



Monica BEG

Monica BEG, Chief of the HIV/AIDS Section, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), has more than 20 years of hands-on experience in advocating for, developing, and implementing rights-based, evidence-informed, and gender-responsive public health policies and programs, with a particular focus on HIV, harm reduction, sexual and reproductive health, key populations, and fragile communities, at the global, regional, and country levels. Prior to joining UNODC, she served at the World Health Organization Headquarters in Geneva, and oversaw the development and implementation of its normative work concerning key populations and HIV. A medical doctor and public health specialist by training, Monica also completed a NIDA research fellowship and a Hubert Humphrey fellowship at Johns Hopkins University, focusing on program evaluation, public policy, leadership, and drug dependence management. In recognition of her contributions, she was elected Vice-Chair of the Asian Harm Reduction Network (AHRN) in 2000. Over the years, she has written extensively on HIV, harm reduction, and related issues.



Olga BELYAEVA

Olga BELYAEVA is an expert in community mobilization and advocacy in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia. A Master of Medical Psychology, in 2013 she joined the Membership and Community Strengthening Team of the Eurasian Harm Reduction Network (EHRN). In 2001 she organized an underground needle exchange center in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine. For 10 years she has been engaged in research into the needs of subgroups of the community of people who use drugs, with the subsequent introduction of services to reduce harm from inadequate information on psychoactive substances, repressive drug policy, and possible negative consequences of substance use. In 2010 she was one of the founders of the first Association of Substitution Therapy Patients (ASTAU) in the EECA region. Currently Olga is engaged in issues of drug policy and strengthening the capacity of civil society to influence political decisions at the national, regional, and international levels.



Pavel BEM

Pavel BEM is a Czech physician and politician. He studied Medicine at Charles University in Prague, specializing in Psychiatry, and subsequently devoted most of his medical career to the treatment of drug addiction. He served on a government anti-drug commission. A member of the Civic Democratic Party, since 1998 he has been Mayor of the 6th district of Prague. Between November 2002 and November 2010 he served as the Mayor of the Capital City of Prague, having been re-elected in 2006. In November 2006 he was elected Deputy Leader of the Civic Democratic Party. In May 2007 Pavel fulfilled his "childhood dream" of reaching the peak of Mount Everest, and in 2012 he climbed the second highest peak in the world and the most difficult eight-thousander, K2.



Ketevan CHKHATARASHVILI

Ketevan CHKHATARASHVILI has been President of the Curatio International Foundation (CIF) since 2002. Her presence at CIF has been characterized by accelerated growth and organizational development. As a public health expert, she has extensive experience of working with the World Bank, UN agencies, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Sida etc. Ketevan has worked in the field of HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, and governance. In addition to her managerial background, she has an MD and more than nine years of clinical experience. She earned her Master's degree in Public Health from the Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.



Anna DOVBAKH

Anna DOVBAKH, leader of the Eurasian Harm Reduction Network (EHRN), has 20 years of

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experience of providing support to affected communities and the development of civil society organizations in the response to HIV/AIDS and public health. She has gained comprehensive experience in health promotion, community mobilization and capacity-building, volunteer management, and conducting communicational and socio-psychological training and social research in the EECA region. From 2004 to 2014 Anna was responsible for monitoring and evaluation systems and the development of publications, policy, advocacy, and international technical support at the International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine. She joined EHRN in 2014 as Deputy Director for Information and Technical Support. Anna holds an MA in Culture Studies and an MA in Social Psychology.



