

EN
E-003138/2026
Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(1.10.2026)

Protecting public health and addressing drug-related harms are key pillars of the EU Drugs Strategy¹, adopted by the Commission in December 2025 and endorsed by the Member States in March 2026². The Strategy lays down measures aimed at reducing drug use, providing accessible treatment for everyone, and supporting the recovery and social reintegration of people with drug use disorders. The Strategy notably encourages Member States to step up universal and environmental health prevention and develop and implement evidence-based prevention activities specifically designed for groups in vulnerable situations, as well as to strengthen the availability of evidence-based treatment options integrated in a continuum of care.

Across the EU, harm reduction interventions are supported by an extensive body of scientific evidence demonstrating their effectiveness in reducing drug-related harms. These are recognised at both European and international levels, including through successive EU Drugs Strategies and relevant United Nations resolutions.

Mental health is also a priority for the Commission. In 2023, the Commission adopted a Communication on a Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health³, with 20 ambitious flagships linked to almost EUR 1.3 billion in funding opportunities, and with a focus on supporting vulnerable groups.

¹ COM (2025) 743 final, available at: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/eu-drugs-strategy-0_en.

² <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-7066-2026-INIT/en/pdf>.

³ https://health.ec.europa.eu/document/download/cef45b6d-a871-44d5-9d62-3cecc47eda89_en?filename=com_2023_298_1_act_en.pdf.