



SPACE I 2013 – Facts & Figures

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In brief...

- Between 2012 and 2013, the number of inmates held in European penal institutions decreased by approximately 56,700 persons. On 1 September 2012¹ there were 1,735,911 inmates² held in penal institutions across Europe and in 2013 there were 1,679,217 inmates³.
- In spite of the decrease of the raw number of inmates, the median⁴ European Prison Population Rate [PPR] increased between 2012 and 2013: +5.0%. In 2012 the PPR was 127 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants and in 2013, this value increased to 134 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants.
- The median density in penal institutions was 96 inmates per 100 places, which corresponds to the decrease of two inmates compared to 2012 when it was 98 per 100. Moreover, this backward trend is even more visible compared to 2011 when 99 inmates per 100 places were registered.
- In 2013, the problem of overcrowding remained acute for 21 European Prison Administrations [PA]. The number of PA facing this problem is exactly the same as in 2012. Compared to 2011, there were 23 PA who were facing the problem of overcrowding. In 2013, 19 of the PA having overcrowded prisons were the same as in 2012⁴.
 - The most overcrowded⁵ penal institutions in 2013 were observed in the following countries⁶: Italy (2012: 145 / 2013: 148 ↑), Hungary (2012: 139 / 2013: 145 ↑), Cyprus (2012: 140 / 2013: 138 ↓), Belgium (2012: 132 / 2013: 134 ↑), the FYRO Macedonia (2012: 106 / 2013: 124 ↑); Portugal (2012: 113 / 2013: 117 ↑), France (2012: 117 / 2013: 117 ≈), Romania (2012: 119 / 2013: 116 ↓), Croatia (2012: 121 / 2013: 111 ↓), and Albania (2012: 111 / 2013: 110 ≈).
- During the year 2012, the average expenses for the detention in penal institutions of 1 inmate/day were 97€ which is 2€ more than in 2011. The range of expenses in 2012 goes from 2€/day in the Russian Federation to 317€/day in Sweden. The total amount spent by all European PA during 2012 is 25,428,755,736€⁷.
- Very short custodial sentences are often used across Europe. Yet, a slight decrease was observed. On 1 September 2013, on average 17% (median=13%) of the total number of sentenced prisoners were serving sentences of less than 1 year. In 2012, the average indicator was equal to 20% (median=15%). This type of sentences is used as often as sentences lasting from 3 to 5 years. Moreover, short sentences occupy the 4th position in the 10-options ranking of applicable prison terms⁸.
- On the other hand, persons sentenced to more than 10 years represented 11.2%. The proportion of this type of inmates increased compared to 2012 (10.2%).
- The most common offences for which prisoners were held in custody in 2013 were: drug offences (average = 17%; median = 18%) and theft (average = 15%; median = 16%). Sentenced prisoners for homicide represented on average 13% (median = 12%).
- The average mortality rate in 2012 was 23 per 10,000 inmates (median = 28). The second most common cause of death in custody after natural causes was suicide, representing 23% (median = 17%) of all deaths that occurred in European penal institutions.

Survey...

Participation rate	Questionnaire	Inputs (variables)	Deadlines	SPACE
50 out of 52 Prison Adm.	Main items: 17	Main: 120	Responses on time: 19	Database
96% participation	Details: > 200	Details: ≈ 4,000	Responses in late: 31	Website
	Annual module: 6		Report: 1 month	Report

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Key figures for 2013

1 679 217 is the total number of inmates in Europe

Prison Population Rates [PPR]:

- a) Average PPR in European countries was **140 inmates** per 100,000 inhabitants.
- b) Median PPR in European countries was **134 inmates** per 100,000 inhabitants.
- c) Considering Europe as a single country, there would be **205 inmates** per 100,000 inhabitants; which is 7 inmates fewer than in 2012.

+5.0% is the evolution of Prison Population Rates (*median values*) between 2012 and 2013:

- a) Biggest **decrease**: Georgia -62% ↓
 b) Biggest **increase**: Turkey +12% ↑

21 (out of 49) countries had prison **overcrowding**

15 is the *median* % of foreigners in the total prison population (the *average* value is **24%**):

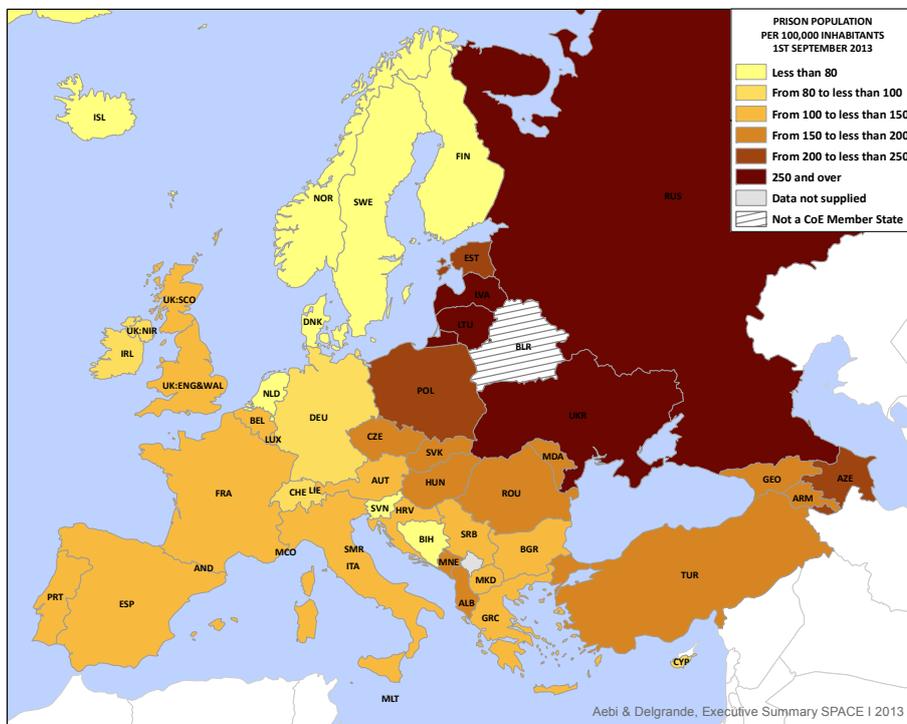
- a) Highest: Switzerland=74%
 b) Lowest: Romania=1%

1/4 of all inmates were **without a final sentence**:

- a) Highest: Turkey = 50%
 b) Lowest: Poland = 8%

1. Prison Population Rates

In 2013, the number of inmates per 100,000 inhabitants in European countries (see Map 1) was distributed in almost the same way as in 2012. The highest prison population rates can be found mainly in Central and Eastern European countries. Visible improvements (decrease of more than 10%) were made in Cyprus, Czech Republic, Georgia, and Latvia.



Map 1: Prison population rates on 1st Sept. 2013

The prison population rates remained relatively high in Central and Eastern European countries. Nevertheless, a positive evolution has been noted since 2003 (see Figure 1). Over the last 11 years, nine Central and Eastern European countries have reduced their prison populations. On the other hand, there are some countries (mostly in Southern or Western parts of Europe) that have revealed a linear increase in prison population rates. Countries that experienced major upward trends in their prison population rates are mainly located in Southern and South-Eastern Europe.

