



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Mission permanente de la Suisse auprès
de l'Office des Nations Unies et des autres
organisations internationales à Genève



PERMANENT MISSION OF ROMANIA
to the United Nations Office in Geneva
and the International Organizations in
Switzerland



GLOBAL
COMMISSION ON
DRUG POLICY



GENEVA
URBAN
DEBATE



Photo by Martino Pietropoli

WORLD DRUG DAY

ADVANCING
DRUG POLICY REFORM
AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

26 June 2024
13:30 - 14:45 CEST

Villa Rigot & online

Light lunch at 13:00

Local governments are among the key actors in the design of public policies, including drug policies. While they pay significant financial, social and human costs related to the negative consequences of repressive drug policies, it is also at city level that local innovative initiatives may lead to catalyzing change at the national level.

It is thus crucial for local communities and governments to be fully involved in addressing drug policy-related challenges, as also recognized by various UN entities.

The Global Commission on Drug Policy - which aims to inspire better drug policy based on scientific evidence, human rights, public health, and security - has recently been consulting with local governments. Together with local level actors, it is developing a Cities' Strategy for Drug Policy Reform, which includes a set of Common Principles grounded in human rights.

The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking or "World Drug Day" is marked every year on 26 June. It is also the Global Day of Action of the "Support Don't Punish" campaign, an initiative in support of harm reduction and drug policies that prioritize public health and human rights.

**Join us for an insightful discussion on
the role of local governments in advancing drug policy reform.**

Speakers:

- **Michel Sidibé**, Former Executive Director, UNAIDS, Commissioner, Global Commission on Drug Policy
- **Graham Alabaster**, Head of Geneva Office, UN Habitat
- **Zaved Mahmood**, Drug Policy and Human Rights Advisor, OHCHR
- **Representatives** from **Glasgow** (UK), **Melbourne** (Australia), **Tshwane** (South Africa)
- **Ajeng Larasati**, Human Rights lead, Harm Reduction International
- **Judy Chang**, Executive Director, Intl. Network of People who Use Drugs
- **Ruth Dreifuss**, Former President of Switzerland, Commissioner, Global Commission on Drug Policy

Moderated by Anh Thu Duong, Co-Director, Global Cities Hub

[Register here](#)

