

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

PREVENTIVE PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

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ON THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR PREVENTION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Both the overall and individual approach towards the preparation of the Plan of Action on Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency are based on the conception that prevention of juvenile delinquency is a set of ideas, scientifically confirmed and verified theories and standpoints on the ethiology and phenomenology of this phenomenon as well as the actions and measures for its prevention and suppression. The prevention of juvenile delinquency is considered to be a system of actions and measures of the state bodies, the legal, social, educational institutions and bodies, set up in a coherent and correlated system with the purpose of preventing and suppressing juvenile delinquency. The programming of these actions is based on scientifically and theoretically verified and confirmed definitions, constant follow up and assessment of results of all undertaken actions, measures and activities and their improvement in line with the objectives foreseen under the Plan of Action on Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency. The prevention of juvenile delinquency under this Plan of Action is to be carried out via implementation of repressive measures by the state bodies in charge of identifying, ruling and applying educational measures and sanctions against delinquent juveniles and implementing the sanctions ordered by the juvenile judges. The global meaning of prevention of juvenile delinquency in the society refers to suppression of juvenile delinquency by undertaking actions, measures, operations and activities aimed at identification of generators (factors) that provide conditions for occurrence of juvenile delinquency. The suppression of juvenile delinquency is based on scientific and theoretical knowledge and definitions as well as empirically verified hypothesis on the etiology of the phenomenon. Prevention related to suppression of juvenile delinquency includes all fields of life, development, education of young people and their participation in the social life. It includes the direct conditions for the development and formation of the individual as a personality; conditions for existence and development of the micro-group where young persons are born, live and develop their young personalities as well as the general living and working conditions of young persons and the young generation in a society. At this level the prevention includes legal, political, economic, social, socio-cultural, educational and other

relations in the life, development, creation, formation and participation of young persons in the society as constructive and positive elements.

Separate areas of social relations where young persons are born, live, are being formed and developed, involve separate prevention programmes which will identify the specific features of the different areas of social relations as well as the specific methods and operations for their implementation.

Based on this concept of the prevention of juvenile delinquency, this work comprises announcements that tackle the phenomenological and etiological problems of juvenile delinquency from different aspects. This Plan of Action tends to identify the directions under all segments of prevention to represent a separate (content or direction) action of the Plan of Action for Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency.

The Plan of Action for Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency is based on the standpoints under the different announcements. Its advantage lays in its design to identify the areas where prevention is needed, determine the content of preventive activities, methods and time schedule of their implementation. In this sense, the Plan possesses elements and characteristics that enable its application.

The appropriate verification and confirmation of this work and the Plan of Action for Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency, via the previous activities of the "Council for Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency" from Kavadarci, contribute to the increase of their importance.

Skopje, 09.02.2000

Prof. Dr. Ljupco Arnaudovski

FOREWORD

Delinquency and asocial behaviour shatter the peace and common way of everyday life. Violent behaviour, criminal acts and fear engendered by them, cripple our society, personal freedom and fray the ties essential to a healthy society.

The new forms of juvenile delinquency and asocial behaviour in the Republic of Macedonia change the way of living of every citizen, regardless of their age.

This Plan of Action presents effective and innovative strategies designed to reduce juvenile delinquency and asocial behaviour, violence and victimisation. Through these activities, the society and the citizens will work to bring about positive change. They will co-operate with the legal and other institutions. They are cleaning up playgrounds and parks in order to create school zones with no delinquent activities. They are setting up planning teams in the society to identify risk factors for juvenile delinquency, assess financial resources and needs and create programs aimed at preventing juvenile involvement in delinquency and crime. They are creating opportunities for young people to be involved in activities useful to the society. In line with the ways of behaviour in the society and the accurate identification of offenders, these preventive actions at local level represent our most effective long-term national weapon against crime and violence.

Although the public is deeply concerned with the juvenile violence and its consequences, many citizens of the Republic of Macedonia do not know how to provide help. Since juvenile violence impacts the entire society, the search for solutions must be a community-wide effort, and every citizen needs to be involved.

The Plan of Action describes the modalities for the society to generate solutions and individual or groups prevent or reduce violence in their own blocks, public premises or neighbourhood. Cooperation and association of judicial, health, educational and social organisations could produce successful results. Working together, individuals, groups and communities can make real and sustainable changes.

The Plan of Action, also, provides important information on technical assistance, grants, study, evaluation and other resources to support these actions.

CPJD recognises that much work needs to be done. However, via the constant building of togetherness and co-operation between our Government and the local self-

government communities, we can promote early intervention and prevention of juvenile delinquency and asocial behaviour of young people. Solutions are within reach. The power to change the Republic of Macedonia is within ourselves.

Together we can redeem the promise that every young life holds.

The evil is not to be attributed only to the ones who commit it, but also to the ones who are able and do nothing to prevent it.

Lazar Nanev, Lawyer

PRESIDENT OF CPJD

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