

20 years of Portuguese drug policy: developments and current challenges

29 %

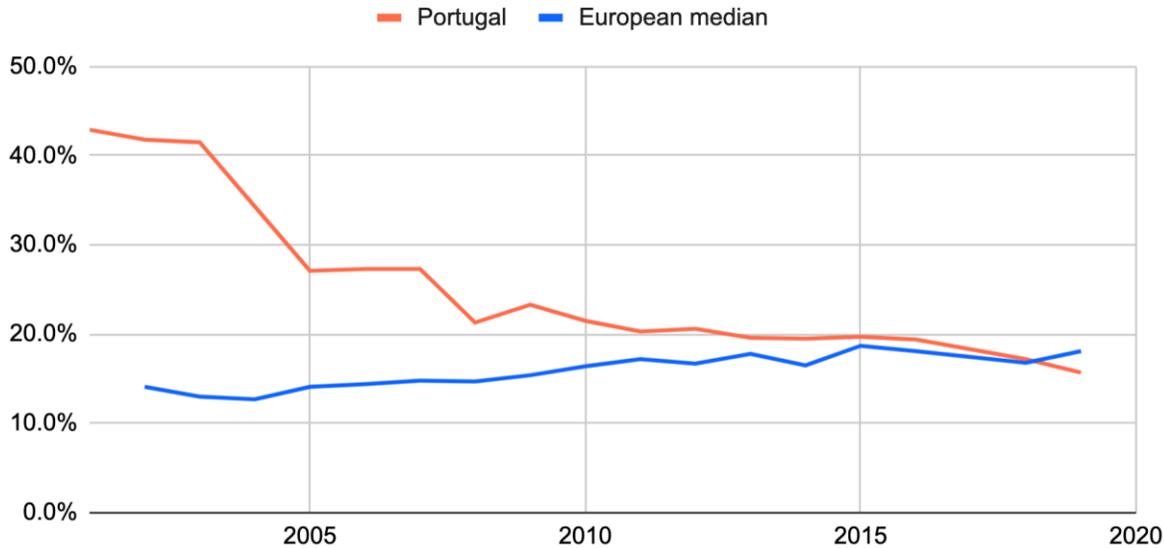
We are now facing a more complex drug situation, characterized by high availability and greater diversity in patterns of drug consumption, Alexis Goosdeel, EMCDDA Director.

In 2022, EMCDDA reported that almost a third of Europeans aged 15-64 - around 97 million people (29%) - have used an illicit drugs at some point in their lives.

drug-related incarceration rates & new HIV diagnoses attributed to injecting drug use (2000-2020)

