

SEPTEMBER 2023

THANKING OUR FORMER CHAIRMAN, VIGGO LÜTCHERATH

At the dinner gala on May 11th, ECAD and the Local Councils' Association Malta took the opportunity to thank our former chairman Viggo Lütcherath for all his efforts during his 7 years of leadership. We are thankful for all his input and personal efforts for ECAD and for the Drug-Demand Reduction policy in Europe. During his 7 years as chairman, he has been passionately guiding ECAD, the board, as well as being a vocal contact point for our members. A small thank-you gift was given by the Local Councils' Association Malta. Viggo thanked ECAD for its collaboration in his speech before handing over his role to Göran Gredfors.



28TH ECAD'S MAYORS CONFERENCE, MAY 2023

On May 11th, ECAD's 28th Mayors Conference, hosted by the Local Councils' Association Malta, took place in Qwara, Malta at the Dolmen Hotel. The Conference was attended by 75 participants. The majority of participants were local counsellors, NGOs, or representatives from the local authority from Malta. 7 more countries were represented at the conference, including Sweden, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Greece, Slovenia, etc.

Presentations were held on studies on workplace policy for addressing employees' substance misuse difficulties and the senior leadership teams' attitudes. Other presentations focused on the Planet Youth Model, best practices in pushing for prevention implementation, impacts of marijuana legalisation in Colorado, USA, and the Recovery Cities Model.

The second day of the Conference included a study visit to Komunita Santa Marija. Santa Marija is an in-house rehabilitation centre. The presentation given at the centre elaborated on the programmes provided and the phases that residents go through. After the interesting study visit, the Maltese organisers organised a cultural visit for the international participants. **Read the full report [here](#)**

INVITATION TO STUDY VISIT - SAN PATRIGNANO

We warmly invite you to join us at our study visit to the world's largest rehabilitation centre on **October 12th and 13th, 2023** - Namely, San Patrignano, Italy.

What is San Patrignano

San Patrignano is the largest drug rehabilitation community in the world, welcoming young men and women with drug abuse problems. Since 1978, it has provided over 25 000 people with a home, medical and legal assistance, while providing the possibility of continuing their studies, attending job training, and being reintegrated into society.

How to Join

You can register to attend **by October 1st, 2023** via ecad@ecad.net. The registration fee is 75 EUR for ECAD members, which includes the transportation from the hotel in Riccione to San Patrignano and the study visit.

The tour will be held in English.

[Click here for more information](#)

MEET OUR BOARD

ECAD

During the Congress on May 11th, the Plenary voted for and welcomed a new board. We would like to use this opportunity to introduce our board members to you.



GÖRAN GREDFORS (SWEDEN) - CHAIRMAN

Göran is a full-time politician, a vice mayor and chairman of the social welfare community in his hometown Eskilstuna in Sweden. He is also a member of the city council since 2006 and city board since 2015. He has been co-opted to the ECAD board in 2020 and has been elected to the ECAD board in 2022.



LINA LAUCIŪTĖ-ŽAGARĖ (LITHUANIA) - VICE CHAIR

Lina is the Chief Specialist of Foreign Relations Division of Kaunas City Municipality Administration in Lithuania since the year 2003. Lina has been the contact in Kaunas for the cooperation with ECAD (European Cities against Drugs Organization) since the year 2003 and was elected (temporarily) as ECAD Board member to represent Kaunas City Municipality Administration in 2022 June.



ELISABETH THULIN (SWEDEN) - BOARD MEMBER

Elisabeth Thulin has been a member in the Swedish ECAD Board since 2016 and is a member of ECAD's executive board since 2022. In her daily work, she is the Head of Unit within the social service in Ystad Municipality. Her areas of responsibility are mainly adults with addiction problems, domestic violence, and homelessness.



JOE KAVANAGH (IRELAND) - BOARD MEMBER

Joe Kavanagh has been an Elected Member of Cork City Council in Southern Ireland since 2011. He was Deputy Lord Mayor from June 2016 to June 2017 and Elected Lord Mayor of Cork City from June 2020 to June 2021. He has served and continued to serve on quite a number of sub-Committees and Boards relevant to his role as an Elected Member of Cork City Council. He joined ECAD board early 2023.



MARIO FAVA (MALTA) - BOARD MEMBER

Mario was elected President of the Local Councils' Association Malta, in 2017. Since then, he has played a leading role in raising the profile of local government and the role of the Association locally and abroad. Internationally, he is a member of the COR in Brussels, SEDEC and NAT Commissions. Mario is also the Head of the Maltese Delegation of the COE in Strasbourg. He's been a board member of ECAD since 2008.

SAMUEL AZZOPARDI (GOZO, MALTA) - BOARD MEMBER