The session will discuss drug control policies that drive stigma and discrimination against people who use drugs in terms of access to HIV prevention services. It will highlight efforts to reform punitive laws and practices relating to drug use, as well as initiatives to enhance the involvement of people who use drugs and civil society organisations in policy processes – in line with a ‘Support Don’t Punish’ ethos.

This session will also launch two IDPC publications:

- Regional report on drug policy advocacy in Asia
- Briefing paper on drug policy in Thailand

Speakers

- Global drug policy developments relevant to access of people who use drugs to HIV-related services: Challenges and opportunities
  
  **Ann Fordham, Executive Director, International Drug Policy Consortium**

- Regional trends in HIV and drug use policies, and the importance of ASEAN
  
  **Fifa Rahman, Policy Manager, Malaysian AIDS Council**

- Empowering people who use drugs: the significance of capacity building initiatives and meaningful participation
  
  **Mr. Bijay Pandey, Chairperson of Executive Board, Asian Network of People who Use Drugs**

- Drug policy developments, harm reduction and civil society advocacy in Thailand
  
  **Ms. Supatra Nacapew, Director, Foundation for AIDS Rights, Thailand**

Chair

**Dr. Monica Beg, Chief, HIV/AIDS Section, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**

The International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC, [www.idpc.net](http://www.idpc.net)) is a global network of NGOs that promotes objective and open debate on the effectiveness, direction and content of drug policies at national and international level, and supports evidence-based policies that are effective in reducing drug-related harms. IDPC members have a wide range of experience and expertise in analysing drug problems and policies, and contribute to policy debates.