



## Application form for use of ESPAD Databases

**Date:** 06 February 2013

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**Are you an ESPAD Principal Investigator or Contact Person?**  Yes  
 No

**Which database(s) do you apply for?**  2003  
 2007 (Non-ESPAD researchers from July 1, 2013)  
 2011 (Non-ESPAD researchers from July 1, 2015)

**List of authors (preliminary):**

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**Working title of the project:**

Assessing the cross-cultural differences in the cannabis use and problematic use in the European adolescent population

**Work Plan:** (Please describe objectives, methods and specify the research question(s), maximum 250 words.)

In adolescent population, the CAST has been validated with the DSM-IV theoretical diagnoses as well as with an empirical typology of problematic use derived from the DSM-IV criteria obtained by Latent Class Analysis in France. It was also validated in adult populations [6, 7] in Spain. The CAST has been implemented in 17 countries of the 2007 and in 11 of the 2011 European School Survey Project on Alcohol and other Drugs (ESPAD) [8, 9]. But its intercultural reliability is unknown.

Our project is based on two types of analyses to assess cross-national differences. First, exploratory data analysis based on Multiple Factor Analysis (MFA) that is based on Principal component analysis (PCA). The purpose is to explore the common and separate dimensions of the CAST on one side and the frequency of cannabis use on the other (lifetime, last 12 months and last 30 days, age at cannabis first use). In order to explore the internal structure of the CAST, factorial analyses will also be used. A global model can be implemented (exploratory analysis) in all countries and tested in each country (confirmatory factor analysis).

The second analysis will use multilevel multivariate modelling. Its aim is to explain the CAST score by individual characteristics (gender, family socioeconomic status, etc.), individual cannabis use, and country-level variables (cannabis prevalence, variables assessing the economic and political

context, etc.). The use of an interaction between country and cannabis use will allow testing cultural differences across countries.

**Planned type of publication:**  Paper/article  Report  PhD  
 Other, which:

**Questions (see Questionnaire(s)) to be included in the analysis:** (Please indicate the question numbers.)

C24, C25, C26, C27, C31, C34, C35, C36, C37, C38, C39, C40, C41, C42, C43, C44, MA2, MA3  
C01, C02, C03, C04, C06  
C08, C09, C12, C18, C19  
MD1, MD2, O1, O2

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