

## European Update

### EMCDDA

Drugnet Europe 58 (newsletter)

The latest edition of Drugnet Europe contains articles on screening for problem or dependent cannabis use, the 2008 UNGASS review, and the Reitox Academy on cannabis prevention and treatment.

<http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/>

### Ireland

ROSIE Findings 4: Summary of 1-year outcomes: Methadone Modality

The ROSIE Study recruited 404 opiate users entering treatment. This is the fourth paper in the ROSIE Findings series and it provides a snapshot of the outcomes for people in the methadone modality one year after treatment intake.

<http://www.nacd.ie/publications/ROSIEFindings4Final.pdf>

### Germany

Berlin - The number of drug-related deaths in Germany dropped to 1 296 in 2006, the lowest level in 17 years, according to a report . The government's annual report on drugs and addiction showed there were 30 fewer drug-related deaths last year than in 2005.

[http://www.int.iol.co.za/index.php?set\\_id=1&click\\_id=117&art\\_id=nw20070503114802613C620520](http://www.int.iol.co.za/index.php?set_id=1&click_id=117&art_id=nw20070503114802613C620520)

### United Kingdom

Statistics on Drug Misuse, England, 2007.

For the first time, this annual statistical bulletin presents information on drug misuse among both adults and children. There were over 181,000 people in contact with services in 2005-6, up 13% on the 2004-5 figure, according to statistics.

<http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/drugmisuse07>

### United Kingdom

The Annual Report of Activities of the Mentor Foundation has been published. Mentor is a leading charity working to prevent drug related harm to children and young people.

[http://www.mentorfoundation.org/uploads/UK\\_Review\\_2006.pdf](http://www.mentorfoundation.org/uploads/UK_Review_2006.pdf)

### United Kingdom

A new report about the UK drug problem has been published. An analysis of UK drug policy provides information about drug use and drug problems in Britain, the

impact of current drug policies as well as policy and research issues.

The study, conducted on behalf of the UK Drug Policy Commission, assesses the evidence relating to the UK drug problem and analyses the impact of current policies. A summary of the report is available at <http://www.ukdrugpolicycommission.org.uk/docs/UKDPC%20drug%20policy%20review%20exec%20summary.pdf>

### United Kingdom

Involving Children and Young People in Drug Education

This report describes examples of practice across a range of settings where children and young people have been actively involved the development of drug educational approaches and/or policy. Examples of young people's involvement were gathered through interviewing children, young people, teachers and youth workers in four settings and we have also been provided with examples by members of the Drug Education Forum.

<http://www.drugeducationforum.com/uploads/Involving%20Children%20and%20Young%20People%20in%20Drug%20Education.pdf>

### Denmark

Cycling's governing body has called on 1996 Tour de France champion Bjarne Riis to return his yellow jersey after the Dane confessed to doping.

Riis became the first Tour winner to admit doping when he said he had taken illegal blood-booster EPO between 1993 and 1998.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/other\\_sports/cycling/6693743.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/other_sports/cycling/6693743.stm)

### UNODC

The slogan of the UNODC anti-drugs campaign to be launched on 26 June, the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, is "Do drugs control your life? Your life. Your community. No place for drugs."

The slogan will be used for three years and focus on different aspects of drug control: drug abuse in 2007, drug cultivation and production in 2008, and illicit drug trafficking in 2009.

Campaign logo at:

[http://www.unodc.org/images/odccp/26june0709/drugcontrol\\_logo\\_en.jpg](http://www.unodc.org/images/odccp/26june0709/drugcontrol_logo_en.jpg)

## World Update

### UNODC

The UNODC Annual Report for 2007 (covering activities in 2006) provides an overview of the organization's activities worldwide. It shows the range of activities undertaken in the field and at headquarters to make the world safer from illicit drugs and international organized crime [UNODC]

[http://www.unodc.org/unodc/annual\\_report\\_2007.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/annual_report_2007.html)

### UNAIDS

HIV testing and counselling: new guidance . The new guidance focuses on provider-initiated HIV testing and counselling [UNAIDS]

[http://www.unaids.org/en/MediaCentre/PressMaterials/FeatureStory/20070530\\_testing\\_counselling\\_guidance.asp](http://www.unaids.org/en/MediaCentre/PressMaterials/FeatureStory/20070530_testing_counselling_guidance.asp)

### USA

The Substance Abuse Librarian & Information Specialists (SALIS) have created a new Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Serials Database.

