



**Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and  
Illicit trafficking in Drugs**

P-PG /MinConf (2014) 3  
3 November 2014

# **Inventory of activities and outcomes Accomplished during the work cycle 2011 - 2014**

## Foreword

It is an honour for me to present an inventory of the accomplishments of the Pompidou Group over a period of four years under the French Presidency (2010-2014). As a collective body we can be proud of what we have achieved. This would not have been possible without a committed Presidency and Vice-Presidency, dedicated Bureau Members and Permanent Correspondents, as well as a devoted Secretariat.

Four years ago, the Group needed revitalising. With a diminishing Membership, a strong counteraction which concentrated on better visibility, actions that put the Group in the limelight and were based on its specificity was required. Membership is Pan-European and is also open to Non-European countries. The move towards the East, the South-East and Southern Rim of the Mediterranean was essential.

The Group has a long tradition in Research, work in Prison settings, work with front line professionals, gender issues, training and capacity building. These traditions were re-invigorated with specific programmes. New areas were explored and flexible working methods introduced. We were all alert to new developments and reacted to them quickly. We provided a space to explore, to question, to debate. This tradition needs to be continued and deepened. It is not sufficient to pay lip service to these 'principles' but they need to continue to be put in practice, especially in the light of the UNGASS 2016. The Group will have another chance to prove its added value in this perspective.

The constructive interaction between all stakeholders created a favourable environment to work with trust and endeavour which allowed the Pompidou Group to develop and continue to provide added value to Member States.

Clearly the Pompidou Group continues to provide added value in the following fields: Providing a forum for open debate, linking policy, research and practice, playing a precursor role with innovative ideas together with multidisciplinary and transversal approaches, and acting as a bridge with the European neighbourhood through multi-lateral activities.

I express the hope that the next Work Programme (2015 – 2018) will be filled with the same creativity and results to create similar positive outcomes.



Patrick Penninckx  
Executive Secretary

## Introduction

*The Pompidou Group activities 2011 – 2014 are based on the Work Programme adopted at the Ministerial Conference in 2010 (doc. P-PG/MinConf (2010) 3) and additional ad hoc activities adopted by the Permanent Correspondents in the course of the work cycle (Art. 8 under the adopted mission, organisation, governance & working methods of the Pompidou Group, doc. P-PG /MinConf (2010) 4) and were carried out under the work plan for implementing activities (doc. P-PG (2011) 10).*

### Icon key:



= document download from Pompidou Group website:  
[www.coe.int/pompidou](http://www.coe.int/pompidou)



= high quality print available from the Secretariat



= website or internet based tool



= video accessible in the Pompidou Group video channel at:  
[http://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=Pompidou+Group](http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Pompidou+Group)

\*

= All references to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nation's Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

# Table of contents

## **Taking initiatives**

Promoting drug policy cooperation in South-East Europe  
Shedding light on 'darknet'  
Preventing drug use in the workplace  
Drug policy implementation in times of economic crisis  
Humanitarian and medical mission to Ukraine

## **Advancing policies**

Guidance for developing coherent policies for licit and illicit drugs  
Preventing risks and reducing harm linked to the use of psychoactive substances  
Road traffic safety and substitution treatment  
Education and training on substance use disorders

## **Supporting law enforcement**

Drug Control Services at European Airports and in General Aviation (Airports Group)  
Prevention of drug precursors' diversion  
e-Learning tools for prosecutors on drug precursor diversion  
Elaboration of a framework aimed at reducing drug supply on a world-wide scale  
Drug related cybercrime

## **Linking research with policy**

Experiences with integrated policies for licit and illicit drugs  
Optimising communication between research and policy makers on ESPAD  
Gender dimension of non-medical use of prescription drugs  
Review of national regulations on opiate substitution treatment  
European Research Register  
Cooperation with European Society for Social Drug Research (ESSD)

## **Connecting policy with practice**

Executive training for drug policy managers  
EXASS Net  
Drug Policy Cooperation in South East Europe and the Balkans (SEE)  
European Drug Prevention Prize

## **Building capacity**

Support for the development, implementation and review of national drug policies  
Implementing coherent drug strategies in Ukraine  
Co-operation Network in the Mediterranean Region on drugs and drug addiction (MedNET)  
Drugs in Prisons  
Cooperation with the Confidence Building Measures (CBM) Programme of the Council of Europe

## **Secretariat activities**

Executive summary  
Evaluation and quality control  
Visibility and communication

## Taking initiatives

### Promoting drug policy cooperation in South-East Europe

*Ljubljana High-Level Meeting of the Pompidou Group at the invitation of the Slovenian Ministry of Health, Ljubljana, 13 December 2011*

**Set objective:** to tackle the challenges posed by the so-called “Balkan route” – a major transit zone for illicit drugs in Europe.

**Attained results:**

- Coordinated responses to the imposing drug-related challenges in the region proposed.
- Cooperation group on drug policy in South-East Europe to facilitate the implementation of drug policies and regional cooperation (SEE) was agreed and set up.
- Accession of Montenegro and Morocco to the Pompidou Group officially finalised with accession ceremony.
- European Prevention Prize 2012 launched.

**Delivered product:**



*Declaration of the 2011 Ljubljana High-level meeting of the Pompidou*



### Shedding light on ‘darknet’

*Strasbourg High-Level Conference at the initiative of the French Pompidou Group Presidency, Strasbourg, 14 November 2012*

**Set objective:** to assess the progress of work and evaluate the Pompidou Group’s overall political role in the European and international drug policy arenas in the mid-term of the French Presidency.

**Attained results:**

- Assessment of chances and risks in cyber space, addressing the potential and challenges of the internet in reducing supply and demand
- Overview and analysis of possible action by the Pompidou Group on drug-related cybercrime
- Analysis of the Pompidou Group’s ability to effectively link policy with practice
- Accession of Moldova to the Pompidou Group officially finalised with accession ceremony
- European Prevention Prize winners for 2012 selected and awards presented

**Delivered product:**



*Declaration of the 2012 High-level Conference of the Pompidou Group*



*Drug related cybercrime and associated use of the internet, doc. P-PG (2013) 4*



*Web-based demand reduction – an overview and analysis, doc. P-PG (2013) 5*



### Preventing drug use in the workplace

*Ad hoc expert group, mandate 2011-2014, terms of reference doc. P-PG/Work (2011) 1*





**Set objectives:** to raise awareness among the Pompidou Group’s member countries about the consequences of drug use in the workplace (illicit drugs and poly-drug use) by:

- Comparing available data and texts and highlight differences in approach and points of convergence to establish the basis for a shared culture
- Reviewing the structural, cultural and economic factors underlying prevention, treatment support,
- Monitoring and safety approaches in all the member countries.
- Proposing transferable prevention scheme models.

#### **Attained results:**

- A better understanding to deal with individual factors (such as personal vulnerabilities and skills) and environmental factors (such as the social, economic and cultural context) conducive to drug consumption in the workplace.
- Benchmarks developed for all active partners to strengthen a framework in which monitoring can be conducted.
- Improved exchange of information between member countries and co-operation with the ILO and WHO.
- 2 international conference on prevention of drug use in the work place held in Strasbourg in 2012 and 2014 with participation of government representative, international organisations, and representatives from trade unions and employers' organisations.

#### **Delivered products:**

- *Final Declaration of the 2012 Conference on 'Alcohol, drugs and prevention in the work place what are the challenges for the government, the company and the staff?'* doc.P-PG/Work(2012)3 rev1 
- *Reference framework for the prevention of alcohol and drug use at the work place,* doc .P-PG/Work (2012) 1 rev 2 
- *Drugs and alcohol at the workplace: Inventory of national legislation, resolutions adopted by the Pampidou Group,* doc .P-PG/Work (2013) 3 rev 3 
- *Report of the 2014 conference 'From a declaration of intent to the implementation of a policy: users' guide to the reference Framework, good practices, research findings'* 

## **Drug policy implementation in times of economic crisis**

*Ad hoc expert group, mandate 2013, terms of reference doc. P-PG/DPEC (2013) 1*

**Set objective:** Sensitizing governments to public health consequences and other risks likely to emerge in situation of economic crisis and budgetary austerity measures, as well as providing guidance for the delivery of essential services in drug policy.

