

# **CLUB HEALTH – HEALTHY AND SAFER NIGHTLIFE OF YOUTH**

# DATABASE OF LEGISLATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY RESPONSES

'Case studies of collected legislative and policy measures'







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# I UNITED KINGDOM

#### 1 Best Bar None

The Best Bar None is an awards scheme for licensed premises, currently running in over 80 locations across the UK. It was developed by the Manchester City Centre Safe project to address alcohol related crime and improve the night time environment. In 2007 an agreement was reached between Greater Manchester Police, the Home Office and BII, the professional body for the licensed retail sector, to develop the scheme nationally. A Board was formed and is currently chaired by Lord Rupert Redesdale.

The scheme costs a fee to join, and central assistance is provided in developing and implementing local schemes, includes training of Best Bar None assessors from all stakeholder groups. These include the police, local authority, health professionals and residents.

The principles of the scheme are as follows:

- Use an intrusive, comprehensive but locally flexible accreditation process that makes use of multiagency inspection visits to premises.
- Issue visible wall plaques with the scheme's distinctive design elements to create a 'kite mark' for safe and well-run licensed premises
- Hold an annual awards dinner to recognise achievement and cement community links between enforcement personnel and licensees.

Principles of scheme appear effective. There is evidence that works if implemented effectively on a local level and it was promoted by Home Office as good practice. The disadvantage is that it costs premises to join which may out users off and the scheme tends to only get members that already are using good practice, and not those who do not.

# 2 Drinking Banning Orders

Drink banning orders are civil orders that can be made against an individual aged at least 16 if they have engaged in criminal or disorderly conduct while under the influence of alcohol. The aim of the order is to protect persons from further conduct of that kind by prohibiting the individual from doing things prescribed within the order.

Prohibitions may include whatever the court considers necessary to protect others from alcohol-related crime or disorderly conduct of the individual. For example they may: prevent an individual from entering premises that sell alcohol, ban an individual from entering pubs/clubs in a given vicinity. The orders may last for between 2 months and 2 years. Individuals can appeal against the making of an order against them. They also have the opportunity to attend an approved course voluntarily in order to address their alcohol-related behaviour.

Drink banning orders have only recently been introduced and not yet evaluated. Much controversy in the UK surrounds the use of anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) and there i.e. limited evidence on their success or lack of. It will be interesting to see how they are used and or enforced, and if evaluation of their effectiveness is commissioned.

#### 3 Alcohol Misuse Enforcement Campaigns

The aim of the national campaign run by the Home Office and Police Standards Unit was to prevent alcoholrelated violence and improve regulation of problem licensed premises. Police forces in high violence areas were provided with additional funding to increase enforcement and prevention activity relating to alcohol and violence. This included increased police enforcement in and around licensed premises, identifying and addressing problems bars and nightclubs, and test purchasing operations to reduce underage alcohol sales.

The evaluation shows that this was a useful policy that has helped improve policing practice in nightlife environments. The sales of alcohol to underage individuals in targeted premises over the course of the policy intervention were reduced as well as assault admissions to ED during policy implementation weeks. The Campaigns are continuing in different forms, for example now with a focus on knife violence. However the interventions and lessons learned from the alcohol misuse enforcement campaigns are continued at local level through routine practice.

#### 4 Pubwatch

The basic principle involved in a Pubwatch is that the licensees of the premises involved agree on a number of course's of action against those individuals who cause or threaten damage, disorder, violence, use or deal in drugs in their premises or are a general nuisance. Normally this action consists of agreeing to refuse to serve individuals that cause, or are known to have previously caused, these sorts of problems. Having agreed these policies, they then publicise them and stick to them. The publicity alone can have a very significant effect on such problems but refusing admission and service to those that cause trouble has proved to have a significant impact on anti-social behaviour.

National Pubwatch is a voluntary organisation that was set up to support existing pubwatches and encourage the creation of new pubwatch schemes with the aim of achieving a safer social drinking environment in all licensed premises throughout the UK. It circulates good practice and other related information and can provide independent advice on problem issues. Since the year of establishment in 2000, it has done the following:

- 1. Created the first national database of watches in the UK.
- 2. Provided a national voice for the concerns and problems facing schemes that are trying to prevent crime and violence in and around licensed premises.
- 3. Assisted in the creation of over 600 new watch schemes.
- 4. Provided advice support and assistance to existing schemes across the country.
- 5. Produced a Best Practice Guide and provided 3,500 copies of it to licensees, police, town centre managers and watch co-ordinators throughout the country.
- 6. Produced newsletters with advice and good practice information.
- 7. Encouraged and supported several Pub companies to adopt positive policies towards pubwatch and their estate
- 8. Opened links with industry bodies and the Home Office.
- 9. Obtained parliamentary support for Pubwatch.
- 10. Produced a logo for national use.
- 11. Produced window stickers and posters for use by watches.
- 12. Provided support for various industry initiatives on social responsibility.
- 13. Made all local authorities and police services in England & Wales aware of the support it can provide for watch schemes and Community Safety crime & disorder plans.
- 14. Produced and maintain a website at www.nationalpubwatch.org.uk.
- 15. Organised five national conferences for pubwatches.

#### 16. Raised the profile of Pubwatch generally.

Pratten and Greid (2005) examined a local pub watch scheme launched in Crewe and Nantwich in 1998. The advantages of this scheme are to encourage multi-partnership working and co-operation between licensees and the police, by identifying and refusing entry to 'unruly' persons. The key features identified as problematic are:

- verbal assaults and threatening behaviour towards the licensee, pub employees or other customers;
- violence itself assaults on the licensee, pub employees or other customers
- the possession, supply or procurement of drugs on licensed premises;
- assaulting members of the public within the vicinity of the pub; and
- causing criminal damage within the vicinity of the pub.

Some of the key components identified from the scheme are as follows:

- Pubwatch will not solve all your problems.
- It is a valuable tool against anti-social behaviour.
- It is also a great opportunity to meet other licensees and talk about matters of common interest.
- It is supported by the police, who should be seen as allies in the battle against alcohol-abuse.
- Active participation demonstrates your commitment to responsible drinking.

The scheme can therefore be successful but needs to be led on a local basis and requires active participation from all licensees, and a form of collective responsibility between the licensees and the police.

#### 5 The Responsible Alcohol Sales Campaign (RASC)

The intelligence-led RASC was firmly focused on the minority of poorly managed premises known to be associated with alcohol-related violence, crime and disorder. It was run in 2007, two months before the underage confiscation of alcohol campaign began.

The RASC clamped down on underage sales and alcohol-related disorder as well as ensuring alcohol was not sold to customers who have had too much to drink. The campaign also targeted 'proxy sales' whereby alcohol is purchased for young people by an adult.

Police also gathered evidence of poor management and a consistent failure to comply with the law. Where such evidence was found it will be used to support a range of further actions to enforce compliance with the law, including imposing licence conditions.

Officers from 90 Basic Command Units across 30 forces visited 1,741 visited poorly managed premises known to be associated with alcohol-related violence, crime and disorder to check compliance with the law. Over 100 incidents were recorded:

- three warnings, one review of a license and one closure of a premise
- unauthorised licensable activities (10 offences)
- allowing disorderly conduct on licensed premises (four offences)
- sale of alcohol to a person who is drunk (53 offences)
- obtaining alcohol for a person who is drunk (one offence)
- failure to leave licensed premises (four offences)

- sale of alcohol to children (eight offences)
- purchase of alcohol by or on behalf of children (two offences)
- consumption of alcohol by children (four offences)

The campaign presents a good example of trading standards and police working together in targeted fashion. Internal evaluation of the campaign has been made. It suggests some successes, but it is difficult to ascertain its actual effectiveness and appropriateness to other situations.

