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Report on the scientific conference “Social rehabilitation, readjustment and reintegration in the social space. Myths and truths.” Warsaw, 10.03.2016

On 10 March 2016, at the headquarters of Pedagogium School of Social Sciences in Warsaw, the National Scientific Conference “Social rehabilitation, readjustment and reintegration in the social space. Myths and truths.” was held. The conference was organized by Pedagogium and the Mieszko I School of Education and Administration in Poznań.

The conference brought together research and teaching staff from throughout Poland (representatives of academic centers in Warsaw, Poznań, Kraków, Kielce, Lublin, Gdańsk, Rzeszów, Białystok, Olsztyn, Wrocław, Katowice, Toruń, Łódź, Radom) and practitioners: probation officers, employees of penitentiary institutions, correctional facilities, juvenile shelters, street workers, employees of educational and counseling institutions, social workers, childcare and education centers, special education and integration establishments, as well as representatives of the third sector, who in the comparative perspective not only presented their experience but talked about the challenges and problems directly related to their daily work.

The meeting consisted of plenary sessions, attended by independent scientific researchers together with a discussion forum, touching on the subjects covered in the papers presented by the participants of the conference. The meeting of academics who presented the latest results of scientific research and analysis, created unique conditions for understanding the current state of reflection on social rehabilitation, readaptation and reintegration reality of today's social space.

During the opening of the conference the Rector of Pedagogium School of Social Sciences in Warsaw, Prof. Dr Marek Konopczyński, stressed that the con-

ference is of an environmental character, and its participants are people involved in the progress towards social rehabilitation change in Poland. He recalled the 60-year tradition of correctional pedagogy in Poland and its dynamic development. Professor Konopczyński stressed that the three Rs: Social Rehabilitation, Readaptation and Reintegration are processes that make up the correct social adaptation.

Next, Prof. Dr Marek Konopczyński welcomed the guests and university authorities. Among the speakers during the opening was Andrzej Martuszewicz, President of Probare Foundation, who pointed out that Pedagogium is a special place and support for Probation Court Services. He stressed the role of probation officers in the readaptation process of convicts and the essence of cooperation of probation officers with the scientific community, institutions, services and non-governmental organizations in this regard. The President of Probare Foundation appealed for continued support of the scientific community so that the probation system in Poland functions properly.

Afterwards, Prof. Dr Wiesław Ambrozik of the Adam Mickiewicz University spoke, who, on behalf of the Correctional Pedagogy Team of the Polish Committee of Sciences with the Polish Academy of Sciences, reported on the discussions concerning the subject of the Team's activities and the need to continue the activities of the previous term. He drew particular attention to the importance of the journal "Resocjalizacja Polska" for the community of social rehabilitation educators. In his speech, the Professor accentuated the need of support from the Team of young researchers. He pointed out that the current exchange of views through online seminars has produced tangible results. He also referred to the need for changes with regard to studies in the specialty correctional pedagogy.

The main plenary session was opened by Prof. Dr Marek Konopczyński with the lecture Two correctional pedagogies at the turn of the century. He introduced participants to the subject of the meetings in an extremely interesting way by putting forth considerations about pedagogy of coercion and condemnation and the pedagogy of support, development and hope. He presented the functioning of the two visions of correctional pedagogy at the turn of the century: classical correctional pedagogy and neoclassical correctional pedagogy (pedagogy of culture). He stressed that each social rehabilitation case is a human being, and every unsuccessful attempt to help is a tragedy.

In two plenary sessions papers were delivered by: Prof. Dr Wiesław Ambrozik (The need to socialize the social rehabilitation and prevention system), Prof. Dr Andrzej Bałandynowicz of Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce (The dynamics of self-awareness, self-education, self-reflection and self-creation in the process of control and social change of persons violating the law), Prof. Dr Beata Pastwa-Wojciechowska and Dr Andrzej Piotrowski of the University of Gdańsk (Personal resources and control of anger among penitentiary staff), Prof. Dr Zdzisław Bartkiewicz from the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin and Vocational

School in Tarnobrzeg (Transactional Analysis – implications of social rehabilitation), Professor at Pedagogium, Dr Beata Maria Nowak (Networking and systemic approach to social rehabilitation, readaptation and reintegration of convicts – an outline of the concept), Professor at the Jagiellonian University, Dr Mariusz Sztuka (Social rehabilitation based on facts – programme objectives and perspectives of development), Professor at Pedagogium, Dr Irena Mudrecka (Self-control and self-determination in the context of correctional pedagogy), Professor at the Jagiellonian University, Dr Przemysław Piotrowski (Cognitive distortions in the narratives of prisoners), Professor at the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Dr Sławomir Przybyliński (The “crook” creation of prison reality – in opposition to the social rehabilitation process), Dr Anna Wojnarska, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin (Views on social rehabilitation of sex offenders), Professor at the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń Dr Małgorzata Kowalczyk (Therapeutic and corrective interactions in relation to criminals who sexually assaulted children, in the context of multi-factorial theories), Professor at the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce Dr Anna Kieszkowska (Personal and social resources of former prisoners returning to the local environment).

During the conference, sessions were held in six sections:

- Prevention and social rehabilitation of socially maladjusted youth.
- Probation in the Polish social rehabilitation system.
- Theory and practice of the social rehabilitation of minors in institutions.
- Resources and risk factors in the context of people sentenced to imprisonment.
- The image of criminals in the mirror of society.
- Programmes in the scope of social rehabilitation, readaptation and social reintegration.

In statements of both the scientific community and practitioners there was a need to focus on preventive interaction formulas and concepts of social readaptation and social rehabilitation of offenders. Panel discussions lasted until the evening, and the wide range of issues addressed caused discussions and disputes of representatives of scientific communities and practitioners, who will find their exemplification in the post-conference monograph.

The conference was attended by 160 participants. Speeches were presented by 83 speakers. The programme of meetings was extremely rich – it included 72 papers, some in joint authorship. The Chairperson of the Organizing Committee of the conference was Dr Irena Mudrecka, the secretary – Ms Violetta Duda, MA, and the members – Dr Krzysztof Wojcieszek, Dr Karina Szafrąńska, Mr Marek Figiela, MA, Ms Ewa Małachowska, MA and Ms Adrianna Fronczak, MA.

In summing up the conference, Professor Marek Konopczyński invited participants to the next meeting.