

**EURASIAN HARM REDUCTION ASSOCIATION, 304470687**  
**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT,**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended**  
**31 December 2020**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of Eurasian Harm Reduction Association

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (the Association), which comprise the statement of financial position sheet at December 31, 2020, and the statement of activities for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects of the financial position of the Association as at December 31, 2020, and (of) its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with Order 1K-372 of the Minister of Finance "On the Approval and Submission of Accounting and Financial Statements of Non-Profit Limited Liability Legal Entities and Approval of the Rules for Valuation of Assets and Services Received Free of charge by Political Campaign Participants"

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the requirements of the Law on Audit of Financial Statements of the Republic of Lithuania that are relevant to audit in the Republic of Lithuania, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Law on Audit of Financial Statements of the Republic of Lithuania and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Association's annual report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Management is responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon, except as specified below.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

In addition, our responsibility is to consider whether information included in the Association's annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and whether annual report has been prepared in compliance with applicable legal requirements. Based on the work carried out in the course of audit of financial statements, in our opinion, in all material respects:

- The information given in the Association's annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The Association's annual report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Law on Financial Reporting by Undertakings of the Republic of Lithuania.

## **Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the Business Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We shall communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Moore Mackonis UAB

Dangutė Pranckėnienė

Certified auditor

29 April, 2021, J.Kubiliaus 6, Vilnius

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

Line No.	ASSETS	Notes No.	31.12.2020	31.12.2019
<b>A.</b>	<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>3 116</b>	<b>4 031</b>
1.	INTANGIBLE ASSETS		---	---
2.	TANGIBLE ASSETS	1	3 116	4 031
3.	FINANCIAL ASSETS		---	---
4.	OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS		---	---
<b>B.</b>	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>562 457</b>	<b>475 874</b>
1.	INVENTORIES	2	2 021	5 975
2.	AMOUNTS RECEIVABLE WITHIN ONE YEAR		---	---
3.	OTHER CURRENT ASSETS		---	---
4.	CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	3	560 436	469 899
	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>565 573</b>	<b>479 905</b>
	<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>Notes No.</b>	<b>31.12.2020</b>	<b>31.12.2019</b>
<b>C.</b>	<b>EQUITY CAPITAL</b>		<b>1 505</b>	<b>2 436</b>
1.	SHAREHOLDER'S CAPITAL		---	---
2.	RESERVES		---	---
3.	INVOLABLE CAPITAL		---	---
4.	ACCRUED OPERATING RESULT		1 505	2 436
<b>D.</b>	<b>FINANCING AMOUNTS</b>	4	<b>563 852</b>	<b>476 766</b>
<b>G.</b>	<b>AMOUNTS PAYABLE AND OTHER LIABILITIES</b>		<b>216</b>	<b>703</b>
1.	AMOUNTS PAYABLE AFTER A ONE-YEAR AND OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		---	---
2.	AMOUNTS PAYABLE WITHIN A ONE-YEAR AND OTHER SHORT-TERM LIABILITIES	5	216	703
	<b>TOTAL OWN CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES</b>		<b>565 573</b>	<b>479 905</b>

Director




Garna Dovbakh

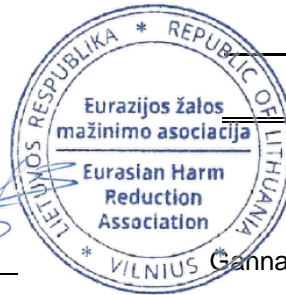
Chief Accountant



Danguolė Zapkuvienė

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

Line No.	Items	Notes No.	2020	2019
<b>I.</b>	<b>REVENUE</b>		<b>1 332 619</b>	<b>1 201 057</b>
1.	SALES REVENUE			
2.	FINANCING REVENUE	6	1 332 619	1 201 057
3.	OTHER REVENUE			
<b>II.</b>	<b>COSTS</b>		<b>1 333 550</b>	<b>(1 198 991)</b>
	COST OF GOODS, SERVICES PROVIDED AND OTHER COSTS OF SALE			
1.	PROVIDED AND OTHER COSTS OF SALE			
2.	OPERATING COSTS	7	1 333 550	(1 198 991)
3.	OTHER COSTS			
<b>III.</b>	<b>RESULT BEFORE TAXES</b>		<b>(931)</b>	<b>2 066</b>
IV.	INCOME TAX			
<b>V.</b>	<b>NET OPERATING RESULT</b>		<b>(931)</b>	<b>2 066</b>



Director

Ganna Dovbakh

Chief Accountant

Danguolė Zapkuvienė

2021.04.29.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

For the years ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

### I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (hereinafter referred to as "the Institution") is a non-profit public legal entity. Its goal and activities are promotion of humane, evidence-based harm reduction methods in the field of drug use, reduction of prevalence of socially significant diseases, and development of policy on drug use, in order to improve health and human rights at the individual, community and social levels.
2. The Institution was registered on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017, address Gedimino pr. 45-4, Vilnius. The Association registration number is 304470687, it is not subject to VAT. Period of operation is unlimited. The financial year of the Association is calendar year.
3. Number of employees at the end of 2020 year was 10.

### II. ACCOUNTING POLICY

#### *Form of financial statements*

The financial statements of the Institution have been prepared in compliance with Law on Accounting and Law on Financial statements of Entities of the Republic of Lithuania, and Order No. 1K-372 of the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania On the Approval and Submission of Accounting and Financial Statements of Non-Profit Limited Liability Legal Entities and Approval of the Rules for Valuation of Assets and Services Received Free of charge by Political Campaign Participants.

The institution's accounting is carried out in accordance with the rules for the preparation and presentation of accounting and financial statements of non-profit limited liability legal entities and the valuation of assets and services received free of charge by participants in political campaigns.

The financial statements are based on the assumption that the Institution will be able to continue as a going concern in the nearest future.

#### *Currency of the Financial Statements*

The figures in these financial statements are presented in the national currency, Euro (Eur).

#### *Non-current Intangible Assets*

Intangible assets are stated at acquisition cost less accumulated amortization and impairment losses. Amortization is provided on a straight-line method (linear) with consideration of the expected useful period of intangible assets. The amortization period of intangible assets is 3 years, and the acquisition value is at least EUR 500.

<b>Non-current intangible assets</b>	<b>Average useful life period (in years)</b>
Software	3
Licenses, other rights	3
Other non-current intangible assets	4

#### *Non-current Tangible Assets*

Non-current assets are stated at acquisition cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Amortization is provided on a straight-line method (linear) with consideration of the expected useful period of intangible assets. Assets are classified as non-current tangible assets if their useful life is longer than one year and acquisition cost is at least EUR 500. Residual value of non-current tangible assets is EUR 1. Non-current tangible assets are depreciated over 3-6 years of useful period.

<u>Non-current tangible assets</u>	<u>Average useful life period (in years)</u>
Furniture	6
Computer and communication equipment	3
Other non-current tangible assets	4

#### *Foreign Currency*

All currency items in the balance sheet are presented in euro, applying the currency exchange rate effective as at the balance sheet date. Differences arising upon the payment of amounts recognized in foreign currency items at another exchange rate are recognized as income or costs of the reporting period.

#### *Current Assets*

- Prepayments. Prepayments to suppliers for inventories or services that the Institution will receive later on.

