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Network for the implementation of alternative sentence

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MAIN ACTIVITIES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF ALTERNATIVE SENTENCE PROJECT

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1. Informative Seminar about the services delivered by the National Network Association for the Implementation of the Alternative Sentence in Albania

In The framework of the Network of Community Services for the Offenders, in 6 April in Mondial Hotel was held an Informative Seminar with the participation of the Partnership Association Representatives and Prosecutors.

The main purpose of this Informative Seminar was the presentation of the concrete programs offered by the Partnership Associations, evaluate the concrete cases referring to risks and success factors they are facing with, share the information between Prosecutors and the Network and finally to achieve effective collaboration between parts in the framework of Alternative Sentence Project in the community. ►



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Fondacioni i Shoqërisë së Hapur për Shqipërinë
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As agenda indicated the seminar started with the presentation of Mr. Genci Mucollari, Executive Director of Aksion + Association. He explained the importance of the implementation of the project in the community, the great capacities of the programs offered by the Associations and the positive impact they have in the rehabilitation and reintegration of ex-offenders, he mentioned too the effective collaboration that the Network has with the justice institutions. Later his presentation was focused in the drug addiction phenomen and its tremendous statistiscs 5000-7000 its aproximately the number of drug users. Referring the the conclusions of the experts he conveyed that a drug user is a real burdeen for his family,community,hospitals and prisons. He also emphasized that prosecutors seek for the support of drug addiction specialist in the cases related to drug users. Finally he concluded with the main areas of Aksion + activities, in Prevention Education, Awareness Campaign. Harm Reduction, Methadone Maintenance Treatment in prisons and outside.

The seminar continued with the presentation of Mrs. Marinela Sota, Executive Director of Refraction Association. In her word she highlighted that the aim of Alternative Sentence Project is to support the Probation Service to work effectively and to offer the appropriate treatment programs that has been implemented primarily in prisons and actually are being implemented in the framework of the Alternative Sentence Project. She explained the great importance that have the counseling programs due to the offenders with social and psychological disorders. In her presentation she made clear the correlation that exists between the behave management and the

reduction of criminal tendencies. She propounded all the programs, Counseling Programs, individual or in groups, Anger Management, Professional Programs, Art Therapy Programs and their respective capacities. Her presentation finished with the adjudications of concrete cases regarding to Alternative Sentence Project.

The presentation of the Project Officer Mrs. Enkelejda Ngjelina in the seminar took an important role in analyzing all type of drugs and their negative effects, she gave information for the average age of drug users, the statistics came up from the Methadone Centers. She spoke for the positive impact that has Methadone Treatment in the reduction not only regarding drug abuse but in the same time of criminal tendencies, in relation to this she emphasized the important role that has the collaboration with the Probation Service and the trainings held with social-medical structures, psychologists.

Finally she concluded her presentation referring to the National Strategy Against Drug Abuse. On this purpose she mentioned the importance of medical service, counseling programs, therapies in group or individual, collaboration with various institutions and Social Science Faculty.

In this seminar the participants took part actively and the most important issues were as below:

The efficiency of the programs and their impact.

The difficulties in practice of the implementation of these programs.

The collaboration in between social services and justice institution.

Concrete cases with Alternative Sentence, statistics, risks and success key factors.

The implementation of the project in other cities.

Drug Addiction and Selling Drugs as a medical and legal problem.

Presentation in New York University

About the Services of Network Associations for the Implementation of Alternative Sentence Project in Albania

In 14.04.2011 in New York University in Tirana was held a seminar in the framework of the main objectives and provided results of the Alternative Sentence Project. The development of this presentation was possible as the result of the collaboration with UNYT Coordinators Mrs. Elona Garo and Mrs. Enkelejda Olldashi and the representatives of the National Network of Community Services for Offenders. In the presentation took part students of Law and Psychology Department who participated actively with their opinions, key questions and discussions.

As agenda indicated the presentation started with the presentation of Mrs. Fiona Lalaj, Political Science Instructor. In her speech she explained the historical evolution of Probation Service in its different phases of its implementation referring to the example of the United States. Her presentation was focused in the effectiveness of the implementation of Alternative Sentence Project in the community. She explained that in the political perspective the implementation of Alternative Sentence Project brings in the first place the inclusion of the institutions, community mobilization and participation in the rehabilitation and reintegration of this target groups.

