

# 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.

