



IX Annual Conference of

E.P.T.A

(European Penitentiary Training Academies)

Central Training Centre of Prison Service

Kalisz - POLAND

14-17 November 2016





**MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF PENITENTIARY
ADMINISTRATION**

***VIOLENT RADICALISATION
IN PRISON: TRAINING COURSES
FOR STAFF WORKING IN PRISON
ENVIRONMENTS***

TRAINING COURSES ON INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND RADICALISATION IN PRISON

In the last 6 years, the Department of the Penitentiary Administration (D.A.P.) has implemented 3 courses on this topic:

- **1st Course in 2010**
- **2nd Course in 2012 – 2013**
- **3rd Course in 2015 - 2016 (in progress)**



1st COURSE
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM
AND RADICALISATION

- Period:** May - November 2010
- Site:** P. Police Academy in Rome
- Target:** 156 P. Police staff working in 4 prisons hosting 80 terrorists
- Length:** 22 hours (3 days x 6 editions)

TRAINING PROGRAMME

1st DAY

- Cultural aspects of Islam
- The religious practice



2nd DAY

- International terrorism and ideological background
- Proselytism and radicalisation

3rd DAY

- How to manage foreign national terrorists
- Operational techniques





- 6 months later, the trainees were asked to answer some questions in order to assess the impact of the training course
- The questions were aimed at understanding if they noticed any relevant improvement in the relationship among staff/inmates or staff/prison organization
- They were also asked to describe a concrete case when they had used the knowledge and the skills they acquired during the training



THE RESULT



About 70/90 of the answers (80%) were remarking relevant improvements in staff daily duties:

- *They felt much more aware of some aspects of inmates' culture, so it was much easier to establish positive relationships between staff and inmates*
- *Almost all the staff asked for further training on the same topic*
- *The more remarkable fact was that 2 police staff started to study Arabic to enhance their communication skills*

2nd COURSE

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM, RADICALISATION AND DRUG TRAFFICKING

Period: 2012 and 2013

Site: 7 P. Police Academies

Target: 1,389 P. Police staff working in many prisons hosting mainly non EU inmates

Length: 22 hours (3 days x 46 editions)

TRAINING PROGRAMME

1st DAY

- Cultural aspects of Islam
- The religious practice



2nd DAY

- International terrorism and ideological background
- Proselytism and radicalisation



3rd DAY

- The international drug trafficking as source of international terrorism funding

3rd COURSE

VIOLENT RADICALISATION AND PROSELYTISM IN PRISON 1/2

- So far, the Training General Directorate is holding a 3rd course, started on September 2015
- The syllabus has been slightly changed to better focusing on the violent radicalisation and proselytism in prison
- The target is not only the penitentiary police staff but also the other staff who deal regularly with the inmates (social workers, educators, psychologists, governors, health staff)



3rd COURSE

VIOLENT RADICALISATION AND PROSELYTISM IN PRISON 2/2

The **goals** of the course are:

- **to improve staff skills** in dealing with inmates of different cultures, religions, habits, also in co-operation with the cultural mediators
- **to improve staff awareness** in detecting any early signal of radicalisation or proselytism among inmates
- **to promote a more integrated approach** based on a regular exchange of knowledge and information among professionals working in prisons
- The course lasts 22 hours (spread on 3 days)

TRAINING PROGRAMME 1/2

1st DAY

- The 1st day is focused on:
 - The cultural and religious aspects of Islam
 - The cultural mediation



2nd DAY

- The 2nd day regards:
 - The international terrorism and the ideological background
 - Proselytism and violent radicalisation in prison, focused on:
 - The **factors** that can facilitate these dynamics
 - The **behaviors** that can be indicative of such processes
 - The best **counterstrategies**

TRAINING PROGRAMME 2/2

3rd DAY



- The 3rd day is split in two sections:
 1. Study of some real cases of proselytism or violent radicalisation in prison experienced by the trainees themselves (2 hours)
 2. Laboratory on the operational practices, where trainees will exchange their specific experiences in dealing with critical situations, aimed at drafting a common operational model (5 hours, in w.g.)

3rd COURSE: UPDATES

- Since September 2015 until June 2016, the course has been replied for **76 editions**, held in the **7 police academies** of the Penitentiary Department
- Almost **2,400 penitentiary staff** has attended the course, split as follows:
 - **80%** penitentiary police staff
 - **20%** other staff (prison governors, social workers, educators, health staff, psychologists)
- The course has restarted in October 2016 and it will finish within the end of the current year

DANGEROUS MISUNDERSTANDINGS

- ISLAM = TERRORISM ?