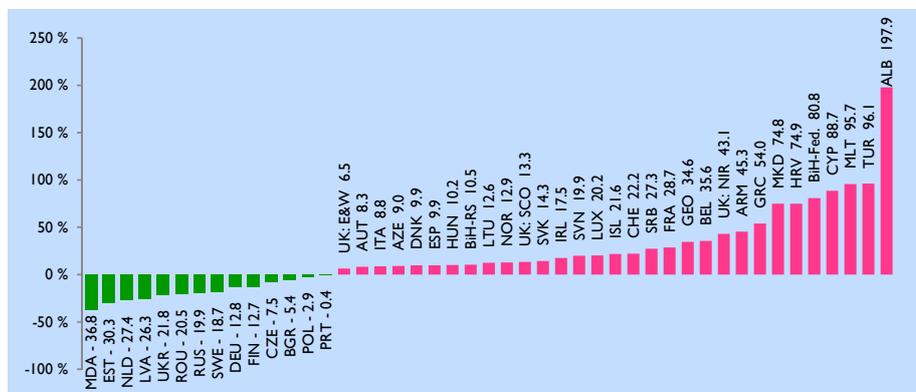


Figure 1: Evolution of prison population rates between 2003 and 2013

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Inmates' characteristics (median and average values)

Juveniles: 0.6% (0.9%)

Young adults (18 to less than 21 years): 3.6% (4.4%)

Median age: 34 years / Average age: 35 years

Females: 4.7% (5.6%)

Foreigners: 14.9% (23.5%)

Dangerous offenders: 0.8% (2.1%)

The most often sentenced for drug offences: 17.8% (17.0%)

The most common length of sentences: from 1 to less than 3 years: 23.1% (24.0%)

Custodial Features

Overcrowding: European prisons are still full (96% of their capacities were used in 2013).

Turnover Ratio* during 2012: 57% (annually 1/3 more people are entering prisons than people who are released from prisons).

* a low turnover ratio may lead to further overcrowding

Mortality in 2012: 28 deaths per 10,000 inmates (↑ compared to 2011: 26)

Suicide rate in 2012: 5 suicides per 10,000 inmates (↓ compared to 2011: 7). Suicides represented 23% / 17% of all deaths.

Amount of money spent per inmate/day in 2012: 42€ (median) or 97€ (average).

Escapes: 1 escape per 10,000 inmates in 2012.

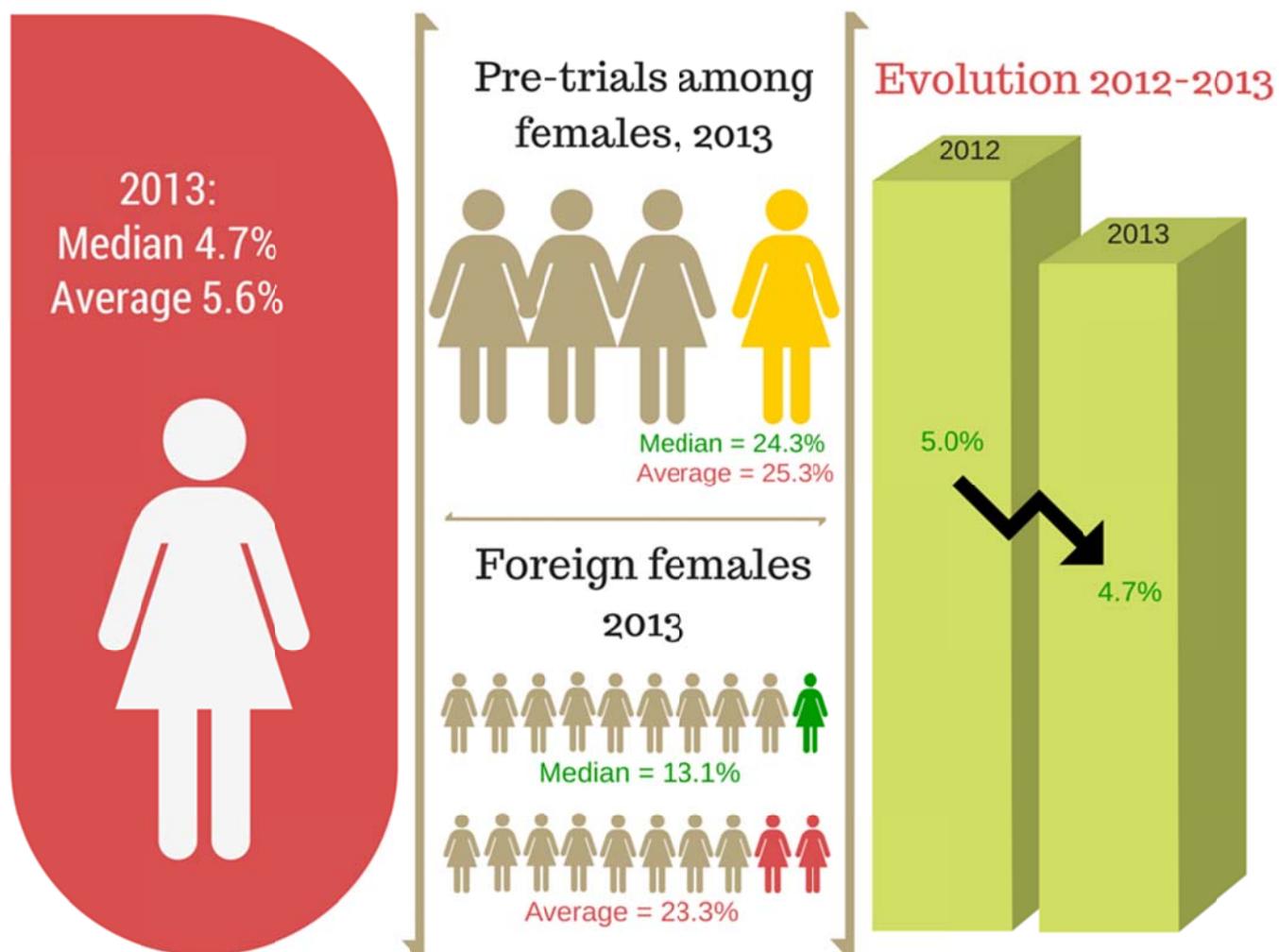
In 2013: 3 inmates per one custodial staff member (median) & 16 inmates per other member of staff (e.g. medical staff, teachers, psychologists, social workers).

94% of all staff employed by Prison Administrations work inside penal institutions.

2. Special groups of inmates

The main categories of special custodial populations studied in **SPACE I** are: females (Table 3.1 in the SPACE I 2013 report), foreigners (Tables 4 & 4.a, SPACE I 2013) and juvenile offenders (Tables, 2.1, 2.2, SPACE I 2013).

