

European Update

EMCDDA

Key issues on drugs in Europe are addressed in the EMCDDA's *2006 Annual report on the state of the drugs problem in Europe*.

Overview of the European drugs phenomenon in 29 countries. Drug facts, figures and analyses: across Europe and by country. Latest trends and social, legal and political responses. Available in 23 languages.

<http://ar2006.emcdda.europa.eu/en/home-en.html>

EMCDDA

Issue 56 of DrugNet Europe has been published. The newsletter carries regular features highlighting the work of the National focal points, European and international institutions, and relevant action taken under the presidencies of the European Union in the field of drugs. This edition carries features on drug related deaths and monitoring data on drug

treatment. <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/index.cfm?fuseaction=public.Content&nnodeid=411&sLanguageiso=EN>

Ireland

The autumn issue of Drugnet Ireland includes an analysis of the recently published 'Blood-borne viral infections among injecting drug users in Ireland, 1995 to 2005.'

http://www.hrb.ie/storage/publications/hrbpublications/drgmisuse/Drugnet_19.pdf

Ireland

A report, prepared by the Addiction Research Centre TCD for the Health Services Executive Regional Drug Coordinating Office, Waterford, is concerned with developing a treatment framework for responding to adolescent alcohol and drug problems in the four local areas in the HSE southeast [Addiction Research Centre, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland]

<http://www.ndc.hrb.ie/attached/3008-3198.pdf>

United Kingdom

A recent publication 'Measuring different aspects of drug use: methodological developments' is now available as an Online Report 16/06

Research Development and Statistics Directorate, Home Office, UK, November 2006

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs06/rdsolr1606.pdf>

United Kingdom

A new publication issued on Drug Related deaths entitled 'Deaths of those in contact with drug treatment services

in the North West of England for the reporting period 2003/04 and 2004/5'

This report details the causes of mortality of those identified, via the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) dataset, as having died whilst in contact with structured drug treatment services in the North West of England within the years 2003/04 and 2004/05 [The Centre for Public Health, Liverpool John Moores University, UK]

http://www.cph.org.uk/cph_pubs/reports/SM/NDTMS%20deaths.pdf

United Kingdom

The National Treatment Agency is supporting the UK health departments to update *Drug misuse and dependence: guidelines on clinical management*. An independent working group of clinicians and others, chaired by Professor John Strang, will consider the significant developments in clinical drug treatment since 1999, when the guidelines were last published. Read more about the updated guidelines, which are expected to be published in late summer 2007.

<http://www.nta.nhs.uk/frameset.asp?u=http://www.nta.nhs.uk/home/main.htm>

World Update

Swaziland

A fundamental shift in Swaziland's attitude towards the cannabis plant, or hemp, the country's most lucrative cash crop, could be on the horizon. The government is set to allow small-scale production of hemp to see if it has the potential to become an economically viable crop.

http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=56113&SelectRegion=Southern_Africa&SelectCountry=SWAZILAND

World Bank

Efforts to combat opium production in Afghanistan have been marred by corruption and have failed to prevent the consolidation of the drugs trade in the hands of fewer powerful players with strong political connections, says a report released today by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the World Bank. The report, entitled **Afghanistan's Drug Industry: Structure, Functioning, Dynamics, and Implications for Counter-Narcotics Policy**, is available at:

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/SOUTHASIAEXT/0..contentMDK:21133060%7EPagePK:146736%7EPagePK:146830%7EtheSitePK:22354700.html>

World Update

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The UNODC has launched a new database of non-governmental organisations that are working in activities relevant to the UNODC mandate. The database contains basic information on over 1500 NGOs working in areas such as prevention of crime, drug abuse, treatment, rehabilitation and criminal justice.

http://www.unodc.org/unodc/ngos_database.html

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The Swedish drug control policy is driven by the vision and the ultimate goal of achieving a drug free society and the unequivocal rejection of drugs, their trafficking and abuse is considered somewhat unique. Over the years the drug control policy in Sweden has been subject to scrutiny numerous times, either by national or international researchers. This report examines the Swedish drug policy, including the often discussed Stockholm experiment of drug prescription, the introduction of methadone maintenance programmes, and of course, the vision of drug free society.

http://www.unodc.org/pdf/research/Swedish_drug_control.pdf

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

UNODC has launched an improved on-line library containing drug related to legislation adopted by member states relevant to the UN Conventions.

