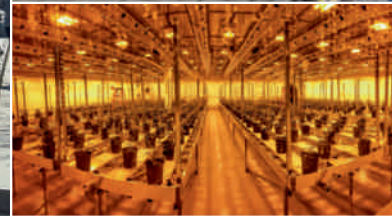


TRANSFORM

Getting drugs under control



Annual Review
2016

Our Vision

A global system of drug regulation and control that protects people, and promotes peace and security, sustainable development, health and human rights.

Our Mission

Educate and inspire policymakers to explore and implement the effective legal regulation of drug markets.

- Research and build a strong evidence base to support our mission and vision
- Advise and inspire policymakers worldwide to advocate for and implement drug policy review and reform
- Educate and inform the public about drug markets and options for their control

Report from the Chair

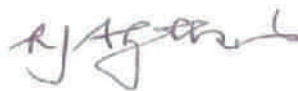
It has been a year when old orthodoxies crumbled: the Thai government invited Transform to discuss methamphetamine regulation in Thailand; The Times of London adopted an editorial position calling for legal regulation; and at the UN Special Assembly in April more voices than ever were raised to condemn the destruction of lives and livelihoods wrought by the international prohibitionist regime.

Our newest campaign Anyone's Child International found its mark with Canadian Health Minister Jane Philpott. She personally saluted Donna May from the UN General Assembly podium and announced that her government would legally regulate cannabis. The Canadians have since drawn on Transform's expertise in drafting their new laws.

In the UK, however, drug-related deaths are at a record high, and rising. Our Local Reform work is responding to this tragedy by focusing on what can be done right now; practical measures to reduce harm, from safe injecting

facilities to drug testing at festivals. We are bringing together police officers, Police and Crime Commissioners, public health officials and local politicians to support innovative reforms at the city and regional level. We have also been instrumental in ensuring that the British Medical Journal and The Lancet called for legal regulation, encouraging more doctors and health professionals to advocate for drug policy reform.

Transform's influence relies on the expertise and enthusiasm of its staff and supporters. We depend on the generosity of our far-sighted and public-spirited donors. Without you, we could not achieve what is now within reach – transformation to a better way of controlling drugs that will save countless lives. Thank you for making a difference.



**Roger Golland OBE,
Chair of the Board of Trustees**

Anyone's Child: Families for Safer Drug Control

Our Anyone's Child Project has gone from strength to strength over the past year. The network has now grown to include over twenty families from across the country representing those whose lives have been wrecked by the UK's drug laws. This highly successful campaign continues, with new films of their stories, new group members joining us and a series of events, partnerships and initiatives.

The project has attracted widespread mainstream media attention, including features in: the Mail on Sunday, Reveal magazine, Bella magazine, Sunday Mirror, ITV Good Morning, BBC TV, The Daily Mail and The Times. Our web and social media presence continues to grow, with five new campaign videos including Ray Lake-man's film, which was featured on the Mail Online and has now been viewed over 30,000 times. For the first

time, Transform used Anyone's Child speakers at a side event at the Conservative Party Conference alongside Sir William Patey, former ambassador to Afghanistan and Phil Collins, chief leader writer for The Times.

Anyone's Child ran two dedicated special events: one in Oxford, featuring Neil Woods from Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP); and one with Recovering Justice in Edinburgh.

Family members also spoke at a range of events throughout the year: a plenary session at the Drink and Drug News annual conference; two parliamentary launches in the House of Lords; the UKESAD conference; the Durham Recovery Walk; the universities of Warwick and Exeter; and events in Inverclyde and Glasgow.



“ _____
 We insist on the safety and control of alcohol, tobacco, even sugar – so why not with drugs? No one is advocating the taking of drugs. But whether we like it or not, they are being taken and the laws on prohibition are not working.
 _____ ”

Ray Lakeman, Anyone's Child member



Anyone's Child: International

Anyone's Child: Families for Safer Drug Control, our US colleagues 'Moms United to End the Drug War' and other partners from around the world came together this year in New York to coordinate an international public facing campaign at the UN General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on drugs.

The UNGASS 2016 was run on the theme, "Achieving the 2019 goals: A better tomorrow for the world's youth". We wanted to show how prohibition is not only failing to protect young people and their families, but is actually putting them in danger. Some 200 people joined the rally from ten countries, including representatives from Kenya, the USA, the Philippines, Belgium, Mexico, Afghanistan and the UK.

