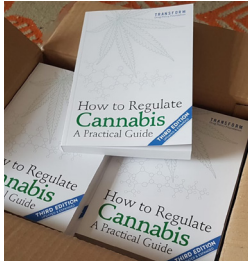
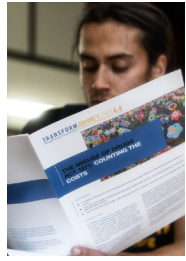


# TRANSFORM

Drug Policy Foundation



# ANNUAL REVIEW 2022



## ABOUT US

Transform is an independent charity working towards a just and effective system of legal regulation for all drugs.

## A VISION FOR A BETTER WORLD

Our vision is a world where drug policy contributes to safer and healthier societies.

## MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

### HANNAH SLATER



2022 has been a year of steady progress and careful transitions at Transform.

We've welcomed an excellent new CEO and seen changes to our Board. We have redeveloped our organisational strategy, moved to new premises and embedded changes to ways of working following the pandemic.

After joining the Transform Board in 2019, I was privileged to take over as Chair of Trustees from our former Chair Jane Hickman in September 2022. We also said goodbye to long-standing trustee Howard Jacobs, following his completion of a five year term. We thank Jane and Howard for their insights, wisdom, and much appreciated contributions.

We were delighted to welcome Katrina Ffrench, founding Director of Unjust, as a trustee. She has brought valuable expertise to the Board. Our new CEO, Alex Feis-Bryce, joined the team in February 2022, hitting the ground running in overseeing our demanding programmes of activity whilst also leading Transform through a helpful and timely strategy review process.

As a campaigner myself, I'm delighted that in 2022 the Transform team sought to refine how to communicate about drug policy in order to build consensus outside the drug reform bubble. We have proactively opened up the drug policy conversation with a wider range of public audiences and communities, and harnessed framing research and techniques to get the ear of a widening pool of policymakers and parliamentarians.

Transform is now having productive conversations on drug policy reform with representatives of the faith community, the Police, health services, local government, and service delivery organisations. Our flagship campaign highlighting the failures



of the Misuse of Drugs Act after 50 years ended this year, garnering cross-party support from 65 Parliamentarians and opened up debate with many more. I know that the team are already building on its success.

Transform's Allyship with Blaksox continues to engage and amplify the voices of Black communities in London in the drug policy debate, particularly around social justice. Our impactful Anyone's Child network continues to grow, developing and platforming voices for drug policy reform from the families most affected.

WE HAVE  
PROACTIVELY  
OPENED UP THE  
DRUG POLICY  
CONVERSATION

Globally, this year has been a time of real change as countries across the world, including Europe, explore and implement drug legalisation. Transform has been a key player in these changes, with stakeholders and national governments drawing on Transform's expertise.

As we look ahead to the future, Transform is in a strong position to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities of the coming years for progressing our mission to make safer drug policy a reality. I would like to thank our wonderful funders and donors, who continue to see the value of Transform's work and the major contributions that drug policy reform can make to a more just and safe society. I am also thankful to our brilliant staff team, and all our supporters lending their voices for change. Our call is growing stronger.

## MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

ALEX FEIS-BRYCE



In 2022, my first year as CEO of Transform, I've been so impressed by the expertise and commitment of the team and how far and wide our influence as an organisation spreads. I joined Transform because I had long admired the organisation from afar and I saw that the momentum for drug policy reform was gathering pace. I knew that Transform is a pioneer in the sector with an international reputation but it wasn't until I joined that I really understood just how instrumental the organisation has been to the global movement.

2022 was an incredibly busy year but we also took time to reflect on and refine our strategy, messaging and internal systems. We developed a theory of change which captures the synergy of our key workstreams - at local, national and international levels, and how they contribute to our vision of a world where drug policy promotes health, protects the vulnerable and puts safety first.

2022 was also a year of impact as we looked to build on our successful campaign marking the 50th anniversary of the UK's Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) and establishing a much wider political consensus that the MDA has failed and must be reformed. Our next challenge is to convert this into widespread support for policy and law reform, including models of legal regulation, to achieve a safer, healthier and fairer society.

A critical part of this is growing support amongst the wider public and, in turn, influencing key decision makers who may still see drug policy reform as a political minefield. We worked with a leader in international messaging, Anat Shenker-Osario, on our framing and communications, the core principles of which will inform our work in the future. Telling human stories, which we do so well with our Anyone's Child Campaign, must and will remain at the heart of how we communicate the failures of drug policy and our vision of a better future.

A key theme running through our work is to take conversations about drug policy reform to unexpected places. In 2022, as you'll read in this report, there were many exciting examples of this - from Newcastle Cathedral and Windsor Castle to London barbershops and Colombian coca fields.

Though the two main political parties in the UK remain publicly resistant to change, a tipping point is fast approaching where support for a pragmatic reform platform will become a political asset rather than a liability. With our work internationally, and at a local level here in the UK, directly influencing key decision makers, Transform is playing a crucial role in fuelling this momentum. With our expertise on legal regulation we are uniquely placed to help shape the reforms around the world, and when they inevitably come to the UK – it's not a case of if, but how.

