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Programmes of Occupational Activation of Prisoners Realised in Poland – Specific Character, Significance and Review of Selected Examples

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Programmes of Occupational Activation of Prisoners Realised in Poland – Specific Character, Significance and Review of Selected Examples

Kalinių darbinio aktyvumo skatinimo programos Lenkijoje: atvejų apžvalga

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Abstract



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The article presents programmes of convicts' occupational activation that are realised in Poland, their specific character and significance discussed on the selected examples. The programmes are often of original character, and they are realised in penitentiary institutions. The projects aim to prepare prisoners for life after they leave prisons and for looking for employment efficiently. It is important for convicts to regain a sense of control over their life. Employment prevents them from returning to prison, provides sufficient financial means and contributes to regaining a sense of social usefulness and individual value. Making an effort to provide innovative solutions for occupational activation of prisoners may bring a number of benefits for convicts and for the whole society. The value of applied solutions may be defined not only from the emotional, family and social points of view, but also regarding the economic aspect.

Employment and realisation of professional activities determine the quality of life, one's own place in the society and a place in the canon of particular values. Unemployment brings about serious social, psychological and economic consequences. It causes life destabilization, it lowers living standards and it is destructive for self-esteem in individual and social aspects.

Unemployment negatively affects life conditions, and it leads to social exclusion. These observations particularly refer to convicts who are serving long-term sentences of imprisonment. One day prisoners will leave prisons and will be free again. The lack of possibilities to find work may lead them back to prisons. People who leave penitentiary institutions belong to a highly disadvantaged group on the labour market. There are various factors which decide about the membership in such a group and which make it difficult for these people to find and start work.

At present, there are about 80 000 prisoners who are serving imprisonment sentences in Polish penitentiary institutions. At the end of 2014 the exact number was 77 371. The average time period of punishment sentenced by the court, without life imprisonment and 25 years of imprisonment, was 33.11 months. 342 prisoners were serving final and binding sentence of life imprisonment, 12 of whom were women. 1660 prisoners were serving their sentences of 25 years of imprisonment. This group included 51 women (Annual Statistical Information, 2014).

The consequences of law violation are inflicted upon all the citizens. To some extent, as a society, we all have to face economic and psychological consequences of crime. All the activities performed by the psycho-corrective specialists addressed to prisoners focus on preparing them to leave prisons and to live as free citizens. It is worth mentioning that a number of various and innovative solutions are applied in social rehabilitation (resocialisation) practice. In the following text the author presents some selected programmes of occupational activation of convicts. The development and realisation of these projects come as a proof of determination and creativity of their authors; a manifestation of the pursuit for finding corrective activities which would be efficient and significant in the process of resocialisation.

The programmes of resocialisation activities applied in Polish prisons are mostly of an original, authorial character. It may prove the fact that penitentiary staff members are creative and inventive (Froelich, 2008). In Poland about 650 social rehabilitation original programmes are applied.

The problems discussed in this article lead us to the definition of some basic notions connected with these issues. An important notion is social rehabilitation, or resocialisation, understood as activities aiming at reformulation of an individual who is not properly adjusted to living in a society into a person who is well adjusted to the social life (Szczęsny, 2003). It can be assumed that social rehabilitation 'consists first of all of developing skills and abilities required for the realisation of an individual's own needs, and of preparing the individual to perform social roles in accordance with social expectations' (Nowak, 2008).

In expert literature a notion of 'resocialising education' can be also found. Its meaning is different from the notion of 'resocialisation' which comes as a particular variation of the resocialisation process. Resocialising education is defined as 'a conscious and intended process of direct or indirect impact on derelict people to adjust them for performing constructive social roles, in accordance with social expectations' (Górski, 1985).

In the process of planning pedagogical activities a diagnosis plays a significant role. One of the scientists makes an apt observation: 'a good penitentiary diagnosis which includes all the required elements comes as a basis to the rational programming of resocialisation' (Machel, 2004).

