



**Podané ruce na cestě ke svobodě**

**Assoc. Prof. Viktor Mravčík, MD, PhD**

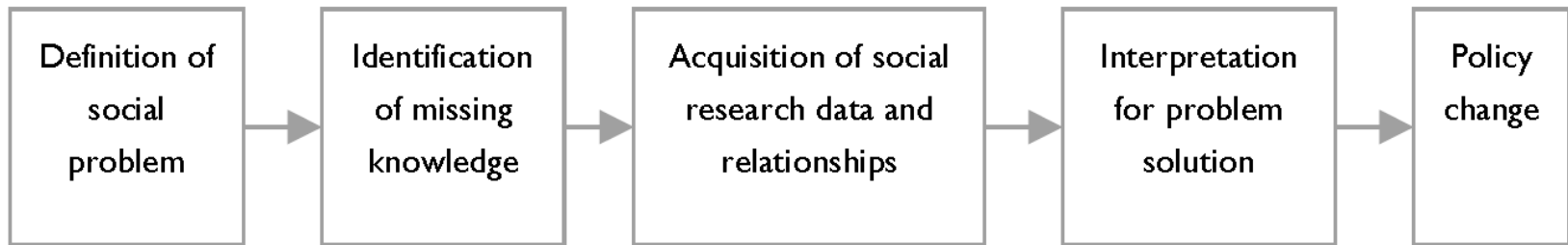


**NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE  
DRUG INFORMATION SYSTEM:  
towards evidence-based policies**

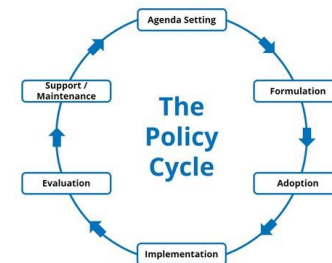


# WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE EVIDENCE IN DRUG POLICIES?

# TRADITIONAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE ROLE OF EVIDENCE IN POLICY MAKING



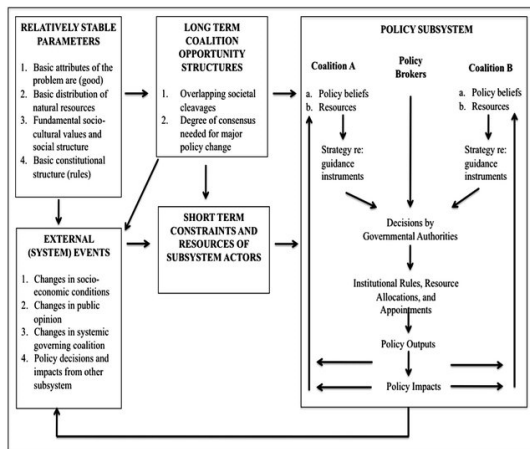
Bulmer M (1982) *The uses of social research: Social investigation in public policy-making*. Contemporary Social Research, No. 3. London: George Allen & Unwen.



# BUT THE ROLE OF EVIDENCE IN POLICY MAKING IS MORE COMPLEX...

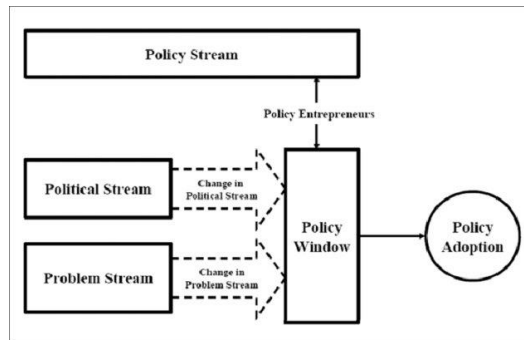


## Advocacy coalition framework (Sabatier, 1988)



Sabatier, P. A. (1988). An advocacy coalition framework of policy change and the role of policy-oriented learning therein. *Policy Sciences*, 21(2), 129-168. doi:10.1007/BF00136406

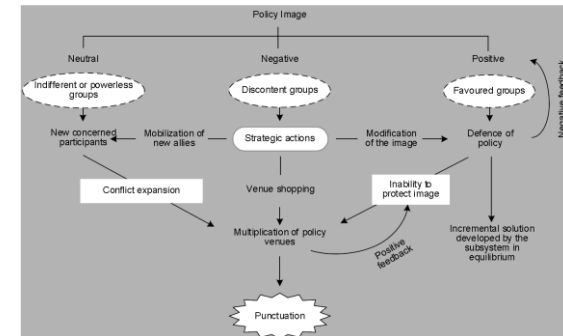
## Multiple streams theory (Kingdon, 1984)



Kingdon, J. (1984). *Agendas, Alternatives and Public Policies*. New York: Harper Collins.

