Cannabis in the EU

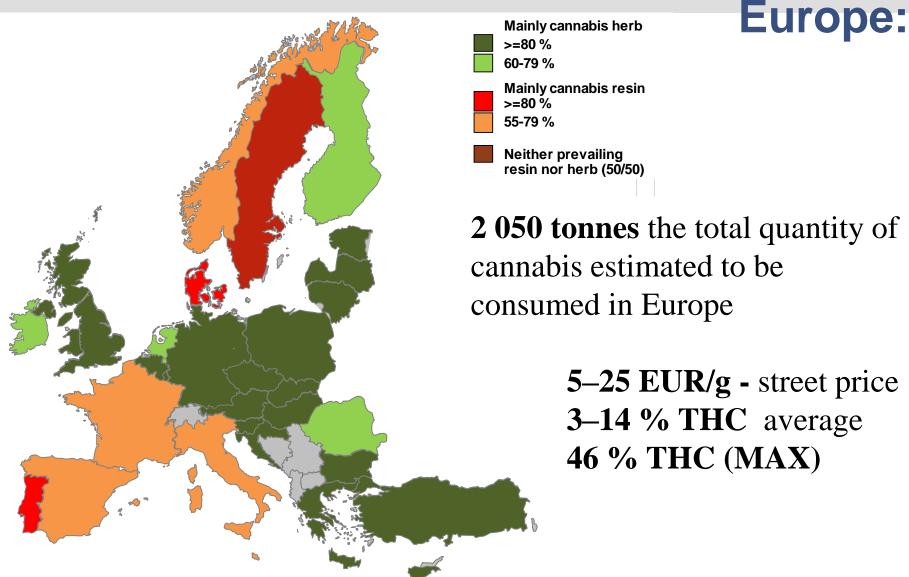
A persistent and
resilient market



Characteristics, uses and consequences

Danilo Ballotta - 22 September 2014

Shares of cannabis products consumed in



European production of Cannabis



Domestic production up

Innovation

Cultivation of plants high in THC

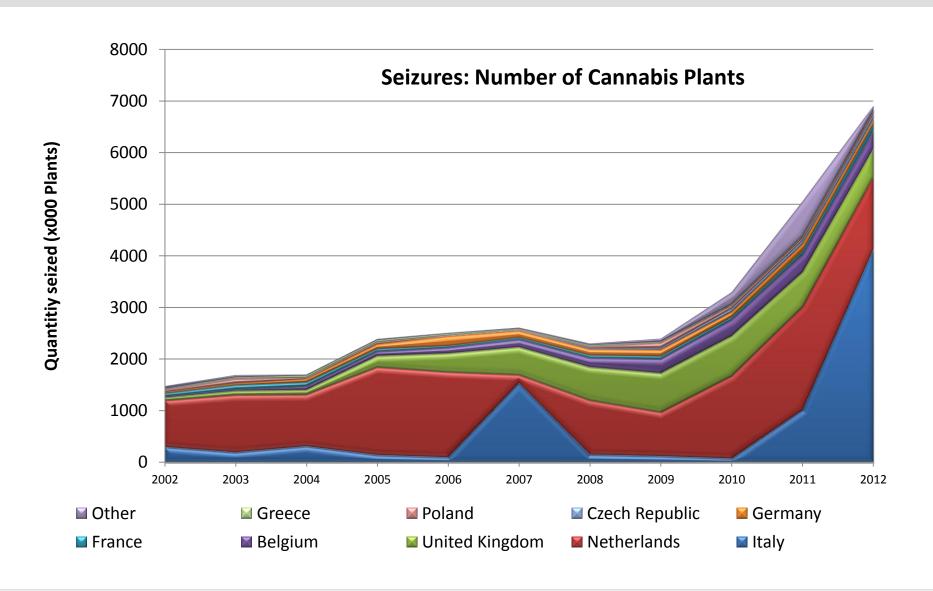
Potency increases for herb and recently resin





