



PRISONER'S A-Z

Rights & Obligations

GREEK MINISTRY OF JUSTICE,
TRANSPARENCY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR CRIME POLICY





PRISONER'S A-Z

Rights & Obligations



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Prison is a place where people live together. Therefore, it is necessarily governed by rules, so that life for the detainee and work for the employee may be safe and without any problems. The **“rules of the game”** in prison is a grid of rights and obligations. A summary of these rules is presented in this booklet. You may find more in the Penitentiary Code and Internal Regulations.

Time in prison is difficult: without freedom, away from family and friends, without any favourite habits. Not though without any **rights**. Knowing and exercising them, strengthen and protect your personality, but also compel the administration to act based on rules. But at the same time, there are also **obligations**, and fulfilling them will not just get you out of prison more easily, but will turn time spent inside prison more easy.

Respecting the rights and fulfilling the obligations excludes arbitrariness. Of course, the final measure on rules is respecting human dignity and protecting life. In any case though, **justice** does not stop at the prison door.

Eftichis Fitrakis

General Secretary For Crime Policy



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Beneficial Calculation Towards Sentence

Each day of detention is beneficially calculated towards your sentence if:

- you occupy a working place or you are employed at a production laboratory at the facility where you are being detained
- you are in an educational programme (school of any level), during the entire year, or a vocational training programme
- you work at an agricultural prison, a construction and technical workshop or at K.A.Y.F. (Central Warehouse of Prisons' Supplies) (see Detention Premises – Classification below)
- you are following a detoxification therapeutic programme or at K.A.T.K. (Therapeutic Center for Drug – Addict Prisoners [see Treatment – Detox (from Drugs) below]).

The supervising public prosecutor is assigned with calculating day's wages following a proposition by the competent Prisoner's Labour Council.

The supervising public prosecutor, in case you are punished for a disciplinary offence, may not allow or may revoke the beneficial calculation for the days work of your detention. You may appeal before the Magistrate's Court Council within ten (10) days since you have been notified.

Central Council for Prisoners Transfer (K.E.M.)

It has three members and operates at the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights. The Council is dealing with prisoners' transfer requests, besides procedural ones (article 9 of the Penitentiary Code).

Clothing

You have the right to:

- clothes of your choice
- ask social service for clothes and shoes in case of need and extra clothing while you are working, always depending on the kind of your work.

Communication

You have the right to:

- Use payphones, while dormitories and cells are open, and communicate with persons who are permitted to visit you, and with your lawyer.
- Buy phone cards that mount to 25 euros or ask the service for one if you cannot afford it.
- Request to telephone your relatives at any time in case of an emergency.

The secrecy of your communication is protected. Checking the communication content may be realized for security reasons or for the competent authorities to investigate particularly serious crimes.

Community Service

You have the right to apply to the Magistrate's Court Council in order that your prison sentence is commuted to community service to be provided near your place of residence, if you are serving a sentence for misdemeanor:

- **if your sentence is converted into a fine**, in case you are not able to pay the amount converted (article 64 of the Penitentiary Code)
- **if your sentence is not converted into a fine** and you have already served in any way one fifth (1/5) of it. In this case the next one fifth (1/5) is first converted into a fine and, if you are not able to pay the amount converted, into a community service (article 105 paragraph 3 of the Penal Code).

Complaints

You may:

- Request a hearing from the supervising public prosecutor, the director, the heads of prison departments, psychologist, sociologist and or social worker. The director should post on the premises a hearing timetable each month.
- Report to the Prison Council any mistreatment or any illegitimate request by prison staff (see Prison Council below). If the Prison Council refuses your request, you may within 15 days since notification or in case of no



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answer within a month's time, appeal by a memo to the local Magistrate's Court Council (article 6, paragraph 1 of the Penitentiary Code).

