DENMARK – KEY FIGURES

• Inhabitants: 5,3 mio.

• Prisoners: **4.000**

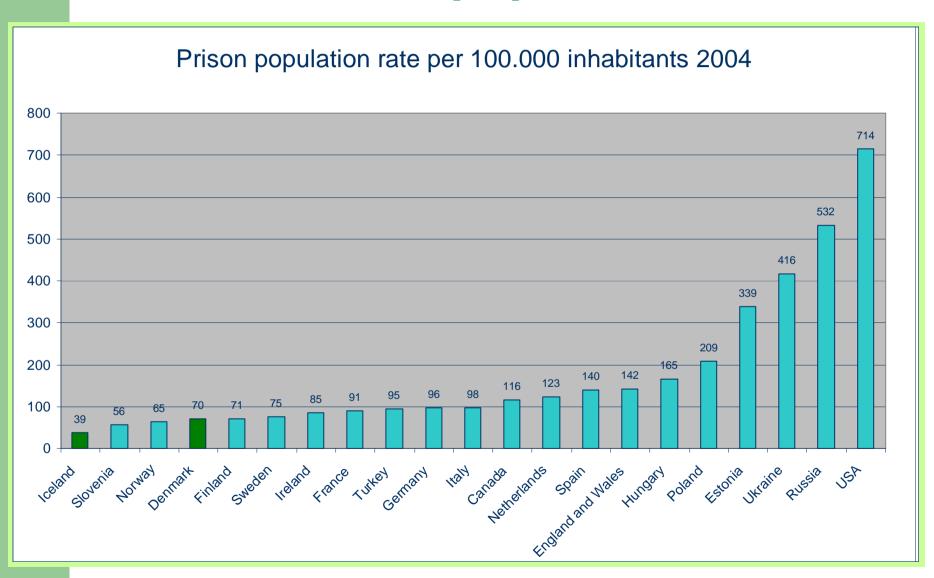
Prison rate: 75 per 100.000 inh.

• Probationers: 9.000

Prison and prob. staff: 4.400

Annual budget:2 bio. dkk

Prison population



Prison and probation service in Denmark



Regime in prison

- Open prisons
- Normalization
- Individual sentence planning
- Focus on skills (education, vocational training etc.)
- Treatment programmes

The principles

- Normalization
- Openness
- Responsibility
- Security
- Least possible intervention
- Optimum use of resources

Normalization

"Daily activities shall resemble and relate to outside life as far as possible"

Purpose:

- To make it easier for prisoners to re-integrate into society
- To minimize negative side effects of imprisonment

Openness

"Letting the offender make and maintain contact with society"

Purpose: Rehabilitation – reducing crime

Instruments:

- Placing offenders in as open an institution as possible
- Conditionary release
- Visits
- Leaves
- Telephone calls

Facts on leaves

Number of leaves in 2006 : 61.958

- 82 % from open prisons
- 13 % from closed prisons
- 6 % from local prisons

The leaves were used for:

- Daily work, education or treatment: 25 %
- Visiting family: 29 %
- Court meetings, funerals, sickness in family: 25 %
- Other important family occasions: 9 %
- Preparation for release: 3 %

Percentage misuses

Misuses without criminality: 2,1%
 This includes late return to the prison, drinking etc.

Misuses involving new criminality: 0,1%

Average daily number of prisoners 3.932

Responsibility

"Letting the offender develop responsibility, self-respect and self-confidence"

The purpose of this principle is to motivate the prisoner to actively strive for a crime-free life

(involving staff motivation, counselling and guiding, treatment and training)

KEY VALUE

The art of balancing

a
Strict and Soft approach

Advantages of open prisons

- Hard in the sense of incarceration
- Soft in the sense of normalization, openness, responsibility, least possible intervention
- Balanced in the sense of rehabilitation
- Cost effective

Cost per prisoner / day

Closed prisons: 1576 dkk/day

Local prisons: 832 dkk/day

Open prisons: 727 dkk/day