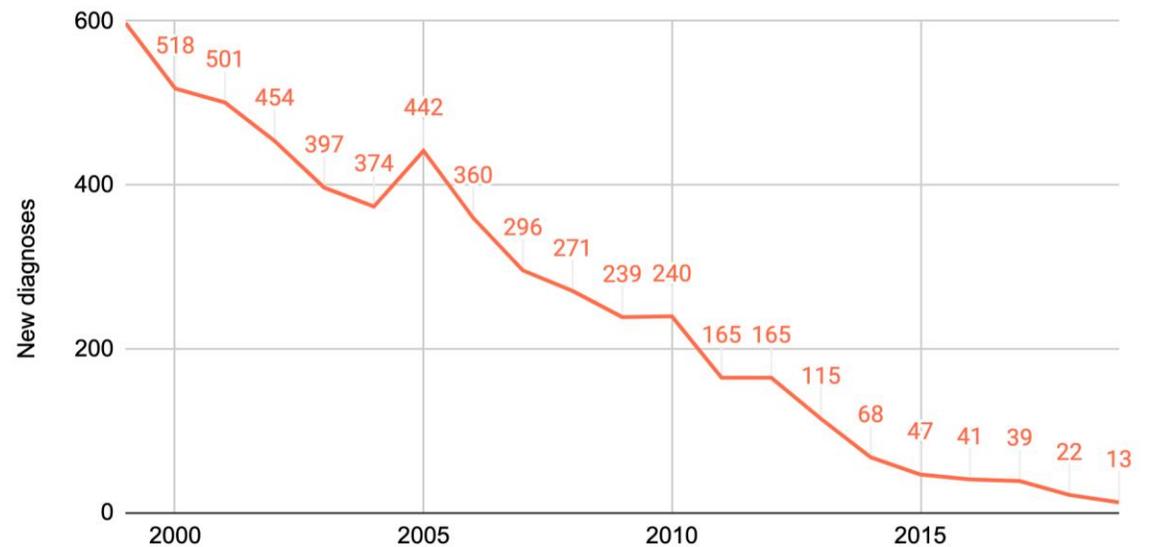
PERCENTAGE OF PRISONERS SENTENCED FOR DRUG OFFENCES

Data: Council of Europe SPACE project, Annual Reports 2001-2019¹⁹



NEW HIV DIAGNOSES ATTRIBUTED TO INJECTING DRUG USE

Data: ECDC⁴⁰

