



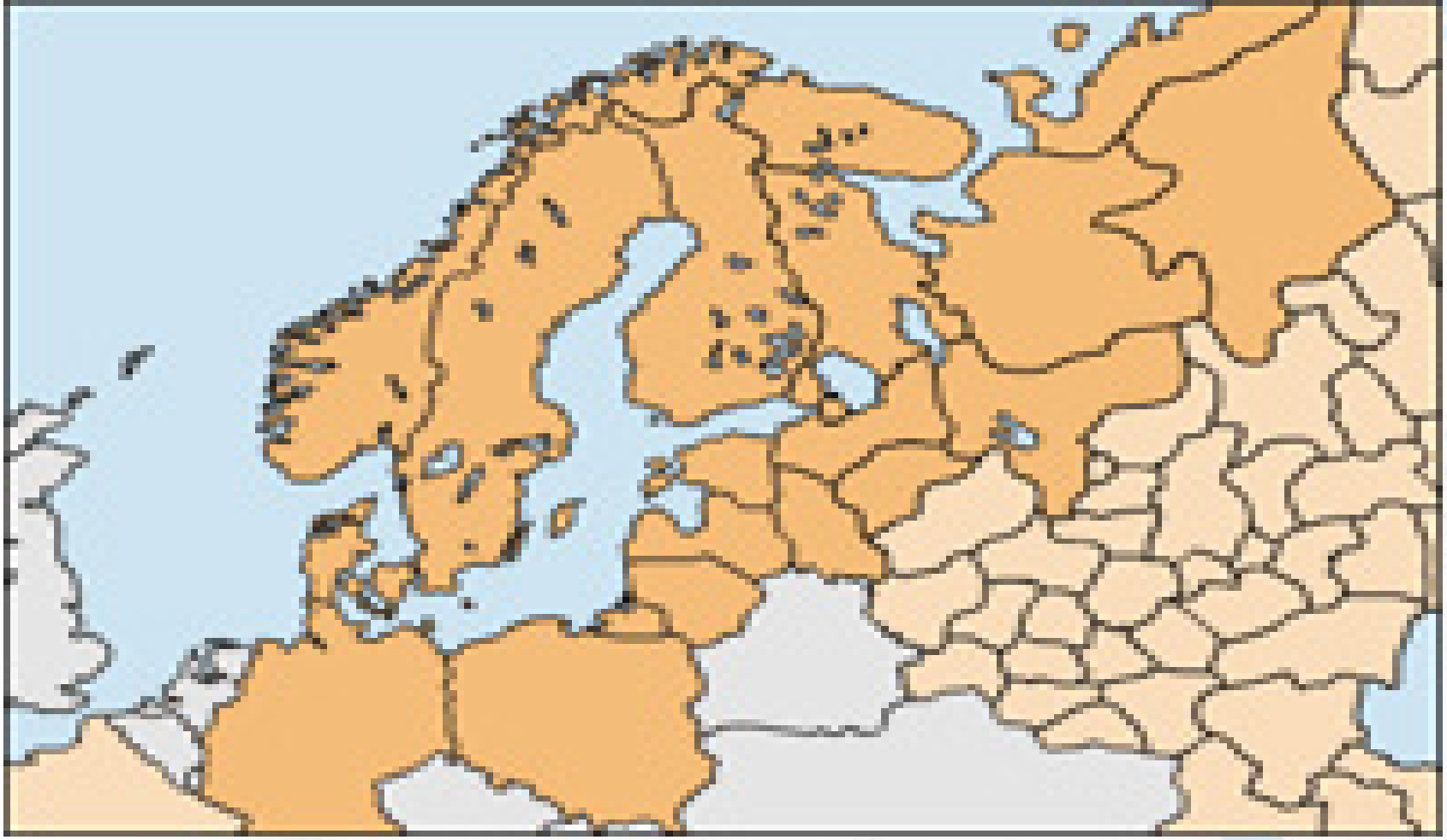
Northern Dimension
Partnership in Public Health
and Social Well-being

