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Tom Daems • Luc Robert  
Editors

# Europe in Prisons

Assessing the Impact of European  
Institutions on National Prison  
Systems

palgrave  
macmillan

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# Preface

This book grew out of a two-day workshop ‘Europe in Prisons’ which was organized in December 2015 at the Leuven Institute of Criminology (LINC), KU Leuven, Belgium. This workshop formed part of a two-year research project ‘Degradation, civilization and denial: a European and comparative perspective on punishment’ which was funded by the Research Council of KU Leuven. In this project we aimed to explore inter alia what kind of responses state authorities formulate to the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights and recommendations of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in relation to matters of prison policy and how such responses vary across European jurisdictions, more particularly in Belgium, Norway, Poland and Spain. In order to widen the geographical scope of the book, we decided to include additional chapters on Albania, Austria and Ireland.

We are grateful to the Research Council of KU Leuven for having provided financial support to organize the workshop. We also would like to thank the editors of *Palgrave Studies in Prisons and Penology* for welcoming this volume to the series and the editorial team at Palgrave (Stephanie Carey, Josie Taylor and Julia Willan) for their help and support. Finally, we wish to thank our contributing authors and the participants in the workshop for stimulating discussions and for helping us to produce this book at this particularly challenging moment in European

history. Most of all, we are both grateful to our families, especially Eva (Tom's wife) and Lieve (Luc's wife), because of their patience and support when their partners were working late evenings and nights on this edited volume.

Tom Daems  
Luc Robert

## Editorial Note

Throughout the edited volume, references to judgments by the European Court of Human Rights are mentioned in footnotes, not in the literature list at the end of each chapter. The same is done for domestic judgments and for judgments by the European Union Court of Justice. References to reports from the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) and government responses are consistently referred to only in the text of each chapter in the format used by the CPT (e.g. CPT/Inf(2016)6). These reports are easily retrievable on the CPT website: <http://www.coe.int/en/web/cpt/home>.

Tom Daems and Luc Robert

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