

Advances &

Opportunities for Harm Reduction in Europe

A TIME FOR CHANGE ... IN 2014 7000 PWUD'S DIED OF DRUG OVERDOSE – EMCDDA ... THANKFUL NO SHOOT TO KILL POLICY



EuroNPUD's Mission Statement



“Protecting The Health & Promoting The Rights Of Drug Users”

Trying to represent the global region however recognise t he EU.

Our Strategy!

- Bring together existing drug user networks & develop new drug user networks across the Europe.
- Offer capacity building support through innovative projects such as the “Twinning Model”.
- Develop ourselves as a central point of connection for all European Drug User Networks & Drug Policy Reform Interest Groups (International GP Reform).
- Share our grass roots expertise with those that collaborate with us.



Harm Reduction Drug User Networks in EU

EuroNPUD has up to 16 countries representing the EU on their Steering Committee Group.

Some of these networks include:

- CATNPUD
- CASO
- Indifference Busters
- ASUD
- SDUU

All drug user networks seek to enhance access & quality to treatment and testing, push for drug policy reforms, opportunities and advancements in harm reduction policy & practice in their countries.



Transnational Activity - CASO.

Southern European countries carrying out piece of research that reviews current HR policy & practice.

Advances & Opportunities

Drug User Networks are currently really proactive and motivated in pushing for drug policy reforms that **promote the rights and protect the health of people who use drugs** and are involved in numerous innovative projects to ensure this happens.

Some examples include:

Drug Consumption Rooms & Heroin Assisted Treatment.
 Pill Testing at raves, carnivals, festivals etc.
 Peer 2 Peer Model.
 Naloxone distribution.
 Cannabis Clubs.
 Decriminalisation & Regulation of drugs.
 Evaluating the Decriminalisation Model.
 Advocacy.
 Campaigning.



Naloxone & Prevention of Overdose Deaths

In Scotland alone during 2014-2015 706 PWUD's died from overdose.

Naloxone undoubtedly reduces the risks to PWUD's. Intravenous drug users are particularly at higher risk because once the drugs are in your system you are unable to take them out!

Release from prison is a particularly high risk period.

Provides protection to the community.

Should be automatically distributed alongside NX & OST.

Naloxone licensed in 5 European countries which is not enough!

No petition has been made on Naloxone to the European Parliament – we need 1 000 000 signatures.

Position paper needs to be written and pushed for by drug user networks – need drug users to be campaigning.



DCR's & Heroin Assisted Treatment.

Two countries I visited in Southern Europe are running a DCR, one from hospital the other by a drop in facility, both provide NX.

ASUD in Paris are due to launch their DCR in the next few weeks.

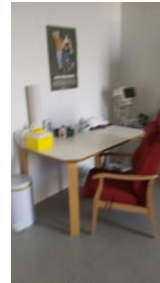
Illicit drugs can be used under supervision of trained staff or peer workers.

DCR's have been operating in Europe over the last three decades.

DCR's aim to reduce the acute risks of disease transmission through unhygienic injecting.

Prevent drug-related overdose deaths.

Connect high-risk drug users with other treatment options.



EMCDDA-
overview on
DCR's

Rapid Hep C Treatment & Peer 2 Peer Model

Peer workers & professionals working together.

Study carried out in the UK five years ago demonstrated that 80% of what drug users told "professionals" was NOT the truth.

Added insight of current issues

HCV prevalence up by 90% in some countries

HCV Elimination Manifesto Feb 2016

Eliminate HCV by 2030

Advocacy for drug user groups currently fragmented

Indifference Busters Drug User Network – Peer 2 Peer Model.



Case Study: Peer On Bike Model

“Indifference Busters”



Use & behaviour	people HCV+	people tested	people HCV+ on subtotal	people HIV+	people tested	people HIV+ on subtotal
Heroin	52,3	56,4	92,7	7,9	29,9	26,4
Cocaine	46,3	53,8	86,1	11,3	40	28,3
Total	52,2	56,3	92,7	8	30,1	26,6

Peer On Bike Project

- During October 2016 Indifference Busters started their ‘Peer On Bike Project’.
- A collaborative project between the association ‘Isle of Arran’, Indifference Busters themselves and ASL TO2 (fiscal management support).
- **Small Grants fund received from Euronpud**
- Providing a secondary distribution project of sterile injecting material and outreach aimed at PWID and PWUD living on the street and unable to attend mainstream services.
- The aim, in addition to limiting drug-related infections in PWID is to collect data and provide useful information to limit the damage associated with drug use.
- This is a mixed project service-led and community-led, the first in Italy developed and financed by peers.

Use & behaviour	people HCV+	people tested	people HCV+ on subtotal
Heroin	41,3	48,3	85,5
Cocaine	9,2	24,2	38,0
Cannabis	2,8	14,9	18,8
Other behaviour/addictions	5,4	20,5	26,3
Total	26,2	33,8	77,5

58% of drug users has never been subjected to anti-HCV test; a value that would justify a greater commitment in testing campaigns.

So What Works Best?



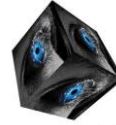
Collaborative Relationships That Include Peer led Interventions & Peer 2 Peer Involvement

Working in collaboration with Drug User Networks

Added insight of current trends developing on the streets

Providing harm reduction interventions that meet the needs of drug users and reduce the risks of contracting HIV & HCV plus other viruses such as TB.

Approaching Drug User Networks for consultation



Count The Costs!



50 Years of The War On Drugs has resulted in:

- Broken Families.
- Socially Economic Problems.
- Poverty.
- Homelessness.
- Unemployment.

