

ICO-WHO SYMPOSIUM ON TOBACCO CONTROL

Implementing smoke-free policies of the WHO
Framework Convention on Tobacco Control

The *failure* of the “Spanish model”:
lessons learned for global tobacco control



L'Hospitalet de Llobregat
Barcelona, Spain
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Spain was one of the first European countries to implement a tobacco control law. In spite of this, the ban on smoking in enclosed workplaces allowed for an important exception in the hospitality sector including bars, pubs, taverns, restaurants and hotels. This type of partial legislation, which came to be known as the ‘Spanish model’, allowed smoking in hospitality venues of less than 100 m², at the owner’s discretion. Not surprisingly, this model has received much support from the tobacco industry in their lobbying efforts against completely smoke-free policies in line with Article 8 guidelines of the World Health Organization’s Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC).

The WHO FCTC urges comprehensive smoke-free policies. Further, the effectiveness of smoke-free policies has been confirmed by the International Agency for Research on Cancer, which also found a lack of negative effects on the hospitality sector as a result of smoking bans. Notably, evidence from the scientific evaluation of the Spanish ban demonstrated that second-hand smoke exposure in bars and restaurants did not decrease under the initial legislation. As a result of advocacy and scientific study, changes were made to the smoking ban. From 2 January 2011, the smoking ban extended to all enclosed workplaces, including bars and restaurants, without exception. The ‘Spanish model’ will no longer be associated with a partial and weak ban, but a total one, as recommended by the WHO FCTC.

What happened in Spain clearly illustrates how partial bans, as promoted by the tobacco industry and parts of the hospitality sector, do not protect people against second-hand smoke and can be undermined. The “new Spanish model” is an example of good practice for those countries aiming to go entirely smoke-free. **The aim of this symposium is to analyse the Spanish experience, and that of other countries, to derive implications for global tobacco control.**



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9:00 h Registration

9:30 h Welcome to the participants

Boi Ruiz, Minister of Health, Government of Catalonia [TBC]; Josep Maria Vilà, President of ICO; Armando Peruga, TFI Programme Manager, WHO; Esteve Fernández, Chair of the Symposium, ICO.

Opening Conference

“Tackling tobacco in the WHO FCTC era: smoke-free legislation and other tobacco control measures in Europe”

Kristina, Mauer-Stender; Programme Manager, Tobacco Control Programme, WHO Regional Office for Europe.

10:30 h 1st table

“The Spanish smoke-free legislation: a long but successful trip”

Chair: Joan R. Villalbí, Public Health Agency of Barcelona; Tobacco Advisory Board, Department of Health, Government of Catalonia

“How Spaniards forced the change of the partial smoking ban”

Joseba Zabala, Citizen’s initiative “Por qué nosotros no?”; Action Plan on Drugs, City of Vitoria-Gasteiz

“Evidence-based failure of the partial smoking ban: contributions of scientists”

Maria J. López, Public Health Agency of Barcelona

“Contributions of the public health administrations to the change of the partial smoking ban”

Esteve Saltó, Public Health Agency of Catalonia

Debate

Coffee break

12:00 h 2nd table

“Dealing with the ‘Spanish model’ globally”

Chair: Antonella Cardone, Global Smokefree Partnership

“The Spanish law -a model for Europe?”

Nick Schneider, Human Rights and Tobacco Control Network

“Diffusion of the ‘Spanish model’ in the Americas”

Ernesto Sebríe, Roswell Park Institute

“The ‘Spanish model’: a worldwide threaten for article 8 of the WHO FCTC”

Laura Salgado, Framework Convention Alliance

Informal lunch and networking

The Symposium will be held in English.

Simultaneous translation into/from Spanish will be available.

14:00 h 3rd table

“Smoke-free bans and other tobacco control measures”

Chair: Francisco R. Lozano, Spanish National Committee for Smoking Prevention

“The Spanish tobacco tax loopholes and their consequences”

Angel López-Nicolás, Technical University of Cartagena

“The PPACTE survey on the economic aspects of smoking in Europe”

Silvano Gallus, “Mario Negri” Institute for Pharmacological Research

“ENSP actions and support for a Smoke Free Europe”

Cornel Radu-Loghin, European Network for Smoking and Tobacco Control

15:00 h 4th table

“Lights and shadows on the implementation of smoke-free legislation”

Chair: Mónica Pérez-Ríos, University of Santiago de Compostela.

“Success, difficulties and challenges of smoke-free bans: the Polish example”

Krzysztof Przewozniak, WHO Collaborative Center for Tobacco Control, Maria Sklodowska-Curie Cancer Center

“Regression of smoking bans: the case of The Netherlands”

Lies van Gennip, STIVORO- Dutch Centre for Tobacco Control

“Does the model of comprehensive smoke-free ban matter?”

Luke Clancy, TobaccoFree Research Institute Ireland

16:30 h Summary conclusions

17:00 h Closing Conference

“The ‘Spanish model’: lessons learned on tobacco industry interference and what to do about it”

Armando Peruga, Coordinator, Tobacco Free Initiative, World Health Organization.

17:45 h Closing Remarks

Candela Calle, General Director of ICO; Esteve Fernández, Chair of the Symposium.

Venue

“Pau Viladiu” Auditorium

Catalan Institute of Oncology (ICO)

Av. Granvia de l’Hospitalet 199-203, 08908 L’Hospitalet (Barcelona)

All the information

www.icowhosymposia.net