



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

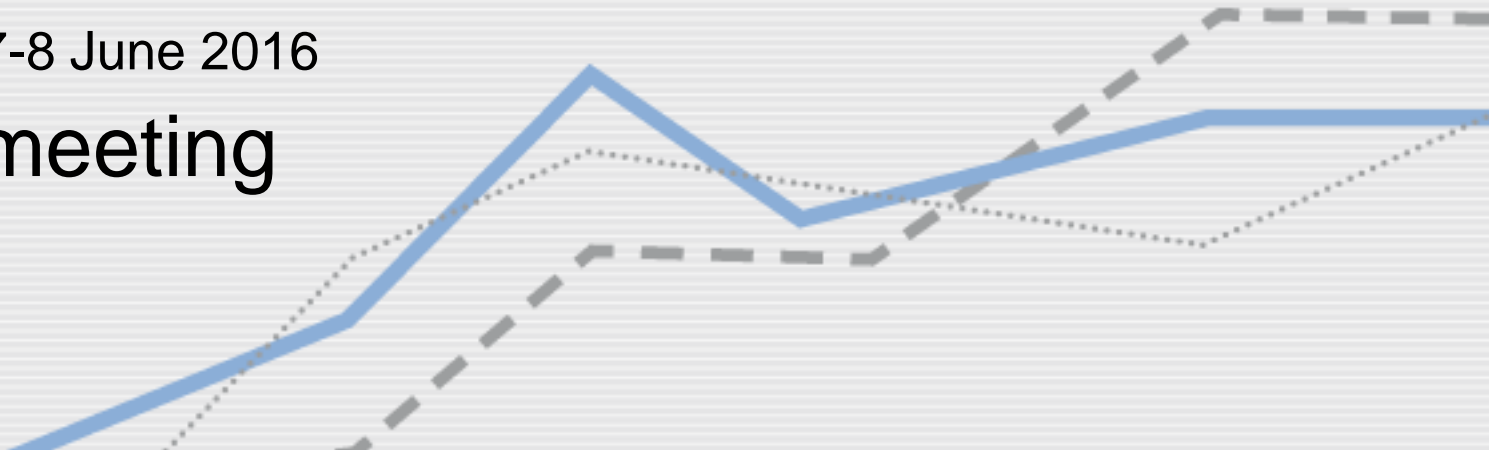
EMCDDA

Present and potential perspectives for information on alcohol use in the EU

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CNAPA meeting



Topics in this presentation

- 1.- EMCDDA overview and its work on surveys
- 2.- ESPAD project and links with EMCDDA

1.- EMCDDA

- Decentralised EU agency
- Established in 1993
- Operating since 1995
- Reference point on drugs in the EU



Recast Regulation of December 2006:

Provide the Community and EU Member States with *factual, objective, reliable and comparable information* at European level concerning drugs and drug addiction and their consequences

- illicit drugs
- polydrug use

Reitox: a unique data collection system

Reitox

National Drug

Observatories in 28 EU

Member States, Norway
and Turkey

+

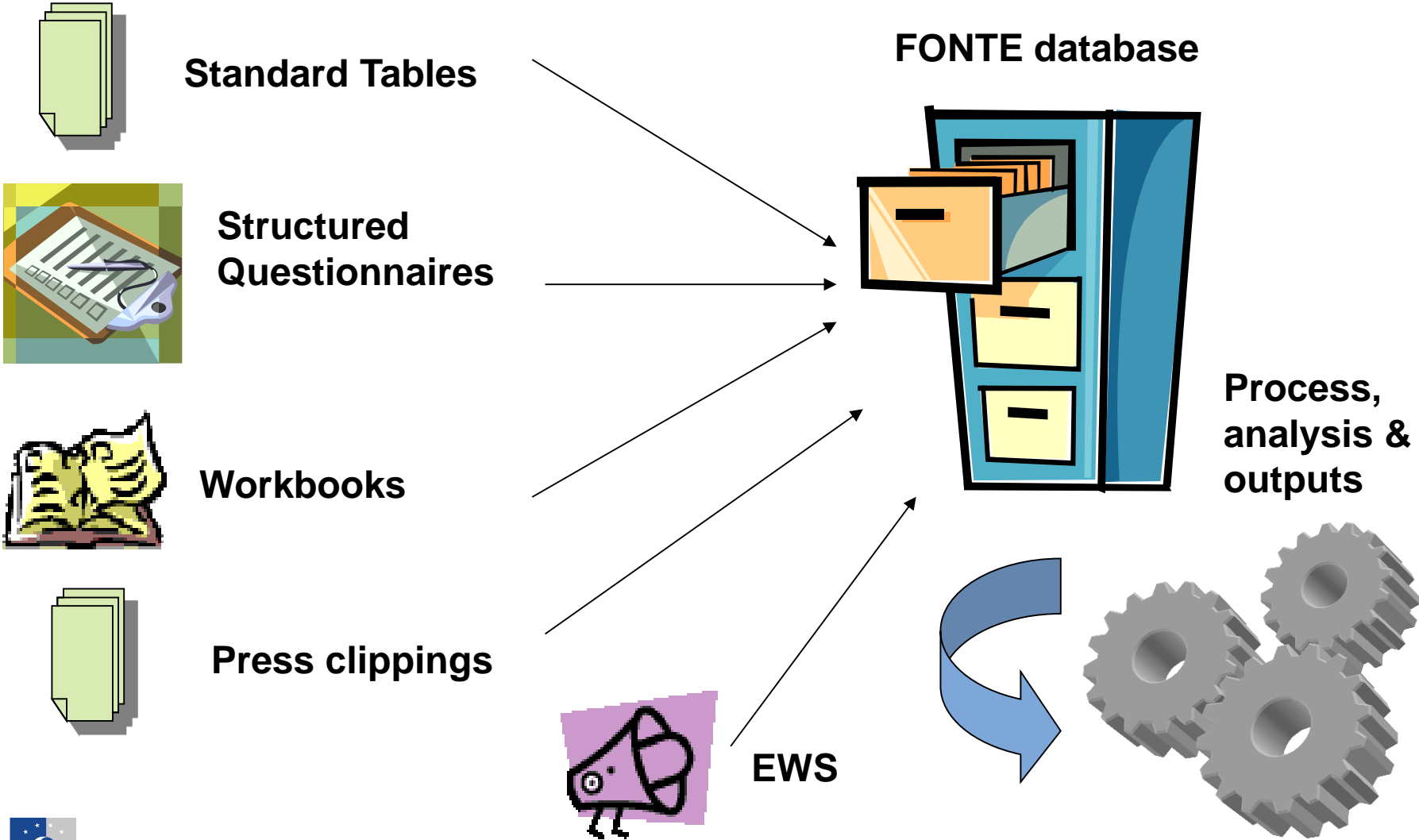
cooperation with

- CC and PCC (IPA)