## A KEY THEME RUNNING THROUGH OUR WORK IS TO TAKE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT DRUG POLICY REFORM TO UNEXPECTED PLACES



**7 MILLION**  
**TWITTER IMPRESSIONS**

At this crucial time in both our history as an organisation and the history of international drug

policy, I would like to thank our brilliant team and board of trustees and everyone who supports and works with Transform. We wouldn't have achieved all we have so far without your support and we hope we can count on it in the future as our goals appear to be in sight.

Best wishes,  
Alex

# UK POLICY WORK

Despite it being an eventful year in Westminster politics, there were some key developments in drug policy which we believe happened at least partly as a result of our long-term work and, in particular, the success of our 'MDA at 50' campaign.

## **'MISUSE OF DRUGS ACT AT 50' CAMPAIGN**

As part of our successful campaign centred on the 50th anniversary of the Misuse of Drugs Act we produced a briefing which collated available data covering criminalisation and imprisonment; enforcement spending; drug-related deaths; prevalence of drug use; and drug availability; all highlighting the historic failures of the Act.

This work helped grow our influence among Parliamentarians and establish a significant consensus among MPs from across the political spectrum that UK drug laws have failed and should be reformed. In clearly demonstrating the disasters of UK policy over the last 50 years we widened the political space for serious discussion about reform of the legislation underpinning this failure.

# 65

**PARLIAMENTARIANS  
SUPPORT REVIEW  
OF UK DRUG POLICY**

## HOME AFFAIRS SELECT COMMITTEE DRUGS INQUIRY

In Spring 2022, the Home Affairs Select Committee launched an inquiry into drugs, examining “whether drugs policy reflects the reality of drug use in the 21st Century and its impact on wider society.” We submitted detailed written evidence on behalf of both Transform and our Anyone’s Child campaign, and our Head of Partnerships, Martin Powell, was invited to give oral evidence by the Committee.



*Martin Powell, Head of Partnerships, presenting an Anyone’s Child memorial flower to the Committee*

## GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER CONSULTATION - REDUCING LEVELS OF DRUG USE

In July, the UK Home Office published a white paper, ‘Swift, Tough, Certain’, aimed at reducing levels of ‘recreational drug use’, including deeply concerning proposals for an expansion of criminalisation and policing of people who use drugs that would disproportionately impact vulnerable individuals and marginalised communities. We worked closely with Release and DrugScience to produce a comprehensive submission to the accompanying white paper consultation, as well as a detailed guide for others to inform their submissions. A number of our Anyone’s Child family members also submitted responses to the consultation.

Along with Release and the Faculty of Public Health, we led on a joint letter calling on the Government to rethink its proposals, signed by over 400 groups, academics, medical and treatment professionals, pharmacists and lawyers, including the British Medical Association, Faculty of Public Health, Association of Directors of Public Health, Liberty, Inquest, the Police Foundation, and the College of Medical Pharmacy.

## CHRISTIAN ETHICS AND DRUG POLICY REFORM

In May, we held a two day event at St George's House, Windsor Castle, to provide a space for open discussions about drug policy and reform from a Christian perspective. Members of several Christian denominations were invited to attend and together we sought to identify opportunities and barriers for generating support for reform amongst faith communities, as well as working on a set of values which should underpin drug policy reform in the UK. Focused discussions were intellectually challenging, enlightening and constructive and all of the attendees fed-back positively about the event.

We published a report reflecting on the discussions and have been holding meetings to build further on this work. This event marks only the beginning of our focus on building support for reform among faith groups.



“

IT MADE ME TRULY CONNECT WITH THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN THE DRUG POLICY REFORM DEBATE AND HOW PIVOTAL THE VOICE OF THE CHURCH COULD BE.

“

APPRECIATING THE POTENTIAL FOR THE CHURCH TO TAKE A LEADING ROLE IN DRUG REFORM IDENTIFIED SOMETHING WHICH COULD PROVE OF REAL STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE.

# VOICES FOR CHANGE

## ANYONE'S CHILD

“ WE ARE NOW STARTING TO SEE MORE AND MORE FAMILIES STAND UP AND SAY ‘WE NEED CHANGE’. I LOVE THE WORK OF ANYONE’S CHILD, THROUGH WHICH BRAVE FAMILY MEMBERS HAVE COME FORWARD AND SAID THAT THEIR BROTHERS, SISTERS, MOTHERS OR FATHERS WOULD HAVE STILL BEEN HERE TODAY IF IT WASN’T FOR THE OUTDATED WAY THAT WE ARE TRYING TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM.

**Peter Krykant, speaking to the Criminal Justice Committee in the Scottish Parliament**

Our Anyone’s Child campaign goes from strength to strength as we continue to work to ensure those most impacted by drug policy have their voice amplified. We have welcomed new family members and activists into the network and have continued to meet regularly to support each other and share strategies on how to bring about change. We were pleased to feature in a front-page Cosmopolitan story and a Mirror exclusive, showing our consistent efforts to reach new audiences. The recently published book, ‘Drug Science and British Drug Policy’, also features a dedicated Anyone’s Child chapter with the experiences of family members and campaigners.





