



## The Policy on Alcohol and Drugs in the Faroe Islands

The overall focus in the policy on alcohol and drugs in the Faroe Islands is that everyone should have the opportunity to grow up and live in the Faroe Islands without being in danger caused by alcohol or drug abuse, whether it self-caused or caused by other.

This policy on alcohol and drugs presented by the Minister in Health and the Interior divides in to two parts. The first part focuses on the importance of keeping drugs illegal in the Faroe Islands, which is a way of keeping the Faroe Islands drug free. This also means that the preservation of a good cooperation between the police and the custom authorities is very important. In addition to this, it is important to inform people about the dangerous health issues caused by drugs.

The second part is about alcohol. Due to a history, which includes a time where many people suffered from alcohol abuse, the Faroe Islands still keeps in mind what an excessive use of alcohol can do, and what the effects are. Because of this, it is of the utmost importance to minimize the use of alcohol in the Faroe Islands. The Faroese alcohol policy for the past 100 years has focused on minimizing the use of alcohol by making alcohol less accessible in the country and by adding extra fees on alcohol. Furthermore, proportionally fewer people drink in the Faroe Islands compared to countries surrounding the Faroes. Research states that one in every four Faroese does not drink at all.

In this positive view, the policy also states the importance of being able to take care of the people who do need treatment due to alcohol or drug abuse. However, it is underlined that the most important job is to prevent people from ending in the position of being able to become an abuser of alcohol and drugs.

Lastly, the policy on alcohol and drugs in the Faroe Islands assess the financial cost of this policy while it steadily underlines the importance of minimizing the use of alcohol in the Faroe Islands, while the use drugs is completely forbidden.

