

CHRONICLE OF THE YEAR 2010

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20 January

The Order of Saint Paul the First Hermit – Hungarian Paulist Order celebrated Blessed Özséb at Márianosztra Strict and Medium Regime Prison. Cardinal Primate Péter Erdő, Dr, Archbishop of Esztergom-Budapest Diocese, President of the Hungarian Catholic Bishops' Conference also attended.



27 January

The award "A megújuló emberért" was presented for the sixth time at the Houses of Parliament to ten employers who, by way of purchasing holiday vouchers, spent the most money on employee recreation. Prison Service Headquarters was yet again among those receiving the award.

1 February

Prison Service Headquarters signed a cooperation agreement with Hungarian Civil Protection Association for providing training, special preparation and joint practice to service staff.



28 January

The annual evaluation and general meeting of the Prison Administration was held at Budapest Remand Prison Unit III. The event was hosted by Imre Forgách, dr, Minister of Justice and Law Enforcement. In his speech, Lt Gen Antal Kökényesi, dr, Director General of the Prison Service commented on the findings of the written report on the 2009 activities of the organization. Afterwards, Imre Forgách, dr, evaluated the achievements of the previous year and set the main objectives for 2010.

A conference titled "Locked doors – open souls" was organized by Tököl Juvenile Prison in cooperation with the Criminal and Prison Pedagogy Workshop at the Institute of Education, Faculty of Pedagogy and Psychology, ELTE University. The main topic of the meeting, which was held at the Cultural Centre of Tököl and attended by about 200 people, was aggressive behaviour and crime in childhood and adolescence. After the event the participants were invited to visit the juvenile quarters of the Tököl penitentiary.

4 February

A cooperation agreement was signed between the Ministry of Defence Military Hospital (HM ÁEK) and Prison Service Headquarters for the special training and education of prison healthcare staff in order to provide free in- and outpatient care to members of staff.

5 February

Erzsébet Hatvani, dr, Director of the Office of Justice, awarded Hajdú-Bihar County Remand Prison with the title "Outstanding professional sponsor of the year". This was the first time a penitentiary received this award, which was presented by Gábor Antal, Director of Hajdú-Bihar County Office of Justice.

10 February

Prison pastors and representatives of religious prison missions meet once a year to discuss the previous year's achievements and coordinate their actions. The fourth interdenominational meeting took place in Pálhalma National prison, with 16 representatives of 10 churches attending.

19 February

Imre Forgách, Minister of Justice and Law Enforcement visited the Regional Juvenile Prison Unit at Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County Remand Prison to learn more about the circumstances of and education programmes for juvenile prisoners.

23 February

Catholic prison pastors held a conference at Balassagyarmat Strict and Medium Regime Prison. The conference started with a holy mess at the recently renovated prison chapel, and then continued with presentations and a prison visit.

26 February

Erzsébet Hatvani, dr, Director of the Office of Justice, awarded Brig Gen Tibor Frank, Governor of Budapest Strict and Medium Regime Prison with the title "Outstanding professional sponsor of the year". The award, an engraved medal and certificate, was presented by Kálmán Nyerges, Director of Probation Services at Budapest Office of Justice.

2 March

At the Sándorháza Unit of Pálhalma National Prison a donation of over HUF 80 thousand, raised by prisoners, and another of HUF 100 thousand, raised by employees of Pálhalma Agrospeciál Ltd., was handed over to representatives of the Hungarian Red Cross to be forwarded to victims of the Haiti earthquake.

4-5 March

Tököl Juvenile Prison, in cooperation with ELTE University's Institute of Education, organized two one-day conferences about various aspects of childhood and juvenile delinquency. About two hundred people participated in the two conferences.

5 March

Imre Forgách, dr, Minister of Justice and Law Enforcement, Gábor Simon, State Secretary of the Ministry of Social Welfare and Employment, Lajos Verbai, Mayor of District X, Budapest, Police Colonel Péter Ács, Chief of Police, and three civil representatives visited Unit III of Budapest Remand Prison. The aim of the meeting was to analyse the situation in which relatives could initiate illegal contact with prisoners from public places, and possible courses of action.