**ANYONE'S CHILD**  
Families for safer drug use  
anyoneschild.org

We continue to hold public events around the country to raise the level of understanding around the need to reform drug policy, dovetailing with our local reform workstream. The approach involves supporting families and activists with arranging local events with key decision-makers, including police, MPs and public health officials - invited to speak alongside leading experts, many of whom have led on changes implemented in other areas. We also take the ambulance, that was used as an Overdose Prevention Centre in Scotland, to engage with the public and politicians, and explain how a health-led approach to drugs benefits everyone. Made by our families, we place our 4,565 'forget-me-not' flowers representing lives lost annually in the UK to our failed drug laws.

These events, which are central to our strategy of combining policy expertise with human stories to influence change, have proved to be a huge success, generating significant media coverage and engaging key stakeholders, raising the level of debate locally and bringing about concrete reforms in a number of areas around the country. Our events are often followed by activist training sessions to mobilise those interested in getting more involved.



*Flick Drummond MP with Rob Humby, the leader of Hampshire County Council, in our mobile Overdose Prevention Centre*

We held a successful event in Waterlooville, hosted by the Conservative MP Flick Drummond, with key stakeholders in the local area including the leader of the local county council in attendance. Families also spoke at the Conservative Party Conference this year, as well as presenting to the Green Party Drug Policy Working Group, and the Senedd.

Following the success of our public meeting in Leeds last year, we delivered training in Leeds and formed a core activist group that has continued to meet and push reforms locally, and held a number of stakeholder meetings to develop an action plan for the Calderdale region. As a direct result of these meetings, key stakeholders are now seriously exploring introducing Diamorphine [Heroin] Assisted Treatment, Drug-offence diversion and Drug Safety Checking in the local area. This demonstrates how our campaign's work is leading to real on-the-ground reform.

“

THANK YOU FOR COMING, WE SIMPLY COULDN'T HAVE STARTED THESE CONVERSATIONS WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT. NOW THE CONVERSATION HAS STARTED PEOPLE ARE REALLY EXCITED, THERE'S A REAL MOMENTUM BUILDING AND WE'RE NOT GOING TO STOP UNTIL WE GET CHANGE HERE.

Participant feedback, Calderdale

## ANNUAL LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT

We were delighted to resume our in-person lobby of Parliament in June 2022. Activists attended in force and had meetings with a whole range of senior Parliamentarians from across the political spectrum, from Theresa May MP to Dianne Abbott MP.



MPs from across political parties addressed our supporters outside Westminster and we held an event in the House of Commons, led by the families and joined by key policy experts to further persuade MPs of the need for change.

The day proved to be a huge success and gave us the opportunity to motivate and engage members, many of whom had felt isolated campaigning during the pandemic.



## NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL

Over 100 people attended our event in partnership with Newcastle Cathedral. Attendees included key stakeholders from the police, local services and the council. The Canon of the Cathedral, families involved with our Anyone's Child campaign, former police officers, Danny Ahmed, who pioneered the Diamorphine [Heroin] Assisted Treatment clinic in Middlesbrough, and the local Labour MP Chi Onwurah all spoke.

“  
I LOVED THE VIBE OF  
THE EVENING - THE  
SPACE CREATED FELT  
SAFE, ILLUMINATING,  
INCLUSIVE, NON-  
CONFRONTATIONAL AND  
HUGELY RESPECTFUL.

Attendee

**Priest among North East drug  
consumption room  
campaigners**

### Newcastle Cathedral hosts public event calling for reform of failed drug laws

The event included a look at the Overdose Prevention Centre and an address from Reverend Jon Canessa of Newcastle Cathedral

“  
I'VE LEARNT SO  
MUCH TONIGHT -  
SO HELPFUL.  
Serving police officer  
who attended the event



## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Another example of taking these important conversations to unexpected places is the work Anyone's Child member, Rose, did with the Women's Institute (WI). Following a number of meetings organised by Rose, her local village WI in Worcestershire voted in support of a resolution supporting drug policy reform. The resolution then went, via the county federation, to the national membership. Rose won over so many hearts and minds, so we were disappointed that, in the end, the resolution that passed locally did not make the national shortlist. However, it was a reminder of the power that human stories and lived experience have to find allies for drug policy reform in places we least expect.



*Anyone's Child member, Rose*

— “ —

THANKS FOR YOUR WORK ON THE MISUSE OF DRUGS RESOLUTION. I HAVE BEEN SO MOVED BY READING IT, AND IT HAS GIVEN ME A COMPLETELY NEW PERSPECTIVE ON THIS TRAGIC PROBLEM. I WISH YOU, YOUR WI, AND YOUR RESOLUTION A SUCCESSFUL JOURNEY - AND MEANWHILE WILL LOOK WITH NEW EYES AT COVERAGE OF THE ISSUE.

WI Trustee feedback

## CENTRING SOCIAL EQUITY IN THE REFORM DISCOURSE: ALLYSHIP WITH BLAKSOX

Transform has had a seat at the table for key drug policy discussions for many years. When in those spaces, it is our duty to look around the table and identify who is missing. Our Allyship with Black social action network Blaksox was built on this principle and our recognition and concern that the drug policy movement in the UK



How to Buy  
Can A...

too often fails to represent those most affected by prohibitionist laws. In 2022, the Allyship has continued to develop and remains central to our strategy.