- Appeal to the supervising public prosecutor for issues concerning visiting hours, communication, fair treatment and personal protection.
- Report to national agencies, such as The Greek Ombudsman or any International Organizations. Letters must be immediately forwarded by the directorate of the premise, without checking their content (article 6, paragraph 3 of the Penitentiary Code).

The Greek Ombudsman authority has been appointed as the "National Preventive Mechanism against Torture" and other cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment. The above authority may visit custodial premises and be informed by prisoners. Furthermore, ordinary and extra checks in the detention premises are being held by the "Detention Premises' Inspection and Control Body of the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights" (SEEK).

The Greek Ombudsman

17 Halkokondyli Street, 104 32, Athens

Tel.: 213 1306 600, Fax: 213 1306 800

(Secretariat For Human Rights, Tel.: 210 7292 129)

Monday to Friday: 8.30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesdays till 4:30 p.m.

www.synigoros.gr

The Ministry's General Secretariat For Crime Policy supervises via its departments the operation of detention premises in the country, insures that any illegal actions are revoked, meets requests from prisoners and controls persons in charge (article 6, paragraph 2 of the Penitentiary Code).

Conditional Release

You may be released early, having served a part of your sentence, depending on the sentence imposed by the court. You may ask the prison secretariat for more information. The Magistrate's Court Council decides on your release. If your request is rejected you may apply to the Court's of Appeals Council. In case, however, that you breach the conditions imposed or you

are convicted for another offence during the operational period, you are obliged to serve the remaining sentence.

Conditional Release for Disabled Prisoners

In case of serious health problems or severe disability, you may be released earlier for health reasons. You may ask for medical examination by an expert doctor or from KE.P.A. (Disability Certification Center). However, this benefit is only awarded once, hence in case you commit another offence, you will serve the remaining of your sentence without the right to be released again, based on article 110A of the Penal Code.



Daily Schedule

1. Timetable for the detention facility is as follows:

07.30 am: Waking – Cells/Dormitories open – Counting

07.45 am: Breakfast

08.00 am – 12.00 am: Sports, Work, Training, Participating in programmes, Free time

12.00 pm: Lunch

12.15 pm: Cells/Dormitories closing at noon – Counting

12.30 pm – 15.00 pm: Free time

15.00 pm: Opening

15.00 pm until half an hour before sunset: Sports, Work, Training, Participating in programmes, Free time

Half an hour before sunset: Closing day – Dinner – Counting.

2. Additional information on the timetable:

- Prisoners are allowed to remain in the wings with closed railings during winter period until **20.30 pm** and during summer until **21.00 pm**. After that they return to their cells/dormitories until the next morning.
- Following the timetable is obligatory.
- **Exceptionally**, prisoners remain inside the cells/dormitories in the wings with the railing closed:

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- On 31st of December, until 00.30 am of January 1st.
- During usual religious, national and local holidays at noon.
- In days of heat waves, when temperature is over 36°C at noon.
- At noon and for 1-2 hours, beyond regular night closure, when special measures for dealing with heat waves.
- During holidays and special days, the above timetable does not include training and participating in programmes.
- It is permitted, on the Prison Council's decision, for prisoners who participate in training or work, inside or outside the detention facility, to override the timetable.

3. More information on the timetable of the facility where you are being detained, may be found in a relevant announcement from the management.

Day's Wages

(see Beneficial Calculation Towards Sentence)

Detention Premises (classification)

Detention premises are divided into:

- General
- Special
- Therapeutical.

General detention premises are divided into:

- A type
- B type.

Special facilities are the Detention Premises for Young Persons, Agricultural Prisons and the Central Warehouse of Prisons' Supplies (K.A.Y.F.).

Therapeutical premises are the Prison Hospital of Korydallos, the Psychiatric Hospital of Korydallos and the Therapeutic Center for Drug-Addict Prisoners of Eleonas Thibes (K.A.T.K.E.TH.).

