

DPNSEE QUARTERLY April - June 2019

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DPNSEE QUARTERLY

April - June 2019

Welcome to the second Drug Policy Network South East Europe quarterly newsletter in 2019.

The DPNSEE newsletter presents the news from the Network, from the region and around the world in the field of drug policy. The newsletter is published every three months.

The second trimester of 2019 has passed and we have so much information that we want to share with you. We feel that it is time to look back on the most important news and activities which marked this period.

DPNSEE Strategic Workshop





Following the proposal from the General Assembly held in last December, DPNSEE held a **Strategic Workshop** from 14 to 17 May 2019. The workshop was held in the Student Resort on Avala Mountain, nearby Belgrade. 21 participants from 9 countries of the region gathered for a three-day workshop and worked in cooperation. The consultant which helped us to design the Workshop, facilitate work and structure the outcomes was **Raminta Štuikyte**.

At the Assembly, **DPNSEE** has analysed achievement of aims and objectives of the strategic plan adopted in 2016 and indicated in which way and by which activities the priorities will be followed in the next years. Now, the aim of the Workshop was to continue this process and define **strategic priorities, goals and targets** for the forthcoming period.

More about the workshop is available [following this link>>>](#)

Support. Don't Punish.



For the third time, DPNSEE coordinated activities of the **Support. Don't Punish** campaign in South East Europe around the Global Day of Action 26 June - which is also the United Nations' International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

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Activities in 2019

The campaign 2019 in South East Europe shall have:

- 9 countries
- 11 cities
- 20+ organisations
- 40+ activities
- 200+ volunteers
- 500.000+ citizens informed
- Various social networks

Organisations around the region organised raising awareness events, lectures and workshops, creating and promoting guidelines on human rights, banner and pictures campaigns, producing videos, photo exhibitions, public debates and press conferences, pub quizzes, collecting and distributing personal hygiene items for women, marches on city centres, showing movies and documentaries, taking photos in a selfie cab, meetings with the local authorities and much more.

[List of all activities is available here>>>](#)

On our website you can find news from activities held in [Albania](#), [Bosnia Herzegovina](#), [Croatia](#), [Greece](#), [Kosovo](#), [Montenegro](#), [North Macedonia](#), [Romania](#) and Serbia ([Prevent](#) and [Re Generation](#)).

Campaign launched

For the launch of the campaign in South East Europe, DPNSEE organised a “Kick-off event” in the **EU Info Centre** in Belgrade on 19 June 2019.

Representatives of the Network presented the key findings from the baseline research on “*Documenting Drug Related Cases of Discrimination*” and the proposal for *Decriminalisation of drug use and possession* made to the Working group on changes to the Criminal Law in Serbia. Our member organisation **Prevent** presented results of the regional project “*Budget Advocacy Monitoring in South East Europe in Serbia*” while **Re Generation** presented the results of their research “*How the closing of the needle exchange programs affected the access to harm reduction services in two cities - Belgrade and Budapest*”.

Besides journalists, representatives of colleague civil society organisations, UN agencies, Office for combating drugs and political parties were present.

[Read more](#)

News

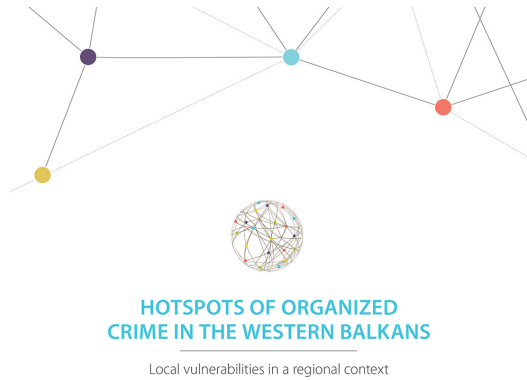


[Eurasian Harm Reduction](#)

[Association](#) - visited DPNSEE to make an oversight of the project [Budget Advocacy and Monitoring in countries of South East Europe](#) and to provide support with regard to the development of the final financial report.

