

Let it hAPYN



Report on Stakeholders' Meetings

Deliverable 6 – WP2



Title: Report on Stakeholders' meetings

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Introduction

Among other things, the Let it hAPYN project's general objective was also to: 7) Produce materials that can be applicable also to other youth organizations after the end of the project. In line with this objective, we have throughout the project organized seven stakeholders' meetings in seven countries:

- Malta in April 2015,
- Slovenia in December 2013,
- Poland in June 2016,
- Portugal in June 2013,
- Lithuania in May 2016,
- Italy in September 2015 and
- Bulgaria in June 2016.

These meetings' main aim was to showcase the products of the Let it hAPYN project, while at the same time work in line with other objectives of the project – mainly connecting important stakeholders on national levels with youth organizations. While the project was moving from phase to phase, different stakeholders' meetings were using the opportunity to present recent outcomes of the project to the public.

Each stakeholders' meeting idea was to include a representative of a “grown-up” non-governmental organization (mainly member of the international organization Eurocare – European Alcohol Policy Alliance), representative from public health institutions (mainly research institutes and ministries that are concerned with the alcohol-related harm topic and youth organizations (who were mainly Alcohol Policy Youth Network's recent or future members).

Conclusions of each of these stakeholders' meetings were relevant to the national reality and are in short described below, while the main outcome of these meeting was networking and reaffirmation of the youth sector and youth organizations as very relevant stakeholders in preventing and reducing alcohol-related harm.

Gozo, Malta

Date: 8th April 2015

Location: University of Malta, Gozo Campus, Gozo, Malta

Representatives and participants:

- Caritas Malta,
- Agency SEDQA,
- Gozo Youth Council,
- Malta National Youth Council,
- Foundation of Social Welfare Services,
- Malta Medical Student Association.

Let it hAPYN representatives present: Lukas Galkus, Sofia Ribeiro, Rok Primožič

Outcomes presented: results of the national youth consultation in Malta

Conclusions:

- Law-enforcement of age-limits, especially on off-premise alcohol providers, is very bad, which confirms also the Let it hAPYN research in Gozo;
- Importance of collaboration between the NGO and public sector is very important, especially involving youth organizations in planning, implementing and evaluating the alcohol laws;
- Malta has a very high drinking-driving mortality and injury rate – one of the problems is also a very high BAC level allowance to drive while drinking (0,8 ‰);
- Informal agreements were made to continue or start collaboration with included stakeholders.



Ljubljana, Slovenia

Date: 2nd December 2013

Location: Ministry of Health, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Representatives and participants:

- Ministry of Health Slovenia,
- Youth Network No Excuse Slovenia,
- National Public Health Institute,
- Faculty of Social Sciences,
- Institute Utrip.

Let it hAPYN representatives present: Lukas Galkus, Sofia Ribeiro, Jan Peloza, Daša Kokole

Outcomes presented: draft publication on evidence-based interventions in youth organizations and comparison of different laws on alcohol in Europe

Conclusions:

- Slovenian has a very good connection between NGOs, youth NGOs and Public Health institutions;
- Youth NGOs can be a very important partner in helping the government in law-enforcement, especially on age limits and marketing regulations;
- Faculty of Social Sciences is keen to give support to NGOs in order to assure a scientific approach in research;
- A very interesting comparison of different laws on alcohol in Europe positively surprised the representatives from the Ministry of Health and National Public Health Institute.



Warsaw, Poland

Date: 22nd June 2016

Location: Maria Sklodowska-Curie Memorial Cancer Center, Warsaw, Poland

Representatives and participants:

- Ministry of Education, Poland
- IOGT Poland,
- Cancer Epidemiology and Prevention Department, MSC Memorial Cancer Center,
- State Agency for the Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems PARPA,
- National Public Health Institute,
- National Youth Council.

Let it hAPYN representatives present: Jan Peloza

Outcomes presented: Evidence-based interventions in Youth organizations

Conclusions:

- Youth organizations in Poland has mostly been seen as the trouble-makers and not the solution to the problem – this may change after this meeting;
- IOGT Poland is very active on the field of supporting young people, victims of alcoholism,
- MSC Memorial Cancer Center was unfortunately not able to get previously in touch with PARPA, who will from now on keep the MSC Memorial Cancer Center and their representative in the loop in all future actions related to alcohol.





