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## International projects

### **ASTRACAN: For A strategic Analysis of Regulatory Cannabis Policies**

Driven and coordinated by the OFDT thanks to funding from the 2019 Fund for Combatting Addiction to psychoactive substances for 3 years (2019-2021), the ASTRACAN project aims to compare the regulatory policies of non-medical cannabis use implemented in the United States (where 15 states have opened a legal cannabis market despite the federal ban) and Canada.

This research focuses on analysing public policies and the practical difficulties of implementing regulations.

 [Access to the ASTRACAN project page](#)

### **ALICE-RAP: Addictions and lifestyles in contemporary European societies - the Reframing Addictions Project (ALICE-RAP)**

Launched in 2011 for five years, ALICE-RAP is a research project supported by the European Commission within the scope of the 7th Framework Programme. The project involves the efforts of 107 researchers specialising in drugs in 71 research institutes from 25 different countries. The OFDT mainly contributes to the area of governance practices on gambling and tobacco addiction issues. Within this scope, the OFDT is responsible for conducting a survey on France's responses.

 [Access to the page presenting the ALICE-RAP project : http://www.alicerap.eu](http://www.alicerap.eu)

### **CANNALEX**

Launched in January 2015, the Cannalex Project was developed by the Research and Studies Department of the [French National Institute for Advanced Studies in Security and Justice \(INHESJ\)](#) in partnership with the French Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (OFDT). In light of the recent changes in cannabis policy and legislations around the world, Cannalex proposes a comparative analysis of national models of cannabis regulation in the perspective of measuring their impacts on national and international drug markets, and their effects on consumption, criminality and law enforcement, health, justice and drug-related public policies.

In-depth case studies have been conducted to analyze three main policy models: the prohibition of

cannabis use and possession, the decriminalization of possession of small quantities of product, and the legalization of production, use and distribution. Based on experiences of recent reforms in different countries, the Project aims at producing useful knowledge to inform public thinking on possible future strategies and policies on cannabis in France. CANNALEX is funded by the Council for strategic research and training (CSFRS) and is a 24-month research project conducted since 2015 in 5 countries: Colorado and Washington State in the USA, Uruguay.

☒ ☒ ☒ Read the executive summary in [English](#), [Spanish](#) or [French](#) (6 p.)

## **EDPQS: Promoting Excellence in Drug Prevention in the EU (phase 2)**

The OFDT is working in partnership with Liverpool John Moores University (UK), which is coordinating this project whose objective is to develop a series of tools for professionals and decision-makers to promote the appropriation and implementation of quality standards in drug use prevention endorsed by the EMCDDA. EDPQS makes up the practical, transnational phase of an initial project leading to the EMCDDA's publication of a manual on drug prevention quality standards: European drug prevention quality standards. Six countries are taking part in this new project phase.

☒ ☒ ☒ Access to the EDPQS project presentation page : <http://prevention-standards.eu>

## **ERANID: European Research Area Network on Illicit Drugs**

This Eranet illegal drugs project is championed by a consortium of six European countries (Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom) coordinated by the Dutch (ZonMw, the Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development). The key objectives of this project include the development of shared priorities for research on illegal drugs and the funding for collaborative research projects in this area. For France, the partnership includes the OFDT, the French National Institute of Public Health (ISP, Inserm) and the CNRS. All three organisations are heavily involved at different phases of the first step of this project: an analytical review of recent research projects and strategies.

Within the framework of the ERANID project, the OFDT conducted a Europe-wide survey to produce an inventory of policies and mechanisms for funding research on illicit drugs as well as ongoing projects over the period 2010-2013 in the six member countries of the consortium and at the level of the European Commission.

Download :

- [executive summary "Comparative analysis of research into illicit drugs across Europe"](#) ;
- [full report](#) ;
- [list of research projects](#).

☒ ☒ ☒ Access to the ERANID project site : <http://www.eranid.eu>

## **I-TREND**

Nearly one hundred new psychoactive substances (NPS), i.e., drugs imitating the effects of the

best-known illegal substances (cannabis, ecstasy or cocaine) and often sold on the Internet, have been identified in France since 2008. Thirty-six (36) of these were identified in 2013 alone. In Europe, 281 NPS have been reported in total in the last five years. Eighty-one (81) of them were identified in 2013.

The French Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (OFDT), which is heavily invested in these issues, documents this phenomenon by cataloguing and analysing the NPS in circulation via the SINTES scheme (the French National Detection System of Drugs and Toxic Substances). It is thanks to the OFDT and its Emerging Trends and New Drugs (TREND) unit that the I-TREND project started in April 2013. Implemented with the support of the European Union, I-TREND unites researchers from France and four other European countries around the NPS theme. These other countries include: the Netherlands, Poland, the Czech Republic and the United Kingdom. The main objective of I-TREND is to provide all stakeholders (social and health workers, users and the public authorities) with a better understanding of what substances are circulating and how they are being used.

   Access to the I-TREND project site : <http://www.i-trend.eu>

## **RARHA (Joint Action on Reducing Alcohol Related Harm)**

The OFDT is involved in the European project known as the Joint Action on Reducing Alcohol Related Harm (RARHA). The OFDT is taking part in a European survey on alcohol use and related harm. This survey will be conducted in 2015 using the same methodology (a random sample of 1,500 to 2,500 people) over the same period in a large number of European Union member states (19 countries). The OFDT is responsible for conducting the French section of this study. The purpose of this project is to implement harmonised methods for observing alcohol use behaviours in the European Union so that the situation in various Member States can be compared and contrasted, and so that appropriate national and European strategies to prevent alcohol-related problems can be adopted.

   Access to the RARHA project site : <http://www.rarha.eu>