

Eurocare Annual Report 2009



ALCOHOL - A CAUSE FOR ACTION

Alcohol is a key health determinant and is responsible for 7,4% of all ill-health and early death in Europe, which makes it the third leading risk factor after tobacco and high blood pressure. Alcohol harm is disproportionately high among young people (115 000 deaths per year) and harms others than the drinker. 5 million Europeans are born with birth defects and developmental disorders because of their mother drinking during pregnancy. 5-9 million children are living in families adversely affected by alcohol. 10.800 traffic deaths and 20.000 murders involve alcohol in the EU each year. Furthermore, binge drinking among young people is on the rise, with most countries showing an increase from 1995. Alcohol causes measurable inequalities both between and within Member States. Alcohol causes an estimated 90 extra deaths per 100.000 men and 60 extra deaths per 100.000 women in the EU 12 as compared to the EU 15.

Europe plays a central role in the global alcohol market, responsible for a quarter of the world's total production. However, the total tangible cost of alcohol to EU society in 2003 was estimated to be €125 billion (€79 bn - €220 bn) or €650 per household, equivalent to 1,3% GDP. The costs includes areas such as traffic accidents €10 bn, crime damage €6 bn, crime defensive €12 bn, crime police €15 bn, unemployment €14 bn, health €17 bn, treatment/prevention €5 bn, mortality crime €36 bn, absenteeism €9 bn. Although these estimates are subject to a wide margin of interpretation, they are likely to be an underestimate of the true gross social cost of alcohol (excluding benefits).

The European Alcohol Policy Alliance (EUROCARE)



The European Alcohol Policy Alliance (EUROCARE) is an alliance of non-governemental and public health organisations with 51 member organisations across 20 European countries advocating the prevention and reduction of alcohol related harm in Europe. Member organisations are involved in advocacy and research, as well as in the provision of information and training on alcohol issues, and the provision of services for people whose lives are affected by alcohol related problems.

The mission of Eurocare is to promote policies to prevent and reduce alcohol related harm, through advocacy in Europe. The message, in regard to alcohol consumption is "less is better".

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1 MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

2009 has been a year of elections in Brussels. Elections to the European Parliament were held in June and in September Jose Manuel Barroso was re-elected by the European Parliament to serve another five-year term as President of the European Commission.



In November Mr. Barroso unveiled his new team. The Commissioner-Designate Mr. John Dalli is currently the Maltese Minister for Social Policy. Before taking his new post, Mr. Dalli, like the other designated Commissioners, will have to face a hearing before the European Parliament in January next year.

From the 1st of July Sweden has had the Presidency of the EU. Eurocare in collaboration with the Presidency organized on the 9th of September a one-day conference in the European Parliament to mark the International Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Day, both the Swedish Minister for Health Maria Larsson and European Commissioner for Health Androula Vassiliou spoke at the event.

The Presidency Expert conference in September gave Eurocare the opportunity to host two workshops in collaboration with NorDan, GAPA and the WHO. Eurocare would like to thank the Swedish Ministry and in particular, Maria Renstrøm and her colleagues for their valuable support.

Eurocare is delighted to welcome three new member organizations: Alcohol Concern (UK), Associació RAUXA (Spain) and UTRIP (Institute for Research and Development) (Slovenia).

I regret to announce that Andrew McNeill, Director of the Institute of Alcohol Studies, has left Eurocare's Board of Directors. Andrew's invaluable experience and exceptional insights made him a much liked and valued colleague. I would like to thank him for his outstanding contribution to Eurocare's work since its creation in 1990.

2009 ends with the European Council Conclusions on Alcohol and Health inviting Member States and the European Commission to keep alcohol high on the agenda.

Eurocare together with 11 European NGOs sent a joint letter in support of the Council Conclusions to the permanent representations of the Member States to the EU. Let us hope this brings good news for alcohol policy in the coming years.