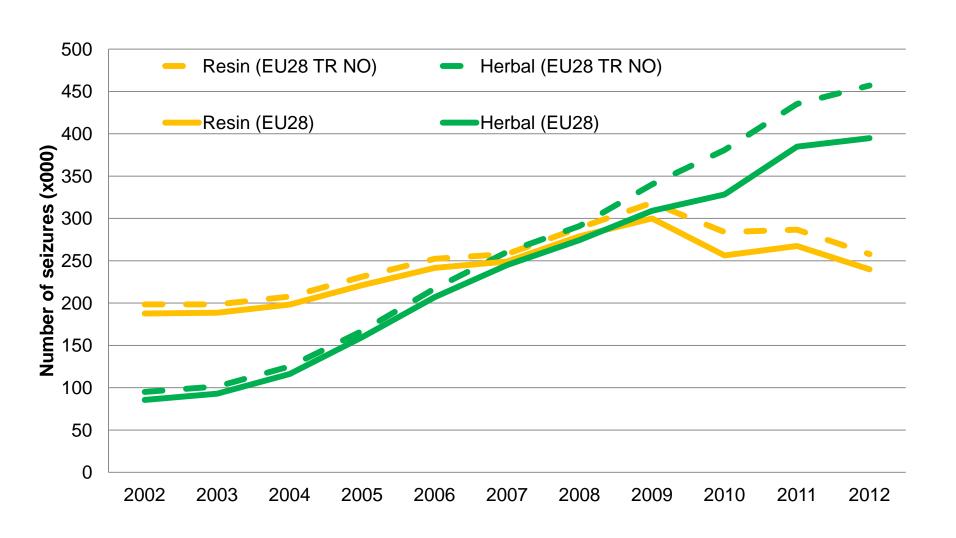


European Cannabis production



Cannabis seizures:

Predominance of cannabis type, resin or herb, in number of seizures

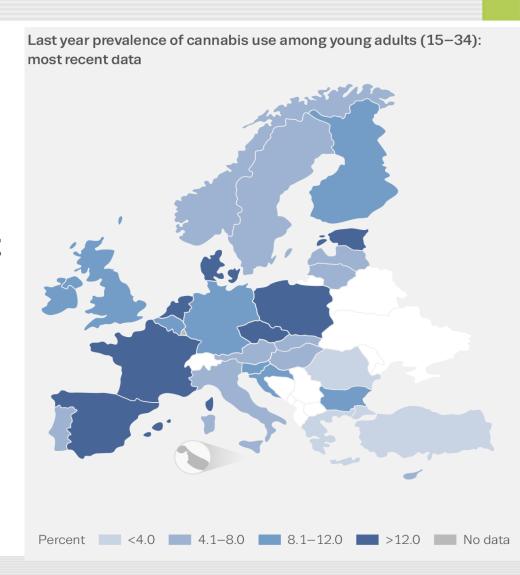


Cannabis: Europe's most commonly used illicit drug

73.6 million adults **ever** used cannabis (>20% 15-64)

18 million adults used **last year** (> 5% 15-64) (15 Millions 15-34y -11%)

9 million adults have used in the **last month**

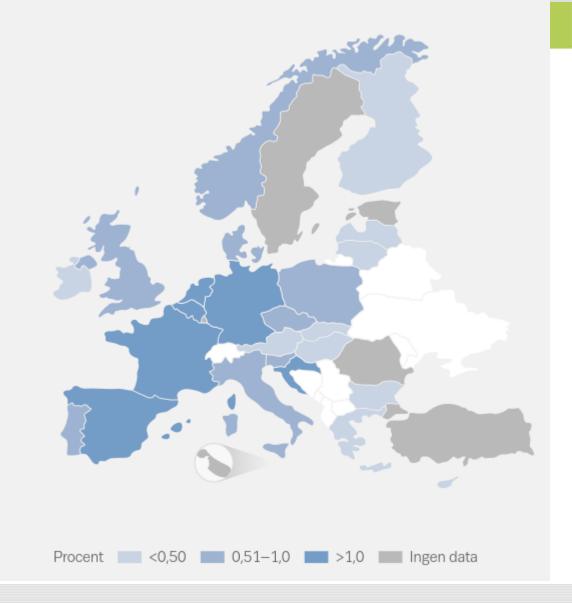




Daily Use

1% young adults (15-34) use daily (> 20d./month)

Prævalens af daglig og næsten daglig cannabisbrug blandt unge (15-34 år)