While in New York, we held a side event that was standing room only at the UNGASS itself, sponsored by the Czech Government, plus a series of events throughout the week. By working with partners from inside and outside

the drug policy reform sector, we demonstrated how the personal voices of family members can impact the debate at both a grass-roots level and at the highest political level.

We have now formed partnerships in Kenya, Canada, and Belgium, with individuals who were inspired by our New York event starting their own Anyone's Child group. Together we marked international overdose day with an online candle lighting campaign.

2016 has also seen Anyone's Child become a partner with Bristol University's Quipu project to pilot the collection, recording and documentation of oral stories from the casualties of Mexico's drug war. Funded by the new Brigstow Institute, this is a first for us - an academic collaboration with a prestigious UK university. If the pilot proves effective, we will roll this out in other countries.



“ _____
In preparation for this event, I met with a group of NGOs... But the most powerful voice of all belonged to a mother. She was there to tell the story of her young daughter, who lost her life due to complications of substance use. ..Stories like this are far too commonplace. Today, I stand before you as Canada’s Minister of Health, to acknowledge that we must do better for our citizens.
_____ ”

**The Honourable Jane Philpott,
Canadian Minister of Health**



UK Work

As drug deaths in the UK rose to record levels for the third year in a row, but the government continues to insist its drug policy is working well, Transform's UK political work has divided into national and local/regional work, in an attempt to stimulate local reform as a pilot for national change.

National

At the national level, we have focussed on two keys areas. We will equip opposition parties so they can hold the government to account, while also encouraging the Conservatives party to begin their own internal debate. In 2016, Transform held meetings with Conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrat, Green and SNP politicians. We also collaborated with the Royal Society for Public Health on their high profile report calling for drug possession and use to be decriminalised; we met faith leaders, including Anglican bishops, Quakers and Muslim groups; we supported our partners Health Poverty Action as they created a Drugs and Development group at BOND, the umbrella group for UK International Development groups; and we worked with the DrugScience group on a major research project considering the impacts of different policy regimes on key health and social indicators.

Local Reform

At the local level we are working with those who have the power to deliver reforms themselves. This means bringing together Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), police chiefs, public health officials and local politicians. Local initiatives already underway include: deprioritising arresting people who use drugs to deliver *de facto* decriminalisation of possession; pioneering drug testing at festivals; and plans for Supervised Injection Facilities (SIFs) and Heroin Assisted Treatment (HAT). Some examples of Transform's role:

- Supported The Loop to deliver the first ever UK 'front of house' drug testing at two festivals (Secret Garden Party and Kendal Calling) with the support of local police and public health agencies
- Worked with Chief Constables and PCCs, including Plaid's Arfon Jones in North Wales who has now called for cannabis reform, SIFs and HAT, backed by the Wrexham council leader
- Engaged with the head of the Welsh Assembly Conservative group
- Addressed senior police at their national debrief on policing festivals and discussed local reforms with the national police lead on drugs



Media & Online

The mainstream media has played a key role in maintaining the debate in the absence of high level political engagement. In June 2016, the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH), with the support of Transform, called for the decriminalisation of drug possession. In response, The Times leader said the RSPH hadn't gone far enough. It called on politicians to go further, saying that the solution "is to move gradually towards legalised supply chains". This was ground-breaking stuff, with the power to shift national media debate. It was closely followed by an editorial in the British Medical Journal (BMJ) that was fiercely critical of prohibition and called for legal regulation. The BMJ's special issue on drug policy reform also featured calls for reform from former Home Secretary Jacqui Smith and former chair of the Royal College of GPs Clare Gerada.

Meanwhile, our Anyone's Child campaign enabled us to reach an entirely new audience through tabloid and feature magazines such as Closer and Reveal. Anyone's Child Belgium has also brought our work to the attention of Flemish readers for the first time. Transform continues to gather new followers in the international media, with articles, references or collaborations this year in Harper's Magazine, Atlantic Monthly, Avanti, the Montreal Metro and Der Spiegel.

THE  **TIMES**





31,000
Twitter followers

2.2 million
Facebook users
reached

200+
Print and broadcast
appearances

*Figures accurate as of December 2016

Save kids from dangerous drugs

BRITAIN is currently experiencing a dark age: of drug deaths, that is. According to a new documentary series, High Life, which premiered on Vice this week, fatalities relating to ecstasy are at their highest since comparable records began in 1993.

Surprisingly, for those used to tales of cocaine cut with rat poison, the problem doesn't seem to be that the drugs are "bad" per se. Rather, they are too "good". Recently, products have been found with more than

three times the normal amount of pure ecstasy.