7 March

This year for the fourth time an Ecumenical Prayer Day took place at the Mélykút unit of Pálhalma National Prison. The topic of the prayer day is different each year. This time the central theme was inspired by the fate of women in Cameroon. The Kodály Choir of Mélykút also sang at the event.

9 March

A renovated medical office was opened in a residential district managed by Sopronkőhida Strict and Medium Regime Prison. The medical building was renovated by inmates of the penitentiary, and officially opened by Lt Gen Antal Kökényesi, dr, Director General and Member of Parliament Mátyás Firtl, Deputy Chairman of Győr-Moson-Sopron County Council.

10 March

At the chapel of Balassagyarmat Strict and Medium Regime Prison Coadjutor of Esztergom-Budapest János Székely, dr, celebrated a holy mess, which was attended by fifty prisoners. The prisoners joined in the charity fundraising promoted by the Hungarian Catholic Episcopate for victims of the earthquake in Haiti. At the end of the mess the prisoners handed over the donation certificate of HUF 80 million to representatives of Caritas Hungarica.

10-11 March

Many institutions held celebrations for the national holiday of 15 March. At Budapest Remand Prison Unit I prisoners also participated in the celebrations. At Hajdú-Bihar County Remand Prison students and teachers of Ferenc Kölcsey Calvinist Teacher Training College, Adult Training Institute staged a play for the prisoners.



11-12 March

The Minister of Justice and Law Enforcement and the Director General of the Prison Service presented awards to staff for excellence in a ceremony held on the national holiday. The event took place at the Ceremony Hall of Budapest Remand Prison Hotel in Venyige Street. The Minister of Justice and Law Enforcement awarded 14, and the Director General 91 members of staff for professional excellence. The President of the Republic of Hungary awarded Colonel János Borsi, Managing Director of Nagyfa-Alföld Ltd., a prison enterprise, with the Gold Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary. The medal was presented in a ceremony held at the National Justice Council Office.

17 March

Branko Peran, Director General of the Croatian Prison Service visited Budapest with two of his colleagues to learn more about the IT system of the Hungarian Prison Administration. First the delegation had meetings at Prison Service Headquarters, and afterwards visited Budapest Remand Prison to study the information technology solutions used by the institution.

30 March

A delegation of the members of the Hungarian Association of Honorary Consuls, lead by Senior Honorary Consul György Suha, dr, went on an official visit to Budapest Strict and Medium Regime Prison. Lt Gen Antal Kökényesi, dr, Director General presented an overview of the current state of the Hungarian prison system, and Brig Gen Tibor Frank, Governor described the activities and operation of the in-

stitution. After the participants had discussed the presentations, they went on a tour of the penitentiary.



1 April

A part of a joint tender project, Békés County Library, located in the city of Békéscsaba, handed over HUF 400 thousand worth of library books to expand the collection of Békés County Remand Prison library.

11 April

At the voting booths set up in 30 penitentiaries, 1376 prisoners cast their votes for the general election. The management of penitentiaries adjusted service schedules to allow staff members sufficient time to vote themselves.

15-16 April

The prison services of Catalonia and Spain organized a summit for Directors General of Member States' prison administrations in Barcelona, as part of the Spanish EU Presidency programme. The main topics of discussion at the summit were carrying out the "Stockholm Programme" adopted in 2009, general ethics considerations with incarceration, and standardizing statistical reporting. The Hungarian Prison Service was represented by Lt Gen Antal Kökényesi, dr, Director General.

23 April

A Lithuanian delegation of twenty corrections experts visited Budapest remand Prison Unit III, headed by Specialist Officer Saulius Lauraitis from the Prison Service Department of the Lithuanian Ministry of Justice.

25 April

In the second round of the general election 550 prisoners cast their votes at 13 locations.

28 April

The Budapest Fire Department organized a shooting competition for 16 teams at the Military Training Support Brigade shooting range. The team of Budapest Strict and Medium Regime Prison came in third in the competition. The award for best female competitor went to Capt Andrea Lénárd from Budapest Strict and Medium Regime Prison.

28, 29 April

Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok County Remand Prison organized a Fitness Day for prison and criminal court staff.

Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County Remand Prison organized a similar, two-day event for both prisoners and staff.



