



## European Delegates Meeting Of Narcotics Anonymous

**Egypt, France, French Speaking Swiss, German Speaking, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, UK, Ukraine, Western Russia**

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### **EDM MISSION STATEMENT**

**"The EDM is a European based forum of multi-lingual and multi-cultural NA communities inside and outside Europe, whose mission is to further their common welfare and unity, support their growth and help them fulfil their primary purpose of carrying the NA message to the still suffering addict"**

### **AN INTRODUCTION TO THE EUROPEAN DELEGATES MEETING**

This document is designed to introduce you to the basic facts about the EDM – who we are, what we do and how we do it. Hopefully this will help you to understand what's happening as soon as possible and participate fully in the meeting. Your contribution is a vital part of this meeting and we are here to help you. The *EDM Orientation Pack* contains more detailed information on the subjects mentioned here, but to start with we want to make you feel welcome and a part of this meeting.

### **Who are the members of the EDM?**

The delegates are representatives of communities in and around Europe. Some are Regions and some are Areas. Each community has an equal voice. Some delegates will have their alternates with them and some will have translators to enable them to participate. We meet twice a year; once in the summer at the same location as the European Convention and once in the winter.

The meeting is conducted by the steering committee, which consists of a chair, vice-chair, secretary and treasurer, each of whom serves a two year term. The steering committee also communicates with new and emerging communities who have yet to attend the EDM. The chair and vice-chair of the Fellowship Development sub-committee also attend each EDM. They present a full report of their activities between EDM meetings and participate in the discussions at the meeting.

We usually invite NA World Services to participate in our meetings. Their experience and knowledge is invaluable. They give a report on NAWS activities and often conduct workgroups or discussion sessions.

## **What does the EDM do?**

Delegates from all over Europe have been meeting informally to share information from their communities since 1984. This custom has evolved over the years to become the EDM. The most important thing that happens at the EDM is talking to each other. We discuss the issues that affect Europe and its surrounding areas, sharing the problems and finding solutions.

The EDM serves as the point of accountability for the European Convention. We decide on the location of the Convention and oversee the financial aspects of the event.

We also promote the growth of NA in our zone through Fellowship Development work, and the FD sub-committee respond to requests for help, organises trips and selects and trains the EDM members who carry them out. We co-operate with NA World Services when they organise workshops in the EDM zone and whenever possible, we fund delegates from newer communities to attend the EDM.

## **How does the EDM work?**

We always try to make our decisions by consensus, meaning that we try to come to an agreement rather than a majority decision. We believe that if we all agree on a course of action, our decisions will have greater strength. Full details of our consensus based decision process can be found in the *EDM Orientation Pack*.

The EDM has a full agenda for its three and a half day meeting. We hear reports from the steering committee, sub-committees, World Services and the communities attending. Communities not in attendance can send in written reports. The European Convention host committee will either be in attendance or send a progress report.

Communication is a vital part of the EDM. We try to ensure that everyone can participate, regardless of what language they speak. Reports from delegates and sub-committees are distributed well before the actual meeting so that we can all have a chance to read them. However, we are not limited to formal communication procedures alone. Many of us find it useful to ask for help and experience from our fellow delegates between meetings. Emailed requests can be circulated to all the members of the EDM by sending them to the Steering Committee at [edm\\_na@yahoo.com](mailto:edm_na@yahoo.com)

By pursuing our common purpose of carrying the message of recovery we can only strengthen our personal recoveries.

Welcome to the European Delegates Meeting.