2.1. Females in 2013 (*median* and *average* values)



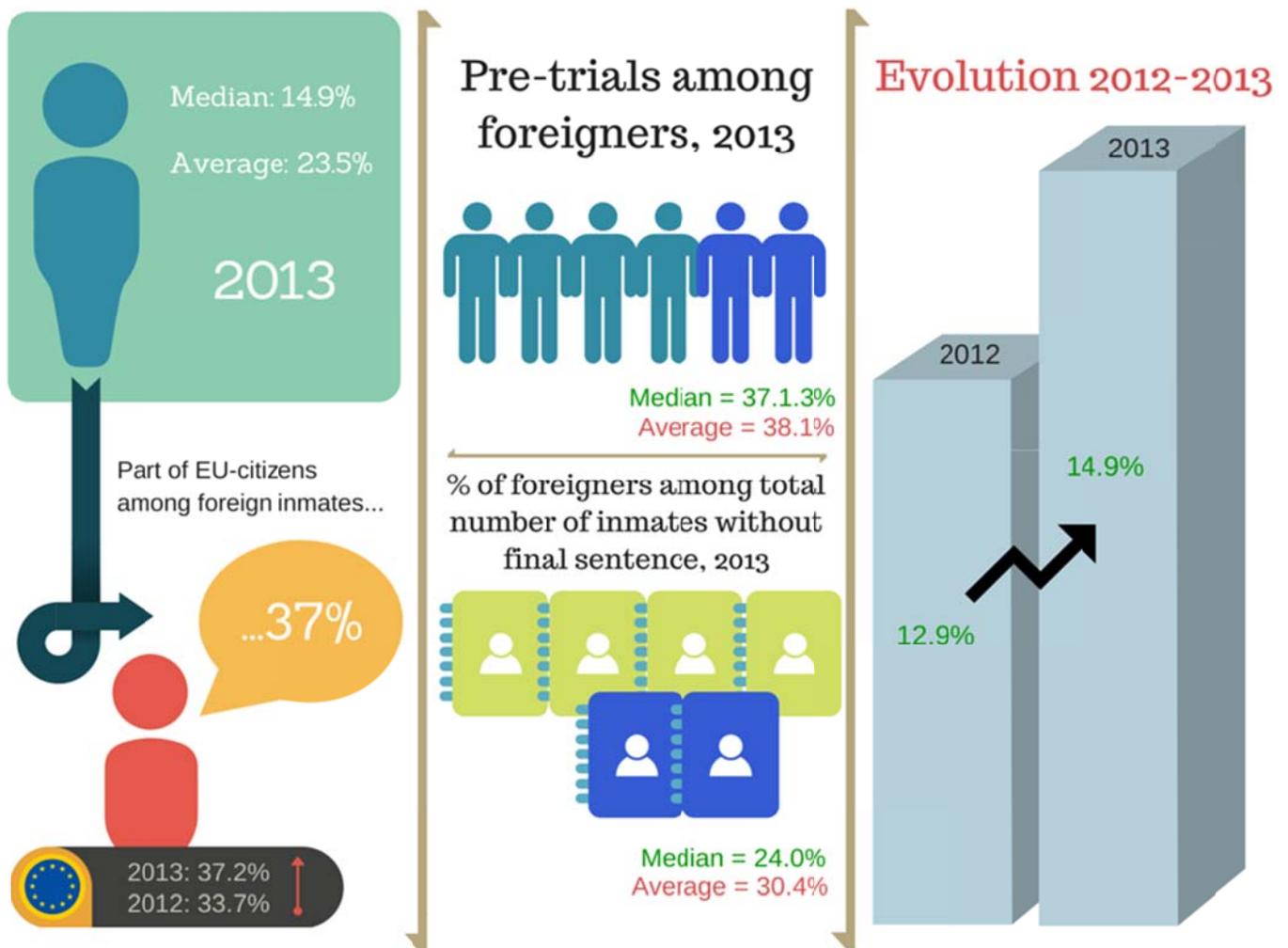
Generally, females constitute a relatively small part of the prison population. Nevertheless, there are several countries (Russia [8.3%], Spain [7.6%], Cyprus [7.6%], Hungary [7.5%], Finland [7.3%], and Malta [7.3%]) where female inmates are overrepresented (more than 7% of the whole prison population).

The proportion of female inmates slightly decreased between 2012 and 2013 passing from 5.0% to 4.7%. This decrease was observed using median values. When average values are analysed, the visible trend is relative stability (2012: 5.4% / 2013: 5.6%).

Another important issue in the evolution of female inmates is the increase of the proportion of foreign females. In 2012, they represented **11.3%** (18.9%) and in 2013 the percentage of these inmates reached **13.1%** (23.3%).

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2.2 Foreigners in 2013 (median and average values)



In the majority of Central and Eastern European countries, the proportion of foreign⁹ inmates does not exceed 10%, while in Southern and Western Europe they are overrepresented and their percentages vary roughly from 30 to 90% of the total prison population (see Figure 2). Over the last 10 years, the proportion of foreign inmates in European prisons has been growing (mostly in Southern and Western European countries).

The proportion of EU-citizens among foreign inmates across Europe represented **37.2%** (37.4%). This category of foreign inmates has increased during the past three years.

In 2013, only five countries included illegal aliens held for administrative reasons in their total prison population. The proportion of these inmates in the total number of prisoners was **0.6%** (1.6%).

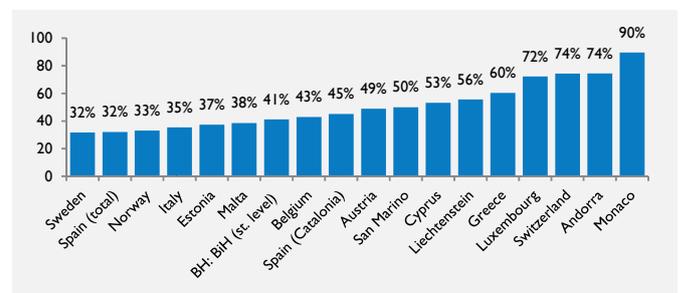


Figure 2: Highest % of foreign inmates in the total prison population on 1st Sept. 2013

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2.3. Juvenile offenders in 2013

Many countries have separate administrations that deal with juvenile inmates (i.e. people aged under 18). This means that these people are not included in the total prison population. In those national administrations that include them, they represented in 2013 **less than 1%** of the prison population.

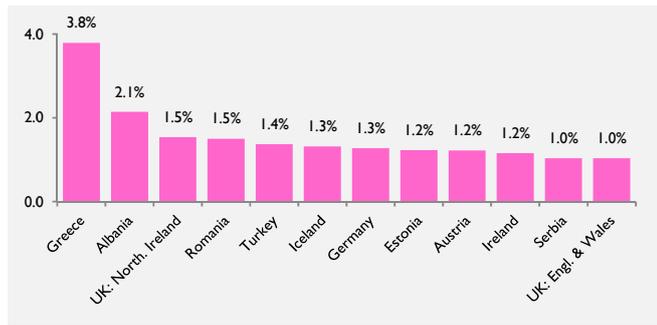


Figure 3: Highest % of juvenile inmates in the total prison population on 1st Sept. 2013

3. Main characteristics of custodial sentences

In 2013, inmates with final sentences represent about 75% of the total European prison population. This indicator has remained relatively stable compared to 2012.

3.1. Type of offences in 2013 (median values)

On 1 September 2013, drug offences were the main type of offence for which the largest part of prisoners was serving their final custodial sentences (see Figure 3). The proportion of this type of inmates increased between 2012 and 2013, rising from **16.7%** to **17.8%**.

The second biggest group consisted of inmates sentenced for theft. The proportion of these inmates in custody decreased from **17.1%** in 2012 to **15.9%** in 2013.

Robbery (**13.5%**) and homicide (**11.6%**) are the third and fourth largest groups of offences.

Concerning the group "other" (**16.9%**), it generally includes fine-defaulters, persons

sentenced for misdemeanours and other less serious forms of criminal offences as well as administrative offences.

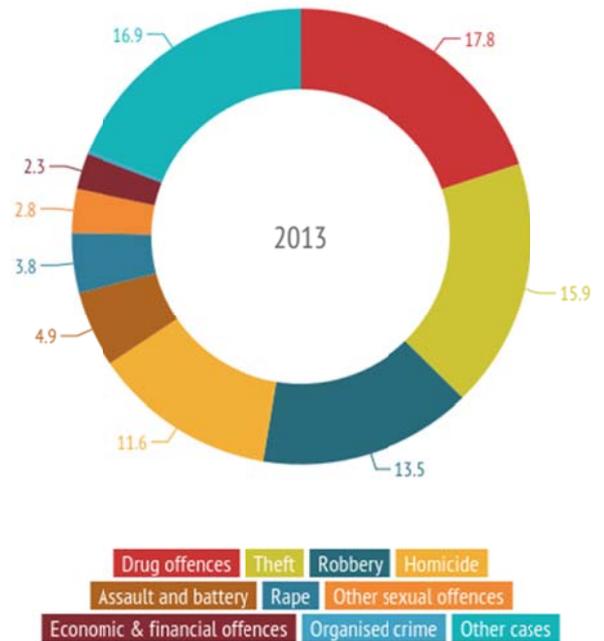


Figure 3: Breakdown (%) of sentenced inmates by main types of offences on 1st Sept. 2013

In 2013, the proportion of inmates sentenced for drug offences represented more than 20% mainly in Southern European countries and those countries than may be seen as maritime entries of the European area (see Figure 4).

