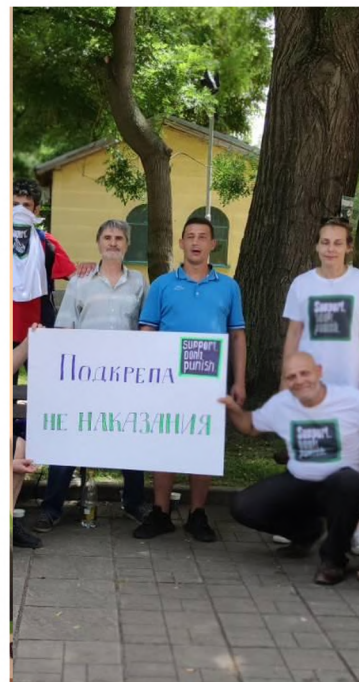


Support Don't Punish Coordinated Country Campaign 2021





EuroNPUD Support Don't Punish Coordinated Country Campaign 2021

Support. Don't Punish (SDP) is a global grassroots-centred initiative supporting harm reduction and drug policies that prioritise public health and human rights. The campaign seeks to put harm reduction on the political agenda by strengthening the mobilisation capacity of affected communities and their allies, opening a dialogue with the people responsible for formulating policies and raising awareness among the media and the public. The campaign's yearly high point is the Global Day of Action, which takes place on, or around 26 June, which coincides with the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. Whilst this date has historically been used by governments to showcase their drug control "achievements" in coercive terms, the campaign's Global Day of Action seeks to shift that day's narrative away from coercion and instead emphasise the need for drug policies to be based on health and human rights.

EuroNPUD plays a vital role in promoting harm reduction and drug law reform in Europe, and it has been one of the key partners in the SDP campaign. EuroNPUD provided grants of €450 to 12 country drug user groups in ten countries to undertake activities linked to the SDP global day of action on 26 June. The groups that received the grants were CATNPUD and Metzineres in Catalonia, UISCE in Ireland, ItaNPUD in Italy, CASO and GAT in Portugal, PeerNUPs in Greece, Movement for Progressive Drug Policy (MPDP) in Bulgaria, Brukarföreningen in Sweden, BrugerForeningen in Denmark, Društvo AREAL in Slovenia and BerLUN in Germany.

EuroNPUD also commissioned Mali, the designer behind the branding of the Metzineres, to produce a poster based on the message of 'Opening Up To...', which was built on the EuroNPUD's SDP2020 campaign 'Time for a New Normal'. The poster has been translated into different European languages. Posters were then co-branded with various local and national drug user groups to support their country actions.

Country actions

Catalonia (CATNPUD)

CATNPUD first organised a meeting of different activist networks in Barcelona, attended by partnership organisations Metzineres, Energy Control, Cannabis Clubs Federation Catalonia (CatFAC), REMA (Women Against Prohibitionism), Mujeres Cannabicas (Cannabis Women Network), ARSU and AUPA'M. In the afternoon, CATNPUD also organised a round table debate 'Do We Rethink Drugs? Repealing the War on Drugs is the End, Offering its Safe Distribution is a Start'. Participants in the discussion, which was organised in the bookshop Oniria, were Òscar Parés (ICEERS), Antoni Llorca (ARSU), Mireia Ventura (Energy Control), Fran Azorín (Brotsanbert), Tre Borràs and Oriol Romaní (IGiA Group). This was followed by a manifesto reading and installation of the commemorative plaque at Plaça Reial in Barcelona. The day concluded with a cabaret performance (organised by Metzineres) at Ocaña. Approximately 80 peers took part in the campaign, and campaign posters were displayed at each daily activity. The grant was used to cover the costs of the organisation of the events and was supplemented with other funds to cover all the expenses.