Disciplinary Control – Rights

During the disciplinary procedure you have the right to:

- be notified in writing about the disciplinary offence you are accused of
- be called before the Disciplinary Council to defend yourself and testify
- appeal before the Magistrate's Court Council (judicial council) against the decision of the Disciplinary Council within 5 days since the decision was made
- ask that the restriction sentence to an individual cell is suspended, interrupted or spared, in case of a serious danger against your life or health, or if you show that your sense of responsibility has been strengthened.

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Disciplinary Council

The Disciplinary Council has three members: the supervising public prosecutor as president, the director and the senior social worker (article 70, paragraph 1 of the Penitentiary Code).

Disciplinary Infractions and Sanctions

Disciplinary infractions and sanctions are described by law. The Disciplinary Council, operating in each detention facility, is authorized to impose disciplinary punishments and grant awards (see Disciplinary Council). It is useful to know the following:

- Disciplinary infractions and sanctions are:

Category A

Disciplinary sanctions: restriction to a specific cell up to 10 days, transfer to another prison, deprivation of work for 1 year, 16-30 penalty points, on:

- a) disobedience to lawful commands from the staff
- b) violent escape in collaboration with others
- c) using violence or threatening violence against staff
- d) exercising physical violence against a cellmates
- e) offence against sexual freedom
- f) constructing dangerous objects

- g) entering, possessing, using, etc., drugs or alcohol substances
- h) destroying facility property of high value
- i) bribing staff

Category B

Disciplinary sanctions: deprivation of work for 6 months, 6-15 (or 100) penalty points, on:

- a) stealing valuable items from a prisoner or using prohibited objects
- b) possessing money or items prohibited
- c) threatening or exercising psychological violence against co-inmates
- d) selling personal use items, e.g. medication
- e) organizing prohibited games
- f) escape
- g) false attempted suicide, self-injuring, swallowing objects
- h) insults against the staff or co-inmates
- i) systematically presenting groundless and false complaints
- j) possessing and using of mobile phone (100 penalty points).

Category C

Disciplinary sanctions: deprivation of work or training for 2 months, 6-15 penalty points, on:

- a) participating in prohibited games.
- b) manufacturing, possessing or using prohibited objects (besides dangerous ones, see category A)
- c) lack of personal hygiene and cleanliness inside the cell, dormitory, common areas
- d) encouraging other detainees to commit disciplinary offences.

Penalty points are taken into consideration when granting conditional release, leave, beneficial calculation of sentence days etc.

Disciplinary sanctions can be terminated as follows:

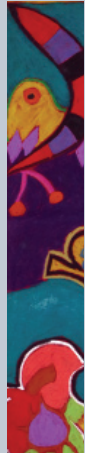
- a) restriction to a special cell (isolation) after 2 years
- b) disciplinary transfer after 1 year
- c) penalty points after 6 months
- d) deprivation of work at the time prescribed.





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 - ▶ Health
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- ▶ Information, Entertainment, Sports
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- ▶ Mistreatment
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Education

There are regular schools operating in prisons, where basic and ongoing education is provided. Diplomas granted are equivalent to the corresponding ones from school of the same level of education, while there is no explicit mention that the title was awarded in prison. Social service may inform you on the programmes operating in the detention facility.

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You have the right to:

- Apply for an educational programme (such as Elementary School, Gymnasium, Second Chance School, Institute of Vocational Training / IEK) or a vocational training program which takes place at the detention premise detained.
- Continue your studies at the Greek third level education, tertiary education, or attend an official educational institution, either by e-learning or when you receive an educational absence of leave following an application to the Disciplinary Council (see Disciplinary Council below). Special provisions offer the possibility attending tertiary education courses outside the prison through electronic monitoring.

Electronic Surveillance (“bracelet”)

If you are convicted on a temporary incarceration sentence while you have a permanent residence within the District of Attiki or Thessaloniki, you may request to be released earlier under the terms of electronic surveillance, until the time limit of being released based on the provisions of article 105 of the Penal Code. This is valid for those convicted of felonies, which are remand prisoners whose case is examined by the First Instance Court of Athens, Piraeus and Thessaloniki due to jurisdiction, under the specific requirements prescribed by the law [Law 4205/2013, FEK (Government Gazette Issue) A´ 242, and Presidential Decree 62/2014, FEK A´ 105]. The expenses of the equipment (“bracelet”) will be charged on you, unless you are indigent you may ask that this measure can be applied free of charge.