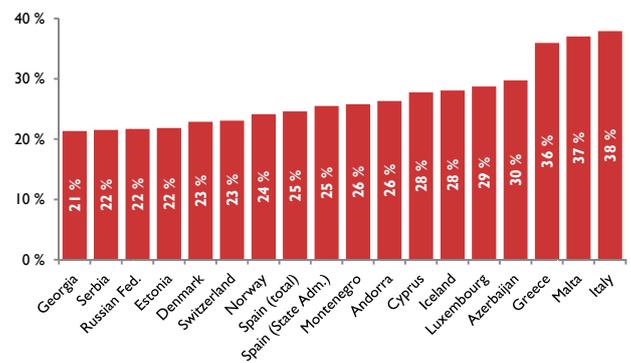


Figure 4: Highest % of inmates serving sentences for drug offences on 1st Sept. 2013

The part of drug offenders has grown over the last ten years and, for the first time in 2013, it became the largest category of all offences registered among the sentenced prison population. Moreover, when comparisons are

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based on the rates per 100,000 inhabitants, we can see that the median rate of drug offenders slightly increased from 12.5 to 13.3 prisoners per 100,000 inhabitants between 2012 and 2013.

Countries that experienced the highest rates (more than 30 per 100,000 inhabitants) in 2013 are: Russia [85], Azerbaijan [53], Estonia [41], Malta [39], Georgia [36], Greece [33], Montenegro [32], Lithuania [32], and Spain [31].

In 2013, the highest proportions of those sentenced for theft (more than 20%) were found mainly in Central and Eastern European countries (see Figure 5). This distribution is relatively similar to the one observed in 2012.

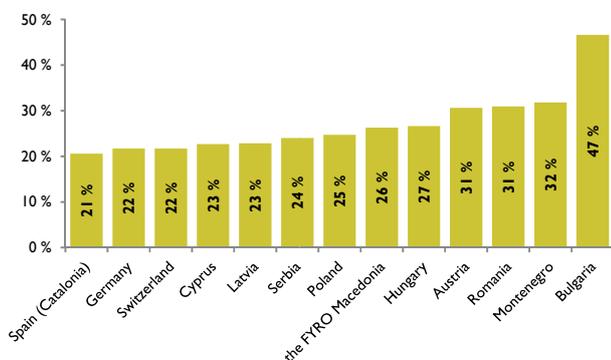


Figure 5: Highest % of inmates serving sentences for theft on 1st September 2013

Between 2012 and 2013, the percentage of prisoners sentenced for theft slightly decreased among persons serving final custodial sentences. However, when theft and robbery are analysed together, these two groups of inmates represent by far the largest category of sentenced inmates (around 30%).

The rate of inmates sentenced for theft per 100,000 inhabitants has decreased as well (14.8 in 2012, and 13.1 in 2013).

Countries that experienced the highest rates (more than 30 per 100,000 inhabitants) in 2013 are: Lithuania [57], Bulgaria [52], Poland [47], Romania [46], Latvia [42], Montenegro [40], Azerbaijan [34], Hungary [34], and Georgia [30].

3.2. Length of sentences in 2013 (median values)

On 1 September 2013, 23% of inmates were serving custodial sentences from 1 year to less than 3 years. It is the largest category of sentenced inmates in European prisons (see Figure 6).

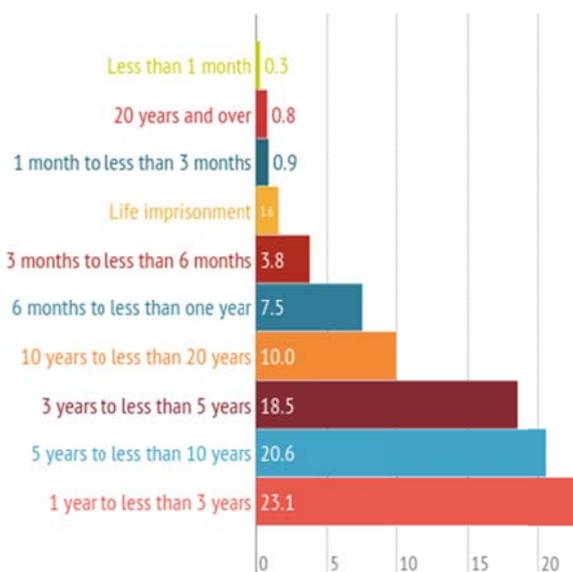


Figure 6: Breakdown (%) of sentenced prisoners by length of sentences on 1st Sept. 2013

When all short sentences (i.e. less than 1 year) are cumulated, the proportion of inmates who were serving such terms in 2013 was relatively high (13%). However, the proportion of these sentences has slightly decreased compared to 2012 (15%). From a Council of Europe perspective, these prison terms could be replaced by non-custodial community alternatives.

On the other hand, in 2013, very long custodial terms (10 years and over, as well as life custody and security measures) represented 13% of all sentenced prisoners. This proportion has slightly increased compared to 2012 (12%).

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4. Prison Management in 2012

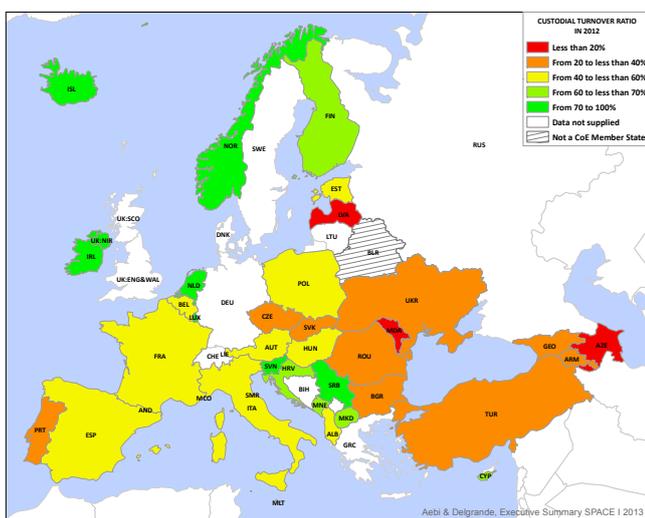
Part B of the SPACE I 2013 report includes 11 tables related to the activity of Prison Administrations.

4.1. Custodial flow of entries and releases (median values)

Entries: During the year 2012, **164** persons per 100,000 inhabitants entered into penal institutions. This rate is lower than in 2011 (**170**). The decrease is even more obvious when the indicator is compared to 2010 (**184**).

Releases: In 2012, a median number of **145** inmates per 100,000 inhabitants were released from custody. A slight positive evolution can be noticed compared to 2011 (**140**).

In order to produce a more complete picture, the estimated turnover ratio¹⁰ (per 100 inmates likely to be released) is calculated for each country. This ratio corresponds to the estimated exit rate per 100 potential exits (based on the number of inmates held in custody). A low turnover ratio (i.e. less than 60%) implies longer periods of custody and could thus be seen as an early warning sign of a risk of prison overcrowding (see Map 2).



Map 2: Geographical distribution of custodial Turnover Ratios in 2012

The decrease in entries did not have any positive influence on the general prison population rates,

which as mentioned before, increased in 2013 compared to 2012 (see Map 1 and “In Brief...”).

Moreover, the geographical concentration of low turnover ratios in the Eastern part of Europe should be monitored closely in the future. If no change occurs, the situation may lead to new waves of overcrowding in this region.