Mariann Skar

2 MEETINGS AND EVENTS

a) Events organized by Eurocare

Alcohol and Pregnancy Conference - 9 September, European Parliament

The Conference was jointly organized by the Swedish Presidency of the EU and Eurocare to mark the International Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Day. It was hosted by MEP Alf Svensson, from the Swedish Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) and European Democrats.

Opening remarks were given by the Swedish Minister for Health, Ms. Maria Larsson, and EU Commissioner for Health, Ms. Androula Vassiliou.

Over 100 people attended this conference that brought together public authorities and experts who shared their experiences and good practices and discussed the different policy options to curb the incidence of FASD.



Click [here](#) to view the presentations, pictures and seminar report.

Workshops at the Expert meeting on Alcohol and Health - 21-22 September, Stockholm

Eurocare organized two workshops during the conference on alcohol and health organized by Swedish Presidency of the EU in September in Stockholm.

Preventing alcohol related harm– a shared responsibility

This workshop was organized jointly with the European World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe. The workshop brought together different stakeholders to discuss their share of responsibility in the solution of the problem and how they can work towards the same goal. After the workshop, Eurocare and the WHO Europe will prepare a background document on working with different stakeholders with examples of ongoing initiatives and recommendations for the way forward.

How to help children in families with alcohol problems

This workshop was organized in collaboration with GAPA and NorDan. It explored how to effectively respond to the needs of children who are victims of their parents' alcohol abuse.

Workshop at the European Commission's conference on health of young people – July, Brussels

Eurocare organised in collaboration with Alcohol Concern (UK) a workshop on alcohol at the “Be healthy, be yourself” conference organized by DG SANCO.

b) Eurocare's participation in Conferences and Meetings

During 2009 Eurocare has participated in a number of conferences and meetings relevant to the prevention and reduction of alcohol related harm at EU level. The main ones including:

- Directorate General Enlargement (TAIX), Brussels (January)
Mariann Skar (MS) gave a presentation on “Presenting Eurocare and alcohol policy”
- EUCAM meeting in Copenhagen (February)
- North-West Executive directors, Brussels (February)
Ruth Ruiz (RR) presented “Advocacy at the European level on alcohol”
- EC Law and trade agreements' impact on public health and alcohol policy, Riga (February)
- Building Capacity Steering Group meeting, Ljubjana (March)
- DG SANCO's Sexual Health Forum. Brussels, Brussels (March)
Eurocare gave a presentation on “Alcohol and risky sexual behaviours”
- Candidate Swedish MEPs, European Parliament Brussels (April)
RR gave a presentation on “EU Alcohol policy”
- Economic and Social Committee, Brussels (April)
MS gave a presentation on “Why civil society is engaged in reducing alcohol related harm”
- Building Capacity - Alcohol Policy Network meeting, Stockholm (June)
MS gave a presentation on alcohol policy in Europe
- Economic and Social Committee Brussels (July)
MS did a presentation on “How to make the EU strategy on alcohol-related harm sustainable, long-term and multisectoral”
- Eurocare Conference on Alcohol and Pregnancy, the European Parliament Brussels (September)
Chaired by MS
- Strategies to cope with Alcohol Related Problems, The Hellenic Society for the Study of Addictive Substances, Thessaloniki (September)
MS gave a presentation on “The role of Eurocare in preventing and reducing alcohol related harm at EU level”
- Meeting of the Directorate General for Enlargement and Serbian Ministry of health, Brussels (November)
MS gave a presentation on “The role of Eurocare in alcohol policy at EU level”.
- Human Ecology and Health Conference, European Public Health Association (EUPHA), Lodz (November)
MS gave a presentation on “Alcohol as a cause of accidents and injuries: relevance for policymakers”
- Reducing Alcohol-related Harms – Tools of Local Interventions, National Centre for Addictions, Budapest (December)
RR gave a presentation on the “Role of Eurocare in European Alcohol Policy”
- Prevention of Depression and suicide - Making it happen", Budapest (December)
MS gave presentation “The impact of alcohol policy on suicide”

In addition, there have been several formal and informal meetings between Eurocare and European Members of the European Parliament, European Commission Officials, Permanent Representatives from Member States, WHO and NGOs based in Brussels.

