



**Promoting
Professional
Prison
Practice**

'Let's Talk to One Another: a cross-sectoral approach
for children with a parent in prison'

13th June 2024

Festsaal der Berliner Stadtmission

Berlin

European perspectives on implementing the
Council of Europe Recommendation and
EuroPris Expert Group

Justina Dzienko, EuroPris Deputy Director

On a scale from 1 to 3, how familiar are you with EuroPris and its activities?



1: I have no knowledge of EuroPris

2: I have a basic understanding of EuroPris

3: I am very knowledgeable about EuroPris and its initiatives

Content



Your question ⓘ

On a scale from 1 to 3, how familiar are you with

Additional details

Longer description shown on your audience's phones

Your description

Statements ⓘ

1: I have no knowledge of EuroPris



2: I have a basic understanding of EuroPris



3: I am very knowledgeable about EuroPris and its initiatives



+ Add statement

Dimensions ⓘ

Bottom of the scale Value

Bottom of the scale

1

See mid-values ▾

Top of the scale Value

Top of the scale

5

Extras

Show the total average of all statements

Let participants skip single statements ⓘ

Select another question



What is the most protective factor for children of prisoners?



Support from siblings Psychological support Access to educational support programs In-person visits with their parent in prison



Join at menti.com | use code 2155 8345

When was the Council of Europe recommendation on children prisoners published?



The European Organisation of Prison and Correctional Services

Den Haag, 2011

Funding of the European Commission

Board of Director Generals for Prison Services

Network of 40 member jurisdictions within
Council of Europe region

Observer status at Council of Europe



Sharing of Knowledge

Expert Groups

ICT in Prisons | Framework Decision 909 | Foreign Nationals in Prison and Probation | Real estate & logistics | | Prison Security | Staff Wellbeing

Workshops

ICT Inmate's Digital Journey | Children of Prisoners | Foreign Nationals in Prison and Probation | Domestic violence | Family Relations | Juveniles & young adult offenders in Prison & Probation | Forecasting | Risk Assessment | Radicalisation | Mental health | Prison work and education | Interagency cooperation

Webinars

Director General Webinar | Increasing Capacity | Victim's Rights | Management of sexual offenders | Criminal Justice Reform | Pre-trial Detention |

Seminars with Criminal Justice Platform Europe

Summer course (Responses to sexual violence, Radicalisation, Desistance, Engaging offenders to change, Mental health)

Conferences

Technology in Corrections | Correctional Research Symposium | Innovating Prison Infrastructure Conference