Introduction

Presentation of the main notions

**Programmes
of
occupational
activation
of convicts
realised in
Poland –
presentation
of collected
materials**

In all resocialisation institutions, the realisation of corrective aims is performed by the psycho-corrective staff members, who play the fundamental role in this process. Their tasks and specific character of their work have been broadly discussed in expert literature. The staff is responsible for the diagnosis, designing and realisation of the resocialisation activities (Machel, 2001; Machel, 2004; Jaworska, 2012). It also seems that the staff is of essential significance not only in the realisation of specific tasks of the institution, but also in providing services to other people and the society.

The original authorial programme may be understood as pedagogical innovation which is based on the fact that an author creates an operational project to be implemented in an educational institution and to be focused on at least one field of education: teaching, general education, organisation and management or vocational education and training (Milerski and Śliwerski, 2000).

Among the authorial projects realised in penitentiary institutions, there are programmes which present various purposes and specific features. It is possible to determine activities which aim at reducing educational deficits, psycho-corrective activities, or activities which educate through culture (Marczak, 2013).

Starting from the second half of the 1990s, it has been possible to observe an intensive development of various authorial psycho-corrective programmes applied in Polish penitentiary institutions. The realised projects facilitate or significantly contribute to social re-adaptation of convicts after they leave prisons. All the undertaken projects aim at reducing those features presented by prisoners which could hinder them considerably from the social re-adaptation process (Machel, 2013).

Programmes of occupational activation come as particularly significant among the authorial resocialisation programmes realised in Poland. These programmes are addressed first of all to prisoners who will soon end their imprisonment sentences.

The suggested programmes are designed “mainly to prevent social helplessness of people who leave prisons. They aim at training and strengthening the skills of effective and active searching for employment, and also at making convicts realise that searching for employment is purposeful and finding employment is possible (Marczak, 2013).

In the following part of the article, the author provides a concise presentation of the selected programmes of occupational activation, which are realised in numerous Polish penitentiary institutions – as Machel observes (2008).

The realised programmes of occupational activation make it possible to:

- _ provide convicts with all the necessary information concerning the operation of employment agencies and centers and the ways of active employment searching;
- _ improve qualifications and skills of convicts so that they can find employment and retain their workplaces;
- _ provide convicts with basic knowledge concerning the labour market, registering in employment agencies, current legal regulations applied on the labour market;
- _ train convicts in self-presentation techniques, writing motivation letters and a cv and encourage their self-confidence (Machel, 2008; Marczak, 2013).

One of the realised programmes is Lex Media. This programme is addressed to convicts classified into P-2/p and R-2/p sub-groups, who still have to serve at least 6 months of their imprisonment sentences. The suggested solution refers to a programme of occupational activation of convicts including acquiring new multi-media skills and developing personal

interests and creativity. In the result, convicts will be able to find themselves in the current conditions on the labour market.

The significant purpose of the programme is also:

- _ providing convicts with general knowledge concerning computer system operation;
- _ encouraging convicts to increase their motivation and to feel responsible for their work;
- _ informing convicts about current trends in media;
- _ developing convicts' interests;
- _ providing convicts with more possibilities of functioning outside prison after their imprisonment sentences are over.

The prisoners qualified for the programme had to meet some particular criteria including: abilities to operate computers and peripheral devices to a minimal extent, interest in multi-media and the will to learn more about operating computers and other devices, the skill of proper expression in speaking, abilities to work in a team.

Some important criteria also included the proper conduct at prison, a low level of demoralization, the will to acquire knowledge of IT, enthusiasm and the skill of transferring the acquired knowledge. The programme sessions are held in a specially adjusted broadcasting centre room and a classroom. These rooms have been designed for the efficient individual and team work. The rooms are equipped with properly configured computers, peripheral devices, office and multi-media appliances. The programme sessions are held five times a week, according to the previously defined schedule.

People who participate in the project perform a number of individual and team tasks. Individual tasks include:

- _ writing articles to internal printed media;
- _ editing pictures and contents for printed media, announcements and television with the use of the most advanced technologies;
- _ developing one's own knowledge concerning problems discussed in the internal media;
- _ analysing and selecting materials from various media sources;
- _ working with the use of modern office and computer appliances;

Team tasks include:

- _ meetings of 'Errata' editorial team (an internal monthly magazine);
- _ editing and publishing of prisoners' poetry books;
- _ editing internal television programmes;
- _ current support of educational and cultural activities including magazine and announcement publishing;

In terms of knowledge, prisoners are expected to achieve positive results in learning, among others, how to:

- _ work in a team;
- _ develop their own interests;
- _ pursue the sense of fulfillment in the process of resocialisation;

In terms of skills, the following results are expected:

- _ development of permanent attitudes in the process of the occupational activation of convicts;

- _ adaptation of convicts in the current forms of their economic activities;
- _ efficient use of modern technologies in the process of providing information;
- _ discovering new abilities and talents which have not been taken any advantage of so far;
- _ development of prisoners' own creative initiatives with the use of multi-media devices.

