

# Understanding the Gendered Impacts of Drug Policy



19–23 November 2018 | Budapest, Hungary



# Background

In its 2018 World Drug Report, UNODC acknowledged that the supply and use of illegal 'narcotic' drugs is now at historic highs, raising questions as to the sustainability and utility of criminalization approaches. Within the dynamic picture of ongoing drug market growth, the gendered impacts of both the drug trade and counter-narcotic policies remains under-analyzed, most particularly as this relates to women and girls.

International and national-level drug policy institutions have been tardy in their uptake and mainstreaming of gender sensitive approaches in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation

of drug policy. Similarly, drug policy scholarship has marginalized women's engagement with drugs and the drug trade, or conversely, portrayed women as passive, as victims and without agency. This speaks to the need for increased awareness of gendered dimensions and impacts, understanding the multiple lived experiences of women from an intersectional perspective, and training on gender sensitivity in the drug policy reform, advocacy and academic "community".

Conversely, organizations involved in women's and feminist advocacy in areas that include health, criminal justice, development and fundamental rights, have neglected to effectively engage with drug policy, the regressive impact of criminalization and enforcement practices on women and girls, or drug policy reform as a women's "issue".

In the immediate context of upcoming high level meetings on drug policy and on the Sustainable Development Goals in 2019, as well as the continued underperformance of international drug policy, the four-day professional short course "**Understanding the Gendered Impacts of Drug Policy**" presents an excellent opportunity for policy professionals, advocates and academics to analyze and reflect on best practices, lessons learned and methods for improved gender inclusivity.

# Participants' profile



The course builds on our extensive record of high quality teaching and training on drug policy, policy analysis and evidence-based policy design and evaluation. It is aimed at promoting understanding, sensitivity and awareness of drugs and drug policy on the global, racial, class and sexual diversity of women. We encourage applications from individuals who can contribute to interdisciplinary, inter-regional and international experience-sharing and collaboration and highlight here:

- Civil society groups and leaders engaged in analysis, oversight, and policy advocacy;
- Government officials (central, local and municipal) involved in public policy design, implementation, and compliance;
- Professional staff from international organizations and development agencies;
- Academics, journalists and doctoral students;
- Political party, trade union and other organizations advocating for the fundamental rights of women and girls.

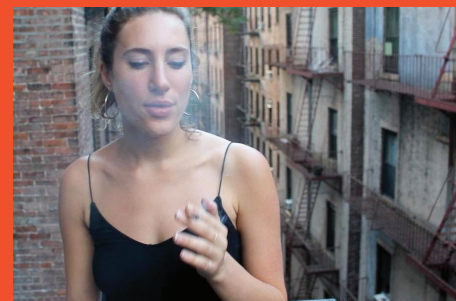


The course will be held at the **School of Public Policy**, on the campus of the **Central European University** in Budapest, Hungary.

The full cost of participation in the course is **EUR 850**. This does not include travel and accommodation (lunches and coffee breaks during the course will be provided). A limited number of scholarships covering travel, accommodation, and the full cost of tuition are available on a competitive basis. In addition, a number of tuition waivers will be available for applicants who cover their own travel and hotel accommodation. Note that scholarships or tuition waivers will not be available for applicants from the private sector or international agencies.

Interested individuals should complete the application form available on the course's website at <https://spp.ceu.edu/drug-policy-reform> by **16 September 2018**.

# Course information



# Course program



Our courses typically attract engaged applicants who are keen to share, learn and develop and diversify their networks. We provide a “safe” and supportive learning environment, in which knowledge gaps and cognitive prejudices can be identified and discussed, and in which all participants feel confident and comfortable in both challenging ideas and contributing their experiences and reflections. We draw on experienced practitioners and academic faculty and promote working-group-based learning alongside more traditional lecture and discussion formats.

**19 November 2018**

Arrival and dinner reception



## 20 November 2018

Understanding global drug policy: historical foundations; policy approaches and institutions; contemporary drug market trends (consumption, production and trafficking); evaluating the record of drug control; bias and distortion in drug policy implementation.



## 21 November 2018

Policy analysis, design and evaluation; stakeholder engagement; identifying and measuring policy impacts; understanding gender and conflict sensitivity; evidence and rights based approaches; “do no harm”. The challenge of researching illegal economies and stigmatized communities. Women, gender and mutually constitutive aspects of identity; women’s rights and women’s “issues”; approaches to analyzing and mitigating gendered policy impacts.

## 22 November 2018

What do we know about women and drugs? Consumption trends and dynamics among (the global diversity of) women; women and drug use (problematic, medicinal and recreational); service access and impediments. Women in drug crop cultivation and drug production chains; identifying enforcement impacts—women and the criminal justice system.



## 23 November 2018

Is drug policy a women’s/feminist issue? Homogenization and normative assumptions (race, class and sexualities); Gender sensitizing drug policy; advocating for change and evidenced based approaches.