#### *Accounting of Funding*

Sources of funding received by the Institution are following:

- Subsidies;
- targeted contributions;
- other.

Subsidies are recognized when the non-current assets are received free of charge or acquired using funds allocated to the program. Subsidies are recognized and shown in the balance sheet when they have the following characteristics:

- purpose of assets received corresponds the objectives set out in the statute on an entity;
- the Institution receives non-current assets free of charge or acquires such assets for funds allocated to a program.

Accounting of subsidies is based on the accrual method. Subsidies are recognized as used when assets received free of charge and acquired for targeted funds are depreciated. The unused part of subsidy is shown in the balance sheet. The Institution collects information specified by givers, group of assets received.

Targeted contributions include support from international support funds to achieve defined objectives Targeted contributions are recognized and booked if they meet the following criteria:

- the nature of activity established in the statute of the receiver of contributions corresponds the requirements set for funding;
- there are decision confirmed by documents and other evidence that contributions will be received;
- Institution has incurred expenses, financing to which is arranged.

If the targeted contributions meet the criteria set out in the definition, they are recorded as receivable. If the target contributions do not meet the recognition criteria, they are recorded in the accounts as target contributions received after their actual receipt. Examples of targeted contributions may include support for the achievement of the objectives set out in the cost estimate, support for the organization of funding the event.

Targeted contributions are recognized as used to the extent that expenses incurred are recognized as to be compensated. After use of targeted contributions for acquisition on non-current assets, only the item of funding changes: the subsidy increase, targeted funding decreases.

The Institution may receive funding other than subsidies, targeted contributions. An example of such funding may be supply of goods, when the giver sets out a purpose of use, donations or other type of funding, when the giver does not specify a particular purpose of use.

Funding received for a specified or unspecified purpose is recognized as used in the same manner as targeted contributions. Funding in goods is carried at fair value and booked as stock. Such funding is recognized as used (expenditure is recognized as compensated) during the period in which stocks received are used.

The value of support in services (including voluntary work) is estimated at the amount an entity has to pay if services were purchased, Support in services free of charge is determined by reference to the assets' fair value.



Acquisition costs of assets received free of charge is determined by reference to the assets' fair value.

*Liabilities*

Liabilities of the Institution are recognized and stated in the balance sheet when the Institution undertakes obligations which shall be fulfilled. Liabilities are carried at cost.

*Operating Expenses*

Expenses are recognized on an accrual and comparative basis in the reporting period when they are incurred.

Operating expenses include the following: maintenance of premises, communications, postal services, remunerations, depreciation, business trips, consultants, organising conferences and other.

Transferred funding includes money means transferred to sub-recipients. In all such Institution is fully responsible to the donor, at the same time sub-recipients are fully responsible to the Institution for usage of funds transferred.

**III. EXPLANATORY NOTES**

**1. Long term Tangible Assets**

Items	Other equipment, tools and devices
<b>Acquisition value</b>	
<b>31 December 2018</b>	9 049
Acquired	822
Written-off (-)	
Reclassifications	
<b>31 December 2019</b>	9 871
Acquired	2 896
Written-off (-)	
Reclassifications	
<b>31 December 2020</b>	12 767
<b>Accumulated amortization</b>	
<b>31 December 2018</b>	2 735
Calculated for the period	3 105
Written-off (-)	
Reclassifications	
<b>31 December 2019</b>	5 840
Calculated for the period	3 811
Written-off (-)	
Reclassifications	
<b>31 December 2020</b>	9 651
<b>Balance value</b>	
<b>31 December 2018</b>	6 314
<b>31 December 2019</b>	4 031
<b>31 December 2020</b>	3 116

**2. Amounts Receivable within One Year**

Current Assets Items	31.12.2020	31.12.2019
Advance payments (deposit for rent of premises)	2 021	2 021
Prepayments for suppliers	---	3 954
Funding receivable	---	---
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2 021</b>	<b>5 975</b>

**3. Cash**

	31.12.2020	31.12.2019
Cash in bank	560 436	469 899

**4. Subsidies and Other Funding**

Type of funding	Balance at the beginning of the reporting period	Received during the reporting period	Used during the reporting period	Balance at the end of the reporting period
Subsidy for non-current assets	4 031			3 116
Assets except money	---			---
Cash	472 735	1 425 003	1 337 002	560 736
<b>Total:</b>	<b>476 766</b>	<b>1 425 003</b>	<b>1 337 002</b>	<b>563 852</b>

**4.1. Funding by projects:**

Name of the project	Balance at 2019.12.31	Funding received in 2020	Funding used in 2020	Balance at 2020.12.31
AFEW-2019	7 500	7 500	15 000	---
UNAIDS-2019	16 015	17 144	33 159	---
Input enpud RCF	16 622	28 931	45 553	---
GF TS Armenia	20 840	2 890	10 691	13 039
OSF	126 564	189 737	128 848	187 453
GF TS CRG 2017	68 186	34 371	101 086	1 471
HRI	---	7 295	7 295	---
Input BTG 2019	162	---	162	---
EC Peer to Peer	1 014	16 884	14 371	3 527
GF Multicountry	24 774	46 980	56 605	15 148
EPLN Enpud Prison	1 585	75 177	76 011	751
UK Research	---	43 587	38 018	5 568
RCF Regional Consortium 2019-2021 (GRANT NUMBER: 2019025)	160 535	532 087	609 454	83 167
RCF International Consortium 2019-2021 (GRANT NUMBER: 2019064)	18 838	122 762	107 702	33 898
Input GF	10 100	---	10 100	---
Erasmus	---	76 758	51 293	25 465
Radian	---	200 232	25 095	175 137
C-19RM-Shelter	---	22 670	6 557	16 112
<b>Total</b>	<b>472 735</b>	<b>1 425 003</b>	<b>1 337 002</b>	<b>560 736</b>

#### 5. Amounts payable within one year

	<b>2020.12.31.</b>	<b>2019.12.31.</b>
Debts to suppliers	216	703
Advances received	---	---
<b>Total:</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>703</b>

#### 6. Costs

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>General and administrative costs</b>	<b>1 333 550</b>	<b>1 198 991</b>
Salaries and related costs	352 606	362 927
Office rent, economic, utility costs	19 643	19 191
Communication, postage, internet connection costs	22 639	11 308
Costs of consultants and translators	381 247	252 737
Travel costs	27 106	121 642
Costs of organizing seminars, conferences	6 809	55 357
Contractual funding has been transferred to project partners and sub-grants	441 352	314 935
Other costs	82 148	60 894

#### 7. Funding Revenues

The funding revenue has been accounted as a proportion of funding received and receivable to the extent it has been used during the accounting period for reimbursing the costs incurred. In 2020 EUR 1.333.550 of the costs, which comprise the incurred project costs funded through foreign funds, was reimbursed.

<b>Finance income items</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Financing revenue	1 332 619	1 201 057

#### 8. Operating result

The net operating result of 2020 is a loss of EUR (931) (previous year result was profit of EUR 2 066). This loss was covered by profit received in 2019 and unused profit of 1 505 Eur is left on 31.12.2020. The loss arises from the exchange rate difference.

