



To:

Mrs Floriana Sipala

Director and Commission Counter-Terrorism Coordinator

European Commission, DG Migration and Home Affairs, Directorate D – Internal Security

Subject: Request for European Commission Review of Slovenia's Draft Law on Cannabis for Limited Personal Use

Dear Mrs Sipala,

We are writing to you on behalf of a coalition of Slovenian non-governmental organisations working in the field of public health and drug prevention, along with supportive partner organisations from across Europe (complete list of signatories below). We are reaching out to express our deep concern regarding the **Draft Law on Cannabis for Limited Personal Use** recently submitted to the Slovenian Parliament (July 2025) and currently under discussion (unofficial translation attached).

Despite its seemingly limited scope, the draft law **de facto and de jure legalises cannabis for psychoactive use**, which directly contradicts **the binding obligations under several international drug control conventions**, as well as **EU legal standards on drug trafficking, health protection, and the safeguarding of children and youth**.

Key Legal Concerns

1. Violation of UN Drug Conventions (1961, 1971, 1988):

The draft law allows adults to cultivate up to 4 cannabis plants and possess up to 150g of cannabis or 50g of cannabis extracts at home. These measures breach the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, which strictly limits cannabis use to **medical and scientific purposes**. Article 3(2) of the 1988 Convention permits some discretion regarding personal use, but **only where such discretion does not undermine the conventions' core objectives**, which this law clearly does.

2. Non-compliance with the EU Acquis and the Schengen Implementing Convention:

The law permits the **non-commercial transfer of cannabis** between adults, even in public spaces. This violates Article 71 of the **Schengen Implementing Convention**, which obliges Member States to prevent the **unauthorised distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances**, including cannabis, regardless of the intent or transaction type.

3. Undermining the EU's Minimum Standards on Drug Trafficking (Council Framework Decision 2004/757/JHA):

The law blurs the line between **legal possession and decriminalised trafficking**, which contradicts **EU-wide minimum standards** requiring the criminalisation of unauthorised drug cultivation and distribution, including for personal use when such possession facilitates further supply or evasion of control.

4. Inadequate Protection of Children – Breach of EU and International Obligations:

While the draft law includes formal restrictions to prevent access and exposure to cannabis among minors, it permits **use and possession in private homes and public spaces**, including **multi-generational households** and **communal areas**, making effective protection of children practically impossible. This undermines **Article 24 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights**, which requires the best interests of the child to be a primary consideration in all policies, as well as **Article 33 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**, which obliges States to protect children from the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

5. Risk of Legal Fragmentation and 'Cannabis Tourism' within the EU Internal Market:

The law's provisions could **undermine the harmonised legal order of the EU**, encouraging intra-EU cannabis tourism and trafficking, particularly from neighbouring Member States with stricter drug policies. This poses a challenge to both public health and internal security.



Request for Action

We respectfully urge the European Commission to:

- **Initiate a detailed legal review** of the proposed Slovenian legislation,
- **Request clarifications from Slovenian authorities** regarding its compatibility with EU and international law,
- **Consider launching an infringement procedure** if Slovenia proceeds with adopting the draft law in its current form,
- **Engage in dialogue with Slovenian stakeholders** to ensure any reform remains aligned with European obligations and public health objectives.

We thank you for your leadership and commitment to ensuring the legal coherence and health protection standards of the European Union. We stand ready to provide additional documentation and evidence to support our appeal. For further information and clarifications, please contact us at +386 31 880-520 (mobile) or info@sncda.si (cc: info@institut-utrip.si).

Yours sincerely,

Matej Košir

On behalf of the undersigned NGOs

Franc Zalar, President, Slovenian NCD Alliance

Matej Košir, Director, Institute for Research and Development “Utrip”, Slovenia

Manca Kozlovič, President, Youth Association No Excuse Slovenia

David Razboršek, Director, Vozim Institute, Slovenia

Nataša Jan, Director, Slovenian Heart Foundation

Neža Polh, Secretary General, Slovenian Coalition for Public Health, Environment & Tobacco Control

Tomaž Gorenc, Director, Institute for Health and Environment, Slovenia



Supportive partner organisations:

Kristina Sperkova, President, Movendi International

Regina Mattson, Secretary General, World Federation Against Drugs (WFAD)

Stig Erik Sørheim, President, Europe for Action on Drugs (EURAD)

Monica Barzanti, Head of the International Relations, San Patrignano (Italy)

Ergin Beceren, Director of the International Cooperation, Turkish Green Crescent Society (Türkiye)

Bilal Duran, President, Verein Neubeginn (Austria)

Boro Goić, Celebrate Recovery (Bosnia & Herzegovina) & Recovered Users Network (RUN)

Thomas Legl, President, European Treatment Centers for Drug Addiction (EURO TC)

Yasmina Castaño, Researcher, IREFREA (Spain)

Phaedon Kaloterakis, President, European Federation of Therapeutic Communities (EFTC)