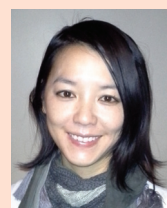


# Faculty (TBC)



**Julia BUXTON**  
CEU School of Public Policy

Julia is a professor of comparative politics and a specialist on South America and an expert on Venezuela, receiving her PhD from the LSE, where she also studied for her MA (Distinction) in comparative politics. Her current research focuses on the drugs and development nexus and the development impacts of counter narcotics programs. Her publications on drugs include *Drug Crop Production, Poverty and Development* (OSF 2016); *Drugs and Development: The Great Disconnect* (with T. Bingham) and *The Rise and Challenge of Dark Net Drug Markets* (both January 2015, Global Drug Policy Observatory, University of Swansea); *The Politics of Drugs* (ed., 2010, Routledge); "Opportunity Lost: Alternative Development in Drug Control" in J. Tokatlian (ed.) *Old Wars: New Thinking* (2010, Libros Zorazal); "A History of Drug Control" in P. Keefer and N. Loayza (eds) *Innocent Bystanders* (2010, World Bank Publications); "The UK drug problem in global perspective," *Soundings* (2009); "The Historical Foundations of the Narcotic Drug Control Regime" (World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 4553/2008) and *The Political Economy of Narcotic Drugs* (2006).



**Judy CHANG**  
International Network of People who Use Drugs

Judy is the Executive Director of the International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD). She has worked in the HIV and community health and development field for eight years, across areas of program management, resource mobilization, and communications. As a woman who uses drugs, she has been increasingly involved in harm reduction and drug policy work to which she brings her lived experience. She has worked across India, China, and Thailand. She holds a Master's in International Development and is an MPhil Candidate at the National Drug Research Institute, Australia.



**Corina GIACOMELLO**  
Autonomous University of Chiapas, Equis: Justice for Women and The Mexican Institute for Justice

Corina has a PhD in Latin American Studies from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (*Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, UNAM*), where she lives. She currently works as a researcher for the National Institute of Legal Research (Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas) of the Autonomous University of



Chiapas (Mexico) and she collaborates with the organization Equis: Justice for Women. She is an expert on the issue of women in prison for drug offenses, linking the study of drug policy with the prison system from a gender perspective. Her publications include “Policy of gender, drugs, and incarceration in Mexico: a guide for inclusive drug policy” (2017, co-authored with Isabel Blas and Isabel Erreguerena), “Women deprived of freedom and the right to vote. From objects of rules to subjects of Citizenship” (2016) and “Drugs, Gender, and Imprisonment: Experiences of Women Deprived of their Liberty in Mexico” (2013) by Tirant Lo Blanch. In addition, she is the author of the IDPC report “Women, Drug Offenses and Prison Systems in Latin America” (2013) and of “Proposals for Reform in the Cases of Women Incarcerated for Drug Offenses” (2016, co-authored with Isabel Blas).



**Ian HAMILTON**  
University of York

Ian is a lecturer at the University of York in the United Kingdom. He has an interest in the relationship between mental health and drug use and has published articles including “Why women who misuse drugs have different needs” in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* and “Cannabis psychosis, gender matters” for *Emerald Insight*. Ian trained as a mental health nurse and worked with people who had combined mental health and drug problems prior to joining the University of York.



**Julie HANNAH**  
International Centre on Human Rights and Drug Policy

Julie is the director of the International Centre on Human Rights and Drug Policy, where she has been leading high impact research and teaching projects since 2012. Her work has been internationally recognized in the areas of human rights and drug control, which focuses on human rights institutions and drug policy, the use of force in the context of counter narcotics operations, and the right to health. She is a member of the Human Rights Centre at the University of Essex where she is also an advisor to the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to health, supporting the mandate’s thematic research and engagement with civil society. Julie has spent more than ten years leading humanitarian and human rights projects for marginalized communities, particularly those in Southeast Asia.



**Fiona MACAULAY**  
University of Bradford

Fiona is senior lecturer in the Division of Peace Studies and International Development at the University of Bradford. She was previously responsible for the Brazil desk at Amnesty International, and then became a research fellow at the Centre for Brazilian Studies, University of Oxford, from which she holds a BA Hons (modern languages), an MPhil (Latin American studies), and a DPhil (politics). She has two principal research interests in Brazil and Latin America: (1) gender policies and politics, and (2) criminal justice reform and human rights. In both cases she is interested in the interface between organized civil society and the state, and the way in which specific political institutions and governance arrangements (political parties, decentralization) impinge on the capacity of civil society groups to affect policy and reform the state. Fiona has published widely on these topics and is currently working on a book on the challenges of reforming the Brazilian prisons system, which she has researched for the last 20 years.



**Giavana MARGO**  
CEU Global Policy Academy

Giavana is a junior researcher with the Global Policy Academy at Central European University. She was previously a lecturer at Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest, Hungary and has worked in the field of HIV, harm reduction and drug policy advocacy with several Russian NGOs. She has experience with street outreach and has written reports on gender-based discrimination towards women who use drugs in the Russian Federation for CEDAW. Giavana holds a master’s degree in critical gender studies from Central European University.



**SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY  
AT CENTRAL EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY**

**ADDRESS**

1051 Budapest, Október 6 Street 7

**TELEPHONE**

(+36-1) 327-3110

**spp.ceu.hu**



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