HIV in Prisons within the Northern Dimension area

EU Think Tank on HIV/AIDS
Luxembourg, 27 October, 2010

Dr. Zaza Tsereteli,
ITA for PPHS and ASA
EGs, NDPHS

NDPHS





Northern Dimension

- ❏ The **Northern dimension** is an initiative in the [European Union](#) regarding the cross-border and external policies covering [Nordic countries](#), [Baltic states](#) and [Russia](#). The Northern Dimension addresses the specific challenges and opportunities arising in those regions and aims to strengthen dialogue and co-operation between the EU and its member states, the northern countries associated with the EU under the [European Economic Area](#) ([Norway](#) and [Iceland](#)) and [Russia](#). The Northern Dimension is implemented within the framework of the [Partnership and Co-operation Agreement](#) with Russia.

Structure Partner Countries



Canada



Denmark



Estonia



Finland



Iceland



Germany



Latvia



Lithuania



Norway



Poland



Russia



Sweden

Structure → Partner Organisations



BEAC



IOM



CBSS



NCM



EC



UNAIDS



ILO



WHO



BSSSC



Organisational Structure

12 Countries, European Commission + 8 Organisations



 **Partnership Annual Conference**

 **Committee of Senior Representatives**

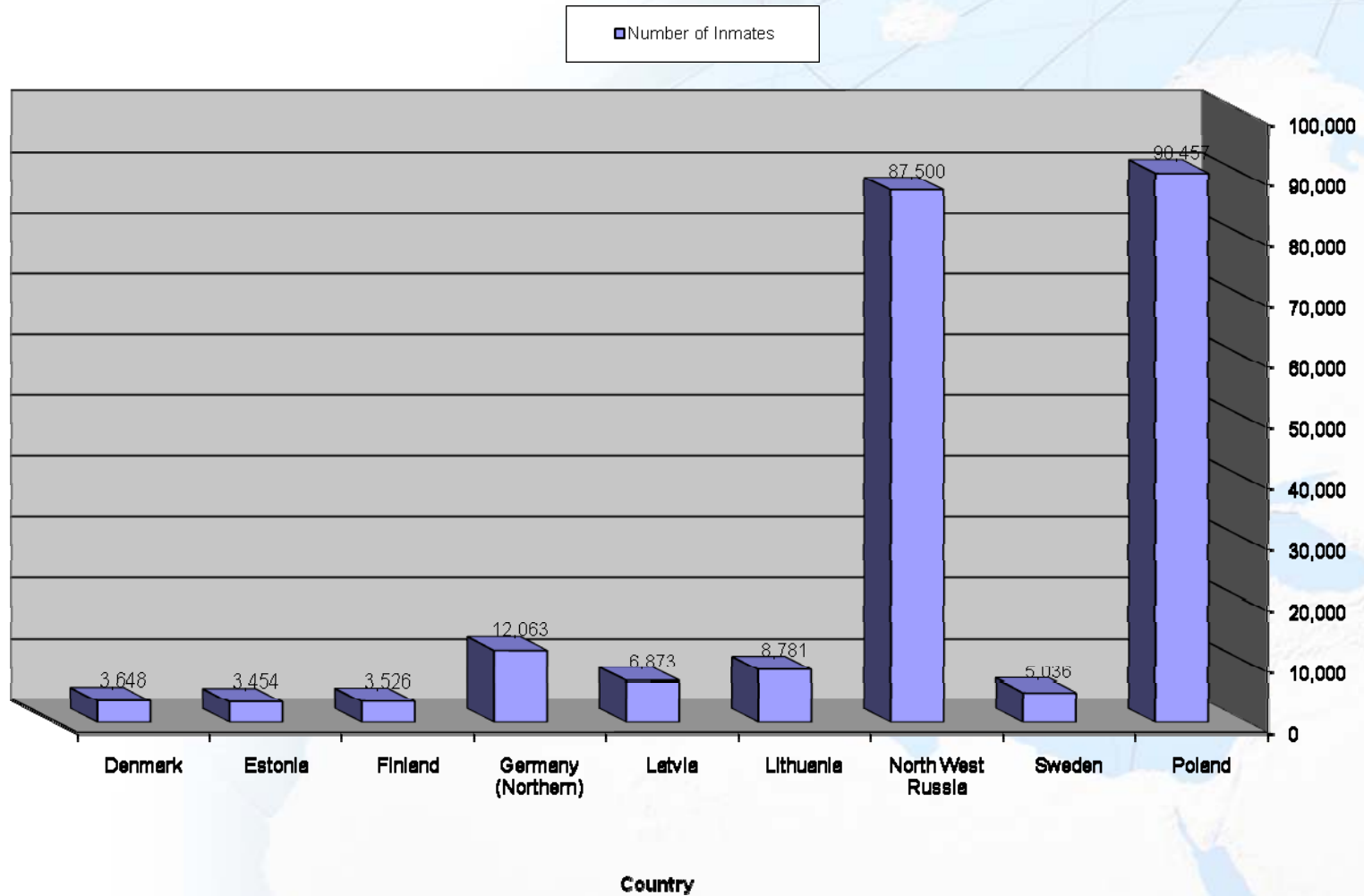
 **Expert Groups**

- **HIV/AIDS and Associated Infections (HIV/AIDS&AI EG)**
- **Primary Health and Prison Health Systems (PPHS EG)**
