



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction



GOVERNMENT OF MONTENEGRO

PROGRAMME

Reitox Academy for IPA4 beneficiaries

**Drug law offences in
the Western Balkan region:
from definition to monitoring**

2–3 April 2014

Podgorica, Montenegro

| Drug law offences in the Western Balkan region: from definition to monitoring

Background

This Reitox Academy is organised by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) as part of its project 'Preparation of IPA Beneficiaries for their participation in the EMCDDA' (IPA4). The EMCDDA provides the European Union (EU) and its Member States with a factual overview of European drug problems and a solid evidence base to support the drugs debate. Understanding commonalities and differences on how drug laws are defined and implemented across the EU Member States is one of the Centre's key areas for action, and this is closely linked with presenting and interpreting data on drug law offences and drug-related crime. Over the last decade, the EMCDDA has gradually increased cooperation with Candidate and Potential Candidate Countries and is helping them to establish comprehensive and comparable drug monitoring systems at national levels. The Centre has collected some data on drug laws and drug law offences in these countries through ad hoc reports and data submissions, however there is a further need to discuss national drug law frameworks in order to better understand and interpret the data.

The EMCDDA is currently developing a 'composite index', which would allow for an overall comparison of national drug legislative frameworks: contributions made by the countries during this seminar should be focused on the component elements of the index. This should allow for a comparison of national drug laws between the participating countries and also with other countries in Europe.

Objectives of the seminar

This two-day seminar aims to:

- exchange information between participants and EU experts on drug laws in their respective countries (what the laws say and how they are implemented);
- exchange information on the control of new psychoactive substances;
- exchange information on how drug laws and drug law offences are monitored/how data are collected and reported.

Expected outcomes:

- improved knowledge on basic elements of drug laws in some Western Balkan countries;
- a mapping of drug laws with intent to produce a summary publication;
- a first attempt to fill in the EMCDDA standard data collection tables on drug law offences.

Venue

Hotel Ramada
Blv. Save Kovačevića 74,
81 000 Podgorica, Montenegro
<http://www.ramadapodgorica.me/>

Participants

The Reitox Academy will bring together drug law experts and also experts engaged in data collection on drug law offences from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo (*).

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the International Court of Justice Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

2 April 2014: Defining the situation	
09.00	Arrival and registration
09.30	<p>Opening Chairs: Cécile Martel, Head of the International cooperation sector, EMCDDA and Ivan Ivanišević, General Director for International Cooperation and European Integration, Ministry of the Interior, Montenegro</p> <p>Welcome by EMCDDA and objectives of the meeting, Cécile Martel Welcome by the Ministry of Interior of Montenegro, Ivan Ivanišević Welcome by the Ministry of Health, Jasna Sekulić, Head of the Department for Drugs Welcome by Delegation of the EU to Montenegro, Andre Lys, Head of Operations Section Tour de table</p>
10.15	Break
10.25	<p>Setting the context: drug laws in the EU Member States — Brendan Hughes, Senior scientific analyst, national legislation European Legal Database on Drugs (ELDD), Supply reduction and new drugs unit, EMCDDA Questions and answers</p>
11.00	Coffee/tea break
	<p>Drug laws in Western Balkan countries Chair: Brendan Hughes, EMCDDA</p>
11.25	Albania
11.35	Bosnia and Herzegovina
11.50	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
12.05	Questions and reflection on previous presentations by the Chair
12.15	Montenegro
12.30	Serbia
12.45	Kosovo
13.00	Questions and reflection on previous presentations by the Chair
13.15	Lunch
14.30	<p>Drug law index Chair: Cécile Martel, EMCDDA Presentation of drug law index — Brendan Hughes, EMCDDA Questions and answers</p>
15.15	Coffee/tea break
15.45	<p>Workshop: Drug law index Chair: Brendan Hughes, EMCDDA Discussion and application to Western Balkan countries</p>
16.30	Conclusion of the day (with introduction to day 2 of the meeting)
16.45	End of the day

3 April 2014: Monitoring drug law offences and responding to new psychoactive substances	
09.00	<p>Monitoring of drug law offences</p> <p>Chair: Cécile Martel, EMCDDA</p> <p>EMCDDA experience in monitoring drug law offences: data and tools — Luis Royuela, Scientific support officer, Estimates, statistics and data management sector, EMCDDA</p> <p>Questions and answers</p>
10.30	Coffee/tea break
11.00	<p>Workshop: reporting drug law offences</p> <p>Facilitator: Luis Royuela, EMCDDA</p> <p>Mapping drug law offences in line with the EMCDDA reporting</p>
12.30	Lunch
13.30	<p>Control of new psychoactive substances – experiences in the Western Balkans</p> <p>Chair: Orsolya Varga, Hungarian national focal point</p> <p>Control of new psychoactive substances in Europe — Brendan Hughes, EMCDDA</p> <p>Control of new psychoactive substances in Hungary — Orsolya Varga</p> <p>Questions and answers</p>
15.00	Coffee/tea break
15.30	<p>Workshop: Control of new psychoactive substances – experiences in the Western Balkans</p> <p>Chair: Orsolya Varga, Hungarian national focal point</p> <p>Facilitator: Brendan Hughes, EMCDDA</p> <p>Roundtable discussion</p>
16.30	<p>Conclusions and way forward</p> <p>Chair: Cécile Martel, EMCDDA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclusions • Next steps • Evaluation
17.00	End of the Reitox Academy