Cairney, P., & Jones, M. D. (2016). Kingdon's Multiple Streams Approach: What Is the Empirical Impact of This Universal Theory? *Policy Studies Journal*, 44(1), 37-58. doi:http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/281SSN%291541-0072/issues,

## Punctuated equilibrium theory (Baumgartner & Jones, 1991)



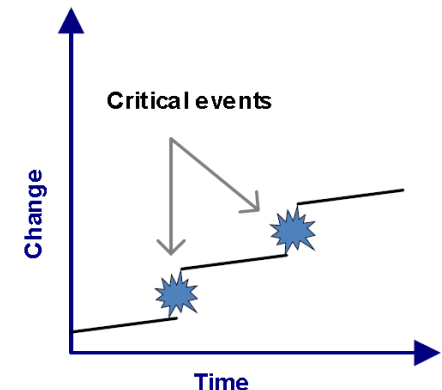
Baumgartner, F. R., & Jones, B. D. (1991). Agenda Dynamics and Policy Subsystems. *Journal of Politics*, 53(4), 1044-1074. doi:10.2307/2131866 [https://www.ncchpp.ca/docs/2018\\_ProcessPP\\_Intro\\_PunctuatedEquilibrium\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ncchpp.ca/docs/2018_ProcessPP_Intro_PunctuatedEquilibrium_EN.pdf)

# WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR RESEARCH TO HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE DRUG POLICY CHANGE?



- impact where **research linked directly to the policy**
- **networks**, think-tanks and policy entrepreneurs
- **key actors** – champions of an idea or set of evidence
- appropriate **packaging** of findings
- **communication channels** to allow the translation of research evidence, i.e. a knowledge transfer process.
- **receptive audience**
- **window of opportunity**
- **timely delivery** of findings, to act quickly
- **alliances of researchers**

## PUNCTUATED EQUILIBRIUM THEORY (Baugartner & Jones, 1991)



# IT IS DIFFICULT FOR EVIDENCE TO GUIDE THE DRUG POLICY



Intersessional meeting including Thematic Discussions on the Implementation of all International Drug Policy Commitments, following up to the Ministerial Declaration of 2019