- EU Neighbouring
countries (ENP)



Reitox yearly data collection process



European Drug Report (EDR) package



In this part of the presentation

Focus on survey information collected by Member States and provided to EMCDDA

Potentialities of cooperation with other partners (e.g. DG Sante) on information collection



Areas of work

Drug situation

- **Demand - Epidemiology (“key indicators” established)**
- Supply and market information (key indicators under preparation)

New drugs and trends

Responses

- Prevention, treatment, harm reduction and social reintegration
- Supply reduction activities
- Best practice

Policies, laws and economic issues



“Key Epidemiological” Indicators

Prevalence and patters of drug use* in the general population (GPS)

Prevalence and patters of Problem Drug Use (PDU)/High Risk Drug Use (HRDU)

Treatment Demand due to drug problems (TDI)

Drug-related Deaths (DRD)

Drug-related Infectious Diseases (DRID)

(*) in fact in most cases “substance use” -at national level-



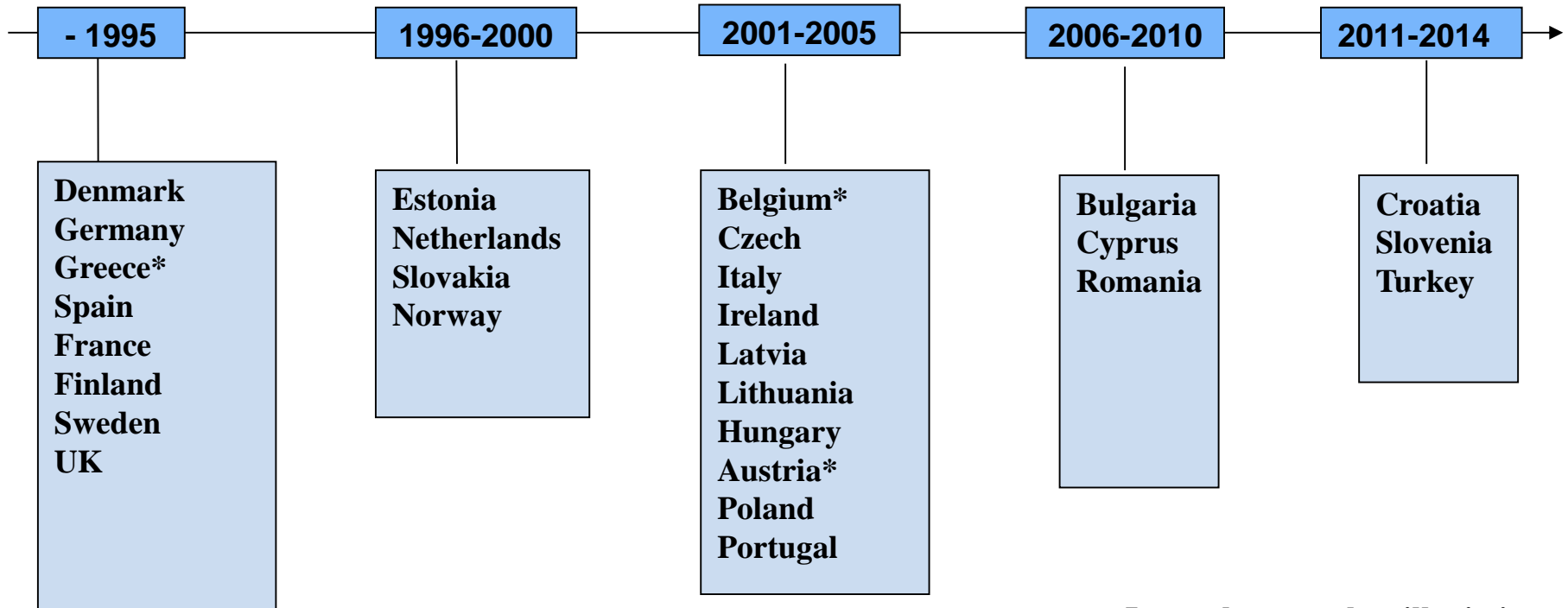
Prevalence and patterns of drug use among the general population

This information is obtained through

- national representative probabilistic surveys of the general population (adults and school children)



Timeline: General (National) Population Surveys on drugs/substance use implemented



Luxembourg only still missing

“European Model Questionnaire” (EMQ)

Set of **items** on modular form to:

- Create a specific questionnaire
- Inclusion in an existing questionnaires

Modules on:

- socio-demographics
- illicit drugs prevalence and patterns of use
- **alcohol use**, tobacco, medicines - (polydrug use)
- risk perception and policy opinions

Current module on alcohol

- Limited set of questions on prevalence and patterns (frequencies and binge drinking)
- Countries are actually collecting alcohol information (often more detailed than the EMQ)
- But EMCDDA has collated only very limited information (LTP, LYP, LMP by gender and age)
- Not proactive in national harmonization

