

THE USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN THE EXECUTION OF PRISON SENTENCES IN SPAIN: LATEST DEVELOPMENTS



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SUMMARY

-Introduction: various technological applications in force today in the Spanish prison system in each area

-Latest advances:

- The development of tele-medicine (data since 2009 to 2019)

- New pilot project of tele-legal assistance (2019-2020)

- New pilot project on the inhibition and control of drones (2020)



NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN SPANISH PRISONS

Last decades the use of technology has increased in the Spanish prisons, in all areas

New technologies as a positive item:

- Reeducation and reinsertion as final goal
- Necessary new technologies (art. 3 RP, the inmates takes part of the society)

New technologies as a threat:

- New breaches in security
- New possibilities of rule violations



USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGY IN SPANISH PRISONS

- **Use of new technology increased in the Spanish prisons in all areas:**
 - Management Area and Administration Area (Penitentiary Institutions Web portal and IT system, computer programs...)
 - Security Area**
 - Treatment Area**
 - Medical Service Area**

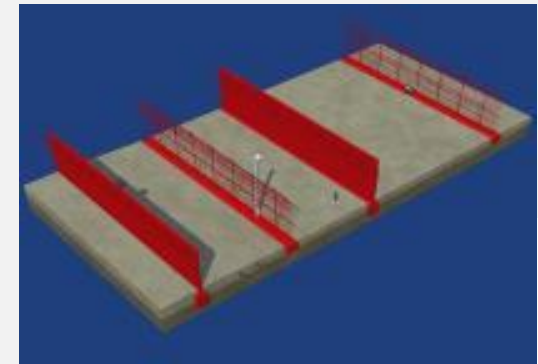


SECURITY AREA

-**Security Area** (See presentation about *Intelligent prison: technology and security*, by Angel Vicente López Muriel)

-**External security** (Perimeter detection systems, mainly based on active safety elements: video sensors, sensor cables, volumetric detectors that use infrared IR technology, and the double DT technology, which use infrared and microwave technology, surprise lighting, microphone cable etc., more video surveillance)

-**Internal security** (Video surveillance system, scanner systems, X-ray systems -allowing body exploration-, Automated Identification System -SIA-, based on the biometric identification of the individual, Metal detectors -both metal detector arches and "handheld" detectors, rackets -, Signal jammers. Other elements: fire detection system or PA system and intercom systems, etc.)



TREATMENT AREA

-Treatment Area (goal of the system)

-Re-education issues: (See presentation about Technological developments on education of inmates in Spanish prisons, by Carlos Fernandez Gomez), e-learning, internet etc.

-Reinsertion issues:

- Online appointment system for communication with family /relatives -Web service-.
- Communication with family / other inmates / Judiciary (trials) through videoconference. More security and lower costs.
- Telephony system since 2005: with a personalized card. The system allows greater number of calls, better control of the times and saving of personal means, call diversion avoided, etc.
- 2019: pioneering project for legal tele-assistance between lawyers and interns in Malaga (later)



MEDICAL SERVICE AREA

-Medical Service Area

- **Telemedicine consists of a procedure** that makes possible to treat the entire “health care” process in a comprehensive and almost complete way using systems capable of transmitting audio, video, images and documents through various telecommunications systems.(between the penitentiary center and a public or private health center, or between penitentiary centers).
- **Advantages:** safety for health professional, reduction of the number of trips and costs, decrease of risks (among them, escape risk)...
- This type of tele-healthcare has been applied in the prison environment since 2009.



MEDICAL SERVICE AREA

-Tele-assistance: Figures 2019

Ordinary prisons:

Consultations at the Centre 67,882

Consultations abroad 40,106

Telemedicine consultations 1,070

By specialties:

Traumatology (224)

Digestive (203)

Infectious diseases (187)

Dermatology (39)



LEGAL TELE-ASISTANCE

- Why? Penitentiary centres far from cities: time and resources
- Launch in September 2019 (first try)
- Previously: Protocol between Penitentiary Centre of Malaga and Law Bar association



LEGAL TELE-ASISTANCE

- Main points of the protocol
 - Calls from Bar-association, 3 call-points in three locations (Marbella, Ronda y Málaga)
 - Apart from time, and practical issues: same security conditions inside the cab
 - For videoconference same requirements than a communication between client and lawyer in a prison:
“Bar Association will be responsible of ensuring that the person who communicates with the inmate meets the requirements established by art. 48 of the Penitentiary Regulation”
 - No other person may remain in the room, no women with men, maximum three inmates, and any device (tablet, telephone... not allowed in the cab)



LEGAL TELE-ASISTANCE

- In the event that other people must be present, eg. an interpreter, prior authorization must be obtained from the Penitentiary Centre
- The Lawyer must give the staff the prison pass.
- All visits should be registered.
- Same guarantees than in person: confidentially - supervision of the officer only visually.
- Prior appointment through the Virtual Office of the College...



