

Participants' Feedback on the (Pilot) International English Webinar „COVID-19 IN PRISON“

Webinars organized by the Czech Prison Service Academy are the only opportunity to keep in touch with professional English. Reading articles cannot substitute for live interaction.

The participants' short contributions and discussions initiated communication skills improvement. Questions provoke spontaneous answers, which is a good examination of individual preparedness.

The webinar was very enriching. I have learnt new vocabulary such as quarantine, isolation, vaccinate, hygiene station etc.

It was interesting to learn about the statistics related to the pandemics in different countries and different prisons.

Good practices - such as a unique reservation system for testing prison staff, system of transfers of prisoners in Latvia or using different platforms for education of prisoners - were shared.

It was good to realize that we face similar challenges such as the lack of beds in isolation rooms in prisons, the lack of computers for online communication or the psychological impact on staff.

It was really interesting to learn about the other colleagues' personal experience with Covid-19 in their prisons.

It is always good to know how managers respond to the pandemic situations. If I am aware of different ways, approaches and procedures, I can avoid mistakes. I can be more creative in terms of working on my agenda.

The atmosphere during the webinars is always very friendly, because we already know most of the participants.

Such webinars should be part of regular staff training programmes within life-long learning. Mainly the prison managers should have the opportunity to participate.

I think that international English webinars, such as these, have a big potential and they can be implemented in language training in the future.

The next webinar takes place on June 2nd and the facilitator is a former prison governor from Lower Saxony Rüdiger Wohlgemuth.

For more information contact Iva Prudlová iprudlova@avs.justice.cz