

Experiencing Supervision The Eurobarometer

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**Offender Supervision
in Europe**
COST Action IS1106

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EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Eurobarometer

What is it and what is it for?

It is a tool that capture the experience of supervision from the probationers point of view

More – aims also at looking at this lived experience in a comparative way

The origins

- Thorough literature review on what quality means for offender supervision:
 - I stage – 205 papers
 - II stage – 58 papers
- Based on the literature, we decided what the main areas/dimensions are for quality
- And they are

- General experience
 - Supervision as a helpful experience
 - Supervision as a human service experience
 - Compliance and co-production
 - Enforcement
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- Rehabilitation – to be still developed

General experience

- What supervision means
- How others see the probationer under supervision
- How the probationer was affected by supervision
- How the PO is perceived etc.

For me, supervision is:		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
1	a way to make me think twice about offending again	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	a way to tackle the issues or problems linked to my offending	1	2	3	4	5	6
3	a way to repair the harms I have done	1	2	3	4	5	6
4	a way to protect other people from me	1	2	3	4	5	6
5	pointless	1	2	3	4	5	6
6	a result of having a good attorney	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	a way to keep me out of trouble	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	a way for me to grow as a person	1	2	3	4	5	6
9	a way to pay back for the troubles I have caused to others	1	2	3	4	5	6
10	a restriction of my freedom	1	2	3	4	5	6
11	a result of having a positive pre-sentence report	1	2	3	4	5	6
12	useless	1	2	3	4	5	6
13	a way for paying back the society for my offence	1	2	3	4	5	6
14	a chance to prove myself	1	2	3	4	5	6
15	a punishment for my offence	1	2	3	4	5	6
16	a result of committing a minor offence for which I did not deserve prison sentence	1	2	3	4	5	6
17	a waste of time	1	2	3	4	5	6
18	a way to stop me offending altogether	1	2	3	4	5	6
19	a way for me to understand offending behaviour	1	2	3	4	5	6
20	a way to keep an eye on me	1	2	3	4	5	6

Helpful experience

- The help from the PO in areas like:
accommodation, job, vocational training,
welfare benefit, debt advice, treatment etc.

Human service experience

- The relationship with the PO
- Involvement
- Satisfaction
- Role of the supervision

11. Please indicate to what extend do you agree or disagree with the following statements about relationship with your supervisor.

My relationship with my supervisor is:

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
1	positive	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	formal	1	2	3	4	5	6
3	distant	1	2	3	4	5	6
4	tense	1	2	3	4	5	6
5	collaborative	1	2	3	4	5	6
6	friendly	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	beneficial	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	fragile	1	2	3	4	5	6
9	trustworthy	1	2	3	4	5	6
10	judgemental	1	2	3	4	5	6
11	honest	1	2	3	4	5	6
12	bad	1	2	3	4	5	6
13	fair	1	2	3	4	5	6
14	non-existent	1	2	3	4	5	6

Compliance and co-production

There are many different reasons why people comply or don't comply with their sentences. To what extent do you agree with these statements?

in complying with the requirements of my sentence because:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree
I am afraid of legal consequences.	1	2	3	4	5
I think probation is helpful.	1	2	3	4	5
I will not reoffend.	1	2	3	4	5
I have no choice.	1	2	3	4	5
I believe that complying is my personal achievement.	1	2	3	4	5
I enjoy visiting my supervisor.	1	2	3	4	5
my life circumstances have changed.	1	2	3	4	5
I do not find probation difficult.	1	2	3	4	5
my supervisor is very strict and will catch me if I step out of line.	1	2	3	4	5
I want to change my life.	1	2	3	4	5
it is useful for me.	1	2	3	4	5

Enforcement

E.g.

17. John is under the supervision. John is 25 years old and has no family or job. He misses two meetings with his supervisor. How do you think YOUR supervisor would react in this situation (choose one option from the following options)?

- Will pay him a home visit
- Will send him a warning letter
- Will inform the court
- Will start the procedure for revocation
- Can't say/ don't know
- Others, specific to the local legislation, namely

Demographics

- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Family status
- Residence
- Education & Employment
- Financial situation
- Supervision requirements

What we have done until now?

- Long discussions on what supervision means in different countries, main themes, content etc.
- Piloted in the first round: Serbia, Italy and Romania
- Revised it
- Second round in Serbia, Romania, Italy

First impressions:

- Terminology – the definition of supervision and translation (see the Serbian example – ‘punishment’)
- Not too long
- Not self applied but applied by someone else outside probation service
- Some questions still needs refining
- From the answers: great variety of answers, countries tend to cluster towards the same answers.

Limits and challenges

- What is the main target group – those on regular one to one supervision or EM etc.?
- Methodological issues:
 - How the probationers are selected ?
 - How representative they are?
 - Legal challenges – e.g. ethnicity in NO
- How to contextualize the experience in a wide variety of supervision systems?

Future plans

- Third round of piloting – more questions and join up with Supervisable group.
- New project – maybe HORIZON 2020?
- How to select the participating countries?

Thanks !!

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