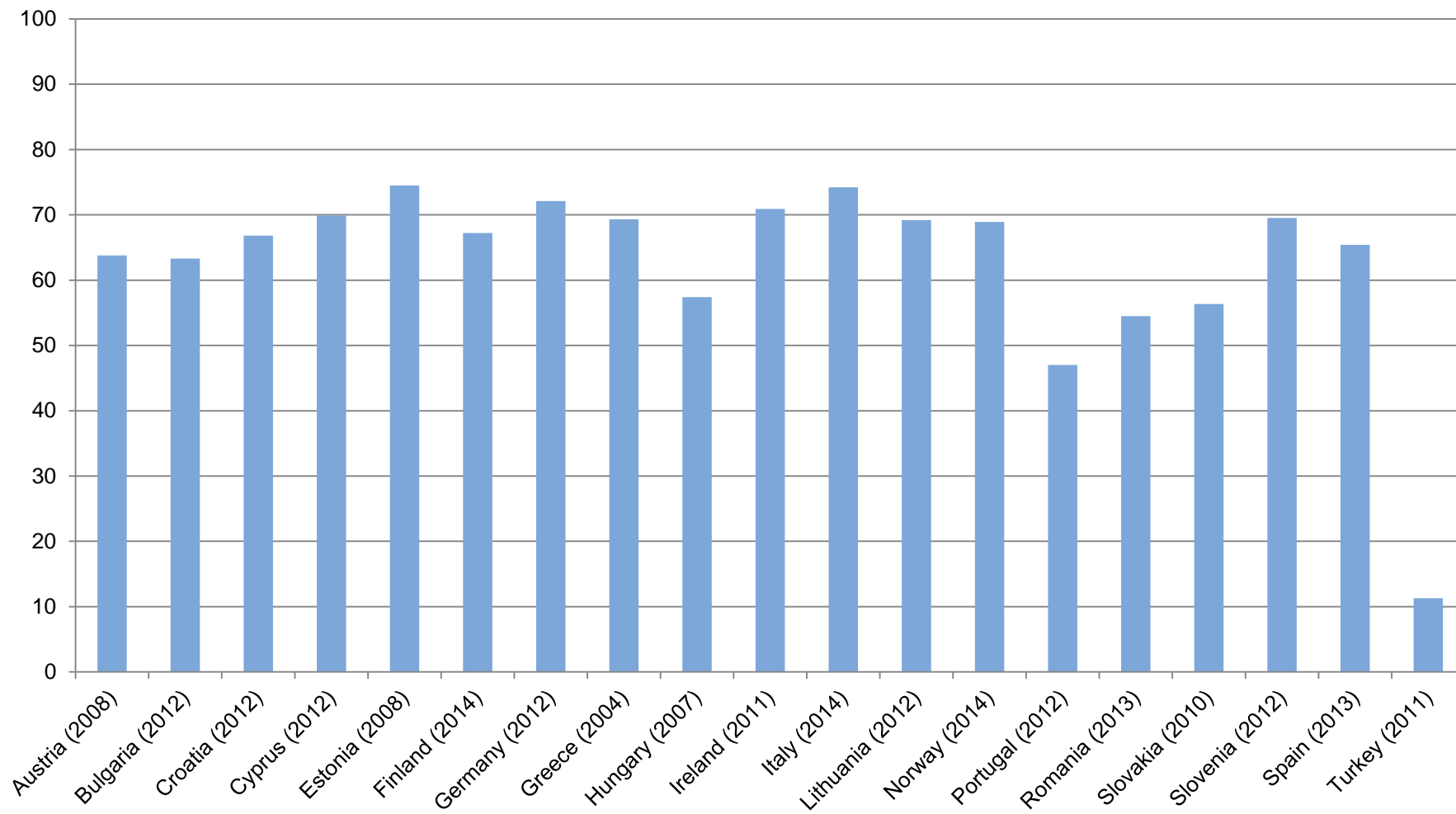


EMCDDA tools for Key Indicators

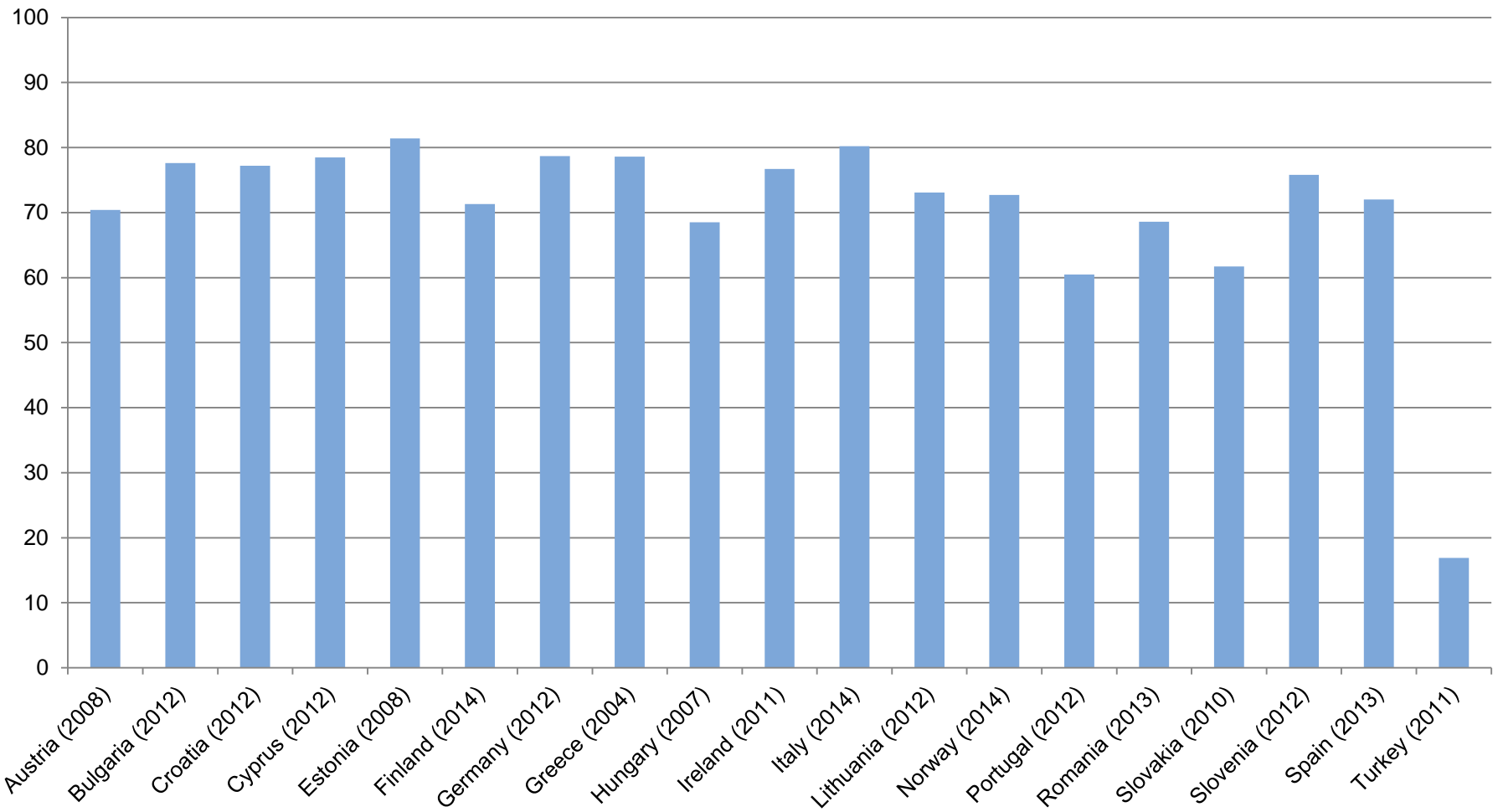
- Annual expert meetings (methodology and results)
- Regular data collection at national level
- Annual collation of information by EMCDDA through national Focal Points (REITOX)



