

PROBATION SERVICE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA



**„Alternatives to imprisonment: identification and exchange of good practices in a
EU perspective”**

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- The Probation Service in the Republic of Croatia is a young service
- Croatian Criminal Justice System was engaged in a series of reforms within the Republic of Croatia Accession to the European Union (1st July 2013)
- The judicial reform carried out has provided a strong support to the development of the Probation System in Republic of Croatia
- Today in Republic of Croatia we have professional Probation System
- It was built using the best European and international practices
- Development of the Probation System complies with several recommendations made by the Council of Europe

HISTORY OF PROBATION

- As regards **juvenile** offenders, the Republic of Croatia has a long history of conducting measures similar to probation measures
- Regarding **adult** offenders, in 1999, the RoC started implementing protective supervision and community work (a special law was adopted)- the system was established under the Prison system directorate by engaging “commissioners”
- The increase of “alternative sanctions and measures”- as a way of reducing the costs of the criminal justice system
- Development of professional probation started

FROM IDEA ON PAPER TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2013

- New law
- All Probation offices opened
- Conducting all probation tasks

2011

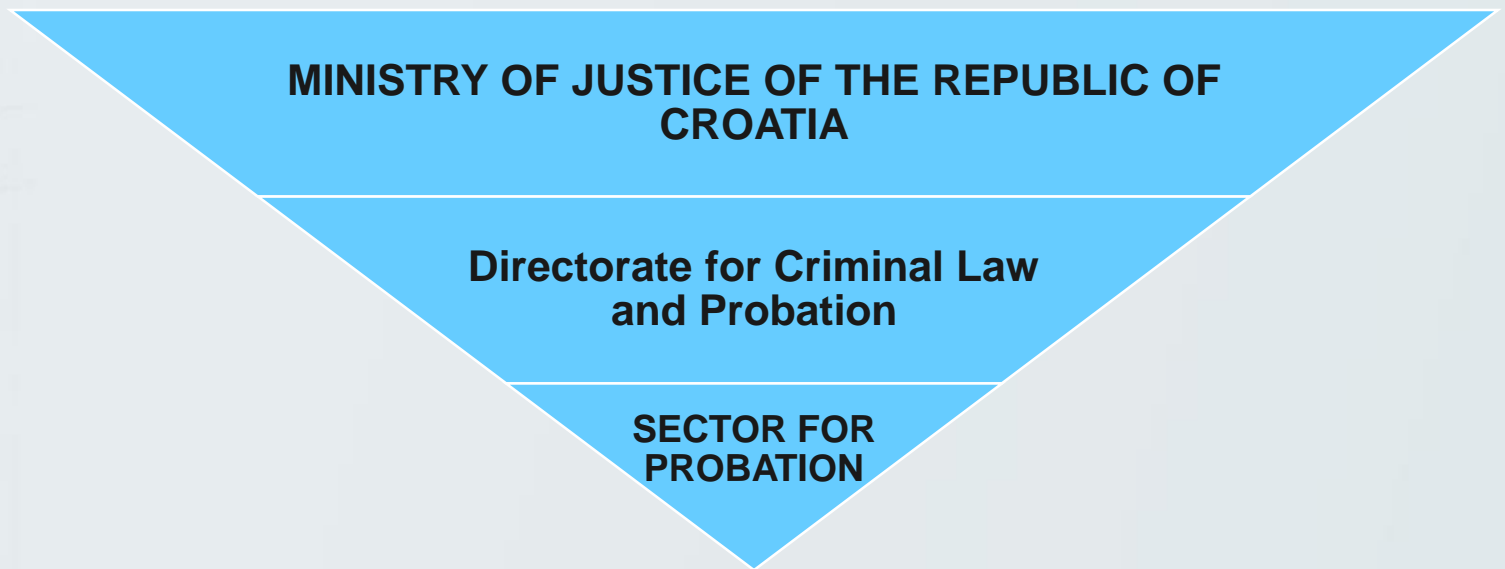
- probation offices started opening
- conducting some probation tasks
- education for probation officers

2010

- Preparing offices
- Adopting bylaws
- recruitment of the Probation officers

2009- first Probation act

Croatian Probation Service is an administrative organization under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia





