

Dear guests,

I'm pleased to express my satisfaction and pride on behalf of my country due to take part in FEFI Project as the person representing Turkey.

Today here I would like to talk about education and rehabilitation studies in prisons in Turkey. But before I will give you some informations about our prisons.

Prisons in Turkey is managed by General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses depending on Ministry of Justice. There are 294 closed type prison, 55 open prison, 5 women closed prison, 3 open women prison, 2 juvenile reformatory houses and 3 child and juvenile closed prisons.

According to February 2015 statics, woman, man and child inmates' total number is 164461. 5871 of them are women inmates.

The fundamental aim of execution is defined in our laws as a procuring general and specific crime prevention by strengthening the factors that prevent recidivism, protecting the society against crime, encouraging the convicts to re-socialize, facilitating convicts' adaptation to a life that is productive, responsible and respectful to laws and order.

Education and rehabilitation studies in prisons are being administered to serve those principles and aims mentioned by laws and are planned according to the standarts which General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses' forms. These studies are similar for men and women inmates. There are some different studies according to gender, interest, prison types and conditions etc.

Education studies in our prisons are being done by education unit which full time employed institution teachers, guardians and public training centers' teachers work.

Education studies aim to help inmates gain new educational skills, increase their self-esteem, be productive, gain occupational skills etc. These studies are defined according to inmate's age, gender, education level, length of sentence, culture and abilities. There are cooperations with Ministry of National Education, other ministries and NGO's. We can sum up education studies at three titles: First one is studies which consist of basic education(literacy), open secondary and higher education, distance learning, religious education, sports trainings, seminars, conferences and library activities. Second one is vocational training courses which are being opened with the cooperation of Public Training Centers depend on Ministry of National Education and Turkish Employment Agency. Some vocational training courses in our prison are: hairdressing, embroidery, leather bag/belt, jewellery etc. In these courses inmates have a chance to gain occupational skills but they don't earn money from these courses.

In FEFI Project, according to results of the questionaries that had been done with 124 women inmates in our prison, we had a chance to define their situation about education and rehabilitation. Our inmates need to spend qualified time in prison, relax psychologically, gain occupational skills and increase their self-esteem. According to these needs, we planned to implement a measure "Handmade Toys". In our prison's education classes with handcraft teachers who were employed by Aliaga Public Training Center, we opened 6 times of Handmade Toys courses which have two different modules consist of 64 and 112 hours. 57 inmates participated and 31 of them were succesful and got certificate. With this measure, inmates had a chance to meet their needs and be the part of this project.

The last education studies in our prisons are social and culturel activities. We regularly organize theatre, seminar, concert, cinema activities with the cooperation of prison staff, NGO's, universitarities etc.

And the other important point is rehabilitation studies in prisons that are being done by psychosocial unit which full time employed psychologists, social workers and guardians work.

Psychosocial studies aim inmates to adopt the thought of respect to laws, develop their emotion of responsibility to their families and the society, take precautions to continue or gain their psychological and mental health, be purified from the emotion of guiltiness, increase their ability of

problem solving, help them about their personal and social development. We can sum up psychosocial studies at four titles: First one is individual rehabilitation: We have BİSİS which means individualized rehabilitation system. Variety of forms are fulfilled with inmates and the system provides risk analysis and individualized rehabilitation plan for them. Psychologists and social workers work with inmates through these individualized plans. By the way every inmate has a chance to have a specialized rehabilitation program. With this, every inmate can consult prison psychologist and social worker about their social and psychological problems. Second study is group rehabilitation: We have group rehabilitation programmes such as: family education, anger management, dealing with alcohol and drug addiction, raising staff awareness of suicide and self-harm, pre-release prisoner progress, general offending behaviour programme, sex-offenders programme and CALM programme which means controlling anger and learning how to manage it. Other rehabilitation study is family rehabilitation which helps to continue the relationship of inmates with their families. In case of need, interviews are made with inmates' families by phone or face to face. And if the children of inmates are in social services institutions, psychologists and social workers get in touch with these institutions and work as a bridge between inmates and their children. Women inmates have a right to keep their children next to them in prison. There is permission to these children between the ages 0 and 6. Education, aid in kind, psychosocial support is given to these children and their mothers.

I tried to give information briefly about education and rehabilitation studies in prisons in Turkey.

While I'm ending my speech, I would like to point out that with FEFI Project studies and project partners' visit to our prison in January 2015, a new door has been opened to our prison. However with this project, İzmir Women Closed Prison now has a new view in education system in prisons by learning about other systems in FEFI partners' countries.

And I would like to end my speech with the sentence of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk: "A society that outdistances women is sentenced to be outdistanced."

Thank you for listening me.