



17th St. & Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
United States of America

Organization of American States

P. 202.458.3000
www.oas.org

INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
CONTROL COMMISSION
CICAD

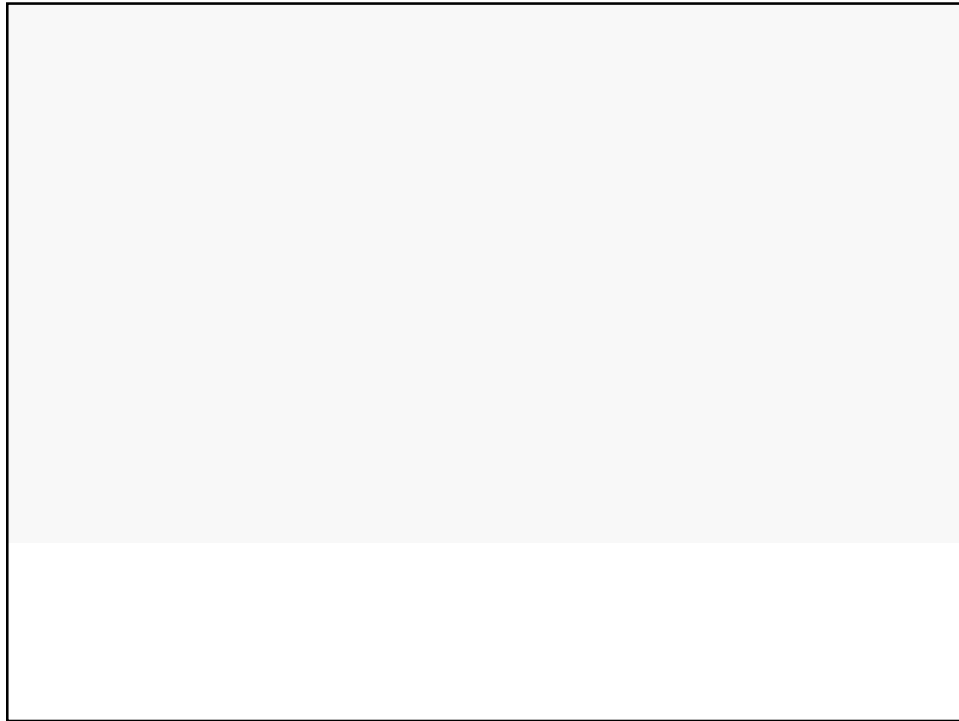
Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION
December 6 - 8, 2010
Washington, D.C.

OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.48
CICAD/doc.1848/10
7 December 2010
Original: English

THE POMPIDOU GROUP
ITS ROLE, ITS STRUCTURE AND ACTIVITIES
PATRICK PENNINGCKX, POMPIDOU





The Pompidou Group Its role, its structure and activities

Patrick Penninckx
Executive Secretary

patrick.penninckx@coe.int – www.coe.int/Pompidou

CICAD, 8 December 2010

• The European framework



• The Pompidou Group

(Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs)

- is an **intergovernmental body** formed in 1971 at the suggestion of the French President Georges Pompidou
- at first, the Pompidou Group was an informal co-operation forum of 7 European countries (France, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United Kingdom) looking to share their experience of **combating drug abuse and drug trafficking**.
- was incorporated into the Council of Europe in 1980
- the co-operation was subsequently extended to include new countries; at present, the Pompidou Group comprises 35 member states.

• The Role of the Pompidou Group

- **core mission** = contribute to the development of coherent, multidisciplinary, innovative, effective and “evidence-based” drug policies in 35 member states.
- it seeks to **link policy, practice and science**
- it provides a **multidisciplinary forum** at the wider European level where it is possible for policy-makers, professionals and researchers **to discuss and exchange information and ideas** on the whole range of drug misuse and trafficking problems.
- it plays a **bridging role** between EU countries and non-EU countries (Life skills programme in Ukraine) as well as countries from the Mediterranean Region (MedNet)

• The Structure of the Pompidou Group

- Secretariat based in Strasbourg (14 persons)
- Ministerial Conference (every 4 years) -> adopt work programme
- Permanent correspondents = representatives of the 35 member states; senior officials in ministries in charge of drug issues (2 meetings / year)
- Since 2003, 6 platforms (group of experts) looking at issues concerning:
 - Prevention
 - Treatment
 - Research
 - Ethics
 - Criminal justice
 - Airports & aviation