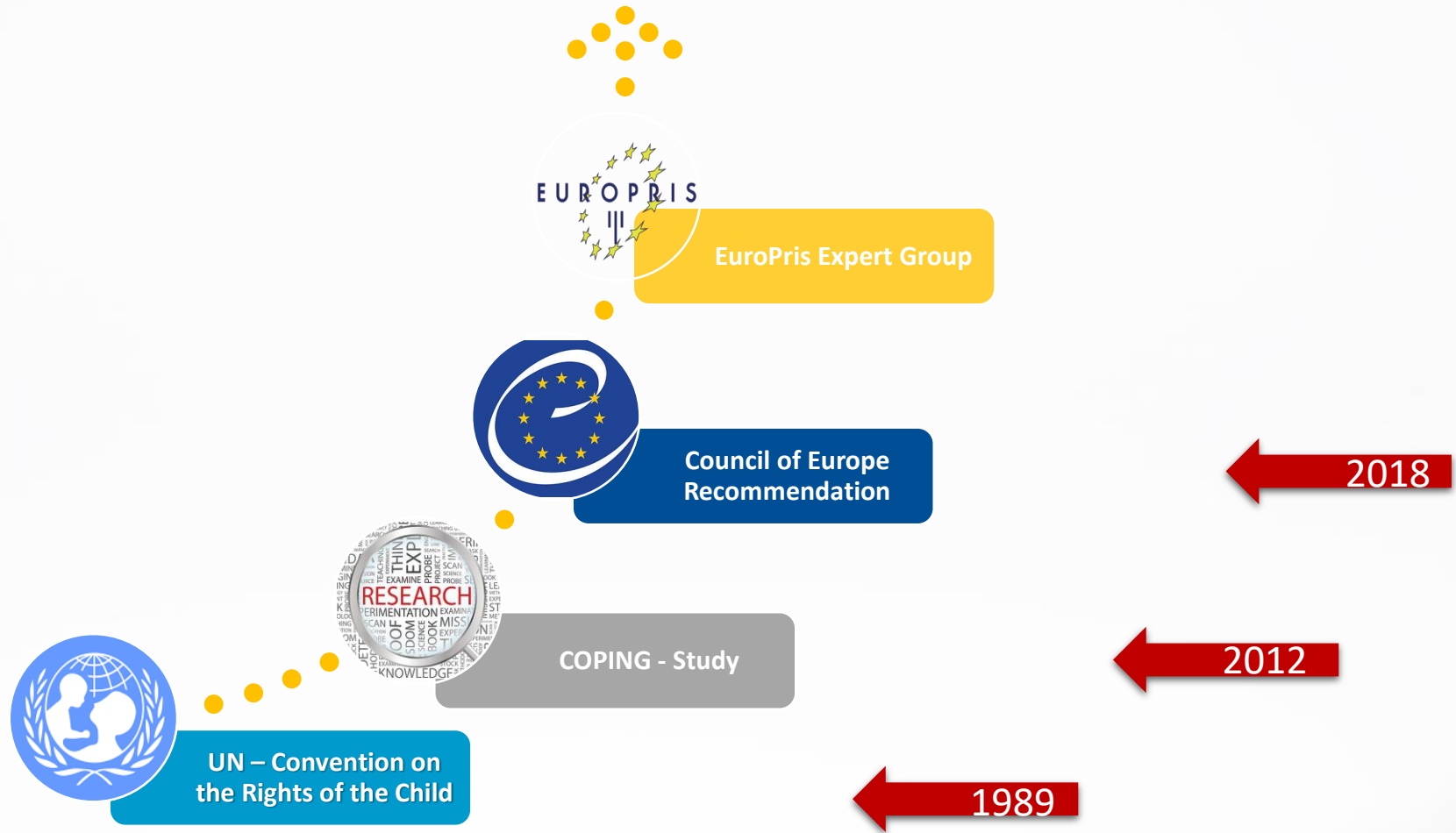
Annual General Meeting & Prison Achievement Award & Collaboration with partners

European Penitentiary Training Academy Network (EPTA)

All expert groups from the beginning on

- ICT in Prisons (2012- today)
- Research & Statistics (2013- 2015)
- Framework Decision 2008/909/JHA Transfer of Prisoners (2013- today)
- Foreign Nationals in Prison and Probation (2013- today)
- Staff Training & Development (2013- 2015)
- Victims Support (2013- 2015)
- Radicalisation in Prisons (2015- 2017)
- Real Estate & Logistics (2015- today)
- Family Relations (2016- 2018) ←
- Education in Prisons (2017- 2019)
- Children of Prisoners (2019- 2022) ←
- Domestic Violence in Prison and Probation (2019- 2022)
- Staff Wellbeing (2023 – today)
- Prison Security (2023 – today)

How it all started





**Council of Europe
Recommendation**

COMMITTEE
OF MINISTERS
COMITÉ
DES MINISTRES



4 April 2018

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Recommendations

CM/Rec(2018)5

**Recommendation CM/Rec(2018)5
of the Committee of Ministers to member States
concerning children with imprisoned parents**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 4 April 2018
at the 1312th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.b of the Statute of the Council of Europe,
Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve greater unity between its members, in
particular through harmonising laws on matters of common interest;
Considering the significant number of children whose parents are detained in the prisons of the member
States;

