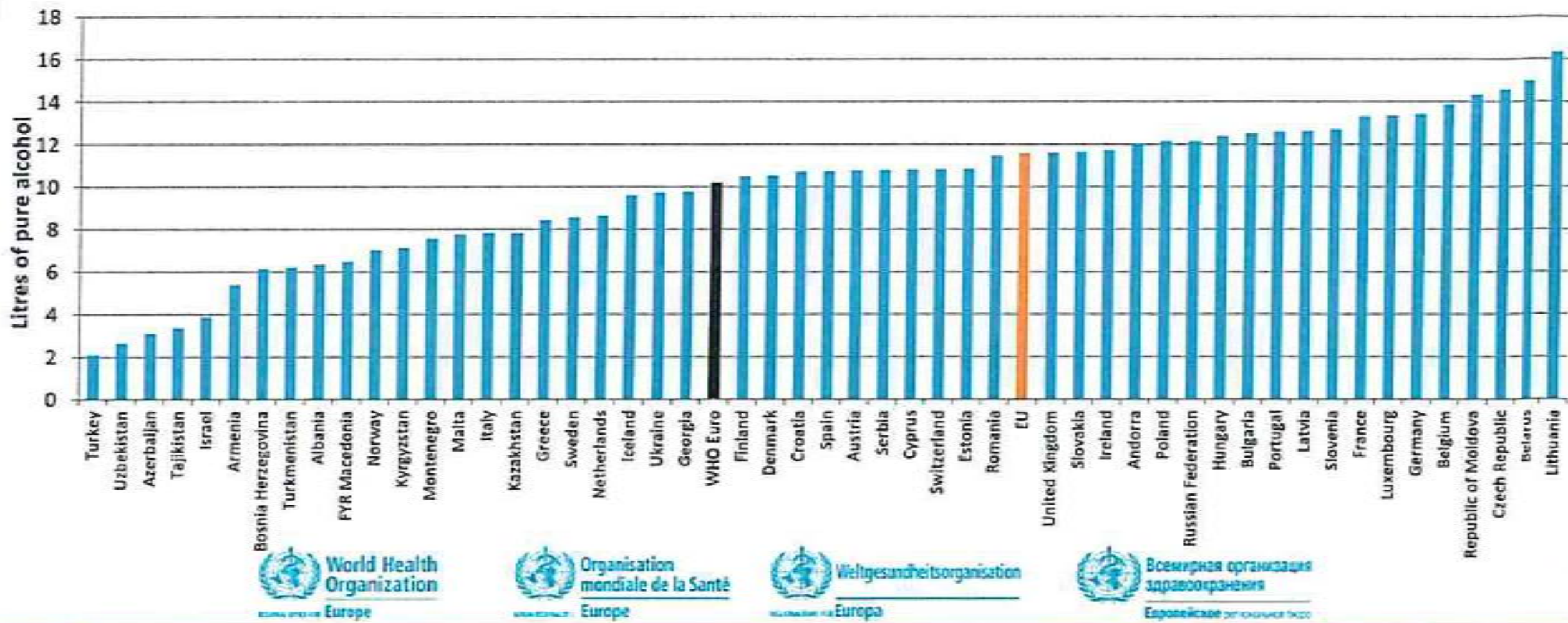


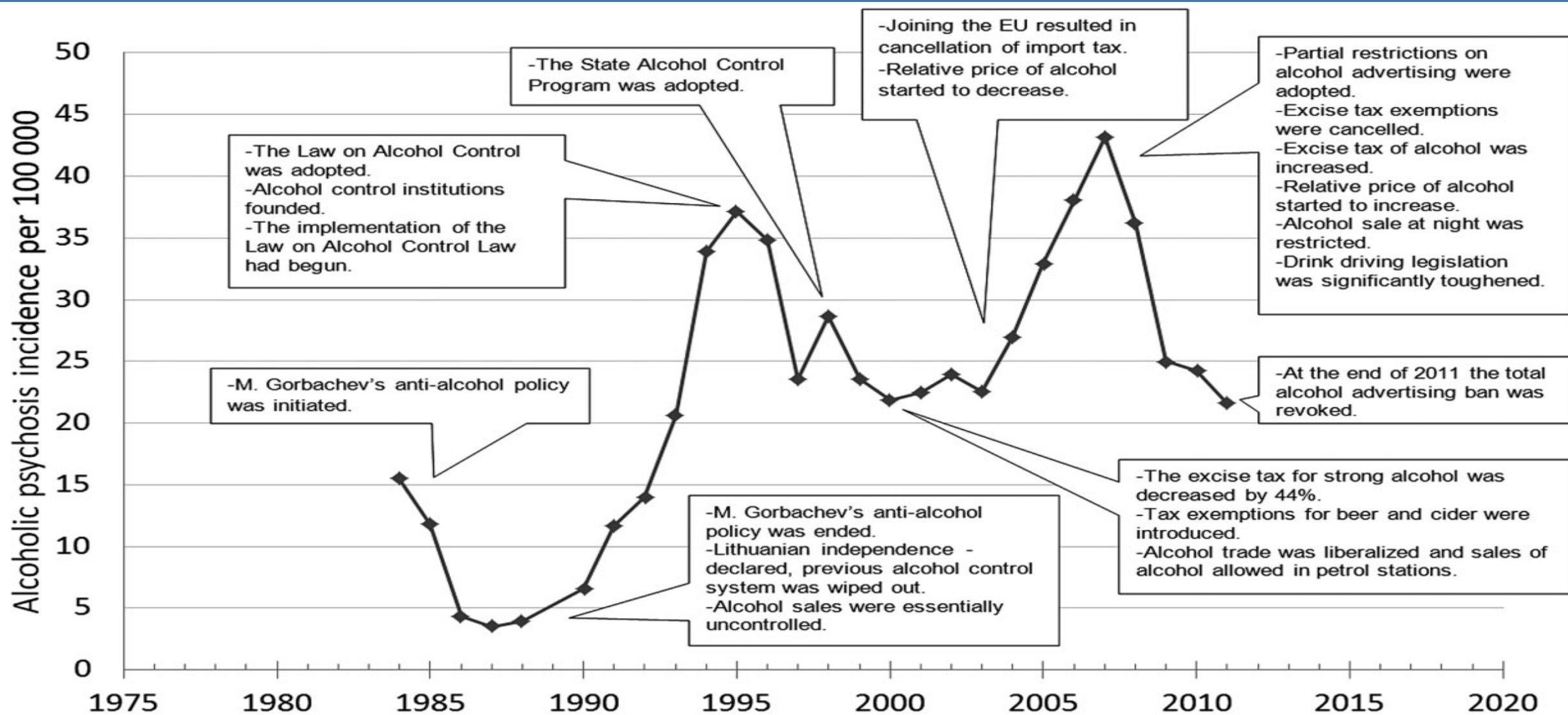
# ALCOHOL CONTROL POLICY IN LITHUANIA

Ministry of Health  
of the Republic of Lithuania  
dr. Audrone Astrauskiene

# Total average alcohol per capita consumption (projected), recorded and unrecorded, 2016 (men and women)



# REFLECTION OF ALCOHOL CONTROL POLICY MEASURES ON ALCOHOLIC PSYCHOSIS INCIDENCE IN LITHUANIA



**Figure 1** Reflection of alcohol control policy measures on alcoholic psychosis incidence in Lithuania (1984–2011). (Source:WHO HFA<sup>3</sup>-DB)

# PART OF THE IMPLEMENTED MEASURES IN ALCOHOL CONTROL POLICY

- Starting from January 2016, selling alcohol at petrol stations was banned in Lithuania.
- Prohibition to declare about the reduce of price, to offer free drink, gift prizes
- Increase in excise tax (2017 03 01):
  - For beer 112 %, vine - 92 - 111 %,
  - strong alcohol –23 %.

The final prices increased (approximately):

- wine by 53 euro cents,
  - Beer by 14 euro cent,
  - other strong drinks by 72 euro cents
  - According to the existing law, alcohol is not sold on 1th September (the first official day of the new school year).
- 
- BAC for novice drivers, professional drivers and motorbike drivers 0 promilles.





# WHAT WAS A POLITICAL MOMENT TO PASS THE LEGAL INITIATIVES ON ALCOHOL CONTROL?

- In 2016, the Parliament (Seimas) has received projects concerning alcohol regulations. One of these projects was initiated thanks to civil society that obtained 60,000 supporting signatures (out of 50 000 required)
- Conservative Party initiated the second project on Alcohol control law.
- 
- 2016 elections changed political climate in the Parliament and the government.
- To tackle alcohol harm in the country was among the key campaign promises made by the Lithuanian leading party which won a surprise victory in the elections in October 2016.
- The coalition became a majority and enabled necessary changes.
- In addition, both the Prime Minister and the Minister of Health represented the newly elected party.



