

# DRUG CONSUMPTION ROOMS IN EUROPE

## ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW



De Regenboog



Groep

EURO **HRN**  
European Harm Reduction Network

- Building upon Hedrich *et al* (2010), Schatz et Nougier (2010) & our client experience survey
- Havinga & Van der Poel (2011) In the Netherlands:

GOALS

ORGANISATION, STRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TARGET GROUP AND ADMISSION

FACILITIES

HOUSE RULES

STAFF

STATEMENTS

# What did we do?

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DCRs: professionally supervised healthcare facilities where drug users can use drugs in safer and more hygienic conditions

Denmark	5	3	4
Germany	24	15	16
Greece	1	1	0
Luxembourg	1	1	1
Netherlands	30	23	n.a.
Norway	1	1	1
Spain	13	6	5
Switzerland	13	8	12
Total	88	58	39

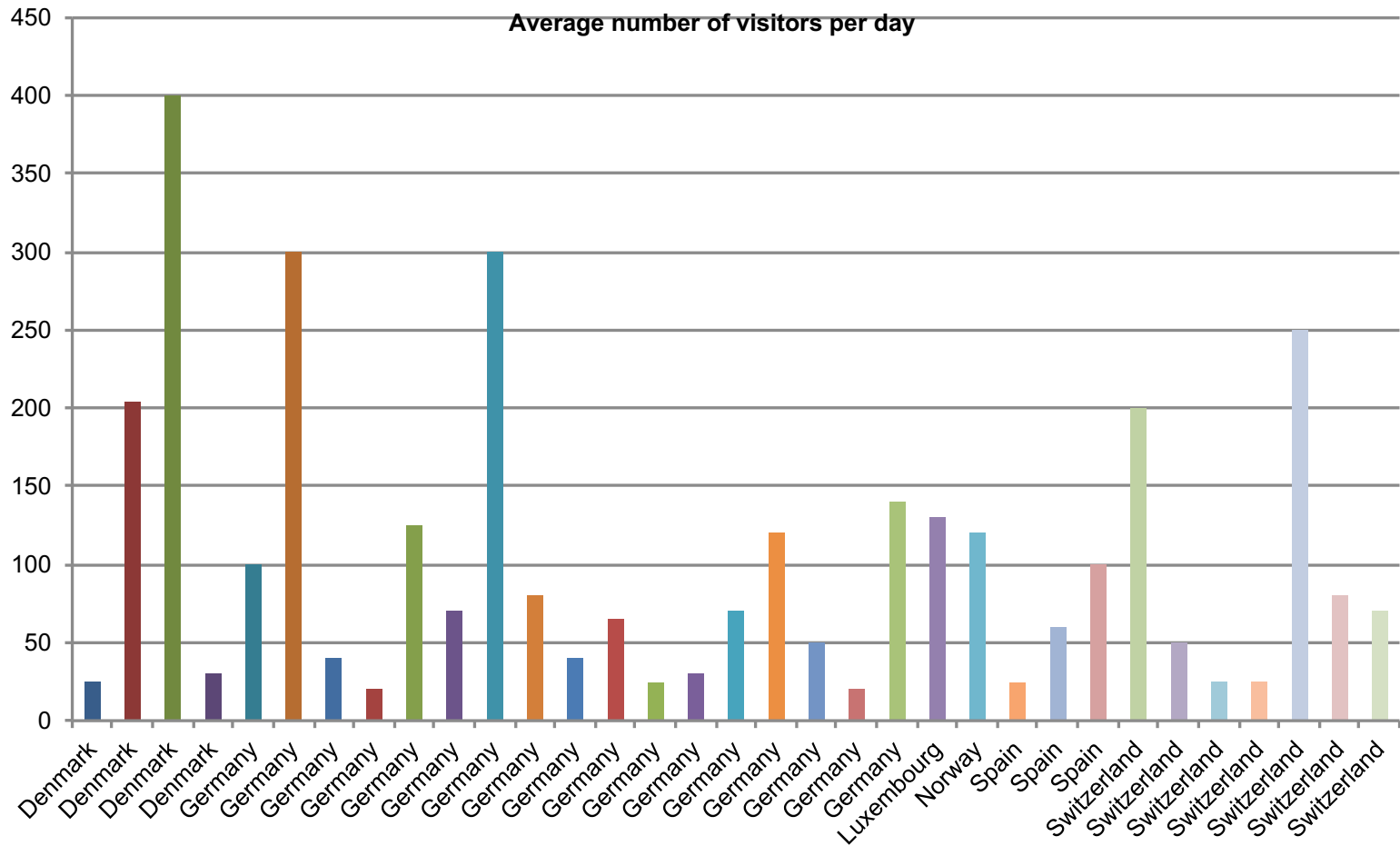
# Who did we reach?

