



**ENCOD VZW**  
**European Coalition for Just and Effective Drug**  
**Policies**

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**ANNUAL REPORT 2007**

**Annex 1: Current list of members**  
**Annex 2: Financial report 2007**



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**ANNUAL REPORT 2007**

Antwerpen, 19 May 2008

Dear reader,

Herewith we present you the annual report on the year 2007 of the European Coalition for Just and Effective Drug Policies. In this report, you will find a summary of the activities that were carried out in 2007 and the way ENCOD spent its money.

Thanks to a growing commitment among European citizens who are opposed to the war on drugs, ENCOD has been able to ensure their voice has been heard at the various processes of dialogue that have been set in motion by the European Union and the United Nations. ENCOD's public profile has also increased, among others due to the spread of the 'Freedom to Farm' campaign for the right of every world citizen to grow, possess and use all natural plants.

Due to past years' tendency throughout Europe to re-establish repressive and conservative policies regarding the drug issue, we should not be too optimistic about the real impact of our efforts on the official debate.

However, we firmly believe that our work in mobilising and inspiring people around Europe to speak out and act against the prohibition of drugs remains useful. Only in this way can we expect to convince our fellow citizens that the real drug problem is prohibition, not the drugs themselves.

On behalf of the ENCOD Steering Committee,

Joep Oomen

## **1. ENCOD membership**

On 1 January 2007, ENCOD had 141 members (organisations and individuals). Throughout the year this number increased to 163.

At the moment (May 2008) we have 177 members. 57 of them are companies and/or shops, there are 37 organisations of consumers of cannabis and/or other drugs, 13 organisations involved in local drug policy reform work, 12 organisations specialised in harm reduction and 58 individual citizens. For a current list of ENCOD members, see annex 1.

The General Assembly of Members (which decides on the general work programme) took place in Antwerp on 22, 23 and 24 June 2007 and was attended by 38 members. On this GA a new Steering Committee was elected. This Committee now consists of Virginia Montañes (individual member, Spain), Marina Impallomeni (Forum Droghe, Italy, supported by Alberto Sciolari and Alessandra Viazzi, PIC, Italy), Joep Oomen (ENCOD-secretariat, Belgium), Fredrick Polak (Stichting Drugsbeleid, Netherlands), Jan Ludewig (BND, Germany), André Fürst (Chanvre-Info, Switzerland, currently represented by Sylvia Weisskopf, Zum Hinkelstein, Switzerland).

The secretariat is run by one paid person with the help of several activists from around Europe working on a voluntary basis. They support the secretariat with regular tasks (translation and editorial work) or in a practical way during the organisation of events, participation at fairs etc.

In September, the secretariat needed to carry out an extra fundraising campaign to obtain the 10.000 euros that were lacking to complete the 2007 budget. Due to this lack, the only staff worker was fired and two months later, re-employed, though only with a contract of 30 hours a week. This is the absolute minimum, so fundraising activities should still become more successful next year.

In August, we organised a "Summer University on the Freedom to Farm" in Morat, Switzerland, which was attended by 10 members. Here, plans were made to organise the Vienna 2008 campaign.

## **2. Activities**

In 2007, ENCOD developed lobby activities directed at the European Union as well as the United Nations, information activities through the Freedom to Farm and Cannabis Social Club campaigns, and general activities.

## **Lobby activities**

### EU

We followed up on the continuing “dialogue process” with civil society that the European Commission has initiated in 2006 (after years of lobbying from our side). In view of the lack of response from the Commission to the Civil Society Organisations (CSO’s) that had commented the Green Paper on this dialogue in 2006), during the months of May / June we sent a public letter to the Commission containing our proposal for a dialogue, held meetings with other CSO’s and Members of the European Parliament. The Commission finally responded with a call for proposals to attend the first session of the so-called Civil Society Forum on EU Drug Policy in December. We replied to this call and were selected among 26 organisations for this first session that was held in December. We attended this CSF but continued to question the lack of transparency, sincerity and efficiency in the way the European Commission is managing this dialogue.

