

International Training School on Core Correctional Skills

From 29th September to 3rd October 2025

Programme

Venue: [Centre for Legal Studies and Specialized Training](#)
*Carrer de Pau Claris, 158, 08009
Barcelona, Catalonia – Spain*

Monday 29th September

Room 4.03 – Chair of the day: Prof. Ioan Durnescu

09.30 – 10.00 **Official opening**

Mr Marc Céron i Riera - Director of the Centre for Legal Studies and Judicial Training, Catalan Government.

Ms Marta Ferrer, Deputy Director of Probation, Restorative justice and Victim support, Catalan Department of Justice and Democratic Quality and CEP Vice-President.

Professor Ioan Durnescu – University of Bucharest, Romania and ITSCCS Course Coordinator.

10.00 – 12.00 **Keynote Round Table: Leadership in Probation and Parole – Shaping the Future of Community Corrections.**

Ms Annie Devos - Director-General for the Wallonia-Brussels Federation Probation Service and CEP President.

Mr Imants Jurevicius – Head State Probation Service of Latvia.

Ms Veronica Ballard Cunningham - Executive Director of the American Probation and Parole Association (tbc)

Ms Marta Ferrer – Deputy Director of the Catalan Probation and Restorative Justice services, Catalan Ministry of Justice and CEP Vice-President.

Round Table Chairs:

Ms Iuliana Carburaru, Probation Inspector for the National Probation Directorate, Ministry of Justice of Romania and CEP Vice-President.

Prof Ioan Durnescu, University of Bucharest, Romania and ITSCCS Course Coordinator.

This session will be live streamed.

12.00-12.30 **Coffee break/snack and networking** (room 4.03)

12.30-13.30 **How to build up the working alliance with an involuntary client?**

Prof Ioan Durnescu

13.30 – 14.30 **Practice Lab** – participants will practice the first interview

End of the programme

19.00-20.00 **Reception at Hotel Renaissance – Roof top terrace***

C. de Pau Claris, 122, 08009 Barcelona

**Open bar from 19.00 to 19.30. After 19.30 attendants will be able to continue enjoying the roof top terrace but any order after this time (food or drink) will be borne by each attendant.*

Tuesday 30th September

Room 4.03 - Chair of the day: Prof. Ioan Durnescu

- 9.30 – 10.30 **Pro-social modelling**
Ms Anna Esquerrà Roqueta and Mr Joe Ardvison (online)
- 10.30 – 11.00 **Coffee break and Networking** (Room 4.09)
- 11.00-12.00 **Practice micro-skills and feedback in the plenary**
- 12.00 – 13.00 **Lunch** (free choice)
- 13.00 – 16.00 **Study visit to City of Justice and interview with coordinators of Catalan NGOs in charge of Probation services**

Wednesday 1st October

Room 4.03 - Chair of the day: Prof. Ioan Durnescu

- 09.30 – 10.30 **Problem solving**
Ms Iuliana Carbunaru
- 10.30 – 11.30 **Practice Lab – practicing in small groups – problem orientation and problem-solving**
- 11.30 – 12.00 **Coffee break and Networking (Room 4.09)**
- 12.00 – 12.30 **Feedback in plenary on problem-solving**
- 12.30 – 13.30 **Motivational interviewing**
Ms Maret Miljan and Prof Ioan Durnescu
- 13.30 – 14.30 **Practice Lab – practicing in small groups – the use of change talk and amplifying discrepancies.**
- 14.30 – 15.30 **Lunch (free choice)**
- 15.30 - 17.30 **Walking tour Barcelona - Eixample and Gothic Quarter**
Meeting point: front door of the Centre for Legal Studies and go together to the starting point of the walking tour.
The tour will last about 2.00h approx., wear comfortable shoes.



Thursday 2nd October

Room 4.03 - Chair of the day: Prof. Ioan Durnescu

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| 09.30 – 10.30 | <i>Summary of the previous days and feedback from the participants</i>
<i>Ask anything session</i>
<i>Prof. Ioan Durnescu</i> |
| 10.30 – 11.30 | <i>Feedback to the plenary and discussions on Motivational Interviewing</i> |
| 11.30 – 12.00 | <i>Coffee break and Networking (room 4.09)</i> |
| 12.00 – 13.00 | <i>Cognitive behavioural interventions</i>
<i>Dr Myrinda Schweitzer Smith, Executive Director of the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute</i> |
| 13.00 – 14.00 | <i>Practice Lab – practicing in small groups based on scenarios</i> |
| 14.00 – 14.30 | <i>Feedback on the plenary and discussions</i> |
| 14.30 – 15.30 | <i>End of programme</i> |

Friday 3rd October

Room 4.03 - Chair of the day: Prof. Ioan Durnescu

- 09.30 – 10.00 **Summary of the previous days and feedback from the participants**
Ask anything session
Prof. Ioan Durnescu
- 10.00 – 10.45 **On the feedback loops. Measuring the quality of the relationship**
Prof. Ioan Durnescu
- 10.45 – 11.15 **Coffee break and Networking** (Room 4.09)
- 11.15 – 12.15 **Integrating all skills into everyday practice. Discussions on how to transfer the new learning into normal working routines**
- 12.15 – 14.00 **Final evaluation of the course and closing ceremony**
Ms Penelope Torres Moreno – Head of Criminal Justice Initial Training - Centre for Legal Studies and Judicial Training.
Professor Ioan Durnescu – University of Bucharest, Romania and ITSCCS Course coordinator.



Partners

The Fourth edition of the International Training School on Core Correctional Skills is organised by the Confederation of European Probation (CEP) and the Centre for Legal Studies and Specialised Training.

The Centre for Legal Studies and Specialized Training is an autonomous administrative body attached to the Ministry of Justice of the Government of Catalonia. It was created in 1990 and its fundamental mission is to organise initial training and continuous education for the staff working at different units of the Ministry with the aim of ensuring and improving the quality of the services provided. With a view to contributing to this end, another pivotal activity of the centre is to conduct research in the fields of criminology, enforcement of sentences, administration of justice and the Catalonia's own body of laws. Moreover, the centre leads university practicum programmes, is home to a specialised public library, organises exchanges with teaching and research centres at national and international level, and regularly takes an active part in international exchange and innovation projects.

More information can be found at <http://ceife.gencat.cat/ca/inici/>

The Confederation of European Probation (CEP) is an umbrella organisation for Probation institutions in Europe. Founded in 1981, CEP brings together practitioners, managers, academics, stakeholders and others working in the field of probation and criminal justice from all over Europe. The goals of CEP are to enhance the profile of probation and to improve professionalism in this field, on a national and a European level. It promotes pan-European cooperation and exchange of ideas by organising conferences, by making reports available, by publishing its digital newsletter and through its website. In addition, CEP participates in academic projects which compile and study effective policy and practice in probation. It thus endorses the start of a 'science' of probation. To European bodies such as the European Union and the Council of Europe, CEP is the spokesperson for the sector of probation, providing expertise and comparative data. CEP is a member-based organisation with 90 members representing 39 EU countries and 42 EU jurisdictions.

More info can be found at www.cep-probation.org

Additional information

For urgent issues, please contact Professor Ioan Durnescu: +40729181081, or email: iodurnescu@gmail.com