

NEW APPROACHES FROM NORWAY

VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

EXAMPLE FROM HALDEN PRISON



**Are Høidal,
senior advisor,
Norwegian
Correctional
Service**

Who am I ?



2022 - : Senior advisor, headquarter Eastern Region

2009 - 2022: Prison governor (warden), Halden prison

2008 – 2009: Assistant regional director, Eastern Region

1997 – 2008: Prison governor (warden), Oslo prison

1996 – 1997: Assistant director, Southern Prison District

1995 : Office manager at the Ministry of Justice

1989 – 1994: Assistant director, Eastern Prison District

1987 – 1988: Consultant at the Ministry of Justice

Central principles in Norwegian corrections

THE NORMALITY PRINCIPLE

Both in international conventions and recommendations and in Norwegian law it is stipulated that inmates have the same rights as other citizens.

THE NORMALITY PRINCIPLE

The punishment is the restriction of liberty; no other rights have been removed by the sentencing court. Therefore the sentenced offender has all the same rights as all other who live in Norway.

No-one shall serve their sentence under stricter circumstances than necessary for the security in the community. Therefore offenders shall be placed in the lowest possible security regime.

During the serving of a sentence, life inside will resemble life outside as much as possible.

IMPORT MODEL

Crucial services for reintegration are delivered to the prison by local and municipal service providers.

Prisons do not have their own staff delivering medical, educational, employment, clerical or library services. These are imported from the community.

We can not achieve our goals alone...

The Norwegian import model

HALDEN PRISON:

- Educational services (Østfold county), 25 employees
- Health services (Halden municipality), 12 employees
- Dental services (Østfold county), 2 employees
- Library services (Halden municipality), 2 employees
- Religious services (Church of Norway), 2 employees
- Labour and welfare services, 1 employee
- Substance abuse services (Østfold county hospital), 2 employees
- Psychiatric services (Østfold county hospital), 2 employees
- Landlord services, 2 employees

REINTEGRATION WORK

The Norwegian government has decided to have focus on reintegration work for inmate who served their sentence. They shall – if relevant – have help with getting employment, education, suitable housing accommodation, some type of income, medical services, addiction treatment services and debt counseling.