[Read more](#)

A new report by [Global Initiative Against](#)



[Transnational Organized Crime](#) has identified locations in the region that are hotspots for organised crime. Rather than focusing on illicit markets, flows of commodities or particular criminal groups, this report looks at places of interest: **Hotspots of organized crime in the Western Balkans.**

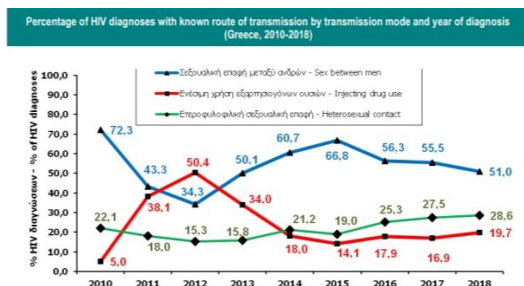
[Read more](#)



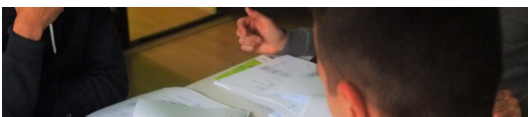
Traditionally, the European Commission adopted its **annual assessment of the implementation of reforms** in the Western Balkan partners and Turkey and published its annual country reports. DPNSEE extracted **segments related to drugs** from each of the country reports and packed them in one document.

[Read more](#)

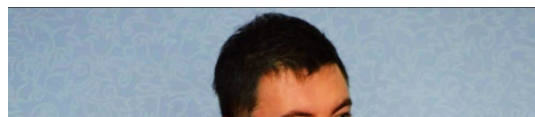
News from Member organisations



The National Public Health Organisation ([Εθνικό Οργανισμό Δημόσιας Υγείας](#)) publishes annually the **HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report** in Greece. This annual edition includes data that have been reported by 31 December 2018. Data were reported by Infectious Disease Units, Outpatients clinics for HIV infected patients, HIV/AIDS Reference and Control Centres and Hospitals. [Read more](#)



The Board of the [Agency for Healthcare Quality and Accreditation](#) in the Federation of Bosnia Herzegovina (AKAZ), at the meeting held on 29 April 2019, **accredited the drop-in centres** of the [Association Margina](#) in Tuzla and Zenica. Margina benefited from the project gaining accreditation for the three drop-in centres in 2015 and became the **first civil society organisation in South East Europe.** [Read more](#)





Youth workers from five countries: Serbia, North Macedonia, Croatia, Montenegro and Bosnia Herzegovina took part in nine days long training hosted by the [Association Rainbow](#) in Serbia (Šabac) in May 2019, for obtaining adequate knowledge about **social entrepreneurship** and entrepreneurship in general. The concept of training was developed out of the study visit in Spain and personal years-long experience of the Association Rainbow as the project leader in this field.

[Read more](#)



It is a great news to learn that the Association HOPS - [Healthy Options Project Skopje](#) has recently appointed Ivica Cekovski as the **new Executive Director**. Ivica Cekovski is a person dedicated to the advancements of human rights, health and social well-being of all people, particularly for youth and arginalized communities. Over the last 17 years, he has been building his professional carrier in several civil society organizations, international networks and intergovernmental organizations. [Read more](#)

Upcoming Events



Conference: 9th South Eastern European and Adriatic Addiction Treatment

The SEANet (South Eastern European and Adriatic Addiction Treatment Network) invites to the the **9th Adriatic Drug Addiction Treatment Conference** and the **18th SEEA Symposium on Addictive Behaviours**, to be held in Thessaloniki, Greece from 10 to 12 October 2019.

The main conference topics are on optimizing drug addiction treatment and policy treatment cooperation with drug prevention, harm reduction, treatment and rehabilitation programs in the region, specially in Greece, treatment of Hepatitis C, different praxis trough the region, treatment in prisons and...whatever you find interesting to discuss and/or present.

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