PILOT PROJECT OF LEGAL TELE-ASISTANCE

Collected data:

- September to January- 38 request of videoconference, 34 implemented.
- Preliminary impressions (quantitative data provided by Bar Association + 3 interviews implemented)
 - Very positive experiences
 - Saving time, saving resources: no transfers of lawyers
 - No risks if dangerous offenders (but unusual)
 - No risk for inmates (if sickness... Covid...)
 - Easier for court - appointed lawyer or public defender

VIDEOCONFERENCIAS

	SOLICITADAS	%	REALIZADAS	SUP PO
MÁLAGA	23	60,53	20	5
MARBELLA	15	39,47	14	1
TOTAL	38		34	4



TOTAL POR MESES	%	
SEPTIEMBRE	4	10,53
OCTUBRE	9	23,68
NOVIEMBRE	8	21,05
DICIEMBRE	7	18,42
ENERO	10	26,32

PILOT PROJECT OF LEGAL TELE-ASISTANCE

Incidences

- ❖ Interpretation issues (sometimes unexpected, unknown in advance)
- ❖ Coordination issues
- ❖ Not very well know yet by potential users



PILOT PROJECT OF LEGAL TELE-ASISTANCE

“If the use of the videoconference is expanded... the legal aid system (system of public legal defender) would be promoted, the visits to the inmate would be promoted”.

(Lawyer interviewed)

“This telematics system complements the lawyer’ work but not substitute the lawyer, the human contact cannot be replaced one hundred percent” 100%”.

(Lawyer interviewed)

We should promote this option, information campaigns, and extend it to other Bar Associations (other cities).



NEW PILOT PROJECT ON THE INHIBITION AND CONTROL OF DRONES (2020)

- **Why?? Real threats...**

May 2019 and Nov 2019: the Civil Guard warns of the danger of drones for prisons: a report warns of the potential use of these leaking aircraft

Nevertheless, the most of the news in the Spanish Press talk about drugs and mobile telephones...

NEWS



Mal uso de Drones: drogas y armas en las cárceles

Publicado el 10 septiembre, 2018 por Iniseg

Kilos de droga. Teléfonos móviles. Revistas pornográficas e incluso [armas](#), son solo algunos de los objetos prohibidos para los reclusos en las cárceles. Hasta ahora. Un *mal uso de Drones* está creciendo, infórmate aquí.

NEWS HEADLINE

Las cárceles no cuentan con suficiente tecnología anti-drones.

Contrabando con drones

El contrabando en las cárceles es **una práctica tan castigable como habitual por desgracia**. Todo el mundo pasa algo, y todo el mundo necesita algo, ya sea vicio, necesidad o algo para comunicarse con el mundo exterior fuera del pabellón de visitas. Y este es precisamente el uso que le están dando en varias cárceles a lo largo de Estados Unidos, usándolos **como vehículos de contrabando** para meter en los presidios a través de **envíos aéreos por encima de los muros** cosas como **pornografía, drogas, teléfonos móviles o incluso armas de fuego** en los últimos cinco años.



SOCIEDAD - En la prisión de Wandsworth (Londres)

Un dron entrega un paquete de drogas en una cárcel británica

OPEN ARCHITECTURE



SECURITY but also...

PRIVACY / INTIMACY

- Prison Administration should preserve the intimacy and privacy of inmates....
- Last period VIP in prison...
- Needed more security and privacy...



NEW PILOT PROJECT ON THE INHIBITION AND CONTROL OF DRONES (2020)

- Implemented in 2020
- Takes part of a bigger project, focused on the prevention of drones in “special security units” (buildings that require special security). One penitentiary centre was included.
- Penitentiary centre selected because previous incidents of threats of drones...
- Never seized a drone by State Security Forces, but evidences of their existence... (images)
- Finishing the testing period
- Now approx. 2 months of experience (with Covid-19 interrupted).



NEW PILOT PROJECT ON THE INHIBITION AND CONTROL OF DRONES (2020)

- Implemented training for State Security Forces
- Apparently positive impressions: **the device works!**

But:

- Still too soon to evaluate in-depth the program.
- Still soon to evaluate if there are eventual collateral damage



DISCUSSIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- Still improvement could be made.
 - Promoting use of tele-medicine and legal tele-assistance
 - To extend the use of drone's inhibitor (more test needed)
- Covid19 situation has shown how necessary technological developments are
- Lawyers / Doctors / other users **positive feedback**
- Despite of eventual improvements... Spanish Prison system is quite advanced
- Technology become a powerful ally for fighting against technology threat (new security breaches)



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THANK YOU!

