

# THE BALTIC ASSEMBLY

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## RESOLUTION

### On the Reform of the System of Serving Sentences for Criminal Offenses

The Baltic Assembly

**considering** that the Baltic States system of penal institutions for serving a sentence of imprisonment to a great extent retains the features of the Soviet-type penal institutions,

**admitting** the necessity to radically improve educational work and to ensure adherence to human rights in these institutions,

**considering** that the system of serving sentences for criminal offenses should be placed under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Justice,

**recommends** that the parliaments and the governments of the Baltic States, while implementing the reform of the system of serving sentences for criminal offenses:

- increase the role of the court and the prosecutor's office in exerting control over the execution of penalties for criminal offenses;
- reconstruct the existing penal institutions, in the main providing a system of cells;
- ensure that persons having committed severe crimes and persons serving sentences for repeated offenses are sequestered from other convicted persons;
- ensure that the convicted persons are engaged in socially useful work;
- establish an employment and social rehabilitation system for persons released from penal institutions.

Rīga, October 6, 1996