3-9 May

At the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Prison Administration organized, for the second time, a management-level training program for ten corrections officers from Palestine. The participants listened to several lectures on the prison administrations and legal foundations in various European countries, and studied the work of Márianosztra Strict and Medium Regime Prison, Regional Juvenile Prison (Kecskemét), Pálhalma National Prison and Prison Service Training and Conference Centre.

A delegation of four prison experts from Marosvásárhely Penitentiary, headed by Deputy Governor Erika Csibi, visited Baranya County Remand Prison. The aim of the visit was for the delegation to learn more about the work of prison psychologists and corrections officers.



4 May

The Hungarian Corrections Association and Tolna County Remand Prison organized a meeting for the Security Division of the Association in Szekszárd, at the Ceremony Hall of the old County Hall building. After the meeting the participants visited the penitentiary.

7-8 May

As part of the "Prison for the community" programme, Heves County Remand Prison organized a conference titled "A win-win – social responsibility at correctional institutions" in Eger. On the day of the event local staff and volunteers cleaned the riverbed of Eger creek.

10 May

Sopronkőhida Strict and Medium Regime Prison and Young Artists Gallery organized an exhibition of prisoner art titled "Art from Sopronkőhida..." at Petőfi Cultural Centre in Budapest, District X.

11-12 May

The annual roundtable meeting of directors of corrections services in Middle and Eastern Europe (MECR) took place in Slovenia. The Hungarian Prison Service was represented by Lt Gen Antal Kökényesi, dr, Director General. Representatives of nine countries participated in the discussions about current issues in corrections, and particularly, prison capacity.



12 May

The Polish Prison Service and the University of Rzeszow organized an international conference titled "Destructive social behaviour – prevention and integration" at Olszanica Corrections Training Centre. Hungary was represented by the Governors of Tiszalök National Prison, Sátoraljaújhely Strict and Medium Regime Prison, and Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County Remand Prison. Col Sándor Tikász, Governor of Tiszalök National Prison spoke about prisons in Hungary at the conference.

20 May

The Minister of Defence granted the award "For Military Grave Maintenance, Grade II" to Lt Col Tamás Rózsahegyi, Governor of Sátoraljaújhely Strict and Medium Regime Prison. The award was presented by Ret Lt Gen József Ferenc Holló, dr, Director, at the staff meeting of the Museum of Military History.

21 May

At Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County Remand Prison an Ecumenical Pentecost Mess titled "The holy spirit in prisons" was celebrated. Roman Catholic Diocesan Nándor Bosák celebrated a holy mess for prisoners and staff, Greek Catholic Diocesan Fülöp Kocsis blessed the Holy Trinity and the icon of St Daniel the prophet, both made by prisoners, Lutheran Diocesan Tamás Fabiny, dr, talked about the message of Pentecost, and Iván Derencsényi, representing Calvinist Bishop Gusztáv Bölcskei, dr, announced the Year of Calvin officially open. After the holy mess prisoners staged a musical play about the holiday.

14 May

For the second time, Budapest Remand Prison organized a Fitness and Environmental Awareness Day for staff. At the event, which was also a blood donation rally, staff members could listen to various presentations and participate in sports competitions.

The inmate choir of Kalocsa Strict and Medium Regime Prison visited SOS Children's Village in Kecskemét to give a concert on Children's Day, and to present the gifts they had collected for the children living in the facility. Law enforcement staff in Kalocsa participated in the rally by donating toys.

Tiszalök National prison organized a service training test competition titled "Tisza Cup", with the teams of 8 penitentiaries and one prison enterprise participating in shooting, chess, table tennis and football competitions. By total score the winner of the event was Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County Remand Prison.

27 May

The Healthy Youth Foundation, Vác Strict and Medium Regime Prison and the Municipality of Vác organized an international conference titled "Cast out" about the situation of prisoners fighting drug addiction after release. The patron of the meeting, which was also sponsored by the Ministry of Social Welfare and Labour, was László Sólyom,



President of the Republic of Hungary. The event took place in Vác Strict and Medium Regime Prison, with delegations visiting from Dubnica nad Váhomi Penitentiary in Slovakia, and Heřmanice Prison in the Czech Republic.

