

# 2015 eucen Autumn Seminar

Brussels, Monday 16 – Tuesday 17 November

Within the framework of the multilateral EU-project FEFI ten partners from eight European countries cooperate on the subject of finding formal and informal education possibilities for adolescent and adult female inmates.

Women in prison are an underrepresented group due to their small number (3 to 7%) of the total prison population in all of the partner's countries.

Female prisoners have specific needs due to their personal situations:

Many of them have suffered some form of abuse in their past, they have more mental health problems and some are dependent on alcohol or drugs etc. The low number of female inmates renders the finding of a group interested in the same educational subject or rehabilitation problematic.

Therefore the main targets of the FEFI-project are:

- To get to know their needs and the possibilities in prison (by questionnaires) in the different countries towards improving their competences and participation in educational, vocational training and rehabilitation offers as an important contribution towards their reintegration after release.
- To strengthen confidence and self-esteem of the female inmates by giving them a voice (by questionnaires) and to overcome resistances towards lifelong learning and a better reintegration.
- To prepare prison staff and other professionals to support and motivate female inmates to develop self-competences and new skills for their release.
- To initiate new procedures/learning measures and improve the existing situation on three levels: the needs of women in prison, of the prison staff and the requirements of the prison organization.
- To allow changes in prison institutions and - structure, so that the learning pathways of female inmates can be improved.



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[www.zww.uni-mainz.de/fefi.php](http://www.zww.uni-mainz.de/fefi.php)