

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002297/25
to the Commission
Loucas Fourlas (PPE)
(6 June 2025)**

Subject: The war on drugs

The spread of drugs, particularly among young people, remains one of the most important social threats in the European Union. New psychoactive substances are rapidly circulating on the market, often originating from non-EU countries, and are difficult to trace. At the same time, organised crime continues to use new trafficking methods, mainly using digital media and postal services.

Given the consequences for health, safety and social cohesion:

1. How does the Commission intend to strengthen the European early warning and information exchange mechanism on new substances?
2. What financial instruments are available to Member States for prevention and rehabilitation, particularly in school and youth settings?
3. Is there any intention to set up a pan-European information campaign on the dangers of drugs?

Submitted: 6.6.2025

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(22 July 2025)**

The new EU Drugs Strategy and Action Plan against drug trafficking announced in ProtectEU will reinforce EU's resilience against drug market threats ⁽¹⁾.

The EU Drugs Agency's (EUDA) Early Warning System is at the core of the EU response to new psychoactive substances. Regulation (EU) 2023/1322 ⁽²⁾ strengthened the Agency's mandate to identify, exchange information on and respond rapidly to the emergence of new substances with a new European Drug Alert System and health and security threat assessment capabilities.

Moreover, a network of forensic and toxicological laboratories was set up in 2024 to generate data and exchange information on new trends.

The EU4Health programme ⁽³⁾ supports actions to complement Member States' efforts in improving the health of children and young people ⁽⁴⁾, and in capacity-building ⁽⁵⁾ to tackle mental health challenges.

Horizon Europe supports research aimed at better understanding the mechanisms of addiction and build resilience, or at fighting addictions and improving lives with a comprehensive drug rehabilitation programme ⁽⁶⁾.

The EUDA cooperates with international organisations, such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organisation, to share best practices and coordinate responses on a global scale.

As part of the implementation of the EU Drugs Strategy ⁽⁷⁾ and Action Plan 2021-2025 ⁽⁸⁾, the EUDA makes available comprehensive information on evidence-based prevention interventions contributing to raising awareness on the adverse effects of drugs and effective prevention measures ⁽⁹⁾.

The ongoing Commission evaluation of the Drug Strategic Framework also covers the effectiveness of its measures and their implementation at EU and national level. Results will be available in the autumn of 2025.

⁽¹⁾ COM(2025)148 final; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025DC0148>.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) 2023/1322 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2023 on the European Union Drugs Agency (EUDA) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1920/2006.

⁽³⁾ https://health.ec.europa.eu/funding/eu4health-programme-2021-2027-vision-healthier-european-union_en.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/items/863796/en>.

⁽⁵⁾ <https://eu-promens.eu/eu-promens>.

⁽⁶⁾ <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101155881>.

⁽⁷⁾ EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025, OJ C 102I, 24.3.2021.

⁽⁸⁾ EU Drugs Action Plan 2021-2025, OJ C 272, 8.7.2021.

⁽⁹⁾ EUDA (n.d.). Xchange programme, https://www.euda.europa.eu/best-practice/xchange_en.