Balassagyarmat Strict and Medium Regime Prison and the Dutch Wooden Clog Foundation organized a Children's Day party at Reménysugár Children's Home in Balassagyarmat. The penitentiary's prisoner band Saint David also performed at the event, and the home was presented with the money collected through a charity fundraising organized in the prison.

28 May

Veszprém County Remand Prison won HUF 400 thousand worth of library books on tender from Eötvös Károly County Library of Veszprém. At the ceremony organized for officially handing over the books to the institution, the prisoners of the institution staged a performance.

29 May

After a wreath laying ceremony at the memorial tablet on the wall of Kalocsa Strict and Medium Regime Prison, organized by the Political Prisoners Association, Balázs Bábel, dr, Archbishop of Kalocsa-Kecskemét Diocese celebrated a holy mess in the chapel of the institution; the prisoner choir sang at the event.

11 June

Teachers' Day celebrations of the year took place at the Prison Service Training and Conference Centre. The Minister of the Interior of the Republic of Hungary awarded Lt Col Ernő René Palotai, Head of Department at Budapest Remand Prison with the gold medal of "Excellence in Prison Service work". Lt Col Ede Benedek, Specialist Officer at PSHQ Incarceration Department was awarded the title Prison Service Advisor.



Sopronkőhida Strict and Medium Regime Prison organized a service dog competition titled "Kőhida Cup 2010". 33 officers from 13 institutions participated with their dogs; 2 competitors represented the Slovakian Prison Service. The team of Budapest Strict and Medium Regime Prison won first place.

15 June

Brig Gen Pál Kiszely, dr, Governor officially opened the 7th "Dankó Pista" Festival, an all-summer arts and cultural event organized by Szeged Penitentiary. On the opening night a five-member group of female prisoners from Kalocsa Strict and Medium Regime Prison staged a performance, and the prisoner band Csillag Band from Szeged Strict and Medium Regime Prison gave a concert.

16 June

On the Martyrs of '56 Memorial Day, the anniversary of the martyrdom and reburial of Prime Minister Imre Nagy, Budapest Strict and Medium Regime Prison hosted a commemoration at Kisfogház Memorial. Prime Minister Viktor Orbán participated and spoke at the event, and afterwards visited the historical sites of the scaffold and death row.

17 June

At the invitation of the Slovakian Prison Service, a three-member shooting team participated in the Slovakian National Shooting Competition. 23 teams of 69 competitors from four countries – Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia – participated. The Hungarian team earned sixth place.

19 June

As part of the ninth "Museum Night", a national event, the Prison Museum was open to visitors in Sátoraljaújhely.

22 June

Lt Col Tamás Rózsahegyi, Governor of Sátoraljaújhely Strict and Medium Regime Prison, and Ret Lt Gen József Ferenc Holló, dr, Director of the Institute of Military History signed a cooperation agreement declaring that the two institutions intend to build a closer cooperation and promote the Prison Museum operated by the penitentiary.

25 June

Prison Service Training and Conference Centre organized a graduation ceremony for 15 graduates of the first-grade training course for corrections officers. Four of these students received honorary mentions for academic excellence and teambuilding efforts. Representatives of the institutions delegating the students were also present at the ceremony.

26 June

The football team of Prison Service Headquarters participated in a charity championship in Martfű. The entry fees of the 12 teams and sponsors' donations were offered towards the treatment of football champion Sándor Burján, who has been in a coma for 16 years.

27 June

The military rank conferral ceremony of fresh graduates of the Police Academy took place in the Castle of Buda. Viktor Orbán, Prime Minister, and Sándor pintér, Minister of the Interior, spoke at the event. The Prison Service was represented by Lt Gen Antal Kökényesi, dr, Director General. Before the ceremony, the Minister of the Interior promoted two graduates to prison Lieutenant and six to Second prison Lieutenant, in recognition for their passing of the Prison Service Minor examination at the Faculty of Law Enforcement.



Sgt Tímea Szabó, Security Officer at Bács-Kiskun County Remand Prison won first place in judo at the European Law Enforcement Championship in Andorra, in the 63+ kg weight class.

29 June

The second National Prison Drama Festival took place in Szirmabesnyő, at the Regional Juvenile Prison unit of Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County Remand Prison. A total of 130 prisoners participated either as contestant or audience. At the full-day event groups and individuals from the Kecskemét, Pécs, Szirmabesnyő and Tököl correctional institutions performed plays, recited poems and staged puppet shows.