Eurocare also gives presentations regularly to small groups on study visits in Brussels.

3 COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA RELATIONS

In the beginning of December a television program was produced for [Arte TV](#) in connection with the Council Conclusions. Some members of Eurocare, as well as its Secretary General, were interviewed.

Eurocare has also been interviewed several times throughout the year and received some media coverage.

In 2009 the Eurocare secretariat has sent out seven [e-newsletters](#) to some 350 recipients.

Eurocare has sent out a number of press releases on different issues to around 300 press contacts:

- [Report suggests affordability of alcohol is a driver of consumption and harm](#) (April)
- [Alcohol advertising influences adolescents' alcohol consumption, concludes Science Group of Alcohol and Health Forum](#) (March)
- [European health and safety organisations call for stricter EU-coordinated alcohol policies](#) (November)

The Eurocare web site (www.eurocare.org) is under continuous evaluation and development with the aim to be a 'one stop shop' for policy makers, NGOs, journalists, and all those interested in alcohol policy.

In 2009 Eurocare has also developed some communication material, including a new brochure about the harm caused in Europe by alcohol.

4 POLICY ISSUES

Alcohol Labelling

On 30 January 2008, the European [Commission adopted a proposal for Regulation on the provision of food information to consumers](#)¹. According to the proposal, foodstuffs are required to list the ingredients and to display key nutritional information on the front of the package (such as energy value, carbohydrates or sugars).

However, the proposal exempted beer, wine and spirits from the obligation of having to list the ingredients and to provide nutritional information.

The proposal has been discussed by the European Parliament during 2009, but due to the high amount of amendments tabled (almost 1200), the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee (ENVI Committee) decided in April 2009 to postpone its vote till after the election of the new Parliament in June 2009.

[Eurocare's position paper](#) on the labelling proposal has been widely distributed among Parliamentarians, other health NGOs and other interested parties. The views of Eurocare have also been integrated in EPHA's position paper. Several Eurocare members have contacted their national MEPs and Permanent Health representatives in Brussels and the Secretariat has fed its concern into the ongoing debates at EU level.

¹ 2008/0028 (COD) Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the provision of food information to consumers

Health warning messages on alcohol beverages

Eurocare also regrets that the European Commission proposal on the provision of information to consumers does not contain an obligation to mention any health warning messages. This is a missed opportunity for a more comprehensive approach to the reduction of alcohol related harm in Europe. Eurocare believes labelling should be part of an integrated strategy to provide information and educate consumers about alcohol and should be part of integrated policies and programmes to reduce the harm done by alcohol.

[Eurocare's position paper on warning labels](#) has been widely distributed together with an overview over labelling schemes around the world. In addition Eurocare has prepared a [preliminary library](#) with suggestions for health and safety warnings and has presented the library at several occasions.

WHO preparations for a Global Alcohol Strategy

In May 2008, the World Health Assembly (WHA) approved Res. WHA 61.4, "Strategies to reduce the harmful use of alcohol," calling on the WHO Director General to prepare a draft global strategy to reduce harmful use of alcohol and "consult with intergovernmental organizations, health professionals, nongovernmental organizations and economic operators on ways they could contribute to reducing harmful use of alcohol".

This process of consultation began in September 2008. Consultation meetings have already been held with the NGO community and economic operators in 2008.

During 2009 the WHO has held a series of Consultation Meetings with its Member States. The WHO met the European Member States in Copenhagen in April.

The process culminated in a draft Global Strategy that was published in December and that will be delivered to the WHA's Executive Board in November 2009, for its review and later approval at the WHA meeting in May 2010.

[Click here](#) to read the draft Global strategy.

Eurocare has encouraged all its member organizations to be active at national level and try to become a member of the national delegation for Geneva 2010.

Science Group's report on the impact of marketing communications on young people's alcohol consumption

In March the Science Group of the European Alcohol & Health Forum presented a report on the impact of alcohol marketing on the volume and drinking patterns of alcohol consumption by young people.

