Governance of addictions in Europe can be classified into four typologies based on the strategy of their policies and the organizational structure of their governments

policy strategy
organizational structure
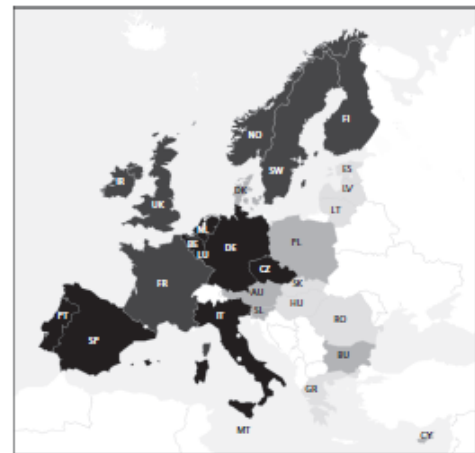**typologies**
governance of addictions

Europe has 4 different typologies of governance of addictions. This result is based on an analysis that takes into account:

➡ (1) The strategies determining addiction policies
➡ (2) The organizational structures designed to implement the policies

Model 1 gathers eight countries whose strategy is focused on illegal substances, i.e. cannabis and heroin. They mostly have a well-being and relational management strategy combined with a comprehensive structure that involves different stakeholders. They have decriminalized the possession of illegal substances (mostly cannabis) and have innovative harm reduction policies. Model 2 includes six countries which have focused their national policies on regulating legal substances, especially tobacco and alcohol. Similarly to Model 1, they promote well-being and have complex and inclusive organization structures.

Model 3 includes a heterogeneous group of countries from the socioeconomic point of view. Their particularity is that they can be considered countries in transition from Model 4 to either Model 1 or 2. Model 4 countries have a traditional approach to addictions. They do not have a public health approach and the ministry responsible to tackle addictions is the ministry of the interior. The organizational structure is simple and the government does not facilitate the involvement other public, private and nonprofit stakeholders.

Based on this analysis, most European countries are heading towards an ideal model whose main focus is public health and thus the strategy is to deal in a comprehensive way both with legal and illegal substances. To avoid inconsistencies, collaborative governance is needed (both inside multilevel governance in cross cutting issues within structures; and outside the public sector in collaboration with stakeholders). However, none of the 4 models presented has yet achieved this ideal model of governance of addictions.

Model 1: Trendsetters in illicit substances
Model 2: Regulators of legal substances
Model 3: Transitioning model
Model 4: Traditional approach

AU	Austria	FI	Finland	LV	Latvia	PT	Portugal
BE	Belgium	FR	France	LT	Lithuania	RO	Romania
BU	Bulgaria	DE	Germany	LU	Luxemburg	SK	Slovakia
CY	Cyprus	GR	Greece	MT	Malta	SL	Slovenia
CZ	Czech Republic	HU	Hungary	NL	Netherlands	SP	Spain
DK	Denmark	IR	Ireland	NO	Norway	SW	Sweden
ES	Estonia	IT	Italy	PL	Poland	UK	United Kingdom

* These abbreviations for the countries are used for the figures throughout this book.

READ MORE

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