1 July

On Semmelweis Day the Hungarian Minister of the Interior awarded the title Advisor to Lt Col Erzsébet Bogár Nagyné, dr, Department Head at Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County Remand Prison for professional excellence, and gave a cash bonus to Lt Col Katalin Neményi, dr, Specialist Officer at PSHQ.

3 July

Between 30 June and 3 July Sopronkőhida Strict and Medium Prison was present at VOLT Festival, in the "civic village", with their own tent featuring exhibits of prisoner art, coercive devices and a prison cell.

5 July

Kalocsa Strict and Medium Regime Prison and the Hungarian Red Cross organized a Fitness Day and blood donation rally for the staff of the institution.

6 July

Employees from Békés County Remand Prison held a presentation on life in prison, along with a demonstration of the use of transport vehicles, bulletproof vests, etc., at the summer camp for the blind and visually challenged in Telekgerendás.

12 July

A delegation of seven experts from the Chinese Ministry of Justice visited Tököl Juvenile Prison and participated in meetings afterwards. The head of the delegation was Wang Yusheng, Deputy Head of China Corrections Through Work Association.

July 16

The Ministry of the Interior called an all-staff meeting for all of its organizations to set priority tasks. Viktor Orbán, dr, Prime Minister described the future tasks of law enforcement, and his expectations around meeting these goals. At the end of the meeting Lt Gen Antal Kökényesi, dr, Director General, and Lt Col Tamás Rózsahegyi, Governor of Sátoraljaújhely Strict and Medium Prison, received a certificate for excellence in emergency flood control.

28 July

Szeged Strict and Medium Regime Prison held a service in memory of Maj Gábor Kovács Hegedűs and 2Lt Árpád Szalai, who had lost their lives in the fire of 28 July 1988 at Alföldi Furniture Factory. The management of Szeged Strict and Medium Prison and Nagyfa-Alföld Ltd., and relatives of the deceased laid a wreath at the memorial in the institution's entry hall, and then saluted the graves in Belvárosi Cemetery.

29 July

Inmates and former prisoners of Vác Strict and Medium Prison talked about the changes in their lives at the Valley of Arts Festival, in the Calvinist Church of Kapolcs.

7 August

The first Pálhalma Prayer Festival took place in the chapel of Pálhalma National Prison, Sándorháza Unit, with 33 prisoners attending from three different prison units. The teams performed short plays, sang songs and recited poems.

23 August

The staff of Budapest Strict and Medium Regime Prison participated in a Cycle Day as part of the promotion of healthy living campaign. The participants received certificates, and the finalists received prizes, thanks to the support of FBVSZOSZ.

28 August

Political Prisoners' Association organized a wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial in Sátoraljaújhely Strict and Medium Regime Prison. Member of Parliament Kálmán Nagy, dr, Mayor of Sátoraljaújhely Péter Szamosvölgyi, and representatives of other law enforcement organizations attended. After the ceremony a group of 15 guests attended the holy mess celebrated by the prison pastor in the chapel of the institution, and also visited the Prison Museum.

This year Állampuszta National Prison, last year's winner, organized the 14th Bálint Lovas Fishing Contest. 109 competitors participated in the event, which took place at Natura fishing resort near Kecel. First place in the team competition went to the "No Fish Team" of Tököl; the individual champion was Tibor Burik from Márianosztra.

9 September

Military Training Support Brigade organized an international military patrol competition at its Püspökszilágy Training Facility. The Hungarian Prison Service men's team of five won 5th place, while the women's team of four came in 4th.

10 September

The collection of Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok County Remand Prison library received HUF 870 thousand worth of documents (books, DVDs, audiobooks) purchased through Ferenc Versegly Library of Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok County under a tender project offered by the National Cultural

Fund. At the ceremony the choir and literature group of the institution performed.

14 September

Somogy County Library won HUF 306 thousand on a tender titled "Expanding the collection of Somogy County Remand Prison library", and used the amount to purchase 107 books, which were handed over to the institution at an official ceremony.

