User participation –
How to incorporate experiences and realities in drug policy formulation

Drug policies need to be articulated through an inclusive process, incorporating different experiences and realities. Efforts to address the drug phenomenon should therefore be formulated and implemented in close cooperation with those affected – a process known as user participation.

In light of the ongoing UNGASS preparations, the aim of this side event is to discuss the added value of, and conditions for, user participation in drug policy formulation, as well as its methods and principles. The event is also intended as a platform for the sharing of experiences of user participation in Sweden. This will be done from both a non-governmental and governmental perspective.

A light lunch will be served at the event.

**Time and place**
Wednesday 9 December, 14.00–15.00
Conference Room C4, C Building, The Vienna International Centre

**Opening remarks**
Helen Eduards – Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations in Vienna
Representatives from the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services, and the Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations in Vienna

**Speakers**
Berne Stålenkrantz – President of the Swedish Drug Users Union
Gunvi Haggren – Association Secretary for Verdandi
Charlotta Rehnman-Wigstad – Coordinator for Alcohol, Narcotics, Doping, Tobacco and Gambling at the National Board of Health and Welfare

**Participating organisations**

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