- **Alcohol and Substance Abuse (ASA EG)**
- **Non-Communicable Diseases related to Lifestyles and Social and Work Environments (NCD EG)**

 **Secretariat**



Number of Inmates in some of the NDPHS Partner countries





Categories of prisoners

- Number of pretrial detainees varies from 13-31 % (Lithuania 13,6 – France 31,5)
- Number of female detainees varies from 3 -7 % (Poland 3,1 – The Russ. Fed. 7)
- Number of minors varies from 0,1 - 2,7 % (Finland 0,1 – Latvia 2,7).

Number of foreigners varies quite a lot from country to country (Norway f.ex. ca 20 %)



Occupancy of sentenced prisoners by principal crime on a certain day (in %)

Denmark	2006	2007	2008
Violence	23	23	25
Drug Crimes	25	25	24
Thefts	13	12	10
Finland			
Violence	20	20	20
Drug Crimes	15	15	16
Thefts	5	14	13
Sweden			
Violence	16	17	17
Drug Crimes	30	30	30
Thefts	7	7	7

Correctional statistics. Ragnar Kristoffersen(ed).
May,2010



Occupancy of sentenced prisoners by principal crime on a certain day (in %)

Iceland	2006	2007	2008
Violence	14	11	16
Drug Crimes	18	18	26
Thefts	23	15	13
Norway			
Violence	17	16	16
Drug Crimes	29	29	30
Thefts	12	11	9



HIV incidence rates in prisons

Incidence of HIV in prison:

- Latvia: 1/4 of HIV+ in the country have been infected in prison and prisons host 1/5 of HIV+ total population
- outbreaks in prisons documented in Lithuania (299 in 4 months) and Russia.

Other infections:

