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Defending the Nordic model: current challenges and the role of civil society

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NordAN – our network

- NordAN: network for NGOs in all Nordic and Baltic countries
- platform for joint action and policy learning
- focus on both effective policies and broader challenges



why the “Nordic model” still matters



shared foundation:
taxes, availability limits,
marketing bans, state
retail monopoly



proven results over
decades



Baltic countries moving
closer to this model



the Nordic
paradox –
moving
backwards
while
others



progress



Nordics: weakening
of proven policies

Rest of Europe: slow
but steady
improvement

Key concern:
reversing decades of
public health gains

ideological conflict – then & now

- "The challenging and transformation of the Nordic alcohol monopoly systems must be viewed in light of shifts in the relations between various national actors, but also between the national and the European level. On the national level, political ideologies and social groups that throughout history have legitimated and supported the alcohol control systems have lost much of their stronghold in the Nordic societies."
- 1997 article published in Nordisk alkohol- & narkotikatidskrift: "Europeanisation of the Nordic alcohol monopoly systems: collisions between ideologies and political cultures"



the Elders letter – a call to defend the model

- Joint statement from leading Nordic alcohol policy experts and former policymakers
- Warns against further weakening of the Nordic model
- A tool for advocacy and public debate
- <https://www.nordicalcohol.org/elders>