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Sweeper	22	64.7%
Safety net	32	94.1%
Spring board	31	91.2%
All of the above	20	58.8%

# Social functions

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# DCR differences

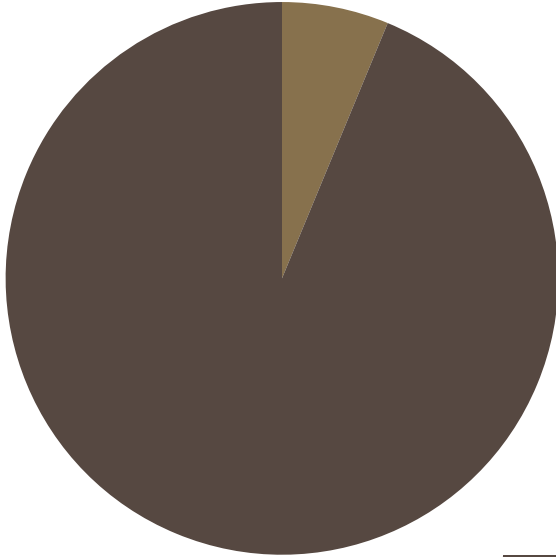
- Around 2/3 is open on Saturday and/or Sunday, and 1/3 is closed in the weekend
- 87.1% has a maximum duration policy in the smoking room and 69.7% in the injecting room.
- 75.8% prohibits alcohol and 39.4% prohibits tobacco

## DCR differences

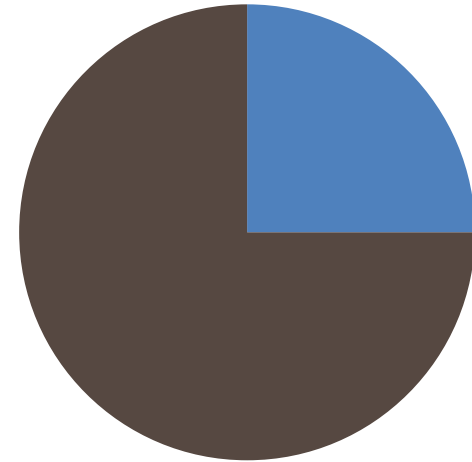
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Bread, coffee/tea	87.5%	97%
Warm meals	62.5%	83%
Needle exchange	100%	93%
Provision of drug paraphernalia	96.9%	100%
Personal care (e.g. shower and wash clothes)	78.1%	90%
Lockers	31.3%	57%
Postal address	46.9%	40%
Possibility to use phone	90.6%	87%
Support with financial and administrative affairs	81.3%	77%
Health education	100%	90%
Office hour physician	59.4%	63%
Office hour nurse	84.4%	57%
Referral to care/treatment facilities	87.5%	93%
Work/reintegration projects	28.1%	73%
Referral to work/reintegration projects elsewhere	65.6%	77%
Recreational activities	40.6%	67%