This database contains information on over 350 journals, newsletters, and monograph series in the field of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. It includes both active publications and those that have ceased publication, but may be of archival interest.

<http://lib.adai.washington.edu/salisserials.htm>

### Central America

Crime and Development in Central America . The countries of Central America are diverse. But they have one thing in common. They are all affected - to varying degrees - by drugs, crime and poverty. 101-page PDF [UNODC]

[http://www.unodc.org/pdf/research/central\\_america\\_study.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/pdf/research/central_america_study.pdf)

### Canada

Death caused by the drug ecstasy (mdma) is very rare compared to the high number of users. And the reasons why some ecstasy users are especially susceptible to a fatal drug reaction are not known, though these deaths often involve severe hyperthermia (increased body temperature). A new case study in the Journal of Forensic Sciences points to a pre-existing defect affecting temperature regulation as one factor that might contribute to some ecstasy deaths.

<http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/May2007/29/c6051.html>

### Australia

The Australian Crime Commission has published the Illicit Drug Data Report for 2005 - 2006. The report presents aggregated law enforcement data on arrests,

seizures, purity levels and illicit prices. It also provides a brief guide to each drug type.

[http://www.crimecommission.gov.au/content/publications/iddr\\_2005\\_06/IDDR\\_2005-06.pdf](http://www.crimecommission.gov.au/content/publications/iddr_2005_06/IDDR_2005-06.pdf)

### Bolivia

Update on Drug Policy issues in Bolivia. WOLA and the Andean Information Network provide a 2006 update on counternarcotics policy in Bolivia. 8-page PDF.

<http://www.wola.org/media/DrugPolicyinBoliviaNov2006.pdf>

### Russian Federation

MOSCOW. The Federal Drug Control Service will open eight offices abroad this year to speed up international anti-drug cooperation, Service Deputy Director Col. Gen. Vladimir Zubrin told a press conference in Moscow.

[http://www.interfax.ru/e/B/0/0.html?id\\_issue=11727031](http://www.interfax.ru/e/B/0/0.html?id_issue=11727031)

### Saudi Arabia

The 150-member consultative Shoura Council will soon pass a national strategy to combat drugs and narcotics amid reports that about 150,000 young Saudi men and women use various types of drugs.

Saudi Arabia imposes capital punishment on drug smugglers, traffickers and cultivators as part of its efforts to confront the social menace. It has also signed a number of regional and international treaties and agreements for combating drugs.

<http://www.arabnews.com/?page=1&section=0&article=96802&d=29&m=5&y=2007>

### Canada

Harm reduction doesn't work.

Last week, it was announced that the Conservative government will soon unveil a new national anti-drug strategy. The plan is said to feature a get-tough approach to illegal drugs, including a crackdown on grow-ops and drug gangs. And while it will also (wisely) include tens of millions for rehabilitation of addicts and for a national drug prevention campaign, it is said to retreat from safe-injection sites and other fashionable "harm-reduction" strategies introduced by the previous Liberal government.

<http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/news/editorials/letters/story.html?id=35c24acc-83da-4817-96bc-05d80727e935&p=1>

### Canada

HepatitisC Self Assessment Tool

To help you determine if you may have been exposed to the hepatitis C virus, answer the questions in the Self-Assessment Tool. <http://www.hepcontario.ca/en/self.html>

## Drug Webwatch

### The International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC)

is a global network of 24 national and international NGOs that specialise in issues related to illegal drug use. The Consortium aims to promote objective and open debate on the effectiveness, direction and content of drug policies at national and international level, and supports evidence-based policies that are effective in reducing drug-related harm. It disseminates the reports of its member organisations about particular drug-related matters as well as offers expert consultancy services to policymakers and officials around the world. <http://www.idpc.info/index.html>

### Book Review

#### Drug Affliction

by Dr. Ian Oliver

Published by Robert Gordon University , Aberdeen, UK. ISBN 1-901085-88-0

Drug Affliction is a publication that will interest those working, or considering working, in all aspects of the drug phenomena. The book is of particular interest to those professionals , including law enforcement staff and doctors, health and social workers, whose training and qualifications do not provide the detailed information necessary for their work. Individual substances and their effects are covered as in an analysis of the UN Conventions and anti-drug strategies. Dr. Oliver deals with a number of emerging issues such as the convergence between drug trafficking, organised crime and terrorism plus the problems and policies relating to drugs and the work environment. Advocates of supply reduction, harm reduction and demand reduction will all find something constructive or controversial in this publication. An ideal primer for students and those new to the topic.

### 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.drugworld.co.uk)