

Summer 2024

European Consumer Debt Network Newsletter



In this edition:

- Foundation of the CCD II Working Group,
- Invitation for the conference on the 21st of November in Brussels: Focus on the fight against over-indebtedness in Europe and celebrate the 30th anniversary of the OCE,
- 'Financial Unwellness' Financial Literacy & Inclusion Among Irish Travellers- study of examples of the marginalized and discriminated group with over-indebtedness problem.

ECDN Updates:

- Update about Extraordinary General Assembly from July 11 2024 and adoption of the new statutes
 - Call for preparing an official guideline/presentation for Ministries/working groups/parliamentary committees about our way of debt advisory
 - Materials from PEPPI in the European Consumer Education Hub
 - New publications of our member
-

FOUNDATION OF THE CCDII TRANSPOSITION WORKING GROUP



As part of our ongoing efforts to successfully transpose the Consumer Credit Directive II (CCDII) into the national frameworks, we are proud to announce the establishment of the CCDII Transposition Working Group

Mission and vision



Ensure a smooth and effective transposition of the CCDII in the participant's countries, and especially art. 36 of CCDII and shape the future of debt advisory.



Engage with policymakers to ensure that national laws align with the CCDII and advocate for additional measures to establish stable debt advisory; provide recommendations and participate in consultations.

Objectives and goals



Empower and prepare members for the legislation time to establish in countries of our participants stable and sustainable debt counseling



Collaboration and Networking: exchange of good practices and materials regarding the initiatives for the transposition of the CCD II



Monitoring and reporting: monitor changes in the national legal framework due to CCDII;

First Initiatives:

Series of meetings every 6 weeks, where you can find:



- **Round Table Discussion** about the current situation with the transposing of CCDII in the countries of our participants - progress information, ongoing procedures. sharing materials, discussion of any challenges faced, and support needed
- **Strategic Planning:** development of actionable plans and timelines for the next steps to empower our members during the legislation process in their countries

The next meeting of our working group will be organized in the first half of September 2024. More details will be sent at the end of August.



At this moment we are working on launching a **subpage** on our website about our Group and developing a **library** with materials regarding the CCDII



Call for preparing an official guideline/presentation for Ministries / national working groups / parliamentary committees about transposition of the article 36 of CCDII

More information in the last page

Join Us

We invite you, to join us in this crucial mission. For more information, please contact via email: secretary@ecdn.eu



Observatoire
du Crédit et
de l'Endettement



We are happy to deliver the information about the newest big event of our new member OCE.

We are more than happy to see how many of our members are collaborating to present different approaches to fight over-indebtedness in this event

We are delighted to share the information about the:

Conference
**“Focus on the fight against
over-indebtedness in Europe”**

Save the Date:

21st november 2024

Brussels
National Bank of Belgium

30 YEARS OF THE OBSERVATOIRE

This event will be a unique occasion to meet experts, researchers, and professionals from all around Europe (the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Italy, and Slovakia) and explore the latest developments in fighting over-indebtedness. We have one more occasion to meet: the celebration of the Observatoire's 30th anniversary.

We are glad that a noble organization with long traditions like the OCE is part of ECDN. Congratulations on the three decades of your commitment to combating over-indebtedness.

May the next 30 years be filled with even greater success, innovation, and impact.

Here is the link for more information and the registration to the conference:
<https://observatoire-credit.be/fr/nos-formations/299/conference-anniversary-focus-on-the-fight-against-over-indebtedness-in-europe>



'Financial Unwellness' Financial Literacy & Inclusion Among Irish Travellers – study of examples of the marginalized and discriminated group with the over-indebtedness problem.

National Traveller MABS launched their latest research report 'Financial Unwellness' Financial Literacy & Inclusion Among Travellers on the 26th June 2024. The report shows that Travellers experience much higher levels of financial stress than the settled community as well as exclusion from banking, payment systems, access to credit, use of savings and insurance.

National Traveller MABS, established in 2005, is a leading advocate for the financial inclusion of Travellers in Ireland. National Traveller MABS works to reduce poverty, discrimination and the financial exclusion of Travellers in Ireland. National Traveller MABS undertook this comparative research into financial literacy and inclusion to further inform our work in addressing financial exclusion experienced by Travellers.

In this research, we used the opportunity presented by the publication of Financial Wellbeing in Ireland: Financial Literacy and Inclusion in 2023. This research report was carried out for the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) by Indecon Economic Consultants in conjunction with Ipsos MRBI. National Traveller MABS approach involves applying - with modifications designed to suit the Traveller context - the research methodology employed in the national study, namely the 2022 OECD/INFE Toolkit for Measuring Financial Literacy and Financial Inclusion.

The findings of this report demonstrate the gulf that exists between Travellers and the settled community when it comes to financial literacy and well-being. National Traveller MABS believes that if financial institutions provide Travellers with access to affordable banking products and services – such as savings accounts, loans, and insurance – Travellers can participate more fully in the financial system and build the type of security necessary to help alleviate the high levels of financial stress that so many Travellers experience. In this context, access to legal and affordable credit is critical – unfortunately, Travellers face a myriad of barriers in accessing such credit.

