

## Alcohol advocacy in Europe

Alcohol Prevention Day Rome, Italy

29 April 2010





### **Alcohol in Europe**

Europe = centre of the global alcohol industry (largest market + major producer)

1/4 of world's alcohol and over 1/2 wine production

The EU is the heaviest drinking region in the world - Average 11 Litres / person/ year

(11 litres = 1,400 small beers per person per year)



## The burden of alcohol at EU level

1. Intentional injuries – 2000 homicides (4 in 10) and 10000 suicides (1 in 6)

2. Unintentional injuries – 17.000 deaths drink driving (1 in 3), 27 000 accidental deaths

3. Crime – €33bn

4. Workplace - €5 -19bn

5. Healthcare - €17bn

3.



## Harm done by alcohol to children

1.5 - 9 million children (9%) live in families adversely affected by alcohol.

2.16% of cases in child abuse involves alcohol

3.23% of all deaths in children aged 0-15 from motor vehicles are due to alcohol

4.19% of all child homicides are due to alcohol

5. Many unborn babies in the EU have mothers drinking alcohol during pregnancy



## Harm to young people

1.13 000 young men and 2000 women die in the EU each year due to alcohol

2.350 000 15-16 year old report fights

3.220 000 students report contact with police

4.700 000 15-16 year old suffers due to parents drinking

5.5% of 15-16 year old report regretted sex

## Eurocare

The European Alcohol Policy Alliance was formed in1990 with 9 member organisation

Today:

- 45 member org
- 21 countries
- Secretariat in Brussels





## Eurocare's Vision

is a Europe where alcohol related harm is no longer one of the leading risk factors for ill-health and pre-mature death.

A Europe where innocents no longer suffer from the drinking of others and where the European Union and its Member States recognise the harm done by alcohol and apply effective and comprehensive policies to tackle it.

Eurocare is recognised as the leading independent and objective commentator to alcohol related dialogue and policy development.



## To achieve Eurocare's Mission

- 1. Influence European policy makers
- 2. Advocating effective evidence based alcohol policy
- 3. Monitor policy initiatives
- 4. Monitor the marketing strategies of the alcohol industry
- 5. Create and nurture ties between org at EU level
- 6. Disseminate information
- 7. Publish reports and position papers



## Affordability and availability

• The EU and Member States should introduce minimum alcohol tax rates that needs be proportional to the alcoholic content of all beverages. (these should cover social costs due to alcohol and be increased in line with inflation).

 Member States should retain the flexibility to use taxes to deal with specific problems

• Member States should have the flexibility to limit individual cross-border purchases so as not to diminish the impact of their current tax policies.



## **Drink Driving**

- •1 of 3 road fatalities in EU due to alcohol
- •0,2gr/I BAC
- Intensive random breath testing
- •Harmonised penalty system
- Information in driving schools
- Availability and affordability





## **Commercial Communication**

- AMS Dir (2007/65/EC) Commercial communications: Art 15 - TV advertising & teleshopping for AB:
- may not be aimed **specifically at minors** or, depict minors consuming;
- not create impression consumption contributes towards social or sexual success;
- shall not place emphasis on high alcoholic content as being a positive quality of the beverages.



### <sup>3</sup>⁄<sub>4</sub> of EU citizens agree that alcohol advertising targeting young people should be banned in all Member States

Source: Eurobarometer 2007

## Budweisen

THE 2006 FIFA You do the football, we'll do the beer

Budweiser is het officiële bier van de 2006 FIFA World Cup In de aanloop naar wat ongetwijfeld een fantastisch kampio worden, heeft Budweiser verschillende WK-acties ontwikkel

Budweiser



Bud

Lavari

Limited Edition WK fles Do bekende Budweiser Ventone operations is ter gelegenheid van het grootste spor jaar in een opvaliend WK-tenue gesteken. Als enige bier ter wereld komt Bu speciaal gesleevede fles, welke is voorzien van alle bekende WK-kennereken, en het officiale FlrA-lag. Deze limited edition bottle wordt slechts in een beg

Bavaria

Bavaria

een Budy

One size fits all

à 33d ALC. 5% VC



hup

DRAUGHTKEG S

ERVEZA DE BARRIL

Heineken serving the plane

Heineken



Finish blijft op Cauberg

AMSTE

Holland Heinek

# 'Alcohol Websites' are attractive and interactive



Alcohol use and alcohol brand appearances in 534 contemporary Hollywood movies



### Association between exposure to movie alcohol use and adolescent drinking outcome





## EC proposal on Food Labelling including alcoholic beverages

Alcoholic beverages like beer, wine and spirit are excluded from ingredients listing and nutrition labelling

Mixed alcoholic beverages will have such labels (like orange juice)

However – a report is to be prepared 5 years after adoption



## Way forward on labelling

•Eurocare position is: All alcoholic beverages should be required to state: Ingredients', Substances with allergenic effect, Relevant nutrition information like Energy value (kcal), Alcoholic strength (total grams), Health and safety warnings

Partnership with EPHA, EHN, BEUC and other NGOs



## Health warnings on alcohol beverages should:

- Have a standard format and design irrelevant of the mark
- Placed in a standard location on the container
- Be parallel of the base of the container, in a box
- Appear on a contrasting background (black on white)
- Sizing be determined by the minimum percentage of the size

## French pictogram – since October 2007



- All alcoholic packages require either: pictogram or
  - "Consumption of alcoholic beverages during pregnancy even in small amounts can seriously damage the child's health"

## Health and Safety warning messages -Worldwide

- Argentina
- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Ecuador
- Guatamala
- Honduras

- India (State of Assam)
- Mexico
- South Africa
- South Korea
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- United States
- Venezuela
- Zimbabwe

## Examples developed in Australia



#### Alcohol is a drug. You can become Standard dependent on it.

Drink no more than 2 standard drinks on any day to reduce your lifetime risk of harm from alcohol-related disease or injury.



Standard Drinks 20 700mL 37%

ALC/MOL

## **HEALTH WARNING**



Women who drink less than 2 standard drinks a day reduce their life time risk of developing breast cancer.



ALC/VOL

FOOD ACIDS, FL	AVOUR, PRESERV	ATIVE, COLOUR
AVE. QUANTITY	and the second	ER 1 OmL
Energy 🦰	571 kg 72.0a	301 kj / 72Cal
Protein 🚽 📍	3g	3g
Fat	1g	1g
Carbohydrates	2g	20

## ALCOHOL MAY HARM YOUR UNBORN CHILD





## 1 IN 4 OF ALL ROAD DEATHS INVOLVE ALCOHOL









### ALCOHOL CAN CAUSE DEPENDENCE



#### ALCOHOL CONTRIBUTES TO MORE THAN 60 DISEASES



DON'T DRINK WHEN TAKING MEDICINE



ALCOHOL INCREASES THE RISK OF VIOLENCE



### ALCOHOL REDUCES FERTILITY





DON'T DRINK WHEN DEPRESSED

29/04/2010



Way Forward

•Continue to work on affordability, availability, labelling, commercial communication, drink driving, taxes, safer drinking environments, harm to others, education and awareness raising.

•Mai – contact your national MEP re food labelling

•21-22 JUNE 2010 4<sup>th</sup> European Alcohol Policy conference, Brussels

# european Alcohol Policy Alliance





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EUROCARE is a network of public health organizations. It advocates the prevention and reduction of alcohol-related harm in Europe through effective and evidence based alcohol policy. www.eurocare.org