# **THE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW ON ALCOHOL CONTROL, 2017**

## **(from 2018 01 01)**

- The main aim of the amendment is to protect public health, particularly young people, by reducing alcohol consumption and alcohol related harm:
  - To ban on alcohol advertising;  
(with exceptions to name and type of the beverage, the name of the producer, the trademark (brandname), country of origin, geographical region of origin, ethanol content, labeling information, price in sales points, in producers and sellers websites)
  - Local governments (municipalities) will receive the right to limit the alcohol sales places and alcohol sale during commercial mass events;
  - Increase legal age for buying, holding and consuming alcoholic beverages to the age of 20 (instead of 18);
  - Prohibit use of persons under the age of 20 in alcohol promotion campaigns;
  - Person selling alcohol will have a duty to ask for ID, unless the buyer is clearly an adult under the age 25.

# THE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW ON ALCOHOL CONTROL, 2017

## Operating hours of sale from 2018 01 01

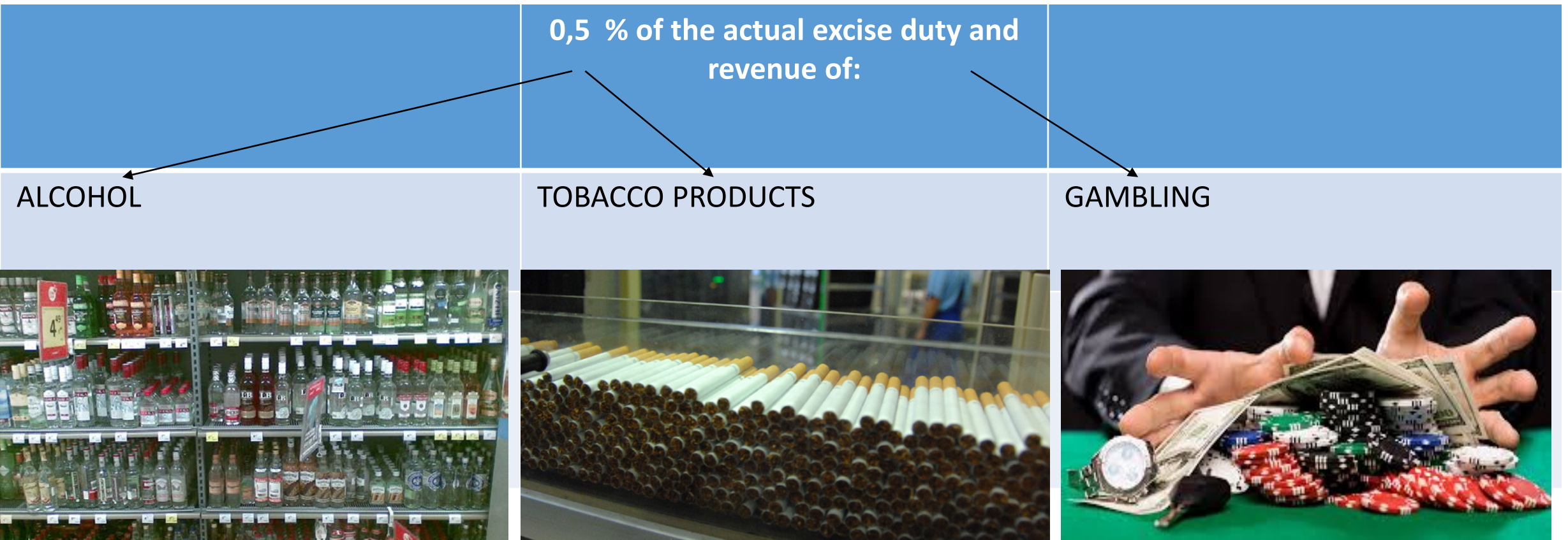
### CURRENTLY

- Hours of sale:  
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- Days of Sale: Monday through Sunday
- 1 st September (Day of knowleges) No

- ~~From 2018 01 01~~ Hours of Sale: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Days of Sale: Monday through Saturday.
- Hours of Sale: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Days of Sale: Sunday

# STATE PUBLIC HEALTH PROMOTION FUND, since 2016 01 01

- The fund is intended to support Health promotion and well being activities, promotion projects, social advertising campaigns, prevention projects, scientific reseach (2.6 mln.EUR)





## **FUTURE PLANS**

- The government suggested postponing the debates on establishing specialized shops for alcohol and prohibition of alcohol internet sale. That will be analyzed further.
- Preventive measures:
  - ❖ early interventions
  - ❖ Brief screening
  - ❖ Addiction consultants model

**THANK YOU**