

Lost in Regulations Safer Use in the Belgian, French, German and Luxembourgish Nightlife

Katia Duscherer¹, Carlos Paulos¹
Angelika Kraus² & Ingrid Glusmann³

¹CePT - Centre de Prévention des Toxicomanies, Luxembourg
²Stadtverwaltung Saarbrücken, Germany
³CAL-Luxembourg, Centre d'action laïque, Belgium







Where we are

- 4 countries
- 5 regions
- 3 official languages
- In the Greater Region important migration fluxes for work, school, shopping, and last but not least, the cultural and the party scene





Where we work



- 6 partners from different regional, political, structural and professional backgrounds
- Common project related to addiction prevention and health promotion financed by the Interreg IVa program





What are we challenging

- The party scene is international and very mobile
- Partygoers are often in new locations, confronted with an unfamiliar language, culture, customs, laws and regulations.
- Implementation of a concerted harm reduction approach for the partygoers in the Greater Region


www.mag-net.eu





7

Methods, Tools and Products

- Interregional label: Party MAG-Net
- Trained peers
- Ear plugs, condoms with lubricant, fruits, lollipops, disinfectant
- Information wherever needed in German, French and English about
 - legal and illegal drugs
 - public transport
 - medical and social services
 - and the local laws and regulations

MAG-Net PARTY-FESTIF CLUB HESBIEUX 2011 PRAÛQUE

8

Laws and regulations on alcohol

- Is there a legal age to drink alcohol in public?
- What is the legal age to buy alcohol?
- Can I drink alcohol when I just got my driving licence?

MAG-Net PARTY-FESTIF CLUB HESBIEUX 2011 PRAÛQUE

9

Is there a legal age to drink alcohol in public?

- None in Luxembourg
 - 16 to buy alcohol
- 16 years in Germany
 - 16 to buy beer, wine and cider, 18 to buy spirits
- 18 years in France
 - 18 to buy alcohol
- None in Belgium
 - 16 to buy beer, wine and cider, 18 to buy spirits

MAG-Net PARTY-FESTIF CLUB HESBIEUX 2011 PRAÛQUE

10

Laws and regulations on cannabis

- Is it legal to consume cannabis?
- Can you possess cannabis for your proper use?
- Does the traffic police test for cannabis?
- If I cross borders, the law of which country applies?

MAG-Net PARTY-FESTIF CLUB HESBIEUX 2011 PRAÛQUE

11

Can you possess cannabis for your proper use?

- No. In Luxembourg.
- No. In France.
- No. In Germany. But sometimes you get lucky in Saarland if you get caught the first time.
- In Belgium, it is allowed to possess 3 grams or a plant cultivated at home. But
 - consumption must not cause any public nuisance or be problematic
 - there will always be a simplified police statement, sent to the public prosecutor's department. Usually there is no confiscation of the product with 3 grams or less

MAG-Net PARTY-FESTIF CLUB HESBIEUX 2011 PRAÛQUE

12

The infographic displays the legal status of cannabis in the Grand Region. It features a central map of the region divided into four colored sections representing different countries: Luxembourg (B), Germany (D), France (F), and Belgium (L). Each section contains a list of key regulations regarding possession, consumption, and police procedures. For example, Luxembourg (B) states that possession is illegal, while Belgium (L) allows for 3 grams or a home-grown plant. A smaller version of the infographic is shown in the bottom right corner.

MAG-Net PARTY-FESTIF CLUB HESBIEUX 2011 PRAÛQUE

13

CLUB HEALTH 2011
PRAQUE

MAG-Net
PARTY-FESTIF

14

MAG-Net
PARTY-FESTIF

15

Recommandations

- Important to inform the partygoers
 - about the local regulations
 - the regulations of the bordering regions
- Harmonisation of the existing laws and regulations
 - need for a common legal framework
 - not an ever growing list of prohibited substances
 - take into account the expertise of field workers, health professionals and scientists

CLUB HEALTH 2011
PRAQUE

MAG-Net
PARTY-FESTIF