We held a number of in-person and online events as part of our Allyship. This work provided a useful arena for us to engage with people who wouldn't normally attend Transform events and hear the views of those most affected by prohibition. Establishing a unique space for discussion around the issue of cannabis business and racial equity is our priority, and people attending these events have fed back that this allowed them to be a part of interesting and important discussions that they would normally feel excluded from.

We made further recordings for our upcoming podcast series which aims to take conversations about drug policy reform to the Black communities in the UK.

“ THE WORLD IS WAKING UP TO THE FUTILITY OF THE WAR ON DRUGS. I'M PLEASED THAT TRUST FOR LONDON IS SUPPORTING TRANSFORM DRUG POLICY FOUNDATION TO WORK WITH BLAKSOX... BLACK COMMUNITIES NEED A SEAT AT THE TABLE AS THIS DEBATE GROWS.

Manny Hothi, CEO, Trust for London

## EVENTS IN LONDON BARBERSHOPS

A barbershop offers a safe space where people (in particular younger Black men) can gain access to information and speak freely. With our Blaksox allies, we held a number of drug policy reform events in barbershops in London (also accessible online). Through these events we raised awareness of the debate around cannabis in the UK and opened up discussions about building social justice principles, and opportunities for involvement of disproportionately impacted communities into emerging legally regulated cannabis markets as we prepare for the inevitability of UK reform.



The poster features a background image of a barbershop interior. At the top, the text 'Barber Shop Talks' is written in a stylized font, with 'bit.ly/Barbershoptalks' below it. A circular logo on the right says 'BARBERSHOP TALK'. Below the title, there are five small portraits of speakers with their names and affiliations: Courtney Brown (Future Boss), Viv Ahmud (Transform & Blacksox Allyship), Jane Slater (Transform & Blacksox Allyship), Lee Jospop (Transform & Blacksox Allyship), and Alex Foe-Dryce (Transform & Blacksox Allyship). At the bottom left, there is a portrait of Muckloru Kirgizi (Man R King) and the text 'A blended event (zoom in or turn up in-person)'. In the center, it says 'Drugs, Economics & Social Justice' and 'MARCH 11TH 7.00PM TO 9.30PM'. Below that, it says 'Your all welcome come have a drink and chat'. At the bottom right, it says 'LET'S TALK BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY COMMUNITY LEGAL WEED BUSINESS INVESTMENT FOR US'. At the very bottom, it says 'Contact Us 08448 040719 10A DENMARK STREET, LONDON N17 0JL'. At the bottom of the poster, there are logos for 'TRANSFORM & BLAKSOX DRUGS, RACE & ECONOMIC JUSTICE', 'MUCKLORU KIRGIZI', and 'FUTURE BOSS'.

TRANSFORM & BLAKSOX  
DRUGS, RACE & ECONOMIC JUSTICE



FUTURE  
BOSS



## NEW YORK AND MASSACHUSETTS STUDY TOUR

The Allyship visited New York City on the first anniversary of New York State's introduction of legislation to legalise and regulate cannabis. It aims to be the most equitable regulated cannabis market in the United States, with a focus on repairing the harms of prohibition. We had the opportunity to spend time with the key grassroots campaigners, legislators and entrepreneurs who made the changes happen.



*Transform and Blaksox team members in New York*

We also travelled to Boston, Massachusetts, which introduced legal regulation of cannabis in 2016, to meet Black entrepreneurs who had benefited from the social justice measures which were an integral part of the legislation.

We travelled with a videographer filming key voices on our journey and are using the footage of this good example of reform as part of our advocacy work in the UK.

Transform and Blaksox left feeling inspired, with a deeper knowledge of how to centre social justice in reform processes, as well as a more personal understanding of the transformative impact that legal regulation can have for those whose lives have been affected by prohibition.

# BRINGING ABOUT LIFE-SAVING CHANGE AT A LOCAL LEVEL

We have continued our work at the local and regional levels to deliver life-saving measures within communities, which also help to progress the national and international debate on drug law reform.

The Overdose Prevention Centre (OPC) ambulance, previously used in Glasgow without authorisation, has continued to be a key engagement tool for our work in local communities, with politicians and the media. In June, we took the ambulance to the Houses of Parliament, and Welsh Senedd. This gave us the opportunity to demonstrate the life-saving impact of OPCs to key politicians, and engage with them on Transform's work more broadly. While no official OPCs have opened in the UK, Scotland's chief legal officer is currently considering a proposal to open one in Glasgow, and our work providing guidance and expert support to other areas in England and Wales interested in open similar facilities continues.

We are also working with a new network of homeless housing providers promoting formal tolerance policies in hostels, as a form of quasi-supervised consumption. One charity which we connected to existing providers using this approach has reduced overdose deaths in their properties from 21 in 2020, to zero deaths in 2022.



*Our new resource showcasing the successful approaches to drugs happening in the UK*

The number of drug offence diversion schemes, where police replace arrests and criminal charges with diversion into education or support, continues to grow in the UK, with over a dozen forces and the whole of Scotland now using them. In the West Midlands alone, over 6,000 people caught with drugs for personal use have

**OVER 6000  
CRIMINAL  
RECORDS  
AVOIDED**

avoided criminal records under the scheme in less than two years. Supporting the establishment of these reforms has been a key aspect of our work.

