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# Framework for Alcohol Policy in the WHO European Region

Alcohol Prevention Day  
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## WHO alcohol policy documents

- ✓ First European Alcohol Action Plan, 1992
- ✓ European Charter on Alcohol, 1995
- ✓ Second European Alcohol Action Plan, 1999
- ✓ Stockholm Declaration on Young People and Alcohol, 2001
- ✓ WHO World Health Assembly resolution on health problems caused by harmful use of alcohol, 2005
- ✓ RC endorsement of the Framework for alcohol policy in the European Region, 2005



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## Why the new Framework

- ✓ Alcohol remains a major public health problem in the Region
- ✓ The region-wide strategy was last reviewed and updated in 1999
- ✓ Need to reflect recent knowledge, developments and challenges
- ✓ Need to integrate existing international commitments



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## The new Framework - main pillars

- ✓ Creates overarching frame, continuity and common platform for existing WHO documents and tools
- ✓ Proposes strong procedural structures to support the implementation (a national focus day)
- ✓ Lists the evidence-based policies
- ✓ Discusses the challenges



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## Challenges

- ✓ Public health and trade
- ✓ How to address possible health benefits in alcohol policy formulation
- ✓ Individual drinking guidelines and recommendations
- ✓ The role of the alcohol industry in alcohol policy research, formulation and implementation
- ✓ Cultural sensitivity and regional integration, the next step
- ✓ Relation to tobacco



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## The follow-up process

- ✓ Triennial Framework progress report; every third year together with counterparts and Collaborating centres; alert the MS and show the way forward
- ✓ Triennial high-level forum on alcohol policy; to discuss the report and to deliberate on challenging topics