### 6 The Tackling Knives Action Programme (TKAP)

The Tackling Knives Action Programme is an intensive, cross-government action programme committed to take swift action to reduce incidents of death and serious violence among teenagers. Focus on tackling knife crime and serious youth violence was increased in ten police force areas, together with increased targeted police action to tackle a minority of young people who commit serious violence, regardless of the weapon involved.

Measures in ten police force areas on tackling knife crime, included:

- stepping up enforcement operations
- targeting the most dangerous young people in each area
- carrying out home visits and sending letters to parents if their children are known to carry weapons
- working with A&E departments on information sharing
- setting up or expanding youth forums to enable young people to have a say in local issues
- clamping down on retailers who continue to sell knives to young people

Large amount of resources have been put into this programme and its evaluation. The preliminary findings suggest that fewer young people are becoming victims of knife crime in areas where this has been applied compared to the same period 12 months earlier. However caution should be exercised due to provisional nature of some of the data, the lack of statistically robust comparison groups, the dominance of the overall trend by the largest forces, and the potential impact of non-TKAP initiatives.

# 7 Tackling Underage Sales of Alcohol Campaign (TUSAC)

The campaign run by UK Home Office took place in 2007 and focused solely on underage sales. It targeted perceived problem premises according to local information (identified by Police and Trading Standards) and subjected them to a test purchase once a fortnight, potentially up to five times during the 3 months of campaign. Following each test purchase, the retailer was informed as to whether or not they had successfully passed the test purchase. The sanctions for sales to minors included those that already exist: Penalty Notices for Disorder (PND), licence review, and prosecution for the 'sale of alcohol to children'. In addition it was also possible to prosecute the premises licence-holder for 'persistently selling alcohol to children' where three sales are committed within a three month period. The maximum penalty for a premises licence-holder will be three months suspension of licence and/or a £10,000 fine.

The campaign involved nearly 9000 test purchase operations at premises, (7,400 at off licenses), and included 166 (out of 227) Basic Command Units of the Police, in partnership with Trading Standards Officers. Therefore it sets a good example of trading standards and police working together in targeted fashion.

The findings of internal evaluation suggested positive results of enforcement campaign. However only short term successes evident, there has been no evaluation to determine the long term impact of this scheme.

#### 8 Tackling Violent Crime Programme (TVCP)

The Tackling Violent Crime Programme (TVCP) was launched in November 2004 to tackle all violent crime, but in particular domestic violence and alcohol related violence, by developing good practice in local areas, which can then be introduced across England and Wales. It is run jointly by the Partnership Development Unit (PDU) and the Violent Crime Unit (VCU) in the Home Office.

The aims of the programme are as follows:

- To work intensively with practitioners in a small number of local areas with high volumes of more serious violent crime.
- To improve police and CDRP performance and partnership working, using practitioner support panels to enable better problem-solving of violent crime.
- To use good practice and support mechanisms to improve local strategies, help fund the implementation of those strategies and run additional enforcement campaigns where appropriate.
- To ensure that local priorities and challenges are effectively communicated back to the centre to inform ongoing policy development.
- To identify and develop best practice which can then be disseminated and embedded nationally.

A number of guides have been produced including a check-list for local partnership working, and a check list for tackling alcohol related violence in licensed premises. Also, numbers of campaigns were introduced throughout different time periods in different areas of the UK.

Evaluation suggests that scheme has evidence of successes. Generally it has been introduced alongside a series of other measures, so it is difficult to assess its impact independently.

# 9 The Licensing Act 2003

The licensing Act came into effect on 24th November 2005 and was the first change to "drinking laws" in England and Wales in over 50 years. It introduced the concept of staggered closing times and changed the traditional model of Pubs and Bars closing at 11pm and Nightclubs at 2am. It also introduced the (mis)concept of 24 hour drinking.

There was a change in regulation and licensing decisions were moved from courts to local authorities, whose responsibility it was to regulate licenses under 4 duties of care: the prevention of crime and disorder; public safety; the prevention of public nuisance; and the protection of children from harm.

The Licensing Act introduced the potential for licenses up to 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The old system with 6 types of licenses to serve alcohol was replaced and consolidated into single license with a premise license and a designated person/personal license. Responsible authorities who could object to license or place conditions on license included the Police, Fire Service, Health and Safety, Planning, Environmental Services, Children's Services (note not Health Authority). It also included a Cumulative Impact Policy (Saturation), whereby no more licenses would be granted if saturation point was reached. However, if a licensee could prove it would not impact on duties of care a license could still be granted.

The main objectives of The Licensing Act were staggered closing hours, slower, more orderly dispersal of drinkers, less competition for resources, less violence and disorder, shallower peaks of disorder at closing time, less visible signs of drunkenness, less binge drinking before closing time and less nuisance and noise at closing time.

The Licensing Act has also introduced new powers to allow police to crackdown on alcohol-fuelled disorder. These include:

- tougher closure powers for the police to deal with problem premises (powers to shut down problem premises immediately for 24 hours)
- increased penalties for selling alcohol to under 18s
- ending fixed closing times, eradicating 11pm and 2am disorder flashpoints

Importantly, it gives more power to local residents by enabling them:

- to ask for a review of an existing licence at any time
- to challenge any new licence application
- to hold local councillors to account for licensing decisions

Over 20 commissioned study were made to evaluate the impact of the act. Findings contradict other international studies as evidence of increasing trading hours increasing violence was not found. There are some evidence of temporal displacement (reduction in 11-12pm peaks and 2-3 peaks) and increase in post 3am incidents, although not found in every case study area.

#### 10 Dispersal Zones

The policy provides a further tool to enable the police to target particular problem areas that need action or early intervention to reduce the likelihood of alcohol-related crime or disorder arising. It aims to minimise the likelihood of alcohol-related crime or disorder arising and acts as an early intervention tool.

With the adoption of Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 and Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 police in England and Wales now has the power to disperse groups of two or more people from areas where there is persistent anti-social behaviour and to direct an individual aged 16 or over to leave an area – and not return for up to 48 hours - if they believe their presence is likely to contribute to alcohol-related crime and disorder. The Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 also introduced the power to take home any young person under 16 who is out on the streets in a dispersal zone between 9pm and 6am and not accompanied by an adult.

Like many tools aimed at tackling this problem, they are less effective when used in isolation and are likely to be most effective when used as part of an integrated partnership response to reducing the likelihood of alcohol-related crime or disorder taking place. So they are to be used most effectively as part of a focused multi-agency activity on tackling alcohol-related crime or disorder.

#### 11 Designated Public Places Orders, DPPOs

DPPOs came into force on 1 September 2001. It is implemented by local councils in England and Wales in order to address alcohol-related crime and disorder in public places.

DPPOs allow police or community safety officers accredited through community safety accreditation scheme, have powers to confiscate alcohol in public places, or require a person to stop drinking. Failure to comply can result in arrest and/or a fine of up to £500.

The fact that 184 local authority areas have adopted DPPOs suggests that they are a useful tool in helping police deal with the problems of alcohol misuse behaviour. However, a number of local authorities that have used DPPOs to successfully reduce alcohol related ASB, have stressed that DPPOs are not the solution to these problems but a useful tool to help address them.

