

CND 67 side event

18 March
2024

09:10 - 10:00
hybrid (VIC M3/
Zoom)



[Zoom link](#)

light refreshments to be served

Mitigating the socioeconomic impact related to drug use by strengthening societal resilience through community-based action

side event organized by Malta
with the support of the European Union and its Member States, Canada, Mexico, Norway, Thailand, South Africa, Switzerland, the UNODC Research and Trend Analysis Branch (UNODC RAB), the Council of Europe/Pompidou Group, and the International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD)



This event aims to build on the UNODC debate on the nexus between socioeconomic factors and drug use, which was most recently explored in the 2020 World Drug Report Special Chapter on the subject.

Mitigating the socioeconomic impact related to drug use by strengthening societal resilience through community-based action

While significant efforts to address all aspects of the world drug problem have traditionally focused on treating individual behaviors, evidence-based policies have increasingly advocated for a more comprehensive approach, which takes into account all the relevant socioeconomic factors. This was underscored within the 2016 UNGASS Outcome Document, which called upon member states to "recognize drug dependence as a complex multifactorial health disorder characterized by a chronic and relapsing nature with social causes and consequences..."

Speakers

Ms. Angela Me,
Chief of the UNODC
Research and Trend
Analysis Branch

Mr. Leonid McKay,
Executive Chairperson
Authority for the
Responsible Use of
Cannabis (ARUC), Malta

Mr. Gady Zabicky Sirot,
former National
Commissioner against
Addictions, Mexico

Mr. Romain Bach,
Co-Secretary General of
Groupement Romand
d'Etudes des Addictions
(GREAA), Switzerland

Mr. Thomas Kattau,
Deputy Executive
Secretary, Pompidou
Group/CoE

Ms. Judy Chang,
Executive Director,
International Network of
People who Use Drugs
(INPUD)

A panel discussion will elaborate on both the risk and protective/resilience factors that influence prevalence, as well as that of the impact of drug use on society. The panel will explore the various socioeconomic, educational, health and legal implications of drug use: both for people who use drugs as well as for their families and society in general. The discussion will expand on different good practices and lessons learnt, in addressing these challenges through a grassroots, bottom-up approach. Ultimately, the event will seek to elicit concrete recommendations for community-based action, in order to enhance the health, safety and wellbeing of a society as a whole.