4.2. Expenses per inmate

In 2012, the **average** amount spent for one inmate per day of detention in custody was 97€. This figure, calculated on the basis of information provided by 44 countries, does not take into account differences in the cost of living and other economic indicators across countries (e.g. GDP, purchase power, poverty rate, exchange rate Euro vs. national currency).

Countries with the highest expenses per inmate and per day are generally those with lower prison population rates (see Figure 7¹¹).

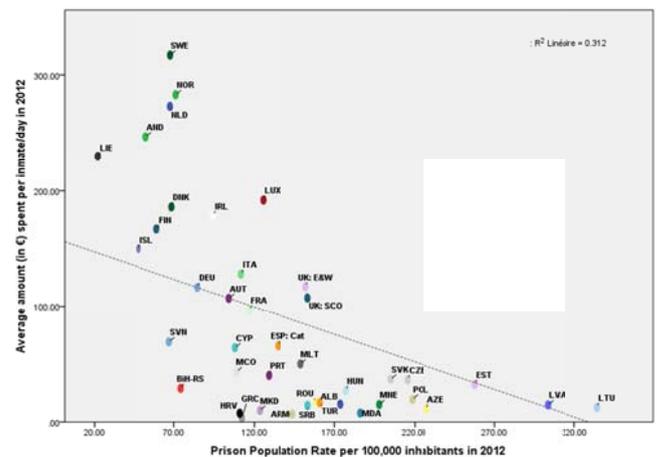


Figure 7: Prison population rates versus amounts spent per inmate/day

37% of all countries that answered this question show very low expenses per inmate (less than 20€ per day). On the contrary, 6 countries spent more than 200€ per inmate/day (Andorra, Liechtenstein, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and San Marino).

In sum, there are big disparities in terms of expenses per inmate across Europe, and these expenses are usually inversely proportional to the prison population rates.

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Synthesis Tables

Table 1: Characteristics of prison populations

Member States	Prison population on 1 st September 2013	Inmates per 100,000 inhabitants	Density per 100 capacity	Median age	% Females	% Foreigners	% Detainees without final sentence(2)	Detainees without final sentence per 100,000 inhabitants	Average length of imprisonment in 2012 (in months)
Albania	4 998	172.4	110.2	25	1.8	1.7	39.5	68.1	14.3
Andorra	47	59.3	32.4	40	12.8	74.5	59.6	35.3	5.5
Armenia	4 698	155.2	106.9	NA	4.5	3.1	23.3	36.2	NA
Austria	8 831	104.5	101.7	34	6.3	48.9	20.5	21.5	9.1
Azerbaijan	20 327	217.3	79.7	NA	2.7	3.0	17.5	38.1	29.4
Belgium	12 697	113.8	134.2	34	4.2	42.9	26.2	29.8	8.1
<i>BH: BiH (total)</i>	2 903	76.6							
BH: BiH (st. level)	17		85.0	43	0.0	41.2	100.0	NA	NA
BH: Fed. BiH	1 883	80.6							
BH: Rep. Srpska	1 003	70.4	73.5	37	1.7	2.9	9.6	6.7	7.1
Bulgaria	8 834	121.3	NA	NA	3.0	2.9	8.8	10.6	20.8
Croatia	4 352	102.1	111.0	36	4.5	6.3	21.7	22.1	4.9
Cyprus	811	93.7	137.7	35	7.6	53.2	41.8	39.2	2.6
Czech Rep.	16 266	154.7	77.7	35	5.6	8.9	13.7	21.3	19.0
Denmark	4 091	73.0	98.6	31	4.6	26.8	37.5	27.4	3.3
Estonia	3 256	246.6	100.0	34	5.0	37.4	23.7	58.6	15.4
Finland	3 126	57.6	100.5	36	7.3	14.9	18.7	10.8	6.3
France	78 363	119.5	117.2	32	3.5	18.4	21.4	25.6	8.8
Georgia	8 868	198.1	41.4	34	3.3	1.8	13.9	27.6	NA
Germany	67 681	84.1	87.6	34	5.7	28.5	16.4	13.8	8.2
Greece	13 238	119.7	133.9	NA	5.2	60.4	23.4	28.1	NA
Hungary	18 313	184.8	144.9	34	7.5	3.5	29.3	54.2	8.8
Iceland	152	47.2	92.1	31	3.3	15.8	8.6	4.0	5.6
Ireland	4 065	88.5	91.2	31	4.0	13.8	14.4	12.8	3.0
Italy	64 835	108.6	148.4	38	4.4	35.3	37.1	40.3	12.6
Latvia	5 205	257.2	65.3	33	6.7	1.3	24.1	61.9	4.9
Liechtenstein	9	24.4	45.0	46	22.2	55.6	22.2	5.4	1.6
Lithuania	9 621	323.7	102.4	31	4.6	1.8	15.0	48.5	13.0
Luxembourg	717	133.5	100.8	34	4.6	72.2	41.6	55.5	9.5
Malta	577	136.9	85.5	37	7.3	38.5	23.2	31.8	10.9
Moldova	6 666	187.3	85.0	33	6.3	0.9	17.7	33.1	5.1
Monaco	29	76.7	37.2	27	24.1	89.7	82.8	63.4	2.8
Montenegro	1 142	183.4	103.8	35	2.3	14.9	31.8	58.3	4.7
Netherlands	10 547	62.9	84.8	33	5.4	22.0	46.3	29.1	3.5
Norway	3 649	72.2	96.3	34	5.1	33.1	29.4	21.2	4.1
Poland	78 994	205.0	81.2	32	3.3	0.7	8.3	17.1	10.6
Portugal	14 284	136.2	117.4	36	6.0	18.5	18.1	24.7	24.7
Romania	33 122	165.4	116.3	32	4.5	0.6	10.9	18.0	25.0
Russian Fed.	681 622	475.0	94.2	34	8.3	4.6	13.8	65.6	NA
San Marino	2	6.4	15.4	53	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	1.3
Serbia	10 031	139.7	109.0	36	4.1	3.5	18.9	26.4	4.9
Slovak Rep.	10 152	187.6	89.8	36	6.2	2.2	12.7	23.8	14.7
Slovenia	1 360	66.1	105.2	41	4.7	10.7	18.8	12.4	4.3
<i>Spain (total)</i>	68 099	145.7	87.4	37	7.6	32.1	14.5	21.1	16.0
Spain (State Adm.)	58 089	148.0	86.9	38	7.8	29.8	14.1	20.9	15.8
Spain (Catalonia)	10 010	133.8	90.7	36	6.7	45.1	16.9	22.6	16.8
Sweden	5 868	61.4	89.1	35	5.8	31.6	25.4	15.6	2.0
Switzerland	7 072	88.0	100.3	NA	5.2	74.3	40.6	35.7	NA
the FYRO Macedonia	2 846	138.0	124.1	32	3.0	3.2	19.1	26.4	12.9
Turkey	136 147	180.0	89.9	NA	3.6	1.8	49.6	89.2	7.0
Ukraine	147 112	324.2							
UK: Engl. & Wales	83 842	147.2	95.5	32	4.6	13.9	13.1	19.3	9.2
UK: North. Ireland	1 822	99.6	93.3	31	3.5	7.2	31.9	31.8	3.4
UK: Scotland	7 928	148.8	105.4	NA	5.8	3.7	19.0	28.3	NA
<i>Average</i>		138.9	94.2	34.9	5.6	23.5	25.8	31.0	9.4
<i>Median</i>		133.5	95.5	34.0	4.7	14.9	21.0	27.4	8.1
<i>Minimum</i>		6.4	15.4	25.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	1.3
<i>Maximum</i>		475.0	148.4	53.0	24.1	89.7	100.0	89.2	29.4

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Table 2: Inmates under custodial sentences