As far no research has been undertaken on the impact of designated public place as they tend to form just one part of a wider local strategy for tackling alcohol-related antisocial behaviour. Therefore the evaluation to find out whether the DPPO has stopped/helped to reduce alcohol-related anti-social behaviour/disorder is needed.

# 12 Nightsafe/Safer Nightlife

The document Safer Nightlife was launched by Home Office/London Drug Policy Forum in 2008 with the purpose to help ensure the health and safety of everyone involved in, and going out to, events in pubs and clubs with particular emphasis on those who also take drugs. The document provides dedicated advice on a range of key issues including creating a safe physical environment, tackling drug dealing, reducing harm from drug use, promoting sexual health and developing a drug policy. It includes advice to licensing authorities, police and fire officers, venue managers/promoters and health promotion workers. Overall the guidance has been well received by all sectors working in the night time economy.

#### 13 Penalty Notices for Disorder (PND) Section 1 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001

This provision of the Police Reform Act was brought into force on 15 November 2003 in England and Wales. It provides the police with a quick and effective means of dealing with low level, nuisance behaviour — often alcohol-related. The offences included in the scheme are summary offences where the most likely court outcome would be a fine. The scheme enables the police to issue penalty notices on the spot or in a police station. Public disorder offences cost £50 for 'lower-tier' offences or £80 for 'higher-tier' offences, these can only be issued to people aged 16 or over.

Use of PNDs removes these minor cases from the courts, significantly reducing the paperwork a police officer needs to complete and provides an efficient means for the police to tackle minor offences which may not previously have warranted the resources required for prosecution.

Early results from police officers in the pilot areas who responded to a survey were generally positive – 82% said they were either 'very' or 'fairly satisfied'. Many would like the scheme extended to juveniles and to other offences.

# 14 Private Security Industry Act 2001

The act was implemented in 2005 in England and Wales to regulate a national registration and training scheme for door supervisor. The procedures that regulate and manage the licensing of the private security industry were developed by the Home Office and the Security Industry Authority.

The act ensures that all security staff hold compulsory licenses and are properly trained and qualified to do their job. Private security firms are required by law to comply to set standards ensuring delivery of quality services.

The Private Security Industry Act 2001 has established itself in the UK successfully, and door supervisors are largely registered and trained. Licensing has improved the working environments in the security industry and the public has more trust in licensed security staff. However private security companies have incurred more administration costs and can often suffer due to a lack of licensed candidates to employ. However evaluation is needed to identify the impacts and effectiveness of the training scheme on door supervisor practice and violence.

### 15 Ban on smoking in public places

The legislation to ban smoking in all enclosed public spaces and workplaces was implemented in 2006 in Scotland and in 2007 in England and Wales and Northern Ireland.

Legislation is requiring that all enclosed premises are smoke free. The person with management responsibility for the premises is legally responsible for preventing smoking, as well as the person smoking. Penalties are applied for smoking in enclosed public premises, failure to display no-smoking signs where appropriate, and failure to prevent smoking in smoke-free premises.

Support, advice and information is provided by local councils to businesses and the public to enable the successful enforcement of smoke-free laws in each area. Environmental health officers visit premises that run a high risk of non-compliance to the smoking ban.

The legislation has been implemented successfully. Compliance with the smoking ban has been consistently high since the beginning, with people quickly adapting to the requirement of smoke-free signage and designated smoking areas. Air quality in pubs has improved dramatically and exposure to second-hand smoke has greatly decreased. A more supportive environment has been produced to help quit smoking, even though the research suggests that promotion of the legislation hasn't challenged reasons for smoking.

#### 16 Test Purchasing Campaigns

The policy was implemented in 1992 in UK to prevent the sale of alcohol to underage persons in licensed premises. It involves routine test purchasing operations run by Trading Standards and Police Standards Units. Authorities use individuals at or below the minimum age to attempt to purchase alcohol, enabling the identification and sanctioning of retailers who do not check age and refuse service where appropriate.

Evaluation studies found that the policy contributed to reductions in alcohol sales to underage volunteers through sustained test purchasing campaigns. Among other identified impacts were increased knowledge and awareness of test purchasing procedures, increased requesting of proof of age cards/I.D. by staff and licensees, increased awareness of guidelines produced enabling the safe recruitment and use of child volunteers in test purchasing schemes.

Test purchasing campaigns are continuing through local level policing and trading standards schemes. Schemes can be implemented randomly but are often targeted using local level intelligence. High profile national campaigns have increased the use of test purchasing due to an increased awareness of set guidelines and support from local authoritative agencies.

#### 17 Alcohol Disorder Zones The Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006, ss 15–20

The policy was introduced in June 2009 in UK to reduce alcohol fuelled violence and disorder in town and city centres through a focus on collective responsibility and/or management of individual premises.

The policy gives councils the power to charge clubs, bars and restaurants an extra levy to pay for increased policing in areas where drunks have been causing problems for residents.

As at July 2009, not a single local council has applied to establish an ADZ. The Home Office has issued guidance to all areas to help them better understand how to set up and run an ADZ should they wish to do so. Alcohol disorder zones are one of many important tools available to local authorities and police but it has been stressed that they should be used as a last resort. However, many other agencies, including most Local Authorities do not apparently value this legislation.

#### 18 Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) Crime and Disorder Act 1998, s1

Anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) came into force in April 1999 in UK under the Crime and Disorder Action 1988. The legislation was amended by the Police Reform Act 2002 and the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003.

ASBOs are preventative orders, designed to curb repetition of anti-social behaviour. They impose restrictions on the behaviour of individuals who have behaved in an anti-social way and protect communities from often longstanding and intimidating activity.

ASBOs are civil orders not criminal penalties and will not appear on a suspect's criminal record. However, if that person breaches an ASBO, they have committed a criminal offence, which is punishable by a fine or up to five years in prison. Applications for ASBOs are heard by Magistrates. Agencies that can apply for an ASBO include, local authorities, police forces, including British Transport Police and registered social landlords and housing action trusts.

The evaluation studies suggest that both national and local ASB strategies should aim for a balance between enforcement and prevention. Moreover the Government policy should be more precise in defining ASBO, also clearer limits for the use of civil remedies such as ASBOs are needed.

#### 19 British Drugs Strategy for 2008-2018

The strategy covers a ten-year period to 2018. Its delivery is underpinned by a series of three-year action plans, which run concurrently with the spending review cycles.

The ten-year drug strategy (2008-2018) aims to restrict the supply of illegal drugs and reduce the demand for them. It focuses on protecting families and strengthening communities. The four strands of work within the strategy are:

- protecting communities through tackling drug supply, drug-related crime and anti-social behaviour
- preventing harm to children, young people and families affected by drug misuse
- delivering new approaches to drug treatment and social re-integration
- public information campaigns, communications and community engagement

Home Office has overall responsibility for delivery, the Department for Children, Schools and Families, Department of Health and many other government departments are also involved.

An evaluation of the government's strategy has not yet been made available. There was also no academic study looking at the strategy in its entirety. In terms of the overall strategy an external evaluation - a review of local delivery and capacity to deliver the aspirations of the national drug strategy – has been conducted but not yet published.

