



RESOLUTION:

Allowing snus in the European Union

Adopted at the YEPP Council Meeting in Zürich on 23rd September 2017

Recognizing that:

- Since 1992 the sale of snus has been forbidden in the EU. In the Swedish accession treaty, Sweden got an opt-out for the snus and is thus the only country in the EU where the sale of snus is allowed.
- Other non-smoking tobacco have been allowed to continue its sale such as snuff (tobacco that is used by nasal inhalation) and chewing tobacco.
- Snus has a long history in the Nordic countries originating from its introduction in Sweden in the 17th century.
- In the tobacco directive (2014/40/EU), snus was also regulated in how it should be presented to the consumer as well as its contents.

Acknowledging that:

- Sweden is the country with the least numbers of smokers in the EU with its average on about 16.7 percent with an EU28 average of 24 percent (Eurostat Tobacco Consumption Study 2016).
- According to the same study Sweden has the lowest prevalence of second-hand smoking on 5,9 percent with Greece on the other end with 64,2 percent of the total population.
- The medical university hospital, Karolinska institute has concluded in its research that while snus has the same risk as cigarettes when it comes to type-2 diabetes it has showed no relations to cancer and is far less dangerous than cigarettes.

- A study by Professor in public health Hans Giljam, showed that snus was the most common and most successful way to quit smoking in his study of 3 583 men in the age between 20 and 50.
- Other smokeless tobacco with historical ties in different regions of Europe such as snuff and chewing tobacco is allowed for sale all around Europe in the spirit of the single market and free trade.

YEPP calls on:

- The European Union to allow the sale of snus throughout the member states.
- The European Union and the member states to regulate snus in accordance with other smokeless tobacco products that are allowed in the EU.
- The European Union to recognize the historical importance and ties to the Nordic countries and protect the requirements for producing snus.