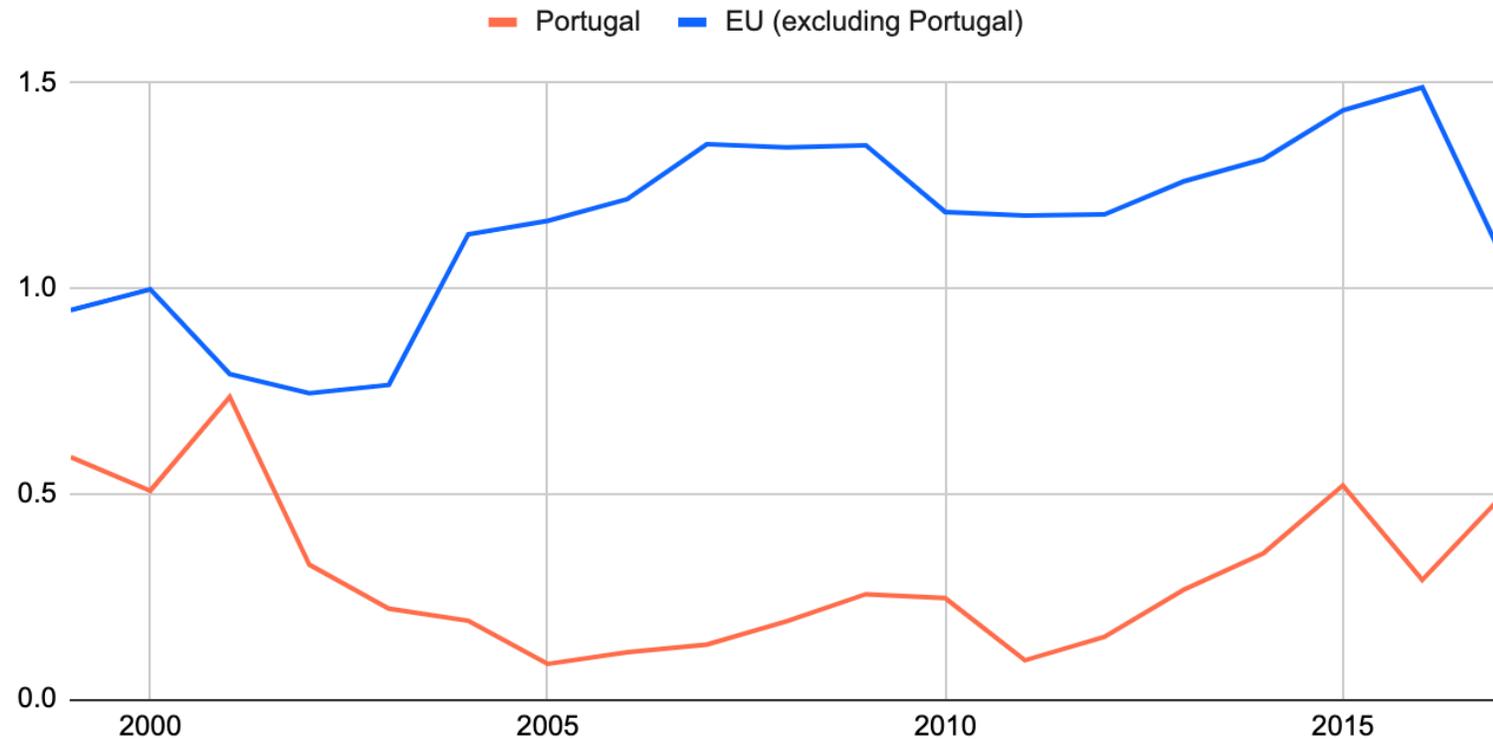


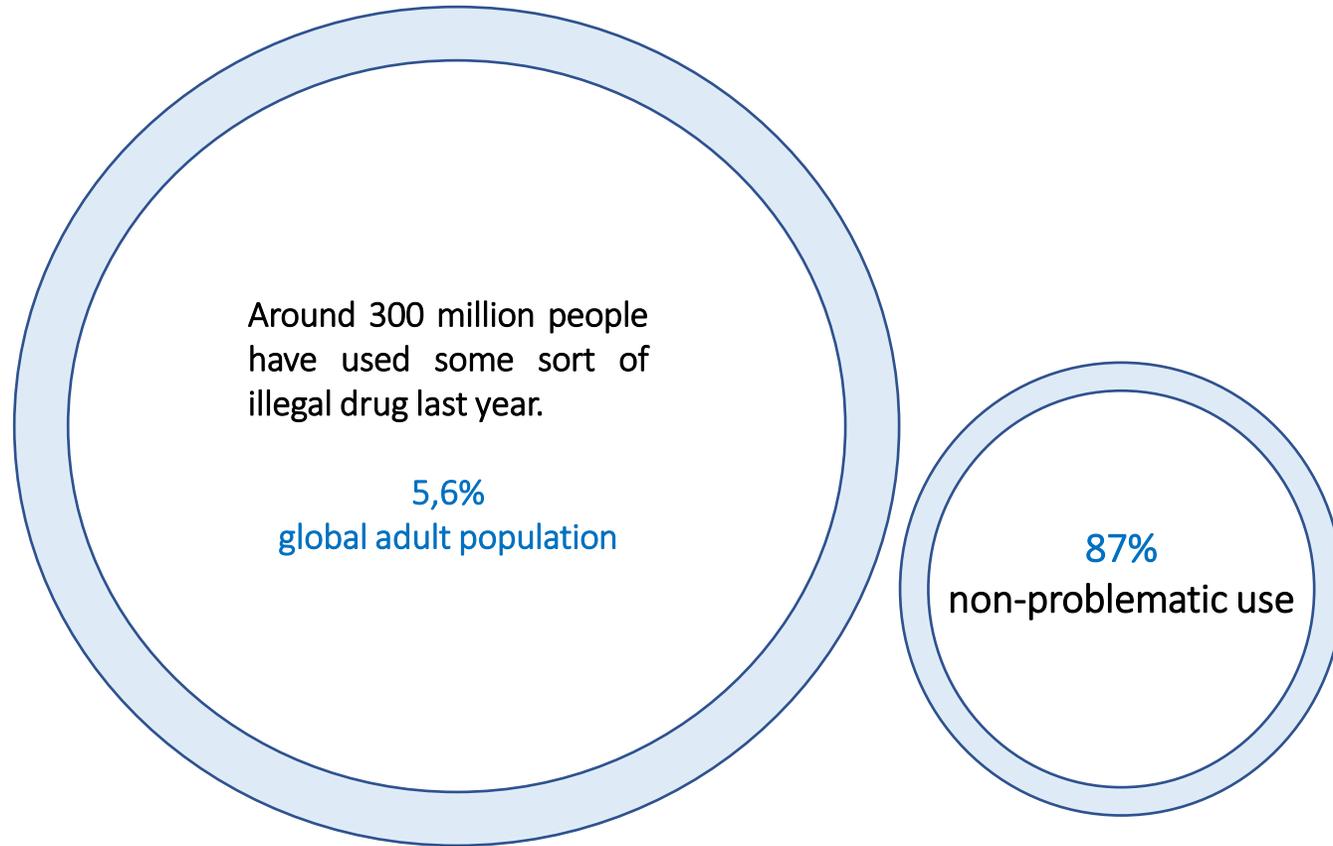
source: *Decriminalisation in Portugal: setting the record straight*. Transforme, 2021. <https://transformdrugs.org/blog/drug-decriminalisation-in-portugal-setting-the-record-straight>