Positive benefits we provide in the consolidation of human rights, democracy, legal state, public order and in the economic aspect referring to Harvard University Research which states and calculates that the Services of the Alternative Sentences are less expensive in the national level in comparison to the cost of imprisonment.

Later the presentation continued with Mrs. Entela Kaleshi, Assistant Manager of the Project. In her word she explained the main reasons of the creation of Probation Service Institution, its legislation, the structure, organization, its branches in the main cities of Albania, the basic principles of its activity and the main functions and competences.

Also she highlighted the great importance that has the collaboration signed on this purpose with the Network Associations in the framework of the Memorandum signed in order to achieve better results in the implementation of



Alternative Sentence Project.

While Mr. Genci Mucollari explained the importance of the implementation of the project in the community, the great capacities of the programs offered by the Associations and the positive impact they have in the rehabilitation and reintegration of ex-offenders, he mentioned too the effective collaboration that the Network has with the justice institutions. Finally he concluded with the main areas of Action + activities, in Prevention Education, Awareness Campaign, Harm Reduction, Methadone Maintenance Treatment in prisons and outside.

The Social Worker of the project, Mrs. Enkelejda Ngjelina in her presentation referred to the high statistics of drug users in Albania and as the studies shows in the correlation that exists between drug addiction and in the commitment of different offences. She cleared up all the side effects of drug abuse. On this purpose she mentioned the positive effects that has Methadone Maintenance Therapy in the reduction of drug addiction, the long and short term therapies and she emphasized that drug abuse is not just a physical damage but a familiar, social, economic and often brings legal implications. Finally she referred to concrete cases their specific treatment and their positive perspective in the framework of Alternative Sentence Project.

The main key issues discussed between parts after the

presentation were focused mainly in the difficulties that the implementation of the Project is facing in practice, in the specific procedures regarding Alternative Sentence, in the process of rehabilitation of concrete cases, in the effectiveness of the Memorandum of Collaboration with the Probation Service and finally in the credibility and benefits of Alternative Sentence Project in the community.





Presentation in the Faculty of Political Science

About the Services of Network Associations for the Implementation of Alternative Sentence Project in Albania.

In 05.05.2011 in the University of Tirana, in the Faculty of Political Science it was developed a presentation in the framework of Alternative Sentence Project. In this presentation took part students from the second year and from the three groups A, B, C. The number of the students was approximately seventy. In this presentation participated Mr. Genci Mucollari, Executive Director of the Association Aksion +, Miss. Fiona Lalaj, Political Science Lecturer, Miss Enkelejda Ngjelina, Project Officer and Miss Helena Kosta, Social Worker.

The activity started with the presentation of Mr. Mucollari. In his presentation he explained the importance of the implementation of the project, its objectives, its results, the difficulties along the process of the implementation, the effectiveness of the collaboration in between the Probation Service Institution and the Partnership Associations and their programs. Mr. Mucollari presentation was focused in the main directions of the Association Aksion + as prevention, treatment and harm reduction. In the end he explained the great importance of the National Strategy Against Drug Addiction, and he made clear that a drug user is a real burden for his family, community, the

hospital and the prison too, in the economical, social and psychological aspect. He concluded his speech the importance of the rehabilitation and the reintegration of the ex-offenders in the community.

The activity continued with the presentation of Miss. Ngjelina. Her presentation was focused in Methadone Maintenance Therapy and its positive impact in the reduction of drug addiction and recidivism too. Regarding to this she emphasized the Memorandum of the Collaboration with the Probation Service and she referred to the treatment of the concrete cases. She concluded her presentation with the explanation of the main functions and structures of Probation Service in Albania.

Finally the last presentation was held by Miss. Fiona Lalaj, Political Science Lecturer. In her presentation she referred to the economical and political benefits the community provides from the implementation of Alternative Sentence Project. She showed up that the implementation of this project is getting developed in the framework of the principle of humanism and the efficiency too. The implementation of the Alternative Sentence enhance the inclusion of the community and its mobilization, increase the capacities of civic society, improve the quality of governance and finally in the well-function of the entire state especially in the human rights issues.