Piotr Stefan JABLONSKI

Piotr Stefan JABLONSKI is Director of the National Bureau for Drug Prevention, Poland, a pedagogue (MA), health manager (postgraduate studies), and public health specialist (PhD). He is a certificated specialist in treatment and rehabilitation of drug addiction; Director of the Polish National Bureau for Drug Prevention; National Drug Coordinator/Secretary of the Polish Inter-ministerial Council for Counteracting Drugs; member of the Management Board of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction in Lisbon; and Polish representative in the EU Horizontal Drug Group and the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs. Between 2007 and 2010 he was Chair of the Pompidou Group/Council of Europe. Expert in EU programs in Croatia, Turkey, Serbia, and Central Asia.#



Daniel JOLOY

Daniel JOLOY is a Senior Policy Advisor in the Law and Policy Program at Amnesty International. Previously, he was the Advocacy Director at the Mexican Commission for the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights, a leading Mexican human rights organization, and was also the human rights advisor for the youth-led organization

Espolea. He has also collaborated with different research projects in international human rights law and international relations at the Center for Research and Teaching of Economics (CIDE). Daniel holds a BA in International Relations from Universidad Iberoamericana and a Master's in International Human Rights Law.



Prof. Michel KAZATCHKINE

Prof. Michel KAZATCHKINE, MD, the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, has spent the last 30 years fighting AIDS as a leading physician, researcher, administrator, advocate, policymaker, and diplomat. He studied Immunology at the Pasteur Institute and completed postdoctoral fellowships at St Mary's Hospital in London and Harvard Medical School. He served as Director of the National Agency for Research on AIDS (ANRS) in France (1998–2005), Chair of the World Health Organization's Strategic and Technical Committee on HIV/AIDS (2004–2007), French Ambassador for the Fight against HIV/AIDS and Communicable Diseases (2005–2007), and Executive Director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (2007–2012). In July 2012 Michel was appointed the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. He is a Senior Fellow with the Global Health Centre of the Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies in Geneva and a member of the Global Commission on Drug Policy.



John-Peter KOOLS

John-Peter KOOLS is an international expert on drug use, health and harm reduction. He is working as Senior Drug Policy Advisor at the Trimbos Institute in the Netherlands. He has been involved in the drug field since the mid-1980s, at first as a drug activist in Amsterdam, where he was involved in the development of the first needle and syringe program, and later on also as an initiator of harm reduction programs in his home country. Since the mid-1990s he has been involved in supporting harm reduction programs in Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa. Since 2011 John-Peter has been Chair of the Board of Harm Reduction International (HRI).



Maksut KULZHANOV

Maksut KULZHANOV, MD, PhD, is Professor at the School of Public Health, President of the National Health Chamber and Advisor to the Minister of Health of Kazakhstan on international affairs. From 2011 to 2013 he was Director-General of the Republican Center for Health Development (Astana, Kazakhstan). Maksut is the founder of the Kazakhstan School of Public Health, the first in the territory of the former Soviet Union. As Deputy Minister of Health (1992–1997) he was one of the ideologists and founders of the health insurance system in Kazakhstan. He has been a scientific adviser for about 100 doctoral and candidate dissertations, and the author of more than 200 scientific publications in Russian and English. From 2000 to 2010 Maksut was Chair of the National Association of Public Health. He is a member of different international boards, presenting interests of national and global health.



Alexey KURMANAEVSKY

Alexey KURMANAEVSKY, a member of the Eurasian Network of People who Use Drugs (ENPUD), Advocacy Coordinator of the project “From Street to Government”, was born in Moscow and grew up in Kazan. He first tried drugs at the age of 14, and in 1999 he started working in one of the first harm reduction projects in Russia. He worked his way up from an outreach worker to a coordinator and technical adviser for HIV/AIDS prevention projects among vulnerable groups. Working in Russia, Alexey came to the conclusion that protecting the human rights of drug users is necessary to improve the situation regarding HIV/AIDS and drug users' health. He enrolled in a law college, graduated, and began his work as a lawyer. Alexey learned from his own experience almost all the procedures he offers in his work. He believes human dignity to be the most important.



Slava KUSHAKOV

Slava KUSHAKOV, a founding member and Senior Adviser at the Alliance for Public Health, Ukraine, has been working on harm reduction and HIV

prevention and care programs since the late 1990s. He has worked for the Institute of Philosophy, University of Kiev Mohyla Academy, the Institute for Social Research in Kiev, the Soros Foundation in Ukraine, and the International HIV/AIDS Alliance Secretariat in the UK. Slava was involved in the development, management, and evaluation of HIV programs focused on key populations in Eastern Europe, Central, East and Southeast Asia, and Africa. His other areas of expertise include technical support, qualitative research, resource mobilization, and photography. Slava has a PhD in Philosophy and an MSc in Drug- and Alcohol-Related Policies and Interventions.