**Attained results:** The work by the experts group identified changing patterns of drug use under circumstances of strict austerity measures, such as the possible risk of an earlier onset of drug use, the increasing prevalence of injecting use, relapses, risk taking, overdosing, particularly among vulnerable groups; the increasing incidence of poly-drug use, involving illicit and licit substances, the impact of such behaviours on public health as well as on criminality. Furthermore the group developed guidance for political action.

At their 73<sup>rd</sup> meeting the Permanent Correspondents adopted a ***Declaration on Protecting public health by ensuring essential services in drug policy under austerity budgets ('Athens Declaration')*** based on the finding of the expert group. The Declaration recalls the obligations of States under the Council of Europe and United Nations Conventions to protect fundamental rights and freedoms, in particular the right to life and human dignity, the right to protection of health, the right to equitable access to quality health care services for all, the prohibition of any type of discrimination. It appeals to all actors in drug policy to initiate and support immediate political action to mitigate the impact of economic crises, particularly on the most

vulnerable, and to guarantee broad coverage, accessibility and quality of essential services, despite budgetary constraints. It concludes with proposing a set of specific steps to reach this goal.

➡ *Athens Declaration, doc. P-PG (2013) 11*  

On the basis of the Athens Declaration, Permanent Correspondents adopted elements for a draft **CND resolution on tackling public health consequences, stigma and social exclusion of people dependent on drugs**, resulting from economic crisis. The draft was tabled by the Greece on behalf of the European Union states and adopted at the 57<sup>th</sup> CND session.

**Delivered product:**

➡ *Report and explanatory memorandum by the expert group, doc. P-PG/DPEC (2013) 4 rev* 


**Humanitarian and medical mission to Ukraine**

*Based on a request by the State Service of Ukraine on Drugs Control to support Ukraine with regards to the emergency situation from the discontinuation of substitution maintenance therapy (SMT) in Crimea, the Pompidou Group put together a team consisting of medical experts from Norway, Poland, Switzerland, and Slovenia.*

**Set objective:** The mission organised by the Pompidou Group, together with the Ukrainian Drug Control Service (State Service of Ukraine on Drugs Control or SSDC) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was aimed to get a concrete overview of the emerging humanitarian crisis and look, into possible support for patients under SMT.

**Attained results:** On 16-21 May 2014 the expert team travelled to Ukraine in order to assess the situation concerning opioid substitution treatment, and to provide assistance in developing an emergency plan aimed at supporting the continuation of SMT in times of crisis. The team met people who left their hometowns in Crimea due to the interruption of SMT on the peninsula. They also met people from Eastern Ukraine who left Crimea in order to continue their treatment in safer regions of Ukraine. Meetings also took place with health professionals, NGOs such as International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine (Alliance Ukraine), international organisations (UNODC, WHO, UNAIDS) and SSDC to develop rapid responses to ensure continued MST. At the time of publishing of this report the matter continues to be actively followed up by Permanent Correspondents in close consultation with the members of the expert team.

**Delivered product:**

➡ *Report Humanitarian and medical mission on substitution maintenance treatment in Ukraine*   
➡ *Project proposal to support displaced SMT patients in Ukraine*

## Advancing policies

### Guidance for developing coherent policies for licit and illicit drugs

*Elaborated by Permanent Correspondents and adopted at their 69<sup>th</sup> meeting in 2011*

**Set objective:** The policy paper shall equip decision makers and policy managers with an overview of basic principles, instruments and tools that will support them in developing, reviewing and implementing drug policies, strategies and action plans. It summarises key elements towards coherent drug policies and effective strategies in a set of guiding principles. Furthermore it contains a selection of relevant instruments, tools and resources by European and international organisations and provides a series of key observations by policy makers on existing practice.

**Attained results:** Guiding principles developed on the basis that drug policies are a national domain and consequently national action plans and strategies are varied and reflect diversity. To make best use of this diversity it is promoted to take into account experiences from other countries. Much of the existing documentation on evidence-related research, guidelines, manuals and good practice inventories has been taken into account and is referred to in this policy paper. The most significant international legal and political instruments are listed and briefly described in an appendix.

#### Delivered product:



Policy paper on developing coherent policies for licit & illicit drugs, doc.P-PG(2011)4rev3



### Preventing risks and reducing harm linked to the use of psychoactive substances

*Elaborated by Permanent Correspondents and adopted at their 73<sup>d</sup> meeting in 2013*

**Set objective:** to clarify and provide a practical and widely applicable definition of risk and harm reduction, which encompasses different psychoactive substances and behaviours related to substance use or drug dependence. It aims to provide an overview and conceptualisation of policy areas and goals under which risk and harm reduction measures are presently implemented in Europe, as well as an inventory of existing types of measures presently implemented and in the course of experimentation. Risk and harm reduction mean different things to different people. This is illustrated by the variety of definitions in national and international drug policy instruments.

**Attained results:** The policy paper managed to create a new approach to the concept of risk prevention and harm reduction. It sets out a conceptualisation of risk and harm reduction that are complementary to prevention, treatment and rehabilitation concepts. For the first time a policy paper outlines comprehensively how risk prevention and harm reduction relate to different policy aspects, in particular health care, social welfare, law enforcement, criminal justice, international relations and human rights. The policy paper provides inspiration and guidance to mediate and reconcile the influence of risk and harm reduction measures on associated policy fields and goals.

#### Delivered product:



Policy paper on Preventing risks and reducing harm linked to the use of psychoactive substances, doc. P-PG (2013) 20





## Road traffic safety and substitution treatment

Expert group, Mandate 2011-2012, terms of reference doc. P-PG/RTD (2011) 1 rev

**Set objectives:** Given the wide spread use of substitution therapy as part of drug treatment programmes, the objectives were:

- to study the rehabilitation and integration implications, specifically medical evidence base and its implications on legal framework
- identify the different pros and cons of different policies and approaches,
- to analyse the effects of different substitution drugs on the ability to drive,
- to provide governments with guidance for developing regulations concerning driving and substitution treatment.

### Attained results:

- Overview on different approaches that exist today in Europe as concerns driving in road traffic whilst being in substitution therapy treatment;
- Analysis of effects and unintended consequences of existing practices;
- Draft set of principles based on experiences with existing practice and regulations.

Based on the finding of the expert group the Permanent Correspondents adopted a set of Guiding principles for developing regulations concerning substitution treatment and driving, at their 72<sup>nd</sup> meeting.



Guiding principles adopted by Permanent Correspondents, doc. P-PG (2013) 2 rev 2



### Delivered product:



Report on road traffic and substitution treatment, doc. P-PG/RTD (2012) 5



## Education and training on substance use disorders

Ad hoc expert group, Mandate 2013, terms of reference doc. P-PG/Res-Edu (2013) 1

**Set objective:** The overall objectives were to put the topic of education and training on the agenda of drug policy makers, and to further strengthen the professional knowledge and skills of specialists working with people suffering from drug use related disorders, based on valid knowledge, coupled with an interdisciplinary approach and exchange of best practices.

**Attained results:** The expert group prepared a framework that takes into account the objective of education and training into the mainstream of policy and practice. The work shows how valid knowledge, coupled with an interdisciplinary approach and exchange of best practices, can be used to provide complex training programs and scientific education.

Based on the findings of the expert group the Permanent Correspondents adopted

**Recommendations on education and training on substance use disorders** at their 73<sup>rd</sup> meeting.



Recommendations adopted by Permanent Correspondents, doc. P-PG (2013) 13



Furthermore the conclusions of the expert group served as a basis for a **CND resolution** presented by Greece on behalf of the United Nations Member States, European Union countries as well as Israel and Peru on **Theoretical and practical training concerning drug use related disorders**, which was adopted during the 57<sup>th</sup> CND session.