The new Metropolitan Police Commissioner has called drug offence diversion a ‘no-brainer’, and the UK Government backs it in principle. We are working closely with local politicians to implement a pilot in London.

NUMBER OF DRUG-RELATED DEATHS, ENGLAND AND WALES, 1971-2020; UNITED KINGDOM, 1994-2020



### A RISING TIDE OF AVOIDABLE DRUG-RELATED DEATHS

The starkest indicator of the UK's failing drug policy is drug-related deaths, which have risen dramatically over the lifetime of the Misuse of Drugs Act, particularly in the 1990s, and again since 2011.

- In England and Wales there were less than 100 drug-related deaths in 1971. In 2020 there were 2,996.
- There were 4,335 drug-related deaths across the UK in 2020, more than tripling from 1,218 in 1994.
- The UK drug-related death rate is 4.5 times the EU average, while Scotland's is more than 16 times the EU average.
- Scotland's drug-related deaths have increased 6-fold since 1994 from 244 deaths to 1,339, reaching record numbers for the eighth year in a row in 2020.



### INCREASING LEVELS OF DRUG USE

A key aim of the MDA has been to reduce levels of illegal drug use through enforcement, targeting both people who use drugs and illegal drug supply. However, over the course of the past fifty years, levels of drug use have risen dramatically.

- In England alone, the number of people using heroin has risen from under 10,000 in 1971 to 260,000 today. This represents a more than 25-fold increase.
- Since 1971 cannabis use has increased by more than 5-fold, with more than 2.5 million people in England and Wales using cannabis in 2019.
- By 2019, three million people used drugs in England and Wales, including almost one million people who used cocaine.
- Annual MDMA (ecstasy) use rose from zero in the mid-1980s to half a million people in 2019, this is despite MDMA being classified as a Class A substance since 1977.
- The annual prevalence of any illegal drug use in Scotland has risen from 9% in 1996 to 13.5% in 2019.

UNDER THE MISUSE OF DRUGS ACT  
CANNABIS USE HAS INCREASED 5-FOLD  
AND HEROIN USE HAS INCREASED 25-FOLD

Tragically, and despite positive evaluations, the Diamorphine [Heroin] Assisted Treatment (DAT) clinic in Middlesbrough closed in 2022 after being denied future funding. Transform and Anyone's Child was instrumental in coordinating the appeal to save it. Though unable to prevent its closure, the campaign generated Parliamentary Questions and national media, and led to other areas expressing interest in opening clinics. Working with colleagues in the treatment sector we have developed a DAT business case to help advocate for new clinics, and are confident more will be announced soon.



*James Evans, Conservative MP for Brecon and Radnorshire, with Ester Kincová, Transform's Public Affairs and Policy Manager*

We were delighted that Police Scotland announced that all their officers will carry naloxone following a successful pilot which saw numerous heroin overdoses reversed. We are working with other police forces encouraging them to follow suit, with near 30 now doing so.



THANK YOU SO MUCH. THESE [RESOURCES] ARE EXCEPTIONALLY HELPFUL – PARTICULARLY THE HEALTH APPROACH TEMPLATE AND OPIOID SUBSTITUTION THERAPY PAPER....TO HAVE THESE LAID OUT IN SUCH A CLEAR WAY WITH EVIDENCE REALLY HELPS US TO CLARIFY OUR WAY FORWARD AND DEFINE WHAT TO ASK FOR.

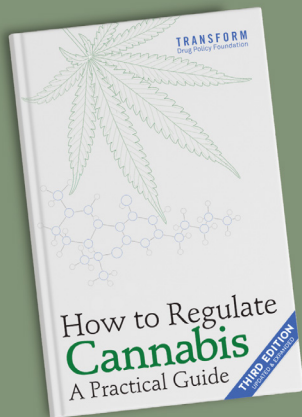
[Feedback on our resources from a police officer](#)

Bristol will soon open the UK's first regular city centre Drug Checking Service, having secured the first Home Office licence in the UK. People will be able to get their drugs tested for strength and content, receiving tailored health and harm reduction information with the results. Transform have been supporting this work for a number of years, since we helped set up a pilot city centre Drug Checking Service in Bristol in 2016.



# SHAPING THE INTERNATIONAL DEBATE

Transform has an international reputation as a leading source of expertise on legal regulation and our influence continues to grow. The momentum for reform gathers pace with significant developments unfolding on every continent in 2022.



Our guides on regulation are continuing to inform and shape these reforms as they happen throughout the world, supporting our advocacy in a range of international fora - from addressing the plenary session at the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and working with cannabis regulators in US and Canada, to presenting at events in Massachusetts, Lisbon, Berlin and Utrecht.

At the start of 2022, the third updated and expanded edition of our - now 400-page - book "How To Regulate Cannabis, A Practical Guide" was published, with new chapters on social equity, corporate capture, and expungement.



*Some of the Transform team with our partners in Colombia*

The book has since been translated into Spanish, German and Portuguese by international partners, and disseminated globally, at events and online.

Our book “How to Regulate Stimulants, A Practical Guide” has been translated into Spanish and published in Colombia and Mexico. The Colombian publication was launched in Bogota with events for policy makers and stakeholders at the University de los Andes (in Bogota), and the Colombian Senate. We then took the opportunity, working with Colombian partners, to meet with local coca growers, Indigenous groups, academics, activists, faith leaders and elected officials to discuss coca and cocaine regulation in book launch dialogue events in Puerto Asis, Tumaco, and Cali. We worked on the first ever Bill to regulate coca and cocaine, tabled in the Colombian Senate.

