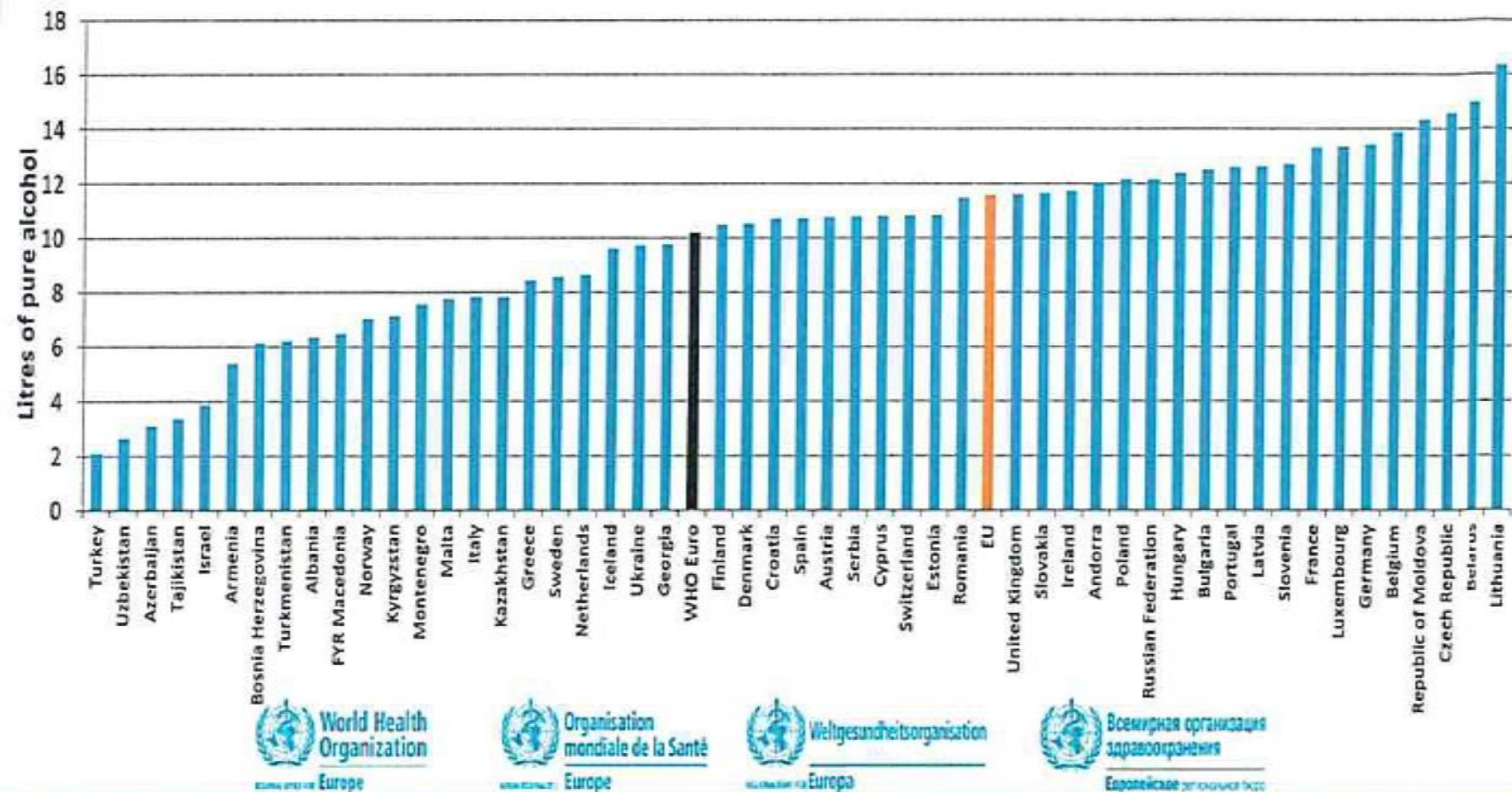


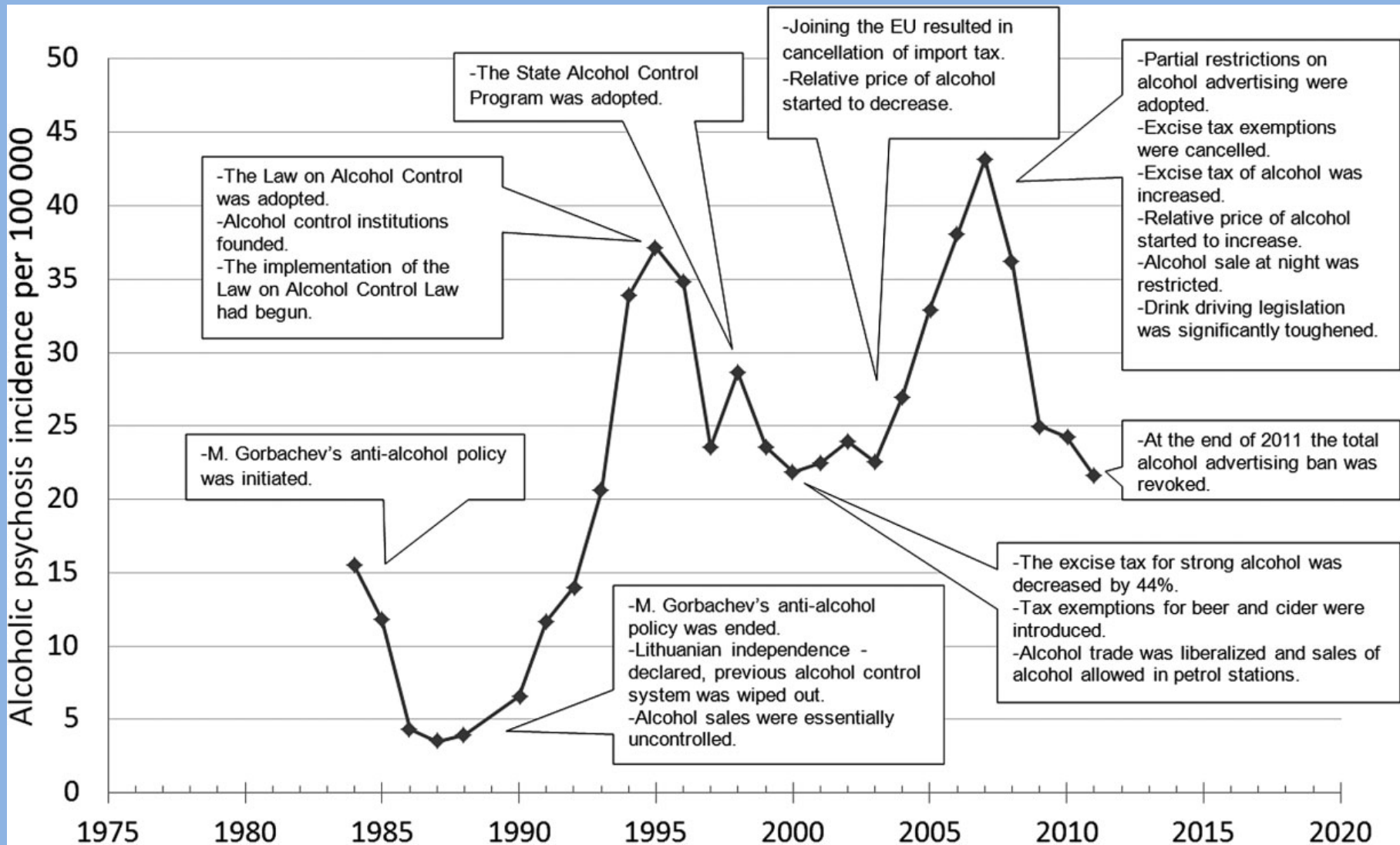
# **ALCOHOL CONTROL POLICY IN LITHUANIA**

**Ministry of Health  
of the Republic of Lithuania  
dr. Audrone Astrauskiene**

# Total average alcohol per capita consumption (projected), recorded and unrecorded, 2016 (men and women)



# REFLECTION OF ALCOHOL CONTROL POLICY MEASURES ON ALCOHOLIC PSYCHOSIS INCIDENCE IN LITHUANIA



**Figure 1** Reflection of alcohol control policy measures on alcoholic psychosis incidence in Lithuania (1984–2011). (Source:WHO HFA-DB)

## PART OF THE IMPLEMENTED MEASURES IN ALCOHOL CONTROL POLICY, 2016

- **It was prohibited:**
  - to organize competition, lottery related with possibility to obtain or use alcohol;
  - to give the alcohol beverages as lottery prizes, gift or anything of value conditioned upon the purchase of the alcohol;
  - to announced/inform about the reduction of price of alcoholic beverages
  - to sell alcohol at petrol stations
  
- BAC for novice drivers, professional drivers and motorbike drivers 0,00 promiles.



