

## NAHRPP- New Approaches in Harm Reduction Policies and Practices

### EXPERT SEMINAR

#### *Cannabis self-regulation models in a harm reduction perspective*

Florence, Friday 28 - Saturday 29 September 2018

Centro Studi CISL, via della Piazzola 71-Florence

The Expert seminar is one of the steps of the workstream *Cannabis self regulation model in a harm reduction perspective*, in the framework of the Project *NAHRPP- New Approaches in Harm Reduction Policies and Practices*<sup>1</sup>. This workstream is focused on “controls” cannabis users apply to fit cannabis use into everyday life and to reduce risks. It aims at innovating harm reduction / risks limitations policies and interventions, based on the knowledge of users’ self regulation strategies. The study of cannabis users’ self regulation strategies allows to identify the more significant factors that facilitate or, on the contrary, inhibit a controlled use which is desirable and sustainable by users themselves, in the effort to reduce potential risks and harms. Also, this is a crucial contribution to introduce effective policies aimed at supporting (instead of weakening) the personal and social strategies of self regulation; and to develop operational approaches of harm reduction and risks limitation taking into account “natural” controls on cannabis use. During the seminar the group of NAHRPP researchers<sup>2</sup> will present findings from the qualitative research on cannabis self regulation models conducted in Belgium, Italy and Spain, including both individual and group (Cannabis Social Clubs) models; and from the analysis of cannabis users web fora in the self-regulation / risks limitation perspective. Further inputs to the discussion will be provided and illustrated from other studies led by participants. The research findings will be discussed in the perspective to identify effective drug policies and to prompt innovation in harm reduction. As a final step of the seminar, recommendations will be drafted to policy makers.

### Programme

#### **Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**

Arrival

8-10 pm Welcome buffet

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<sup>1</sup> Leading organization: TNI-Transnational Institute. Partners: Diogenis (EL), Forum Droghe (IT), ICEERS (ES)

<sup>2</sup>Stefano Bertoletti, Antonella Camposeragna, Tom Decorte, Ruben Kramer, Patrizia Meringolo, Óscar Parés, Susanna Ronconi, Grazia Zuffa



**Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup> 9 am – 1 pm**

***First session***

**Cannabis users' self regulation strategies. Findings from research**

Susanna Ronconi, *Cannabis self regulation models in a harm reduction perspective. Key Points from the NAHRPP Research*

Ruben Kramer and Antonella Camposeragna, *Focus on NAHRPP local studies' findings*

***Inputs by:***

Tom Decorte (University of Ghent)

Patrizia Meringolo (University of Florence)

**Discussion.**

*Highlights: from users self regulation strategies to Harm Reduction practices and interventions. Suggestions from research findings*

Lunch 1 pm- 2.30 pm

Second session 2.30 pm –4.30 pm

**Updated findings from the research on Cannabis Social Clubs**

***Input by:***

Mafalda Pardal (University of Ghent)

Ana Afuera (ENCOD)

David Pere Martínez Oró (Autonomous University of Barcelona)

**Discussion.**

*Highlights : which is the contribution of the CSC model to a controlled cannabis use in a harm reduction perspective?*

Coffee break 4.30 pm – 5.00 pm

Third session 5.00- 6.30 pm

**Cannabis and the web.** A study about Cannabis users' fora on [Sostanze.info](http://Sostanze.info)

***Input by:***

Grazia Zuffa (Società della Ragione)

Stefano Bertolletti (Forum Droghe)

Discussion.

*Highlights: web peer communication and peer support in a controlled use perspective*

Dinner 8 pm

**Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>**

Fourth session 9.00 am – 11.30 am

**From social controls to innovative drug policies and drug legislation**

*Inputs by:*

JP Grund (CVO-Addiction Research Centre)

Grazia Zuffa (Società della Ragione)

Leopoldo Grosso (Gruppo Abele)

Discussion.

*Highlights: What suggestions to policy makers for a safer use perspective?*

Coffee break 11.30 am – 11.45 am

**Conclusions** 11.45 am – 12.30 am

Susanna Ronconi (Forum Droghe) and Tom Blinckman (TNI) *Key messages towards a Guidelines and Recommendations Paper*

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