housing

health

substance abuse

debt counselling

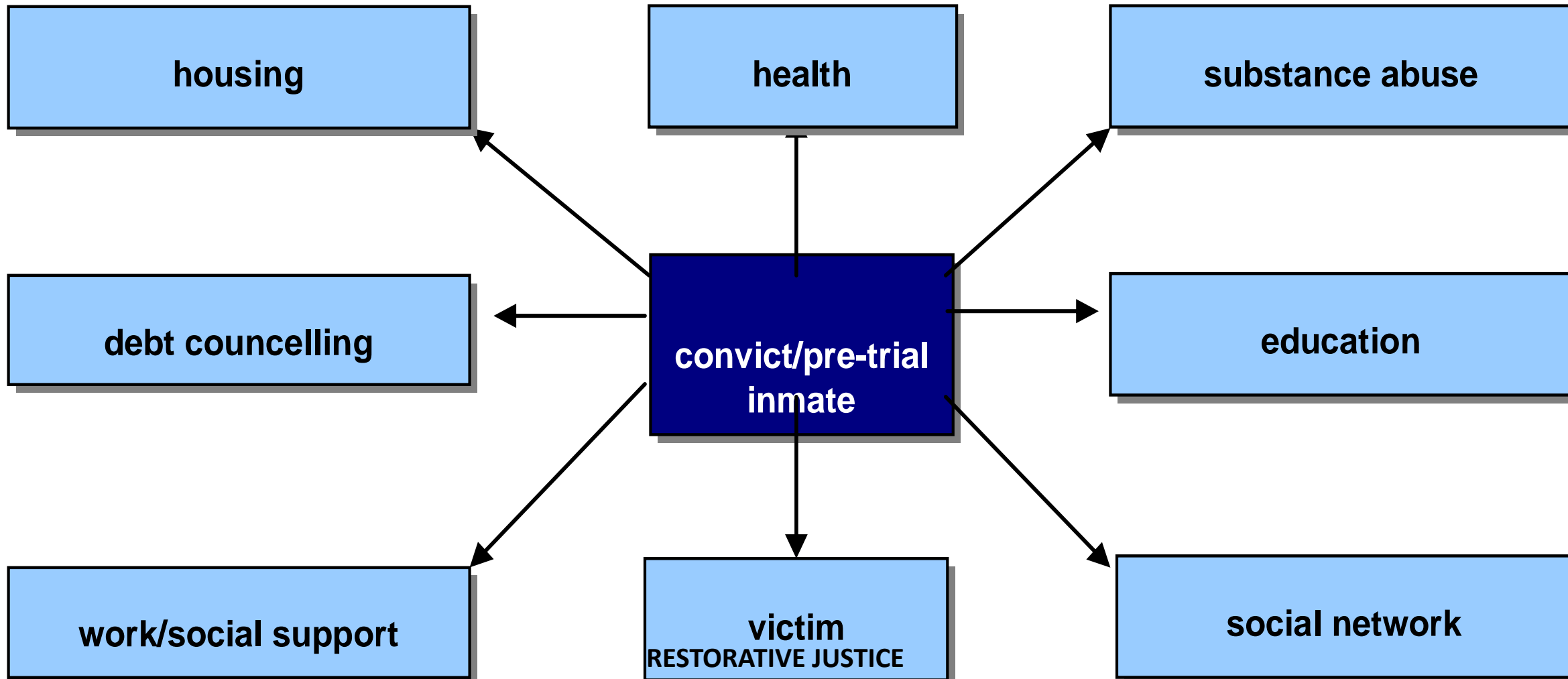
**convict/pre-trial
inmate**

education

work/social support

victim
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

social network



PROGRESSION, TOWARDS REINTEGRATION

In accordance with the principle of normality, progression through a sentence should be aimed as much as possible at returning to the community. The more closed a system is, the harder it will be to return to freedom.

**Therefore one will proceed towards
release gradually from high security
prisons to lower security prisons
and possible through halfway houses.**

PRISON OFFICERS TRAINING

Prison officers in Norway go through a two-year education at the Staff Academy, where they receive full pay and are taught various subjects like psychology, criminology, law, human rights and ethics.





Correctional Service of
Norway Staff Academy

STARTPAGE
ABOUT KRUS
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PRISON STAFF ACADEMY

About The Prison Staff
Academy
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The Physical Functions Test
RESEARCH DEPARTMENT
SEARCH
THE ARCHIVES
VACANCIES

PRISON STAFF ACADEMY



What does a prison officer do?

A varied and challenging career

By Christian Grønvold - Thursday, October 15, 2009

Day to day is varied and challenging to meet you if you choose to become a prison officer. A prison is a small community inside the community where you are assigned a special role. As a prison officer

you will be responsible for the safety of inmates and staff in the prison, while you also maintain the safety of those outside the prison. That's why you have the responsibility for a Safer Society.

Contact officer

- coach
- motivator
- role model

Security

- guard duty
- searching (body, cell)
- conflict resolution

Leisure

- participate in leisure activities
- organize social arrangements

Cognitive program instructor

Organization of the study

University College Graduate (Full time. 2 years)			
1 semester	2 semester	3 semester	4 semester
Theory	Practical and theoretical	Practical and theoretical	Theory
University College	Training prison	Training prison	University College
<p>Introduction to the Role of the Prison Officer and the Norwegian Correctional Services I - ethics – security and risk – rehabilitation work</p> <p>The Law of Execution of Sentences and Other Legal Topics</p> <p>Crime and Punishment Criminology and crime policy</p>	<p>Introduction to the Role of the Prison Officer and the Norwegian Correctional Services II</p> <p>Safety, Security and Risk Management I</p> <p>Community Reintegration and Social Work I</p>		<p>Safety, Security and Risk Management II</p> <p>Community Reintegration and Social Work II</p> <p>Professional Knowledge and Ethics</p>

