



PROGRAMME

2nd GENDER AND DRUGS SYMPOSIUM

Towards consensus on gender responsive drug interventions in Europe

Lisbon Addictions conference: side event by the European Drugs and Gender Group (EDG)

**22 October 2024
Lisbon Congress Centre**

Background

The European Drugs and Gender Group (EDG) was set up in 2019 for the preparation of the LX Addictions conference and has worked since then to implement the inclusion of a gender perspective in the drug field. The group, is coordinated by the EUDA and the Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe, together with UNICRI (United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute), EIGE (European Institute for Gender Equality) and several drug experts from different countries. The EDG has promoted the gender perspective through the organisation of several events, exchanges and reflections among experts in the fields of drugs and gender. In 2023 a big step forward in this area has been taken by the priority given by the Swedish presidency of the Council of the EU to gender and drugs in the EU drug strategy.

Overall, increasing attention has been paid to the intersection of gender and drugs and several reports, guidelines and scientific papers have been published on gender and drugs or including gender and sex in their methods, discussion and results. However, this dimension is still not systematically included, the focus of gender discussions has remained primarily on women, and no common standards exist in Europe on what it means to incorporate a gender perspective in the drug field.

This symposium is the second major event organised at European level on the topic of gender and drugs. The first gender and drugs conference side event during Lisbon Addiction 2022 set the scene on gender and drugs and critically examined key concepts and issues around the topic in order to move towards common understandings.

The 2024 gender and drugs side event aims at identifying useful and evidence-based practices and recommendations for the implementation of gender responsive interventions at the European and international level.

Purpose of the symposium

The main purpose of the 2024 symposium is to identify some of the main recommendations and requirements to move from theory to practice in incorporating a gender dimension in the drug field, with the final objective to move towards a consensus on gender responsive drug interventions in Europe.

Objectives of the symposium

With the purpose of identifying common recommendations for gender-responsive drug policy and interventions, in order to promote consensus on gender responsive drug interventions in Europe, the symposium will cover several objectives:

- to discuss how to incorporate a gender dimension in the daily practice of those working in the drug field;
- to present ideas about interventions aimed at reducing gender-related stigma;
- to share best practices and models of care on gender and drugs;
- to discuss the practical implementation of trauma-informed interventions;
- to present available findings on research about the implications of masculinities and drug use;
- to discuss issues surrounding intersectionalities, gender/sex diversities and drug use;
- to share research findings and practical experiences on parenthood and drug use;
- to work towards common recommendations for gender-responsive drug policy and interventions in Europe.

Target audience

The symposium targets practitioners, managers, researchers and policymakers in the field of drugs.

Structure

The event is organised in one plenary session, two parallel sessions, working group discussion and a final debate aimed at identifying key recommendations for gender responsive drug interventions in Europe.

Practical information

The event will be held in person at Lisbon Congress Centre ([Praça das Indústrias, 1300-307 Lisboa](#)) on 22 October 2024 from 9.00 to 17.30 – Level 1 - Insight zone - Room 5A.

Speakers are requested to arrive 1 hour before the event starts in order to have the time to upload their presentation.

Coffee breaks and light lunch will be offered.

Social event/Exhibition

Practical session

SESSION 1 – PLENARY LEVEL 1
GENDER AND DRUGS: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

Chairs: Liesbeth Vandam, EUDA and Elena Hedoux, Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe

9.00-10.45 Room 5A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome – Jane Mounteney, Head of Public Health Unit, EUDA and Denis Huber, Executive Secretary of the Pompidou Group, Council of Europe From theory to practice: introduction - Linda Montanari, EUDA Overview of existing minimum requirements or standards for gender responsive interventions in the drug field - Cristiana Vale Pires, Portugal Reducing gender related stigma and substance use: the need for community and couple interventions using a socioecological framework - Wendee Wechsberg, United States Monitoring and research with a gender perspective - Nuria Romo, Spain
10.45- 11.00	Intervention by Alexis Goosdel, EUDA Executive Director
11.00-11.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
Room 5A	“Trauma-sensitive yoga as complementary support in addiction treatment” - Julie Schamp (Belgium)

