

The National Administration of the Penitentiary in Romania

Contents

I. History of the penitentiary system.....	4
II. Penitentiay system.....	6
III. Rehabilitation centers.....	15
III.1Rehabilitation center from Buzias.....	15
III.2. The Rehabilitation center from Gaesti.....	17
III.3. Rehabilitation center from Targu Ocna.....	19

I. History of the penitentiary system

1830- appear the first mention about the people who was convicted for burglary, murder and they were closed into a salt mine and they were released only after they finished there punishment. Despite the nobles, they were closed into a monastery and stayed there until the period of conviction passed.

1788- in Transilvania – the emperor Iosef II develop a law that mention that each dungeon it must to be clean, dry, with window and natural light, all that necesar for the prisoner health.

1790- it s instaureted the law that specific that man must not be closed in the same place with women.

1802- Near the prison are builtd hospitals and the prisoners had to work to increase the quality of their conditions and food.

1851- Its promulgated the law that prohibit the fight between convicts and the bad treatment aplicated to the prisoniers.

Also, in that time, the director of the Ministry of Justice Anastase Panu implements the regulation of prison from Targu Ocna. He develop the detention regim “Auburian” and he consider that is important for the convict to learn about morality, and they were obligated to learn religion and qualification.

1874 – Appear the Regulation of Prison – with aspects from Auburian regim (at night the prisoners were isolated and during the day they had comune activities).

The main idea of that period was that the severity of the punishment make the convict to don t repeat again his act.

This regulation may be compared with the Belgian Law 1870 and the France Law 1875 with a few differences.

In 1874 the prisons splits in too: prevention prisons and doom prison. The doom prisons were several categories like: correctional prison work prison, imprisonment and detention.

- individual isolation regarding the gravity of the facts , but no more then 3 years
- they stayed together during the day and separately in the night
- prison work, where the prisoners were obligated to work in the day and they had comune rooms where to sleep at night

1938 – 21th April it is promulgated the Regulation of the regim of punishment executation , one of the most developed european regulation from that period. The main purpose was the social recovery of the convicts well determined in the law with the title Education measures.

1944- It is the year when Romania enter in the communism regim and from this moment we had a rupture of the modern European regulation of the penitentiary. In the communism period the rules of the penitentiary was changed and instaureted new ones and also the management of this institutions.

1962 - The new regulations of the penitentiary included: the convicts had to work, they had to be disciplined, they had to be stimulated and rewarded for their implication.

1969 - The National Directorate of the Penitentiary elaborated two law projects. These new laws are based on the experience before the world war two and the recommendation of ONU (1955) with one exception – moral and religious assistance.

The normative acts developed a Romanian concept of resocialization of the convicts based on the participation at productive activities , similar with the economy activities. Also, they had to continue their study or to start school if they didn't had any study, or to learn a qualification.

They established a diversity of cultural-educative activities for the development of the convicts according to the social information and keeping the contact with the family.

The system putted the accent on the stimulation and rewardness of the convicts who had a good behavior and they did their best in all the activities.

Also, they instaurated the principle of knowing the personality of the detentions and the application of the penitentiary treatment recommended for their personality. All that respecting the dignity of the convicts.

All this regulations was modern in their times and they worked well 25 years. But It is important to mention that the communism system had some serious limits imposed by the socialist ideology like: all the convicts must to be reintegrated in the society like useful people and the resocialization programmes had to have political themes.

1990- It is the year when the socialist ideology are replaced with the democracy and this rupture had some implications . To ensure the continuity of the socialization process, but also the pass in the new social-economical reality, they had to action for stopping the victimization of the convicts and they accept the acces of the moral-christian assistance in the prison with all cults and religion.

The new law instaurated in 1991 it is a very important law in this system because marks the passing from the authority of Intern Ministry to the Ministry of Justice.

1994 – the Convection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms determinate the necessity of development of the detention conditions in prison and to be the same level in all the penitentiary.