In terms of attitudes, the following results are expected:

- _ ability to start interpersonal contact easily;
- _ developing socially accepted patterns and standards of behaviour;
- _ eliminating behaviour and habits characteristic for pathological groups;
- _ developing the sense of responsibility for the group;
- _ establishing new targets set up by prisoners;
- _ developing increasing tendency concerning small enterprises;
- _ constructing paths of professional development by prisoners themselves;

During the realisation of the programme, the knowledge resources and technological base are used, including the library and reading room resources, as well as prisoners' own resources. The significant resources are: regional printed periodicals, journals, social, scientific and specialist magazines, computers, equipment used for picture and text presentations, licensed computer applications used for editing and publishing texts, pictures, films, etc. The programme is realised at Penitentiary Institution in Koszalin, with the cooperation of the Voluntary Labour Corps (Marczak, 2013).

Another programme which is used for resocialisation is the programme of social re-adaptation through the occupational activation of convicts. The project is realised by the correctional tutors, a solicitor of the District Employment Agency in Gniezno, an employee of the Vocational Training Development Centre in Gniezno and a psychologist. The programme is realised at the Penitentiary Institution in Gębarzewo.

This solution is addressed to the juvenile convicts and adult prisoners who are serving their imprisonment sentence for the first time; they do not have any profession or they shall not be allowed to practise this profession after they leave prison. The programme is also for the prisoners who have problems with social adaptation, who are helpless and who do not have any employment guaranteed after they leave prison. The prisoners who have to serve not more than two years of their imprisonment sentence may also participate in the programme.

The general aim of the programme is to provide convicts with the possibility of gaining vocational qualifications and with the ability to find employment in order to increase their chances for successful social re-adaptation and to prevent them from coming back to crime.

Among the particular aims of the programme there is obtaining the defined professional qualification, building and increasing self-esteem, positive thinking, self-acceptance, professional usefulness. The programme also aims at providing convicts with the skills of self-presentation, and teaching them positive social behaviour, providing them with basic knowledge concerning current legal regulations and modern labour market, developing their own interests, improving abilities of working in a team and preventing any negative manifestation of prison sub-cultures.

The expected effects are the following:

- _ in terms of knowledge: getting familiar with the current situation on the labour market and current legal regulations, developing entrepreneurial features and acquiring basic information how to start one's own business.

- _ in terms of skills: acquiring skills indispensable for efficient search for employment, acquiring professional qualifications required for a particular occupation.
- _ in terms of attitudes: improving convicts' self-esteem, the sense of professional usefulness, setting realistic targets for the future.

The programme is realised in the form of lectures and practical classes run in the groups consisting of not more than 20 people. During the project realisation, theoretical and practical classes are organised, with the use of a TV set, a DVD player, video and office materials, analogical and digital camera cassettes, multi-media equipment.

During the evaluation of the programme, after the end of the scheduled classes, the participants are asked to complete the evaluation questionnaire forms in which they express their opinion on the way the classes were run and on the presented contents (Marczak, 2013).

Another programme is described by Machel (2008). He presents a programme of occupational and social re-integration for women convicts designed by Potępa. The project is entitled 'Creation as a tool for integration', and it is realised at the Penitentiary Institution in Rzeszów. The programme is devoted to recidivist women convicts, women convicts who are serving their imprisonment sentence for the first time, and those who present strong motivation to start working. The programme includes several types of activities. These are the following: getting information about the labour market and the environment of employers, realisation of training sessions which consist of two parts, and raising employers' awareness concerning the employment of ex-convicts. It is also important to present an offer of possible tasks and work which can be done by former prisoners. Machel (2008) emphasizes the fact that 'before the offer submission, the convicts included in the programme were accepted for two-month vocational training, however it was not always realised in accordance with the initial assumptions, in the opinion of the program performers'. Considering the complicated situation of the women convicts leaving prison and the conditions on the local labour market, the realisation of the programme targets encounters significant difficulties.

