have begun to argue that a realignment of the three domains within the theory (the drug, set and setting) is required to sustain recovery. This paper takes as its starting point, the bio-psycho-social theory and argues that improvements in the three domains is the key to developing recovery capital and ensuring a sustained recovery journey. The paper considers the notion of developing recovery capital as a means of avoiding relapse, sustaining recovery and proposes a theoretical framework – based upon De Leon's 10 stage recovery paradigm - which locates recovery capital within a bio-psycho-social theory of addiction; allowing recovery planning from assessment to after-care.

MP5 Alternatives to Imprisonment for Drug Addicts in Belgium: Different Possibilities for the Drug Treatment & Justice to Work Together. Dirk Vandeveld, Director De Kiem, Belgium

In Belgium, in the last ten years, different new initiatives raised in which the drug treatment and justice worked out a co-operation in favour of the treatment possibilities for drug addicts. These projects are located on the level of the prosecutor, the court (Drug court), in prison and after (an early) release from the prison. Inmates can consult specialised social workers who can refer them to treatment facilities outside the prison. The Drug treatment court as it operates in Belgium will be explained with video material. Most of these projects are subject of studies by the University.

MP6 From Addiction to Rehabilitation: Providing Motivation for Harm Reduction through Legal Incentives. John Vlachos, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

The eventual predominance of "harm reduction" over sturdy prohibitionism has introduced a policy model for minimising the detrimental consequences associated with recreational drug use. It has also brought forth a variety of reforms in criminal legislation (both substantive and procedural), encompassing an array of legal incentives addressed to substance-dependent individuals. These include a favourable stance of the criminal justice system in all stages of the trial that ranges from a procedure adjournment to a final acquittal, once specific terms and conditions have been met. This oration will briefly present an overview of these beneficial legal provisions as manifested in the Greek criminal legislation. It will and also argue in favour of an expansion of relevant efforts via proposals for additional suchlike measures, drawing from respective fruitful policy endeavours assumed abroad.

MP7 Risks and challenges for drug policy and strategy on criminality and addiction in Greece in the era of socio-economic crisis. Charalampos Pouloupoulos, PhD, KETHEA Director, Greece

This presentation is concerned with the effects of economic crisis on drug related policy and strategies in Greece. The risks and challenges presented to drug treatment and prevention organizations as a result of economic crisis are discussed together with the new challenges

presented from the affected population of drug users in Greece. The paper also gives emphasis to the lack of national strategy and to the obstacles presented in the adoption and implementation of a new Drugs' Law in the country. The situation of drug addicts in the correctional system is also presented and the various issues that arise from the lack of services and the limited access to mental and physical health services are discussed. The paper suggests that the need to adopt a humanitarian approach towards the drug addicted population including de-criminalization of drug taking together with increased access to physical and mental health services within the criminal justice system should become first priorities in the new legislation and national strategy.

MP8 Treating Addicted Criminals: A continuum of Effective Practices. Kevin Knight, Ass. Director, Criminal Justice Studies, Texas Christian University, USA

Although addiction tends to be described as a chronic, relapsing condition, the treatment of addicted individuals involved in the criminal justice system continues to be conceptualized as a discrete event. Questions about the effectiveness of treatment typically refer to a specific program, such as "Is a 6-month Therapeutic Communities effective?". Effective treatment, however, is actually a comprehensive continuum of services, not a discrete event, designed to help the addicted individual overcome a lifestyle of substance use and criminality. This presentation will provide research findings about effective components of the treatment continuum that may potentially contribute to positive life changes.