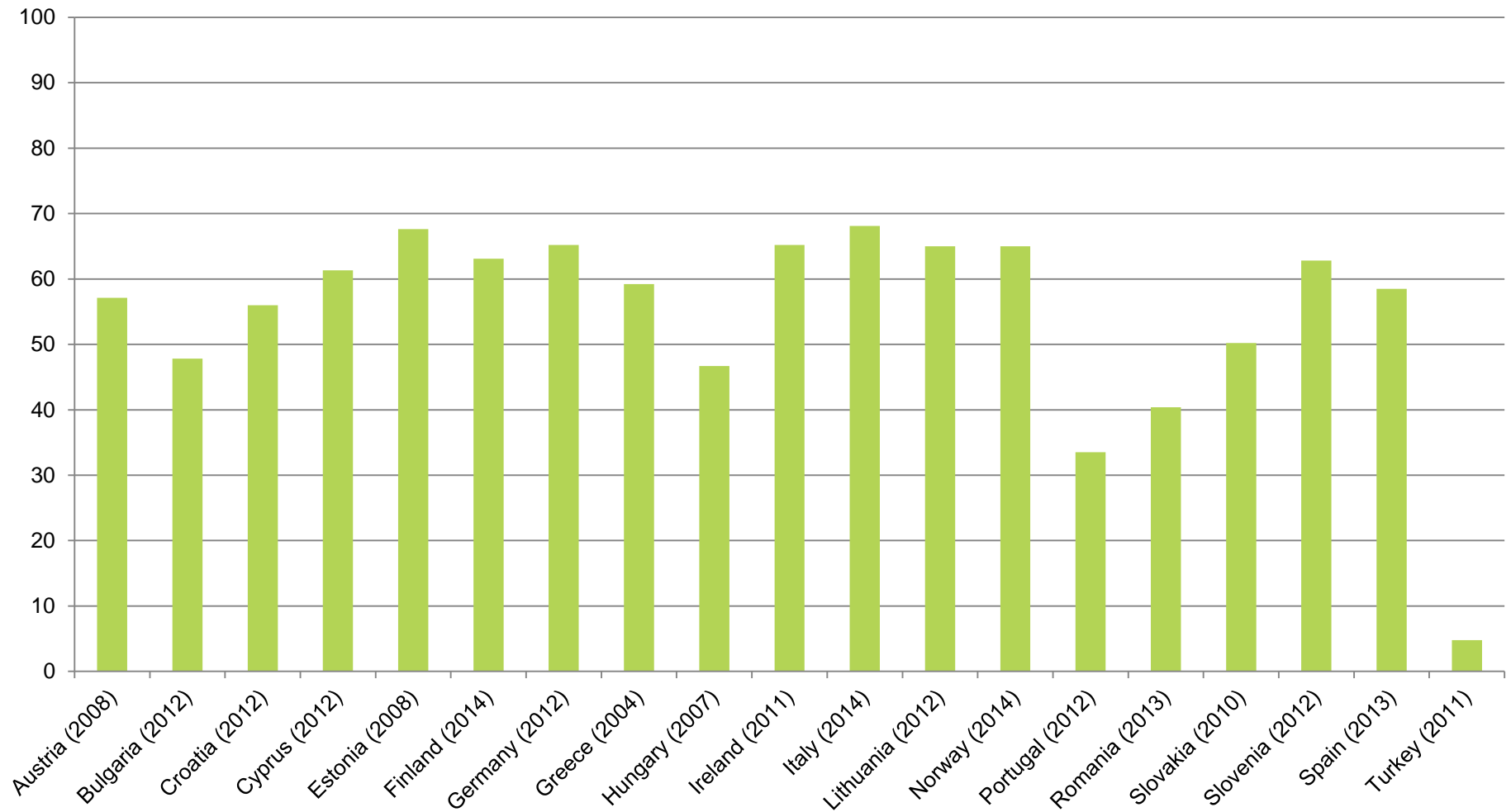
Last month prevalence of alcohol use – young adults (15-34) ALL



Last month prevalence of alcohol use – young adults (15-34) males (%)



Last month prevalence of alcohol use – young adults (15-34) females (%)



Perspectives

- Possible adoption of a new module on alcohol use based in RARHA questionnaire
- More proactive role of EMCDDA in implementation of this module in national surveys
- More proactive role in collation of the information at EU level (resources? mandate?)



2.- ESPAD project

**European School survey Project on
Alcohol and other Drugs**

- About 40 European countries and more than 110000 students in 2011
- It is maintained by a network of researchers in increasing cooperation with EMCDDA (role in coordination since 2015)
- EMCDDA will support the next wave of data collection... *but additional funding will be needed for long term continuity*

Why school surveys?

- Cost effective
- Relatively easy to conduct
- Reach a large number of students in one setting
- Relatively easy to standardise
- Sampling relatively easy
- High response rate among students
- High validity, i.e. more honest answers than in other surveys



ESPAD data collections

26 countries in 1995

30 countries in 1999

35 countries in 2003

35 countries in 2007 (plus 5 in 2008)

39 countries in 2011

2015 work in progress



Purpose 1 (2)

- Get access to comparable data on substance use among European students
- Include as many European countries as possible
- Monitor trends in
 - » single countries
 - » groups of countries
 - » Europe



Purpose 2 (2)

- Serve as an incitement for alcohol and drug prevention among youth
- Provide data that can be used as a part of the evaluation of
 - » EU Drugs Strategy
 - » EU Strategy on Alcohol
 - » WHO Global Alcohol Strategy
 - » National strategies



