

- overcoming barriers connected to prejudice and discrimination with a view to a process of social integration and deep cultural change, which is necessary for the project of a supportive and inclusive society.
- Considering the articles, undersigned in this Memorandum of Understanding, as reference in making decisions and in establishing the *modus operandi* as to what concerns all parents, even minor ones, who are subject to measures entailing restrictions of liberty;

THE PARTIES, EACH WITHIN THEIR AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY, AGREE:

Article 1

(Decisions concerning judicial orders, judgments and sentences)

Judicial authorities will be sensitized and invited, in particular:

1. to take into account the rights and requirements of the underage children of the arrested or detained person who still has parental responsibility, when a possible precautionary measure is being decided, giving priority to measures alternative to pre-trial detention in prison;
2. to enforce the restrictions imposed to contacts between pre-trial detainees and the external world so as not to violate minors' right to remain in contact with the distanced parent, as provided for in the UNO Convention on the Rights of the Child;
3. to select, in the case of parents of underage children, measures for the implementation of the penalty which would also take into consideration the minors' superior interest;
4. to consider as overriding the needs of underage children in granting temporary permissions or bonus leaves of absence to imprisoned parents and to commit to implementing them.

Article 2

(Minors' visits to prisons)

The Ministry of Justice, with the collaboration of the Guarantor Authority for Childhood and Adolescence and the Association Bambinisenzasbarre ONLUS, commits to implementing all necessary actions so that:

1. the choice of the detention place for a parent with minor children takes into account the need to guarantee the possibility of direct contact between child and parent during his/her stay in prison;
2. a minor can visit the imprisoned parent within a week from the arrest and, on a regular basis, from then on;
3. in all waiting rooms a children's space is equipped, where minors can feel welcome and recognized. In these spaces, operators will welcome and supply family members with what is needed for a decent wait (like a bottle warmer or a changing