### UN

At the 50<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs in Vienna in March we distributed a public statement on behalf of the International Coalition of NGOs for Just and Effective Drug Policies. We also responded to an invitation to participate in the European Regional Consultation on the “Beyond 2008” dialogue with CSO’s organised by the Vienna NGO Committee in January 2008. And from September 2007 onwards we started to prepare the events in Vienna in March 2008, prior to the CND meeting where the 10 year anti-drug strategy would be evaluated. This campaign involved a work visit to Vienna to form a group of local activists, publication of flyers in 4 languages and a fundraising campaign among cannabis and hemp companies.

## **Activism**

Also in 2007, “Freedom to Farm” remained our main campaign slogan. The spread of the campaign (flyers, posters, stickers, T-shirts, badges and money boxes) took place through the establishment of stands on the Hemp Fairs in Barcelona (Highlife BCN, Spannabis), Amsterdam (Highlife), Madrid (Expocannabis in January and November) Bern (Cannatrade), Bologna (Cannabis Tipo Forte) and Telford (UK Hemp Expo).

As a response to the growing “war on weed” that is being waged in Europe, the FtF campaign (and especially its concrete outcome, the Cannabis Social Club proposal) slowly developed into a concrete alternative to the prohibition of cannabis, elaborated by people who are directly (and not anymore indirectly) affected by drug policies. The ENCOD secretariat was strongly involved in the actions around the CSC of Trekt Uw Plant in Belgium, in the protests against the incarceration of André Fürst in Switzerland, against the death penalty for a man in Malaysia who had been caught with 1 kilo of

cannabis to Swiss authorities, as well as against the silence of Italian authorities round the death in an Italian prison cell of Aldo Bianzino, who had been caught with a few cannabis plants.

Together with ENCOD members Hempflax and VRCO, we organised an action around the visit of Bill Clinton to a Climate Change Conference Rotterdam (proposing him and his wife to start promoting hemp as a sustainable alternative), and supported the organisation of a demonstration against the ban on mushrooms that was declared in the Netherlands

During the year we had various conversations on the possibility to organise the legal import of traditional coca leaf products with a Dutch specialised lawyer and with the Bolivian embassy in Brussels, as well as with organisations of coca producers in Bolivia.

### **General activities**

An ENCOD Internet TV station was created on My Space.

In co-operation with Legalize!, we organised a Drugs Info Day in Amsterdam, Netherlands, with musicians, poets and speeches.

In March 2007, the ENCOD website was transferred to a new server, and a new design was installed. This site can now host various language versions, and offers an easy access to all those members who wish to participate in editing and translating articles. Since the new site is online, the number of daily visitors has gone up from an average of 450 to 4.000 per day (end of December 2007)

The monthly bulletin on European drug policy and the activities of ENCOD was produced in English, Spanish, Dutch, Italian and French. Most members are also subscribed to the various mailing lists: "eurodrug" (in English) or "hispadrug" (in Spanish) electronic mailing lists, where news on relevant issues is shared and discussed, as well as various working group lists which serve to discuss and prepare common ENCOD activities (in January 2008, the system of the mailing lists was partially replaced by the ENCOD forum).

ENCOD representatives accepted invitations to take part in several meetings and conferences, among others:

Meeting on Cannabis Social Clubs with activists in Liege (Belgium)  
Conference on Cannabis Cultivation in University Gent (Belgium)  
Drug policies yesterday, today and tomorrow, Conference of Amsterdam Drug Users Union, Amsterdam (Netherlands)  
Conference on Harm Reduction in Latinspeaking countries, Milan, (Italy)  
International Harm Reduction Conference, Warsaw (Poland)  
Conference of Drug Policy Alliance, New Orleans (USA)  
Civil Society Forum on EU Drug Policy, Brussels (Belgium)  
Press Conference of Elefsyna, Athens (Greece)

Remembrance Day for Passed Away Drug Users, Copenhagen (Denmark)  
Conference Legalise Cannabis Alliance, Stoke on Trent (UK)  
AGORA on Citizens Participation in the Construction of Europe, Brussels (Belgium)  
Meeting of International Drug Policy Consortium, Lisbon (Portugal)

Throughout the year, the ENCOD co-ordinator wrote articles in magazines such as Fuoriluogo (Italy), Highlife (Netherlands), Orde van de Dag (Belgium) and Cañamo (Spain), served as a consultant for students and journalists from various countries working on a thesis on the drugs phenomenon, had radio interviews with Belgian, Dutch, Spanish and European press

### **3. Financial report (see Annex 2)**

The income continues to be formed by membership fees and donations, reimbursements or payments for articles or speeches, revenue proceeding from the sale of merchandising products and the membership fees of TREKT UW PLANT, the Antwerp Cannabis Social Club (as Belgian banks are refusing to open an account for this association, the account has been hosted by ENCOD).

