

## **PARTICIPANTS' FEEDBACK**

### **What were the participants' instant reflexions?**

*An unforgettable and pleasant meeting! I am grateful to have had the opportunity to participate. I attended English seminars at the Academy several times before the pandemic. But it has been a long time for me since the last face-to-face seminar. I was gradually losing my self-confidence. This webinar made me speak again.*

*It was a real challenge for me to speak again after such a long time of having no opportunity to practise my English. It was nice to meet my colleagues and compare our English language levels.*

*I appreciate the opportunity to practise penitentiary English meaningfully during an inspiring discussion with foreign partners.*

*Active interaction, this is what I consider the main benefit of this webinar. I enjoyed expressing my ideas in English.*

*I could practise my listening skills and it was motivating because of the topic.*

*It was not an ordinary English seminar. It was a real situation created for us to practise professional English.*

*It was wonderful to exchange ideas and learn from each other in this international dimension. Such webinars widen horizons that may be distorted by having no chance to see or learn about other realities. Comparison brings inspiration and professional growth. And cooperation is essential.*

*A unique opportunity to share information about penitentiary issues internationally.*

*Such a form of language training is promising and I would like to participate in following webinars.*

*Exchange of experience and good practices in international context is an irreplaceable tool of staff's enhancement at all times, but in the times of crisis it is even more important.*

*It has motivated me to share my experience with foreign colleagues and to analyse my own practice.*

*I am sure I can contact any of the participants even though we have met only virtually.*

*The theory was useful and I hope next time there will be more time for practical exchange of experience. The more prison systems get involved, the better.*

*Such webinars - run especially in the times of pandemic - open the space for future international cooperation.*

*Such webinars should be a component part of compulsory education required for the promotion to all levels of prison managerial positions.*

### **What have the participants learnt?**

*I have learnt basic rules of effective prison leadership. The topic was absolutely new to me.*

*A good leader creates safe and friendly climate at his/her prison.*

*A good leader has content employees. Employees are contented when they feel safe and respected.*

*Treating work as art - that's the point to be considered.*

*I believe I can apply some of Dan's practical advice in my daily work.*

*I will think of the emphasis on the emotional part of a leader's job and on conscious work with one's emotions both for good leadership and for self-well-being.*

*Dealing with trivial and uncomfortable problems is imperative.*

*There is some space for staff's mistakes. By making mistakes they learn and become more independent. A good leader does not punish his/her staff for making mistakes.*

### **What do the participants think of the facilitator?**

*Dan Halchin is an enlightened person with an exceptional attitude to leadership. It was my honour to have visited Arad Prison in Romania two years ago. I talked to the prison officers and I understand that his lecture reflected his leadership experience, life philosophy and wisdom.*

*Dan Halchin is a brilliant lecturer and outstanding personality. I appreciate that he tailored his session to us as individuals taking in consideration not only the topic, but also our English skills.*

*Dan Halchin is an inspiring person. He talks about serious and complex issues in a comprehensible and practical manner.*

### **What do the participants think of the organizer?**

*I would like to express my gratitude to Iva Prudlová for her initiative of such a kind of prison staff education allowing meeting of professionals in the international penitentiary field. I appreciate her work that has been bringing success.*

*It was thanks to her attentive and time consuming preparation Iva Prudlová had devoted to development of a structured, live and well-organized seminar. She is a master of details seeking for perfection.*

*I think I can imagine how demanding it must have been to make it work. Thank you, Iva.*

*I would like to thank not only the Academy specialist in staff education within international cooperation Iva Prudlová, but also the Academy Director František Vlach for creation of such a unique project that allows us to safely keep our professional enhancement growing in the Covid times. Professional English improvement is a base for our further development. I am honoured to have experienced the birth of this exceptional project.*

*The Czech Prison Service Academy plays an important role as institution that interconnects prison professionals from different countries and introduces experts in penitentiary issues and we appreciate it.*