

# DISTANCE EDUCATION FOR CITIZENS DETAINED ABROAD

## PRISON POPULATION ACROSS EUROPE

### Countries with the smallest % of foreign national prisoners

Poland (0.7%)  
Romania (0.9%)  
Moldavia (1.1%)

On average:  
22.1% foreign  
national prisoners

### Countries with the biggest % of foreign national prisoners

San Marino (100%)  
Liechtenstein (87.5%)  
Andorra (76.9%)



Foreign national prisoners have less access  
to education than national prisoners

### Main barriers

Only limited or totally no educational  
materials available

### Most common educational causes

Courses to learn the language of the  
country in which they are detained

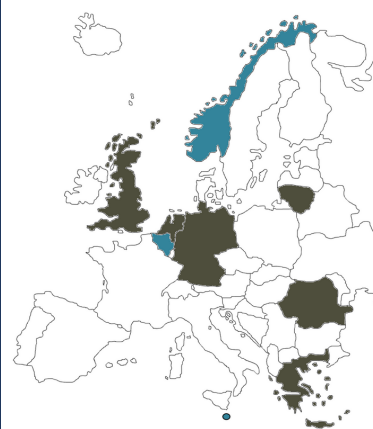
## 15 PILOT PROJECTS ACROSS EUROPE

Tested how countries can provide  
distance education for citizens  
detained abroad

14 non-  
digital  
pilots

1 digital  
pilot

## 9 COUNTRIES INVOLVED



**6 sent education**  
(Germany, Greece,  
Lithuania, Romania,  
the Netherlands  
and UK)

**3 received education**  
(Belgium, Malta  
and Norway)

## STUDENTS

36



12 students were Lithuanian, 11 Dutchmen, 10 Romanian, and 1 British,  
German or Greek

21 students were in prison for less than 1 year

### Benefits

Increased self-efficacy in reading and writing  
Better perspective on reintegration  
Limited the damage caused by imprisonment  
95.9% would recommend the course to other prisoners

*"It is a new start to build up good relationships with my home country. It is a chance  
to do something good. [...] More things can happen in the future, more doors can go  
open, more opportunities will come." (Student)*

### Motives

#### Students' motives

Aquiring knowledge  
and skills, preparing  
for life upon release,  
spending time doing  
something sensible  
and useful

#### Professionals' motives

Task to provide  
education, altruistic,  
digital opportunity

### Process

#### Communication between sending partner and student(s)

Directly or via an  
intermediary person in  
prison

**Time** was the  
**biggest investment**  
of professionals

**Not easy** to provide  
**certified courses**

Setting up **digital  
pilot** = **challenging**

### Support

#### Different actors

- Receiving partner
- Sending partner
- Fellow prisoners
- Fellow students

#### Different types

- Motivational
- Instrumental
- Content

### Future challenges

**Sustaining and  
scaling-up** the  
FORINER idea  
(distance  
education for  
citizens detained  
abroad)

Implementation of  
**online distance  
learning** in prison

Involvement of  
**more European  
countries**