### Delivered product:



*Report of the expert group on addictology, doc. P-PG/Res-Edu (2013) 3*



## Supporting law enforcement

### **Drug Control Services at European Airports and in General Aviation (Airports Group)**

*Cooperation group of experts, mandate 2011-2013, terms of reference doc. P-PG/Airports (2011) 1*

**Set objectives:** the aim of the Airports Group is to develop a harmonised multidisciplinary strategy for drug-detection at European airports and to enhance subject-related inter-airports co-operation, inter alia by:

- Improving information exchange among drug control services at airports through enhanced contacts among responsible officers.
- Facilitating assistance to new member States to develop appropriate tools, systems and tactics.
- Associating airports control services in MedNET member States with the work of the Group.

**Attained results:**

- Airports Group formally extended to now include MedNET countries
- 'Body approach' concept developed and successfully used to provide assistance upon request.
- Accelerated information and intelligence sharing among control services at airports.
- Joint control and training activities initiated contributing to a harmonised international control strategy at international airports.
- Concepts developed for improved controls of national airfields used by general aviation aircrafts.
- Existing control manuals and directories of responsible officers regularly updated.

**Delivered products:**

- *Documents are confidential, availability is restricted to members of the Airports Group on a restricted website.*

### **Prevention of drug precursors' diversion**

*Cooperation group of experts, mandate 2011-2013, terms of reference doc. P-PG/Precursor (2011) 1 rev*

**Set objectives:**

- Studying the parameters needed for a rapid and secure intelligence exchange on precursor diversion risks among the actors concerned.
- Identifying sources of drugs and precursors, trafficking trends and smuggling routes, *modi operandi* as well as drugs and precursor related criminal networks.
- Analysing the structural difficulties preventing appropriate awareness of and rapid response to drug precursors' diversion risks.
- Improving on the basis of complementarity the co-operation with other relevant international bodies active in the field, e.g. INCB, Interpol, Europol, etc.

**Attained results:**

- The expert group succeeded to establish an internationally recognised network on precursor control with participating countries from Europe and beyond that meets on an annual basis.
- Study visits and practical demonstrations of technical activities provided to members of the network.
- A working group to develop e-learning tools for prosecutors on drug precursor diversion in cooperation with the Council of Europe's HELP Programme was set up (*see below*).

**Delivered products:**

- *Reports and materials of annual meetings are restricted to members of the network, available on*

*a restricted website.*

### **e-Learning tools for prosecutors on drug precursor diversion**

*Cooperation project between the Pompidou Group and the HELP Programme of the Council of Europe resulting from an initiative of the Pompidou Group's international network on precursor control*

**Set objective:** the aim is to bring together all relevant information available in the chemical precursors field in order to make it digitally accessible to the groups of prosecutors and judges for legal matters. The specific objectives are:

- Developing a website, including a discussion forum and chat tools.
- Creating a distant learning or blended learning curriculum.
- Developing a self-learning course to be made available to all interested legal professionals.

**Attained results:**

- A pilot group from participating countries provided digitalised documentation and materials on chemical precursors, including court decisions, legal and judicial cooperation perspectives, issues arising from court cases, new regulations, expert reports etc.
- An initial comprehensive training on functionality and mechanism of the web-based on-line tool was conducted.

**Delivered product:**



*A model curriculum containing training materials for distance and self-learning was developed.*

### **Elaboration of a framework aimed at reducing drug supply on a world-wide scale**

*Ad hoc expert group, mandate 2011-2013, terms of reference doc. P-PG/Supply (2011) 1 rev*

**Set objective:** The aim of the working group was to contribute to more coherent approaches in national supply reduction activities and enhance international control strategies. In following a request by the Bureau of Permanent Correspondents the working group focused its work on:

- Improving the effectiveness of heroin supply reduction along the Balkan route(s).
- Detection of cocaine trafficking from South America in containers through sea ports in the Mediterranean.

**Attained results:**

- Analysis of the results of existing control strategies and need for further action.
- Overview of international organisations working in the areas.
- Legal analysis of means to organise controlled deliveries.

**Delivered products:**



*Overview on international organisations combating drug trafficking via ports, doc.P-PG/Supply (2011) 2*



*Overview on organisations combating drug trafficking on the 'Balkan Route', doc.P-PG/Supply(2011) 3*



*Controlled Deliveries in Accordance with International Law, doc. P-PG/Supply (2011) 5*

### **Drug related cybercrime**

**Set objective:**

- Creating a platform for law enforcement officials and experts for the prevention of illicit *on line* drug trade through the internet.
- Examining specific threats to society regarding drug trafficking by using *on line trade* and using postal and courier express services.
- Developing a multidisciplinary concept for control measures.

**Attained results:**



- Network of experts set up and initial meetings held that led to an agreed plan of work.
- ITOM Project on illegal trade and online marketplaces reviewed and analysed.
- Monitoring of illicit drug trafficking related activities on the internet set up.

The work is expected to continue in 2015 with a final delivery during the 2015-2018 Work Programme of the Pompidou Group.

**Delivered product:**

- *Monthly drug-related cybercrime monitoring report, restricted to members of the expert group.*

## Linking research with policy

<b>Experiences with integrated policies for licit and illicit drugs</b> <i>Research project, mandate 2011-2014 terms of reference doc. P-PG/CoherPol (2012) 1</i>
<b>Set objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assessing experiences with coherent and/or integrated policies for licit and illicit drugs, in particular with the comparison and policy effectiveness indicators of coherent drug policies.</li><li>• Developing a model to test whether a coherent policy can reach the expected results.</li></ul>
<b>Attained results:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➢ 'Policy coherence markers' developed that help to determine whether a policy is working at national level and also at international level in order that policies do not compete with each other.</li><li>➢ Pilot study in seven countries (Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Norway and Portugal) conducted in applying these markers on coherent policies that were developed.</li></ul>
<b>Delivered product:</b> 🔄 ISBN Publication Coherence 'Policy markers for psychoactive substances - a diagnostic tool' 
<b>Optimising communication between research and policy makers on ESPAD</b> <i>Ad hoc expert group, mandate 2012-2013, terms of reference doc. P-PG/ESPAD (2012) 1</i>
<b>Set objective:</b> to optimising communication between researchers and policy makers in the use of ESPAD data for better evidence informed drug policy formulation and monitoring responses.
<b>Attained results:</b> A new impact survey was conducted that explored up to what extent the ESPAD 2011 report impacted on the policy level and in which way it was used by policy makers and managers. The research was a joint undertaking of the Pompidou Group, EMCDDA and ESPAD.
<b>Delivered product:</b> 🔄 Joint PG/EMCDDA/ESPAD publication <i>The 2012 ESPAD impact survey</i> 
<b>Gender dimension of non-medical use of prescription drugs</b> <i>Research project proposed and funded by Italy through a voluntary contribution in view of the Pompidou Group's fore rider role in exploring gender dimensions in drug policy.</i>
<b>Set objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exploring gender differences in non-medical use of prescription drugs in Europe and the Mediterranean region.</li><li>• Identifying gaps in the data available in the various regions in Europe and the Mediterranean.</li><li>• Making recommendations for further research.</li><li>• Making recommendations for policy development and practice.</li></ul>
<b>Attained result:</b> study in 17 countries on the basis of a documentation of secondary sources providing a snapshot of the current scenario with regards to gender and use and misuse of prescription drugs. The

report identifies gaps in the data map in the various regions and makes recommendations for further research, policy development and practice.

