



PERMANENT MISSION OF URUGUAY IN VIENNA



Ensuring more proportionate, humane and effective approaches to drug policy

Friday, 18th March 2016, 9:00 - 9:50

Conference Room M3

Vienna International Centre

For the past 50 years, drug policies worldwide have been characterised by the imposition of disproportionately severe punishments against all those engaged in the illicit drug trade. This has led to an overload of criminal justice systems, prison overcrowding, and human rights violations – without reducing the overall scale of the global illicit drug market. As the UNGASS approaches, the issue of proportionality in sentencing for drug offences is gaining prominence.

This side event, organised by the Permanent Mission of Uruguay in Vienna, the International Drug Policy Consortium, Penal Reform International and Dejusticia, will provide an overview of the concept of proportionality, review examples of best practice, and offer a set of recommendations for national-level policy reform and for the UNGASS.

Speakers:

- **Gloria Lai**, Senior Policy Officer, International Drug Policy Consortium
- **Sergio Chaparro Hernández**, Research Coordinator on Drug Policy, Center for Studies on Law, Justice and Society – Dejusticia
- **Oliver Robertson**, Project Manager, Penal Reform International
- **Gerasimos Papanastatos**, Head of Research Department, KETHEA, Greece

Moderator:

- **Nathalie Peter**, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Uruguay in Vienna