Structure of the Recommendation

- I. **Definitions, underlying values and scope**
- II. **Basic principles**
- III. **Police detention, judicial orders and sentences**
- IV. **Conditions of imprisonment**
- V. **Staff working with, and for, children and their imprisoned parents**
- VI. **Monitoring**
- VII. **Research and evaluation of child-friendly practices and policies**
- VIII. **Work with the media and with public opinion**

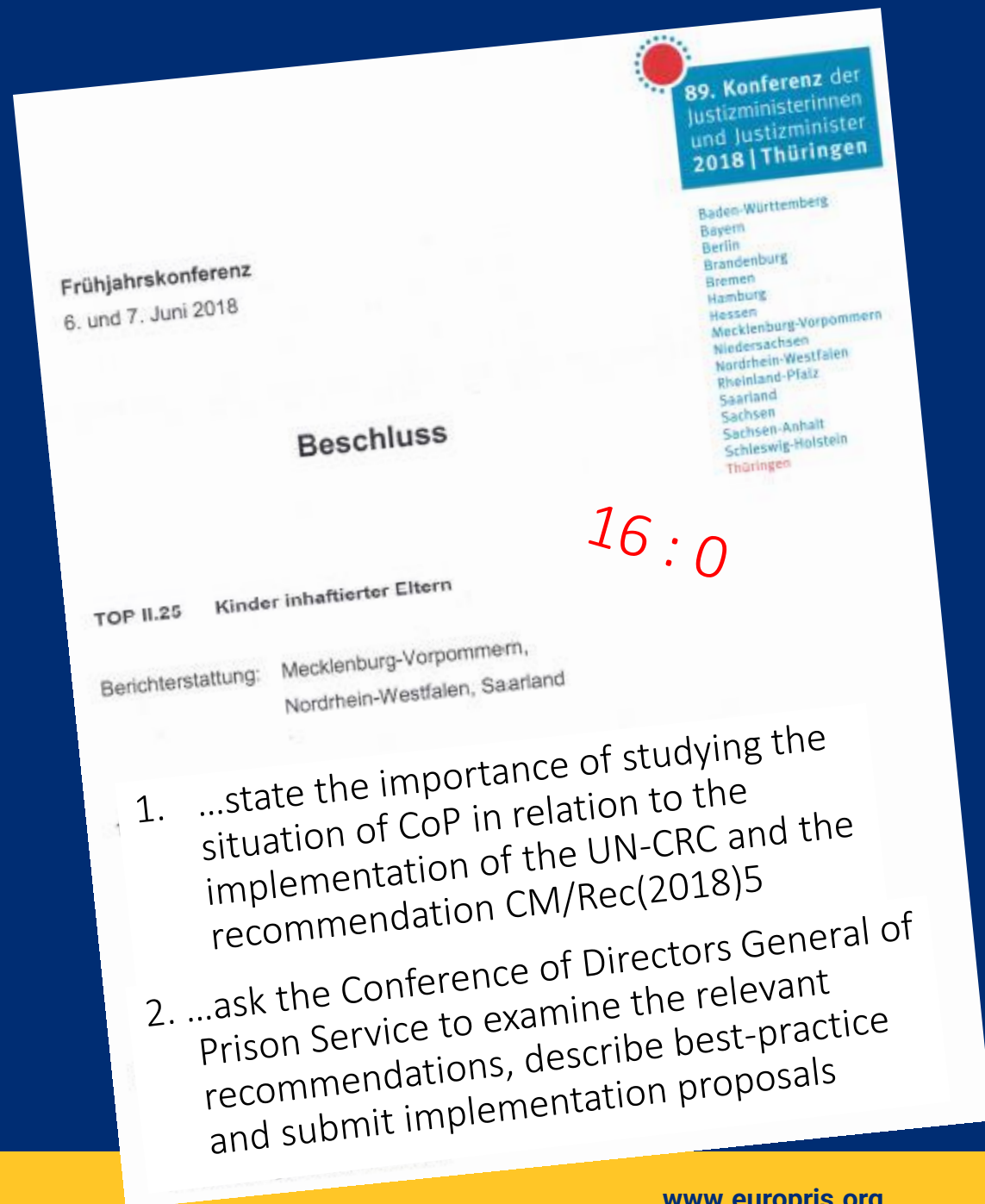
Example from Germany

- 85 Mil population, 57.000 prisoners, ~100.000 children of prisoners