The Science Group, which is composed of public health as well as industry affiliated scientists, unanimously adopted the report, thus going against the long standing stance of the industry that advertising only serves to reinforce brand allegiance, but does not lead to increased consumption. ‘

The overall description of the studies found consistent evidence to demonstrate an impact of alcohol advertising on the taking up of drinking among non drinking young people, and increased consumption among their drinking peers.

These findings are particularly worrying given that the studies focused solely on the impact of advertising, which represents only a small part of the industry's wider marketing strategy (i.e. sponsorship, merchandising, viral marketing and product placement).

Click [here](#) to read the report.

RAND's report on the link between alcohol affordability, consumption and harms

In April, DG SANCO released a comprehensive report commissioned to RAND Europe on the affordability of alcoholic beverages in the EU.

The study found a positive relationship between alcohol affordability, consumption and harms. The report analyses the effect of alcohol affordability on consumption and three measures of associated harm: fatal traffic accidents, increase in traffic injuries and chronic liver cirrhosis.

Affordability of alcohol has increased in 18 Member States over the past twelve years. For some countries, alcohol affordability has more than doubled over this period. More notably, alcohol appears to have become relatively more affordable for 16-24 year olds compared to the general population. This has important implications for alcohol policy especially across the EU, where there is a growing recognition of the high incidence of hazardous youth drinking.

Click [here](#) to read the report.

EU Alcohol Strategy: Progress Report

In September the European Commission's Directorate General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO) published an initial status report² on what has happened at EU and national level since the EU alcohol strategy was adopted in October 2006.

The status report was presented at the expert conference on alcohol and health organized by the Swedish presidency. The next progress report is due in 2012.

[Click here](#) to download the full progress report.

According to the report since the adoption of the EU Alcohol Strategy, there has been considerable activity. DG SANCO has focused on developing the appropriate structures for the implementation of the including the Committee on National Alcohol Policy and Action, the European Alcohol and Health Forum and the Committee on Data Collection, Indicators and Definitions.

A number of other Community policy areas, such as Transport, have also taken concrete actions that contribute to the priority areas of the Alcohol Strategy.

A range of alcohol-focussed projects have been carried out under Community Health Programmes 2003-2008.

Across the EU, most Member States now have a written alcohol policy in place. There is a continuous trend towards a legal age to purchase alcohol of 18 years, and towards lowered BAC limits for drivers.

Wider stakeholders have been engaged through the new Alcohol and Health Forum. The Forum has now over 60 who have launched over 100 commitments. A balanced group of Forum Members has

² Link to the Commission Reports:
http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_determinants/life_style/alcohol/Forum/alcohol_forum_en.htm

closely explored more in-depth two topics: marketing communication and youth. The Forum's Science Group has adopted a scientific opinion on the relationship between marketing communication and the volume and pattern of young people alcohol consumption.

Eurocare's views on the implementation of the EU Alcohol Strategy

In September, coinciding with the presentation by the European Commission of its Progress Report of the EU Alcohol Strategy, Eurocare published a report that contains its recommendations for a sustainable EU Alcohol Strategy.



To prepare such report, Eurocare consulted its member organizations, the Alcohol Policy Network (APN), the EPHA alcohol working group and the AMPHORA research network. The report is based largely on their responses.

In the report Eurocare recognizes the difficulty of reconciling public health and commercial objectives in regard to alcohol products, a difficulty all too evident in the history of the development of the EU Alcohol Strategy. Eurocare congratulates the European Commission on pursuing the EU Alcohol Strategy despite strong opposition, and on finding a way of bringing together different parties with very different perspectives on the main issues.

While Eurocare members very much agree with the priorities of the Strategy, they are doubtful that the present Strategy will by itself bring about significant reductions in levels of alcohol harm although they believe that it is an important first stage which requires further development. In particular, Eurocare believes that the goal now should be to work towards setting specific targets for reductions in the harmful consumption of alcohol and in levels of harm.