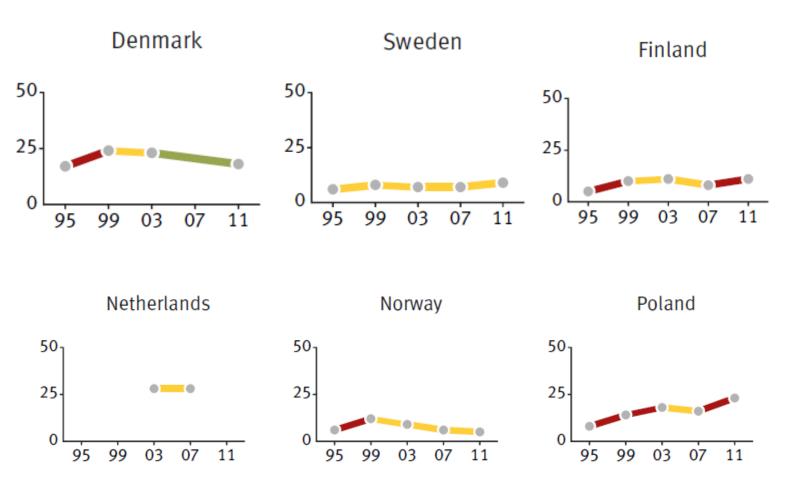
Substance use among 15-16 years old in Europe



In 2011 one in four used an illicit drugs. Cannabis 24% ever; 20% year; 12% month

Majority 'once or twice' – 2% used 10 times in the month prior to the survey

Lifetime use of cannabis in school students 15-16y old



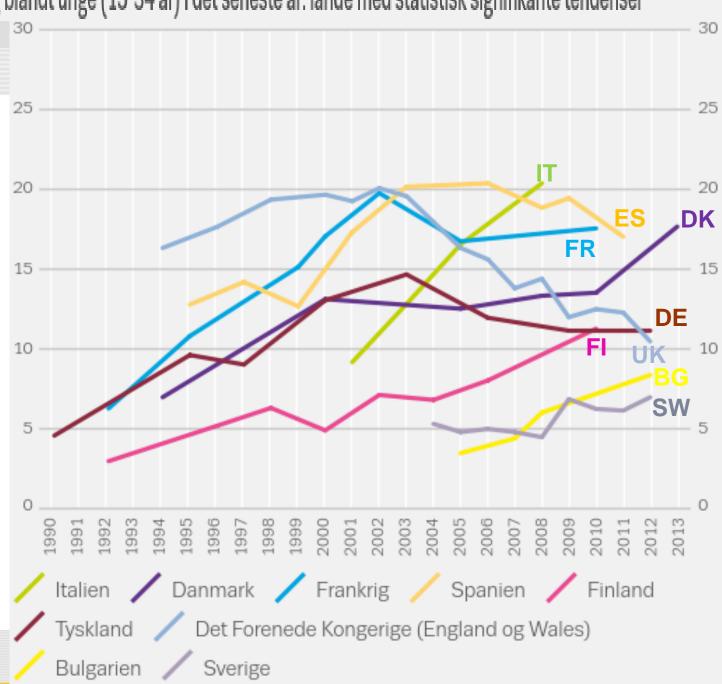


Prævalens af cannabisbrug blandt unge (15-34 år) i det seneste år: lande med statistisk signifikante tendenser

Upward trends in DK, FI, IT, SW

UK, ES downwards trend

FR, DE, Stable trends





Cannabis-related health consequences

Cannabis-related emergencies — a growing problem in high-prevalence countries

Synthetic cannabinoids

new dimension

Use limited, but can be highly potent







Cannabis-related legal consequences

➤ 1.2m drug offences were reported in EU in 2012, of which about 80% involved cannabis

	Total	Cannabis	Other
Possession	993,000	775,000 (78%)	219,000 (22%)
Supply	241,000	142,000 (59%)	99,000 (41%)
Total	1,235,000	917,000 (74%)	318,000 (26%)

- ➤ 18.5% of sentenced prisoners in EU were sentenced for drug offence
- Cannabis also dominates EU seizures (80%)

Cannabis in Europe Persistent and resilient

Consolidated position in the market illicit drugs

Widely available to and affordable to consumers

Variety in potency (health concerns)

Large economic assets (2M.kg/year)

Controversies and contradictions (lower risks/low priority for law enforcement 80% of seizures and 80% of police arrests)