Food

You are entitled to:

- Have breakfast, lunch and dinner following the prison's food programme.
- Buy food or other cooking items permitted by the store-canteen from your personal account.
- Cover a special diet for health reasons, following doctor's opinion or for religious reasons.
- Cook your own food on the director's approval and in agreement with the doctor, provided that a special need exists for dietary or additional nutrition for health reasons.
- Have meals and food brought during visiting hours (not fruits though), that are checked easily, twice a month maximum, through Prison Council's permission.
- Request, if possible, during holidays on new year's day, on the 25th of March, Easter day, Assumption Day (15 August), 28th October and Christmas Day, as well as on local national and religious holidays, to have an alcoholic drink (beer or wine).

Health

You have the right to:

- Be examined by a doctor when entering a prison and whenever you request it.
- Be examined by a private doctor, in the presence of the facility doctor, at your expense, following request to the Prison Council.
- Receive – in the presence of a nurse or another authorized staff – medication prescribed by a psychiatrist.
- Be hospitalized in the Prisoners' Hospital or a hospital outside prison, if required for your health.

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- Be informed about the results of your medical examinations.
- Not undergo any medical examinations (or without any order from the supervising public prosecutor), operations or treatment, unless it is suspected an infection or contagious disease. If you deny, as to that last case, you may be temporarily isolated.
- Never undergo any medical or other experiments.

As a detainee, you have the right to medical and pharmaceutical care of equal level as received by general population (article 27, paragraph 1 of the Penitentiary Code). The responsibility for rendering health services inside detention facilities is approved by the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights and the Ministry of Health. Detainees that are patients and is not possible to be hospitalized in the detention premise, are transferred either to a public hospital at the prefecture where the detention premise is located, or if hospitalization is not possible, to the nearest public hospital at a prefecture where another detention premise is located. “Saint Paul”, a Hospital for Prisoners, and the Psychiatric Hospital of Korydallos meet basic hospitalization needs for prisoners who are sick during their detention or have serious psychiatric problems.

Home Confinement

If sentenced to imprisonment or incarceration (up to 10 years), you may request from the Magistrate’s Court Council, situated at the area where you are being detained, to serve your sentence at home, in the following cases:

- if you are over 75 years old
- if you are a mother of a minor child, until your child becomes 8 years old.

Hunger strike (right to Health)

A prisoner stating a hunger strike has the right to call a prison doctor or a doctor of his choice to verify his physical, emotional and mental health (article 31, paragraph 1 of the Penitentiary Code).

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Hygiene

You have the right to:

- Reside in an individual cell if premises exist.
- Ask for the necessary means for your personal hygiene and for cleaning your clothes in case you cannot afford it.
- Buy sanitary articles from the store.
- When entering a prison, take a mattress, two pillow cases, two blankets, four sheets, two face towels, two bath towels.
- Use your own sheets, blankets and towels of different colour from those granted by the facility (without any selvage).
- Have warm water every day in baths and laundry areas.
- Wash your clothes in the facility's washing machines, if there are any.
- Have common areas and facilities cleaned every day by cleaning crews and regularly disinfected.
- Receive information on hygiene matters and prevention of infectious diseases.

Information, Entertainment, Sports

You have the right to:

- Use a TV set in your cell (your own or provided) with headphones so that fellow cellmates are not disturbed. There could be one pay TV channel only, if permitted by the Prison Council (see Prison Council above), at your own expense.
- Get newspapers, magazines and books or borrow them from the library.
- Ask information on your legal status.
- Participate in entertaining – artistic events and in discussions with scientists or other guests.
- Use computers only in special areas for training purposes, following a decision from the Prison Council.

