

## **YRN Committee “Health and Social Affairs”**

### **1<sup>st</sup> workshop: Cannabis - regulate the market to break the deadlock?**

Today, the cannabis' consumption became ordinary for a lot of people. Older as well as younger people smoke this product meanwhile it stills prohibited in the most countries in Europe. And the consumption increases! There are several reasons for that: to reduce pain, for pleasure, to decompress, to look cool...

The politics seem to be powerless against this phenomenon. Several reasons can be mentioned:

On the one hand, a lot of doctors and medical reports say that it is dangerous for the health, above all for young people as it is supposed to destroy their brains before they become adults. With high consumption it is also considered to be dangerous because you can feel slow motion, depressed and so you become inefficient to work, to study, to build your life. So, from these points of view, it is a bad product.

On the other hand, there are lots of arguments to legalize its consumption. First of all, on the philosophical level, the State can consider that each of us is free and responsible for himself to decide to smoke or not, or, at least, to regulate its own consumption. On the more material level, a lot of scientific reports say that the cannabis is less dangerous than other products as for example alcohol that is allowed to buy and to consume. Besides, it is recognized that cannabis can be an excellent treatment to reduce pain in serious diseases such as cancers. So people need to take it or even doctors prescribe it. Finally, the illegal sell and consumption of cannabis can be the source of many problems in the disadvantaged districts in town. Young people can have the impression that to participate to the black market of selling cannabis can be an easy way to earn money rather than to work at school. They are not aware that they get involved in a corrupted and dangerous business, where the law of the stronger is the rule, and where they run the risk to be out of the society, to know violence or death. If the State would control the market, it could eliminate this illegal business.

So the question is: What do we want for young people who sell or consume cannabis? What the State can do?

You should have a look on the law of your country, what is the position. Analyse some scientific reports and what happens in other states that decided to legalize cannabis.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> workshop: Contraception and abortion**

We will talk about the access to contraception and abortion in the European countries in order to continue our work of last time in Istanbul, and more precisely:

- If it is allowed or not
- If there are restrictive conditions to abort: for the girls one extra week to think over the decision whether to abort or not, the possibility for the doctor to refuse for whatever reason...

So please, make researches about your country position and other positions in Europe. Identify why in some countries it is not allowed. What are the lobbies for or against abortion. Who are the European deputies in favour of abortion.

Thanks and good work!