MP9 Criminality among Drug Abusers in a Long-Term Perspective: A ten year prospective study of drug abusers recruited from 20 In- and Outpatient settings. Edle Ravndal. Professor, University of Oslo, Norway

This is a prospective, naturalistic study of a cohort of 481 Norwegian drug abusers. They were personally interviewed at intake to 20 different treatment facilities in Oslo and the surrounding counties in 1998-99. Follow-up interviews were undertaken after one, two, seven and ten years. Data on criminality were obtained through personal interviews with EuropASI. Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory (MCMI II) and Symptom Checklist 25 (SCL-25) were used to tap psychopathology. Data on mortality was obtained from the National Death Register. Males had on average been in prison for 17 months before the index interview against 5 months for females ($p < 0.000$). Seventy per cent had been charged for possession and/or sale of drugs, 63% had been charged for crimes of gain, and 29% for violent crimes. There was a reduction in most types of crime the last year before each follow-up interview. Number of months spent in prison before the index treatment was a significant predictor of mortality.

MP10 Dealing with drug abuse within the criminal justice system: finding the golden mean between punishment and treatment. Maria Kaiafa – Gbandi. Professor of Criminal Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

This paper focuses on presenting the architecture of possible choices of the Greek criminal law especially for drug related offenders who are also drug dependent. Within this field the effectiveness of a criminal justice system is questioned, as it has to be just and not to neglect any case in need of support and treatment.

Addressing the identity of the Greek penal system in relation to dealing with dependent drug offenders, this paper focuses on three main aspects: a) the dependence as derived from substance abuse, and screening criteria, b) ways of dealing with drug dependence within the criminal justice system in effect, regardless if the offenders are drug users or drug dealers, and c) critical review of the penal system within this field.

Finally, the assessment of the legal frame in effect is used as a means for making recommendations for improvement whilst the relevant provisions of the recent law draft for the Drugs Act, which is under public consultation, are also discussed and evaluated.

MP11 Difficulties and Prospects in a Therapeutic Community within the Greek Correctional System. Yiannis Tentis, Head of KETHEA-EN DRASI and KETHEA-MOSAIC, Greece

We will try to describe the emerging problems which an -inside Correctional Institution- therapeutic community is called to face. Issues such as value conflicts clinical issues, ethics, institutional problems, are some of the fields that will be presented and also ways that these issues were addressed during the ten years' operation period of KETHEA EN DRASI. Finally an additional aspect of these problems will be presented as they also constitute challenges for development and growth of the two systems: therapeutic community and prison

MP12 Combating drugs availability today. Nikos Paraskevopoulos, Dean, School of Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

The main characteristics of our time are globalization and a financial crisis which tends to become permanent, both of which favour the drugs' prevalence: they facilitate the trafficking of substances between countries as well as money laundry, while at the same time social exclusion grows rapidly. The latter phenomenon leads further to an increase of both the drug supply and the demand.

The aforementioned development causes an incapacitation of the criminal justice system, as the main tool to combat drug availability. More specifically:

The messages and the threats of the penal laws cease to have a preventive effect on the people involved in a struggle to survive, and for whom dealing drugs is the last hope for salvation.

The immediate enlargement of the group of potential offenders makes the criminal justice system ineffective, as the possibilities to send someone to trial and consequently in prison are limited (the lists of accused are therefore growing longer and the prisons become overpopulated).

For the drug dependent persons resorting to substitution without making any substantial changes to their lifestyle seems a less demanding option. Incarceration has been for these people just an undesirable break in their lives, and their release from prison is a way back to the drug scene. Thus criminality is not reduced; rather recycled.

Drug recovery remains a much more effective means towards disengaging the drug user from crime. However recovery also stumbles on new difficulties, such as the unwillingness on behalf of the state and the market to financially support the drug free treatment programs, as well as the actual failures of the social rehabilitation efforts.

Finally, the incarceration system today fails to provide an effective means to reintegration. Recovery organisations on the other hand maintain this option, albeit limited in an altered society. In order to embank against the further spreading of drug availability, careful observation and study of the altered social practices of solidarity and reintegration are needed.