## PART OF THE IMPLEMENTED MEASURES IN ALCOHOL CONTROL POLICY, 2016

- Since the 1th of November 2016, it is mandatory pregnancy health warning label on all alcohol products. The bottle or another package should be labeled with a graphic warning about the harm, caused to pregnant women by alcohol .
- By the order of Minister for economy the rules for the labelling of alcoholic products with the graphic warnings were approved.



# PART OF THE IMPLEMENTED MEASURES IN ALCOHOL CONTROL POLICY

- Increase in excise tax (2017 03 01):
    - For beer 112 %, wine - 92 - 111 %,
      - strong alcohol –23 %.
- The final prices increased (approximately):
- wine by 53 euro cents,
  - Beer by 14 euro cent,
  - other strong drinks by 72 euro cents



# WHAT WAS A POLITICAL MOMENT TO PASS THE LEGAL INITIATIVES ON ALCOHOL CONTROL?

- In 2016, the Parliament (Seimas) has received projects concerning alcohol regulations. One of these projects was initiated thanks to civil society that obtained 60,000 supporting signatures (out of 50 000 required)
- Conservative Party initiated the second project on Alcohol control law.
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- To tackle alcohol harm in the country was among the key campaign promises made by the Lithuanian leading party which won a surprise victory in the elections in October 2016.
- The coalition became a majority and enabled necessary changes.
- In addition, both the Prime Minister and the Minister of Health represented the newly elected party.



# **THE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW ON ALCOHOL CONTROL, 2017 (from 2018 01 01)**

- The main aim of the amendment is to protect public health, particularly young people, by reducing alcohol consumption and alcohol related harm:
  - To ban on alcohol advertising;  
(with exceptions to name and type of the beverage, the name of the producer, the trademark (brandname), country of origin, geographical region of origin, ethanol content, labeling information, price in sales points, in producers and sellers websites)
  - Local governments (municipalities) will receive the right to limit the alcohol sales places and alcohol sale during commercial mass events;
  - Increase legal age for buying, holding and consuming alcoholic beverages to the age of 20 (instead of 18);
  - Prohibit use of persons under the age of 20 in alcohol promotion campaigns;
  - Person selling alcohol will have a duty to ask for ID, unless the buyer is clearly an adult under the age 25.



# THE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW ON ALCOHOL CONTROL, 2017

## Operating hours of sale from 2018 01 01

### CURRENTLY

- Hours of sale:  
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- Days of Sale: Monday through Sunday
- 1st September (Day of knowleges) No

### From 2018 01 01

- Hours of Sale: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Days of Sale: Monday through Saturday.
- Hours of Sale: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Days of Sale: Sunday

# STATE PUBLIC HEALTH PROMOTION FUND, since 2016 01 01

- The fund is intended to support Health promotion and well being activities, promotion projects, social advertising campaigns, prevention projects, scientific reseach (2.6 mln.EUR)



- Currently the Ministry of Health introduces this manual in health care settings with funding from Health Insurance Fund as a incentive health sevicees.
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- New methodology on assesment of alcohol comsumption level in Lithuania was aproved. Adjusted methodology includes not only official recorded alcohol, but **also** evaluation of duty free sales, alcohol consumption of foreign tourist, emigration impact. As the same new guidlines for assesment of illegal alcohol market are developed.

## FUTURE PLANS

- The government suggested to postpone:
  - to set up specialized alcohol stores;
  - to prohibit alcohol sale on-line (for some time)
- To limit alcohol outlet density
- Require installation of ignition interlocks in the vehicles of those convicted of alcohol impaired driving.

**THANK YOU**