The Studies

Introduction Topic 1: Correctional Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Philosophy of science• Penalties• Offender characteristics• The current crime picture and criminal policy
Topic 2: Criminal law and other legal issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jurisprudence• Administrative law• Privacy protection and human rights• Execution of sentences• Criminal law• Criminal procedure
Topic 3: Ethics and Professionalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Correctional values and human rights• Moral philosophy• Cultural understanding• Execution of power• Collaboration
Topic 4: Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety guidelines• Dynamic security• Surveying and documenting security work• Communicational skills and conflict resolution• Control and restraint techniques• Ethical guidelines, rules and regulations
Topic 5 Social work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social work in a prison setting• Processes leading to personal change• The effects of incarceration and isolation• Reintegration• Psychology• The role of the officer within the prison environment• Ethics and professionalism within the correctional service
Other Subjects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English• Fitness tests

CONTACT-OFFICER

All inmates in Norway are assigned a contact-officer who assists in contacts with third parties like public service providers (housing, work, etc.) or officials within the correctional system.

The contact-officer helps the inmate finding the most appropriate way to serve their sentence and fill out applications.

NEW THINKING OF THE SECURITY WORK

Static security

Physical measures like high walls, cameras, alarm systems, bars and control measures such as static supervision under aeration, visitation and counting

Organizational security

Organizing work, responsibility and authority. Examples include staffing plan, local instructions, training and crisis management plans

Dynamic security

Interpersonal relationships and systematic forms for interaction between prisoners, convicts and employees.

This will increase society, employees, prisoners and convicts security.

Examples include presence together with the inmate in the unit, contact officer work, leisure activities, work and program activities.

HALDEN PRISON – MAXIMUM SECURITY

ENVIRONMENT AND FACILITIES



Some figures – Halden prison

Operational 2010

Building cost and inventory; 1,4 billion NOK , approx. 250 million USD

Inmates:

- Total of 277 – One of the largest prisons in Norway

- Both custody and sentence

- All types of crime

- Males only

Staff – correctional services – 290

The "import model" – additional staff – approx. 50

Surrounded by a 1.4 km long ring wall. The wall is 6 m high.

150 000 m² plot area **inside the walls.**

27 000 m² in buildings inside and outside wall

**Halden prison's facilities and operations,
reflects the principles and ambitions of
the Correctional Services in Norway.**

THE NORMALITY PRINCIPLE

IMPORT MODEL

REINTEGRATION WORK

**- In cooperation with the authorities
responsible for the prisoners after
release**

DYNAMIC SECURITY



THE ARCHITECTURE WAS IMPORTANT

Halden prison is designed to be experienced by both inmates and staff in a friendly, not authoritarian manner.

Therefore, the emphasis is on good relationships, good design, quality of materials and strength into forms.

MAIN RULE IN THE NORWEGIAN REGULATIONS

§ 17. The company of other prisoners

“As far as is practically possible, prisoners shall be allowed company during work, training, programs or other measures, and in leisure periods.”