26 September

The Political Prisoners Association held a wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial tablet on the wall of Sopronkőhida Strict and Medium Regime Prison. Member of Parliament Mátyás Firtl also attended.

29 September

The annual meeting of leaders in Prison Administration, chaired by Lt Gen Antal Kökényesi, dr, took place in the Marble Hall of the Ministry of the Interior. minister of the Interior Sándor Pintér, dr, explained the main expectations of the government from the Prison Service and leaders in Prison Administration, and emphasized the role this organization plays in the programme of the government dedicated to improve public law and order.

2 October

Franciscan monk Csaba Bőjte, Chairman of the Dévai Szent Ferenc Foundation visited Kalocsa Strict and Medium Regime Prison to receive the gifts offered by the prison mission of the institution. Female prisoners belonging to the Bárka mission offered 80 embroidered pillows to children who were in need of loving care or had lost their families.

The Security Group of Hungarian Corrections Association organized its meeting at Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County Remand Prison. The participants, including several prison governors, listened to presentations about reporting to PSHQ service duty centre, ways banned items can reach prisoners, and experiences with detecting such items.

7 October

In 1991 the United Nations declared the first of October the day of senior citizens. On this day Prison Service Headquarters organized a celebration and gathering for retired employees.

20 October

Volunteering inmates of Győr-Moson-Sopron County Remand Prison undertook community work at Nádorvárosi Cemetery in Győr. This assignment marked the end of the second year in the institution's restorative justice initiative. The success of the programme is measurable by the number of requests the institution now regularly receives from city organizations seeking the help of prison inmates.

14-16 October

The WHO Health in Prisons Project organized its annual meeting in Copenhagen, and at the same time celebrated its 15th anniversary. The Hungarian Prison Service was represented by Lt Col Kornélia Harsányi, dr, Deputy Head of Healthcare Department at PSHQ.

21 October

On the day of our national holiday, the 54th anniversary of the Freedom Fight of 1954, and the 21st anniversary of the establishment of the Republic of Hungary, several officers received official recognition at the Ministry of the Interior and at Prison Service Headquarters. Pál Schmitt, President of the Republic of Hungary, acting on the proposal of the Minister of the Interior, presented the Military Brass Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary to WO1 Endre Magyari, Head Nurse at Vác Strict and Medium Regime Prison for almost two decades of excellence in prison service and healthcare work.

19 October

On 19 October 1984 Alföldi Furniture Factory was attacked, and 2Lt Tibor Frank, 2Lt Ferenc Nagy, and 2Lt András Tóth died heroes. To commemorate this event, as well as the hero's death of 2Lt István Horváth on 3 October 1964, the institution organized a wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial and graves of the deceased; family members attended.



Budapest Strict and Medium Regime Prison presented the book "Régi idők tömlöcei" (Old-fashioned prison cells) by Barna Mezey. The writer is the President of ELTE University, Department Head and University Professor, Chairman of the Hungarian Corrections Association. After Ret Brig Gen József Lőrincz, dr, University Professor had introduced the book, Árpád Rácz, representative of Rubicon Publishing House, and Maj Gen András Csóti, Deputy to the Director General for Strategic Coordination spoke about the work of the author.

12 November

Northern Ireland Prisoner Ombudsman Pauline McCabe, Deputy Prison and Probation Ombudsman Elisabeth Moody, and two representatives of the Hungarian Helsinki Committee visited the Mélykút Unit of Pálhalma National Prison.

22 November – 4 December

Under the EUJUST LEX Mission, two Iraqi prison experts visited Hungary for a secondment in prison administra-

tion. The participants learned about the Hungarian prison system, service duties of prison officers, the employment of prisoners, prisoner education and training at Prison Service Headquarters, Budapest Remand Prison and Budapest Strict and Medium Regime Prison.

1 December

For Chanukah Közép-dunántúli National Prison opened an exhibit in the prison chapel of the work of photographer Tamás Féner. The pictures depict the everyday life and celebrations of Jewish people in Hungary. Chief Rabbi András Schönberger opened the exhibit.



1-3 December

A working meeting for non-governmental organizations participating in the EU tender project LICOS (Learning Infrastructure of Correctional Services) was organized at Baranya County Remand Prison. Participants included the representatives of associations and foundations from Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Norway, Austria and Spain.

