More and more countries are adopting legislation to introduce plain packaging for tobacco products.

Six more countries, including Turkey, Israel and Belgium, have introduced plain packaging.

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The aim of plain packaging is to (1) eliminate promotional aspects of packaging; (2) reduce the appeal of tobacco products; (3) curb deceptive messages conveyed through packaging; (4) enhance the effectiveness of health warnings.

There are 29 countries and territories moving forward with plain packaging, with 15 having adopted the measure and 14 working on it. Plain packaging has been implemented in Australia (2012), France (2016), the United Kingdom (2016), Norway (2017), Ireland (2017) and New Zealand (2018), will be implemented in Saudi Arabia (2019), Turkey (2019), Thailand (2019), Canada (2019), Uruguay (2019), Slovenia (2020), Israel (2020), Belgium (2020) and Hungary (2021), and is under formal consideration in Singapore, Netherlands, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Malaysia, Romania, Chile, Georgia, Jersey, Guernsey, Taiwan, Finland, and South Africa. We are making progress.

Sources: Canadian Cancer Society, Plain packaging - International overview, 19 May 2016 & Belgian Ministry for Health, 17 May 2019.

Interested to learn more? Read more here & here.