

71st session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe

SIDE EVENT

ALCOHOL CONTROL POLICIES:

Tackling the gap between evidence and policy action



The WHO European Region has the highest levels of alcohol consumption in the world. Around one million people in the Region die from harm due to alcohol every year.

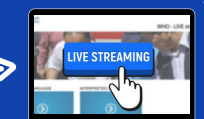
Political leaders from Czech Republic, Scotland, Ireland and the Russian Federation will discuss their experiences in taking forward evidence-based alcohol policies, including the barriers they had to overcome. Civil society representatives will also tell us what they think needs to be prioritised by Member States working together to achieve a SAFER WHO European Region, free from harm due to alcohol. There will be opportunities for discussion and debate, with our focus on having a revitalized commitment to action to reduce harm due to alcohol across the WHO European Region.



The most effective and cost-effective SAFER interventions include:

STRENGTHEN	ADVANCE	FACILITATE	ENFORCE	RAISE
restrictions on alcohol availability	and enforce drink-driving countermeasures	access to screening, brief interventions and treatment	bans or comprehensive restrictions on alcohol advertising, sponsorship and promotion	prices on alcohol through excise taxes and other pricing policies

Click to watch live.



Thursday, 16 September 2021
Online session
16:00 - 17:30 (CEST)



World Health Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR

Europe

This event is co-hosted with the Czech Republic.

Provisional programme

Co-chairs

**Carina Ferreira-Borges, Acting Director for Noncommunicable Diseases
Division of Country Health Programmes, WHO Regional Office for Europe**

Adam Vojtěch, Minister of Health of the Czech Republic

16:00 - 16:05

Welcome and introduction of the session

Carina Ferreira-Borges, Acting Director for Noncommunicable Diseases, Division of Country Health Programmes, WHO Regional Office for Europe and Adam Vojtěch, Minister of Health of the Czech Republic

16:05 - 16:10

Opening remarks by Regional Director

Hans Henri P. Kluge, WHO Regional Director for Europe

16:10 - 16:18

Working towards a SAFER WHO European Region free from harm due to alcohol. What are the solutions that work and what new challenges and opportunities have arisen with COVID 19?

Dr Jürgen Rehm, Professor, Institute for Mental Health Policy Research & Campbell Family Mental Health Research Institute, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), Canada

16:18 - 16:50

Facilitated panel discussion. The vision of a SAFER European Region: what is it that we need to do to achieve it?

Ilona Kickbusch, Director, Global Health Centre, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva with Nicola Sturgeon MSP, First Minister of Scotland, Stephen Donnelly TD, Minister of Health, Ireland, Mikhail Murashko, Minister of Health, Russian Federation

16:50 - 16:55

SAFER WHO European Region film is shown

16:55 - 17:08

Civil Society priorities for a SAFER WHO European Region

Ilona Kickbusch, Director, Global Health Centre, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva with Florence Bertelletti, Secretary General, Eurocare (European Alcohol Policy Alliance) & Kristina Sperkova, International President, Movendi International

17:08 - 17:25

Question and answer session with all participants

Ilona Kickbusch, Director, Global Health Centre, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva

17:25 - 17:30

Closing statements

Adam Vojtěch, Minister of Health of the Czech Republic & Hans Henri P. Kluge, WHO Regional Director for Europe