drug-related deaths (Portugal & Europe)

DRUG DEATHS PER 100,000 POPULATION (NOT AGE ADJUSTED)

Data: EMCDDA, Eurostat (2020)¹²



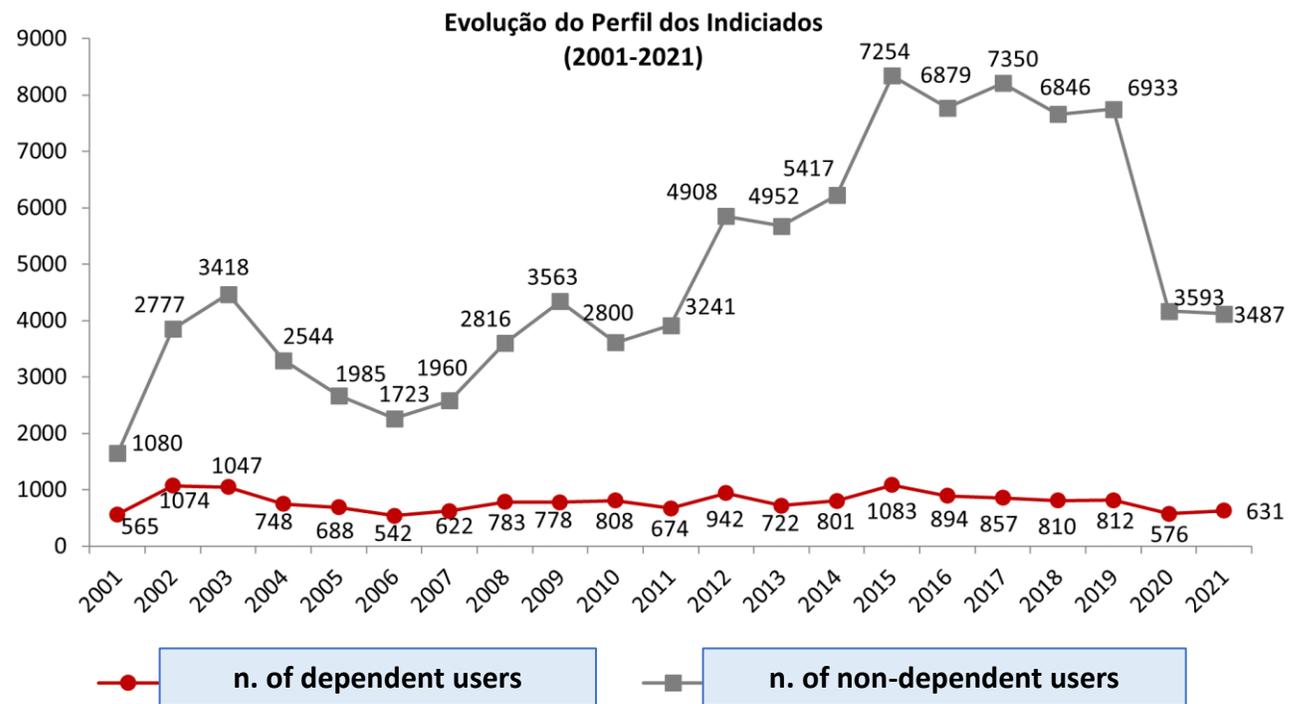


most common drug use pattern:
episodic and non-problematic

source: World Drug Report, 2022

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/world-drug-report-2022.html>

