RJ as a different perspective: the Czech experience

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The basic RJ questions by Howard Zehr

➢ Who has been hurt?
➢ What are their needs?
➢ Whose obligations are these?
➢ What are the causes?
➢ Who has a stake in the situation?
➢ What is the appropriate process to involve stakeholders in an effort to address causes and put things right?
How it all started? RJ as a new lens

- Canada - Ontario, the youngsters and damaged property
- worldwide spread of RJ programmes
- search for a definition - can we get united?
- national developments
- ….. so what we get on the international level?
Legal documents

- United Nations
- Council of Europe
- European Union
Principals

the new lens of CoE Directive

- principle of stakeholder participation
- principle of repairing harm

- voluntariness
- deliberative, respectful dialogue
- equal concern for the needs and interests of those involved
- procedural fairness
- collective, consensus-based agreement
- focus on reparation, reintegration and achieving mutual understanding
- and avoiding domination
How to seek for a principal change?

The Czech experience

top-down v. bottom-up - let's talk together!

- Strategy of RJ for the Czech Republic
- Restorative platform

find & punish and/or repair and participate?
RJ Strategy for the Czech Republic

A need for a new perspective
26%

an old pattern

- Participatory process
- Broad inclusive discussion (RJ circle form)
- National online conference:
  
  **Czechia restoratively 2021**
  
  - Program declaration of the new Czech government
Restorative Platform: space to talk „restorative culture“

- Pre-trial Proceedings
- Trial Proceedings
- Execution Proceedings
- Helping organizations/professions
Thank you for your attention!

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