

DRUG POLICY PROGRAM

The objective of the program will be to constitute an action-oriented center of thought, capable of producing, from the Uruguayan experience, a platform that allows for an impact on the changes in drug policy that the world of the 21st century urgently demands.

The program is constituted from the trajectories, capacities and knowledge of its members, as well as from a series of conceptual and methodological options on the selected field of intervention.

The decision to register this program in the sphere of organized civil society is significant, particularly in the historical context that we are going through. We propose to occupy a space of critical thought, with a vocation to contribute to the sphere of the public and the common interest, while maintaining dialogue with the institutional space of both the State and the academy.

1. PROGRAMMATIC AREAS

The program will cover, with the intention of capturing a comprehensive vision of the subject, a series of work areas that contribute to the development of those institutions, organizations or people who intend to implement or improve their action in the field of problems related to use of drugs.

1.1. SOCIAL RESEARCH

Topics in which the team has experience:

- Contribution to the delimitation and understanding of the problems associated with drug use.
- Monitoring and evaluating programs and policies.
- Research of the dynamics and development of drug markets.
- Production of knowledge with a gender perspective to accompany the development of public policies and their application.

1.2. ADVICE ON PUBLIC POLICIES FOR THE CONTROL AND REGULATION OF DRUG MARKETS

It aims to build a multidisciplinary platform for the advice of state authorities and institutions responsible for decision-making and the implementation of drug policies. Within this area are the following topics:

- Systematic monitoring and analysis of drug policy at the international level. Critical review of international treaties, their application and related measures. Identifying opportunities for change.

- Preparation of diagnoses and generation of inputs for the design and implementation of drug policies at the international, regional, national or local level.
- Specification of public policy alternatives to address drug-related problems from a public health and human rights perspective.
- Guidance on the design and implementation of policies and programs based on risk management and harm reduction. Advice and monitoring will also be offered in:
 - Analysis of economic activity within the framework of regulated cannabis markets.
 - Supervision of risk components in the formation of legal drug markets.
 - Evaluation of results in the main dimensions of drug policy: justice and security, public health, economy and production, regulatory institutions or international politics, among others.
- Identification of opportunities and advice in the field of legal cannabis production.

1.3. EDUCATION

Development of a professional training and updating program aimed at people and institutions interested in deepening their knowledge of public drug policy. It will be oriented to provide participants with conceptual, methodological and information elements that broaden their capacities to contribute to public debate and decision-making based on critical reflection and scientific evidence.

It will be a stable training program together with the option of customized training designs, limited programs or focused on specific topics depending on specific needs.

1.4. ADVOCACY

Action in the field of promoting and defending ideas in the field of movements for drug policy reform. We believe that it is necessary to join efforts in the direction of a change that updates drug policies, putting sustainable development and human rights at the center and being demanding that public initiatives and decision-making spaces be permeated by new ideas.

2. PROGRAMMATIC LINES

- Public policies and national strategies on drugs. Decision-making processes.
Forming coalitions for change.
- Justice Systems, application of criminal laws. Impacts of incarceration.
- Market dynamics. Regulatory policies. Functioning of systems aimed at legalization.
- Health systems response to substance use. Programs for the treatment, recovery and harm reduction with drug users.
- Sociocultural constructions in relation to the link between people and substances.
Role of education.