



Università degli Studi di Sassari

A new European network to exchange and transfer knowledge and expertise in the field of treatment programmes for perpetrators of sexual harassments and violence against children and young people (SEXOFFENDERS) - Report of the first seminar to analyse the good practices and goals of the project (D 6)

**Report of the 1st seminar in Sofia
29-30th September**

Venue: Best Western Hotel Sofia
Address: 6 "Stara planina" Str., Sofia 1000, BULGARIA

29th September 2011

09:00- 09:30h – Registration of the participants

09:30- 10: 00h- Official addresses by representatives of the Ministries of Justice Bulgaria and the organisers

10:00- 10:45h- Presentation of the project "SEXOFFENDERS"- Partners, Goals, Activities and the Results so far – Mr. Carmine Falanga - "Università degli Studi di Sassari" and Mrs Genoveva Tisheva – Managing Director of BGRF



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**10:45- 11:00h – Coffee Break**

11:00- 11:45h- Legislation and practice in the EU in relation to the treatment of perpetrators of sexual violence, Mrs Alessandra Lagoria (Ministry of Justice of Italy -Department of Juvenile Justice)

11:45 - 12:30h – Presentation of good practices implemented by the Bulgarian governmental institutions in their work with perpetrators of sexual violence- representatives of the General Directorate “Execution of sentences”

12:30- 14:00h – Lunch

14:00- 14:30 – Presentation of the activities of the Academy of Ministry of Interior for the professional training of the officers of the Ministry in the field of prevention of sexual violence against children – representatives of the Academy of Ministry of Interior – Mr. Rumen Rachev and Mrs Irina Krasteva

14:30- 15:15h- „Assessment of the risks as result of the sexoffenders’ behaviour” – prof. Pavlina Petkova, Center ‘Spectra”

15:15- 15:30h- Discussion and questions

15:30- 15:45h – Coffee break

15:45-16:30h- Working groups for brainstorming on the essential elements of a programme for treatment of perpetrators of sexual violence against minors

16:30- 17:15h- Presentation of the results of the working groups

17.15-18.00h- General discussion

18.00h- Meeting closure

30th September 2011

09:00- 10:15h- Presentation of the legislation and good practices in the field of treatment of sexoffenders in Italy- Mrs Patrizia Patrizi (Scientific Coordinator of Sexoffenders) and Mr. Gian Luigi Lepri (Expert in the field) from the University of Sassari;

10:15- 10:30h- Discussion



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10:30- 11:15h- Presentation of the results on the Research on sexual violence against children- projects and studies on the local context of Bulgaria – representatives of BGRF

11:15- 11:30h- Coffee break

11:30- 12:00h- Legal aspects in the field of protection of minors against sexual crimes – Mr Konstantin Tomanov, Central Commission for Combating Anti-Social Acts of Children and Young Persons

12:00- 13:00h- Presentation of good practices for fighting against sexual exploitation of children in Bulgaria by Bulgarian NGOs – representatives of Bulgarian NGOs

13:00- 14:30h – Lunch

14:30h- 15:00h Presentation of the experience of Ministry of Interior on cases of sexual exploitation of children – Mrs Blagorodna Makeva- Director of Sector “Normative-Legal servicing at General Directorate “Criminal police”

15:00- 15:20h – Presentation of the experience of on cases of sexual exploitation of children Chief Directorate "Combating Organized Crime"

15:20- 15:45h – Psychological profile of the perpetrator of sexual violence against children - Mrs Ljubka Hristova – psychologist, Sector “Criminal psychology”

15:45- 16:00 h- Coffee break

16:00- 16:30h- Presentation of good practices from Bulgaria for programmes for perpetrators of gender based violence in prisons- prof. Pavlina Petkova- psychologist and Mrs Diana Videva- social worker

16:30- 17:00h- Perspectives on including and implementation of programs for treatment of Sexoffenders in the Bulgarian legislation - working groups

17:00- 18:00h – Presentation of the results from the working groups. Conclusion and recommendations from the seminar.

18:00h- Meeting closure

On 29th September 48 people were present at the beginning of the seminar. All of the invited state institutions have sent a representative excluding the Ministry of education of Bulgaria. The represented institutions for both days included: *The Ministry of Justice, State agency for child protection,*



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National commission for struggle with anti-social actions of juvenile and under aged, Training academy of the Ministry of interior, Psychology institute of the Ministry of interior, General Directorate "Criminal police", National Anti trafficking commission, General Directorate "Execution of Sentences", General Directorate "Security Police", Department of combating internet crime from General directorate "Organized crime". The invited non- government organizations were all present as well. The first day of the seminar went according to the agenda with no deviations. As a last topic for the day we have organized two working groups for brainstorming on the key elements of a programme working with perpetrators of sexual violence against children. The results of the exercise are listed in the file "**Working groups.doc**"

On 30th September 36 people were present for the whole day. Due to their work engagements some of the participants were unable to stay for the second day. Also the duration of some of the planned presentations and lunch break had to be shortened in order to conclude the seminar an hour earlier. This change was necessary since a few of the participants were from outside Sofia and had to meet their travel appointments. This way everybody could be present for all of the presentations for the day. During the lunch break some of the speakers were interviewed by invited medias. The published materials are listed as links at the bottom of the report. There were also interviews for the Bulgarian national radio.

Follow up of the seminar

The following days all of the participants received a list of participants with their contacts as well as all of the presentations included in the seminar. Furthermore we have sent additional materials such as parts of the report on the national legislation, statistical data and specific presentations which were requested by other media not present at the conference.

<http://www.monitor.bg/article?id=309016> this includes five separate articles that were consequently disseminated to other media. The articles are on:

- The National statistical data on children victims of violence
- The National hot-line for children
- Propositions for changes in the Penal Code
- The national situation regarding human trafficking
- Psychological profile of the pedophile



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Working groups results

Working group 1

Elements of a successful treatment programme for sexoffenders

The programme is for convicted males above 18 years

Prerequisites:

1. Very good assessment
 - psychiatric assessment of the individual in order to choose a specific treatment
 - determine the type of sexoffence (defined by law or else) in case a separate group or individual sessions are required

2. Determine the framework
 - size of the group
 - number, rate and length of sessions

3. Choose which approach to include
 - family approach
 - trainings on empathy
 - cognitive approach
 - sexual education

4. Consider the context
 - availability of funds
 - political context
 - legal constrictions

5. Members of the group
 - the group should be mixed in terms of literacy and voluntary vs. involuntary participation
 - adults only

Specific steps to begin the actual programme

1. Individual interviews
2. motivation sessions- motivation through strengthening ones positive qualities
3. coping strategies and self-assessment of the degree of the problem



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Working group 2

Elements of a successful treatment programme for sexoffenders

The programme is for convicted males above 18 years

1. Goals
 - prevention of the relapse
 - change of the beliefs, building self- assessment abilities
2. Criteria:
 - The programme is for convicted males above 18 years
 - The programme should be from 6 to 9 months
3. Themes
 - Motivation
 - Control of the sexual drive



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