



Global Prison Trends: during and beyond the global pandemic

Ancillary meeting at the 14th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

10 March 2021, 14:00-15:30 JST / 05.00-06.30 GMT

Recording will be available at www.penalreform.org

The pandemic has highlighted again the harms of rising prison populations and overcrowding levels for people detained and working in prisons, as well as society. To build fair and effective criminal justice systems that respect human rights for all and achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, we must prioritise alternatives to imprisonment. This event will consider key trends and challenges in prison systems worldwide, with insight from the upcoming *Global Prison Trends 2021*, including the impact of the global pandemic and ways forward.

Programme

Moderated by Prarthana Rao, Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ)

Global Prison Trends – before and beyond the pandemic

Triona Lenihan, Policy and International Advocacy Manager, Penal Reform International

A crisis response to COVID-19 in prisons – the human impact

Nika Kvaratskhelia, Head of the National Preventive Mechanism of Georgia

Human rights of persons deprived of liberty in global pandemic

Andrés Y. Pérez, Human Rights Officer, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Challenging the weaponization of criminal justice against the poor and most marginalized - the need to decriminalise petty offences

Janelle Mangwanda, Regional Campaign to Decriminalise Petty Offences in Africa

Alternatives to imprisonment, the opportunities and challenges

Clement Okech, Assistant Director of the Kenya Probation and Aftercare Service

Reforming criminal justice systems in conflict settings

Oscar Ouedraogo, Project Manager in Central African Republic, Penal Reform International

Criminal justice and technology: the solution?

Dr Katerina Hadjimatheou, Human Rights, Big Data, and Technology project, University of Essex