= ALL DAY

from morning to evening

ACTIVITY CENTER



CULTURE BUILDING



RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES





UNIT A

INTAKE UNIT

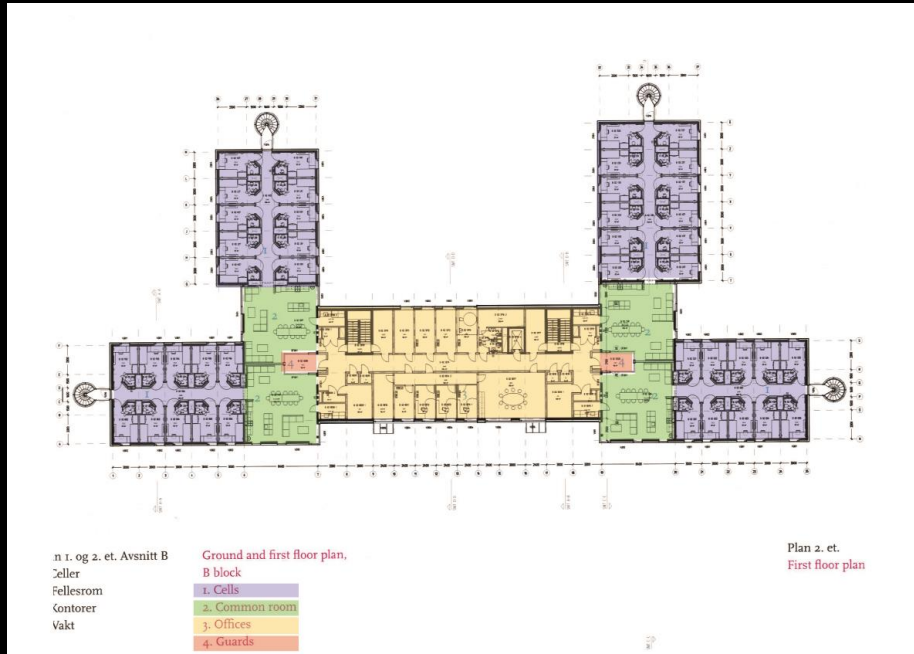
- Assessment
- Mapping
- Restrictions

UNIT B AND C

- 84 inmates in each unit
- Primarely convicts
- "Living units"



THE LIVING UNIT



CELL

12 SQM, PRIVATE TOILET/SHOWER, NO BARS



PRIVATE TOILET/ SHOWER



YARD



The outside yards for the inmates

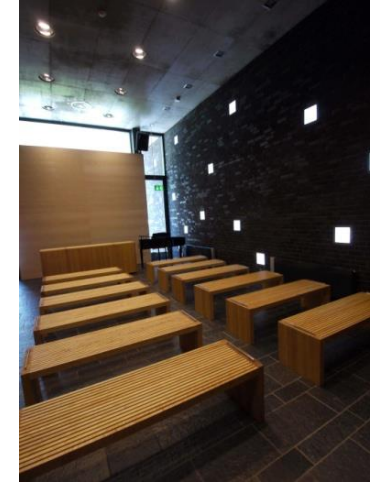
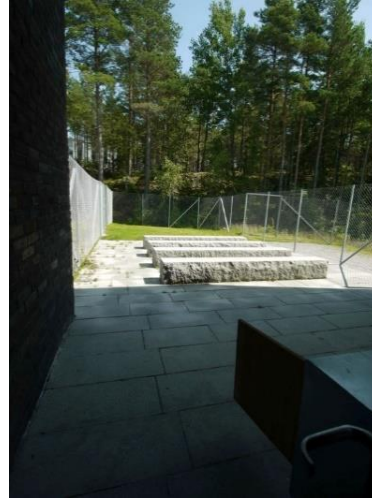


All buildings are well integrated in the landscape , much forest is retained on the site to shield buildings and walls from each other

Beautiful outdoor setting with solid materials



A few more examples of artistic decoration



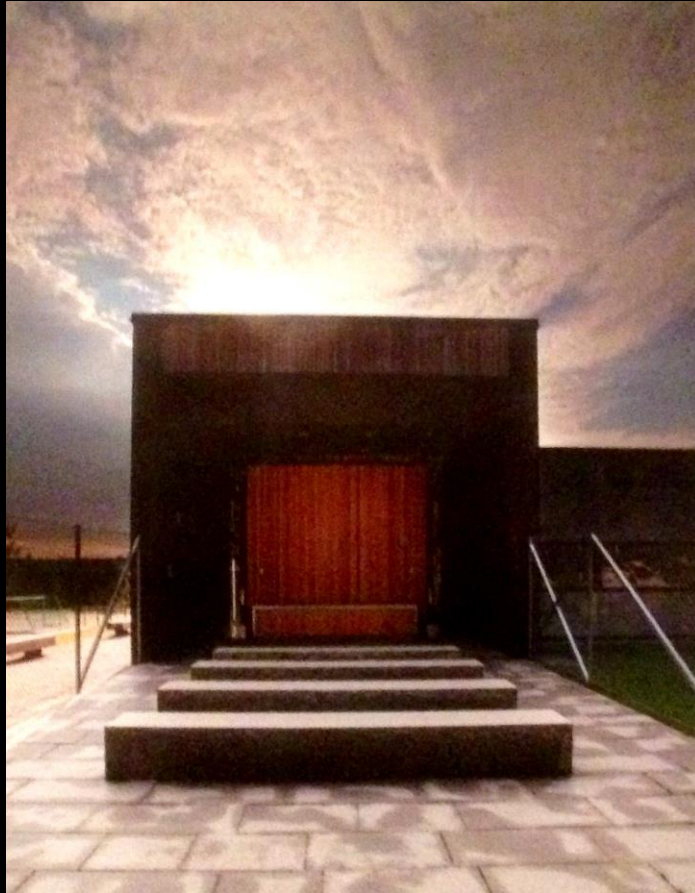
ART IN THE PRISON



An overall strategy is that the art in Halden Prison should be in a humanistic tradition, and to represent care without being preachy. Art should be in dialogue with the inmates and staff."



