



ECAD XXII MAYORS' CONFERENCE
MALTA: MAY 11-12, 2015

P R O G R A M M E H I G H L I G H T S



Building Towards a Comprehensive and Ambitious Drug Policy in Preparation for UNGASS 2016



May 11-12, 2015
MALTA
Hosted by the Swieqi Local Council



DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES

Ola'... A warm welcome to you all. It is our great pleasure to invite you to the 22nd ECAD Mayors' Conference in Malta.

Drug use and addiction is a complex problem that requires a comprehensive and ambitious answer. Drugs damage the physical and mental health of a person and contribute to a loss of cognitive abilities, affect family life and relationships, decrease job productivity, and are an overall concern to public health and safety. As drugs don't come cheap, addicts will spend a large amount of money to sustain their habits. This starts a vicious cycle that destroys the life of a person.

It is important to highlight that the adverse outcomes of drugs require a wide range of responses. We need to emphasize the importance of preventing drug use from occurring in the first place, but also facilitate effective treatment of addiction, as well as limit the access to illicit drugs through smart law enforcement interventions.

In 2016, the UN will address the challenges posed by drugs to the global community in a special session in the general assembly – UNGASS. ECAD firmly believes that an ambitious and comprehensive drug policy is the best way to address the complex problems from drugs and should guide our discussions up to UNGASS.

I look forward to continuing our discussion in Malta!

Mario Fava
City Councillor
Swieqi



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM OUTLINE

SUNDAY, MAY 10TH

Arrivals, Network Meetings

18.00

Welcome Reception

MONDAY, MAY 11TH

The Conference

9.00

Opening and Welcome Speech: Representative of Malta

Kian Reme, Chairman of ECAD

Keynote Speeches

Evening

Conference Dinner

TUESDAY, MAY 12TH

Keynote speeches continue

Conclusions

Afternoon

Study visit/Sightseeing options

A SELECTION OF SPEAKERS

EXPLORING THE SOCIAL, LEGAL, AND DEVELOPMENTAL IMPACTS OF CANNABIS: AN AMERICAN PERSPECTIVE

Sean LeNoue, MD, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow (CR-2), Chief Resident, Denver Health Medical Centre, University of Colorado, Department of Psychiatry

Sean LeNoue is a medical doctor currently in post-graduate fellowship training at the University of Colorado – Anschutz Medical Campus. His training is focused on child and adolescent psychiatry as well as addictions. His clinical and research interests include adolescent substance abuse and prevention, integrated care, and telemental health.

THREE CITIES PROJECT

Anders Eriksson, Development Manager at the Social Development Unit, Social Affairs Administration, City of Stockholm

Anders Eriksson was project leader for the Three Cities Project 2011-2014 and project leader of quality standards subproject. He has been active in the field of drug prevention since 1975, with work experiences ranging from local to national level. He is co-founder of Prevention Centre Stockholm which is now reconstituted as Social Development Unit

Therese Holmkvist is since 2013 Project Manager at the Social Development Unit, Social Affairs Administration, City of Stockholm. Project leader of the Three Cities Project 2015.

Therese Holmkvist has a wide experience from social work with young people. She has also conducted campaigns raising awareness about drugs targeting parents.

GLOBAL DRUG POLICY CHOICES

Linda Nilsson, Secretary General, World Federation on Drugs

Linda Nilsson has been active in the drug policy debate since 2009, she is since 2014 Secretary General of World Federation Against Drugs, an umbrella organization with 140 member organizations all over the world. She is the representative of the global voice of prevention on the Civil Society Task Force, a newly founded Task Force to ensure a meaningful participation of civil society in the lead up to UNGASS 2016.

ENVIRONMENTAL CATASTROPHE: DRUG PRODUCERS AND TRAFFICKERS ARE MAJOR POLLUTERS AROUND THE WORLD

Walter Kegö, Senior Fellow, ISDP/Institute for Security and Development Policy, Sweden

Walter Kegö has previously served at the Swedish National Drug Policy Coordinator where he was responsible for law enforcement issues. He started his career as Police officer in Stockholm in 1971 and has served at the Swedish Security Police and been head of the National drugs unit at NCID in Sweden.

DRUG TREATMENT COURTS

Ingunn Seim, Lawyer/Jurist

Law degree from the University of Bergen, Norway in 1996. Ingunn Seim has worked as a Public prosecutor for two years, and has thereafter had different jobs within the Norwegian Correctional service – first as a probation officer and later as a legal advisor. From 2006 she has been leading the Drug Treatment Court (DTC) project in Bergen and running the DTC centre. The project has been a pilot project for nine years in the cities of Bergen and Oslo.

YOUTH IN EUROPE: EVIDENCE-BASED DRUG PREVENTION

Jon Sigfusson, M.Ed, Master of Public Health and Education, BA, Director of ISCRA (Icelandic Centre for Social Research and Analysis), Director of Youth in Europe Project

Jon Sigfusson is the Director of ISCRA and the Youth in Iceland Study, a population based study carried out among young people between 10 and years of age in Iceland. He is also Director of the Youth in Europe project, an international project carried out in cooperation with cities and municipalities in Europe, based on key findings from the Youth in Iceland Project.

DRUG TRAFFICKING (TBC)

Angela Me, Chief, Research and Trend Analysis Branch, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

As UNODC's Head of research, Angela Me is in charge of a number of the organizations's core publications including the World Drug Report, the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, the Global Study on Homicide and the annual Afghanistan Opium Survey.