- Walk and exercise in the yard or in sports areas for at least an hour per day, supervised by guards or trainers.
- Participate in group fitness training programmes that do not prevent the operation of the facility.

Informing Rights

Once you enter to prison, you may:

a) Declare in writing:

- whether your personal safety is in danger and you need protection
- whether there are prisoners with whom you are facing problems
- whether there are prisoners with whom you have family relations
- if you are foreigner, inform the Embassy of your nationality about your status, provided this is what you want to do
- if you want to inform any person in case of emergency.

b) Be advised by the prison staff (director or security staff or secretariat or social service) on:

- your rights
- obligations
- practical everyday matters.

c) Talk to social service in prison or to an employee of the detention premise in case when:

- a family problem arises
- family issues require help
- legal matters must be resolved or legal assistance is required.

Leave

You may ask for a leave if certain requirements are met:

- For a **regular leave** you may ask from 1 to 6 days. The time-span may be increased up to 9 days, as soon as you have served the 2/5 of your sentence

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or 12 years in case of life sentence. If applying for the first time, it is required that you have served the 1/5 of your sentence, without any beneficial calculation of days of work or education. In case of a life sentence you are required to have served 8 years. You may apply for a new leave every two months since the date you left from prison. The overall days of a regular leave, without travelling days, may not exceed 45 days per year. The Disciplinary Council (see Disciplinary Council below) decides on terms and conditions prescribed by the articles 54 – 56 of the Penitentiary Code. If your request is rejected twice in a row, you may appeal to the Council of the Magistrate's Court within 10 days since you have been notified of the refusal.

You may ask for money support while receiving a regular leave as to cover necessary expenses (public transportation costs), if needed.

- **Urgent leave** is granted by the supervising public prosecutor (see Prosecution supervision below) for maximum of 24 hours, with or without escorting. The urgent leave is granted to fulfil family, vocational or other emergency needs.

An urgent leave may also be granted by prison staff or the director of the correctional premise, notifying the supervising public prosecutor, due to a spouse or family member's funeral, close relatives (up to second degree family members), and also for urgent health reasons.

- **Educational leave** is granted for studying at any educational level as prescribed by law. The educational leave is granted by the Disciplinary Council (see Legality - Legitimacy - Prosecutorial Supervision below).

Legal Aid

As an indigent, you may apply to the supervising public prosecutor so that legal aid through a lawyer is appointed ex officio. That requires:

- supportive documents such as declaration tax, a tax clearance note, certificate of payment for welfare or unemployment benefits, minutes from court decisions proving that you were tried without a lawyer, unable to pay fines or convert sentences into fines, etc.

- a copy of the summons
- a note from a social worker
- a copy of your personal account from the accounting office of the prison.

In case your application is rejected you may appeal to the next higher agency within three days.

Legality - Legitimacy – Prosecutorial Supervision

The public prosecutor on the detention premise (supervising prosecutor) is empowered to oversee the conditions under which court decisions are executed along with its legitimacy of confinement in prison. As to your



right, you may request a hearing by the supervising public prosecutor (see Complaints below).

List of Visits

You have a right to receive visits provided you wish so, from a spouse and relatives up to 4th degree family relationship (you may receive further information from the social service) that last half an hour, for at least:

- once a week if you are a convict
- twice a week if you are a remand
- unlimited if you a fine defaulter or waiting to be deported.

If permitted by the Prison Council, you may:

- get visits from others as well, at least every fortnight
- get permission for visits without a partition ("free") from a spouse and children, at an appropriate space
- get visits from other persons or bodies who could affect you in a positive way
- get visits from diplomatic or consul officials of your country in case you are an alien.

If permitted by the supervising public prosecutor you may:

- meet a spouse or relative up to 2nd degree, detained in the same detention facility complex (you can get more information from the social service of the facility).

If you are a mother, you have the right to have your child with you until the age of 3, at a designated space.

