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3rd Newsletter

M4PRIS
PEER MENTORING PROGRAMME FOR PRISON STAFF

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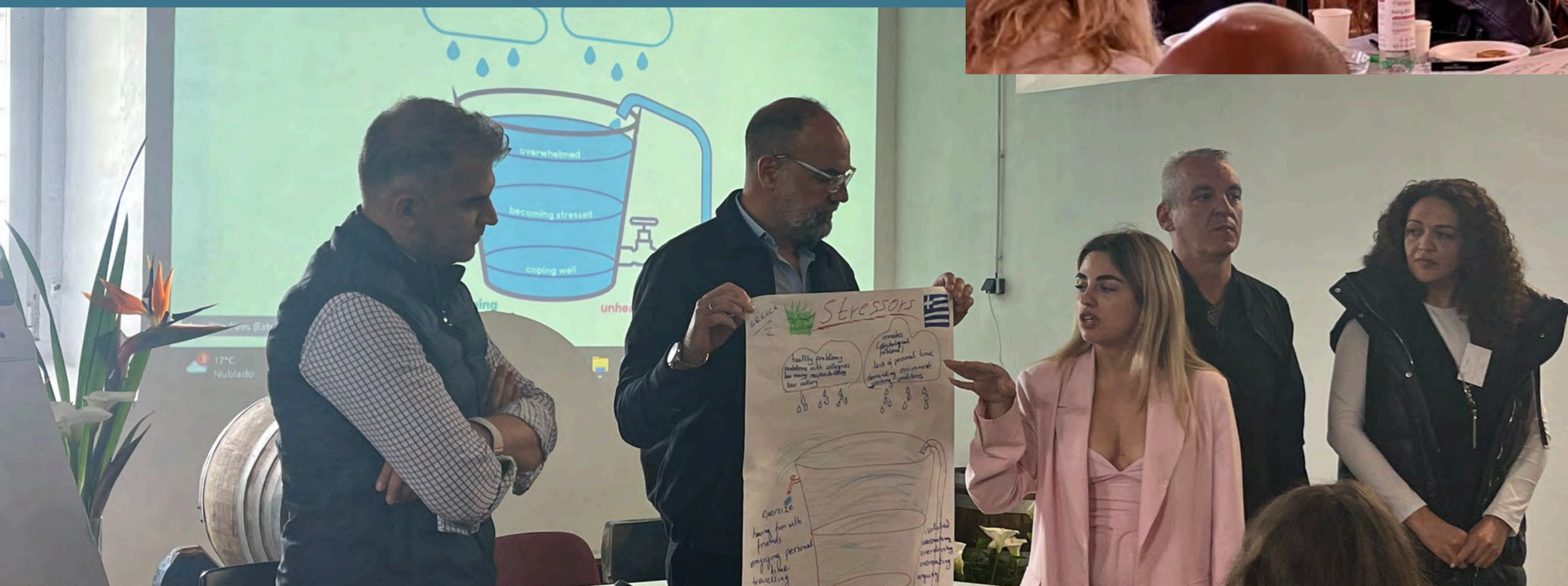
PROJECT NUMBER: 2022-1-DK01-KA220-VET-000088289

THE 3 - DAY TRAINING EVENT OF M4PRIS IN PORTUGAL!

Partners and stakeholders from all over Europe were hosted by our Portuguese partner, Aproximar, in **Leiria Youth Prison** between the 6th and 8th of May 2025.

The LTTA focused on consolidating the theoretical blueprint, strategizing national implementation pathways, and equipping future coordinators and mentors with the practical skills necessary for impactful program delivery across diverse European correctional contexts.