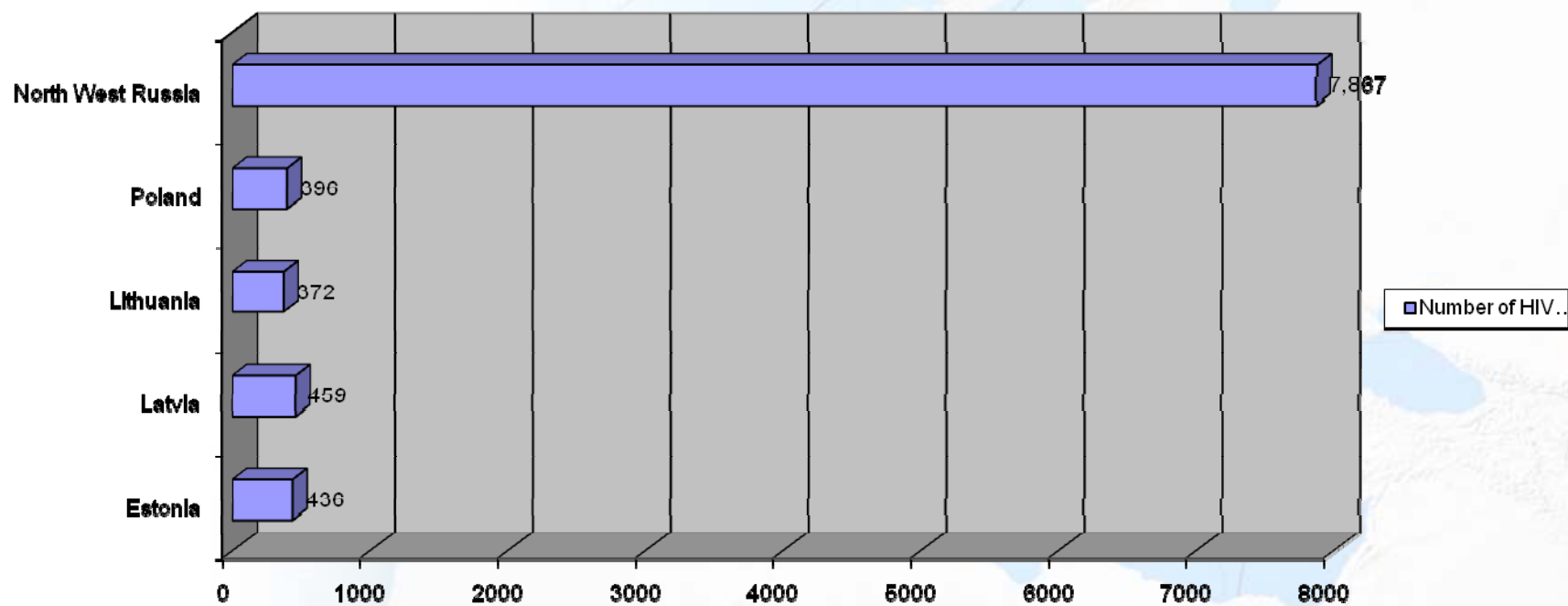
- STIs
- High TB prevalence in prison
- High Hepatitis C and B prevalence

