European Forum for Urban Security

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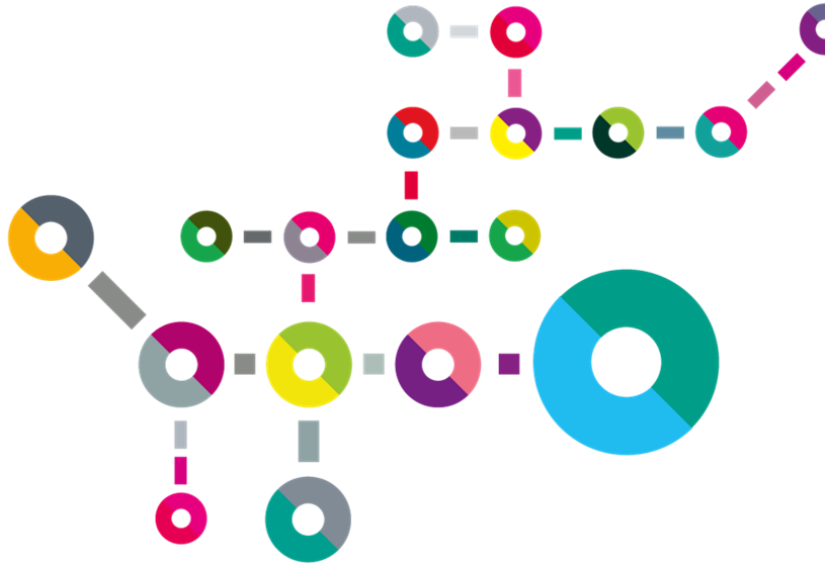

A network of European local and regional authorities

Working together for safer cities and regions

1987 : Meeting of European mayors in Barcelona highlighting the observation: **no other level of governance represents citizens better than cities**

250 member local and regional authorities in 17 European countries

5 national forums (BE-DE-ES-FR-IT)

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Objectives

Promote a balanced vision of urban security:

Prevention – Sanction – Social Cohesion

Support local and regional authorities in the design, implementation and evaluation of their local security policies

Reinforce the role of local elected officials within national and European governance

Building Europe through its cities and citizens

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Our approach to urban security

