



Rheinland-Pfalz
MINISTERIUM DER JUSTIZ

Extremism

And Its Challenges For The Prison System

Martin Zaschel

Relevance and Definitions



Extremism and Terrorism

Extremism

- E. is a collective term for various political efforts that aim at the democratic constitutional state.
- E. has an ideological claim to absoluteness and justifies politically motivated violence of non-governmental groups against the political system in a planned manner

Terrorism

- “the use of intentionally indiscriminate violence as a means to create terror among masses of people; or fear to achieve a financial, political, religious or ideological aim” (Virginia Page Fortna)

Islamism

Six characteristics



Islamism

1. I. obtains absoluteness for Islam as a way of living and the secular system of government.
2. I. demands that a god was the highest legitimation and not the people. Because remains silent and the so-called holy scriptures are ambivalent and interpretable a group of trained clerics tells the others about the one and only right opinion.
3. I. wants to infiltrate the political and social togetherness. The main thought is „Islam is the answer.“ This includes the rejection of human rights, freedom of expression and religious freedom.

Islamism

Six characteristics



4. I. demands a homogenous and identitarian thinking. In this the individual is primarily a member of a faith community, efforts towards individuality and autonomy are interpreted as deviations. All people have to surrender towards a collectivist thinking, individuality is limited.
5. Islamists fight the founding norms and regulations of a democratic constitutional state. The strict separation of church and state is a thorn in their flesh. „God’s“ sovereignty defeats the sovereignty of the people.
6. The mentioned „islamistic“ characteristics must not be accompanied by fanaticism and (the readiness to use) violence. Many muslims accept the political and social systems they live in.

Challenges For European Prison Systems



Rheinland-Pfalz
MINISTERIUM DER JUSTIZ

In several European countries Islamism has become a severe problem within the prison systems. Not many of the problems have been analyzed scientifically.

Prison System in England

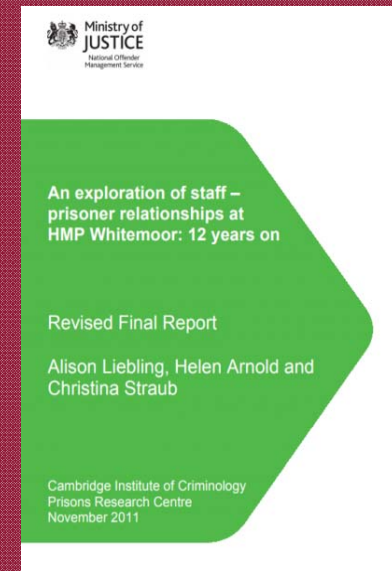


Rheinland-Pfalz
MINISTERIUM DER JUSTIZ

In four of Britain's largest prisons, Belmarsh, Long Lartin, Woodhill and Whitemoor, Muslim inmates are enforcing the jizya (2015).

The general secretary of the Prison Officer's Association (PAO), Steve Gillan, said the level of Islamist extremism and radicalisation in jails was rising (2015).

Already in 2012 these mechanisms had been found in a study of NOMS.



Prison System In England



Rheinland-Pfalz
MINISTERIUM DER JUSTIZ

2015, HMP Whitemoor, IMB
“About half the prisoners on
Whitemoor's main wings are
Muslim, profoundly affecting the
social nature of the jail and
disrupting established hierarchies.



INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD

HMP WHITEMOOR

ANNUAL REPORT

2015

(1 June 2014 – 31 May 2015)

The Statutory Role of the IMB

The Prisons Act 1952 requires every prison to be monitored by an independent Board appointed by the (Justice Secretary) from members of the community in which the prison is situated.

The Board is specifically charged to:

- (1) Satisfy itself as to the humane and just treatment of those held in custody within its prison and the range and adequacy of the programmes preparing them for release.
- (2) Inform promptly the Secretary of State, or any official to whom he has delegated the authority as the Board judges appropriate, any concern it has.
- (3) Report annually to the Secretary of State on how well the prison has met the standards and requirements placed on it and what impact this has had on those in its custody.
- (4) To enable the Board to carry out these duties effectively its members have right of access to every prisoner and every part of the prison and also to the prison's records.

Prison System in England



Not only were Muslims the largest religion, they were also the biggest power IMB WHITEMOOR 5 ANNUAL REPORT JUNE 2014- MAY 2015 bloc, displacing the greater multiplicity of gangs that had previously existed.



INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD

HMP WHITEMOOR

ANNUAL REPORT

2015

(1 June 2014 – 31 May 2015)

The Statutory Role of the IMB

The Prisons Act 1952 requires every prison to be monitored by an independent Board appointed by the (Justice Secretary) from members of the community in which the prison is situated.

The Board is specifically charged to:

- (1) Satisfy itself as to the humane and just treatment of those held in custody within its prison and the range and adequacy of the programmes preparing them for release.
- (2) Inform promptly the Secretary of State, or any official to whom he has delegated the authority as the Board judges appropriate, any concern it has.
- (3) Report annually to the Secretary of State on how well the prison has met the standards and requirements placed on it and what impact this has had on those in its custody.
- (4) To enable the Board to carry out these duties effectively its members have right of access to every prisoner and every part of the prison and also to the prison's records.

Prison System in England



“We have also repeatedly supported the Chief Inspector's recommendations to improve efforts to create a better understanding between Officers and Muslims, and between Muslims and other prisoners. Some good work was done with Faith Awareness training but it underestimated the huge distances to be covered.”



Prison System In Germany



Rheinland-Pfalz
MINISTERIUM DER JUSTIZ

An increasing number of muslims in German prisons (15% in Rhineland-Palatinate prisons, 4% of the population, approx. 30% in Berlin prisons and 8% of the population).

These prisoners often were born in Germany but raised in parallel societies.

A number of returnees from foreign wars adds to that.

An article in the SZ (Süddeutsche Zeitung, 11.12.2017) called prisons in Germany the „universities for (islamic) radicalization“.

Prison System In Germany



A growing number of organizations that address inmates and released prisoners.

In propaganda material Muslim offenders in German prisons are described as victims of religious persecution and all Muslims are requested to support the oppressed victims and fight the infidels who want to crush Islam.



Video „Wake up!“

In this propaganda material Muslims are sent to prison only because they stick to their God Allah.