Catalonia (Metzineres)

Metzineres organised an exhibition of anti-prohibitionist projects and organisations and a discussion about the impact of the War on Drugs, which were organised in Barcelona in collaboration with CATNPUD and involved various experts in harm reduction and drug policy field. Metzineres also collaborated in manifesto reading and installation of the commemorative plaque in memory of the victims of the War on Drugs at Plaça Reial in Barcelona; Metzineres read their manifesto, made graffiti and distributed drug paraphernalia to the participants. Furthermore, Metzineres and DonARSU organised a cabaret performance in Ocaña, an emblematic theatre in Barcelona. The performance was attended by 80 people, of which at least 30 were peer members of Metzineres. In the performance, they recreated the situation of prohibition to demonstrate that the current prohibitive system does not work and needs to be changed. Campaign posters were distributed around the neighbourhood and at the events, and the grant was spent on the supplies distributed during the events and on the organisation of the cabaret performance.

Ireland (UISCE)

UISCE organised and delivered three Overdose Response and Naloxone training sessions in collaboration with local community services in Ireland. The training sessions were co-facilitated by peer volunteers trained as facilitators in the lead up to the SDP events. The 'Train the Trainer' session took place at the UISCE office with all four peers that supported the events and was an opportunity to share knowledge and experiences and support

peer trainers to participate in the events. The training included the distribution of Naloxone for people that self-identified as at risk of opioid overdose. The following training sessions were organised: on 22 June in Dublin North Inner City, in collaboration with the SAOL Project (2 peer volunteers); on 23 June in Ballyfermot (Dublin), in partnership with the Ballyfermot Advance Project (1 peer volunteer); and on 25 June at Drogheda (Co. Louth), in collaboration with the Red Door Project (1 peer volunteer). UISCE plans to be linking back with the



peer volunteers to organise a follow-up session and analyse and discuss learnings and outcomes from the sessions. The EuroNPUD grant, supplemented by additional funding, was spent on posters, T-shirts, PPE masks, transport costs, lunch and volunteer reimbursement (for attending the 'Train the Trainer' session and facilitating the training during SDP events). Campaign posters were shared on social media, used during the training sessions and distributed to peers and staff as mementoes of SDP2021. Four peers facilitated the training, and 40 peers and staff members were trained in the sessions.

Italy (ItaNPUD)

ItaNPUD organised SDP actions in Monterotondo and Rome in Italy. In Monterotondo, ItaNPUD distributed (along with Altrestrade, a harm reduction service) SDP materials and manuals and organised a photo contest for participants and bystanders. In Rome, ItaNPUD organised a web radio session, during which they presented the SDP campaign and the organisation's work. They also did a radio interview with their traditional partner Radio Onda Rossa. Furthermore, ItaNPUD organised a webinar about administrative



what they wanted to see changed. A total of 31 peers attended the assembly, but it is assumed that the actual number of people in attendance on the day was much higher. CASO and GAT plan to present the inputs from the assembly in future meetings with health service representatives in Porto and Lisbon. The SDP campaign posters were primarily used on 26 June; they were attached to a rope that marked the limits of the space where the peer assembly occurred. For the organisation of events for the SDP campaign, CASO and GAT combined different funds from SDP campaigns (EuroNPUD, WHRIN and IDPC)

sanctions on 26 June. The grant was spent on printing posters and copies of the manual and refunding the travel costs of peers. The campaign posters were distributed at different local spots in Naples, Bagnoli, Monterotondo, Turin and Rome. A total of 23 peers took part in the campaign. Several partners collaborated in the campaign: the drop-in centre ASL Napoli 1 in Naples; Radio 32, Zazie nel metro and Radio Onda Rossa in Rome; and Altrastrade in Monterotondo, while Forum Droghe, Antigone, CGIL and Altrodiritto Strali co-organised the webinar.