Democratic legitimacy, involvement of local actors, co-production with citizens

Protection of human rights

Prevention as a strategic and rational approach

Sharing of knowledge and good practices

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Topics

Gender equality and Gender-based violence

Specific Groups

Organised Crime

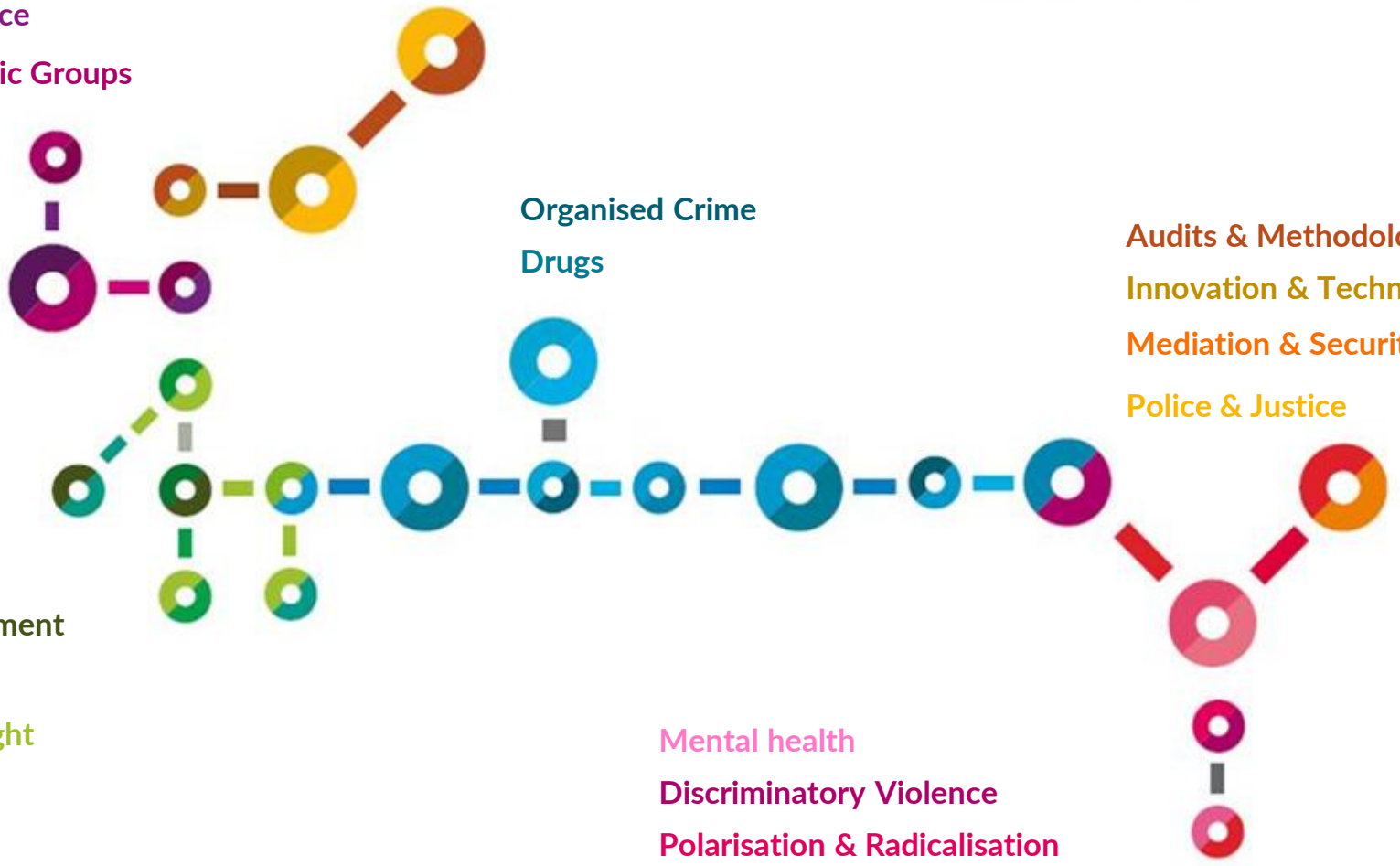
Drugs

Audits & Methodology

Innovation & Technology

Mediation & Security related professions

Police & Justice



Crisis Management

Public Spaces

The City at Night

Mental health

Discriminatory Violence

Polarisation & Radicalisation

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Our activities

Building knowledge on a specific issue

- Resources (+60 publications, +300 practice sheets ...)
- Thematic working groups
- Bespoke training

Facilitating exchanges among peers

- Access to a Europe-wide network
- Organisation of conferences (on and off-line) and field visits
- 12 European cooperation projects

Supporting the design, implementation and evaluation of local policies

- Information on and assistance in obtaining European grants
- Implementation and management of cooperation projects
- The Innovation Studio

Representing our members before national and European authorities

- Manifesto and resolutions
- Participation in the European Commission's public consultations

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Our ecosystem

Civil society

National, European and international institutions and governments

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Universities

Private sector

National Forums

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A wide network of partnerships

European Committee
of the Regions

The Security, Democracy and Cities conference

Past editions:

- Brussels, 2024
- Nice, 2021
- Catalonia & Barcelona, 2017
- Aubervilliers & Saint-Denis, 2012
- Saragossa, 2006
- Naples, 2000
- Paris, 1991
- Montreal, 1989

Next edition in 2027!

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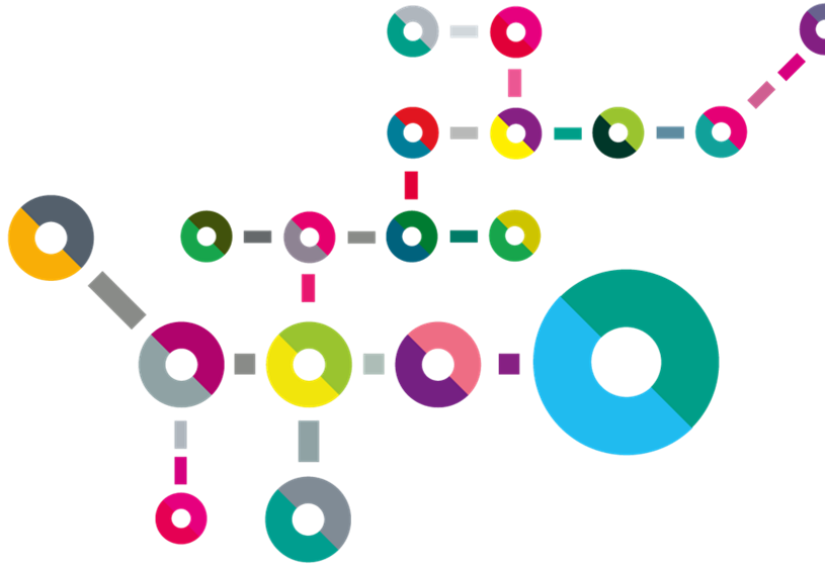
Efus initiatives & projects on drugs and organised crimes



