

1. Public Hearing on European Drug Policies

On February 23rd 2010, at the European Parliament, a public [hearing on European Drug Policies](#) was hosted by [Michail Tremopoulos](#), Member of the European Parliament, in collaboration with the European Coalition for Just and Effective Drug Policies ([ENCOD](#)).

The discussion was based on the Commission report "[the world drugs problem, ten years on](#)", presented by the representatives of the [Commission Drug Unit](#). The report is very critical regarding the global policy of "war against drug". Indeed, the study on which the report is based has found no evidence that the global drug problem has been reduced during the period from 1998 to 2007.

Unfortunately, the audience of the hearing was mainly composed on the one hand, of representatives from ENCOD, convinced that the drug market should be legalized in the framework of a strong regulation protecting health and, on the other hand, of militants for a drug free world. In this condition, no consensus could be found among the participants.

It is time for the European networks of practice sharing to develop advocacy actions towards the Members of the European Parliament (MEP) in order to increase awareness on the drug situation and challenges. In this way, the DC&D II partners intend to organise a workshop with MEPs in 2011.