**Delivered product:**

➡ *Report on Gender and non-medical use of prescription drugs, doc.P-PG/Gender (2014) 8*

**Review of national regulations on opiate substitution treatment**

*Research project proposed in 2013 and funded by Switzerland through a voluntary contribution.*

**Set objectives:** the project aims at supporting the development of drug policy through actions which are coherent with one another by:

- Identifying the difficulties in the implementation of substitution treatment which best lend themselves to the provision of support measures through legislation or regulations.
- Identifying the legislative provisions and regulations most likely to hinder the proper implementation of national or international clinical recommendations.
- Drawing up a list of recommendations to enable administrative authorities to propose measures for regulating substitution treatment which meet clinical good practice standards and are in line with biomedical research findings and pre-existing recommendations of international health authorities.

**Expected result:** The working group has been charged with drafting recommendations for national legislation to regulate opiate substitution legislation, taking into account the right to health and evidence based practice. The work is expected to continue in 2015 with a final delivery of results by early 2016.

**European Research Register**

*Research facilitation project developed in cooperation with EMCDDA 2011-2013*

**Set objective:** to develop an on-line networking tool for the research community, policy makers and practitioners enabling them to enhance information exchange on who is doing what in the research field in Europe whether completed or ongoing, calls for collaboration or for tenders, agencies and partners.

**Attained results:** An online European Research Register has been created and maintained, constituting an on-line networking tool for the research community, policy makers and practitioners enabling them to enhance information exchange on who is doing what in the research field in Europe whether completed or ongoing, calls for collaboration or for tenders, agencies and partners. The register is also at the disposal of ERANID, the European Research Area Network on Illicit Drugs.

It is a tool for consulting and submitting information on projects pursued since 2005. Since the register's launch, over 680 users (484 researchers) and 150 research projects have been registered. The register has been updated several times and is now available in its current third version improved functionalities, better facilitating its use and consultation.

**Delivered product:**

➡ *European Research Register*  <http://www.pgregister.coe.int/WebForms/Accueil.aspx>

**Cooperation with European Society for Social Drug Research (ESSD)**

*Capacity building cooperation based on agreement with ESSD concluded in 2007*

**Set objective:** the European Society for Social Drug Research (ESSD) is an association of European

social scientists working on drug issues that aims at promoting social science approaches to drug research, with special focus on Europe.

**Attained results:** In order to promote the work of qualitative research, the Pompidou Group has supported the ESSD conceptually and financially for several years towards their annual conference and their annual publication which provide decision makers with insights into policy development, theories, research methods and patterns of drug use. At a time where research on drug issues in most European countries is still dominated by the medical and therapeutic professions, this work effectively responded to the need for closer co-operation on drug policy research within the social science community.

**Delivered products: publications**



*Snapshots of social drug research in Europe*



*The meaning of high. Variations according to drug, set, setting and time*





## Connecting policy with practice

### **Executive training for drug policy managers**

*Training courses, mandate 2011-2014, terms of reference doc. P-PG/Training (2011) 1 rev*

**Set objective:** to provide managers from governmental institutions, who are responsible for developing and/or implementing drug policies and/or coordinating related programme implementation, service delivery and cooperation with stakeholders, with training on the state of the arts in various fields related to drug policy based on the needs identified by participants during a comprehensive needs assessment exercise.

**Attained results:** 100 government experts, policy makers and political decision makers trained in 4 training courses consisting of 2 modules each on topics and drug policy aspects that participants had identified based on their immediate needs.

### **2011 training course on 'Effective Governance of Coherent Drug Policies'**

This training course was jointly organised by the Pompidou Group and the University of Syracuse, New York, USA and provided training to 27 drug policy managers from 21 countries, including the USA, with knowledge and experience based training on:

- making strategic choices in times of limited resources, and
- moving towards integrated services for more efficient and effective responses to drug problems,
- Coordination and cooperation between law enforcement and public health and social sectors
- Integrated planning and complimentary service structure for more cost effectiveness
- Proactive media and public relations management

### **2012 training course on 'Joint anti-drug campaigns'**

24 participants from 20 countries and Council of Europe and EMCDDA received training on:

- Improved cooperation between law enforcement, public health, social services and other stakeholders in organising campaigns aimed at preventing substance abuse and addiction.
- Exploring the role and contributions of stakeholders in developing and running campaigns together. As well as identifying potential benefits for cooperating partners and the added of cooperating in devising successful campaigns.
- Developing abilities to define prevention goals and setting measurable objectives;
- Recognising prerequisites to overcome barriers in the way of cooperation between law enforcement agencies, social and health services;
- Learning methodologies to evaluate the success of drug prevention campaigns;
- Understanding how cooperation across sectors can help coherent efforts on all aspects of addiction.

### **2013 training course on 'Developing tools to reach regular and irregular migrants'**

Training was provided to 17 participants from 15 countries on linking policy, research and practice to develop specific tools to better reach the target groups of different ethnic populations, with specific modules addressing:




- Recognising prerequisites, understanding obstacles and strategies to overcome barriers in cooperation between law enforcement agencies, social and health services and other stakeholders in developing and implementing strategies to reach the specific target groups.
- Providing improved access to prevention, care and social integration offers for regular and irregular migrants.
- Providing knowledge and skills for further development of transcultural competent services for populations from other cultures.
- Identification and development of specific tools (manuals, handbooks, networks) that can serve as support in achieving better access for migrants with substance abuse problems to care offers.

### **2014 training course on ‘Drug policy implementation under budgetary constraints and austerity measures’**

22 senior drug policy managers from 17 countries participated in the training on this complex topic, which affects countries in different ways and degrees of intensity. Knowhow was provided in three key areas of needed expertise:

- Analysing the capacity to conduct an analysis of the current situation in the country (assessment capability);
- Assessment of the competences, structures and means available in a country to work effectively with reduced resources (service optimisation capacity);
- Exploring the potential to anticipate developments as consequence of optimisation measures undertaken and develop responses to mitigate expected adverse effects (anticipation competence).

#### **Delivered outputs:**

- Video “Bee cool” 
- Video “What prevention means to me” 
- Video “Executive Training for Drug Policy Managers” 
- Annual training courses materials provided to participants

### **EXASS Net**

*Network of practitioners and policy managers, mandate 2011-2014, terms of ref. doc. P-PG/Coop (2011) 1*

**Set objective:** linking policy with practice by facilitating cooperation between professionals and stakeholders working at frontline level responding to drug problems by providing experience and assistance for working in partnership and inter–sectoral cooperation.

**Attained results:** annual thematic meetings around specific study visits lead to learning from concrete examples in real time operation about overcoming barriers in experimentation, development, implementation and evaluation of drug policy related services and projects on the topics of:

- ‘Regular and irregular immigrants: their consumption patterns and survival strategies’
- ‘Providing structural rehabilitation and social integration services’
- ‘Drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation for young people’

The meeting on regular and irregular immigrants initiated the preparation of a ***Handbook on Transcultural Drug Work*** that was launched at a conference organised at the invitation of the Berlin Senate in 2012, as well as ***International conference on transcultural drug work*** at the invitation of the Russian Federal Ministry of Health in 2013.






#### **8<sup>th</sup> meeting in Berlin, Germany, 2 – 4 May 2011 on**

##### **‘Regular and irregular immigrants: their consumption patterns and survival strategies’**

Different ethnic and migrant groups are often difficult to reach with the existing drug policy interventions and programmes. In addition there is frequently reluctance to accept formal help, including emergency interventions. Based on a deeply rooted general fear of official organisations help offered is frequently initially rejected.

An increase of different ethnic target groups, due to the expansion of the Schengen space and a generally greater mobility within Europe and neighbouring regions, requires more qualified personnel with trans-cultural and language competences. Experiences from 16 countries were shared and provided practical examples of existing practice and methodologies to overcome existing misconceptions and obstacle in reaching these at risk groups.