#### 9. Founders of the association

In 2017 the Association was founded by three founders: Leonid Vlasenko, Agita Seja and Lyudmila Trukhan, who have also become members of the association since its registration in the Register of Legal Entities. According to the Articles of Association, the annual financial report of the Association is approved by the General Meeting of the Association. In 2017 December 31 the number of members was 185, and in 2018 December 31 the number of members increased to 251 members, in 2019. December 31 the number of members is 265, in 2020 December 31 the number of members is 312.

#### 10. Information on fixed assets acquired by a public body during the financial year

In 2020, the institution acquired fixed assets worth EUR 2 896, i.e., 3 laptops.

## 11. Donors

The activities of the association were supported by the following contributing organizations in 2020:

Donor of funding amounts	Funding amount, Eur
Stichting Aidsfonds – Soa Aids Nederland/ Donor Robert Carr Fund for civil society Networks (RCF)	532 087
Elton John AIDS Foundation	200 232
Open Society Foundations	189 737
IDPC Consortium/ Donor Robert Carr Fund for civil society Networks (RCF)	122 762
Public Agency “Youth International Cooperation Agency”/Donor European Commission	76 758
EUROPEAN PRISON LITIGATION NETWORK (EPLN)/Donor the Robert Carr Fund for Civil Society Networks (RCF)	75 177
Charitable Organization «All-Ukrainian network of people living with HIV/AIDS»/Donor The Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM)	46 980
Swansea University	43 587
The Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM)	34 371
International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD) /Donor the Robert Carr Fund for Civil Society Networks (RCF)	28 931
International Charitable Foundation “Alliance for Public Health/ Donor The Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM)	22 670
Oxford Policy Management Ltd. (OPM)/Donor United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) Technical Support Mechanism /	17 144
Agência Piaget para o Desenvolvimento (APDES)/Donor European Commission	16 884
Dutch not-for profit organisation “Stichting AFEW International”	7 500
Harm Reduction International (HRI)	7 295
The Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM)	2 890
<b>Total received funding</b>	<b>1 425 003</b>

## 12. Going on Concern

The financial statements of 2020 have been prepared on the assumption that Institution will continue its activities in near future. Team is working constantly for developing new project proposals to get funding for strategic framework implementation, securing the necessary funding to ensure the Institution's activities for at least one year.

Director



Ganna Dovybakh

Chief Accountant

Danguolė Zapkuvienė

2021.04.29.

# EURASIAN HARM REDUCTION ASSOCIATION

## ACTIVITY REPORT 2020

### MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (EHRA) is a non-for-profit public membership-based organization uniting harm reduction activists and organisations from Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (CEECA) with its **mission** to actively unite and support communities and civil societies to ensure the rights and freedoms, health, and well-being of people who use psychoactive substances in the CEECA region. The Association is registered in Lithuania in 2017 continuing regional harm reduction activists' network tradition since 1997.

The EHRA's vision is to have an active movement in each CEECA country that advocates for human policies and access to evidence-based and needs-based harm reduction services for people who use psychoactive substances.

EHRA's activities 2020 were driven by the newly developed long-term [Strategy 2020-2024](#), which gives emphasis to key areas of advocacy work: for legal regulations aimed at decriminalization, depenalization, and protection of the rights of people who use psychoactive substances; for access to high-quality, evidence-based, gender-transformative, non-discriminatory harm reduction services and to ensure sustainability of harm reduction services as part of the transition from donor support to national funding.

45 new organizations and activists joined EHRA in 2020, counting 312 organizational and individual members by December 31, 2020.

# Eurasian Harm Reduction Association STRATEGY 2020-2024



## MISSION

Actively unite and support communities and civil societies to ensure the rights and freedoms, health, and well-being of people who use psychoactive substances in the CEECA region.

## VISION

We envision each CEECA country to have an active movement that advocates for humane policies and access to evidence-based and needs-based harm reduction services for people who use psychoactive substances.

## THEORY OF CHANGE

**Mobilize supporters and movement.** Movement means the collective and coordinated actions of alliances that work to deliver our common agreed-on advocacy goals.

**Attract and develop** resources, expertise, information and tools.

**Change public opinion** through communication and campaigns.

**Strive to ensure the voice of the community is heard and influences decisions.**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF 2020 RESULTS

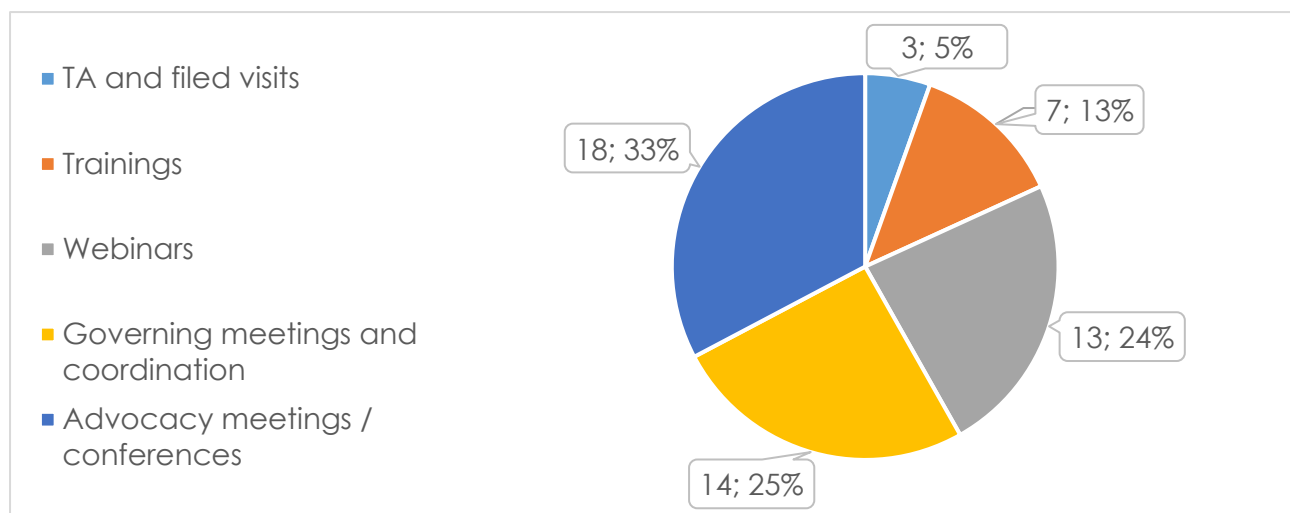
COVID-19 global crisis, geopolitical conflicts, and negative developments in political landscape in countries of EECA have been threatening sustainability of harm reduction programs and put people who use drugs at risk of deeper poverty and marginalization in 2020. EHRA have taken a number of actions in response to that challenges and COVID-19 crisis by expressing its position on the importance of continuity of harm reduction services, collecting and presenting data on state of harm reduction, helping organizations in country to document and report challenges with harm reduction service provision, supporting services particularly to protect women who use drugs from gender-based violence.

In 2020 EHRA implemented 13 regional projects funded by the Global Fund, Robert Carr Fund, Elton John AIDS Foundation, Open Society Foundations, European Commission, UNAIDS, Global Challenges Research Fund and other donors.

