



European Prison Education Association

13th of October 2014

The European Prison Education Association (EPEA) is delighted to welcome the launch of the Journal of Prison Education and Reentry, JPER, which we believe will become a valuable resource for our members. Through our association with the journal, members will have ready access to information, research findings, initiatives and developments which are of direct relevance to their professional lives and interests. The journal will serve as a useful guide and source of information to help advance the practice of prison education and re-entry and bridge the gap between research and practice.

On behalf of the EPEA, I would like to congratulate the editors and all those responsible for bringing this germ of an idea to fruition; an idea that was initially fostered and developed during the EPEA's international conferences. I wish JPER every success.

The EPEA is also grateful to JPER for their choice of this particular date to release the new journal. On the 13th of October 1989, the Council of Europe adopted a set of recommendations outlining the needs and responsibilities concerning the education of imprisoned persons in Europe. These recommendations stipulate that all imprisoned persons should be offered the opportunity to engage in educational activities and that these activities should serve to develop the whole person, be conducive to effective reintegration, and encourage a reduction in recidivism. The recommendations form the basis of the objectives of the EPEA, and have been ratified in the educational policies of a number of European countries. Still, we have a long way to go to ensure that the recommendations are sufficiently implemented across Europe and internationally. In celebration of the 25th anniversary of these recommendations, and to increase the focus on this important work, the EPEA advocates the establishing of an International Day of Education in Prison, to be observed annually on the 13th of October. Please go to <http://chn.ge/1md8n62> to show your support.

Lena Broo,
Chairperson of the EPEA