



MÉXICO  
GOBIERNO DE LA REPÚBLICA



# Civil Society and International Drug Policy in the Context of Agenda 2030

Friday, March 17  
2.20 - 3.10 p.m.  
Room M3

**Welcoming Remarks:** Dr. Rokas Bernotas, Ambassador at Large, Republic of Lithuania

**Panel:**

- Dr. Katherine Pettus - VNGOC/International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care
- Mr. Randy Thompson - Help Not Handcuffs, USA
- Ms. Natasha Horsfield - Health Poverty Action, UK
- Ms. Jurgita Poskeviciute - "I Can Live," Lithuania
- Ms. Nguyễn Minh Trang - SCDI, Vietnam
- Mr. Isaac Morales - Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Mexico

Both the **UNGASS Outcome Document** and the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** call explicitly for multi-stakeholder collaborations, including with civil society. The Sustainable Development Goals prioritise vulnerable groups: those the drug policy community calls "affected populations." The SDG slogan "leave no one behind," requires UN member states to formulate and implement development policies that specifically include these vulnerable populations. Drug policies that leave no one behind require governments and communities to take a gender and age perspective and invite the following affected populations and their representative civil society organisations into dialogue:

- people who use drugs;
- families and communities affected by drug use, drug related violence, and incarceration;
- farmers and subsistence farmers who cultivate illicit crops;
- patients affected by lack of access to controlled medicines for dependence treatment, the relief of severe pain, and other conditions that require medicines containing controlled substances;
- military, police, and government personnel involved in the enforcement of drug policies;

This important side event will address how civil society organisations that work with affected populations can partner with member States to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their associated targets and indicators. Vienna NGO Committee member organisations will select one SDG or Target to work on during the preparatory process for 2019, and will report regularly to CND on progress and challenges.

**Sponsors:** Republic of Lithuania, Republic of Mexico, Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs, New York NGO Committee on Drugs, Health Poverty Action, SCDI (Vietnam), I Can Live (Lithuania)