

Criminal Justice Platform Europe

MANAGEMENT OF SEXUAL OFFENDERS WEBINAR

Online, Tuesday 30 November 2021, from 14:00 to 16:00 CET

PROGRAMME

14.00 Start of the Webinar

Welcome and introduction by Mirka Jakesova, Policy Officer, CEP

Moderation by Gustav Tallving, Executive Director, EuroPris

14.15 Presentations

- **Kieran McCartan** (UK) - Managing persons accused or convicted of a sexual offence: The latest Council of Europe standards.
- **Kasia Uzieblo** (Netherlands/Belgium) - Risk assessment & -management in Flemish and Dutch practice: The challenges ahead.
- **Linda Millington** (UK) - Transforming lives through Restorative Justice.

15:35 Q&A Session

15:50 Closing remarks by Edit Törzs, Executive Director, European Forum for Restorative Justice

16:00 End of the Webinar

SPEAKERS



Kieran McCartan is a professor at the University of the West of England, Bristol, UK. He has a track record of public, academic and professional engagement on criminological issues, including the origins and causes of sex offending, and societal responses to sex offenders. He has developed a wide-ranging, multi-disciplinary network around sex offender management and reintegration. He has experience of qualitative, quantitative and mixed-method research from several funders. He has previously co-lead a nationally based ESRC funded Knowledge Exchange Network on the limited disclosure of sex offender information (2012) and an international Leverhulme Trust-funded network on sex offender management (2014-16). He is currently involved in a Council of Europe project examining, and developing recommendations, around the assessment, management, and integration of people who have committed sexual offenses (2019-ongoing). Prof. McCartan is the international representative on the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers board, the Conference Chair of National Organization for the Treatment of Abuse, a member of the Confederation of European Probation working group on sexual offenses, a member of the ethics committee of Brave hearts and is a member of the International Working Group for the Prevention of Online Sex Offending. Prof. McCartan has advised the Council of Europe, New Zealand Police, Bravehearts as well as Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Australia. Prof. McCartan has a number of academic outputs, including 105+ academic publications and 130+ blogs; he has generated over 1/2 million pounds in external research funding, has given 175+ external presentations, and has taken part in 40+ media interviews nationally as well as internationally.

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Kasia Uzieblo is a senior researcher at the research department of the Forensic Care Specialists (Van der Hoeven kliniek, Utrecht, Netherlands) and an Associate Professor at the Department of Criminology of the Free University of Brussels (VUB). In her research she focuses on questions that are relevant for the prevention of sexual and domestic violence and on the use(fulness) of assessment instruments for judicial purposes (e.g., risk assessment). She has published various articles in scientific and professional journals as well as book chapters on the aforementioned topics. As an ardent advocate of evidence-based work in forensic psychiatry and justice, Kasia Uzieblo has organized numerous workshops and (inter)national conferences on topics related to forensic psychology/psychiatry, including on sexual violence. She is the founder and current chair of the division Forensic Psychology of the Flemish Society of Clinical Psychologists (VVKP) and is a board member and a past-president of NL-ATSA, a Dutch/Flemish association that is committed to the prevention of sexual violence. Kasia Uzieblo also conducts assessments in forensic patients and performs psychological evaluations in court cases.

'Risk assessment & -management in Flemish and Dutch practice: The challenges ahead'

Over the last decades (sex offender) risk assessment has gained a firm foothold in the criminal justice system of western countries. This increased importance of risk assessment aligns with developments in research on mainly the predictive validity of risk assessment instruments. In addition, we are seeing various developments in the field of risk management that is increasingly being linked to risk assessment. It is therefore not surprising that risk assessment and management have been extensively included in the guidelines endorsed by the Council of Europe. However, professionals seem to encounter various barriers prohibiting a thorough implementation of risk assessment tools and risk management strategies in clinical and judicial practice. The presentation will address the following three questions: (1) Is the purpose of risk assessment well understood?; (2) Do we fully understand risk assessment outcomes?; and (3) Do professionals know how to translate risk assessment outcomes into risk management strategies? Empirical findings from Flanders (Belgium) and the Netherlands on the aforementioned issues as well as examples from clinical practice will be discussed.



Linda Millington is Deputy Director at *Why me?*, a charity in England and Wales that campaigns for greater access to Restorative Justice. She has worked in a number of roles within the field starting with development of restorative practice standards and qualifications. She is a trained restorative practitioner and has previously worked for Victim Support in Sussex and the Kent and Medway Restorative Justice Service. Linda has specialised in restorative work in cases of sexual and domestic abuse.

'**Transforming lives through Restorative Justice**' will focus on how Restorative Justice can be used with cases of sexual violence. She will give a brief outline of what Restorative Justice is and explain the benefits and risks of using the model with sexual violence. Linda will use the words of *Why me?* Ambassadors who are survivors of sexual abuse and who have taken part in Restorative Justice, showing its potential transformative power.