**Delivered output:**

- *Report of the 8<sup>th</sup> EXASS Net meeting*  
- *Handbook on Transcultural Drug Work, doc. P-PG/Coop (2012) 3*  
- *International Conference on Transcultural Drug Work, hosted by the Federal Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation, Moscow 2013* 

**9<sup>th</sup> meeting in Zagreb, Croatia, 11 – 12 October 2012 on****‘Providing structural rehabilitation and social integration services’**

Experiences from 12 countries were shared and practical examples provided. Participants learned about effective approaches to inter-agency cooperation and how to make best use of the Pompidou Group materials (guidelines, research reports, examples of good practice) in conducting their work. Active networking between delegates from countries of South-East Europe took place in order to plan and further develop the idea to develop minimum standards for treatment of young people with drug addiction as a follow-up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the EXASS Net group on Drug Policy Cooperation in South East Europe and the Balkans (SEE).

**Delivered output:**

- *Report of the 9<sup>th</sup> EXASS Net meeting, doc. P-PG/Coop (2012) 7*  

**10<sup>th</sup> meeting 2013 in Israel, 15 – 17 October 2013 on****‘Drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation for young people’**

The 10<sup>th</sup> EXASS Net Meeting was organised to share experiences and discussing drug prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation for young people. This meeting marked the first activity of the Pompidou Group to take place in Israel since its accession on 1 October 2013. The program, organized by the Israeli Anti-Drug Authority and presented by members of different services, took delegates from 12 countries, and representatives of the European Union and the Council of Europe, to Jerusalem, the Gilboa Mountains, Haifa, and Ashdod to visit various prevention, rehabilitation and treatment facilities, and hold panels for discussion. The meeting and visits were preceded by an accession ceremony at the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs to mark the accession of the State of Israel to the Pompidou Group.

**Delivered output:**

- *Report of the 10<sup>th</sup> EXASS Net meeting, doc. P-PG/Coop (2013) 2*  

**Drug Policy Cooperation in South East Europe and the Balkans (SEE)**

*Network of experts and policy makers set up following and initiative adopted at the Ljubljana High-Level Meeting on 13 December 2011.*

**Set objective:** to reinforce international cooperation among drug authorities in the region of South-Eastern Europe through regularly brings together government representatives and experts from the Balkan region and neighbouring countries.

**Attained results:** regular thematic meetings which lead to increased networking, exchanges of experiences and attempts to develop common approaches where possible. Furthermore SEE developed into a fully-fledged network and cooperation activity following an initial start-up phase as sub-group of EXASS Net.

**1<sup>st</sup> meeting in Dubrovnik, Croatia, 29 February – 1 March 2012**

The meeting presented overviews from the participating countries on the drug situation and related policies

and their position towards regional cooperation. While the countries have similar conceptual approaches and share mostly the same measures in response to drug problems, they differ significantly on the level of drug policy development and implementation. All countries seek to undertake comprehensive, concerted and far reaching action to counteract their drug problems. Participants see the role of the SEE cooperation in providing conceptual support for the implementation of measures, structures and services in an adequate and timely in times of extreme budgetary constraints and uncertainties. On this basis, needs-based activities for future cooperation in the SEE group, which are not addressed by other organisations or bodies, and which fall within the remit of the Pompidou Group, were discussed and agreed.

**Delivered output:**

- *Report of the 1<sup>st</sup> SEE meeting, doc. P-PG/Coop (2012) 2*
- *Compilation of replies to the questionnaire on the drug situation in the region, doc. P-PG/Coop (2012) 1*

**2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in Belgrade, Serbia, 14 – 15 June 2012 on:**

**'Treatment offers for young people with drug dependency in the region'**

Concerning treatment of young drug users, countries in the region share similar conceptual approaches but the treatment offers, coverage and access is limited and fragmented. Countries of the region lack epidemiological data on young people and children as well as specific services for this target group. Of a high priority is the training professionals that in touch with this target group. During the meeting important elements and principles were developed that can serve as a basis for developing minimum standards in the region for the treatment of drug dependent young people and children. Discussions were followed up and the topic further explored during the 10<sup>th</sup> EXASS Net meeting on 'Drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation for young people' in Israel.

**Delivered output:**

- *Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> SEE meeting, doc. P-PG/Coop (2012) 5*

**3<sup>rd</sup> meeting in Podgorica, Montenegro, 2- 3 July 2013 on:**

**Workshop on enhancing drug policy coordination in South-East Europe**

The workshop, organised in the framework of the TAEIX programme, identified most suitable drug policy coordination mechanisms capable of responding effectively to the drug situation in the region based on evidence based interventions. It facilitated a learning process between the countries in the region which face similar problems. There was agreement and commitment to stimulate innovation in the region which is believed to have adequate professional capacity and good potential, so that South Eastern Europe is no longer perceived as a problem, and instead becomes a source of creative solutions to social problems associated with drug use.

**Delivered output:**

- *Report of the SEE/TAEIX workshop in Podgorica, doc. P-PG/Coop/SEE (2013) 3*

**4<sup>th</sup> meeting in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 26 – 27 March 2014:**

**Workshop on enhancing the quality of drugs addiction treatment in the South East Europe**

The objective of the workshop, organised in the framework of the TAEIX programme, was to facilitate discussion and exchange of best practices between EU and non-EU Member States, primarily located in the SEE and beyond, on effective treatment approaches and adapting treatment intervention to emerging trends.

**Delivered output:**

- *Report of the SEE/TAEIX workshop in Sarajevo, doc. P-PG/Coop/SEE (2014) 1*

**5<sup>th</sup> meeting in Tirana, Albania, 3-4 November 2014:**

**Workshop on internet based drug treatment interventions**

The aim of the workshop is to share best practices and new developments in internet-based drug treatment

interventions in the EU Member States with the IPA beneficiaries in order to bring them closer in line with the EU anti-drug policy. In addition, the aim is to assess the needs of the beneficiaries in this field and offer concrete expertise on development of suitable internet-based tools.

**Delivered output:**

➡ *Report of the SEE/TAIEX workshop in Tirana, doc. P-PG/Coop/SEE (2014) 2*

**International Symposium on Drug Policy and Public Health, Istanbul, 2014**

Over 20 experts from the Pompidou Group and the SEE cooperation participated in the Symposium and provided important input to promote further science based and evidence informed approaches in prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of drug use disorders and addressing drugs related challenges in Turkish Society.

**Delivered output:**

➡ *Final conclusions of the Istanbul International Symposium on Drug Policy and Public Health*


**European Drug Prevention Prize**

*Biennial awards for prevention projects, mandate 2011-2014, terms of reference doc. P-PG/Prize (2011) 1 rev*

**Set objective:** to promote and highlight good-quality drug prevention projects that have proved successful in practice and are based on fully fledged participation of young people.

**Attained results:** a series of three awards were presented during high-profile ceremonies in 2012 and 2014 to drug prevention projects which were developed, implemented and managed by young people. Projects from Council of Europe Member States, Pompidou Group Member and Observer States and MedNET countries submitted 139 projects in the two award cycles. The winning projects were selected by a jury of young people assisted by experts in prevention and participation. High visibility of the awards led to an increased recognition that young people are active stakeholders in drug prevention and not only objects of protection.

**Delivered output:**


➡ *Overview of prize-winning and shortlisted projects 2004-2014* 

**2012 Awards**

On the occasion of the Pompidou Group's High-level Conference on 14 November 2012 in Strasbourg, the European Drug Prevention Prize was awarded for the fifth time to the following three outstanding projects:

❖ **Juvente – Sober is Sexy! (Berlin, Germany)**



*Juvente – Sober is Sexy!* endeavours to dispel the myth about youth and alcohol consumption. It is a project designed to illustrate how young people can have fun without using alcohol and drugs. The youth participants organise outdoor adventure activities, such as camping trips every year, combined with educational seminars on drug prevention to alert young people about the consequences of drug and alcohol abuse. The activities implemented by the project are a way to bring youth together in a fun, diverse and relaxed environment.