Watching a pair of illegal pill manufacturers at work, it's not hard to see why things are going so wrong. "It doesn't come out of a f***ing laboratory," says one as he crushes MDMA crystals with a rusty claw hammer and merrily scatters chemicals into his pill machine.

It's time to protect our kids from these dangerous amateurs: legal regulation of drugs now.



Health tsars who claim ALL drugs should be decriminalised

Watchdogs calling for

International Work

Transform has continued to expand and develop its international policy work and advocacy on a range of new fronts, building on the growing momentum for change around the world. As well as supporting international colleagues in the reform movement to promote and inform the debate (including through our active role within the International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC)) with our English language and widely translated publications, we have participated in an array of international print and broadcast media. When governments are ready to explore reform, Transform has been able to facilitate the process, and provide the huge level of expertise they need. Some highlights from this year:

- The Italian government invited Transform to participate in a dialogue in Rome on Italy's engagement with the April 2016 UNGASS process
- The Thai Ministry of Justice invited Transform to participate in a high level dialogue in Bangkok on addressing the methamphetamine problem, including options for decriminalisation, harm reduction and regulation
- The Canadian government-appointed taskforce on cannabis regulation asked for Transform's input to inform the development of their new policy recommendations
- Danish parliamentarians, service providers and civil society groups collaborated with Transform to explore options for regulation, and drug testing services at both festivals and treatment venues



“ _____
Transform has been at the cutting edge of drug policy analysis for almost twenty years and is an NGO that is increasingly recognised as one of the motivating forces for global reform
_____ ”

Ruth Dreifuss, former president of Switzerland and chair of the Global Commission on Drug Policy



UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs 2016

The UNGASS on drugs took place in April 2016 in New York. The General Assembly is the highest policy making and representative organ of the United Nations, and its infrequent Special Sessions focus on key topic areas at the request of member states. It was requested by Mexico, Guatemala, and Colombia, who expressed a clear desire to review the failings of the war on drugs and consider alternative approaches, including legalisation and regulation.

The UNGASS outcomes were mixed. The debates on in the plenary, thematic debates, and official program of side events were open and dynamic. Powerful critiques of the failing of the global drug control system were widely expressed by member states, UN agencies and civil society. Calls for ending the criminalisation of people who use drugs were widespread and 8 member

states backed legalisation and regulation in their official contributions.

The official outcome document, whilst still representing progress on previous statements, notably on harm reduction and human rights, was disappointing for many. The consensus-led drafting process meant hard line prohibitionist states were able to water down or remove mentions of more contentious issues, and more substantive system wide review was absent.

The progress there has, however, already helped to shape the high level UN discussions as they move forward to the review of the 10 year international strategy in 2019.



Transform was a key player in the core group of civil society organisations pushing the reform agenda during the build up before and during the UNGASS:

- Co-hosting a number of high-level events to strategically engage with representatives from various UN missions
- Leading strategic planning between NGOs on public campaigns around the UNGASS
- Producing targeted expert briefings for policy makers and media to support and inform the wider UNGASS debate
- Organising and participating in a range of official and unofficial satellite sessions at the UNGASS itself
- Participating in a range of UNGASS preparatory and follow up dialogues in various forums including the Mexican Senate, the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs in Vienna, and the Inter-American Drug Control Agency (CICAD)



Latin America Programme

Few countries are suffering more from current drug policy than Mexico, where Transform shares a project and staff with Mexico Unido Contra la Delincuencia (MUCD). The Transform/MUCD programme was represented on the official Mexican delegation at several international events in 2016: the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs in Vienna; the UNGASS on Drugs in New York (where we also co-organised several side events); and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission in Washington DC and the Bahamas. Transform/MUCD also played a leading role on the Board of New York NGO Committee on Drugs.