The report includes a range of specific recommendations for the European Commission, Member States, economic operators and nongovernmental organizations. Eurocare has also recommendations in regard to particular areas of policy such as product labeling and taxation. It believes that policy developments in regard to areas such as these would be greatly facilitated by the European Commission using its influence to bring about an agreement on a standard unit of alcohol across all EU Member States. There is a need for a common legal framework to support collective action across borders. Greater support from Europe should be given to the development of a WHO's Global Strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol

Click [here](#) to download the full report.

Council Conclusions on Alcohol and Health

In December, The Council of the EU adopted its Conclusions on Alcohol and Health.

In its conclusions the Council reiterates that harmful and hazardous alcohol consumption is the third most significant risk factor for ill health in the EU and that many Community policies have a potential positive or negative impact on health and well-being. The Council also notes that the level of alcohol-related harm is still high in the Member States, that 15 % of the EU population drinks at harmful levels and that the impact of harmful use of alcohol is greater in young people. It also remarks that these issues are of Community relevance because of the cross-border element and highlights the negative effect on both economic and social development and public health. The Council conclusions also mention that alcohol marketing increases the likelihood of young people to start drinking, that alcohol

has become more affordable between 1996 and 2004 and that alcohol pricing policies can reduce alcohol consumption and related harm. It also points at the relationship between alcohol consumption and communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.

[Click here](#) to access the Council conclusions on Alcohol and Health.

In a joint policy statement released ahead of the EU Health Council meeting, Eurocare together with other 11 European health and safety umbrella organizations, called for stricter EU-coordinated alcohol policies and urged the EU Council of Ministers of Health:

-to ensure minimum pricing policies, sales restrictions and discount bans in all Member States;
-to introduce a EU-labelling system for alcohol products informing consumers of the specific risks related to alcohol consumption, and;
-to adopt the principle of zero tolerance to alcohol consumption before driving or at work and - to reduce BAC- levels to 0,2 maximum throughout Europe.

[Click here](#) to view the full text of the Joint Statement.

New Commissioner for Health and Consumers

In November the reappointed President of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, unveiled the names of the new College of Commissioners. They will take office in January, after the audition of each member by the European Parliament January 2010.

Mr. John Dalli from Malta is the designate Commissioner for Health and Consumer Policy. Mr Dalli is currently the Maltese Minister for Social Policy. He is qualified as an accountant and has served in various governments since 1987.

European Alcohol and Health Forum

Launched in June 2007, this multistakeholder platform is composed of NGOs and economic operators (alcohol producers, retailers, advertisers, and publishers) pledging to take concrete actions to reduce alcohol related harm in Europe.

Meetings of the Forum during 2009:

- [5th plenary meeting](#) (November)
- [4th plenary meeting](#) (March)
- [2nd Open Forum on Alcohol and Health](#) (April)
- [5th meeting of the Task Force Marketing Communication](#) (March)
- [6th meeting of the Task Force Marketing Communication](#) (June)
- [4th meeting of the Task Force on Youth-Specific aspects of Alcohol](#) (January)
- [4th Meeting of the Science Group of the European Alcohol and Health Forum](#) (June)
- [3rd Meeting of the Science Group of the European Alcohol and Health Forum](#) (February)

An outcome from the Youth taskforce has been the development of [RAYPRO – online Resource on Alcohol and Youth Projects for those who wish to share good practice or find good examples to build on](#)

The Eurocare Secretariat, in collaboration with EPHA, has taken on a “Coordination Role” of the NGOs participating in the Forum. It has organised informal meetings prior to the Forum and Task force meetings in order to discuss the agenda and coordinate positions. There have been three meetings in 2009.

