



A DECADE OF DRUG POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Celebrating the 10 years of the 2016 UN General Assembly Special Session on the world drug problem

Tuesday 3rd February 2026 • 9:00 (CET)

Room: XI, Palais des Nations • Breakfast provided

Organised by the Permanent Mission of Switzerland and the International Drug Policy Consortium, and cosponsored by the Permanent Missions of Albania, Colombia, Greece, Mexico, Portugal and Ukraine, as well as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Women, UNAIDS, the International Network of People who Use Drugs and Harm Reduction International

The 2016 UNGASS on drugs was a major milestone in global drug policy, with unprecedented visibility given to health, human rights and development. The UNGASS is widely acknowledged as the trigger for national reforms, while paving the way for key international developments. Since then, the world has faced dramatic changes which have impacted both global drug markets and the policies aiming to address them. At the occasion of the 10-year anniversary of the UNGASS, this event will analyse the global state of play in drug policy, reflect on progress and challenges, and consider possible paths forward. The event will feature a presentation of the IDPC report 'The UNGASS decade in review'.

Speakers:

- **Welcoming remarks by H.E. Ambassador Jürg Lauber**, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations Office and to the other international organizations in Geneva
- **Opening remarks by H.E. Ambassador Francisca E. Méndez Escobar**, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations Office and to the other international organizations in Geneva
- **Keynote: Mr. Michael Camilleri**, Chief of Branch, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Juan Manuel Santos**, Former President of Colombia and Member of the Global Commission on Drug Policy (by video)
- **Jamie Bridge**, Deputy Director, International Drug Policy Consortium
- Followed by interventions by **UN Women**, **UNDP**, **WHO** and **UNODC** and a Q&A

Moderator: Ann Fordham, Executive Director, International Drug Policy Consortium