# 20 Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships

CDRPs – also known as Community Safety Partnerships in Wales - was introduced by the Crime and Disorder Reduction Act 1998. Its role is to bring local multi-agency partners together to formulate and implement strategies in order to reduce crime and disorder in their areas. CDRPs are statutory partnerships in which "responsible authorities" have a duty to work with other local agencies to tackle crime and disorder. The "responsible authorities" are: police, local authorities, fire and rescue authorities and primary care trusts (health services) and they have to work in co-operation with a wide range of other agencies (e.g. hospitals, schools, probation services, social landlords etc.).

The policy is very well developed and implemented. Multi-agency partnership working has helped implement a range of measures to address crime and disorder in nightlife environments. Evaluation studies show that Home Office grants to Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships and Police Basic Command Units contributed to the 39 per cent reduction in the number of crimes reported through the British Crime Survey between 1995 and 2003-04. However there are some barriers, including a lack of evaluation of individual projects and limited data sharing. More and better information and analysis is needed to develop the evidence base.

### II BELGIUM

# 21 Flemish evidence base action plan for alcohol

The action plan for 2009-2015 was adopted in 2004 and consists of 10 Strategies for the application of an effective national alcohol policy:

- Information and education from a young age on
- Actions in public and private atmosphere to prevent accidents, violence and other negative consequences of misuse of alcohol
- Legislation to prevent driving and drinking
- Legislation to limit availability of alcoholic products (age/taxes/pricing policy)
- Control on direct and indirect advertisement of alcohol and the prohibition of advertisement targeted to youngsters
- Ensuring access to effective treatment
- Ratifying ethical and legal responsibilities of the industry
- Training of professionals in different sectors to handle alcohol properly in the society
- Involving NGOs and self-help organizations
- Formulating, implementing and monitoring the policy

# 22 Policy for reduction of traffic injuries

The **policy for reduction of traffic injuries** in Belgium was implemented in 1968. Since then if measured more than 0.5 per mil, one is fined, the driver's license can be withdrawed or more severe one has to go to court and a jail sentence can follow.

Every year there is a major campaign between the end of November and the beginning of January. In 2010, 116.896 drivers were breath-tested. 5.598 (4.8%) drank too much, 1.600 scored between 0.5 and 0.8 per mil (=1.4%) and 3.4% scored above 0.8 per mil. That is a decline, compared to a year before when 2% drivers were tested positive, 1.5% had between 05. and 0.8 per mil and 3.7% 0.8 or more per mil.

During the rest of the year other traffic safety campaigns take the place. The BOB (consciously not intoxicated) campaign has overall recognition in the country since its first implementation in 1995 when it was started by several governmental departments, the police and the Belgian beer brewing industry. The campaign includes increased police surveillance, especially during the weeks running up to Christmas and New Year and focuses on encouraging young people to select a person to remain sober, as the driver of a vehicle, while others are drinking.

### 23 Arnoldus agreement: agreement on behaviour and commercialization of alcohol containing beverages

The agreement was first set up by the Belgian Brewers' Federation. It encompassed all professional associations along the beer and alcoholic drinks value chain (Belgian Federation of wine and distilled beverages, FEDIS - federation of distribution companies, Hotel and catering industry federations) in 2005 at the request of the Minister of Public Health and was institutionalised by law in 2008.

It contains a number of provisions to practice responsible marketing and advertising of alcohol beverages, including no targeting of minors and no portraying minors or persons who seems under-aged. The commercials

can not incite or encourage irresponsible, heavy or illegal consumption, refer to favourable physical or psychological effects of drinking as social success or sporting achievements or connect alcoholic beverages and active participation in traffic. The agreement also prohibits offering alcoholic drinks for free, selling them for a symbolic price or organizing tastings focused on minors, as well as selling alcoholic drinks in beverage machines close to primary and secondary schools, youth clubs and places where minors gather.

### 24 Use of substance on a party

The policy was implemented by City of Oostende in Belgium for the period 2007-2010 in order to avoid drug/alcohol incidents and intoxication. The policy involves no serving of alcoholic beverages 30 minutes before the end of the party. It allows the city to oblige the organizers to have non-alcoholic beverages prices 20% cheaper than alcoholic beverages. In case of higher risk of drug incidents, the city can also oblige organizers to have drinking fountains or free distribution of water. If the city wishes to distribute prevention materials, organizers are obliged to cooperate and even to carry the costs of these campaigns.

The effects of the policy haven't been evaluated yet to prove its efficiency.

#### 25 Climate control

The policy was implemented by City of Oostende in Belgium for the period 2007-2010 in order to control the climate in indoor parties. According to the regulations every indoor party needs ventilation regardless of numbers of visitors. If there a higher risk on drug incidents exists, the atmospheric humidity should not exceed 90% and the temperature should not be too high - max. 28 degrees Celsius. Visitors should also be able to leave the party place to go into the room with lower temperature, without having to pay the entrance fee again.

### 26 Regulation of noise nuisance in public and private spaces

The policy launched by Flemish Government in 1977 involves regulations on noise nuisance in the neighbourhood of the party location and inside the party location. The police measures the sound nuisance. The sound levels should not exceed 90db inside, while the allowed levels of the sound nuisance outside the party place depend on the neighbours of the party facility.

The policy is implemented only when complaints come. There are places where the problem never arises, and other places that go to the court on a regular basis due to neighbour's complaints.

# 27 Help on events (First aid)

Well-trained volunteers of the Red Cross Belgium offer first aid at public events, rock concerts... The organizers of the event should apply for their help a month before the event takes place. A fee for materials is paid, but services and crew are free of charge.

### 28 Basis of Flemish action plan against tobacco

The main goals of the action plan 2009-2015 implemented by WHO and Flemish Government is to prevent youngsters and adolescents to take up smoking, promote quitting smoking and guarantee a healthy smoke free

environment. The policy involves increasing the price of tobacco products, prohibiting tobacco advertising, stimulating a healthy and smoke free environment, as well as the use of health warnings on tobacco products, providing information on different factors known to influence tobacco use and promoting quitting smoking.

### 29 Flemish Action Plan Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs 2009-2015

Flemish Action Plan on Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs 2009 – 2015, is based on EU Drug strategy 2005-2012 and has recognized the international recommendation to include selective prevention and early detection mechanisms in an integrated policy. The following priorities have been identified:

- more effective and wide-spread demand reduction methods
- improving access to and effectiveness of prevention programmes and raising awareness thereof;
- improving access to early intervention programmes or measures
- improving access to targeted and diversified treatment programmes
- · prevention of health risks connected to drug use

## 30 Law regulation of personal and private safety

The aim of the policy implemented in 1990 by Belgian Ministry of interior is to organize the surveillance and limit the power misuse and discrimination. The regulation dictates that only police officers are allowed to conduct identity and drug checks. Volunteers or recognized surveillance agents can search only clothes and superficially check the hand luggage. They are allowed to see the content only if visitor voluntarily takes it out. Search can be done only by same sex agents.

If there is a clear distinction between ticket and person control, the check of entrance tickets is not included in this law. Entrance can be denied to any person who refuses the police search, to uninvited guests (if not entering public place), to people in possession of a weapon or dangerous object or individuals who do not meet conditions to enter. The refusal should not directly or indirectly discriminate.

# 31 Law 15<sup>th</sup> July Moral protection of Youth

Belgian Law regulating underage drinking and underage partying was implemented in 1960 by Federal Government. According to it, youth under 16 years old are allowed to enter parties, only when accompanied by parents or guardian, which has to be controlled by organizers of the party. Youth under 16 years old are only allowed to visit benefit parties of youth movements, where the money for their future work is collected. It is also forbidden to serve alcohol to under 16's. On parties organized especially for under 16's, any alcoholic beverage is prohibited.