Members of the Forum have made a series of commitments (voluntary actions aimed at reducing alcohol-related harm). Eurocare's commitments to the Forum in 2009 included:

- Supporting the creation of an 'Alcohol Policy Youth Network' (a joint commitment with the European Youth Forum)
- The development of a Eurocare website
- Raising Awareness of the Dangers of Drinking during Pregnancy
- Advocating for better labelling of alcoholic beverages in Europe

All commitments submitted so far can be found on the [Commitments Database](http://ec.europa.eu/eahf/index.jsp):
<http://ec.europa.eu/eahf/index.jsp>

EU Health Policy Forum

The EU Health Policy Forum was established in 2001 by the European Commission and brings together organizations active in the field of health to advise the European Commission on health policy, its implementation and the setting of priorities for action.

In 2009 the Forum paid special attention to the impact of the economic crisis on public health and the national health systems.

Activities of the Forum during 2009:

- [Input to the Council Working Party at Senior Level on the implementation of the EU Health Strategy](#)
- [Opinion to the EU institutions concerning the Report of the Court of Auditors on the First EU Public Health Programme](#)
- [The EU Health Policy Forum Strategic Priorities Including Specific Priorities for 2009-2010](#)
- [EUHPF Open Letter on Economic Crisis and Health](#)
- [EUHPF Resolution on the Implementation of the EU Health Strategy](#)

5 RESPONSES TO CONSULTATIONS

DG TREN's Consultation on Driver training and traffic safety education (July)

The objective of the consultation was to provide a framework to help further define guidelines and recommendations for efficient driver training and traffic safety education in the EU. Eurocare's key recommendation was that information on drink driving, the harm that results from drinking and driving and the penalties should be included in driving lessons, driving tests and in published driving codes.

[Click here](#) to read Eurocare's response.

DG SANCO's Consultation on EU action to reduce health inequalities

Alcohol is one of the main contributors to health inequalities in the EU. In its response Eurocare emphasized the need to put in place an EU monitoring and planning system to support decision-making and providing information for collective planning by stakeholders at all levels. There is a need to ensure that all the different actions, plans and strategy documents go in the same direction.

6 REPORTS

[Eurocare Overview and Recommendations for a Sustainable EU Alcohol Strategy](#)

(September)

[Overview of labelling initiatives](#), a brief summary of existing practices (both statutory and voluntary) regarding health warnings messages and other information displayed on alcoholic beverages around Europe (August)

[Preliminary library of alcohol health information and warning labels](#). This document contains a number of sample labels developed by FUEL in cooperation with Eurocare that can be used as a basis for a more elaborated library (September)

[Eurocare report on Alcohol market trends](#). Prepared by Anders Ulstein (Actis) on behalf of Eurocare using the Business Insights 2008/9 reports.

7 PROJECTS

Building Capacity - Eurocare secretariat took part in the steering committee meeting in Ljubljana, Slovenia (March) and in the Alcohol Policy Network (APN) meeting organised within the framework of the Building Capacity Project in Stockholm (June).

[AMMIE - Alcohol Marketing Monitoring in Europe](#) – The AMMIE project will monitor alcohol marketing practices in a comparable and systematic way in five European countries (DK, IT, DE, BG, NL). A systematic monitoring tool will be developed and the collected data will be analysed to advise policy makers on how to improve the existing regulations in order to protect young people from alcohol marketing. Eurocare is responsible for the dissemination of the project results to all relevant stakeholders.

[Protect - Alcohol labelling policies to protect young people](#) – The main objective of the project is to gather information about young people's views and attitudes towards alcohol and assess their consumer needs for labelling of alcoholic beverages.

The research will be conducted through a series of group discussions organized in six Member States (BE, FR, HU, LT, RO, ES). The project will also gather best practices on consumer labelling. Eurocare is responsible for the dissemination work package.

8 EUROCARE LINKS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Alcohol Policy Youth Network (APYN) - Eurocare has close links with APYN. There have been no activities during 2009 due to lack of funding.

Global Alcohol Policy Alliance (GAPA) - During the preparation of the Global Alcohol Strategy Eurocare has coordinated positions and worked in close cooperation with GAPA. Eurocare and GAPA organized together with Nordan a workshop during the conference on alcohol and health organized by Swedish Presidency of the EU on "How to help children in families with alcohol problems".