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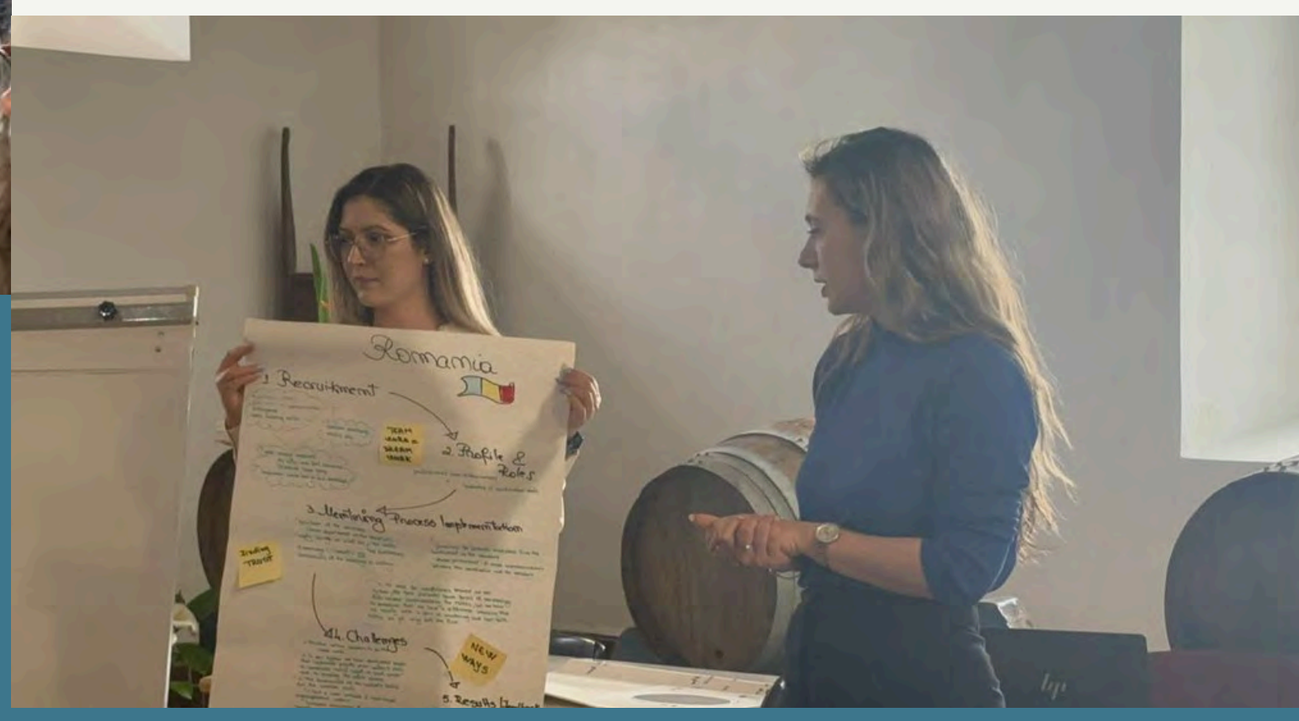
DAY 1



The LTTA commenced with a warm welcome from Joana Patuleia, Director of Leiria Youth Prison, and Tiago Leitão of Aproximar, setting a collaborative tone.

Central to the day was an insightful **online analysis of the M4Pris Prison Staff Mentoring Blueprint**, led by Peter De Cuyper from KU Leuven. Partners then delved into an **interactive strategy session**, spearheaded by Aproximar, to investigate and analyse diverse **national implementation landscapes for the M4Pris ecosystems**.

DAY 2

Day two shifted focus to **practical application** and critical review, bringing theory into action. Dorin Muresan from VIS Juventum and representative of ICPA led an in-depth session, defining the **strategic functions and inherent challenges of the Coordinator's role** within prison peer mentoring. This was followed by Aproximar's presentation, including a comprehensive review of critical learnings and valuable data collected from the initial M4Pris pilot implementations across national contexts. The afternoon buzzed with collaborative energy as dynamic **Mixed Working Groups**. A guided visit to Leiria Youth Prison offered invaluable firsthand operational perspectives, enriching the day's analytical discussions.

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DAY 3

The final day was dedicated to **equipping participants with crucial wellbeing strategies** and charting the project's future trajectory for sustained impact. Dorin Muresan and Dan Ioja from VIS facilitated a vital workshop focused on preventative models for mental health, including practical burnout management techniques and effective conflict resolution protocols.

Ana Rita Pires of Innovative Prison Systems then delivered an expert online session, exploring **systemic frameworks for enhancing staff well-being** and proactively addressing burnout. Looking ahead, João Melo from Aproximar detailed the 'Scaling UP M4Pris' strategy, outlining clear **models for the project's successful transferability and replication.**

A STRATEGICALLY FOCUSED LTTA, SIGNIFICANTLY ADVANCING THE M4PRIS OBJECTIVES FOR ROBUST PRISON STAFF SUPPORT.

SPECIAL THANKS TO APROXIMAR & LEIRIA YOUTH PRISON FOR HOSTING US.

STAY TUNED FOR MORE!

@M4Pris @m4Pris M4Pris Project

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