The main targets of the occupational activation programmes are:

- _ informing convicts about the current situation on the labour market;
- _ informing convicts about the current legal regulations;
- _ initiating motivation to search for employment and to start work;
- _ increasing the number of the acquired skills;
- _ providing convicts with new skills which can be useful in searching and retaining their workplaces.

An unusual form of convict resocialisation is realised by the Penitentiary Institution in Gdańsk-Przeróbka. It realises the programme 'Convicts in Hospice'. The programme allows convicts to become sensitive to other people's suffering, and it provides them with a set of particular skills which can be useful in finding employment after leaving prison.

The employees of the Penitentiary Institution in Gdańsk-Przeróbka and the employees of Ks. Dutkiewicz Hospice in Gdańsk are responsible for the realisation of this programme. Its participants are the prisoners who still have to serve one year of their imprisonment sentence. The general aim of the programme is providing convicts with a certificate which shall improve their chances on the labour market, increasing their motivation and self-esteem and encouraging them to search for employment actively after they leave prison.

The detailed aims of the programme include, among others, improving the convicts' chances for finding employment after they leave prison, training them for voluntary service, im-

proving the psycho-social quality of the convicts' functioning at penitentiary institutions and verifying the programme of social re-integration and occupational activation of the convicts before they leave prison by providing them with a programme of voluntary service combined with a medical assistant course and consulting.

The programme is realised in stages. In the years 2002 – 2003 the convicts participated in renovation, construction and cleaning works connected with the completion of Hospice House in Gdańsk. In the years 2004 – 2005 the convicts participated in construction work connected with the construction of Hospice Voluntary Service Centre. Since 2003 the convicts have been supporting everyday operation of Hospice with their work. Since 2014 the scope of the realised tasks have been extended: the convicts are involved in medical voluntary service and they help in medical care of patients.

The convicts get involved into voluntary service at their free will, and they are interested in working for the Hospice. They are able to obtain new experiences and acquire new skills and qualifications. They work in the cooperation with an interdisciplinary team of specialists.

It is worth emphasizing that during the first five years of the cooperation between the Penitentiary Institution and the Hospice over 400 convicts were involved into the programme. Over 40 people were trained and sent to provide care for patients of the Hospice. Both teams, the employees of the Hospice and the employees of the Penitentiary Institution expressed very positive opinions about the programme. The convicts' declarations cited in some publications come as a proof that the programme aims have been realised (Marczak, 2013; Ministry of Justice, 2015).

Another interesting project is the 'Duet' programme realised in the cooperation of the employees of the Social Nursing House and the employees of the Custody Suite in Kraków-Pogórze. The programme involves alcohol addict convicts who stay at the therapeutic centre of the Custody Suite.

The programme is based on the voluntary participation in medical work, education and psychotherapy with resignation from pharmacological substances. The general aim of the project is to make the convicts realise that they can live without alcohol and without any psychoactive substances, and to convince them that they are strong enough to modify their current way of life and to change themselves.

The detailed aims of the programme include, among others, providing support for a disabled person by the convict, acquiring skills connected with providing care to the disabled, changing the monotonous life and isolation of the residents of the Social Nursing House and the convicts, re-establishing a positive system of values.

The project started in 2002. The convicts work for free 30 hours per 5 days in a week.

The convicts' tasks include:

- _ everyday chores respectively to the rhythm of the residents' life;
- _ convicts and residents' participation in the different types of the scheduled activities of therapeutic character;
- _ convicts' support and participation in the cultural and recreational activities.

The expected effects are: increasing the project participants' motivation to restrain from alcohol and psychoactive substances, strengthening their confidence that they are able to change their own life, forming the convicts' attitudes which are socially acceptable and which follow the binding standards, starting the process of social re-adaptation, providing the convicts with the possibility to overcome the consequences of the committed crime through

initiating positive motivation to life, developing or acquiring new skills connected with providing care to the disabled, providing individual care to the residents of the Social Nursing House, changing the monotony and isolation of the residents of the Social Nursing House by the convicts through their mutual contacts, forming a creative vision of a future occupation through the involvement of the employees of the abovementioned institutions into the project (Marczak, 2013).