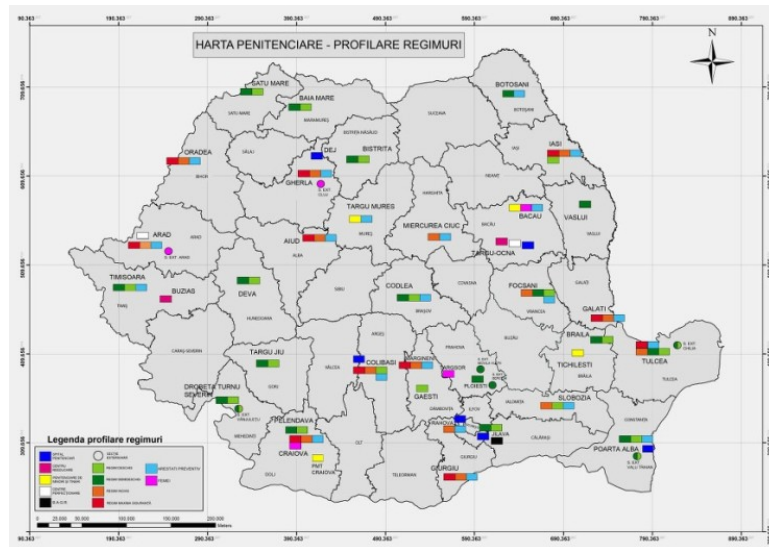
The Prison reform started after the change of the leading in Ministry of Justice and targeted in principal the humanization of the detention regim, respecting the human dignity, with any discrimination based on nationality, political or religious opinions . They improved the quantity and the quality of the food and they gaved the possibility to the convicts to receive packages from the outsiders, visits and shops.

2006 – Entered into force the law nr. 275/2006 on execution of the punishments that insure a modern development like the European recommendation. So, from 2006 the regulation of the Romanian system of the penitentiary has the same responsibilities and obligation like the other European countries.

II. Penitentiary system

List of the penitentiary in Romania

In Romania we have 44 penitentiary, 3 rehabilitation Centers, a center for specialization of the officers of the Penitentiary Administration, a national school for preparing the Agents of Penitentiary, a Supply, Management and Repair Base, a Subunity of Guarding and Escorting Prisoners Transferred and a Maximum Security Prison.



The structure of the prisoners in the system at 31.12.2012

3181 7	Detained prisoners at 31.12.2012
2847 3	Finally convicted
3179	Preventively arrested and convicted in the first instance
165	Minors detained in the rehabilitation centers

The distribution of the total in the period 2008-2012

Year	Total effective 31.12	Prevently arrested and convicted in the first instance	%	Finally convicted	%	Rehabilitation centers	%
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2008	26,212	3,112	11,87	22,937	87,51	163	0,62
2009	26,716	4,430	16,50	22,145	82,89	163	0,62
2010	28,244	4,630	16,39	23,435	82,97	179	0,64
2011	30,694	3,313	10,79	27,213	88,66	168	0,55
2012	31,817	3,179	9,99	28,473	89,49	165	0,52

45,78% represents offenders inmates share, reported to the total of the effectiveness we can observe easy growth in 2012 comparative with the previous years : 2009 – 44,82%, 2012- 44,93%, and a little decrease in 2011 – 45,87%.

The structure of the effectiveness after the offenses committed :

- crimes against property : 16584 – 52,12%
- crimes against individual: 9611 – 30,21%

The structure of the offenders on age categories

Age	Convicts	%
14-18	444	1,4
18-21	1676	5,27
22-30	11220	35,26
31-40	10408	32,71
41-60	7541	23,70
60 +	528	1,66

The structure of the convicts after the detention period

The situation of the released on parole

Year	Postponed to e new re-discussion	Proposed for release
2010	40,22%	59,78%
2011	41,56%	58,44%
2012	41,06%	58,94%

17,969 convicts analyzed by the commission for parole
10,229 individuals released on parole

Individuals released on parole

Interruption of sentence

In 31.1.2012 were 584 individuals with sentence interrupted compared with 517 individuals in 31.12.2011.

So, in 2012 were released 73 persons in comparison with 97 in 2011.

Also, 26 individuals came back when the free period ended and they had to return into the prison, 34 war again arrested, 3 died, 3 they don't showed up when they had to.