- 16 independent federal states (Länder)
- Conference of the 16 Ministers of Justice of the Länder
- Conference of the 16 Director Generals of Prison Services of the Länder



Resolution of the Conference of Ministers of Justice 2018

- **Importance of studying the situation of CoP**
- **National “Länder Working Group” on the Recommendation CM/Rec (2018)5**



Final report of the Länder working group

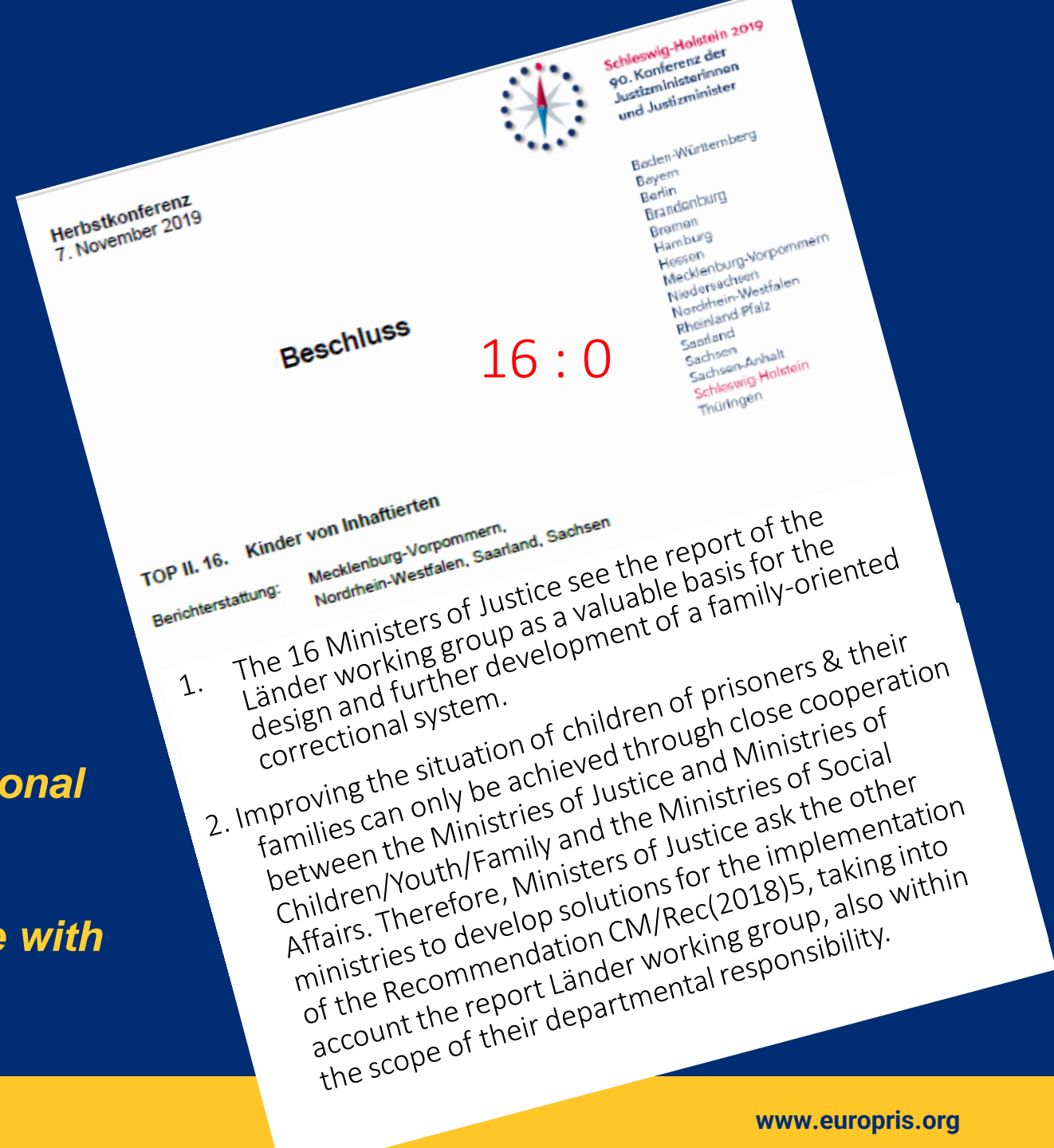
- **10 summary sentences of the Rec.**
- **Advice: Other responsible authorities**
- **Appendix with best practice selection**