Member States	Length of sentences (%s of final sentenced inmates)				Most common offences (%s of final sentenced inmates)			
	Less than 1 year	1y to less than 3 years	3y to less than 10 years	10 years and more (incl. life custody)	Drug offences	Theft	Robbery	Homicide (incl. attempts)
Albania	9.1	9.7	54.5	26.7	19.6	11.9	12.4	38.4
Andorra	26.3	26.3	26.3	21.1	26.3	0.0	15.8	15.8
Armenia	2.2	15.0	69.0	13.8	NA	NA	NA	NA
Austria	19.8	33.8	37.4	9.0	15.8	30.6	16.0	5.9
Azerbaijan	9.3		78.4	12.3	29.7	19.1	5.4	13.3
Belgium	5.7	15.6	58.4	20.2	NA	NA	NA	NA
<i>BH: BiH (total)</i>								
BH: BiH (st. level)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
BH: Fed. BiH								
BH: Rep. Srpska	13.6	19.0	37.3	30.2	12.1	2.9	27.7	18.5
Bulgaria	31.4	31.9	24.8	12.0	6.3	46.6	17.7	11.6
Croatia	13.3	34.3	36.9	15.5	17.5	18.8	12.7	12.5
Cyprus	19.3	21.0	37.7	22.0	27.8	22.7	5.9	11.2
Czech Rep.	10.3	46.9	33.6	9.2	NA	NA	NA	NA
Denmark	33.2	31.7	22.7	11.7	22.9	14.2	11.3	7.9
Estonia	12.1	24.6	49.1	14.3	21.8	15.8	17.6	21.5
Finland	17.1	32.0	35.9	15.0	18.4	10.2	7.2	23.6
France	36.6	30.2	20.6	12.6	14.1	19.1		5.6
Georgia	14.2	20.0	55.0	10.8	21.4	17.8	8.1	10.2
Germany	43.8	19.8	31.6	4.8	13.5	21.7	13.0	7.3
Greece	5.9	3.0	41.3	47.8	35.9	NA	NA	NA
Hungary	14.4	36.1	39.6	9.9	2.9	26.6	20.0	10.1
Iceland	18.7	36.7	33.1	11.5	28.1	9.4	4.3	13.7
Ireland	10.2	23.7	48.5	17.6	18.0	17.1	3.4	12.1
Italy	5.7	20.4	50.5	23.4	37.9	5.2	14.7	16.3
Latvia	5.3	18.5	58.4	17.8	12.4	22.9	30.6	14.0
Liechtenstein	0.0	16.7	66.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7
Lithuania	7.3	25.8	47.6	19.3	11.1	19.9	14.9	22.8
Luxembourg	8.5	32.6	36.2	21.0	28.7	15.9	11.1	14.3
Malta	11.7	21.7	34.3	32.3	37.0	0.0	28.4	10.2
Moldova	1.2	9.6	50.3	37.4	5.5	11.5	7.9	25.2
Monaco	60.0	0.0	20.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Montenegro	15.8	22.7	54.2	7.3	25.8	31.8	0.8	7.1
Netherlands	44.3	23.0	21.7	8.4	14.7	12.4	15.2	14.3
Norway	37.5	28.5	25.3	8.7	24.1	9.3	6.7	6.6
Poland	26.7	43.7	19.4	6.6	3.1	24.7	15.6	6.8
Portugal	6.8	14.5	54.6	19.3	19.6	12.0	13.4	9.1
Romania	2.7	23.1	55.7	18.4	4.0	31.0	17.9	19.1
Russian Fed.	3.0	19.8	60.3	16.9	21.7	NA	23.9	27.6
San Marino	0.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Serbia	18.5	28.9	40.0	12.6	21.5	24.0	14.5	10.2
Slovak Rep.	22.6	28.5	39.2	9.7	11.3	16.8	15.6	6.7
Slovenia	13.0	32.9	41.7	12.4	14.6	12.9	19.1	10.7
<i>Spain (total)</i>	8.3	20.4	51.2	20.0	24.6	4.4	30.7	7.7
Spain (State Adm.)	8.4	21.1	50.6	19.8	25.5	1.7	31.7	7.5
Spain (Catalonia)	7.5	16.1	54.6	21.8	19.2	20.6	24.5	8.6
Sweden	21.8	32.7	33.5	12.0	19.6	7.7	10.0	12.9
Switzerland	36.9	21.5	22.4	9.5	23.1	21.7	8.7	11.6
the FYRO Macedonia	14.6	26.9	45.6	12.9	15.6	26.3	16.3	10.4
Turkey	40.0	23.2	31.1	5.6	12.2	19.1	13.5	19.4
Ukraine								
UK: Engl. & Wales	9.4	21.7	34.6	25.6	14.4	16.3	12.5	10.5
UK: North. Ireland	13.9	23.6	38.0	24.2	5.6	13.2	14.0	13.8
UK: Scotland	21.7	15.1	43.9	19.3	NA	NA	NA	NA
<i>Average</i>	16.6	24.0	41.0	15.8	17.0	15.5	13.2	12.7
<i>Median</i>	13.4	23.1	39.4	14.0	17.8	16.1	13.4	11.6
<i>Minimum</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Maximum</i>	60.0	50.0	78.4	47.8	37.9	46.6	31.7	38.4

* The median is less affected than the average by the extreme values included in a dataset. Therefore, the medians are more reliable than the average values. Consequently, the use of median values is recommended.

Table 3: Life in custody

Member States	Mortality rate per 10,000 inmates (2012)	Suicide rate per 10,000 inmates (2012)	Average daily expense per inmate [in €] (2012)	Number of inmates per one custodian on 1 st Sept. 2013
Albania	16.4	0.0	15.25 €	1.8
Andorra	243.9	243.9	246.81 €	0.8
Armenia	59.4	6.4	6.65 €	3.6
Austria	37.7	13.7	107.00 €	3.0
Azerbaijan	63.2	1.9	11.06 €	6.2
Belgium	42.2	10.6	NA	NA
<i>BH: BiH (total)</i>				
BH: BiH (st. level)	NA	NA	NA	NA
BH: Fed. BiH				
BH: Rep. Srpska	84.7	0.0	29.00 €	2.1
Bulgaria	30.0	3.8	NA	2.5
Croatia	27.4	2.1	7.52 €	2.6
Cyprus	0.0	0.0	64.00 €	1.5
Czech Rep.	21.6	7.1	36.40 €	8.7
Denmark	13.1	10.4	186.00 €	1.6
Estonia	14.6	0.0	32.28 €	4.6
Finland	12.5	6.3	167.00 €	2.3
France	24.9	14.4	96.77 €	2.7
Georgia	28.4	0.4	6.52 €	NA
Germany	17.2	8.2	116.37 €	2.5
Greece	20.8	NA	3.20 €	3.2
Hungary	31.3	4.5	27.00 €	2.8
Iceland	65.8	0.0	150.00 €	2.0
Ireland	11.6	2.3	179.00 €	1.5
Italy	23.1	8.5	128.01 €	1.7
Latvia	50.0	11.3	14.71 €	3.0
Liechtenstein	0.0	0.0	230.00 €	0.6
Lithuania	34.9	5.0	12.52 €	4.9
Luxembourg	45.5	30.3	191.89 €	2.4
Malta	16.1	0.0	50.00 €	3.1
Moldova	46.8	7.6	7.65 €	7.8
Monaco	0.0	0.0	43.17 €	0.9
Montenegro	32.5	8.1	15.00 €	8.9
Netherlands	22.1	8.8	273.00 €	1.6
Norway	16.9	11.3	283.00 €	1.5
Poland	12.7	2.1	19.28 €	5.0
Portugal	48.5	11.8	40.10 €	3.3
Romania	36.1	6.9	17.49 €	7.8
Russian Fed.	57.5	NA	2.17 €	11.3
San Marino	0.0	0.0	685.00 €	0.4
Serbia	81.3	6.3	14.18 €	4.2
Slovak Rep.	20.8	5.4	36.75 €	12.9
Slovenia	43.6	21.8	69.00 €	2.6
<i>Spain (total)</i>	27.4	4.3	53.34 €	3.7
Spain (State Adm.)	24.7	4.2	NA	3.8
Spain (Catalonia)	43.1	4.9	65.72 €	3.1
Sweden	24.9	10.9	317.00 €	1.4
Switzerland	43.9	13.6	NA	NA
the FYRO Macedonia	31.5	0.0	10.00 €	5.4
Turkey	28.7	3.2	16.65 €	4.2
Ukraine				
UK: Engl. & Wales	22.3	7.0	117.00 €	3.2
UK: North. Ireland	39.3	0.0	NA	1.4
UK: Scotland	22.1	1.2	107.36 €	2.9
<i>Average</i>	35.4	11.2	96.7 €	3.6
<i>Median</i>	28.4	5.4	41.6 €	2.8
<i>Minimum</i>	0.0	0.0	2.2 €	0.4
<i>Maximum</i>	243.9	243.9	685.0 €	12.9