MP13 Economic Cost of Incarceration in Europe: Figures, Trends & Aspects. Petros Triantos, KETHEA Department of Research, Greece

Drug addiction is highly related with delinquent behaviour. Illegal activities are usually led to imprisonment. This fact is resulting to a high proportion of drug offenders within European prisons. The first part of the proposed study is a comparative cost per day per person presentation and analysis of prison cost for drug related convictions, within the European penal system in order to present a general frame of the sources spent for this particular cause. The second part focuses in the Greek correctional system, in an attempt to monitor illegal activities and the economic cost produced by these activities. Data on police arrests, court visits, legal expenses and prison costs is presented

and a cost per day per person is presented and compared to the European average. Final part of the study refers to limitations, barriers and subjects for further research implementation.

MP14 Coerced Prison - Based Drug Treatment for Young Offenders: Implications for Retention, Criminal Recidivism & Desistance. Vivian Stagaki, Psychologist-Criminologist, Greece

The prevalence of illegal drug use, crime and recidivism among young offender populations constitutes an escalating concern in most developed countries. The relationship between substance use and crime has contributed, during the last decades, to the implementation of more forceful means in directing drug addicted offenders into treatment. The present study examines the effects of legal pressures on treatment retention, through a focus group research, in a Young Offenders Institution in Greece. The overall aim was to explore the participants' perceptions of court-ordered treatment as a deterrent factor for relapse and recidivism. The results verified that coercion did not hinder young offenders' engagement and maintenance in a drug addiction programme and further confirmed that treatment may be introduced and experienced due to entanglement with the criminal justice system. Additionally, they highlighted the need to develop multi-agency partnerships to address the multiple needs of this population, in breaking the cycle of desistance and imprisonment.

MP15 Qualitative evaluation of the Drug Treatment Court in Ghent, Belgium. Anne Dekkers, University of Ghent, Belgium

Background In May 2008, the Ghent Court of First Instance introduced as first court in Belgium the pilot project 'Drug Treatment Court' (DTC). This project is aimed at problematic drug users who also committed drug-related crime. The DTC provides them the opportunity to work on their drug (related) problems during 6 to 12 months instead of being sentenced and going to prison. Offenders have to attend DTC sessions regularly in order to provide evidence of their treatment engagement and progress. This evidence and the (in) consistent presence at DTC sessions will influence the final sentence they will get from the DTC judge. Because of the recent implementation of this project, few in-depth researches have been conducted in Belgium. This study aims at measuring the effectiveness of the DTC project in general and to get insight in the treatment trajectories and experiences of drug users diverted to treatment. Methods A combination of quantitative and qualitative methods will be used including a systematic review of the literature on DTC and in addition a prospective study of new DTC clients (N=7) and follow-up interviews with ex-DTC clients (N=7) who participated in earlier research. Results Most of the international effect and outcome studies on the DTC indicate that DTC participation is associated with a reduction of recidivism and drugs use, however results vary. The experiences and treatment trajectories of DTC clients reveal that their problems, goals and needs for treatment are similar yet different for every DTC client. They all work on comparable problems towards comparable goals, though in their own unique way.

MP16 The Therapeutic Community Resident's Process of Change Examined from a Psychotherapeutic Perspective. Lessons Based on 21 Single Cases. Virginie Debaere & Stijn Vanheule, Belgium

Outcome studies have demonstrated that Therapeutic Communities (TCs) are effective in providing a drug-free lifestyle. However, from a psychotherapeutic perspective, little is known about the residents' mental and relational processes of change. To investigate this 'black box', we followed all 21 residents that started treatment in a Belgian TC in 2010. 8 residents accomplished Primary Therapy; 13 dropped out at an early or intermediate stage. Next to administrating The Inventory of Interpersonal Problems at four stage transition moments, we conducted individual interviews every three weeks focusing on participants' TC experiences. We investigated how the residents' use of TC tools and their coping with TC sanctions have an impact on affect regulation patterns, on

interpersonal relations and on subjective well-being. Based on the data of the 8 'successful' cases that we compared with the 13 'unsuccessful' cases we identified process characteristics of effective TC treatment and described mental and relational changes.