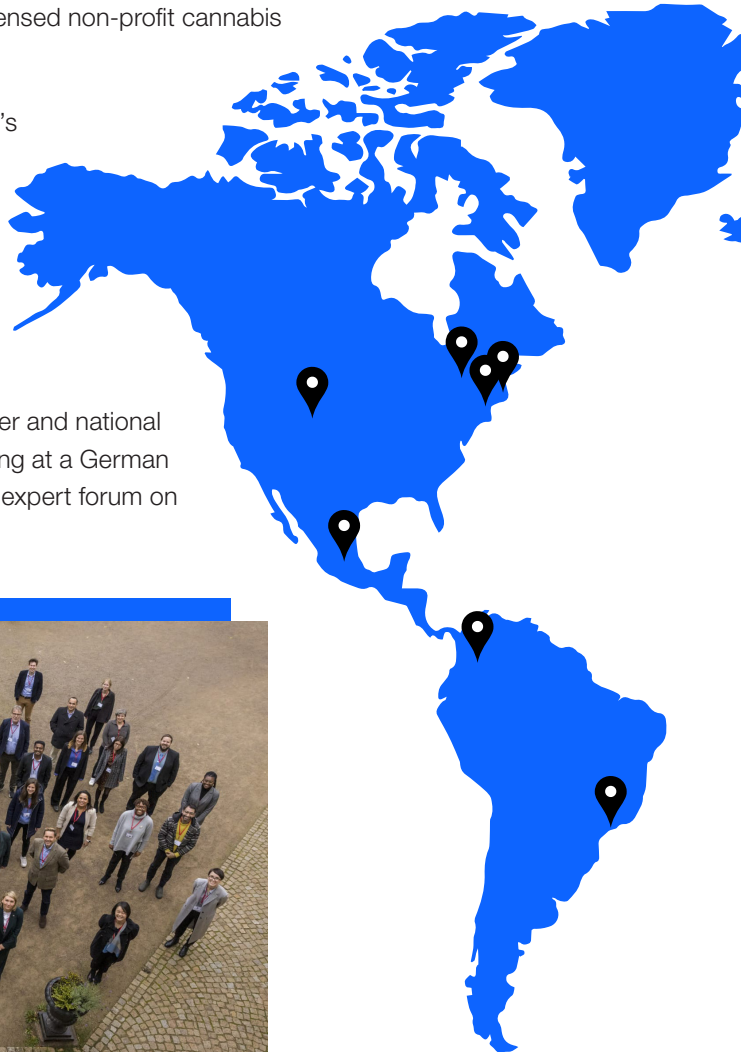
In the autumn we travelled to Utrecht in the Netherlands to support and speak at the opening of the ‘world’s first MDMA shop’, which had a series of different mock-up retail models designed to provoke debate. The pharmacy model on display was modelled on proposals in our stimulants book.



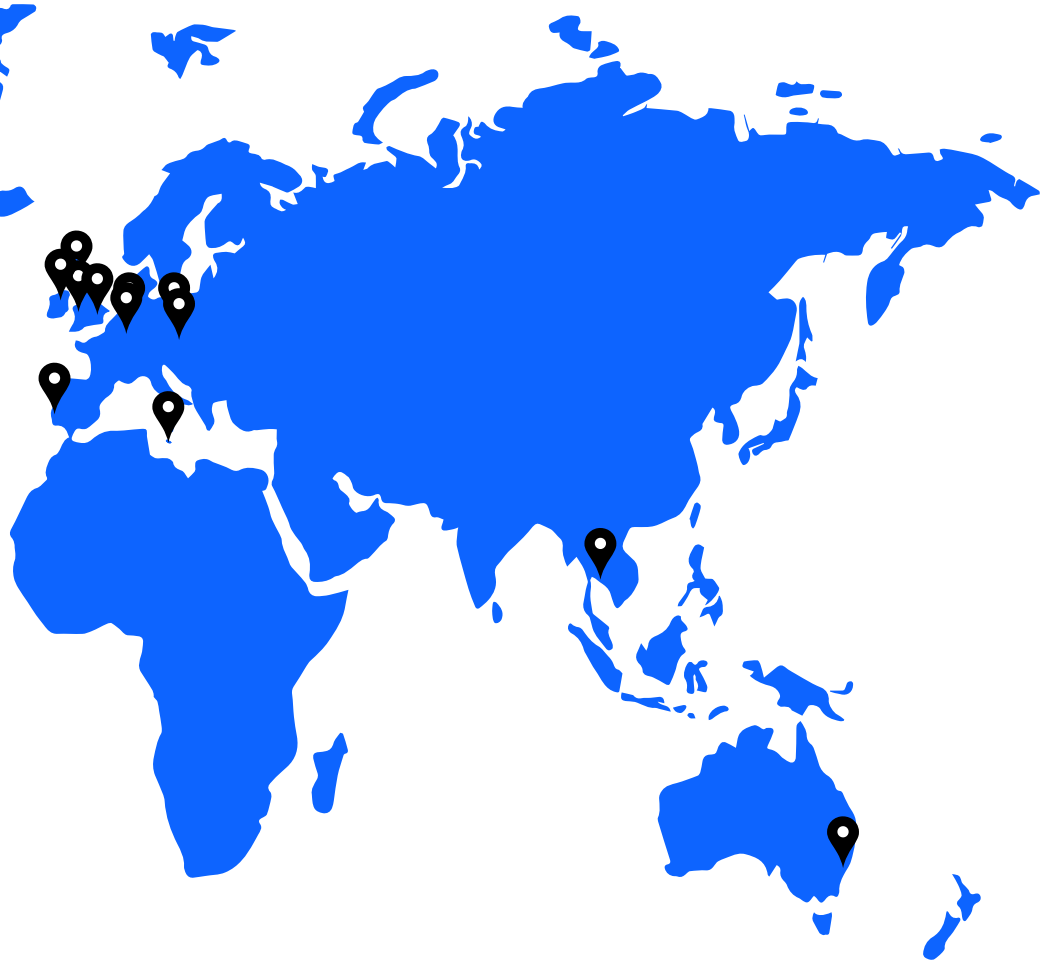
In addition to our publications being used throughout the world as a template for reforms, in a number of countries we have been working directly with policymakers to provide our expertise on legal regulation.

