



# LICOS

## Learning Infrastructure for Correctional Services

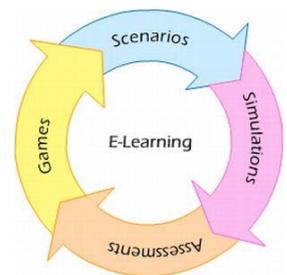
A European Project – Establishing e-Learning in Prison Education

E-learning – the use of computers and digital media in education – comprises a great chance for prisoners to improve their basic skills as well as their vocational knowledge. It provides learning material and activities on an individualised level, meeting the educational needs of a large variety of learners. This will enhance their opportunities after release on the labour market and reduce recidivism substantially.

The **LICOS project** aims at the development and evaluation of a common European e-learning framework for prison education. The system can be adapted to the various penitentiary conditions in European countries and will be installed in a flexible, modularised “toolbox-like” manner to be able to fulfil specific national requirements.

The LICOS system opens up time for teachers to act as a consultant, moderator and facilitator for the learners, giving profound advice according to the students' level of qualification, motivational situation etc. This kind of "blended learning" is especially effective in the correctional service, because

- modularised learning objects support inmates with short term sentences; they can continue learning on additional modules in public education after release;
- media-based learning enlarges the range of professions which can be taught beyond traditional low-qualified prison jobs, e. g. administration jobs or information technology related careers;
- using computers for learning strengthens learning motivation, especially of young inmates;
- use of digital media learning environments enhance IT and media competency of inmates.



The development of the **common e-learning framework** is done together with application partner countries which will provide feedback on every stage of the development. The project will show how European countries can manage to combine their respective strengths to get to a modern, effective and efficient educational system in European correctional services.



The **basic ideas** behind the LICOS project are

- to learn from those European countries which already were successful in developing and deploying innovative e-learning systems in their prisons on a daily routine basis instead of inventing the “e-learning wheel” again and again,
- to generate a transferable e-learning system, considering pedagogical, organisational, political and technical approaches as well as strong security requirements in the various European countries,
- to promote the idea of co-operating in the field of correctional services, to realise an example of good practice in modern prison training,
- to give recommendations to the other EU countries and the Commission considering the future of media-supported prison education in Europe.



University of  
Bremen



County Governor  
of Hordaland



Institute for the  
Sociology of Law  
and Criminology



Fundación  
Diagrama



Juvenile Prison  
of Pecs



Federal Public  
Service of Justice



Department for Business  
Innovation & Skills

A total of nine partners from

**eight European member states**

are working together in this innovation transfer project:

Germany (coordinator), Norway, The Netherlands, Austria, Hungary, Spain, Belgium and United Kingdom.

You will find further information about the project on the LICOS web site:

[licos-web.eu](http://licos-web.eu)

Contact:

Juergen Friedrich,  
University of Bremen (Germany)

[friedrich@uni-bremen.de](mailto:friedrich@uni-bremen.de)