Another project worth mentioning is 'Wychodzenie wciąga 2 - program pozytywnych zmian dla osób opuszczających jednostki penitencjarne' ('Addiction to stay free 2 - the programme of positive changes for people leaving penitentiary institutions'). While the author was working on the presented material the project was being realised. It was started on 1st September 2012 and it is intended to end on 30th June 2015. The assumptions of the programme included positive changes for people leaving prisons. It was addressed to homeless men leaving penitentiary institutions and custody suites in Dolnośląskie Province. The project aimed at initiating positive changes in the attitudes of people leaving penitentiary institutions with the use of the authorial method of social decompression. In accordance with its assumptions, the method consists in gentle, gradual acclimatization in the reality outside prison and re-adaptation to social life. This method includes activities which aim at the presentation of proper behaviour patterns which negate violence and social exclusion. The support provided to the project participants involves promotion and informational meetings of convicts and employees of penitentiary services at penitentiary institutions of Dolny Śląsk (Lower Silesia). During such meetings people are informed about the project and the activities performed by its organisers. The project also includes social and occupational activation, career consulting, legal and psychological consultations, a course of social skills and vocational competences which involves training sessions on voice emission and economy, training of vocational competences, knowledge of legal regulations, psycho-educational workshops (People For People Support Association, 2015).

During the realisation of the project 130 homeless men aged from 17 to 64 who left prisons in Dolnośląskie Province have been provided with support and help (People For People Support Association, 2015).

In terms of social activation, the following activities have been intended in three sectors: the diagnosis of the current situation, activating operations, implementation of changes, and preparation of the participants to leave the Social Nursing House.

The diagnosis of the current situation involves such activities as completing a personal questionnaire form of the project participant. It includes a free-form interview and the analysis of the documents owned by the project participant. This comes as an account of social potential and a common determination of reasons for the current situation. There is also preparation of the project participant's Chart of Requirements and Possibilities along with the Requirements and Possibilities Account.

Activation involves such activities as creating a structure of changes based on the Requirements and Possibilities Account, developing an Individual Operational Plan, designing the project participant's support path depending on the diagnosis, sending the participant to legal and/or psychological consultations, introducing the project participants to the rules of living at the Social Nursing House and living in a differentiated social group, observing the project participants' behaviour and habits acquired during penitentiary isolation. Here it is very important to form simple, social activities connected mainly with taking good care of one's own personal hygiene, having order at one's own place, appropriate distribution of financial means, proper table manners, control over the necessity of starting therapy at addiction

therapy centers. All that results mainly from the resolutions concerning the conditional early release from imprisonment (People For People Support Association, 2015).

During the cyclical course of social skills and professional competences, the participants attend meetings of various forms: there are psycho-educational workshops, trainings of vocational competences, voice emission and economy, providing knowledge of legal regulations concerning rights and obligations of employees.

The aims of the programme include, among others:

- _ forming and developing psycho-social skills;
- _ forming and improving individual professional competences;
- _ increasing convicts' self-esteem and confidence in convicts' own possibilities;
- _ improving an open attitude toward challenges connected with searching for employment;

The candidates for the programme participants are selected after the consultations with a career advisor who provides an analysis of the convict's professional predispositions and indicates the need for the participation in the programme.

The programme courses are realised in various forms: there are lectures, case-studies and classes, including relaxation, respiration and articulation classes.

The course participation offers a number of advantages for its beneficiaries: it allows them to develop and improve psycho-social skills and individual professional competences. It also contributes to the improvement of the convicts' self-esteem and confidence in their own possibilities. The course participation also allows convicts to establish an open attitude toward challenges connected with searching for employment.

It is worth mentioning that a material result achieved after the course completion is obtaining a Certificate which states that a convict participated in and completed a course of social skills and professional competences organised within the frame of the project 'Addiction to stay free 2 -- the programme of positive changes for people leaving penitentiary institutions.' It should be also mentioned that the participation in the course does not entitle its participants to acquire and to change their qualifications (People For People Support Association, 2015).