COVID-19 related travel restrictive measures have had a significant impact on the program activities of EHRA, especially with regard to face-to-face events. Some of the events we were forced to reprogram into a virtual format. Nevertheless, the year 2020 was rich in various thematic advocacy and capacity building meetings and events (see *chart below*). In 2020, on its own we organized 17 regional and country events and another 11 events in collaboration with partners. We took active participation in 32 virtual and 21 face-to-face forums delivered in 2020 by international and regional partner organization to share our expertise and promote EHRA strategic messages.



EURASIAN HARM REDUCTION ASSOCIATION  
2020 ACTIVITY REPORT



**CHART: Types of events where EHRA took part in 2020.**

In 2020 we provided 27 sub-grants to support community advocacy on national and local level in 12 CEECA countries each going with technical support from regional level. This includes grants for advocacy on "new" harm reduction services (Serbia, Lithuania, Kazakhstan, Croatia); grants to conduct national campaigns "Chase the virus, not people!" in Armenia, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, grant for community-led monitoring in Georgia and grants to analyse national budgets for health and social services for key populations in Armenia, Bulgaria, Romania, Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan.

In 2020, we developed and published more than 20 publications including three regional reviews, two reports on legal analyses, two research methodologies, 11 research reports, one research article and one case study collection.<sup>i</sup>

#### LIST OF PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN 2020

This chapter provides summary information on the projects<sup>1</sup> carried out in 2020. Sections on each project contains information about project title, name of donors, project duration, overall budget allocated for the whole project period, list of target countries and project's key results achieved in 2020.

#### 1. JOINT ADVOCACY FOR ACCESS, SUSTAINABILITY, AND QUALITY OF HARM REDUCTION SERVICES AND FOR PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS FOR PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS IN EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA REGION

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Granted by Open Society Foundations (OSF)

Duration: Dec 2017 – Sep 2020

Budget: 738,328 USD

Project Status: Completed

Target Countries: Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia countries

#### Aim / Objectives:

- Streamline governance and membership structure of the EHRA to ensure organizational sustainability, effective decision-making system and joint advocacy efforts;
- Ensure sustainability and quality of harm reduction services in CEECA region;
- Increase regional cooperation targeted at the promotion of non-punitive and human rights-based drug policies;
- Strengthen regional and national-level advocacy for the sustainable funding of quality, evidence-based and good practice models of harm reduction and HIV-related programs for PWUD and other key populations by increasing leadership of civil society and people who use drugs (PWUD) community groups.

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<sup>1</sup> More information on projects is on EHRA website <https://harmreductioneurasia.org/projects/>

EURASIAN HARM REDUCTION ASSOCIATION  
2020 ACTIVITY REPORT

**2020 results:**

**Governance**

- Regular meetings of EHRA Steering Committee to facilitate the fulfilment of the Association's mission and oversee implementation of the Strategy.
- General Assembly was conducted virtually in May 2020 to approve changes in EHRA Statute, annual financial reports and EHRA [Strategy 2020-2024](#).
- EHRA Steering Committee and Secretariate started practice of regular (every half a year) on-line consultations/meetings with EHRA members by regions.
- Prepared an [overview](#) of harm reduction programs in 22 CEECA countries during the **COVID-19** crisis with the support of the EHRA Steering Committee and active participation of 51 EHRA members from 22 countries of the region.

**Sustainability of harm reduction services**

- ✓ Developed a comprehensive [report](#) on the situation with harm reduction in CEECA, as part of the Global State of Harm Reduction Report, released by HRI. The report covers every aspects of harm reduction field in EECA including COVID-19, epidemiology, HIV, hepatitis, TB and treatment, NSP & OST coverage, NPS use, overdose interventions, HR in prisons, drug policy and other issues.
- ✓ Formulated and widely disseminated in partnership with the CORRELATION- European Harm Reduction Network (C-EHRN) the joint [position](#) on the importance of continuity of harm reduction services during the **COVID-19** crisis.
- ✓ Organized coordinated with regional networks of key populations [response](#) to the questions proposed by the Global Fund for the Strategy Open Consultation process.
- ✓ Contributed into discussion on UNAIDS new Strategy development.

**Regional cooperation for drug policy reform**

- ✓ Together with the C-EHRN organized European harm reduction [sessions](#) , preparing and launch of the Harm Reduction Journal Special issue on Europe.
- ✓ With partners have [prepared](#) and submitted a [report](#) to the UN Committee on Economic, Cultural and Social Rights on the proportionality of punishment for people who use drugs and access to health and social services in Ukraine.
- ✓ Together with partners, submitted two reports and a complaint about human rights system violation in Russia to the UN treaty bodies.
- ✓ Prepared with international partners a [letter](#) to the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health on the protection and promotion of the health of people who use drugs during the **COVID-19** emergency.

**Community leadership for stronger advocacy**

- ✓ A review of legislative initiatives on the liability of drug-related advocacy (propaganda) in Russia, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan during the second half of 2019 and early 2020 and possible risks for social programmes aimed at working with people who use drugs was [conducted](#) and submitted relevant [urgent appeal](#) to UN special rapporteurs on this issues in cooperation with member organisations and activists networks from Russian Federation.
- ✓ EHRA supported development of a financial management system and building of ENPUD staff capacity for sustaining the network functioning after official registration in Georgia.

**Fundraising efforts**

- ✓ 11 applications for funding for EHRA were submitted 4 of them supported, 2 under consideration.



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- ✓ Launched a new [project to protect women who use drugs from gender-based/intimate partner violence](#) and human rights violations during the **COVID-19 crisis**.

## 2. REGIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT, COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION PLATFORM IN EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

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Granted by The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GF)

Duration: Dec 2017 – Dec 2020

Budget: 450,000 USD

Project Status: completed

Target Countries and territories: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kosovo.

### Aim / Objectives:

- The meaningful engagement of civil society and community groups through regular bi-directional communication and provision of accurate and accessible information to enhance the knowledge and participation of these actors in Global Fund related processes.
- Improve the overall impact of GF programs and interventions, and disease responses more globally through strengthened engagement of civil society and communities affected by HIV and tuberculosis.
- Expand access to technical assistance for civil society and community groups through greater coordination with the CRG Strategic Initiative short-term TA component, as well as key national, regional and global technical assistance partners.
- Support strategic civil society and community capacity development initiatives through fostering spaces for engagement and collective participation in key decision-making processes, in particular as they relate to community, rights and gender

### 2020 results:

- ✓ 110 publications in English and Russian posted on the Platform's [website](#)
- ✓ 639 posts\tweets made in social networks (Facebook, Twitter) on behalf of the Platform
- ✓ 144 thematic e-mails send through different listservs with a target audience of about 2500 people altogether
- ✓ 4 webinars on Global Fund related issues conducted with a total audience of 93 participants from 10 EECA countries
- ✓ 2 online sessions on GF CRG TA Program conducted with 43 participants from 12 countries being covered
- ✓ 1 Civil Society National Meeting on the development of the new application for the Global Fund HIV grant supported in Russia with 71 participants;
- ✓ EECA Regional Platform COVID Alert System developed;
- ✓ 6 Global Fund Technical Briefs translated from English into Russian and disseminated;
- ✓ 9 coordination calls of the regional community networks and other key EECA partners organized
- ✓ 7 new requests for TA within the GF CRG TA program were initiated and submitted with support of the EECA Regional Platform (2 from Albania, 1 from Belarus, 2 from Armenia, 1 from Georgia and Russia). Of them – 4 approved for TA provision: Albania, Armenia, Belarus and Russia;
- ✓ Regional consultation with civil society representatives on the post-2022 GF Strategy was organized (80 civil society representatives from 18 EECA countries took part);
- ✓ Support to ensure the meaningful involvement of civil society into the new Global Fund application development related processes in Kyrgyzstan was provided;
- ✓ the work of the Civil Society Coordinating Committee for the Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS in Russia and its Secretariat was supported;

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- ✓ the development of the methodology and instruments to conduct the gender audit of HIV service providers in Kyrgyzstan was supported (in cooperation with the Breaking Down Barriers Initiative);
- ✓ the Global Fund related activities of 3 regional community networks supported: ECOM, SWAN, TBEC.