This special partnership has played a huge role in advancing the reform debate in Mexico:

- Participated in round-tables organised by the Mexican Senate
- Advised and participated in round-tables organised by the Mexican Foreign Office to deliver commitments made at the UNGASS
- Played a lead role in winning a Supreme Court case allowing Mexico's first cannabis social club
- Helped change the law on medical cannabis in Mexico to allow its import
- Organised forum on opium regulation for medical purposes with state congress
- Participated in working groups on citizen security and democratic governance
- Developed a bill to regulate cannabis at the federal level that was introduced to the Mexican Senate and helped draft several other bills to the Federal Congress
- Featured in over 100 media articles, TV and radio interviews and many online stories



“ We should be flexible to change that which has not yielded results, the paradigm based essentially on prohibitionism, that has not been able to limit production, trafficking nor the global consumption of drugs. ”

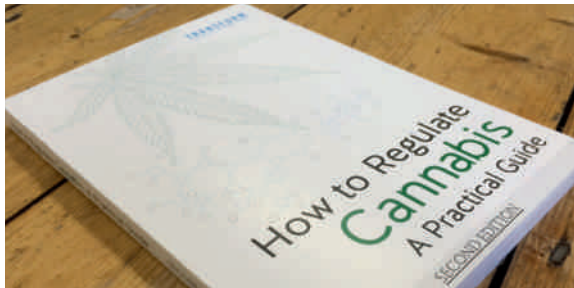
Mexican President Peña Nieto, 2016



Publications

How to Regulate Cannabis: A Practical Guide 2nd Edition

Our cutting edge guide, *'How to Regulate Cannabis'*, was published in a second edition this year. There have been many developments throughout the world since the first edition, including the number of US states that have legalised non-medical cannabis rising to eight. This book guides those interested in cannabis policy through the key practical challenges to developing and implementing an effective regulation approach aimed at achieving a safer, healthier world.



Will drug use rise? Exploring a key concern about decriminalising or regulating drugs

In response to drug policy reform becoming a more mainstream issue, we published a landmark report addressing the widely held concern about increased use. This comprehensive review of the evidence explores the outcomes from taking different approaches to managing a range of substances - both legal and illegal.

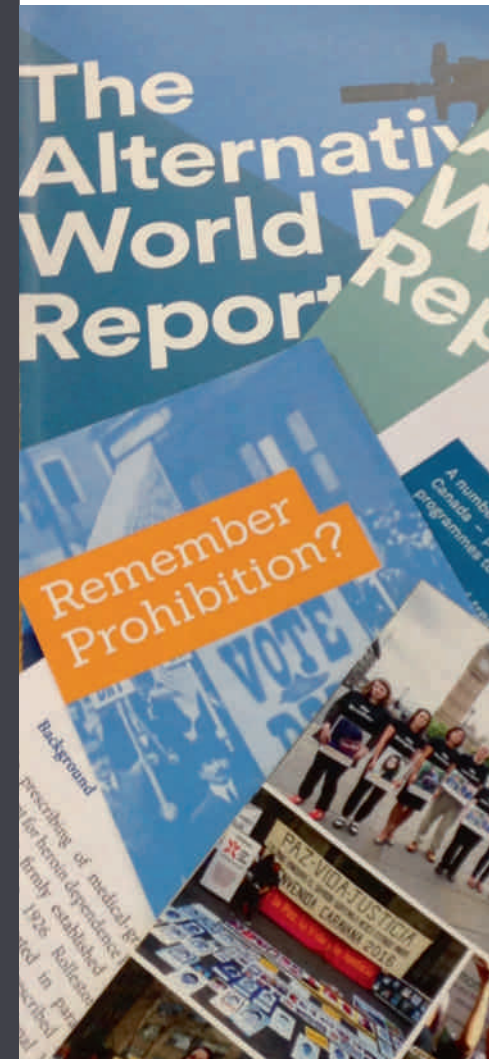
Translations

Transform's major publications are in demand from all over the world and have been widely translated. Key texts are now available in Spanish, Italian, German, Russian, Indonesian, Mandarin and Thai. Our MUCD partnership has been key in helping us to disseminate publications across Latin America.



2016 has seen some updating of our global products and a growing range of shorter, more responsive briefing papers:

- Alternative World Drug Report - the second edition of this groundbreaking report with new case studies
- Cannabis Regulation and the UN Drug Treaties - a collaborative paper with other leaders in the drug policy reform movement
- Count The Costs (CTC) security briefing
- The War on Drugs: Creating Threats and Undermining International Security
- Updated and expanded CTC development briefing
- A first collaborative book with the New Internationalist on legalising drugs for their No Nonsense Guides series
- Advised Virgin Unite on the launch of their book of essays on drug policy
- Briefing paper for Police and Crime Commissioners and chief constables



Upcoming work

In the next year, Transform will be delivering some very exciting new work:

Local Reform

Our Local Reform work will focus on key geographic areas where there is a core of those in power who are willing to discuss and then enact local drug policy reforms. This means drawing together the police, health professionals and local politicians, and bringing in Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP) and Anyone's Child families to show national government that reform can be done and will deliver good results. This is exactly the work Transform is good at - working behind the scenes using our knowledge and integrity to change hearts and minds. Thank you to all the Foundations, Trusts and to the many individuals who give so generously to allow this to happen.