NB: See the relevant notes and comments in the SPACE / 2013 report!

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Special thematic file...

Economic crisis and prison realities across Europe between 2007 and 2013

Background: According to traditional criminological theories, an economic crisis may coincide with an increase of the prison population rates and a change in the profile of inmates held in custody. Importantly, a decrease in expenses for custody may occur as another visible effect of the crisis.

Relevant results: Between 2007 and 2013, the prison population rates increased by about 2.7%¹² across Europe. Nevertheless, big differences in the evolution of national inputs were observed. For example, Turkey, Armenia, Italy, Lithuania, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Iceland, Greece, Hungary, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Belgium, and Ireland increased their prison population rates by more than 20%. On the other hand, Georgia, Russia, Netherlands, Moldova, Sweden, Finland, and Czech Republic reduced them by more than 15%. Undoubtedly, the countries that were the most affected by the negative consequences of the European financial crisis have not succeeded in reducing or at least stabilising their prison population rates.

The expected increase of the proportions of foreign inmates in the Euro-zone occurred only in 8 out of 19 countries. The general evolution trend for this type of inmates in the total prison populations of the group of Euro-zone countries is - 0.8%.

Drug offences: According to some researchers, during a period of crisis and recession some forms of criminality may move up the table of traditional categories of crime. In the case of the European prison population, a change was observed in inmates sentenced for drug offences.

Between 2007 and 2013, the proportion of the inmates sentenced for drug offences increased constantly. The proportion of this type of prisoners reached its maximum point in 2013, when they represented 18.8%¹³ of the total number of the sentenced prisoners. As shown in Figure 8, during the six year period, the part of drug offenders among sentenced inmates added more than 2% to the initial value observed in 2007.



Figure 8: Evolution between 2007 and 2013 of proportions of prisoners sentenced for drug offences (median %)

Countries¹⁴ with highest proportions of drug offenders among their sentenced inmates in 2013 were: Italy [38%], Malta [37%], Greece [36%], Azerbaijan [30%], Luxembourg [29%], Iceland [28%], Cyprus [28%], Andorra [26%], Spain-State administration [26%], Norway [24%], Switzerland [23%], Denmark [23%], Estonia [22%], and Serbia [22%]. Only half of these countries have experienced the hard consequences of the economic crisis. Therefore, the argument linking this increase to a difficult economic situation cannot be taken as the only explanation of the overrepresentation of this type of inmates in custody.

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Finally, countries that in 2007 had very large proportions of drug offenders (e.g. Greece [63%], Norway [39%]) have visibly reduced them among their sentenced prisoners. This observation could imply that the policies undertaken in each country have had an impact on the structure of the prison population regardless of the crisis.

Expenses: The analysis of recent trends for the period lasting from 2007 to 2012 shows that the expenses per inmate held in custody have remained relatively stable in spite of the crisis. The median values for all Member States of the CoE were: 2007: **53.4€** per inmate and per day; 2008: **43.1€**, 2009: **51.0€**, 2010: **50.0€**, 2011: **47.8€**, and 2012: **41.6€**. The average values were: 2007: **99.1€** per inmate and per day, 2008: **94.3€**, 2009: **99.6€**, 2010: **93.2€**, 2011: **94.4€**, and 2012: **96.7€**.

Since other parameters such as national GDP, current prices, purchase power, etc., have fluctuated during this period we tested whether the expenses per inmate in Europe have remained stable or whether they have actually decreased.

In order to produce a more reliable picture of custodial expenses, we adjusted the average amount spent per day of detention for one inmate by the *purchasing power parities* [PPP¹⁵] indicator.

Adjusted and non-adjusted median trends for 33 countries¹⁶ are presented in Figure 9. From the brief analysis presented here we can conclude there is a general decrease in the expenses made per inmate. In spite of the visible increase in raw values, the real situation becomes a matter of concern if we consider the purchasing power and the Euro indexation in the equation.

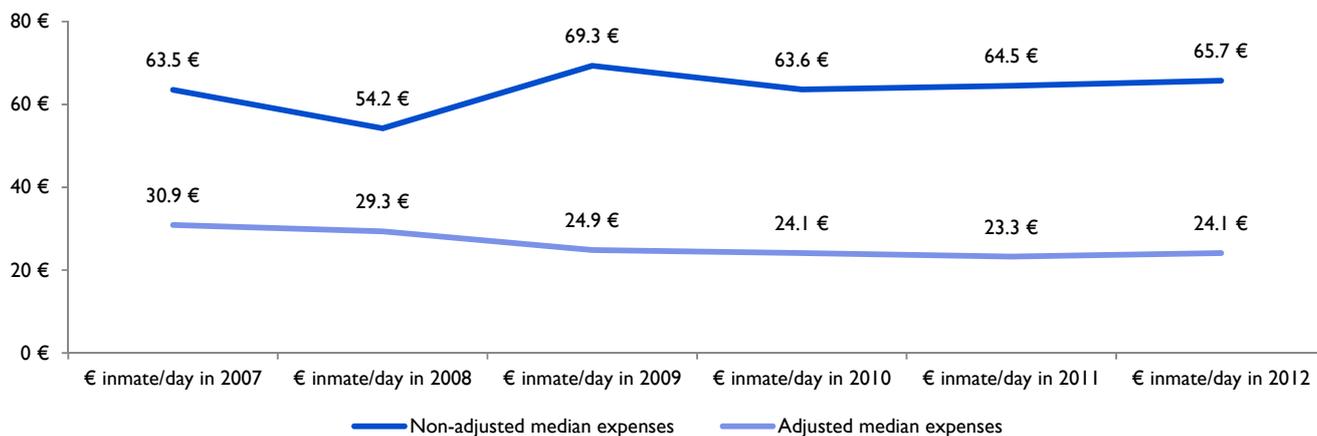


Figure 9: Evolution between 2007 and 2012 of median expenses per day of detention of one inmate

When we take into account the increase in the prison population rates that has occurred in some European countries during this time, it is likely that there has been a negative impact on the quality of life in custody. There are only a few countries that have increased the expenses per inmate. And, generally speaking, these countries are mainly those that have been less affected by the consequences of the crisis (e.g. Nordic countries without Iceland).

Discussion: The analysis of recent trends for the period lasting from 2007 to 2013 shows a small change in the structure of custodial populations across Europe. The fact that drug offenders have become the largest category of sentenced inmates in European prisons implies a change in the traditionally dominant categories (i.e. theft). Furthermore, the increase in the proportion of foreign inmates may lead to a change in the standpoint of rehabilitation programmes. Finally, as a consequence of the crisis, there has been a depreciation in the amount of money spent per inmate/day in custody in the majority of European countries.