If you have no family or lack communication with relatives, you may declare to the social service a person who could be there for you.

You may get unlimited visits from your lawyer, besides the one imposing the timetable for lawyers' hearings.

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Mail

You have a right to:

- Send and receive letters with no limitation and in due time via Post. You need permission granted by the Prison Council (see Prison Council below) only to correspond with another prisoner.
- Ask social service staff to cover correspondence expenses in case needed.

Secrecy is ensured while its content may be checked for security reasons or to investigate serious crimes.

Mistreatment

The prison is obliged to ensure safety for each prisoner. If you become a victim of harassment or violence, you can address yourself to the supervising public prosecutor, the director and any member of the prison staff, particularly to the chief warden. Hitting or threatening are acts of violence and harassment.

Severe punishments are provided for physical violence committed amongst prisoners or against prison staff, even during a leave (Law 4322/2015). Sentences imposed on the above actions (felonies or intentionally committed misdemeanours) are served in full after having served the initial sentence and cannot be merged with other sentences that have been or will be imposed (article 94, paragraph 4 of the Penal Code).

Obligations (basic)

You should:

- Follow legal instructions and orders from staff and keep the programme.
- Not walk outside your wing's railing without permission or escort.
- Not communicate with prisoners from other wings and not correspond with other prisoners without a permit.

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- Cooperate with the staff on regular or extraordinary searches on personal items and body frisk carried out in special areas by staff of the same gender that will not offend your personal dignity.
- Following an order from the public prosecutor, the director or the chief warden, intracorporal or x-ray search, by a doctor or stay up to three days in a special area under surveillance, in case you are suspected having drugs carried into your body.
- Not obstruct lighting in your cell/dormitory and facilitate in counting and visual inspection.
- Respect your fellow co-inmates, treat staff decently, and behave as such in councils and visitations with relatives and lawyers.
- Deposit to the accounting office your money and deliver any deposit booklets, cheques, credit cards and other valuable personal items for safekeeping in the storeroom of the prison.
- Not deposit any money into another prisoner's account, unless it is a spouse, a relative, and also not exchange phone cards or other items.
- Not smoke in visiting areas and receive no phone cards or items granted or sold to the store by visitors.
- Be quick when using payphones and respect the line.
- Not possess or use mobile phones.
- Execute with consistency and care the work you were assigned.
- Use properly and not damage intentionally tools, materials, items and facilities.
- Care for personal hygiene and cleaning clothes, sheets and blankets, and keep your personal items in order.
- Care for cleanliness of public areas.
- Return, when released, the mattress, blankets, sheets and pillows you have received.





PRISONER'S A-Z

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 - ▶ Visiting Hours - Visiting Schedule
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Permitted Items

It is permitted to have in your cell/dormitory items of direct and everyday use, with no metal sheeting. Their overall volume may be of a regular size suitcase and not any larger. These are:

- necessary clothes, shoes, underwear, slippers without any nails, buckles or any other dangerous parts
- a wrist watch operating, wedding ring
- a religious symbol
- plastic hangers
- toothbrush, plastic razors, plastic comb, BIC lighter
- small radio, small TV set with headphones
- sunglasses or vision glasses
- a small nail clippers without scissors
- pencils, pen, paper, books, newspapers, magazines on a limited number provided they can be checked
- sheets, pillowcases, towels and blankets without webbing
- plastic utensils, spoons, forks, Tupperware, and a small thermos if they can be checked
- backpack, travel bag of soft fabric, plastic or any other flexible material, without double bottom and metal supports
- any kind allowed for buying from a shop or a canteen
- plastic back brace, hernia belts, crutches, orthopaedic articles, following a doctor's permit and can be checked
- medications, following a doctor's permit
- articles for educational or artistic purposes and for creative use of time, following application and a permit by the Prison Council, provided they can be checked.

Prison Council

The Prison Council has three members: the director, the senior social worker and the senior specialized scientist (with their substitutes, as prescribed by article 10, paragraph 1 of the Penitentiary Code).