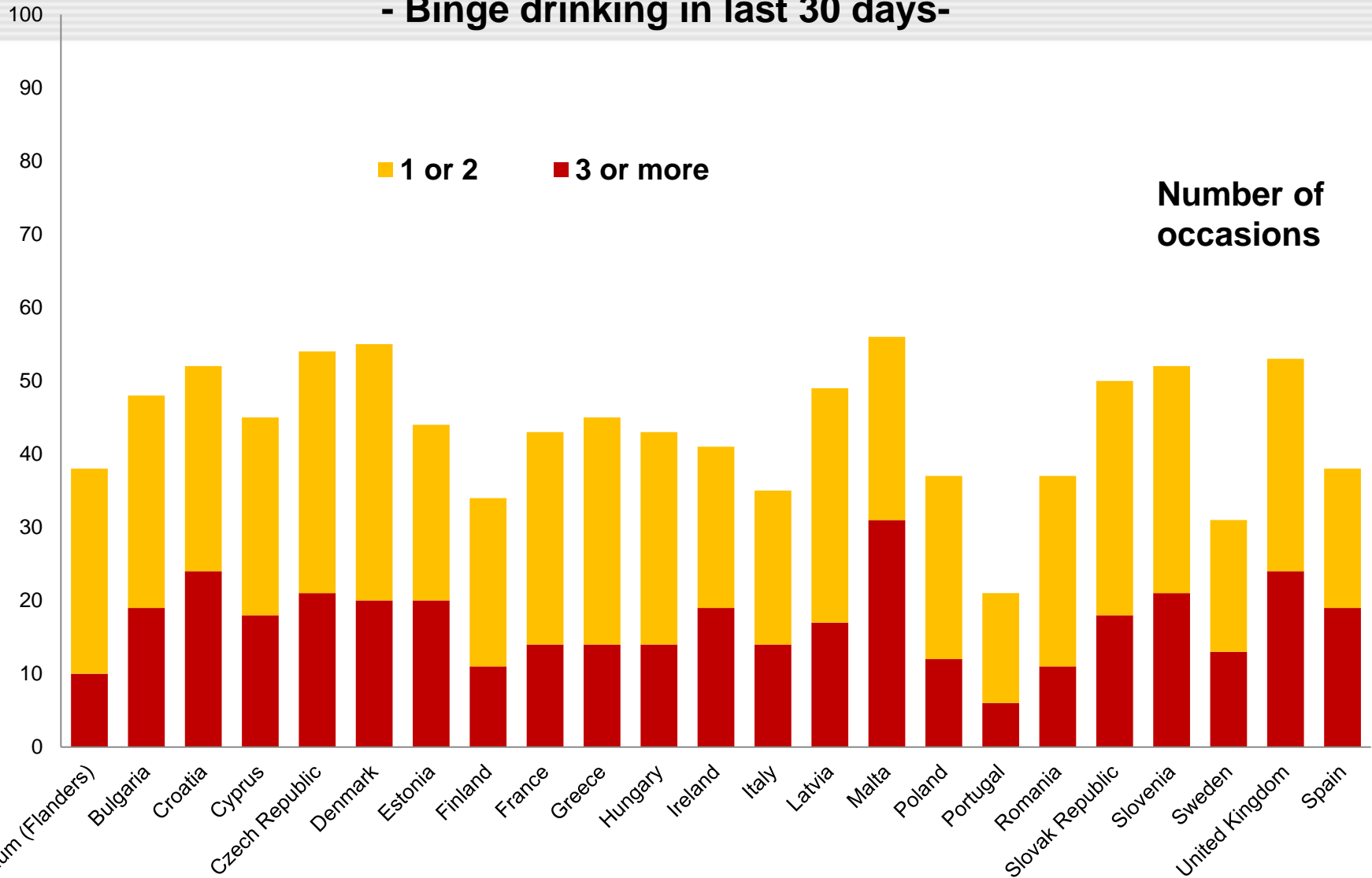
Strategy: standardisation

- Target age group
- Random sampling of classes
- Master questionnaire
- Survey leader protocol
- Data collection procedure
- Time of data collection
- Common database
- The ESPAD Handbook

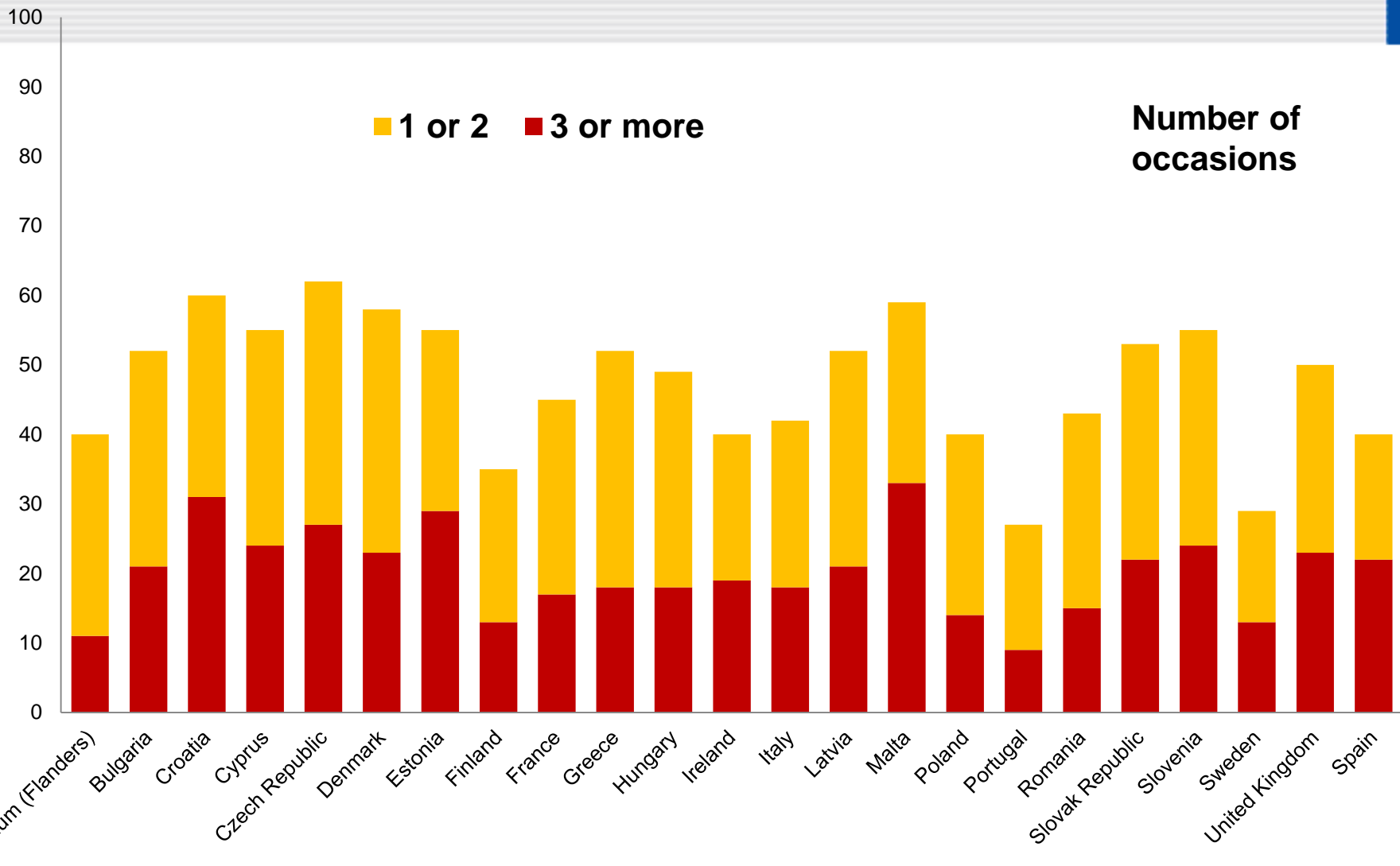


All students frequency of having had five or more drinks on one occasion during the last 30 days (2011).

