



DAPHNE III PROGRAMME
Project “Transnational Cooperation Against Violence”

N° contract JUST/2009-2010/DAP/AG/1259

DESCRIPTION

Competence and operations concerning juvenile criminal justice within the Ministry of Justice.

By Dr. SILVANA MORDEGLIA

In Italy Juvenile protection works along two lines: juvenile criminal justice and social services.

Juvenile criminal justice depends on the **Juvenile Court (T.M.)** – funded in 1934 – within which both offender and victim are treated with special regard. The T.M. works together with local authorities and juvenile justice social facilities.

Such facilities take care of minors who have committed a felony (their age is between 14 and 18, as the Italian law does not hold accountable minors under 14).

The Juvenile Justice system is organised as follows:

Juvenile justice department, within which operate **Juvenile Justice Centres**.

There are 12 Juvenile justice centres working on the territory through juvenile justice social facilities, such as:

Juvenile classification homes (C.P.A.);

Residential communities;

Juvenile detention centres;

Offices of Juvenile social services.

Juvenile Classification Homes accommodate arrested minors until their trial.

In **Residential Communities** it is made sure that the measures taken by the T.M. are carried out. This happens through the creation of an individual educational programme.

Juvenile Detention Centres make sure that measures such as custody or detention are carried out properly.

The Offices of Juvenile Social Services assist minors who have committed a felony. These offices stand by the minor through the whole situation. Juvenile Justice Social



Services also take care of minors who have been victims of crime, as well as of those who have committed any.