Nataliya LEONCHUK

Nataliya LEONCHUK, Senior Adviser to the East Europe & Central Asia Union of People Living with HIV (PLWH) (ECUO), is a well-known and inspiring leader of the HIV community in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA), representing it at the national and international levels. Being a practitioner psychologist, a leader and an activist, she works on empowering the PLWH communities to defend their rights for dignified, high-quality, and long lives. Up to 2012 Nataliya was Executive Director of ECUO, a regional organization uniting PLWH communities from 16 countries. Since 1999 she has been a co-founder of the All-Ukrainian Network of PLWH, which is playing a crucial role in overcoming the HIV epidemic in Ukraine.



Victor LILOV

Victor LILOV is the leader of the Bulgarian Movement for Unity and Solidarity in Europe “DEOS”. In 2013 he joined the Reformist Bloc as a member of its civic council. For the 2014 European elections he ran for Member of European Parliament for the Bloc. In 2015 he became the first openly gay politician to run for the Sofia mayor's office, nominated by the newly established liberal political party, DEOS. Victor received the LGBT Person of 2014 Award and the Human of the Year Award in 2015 (Bulgarian Helsinki Committee award recognizing contributions to human rights). In January 2017 he was elected as Chair of DEOS. At present Victor is an art and culture projects manager, music producer, and publisher. He is a co-founder of Black Flamingo Publishing Co.

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Matthew MACGREGOR

Matthew MACGREGOR is the Senior Project Lead for Sustainability, Transition, and Co-Financing at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. In this capacity, he leads the Global Fund's work to operationalize and implement the Sustainability, Transition, and Co-Financing (STC) policy. Matthew also served as a GF Fund Portfolio Manager (FPM) in the Latin American and Caribbean region. Before joining the Global Fund, Matthew worked in a variety of capacities in health and development, including as the Executive Director of a US-based health NGO. He holds a Master's degree from the Fletcher School at Tufts University.



Dasha MATYUSHINA-OCHERET

Dasha MATYUSHINA-OCHERET, Policy Reform Advisor, Eurasian Harm Reduction Network (EHRN), is a Master of Public Health (Health Systems Management, Medical School of Liverpool University, UK). She started working in the field of harm reduction and HIV prevention in 1998 on an MSF-Holland project in Moscow. Her field of expertise includes HIV and drug policy advocacy, health systems decision-making, management of community-based programs, and community systems strengthening in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. From 2010 to 2015 she worked as Deputy Director for Advocacy and Communications at EHRN, and currently she is Policy Reform Advisor.



Jurgita POSKEVICIUTE

Jurgita POSKEVICIUTE, MSc in Non-Profit Management (New York, USA), has over 20 years of experience of work with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Lithuania and abroad. She is interested in the development of the NGO sector and philanthropy, with specific interest in public health and the human rights of marginalized populations. She currently works as Director of the Coalition "I Can Live", an association of NGOs and

experts active in advocacy for evidence-based responses to drug-dependence issues and drug policy. Jurgita is skilled at managing international and local projects and has experience in policy analysis, strategic planning, budget development, and NGO board development. She is effective in teamwork, leadership, distance management, and working with diverse populations in an inter-cultural environment.



Vinay Patrick SALDANHA

Vinay Patrick SALDANHA, UNAIDS Regional Director for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, is a United Nations staff member with more than two decades of experience in leadership and implementation of AIDS programs. In 1993 he pioneered one of the first HIV initiatives in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, to provide care and support to people living with HIV. From 1998 to 2004 he worked as Project Coordinator in the Canada AIDS Russia Project (CARP) on HIV/AIDS research and civil society mobilization. Later, Vinay served as Deputy Chief of Staff at UNAIDS headquarters, planning the visits of the UNAIDS Executive Director across the world. He graduated with honors from the University of Toronto, majoring in Political Science and English Literature. He took postgraduate courses and completed advanced training in HIV monitoring and evaluation, and global health.



