

Supervising Tutor's opinion

Supervisors Opinion for Defense of the PhD Thesis "Individual, social and cultural factors shaping the use of amphetamine-type stimulants in Europe" for obtaining PhD scientific qualification by **M.Sc. Marcus-Sebastian Martens**.

Mr. Marcus-Sebastian Martens graduated with a Master of Psychology degree in University of Hamburg (Germany), Department of Psychology in 2000. Already during his studies, he worked as a Drug Counsellor and Addiction therapist in substance-use disorders inpatient treatment centre and was engaged in research activities. Since 2001 he has been working as a researcher in Centre for Interdisciplinary Addiction Research (ZIS) of University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf (UKE), Clinic for Psychiatry in Hamburg. He has been involved in number of research projects at local, national and international levels including as project leader or principal investigator. He has profound experience in development, coordinating and leading research projects, development of research designs and instruments, collecting, analysing, reporting and presenting data on drug use, substance use disorders, drug services utilisation etc. He was the coordinator and leading researcher of the ATTUNE project ("Understanding Pathways to Stimulant Use: a mixed-methods examination of the individual, social and cultural factors shaping illicit stimulant use across Europe"), that represents the main source of findings for his PhD thesis.

Mr. Martens has passed all prescribed study requirements and exams and proved his ability to compile and publish scientific articles. The dissertation thesis and previous research and publishing experience show that he meets the requirements for the PhD scientific qualification.

The cumulative dissertation meets all formal criteria, shows deep insight into the topic and, while applying mixed methods design, confirms ability to analyse the research questions in systematic and structured way. The discussion and interpretation of results is held in comprehensive manner and guides through the most important questions raised by research findings. Conclusions are adequate to the results and bring useful implications for policy and interventions focusing on amphetamine-type stimulants in Europe and elsewhere.

**Therefore, I am keen in recommending Mr. Martens for defending his dissertation:
Individual, social and cultural factors shaping the use of amphetamine-type stimulants in Europe.**