# 32 Changes on the narcotic drug act

In 2003 some changes in the Belgian legal framework, regarding narcotic drug use were made. The major existing change and probably the one most spoken of by politicians, media and others, are the modifications to the Narcotic Drug Act. These changes have been mentioned in two laws (of 4 April and 3 May 2003) and one royal decree (16 May 2003), the most notable being:

- Incorporation of a Council Regulation (n° 3677/90), regulating substances that can be used to produce illicit substances (so-called "precursors") into police authorities;
- Drug use in group is not seen as punishable *in se* any more; instead, this will be changed to drug use in the presence of minors;
- Cannabis gets a separate statute (defined as another "category"): the possession of an amount of
  cannabis, meant for personal use, by an adult (i.e. 18 years or older), without the presence of nuisance
  or problematic use will only lead to a registration by the police. In the case of nuisance, however, a
  punishment can be imposed of minimum three months up to one year of prison sentence and / or a
  fine of 1.000 to 100.000 euro.
- Commerce, production, export and importation of substances regulated by the Narcotic Drug Act remain forbidden, and maintain their original punishments.

The modifications of the law, especially in relation with cannabis, brought Belgium in line with other European countries that are easing their restrictions on the personal use of the drug. The production, supply, sale and ownership of larger quantities of the drug are still actively prosecuted, as well "problematic" consumption and unsociable behaviour.

Nevertheless it remains unclear what this policy really implies for the general public as the legislation does not mention neither quantities that can be considered for personal use nor the personal cultivation of cannabis plants.

# 33 Frame of organizing a party in the City of Oostende

Belgian City of Oostende has during the period 2007-2010 adopted a frame that defines how to organize party in a structured way and in consultation with all security and help services. The frame includes steps to follow when organizing the party (time scales of different steps, safety consultation between organizers, city, security services etc.) and applies to any party with a public character.

Organizers should report each party to the Local Police at least six weeks in advance. Local police then provides them with written advice on measures they will have to take to ensure safety at the party. The assessment whether a party has an increased risk of incidents or not depends on the type of organization, the party infrastructure, the type of party, the expected number of visitors, etc. The proposed safety measures of police are sometimes made in consultation with fire and emergency service and must be strictly followed and implemented. At least three weeks before the party a safety file has to be provided to the Local Police by organizers. It should include a detailed overview of safety measures before, during and after event, that will be implemented to prevent risks, manage unexpected and expected incidents or accidents.

Each municipality can adapt the measures included in a frame of organizing a party to its specific problematical areas.

#### 34 Law on open drunkenness

The law was implemented in 1939 by Belgian Federal Government with the aim to reduce drunkenness. By the law open drunkenness is punishable. The same law also prohibits to make someone drink till drunk, to serve alcohol to someone who is obviously intoxicated or to challenge someone or take up his challenge to drink. It is prohibited to serve alcoholic beverages to persons under 16 years old without plausible reason. For spirits (22 degrees or more) the age limit for serving, selling or giving is 18 years. The law also specifies that giving or

selling fermented drinks is not prohibited, not even to under 16's. A permit for buying liquor in a party or in a club is needed, but not for fermented beverages.

# 35 Royal Decree 2nd of June 1999

The decree was launched in 1999 by Belgian Federal Government to avoid over-crowding. It states that in a football arena one should count one person per m<sup>2</sup>. However it does not take into account nightlife/party venues.

Regarding nightlife venues for parties, the most severe restrictions are held by the province of East-Flanders, which allows 1 person per m<sup>2</sup> or requires 1cm of the emergency exit(s) width per person.

In the practice it is usually the local fire departments that make a prevention report regarding maximum capacity of nightlife venues. The assessment considers the factors such as the number of attendees, number of emergency exits, arrangement of the location, emergency lighting and the use of electric installations. The final decision is made by the major.

# III GERMANY

### 36 Restriction of alcohol selling at petrol stations by the municipality

In the year 2008/2009 Municipality of the city Frankenthal in Germany restricted the sell of alcohol at petrol stations. The key objectives of this restriction were:

- to reduce violence and rows of drunken people in the streets,
- to protect inhabitants from noise disturbance in the nights caused by drunken people and
- to reduce malicious damage, vandalism and pollution by waste.

The municipality prohibits the petrol stations to sell great quantities of alcohol during the night (22 – 6 o'clock), but still allows them to sell small portions ("travel necessity") of alcohol:

- up to 2 litres of alcohol ≤ 8 vol.-%
- up to 1 litre of alcohol 8 14 vol.-%
- up to 0,1 litre of alcohol ≥ 14 vol.-%

The petrol stations appealed against the order, but courts affirmed it. The petrol stations are controlled by the public order office; infringement against the law is punished by a fine of up to 5000 €.

No evaluation has been done so far. However, further cities follow the example and discuss a general prohibition of alcohol consumption in the streets, public squares and in parks.

### 37 PARTYPACK – the "SAFER LIFE GUIDE" of the Drogenhilfe Köln gGmbH

Drogenhilfe Köln gGmbH is a local initiative in the region around Köln that exists since 1996 and focuses on primary and secondary prevention. Its activities include giving information on legal and illegal drugs at events by an interactive 'drug-information-lounge' and counselling via help desk, email and online. So far, there has been no systematic evaluation of the programme.

#### 38 Nightlife guidelines – health promotion interventions in nightlife

The German workgroup 'Healthy nightlife' (The Federal Centre for Health Education and others) published a manual in 2005 concerning guidelines and advice on healthy nightlife e.g. drug prevention at parties, community based drug prevention, local cooperation, safer-house standards, checklists for organizers and clubs, sponsoring of preventive actions, public relations, PR advice for youth and health agencies, helpdesks etc. Key objectives of the manual were to provide basic information on implementing healthy conditions in nightlife by specific interventions and to spread resource-oriented, drug preventive, health promotive and risk-minimizing ideas to institutions and stakeholders in nightlife.

#### 39 Eve & rave Münster e.V.

Eve & rave Münster e.V. is the local initiative in the region around Münster in Germany that focuses on secondary prevention of drug use. It provides information and counselling for drug users on health-related, pharmacological and legal aspects of drug consumption as well as on problems in relation with excessive lifestyle. The services are provided through individual counselling, counselling via email, self-help groups and

trainings for students, multipliers and staff of clubs and discos. Information and advice are provided with an information desk at clubs and discos, especially in the Techno scene. So far, no systematic evaluation of the programme has been made.

### 40 Alice – the drug and culture project

Alice – the drug and culture project is the local initiative around Frankfurt/Main in Germany. It exists since 1999 with the aim to inform on drugs, especially at parties and in schools. The project tries to support a responsible usage of psychoactive substances and to help drug users with problems. Information is provided through information desks and the Alice-bus at parties, festivals, schools and congresses, as well as through internet.

The part of the Alice-project is a school project called "It's my Party – drugs, music and engagement". The project has been realized in the federal state Hessen in 8th classes by trained Alice-members and was also awarded at the drug prevention competition in 2007. It comprises six school lessons and is free of charge for schools.

The evaluation of the pilot phase of the project was done by the University of Frankfurt in 2005/2006. The results of the feedback questionnaires showed, that majority (95 %) of students positively evaluated the content and the way of implementation of the project, especially the open and differentiated way of giving information on drugs. Since now, there has been no evaluation of long-term effects of the project.