THE HOLY ROOM



VISITING HOUSE

for inmates who have children. Here they have overnight visits



HALDEN PRISON HALFWAY HOUSE



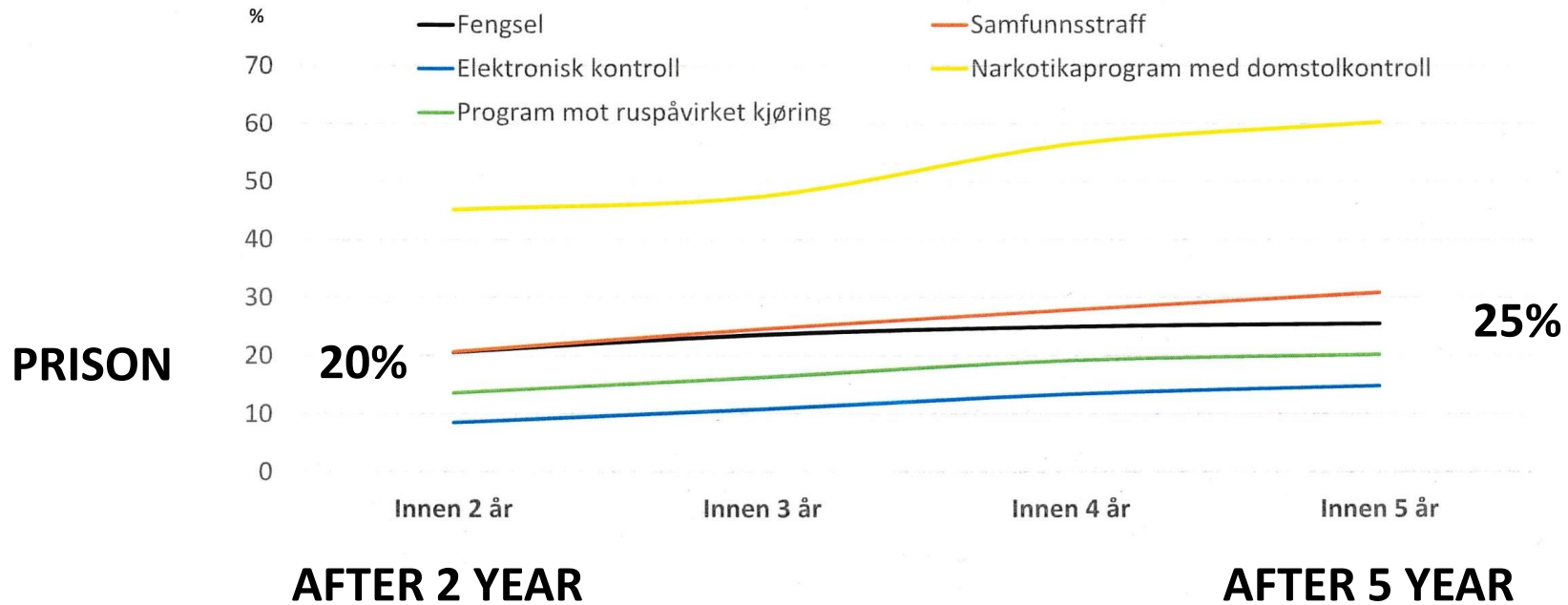
SENTENCE PROGRESSION



RE-OFFENDING RATES FOR NORWAY, PRESENTED IN 2018



Andel første gjerning i ny dom til kriminalomsorgen fordelt etter straffegjennomføringsform. Løslatte og iverksatte dommer i frihet i årene 2010 - 2014



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !!