Since 1993, the **European Coalition for Just and Effective Drug Policies** inspires and gathers organizations, companies and citizens in Europe who want an end to the war on drugs. With lobby, actions and information we have strengthened their voice at the United Nations, the European Union and on the national and local level.

In the coming years some crucial changes in drug policies worldwide are being expected. Decriminalisation, legal regulation of cannabis and other drugs is the talk of the town in many countries. But what will happen next? Will the drugs market become entirely free? Will it become a state monopoly? What will be the impact on ordinary citizens?

This paper explains how we try to build a lasting peace on drugs: a situation in which communities and countries can develop a sovereign drug policy, and individual citizens can develop a responsible attitude to drug consumption.

What we did last year

LOBBY: EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

In May 2014, elections took place for the new European Parliament. In the months before the election **Encod** identified parties and candidates in favor of ending the war on drugs in Europe. Thus, we managed to obtain the commitment of 18 current Members of the EP who are willing to collaborate with any initiative to push for drug policy reform in the European Union and be held accountable on that commitment in the coming years.

ACTIONS: COFFEE SNIFFERS AT THE UNITED NATIONS

In March 2014 the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs held its annual meeting In Vienna. **Encod** organized a 'Coffee sniffer brigade' to welcome the delegates to the UN. Coffee sniffers were disabled soldiers sent to search houses and cafés for coffee in 18th Century Prussia, after King Frederick The Great had banned coffee drinking – most of all for economic reasons. On the other hand **Encod** organized an independent media centre covering the UN meeting with news reports, interviews and talk shows with activists and experts from Europe, South- and North America. All reports are available on the **Encod** website.

ALTERNATIVES: CANNABIS SOCIAL CLUBS

Since 2006 **Encod** promotes the concept of Cannabis Social Clubs. These are associations of citizens who organize the cultivation of a limited amount of cannabis to satisfy their personal needs, through a closed circuit of production and distribution on a non-profit basis. CSC's now operate legally in Spain and Belgium, whereas initiatives to obtain a legal status are carried out in several other countries. **Encod** supports any serious initiative to set up a CSC in order to show the benefits of legal regulation.

What we plan to do in 2015

THE ROAD TO NEW YORK

The United Nations have announced a special session of the UN General Assembly in 2016 to discuss alternatives to current drug policies. Several governments have made clear that the current consensus on drug prohibition should be challenged. During the next years, **Encod** will continue to put pressure on the UN to ensure that any policy that replaces prohibition takes into account the interest of affected and concerned citizens.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Together with the newly elected MEPs who are in favor of reform, **Encod** will continue to put pressure on the European Union and Member States authorities to allow experiments with policies not based on prohibition. We will organize hearings, expositions and initiatives inside the European Parliament that promote a true European approach to drugs, based on human rights, public health and good governance.

CANNABIS SOCIAL CLUBS

Encod will continue to promote the CSC concept throughout Europe. These clubs can be set up in any country where possession of small amounts of cannabis is decriminalized. They will remain local initiatives and will adapt to local conditions. **Encod** can help in various ways: as a database for starting clubs, with information materials and eventually as a contact point for exchanging practices, experiences and seeds. Also, we plan to bring together lawyers from various countries to exchange experiences on how to defend a CSC in court.

CANNABIS SOCIAL CLUBS

Become an encod member!