### 3. THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX: OVERCOMING CHALLENGES IN COMMUNITY ADVOCACY FOR SUSTAINABLE AND HIGH-QUALITY HIV SERVICES.

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Granted by Robert Carr Civil Society Networks Fund to the Eurasian Regional Consortium

Duration: Jan 2019 – Dec 2021

Budget: 1,760,000 USD, including 1,005,378 USD EHRA budget

Project Status: in progress

Target Countries and territories: Eastern Europe and Central Asia

#### Aim / Objectives:

The scope of work and activities are designed to maximize capacity of consortium's member organizations and their impact of advocacy to improve funding environment for sufficient allocation of resources for HIV programs in countries of EECA. This will be achieved through developing opportunities to learn with creation and facilitation of regional mechanisms which can act in a coordinated manner to address issues that are common across countries.

EHRA learning cycles of the project are composed in interlinked thematic areas that are prioritized for building capacity of community-led networks to maximize their contribution to increased and sustainable financing of HIV response on national levels:

- Organizational Sustainability.
- Community-led monitoring of quality of services.
- Budget monitoring and accountability.

#### 2020 results:

- ✓ 2 sub-grants to regional partners ECOM and EWNA to support their activities withing consortium annual work plan.
- ✓ 6 sub-grants to support community-led monitoring in Georgia and analyse national budgets for health and social services for key populations in Armenia, Bulgaria, Romania, Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan
- ✓ Published the [results](#) of a pilot study on client satisfaction with OST programs in Ukraine.
- ✓ Developed an [online](#) toolkit on budget advocacy.
- ✓ Provided expert support to ECOM in assessing organizations' needs for digitalization of services for vulnerable groups.
- ✓ Prepared and published a [collection](#) of 20 cases of various alternative financing mechanisms for non-profit organizations.
- ✓ Prepared and conducted an online [course](#) on Sustainability and Survival: Resilience for civil society organizations. 16 participants from 8 countries were trained during the pilot training.
- ✓ Provided 4 grants on "Chase the virus, not people!" national campaigns development and conduction.
- ✓ Produced a [video](#) on "Chase the virus, not people!" campaign deliverables and lessons learnt.
- ✓ Organized initial online [meeting](#) of regional analysis and dialogue "Taking stock of budget advocacy efforts to date in EECA region" to examine current context and new challenges for sustaining services for key populations and define approaches to mapping of budget advocacy activities, aimed at sustaining HIV services for key populations, for the past 3 years in EECA region.

#### 4. WE WILL NOT END AIDS WITHOUT HARM REDUCTION

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Sub-granted by the International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC) under a grant provided by the Robert Carr Civil Society Networks Fund to the Harm Reduction Consortium

Duration: Jan 2019 – Dec 2021

Budget: 406,191 USD (EHRA)

Project Status: in progress

Target Countries and territories: Eastern Europe and Central Asia

##### Aim / Objectives:

- A global initiative to reframe the messaging, “storytelling” and communications around harm reduction and drug policies;
- Coordinated advocacy around key UN structures such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND);
- Coordinated advocacy and information sharing at key HIV-related fora and conferences;
- The global Support Don’t Punish campaign enabling local partners and ISP groups to promote harm reduction and policy reforms;
- Cross-consortium communications and network capacity building.
- Each partner will also deliver their own high-impact HIV work, including research, resource development, CSO and ISP capacity building, and budget advocacy.

##### 2020 results:

- [Participation](#) in the [Annual partners meeting](#) in Lebanon.
- Participation in the pre-CND meetings: 1) IDPC members orientation meeting; 2) IDPC strategy meeting on advocacy on legal regulation.
- Organized [side event at CND](#) “Reducing Health Risks of the Use of NPS in EECA Region” (event organized together in cooperation with Estonia government and UNODC).
- [Intervention made](#) during the Informal Dialogue with WHO, during CND, where question about mental health and use of NPS was raised.
- Participation in the VNGOC Annual General Assembly, during CND.
- Meeting with Working Group on Arbitrary Detention OHCHR to discuss about submissions on arbitrary detention relating to drug policies. In the result submission on Lithuania, Belarus and Moldova for Working Group on Arbitrary Detention on arbitrary detention relating to drug policies.
- After CND, participation in UNODC Civil Society Informal Consultation on Drug Use and HIV, where presentation “Legislative initiatives on the liability of drug-related advocacy (“propaganda”) in EECA region were made.
- Online participation in the CND Intersessional in October, where [statement](#) on “Changes in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region drug scene pose new threats for health of people who use drugs” was delivered.
- Organization and participation in the online European Harm Reduction sessions. EHRA organized [online session](#) “Different approaches for decriminalization – what works?”, which was attended by over 100 participants.
- [4 small grants](#) (Lithuania, Croatia, Serbia and Kazakhstan) were implemented on advocacy for innovative harm reduction practises/ approaches. 1 additional grant was given to Kyrgyzstan for [organization of meeting of KPs](#) on NPS and development of the recommendations.
- 9 small grants were issued to PWUD community groups to [conduct](#) “Support. Don’t punish” campaign.
- [Report](#) “Harm reduction service delivery to people who use drugs during a public health emergency: Examples from the COVID-19 pandemic in selected countries” was developed.
- Collected information for drug laws and drug calculator section from 18 more countries of CEECA region.
- [Submission to CESC](#) ahead of Lithuania's Periodic Review.

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- Participation and moderation of the session “Global Advocacy National Movement Building” session at HIV 2020.
- [Criminalization Costs pocket guide](#) was presented.

## 5. SUPPORT TO COORDINATION OF THE CAMPAIGN “CHASE THE VIRUS, NOT PEOPLE!”

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Granted by AFEW International

Duration: Apr. 2019 - Nov. 2020

Budget: 15,000 EUR

Project Status: completed

Target Countries and territories: Eastern Europe and Central Asia

### Aim / Objectives:

- The project aims to support management of the campaign to ensure the engagement of all regional networks – organizers of the campaign – into the decision making on strategic planning of the campaign and further development;
- support to the web site of the campaign and campaign pages in social media;
- mentorship of national teams developing campaigns on a country level, and regional community teams developing specific community campaigns on EECA level.

