

FEANTSA FORUM

2023: United in times of crisis

SVERIGES
STADSMISSIONER



Overdose Prevention and Reducing Drug Related Harm in Finland

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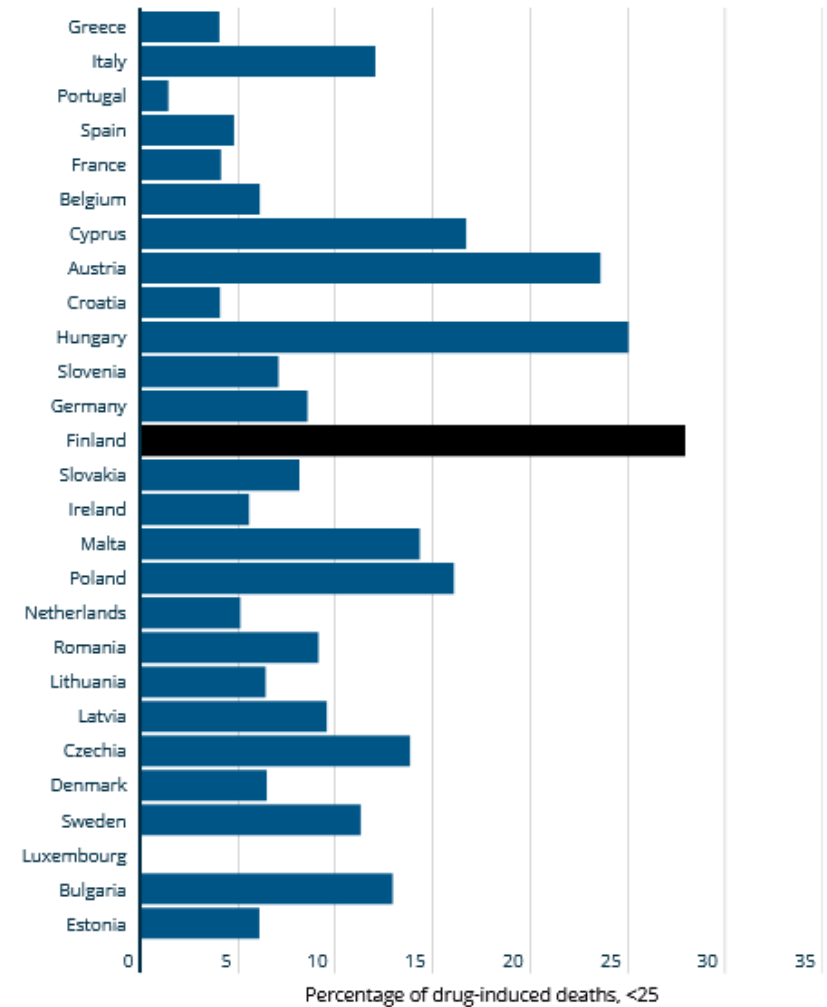
Contents

- The Finnish situation
 - Drug use
 - Homelessness
- Overdose prevention
- Introduction to our practices



Why are so many young Finns dying of drugs?

Percentage of drug-induced deaths, under 25s



Source: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction.
Figures reported in 2020 or most recent preceding year.

Drug culture in Finland

- Combination use
- Injecting
- Buprenorphine instead of heroin
- The role of alcohol



Homelessness & drug use

- Linked to mental health issues and drug use
- Revolving doors
- Young people at risk of homelessness
 - Nuoli – meeting and service point for homeless youth

Overdose prevention

- Policy level
 - DCR's
 - Drug checking services
 - Naloxone
- Services level
 - Opioid substitution treatment
 - Access to other services
 - New technology?
- Grassroots level
 - Right information at the right time

Our work

- Harm reduction
- Outreach work
- Information and motivation
- Importance of experts by experience and peers



- **WHAT** are you using? If you don't know what it is, proceed with caution. Do not mix benzos, buprenorphine and alcohol. Do not mix alcohol with anything!
- **HOW** are you using? Injecting is the riskiest way of using. There are safer ways.
- **HOW MUCH** are you using? If you are not 100% sure about the substance, try a little bit at first. You can always take more.
- **WHERE** are you using? Is it a safe place with safe people around?
- **IN CASE OF EMERGENCY: CALM DOWN - RECOVERY POSITION - CALL FOR HELP**

Safety skills for drug use

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