A DEEPLY WRONG INTERPRETATION

THEN:

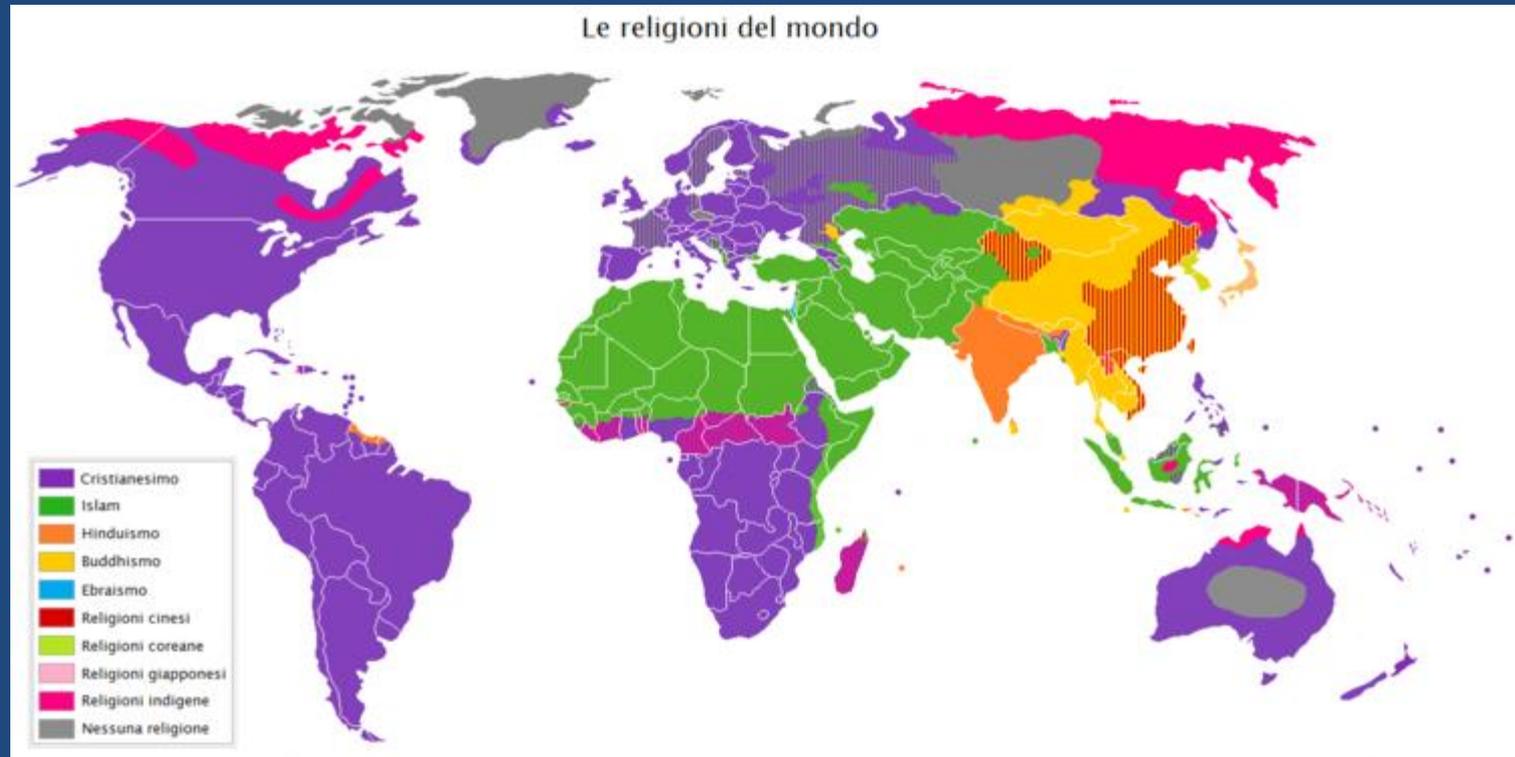
- WHY IN OUR COURSES WE TALK ABOUT ISLAMIC CULTURE ?

NUMBER OF INMATES IN ITALIAN PRISONS

(31 JULY 2016)

- TOTAL OF INMATES 53,850
- TOTAL OF FOREIGN INMATES 18,091
- PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL 34%
- TOTAL OF INMATES FROM COUNTRIES
OF ISLAMIC CULTURE (ESTIMATED) 10,530
- PERCENTAGE OF FOREIGNERS 58%
- PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL 20%

ONE INMATE OUT OF FIVE (1:5) COMES FROM A COUNTRY OF ISLAMIC CULTURE



ANDRES BREVICK: A WHITE, EUROPEAN AND CHRISTIAN WOLF



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THE END

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION