

# NordAN conference 2021

Troubles caused by bad data and bad science

*Why do we need good data  
and  
what are the problems with the data we have?*

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# Why do we need good data?

- Data gives an overview over the problem or if there is a problem
- Data provides knowledge on what actions are needed
- Underpin policy changes
- Data provides knowledge if actions work
- Evaluation is not possible without good data

# What do we have in WHO Europe database:

- ❖ Recorded alcohol consumption per capita – 2019 last year
- ❖ Unrecorded alcohol consumption
- ❖ Total per capita + 15
- ❖ Tourist consumption
- ❖ Drinkers only
- ❖ Average daily intake
- ❖ Patterns of consumption
- ❖ Alcohol control policies – 2016
- ❖ SDG's 2016-2018
- ❖ Alcohol Policy timeline 2006 - 2017

# Alcohol consumption in Europe – EU/EEA MS, CH,UK 1991 – 1999 – 2001 - 2016 - 2019

## ➤ EU Average

1991 – 11,46 to 2016 10,27

21 countries have lowered consumption

4 countries have slightly increased – but a low consumption

6 countries have increased consumption

# Comparing WHO reports

- 2010 Global Status report
- 2010 GISAH Database - 8 of 33 countries give about same number
- 2016 Global Status Report
- 2016 GIASH Database – 13 of 33 countries give about same number
- WHO projected estimates 2016 – 2018 SDGs in 16 countries higher consumption data than numbers in 2010 and 2016

What are the problems with the data we have – with an EU perspective?

- Lack of data
- Who should be responsible for gathering – MS/EU/WHO?
- Should EMCDDA gather data regarding alcohol?
- Regular yearly updates

# How can we get better data?

- Do we have the right indicators?
  
- Harm & consequences - Would these data be better for policy discussions?
  - Morbidity
  - Mortality
- ✓ How can we get Member State or even health professionals to gather these data?  
Ethical discussions (accident/emergency units - BAC)
  
- Civil society and researchers together should be calling on Member States and request better data
- No policy change without evaluation and data gathering
- European Health Data Space might be a way forward for discussions at EU level