Portugal (CASO and GATO)

The SDP campaign in Portugal officially began on 21 June with the organisation of a meeting in Porto, in CASO-Porto, for women, non-binary people and sex workers who use drugs. The event was supported by WHRIN and organised by CASO, Porto Solidário and GAMEM (mutual aid group for women surviving violence). They organised a debate, exploring the ideal conditions of a 'safe space' for these specific subgroups of people who use drugs. A similar event was also organised on 26 June in Lisbon, where a group of peers from CASO and GAT met with peers connected with the PCVM and Kosmicare, a partner that usually provides drug checking in recreative contexts but is now also testing for fentanyl and other drugs. At the Lisbon event, CASO and GAT, together with partner organisations, provided drug checking services, mobile drug consumption unit and a tent for smokers while also handing out information materials. They also organised an open assembly of peers where people had the chance to share

and the Drug User Group Development Project (DUGDP) grant from EuroNPUD. The funds were spent on funding the participation of people who use drugs, printing T-shirts and posters, transport, DJ set, food and accommodation. CASO and GAT hope that the ethos of the SDP campaign will continue through the year; for example, a follow-up meeting between Porto Solidário, CASO and Kosmicare was already organised on 22 July, and a meeting of women and non-binary people has been developing in Porto.

Greece (PeerNUPs)

PeerNUPs organised an SDP event in Athens, Greece, teaming up with an association of residents (Epimenoume Pedio tou Areos) who had previously made protests against a 'needle park'. This civil group acknowledges their previous actions were a mistake and now advocates for a better and more humane drug policy. PeerNUPs and the residents' association promoted a discussion with civil society, OST director, EMCDDA representative and national drug coordinator. In the same event, two professionals



On 22 June, a meeting of an MPDP initiative group was organised, which included preparation of promotional material, arrangement of the distribution of campaign posters and consultation with a lawyer about the process on how to legally organise SDP2021, as due to the police pressure, many peers were reluctant to take part in such activities. On 23 June, MPDP created a virtual event on social networks and promoted it on different social media. The main SDP event was organised on 26 June and began with a meeting of two groups of peers and activists in the park of the church of St. Nicholas; this is the place where drug users have been meeting for 25 years. Historically,

presented alternative treatment options to the tough love approach, which is in Greece still very common, despite its questionable method and results. The grant was spent on renting the venue for the event, gasoline and printing posters and small booklets about methamphetamine. Approximately ten peers attended the event, with the relatively low number largely associated with COVID-19 restrictions and a heatwave that Greece was experiencing at the time. However, the peers who attended provided a very positive impact, and it is assumed that such events will attract significantly more people in the future once the situation related to COVID-19 normalises.

the National Centre for Addictions was located in this area which provided a needle and syringe programme (NSP); however, this centre has closed and merged into another structure, and there is currently no provision of NSPs in Bulgaria. Therefore, the choice of the location for this year's SDP was symbolic and related to the complicated history of harm reduction services in the country. The grant was spent on consultation with the lawyer, printing posters, T-shirts and banners, purchase of fuel for the car used for the campaign, purchase of catering products and remuneration for three peers from MPDP who were actively involved in the campaign. The goals and ideas of the campaign were explained to over 150 people, but unfortunately, Bulgaria was until recently in lockdown. This contributed to a smaller number of participants in the event itself, which was attended by approximately 40–50 people. Despite SDP2021 being the first SDP campaign organised by MPDP, they managed to arrange partnership support from the two largest OST programmes in Bulgaria and the largest private OST provider, Kanchelov Clinic.

Bulgaria (MPDP)

MPDP organised several actions during this year's SDP campaign. On 21 June, MPDP visited the oldest and largest OST programme in the Bulgarian capital Sofia to promote and explain the idea of the SDP campaign, meeting with two groups of drug users (one inside the building of the programme and one outside of it). SDP is relatively unknown in Bulgaria, having only been organised a couple of times several years ago by a harm reduction organisation, Initiative for Health Foundation. For this reason, personal contact with participants was vital to spread awareness.





