

Nikita V. Lushnikov
National Anti-Drug Union



Candidate for:
Vice-chairperson
Deputy Secretary

In 2013, on my initiative, the association of non-profit organizations the "National Anti-Drug Union" (NAU) was established in the Russian Federation in order to counter the spread of drugs, the full social recovery of our citizens from alcoholism and drug addiction. Currently the NAU is the largest and effectively working organization in the Russian Federation in the mentioned area. It brings together more than 100 rehabilitation centers. Decisions on the main issues of our organization's activity and rehabilitation policy are made by general meetings of its members. The organization is independent and self-reliant. I hold the position of Chairman of the Board.

The final goal of our recovering activities of individuals from alcoholism and drug addiction is a complete rejection of the use of any psychoactive substances – named the DRUG FREE program. We think that applied in recovering process from drug addiction in some countries the approach based on transferring the patient to the use of light psychoactive drugs, which do not belong in these countries to the category of drugs is less effective, not lead to full restoration of personality. World statistics clearly confirm this. But we do not condemn these practices, but want to improve and supplement them. Now we are working on the creation of a large international platform - WWW (World Without Drugs), which will be able to combine the world's DRUG FREE programs, which will improve the efficiency of the final stage of the restoration of personality. This project is supported by UNODC.

National Anti-Drug Union in the framework of the program DRUG FREE, successfully implements projects "Social Elevator", "Young Anti-Drug Movement "United by life," "Parents Committee" to help friends and relatives of drug addicts people and other projects. There is a hotline where professional psychologists-consultants provide assistance to drug and alcohol addicts 24 hours a day, as well as reliable and competent information on the treatment and rehabilitation of addictions. I was one of the first in

Russia to develop and put into practice a unique format of international sports and therapeutic camps for dependent youth, annually gathering thousands of rehabilitators from different cities and countries. More information about the programs implemented by NAU can be found on the website www.nasrf.ru. At the end of treatment and rehabilitation programs, former alcoholics and drug addicts are completely exempted from the need to use any psychoactive substances. During its activity to the rehabilitation organizations of the NAU were asked for help about 16,500 people, of which returned to normal life more than 4,500 people.

The sphere of interests of the National Anti-Drug Union is not limited to the Russian Federation. We actively cooperate with public organizations engaged in combating the spread of drug addiction and alcoholism, and the promotion of healthy lifestyles around the world. In March 2017, we participated in the 60th session of the CND in Vienna. In October 2017, during the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly in New York, I made a report on the activities of the NAU. The National Anti-Drug Union was a co-organizer of the International Conference "Parliamentarians Against Drugs" held in Moscow on December 4 last year. In the Final Declaration of the Conference was noted the role of NGOs in solving the world drug problem.

The spread of drugs is a threat to the development of all mankind, and the fight against this evil is one of the most important tasks of civil society and NGOs operating in this field in all countries of the world. My experience in countering the spread of drugs and in the full social recovery of drug addicts would be very useful and I am therefore running for the post of Vice-chairperson or Deputy Secretary of the Vienna NGO Committee on drugs. I am sure that my work in the Vienna NGO Committee on drugs would increase the effectiveness of drug treatment and would contribute to closer cooperation of anti-drug NGOs in the fight against this evil of the 21st century.