Another important project is 'Economics to Freedom' – Good Work for occupational activation of convicts. The project is realised in cooperation of several entities, including a penitentiary institution. It is based on an important assumption that when a convict leaves prison, the reality he or she enters has a massive impact of this person's life. The return to the society is easier when convicts have employment. On 18th November 2014 in the District Office in Sztum an agreement was signed among the Penitentiary Institution in Sztum, 'Iskra' Social Cooperative and 'Dobra Robota' Social Economy Support Centre in Gdańsk. Its aims include the realisation of a re-adaptation programme referred to as 'Economics to Freedom'. The project assumes occupational and social activation of convicts and ex-convicts with the use of social economy tools. The main task is to prepare ex-convicts to enter the labour market and to increase their social competences. It also aims at the realisation of activities which focus on promoting social entrepreneurship and at breaking stereotypes referring to socially excluded people.

Other entities such as Social Welfare Centre in Sztum and District Employment Agency in Dzierzgoń have also declared their support and access to the realisation of the 'Economics to Freedom' project. During the realisation of the project, 10 prisoners from the Penitentiary Institution in Sztum will participate in social and vocational workshops. They will also participate in the professional internship at 'Iskra' Social Cooperative. After they leave prison, the

programme participants will have a chance to continue their cooperation with 'Iskra'. Convicts who are serving their imprisonment sentences will be able to improve their competences and skills in such fields as maintenance work, renovation and construction, landscape and planting architecture, carpentry, catering, hotel industry, animal breeding, hypnotherapy assistant, saddle-making, recreation and horse tourism. The program also assumes the realisation of interpersonal training concerning social economy and occupational health and safety.

Another element of the project is the realisation of the creativity competition 'Galloping to Freedom' which is addressed to convicts, and the exhibition after the competition. This will allow the convicts to present their creativity, and it will contribute significantly to the change of social awareness and to breaking stereotypes referring to the functioning of convicts in the society. An additional benefit of the programme realisation will be the establishment of a social partnership for social and occupational activation of convicts (Metropolitan Area Gdańsk, Gdynia, 2015). At the end, it is worth emphasizing that the research field presented in the article is grounded in legal regulations. The current legal regulations entitle convicts to obtain help in social re-adaptation. It should be also mentioned that convicts work not only with the psycho-corrective staff members. Convicts can seek support in organisations and associations which offer them support and help in entering the labour market. Non-governmental organisations realise a number of interesting projects and offer solutions which support convicts in their attempts to enter the labour market. Many scientists agree that in order to solve the problems of 'convicts and ex-convicts' unemployment it is necessary to undertake complex activities including close cooperation of various institutions, to develop various attitudes toward the most difficult customers' (Woźniakowska, 2006).