Escapes, leaving the point of work, attempting to escape, attempting to leave the point of work

Situation of finding prohibited substances

- 122 cases of finding prohibited substances

* 87 powdery substances

* 30 solide substances

* 5 liquid substances

Situation of discovering mobile phones

- 10505 of mobile phones discovered

- * 2012 before to reach the convicts
- * 8493 in possession if the convicts

In 2012 was done a study about the Aggressive behavior of the convicts

Situation of the permits out of prison

Period	2010	2011	2012
24 h	1013	1101	1014
More than 24 h	577	310	259

Disciplinary sanctions

			2
			0
			1
Disciplinary sanctions for the prisoners	2010	2011	2
			5
Suspension of the right to buy things beside the necessary for the hygiene for a period of two month	4248	5052	1
			0
			4
			3
			8
Suspension of the right to have visits for a period of three month	5054	4595	3
			5
			2
			2
			3
Warnings	3112	2855	2
			1
			3
			3
Isolation for maxim 10 days	1620	1211	1
			1
			1
Suspension of the right to attend cultural, artistic and sportive activities for a month	1075	1108	9
			2
			2
			8
Suspension of the right to go to work for a month	240	235	8

Disciplinary sanctions for the individuals from the rehabilitation center	2010	2011	2012
Reprimand	140	115	120
Collective Isolation	145	75	110
Movement into another class	0	0	0
Movement into another centre	0	0	0

Improvement of the conditions to give their rights to the prisoners

Situation of the permissions to go out from the penitentiary

Conjugal visits

Also, they had maximized the time for visits. Now, the prisoners can have visits almost 2 hours and they can talk on the phone 30 minutes daily. (but that depends of the gravity of punishment).

Dynamic using work

Social reintegration

Number of convicts that attend school

Training courses in 2009-2012

30 penitentiary organized the local scholarship jobs collaborative with the public institutions.
 - 1001 individuals met with the employers (submission of CV or interviews)

- 313 employers present
- 83 convicts were registered in the employer records

2757 of the prisoners had the opportunity to attend qualification courses

- 70 minors
- 163 women
- 2524 adults

Beneficiaries of training activities in 2007-2012

Religious assistance

- 31 priests
- 18 recognized religions

III. Rehabilitation centers

In Romania we have 3 rehabilitation centers, in Buzias, Gaiesti and Targu Ocna.

III.1 Rehabilitation center from Buzias

- ✘ The institut motto is: Tell me and I will forget
 - + Show me, and I may remember
 - ✘ Involve me, and I will understand
 - ✘ **CONFUCIUS**

With a unique structure in the Romanian penitentiary, this institution has 19 pavilions: 4 bedrooms, rooms destined studying / qualification, kitchen, dining room, library, clubs, sport room, rooms for the parents who come in visit, administrative rooms and other annexes.

The center has a capacity of 120 places. Each room can be occupied by 3 or 4 persons and they have their own bathroom. The institut wants to give them privacy and to feel likely in their families.

The detention period is not a rupture in the evolution of convict. This period must be a period when the young is learning how to behave and how to reintegrate in the society after they get out.

Education is the most important way to limit the negative consequences of isolating children and the only way to encourage to change their “ career” and be different.

The recovery activities are individualized and depend of : age, health, family, personality, capacity, level of education, the cause and motivation they have when they committed the infractional fact.

The education intervention targets are:

- school
- qualification
- self development
- develop social skills
- experimenting different ways of dealing with the conflicts

The educative program has the following objectives:

- to help the minor to understand the gravity of their acts
- to help them to develop moral values and to adopt them in their life
- gaining a sense of sentimental value
- to learn new ways of dealing with conflicts

The activities and the programs has different stages:

1. Ensuring their identity

Through this program, the minors learn how the develop their own world, and how to maintain relations with others.

They will find out theirs negative and positive traits and assume them

2. Develop their social abilities and skills

The program wants to help minors to develop skills that help them to reintegrate in the society and to find a job.

