



NEWS RELEASE from the EU drugs agency in Lisbon

LATEST ON THE DRUG PROBLEM ACROSS EUROPE

2005 Annual report from the EU drugs agency

- Drug facts, figures and analyses: across Europe and by country
- Latest trends and legal, political and social responses
- Selected issues: public nuisance, alternatives to imprisonment, buprenorphine

(7.11.2005 LISBON) Key issues on drugs in Europe are addressed in the **2005 Annual report**, out soon from the Lisbon-based **EU drugs agency**, the **EMCDDA**.

- Launch date: Thursday 24 November
- Time: 10H00 CET (Brussels time)
- Venue: European Parliament press room (PHS 0A 050), Rue Wiertz, B-1047 Brussels

This year the **Annual report on the state of the drugs problem in Europe** offers data from the **25 EU Member States, Norway** and three **EU candidate countries** (Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey). The report carries four chapters dedicated to individual drugs, which are complemented by further chapters relating to: drug policy and law; schools, youth and drugs; and crime and prison. It will be available in 22 languages (19 EU + NO, BG, RO).

Online versions of the report will appear simultaneously at <http://annualreport.emcdda.eu.int>, a dedicated website also offering **news releases** (22 languages) and **national reports** (English) from the **Reitox national focal points** (<http://www.emcdda.eu.int/?nnodeid=435>). The report is complemented by three **Selected issues** (English) focusing on: drug-related public nuisance; alternatives to imprisonment for drug using offenders; and the use of buprenorphine in substitution treatment (<http://issues05.emcdda.eu.int>).

On the same day, the **EMCDDA** will release its **2005 Statistical bulletin**, an online product presenting over 200 tables and 100 statistical graphs, underpinning much of the analysis in this year's report (<http://stats05.emcdda.eu.int>).

Country data profiles will complete the picture, providing a graphical summary of key aspects of national drug situations (<http://datapfiles05.emcdda.eu.int>).

The above products will go online at **10H00 (CET)**. **Helpdesks** will operate at the **EMCDDA** (Lisbon) on the day of the launch to answer journalists' questions (Tel. 351 218 11 30 00), while the **Reitox focal points** will offer the same service and answer country-specific queries (Helpdesks: <http://www.emcdda.eu.int/?nnodeid=1225>).

To ease traffic on the main website, the **EMCDDA** will offer an alternative website (<http://pt.emcdda.eu.int>) allowing access to the report and news releases.

News releases will also be available at <http://www.emcdda.eu.int/?nnodeid=875>