HIV prevalence rates are generally higher among women in prisons

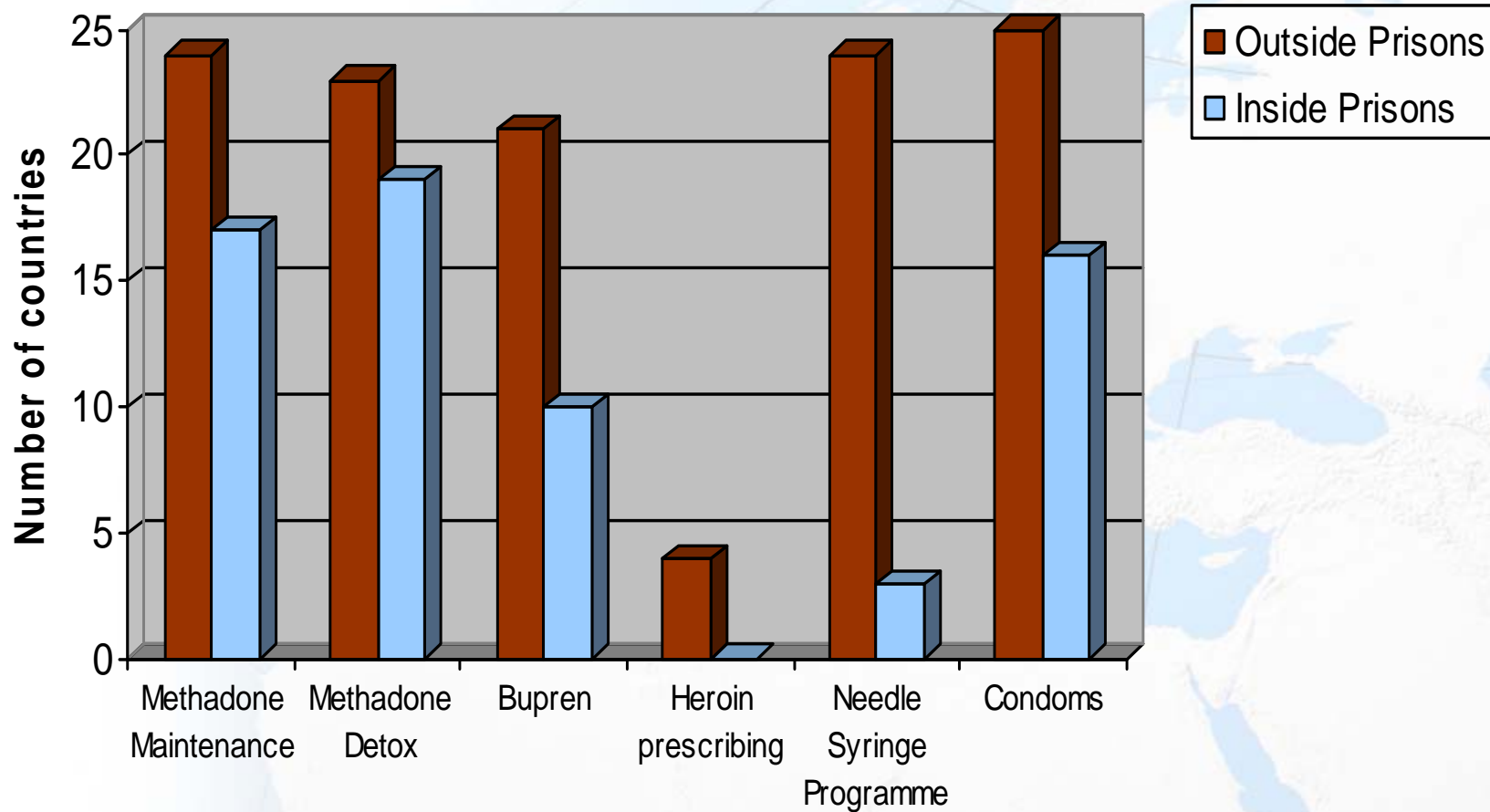


HIV in Prison settings

Number of HIV cases



HIV prevention measures in prisons in the EU, outside and inside of prisons





Drug-related health and social responses in prisons (Lithuania)

	Appropriateness for remand prisons	Appropriateness for sentenced prisoners	Feasibility for remand prisons	Feasibility for sentenced prisoners
Bleach distribution	medium	high	medium	high
Prison NSPs	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable
Detoxification	high	high	medium	medium
OST (medium- and long-term maintenance treatment)	low	not applicable	low	not applicable
Initiation of OST in prison	low	not applicable	low	not applicable



Drug-related health and social responses in prisons (Lithuania)

	Appropriateness for remand prisons	Appropriateness for sentenced prisoners	Feasibility for remand prisons	Feasibility for sentenced prisoners
drug service provision by community-based organisations	not applicable	medium	not applicable	medium
Relapse-prevention	low	low	low	low
Intensive follow-up after release	not applicable	low	not applicable	low
Collaboration contracts prison-community healthcare	low	low	low	low



Drug-related health and social responses in prisons (Estonia)

	Appropriateness for remand prisons	Appropriateness for sentenced prisoners	Feasibility for remand prisons	Feasibility for sentenced prisoners
Bleach distribution	low	High	Medium	Medium
Prison NSPs	not applicable	not applicable	Medium	Medium
Detoxification	Medium	High	Medium	High
OST (medium- and long-term maintenance treatment)	not applicable	High	Medium	High
Initiation of OST in prison	not applicable	High	low	High



