

Support. Don't Punish Country activities 2020

Support. Don't Punish is a global grassroots-centred initiative in support of 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 dialogue with policy makers, and raising awareness among the media and the public.

The Support. Don't Punish campaign aligns with the following key messages:

- The drug control system is broken and in need of reform
- People who use drugs should no longer be criminalised
- People involved in the drug trade at low levels, especially those involved for reasons of subsistence or coercion, should not face harsh or disproportionate punishments
- The death penalty should never be imposed for drug offences
- Drug policy should focus on health, well-being and harm reduction
- Drug policy budgets need rebalancing to ensure health and harm reduction-based responses are adequately financed.

Information about the global campaign is available from the website <http://supportdontpunish.org>.

The Drug Policy Network South East Europe coordinates activities of the 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.

The campaign in 2020

	International campaign	SEE regional campaign
Countries	8	9
Cities	16	Social networks
Organizations	10	14
Activities	30+ different activities	33 accounts on social networks

Regional

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic which is still hitting the region and the world, DPNSEE will not organise the traditional kick-off event in 2020.

Instead, this year DPNSEE organises a larger campaign, which will be part of our general efforts to ensure sustainability of services for people who use drugs in South East Europe - those that are under threat of being marginalised and side-lined as consequence of the coronavirus outbreak. The DPNSEE Board decided to hold a regional campaign using social media to spread messages around.

On the occasion of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking - 26 June, during this month DPNSEE and its member organizations shall post quotes on drug policy of late Kofi Annan, recent UN Secretary General and prominent member of the Global Commission of Drug Policy. A set of 20 messages is prepared with combination of quotes from Kofi Annan's speeches and appropriate photographs for use in Facebook, Tweeter and Instagram.

14 member organisations from 9 countries have joined the campaign posting messages on 33 social media accounts.

The access to campaign is available following links on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

Country events

Albania

Coordinating organisation: [Aksion Plus](#)

Place: Tirana and other cities

- Awareness, education and outreach on Drug use/HIV/STI protection among young people in Tirana, Durrës, Korca, Vlorë, Elbasan, Fier, Berat.
- Informing youth and multidisciplinary school teams about sexual, reproductive health, drug use and services offered by Aksion Plus or other centres. Different groups of educators, peers (outreach) will receive enhanced knowledge and skills to work with their peers.
- Harm reduction and referral system
- Aksion Plus staff and the expert on drug related issue will be responsible and offer the training sessions.
- A special focus will be on outreach workers and peer educators.
- Dissemination of informative materials (IEC), Sport events, Informing corners, volunteers disseminate publications and talks with IDU and outreach workers.
- Meetings with stakeholders and other partner NGOs policymakers, government officials, media journalists, local and regional authorities, especially Institute of Public Health (IPH): to promote reproductive rights and empowerment of the most vulnerable groups.
- Increasing the access of MMT beneficiaries, sex workers, PWUD, etc. towards medical, social, psychological and legal services in addressing the recommendations to responsible institutions.
- Capacity building of young people (including those who already use drugs) on health issues and human rights.
- Focus groups with beneficiaries in the MMT centres of Aksion Plus in Tirana and other districts. The aim is to identify and address some of the problems and needs of this category, the friendly help services and referral system.
- Dissemination of informative materials (IEC) about sexually transmitted diseases (STIs) and advocacy materials. These materials will aim to identify STIs symptoms, risky behaviours, ways of protecting them as well as referral system with other stakeholders and other NGOs.

- Global Awareness Campaign "Support, Don't Punish" on June 26th. This year it aims to launch a campaign that will include social science students and volunteers in public and private universities with which Action Plus has a several-year collaboration. It is also intended that representatives from the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and other representatives of state institutions will also be invited.