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Resolution of the Conference of Ministers of Justice 2019

- **Importance of family-oriented correctional system**
- **Ministries of Justice should cooperate with Ministries of Social and Family Affairs**



Other responsible authorities

- { -Public prosecutors / Departments of Criminal Law (No. 2, 4, 9, 10, 12, 17)
- { -Courts / Department for judicial administration (No. 2, 9, 10, 17)

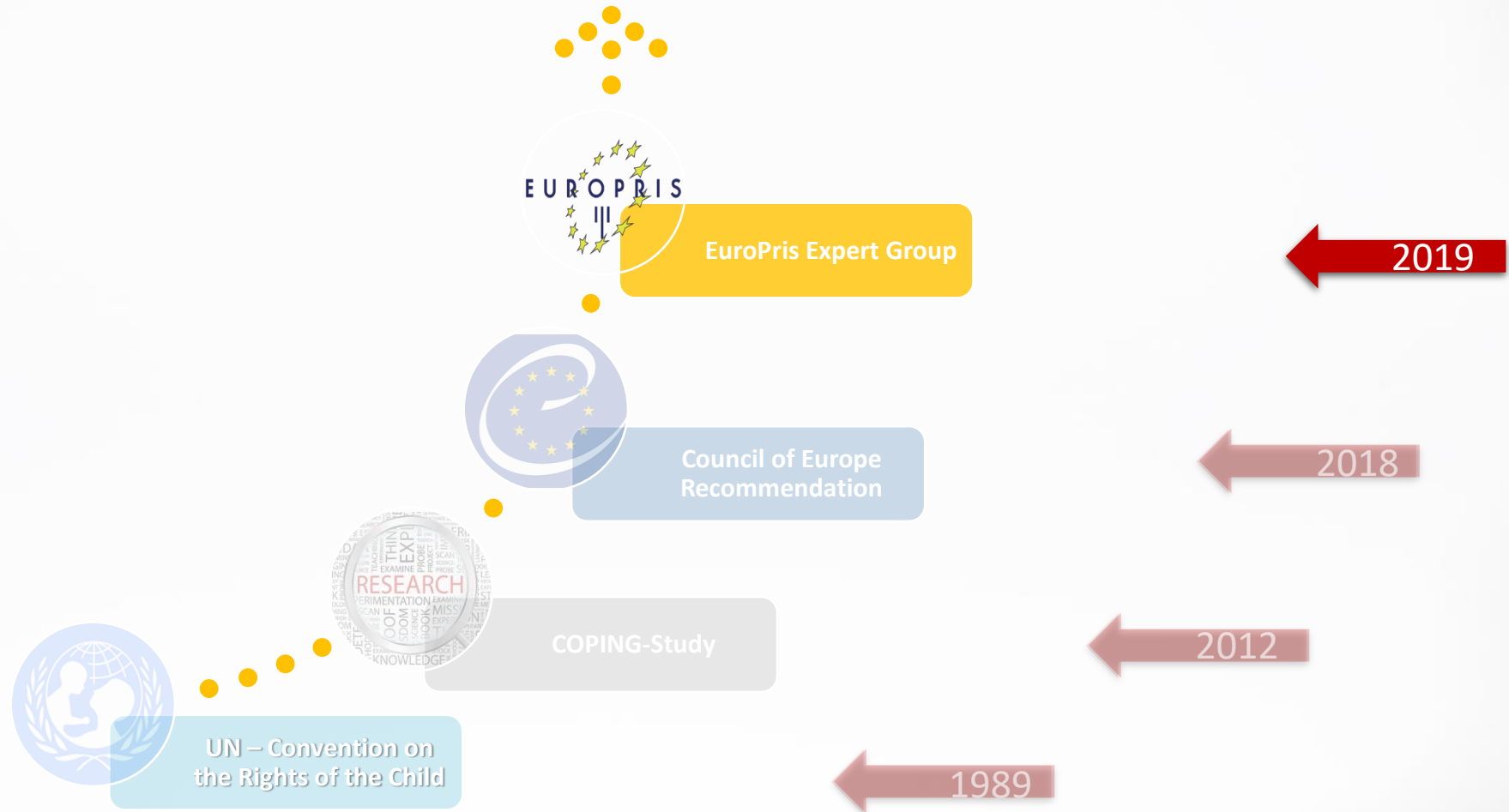
- Interior Ministry / Police (No. 8, 12, 49, 50)

