

**1 - What institutional barriers do you face in your country which limits prisoners' involvement in education?**

**2 - What promising/inspiring practices/projects exist in your country to motivate and support prisoners into education?**

## **SPAIN**

1.

- In the case of young people interned in detention centers, education has become the main mission and goal of institutions. Therefore, many efforts have been invested in providing all means and resources (organisational, economic, human ...) for good education of young prisoners. We have a lot of general educative programmes and individualised educational programmes that cover to theme.
- In my opinion, for adults, the answer is a bit different. The rules of our country do NOT oblige adult inmates to participate in their educational process, it is a voluntary decision, but never mandatory.
  - In Spain, for 25 years, UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL A DISTANCIA, UNED, has offered an educational programme for adults in prisons.
  - However, there are still physical, technological and economic obstacles that in many cases extinguish the strongest desires. To reach the university studies conducted at the UNED, many inmates must pass a basic education. More economic and human resources are needed to provide a generalised educational service and we must emphasise the need for administrations not only to develop a good training programme, but also to consider to whom is it applying.

2.

- The UNED Rector urges prisoners to "seek freedom through education." This University has been developing programs in prisons for 26 years, and many people have found in university studies the personal, intellectual and professional output that has allowed them to remake their lives and to be citizens today who leave behind the past mistakes.
- Projects to bring Information and Communication Technologies to the inmate population (OMNIUM Project), have been very successful and have allowed citizens that live inside penitentiary centers, to have an opportunity to practice and know the TiC, and allowed learn to work with them.
- There is a lot of good practice in the case of minors; in terms of the obligations and the volume of resources for education. The Minister of Education is responsible for prisoner education, so the young prisoners have the same opportunities that the rest of pupils in schools receive.