



The European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs

## Application form for use of the ESPAD 07 Database

**Date: May 12, 2009**

**Person responsible for the dataset<sup>1)</sup>**

Name: Björn Hibell

Institution: CAN

Country: Sweden

**List of authors (preliminary):**

Björn Hibell, Ulf Guttormsson, Anders Romelsjö, Peter Wennberg

**Working title of the project:**

The prevention paradox - a comparison study of the validity of the prevention paradox in countries with different patterns of drinking and use of illicit drugs

**Abstract:** (Please describe objectives, methods and specify the research question(s), maximum 250 words.)

The scientific literature on the prevention paradox is fairly limited in several respects; the number of empirical studies is rather small, the findings are not entirely consistent, there are significant methodological short-comings in several studies and the scientific debate is to some extent blurred by different use of concepts and operationalisations.

Most studies addressing the prevention paradox have been done on adults and have been fairly narrow or limited in terms of what kind of alcohol-related problems have been assessed. Only very few studies have addressed the validity of the prevention paradox among adolescents, although this group is often the focus for alcohol policy and prevention.

Young people are also often in focus for drug prevention activities and many of them are directed to the population as a whole. The number of students reporting drug related problems is much lower for drugs than for alcohol, but we will anyhow analyse the relevance of the prevention paradox for drug related problems

The goal is to study the validity of the prevention paradox separately for boys and girls and in countries with very different alcohol culture and drinking patterns. We will also address whether the prevention paradox is relevant for illicit drugs in countries with different kinds of use of these substances. More specifically the research questions include the following:

---

<sup>1)</sup> This can only be a Principal Investigator or a Chair of an ESPAD Thematic group. When the application is approved the Principal Investigator/Chair of a Thematic group has to sign an agreement that the delivered copy of the 07 Database only will be used for the applied project and that the database will be handled according to the rules in the document "Rules for the use of ESPAD databases".

1. To what extent is the prevention paradox valid for different measures of alcohol use and different kinds of alcohol related problems,
2. Are there gender differences?
3. To what extent are the findings the same or different for countries and drinking cultures?
4. Is the prevention paradox valid for drug use and different measures of drug related problems?
5. Are there gender differences?
6. To what extent are the findings the same or different for different countries and drug cultures?

**Planned type of publication:**  Paper/article  Report  PhD  
 Other, which:

**Variables to be included in the analysis:**

Variables measuring alcohol consumption and the use of illicit drugs

Variables measuring problems related to the consumption of alcohol and illicit drugs

**Countries to be included in the analysis:**

- All accessible countries (Level 2)  
 A more limited number of countries, namely:

To have the application reviewed by the Application Committee please e-mail this document to:  
[bjorn.hibell@can.se](mailto:bjorn.hibell@can.se)