- { -Children Youth Family Ministry (No. 19, 27, 36, 38, 39, 40, 44, 49, 50, 54)
- { -Social Ministry (No. 16, 19, 27, 36, 38, 39, 40, 44, 49, 50, 54)

- Ministry of Health (No. 34, 37)
- Ministry of Finance (No. 6, 46, 53)

- { -Other civil society organizations (No. 6, 19, 27, 44, 49)

How it all started





EuroPris Expert Group

2019 - 2022

- 10 experts from different European countries & **COPE**

Main Outputs:

- Implementation Guidance **Report**
- **Covid** Chapter
- **Data Collection** Matrix
- **Table of Recommendation** → Comments on implementation status of the CoE-Recommendation (2018)5 on children of imprisoned parents
- **Video** to promote Recommendation
- **Letter** on Children's Day

Implementation Guidance Report

- **Security and normalisation**
- **Relation with NGO's**
- **Engagement with the Justice family**
- **Child's voice & Data collection**
- **Covid-Chapter**

Covid Chapter

- **Belgium, Norway, Ireland, Scotland, Sweden, Romania, Hungary**
- **Reflections:**
 - *What influenced children positively and negatively?*
 - *What implementations has been retained & were found to be useful in prisons?*
 - *What negative implementations were introduced & what adverse effects did they have on the children?*
 - *What are the Lessons Learned and how can prisons safeguard the rights and needs of prisoners, their families and children?*

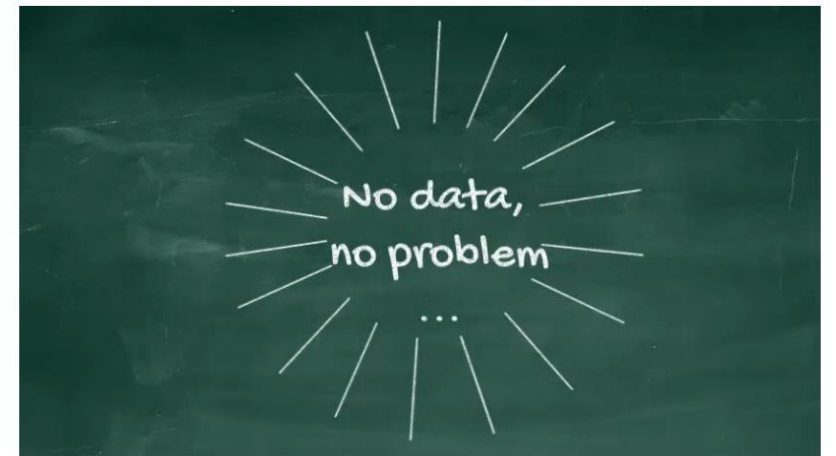
Data Collection Matrix

Overview of countries collecting information on the number of Children with an imprisoned parent

