



## Resolution

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### **European Cities Action Network for Drug Free Societies (ECAD),**

Realizing that the use and abuse of illicit drugs is a serious problem in European cities,

Noting with deep concern that demands to legalize illicit drugs should be seen against the background of current problems which have led to a feeling of helplessness

Deeply convinced that the answer does not lie in making harmful drugs more accessible, cheaper and socially acceptable. Attempts to do this have not proved to be successful,

Recognizing that the fact that we have not yet managed to overcome our drug problems must lead to renewed and vigorous efforts,

Bearing in mind that ECAD consists of cities in Europe with different views and conditions who have pooled their experiences together to address their drug problems and work towards the vision of a Europe free from illicit drugs.

Taking into consideration that taking action on drugs is a complex matter. A wide spectrum of measures needs to be applied in cooperation between the authorities, voluntary organisations and individuals,

Expressing its appreciation that the UN conventions on drugs from 1961, 1972 and 1988 enjoys almost universal adherence among UN member states

Highlighting the role of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1990), article 33 saying that “we shall take all appropriate measures, including legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, to protect children from the illicit use of narcotic drugs,

Emphasizing that the current UN regulatory system should be expanded and built upon, not discarded,

1. Rejects all calls for legalization of drugs,
2. Proclaims that any good drug policy starts with prevention. Preventive measures to stop people from being enticed into taking illicit drugs and being harmed by them are key efforts to addressing our drug problems,
3. Reminds that appropriate treatment for those with addiction problems is a moral imperative and money well spent,
4. Notes that both drug demand reduction and supply reduction of drugs must be accomplished,
5. Encourages the development of positive and innovative strategies to address the difficult problems related to drug abuse,
6. Request that our governments respect and with determination apply those conventions and agreements regarding illicit drugs which they have signed,
7. Confirms our willingness to continuously improve our actions on illicit drugs through exchange of knowledge and best practices.

**Signatory**

**to the ECAD Resolution**

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**Name**

**Position**

**City**

**Date and Place**