

This, combined with unbridgeable distance from the support network of family and friends, can mean that the chances of successful social reintegration into the home community are much reduced.

3. International Cooperation

All countries proscribe certain behaviour, and endeavour to suppress it through criminal laws and penalties. While territoriality is a long-standing principle of criminal law (crimes are prosecuted and penalties enforced in the geographical jurisdiction of a state), this picture has been complicated in the latter half of this century by rapid increases in technology and travel. Criminal activity is no longer bound by geography. Just as the activity has expanded, so too must the response to it. Countries must now work together to ensure that laws and penalties are enforced, and are enforced in a way which maximizes the prevention of further criminal activity.

4. Maintenance of an effective correctional system

In some European countries, an acute problem has grown: fully half of their prison population may be persons from other countries. This means the expenditure of taxpayer dollars to provide custodial facilities for persons with no long-term commitment to the country. This undermines the ability to meet the objective of maintaining a corrections system which is coherent, efficient, and cost-effective. This objective calls into question the desirability of subsidizing the punishment and rehabilitation of foreigners when resources could be used to promote the safe custody and successful reintegration of the state's own citizens.

II. Relationship between the objectives

In addition to identifying objectives, attention must be given to their relative ranking and the conflicts or compatibilities between them. The compatibility, or lack thereof, will be a key factor in developing the strategy for further activity in the area of international transfers.

This task is simplified if we examine the underlying principles of international transfers to which Canada has traditionally adhered:

a) Consent of all parties to the transfer

All treaties entered into by Canada to date set out as a fundamental principle the consent of the three parties involved: the offender, the sentencing state, and the receiving state. The importance attached to the first of these is such that procedures are in place to ensure that the consent is knowledgeably and freely given.