

Press Release

Council of Europe Press Division

Ref: 839a08

Tel: +33 (0)3 88 41 25 60

Fax: +33 (0)3 88 41 39 11

pressunit@coe.int

internet: www.coe.int/press

47 members

Albania
Andorra
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Moldova
Monaco
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
San Marino
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
"the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom



European Drug Prevention Prize 2008 : awards for three innovative projects

Warsaw (Poland), 26.11.2008 - The Council of Europe Pompidou Group* is awarding its 3rd European Drug Prevention Prize to three projects that involve young people thus rewarding their participatory and innovative work in drug prevention.

The award ceremony – open to the press – will take place at 14.30 at the Marriott Hotel (room ABC) in Warsaw.

The three winning projects are:

- "Sweep the weed out of the gate!" from Varna (Bulgaria) aims at "empowering young people with a set of life-skills, knowledge and attitudes needed to combat threats to health and refrain from non-civic behaviour";
- "Resist" from Thessaloniki (Greece) aims at spreading "the philosophy of drug prevention and enhancing protective factors" to develop an assertive attitude towards peer pressure and enable young people aged 12-18 to say "no" to addictive behaviours and substances;
- "Battle of the West" from Leiden (Netherlands) is about street dancing, a hip-hop event and competition where the team is communicating with the youngsters, raising awareness and providing information on drugs thus trying to develop a "new healthy partying norm".

The Bulgarian and Greek projects used new information and communication technologies to develop a computer game which would attract young people, catch their interest and raise awareness against drug abuse.

The prizes were awarded by young jury members who examined 34 applications from 15 European countries and selected those they considered to be the most innovative. Another criteria for selection as a prize-winner was the total involvement of young people in the setting up as well as the running of the project.

The award ceremony is taking place in the framework of the Pompidou Group's [Mid-term conference](#) organised under its 2007-2010 Work Programme. This convened high-level stakeholders in drug policy to assess the achievements since 2006, and identify areas for priority action in the next two years.

Contact:

Roman Jarzyna, Tel. +48 6 000 78 089 at Marriott Hotel, Al. Jerolzolimskie 65/79,

(* The Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and illicit Trafficking in Drugs (more commonly known as the [Pompidou Group](#)) currently has 35 member states: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom. The European Commission is also a member.

To receive our press releases by e-mail, contact : Council.of.Europe.Press@coe.int

A political organisation set up in 1949, the Council of Europe works to promote democracy and human rights continent-wide. It also develops common responses to social, cultural and legal challenges in its 47 member states.