The expenses are formed by salary costs of the coordinator, the overhead costs of the Antwerp office, travel costs in relation to meetings and events and campaign costs (production of material etc.) Finally Trekt Uw Plant spends some money as well.

Necessarily, large part of the work of the ENCOD coordinator is formed by fundraising activities. Since 2004 these activities are focussed on the commercial sector that is related to the cultivation and consumption of cannabis. Thanks to these efforts, through visits to shops and companies in the Netherlands and contacts made at hemp fairs, various new members have joined ENCOD, and new ideas have surged to ensure the survival of the ENCOD. We hope these ideas will come into practice in 2008.

In 2007 we received the Award for the most active reform organisation from the Spanish “Cannabiscafé”, as well as from the Spanish magazine “Cañamo”.

Finally, it should be mentioned that ENCODs work in 2007 could never have been possible without the active and excellent engagement of the following people (and of course the support of all members). Sorry if we forgot someone.....

**Adriaan Jansen  
Alberto Sciolari  
Alessandra Viazzi  
Alexandra Baltyn and Polish Hemp Lobby  
Alun Buffry and LCA  
Ana Pertika  
André Fürst  
Andreas Holy  
Bas Tielens  
Ben Dronkers and Sensi Seeds  
Chris Franks  
Christian Fuller  
Claudia di Palma  
Dana Beal  
Enrico Fletzer  
Farid Ghehioueche  
Fernanda de la Figuera  
Filomena Aguiar  
Frank Deij  
Fredrick Polak  
Gaspar Fraga y Cañamo  
Henk van Dalen and Dutch Passion  
Ingrid Wunn  
Jacqueline Woerlee  
Jan Ludewig  
Jan van der Tas  
Jean Michel Rodriguez  
Jeremie Koenig  
Joep Oomen**

**Jorgen Kjaer and Brugerforeningen  
Jorge Roque  
Judith Laws  
Juha Alakullpi  
Khalid Rakhtoune  
Kleo Halbeisen  
Kris Verdonck  
Laura Albarracín  
Laurent Appel  
Maria Solikova  
Marina Impallomeni  
Marc Josemans  
Martin Veltjen  
Myranda Bruin  
Otmar Pusch  
Paco Mascaraque  
Paul Chang  
Peter Cohen  
Peter Webster  
Phil Smith  
Sergio Vidal  
Simon of Serious Seeds  
Sylvia Weisskopf  
Timothy Gluckman  
Vicente Orlegi  
Virginia Montañes  
Willemijn Los and MDHG**

## ANNEX 1

CURRENT ENCOD MEMBERSHIP – MAY 2008.

### **HARM REDUCTION ORGANISATIONS**

AKZEPT e.V. - Germany  
ALICE-PROJECT - Germany  
AMOC - Netherlands  
BLUE POINT DRUG COUNSELING AND OUTPATIENT CENTER – Hungary  
BONJO - Netherlands  
BUNDESVERBAND DER ELTERN – Germany  
FEDERACION ANDALUZA DE DROGODEPENDENCIAS Y SIDA ENLACE  
– Spain  
GASS - Spain  
GRUP IGIA – Spain  
EVE & RAVE - Switzerland

### **CONSUMER ORGANISATIONS, CANNABIS**

AICC CANNABISCAFE – Spain  
ALACANNABIS – Spain  
AMEC – Spain  
AMIGOS DE MARIA VITORIA - Spain  
ARSECA - Spain  
BÜNDNIS HANFPARADE. - Germany  
CALMA – Spain  
CAMPAIGN TO LEGALISE CANNABIS ASSOCIATION – UK  
CANNABIS COLLEGE – Netherlands  
CHARTER MARIJUANA CAMPAIGN 2007 – Slovak Republic  
CIRC – France  
DHV – Germany  
DIE GRÜNE BLUME – Switzerland  
FAC – Spain  
GANJAZZ – Spain  
GRÜNE HILFE - Germany  
HEMP LOBBY - Poland