MP17 Substance Misuse Treatment and Drug Offenders in Serbia. Foivos Papamalis & Darjia Koturovic, University of Sheffield, UK

Globalization, political and economic transition in South East Europe, coupled with widespread corruption, weak governance and unprecedented economic crisis worldwide facilitate empowerment of criminal groups. Reports indicate that Serbia represents major transit, source and destination country of illegal narcotics, leading over the last years to increased drug misuse (UNODC, 2008; INCSR, 2012). This is of concern as Serbia's drug misuse treatment capacity is limited and the prevalence of substitution programs is insufficient to address this problem. Lack of recovery-oriented approaches and evidence based therapeutic interventions bring into question the effectiveness of treatment services and service users' social reintegration. Initial needs assessment findings indicate that 80% of incarcerated individuals have been imprisoned due to drug related offences and only 10% of those in need for treatment have access to substitution therapy solely. Along with the high levels of recidivism and social exclusion, this data suggest the need of the criminal justice system to implement therapeutic justice principles. This paper represents a brief overview of the ICBT project submitted to the Serbian Ministry of Health in cooperation with the key treatment providers in Belgrade. In line with this, the project represents a strategic, collaborative triage model for substance misuse treatment, using evidence-based and community-based assets that make efficacious use of multiple partnerships to meet identified needs within a framework that promotes sustainable and place-specific interventions.

MP18 Therapeutic Intervention for Addicted Young Offenders, Prisoners in Adolescents - Young Adults' Prison of Avlona Greece. Panagiotis Chaldaios, KETHEA Head of Counselling Unit at Adolescents' Court of Athens and Young Offenders Prison in Avlona, Greece

In order to support young prisoners who are addicted to substances, a unit is developed by KETHEA STROFI in Avlona's adolescents – young adults (up to 21 years old) prison. Particular way of intervention will be presented as well as special difficulties that come in play in such environments. The following issues will be discussed:

- Which population is addressed?
- Which methods are being implemented?
- Group and individual counselling
- Differences in relation with adults' interventions
- Preparation and motivation towards a full therapeutic intervention after release
- Two different systems, two different cultures: prison and therapeutic community
- Implications with the penal system
- Migration, imprisonment and therapy: how different cultures and languages affect the intervention
- Is there a continuum that connects the phase before release and the one after?

MP19 Treatment process of (drug) offenders in therapeutic communities in Flanders. Ilse Goethals, University of Ghent, Belgium

In Belgium, a relative proportion of (drug) offenders are referred to a therapeutic community treatment (TC) programme as a judicial alternative sanction. The objective of the current research is to compare the in-treatment experience and clinical progress of non-offending drug users and (drug) offenders, referred by the criminal justice system, in TCs in Flanders. The sample comprises 155 adults (63

offenders) admitted to a TC programme between 2009 and 2011. At three points in time, they were administered the DCI, CMRS and BSI. Socio-demographic data was gathered before admission. Preliminary data-analyses suggests that clients who are in treatment because of a judicial sanction show increasingly higher ratings on treatment process over time than clients who entered treatment voluntary. However, except for some elevated feelings of depression, anxiety and hostility on the part of non-offenders during the fourth month of treatment, both samples experience comparable levels of motivation and psychological well-being during their treatment process. These results suggest that TC programs in Flanders largely meet the needs of offender clients.

MP20 The Conditions at the Greek prisons. The problems and the solutions of the drug addicted prisoners. The case of Counselling Unit for Drug addicted Prisoners in Thessaloniki - Northern Greece. Christos Vettas, Head of Counselling Centre for Drug Addicted Prisoners, KETHEA, Greece

The Counselling Unit for Drug Addicted Prisoners of Thessaloniki is the first contact of the drug addicted prisoners of Northern Greece and intends the preparations of the addicted prisoners in order to begin the therapy. The goal of the Unit is to give care to the addicted prisoners in order to improve their physical and mental health.