Coalition of the Willing

against drug-related violence and trafficking

Coalition of the willing
against drug-related violence and trafficking

Drug trafficking is increasing violence in cities, undermining social cohesion and public trust in institutions

Cities face a complex and evolving threat, which leaves leaders and stakeholders on the field feeling overwhelmed and possibly discouraged

Rather than falling into inaction, mayors choose to stand together and act in a proactive and pragmatic way - showing that many are actually already working towards prevention, sanction and solutions

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Objectives

The Coalition aims to:

- Strengthen prevention, public health and resilience.
- Share and promote promising local initiatives and solutions.
- Combine prevention, law enforcement and cooperation.
- Equip local authorities and strengthen their voice at European level.

Coalition of the willing
against drug-related violence and trafficking

→ A collective response is needed at the local and EU levels

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From Drug-Related Challenges to Integrated Local Responses

Drug-related issues are interconnected and require a multidisciplinary approach addressing:

- **Prevention & early intervention (** Entry into drug use,Youth vulnerability)
- **Drug markets & organised crime (**Production, Trafficking…)
- **Economic & institutional harms (** Corruption, Money laundering)

Cities are developing innovative, multidisciplinary responses

Tackling money laundering
Using administrative tools such as business closures, urban planning measures and other local regulations.

Creating safer public spaces
Implementing harm reduction measures in consultation with local residents.

Preventing damages linked to drug use
Strengthening social prevention, reducing the onset of drug use and supporting families.

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Cities & Drugs: Towards Local Governance Balancing Security, Health and Social Cohesion in Brussels (June 2026)

City of Brussels, City of Lisbon, City of Gdańsk, City of Setúbal, City of Mannheim, City of Düsseldorf, City of Cologne, Région Sud (France), City of Fort-de-France, City of Torino, City of Tampere, City of Mechelen, City of Amsterdam, City of Liège