While this research looks at financial exclusion from a Traveller perspective, we believe that the findings are applicable to the financial exclusion of many other marginalised and low-income groups and can inform future actions to improve the situation of those who are financially excluded in general.

Furthermore, this research has highlighted the need for the State to take a more active role in the coordination of measures to address financial exclusion, and we hope that it will be taken into account during the development of the new national financial literacy strategy which is currently underway under the auspices of the Department of Finance. At the heart of that strategy must be those who find themselves essentially locked out of financial services.

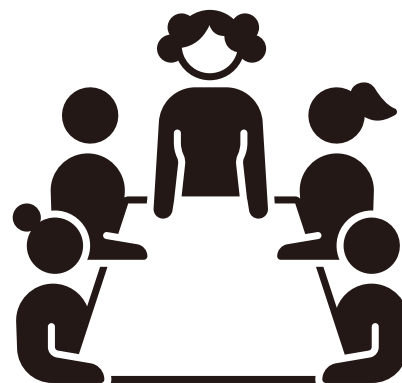
You can read the full report here: <https://t.ly/YCBMg>

Attention ECDN Members,

1. Update about Extraordinary General Assembly and adoption of the new statutes

On the 11th of July, ECDN members were convened on a hybrid Extraordinary General Meeting to vote on a change of the statutes of the association in the presence of Maître Olivier Brouwers, Notary in Ixelles.

The objective of this modification was to adapt the statutes of the association to the provisions of the Code of Companies and Associations and to change the category of members to a better denomination (corporate members and individual members).



After discussing this modification since 2020, ECDN is glad to announce the adoption of these modifications unanimously during the meeting of the 11th.

ECDN thanks their members for their presence in this Meeting!

2. New publications of our member

ECDN member Associate, Professor Rodica Diana Apan, has recently had two new publications in the Journal of Law and Public Administration.

Thank you for sharing the materials with us and congratulations for Rodica!

1. Debt Counseling from the Directive No. 2023/2225 on Credit Agreements for Consumers and Perspectives for Transposition

The article was published in vol. 13, no. 2, June 2024 from the journal Perspectives of Law and Public Administration. here: <https://adjuris.ro/revista/an13nr2.html>.

2. Vulnerables and Vulnerabilities Face to Face with Over-indebtedness

The article was published in Volume IX, Issue 18 2023 from the Journal of Law and Public Administration

https://sjea-dj.spiruharet.ro/images/secretariat/sjdea-2016/JoLPA_VolumeIX_Issue_18_2023.pdf

3. Call for preparing an official guideline/presentation for Ministries/national working groups/parliamentary committees about the transposition of article 36 of CCDII

This will contain the following three parts:

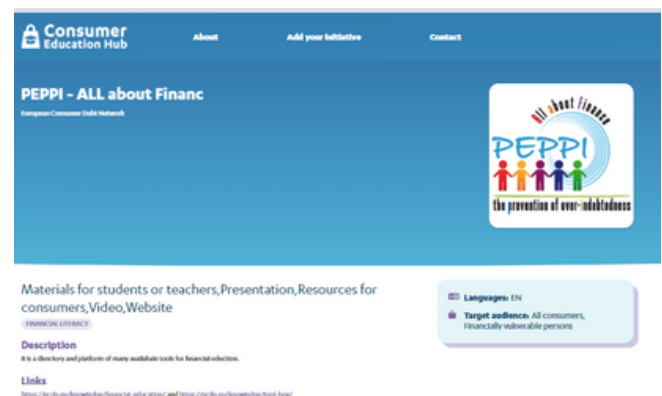
- Independence of the debt advisory
- Funding of the debt advisory (our policy brief)
- Content about a holistic way of debt advisory

We encourage you to prepare and share with us guides for your local institutions that deal with the implementation of Article 36 CCDII. Such an e-book or presentation will be the first message about what vision of debt advice you want to have in your country, taking into account the context of your country.

4. Materials from PEPPi in European Consumer Education Hub

We are proud to announce that our materials are now listed and approachable by the **European consumer education hub**.

More information at the following link:
<https://consumer-education.eu/initiative/fe003a1b30674288b430281e27eb0be2/>



The Consumer Education Hub provides a range of consumer education resources from across Europe.

This website is ran by the European Consumer Organisation (BEUC).

The concept and material behind this website was developed by Directorate-General Justice and Consumers of the European Commission after research work conducted by VVA. We also encourage you to visit their website and get inspired by interesting initiatives from all over Europe.

We would like to encourage you to share with us your new materials, educational resource publications, best practices (case studies, reports, and research), tools, templates, and success stories. You can email your contributions to secreatry@ecd n.eu with a brief description of the materials.
Thank you for your dedication and support.