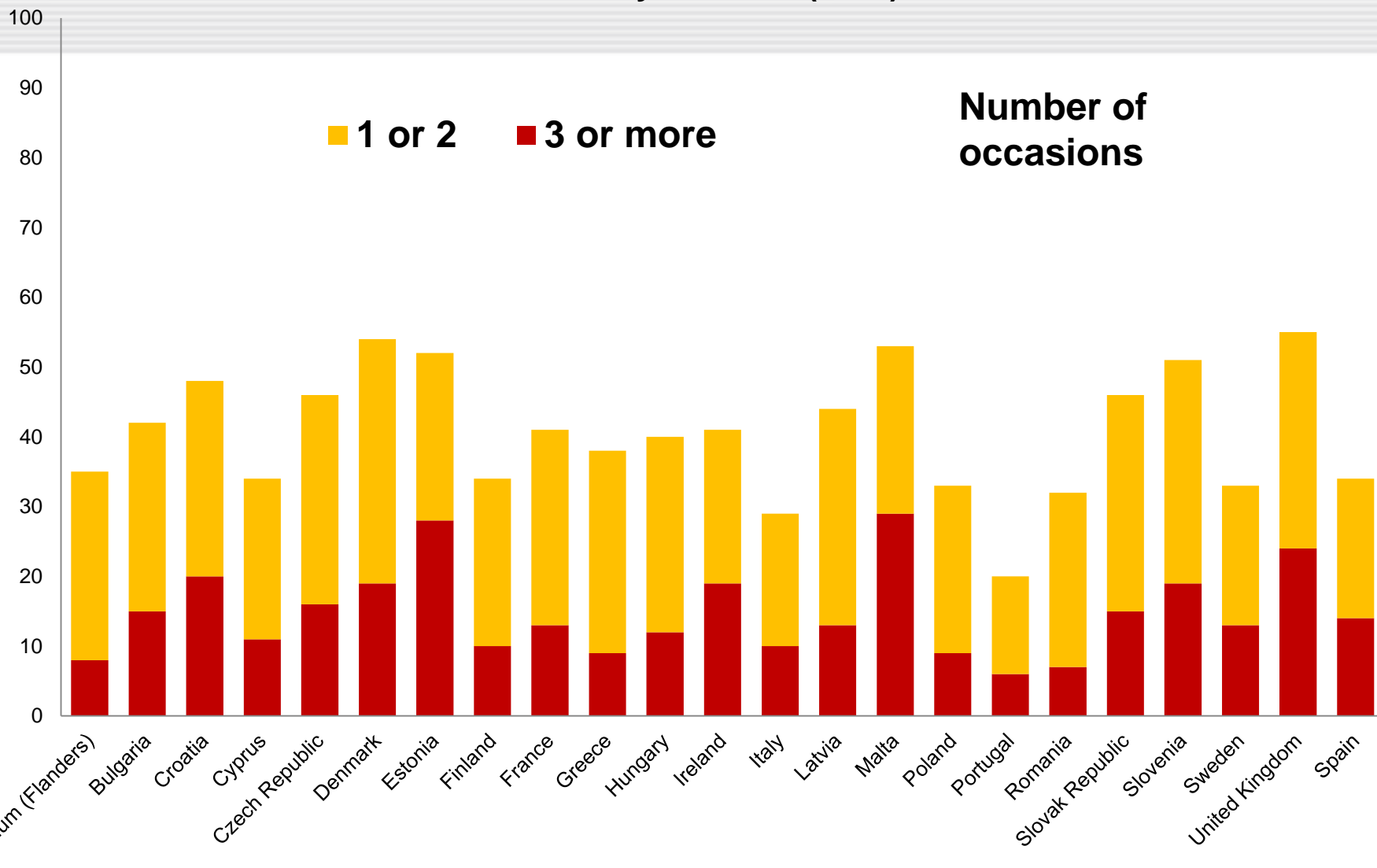
- Binge drinking in last 30 days-



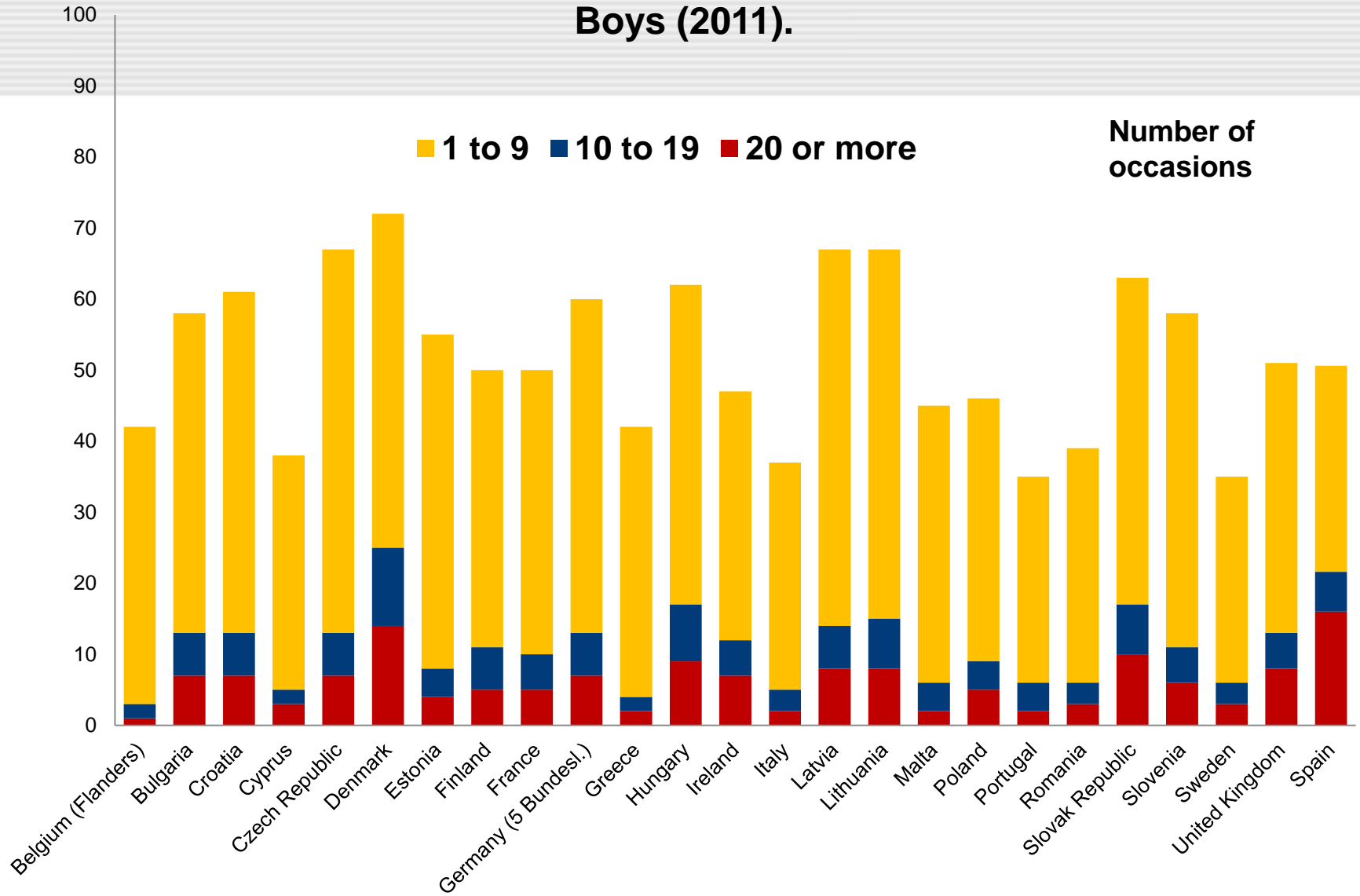
Frequency of having had five or more drinks on one occasion during the last 30 days. Boys (2011).