### 2020 results:

- ✓ The campaign is supported by [103 organizations](#), community groups and movements.
- ✓ By the end of 2020 the campaign has overall 1,542,320 contacts through its pages in social networks in [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and its website <http://chasevirus.org>;
- ✓ campaign promo products (T-shirts and stickers) were produced to be further used to visually support campaign actions all across the region;
- ✓ Maintenance work on <http://chasevirus.org> was conducted to reflect partners activities:
  - National campaigns page was created for national partners and campaign grantees in both [English](#) and [Russian](#);
  - “Chase stigma, not people!” subcampaign page was created both in [English](#) and [Russian](#) with sections on 2020 International Transgender Day of Visibility and 2019 national campaigns;
  - “HIV is not a crime page” was updated with subcampaign latest events and news.
- ✓ In 2020 the campaign organized [fundraising](#) for [Natasha Golub](#) from Belarus, who had problems with parental rights due to participation in OST program.

## 6. EVALUATION OF SUSTAINABLE OST TRANSITION IN EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

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Granted by UNAIDS Technical Support Mechanism (TSM)

Duration: Nov. 2019 - Sep. 2020

Budget: 40,365 USD

Project Status: completed

Target Countries and territories: Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Tajikistan, Ukraine

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**Aim / Objectives:**

- Provide TA to CSOs and CBOs in transitioning countries to assess the impact of the GF transition-related processes taking place in countries on the quality and other aspects of sustainability of OST services, which intends conduction of monitoring of transition plans implementation;

Collect HR violation cases in selected EECA countries, submits reports to the UN treaty bodies, and conducts activities, aimed at raising capacity building of communities, NGOs and human rights activists in addressing human rights violations in EECA countries.

**2020 results:**

- ✓ Analysis of sustainability of opioid agonist therapy (OAT) in [Belarus](#), [Moldova](#) and [Tajikistan](#) was conducted based on the methodology earlier developed by EHRA "[Measuring the sustainability of opioid agonist therapy \(OAT\) – a guide for assessment in the context of donor transition](#)". The webinars with Belarus, Moldova and Tajikistan national stakeholders including NGOs, community leaders and government officials to present the analysis were conducted. EHRA methodology was also used for analysis conduction in [Ukraine](#) funded by OSF.
- ✓ The project complimented the activities implemented by EHRA within the multicountry project SoS, in particular:
  - Hiring the international consultant to conduct regional workshop for activists and professionals on how to document human rights violations and on mechanism in place to support such violations for South Eastern European countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, the Republic of North Macedonia, Romania and Serbia, and support EHRA in reports development to UN human rights treaty bodies;
  - Travel of EHRA representative and a representative of community of people who use drugs organization from Ukraine VOLNA to Geneva to participate in the CESCR 67 session on Feb 17-21, 2020 where Ukraine report was discussed.

**7. SUPPORT TO LEGAL ENVIRONMENT ASSESSMENT IN ARMENIA ON HIV AND TB IN 2019**

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Granted by The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GF)

Duration: Jul 2019 – Dec 2020

Budget: 39 860 USD

Project Status: completed

Target Countries and territories: Armenia

**Aim / Objectives:**

The Armenia Legal Environment Assessment (LEA) on HIV and Tuberculosis has to review laws, regulations and policies, law enforcement, legal empowerment and access to justice in the context of health, to identify the nature and extent of stigma, discrimination, gender inequality, gender – based violence and other human rights – related barriers to services experienced by people living with HIV and/or affected with TB.

The findings and recommendations from the LEA will serve as basis for the formulation and advancement of key policy changes to affect and accelerate access to health services, at a crucial time as the country is preparing to take over response to these epidemic s with decreasing donor funding.

**2020 results:**

- Inception report on LEA conduction process developed;
- LEA process coordination and communication procedures between CRG Working Group under CCM, CCM of Armenia, Ministry of Health of Armenia and LEA Team were established and functioning;
- 4 focus-groups with key populations representatives and 20 interviews with national partners were conducted;

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- LEA report was developed in Armenian, translated into English and revised by UNDP EECA Regional Team and the Global Fund.

## 8. PEER2PEER: REINFORCING PEER'S INVOLVEMENT IN OUTREACH WORK

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Granted by Agência Piaget para o Desenvolvimento (APDES) under grant funded by the European Commission

Duration: Mar 2019 – Dec2020

Budget: 43,378 EUR

Project Status: in progress

Target Countries and territories: Portugal, Greece, Poland, Lithuania, Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Hungary

### Aim / Objectives:

- To mitigate gaps in scientific literature regarding formal and informal cooperation between key-actors in outreach interventions addressing PUPS;
- To validate the effectivity of cooperation practices in outreach work, through case studies at local level;
- To advocate for the upscaling of evidence-based cooperating practices in outreach interventions, especially the integration of PE. The active participation of different key-actors will promote the upscaling of European heritage and the advocacy function of CSO;
- To develop dissemination strategies targeting the greater audience, maximising the project impact by raising the general public's awareness of the need to develop more effective approaches to support PUPS.

### 2020 results:

- Organized and conducted 2<sup>nd</sup> Focus group in Lithuania to discuss with national stakeholders the empirical applicability of the data produced in the WP2 [Research], namely the conclusions from the Scoping Review and the Go-Along Interviews. After that Content analysis was prepared and sent to partners for the development of final report.
- On 25-27<sup>th</sup> September [PEER2PEER training](#) was organized in Lithuania, based on the developed training manual. 16 participants, who are peers from NGO "Young Wave" took part in the training.
- Training manual translated into Lithuanian language.
- [Discussion Forum](#) "Involvement of peers and outreach workers into the provision of the harm reduction services in the nightlife settings" in Vilnius was organized on 8<sup>th</sup> October. 17 participants took part in it: 3 – policy makers/ decision makers; 2 - public health institution representatives; 2 – harm reduction service providers for people who inject drugs; 3 – harm reduction service providers for people who use drugs in for recreational purposes; 4 – NGOs representatives (working in advocacy field); 3 – nightlife settings representatives.
- [Discussion Forum](#) "Involvement of peers and outreach workers into the provision of the harm reduction services" in Kaunas was organized on 20<sup>th</sup> October. 12 participants took part in it: 1 – detention centre representative; 1 – housing/ temporary accommodation services representative; 2 – policy makers/ decision makers; 3 - public health institution representatives; 3 – harm reduction service providers for people who use drugs (low threshold services); 2 – NGOs representatives (working in advocacy field).
- [National Dialogue meeting](#) (Virtual national advocacy seminar "Harm reduction in Lithuania: where we are and where we are moving forward?") in Lithuania was organized on 26-27 November. Event was attended by Lithuania low-threshold service providers, NGOs, community, as well by governmental institutions representatives from the Drug, Tobacco and Alcohol Control department, Ministry of Health and National Public Health Centre with 35 participants.
- Pilot intervention was implemented. Aim of it to promote community health by enabling the young population in festivals and recreational settings to manage their drug use and related



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risks in a proper, well-informed way which fits into their life's concepts. It was implemented by "Young Wave", with the support from EHRA. It lasted from July to November 2020.

- [Subtitles into Lithuanian](#) language made for the video on Peer2Peer.
- Participation in the European Advisory Group online meetings to share best practices and to discuss transferable methods regarding formal and informal cooperation between key-actors in outreach interventions addressing PUPS. During the meetings Guiding Principles in cooperation practises in outreach work were developed, as well as Policy Recommendations were designed.