- <https://www.europris.org/data-collection/>

Video to promote data collection

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HdYU0vytamo&t=5s>



Europris Data Collection Matrix from Children of Prisoners expert group



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Share



Letter on Children's Day

- On UN World's Children's Day 20 November 2022
- Raising awareness campaign by experts
- Inter-agency letter
- sent to different authorities on a national level



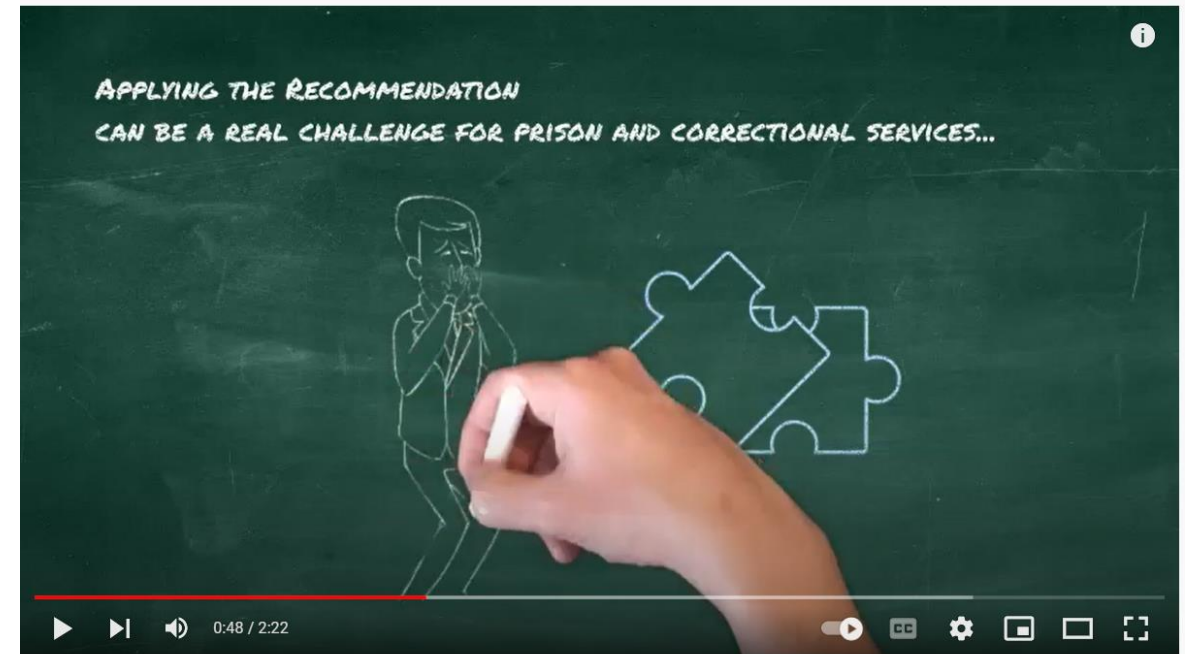
Video: Reflections on the Council of Europe's Recommendation

Modern channels encourage dissemination

Information visualised is quick to process and achieves a wider audience

→ https://www.europris.org/expert_groups/child-ren-of-prisoners/

→ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZJ7TdCzlok>



Children of Prisoners expert group reflect on Council of Europe (CM) (2018)5 Recommendation

Table of Recommendation

- Overview of status and progress of countries per each Article
- Filter by area and country
- <https://www.europris.org/recommendations/>



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Thank you!

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