➡ *More information about this project* 

➡ *Website of the Project*  <http://www.juvente.de>



❖ **Youth Connection – High on Life! (Beirut, Lebanon)**

*Youth Connection – High on Life!* is a project that focuses on the promotion of drug-free environment through various activities and creating an active network of young peer educators. The project provides peer-to-peer training workshops and prevention activities in an interactive way. It is fully designed and carried out by young people, and it focuses on employing protective factors and interactive methods, including games and group exercises to deter young people from using drugs. *Youth Connection* also established a youth forum in which the tools constructed by different youth groups are used and presented at the forum.

 [More information about this project](#) 

#### ❖ **Lonja Laket!! – Working in vacant business places (Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain)**

*Lonja Laket!! – Working in vacant business places* is a project aimed at converting previously owned commercial spaces into private venues for young people to hang out in during their free time. The risk is that these commercial spaces may be used for marijuana cultivation and trafficking, and *Lonja Laket!!* seeks to ensure that they are transformed into sustainable and drug-free environments. The project employs a selective preventive strategy targeted at fostering and reinforcing responsible behaviour among young people. Its members and volunteers visit these facilities in order to help assess the risks, and implement practical methods to reduce the likelihood of drug use in a given place.

 [More information about this project](#) 



 [Website of the Project](#)  <http://www.aillaket.com>

### **2014 Awards**

*On the occasion of the Pompidou Group's 16<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference on 19-20 November 2014 in Strasbourg, the European Drug Prevention Prize was awarded for the sixth time to the following three outstanding projects:*



#### ❖ **Get Hooked on Comic Books (Split, Croatia)**

*Get Hooked on Comic Books* is a programme of workshops for young people that combines art work with learning about addiction problems and social responsibility. The participants – a mix of high school students and at-risk youth who live in a residential care home – get to know each other and themselves through various fun, creative and introspective activities. Together they create a comic book on the subject of addiction and set up and present their work in an exhibition. Through developing their creativity, the youth can better recognise and express their feelings, enhance their stress coping skills, improve their social skills, learn about addiction problems and become a positive influence on their peers.

 [More information about this project](#) 

#### ❖ **CHECK!N – Free mind to fly (Porto, Portugal)**

*CHECK!N – Free mind to fly* works with teenagers and young adults through specific interventions at parties, schools and other youth organisations, using peer education and outreach strategies as ways to promote changes in the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of young people towards drug use. The project runs several different activities, including a peer education programme, online interventions and awareness-raising and training sessions. *CHECK!N* also runs stands at clubs and big festivals where it provides counselling and information about drugs and sexuality, material such as condoms, drug content analysis, and support for drug users in health-related crisis situations.

 [More information about this project](#) 

 [Website of the Project](#)  <https://sites.google.com/site/checkinfreemind/>

#### ❖ **Les supers-héros de la réduction des risques [Risk reduction superheroes] (Toulouse, France)**

*Les supers-héros de la réduction des risques* is a project created by a team of seven young volunteers to reduce risk-taking by the public during the Toulouse Carnival concerning psychoactive substance abuse, hearing damage and unsafe sexual activity. The group sought training on these issues and then passed

their knowledge on, through training sessions for other civic service volunteers, and by putting on a show for the parade's organisers and other participants at a pre-Carnival party. On the day of the Carnival, they distributed prevention and risk reduction materials such as breathalysers and condoms to tens of thousands of partygoers all along the parade route, dressed as 'risk reduction superheroes'.



*More information about this project*



## Building capacity

### **Support for the development, implementation and review of national drug policies**

*Ad hoc assistance facility, mandate 2011-2014, terms of reference doc. P-PG/Strategy (2011) 1*

**Set objective:** to provide advice to governments on drug policy development, implementation and review for the elaboration of national legislation, drug strategies and action plans.

**Attained results:**

Upon specific requests advice was provided to the governments of Georgia, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine by multi-national expert teams on the basis of identified needs and specific requests, as to the implementation of coherent drug policies, taking into account the experiences of member States and existing guidelines and tools, notably those of EMCDDA, UNODC and WHO, to be used in policy formulation and elaboration of the national action plans.

**Delivered outputs:**

- Policy advice documents (restricted) on:
  - collecting and analysing data on drug use on national level;
  - formulating drug policies, national drug strategies and action plans;
  - monitoring and evaluation in improving action planning.
- Series of assistance activities for policy implementation.

### **Implementing coherent drug strategies in Ukraine**

*Following the support for the development, implementation and review of national drug policies in Ukraine (see above) a series of assistance activities were subsequently initiated and implemented with the support of voluntary contributions from France, Norway and Poland.*

**Set objective:** The goal of this project was to improve drug policies in Ukraine through providing expertise and advice on the drafting of the Ukrainian Drug Strategy (2013-2020) based on human rights. Moreover, it the Pompidou Group provided recommendations on how to implement the recently adapted Strategy.

**Attained results:** The Pompidou Group contributed essentially to the drafting and implementation of the new Ukrainian Drug Strategy that was adopted by the Ukrainian Parliament in September 2013. The Drug Strategy covers the period up to 2020 and proclaims a human-centred approach of the state and society to tackle the problems associated with drugs in Ukraine and prioritizes evidence and international standards.

Following actions contributed to this result:

- Representative of relevant Ministries and high-level stakeholders participated at a round table organised by the Pompidou Group on the preparation of the new drug strategy of Ukraine, 27-28 September 2011 in Kiev.
- The Pompidou Group organised jointly with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) an International High-Level Conference on Comprehensive and Integrated Approach to Prevention & Treatment of Drug Dependence and related HIV/AIDS, Kiev, 21-23 May 2012.
- Regular meetings at Ministerial Conferences and Permanent Correspondents meetings of the Pompidou Group and trainings for representatives of the Ukrainian State Service for Drug Control which






took place twice each year (May and September) from 2011 to 2014 in the framework of Executive Training for Drug Policy Managers prepared Ukrainian policy makers for the drafting of the Drug Strategy.

- Representatives of Ministries, high-level stakeholders and practitioners participated at the International Conference on Reducing the Demand for Drugs - Improving Human Life - Support for the implementation of the Ukrainian Drug Strategy, 11-12 September 2014.
- Regular meetings and joint actions in conjunction with international stakeholders such as UNODC, UNICEF, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), and local organisations such as HIV Alliance, Aids-Foundation East-West (AFEW) and Foundation Vita Valens sustained advocacy activities and guaranteed coordinated efforts of all organisations involved aimed to improve drug policies in Ukraine.

As a result of the capacity building support for vulnerable groups such as young people and prisoners are now integral parts of the new Ukrainian Drug Strategy and are targeted through specialised training courses organised by the Pompidou Group::

- **Prisoners:** Since November 2012 the Pompidou Group supports the training of prison staff working at the Melitopol correctional institution for female juvenile delinquents in Ukraine. From 13-15 November 2013 the fifth workshop took place in conjunction with the Dutch Foundation Friends of Prylucky, a non-profit organisation as well as experts specialised on juveniles. The Pompidou Group will organise a major conference together with UNODC and GFATM and the Ukrainian Prison Administration on "Effective HIV intervention in Prisons" in Kiev, 4-5 December 2014.
- **Young people:** On the initiative of the Pompidou Group two drug prevention videos targeting parenting skills were produced in the framework of the campaign "Attention is the Best Prevention". The videos were co-produced by Pompidou Group, the Ukrainian State Drug Control Service, UNICEF and AFEW. A workshop on parenting skills has been organised by the Pompidou Group and AFEW on 9-10 October 2014.

#### **Delivered products:**

- Roundtable conference to provide input for the draft national drug action plan for Ukraine
- *Ukrainian Drug Strategy (2013)*
- *Conference Conclusions "Reducing Demand for Drugs" (2014)*
- Implementation symposium for implementation of the national drug action plan for Ukraine
- Video "Children see – children act" 
- Video "Attention is the best prevention" 
- Educational video "Attention is the best prevention" 

### **Co-operation Network in the Mediterranean Region on drugs and drug addiction (MedNET)**

Set up in 2006, on an initiative by France and the Netherlands, the MedNET Programme is coordinated by the Pompidou Group Secretariat on the basis of a tailored made work programme replying to the countries needs and with a budget fed by voluntary contributions and the joint EU/Council of Europe programme on Strengthening democratic reform in the countries of the southern neighbourhood. MedNET also cooperates with Pompidou Group countries which have not joined the network such as Norway and Switzerland and with international organisations.