PARALLEL SESSION 1

11.30-12.30	<p>1A) Trauma informed interventions with a gender responsive approach (Room 5A) <i>Chair: Sharon Arpa, Malta</i></p> <p>Main findings from European survey on Gender Based Violence - Monica Barbovschi, EIGE</p> <p>Drug related interventions addressing trauma and GBV - Carol Weiss, United States</p> <p>Practical example of a trauma informed intervention for people who use drugs - David McPhillips, Ireland</p>	<p>1B) Understanding masculinities in the drug field (Room 1.09) <i>Chair: Brendan Hughes, EUDA</i></p> <p>Man Up or Shut Down? Exploring the Role of Masculinities in Society and vice-versa - Tatiana Moura, Portugal</p> <p>Masculinity: The Unexamined Norm - Geoffrey Hunt, Denmark</p> <p>Integrating a masculinities perspective in the planning and implementation of drug interventions - Sotiris Lainas, Greece</p>
12.30-13.30	<i>Lunch break (served in the lobby)</i>	
Room 5A	Marica Ferri (EUDA) discusses the book “ <i>Tagliate male</i> ” by Anna Paola Lacatena	

PARALLEL SESSION 2

13.30-14.30	<p>2A) Drugs, intersectionalities and sexual/gender diversities (Room 5A) <i>Chair: Ricardo Fuertes, Portugal</i></p> <p>Intersectionalities, sexual and gender diversities and drugs - Amanita Calderon-Cifuentes, TGEU-</p> <p>Metzineres. A model of approach for women and non-binary gender people who use drugs surviving violence. - Aura Roig, Spain</p> <p>Gender transformative approach to drug interventions - Roberto Perez, C-EHRN</p>	<p>2B) Parenthood and drugs: main challenges and practical examples (Room 1.09) <i>Chair: Florence Mabileau, former PG Secretariat</i></p> <p>Parenthood in a gender perspective - Analia Torres, Portugal</p> <p>Parenthood and drugs: results from research in 12 countries - Corina Giacomello, Mexico</p> <p>Interventions for parents who use drugs and their children - Linnea Fryk Afzelius, Sweden</p>
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14.30-15.30	WORKING GROUPS' DISCUSSION	
	Introduction: Carine Mutatayi, France	
	<i>Participants will be invited to take part in one of the four interactive workshops based on the inputs from the four themes discussed in the parallel sessions.</i>	
	Working group 1 (Room 5A) Trauma informed interventions with a gender responsive approach Chair: Sara Evli Özhan, Green Crescent, Turkey Rapporteur: Sharon Arpa, Malta	Working group 2 (Room 5A) Understanding masculinities in the drug field Chair: Franca Beccaria, Italy Rapporteur: Brendan Hughes, EUDA
	Working group 3 (Room 1.09) Drugs, intersectionalities and sexual/gender diversities Chair: Ligia Parodi, EuroNPUD Rapporteur: Ricardo Fuertes, Portugal	Working group 4 (Room 1.09) Parenthood and drugs: main challenges and best practices Chair: Graciela Ahumada, COPOLAD Rapporteur: Florence Mabileau, former PG Secretariat
15.30-16.00	Coffee break	
Room 1.09	Practical demonstration on trauma-sensitive mindfulness for addictions, Anita Bajzat	

**SESSION 5 – FINAL DEBATE
TOWARDS CONSENSUS ON GENDER RESPONSIVE INTERVENTIONS IN THE DRUG FIELD**

Chair: Alessandra Liquori, UNICRI and Marta Torrens, Professor of Psychiatry, Spain

16.00-17.00 Room 5A	Feedback from working groups: Sharon Arpa, Malta Brendan Hughes, EUDA Ricardo Fuertes, Portugal Florence Mabileau, former PG Secretariat Short comments from: Mulka Nisic, Civil Society Forum (CSF) Gabriele Fischer, EUDA Scientific Committee Meni Malliori, European Parliament in the EUDA Management Board Michal Miovsky, International Society of Substance Use Professionals, ISSUP
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CONCLUDING SESSION

17.00-17.30 Room 5A	Conclusions: call for actions, Linda Montanari, EUDA
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SOCIAL EVENT: *Manaszines* organised by the association “Manas”

Coordinator: Joana Canêdo and Magda Ferreira, Manas

Address: The social event venue and registration modalities are to be confirmed

Disclaimer: ‘Third party links on this event are merely indicative and are published with the sole objective of facilitating contacts between the conference delegates and services that are external to the Gender and Drugs side event. The organisers of the Gender and Drugs side event, do not endorse these external service providers, will not cover costs from services provided by them, are not compensated by them and cannot be held responsible for the choice and/or use of service providers listed on this page.’