- **Prevention Platform**

Look for innovative and evidence-based practice

- Life-skills training - Building resilience
- Develop coherent drugs policies
- Evaluation of Prevention Policies
- Use of Drugs in recreational settings (safer nightlife)
- Drugged Driving – video clip

- **Treatment Platform**

Improve treatment for specific groups by adapting to new trends

- adopt a series of recommendations and orientations to improve practice in treatment of young (up to 25 years) drug users
- provide an overview of the treatment systems in the member States

- **Research Platform**

Assessing the impact of research on policy and support better the use of research evidence in policy and practice

- Improve the exchange of knowledge (Register)
- Signals the latest issues that arise from drug research in the social and biomedical fields and promotes interaction between research disciplines such as these and psychological drug research (publications)
- Co-operations : ESPAD, ESSD, MedNET

- **Platform on Ethical issues and professional standards**

Undertake reflections and to devise opinions in addressing ethical and professional issues in specific drugs- and drug abuse-related areas (drug testing at school and in workplaces)

- Use of drug testing at school and in the workplace
- Ethical issues of research

• Criminal Justice Platform

Co-operation among specialised services (justice, health and care services, social services) to find alternative measures to imprisonment

- Explore links between crime and drug-use (recidivism)
- Systems of information exchange on currently uncontrolled chemical precursors/medical substances – including Regulatory Bodies
- Collect evidence on precursor trafficking

• Airports Group

Harmonise tools and systems to improve drug detection in International airports

- Annual reviews of the development of drug seizures at airports
- Development of an Airport Crime Risk Register
- Promote the undertaking of multilateral drug seizure operations

• The European Drug Prevention Prize



- Created in 2004 to recognise the importance of active youth participation in the development of a better environment
- Awarded every 2 years -> 2004, 2006, 2008 and 2010
- 3 drug prevention projects lead by youth for youth are rewarded for their work
- Monetary benefit = 5000 € trophy and diploma

Prize 2004	Prize 2006	Prize 2008	Prize 2010
44 applications 18 countries	31 applications 18 countries	34 applications 15 countries	80 applications 26 countries
Slovenia Switzerland United Kingdom	Ireland Norway	Bulgaria Greece Netherlands	3 winners to be rewarded at the ministerial conference in Strasbourg 11 shortlisted projects

• MedNET



- Set up in 2006
 - Objective = foster co-operation, exchange and transfer two-way knowledge between countries from the Mediterranean Region and European countries which are members of the Pompidou Group and donors
- 12 Member countries = Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan and Cyprus, Spain, France, Italy, Portugal. Russia is an Observer.
 - Target group = the network is a mechanism for professionals working on the ground: doctors, social workers, NGO representatives, public associations, researchers, policy-makers and administrative managers -> It is geared to promoting interaction between the political, practical and scientific aspects

• EXASS NET



- Set up in 2007
 - Arose from the need for enhanced co-operation of various actors in the law-enforcement, health and social sectors in tackling drug-related problems
 - objective = responding to drug problems providing experience and assistance for inter-sectoral co-operation
- This co-operation works at different levels, in European cities or at regional or national level
 - Member countries: Germany, Croatia, Russian Federation, Finland, Hungary, Moldova, Norway, Netherland, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Ukraine, United-Kingdom
 - Member cities: Amsterdam, Budapest, Cracow, Frankfurt, Koper, Oslo, Preston, Turku, Viseu, Zagreb, Zaporozhye



Ministerial Conference – Strasbourg – 3 - 4 November 2010

Topic: « Towards a coherent policy on psycho-active substances »

Major outcomes:

- Balanced approach on supply and demand reduction efforts
- Consolidation of membership of the Group in Europe, specifically in South-East Europe
- Co-operation with Neighbouring regions (Mediterranean – Central Asia)
- Inter-Agency Cooperation: avoid overlaps and create synergies
- Revised working methods: flexible, pro-active instrument at the service of member states



For further information, please visit our website

www.coe.int/pompidou

Or contact our Secretariat directly

Pompidou Group
Council of Europe
F - 67075 Strasbourg

pompidou.group@coe.int



Thank you for your attention!

patrick.penninckx@coe.int – www.coe.int/Pompidou