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SPACE I 2013

MAIN INDICATORS

European prisons are full...



96 inmates per 100 available places in custody.



Time spent in prison is long...



Median time of imprisonment did not change between 2011 and 2012 = 8 months

- Short prison terms in 2013 still represented 13% of all sentenced inmates; no significant change compared to previous years.

Deaths in custody are recurrent...



Suicides 2012 = 5 per 10,000 inmates
Mortality 2012 = 28 per 10,000 inmates



SPACE team news...

During the year 2014, the SPACE group:

- Welcomed new colleague, Julien Chopin, who replaced Yann Marguet. We are very thankful to Yann for his professionalism, humor, and amazing critical approach to international research. And we wish all the best to Julien!
- Designed the SPACE logo.
- Used, for the 2nd consecutive year, the system of annual modules. In 2014, the SPACE I annual module was on "Foreign inmates".
- Improved the quality of the SPACE Website ([data on main custodial indicators updated as they arrived](#), [new information on recidivism studies](#), [SPACE news](#)).
- Made four presentations at international conferences ([CoE annual Conference of Directors of Prison Administration](#), [European Society of Criminology](#), [CEP 1st Conference on community sanctions in Central and East European countries](#), and [Meeting of the European Committee on Crime Problems \[CDPC\]](#)).
- Cooperated with international experts on the methodological aspects of the project. We are very thankful to Roy Walmsley, Andrew Coyle, Elias Carranza, Tapio Lappi-Seppala, and Dirk Van Zyl Smit for their precious advices on SPACE.
- Contributed with thematic responses to national administrations and regional and international media.

We owe a particular debt of gratitude to Ilina Taneva and Christine Coleur, as well as to Roy Walmsley and our colleagues from CoE and University of Lausanne for their support to SPACE.

General Summary

Between 2012 and 2013, there were several minor changes in prison populations across Europe. Some positive and negative changes have been summarized below.

Positive:

- Slight decrease in the number of inmates per available capacity in penal institutions.
- Increase in the amount spent per day of detention on each inmate in custody.
- Decrease in the number of entries into penal institutions.
- Minor improvement of the custodial turnover ratio in Western European countries.
- Stabilisation of the average length of stay in custody (\approx 8 months).

Negative:

- Slight increase in mortality rates.
- Increase in the number of foreign inmates held in custody (mainly in pre-trial detention and those who are EU citizens).
- Increase in the proportion of inmates who were serving sentences in custody for drug offences. This type of offences has outplaced the traditionally dominant theft.

The SPACE team is extremely thankful to all national correspondents who collect, discuss, validate, and explain national figures. It is their contribution that makes SPACE possible.

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Additional explanatory notes

¹ When data on 1st September 2012/13 were not available, the member States were asked to use the closest possible date of reference. The exceptions are expressly stated in the relevant notes to the Tables of the SPACE I 2012 and 2013 reports.

² The Bulgarian inputs for 2012 were recalculated. This adjustment was necessary because in 2012 the Bulgarian authorities were including persons held in investigative detention facilities. In 2013, they changed their counting rule and this type of inmates is no longer included in the total prison population. Therefore, in the 2012 stock used for the executive summary, there are 1,170 persons fewer than in the official SPACE I 2012 report.

³ Figures from the Federal level of Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as for Ukraine were retrieved from the SPACE Website (<http://www3.unil.ch/wpmu/space/space-i/prison-stock-2013-2014/>). These two entities did not participate in the SPACE I 2013 survey and, therefore, their figures were added to the executive summary in order to keep total European figures comparable.

⁴ Countries that faced overcrowding in 2012 and continued to have the same problem in 2013 are: Italy, Hungary, Cyprus, Belgium, Greece, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Portugal, France, Romania, Croatia, Albania, Serbia, Armenia, UK: Scotland, Slovenia, Montenegro, Lithuania, Austria, and Finland. These countries are listed here in descending order from the most serious to low-limit overcrowding. Countries that were able to reduce their overcrowding between 2012 and 2013 are: Slovak Republic (from 103 inmates per 100 places down to 90 inmates per 100 places), Czech Republic (down from 106 to 78), and the biggest decrease was observed in Georgia (from 101 to 41).

⁵ Countries with more than 110 inmates per 100 places were considered here as being the most overcrowded.

⁶ Comparisons of prison overcrowding should be conducted cautiously as the rules for establishing the capacity of penal institutions vary from country to country (e.g. some countries use the *design* capacity of their penal institutions and other use the *operational* capacity). Nevertheless, for the countries that experienced the most acute problem of overcrowding the rules applied for the calculation of their capacities are quite similar: the application of the legal standard of minimal surface area per inmate and the real number of useable places of detention at a given date in the year. As a consequence, we can state that the countries listed as having a problem of overcrowding really do correspond to the expected calculation of that indicator.

⁷ The accurate amounts of expenditures are available for 44 out of 52 European Prison Administrations. The sum presented in this executive summary corresponds to the sum calculated on the basis of available information. Accurate data were missing for: Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Poland, San Marino, Switzerland, and Ukraine. Several differences in the rule for calculating the average amounts by countries were explained and are available in the notes to Tables 14 and 14.A of the SPACE I 2013 report.

⁸ The largest group of inmates among the sentenced prison population includes prisoners serving sentences from 1 to less than 3 years (average = 24%; median = 23%). The group of sentences from 5 to less than 10 years occupies the second position (average = 22%; median = 21%). In 3rd position comes the sentences from 3 to less than 5 years (average = 19%; median = 19%), followed very closely by the short sentences of less than 1 year (average = 17%; median = 13%). In 5th position is the group of inmates serving from 10 to less than 20 years (average = 11%; median = 10%), in 6th position is life imprisonment (average = 3%; median = 2%), in 7th position are sentences of 20 years and more (average = 2%; median = 1%). The rank is closed by "other" sentences [e.g. misdemeanor] (average = 1%; median = 0%), and in 10th position are security measures (average = 1%; median = 0%).

⁹ As a rule, the definition of "foreigner" corresponds to a person without the nationality of the country where he/she is imprisoned. This includes both persons who do not have their legal residence in that country and persons who have a regular permanent resident permit.

¹⁰ For more details on Custodial Turnover ratios, see Part B (pp. 122-133) of SPACE I 2013 report.

¹¹ Two extreme values were excluded from Figure 7 in order to allow accurate visibility of other European values in 2012. Excluded countries are: Russia with the lowest expenses [2€ inmate/day] but highest prison population rate [502 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants] and San Marino with the highest expenses [685€ inmate/day] but a very low prison population rate [3 inmates per 100,000 inhabitants].

¹² The calculated value corresponds to the median percentage of increase between 2007 and 2013 calculated for 49 countries.

¹³ In this analysis 37 countries are included for which the series of the numbers of inmates sentenced for drug offences were available. Therefore, the calculated median values presented in Figure 8 are slightly different from the European median values presented in the SPACE annual report (2007-2013).

¹⁴ In the list presented here countries with more than 20% of drug offenders among sentenced prison population are included. All percentages are calculated on the basis of the application of the so-called "main offence rule". This means that for these inmates the offence related to drugs was the gravest one in the final sentence imposed by the court.

¹⁵ Purchasing power parities (PPPs) on the basis of EU28=1 for Gross Domestic Product was applied to adjust the daily custodial expenses in each country. The information on the PPP was retrieved from the Eurostat dataset "Purchasing power parities (PPPs), price level indices and real expenditures for ESA2010 aggregates [prc_ppp_ind]". As the information was not available for all countries and all years of the period, 33 out of 52 entities were included in the comparison.

¹⁶ Countries included in the model are: Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the FYRO Macedonia, Turkey, UK: England and Wales, UK: Northern Ireland, and UK: Scotland.

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