Drug-related health and social responses in prisons (Estonia)

	Appropriateness for remand prisons	Appropriateness for sentenced prisoners	Feasibility for remand prisons	Feasibility for sentenced prisoners
drug service provision by community-based organisations	not applicable	low	low	low
Relapse-prevention	not applicable	High	not applicable	Medium
Intensive follow-up after release	not applicable	High	not applicable	low
Collaboration contracts prison-community healthcare	not applicable	High	no info, don't know	no info, don't know



Drug-related health and social responses in prisons (Latvia)

	Appropriateness for remand prisons	Appropriateness for sentenced prisoners	Feasibility for remand prisons	Feasibility for sentenced prisoners
Bleach distribution	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable
Prison NSPs	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable
Detoxification	High	High	High	High
OST (medium- and long-term maintenance treatment)	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable
Initiation of OST in prison	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable

Drug-related health and social responses in prisons (Latvia)

	Appropriateness for remand prisons	Appropriateness for sentenced prisoners	Feasibility for remand prisons	Feasibility for sentenced prisoners
drug service provision by community-based organisations	not applicable	N/A	N/A	N/A
Relapse-prevention	not applicable	N/A	N/A	N/A
Intensive follow-up after release	not applicable	N/A	N/A	N/A
Collaboration contracts prison-community healthcare	not applicable	N/A	N/A	N/A



Key problems

- Although having signed and/or ratified the main international and regional documents on the fight with HIV/AIDS, several Countries has not yet fulfilled all the commitments undertaken.



Key problems

- ❏ Prison health care system is under the Ministry of Justice which is separated from the general health care system . As a result no proper consultation and coordination during the preparations of specific legal acts and regulations.



Key problems

- ❏ Prevention work for drug addiction and HIV/AIDS is limited only to the education and general preventive activities. No special preventive means oriented to groups at risk.
- ❏ Lack of communication and exchange of information with Public Health services outside the prison system.



Key problems

- ❏ Carrying/possessing drug injection equipment is still seen as an indictor for drug criminality by the police, this of course increases risks of sharing needles.



Northern Dimension
Partnership in Public Health
and Social Well-being

**DECLARATION ON PRINCIPLES OF
COOPERATION BETWEEN PRISON HEALTH AND
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT
OF A SAFER SOCIETY**



Oslo Declaration

- 👤 We collectively share the view that within the penitentiary facilities high-risk behaviour for the transmission of HIV, other STBBIs (among them hepatitis C), and TB occur. Therefore, there is a need to increase and strengthen the implementation of an evidence-based, ethical, and public health-driven response to HIV/AIDS, other STBBIs and TB. We need to ensure that prisoners have access to adequate means to prevent the acquisition and transmission of these infections to the extent feasible to those that are available in the outside community



Oslo Declaration

- 🔗 We will promote necessary measures in order to ensure that prisoners have access to the same drug treatment and counselling programs available to the population in the communities at large where applicable. This should include no-cost access to substitution therapy and counselling for prisoners in jurisdictions where substitution treatment is available outside of prisons. If appropriate, drug free prison wards should be available for persons wanting treatment for their addiction disorders



Oslo Declaration

- 🧩 We are determined to take all necessary measures to ensure that all prisoners in NDPHS Partner countries infected with HIV or other infectious diseases have access to antiretroviral (ARV) or other necessary therapies according to the national treatment recommendations, and that national and local community programs include prison-specific components



Oslo Declaration

- 🔗 We will work towards ensuring the provision of follow-up treatment for prisoners post-release when applicable, who are still ill, particularly with an infectious disease, as interruptions in treatment may be particularly hazardous to the individual and to the broader society. Planning for and providing a continuum of care from institution to community are essential elements of prison health care provision

„... Prisoners are the community. They come from the community, they return to it. Protection of prisoners is protection of our communities “