

SIDE EVENT promoted by the **EU Civil Society Forum on Drugs**

Promoting evidence-based drug policies and interventions enshrined in human rights in Europe

Thursday 15th April 2021. 9:00 – 9:50 a.m. (CET)

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About

Since the 2016 UNGASS on drugs, much more visibility than ever before has been given to the need to ground drug policies and interventions in human rights principles. Europe has been a leader in this regard, pushing for a strong human rights agenda at both regional and international levels. The European Union (EU) has been among the strongest voices in support of the UNGASS Outcome Document since 2016 and of the UN System Common Position on drug-related matters. The EU recently adopted a new Drugs Strategy for the period 2021-25, which has a human rights focus. The Council of Europe has just adopted a resolution on human rights-focused drug policies, while the Pompidou Group is aiming to give more prominence to human rights within its work. In the meantime, the 45 members of the EU Civil Society Forum on Drugs have promoted the need for drug policies and interventions grounded in human rights at national, regional and global levels. This side event will be an opportunity to discuss these developments from a civil society and policy makers' perspective.

Speakers

- **Marie Nougier**, International Drug Policy Consortium, on behalf of the EU Civil Society Forum on Drugs.
- **Edith Hofer**, European Commission, European Union.
- **Péter Sárosi**, Rights Reporter Foundation, representative of the EU Civil Society Forum on Drugs.
- **Dr. Joan R. Villalbí**, Delegate of the Government for the National Plan on Drugs, Ministry of Health, Spain.
- **Hannah Bardell**, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Rapporteur for the report on "Human rights and drug policies in Europe : a baseline reference".

*Chair Moderator: **Oriol Esculies**, International Commissioner of Association Proyecto Hombre.*

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