

Programme of the Experts Meeting

14 – 16.05.2019, Stiftelsen Kvinnekollektivet ARKEN, Oslo, Norway



14.05

11.30 We start from the hotel **Anker Hotel Storgata 55, Grünerløkka, Oslo** to the venue of the meeting

Venue: Sinsenveien 54, Oslo, Stiftelsen Kvinnekollektivet ARKEN

12.00 Registration of Participants

Opening words

Reidun Wilhelmsen/ Kristin Kongelf. Stiftelsen Kvinnekollektivet ARKEN

14.00 – 17.00 Presentations. Exchange experience and best practices

Dr. Larisa Kangaspuro. Centre for Nordic Studies (CENS). Department of Cultures. University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland

Project Progress Report

It has been half the time of the project and it is already possible to sum up some results. According to the project plan of activities were organized the Experts Meeting in Helsinki and three visits of project experts from Sweden and Finland with Russian authorities as well as for field work with Russian NGOs to study situation with human rights violation and social exclusion in NW Russia of female ex-prisoners. Communication with partners was organized to share information and to exchange experience and best practices. Academic research in the project was also presented at conferences and workshops.

Discussing topical issues of the project, an agreement was reached on common prospects for cooperation between researchers, activists, public organizations and authorities. Thus contributing evidence of expert's' experiences and strengthening the voice of researchers' in policy making.

Nordic and Russian practice and experience researches of social support, human rights protection, prevention of marginalization for female prisoners were studied on a base of education visits and project's partners presentations.

All project partners are actively involved in its implementation. We can say that significant progress has been made in the project.

Maria Sagitova. NGO "Center for international and informational exchanges in sphere of human rights "Enlightenment", St-Petersburg, Russia

Re-socialization and rehabilitation: programs for former female prisoners in St-Petersburg (Russia)

Evaluation of system of re-socialization and rehabilitation programs for former female prisoners, established in St-Petersburg (based on interviews with specialists and these women) shows their vulnerability, stigmatized position and main demands.

Health, labor rights, housing and social defense are the main problems to be addressed.

Recommendations for the specialists, working for re-socialization and rehabilitation of former female prisoners in St-Petersburg are needed to be developed and special trainings should be run on. Main topics should be addressed to drug and alcohol abuse, HIV and other socially dangerous infections, motherhood and family, violence in close relations, legal questions (housing, labor rights, personal protection). The main purpose to be achieved is combating stigmatization and discrimination as well as implementing gender mainstreaming into social and medical rehabilitation of former female prisoners.

Exchange of experience and best practices as well as results of research and monitoring should be used as a tool to protect human rights of former female prisoners. Medical-social assistance for women in prisons and after leaving prisons should be in focus as well as cooperation between NGOs and authorities in this sphere

Dr. Svetlana Sigova. Department of Criminal Law and Procedure. Institute of Economics and Law. Petrozavodsk State University, Petrozavodsk, Russia

Dr. Ermishina Natalia, Dr. Shabaeva Svetlana

Resocialization of convicted women: the experience of the Karelia Republic

Nowadays various methods of convicted women re-socialization are being applied in the Republic of Karelia focusing on adaptation to different stages of imprisonment and release. Preparing for release is one of the key stages of re-socialization of convicted women. After release, governmental bodies of various levels, including the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Karelia, the Ministry of Health and Social Development, the Ombudsman for Human Rights, etc., continue activities on inclusion programs. Ongoing projects encourage increasing the possibility of convicted women to get out of a difficult life situation both independently, and with professional assistance.

Relatively small number of NGOs implement joint projects for the re-socialization of convicted women in Karelia. The activities of NGOs are related to the prevention of abortions, of domestic violence, as well as of drug and alcohol addiction in this group of women.

The practice of the legal clinic of Petrozavodsk State University shows growing demand for assistance related to financial issues, as well as generally high demand for assistance related to pension problems and other social benefits.

Interdepartmental and intersectoral interaction in the Republic of Karelia in relation to adaptation of convicts is improving; however, the pace of such interaction development remains low.

The top officials of the Federal Penitentiary Service of the Russian Federation have defined the main goal of the “prison” reform as “the earliest return of inmates to social life”.

Dr. Ann-Mari Sätre. IRES institute for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Uppsala University, Sweden

The role of NGOs in dealing with socially marginalised women in Russia

The focus of the presentation is on the efforts of NGOs, related to socially marginalised women in Russia. Social problems have become a subject for different kinds of NGOs and initiatives at the same time as solving social problems has been paid attention to by regional and local politics. We look into both the efforts of the government to engage people in socially oriented voluntary work and how civic organisations adapt to the political harnesses. The presentation discusses the relationship between civic organisations and social work, given the reality that resources of social welfare agencies are insufficient in relation to needs and given the stricter rules towards NGOs. The aim is also to identify when and how civic organisations can contribute to empowering processes involving socially marginalised women in Russia.

17.00

Tour around ARKEN

18.00 Reception for all participans

15.05

Venue: Sinsenveien 54, 0585 Oslo, Stiftelsen Kvinnekollektivet ARKEN

7.45 Travel to Ravneberget prison

9.30 – 11.30 Norwegian female prison life in reality. Ravneberget prison (for women). Ravneberget 30, 1727 Sarpsborg

14.30 The visit Pro Sentret, Oslo municipality’s service for persons with experience of selling or trading sex. Storgata 11, Oslo

18.00 Dinner (complimentary for speakers and organizers). Grønland 28,

16.05

Venue: Sinsenveien 54, 0585 Oslo, Stiftelsen Kvinnekollektivet ARKEN

9.00 Travel to prison located in the neighborhood of Bredtvet in Oslo.

**9.30 – 11.30 The visit Bredtveit Prison Service, Custody and Supervision Unit.
Trondheimsveien 375, Oslo**

**15.00-17.00 General discussion on project plan and expert meeting results.
Activities and expected results**

20.00 Refreshment

Guidelines for presentations

Panellists: 30 minutes each

Discussion: 20 minutes each