# **IV AUSTRIA**

### 41 Implementation of the European Alcohol Action Plan (EAAP) in Austria

Since the year 2000 all possible parts of the Austrian society including government, industry and public health have been involved in the implementation of the European Alcohol Action Plan (EAAP).

The main objectives of the plan are:

- to generate greater awareness of, provide education in, and build up support for public health policies that prevent harm from alcohol;
- to reduce the risk of alcohol-related problems that may occur in the home, workplace, community or drinking environment;
- to reduce both the breadth and depth of alcohol-related harm such as fatalities, accidents, violence, child abuse and neglect, and family crises;
- to provide accessible and effective treatment for people with hazardous and harmful alcohol consumption and those with alcohol dependence;
- to provide greater protection from the pressure to drink for children, young people and those who choose not to drink alcohol.

To reach the objectives the European Alcohol Action plan proposes 10 strategies that have as well been used in Austria:

- No. 1: To inform the people of the consequences of alcohol consumption on health, family and society... a mass media campaigns, e.g. "Don't drink and drive!", "Drink + drive = death" etc. as well as alcohol and drug prevention programmes in school settings were used.
- No. 2: To promote public, private and working environments protected from accident and violence and other negative consequences of alcohol consumption the following activities were implemented: Project "Encare", policies against alcohol on the workplace (several laws regulating alcohol consumption in the workplace), primary and secondary preventive activities.
- No. 3: In the field of establishing and enforcing laws that effectively discourage drink-driving, the laws against driving vehicles under the influence of alcohol have been implemented since 1960's (presently the driving is forbidden with alcohol blood concentration over 0.05%)
- No. 4: To promote health by controlling the availability of alcoholic beverages, the laws to protect young people from alcohol by stating a minimum age for the purchase and consumption of alcohol have been implemented.
- No. 5: Advertisements of alcoholic beverages in broadcast and other mass media have been restricted, since 2006 there has also been self-regulation of advertising by the brewery industry.
- No. 6: To ensure the accessibility of effective treatment and rehabilitation services with trained personnel, free access to treatment of patients with alcohol related diseases is guaranteed by the statutes of the social health insurance system.
- No. 7: Pilot project "Jugend OK Partnerbetrieb" was implemented to foster awareness of ethical and legal responsibility among those involved in the marketing and serving of alcoholic beverages.

No. 8: Education and training programmes in the areas of education, formation of health professionals and professionals in the judiciary system were implementer to enhance the capacity of the society to deal with alcohol.

No. 9: Supporting non-governmental organisations and self-help movements that promote healthy lifestyles, specifically those aiming to prevent or reduce alcohol-related harm, was mainly project oriented.

No. 10: A more general "Alcohol Concept" (policy) is being developed continuously.

The ongoing policies are broad and are involving virtually all sectors of society, but so far – despite the ongoing external evaluation - there is very little evidence of their effectiveness.

## 42 Österreichisches Verkehrssicherheitsprogramm 2002-2010

The Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology (Das Bundesministerium für Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie) presented the first Austrian road safety programme in 2002. Based on a scientific and interdisciplinary analysis of the Council for Road safety (Kuratorium für Verkehrssicherheit) its main purpose was to reduce the number of deaths and injured in the traffic.

Since drunk driving is one of the most common causes of traffic accidents, many measures to reduce alcohol-induced accidents have been taken. For example:

- more regular random breathalyser checks of drivers (pilot study of its effects, media campaign to inform people)
- obligatory breathalyser checks of persons involved in traffic accident with personal injury
- adoption of the internationally successful "BOB-campaign" that aims to raise awareness of the dangers
  of driving while intoxicated. In Austria the campaign is named "0,0 for friends", referring to the one
  from the group of friends who's driving and not drinking alcohol.
- alcohol interlock (a device similar to breathalyzer installed to a motor vehicle's dashboard that can
  prevent the engine from being started if the analyzed breath-alcohol concentration is too great):
  evaluating the conditions for a pilot project, in which alcohol interlocks would be a part of
  rehabilitation for drink driving offenders and would have legal framework;
- adapted and graduated sanctions for breaching the Austrian legal drink-driving limit;
- training of the executive branch and physicians in the area of drug detection
- being part of the EU research project DRUID, that aims to gain new insights to the real degree of
  impairment caused by psychoactive drugs and their actual impact on road safety. It also evaluates the
  efficiency of strategies of prevention, penalisation and rehabilitation and recommends "good practice".

### 43 Österreichen Aktrionsplan zur Unfallverhütung 2006-2010

The main goal of Austrian Programme for Injury Prevention for the period 2006-2010 is to reach 25 percent reduction of accident fatalities by 2010. The plan focuses on vulnerable groups (children and adolescents, senior citizens, vulnerable road users) and dangerous circumstances in the road transport, at the workplace and in sports.

The main objectives and used strategies of the plan are:

- To increase the security of environment (e.g. building regulations, bicycle helmet legislation, safety of services)
- To reinforce individual responsibility (e.g. annual campaigns, information)
- To improve qualification of relevant professional groups (e.g. medical doctors, teachers, home nurses)
- To support Stakeholders with data and information (injury surveillance, advising centres)
- To coordinate and evaluate activities.

The scope of the measures is quite comprehensive, at least at federal level, as it tries to link accident prevention sectors with their different frameworks and traditions. Still, many responsibilities lay within federal states, which have to decide about their own programmes. The plan also includes health goals, but evidence how general measures (e.g. capacity building campaigning) will work is weak.

#### 44 Welle gegen Gewalt

The aim of the policy launched by Police and National soccer league in 2009 is to prevent violence during and after soccer competition. The prevention programme had significant media attention, short trailers with famous Austrian soccer players were broadcasted during the competitions.

The soccer players and trainers were also supporting the programme, being role models for young people (13 – 18 years), which were the main target group of the programme. Also the workshops for schools, youth centres and fan clubs were organized. They provided youth with information on violence, give them possibility to share their personal experience and develop strategies for coping with violence.

# 45 Spielen Sie auf Sicherheit – Präventionsspots zur EURO 2008

In Austria, during the EURO 2008 prevention spots in the stadiums and other public places were broadcasted to raise awareness for crimes and help people to protect themselves against crimes like pickpockets, robbery and violence.

#### 46 Out die Aussenseiter

Out die Aussenseiter is the Austrian programme implemented by Police in 2003 that aims to raise awareness about violence and its prevention. Workshops for pupils aged 13-15 years are organized, in which 'crimes' such as theft and robbery are presented as part of everyday life. Through the short movie and role playing children get better knowledge of relevant laws, more civil courage, better understanding of conflicts and learn strategies for constructive relations with others.

#### 47 White ribbon

White ribbon is the international campaign that has started in Canada in 1991 and is organized by men working to end men's violence against women. In Austria it started in 2000 and consists of media campaigns, websites, conference, workshops, etc. that educate young people and raise public awareness of the issue. Reducing violence against women is also achieved by men say no to violence against women, showing this opinion in public and building a non-violent role model for men.

# 48 Amendments of the federal law concerning addictive substances (SMG)

The Austrian law for addictive substances (Suchtmittelgesetz SMG) was adapted according to the EU norms in 2008 and 2009. It involves federal law (Strafgesetzbestimmungen) and also includes measures for (secondary) prevention such as early detection and consequences outside the court of justice. New substances like Spice, Oripavin, coca leaves and cannabinomimetic substances are included in the law. The amendments also specify harder punishment for drug offering to and dealing with minors and softer punishment for addicted offenders.