## 9. SUSTAINABILITY OF SERVICES FOR KEY POPULATIONS IN THE EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA REGION

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Granted by 100% Life under a multi-country program funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GF)

Duration: Jan 2019 – Dec 2021

Budget: 209, Project Status: in progress

Target Countries and territories: Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan<sup>456</sup> USD

### Aim / Objectives:

- Development of an online methodology for monitoring and analysis of the implementation of transition plans, conduction of regular monitoring and analysis of the transition plans implementation in those project countries where transition plans are being developed.
- Collection and analysis of data on human rights violations and the quality of services for drug users, the development of a system of follow-up reaction, including the submission of cases to international human rights instruments.
- Conduction of a seminar for activists and professionals from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia to collect data on human rights violations and reaction mechanisms.

### 2020 results:

- ✓ The methodological Guide "Benchmarking sustainability of the HIV response in the context of transition from donor funding" and transition monitoring tool (TMT) to conduct the assessment of the fulfilment of HIV related sustainability commitments given by the governments of EECA countries in the context of their transition from the Global Fund's support to national funding was developed.
- EHRA jointly with partner organizations submitted reports to UN human rights treaty bodies:
  - [Submission](#) on Ukraine to UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR);
    - [Letter](#) to the Special Rapporteur on the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health on protecting and promoting the health of people who use drugs during the COVID-19 emergency;
    - [Submission](#) on Russia to the UN Human Rights Committee;
    - [Submission](#) on Russia to UN Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW);
    - [Submission](#) on Russia to the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and to the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and ;
    - [Submissions](#) to the Committee against Torture for the 70th session on the Third Periodic Report of the Kyrgyz Republic.
- ✓ Online regional workshop for 20 activists and professionals on gathering data on human rights violations and on reaction mechanism to such violations for South East Europe countries

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(Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia) was conducted.

- ✓ EHRA educational platform was enlarged with 13 educational [videos](#) and 1 podcast on human rights.

## 10. NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCE USE IN KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, GEORGIA AND SERBIA

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Granted by Swansea University under a research grant provided by the Global Challenges Research Fund

Duration: Jan 2020 – Dec 2020

Budget: 38,890 £

Project Status: completed

Target Countries and territories: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Serbia with additional activities in Estonia and Lithuania

### Aim / Objectives:

The objective of the project is to generate a more accurate picture of the use of new psychoactive substances (NPS) in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia and Serbia and harm reduction and law enforcement responses to the emerging NPS in countries.

### 2020 results:

- 4 researches were conducted and reports on New Psychoactive Substance use were prepared in: [Kazakhstan](#), [Kyrgyzstan](#), [Georgia](#) and [Serbia](#).
- Article "[New psychoactive substances in Eurasia: a qualitative study of people who use drugs and harm reduction services in six countries](#)" was developed and published in Harm Reduction Journal.
- 3 national webinars were organized in [Kazakhstan](#), [Kyrgyzstan](#) and Serbia. The aim was to invite national stakeholders, present them EHRA reports and discuss next steps, recommendations in developing services for people who use NPS.
- In the end of 2020, 2 more researches in Estonia and Lithuania were conducted. However, reports will be published in 2021.
- [Leaflet on NPS overdoses and responses](#) to it was prepared for the overdose awareness day in English and Russian.
- Webinar for ENPUD members on NPS. Presentation can be found [here](#).
- [Presentation on NPS](#) during webinar by #HR4Homelessness on Harm, Risk & Vulnerability, for social workers, who are working with homeless people.

## 11. LET'S TALK ABOUT DRUGS – NEW METHODS OF COMMUNICATION WITH YOUTH – LET ME

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Granted by Jaunimo tarptautinio bendradarbiavimo agentūra (JTBA) under the European Commission program ERASMUS+

Duration: Feb. 2020 – Dec. 2021 (extended to the end of April 2022)

Budget: 195 074.00 EUR (54 259.00 EUR for EHRA)

Project Status: in progress

Target Countries and territories: Lithuania, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Serbia

### Aim / Objectives:

The aim of the project is to support youth workers, educators (peer educators), street workers, harm reduction specialists working directly with youth who can potentially using drugs or already use them with the innovative approaches and methods on drug education.



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The objectives of the project are:

- to conduct an assessment on the situation on drug education in the project countries (both – at schools and in the NGOs) and based on it to prepare a report;
- to develop a “Manual on Drug Education” for youth workers and educators, which will provide the innovative, attractive and effective way to reach young people with knowledge about drugs and the risks of their use;
- to produce online videos on selected drug-related issues to educate young people, peers and the public about drug-related risks and harms and effective ways to reduce them;
- to provide 3 series of training courses for the participants of the project, based on the “Manual on Drug Education” and equip participants with new knowledge on drug education in youth work;
- to share and discuss project outputs and build partnerships among different stakeholders on national level, through organizing 5 multiplier events in the project countries;
- to disseminate project outputs on national, European and regional levels.

**2020 results:**

- ✓ [KICK-OFF MEETING OF THE PROJECT](#) “LET’s Talk about drugs - new METHODS of communication with youth” PARTNERS in Vilnius, Lithuania on 25-26 February, 2020. The aim of kick-off meeting was to introduce partners to each other and to the project activities.
- ✓ Development of project website: <https://drugeducationyouth.org/>
- ✓ Logo of the project is developed.
- ✓ Assessment on the situation on drug education in the project countries is conducted and [report prepared in 6 languages](#).
- ✓ [Webinar](#) on presentation of results was organized on 30<sup>th</sup> November.

**12. OVERCOMING LEGAL BARRIERS FOR KEY POPULATIONS – ON THE WAY TO 90-90-90**

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Granted by the Elton John AIDS Foundation

Duration: Oct. 2020 – Sep. 2022

Budget: 729,975 USD

Project Status: in progress

Target Countries and territories: Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova and regional activities

**Aim / Objectives:**

The project aim is to improve the effectiveness of HIV continuum of care by overcoming legal barriers for the most vulnerable key populations on the EECA city level.

Objective 1: To build capacity of paralegals and supporting legal experts in selected EECA cities to address legal barriers in the access of key populations to HIV continuum of care.

Objective 2: To provide legal assistance to people from vulnerable populations to overcome legal barriers to get access to HIV continuum of care.

Objective 3: To address cases of systemic legal barriers to decrease stigma, discrimination and criminalization and ultimately to decrease vulnerability of key populations to HIV and improve their access to HIV continuum of care.

**2020 results:**

- ✓ Project Monitoring, evaluation and learning plan and framework was developed;
- ✓ Expert partner agreements with HIV Legal Network, ECOM - Eurasian Coalition on Health, Rights, Gender and Sexual Diversity and Sex Workers' Rights Advocacy Network (SWAN) were signed;
- ✓ Sub-recipient contracts with national partner organizations were signed;

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- Georgia – Centre for Information and Counselling on Reproductive Health “Tanadgoma”
- Kazakhstan – Kazakhstan Union of People Living with HIV
- Moldova – Union for HIV prevention and harm reduction (UORN);
- ✓ 13 individual contracts with regional paralegals, legal experts, project manager and project coordinator were signed;
- ✓ Country project teams include:
  - Georgia – 12 paralegals and 2 legal experts;
  - Kazakhstan – 5 paralegals and 1 legal expert;
  - Moldova – 12 paralegals and 2 legal experts;
  - regionally – 9 paralegals and 2 legal experts.
- ✓ [Educational materials for paralegals](#) on HIV cascade and human rights, instruments of paralegals, 7 steps in paralegals' work, and peculiarities of work with different key populations groups were developed.