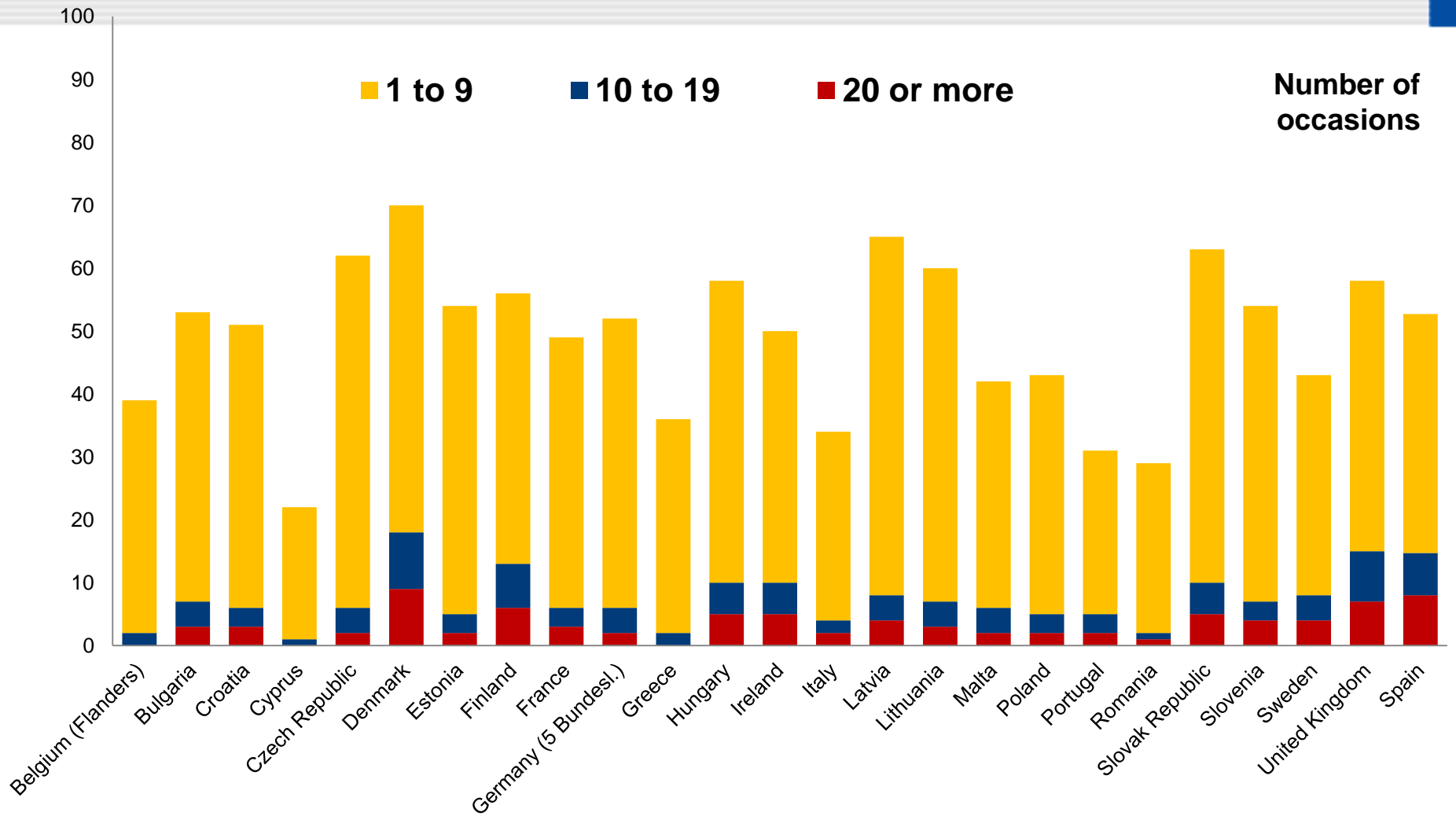
Frequency of having had five or more drinks on one occasion during the last 30 days. Girls (2011).