New Website

We will be redesigning and rebuilding our website so that it is easier to find what you need, when you need it. Mobile and tablet use demands a different sort of information interface and it is vital that we keep up to date. We depend on our online presence and want it to be as powerful as possible.

In 2015, 3674 people died from drug misuse in the UK.

This is the highest number since records began.

ANYONE'S CHILD
Families for safer drug control 

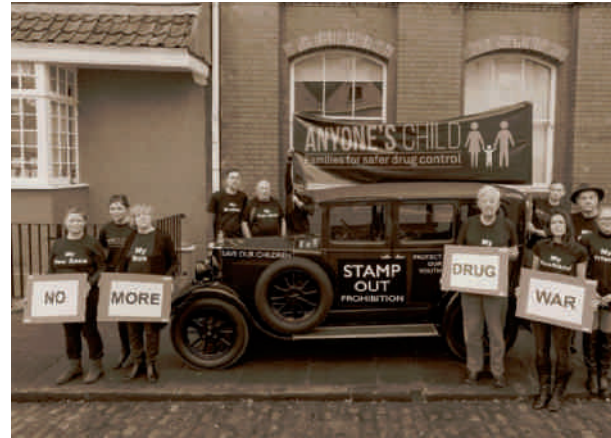
ANYONE'S CHILD

Families for safer drug control



Anyone's Child will be building a network of grassroots activists ready to speak truth to power, to attract positive mainstream media, to keep pressure on government via their own MPs, and to help bring together local stakeholders at the city and regional level. Thank you so much to the Tudor Trust for believing in us and providing the funds for this vital work.

Anyone's Child International will be looking to build partnerships with families in countries where the drug war continues to bring grief. We are not opening overseas branches; we are working directly with those in-country with experience and the passion to drive this forward. They are amazing, inspirational people and we want to continue to support them with training, media access and resources.



We have several creative projects in the pipeline, including an interactive idocumentary on Anyone's Child Mexico; a series of online projects on countries affected by the drug war; and a collaboration with internationally renowned photographer Nick Danziger on a photo exhibition. We are very grateful to Bristol University's Brigstow Institute for seed funding for the Mexico project; we are now looking for new support.

The Transform Team

Nicky Saunter	<i>Chief Executive</i>
Jane Slater	<i>Head of Operations; Campaign Manager, Anyone's Child: Families for Safer Drug Control</i>
Martin Powell	<i>Head of Campaigns</i>
Danny Kushlick	<i>Head of External Affairs</i>
Steve Rolles	<i>Senior Policy Analyst</i>
Ben Campbell	<i>Communications Assistant</i>
Izzy Taylor	<i>Operations and Finance Assistant</i>
Lisa Sanchez	<i>Latin American Programme Manager</i>
Mary Ryder	<i>Anyone's Child Coordinator</i>

We would also like to thank our interns, advisors and other volunteers for their invaluable contributions.

Transform Board (as of December 2016)

Roger Golland OBE (Chair)
Clive Bates
Elizabeth Whitehouse
John Whitaker
Claire Wilcox
Ros Kennedy



Finances (Year ending March 2016)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Income grants and donations	£107,548	£202,493	£310,041
Expenditure on charitable objects	£97,797	£202,493	£300,260
Expenditure on Admin & Management*	£11,736		£11,736
Total Expenditure			£311,996
Less Restricted Funds carried forward		£40,500	£40,500
Net Income/Deficit for the Year			£1,760
<i>* as a percentage of total costs %</i>			3.76%
Reserves (according to reserves policy)			£60,000

We would like to give thanks to the individuals and trusts who support our work. We are particularly grateful to Henry Hoare, Tim Hoare, Paul Birch, Howard Jacobs and Clive Bates, as well as the following trusts and donors:

The Open Society Foundations

Glass House Trust

The Wilde Family Fund

Linnet Trust

Virgin Unite

Tudor Trust

The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

Allen Lane Foundation

Brigstow Institute

Thank you also to those who gave support in kind, including our advisory panel, the Anyone's Child group, Freddie Fellowes, Kaleidoscope, Adrian Bradshaw, Nick Danziger, Halo Media, Rory Ahern, Lisa Collinson, Neil Woods, Sir William Patey and Phil Collins.

TRANSFORM

Getting drugs under control

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