Anya SARANG

Anya SARANG is President of the Andrey Rylkov Foundation for Health and Social Justice (ARF) – the main advocacy group fighting for the rights and health of people who use drugs in Russia. While focusing mostly on human rights activism, she has also participated in a number of research projects and is especially interested in qualitative studies on the health and rights of people who use drugs and on gender issues. Anya has been recognized as a courageous and effective advocate and awarded with the International Rolleston Award for her outstanding contribution to harm reduction; a Crystal of Hope Award for ARF HIV advocacy; and the Human Rights Watch/Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network award for action on HIV and human rights.



Raminta STUIKYTE

Raminta STUIKYTE is a social justice activist with considerable experience in advocacy and transforming policies in the field of education, youth policy, drug policy, and access to essential medicines. She advises the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia and serves in the UNAIDS Reference Group on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights. From 2001 to 2009 she was the founding Executive Director of the Eurasian Harm Reduction Network (EHRN). From 2013 to 2015 Raminta served as Chair of the European Union's Civil Society Forum on (Narcotic) Drugs. She supports and helps with strategic planning for rights-focused regional networks, collaborates with Open Society Foundations, and co-facilitates and leads courses, national, and regional events. Raminta holds her master's degree in financial and actuarial mathematics and professional degree of international business management from Vilnius University in Lithuania, where she also took courses in law.



Vladimir TIMOSHENKO

Vladimir TIMOSHENKO is a Doctor of Law, Professor, Lieutenant-General, and a public servant of the first rank. He served in the security services of Ukraine in various positions, including as First Deputy of the Main Directorate for Combating Corruption and Organized Crime of the Security Service of Ukraine (SSU); Head of the International Counter-Narcotics Unit; Head of the SSU Directorate in Kiev oblast; the SSU Chairman's Adviser; rector of the SSU National Academy; First Deputy Chairman of the SSU Anti-Terrorist Center; the Ukrainian President's authorized representative to monitor the activities of the Security Service of Ukraine; Chairman of the State Committee of Ukraine for Drug Control; and Chairman of the State Service for Drug Control. Currently he is directing the Eurasian Institute of Drug Policy. He has authored more than 80 monographs, scientific manuals, textbooks, and articles.



Ken-Marti VAHER

Ken-Marti VAHER, Member of Parliament of the Republic of Estonia, is a leading member of the

Estonian Pro Patria and Res Publica Union party and Chairman of the Security Authorities Surveillance Committee of the Estonian Parliament. A career politician and civil servant, he was Director of the State Audit Office as well as a member of the Tallinn City Council, before serving as the Minister of Justice of Estonia from 2003 to 2005, then as the Minister of the Interior from 2011 to 2014. Ken-Marti was educated at the University of Tartu, where he received a Bachelor's degree in Law.



Jindřich VOBŮŘIL

Jindřich VOBŮŘIL has been National Drug Coordinator of the Czech Republic since 2010 and Head of the Secretariat of the Government Council for Drug Policy Coordination. He is one of the leading Czech experts on drug-related issues, with more than two decades of experience in leadership and the development of health care and social services in the Czech Republic and also at the international level. Over the years he has consulted numerous projects in developing countries (e.g. Afghanistan, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia) and has taken part in a number of European projects (Russian Federation, Republic of Serbia etc.).



Daniel WOLFE

Daniel WOLFE is Director of International Harm Reduction Development (IHRD) at the Public Health Program of the Open Society Foundations (OSF), which works in Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Eastern Europe to support the health and human rights of people who use drugs. Prior to joining OSF, he was a community scholar at Columbia University's Center for History and Ethics of Public Health, a recipient of the Revson Fellowship, awarded to individuals who have made a substantial contribution to the city of New York, and Director of Communications at GMHC, the largest and oldest AIDS NGO in the USA.