dissuasion in numbers: dependent vs non-dependent users



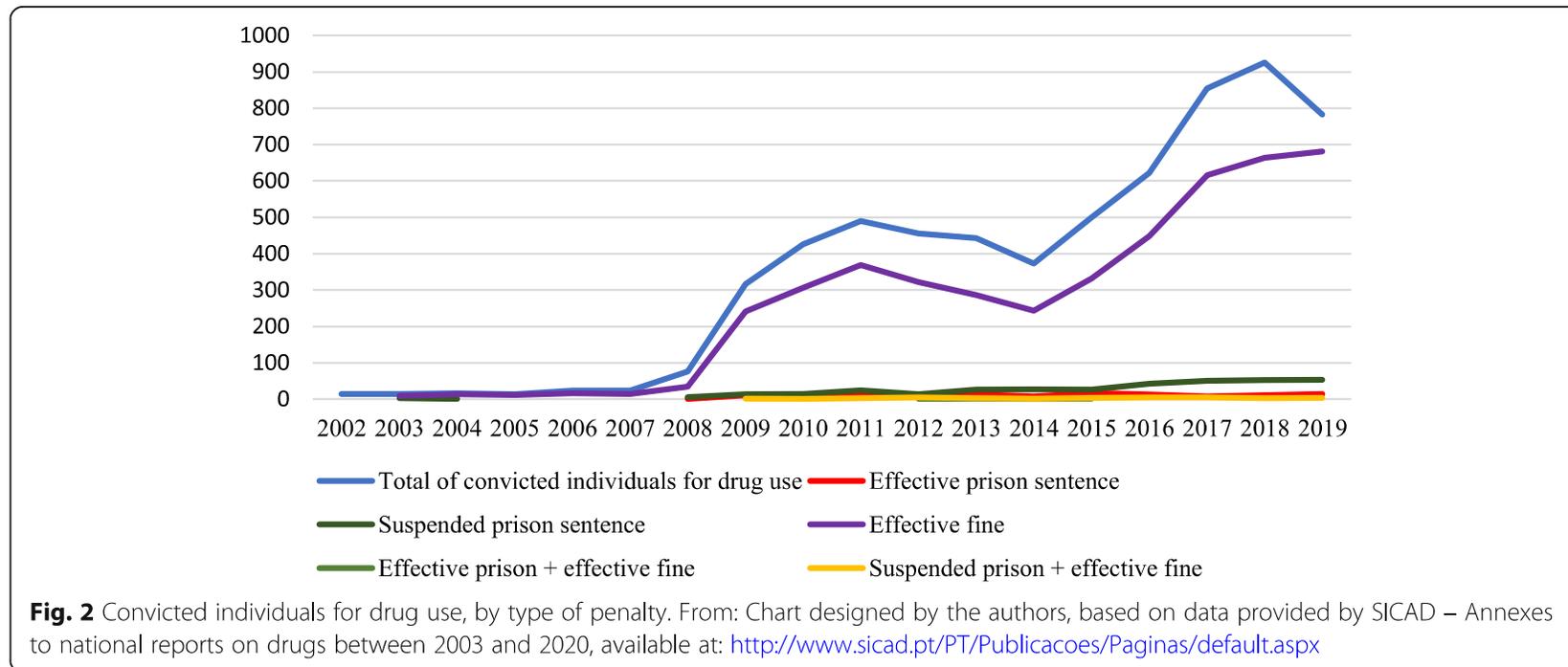
crime of drug use in numbers (2006-2020)

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
15	16	28	170	289	358	322	311	270	342	406	609	690	739	303

source: SICAD

<https://www.sicad.pt/PT/Publicacoes/Paginas/default.aspx>

convicted individuals (drug use) by type of penalty (2002-2019)



directions?

- reframe drug use - no matter the quantities - as an administrative offence;
- launch the debate on self-cultivation;
- presentations before the Commissions conditional on consent;
- expansion of services inspired on Harm Reduction principles.

Thank you for listening.

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