Our Senior Policy Analyst, Steve Rolles, has acted as advisor to the Maltese Government, becoming the first EU country to formally legalise and regulate cannabis, introducing a pioneering model, which will allow for home-growing and licensed non-profit cannabis cooperatives.

The German Government's move to legally regulate cannabis is a watershed moment in Europe. We were invited to Berlin, joining speakers from around the world, and the German Health Minister and national drug coordinator presenting at a German Government international expert forum on cannabis regulation.



We then participated in the 'Brandenburg Forum' near Berlin, a high-level gathering exploring drug policy reform, convened by the German Government, Norwegian and Dutch Governments, and a small group of NGOs. Present were national drug coordinators, policy makers and senior civil servants from over 30 countries, alongside senior UN figures. It was an opportunity to disseminate Transform's book on regulating cannabis in English and German, learn, build contacts, and help influence national and international debates in a positive way.



Has the debate about drug decriminalisation moved on at all in recent years? The Netherlands has had a long-standing policy towards the use of cannabis. But the picture is far more complex than it seems, suggests **Cherry Cauty**

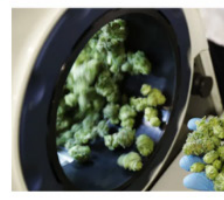
World Cup final special It's Messi v Mbappe as two greats of the game go head-to-head in Doha

# The Sunday Telegraph

## 'Forces are not spare capacity for strikes'



## Smak takes on Netlix amid Harry and Meghan row



# Racial bias in jailing of drug offenders

## First-time drug will not be pros under police plan

# MEDIA COVERAGE

Private school VAT will hit social bil... Pencil ready Pit your wis against our En vogue How the French finally fell for Feast for the fit How to indulge without tipping Janet Daley Governments have learnt that



## EXCLUSIVE: Heartbroken parents' emotional plea for change to dated law with 'blood on its hands'

“ESPERO QUE COLOMBIA TENGA EL CORAJE DE PONER A PRUEBA UN MODELO DE REGULACIÓN DE LA COCAÍNA”

**DRUG DEATHS** This will save drug users' li... Wonderful news that the police in Scotland will carry the overdose reversal drug Nalox (1 February 18). Becu drug supply is gifted criminals, no one kn

## Drugs police is senseless

Spot on, Ian Birre Tories do need ad about drugs (Opin 15 August). Prohib has failed for the l years. The Govern must look to scien the successes of o countries and to th trying to mitigate

## Fears that substance abuse will rise among those feeling desperate

PROBLEMATIC drug and alcohol use will ramp-up as people grow more desperate about meeting bills and cost of living, experts warned this week, writes **Fan Foot**. Transform senior policy analyst Steve Rolles predicted an increase in desesp

## 500 experts urge Home Office to 'public health approach' to drugs



## DRUGS: THE NEW HEALTHCARE EMERGEN





users  
recuted  
iefs'



'I believe a supervised drug consumption room could have saved my son'

Pat Hudson, whose son Kevin died following a heroin overdose in 2017, believes a dedicated space for people to administer drugs could help prevent deaths.

- How one woman overcame her own 'heavy' drug addiction

# Priest among North East drug consumption room campaigners

CRIMINALISATION

# Drug laws branded an 'epic policy disaster' in report

by Peter Lazenby

BRITISH drug laws are a dismal failure which are costing taxpayers £7 billion a year and, worse, are

It has also resulted in three million criminal convictions and has provided police with "the sharpest tool in the box" for discrimination against black people. The foundation said that

and has failed spectacularly in its aims. We must consign to history this catastrophic legislation which undermines social justice, human rights and public health."

