

RESOLUTION

of the International Conference "Drugs - A threat to Democracy (Global Drug Phenomenon)" held by Representatives of the Public Organizations on October 24, 1997, Vilnius

Participants of the Conference & Representatives of the Public Organizations acknowledge, that the drugs make a serious problem in medical care, legal and social spheres of Lithuania. Constantly accelerating proliferation of drugs and drug - addiction among youth and teenagers arise great concern particularly. In accordance with data received from the Ministry of Health, the number of drug-addicts increased by 5 times, and drug -addicts teenagers - even by 7 times during the last 5 year. Crime connected with drug usage increased by 7 times. The third epidemic - drug addiction joined by other two -alcoholism and smoking - is threatening with the early death cases to our descendants.

This turn of events is in hand only to drug dealers making money from our misfortunes. Constant increase of drug Mafia's income present opportunities to them to bribe our officials, to smug inside governmental institutions and to regulate economic process with the help of black money. Our market is destroyed by that as well as foundations of our democracy.

We consider, that we shall be able to combat the Drugs' Death exceptionally by uniting all endeavors of public organizations and governmental institutions, by making joint action plan and programs. Only then we shall be able to become sufficiently strong to attract attention of Lithuanian and International institutions. We invite Lithuanian public organizations to give their consent to the proposal made by the Lithuanian Temperance Foundation on October 10, 1997, and to arrange a Joint Action Plan for Public Organizations "Drug-Free Lithuania". The most important goals should be:

- To stimulate Lithuanian Parliament and Government to ratify the United Nation Conventions of 1961, 1971, 1988;
- To encourage the Parliament and the Government to formulate an unambiguous drug control policy and laws based on the above-mentioned conventions and in accordance with the principles of the Joint Action Plan, adopted by the European Council on December 17, 1996;
- To prepare educational programs for schools and public, to arrange events with explanatory work on the psychoactive materials such as alcohol and tobacco control liberalization, to confront attempts to make legal some presently prohibited drugs;
- To enhance Lithuanian cities to join the organization " European Cities Against Drugs";
- To facilitate Lithuanian Youth Organizations to join the Hassela Solidarity;
- To develop Joint Program of Drug Control and Prevention for Lithuanian NGO's and address Lithuanian and International organization for fund raising;
- To join the Movement "Drug-Free Lithuania".

We believe, that the Conference, arranged by "European Cities Against Drugs" organization, Health Care Committee of Lithuanian Parliament and Health Care Ministry was a good opportunity to start a close cooperation between governmental and public institutions, and to strengthen the relations with the International organizations. This is a good beginning of an important work.

Hereby, let us express our great appreciation to the leaders of the organizations Mr. Torgny Peterson, Mr. Antanas Matulas and Professor Juozas Galdikas, to adviser to the Health Committee of the Parliament Mr. Rytis Virbalis and to deputy chairman of the Governmental Drug Control Commission Dr. Ona Grimalauskienė. We express our gratitude to municipal offices of the City of Vilnius, to the vice mayor Juozas Raistenskis, Center of AIDS, and to the Head of the Rehabilitation Community of Drug-Addicts Mr. Linas Gasiliauskas, without the help of whose hardly would be possible to hold the Conference.

Most cordial thanks to the guests from abroad - Dr Borge Sømmer, (the Kingdom of the Denmark), Dr Günning (Holland), Dr Aeschbach (Switzerland), who delivered their precious time and finances making reports on drug situation in their countries, to Dr Bert Dorembos (Holland) and to Mr. Carl Vilbaek. All of them have been of great help arranging the Conference.

Thanks to Mr. Antanas Švitra, a deputy chairman of the Health Committee of the Parliament, an excellent mediator of the conference meetings.