

Subject: AW: Introductions: Rostock Prosecutor Exchange

Dear Prosecutor,

During the exchange visit in September, discussions with the unit for youth criminality and the visit of youth court sessions are already scheduled.

Besides that, discussions with German prosecutors as well as with the European colleagues coming from Croatia, Greece, Italy and Portugal will inter alia focus on the investigation and prosecuting practice, on different approaches to the fight of criminality and on the execution of prison sentences in Germany including the visit of a prison nearby Rostock.

Diversion is, all together, a main element in German criminal justice allowing for a differentiated treatment of offenders and, at the same time, allowing for a better use of the given resources. In fact, only around 25 % of all cases handled by the prosecution offices result in court proceedings. Despite that and that the prison population rate per 100.000 inhabitants lies only around 80 (USA by comparison over 700), there has not been an increase in crime rates in the recent decade.

Subject: Unique Prosecutor Exchange with Germany

Dear All:

We have an exciting and unique opportunity that we though some of you might be interested in pursuing. For those of you who joined us in Berlin, you will recall the wonderful opportunity we had to meet with Andres Ritter -- the Chief Prosecutor for Rostock, Germany. We have been working with Andres (and he has been working with colleagues in the Germany Ministry of Justice) to put together an exchange program where prosecutors in your office could go to Rostock and spend two weeks learning about criminal justice approaches and the practices of prosecutors in Germany, with an eye towards bringing back lessons learned to inform practice in your office.

The exchange is timed to coincide with others coming to Rostock and, as a result, would start on *September 2nd*. It would ideally be for two weeks (though a shorter visit could be tailored). The visit will begin with an overview of the German criminal justice system and the prosecutor's role and then allow the American prosecutors to shadow people in the office. Speaking or understanding German would be helpful, but is not required. Neither FJP nor the Rostock office are able to cover the costs of accommodation, but they assure us there is affordable housing nearby and FJP would also be interested in working with any members of your office who do attend in amplifying and sharing with others the learning experience. And we may well want to coordinate an inverse exchange with Andres' office.

If you are interested in participating in this unique opportunity to have one of your prosecutors learn from their German peers, please let our Director of Research & Outreach John Butler (jbutler@fairandjustprosecution.org) know as soon as possible, and no later than July 19. There is a limit to the number of prosecutors who could be accommodated on the trip and Andres is aiming to get a sense of interest level.