7-10 December

Bács-Kiskun County Remand Prison organized an international conference in Kecskemét titled "European partnership training for social inclusion". Prison experts from Romania, France, Italy and Spain visited the Regional Juvenile Prison of Kecskemét and Pécs.

Prison, on the first anniversary of the blessing of the institution's chapel. Music for the play was written by Ferenc Darvas; pianist Ádám Fellegi prepared the prisoners for the performance.

8 December

Hungarian Veterans of Győr-Moson-Sopron County held a military wreath-laying ceremony at the memorial tablet on the outer wall of Sopronkőhida Strict and Medium Regime Prison, commemorating the soldiers who died martyrs in the fight against fascism. Representatives of the Municipality of Sopron, local law enforcement organizations, the prison Governor, and several member of prison service staff attended.

10 December

At the Solt Unit of Állampusztá National Prison Balázs Bábel, dr, Archbishop of Kecskemét Diocese blessed a new altar-piece and celebrated a holy mess in Saint Gellért Chapel.

9 December

Experts from Prison Service Headquarters and Maj Gen Sándor Dömény, Deputy to the Director General for Security and Incarceration visited the Federal Ministry of Justice in Austria. The delegation was welcomed by Director General Gerhard Nograth and his Deputy, Karin Dotter-Schiller, dr, who demonstrated the use of the electronic guarding system used widely in the Austrian prison system, and talked about their experiences with using the system.

13 December

The opening ceremony of the modernized and renovated buildings of Pálhalma National Prison took place. The investment was made possible by the support of the Ministry of the Interior under an energy efficiency tender.

14 December

Győr-Moson-Sopron County Remand Prison opened an exhibition of photographs by students of Széchenyi István University presented as part of the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion initiative.

The oratory titled "The Good Samaritan" was performed by 20 prisoners at Balassagyarmat Strict and Medium Regime

15-17 December

The opening conference of priority project "Laying methodological foundations for crime prevention and social reintegration programs aiming at reinforcing social cohesion" under the Social Renewal Operational Program (TÁMOP) took place with the participation of, among other professionals, Hungarian prison governors. Plenary speakers at the conference were László Felkai, dr, State Secretary for Public Administration at the Ministry of the Interior, Kriszta Berta, dr, Deputy State Secretary, Miklós Szabó, dr, Dean of the University of Miskolc, György Sándorfi, dr, Director General of the Justice Office, Maj Gen András Csóti, Deputy to the Director General of the Prison Service for Strategic Coordination, and László Janovics, Director General of Dél-dunántúli Regional Employment Centre.

16 December

Teacher musicians of Király-König Péter Music School gave a Christmas concert at Szeged Strict and Medium Regime Prison for the sixth time. The concert took place in the Neo-classicist ceremony hall of the institution, with prisoners and staff attending. At the end of the concert one of the prisoners gave a self-made oil painting of the patron of the music school to the representative of the orchestra.

17 December

The last 2010 graduation ceremony for students of the 14-week elementary training course took place at Prison Service Training and Conference Centre. In the traditional (5x1-week) training 52 persons passed their elementary examinations in January and February. The new elementary course, which replaces the old one, had 8 courses with a total of 483 students in 13 classes.

For Christmas the inmates of Somogy County Remand Prison collected 1100 cans of food for the poor. A representative of the prisoners presented the donation to László Gyarmati, employee of the Hungarian Red Cross.

20 December

As part of the Christmas festivities, Veszprém County Remand Prison opened an exhibition of photographs by Richárd Korzenszky, dr, Benedictine Provost of the Tihany Abbey. The Roman Catholic female choir "Magyarok Nagyasszonya Plébánia" sang at the opening ceremony.

22 December

The Minister of the Interior of the Republic of Hungary presented the Tauffer Emil Prize to Ret Brig Gen Katalin Heylmann, dr, Head of Healthcare Department at PSHQ, upon retirement, for her excellence in prison healthcare and science. The award was presented by Lt Gen Antal Kökényesi, dr, Director General.

28 December

Vác Strict and Medium Regime Prison organized a Boxing Day party, where prisoners gave clothes, sweets and toys to disadvantaged, disabled and orphaned children living in Simon Antal Elementary and Special Education Student Home.