Lisbon, Portugal

Date: 4th June 2013

Location: General Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies (SICAD), Lisbon, Portugal

Representatives and participants:

- SICAD Portugal,
- National Youth Council Portugal (CNJ),
- European Medical Students' Association Portugal (EMSA),
- International Federation of Medical Students' Association.

Let it hAPYN representatives present: Sofia Ribeiro, Daša Kokole

Outcomes presented: Let it hAPYN project

Conclusions:

- National Youth Council Portugal has previously (in 2011) carried out a pilot national consultation on alcohol and then followed it up with the project Cumsumos Acedemicos that was tackling the harmful use with alcohol;
- SICAD is very well established in the European level as a very important stakeholder on alcohol prevention;
- APYN, EMSA Portugal and CNJ Portugal are a very important »brick in the wall« in order to meaningfully include young people in shaping the future alcohol-policies.





Vilnius, Lithuania

Date: 25th May 2016

Location: Ministry of Health, Vilnius, Lithuania

Representatives and participants:

- Lithuanian Medical Students' Association (LiMSA),
- Ministry of Health,
- National Youth Council of Lithuania,
- Junior Doctors' Association.

Let it hAPYN representatives present: Lukas Galkus

Outcomes presented: Evidence-based interventions in youth organizations, result of the alcohol-law comparison in Europe, Resolution of Alcohol Prevention Policy in Lithuania, which was adopted by the National Youth Council and initiated by LiMSA.

Conclusions:

- The meeting can be evaluated as average since position of youth organizations regarding alcohol policy was presented and discussed, but the lack of involvement and enthusiasm of the Ministry significantly lowers the expectations for it to come into force any time soon;
- Lithuanian Medical Students' Association, Junior Doctors' Association and National Youth Council of Lithuania will continue to actively advocate for better alcohol policies in the country;
- More youth NGOs should be included to put more pressure on the Ministry to adopt the changes.





Savona, Italy

Date: 18th September 2015

Location: Centro Savonese Volontariato, Savona, Italy

Representatives and participants:

- CESAVO Italy,
- Istituto di Istruzione Secondaria Superiore "Ferraris-Pancaldo",
- ASL 2 Savonese.

Let it hAPYN representatives present: Jan Peloza

Outcomes presented: Evidence-based interventions in youth organizations, result of the alcohol-law comparison in Europe, Youth Research on Alcohol – supporting law-enforcement

Conclusions:

- Savona is pretty stuck in the »war on drugs«, where alcohol many times doesn't play an important role and is mostly totally normalized;
- CESAVO Italy works towards inclusion of young people, many times with dependency problems;
- The Public health institution – ASL 2 Savonese is prepared to offer help to youth organizations and organized group of young people in high-school in order to start working on alcohol;
- An evidence-based project will be carried out as a follow-up of this meeting.





Sofia, Bulgaria

Date: 30th June 2016

Location: National Center of Public Health and Analyses (NCPHA), Sofia, Bulgaria

Representatives and participants:

- Foundation P.U.L.S.E.,
- NCPHA Bulgaria,
- WHO country office of Bulgaria,
- Association of Medical Students' of Bulgaria,
- Military hospital,
- Psychiatric Hospital for treatment of alcoholism,
- UNFPA,
- Ministry of Health of Bulgaria.

Let it hAPYN representatives present: Jan Peloza

Outcomes presented: Evidence-based interventions in youth organizations, result of the alcohol-law comparison in Europe, Youth Research on Alcohol – supporting law-enforcement

Conclusions:

- Foundation PULSE does a lot of very interesting interventions for young people out of which, some may qualify as a good practice in Let it hAPYN – further cooperation between APYN and PULSE is possible;
- UNFPA carries out a project Y-PEER that includes and activates young people to work on the field of health promotion;
- Bulgaria's ESPAD results are alarming when it comes to the consumption of alcohol among under-15 years olds – a concrete field for future action.