3. Education for health

The young people find out how to take care and how to behave responsible

Pshychoterapeutic intervention

Objectives:

- suspension inhibitions development
- improving the self image
- improving the relations with others
- improving the perception of the reality



III.2. The Rehabilitation center from Gaesti

The history of this center starts in 1966 when was established the The special institut of rehabilitation minors. The school had a capacity of 300 places (200 for the boys and 100 for the girls). The main purpose of the institut was to help minors to achieve an adequate level of knowledge and to learn a qualification that give them the opportunity to find a job and to integrate into the society. In 2002-2003 in the center were a series of changes . They renovate the whole building and they modernized it. Now the center has a capacity of 110 places(90 boys and 30 girls)

The educative activities are:

- to encourage talents
- to develop the moral-civic traits
- to learn to organize their free time
- to develop the spirit of the competition

The objective of the Gaesti center are:

- to insure the elementary education for all the minors
- reorganization of the minor respecting his level of development and their rhythm

- to supervise them when they choose their professional orientation to be in accordance with their skills and abilities
- to develop their functional competences (communication, anger management, conflicts etc)
- to help them to integrate in different groups (family, friends, colleagues)

In the center are implemented:

- elementary school
- secondary school

Also they have the possibility to go to highschool in the community where is the center

Educational intervention. Objectives:

- to develop the responsible and independent behavior, skills and social abilities
- to increase the level of knowledge
- sanitation and hygiene skills training
- to develop a positive thinking regarding job

The educative activities are structured in different modules like:

Cultural activities:

- education support
- library
- info- magazine
- info-social
- info- cultural

Occupational activities:

- taking care and growing small pets
- taking care of green spaces
- painting
- fretwork
- taking care of the plants from greenhouse

Hobbies, but work:

- computer maintenance
- radio shows

Sports recreative activities

Education for health

- Education for religion

Psychological assistance

The psychologist make an evolution list and he identify the needs of the person. After that he propose activities and programme in benefits of the convict looking after him.

Activities to reintegrate in the society the beneficiars

- together with a supervisor they may go in the community to keep the contact with it

- participate at shows or sports competitions in the community
- organization of trips

The purpose of doing this activities are:

- to keep the touch with the outside world
- to reduce the diference of life lived in the centre and in the community
- to get help to re-enter in the society
- to a continous participation of the young people into the social life



III.3. Rehabilitation center from Targu Ocna

The rehabilitation center from Targu Ocna was conceived like an therapeutic-educational community. It is an existential space where they accept each other, and the fundamental values are tolerance and the respect of diversity. Education represents the most important way to limit the negative consequences of isolation and a way to encourage those who want to change their behavior. Here the young convicts are helped to find their positive potential and to identify their new possibilities.

In the period that they are detained they are helped to be prepare for the moment of the release and to develop skills that help them when they are back in the society.

For 40 years, between 1956-1997 here were military units from the Ministry of war, was an education center for those who fought in wars.

Between 1956-1997 the center had different names:

- Colony for minor (1956-1966)
- The special institute for minors rehabilitation (1966-1972)
- The special school for work and minors rehabilitation (1978- 1992)

- Rehabilitation center (1992-1997)
- Rehabilitation center for the minors (2001-2003)
- Rehabilitation center (2003- present)

Today, the rehabilitation center is for psycho-social recovery of the minor convicts with age between 14-18 . Today there are 102 detained minors.

The organization and the operation of the center has two strategies:

1. to protect the community of the antisocial facts
2. to protect the minors that are in this center by the factors that may influence there behavior in the community

The stuff of the center are structured in 4 directions:

1. Stuff specialized in the recovery activity (teachers, professors , psychology, social- workers, foremen)
2. Medical stuff
3. Supervisory stuff
4. Administrative and technical stuff

The recovery intervention refers at all the programs and activities what give the minors different opportunities for learning and to develop life skills that determine they to have a constructive, autonomic and responsible behavior.

The list of the programe and activities:

1. Programe and activities for developing social skills
(education for a democratic society, developing skills for the integration in the community etc.)
2. Programs to balance and optimize psycho-behavior
(interpersonal relations, anger management, identifying your personal assets, self-esteem etc.)
3. School and initiation in a trade
(filling level of schooling, initiation in a trade that is requested on the market, professional forming in agreement with the personality of the person)
4. Educative programe
(enrichment of the general culture, education for health, education for family, literature etc.)
5. Social, sportive, arts and recreative activities
(shows, painting groups, music, sports)

Also they have the possibility to go in camps, trips, to visit touristic objectives, to go when are religious holidays or to be volunteer in different environmental activities .