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SECTOR FOR PROBATION

**CENTRAL PROBATION
OFFICE**

12 PROBATION OFFICES

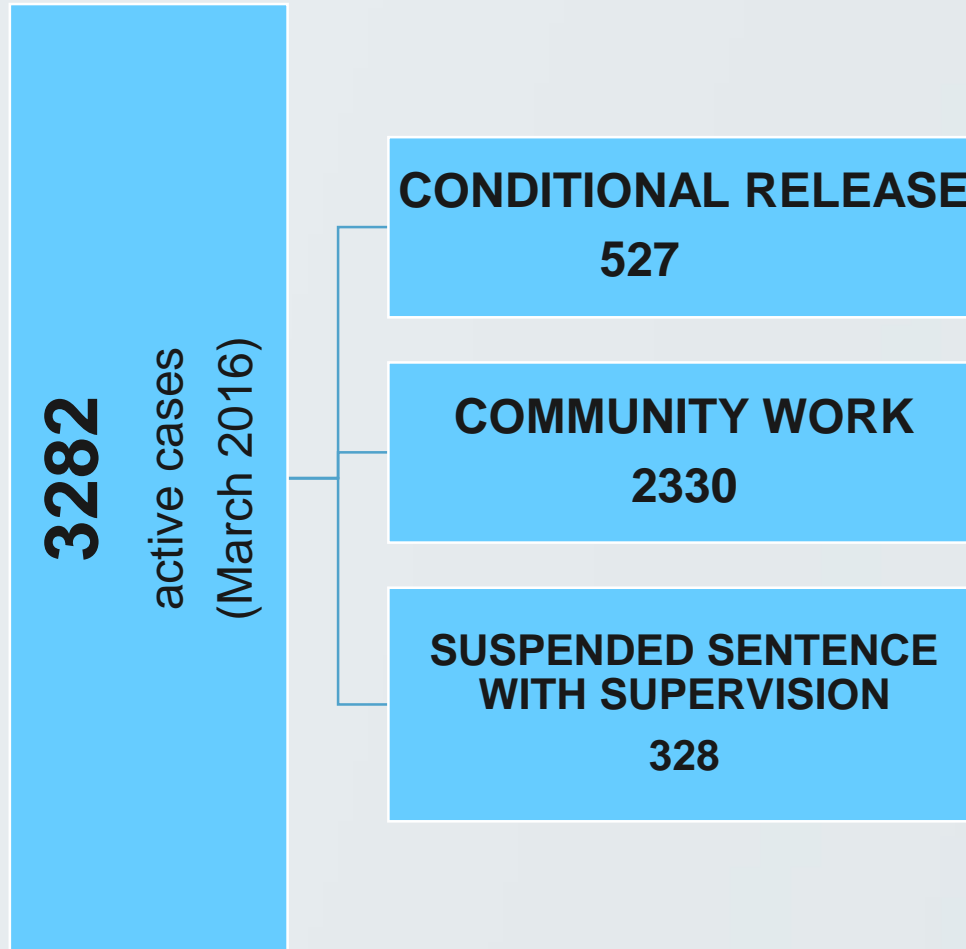
There are 12 Probation Offices in the Republic of Croatia:



Probation tasks in Republic of Croatia

Pre-trial	Criminal trial	Enforcement of “alternative sanctions”	Enforcement of sanction
Supervision of fulfilling obligations arising from the decisions issued by the State Attorney	Pre-sentence reports to the Court	Protective supervision ordered with: -Suspended sentence -Community work	Protective supervision ordered with: -conditional release -upon the end of the prison sentence (security measure)
Reports to the Prosecutor (State Attorney)		Community work -acquiring consent for replacing a prison sentence with community work - organization of the community work -supervision of the community work (CW:1dps=2hcw)	Reports for prisons or penitentiaries
		Supervision of : -special obligations -security measures	Reports for courts when deciding on conditional release and on the termination of sentence

Statistics:

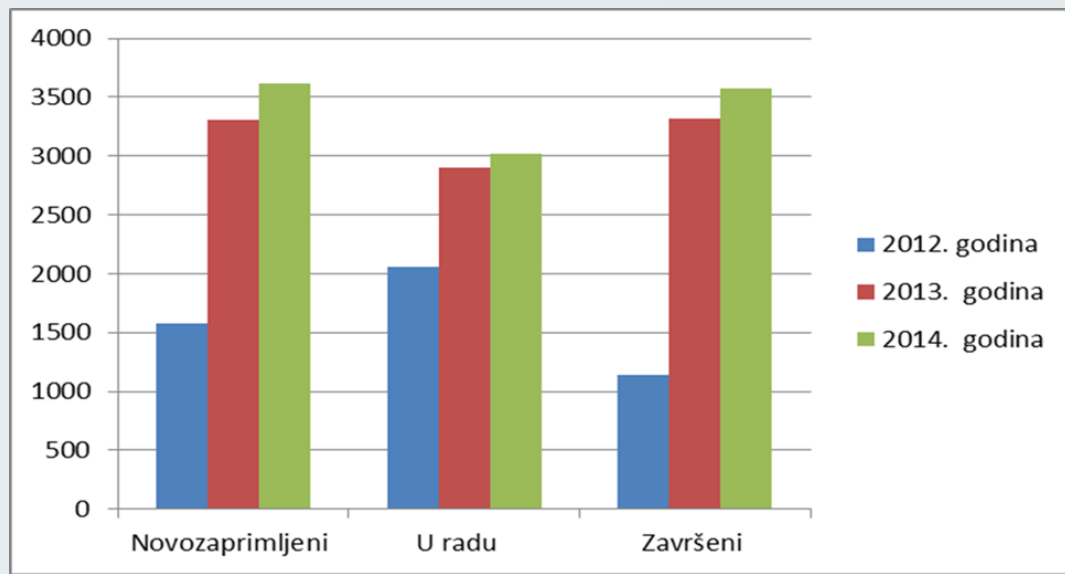


STATISTICAL INDICATORS

The number of inmates and prison overcrowding has been reduced!

There is a constant increase in the number of cases received in the Probation service:

- 2012 received 1,573 cases
- 2013 received 3304 cases
- 2014 received 3618 cases
- 2015 received 3911 cases



PROBATION INFORMATION SYSTEM

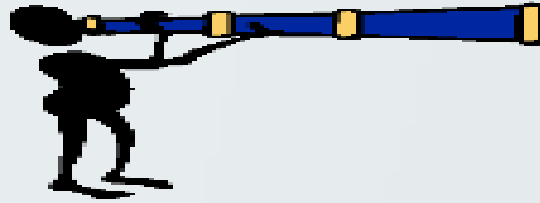


- a modern Information System
- database available to all Probation officers
- base for all information relevant for the Probation Service
- contains a number of templates to ensure consistency of work
- ability to supervise cases from Central office without going to the local offices
- electronic data exchange with other stakeholders (reducing administration and postage costs)

Example of good practice

- in 2014 Probation Service was engaged in flood damage recovery
- Offenders on probation performed over 11000 hours of community service working on flood damage recovery





FUTURE:

- New employment
- Further strengthening and professionalization of service
- New Projects and cooperation
- Pilot project on electronic monitoring

Looking forward to future cooperation

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