Data and experience of the Athens Juvenile Probation Office

THE UNACCOMPANIED MINORS IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM
The Greek Juvenile Justice System

- A combination of the welfare and justice model
- Protection and rehabilitation of young offenders while safeguarding their rights during legal proceedings
Youth aged 12-18 who are accused of committing a criminal act are processed through the juvenile justice system.

Trial may take place even after 18 (max. age 25) due to court delays (average delay 2 years).
Youth aged 12-15 are not penally liable treated with reformatory/therapeutic measures

Youth aged 15-18 are penally liable **BUT** imprisonment restricted to violent offences, crimes against life or physical integrity
Reformatory & Therapeutic measures

- Reprimand or Warning
- Parental supervision
- Supervision by foster family
- Probation Supervision by:
  - Juvenile Protection Association (ΕΠΑ)
  - Institutions
  - Juvenile Probation Officers ****
Reformatory & Therapeutic measures

- Victim – offender mediation
- Compensation or reparation of the damage caused
- Community service imposed
- Participation in social, educational, mental health or substance abuse rehabilitation programmes
Reformatory & Therapeutic measures

- Attendance of professional training programmes
- Attendance of traffic safety training programmes
- Intensive probation supervision
- Placement in the Educational Institution for Male Minors at Volos (ΙΑΑΣΕ ΒΟΛΟΥ)
Reformatory & Therapeutic measures

After diagnosis and advice by specialised inter-professional team

- Attendance at community therapeutic programmes
- Attendance at therapeutic or other adequate closed institution
The way to the Juvenile Court

- Arrest
- Police Station
- Magistrate (felonies only)
- Public Prosecutor
- Juvenile Probation Office
- Juvenile Court
Athens Juvenile Probation Service

- The main public organization to treat juvenile delinquents who have offended or in danger of offending.
The Juvenile Probation Officers

- Professionals from distinct disciplines, such as sw, sociology, law, social anthropology, psychology etc.

- Every professional regardless his/her educational background works as juvenile probation officer and has his/her own caseload.
Main duties

- **Pre-trial:**
  Psychosocial assessment resulting in written report to the Judge including probation officer’s recommendation regarding treatment of the minor

- **Post-trial:**
  Monitoring the implementation of reformatory & therapeutic measures
  Extensive counseling in case of probation order/referrals to specialised services
Unaccompanied minors in the Athens Juvenile Probation Office (AJPO)

2017
A growing number of unaccompanied minors entered the justice system
Mainly referred to AJPO by the Magistrate due to felonies committed (drug selling & robberies)
### Unaccompanied minors in the Athens Juvenile Probation Office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NEW ENTRIES</strong></td>
<td>705</td>
<td>827</td>
<td>1.143</td>
<td>825</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UNACOMP.MINORS</strong></td>
<td>82</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>120</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2017 NEW ENTRIES

- Pakistan: 20
- Not Known: 5
- Syria: 15
- Afghanistan: 11
- Algeria: 10
- Bangladesh: 6
- Iraq: 5
- Morocco: 4
- Iran: 2
- Egypt: 2
- Libya: 1
2020
NEW ENTRIES

PAKISTAN
SYRIA
AFGANISTAN
EGYPT
NOT KNOWN
ALGERIA
BANGLADESH
IRAQ
IRAN
PALESTINE
KUWAIT
IRAN
LIBANON
Locating unaccompanied minors

1. Visits at the addresses declared
2. Letters to the addresses declared
3. Cooperation with the MMA
   - The Special Secretariat for the protection of the unaccompanied minors
   - The Reception and Identification Service
THE MAJORITY CANNOT BE LOCATED

- The search usually takes place average 2 years after the arrest
- False addresses/change of address even if the search takes place immediately
- Homelessness
Minors at shelters

- Minors who are accommodated are easier to find
- Cooperation with child protection agents
- The intervention is more likely to succeed
Interpretation issues

18+ They leave the shelter
   We lose information
Thank you for the attention!

Koskiniadou Tanya
Juvenile Probation Officer
Social Worker