KONOPIJELEK – Czech Republic  
LCA - United Kingdom  
MARCHE MONDIALE - France  
NORMAL – Sweden  
OSLIK – Czech Republic  
PANNAGH - Spain  
PIC, Italy  
SKY - Finland  
TREKT UW PLANT - Belgium

### **CONSUMER ORGANISATIONS, OTHER DRUGS**

ASAUPA'M – Spain  
BRUGERFORENINGEN - Denmark  
DEBED vzw - Belgium  
EVE & RAVE - Switzerland  
FAUDAS - Spain  
HOPE SOFIA - Bulgaria  
JMT - United Kingdom  
MDHG Belangenvereniging Druggebruikers - Netherlands  
REFORM - United Kingdom

### **DRUG POLICY REFORM ORGANISATIONS**

ALA – Spain  
BUNDESNETZWERK DROGENPOLITIK - Germany  
CAM-RD - France  
DMT AVOCATS – Spain  
DROLEG – Switzerland  
ELEFSYNA - Greece  
FORUM DROGHE – Italy  
HCLU - Hungary  
LEGALIZE! – Netherlands  
LIAISON ANTIPROHIBITIONNISTE - Belgium  
MUNDO ANTIPROHIBICIONISTA - Spain  
NETHERLANDS DRUG POLICY FOUNDATION - The Netherlands  
PRO JUGENDSCHUTZ - Switzerland

TRANSFORM - United Kingdom  
VFD - Germany

#### **MEDIA**

CANNACLOPEDIA – Belgium  
CANNAWEED – France  
CANNAZINE – United Kingdom  
CAÑAMO – Spain  
HANF JOURNAL – Germany  
NACHTSCHATTEN VERLAG - Switzerland  
RADIO K CENTRALE – Italy  
SPANNABIS – Spain  
SPLIFF - Poland

#### **COMPANIES/SHOPS**

ABC, Netherlands  
AZARIUS - Netherlands  
CAÑAMAZO, Spain  
CASA JUANITA - Spain  
COFFEESHOP COLOSSEUM - Netherlands  
CHECKPOINT – Netherlands  
DE DAMPKRING – Netherlands  
DE SJAMAAN – Netherlands  
DE VERDAMPER – Netherlands  
DE VLIEGENDE HOLLANDER, Netherlands  
DIOSA PLANTA – Spain  
DOBLE ZERO – Spain  
DUTCH PASSION - Netherlands  
GANJACOLOMA – Spain  
GREEN HOUSE SEED COMPANY - Netherlands

GROW IN BERLIN – Germany  
HEMPFLAX BV - Netherlands  
HIPERSEMILLAS – Spain  
CHANVRE - INFO - Switzerland  
LA HUERTA DE JUAN VALDES - Spain  
LA MARIA DE VALLS - Spain  
LA MARIETA GROWSHOP – Spain  
LLUM VERDA – Spain  
GROW SHOP MAS TRICOMAS - Spain  
MATRIX GROWSHOP - Spain  
THE NEW BALANCE - Netherlands  
OTHALA BV – Netherlands  
PARADISE SEEDS – Netherlands  
PLANTACTIVA, Spain  
POLLINATOR - Netherlands  
QUINTESSENTIAL TIPS Ltd - United Kingdom  
ROOR - Germany  
SENSI SEEDS BV - Netherlands  
SERIOUS SEEDS BV - Netherlands  
SMK – Slovenia  
SPLIF - The Netherlands  
THE GROWSHOP - Netherlands  
THE ROOKIES - The Netherlands  
VOCM (Vereniging Officiële Coffeeshops Maastricht)- Netherlands  
VRCO - Netherlands  
ZERO ZERO GROWSHOP - Spain  
ZUM HINKELSTEIN- Switzerland

**And 58 individual members**

**FINANCIAL REPORT ENCOD vzw 2007**

**INCOME**

Saldo 2006	10'876.98
Membership Fees	50'534.27
Sponsoring Vienna Campaign	7'531.55
Others	5'884.93
TREKT UW PLANT	1'265.00
Merchandising	487.00

**TOTAL INCOME** 76'579.73

**Saldo to 2008** 17'964.42

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**EXPENSES**

Salary costs	27'017.96
Overhead	15'386.34
Campaign costs	8'270.82
Travel costs	5'470.75
TREKT UW PLANT	2'343.19
Other	126.25

**TOTAL EXPENSES** 58'615.31