BIO

Claudia Christen-Schneider holds an MSc in criminology and criminal justice from the University of Portsmouth, in England, and studied Restorative Justice at SFU in Canada. She’s also a certified mediator and the founder and president of the Swiss RJ Forum. She’s very active in promoting restorative justice in Switzerland and also involved in EFRJ’s values & standards committee.

ABSTRACT

Restorative Dialogues after serious crimes - What are restorative group dialogues? Is it worth implementing these? What benefits can victims and offenders derive from meeting in a group with other victims and offenders of similar offences? Does it bring any benefit at all? The participants in these groups are mostly victims and offenders of serious crimes, but they do not know each other. They meet over several weeks and exchange their experiences, tell their stories and ask each other questions. This presentation is part of the EFRJ
presentations and introduces a Swiss project that has been implemented in prisons for several years. One of the main goals of this approach was to broaden the access to restorative justice services for victims and offender who cannot meet their direct counterpart.