The aims of the Unit are the following:

- Informational counselling on individual or group basis about the consequences of drug use and abuse.
- Information about the Therapeutic Communities of KETHEA, with the aim of referring the addicted prisoner to them.
- Counselling with the main aim to raise awareness and motivation on drug use issues and preparation for the phase of detoxification.
- Harm reduction of drug use and abuse.
- Support the drug addicted prisoners during their sentence and refer them to therapeutic programmes of KETHEA.

GENERAL PRINCIPALS OF THE KETHEA COUNSELLING UNIT FOR PRISONERS IN THESSALONIKI

The services of this unit are based on the principals of self-help and volunteering participation which also characterize KETHEA's philosophy in general, and also on the principal of the organic conjunction of the therapeutic services which are offered in prison with the out prison therapeutic or re-habilitation units. In this way, the continuation of caring and the accomplished occur, over the problems which are related with violation, drug use and incarceration, are ensured.

The principals of KETHEA Counselling Unit for Drug Addicted Prisoners in Thessaloniki are the following:

- Grant ministration so all the detained users and their families can reach supporting services.
- Ministration devoid of discriminations referring to race, cult, religion, gender, nationality, age, physical condition, political beliefs, sexual choices, financial condition and criminal record of the detained drug users who reach KETHEA.
- The therapeutic programmes of KETHEA, do not supply pharmaceutical substances or substitutes for the treatment of drug addiction (drug-free programme). The detained drug addict is not treated as a "patient", passively undergoing a treatment but rather as one who actively partakes in the therapy, accepting responsibility for altering his/her behaviour (of abuse/ addiction) and looking at its causes. The goal is to encourage the individual to adopt a new way of life and behaviour and a new value system, in order to be able to face life's challenges and difficulties without resorting to drugs.
- Voluntary attendance. The path to recovery involves not only a well-organised therapeutic line, but as well the existence of client's motivation. International experience shows that compulsory

therapy has limited effectiveness due to the absence of individual's decision and responsibility to change his/her life. For this reason, there are not any compulsory admissions to Therapeutic Programmes of KETHEA and the client has the right to terminate his maintenance any moment.

➤ Active participation. From the moment an individual decides to enter the Therapeutic Counselling Unit for Drug Addicted Prisoners, it is essential that he/she takes part in the daily treatment, training and other activities, in order to remain a member of any given therapeutic programme. In order someone to join the Counselling Unit for Drug Addicted Prisoners of Thessaloniki has to: a) be drug addicted, b) notify the prison's Social Service that he/she wishes to participate to the Counselling Programme, c) Participate in the daily treatment, training and other activities and d) Not to suffer from psychiatric or other physical illness, which makes prevents his participation to the programme.

The Programme's frame contains two different therapeutic periods; the first and the second period together with the group of those who have completed successfully both periods. The first period lasts 6-7 months, the second lasts 6 months and the final group lasts 3 months. After joining the Programme, the client has the right to ask for and receive assessment which certifies that he/she attends the Programme. The Programme provides legal support for those who can't afford to pay for their own lawyer. Moreover, it is permitted to the clients, who have medical reason, to take medication, in condition that it doesn't affect normal functioning of the Programme. Double diagnoses are being considered on an individual basis, in order to see if the individual can participate to the Programme. Finally, there are three basic rules for the client's participation to the Programme and for someone who violates these rules the consequence is immediate interruption for a period of time that is assigned by the treatment staff. The rules are: it is forbidden a) to use or push drugs, b) to use violence – verbal or physical- towards other individuals or objects, and c) to violate the private of the team. In adjustment, there are peripheral rules, which can become basics for a specific period of time, if the counsellors of the Unit settle to this decision. More subjects (for instance statistical results, research, prison's and clients' profile) are followed at the presentation.