<http://www.unodc.org/enl/index.html>

UNESCO

Just one year after it was adopted unanimously by UNESCO's General Conference, the International Convention against Doping in Sport, has been ratified by more than 20 States.

As part of efforts to promote the fight against doping, educate the athletes of tomorrow in the ethics of sport and consolidate the necessary link between education, prevention, ethics and human rights, the tennis player, Justine Hénin-Hardenne, will be named UNESCO Champion for Sport.

http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=35395&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

UNAIDS/WHO

The annual AIDS epidemic update reports on the latest developments in the global AIDS epidemic. With maps and regional summaries, the 2006 edition provides the most recent estimates of the epidemic's scope and human toll, explores new trends in the epidemic's evolution.

<http://www.unaids.org/en/HIV%5Fdata/epi2006/>

USA

Publication by the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) Street Terms: Drugs and the Drug Trade. The Street Terms database contains over 2,300 street terms that refer to specific drug types or drug activity. The database is used by police officers, parents, treatment providers and others who require a better understanding of drug culture.

<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/streetterms/>

Central Asia

Just published is a report in English and Russian on "Drug Abuse in Central Asia - Trends in Treatment Demand 2003 - 2005". This report essentially presents analysis of the information on the socio-demographic profile, patterns and trends of drug abuse, injecting risk behaviours and prevalence of HIV and HCV among drug users treated in the drug treatment facilities reporting this information from selected cities in Kazakhstan (Pavlodar), Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek and Osh), Tajikistan (Dushanbe and Kurgantube) and Uzbekistan (Tashkent). The report also recommends steps for future action to improve treatment demand as one of the indicators of drug abuse as well as to improve the service delivery of drug treatment programmes in the region.

<http://www.unodc.org/uzbekistan/index.html>

Canada

The Alberta government has enacted new legislation in November 'Drug-Endangered Children Act'. Children exposed to an adult's involvement in serious drug activity, such as manufacturing and trafficking, will benefit from additional protection. This is the first legislation in Canada to identify who is a drug-endangered child.

http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Acts/D17.cfm?frm_isbn=0779745604

Colombia

A team of Colombian Anti-Narcotics Police officers travelled to Afghanistan recently to share their drug enforcement knowledge with their counterparts in the Middle Eastern state. The visit was a Colombia-led initiative for illicit-drug producing and consuming countries to work on shared solutions to the threat that cocaine production, trafficking and abuse poses to the world.

Laos, Myanmar and Thailand

UNODC's 2006 *Opium Poppy Cultivation in the Golden Triangle* survey showed cultivation in the three countries fell to 24,160 hectares this year from 34,720 in 2005.

http://www.unodc.org/pdf/research/Golden_triangle_2006.pdf

Drug Webwatch

Interpol

Interpol is the world's largest international police organization, with 186 member countries. It exists to help create a safer world by supporting law enforcement agencies worldwide to combat crime.

Interpol has three core functions, which provide:

- Secure global police communications
- Data services and databases for police
- Operational Police Support Services

<http://www.interpol.int/>

Links on www.drugworld.co.uk/links.html

The link page is currently being updated. Please check to see if your organisation or agency is listed. If not and you or your organisation wish to be included under any of the following sections of the link page:

International Organisations

Drug Networks

International Consultants

Or links by Country

Please send details, including web address to paul@paul.cook.net

News items

The news page is updated on a regular basis with items from all around the world. You can access it at www.drugworld.co.uk/news.php Add it to your Favourites or Bookmarks for ease of access.

Future Issues

I would like to express thanks to those persons around the world who have contributed to this issue in particular to Jim Young at Substance Misuse. Items for inclusion in future issues should be forwarded to paul@paul-cook.net

If you feel the information in this newsletter is of interest to members of your national drug information network then please feel free to translate and circulate copies to them.

Paul Cook



www.drugworld.co.uk