European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) - Eurocare is an active member of EPHA and participates regularly in their bi-monthly Policy coordination meetings and in the working groups on alcohol and labeling.

Alcohol Policy Network (APN) (Building Capacity project) - Eurocare is an active member of APN. The Network met in Stockholm in June, the main discussion was how to ensure the continuation of the network in the coming years.

Collaboration with 11 European health and safety umbrella organizations – In 2009 Eurocare coordinated with 11 NGOs to call for stricter EU-coordinated alcohol policies in a joint policy statement released ahead of the EU Council of Ministers of Health in December.

The 'Alcohol and injuries' statement was endorsed by the following European umbrella organizations:

- European Association for Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion (EuroSafe)
- European Public Health Association/Injury Prevention Section (EUPHA)
- La Prévention Routière Internationale (PRI)
- European Federation of Road Traffic Victims (EVR)
- European Society for Emergency Medicine (EuSEM)
- European Network of Safety and Health Professional Organizations (ENSHPO)
- International Life Saving Federation of Europe (ILSE)
- Network for International Collaboration on Evidence in Suicide Prevention (NICE-SP)
- Federation of the EU Fire Officer Association (FEU)
- European YOUTH Forum (EYF)
- European Public Health Alliance (EPHA)

9 ORGANISATION AND PERSONNEL

a) New Members

In 2009, Eurocare has 51 member organizations from 20 countries throughout Europe. Following approval from the GA, Eurocare is delighted to announce the new members joining are:

- [Associació RAUXA](#) (Spain)
- [UTRIP \(Institute for Research and Development\)](#) (Slovenia)
- [Alcohol Concern](#) (UK).

b) General Assembly

The General Assembly is comprised of all members of Eurocare. Its main role is to set the broad policy guidelines, elect the Board, approve the admission of new members and approve the organization's annual budgets and accounts

Eurocare held its **Annual General Assembly** on 10 June in Stockholm. The meeting was held in connection with the Alcohol Policy Network (APN) meeting (11 - 12 June) and it was hosted by IOGT International.

22 member organizations were present from 16 countries.



Four new members of the Board were elected: Aneurin Owen (Institute of Alcohol Studies - UK), Dag Endal (Actis -Policy Network on Alcohol and Drugs- Norway), Ritva Varamäki (Finnish Centre for Health Promotion), Magdalena Pietruszka (PARPA - The State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems, Poland).



Three new organizations were confirmed as members by the AGM; Asociacio Rauxa (Spain), UTRIP (Slovenia), Alcohol concern (UK).

The minutes of the meetings, presentations and documents are available on the members' only section of Eurocare's website.

c) The Board

Eurocare is governed by a Board that consists of six to ten members. A new Board was elected at the 2008 General Assembly (Sept, Paris). Four members have left the Board, their replacements were elected at the 2009 General Assembly (June, Stockholm).

The 2009 Board consists of the following members:

Michel Craplet (Chairman)	ANPAA (FR)
Tiziana Codenotti (Vice Chairperson)	EUROCARE ITALIA (IT)
Sven-Olov Carlsson (Treasurer)	IOGT-NTO (SE)
Rolf Huellinghorst	Deutscher Guttempler-Order (IOGT) (DE)
Fiona Ryan	Alcohol Action Ireland (IE)
Lauri Beekmann	Estonian Temperance Union (EE)
Ritva Varamäki	Finnish Centre for Health Promotion (FI)
Magdalena Pietruszka	PARPA (PL)
Aneurin Owen	IAS (Institute of Alcohol Studies) (UK)
Dag Endal	ACTIS (Policy Network on Alcohol and Drugs) (NO)

Special Advisor: Claude Riviere, ANPAA, France

The Board has meet in January (Brussels), March (Brussels), June (Stockholm), September (Brussels) and December (Brussels). In addition, there have been regular informal meetings between members of the Board and the Secretariat.

d) Eurocare Secretariat

In 2009 Mariann Skar continued to uphold her position as Secretary General and Ruth Ruiz continued to act as Policy and Information officer.

