

## **SIDE EVENT organized by Association Proyecto Hombre**

# **THE IMPACT OF DRUGS ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH: EFFECTIVE RESPONSES**

Wednesday, March 15th 2023. 08.00–08.50 a.m (CET)  
Room M2 (M Building)

### **ABOUT**

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child calls for appropriate action to protect children from the illicit production, trafficking, and use of substances. The 2016 UNGASS Outcome Document urges taking effective, practical, and age-appropriate prevention measures tailored to the specific needs of children and youth. The 2019 WHO–UNAIDS–UNDP International Guidelines on Human Rights and Drug Policy state that children have the right to be heard in all matters concerning them, and their best interests shall be a primary consideration in drug laws, policies, and practices.

In the 65th Session of the CND, the resolution “Promoting Comprehensive and Scientific Evidence-based Early Prevention” was adopted, supporting prevention responses within families, schools, and communities. While much progress has been made, children and youth continue to be affected by the detrimental impact of drugs. Civil society and community-based organizations are crucial agents in achieving significant improvements in this regard.

This side event will focus on effective initiatives for children and youth from civil society organizations in collaboration with member states and international organizations and will feature input from adolescent representatives.

### **SPEAKERS**

- **Ambassador Esther Monterrubio.** Permanent Mission of Spain to the International Organizations in Vienna.
- **Giovanna Campello.** Chief, Prevention, Treatment & Rehabilitation Section. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.
- **Beatrix Vas,** Secretary, Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs.
  
- **Diana Vincent,** Director, Fourth Wave Foundation. India. "Children matter - engaging communities to build safe- substance abuse free environments".
- **Alfonso Arana,** President, Association Proyecto Hombre. Spain. "25 years preventing drug use among children and their families".
- **Karen Biggs,** Chief executive, Phoenix Futures. United Kingdom. "A Whole Family Approach".

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

\*Statement read by adolescents from the Austrian NGO Therapiesalon im Wald



Coffee will be served after the event.

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