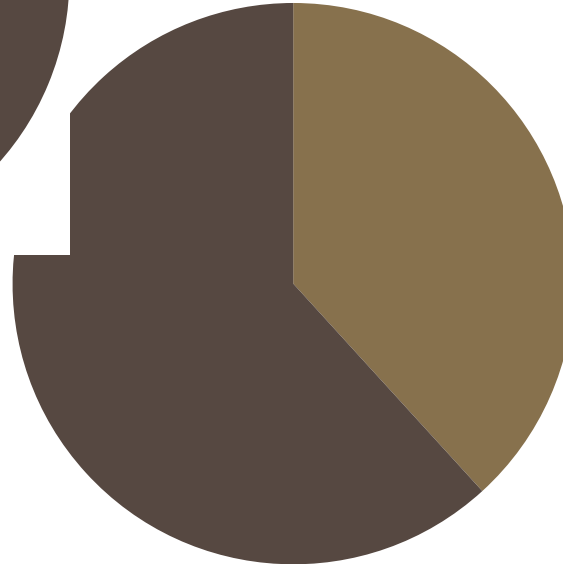
4. Are visitors included in the formulation of house rules?



3. Do you also employ (former) drug users?



1. Have the DCR's goals been formulated in dialogue with visitors of your facility?



# Peer involvement

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- If I were responsible for the establishment of a new DCR, I would consider the following points of importance:
  - 1.Guarantee a comprehensive set of competences, skills and life experiences, while compiling a staff team.
  - 2.Establish clear agreement with the police to protect the visitors, to normalise the contact between visitors and police and to gain local support.
  - 3.To compile the assortment of drug paraphernalia based on a harm reduction perspective.

# Statements

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- Very diverse populations, numbers, criteria, between and within countries
- Building upon different policy bases
- Still some commonalities to consider for future and existing DCRs

# Any conclusions?

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# International Network of Drug Consumption Rooms

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**DCRs are protected places for the hygienic consumption of drugs in a non-judgemental environment.**



**"Research to prove that injecting inside drug consumption rooms is safer than injecting elsewhere, is like needing to prove that jumping from a plane with a parachute is safer than jumping without one."**

*Joan Colom I Faran in Viral Hepatitis in Europe, 2014*

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## INDCR aims

The International Network of Drug Consumption Rooms is a platform where the latest information and scientific evidence can be shared, experiences can be discussed, advocacy initiatives can be supported, and the policies and field practices can be shared among professionals and organisations working in or around Drug Consumption Rooms.

## What is a DCR

The majority of DCRs aim to reduce health problems caused by problematic drug use, improve access to social, therapeutic and health services for people who use drugs (PWUD).

[Read more](#)



### Sharing

Sharing of best practices in the field of managing and maintaining a DCR from professional and user perspective. Assist in and contribute to evidence-based research, which is supporting the cause of DCRs.

[Read more](#)



### Providing

Providing an overview on and access to existing literature in the field of harm reduction and DCR and therefore motivate the development of these resources.

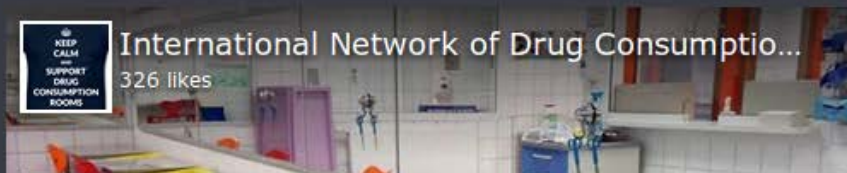
[Read more](#)



### Connecting

Exchange knowledge and information. Being able to organize visits and on-site trainings (running a DCR, health prevention in a DCR, cost effectiveness). Providing a 'how-to' information around the implementation process of a new DCR by getting in touch with our experts.

[Read more](#)



## Monthly Highlight DCR:

**Abrigado Luxembourg**

Political Situation (Source: European Monitoring Centre