



EUROPEAN CITIES AGAINST DRUGS

Non-profit organisation

About 85 per cent of anti-drug work is carried out in cities. 



ECAD is Europe's leading network organisation for cities promoting a drug free Europe and representing millions of European citizens.



ECAD was initiated by the City of Stockholm in 1994. Today its members include 265 cities in 30 European countries.

ECAD supports the existing United Nations Drug Conventions which oppose legalisation of and urge intensified national and international co-operation to fight drugs.

Latest developments in the international drug policy



ECAD is an active member of the Civil Society Forum on Drugs of the European Union and the Vienna NGO Committee of the United Nations.

In March 2009, the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (the highest policy-making body for drug-related matters) assembled in Vienna to review what has been achieved since the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on drugs in 1998, and to adopt a new Action plan on what further steps are needed to reduce the threat posed by drugs to health and security.

Over 1400 participants from 130 countries, NGOs and international organizations, among them ECAD, voiced once again their support for the existing international legislative frameworks and reaffirmed in the Political Declaration (Paragraph 2) “that the ultimate goal of both demand and supply reduction strategies and sustainable development strategies is to minimize and eventually eliminate the availability and use of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances in order to ensure the health and welfare of humankind and encourage the exchange of best practices in demand and supply reduction, and emphasize that each strategy is ineffective in the absence of the other”.



This is the guidance for anti-drug everyday work conducted by the ECAD member cities. Read about ECAD on the next page.



A number of cities and countries have been successful in their combat against drugs by combining restrictive policies with a wide range of preventive measures and offering abusers various forms of care and treatment. ECAD member cities affirm and demonstrate that it is possible to introduce changes to reduce the spread of drugs.

European countries still have good financial means and other resources to prevent and combat drugs and the use of drugs. ECAD works to mobilise capitals, regional capitals, cities and municipalities all over Europe in the combat against drugs and in efforts to use existing resources as effectively as possible.

ECAD

- Is a common standpoint for leading decision-makers throughout Europe who show a united front against illicit drugs guided by the UN Conventions on Drugs;
- Is a unique platform for exchange of knowledge and best practice between decision-makers and specialists on municipal level;
- Works to disseminate knowledge about evidence-based and successful methods and new research;
- Develops and maintains contacts with local, regional and national governments, the European Union, the United Nations and other international bodies in order to actively represent interests of ECAD member cities aimed at intensified counteraction of drugs;
- Develops Narcoconflictology as a scientific base for future professional drug control managers;
- Gives lectures, arranges conferences and seminars and initiates local, regional and international projects on drug-related topics all over Europe.

Cities' active stance against misuse of narcotic drugs is vital in order to prevent escalation of drug problems.



ECAD sets its goal high. Our goal is a drug free Europe. Such a goal is neither utopian, nor impossible. Too often, however, politicians and others seem to act according to what they think is possible to do, rather than what is necessary to do. What would there be for alternative to a drug free Europe? Europe with just a "right" amount of drug problems?

We need a *vision* in order to move forward and it is around this vision that ECAD cities have united.

Has your city joined?

