Addiction as to opioids, alcohol, cocaine, narcotic drugs, and other addictive behaviors, is a serious global crisis. There are significant gender differences in the motivations and needs that move to addiction, the consequences of the use and abuse, and the treatment options. This Panel will address the realities of women and addiction from the perspectives of human rights and public health, and link with the dimension of violence. The importance of applying a gender perspective in prevention and treatment of addictions will be highlighted as indispensable for having a positive impact on women who use drugs, accelerating gender equality and ensuring the protection of Human Rights.

Distinguished Speakers

- **Mr. Kamran Niaz** - Epidemiologist, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime - Statement
- **Ms. Federica Bertacchini** - International Projects Coordinator, Dianova International
- **Ms. Jennifer Hasselgard-Rowe** - Executive Coordinator, Geneva Platform on Human Rights, Health & Psychoactive Substances
- **Dr. Lori A. Post** - Researcher on Addictions, Northwestern University Medical School
- **Moderator: Ms. Lois A. Herman** - Managing Director WUNRN, Women’s UN Report Network