The facility's chief warden is participating in the meetings without a right to vote. The supervising public prosecutor may participate in these meetings following an invitation from the council or even ex officio, as well as the detainee interested at his/her request and if is considered necessary (article 10 of the Penitentiary Code).

Prisoners' Labour Council

The Council has five members: the supervising public prosecutor as president, the director, the senior social worker, the chief warden and the agriculturist of the agricultural prison (or supervising staff at the work place or the head of the technical Department or any other specialized scientist) as



members. Requests for work are examined in order. The Council makes its decisions following previous hearing of the interested detainees (articles 41, paragraph 3 of the Penitentiary Code).

Prohibited Items

When you first enter it is prohibited to carry with you:

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- soaps in solid and liquid form or powder
- toothpaste, shaving foam, crèmes in different packages, perfumes
- radio cassette players, cassette recorders, digital audio equipment except radio, microcomputers, electronic toys, mobile phones, personal organizers
- pens and markers if they may not be checked
- pillows, mattresses, rugs, blankets similar to those provided
- cigarettes and smoke in any package
- toilet paper, paper towels, diapers, sanitary napkins
- cosmetics of any kind
- shoes, with metal parts or two soles or aerosol, and boots that cannot be checked
- jackets with glass fabric if cannot be checked.

You are also not allowed to have:

- a mobile phone (it is prohibited to possess and use a mobile phone) and its parts (adapter, SIM card)
- sharp objects that can be used as weapons
- narcotic or alcohol substances, devices to manufacture or use them
- assets or items your co-inmates exclusively use
- phone cards amounting overall over 25 euros.



Money, jewellery, valuables and other items, despite those permitted, you are giving them for keeping in the accounting office and the storeroom when you enter. These items are listed analytically in a special registry book by an employee (storeroom) while you sign, when giving and returned to you, in case of transfer or release from prison.

In case it is contested whether an item is permitted or not, the chief warden is competent to decide.

R

Release (preparation)

After released from prison you may face practical difficulties in daily life and adjustment problems. It may also be possible that you do not know where to turn for assistance. To prepare you return to family and social life, as well as to get support in searching for a job, you may ask for assistance from the social service and prison staff e.g., psychologist, sociologist, social worker.

Participation in educational programs and vocational training programs, as well as therapy groups and other activities, might help in reinforcing your skills and coming in touch with people and agencies that could help you when you are released.



“EPANODOS” is a legal entity of private law operating under the supervision of the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights which is dealing with aftercare relating issues. You may have further information on “EPANODOS” and other agencies and services operating at your area of residence from the social service and the prison personnel during custody.

EPANODOS, Released Prisoner Reintegration Center

28-30 Derigny St., Victorias Square,
P.C. 104 34 Athens,

Tel.: 210-8815904, 210-8815032, fax: 210-8251109

Email: epanodos@epanodos.org.gr,

<http://www.epanodos.org.gr>



R

Religious Freedom

You have the right to:

- Exercise your religious duties regularly in a temple or another appropriate place formed for that purpose at the premise where you are being detained.
- Communicate and ask permission to accept visits from representatives of your religion.
- Ask for special diet for religious reasons and have it provided for as possible.

S

Serving Time

Actual sentence time is calculated by prison services (secretariat) based on the sentence imposed on by **an irrevocable court decision**, after subtracting the time of temporary custody while you were a remand. In case of several irrevocable convictions actual time will be calculated based on a total merged sentence. In case a merge decision does not exist, you may via the prison or your lawyer, submit an application to the competent court. For the cases on reduction of prison time see Serving Time Reduction below.

Serving time Reduction

Prison time may be reduced in the following cases with the aim to decrease the negative consequences of imprisonment and facilitate your gradual return to society:

- conditional release
- conditional release for disabled prisoners
- beneficial calculation of work in the detention
- community service
- early release on electronic surveillance ("bracelet")

The facility's services where you are being detained may inform you on all above measures. You may also request your lawyer's assistance. (For more information, see the corresponding words in the Index above.)