### 49 Improvement of the drug treatment policies of the federal provinces in Austria

The policy was launched in 2008/2009 by Federal Drug Forum and consists of deputies from virtually all federal ministries and provinces. It involves steering actions for drug treatment, based on evaluation of the practice of the last years, with the emphasis on treatment diversification and opiate substitution.

The policies are being continued and in a process of constant evaluation and improvement. A commission for the evaluation of drug substitution framework has been founded in 2008. The evaluation of the change in drug treatment policy, based on expert interviews and qualitative interviews with drug consumers and offenders, showed positive outcomes. Also the evaluation of the outpatient drug treatment programmes in the province of Carinthia also showed positive impact of opiate substitution. Positive changes in somatic state and subjective experienced quality of life were noticed already after short term treatment, but not with respect to the evaluation of social relations and conditions of environment. Also high compliance of patients and high degree of satisfaction with treatment were observed.

#### 50 HIV-prevention, "Stop Aids – Keep the Promise"

The programme started in 2009 and is lead by Aids-Hilfe Wien. Its main objective is to inform and motivate young people to safer sex. The programme provides information about risk sex and protection against HIV infection through seminars for target groups, advertising campaigns, media spots and public events around the "World Aids Day 2009" (28 November).

### V ROMANIA

#### 51 National Strategy in the field of prevention and fight against domestic violence

The Romanian national strategy in the field of preventing and fighting against the domestic violence was implemented for the period 2005-2007 by Romanian National Agency for the Protection of Family (Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection). Its aim is to create a national network of specialized social services with the purpose of granting support and efficient intervention to victims of domestic violence, but also to perpetrators.

The general objectives of the strategy are:

- The improvement of the legislative framework necessary for the organization and functioning of the system of specialized social services in the field of prevention and fight against domestic violence.
- The reinforcement of the institutional capacity of the central and local public administration authorities
  to implement and develop programmes and specialized social services destined to the persons affected
  by domestic violence.
- The development of a culture of partnership and social solidarity in developing the policies of preventing and fighting against domestic violence at a national level.
- The participation and active involvement of the Romanian state in actions undertaken at an international level in the field of preventing and fighting against the domestic violence phenomenon.

Some of the measures established in the Action plan of the strategy are:

- The analysis of the causes of domestic violence, of its forms of manifestation and of vulnerable groups and/or domains, in different types of communities (ethnic, rural/urban, etc.).
- The development of a united system of social services specific for the field of preventing and fighting against domestic violence, taking into consideration the complexity of the phenomenon, and also the specific needs of the beneficiaries.
- The development of non-violent attitudes and behaviours to achieve the objective "zero tolerance" towards domestic violence.
- The promotion of public dialogue with a view to raising awareness about the negative results of domestic violence at the level of the Romanian society, and also the development of non-violent attitudes and behaviours.
- The development of collaboration relationships between the Romanian state and the states or international bodies involved in preventing and fighting against domestic violence.

Since now, there has been no systematic evaluation of long-term effects of the strategy, nevertheless the number of deaths as a consequence of domestic violence in the last few years is dropping.

#### 52 The National Strategy for the Prevention of Criminality. Action Plan for 2005 – 2008

The Action Plan for implementing Romanian National Strategy in the field of preventing criminality for the period 2005 – 2008 aims to coordinate criminality prevention programmes and to prevent antisocial behaviour and victimization of vulnerable social categories. The Strategy includes the following priotities: Prevention of financial and economical criminality, Prevention of IT related criminality, Prevention of Human traffic, Prevention of Domestic violence, Prevention of Young persons criminality and Prevention of Urban criminality.

#### 53 National Anti-Drug Strategy 2005-2012

Romanian National Anti-Drug Strategy 2005-2012 was drafted in line with the new European strategy in the field and set the general and specific objectives regarding drug demand and supply reduction for the strengthening of the international cooperation and the development of an integrated global system for information, evaluation and coordination in fighting drugs.

An action plan has been issued for the period of 2005 – 2008 by Romanian National Anti-Drug Agency. In the first stage (2-4 years), this strategy seeks to maintain at low level the drug use in the general population by enforcing prevention measures and developing the public and private system of medical, psychological and social care. In the second stage the strategy seeks to diminish the number of new drug users and to reduce drug-related organized criminality by streamlining the activities of agencies qualified for countering drug-related organized crime. This should be achieved by the improvement and expansion of the national and international inter-institutional cooperation, legislative and institutional reinforcement, further staff training and assuring of the necessary resources.

The internal evaluation of the policy has been done by the National Anti-Drug Agency. In the Action Plan for the implementation of the National Antidrug Strategy, 40 activities were scheduled to conclude in 2005, of which 30 were completed, which accounts for a success rate of 75%. Treatment demand indicator showed a steady increasing tendency of the number of relapses, and the decrease of new referrals, while the availability of psychosocial care services for drug users remained limited. The Drug Prevention, Evaluation and Counselling Centres set up in each county and district of the Municipality of Bucharest as specialized 2nd layer care services, enabled the provision of adequate and standardized offer of services. Detoxification and methadone substitution treatment were the main categories of services addressed by drug users and drug addicts. Evaluation also showed under financing and disproportion between the needs and the national programmes for drug demand reduction.

### National Strategy in relation to HIV / AIDS 2008 -2013

The National Strategy HIV / AIDS 2008 – 2013 was elaborated by the National Commission for Surveillance, Control and Prevention of the HIV / AIDS cases and proposed to be adopted by the Romanian Government. Key objectives of the strategy are prevention of the HIV virus, treatment and care for the people infected with HIV / AIDS, development of integrated social services within the community and control of HIV / AIDS and associated risk factors. The policy involves realization of research studies in more locations of Romania in order to have a proper evaluation of the dimensions and implications of commercial sex practices. It also involves a lobby / advocacy campaign in order to promote national policies and legislation necessary for the realization of efficient programmes in relation to HIV / AIDS infected people and programmes to raise awareness of the risks of HIV / AIDS. The action plan of the policy is still being implemented, so far, no evaluation has been done.

### VI PORTUGAL

#### 55-57 Portuguese legislation on prevention of risk behaviour in nightlife

Portugal has some general laws for the prevention of risk behaviours in nightlife.

According to the Law - Decreto-Lei n.º 9 launched in 2002 it is forbidden to sell alcohol to people younger than 16 years. Bars, schools, institutions, clubs, etc. that sell these products to people under 16 years old are penalized. It is also no longer allowed to sell alcoholic drinks in automatic machines.

Recently (about 6 months ago), IDT (National Institute for Drugs and Drug Addiction) made a proposition for a different law on this subject that would raise the minimum age to drink alcohol from 16 to 18 years.

Law - Decreto-Lei nº 265-A launched in 2001 aims to reduce the number of traffic accidents due to use of alcohol or illicit drugs. There are penalties for people driving with more than 0.2 g/l of alcohol or illicit drugs in blood.

Nationwide law in Portugal (Law - Decreto-Lei n.º 30) launched in 2000 decriminalized all drugs, including cocaine and heroin.

Under the new legal framework, all drugs were "decriminalized," not "legalized." Thus, drug possession for personal use and drug usage itself are still legally prohibited, but violations of those prohibitions are deemed to be exclusively administrative violations and are removed completely from the criminal realm. Drug trafficking continues to be prosecuted as a criminal offense.