**Set objective:** The MedNET programme aims at promoting co-operation and two-way transfers of knowledge between countries of both rims of the Mediterranean (North-South and South-North exchanges), as well as within countries of the Mediterranean (South-South exchanges). The objectives are:

- Improving the quality of the drug policies implementation in all participating countries, emphasising a greater awareness of cultural factors.
- Enhancing of the process of political and democratic reforms in the Mediterranean region through increasing awareness of the rights to health care, drug use and legislation reforms and thus further anchoring the countries in the framework of Council of Europe values.
- Providing a network that facilitates co-operation between professionals on the ground, NGOs, researchers and policy-makers. It promotes interaction between policy, practice and science.

#### **Attained results:**

- The network was extended to twelve countries. Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Tunisia and just started cooperation with the Palestinian Authorities.
- **Improvement of public Health and respect of human rights** through the support to the introduction of Opiate Substitution Treatment in the region: trainings in Morocco and Lebanon contributed to the introduction in 2011 of substitution treatment in these countries.
- **Sustainability and extension of training in addictology** in Morocco. Launched in 2008 at the Medicine faculties of Rabat and Casablanca, the courses were regularly conducted and increased the number of persons trained to work in the raising number of treatment centers throughout Morocco
- **University courses on addictology** launched in Tunisia in 2013 following implementation of a pilot-phase.
- **MedSPAD survey:** developed at the start of the cooperation, this methodology was adapted to the needs of the Mediterranean countries to get a first picture of the prevalence of use among school children on evidence-based data. It also lifted a taboo on the drug issue among the civil society. Conducted in Lebanon in 2009, repeated in Morocco (2009, 2013), and conducted in Tunisia in 2013, it is about to be carried out in Algeria. A current project looks at the use of school surveys in prevention policy.
- **Prevention:** Several projects have been conducted, in particular in Lebanon, through the training of prevention agents, through the establishment of a youth drug counselling centre in a high risk area and the implementation of a life skills prevention programme in schools.
- A **project on gender oriented care** of substance dependent women was launched in Egypt Based on an awareness of the difficulties faced by women to access treatment, this project has developed in a cooperation with Malta where two intensive study visits were held.
- **Law enforcement:** After a series of specific seminars for the Mediterranean Region, the Pompidou Group Airport meeting offered MedNET to join their annual meetings and to share on drug trafficking by air.
- **Drug policy, round tables and national observatories on drug and drug addiction:** At the initiative of the Italian authorities, round tables on the development and implementation of national drug policy were held in Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt in 2013 with the intention to promote multi-disciplinary approach, revise the current drug laws and set up inter-ministerial committees or improve their functioning. As a result the first national observatory in the Mediterranean Region was set up in Morocco in 2011, in Egypt in 2012 and is currently developed in Tunisia.
- **Country profiles** on Drugs Policy Development were developed as a follow-up of the round tables.
- **Cooperation beyond MedNET and South-South Cooperation:** exchanges of experience were extensive with Cyprus, France, Italy, Malta, Portugal and went beyond the MedNET with Norway, Switzerland and UK, which hosted study-visits. A specific Lebanese/Portuguese prevention project started in Beirut in 2014.

#### **Implemented activities:**

2011: MedSPAD guidelines  
 Vocational training for Jordanian experts in Malta  
 Opiate Substitution treatment in Morocco  
 Setting up a national observatory in Morocco  
 Official visit to Tunisia after the Revolution

2012: Gender oriented care in Egypt

Collection of treatment demand data in Jordan  
Training of prevention agents in Lebanon  
National consultation seminar in Tunisia  
Regional seminar on trafficking in airports

2013: Continuation of addictology courses in Morocco  
Round tables drug policy in Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt  
Visit by Tunisia to Cyprus  
Project on a youth drug counselling center in high risk area in Lebanon  
Visit by Egypt to Malta on gender oriented care  
MedSPAD Morocco is carried out

2014: Visit by Egypt to Malta on gender oriented care  
Visit by Egypt to Norway on Drug observatory  
Feasibility study in Egypt on drug consultancy  
Life skills programme in schools in Lebanon  
Portuguese Lebanese prevention programme in Beirut  
Addictology courses continue in Morocco and start in Tunisia  
Visit by Tunisia to Morocco on low threshold centers  
6 country profiles Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon,  
Participation of MedNET countries to Pompidou Group Airport group

#### **Delivered products:**

- 4 bilingual Activity reports 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
- Profils pays : Algérie, Maroc, Tunisie, Jordanie, Egypte, Liban, 2014
- Programme diplôme universitaire Tunis 2014
- Programme diplôme universitaire Rabat 2014F
- Meeting the needs for treatment in Egypt
- MedSPAD Morocco 2014
- MedSPAD Tunisia 2014
- Prevalence among adolescents in the Med region, 2014

### **Drugs in Prisons**

*Capacity building programme resourced by a voluntary contribution from the « Fonds de lutte contre certaines formes de criminalité »Luxembourg, mandate 2011-2014, terms of reference doc. P-PG/Prison (2011) 1/(2012) 1*

**Set objective:** The main aim of the programme is improving health in penitentiaries with respect for human rights. The main objective is to develop strategies of drug treatment and social re-insertion of drug using detainees in order to reduce relapse and recidivism. The programme comprises a strong element of cooperation between the countries involved and aims at extending best practice throughout Europe as a whole.

**Attained results:** two projects were successfully implemented and finalised while one project is still continuing:

1. The project **Treatment and Harm Reduction in Prisons** in Moldova (2010-2011) provided training to prison staff and aimed to improve working relations between doctors and security guards in prisons.
2. The project **Preventing Drug Trafficking and Abuse in Prisons** (2012-2013) extended the






geographical scope of the programme to Romania, Ukraine and South East Europe. Its main objective was to raise awareness about drug use in prisons and to improve the skills of therapists who provide counselling and prevention services in prisons.

3. The follow-up project **Supporting Drug Treatment Services in Prisons** (2013-2015) has developed so far strategies of drug treatment and social re-insertion of drug using detainees in order to reduce relapse and recidivism. The project covers the same countries as its predecessor.

#### **Project outcomes:**

- Over 1000 prison managers and health care professional trained on supporting drug treatment in prisons;
- Regional exchanges between the beneficiary countries were established and best practices exchanged;
- Local and international mass media multiplied the programme's message about preventing problematic drug use and the stigmatisation of drug users in prisons;
- Two Training of Trainers projects build sustainable capacities of therapists in prisons in the Republic of Moldova and Romania. The trained trainers are now multipliers for counselling techniques such as motivational interviewing and art therapy;
- Project reports containing up-to-date information the drug situation in the programme of the project activities publications with articles by well-known specialists were produced
- In the framework of an international research project information on drug treatment systems in prisons in 10 different East and South-East European were gathered and analysed providing an overview of best practices in the countries.
- Training and information materials were developed in different languages including a training Video on Opiate Substitution Treatment in Prisons;
- Four larger international conferences with participants from more than 20 different countries were organised in Moldova, Romania and Strasbourg in order to exchange best practices and raise awareness about human rights and public health in prisons.

#### **Delivered products:**

- *Project report Treatment and Harm Reduction in Prisons P-PG/Treatment (2011) 3* 
- *Mid-Term project report: Drugs in Prisons Programme P-PG/Prisons (2012) 2* 
- *Final Project report: Drugs in Prisons Programme P-PG/Prisons (2013) 3rev4*
- *Publication: Drug Treatment System in Prisons Overview (2014)* 
- *Publication: Mental Health and Addiction in Prisons (2013)* 
- *Video Opiate Substitution Treatment in Prisons Training Video (2011)* 
- *Mid-term project report : Supporting Drug Treatment Services in Prisons*

### **Cooperation with the Confidence Building Measures (CBM) Programme of the Council of Europe**

**Set objective:** The Council of Europe post-conflict programme implements Confidence Building Measures in post-conflict areas by bringing together professionals across dividing lines to promote dialogue on and respect of human rights and European standards. The cooperation project brings together the technical knowledge of the Pompidou Group and the peace building skills notably in the Balkans and in former Soviet Union countries.