Activities related to COVID-19

- Publication of informing materials targeting our beneficiaries how to protect from coronavirus.
- Continuous communication through counselling and focus groups, as well as to other services that respond to specific needs.
- Meeting with other specialists of this specific field to better inform our clients about the risks of coronavirus infection.
- Counselling, on line videos and other short clips with our clients who have access to internet.
- Publications and advocacy on our website of information and other sensitizing messages concerning COVID-19 on how to reduce stigma and other risky behaviours.
- Conducting HIV/HCV tests for our clients and provision of other medical items: disinfectants, masks, gloves, etc. (also rapid tests for COVID-19 if they will be available).

Regional SEE campaign links

www.twitter.com/AksionPlus

<https://www.facebook.com/aksionplus>

<https://www.instagram.com/aksionplus>

Country: Bosnia and Herzegovina

Coordinating organisation: [Margina](#)

Place: Tuzla

For this year Association Margina will once again organise street action disseminating promotional materials, meeting people and spreading information about the campaign and work of the association.

Opening activities of the day of action would also include public debate and press conference about Cantonal institution for drug diseases – Why don't we have it?, since that plan went out last year because just before start of the campaign, health workers started striking.

The duration of the debate is from 09:00 to 12:00, followed by a press conference and a cold buffer for the participants of the debate and the press conference.

This event will be introductory to the entire day marking program and through the media partners we want information about these important documents as well as the whole event for the Global Campaign to reach as many citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina as possible.

Margina also want to re-launch the process of establishing and opening a multidisciplinary institution, which is defined by the Law on Health Care and Non-implementation of the same by the Government and Ministries of the Tuzla Canton.

Regional SEE campaign

<https://www.facebook.com/association.margina>

<https://www.instagram.com/asocijacija.margina>

Country: Croatia

Coordinating organisation: [Terra](#)

Place: Rijeka

- Interactive online lecture and quiz (for the general public or a specific population, such as students). Interactive lecture and quiz for the visitors of our Drop-in centre. The lecture and the quiz will explore the responsible behaviour of IDUs and youth in the party scene on how to balance physical distancing with social life.
- Presentation of the results of research on the consumption of psychoactive substances among young people, who attend festivals.
- Night outreach, which involves the distribution of informational materials (on the prevention of STDs and the Support. Don't Punish campaign) and condoms among the youth who go out to nightclubs in the city of Rijeka.

Regional SEE campaign

- <https://www.facebook.com/udrugaterra>
- <https://www.instagram.com/udrugaterra/>

Coordinating organisation: [HELP](#), Split

Regional campaign

- <https://www.facebook.com/udrugahelp>
- <https://www.instagram.com/udrugahelp/?hl=sr>

Country: Kosovo*

Coordinating organisation: [Labyrinth](#)

Place: Prishtina

- Distribute the material provided by DPNSEE in June 2020 following defined dynamics through social media
- Communicating directly with DPNSEE to discuss proposals and plans
- Making graffiti / mural on the theme of the campaign SdP

Regional campaign

- <https://www.facebook.com/QendraLabyrinth>

Country: Montenegro

Coordinating organisation: Montenegrin harm reduction network LINK and NGO [Juventas](#)

Place: Podgorica

- Online survey for PWUD and PWID, which will cover issues related to violations of their rights by institutions, the state or the community they live in. The questionnaire will have up to 10 questions, with answers which will provide NGOs better insight in this type of issue.
- Filming short life stories of our clients, about their ups and downs living as users in our patriarchal country, which we will collect and make a story telling video, to distribute on social networks. During this video SDP logo will be visible, as a way to, once again, draw the attention to this campaign.

- Design of brochure for NGO Juventas and LINK, and services they are providing in community, such as – needle and syringe exchange programs, counselling with social workers, outreach workers, doctor and psychologist, distribution of condoms and lubricants, referrals to institutions, treatment and substitution therapy, etc. Beside our logos, we will use SDP logo, to acknowledge that this brochure was powered by your organization. Brochure will be printed to distribute everyone who visit Juventas Drop-in centre, among PWUD and PWID, as well as general public.
- Painting a mural on exterior of Ngo Juventas Drop in centre, with campaign and partner logos.