## Prohibitive and punitive drug policies pose more harm than good

Assoc. Prof. Viktor Mravčík, MD, PhD

Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, Drug Policy Department

**Office of the Government  
of the Czech Republic**



21 September 2022, Vienna

# DRUG POLICY RULES: SARCASTIC, BUT UNFORTUNATELY PROVEN TRUE



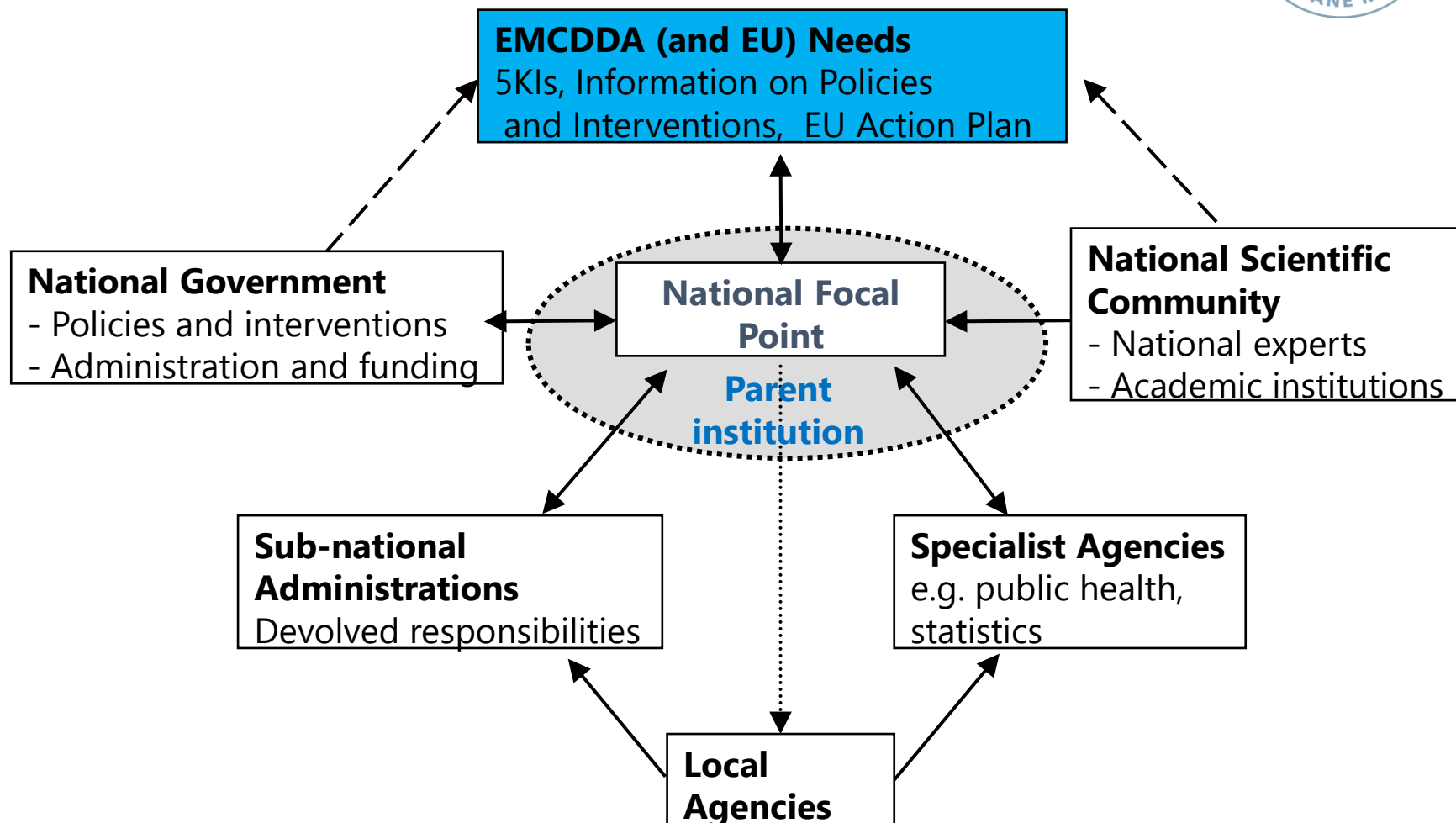
- Evidence that a drug impairs human capacities is always believable and important.
- Our best estimate of a drug's harm is not the average estimate but the most severe estimate yet obtained.
- Evidence that an illicit drug could have benefits may not be collected.
- Treatment requires evidence of both effectiveness and cost-effectiveness.
- Evidence regarding prevention is always welcome, but it still would not get much funding.
- Law enforcement and interdiction require no evidence at all; they are assumed to be effective and appropriate.
- Evidence against enforcement creates a presumption that the researcher is a liberal.
- Evidence for harm reduction creates a presumption that the researcher approves drug use.
- Scientific research on drugs cannot motivate a change from tough law to lenient law, but it can motivate a change in the opposite direction.





# **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF NATIONAL DRUG OBSERVATORIES AND DRUG INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN THE PROCESS?**

# NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS: IN THE CENTRE OF INFORMATION NETWORKS



# CENTRAL POSITION OF NFPs IN DRUG POLICY PROCESSES



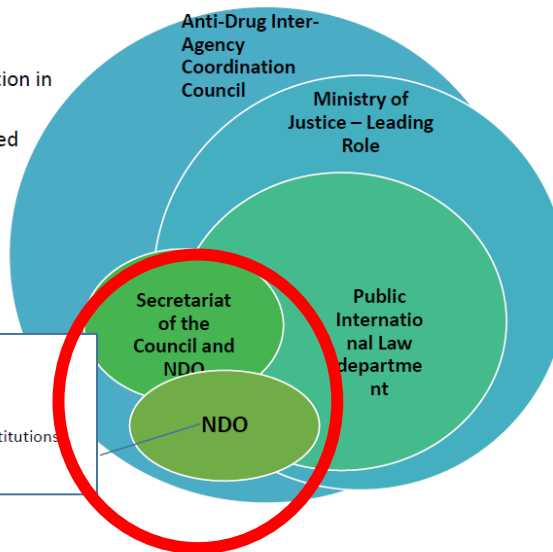
## GEORGIA

### National Drug Observatory



#### Objectives and Mission

- Monitoring drug supply and demand processes
- Study, collect and analyze drug situation in Georgia
- Implementation of the evidence-based approach
- Disseminate information among policymakers and targeted audience



- RESEARCH UNIT**
  - 2 employees
- CONSULTING UNIT**
  - 6 experts from Governmental Institutions
  - 5 experts from Civil Sector

## CZECHIA



# NAPDIS



- **National Action Plan on Drug Information System (DIS)**
- strategic tool for description, assessment and planning of measures aiming on improvement of DIS and increasing availability and quality of information on drug situation
- towards:
  - sustainability
  - continuous monitoring / early identification of new phenomenon
  - better quality and efficacy
  - standardisation



# PURPOSE OF NAPDIS

- identification information needs and gaps (Drug Information Map)
- prioritising actions within DIS
- coordination/management of DIS
- clarification of roles, functions and responsibilities
- networking and cooperation
- planning of concrete actions (analyses, surveys, studies, information systems)
- institutionalisation of communication channels
- reporting to policy makers
- dissemination of information
- evaluation and development of DIS

# NAPISZ = NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON INFORMATION SYSTEM IN ADDICTIONS



Národní monitorovací  
středisko pro drogy  
a závislosti

## Národní akční plán informačního systému v závislostech (NAPISZ) na období 2020–2022

Projednáno Poradním výborem pro sběr dat o závislostech Rady vlády pro koordinaci protidrogové politiky dne 18. 2. 2020.

Schváleno Radou vlády pro koordinaci protidrogové politiky dne 5. 11. 2020



Národní monitorovací  
středisko pro drogy  
a závislosti



## Souhrnná zpráva o závislostech v České republice



> 2021



EU-ACT

EU Action against Drugs and Organised Crime  
Project funded by the EC

**Contract N°: CM-SPD-2021-036**

**Heroin Route III - Enhanced Co-operation and Capacity Building to address  
Drug-related Organised Crime along the Heroin Route**

**EU-ACT: EU Action against Drugs and Organised Crime**

**National Action Plan on Drug Information System**

**in Georgia for the period 2021-2024**



European Monitoring Centre  
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

**EU4MD**



Funded by the  
European Union

**EMCDDA4GE: supporting Georgia on drug-  
related health and security threats**




# EMCDDA4GE




 [Georgian participation at EMCDDA expert meetings and training courses](#)

 [European Prevention Curriculum to be adapted to the Georgian context](#)

 [Launch of new general population survey](#)

 [Workshop on drug monitoring and reporting for Georgian national drug observatory](#)

 [EMCDDA training for Georgian drug treatment professionals](#)



**MASTER PROGRAM**

 **ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**ADDICTION STUDIES**



**ALTERNATIVE  
GEORGIA**



**Tomáš Záborský, M.D., Ph.D.**  
**1969-2021**



# OBSTACLES FOR NAPDIS



- insufficient personal and financial resources
- insufficient drug policy coordination structures
- unclear competencies
- other competing interests
- difficult administrative procedures (bureaucracy)
- lack of know-how, lack of research and expert capacities
- underestimation of evidence-base principle in drug policy (ideology...)



# LESSONS LEARNED

- Role of evidence in drug policy processes is complex, though key element for policy changes and innovations
- NFPs and Drug Information Systems close to drug policy processes help to inform drug policy
- NAPDIS plays an important role in planning and implementing of systematic data collection, analysis and reporting on drug situation
- NAPDIS substantially supports:
  - identification of information needs and gaps
  - involvement of stakeholders and data providers
  - networking and coordination processes and research capacities
  - routine communication with decision-makers



**Thank you for your attention!**

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