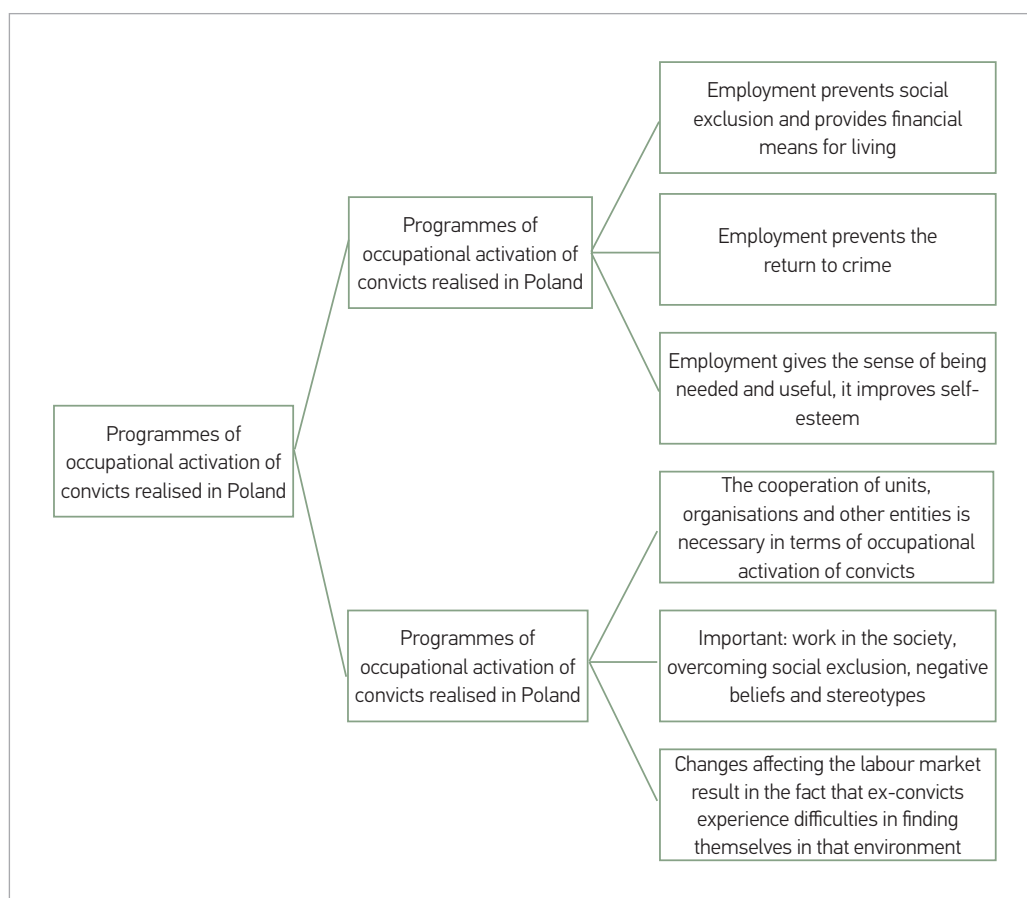
To make it possible, it is necessary to, among others:

- _ realise a wide scope of legal activities which could increase the attractiveness of employing convicts and providing workplaces for convicts;
- _ give some fields of production or services to penitentiary sector;
- _ provide legal regulations which could make the cooperation of employment agencies and penitentiary institutions obligatory;
- _ increase promotion of the possibilities of employing convicts in all media;
- _ prepare employees of penitentiary institutions to provide efficient help to convicts – through organisation of training sessions concerning legal issues, communication, mediation, occupational activation of convicts;
- _ realise a larger number of short vocational courses available for all the interested people who are serving their imprisonment sentences;
- _ run constant, regular vocational courses, schools at penitentiary institutions and, additionally, to run therapy sessions and psycho-social courses for all convicts who require them;
- _ realise informational campaign addressed to employers to make them realise the fact that inquiring about criminal records is in fact illegal;
- _ develop a model of cooperation among non-governmental organisations, penitentiary institutions and territorial self-governments based on a proper task division and complementation instead of duplication;
- _ prepare a more efficient model of cooperation between non-governmental organisations and territorial self-governments in terms of orders;
- _ develop a system of concessions or reliefs encouraging non-governmental organisations to provide workplaces for convicts;

- _ provide legal regulations which could allow convicts who are serving their imprisonment sentences to work for free for non-governmental organisations;
- _ improve the system of probation and executing non-isolation punishment;
- _ finance the costs related to imprisonment punishment from the post-penitentiary funds;
- _ provide care and support to convicts and ex-convicts' families;
- _ facilitate the availability of social housing to convicts;
- _ assume and follow the basic rule 'Nothing for free' in all the activities which aim at helping convicts. This rule is promoted by non-governmental organisations who provide convicts with help and support by offering them contracts obliging them to 'pay' for the support granted, for example, by working for these organisations (Woźniakowska, 2006).

The most important problems discussed by the author in her article are presented in Figure 1. It comes as a graphic presentation and complementation of the collected material.

Figure 1
Programmes of occupational activation of convicts realised in Poland



Conclusions

The programmes, which are developed and applied at present, aim at preparing convicts to life after they leave penitentiary institutions. The realised solutions dedicated to resocialisation practice include the programmes which intend to encourage convicts' confidence in their own possibilities, to reduce aggression, to teach them functioning in the society and its various fields: professional, personal and others. It should be however mentioned that the implementation of these solutions does not exploit the whole spectrum of possible activities

and expectations connected with resocialisation. As Machel (2008) observes, 'to evaluate the efficiency of these resocialisation programmes, it would be necessary to start scientific research on the process of social re-adaptation of the ex-convicts who have been involved into these programmes.'