Naloxone seminar, which is organised continually in the capital city, Copenhagen, by the NGO Antidote Denmark; leading up to the 26 June, they prepared a special SDP campaign seminar. An online event on SDP action day was organised and widely promoted on Facebook. Furthermore, a Naloxone seminar for experts with Copenhagen Municipality MD Henrik Thiesen, Nurse Sine Lykke from RED LIV and the board of BrugerForeningen, was organised on 29 June. The grant was used for T-shirts, posters and graphic materials. Approximately 20 peers actively took part in the campaign, although it is likely that the number of people reached through online activities was significantly higher. Several partnership organisations collaborated on the campaign: Bruges Akademi (The Users Academy), Street Law Copenhagen, Antidote Denmark, Illegal magazine (part of Antidote Denmark), The Red Van, Sex worker interest organisation, SAND (the national organisation for homeless people) and RED LIV, Copenhagen Municipality.

Sweden (Brukarföreningen)

Brukarföreningen organised an online information campaign in Sweden, which took place on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Brukarföreningen's website. The information campaign focused on SDP's main messages and goals, emphasising the need for supporting people who use drugs instead of punishing them, which is still the main approach within Swedish restrictive drug policies. Brukarföreningen bought T-shirts with the SDP logo and distributed them to street workers and peers at the Brukarföreningen union. The grant was used for T-shirts and promotional gear, such as SDP posters displayed online and at the union. No partners took part in this year's SDP events. It is estimated that hundreds of peers took part in the campaign, which continued after 26 June with the SDP promotion on the Street C/Hepatitis C bus and Remembrance Day on 21 July.

Denmark (BrugerForeningen)

BrugerForeningen organised several actions for SDP2021 in Denmark, starting with a pre-meeting with partners regarding the creation of the campaign and the organisation of an online event on 26 June. BrugerForeningen also arranged a visit from MP Karina Lorentzen (a member of the Socialist People's Party) on 22 June to promote the SDP campaign; additionally, they secured a supporting statement from Copenhagen Mayor Mia Nyegaard on 26 June. BrugerForeningen also contributed to the





displaying SDP posters. Three partner organisations (ŠENT, Kralji Ulice and Legebitra) collaborated on SDP and provided venues for Društvo AREAL's activities. Društvo AREAL has also been supported by the political party Levica (Left).

Germany (BerLUN)

BerLUN was founded four years ago on the day that corresponded with SDP, so SDP2021 presented an anniversary and celebration of the creation of their group. They organised a meeting and discussion about SDP and drug policies, challenging current repressive laws and advocating for more humane and evidence-based drug policies. BerLUN also prepared promotional material, such as T-shirts, leaflets and invitations. A total of 20 peers attended the SDP event, which was promoted on social media. The grant was spent on the traditional peer visit to a café, printing T-shirts and leaflets, as well as certificates that BerLUN annually give to selected partners for their outstanding work with people who use drugs. BerLUN collaborated on the SDP campaign with several partners: Berliner Aids-Hilfe e.V., Deutsche Aidshilfe, Robert Koch Institute, European Speed Action and Deutsche Welle. BerLUN continued working in the ethos of SDP on the International Drug Users' Remembrance Day on 21 July, when they organised a day dedicated to the memory of victims of repressive drug policies in collaboration with partner organisations.

Slovenia (Društvo AREAL)

Društvo AREAL organised two workshops about Naloxone and safer drug use; these were organised at ŠENT drop-in centre and Kralji Ulice (Kings of the Street) in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Društvo AREAL also took part in Pride parades in Ljubljana and Maribor, raising awareness of the SDP campaign among the participants and advocating for changes concerning the human rights of people who use drugs. In 2020, Društvo AREAL discussed the possibility of President Borut Pahor being an official sponsor of the SDP 2021 campaign; unfortunately, this did not occur because of the overheated political climate in Slovenia, but it is hoped that it will happen in 2022. The grant was used for printing T-shirts and promotional materials, food and beverages at the events and funding the transport costs of Slovenian peers and the Budapest group of peers and protesters. The campaign posters were shared on social network sites and at the Pride parade. Approximately 70 people attended the two workshops, with ten peers also attending the demonstrations and

