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**Dear APYN friends and supporters,**

As you probably already know, the Alcohol Policy Youth Network is a network of youth organizations and youth clubs that works towards the reduction of harmful effects of drinking by young people. Its mission is to mobilize young people across Europe to raise awareness about alcohol related topics and to become advocates of better alcohol policy at local, national and international levels. APYN conducts research into young people and alcohol and all its work is based on scientific evidence, being apolitical and independent from any source of private funding.

APYN was recently established as an international non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Slovenia, and until spring 2012 will undergo structural changes according to what is demanded by law. Currently APYN is managed by a Secretariat of five people (General Coordinator, Training and Membership Coordinator, Alcohol Policy Director, Institutional Follow Up Director and Press and Communications Director), but in the near future it will be mandatory to have a decision-making body that will be just supported by a Secretariat. During this time we will arrange a consultation among members (still not clear if only web-based or also in person) that will determine where do you want APYN to go.

A formal membership system will have to be created too. According to the current situation, we suggest APYN would have three different types of membership: National youth councils and national youth clubs confederations, transnational youth organization and other NGOs (local and national organizations). All groups would have a representative right to events and activities and already existing members would be offered a position as members.

**Since your organization has already collaborated with us, we would like to invite you to continue and contribute with your valuable input and experience to this consultation to provide sustainability to APYN.**

**If a representative of your organization would like to be included in the APYN 2011/12 Consultation working group, please send us the signed and stamped form that you can find in the attachment, with the contact details of the person responsible for your**

**organization for the time until the first General Assembly (GA) that will happen sometime between December 2011 and February 2012 (max 10 hours/ month with a possibility of an additional working weekend meeting).**

**In general we would like to have a representative from every member organization joining the group, but we are aware that due to work overflow, this would not be possible for everyone.**

The deadline to send back the fulfilled form is 15<sup>th</sup> September 2011, while the consultation process will start at the beginning on October 2011. When done, the official Call for members of the new bodies will be sent out and the GA with Elections will take place. The conclusions of this process will be formalised and will be used at the upcoming GA as an agreed new APYN structure.

This action yet does not mean any legal affiliation to the Network, but shows commitment that your organization is prepared to make APYN a better organization that will serve the members and not the other way around. The legal affiliation to the Network will happen just before the GA when all organizations will be asked to sign a Memorandum of Understanding that will be prepared during the consultation with APYN members.

Should you have any further questions, don't hesitate to contact us anytime.

Yours,

**Jan Peloza**  
Interim General Coordinator  