#### **Attained results:**

1. The Pompidou Group and the CBM programme built drug prevention capacities of NGO leaders and educators in the Republic of Moldova from both sides of the river Nistru. Moreover, the project involved 200 hundred boys and girls from disadvantaged families in a sports tournament taking place in Chisinau, Tiraspol and Strasbourg in order to improve the life skills of the participants and raise public awareness of the danger of risks related to substance use.

2. In Kosovo\* the Pompidou Group and the CBM programme established a project group with the aim to introduce drug prevention curricula in schools of different regions. The project will be launched in 2015.

**Delivered products: publications**



Video on tag rugby tournament "Sport instead of drugs"



## Secretariat activities

### Executive summary

The first key task of the Secretariat, reflected in the Resolution setting up the Pompidou Group, is to provide assistance to its Statutory Bodies: its Ministerial Conference and in between the Conferences to its meetings of the Permanent Correspondents, the Bureau and the Presidency. This interaction resulted in a high number of policy papers and activities which are listed in this overview.

From the Secretariat's perspective the past Work Plan resulted in an eventful four years despite dwindling staff resources and a strongly diminishing Ordinary Budget. This required that the Executive Secretary redeployed half of the staff to other Council of Europe services, resulting in three consecutive years (2011-2013) of reductions of 2 staff members per year. 2014 (and 2015) are the first years with a consolidation of staff resources. This development also required looking into alternative financial resources through Voluntary Contributions. The level of Voluntary Contributions reached an historic high in 2013. The interplay between resources and workload meant that creative solutions had to be found and explored to ensure a high level of quality outputs. We may be proud to say that we have achieved this mission through devoted staff and multi-sourcing of finance and human resources.

The Pompidou Group is also embedded in the Council of Europe, the Pan-European intergovernmental body with its own place and role in the European architecture. Focus on the core values of Human Rights and Rule of Law are essential guiding principles for the Pompidou Group's action. The Secretariat is often the reminder and guarantor of this value based mission. Policy papers have been oriented in this context/setting.

The Group needed revitalising. The diminishing Membership needed a strong reaction, better visibility, actions that put the Group in the limelight and were based on its specificity. Pan-European and also open to Non-European Membership. The move towards the East, the South-East and the Southern Rim of the Mediterranean was long overdue. The Group could build on the example of the Mediterranean Network (MedNET) to set the example for cooperation in other geographical areas.

The Group has a long tradition in Research, work in Prison settings, work with front line professionals, gender issues, training and capacity building. These traditions were re-invigorated with specific programmes started under the Polish and French Presidencies. New areas were explored and the flexibility introduced by the new working methods required attentiveness to new developments providing the space to explore, to question, to debate. This tradition needs to be continued and deepened. It is not sufficient to pay lip service to these 'principles' but they need to continue to be put in practice, especially in the light of the UNGASS 2016. The Group will have another chance to prove its added value in this perspective.

The preconditions, despite reduced resources, were favourable: a visionary Presidency, willing to take calculated risks, and a committed Secretariat that left no opportunity unattended. We can pay tribute to the staff -past and present- to have worked for the Group with competence and devotion. A constructive interaction between all stakeholders provided a favourable environment to work with trust and endeavour which allowed the Pompidou Group to evolve and continue to provide added value to governments. This has been the basis for the success of the past Work Plan and provides a solid basis for the 2015-2018 period.

Visibility is also required towards all Member and Observer States of the Council of Europe and their Representations in Strasbourg. In a constant effort to enhance the knowledge about the Group, the Secretariat undertook regular visits to the Ambassadors of all Permanent Representations, especially at times of change-over and/or linked to specific events. This has proven to be an efficient tool to create goodwill and understanding for the work of the Group and supported in many cases in-country visits. This certainly also helped in the accession of new Member States to the Group.

The cooperation with other International Organisations was also further deepened. For the first time the European Commission, which has the status of 'participant' in the Group financed several of our programmes in the Mediterranean region, South-East Europe and our Prisons programme. The complementarity and cooperation with the EMCDDA was laid down in a Memorandum of Understanding whose annex is reviewed on a yearly basis. At the level of the International Organisations many joint initiatives were taken in-country, such as Ukraine, and at regional level or issue related. Especially the cooperation with UNODC, WHO Europe (the Health in Prisons Project) and UNICRI led to tangible outputs.

*For a detailed overview on the Secretariat activities please refer to the regular reports by the Executive Secretary.*

## **Evaluation and quality control**

Permanent Correspondents together with the Secretariat undertook significant steps to monitor the Pompidou Group's continued ability to meet policy makers' needs and to provide added value to member States.

Following the evaluation conducted in 2008 and upon instructions by the Permanent Correspondents, the Secretariat carried out a comprehensive **review and assessment of the Pompidou Group's work** in 2012 (*doc. P-PG (2012) 12*). The results of the evaluation showed that the overall development of the Pompidou Group must be seen in the wider perspectives of geopolitical developments in Europe and more specifically as a part of the debate on the present and future role of the Council of Europe vis-à-vis other European and international institutions.

Clearly the Pompidou Group continues to provide added value in the following fields: Providing a forum for open debate, linking policy, research and practice, playing a precursor role with innovative ideas together with multidisciplinary and transversal approaches, and bridging with the European neighbourhood through multi-lateral activities.

While these make the Pompidou Group stand out from other international organisations, the following aspects need to be taken into account:

- While the high quality standard of the Group's work is appreciated, equal attention must be given to ensure that the results of activities are useful and relevant to policy makers.
- Political relevance and visibility of the Group can mainly be strengthened by addressing topics of high political and median relevance in a timely and prominent manner.
- Being part of the Council of Europe the human rights dimension in drug policy needs to be more visible in the Group's work.
- In the light of the financial crisis, and the ensuing difficulties of member States the current policy regarding the reimbursement of expenses needs to be assessed on a case to case basis.
- It remains of importance that the Group retains a ministerial dimension in order to ensure a highest possible level of political legitimation.

The evaluation also showed that the new working methods towards more flexibility and orientation on the needs and interests of member States, adopted at the 15<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference of the Pompidou Group in 2010, were able to meet the need of governments for timely responses in a very effective way.

## **Visibility and communication**

The communication strategy for the Pompidou Group, adopted by the Permanent Correspondents in 2006 (*doc. P-PG (2006) 18 rev*) with the aim to enhance the Group's visibility, increase the dissemination of information, and improve the communication inside the Group, also underwent a full review in 2012. There was agreement among the Permanent Correspondents that the aims and objectives of the communication strategy continue to be valid whilst challenges remain and give room for improving communication and visibility of the Group. Subsequently a set of measures and steps to improve communication and visibility was adopted (*doc. P-PG (2012) 18*) including the development and running of a *face book* page and *twitter* account. A further result of this review was the elaboration and adoption of the new ***Pompidou Group media management guidelines*** (*doc. P-PG (2014) 7*) developed by the Secretariat in response to the growing importance of social media as a mean to disseminate information and enhance visibility. These guidelines supplement and concretise the existing revised communication strategy.

\* \* \*

### **Contact:**

Pompidou Group Secretariat  
Council of Europe  
F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex  
FRANCE

e-mail: [pompidou.group@coe.int](mailto:pompidou.group@coe.int)  
tel: + 33 3 88 41 20 00  
fax: +33 3 88 41 27 85

[www.coe.int/pompidou](http://www.coe.int/pompidou)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pompidougroup>

Twitter: @PompidouGroup