# Brittney Griner will be released and home for Christmas



LIVE Bristol



ce for National Statistics figures show 4,859 deaths from drug poisoning were recorded last year in England and

\$1.22 NEWS Premier League teams have decid

# ¿Podrá Gustavo Petro legalizar la coca y la cocaína en Colombia?

NEWS



Non-profit cannabis model key to success

Drug policy consultant Steve Rolles shows Malta's drug reform with praise...  
"The Netherlands has had coffee shops since the 1930s but they're not actually legal..."  
"They're more their license..."  
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# OVERDOSE PREVENTION CENTRES PLAN

# Campaigners' £1.2m bid to cut drug deaths

SCOTTISH FIRE RESCUE SERVICE

HYPOD 1.5L x 4

Fire service join the spray team

DRUG SERVICES and Scotland's Fire Service have announced they will set up overdose prevention centres (OPCs) in two Scottish cities within four months.

Drugs campaigner Peter Kirkham, who is in recovery from drug addiction, coordinated an ambulance into an unofficial facility for injecting drug users, who are the most vulnerable to overdose death.

The campaigner, who now works for treatment provider Crossroads, has helped produce a blueprint that could provide services from portable cots in Glasgow and Dundee for £1.2million a year per year.

Crossroads claim the service could help three at high risk of overdose die for cheaper than the NHS.

The proposals come 12 months after First Minister Nicola Sturgeon promised the urgent roll-out of heroin self-help kits.

OPCs are small, self-contained spaces where people can inject drugs safely. They are designed to be used in the event of an overdose, where the effects of an overdose can be reversed.

The first OPC will be set up in Glasgow, with a second in Dundee. The service will be run by the Scottish Ambulance Service and Police Scotland, offering staff training on how to use the service.

Sturgeon added: "Ultimately, we need to see evidence available to people, to families of people who use drugs, and to the public, that it is easy to administer and can be self-administered in the event of an overdose."

Alca Stevens, who sits on the Advisory Committee on the Misuse of Drugs, said: "The proposal adds 'We are working closely with police and health services..."

# UPCOMING WORK

The Transform team are all very excited for 2023 and beyond at this crucial time in drug policy reform both in the UK and internationally. We plan to continue our work in all the areas detailed in this report with a focus on utilising our limited resources to maximise our impact and influence.

Internationally, our work advising governments and policy-makers around the world will continue as more and more countries move towards the models of legal regulation that we have long advocated for in our publications. We will also be attending the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs again in 2023 using our Special UN Consultative status to influence discussions.

We are acutely aware that a General Election in the UK is on the horizon so it is essential that we build on our direct work with politicians and political parties through our annual lobby of Parliament, our relationships with individual MPs and

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our attendance at key events, from political party conferences to local events throughout the country. One of the biggest challenges we face in convincing decision-makers of the need to reform is cynicism - the idea that such a fundamental change to policy will never happen. The scale of the failure of UK drug policy is huge and to some the solutions can seem overwhelming.

With this in mind, in 2023 we will begin work outlining the practical steps it would take to legally regulate cannabis in the UK and the economic implications of doing so. This will be aimed at key decision-makers and will complement the more

detailed policy work and international consultancy we've done in this area for many years which means we are uniquely placed to shape reforms in the UK.

Alongside this, our work helping to establish local pockets of innovative practice will continue to be a powerful way of demonstrating to policy-makers that a different approach is not just possible but is actually happening at local level and saves lives.



*Transform staff members*

In 2022, we will further develop and strengthen our Allyship with Blaksox, implementing all that we have learned so far in the process, to help grow a broader and more representative network of reform activists to work alongside our Anyone's Child members. We want to build as broad a consensus for change as possible so we will continue to take discussions about drug policy reform to unexpected places.

As well as continuing to hone our most impactful work, we are always keen to take our expertise into new areas where it can make a significant difference. Towards the end of 2022 we launched our crowdfunding campaign to raise funds to research and produce a new guide focusing on regulating psychedelics. The overwhelming focus of the so-called 'psychedelic renaissance' has been on the medical use of psychedelics, despite the majority of psychedelic drug use being outside of the medical setting. Whether for personal exploration and development, or more simply for recreation, Transform has long felt that this non-medical use is being neglected in the policy debate - a gap we are seeking to fill with a new report.

**To continue our vital work, we need your support. If you want to help us shape drug policy reform then please donate today through the QR code or at [transformdrugs.org/donate](https://transformdrugs.org/donate)**



# FINANCES

## Financial information (for the year ended 31 March 2022)

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2022 total £	2021 total £
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations	111,499	345,260	<b>456,759</b>	375,318
Charitable activities	-	1,798	<b>1,798</b>	3,096
Investments	-	153	<b>153</b>	460
<b>Total income</b>	<u>111,499</u>	<u>347,211</u>	<b>458,710</b>	<u>378,874</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Raising funds	-	10,469	<b>10,469</b>	9,838
Charitable activities	114,273	248,408	<b>362,681</b>	384,825
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>114,273</u>	<u>258,877</u>	<b>373,150</b>	<u>394,663</u>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>	(2,774)	88,334	<b>(85,560)</b>	(15,789)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	(2,774)	88,334	<b>(85,560)</b>	(15,789)
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>				
Total funds brought forward	<u>77,667</u>	<u>271,743</u>	<b>349,410</b>	<u>365,199</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u>74,893</u>	<u>360,077</u>	<b>434,970</b>	<u>349,410</u>





# TRANSFORM

Drug Policy Foundation

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