Regional SEE campaign

- <https://www.facebook.com/support.dontpunish.montenegro>
- <https://www.facebook.com/bolestizavisnosti.me>

Country: North Macedonia

Coordinating organisation: [HOPS](#)

Place: Skopje

For this years' day Support, Don't punish! , the area we focus on is resilience of the programmes for harm reduction in times of COVID 19. HOPS intends to organise the following:

- Three video messages on the topic, why it is important to support harm reduction programs.
- Designed visual messages with key points
- Live-streaming debate on Facebook with experts
- Facebook event

Regional SEE campaign

- <https://www.facebook.com/hops.org/>
- https://twitter.com/HOPS_mk
- https://www.instagram.com/hops_mk/

Country: Romania

Coordinating organisation: [Romanian Harm Reduction Network](#)

Place: Bucharest

Realisation of short movies with PWIDs, health experts, families of PWIDs and promoting them in social media.

Regional SEE campaign

<https://www.facebook.com/Sprijin-Nu-pedepse-1702159179880962>

<https://twitter.com/RomanianHRN>

Coordinating organisation: [ARAS](#)

Regional SEE campaign

- <https://www.facebook.com/ARASRomania>

Country: Serbia

Coordinating organisation: [Re Generation](#)

Place: Belgrade

“NIGHT LIGHT” for the Support. Don't Punish

This year's focus will be continuation of our efforts in advocating for nightlife harm reduction services in Serbia, as most of our activities at the moment are focused around that topic making it more logical to focus this Day of Action and campaign around it. As of COVID19 pandemic there is more solidarity within the nightlife community. We feel that we should make an effort to continue putting harm reduction into perspective of our clubbing community. This year's campaign will be focused around three activities:

- 1) “NIGHT LIGHT” on 26th June afternoon. An open talk in the form of a talk show about the importance of harm reduction services in nightlife accompanied with drug services, where we will invite a few guests to discuss the scene, the risks and what we can do to help. That will be representatives of NGOs, LGBTQI and/or representatives of clubbing culture (DJ or club owner).
- 2) Small matinee party music event, organised in an open space with up to 50 guests.
- 3) An online campaign through social media and website promoting Support. Don't Punish values and aims.

Contingency plan of the event is to hold one through social media and twitch/TV.

As we are aware that bars and clubs are open with limited accessibility, we initially thought about event that would need minimal rearrangements. We plan to have a live talk show in a closed/empty nightclub and stream it through social media and twitch/TV online, as well as to hold a twitch party. Idea for this event came from the position that we won't be able to make a proper event and invite a lot of guests and hold a party, so twitch/social media/YouTube is our means of communication for this Support. Don't Punish. Being that in Serbia during COVID19 online party/shows are very popular we believe that we will be able to reach even more people.

Regional SEE campaign

- <https://www.facebook.com/NVOReGeneration>
- <https://twitter.com/regeneracija>
- https://www.instagram.com/ngo_regeneration

Coordinating organisation: Association [Prevent](#)

Place: Novi Sad

- The idea is to create an online campaign together with the DPNSEE network. The campaign would promote Kofi Annan's statements on drugs. The campaign would promote the SDP logo.
- Like in previous years, the placement of SPD frames on profile photos on Facebook would be promoted.
- A press release will be sent to electronic and print media in Serbia a few days before June 26.
- Several info-graphics and two videos "Support. Don't punish." will be released during June.

Regional SEE campaign

- <https://www.facebook.com/preventns>
- <https://twitter.com/PreventNS>
- www.instagram.com/udruzenje_prevent/?hl=sr

Coordinating organisation: [Timok Youth Centre](#), Zaječar

Regional SEE campaign

- https://www.instagram.com/toc_ngo/?hl=sr
- <https://www.facebook.com/TimockiOmladinskiCentar>

Coordinating organisation: [Philanthropy](#), Belgrade

Regional SEE campaign

- <https://www.facebook.com/covekoljublje>

Country: Slovenia

Coordinating organisation: [Alliance of NGOs for Drugs and Addictions](#)

Regional SEE campaign

- www.facebook.com/zvezaNVOpdz