### 13. ACCESS TO COMPREHENSIVE CARE FOR WOMEN USING DRUGS IN CASE OF VIOLENCE

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Granted by the Alliance for public health under project funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GF)

Duration: Nov. 2020 – Jun. 2021

Budget: 73.119,00 USD

Project Status: in progress

Target Countries and territories: Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

#### Aim / Objectives:

Build or strengthen partnerships on the local and national level between HR services and shelters, psychosocial (including psychiatry) and legal counsel service providers to ensure that health and human rights of WUD who experience violence are protected in the time of COVID-19.

- Develop recommendations on referring WUD the victims of violence and human rights violations, for getting legal and psychosocial (including psychiatric) support and temporary shelter.
- Carry out a two-day on-line training for HR service organizations on building systems of referral to provide psychosocial (including psychiatric) support, shelter and legal counsel to WUD experiencing violence and human rights violations.
- Provide 5 small grants to NGOs in 5 countries on building systems of referring WUD experiencing violence and human rights violations to shelters, legal and psychosocial (including psychiatric) support within HR projects.
- Share experience regionally on best practices referring WUD experiencing violence and human rights violations to shelters, legal and psychiatric support.

#### 2020 results:

- ✓ **The Expert Group** formed to help EHRA throughout implementation of the project: advise on the text of Recommendations, provide information on access to services for women using drugs experiencing violence in their countries and the region. The Expert Group consists of 8 members from Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania/EHRA, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine.
- ✓ The online **training “Organizing support to women using drugs in case of violence”** was held on 10, 11 and 14 December 2020 in English and Russian. Participants (18) came from Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, The Netherlands, Serbia, Slovakia, Russia and

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Ukraine. The experience with the training topic of the participants ranged from extensive (e.g. Kyrgyzstan) to minimal (e.g. Serbia).

- ✓ The most relevant topics of the training for participants were: services for women using drugs experiencing violence and types of violence; analysis of partners in provision of services; analysis of the needs of women experiencing violence, existing services and level of access to services for women using drugs; security issues of women using drugs experiencing violence when they turn to services and of staff providing services in case of violence.
- ✓ EHRA **selected partners** for the further implementation of the project in the countries:
  - "Revansh", Kazakhstan
  - "HOPS - Healthy Options Project Skopje", Macedonia
  - "Re Generation", Serbia
  - "Convictus Ukraine", Ukraine.

### ORGANIZATIONAL RISKS AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

The EHRA's Risk Register is a main monitoring tool to prevent potential risks in governance, decision making, finances, operational planning and program implementation, environmental and political situation in countries of EHRA's operation. The latest assessment and review of organizational risks was conducted by EHRA management together with the Steering Committee members during virtual Steering Committee Annual Meeting on 18 November, 2020. All updates were included into the Risk Register 2021. In the table below extracted risks only with high likelihood or high impact.

GOVERNANCE / DECISION MAKING	
RISK	ACTION
Lack of participation and disengagement of Steering Committee members resulting poor and disbalance strategic decisions.	To keep SC in focus of and inform about EHRA activities; Conduct regular on-line and off-line meetings; Review SC regulations/policy with clear roles and responsibilities as needed.
Members of SC block decisions resulting inability to conduct operations	Introduction of Ethical code and Ethical Committee. Selection of partners for projects in countries is conducted through open competition.
FINANCIAL	
RISK	ACTION
Weak systems of financial management, budget control and financial reporting	Regular review and improvement of financial procedures and policies. Development of the Code of conduct.
Underqualified of financial expertise of the staff Overstretching financial staff due to increase number of projects	periodic training, self-study, study of new recommendations and donor requirements recruiting additional financial consultants for short-term contracts, specific projects or tasks
Lack of resources for EHRA activities	Constant and Intensive fundraising; informing donors about EHRA activities and development in harm reduction field; do not take thoughtlessly financial management; work without office; work without sub-granting.
Dependency on one-two donors or projects.	Broadened donor portfolio; financial planning and forecasting; fundraising strategy which will include "new" donors from human rights, public health and border areas.
OPERATIONAL	
RISK	ACTION

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Remote work of all Secretariat staff	Regular program staff communication is organized. Teambuilding activities.
ENVIRONMENTAL / POLITICAL	
RISK	ACTION
COVID-19 crises: rapid changes in advocacy priorities, cooperation with state, access to services	To keep harm reduction in the post COVI-19 agenda. Contingency plan for all projects is developed.
Changes in government policies in CEECA countries, war conflicts between countries, revolutions within countries	To monitor the political situation in countries and being flexible in supporting partners. Identify and maintain key relationships with governments and donors; safeguarding the operations and information sharing through regional mechanisms to mitigate effect of repressive policy monitor proposed legal and regulatory changes.
Ban on operation in any of the CEECA countries where EHRA has its members, including a ban on the dissemination of information in Russian in connection with the introduction of laws on "drug propaganda"	Introducing mutual support between EHRA members from different countries or financial agents to support activities in "closed" for support countries. Creation of reserve web pages for information in Russian, distribution of information on how to use bypass mechanisms to enter prohibited sites. Advocacy actions at the regional level to counter the proliferation of bans on the dissemination of information on harm reduction.
Due to the political status in countries, we cannot disburse money to countries	Introducing mutual support between EHRA members from different countries or financial agents to support activities in "closed" for support countries
MEMBERSHIP / BENEFICIARIES	
RISK	ACTION
A significant drop in number of organizations/activists working in drug policy field at national level caused by lack of support or repressions	Technical assistance aiming financial and operational sustainability of those organizations.
Close down of harm reduction programs in CEECA countries	Strengthen advocacy from regional networks; advocacy for bridging funding; attract attention of donors to the problem; document cases and consequences of funding withdrawal; resource mobilization; encourage alternative funding of services.

<sup>i</sup> Среди выпущенных в 2020 году публикаций есть [обзор](#) программ снижения вреда в ситуации COVID-19, [обзор](#) законодательных инициатив в области ответственности за пропаганду наркотиков в России, Украине и Казахстане, [анализ](#) соразмерности введенных штрафов за хранение наркотических средств в Кыргызской Республике, справочник «Цена криминализации», Юридический анализ нарушений прав человека женщин, употребляющих наркотики, в России, [отчет](#) о состоянии снижения вреда в Евразии, отчет исследования по ситуации в области образовательной работы по вопросам, связанным с наркотиками в 5 странах - Литве, Польше, Венгрии, Болгарии, Сербии, [результаты](#) пилотного исследования по удовлетворенности клиентов программами ОЗТ в Украине, [опубликовали](#) 4 отчета исследования по НПИВ в Грузии, Казахстане, Узбекистане, Сербии, Научная статья о НПИВ принята к публикации в рецензируемый журнал Harm Reduction Journal, подготовили [методологию](#) оценки устойчивости программ поддерживающей терапии агонистами опиоидов (ПТАО), провели оценку устойчивости ПТАО в [Беларуси](#), [Таджикистане](#), [Молдове](#), [Украине](#) и Молдове, опубликовали [сборник](#) "Альтернативное финансирование: модели устойчивого развития некоммерческих организаций".

<sup>i</sup> More information on projects is on EHRA website <https://harmreductioneurasia.org/projects/>