An external qualitative evaluation of this law was made by an American researcher Greenwald. He suggests that the Portuguese decriminalization framework has been a resounding success. Since 2001 drug addiction, usage, and associated pathologies have been either contained or have measurably improved within Portugal. In certain key demographic segments, drug usage has decreased in absolute terms, even as usage across the EU continues to increase, including in those states that continue to take the hardest line in criminalizing drug possession and usage. The resources that were previously devoted to prosecuting and imprisoning drug addicts are now available to provide treatment programmes to addicts.

Except the general laws presented here and the need for security staff in nightclubs (the bars require no security staff), Portugal has no measures for the protection of people attending nightlife.

### VII GREECE

### 58 Network of local agencies for the protection of teenagers from alcohol abuse

Movement "PROTASI", Drug Prevention Centre of Achaia and the Municipality of Patras have noticed that young people involve in binge drinking and disruptive behaviour at the parties, carnivals, etc. which also increases risk for their involvement in car and motorbike accidents. In order to reduce the alcohol consumption and traffic accidents they tried to implement the law that would forbade selling alcohol in night clubs to people under 17 years old. In 2003 – 2004 they created a network that includes agencies which influence young people, such as police authorities, owners of night clubs, teachers unions, association of parents, unions of lawyers, journalists, football and basketball clubs. The network aims to inform and educate members of the above mentioned agencies to promote responsible drinking behaviours. As a result the police authorities have improved their control, the night club owners have tried to apply the law, the mass media have been promoting positive drinking behaviours, the parents and teachers have intervened into entertainment activities of young people, etc. Each year the agencies sign a social contract of cooperation, which involves certain principles they have to obey, and report which activities they implemented during the year.

The programme shows quality and quantity improvements over years. Its main idea is that the responsible behaviour towards young people will in short and long term result in a responsible life style of the local community. It is also possible that the project will in a long term influence the adult's behaviour regarding alcohol use.

Internal evaluation of the project has been done by "PROTASI", Drug Prevention Centre of Achaia and the Municipality of Patras. The project has been implemented for five years and the evaluation over years shows significant reduction of urgent incidents that were introduced in the hospitals because of drunkenness and accidents. The Police reports also show the reduction of illegal incidents, violence and car accidents. On the other hand, there was an increase of participating agencies in the network (from 8 at the beginning to 14 now) and citizens in the training courses.

### VIII HUNGARY

# 59 STRATEGY TO COMBAT THE DRUG PROBLEM – Nyíregyháza city

Nyíregyháza city strategy to combat the drug problem in the period 2005 – 2009 is based on the Hungarian National Strategy. It is lead by Co-ordination Forums on Drug Affairs and aims to actively engage local organizations to cooperate in the local strategy to prevent drug problems.

The key long-term objective of the strategy is to increase drug-free entertainment opportunities, including an increase in the number of safe places for entertainment. Legal regulations regarding licenses for discotheques should be enforced more effectively, also principles ensuring safe leisure-time should be controlled better, e.g. avoidance of overcrowding, appropriate ventilation, drinking water, training and control of the staff, a first-aid room. Medium-term objectives include reduction in the number of disco accidents. In order to achieve that police should intensify checks on public roads, also the possibility to use public transportation when going and retuning from parties should be offered. The short-term objectives of the policy include analysis of the legal environment and its amendment when needed (e.g. new regulation for the licensing procedure of party places), establishment and control weather the rules are being obeyed (e.g. driving under the influence of drugs, controlling if party places meet the requirements) and establishment of local prevention services (leisure-time facilities as drug-free clubs and discotheques, sports events at night, etc.)

Internal evaluation shows that first steps are done, but the member organisations of the local Co-ordination Forums on Drug Affairs are not active enough. Nevertheless, there are some member organisations included in the implementation of the strategy - Public Health Institute controlling that party places meet requirements, Police controlling public roads, some non-governmental organizations organizing drug prevention programmes in secondary schools and prevention programmes at parties. Still for long-term results, it is very important to convince local organisations to actively take part in the implementation of local strategy.

# IX SLOVENIA

# 60 "Alcohol Kills. Mostly Innocents." (annual action plan for 2008)

Slovenian National Assembly adopted the Resolution on the National Programme for Road Traffic Safety 2007-2011 in December 2006. Government adopts annual or biennial inter-ministerial action plans for the road traffic safety and each responsible ministry adopts in addition specific and very concrete action plans for specific topic.

Ministry of Health is responsible and coordinating institution for alcohol policy and reduction of alcohol-related harm (including reduction of alcohol-related road traffic accidents). Policy measures defined in the action plan are based on analysis of the situation, trends and (mostly police) statistical data with the aim to decrease the number of road traffic accident causers who are under influence of alcohol and decrease the number of alcohol-related road traffic accidents. Action plan includes 18 individual activities implemented by different responsible institution (ministries, police and inspectorates) and NGOs. It also includes separate media plan.

Stricter control by responsible inspectorates and police was strongly focused also on **responsible beverage sale** and service in purpose to decrease underage drinking and serving alcohol to drunken individuals, especially in **night time** and **weekends**. Two specific periods of the year were selected: (1) a week around St. Martin's Day (In Slovenia, St. Martin's Day -11<sup>th</sup> of November - marks the day when the must traditionally turns to wine); (2) December (whole month is full of Christmas and New Year's celebrations, parties etc.).

Action plan was very improved in comparison with previous annual plans (2006-2007), especially because NGOs co-funded by the Ministry of Health were included with their activities which was not practice in the past. Due to this improvement a number of activities increased a lot and they were co-ordinated for the first time ever. Another improvement from the previous years was a holistic media campaign which was supporting the plan in the whole period of implementation with unified design, TV spots, radio advertising and billboard posters. There was a strong advertising campaign in nightlife premises all over the country as well (e.g. toilet adverts, leaflets).

The internal evaluation shows that in general the number of road traffic accidents and road traffic fatalities decreased significantly in comparison with the same period in previous years. The number of causers under influence of alcohol also decreased significantly, but the share of causers under influence of alcohol in comparison to all causers of road traffic accidents slightly increased in last years.

There was also an external evaluation done by a selected media research company in which attitude to 'drink and driving' among drivers was examined in details. Great majority of questioned drivers had noticed and strongly supported the media campaign and its aims to reduce drink and driving in Slovenia. The drivers were rather critical to the extent of random breath testing by the police (most of them think that probability to be caught in random checks is very low). They support more random checks and (preventive) detention of drunken drivers to reduce drink and driving. The questioned drivers were very supportive to stricter legislation regarding drink and driving as well.

Very important positive improvement regarding this action plan is also much stronger support by media and civil society. It seems that media (especially journalists) and citizens are less indifferent to drink and driving, especially in the case of fatal road traffic accidents caused by drunken drivers.

It is estimated that the action plans will have significant results in long-term period, especially with regard to public and media attitude to drink and driving. Tolerance to such kind of behaviour is significantly decreasing in Slovenia. This is a useful policy that has helped improve coordination and implementation of drink and driving

measures and other activities in this field. Such action plans will continue to be implemented in the following years by the Ministry of Health as this is its obligation according to the national programme adopted in the parliament and periodic action plans adopted by the government. Very similar action plan for 2009 was already adopted by the Ministry of Health in May 2009.

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