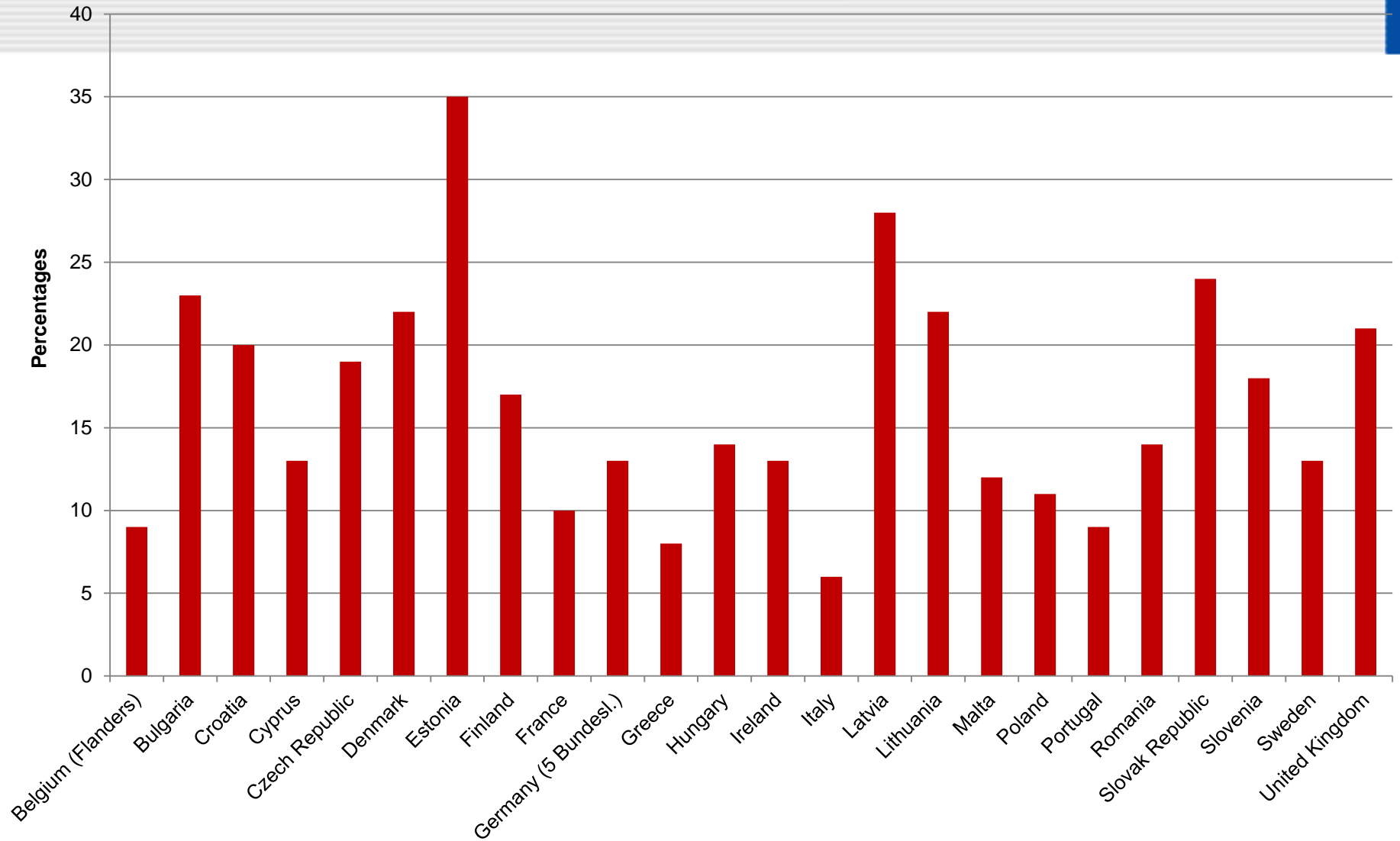
Frequency of lifetime drunkenness. Boys (2011).



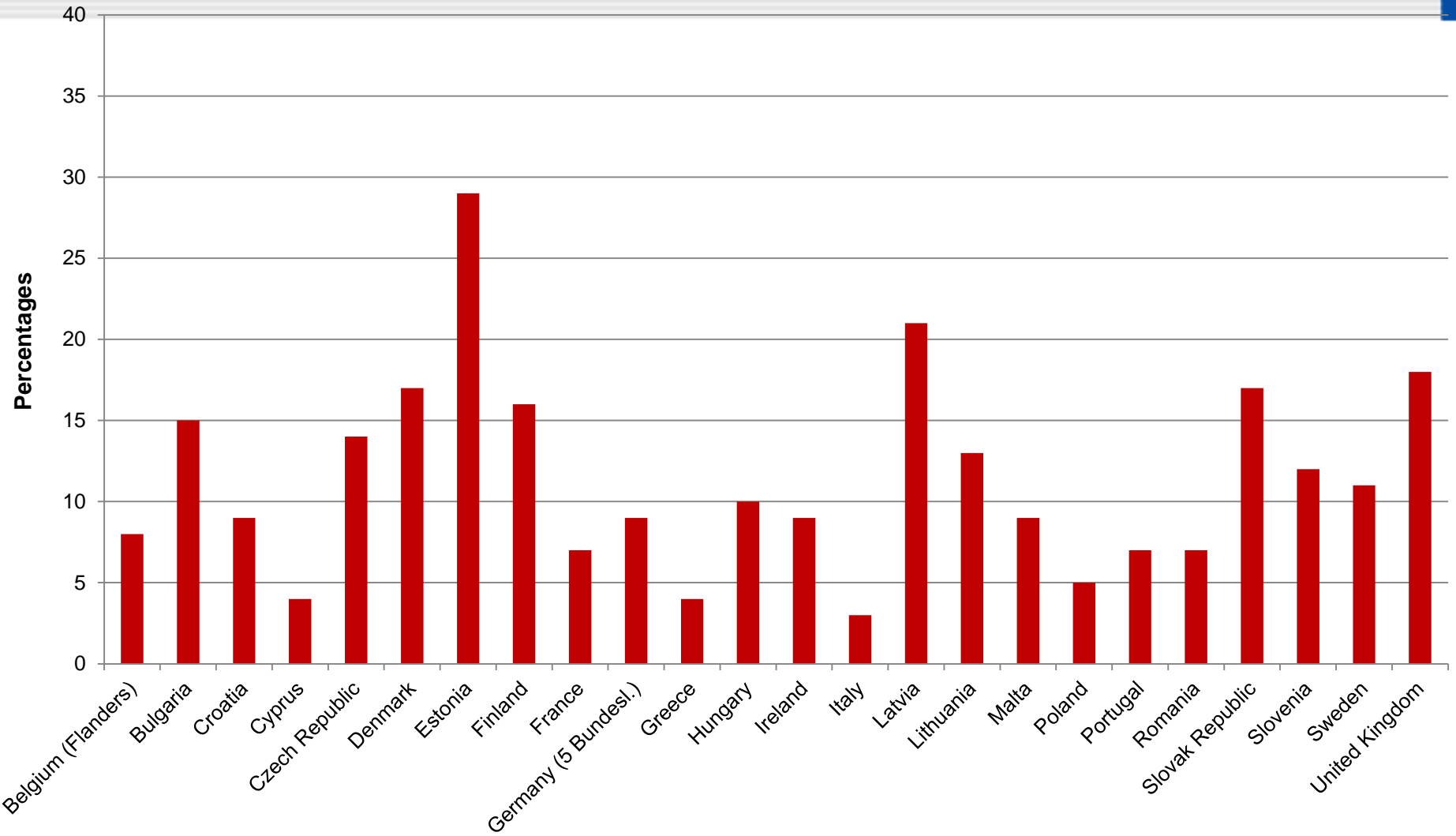
Frequency of lifetime drunkenness. Girls (2011).



Proportion of male students having been drunk at the age of 13 or younger (2011).



Proportion of female students having been drunk at the age of 13 or younger (2011).



Conclusions

- EMCDDA has a solid structure for data collection and reporting in field of drugs.
- With necessary arrangements it could contribute to collect alcohol data existing in national sources already reporting to EMCDDA
- ESPAD is an European project on alcohol and other drugs in adolescents. EMCDDA is increasingly contributing to coordinate the project.
- Though the primary interest of EMCDDA is drugs, ESPAD collects plenty of alcohol information



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Thank you for your attention!


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