



Food Lawyers Network  
Worldwide

# CANNABIS & CBD

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A Global Regulatory Trends Overview of the  
Regulations in the Medicinal, Nutritional,  
and Recreational Markets

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## FLN GUIDE



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## THE PAPER'S OBJECTIVE

As the legal status of cannabis and its derivatives, including CBD, quickly evolve around the world, it is now legally available in a number of countries for medicinal or recreational purposes. Products with cannabis ingredients are available in various forms, including without limitation, dried plant, topical, and edible. Edible forms of cannabis, which are consumed in food form, have food-like legal and regulatory considerations and addition the cannabis itself.

In twenty chapters this booklet summarises the legal situation of cannabis/CBD in a cross-section of jurisdictions around the globe. Each author of a national chapter<sup>1</sup> gives a brief description of the overall regulation of these substances and the direction the jurisdiction is going. It explains the recreational use of cannabis or CBD products and its regulation (that is, the ability to legally (or tolerantly) purchase cannabis products) as well as their medical use. Branding and marketing of cannabis/CBD is discussed for each country concerned and also the forms they be sold (joints, tinctures, food, cosmetics etc.) and what cannabis accessories can be marketed. Not discussed are agricultural aspects like hemp production. Given regulations on cannabis or CBD products is in a constant state of flux, future challenges are also discussed.

<sup>1</sup>For lack of a common approach there is no supranational chapter on the legal situation in the European Union. A helpful publication is the "Commission services non-paper: Overview of the EU *acquis* applicable to cannabis in its different forms and components" of 19/2/2021 (Council document 10189/21). On 19/11/2020, the Court of Justice of the European Union delivered a judgment on the marketing of cannabidiol in Case C-663/183, which has implications for this issue. Neither discussed are the International Drug Control Conventions and the approach the World Health Organisation (WHO) is taking toward cannabis/CBD.