Transferral

You have a right to be transferred to your country to serve your sentence, provided that the relevant court conviction has become irrevocable:

- if you are a national from a third country that has signed the Strasbourg Treaty
- if you are a national of an E.U. member state and you permanently reside in an E.U. country [Law 4307/2014, FEK (Government Gazette Issue) A' 246].

You may submit a relevant application to the detention facility's secretariat where you may receive a special form and relevant information.

T

T

Transfers (between detention facilities)

You may request in writing to be transferred to another detention facility for personal, family, education, therapeutic reasons or even work (e.g. in an agricultural prison). You should **support the reasons you invoke by presenting documents or any other relevant evidence**. The Prison Council will suggest and the Central Council for Prisoners Transfer (K.E.M.) operating in the Ministry will decide whether or not you will be transferred and where.

Treatment - Detox (from drugs)

The right to health services is similar to the one for the general population as it also includes the right to treatment for people facing drug addictive problems. For that purpose there are several detention premises in which advising units and therapeutic programmes operate. Furthermore, on the Therapeutic Centre of Drug-Addict Prisoners (K.A.T.K.) of Eleonas Thibes operates a full detoxification programme supervised by the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights.

If you are an addict, you have the right to:

- Request to participate in a counselling or therapeutic programme operating at the facility where you are being detained.
- Request to be transferred to K.A.T.K. or to another facility where a therapeutic programme is operating so that you may enter it if you meet law requirements.
- Request not to be transferred to a detention premise where you cannot participate in a counselling or a therapeutic programme.
- Request, fully applying Law 4139/2013, by the Special Committee prescribed by article 31, to decide on you being placed in a physical detoxification and mental rehabilitation programme in prison.



You may be informed by the social service and the staff of the facility where you are being detained concerning counselling and therapeutic programmes that are functioning.

Visiting hours – Visiting Schedule

Visiting hours for lawyers and family are as such:

V

- **08.00 am – 11.00 am** and **15.00 pm – half an hour before sunset** in during winter period.
- **08.00 am – 11.00 am** and **15.00 pm – 18.00 pm** during summer period.

W

You may find information on days and the exact timetable for visiting hours, as well as any changes for exceptional circumstances, on the management's announcements in the wings.

Voting rights

You may vote at a polling station set up inside prison in parliamentary elections, in European parliament elections and in any referendum, provided that you are registered at the electoral registers following your application. Voting requires that you have not been deprived of your civil rights by an irrevocable court decision.

Work

You have a right to:

- Apply to the Labour Council (see Prisoner's Labour Council above) to work under a beneficial calculation (day's wages).
- Express your preference for the position of the job that you want.

Your application will be considered by priority order.

- Be insured with I.K.A. (Social Security Institution) against any risk of accident if working at specific posts.



Work in prison is not a form of punishment or any sense of oppression (article 40, paragraph 1 of the Penitentiary Code). In each detention premise there are working positions in auxiliary works or services that cover operational needs of the facility. Furthermore, in several facilities they are in operation agricultural or handicraft working units. Allocating prisoners to working places, defining working hours and working terms are determined by the Prisoners' Labour Council.


W

Additional information may found on your rights and the operation of detention facilities may be found in the Penitentiary Code (Law 2776/1999, FEK A' 291/1999), in the Internal Regulation for A' and B' Detention Facilities (Ministerial Decision no. 58819/7.4.2003, FEK B' 463/2003), as well as in the Internal Regulation for Special Detention Premises for Young Detainees (Ministerial Decision no.47503/21.6.2005, FEK B' 889/30.6.2005).



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The artwork on the cover as well as the other artworks in the book have been created by the students of the **Second Chance School (SDE – “Georgios Zouganelis”)** and the trainees of **Vocational Training (IEK)** in Korydallos Prison.



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