The programmes of occupational activation are of significant value. Their realisation is well justified with economic and social aspects. Employment of people leaving penitentiary institutions allows them to return to the society, prevents their social exclusion and return to crime; it provides them with financial means and improves their self-esteem and motivation to act. The programmes of occupational activation allow convicts to acquire particular skills and experience, to extend, to improve and to complete their knowledge.

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Užimtumas ir profesinio aktyvumo realizavimas lemia gyvenimo kokybę, individo vietą visuomenėje ir atitinkamą vertybių laikymąsi. Nedarbas sukelia rimtas socialines, psichologines ir ekonomines pasekmes; taip pat destabilizuoja gyvenimą, mažina gyvenimo standartus, griauna individo saugumą, pasitikėjimą savimi įvairiais aspektais.

Santrauka

Nedarbas neigiamai veikia gyvenimo sąlygas bei skatina socialinę atskirtį. Šie aspektai ypač aktualūs ilgalaikes ir trumpalaikes bausmes atliekantiems kaliniams. Vieną dieną kaliniai išeis iš įkalinimo įstaigų ir bus laisvi. Darbo neradimas gali tokius asmenis vėl grąžinti į įkalinimo įstaigas. Darbo rinkoje buvę kaliniai priklauso grupei asmenų, kuriems darbo radimas yra pakankamai problemiškas. Tokią situaciją galima sieti su įvairiais veiksniais.

Šiuo metu Lenkijos įkalinimo įstaigose yra apie 80 000 kalinių. 2014 metų pabaigoje jų tikslus skaičius buvo 77 371. Vidutinis tokių asmenų bausmės laikas, kurį skyrė teismai, išskyrus kalinčius iki gyvos galvos ir daugiau kaip 25-erius metus, buvo 33.11 mėnesių (Annual Statistical Information, 2014).

Įkalinimo įstaigose dirba įvairūs specialistai, kurių pagrindinis tikslas – parengti kalinius palikti įkalinimo įstaigas ir gyventi laisvėje. Socialinės rehabilitacijos (resocializacijos) praktikoje taikoma įvairių ir inovatyvių priemonių. Straipsnyje pristatomos kai kurios atrinktos programos, susijusios su kalinių darbinio aktyvumo skatinimu.

Tokio pobūdžio programos Lenkijoje iš esmės yra autorinės. Tai patvirtina faktą, kad įkalinimo įstaigose dirbantis personalas yra kūrybiškas ir iniciatyvus (Froelich, 2008). Lenkijoje realizuojama daugiau kaip 650 originalių socialinės rehabilitacijos programų.

Šiuo metu kuriamos ir vykdomos programos siekia rengti nusikaltėlius gyvenimui po to, kai jie atlieka bausmę įkalinimo vietoje. Programose akcentuojama resocializacijos praktika ir skatinamas nuteistųjų pasitikėjimas savo jėgomis, agresijos mažinimas, mokoma funkcionuoti įvairiose visuomeninėse srityse: profesinėje, asmeninėje ir kitose. Tačiau reikia pastebėti, kad šių sprendimų diegimas neapima viso su resocializacija susijusių veiklų ir lūkesčių spektro. Kaip pastebi Machel (2008), „siekiant įvertinti šių resocializacijos programų efektyvumą, reikėtų atlikti jose dalyvavusių buvusių nuteistųjų socialinės readaptacijos mokslinius tyrimus“.

Darbinio aktyvumo skatinimo programų reikšmė yra didelė. Jų realizavimas svarbus ekonomiais ir socialiniais aspektais. Įkalinimo vietas paliekančių žmonių įsidarbinimas leidžia jiems grįžti į visuomenę, užkerta kelią socialinei atskirčiai ir grįžimui prie nusikalstamos veikos; buvę nuteistieji gauna lėšų pragyvenimui, gerėja jų savivertė ir motyvacija veikti. Darbinio aktyvumo skatinimo programos leidžia nuteistiesiems įgyti konkrečių gebėjimų ir patirties, tobulinti turimas ir semtis naujų žinių.

REIKŠMINIAI ŽODŽIAI: kaliniai, darbinis aktyvumas, socialinė rehabilitacija, socialinės rehabilitacijos programos, Lenkija.

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