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The Coalition in Action

SHARE

Resources, knowledge & promising practices

CONNECT

Webinars, seminars & workshops

Co-producing innovative solutions

CO-CREATE

Working groups within European projects

CAPABLE • PRISM…

ENGAGE

Dialogue with European institutions & organisations

DG HOME • EUDA • EUCPN • GITOC • Research centres…

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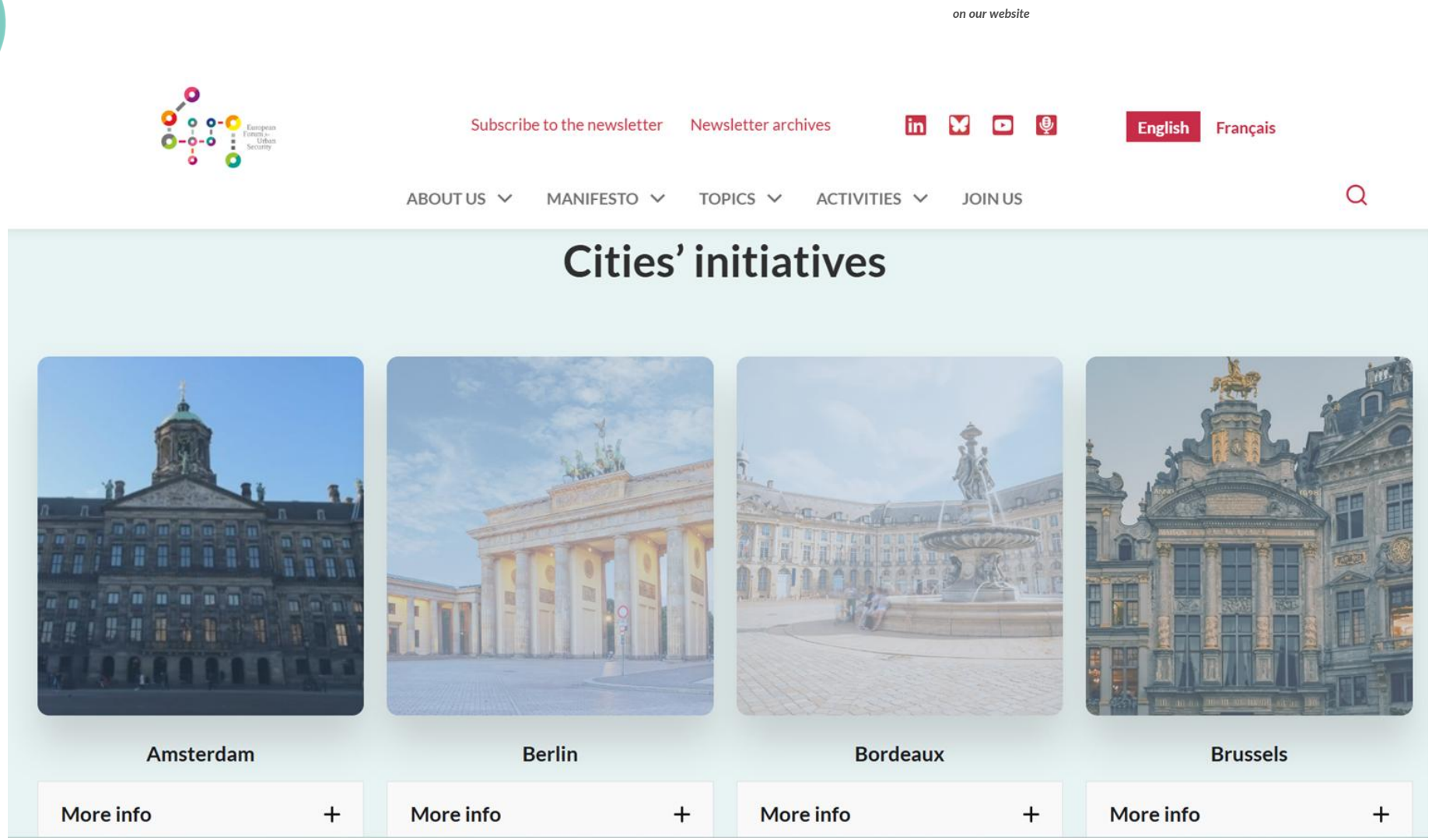
Highlight cities's initiatives

on our website



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PRISM

Preventing Drug Market-Related Violence through Local Action

From local understanding to practical, tested and transferable prevention solutions

01 THE CHALLENGE

Drug market-related violence is becoming more complex across European cities.

- Violence in public spaces
- Youth vulnerability & exploitation
- Public health harms
- Distrust in institutions

02 THE PRISM RESPONSE

Empowering local authorities and frontline actors at the centre.

🔎 UNDERSTAND — Local diagnostics
🛠️ DEVELOP — PRISM decision-support tool
🎓 STRENGTHEN — Targeted training
🧪 TEST — Real-life city pilots
🔄 SHARE — Mutual learning & transfer

03 THE IMPACT

Turning evidence into concrete local action.

- Stronger local capacities
- Better multi-agency cooperation
- Tested & transferable practices
- Safer, more resilient communities

UNDERSTAND → DEVELOP → TEST → TRANSFER

Research + Innovation + Capacity Building + Real-life Pilots

Co-funded by the European Union

CAPABLE - Context & objectives

CONTEXT

- Multifaceted challenges of the drug phenomenon in European cities, affecting public health, security and social cohesion
- Fragmented work effort from different local services (local authorities, law enforcement, and social services)
- High vulnerability of the youth to drug use and trafficking

Main objective : To training local stakeholders and enhance their ability to address the complexities of youth involvement in drug market

Specific objectives

1. Fostering cooperation, knowledge exchange and capacity building among local stakeholders
2. Equip local practitioners with the tools to understand the different aspects and mechanisms of drug market at local level today in European cities/regions
3. Bridge gaps between lack of comprehensive knowledge on evolving drug markets and prevention/harm reduction strategies
4. Advocate for an integrated, multi-stakeholder approach that balances prevention, health, and security concerns

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Thank you for your attention

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