

My name is Maxim Malyshev. I am an activist and representative of community of people who use drugs and people living with HIV. I know all the problems of these communities from inside.

At the same time, I am the coordinator of street social work of the Andrei Rylkov Foundation and have passed all the stages of work in non-profit organizations - from the volunteer to the project manager. I also regularly participate in street social work, which allows me not to lose identification and communication with the community.

I consider EHRA one of the leading organizations in the region, which consistently and actively advocates and implements harm reduction approaches. That is why it is important for me to join the Steering Committee of this organization, represent the region of Russia and influence the decisions made in favor of the region. For me this is especially important in the light of the fact that Russia is losing funding for harm reduction initiatives. The Global Fund has left the region and some donors are leaving as well because the organizations they finance are recognized as foreign agents. In this context, for the representative of Russia, it is especially important to take an active position in the Steering Committee and defend the interests of the region and country.

In the course of my activities in the Steering Committee, I plan to adhere to the following principles:

- provision and advocacy of the region's interests in the context of HIV prevention, harm reduction and human rights
- focus on community strengthening and mobilization
- attraction of financing in the context of harm reduction in the region
- focus on funding and supporting activists, community forums and community-based organizations support.