

Motion Sober Persons

Amsterdam, 29 September 2026

Motion Sober Persons is an attempt to institutionalise the designation of (a) Sober Person(s) at all events and trips organised by SV Machiavelli, including those in collaboration with partner associations.

The members of study association Machiavelli gathered at the Annual General Assembly of the academic year 2026-2027,

Ascertaining that

- The practice of designating (a) sober person(s) is currently outlined in the Policy Plan of the 63rd (Candidate) Board and has been practiced regularly by previous boards
- The designated sober person(s) are informed of their duties and communicated with members in advance
- Being under the influence of alcohol or drugs can seriously impair an individual's judgement and reactions, leading to an increased risk of accidents and injuries occurring, as quoted in SV Machiavelli's Drug Policy
- Being under the influence of alcohol or any other substance can also provoke behaviour that is socially undesirable or sensitive, causing psychological harm or discomfort to members
- SV Machiavelli, as outlined in its Code of Ethics, strives to embrace diversity and prevent behaviour that involves discrimination of any kind
- The presence of (a) sober person(s) can help prevent, subside, or address undesirable behaviour of any kind and ensure the well-being and safety of members.

Considering that

- Domestic excursions (such as weekends) and international excursions (such as trips) take place in settings in which control over the turn of events can often remain limited
- Such excursions take place in settings in which control over the outcome of members' interactions with each other or outsiders, if endangering their safety or comfort, can remain limited

- Events such as parties and borrels may involve participants that are (not) members of the association but capable of compromising the harmony of an event or the safety of other members of SV Machiavelli
- Regardless of who the primary organiser of an event is, Board members bear an equal responsibility for the success of an event and the fostering of a conducive and respectful environment for its entire duration. This is in line with Article 3.1 of the Internal Rules of Procedure, which states “the Board is *collectively* responsible for the coordination and execution of all their tasks.”

Argues for

- The provision of a minimum of one (1), with two (2) recommended, board members to remain sober at any point of an event or trip, including those in collaboration with partner associations. The designated sober person(s) must be communicated with the rest of the members or participants – via social media or otherwise – and are strictly prohibited from consuming any form of alcohol in any amount
- In line with Article 3.1, the duty of a sober person can be designated to any Board member(s) present at the event, even if they are not its primary organiser(s)
- The institutionalisation of the designation of (a) sober person(s) to ensure a formal means of accountability in case of a lapse in social safety due to the absence of such sober person(s)
- The need for stricter enforcement of the Drug Policy, especially to detect and address undesirable behaviour that is a result of suspected intoxication prior to the event, even if not during the event itself. Intoxication includes the consumption of alcohol, drugs (including cannabis), or other substances.
- A heightened sense of precaution towards individuals who may not be participating in an event organised by SV Machiavelli but share the same setting or venue, as is the case at several social events.

and returns to the order of the day.

Signed by:

Karla Naujok, Chair of the 62nd Board of SV Machiavelli

Amelia Chiana, Treasurer of the 62nd Board of SV Machiavelli

Federico Edelman Lopez, Education Coordinator of the 62nd Board of SV Machiavelli

Joey de Haas, Political Activities Coordinator of the 62nd Board of SV Machiavelli

Arihant Jain, International Coordinator 2025-26