

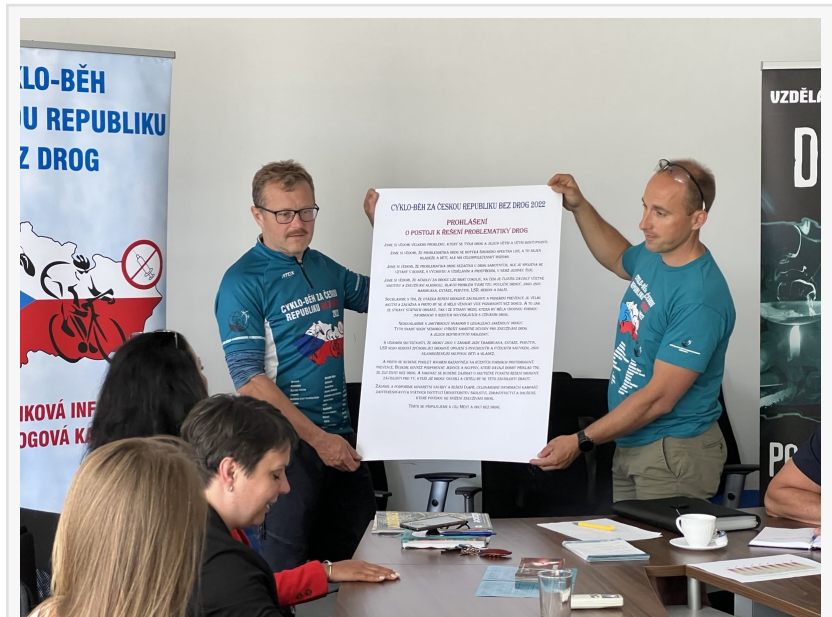
# European Scientologists start their activities of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

*Scientists join Drug Free promotion activities while concurrently the Scientology TV marks International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking,*

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, June 23, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The United Nations set aside June 26 as International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking “to promote action and cooperation toward the goal of an international society free of drug abuse.” And at no time has it been more urgent to do so.

Concurrently with the activities that Scientists do in Europe and around the world to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the [Scientology](#) Network marks the day by focusing on humanitarians who are working to end the drug abuse crisis in towns and cities across the world.

According to a study published in 2018, illicit drug use was responsible for over 750,000 deaths per year. In the U.S. alone, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicate that more than 105,000 lives were lost due to overdose in 2021. Dr. Christian Mirre, from the Foundation Drug Free Europe,



Drug Free World volunteers in Czech city halls, showing the Drug Free Promise



Drug Free Cyclo run with Mayor in Czech

explained that "Most of the cocaine available in Europe, using well organized networks, continues to be smuggled into the largest container ports of the European Union (EU) located in Belgium (Antwerp), the Netherlands (Rotterdam) and Spain (Valencia and Algeciras). In addition to Hamburg (Germany), ports in France (Le Havre, Dunkerque, Marseille), Romania (Constanta), and Italy (Gioia Tauro), have also become significant cocaine entry points. The German authorities have attributed the recent increase in seizures in the port of Hamburg to the activities of Balkan and Albanian-speaking organised crime networks (BundesKriminalAmt, 2021)".

Little wonder that the United Nations Office of [Drugs](#) and Crime (UNODC) is calling for "urgent action to protect people, including by strengthening drug use prevention..." And this is why they selected #CareInCrisis as this year's slogan for International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

Every Church of Scientology in Europe and the world over, have prepared and carrying out a series of events to mark the day. A very particular one is happening in Czech Republic, where, faithful to L. Ron Hubbards commitment to help end the plague of drugs, volunteers undertook a 14 days cyclo run, with over 150 daily kilometers by bike, visiting 41 cityhalls, and lecturing to over 10.000 children on the side effects of drugs.

For thos who want to be inspired, it is a easy as turning on the Scienotology Network in their own language, and learn how drug-prevention activists are saving lives.

A global problem demands a global solution. Which is why the Church of Scientology developed the Truth About Drugs, now one of the world's largest nongovernmental drug information and prevention initiatives. In 2006, Foundation for a Drug-Free World, a secular nonprofit corporation, was formed to serve as the primary distributor of the educational materials and to develop new materials to meet the challenge of continually changing drug trends.

Scientology Network is marking this year's International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking by featuring episodes of the original series Voices for Humanity, documenting the work of drug-prevention activists who are saving lives:

On the streets of Los Angeles, former addict David Sanchez uses Foundation for a Drug-Free World materials to give kids the street smarts they need to make the right choice about living drug-free. "I knew that I had to find a way to educate people," he says. "Knowing about something that could hurt you is half the battle of being able to defeat it."

Some 8,700 miles away in Malaysia, Khai Aziz, lead singer of the hard-core straight-edge punk band Second Combat, uses his music to spread the message to youth that there's nothing cool about using drugs. Straight edge is hardcore punk whose adherents refrain from using drugs. And with drug dealers targeting younger and younger children, Aziz is fighting back, using the Foundation's Truth About Drugs initiative to reach kids in school.

Lithuanian-born Ingrida Lingyte's life was changed forever when her mother was killed and her sister paralyzed in an accident caused by a drunk driver. Years later, on a visit to Colombia, she fell in love with the country and made it her home. To combat Colombia's drug culture and the suffering it causes, Lingyte and her team have reached one-fifth of the country's population with the Truth About Drugs. And they're still going strong.

Episodes on these and many more drug-prevention activists will be airing throughout the day, showing how people from all walks of life, nationalities and affiliations are using the Truth About Drugs initiative to raise awareness about drugs and help people make the decision to live drug-free lives.

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, "Prevention strategies based on scientific evidence working with families, schools, and communities can ensure that children and youth, especially the most marginalized and poor, grow and stay healthy and safe into adulthood and old age. For every dollar spent on prevention, at least ten can be saved in future health, social and crime costs."

Noting the role substance abuse plays in the disintegration of the social fabric, Scientology Founder L. Ron Hubbard wrote, "Research has demonstrated that the single most destructive element present in our current culture is drugs."

Foundation for a Drug-Free World was formed in 2006 to serve as the primary distributor of educational materials and to develop new materials to meet the challenge of continually changing drug trends. The Foundation has grown to a network of some 200 chapters around the world. Thanks to the support of the Church of Scientology and Scientologists, it provides the Truth About Drugs secular program and materials free of charge to drug educators worldwide.

Voices for Humanity is a Scientology Network original series of short documentaries introducing changemakers from all faiths, cultures and nations as they extend help to their communities through Scientology-sponsored humanitarian programs.

Since launching with a special episode featuring Scientology ecclesiastical leader Mr. [David Miscavige](#), Scientology Network has been viewed in 240 countries and territories worldwide in 17 languages. Broadcast from Scientology Media Productions, the Church's global media center in Los Angeles, the Scientology Network is available on DIRECTV Channel 320 and can be streamed at [Scientology.tv](#), on mobile apps and via the Roku, Amazon Fire and Apple TV platforms.

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