



# ORGANISATION AND QUALITY CRITERIA OF SEX OFFENDER OUTPATIENT TREATMENT IN BELGIUM

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virtual presentation

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# Who we are

## □ UFC = University Forensic Centre

- Ambulatory treatment for sexual deviant behaviour/fantasies
  - ± 100 active treatments
  - ± 1/3 'voluntary' – non-judicial
  - 55% referred by the justice system, 21% by health services, 24% own initiative
  - Most patients present child pornography, pedophilia or ephebophilia, hypersexuality
- Support & reference centre

- **Cooperation agreement (1998)**
  - ‘guidance and treatment perpetrators sexual abuse’**
  - > Idea: specialized treatment for sex offenders
  - > Creation of formal framework
  - > Cooperation justice & health services
  
- **Performance commitment**
  - Formalised document about treatment – justice cooperation
  - Content:
    - Legal conditions + treatment conditions
    - Professional secrecy agreements
  - ≠ result commitment!



# Partners



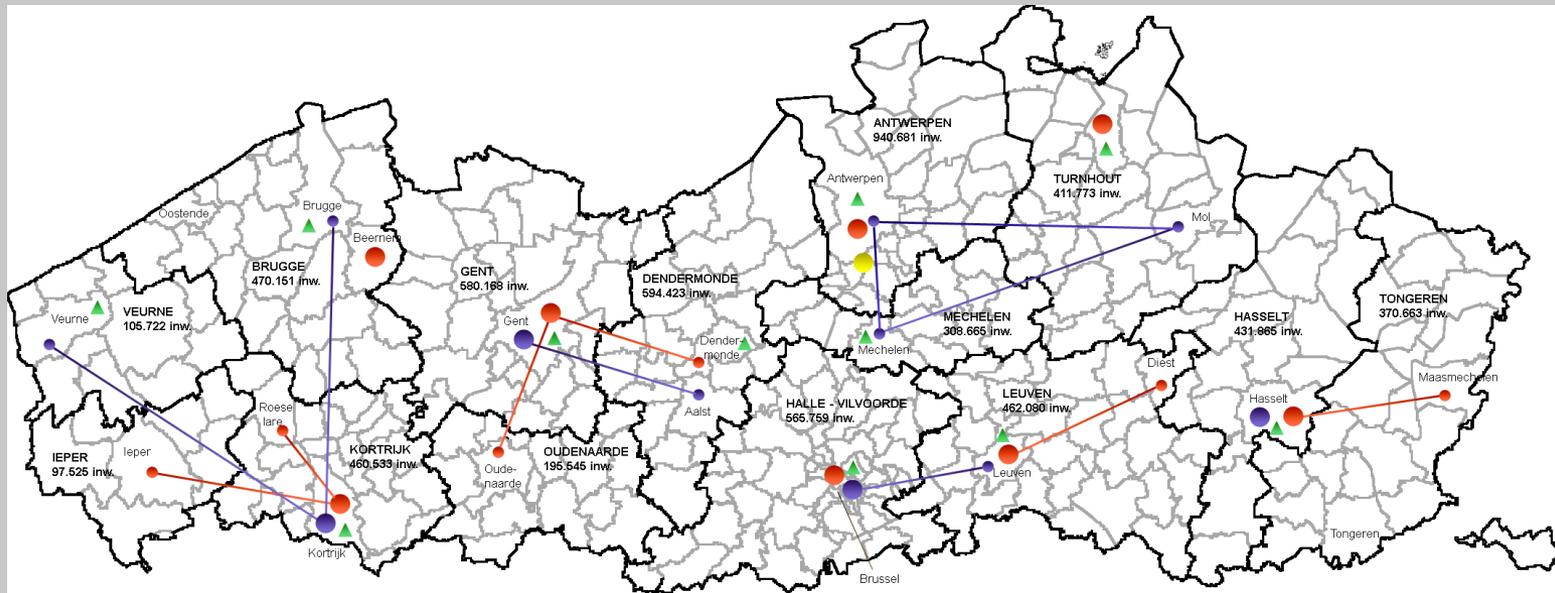
# Dual Policy



Dual policy in practice? => **'Performance commitment'**

# Treatment sex offenders

- Residential treatment of sex offenders in Flanders (3)
- Ambulatory treatment of sex offenders in Flanders
  - > general welfare centres (5 CAW)
  - > mental health centres (9 CGG)
  - > support centre (UFC)
- COSA & Stop it Now!



# Critical insights

1. Advice <-> treatment
2. Professional secrecy
3. Forgotten partners
4. Treatment referrals - dispatch
5. Limited resources specific target audiences

# Conclusion

- ❑ Cooperation agreement  
= A solid ground for practice

However:

- ❑ Much has been changed in the network of sex offender treatment in Belgium
- ❑ Slowly increasing attention to prevention & restorative justice
- ❑ Still limited people and resources for evidence based practice in sex offender treatment
- ❑ No structural engagement in sex offender treatment & prevention
- ❑ Focus on community-based treatment of sex offenders
  - ⇒ Specialized treatment in prison?
  - ⇒ Preventive treatment?

THANK YOU!

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