In April our policy officer, Emilie Rapley, left Brussels and her position in Eurocare. There have not been enough funds available to hire a new person. In periods there has been a trainee supporting the work of the Secretariat.

e) Finances

The Institute of Alcohol Studies (IAS) in the UK acted as the Secretariat of Eurocare until 2007. The Brussels liaison office was established in 1996 and the main financial contributor was Actis (Norway). Eurocare's website was maintained by the IAS thanks to the financial contribution from IOGT-NTO. Eurocare per se did not have any income and each member covered its own travel and accommodation expenses to attend the Eurocare meetings.

Eurocare has since 2007 introduced budgeting and accounting in our internal reporting to members in an effort to increase transparency and accountability.

Membership fees were introduced in 2007. However, the fees are low and more contributions are needed if the Secretariat is to have a leading role in the continuing promotion of more public health minded policies in regards to alcohol at EU.

The good news is that the European Commission has granted Eurocare funding under the [EU Health Programme](#) for the organisation of the 4th European Alcohol Policy Conference that will take place in Brussels in June 2010.

Eurocare	2009
Income	
Membership fees	18 648,48
Grants from Actis	166 275,64
IOGT-NTO	30 386,38
Other incomes	12 762,83
	228 073,33
Expenditure	
Salary costs and social charges	116 265,35
Utilities and office expenses	49 580,08
Consultancies, courses, learning	35 199,15
Travels and meetings	22 189,74
Membership fees, marketing, and subscriptions	10 362,32
	233 596,64
Financial costs	140,46
Commulative net result	-5 663,77

ANNEX I

Member Organisations

Belgium:

VAD (Vereniging voor Alcohol-en Andere Drugproblemen vzw)

Bulgaria:

Foundation Horizonti 21

Czech Republic

IOGT

Denmark

Alkoholpolitisk Landsråd
IOGT Denmark

Estonia

Estonian Temperance Union

Finland

Finnish Association for healthy lifestyles
Finnish Centre for Health Promotion
Terveys ry – Finnish Health Association NGO

France

ANPAA (Association National de Prevention en Alcoolologie et Addictologie)
Movement Vie Libre

Germany

DHS (Deutsche Haputstelle fur Suchtfragen)
Deutsche Guttempler IOGT e.V

Ireland

Alcohol action Ireland
North West Alcohol Forum
Dothain

Italy

A.I.C.A.T (Associazione Italiana Club Alcolisti in Trattamento)
Centro Studi sui problem droga/alco correlate
Eurocare Italia
Fondazione Devoto
Associazione Aliseo ONLUS
Gruppo Logos – Onlus

Lithuania

Agapao

Netherlands

STAP (Stichting Alcoholpreventie)
ANDO

Norway

Actis (Policy Network on Alcohol and Drugs)

Poland

PARPA (The State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol related problems)
The Polish IOGT Foundation

Portugal

Centro de Alcoplogia Nova Rumo
SAAP (Sociedade Anti-Alcodlica Portuguesa)
Associacao Anti Alcoolica da Madeira
Centro de Alcoolgia Ricardo Pampuri

Slovenia

UTRIP (Institute for Research and Development)

Spain

Fundación Salud y Comunidad
Asociacion de Ex-Alcoholicos Espanoles
EDEX
Fudación Vivir sin Drogas
Málaga Asociación A.R.E.A.
Socidrogalcohol
Associació RAUXA

Switzerland

ISPA – Institut Suisse de prevention de l'alcoolisme et autres toxicomanies
Switzerland Blue Cross

Sweden

IOGT-NTO
Swedish Council on Alcohol and Drugs
MHF

United Kingdom

IAS (Institute of Alcohol Studies)
Alcohol concern

International/Pan European

Active
Blue Cross
IOGT International
NorDan (Nordic Alcohol and Drugs Policy Network)



96, Rue des Confédérés B 1000 Brussels Belgium
Tel +32 (0)2 736 05 72 / 39 76 info@eurocare.org www.eurocare.org