

México Unido Contra la Delincuencia

# Advocating for cannabis regulation: a partnership between Mexico and UK

Tania Ramírez, LL.M. Drug Policy Director



## Who we are?

We are a non-profit, secular and non-partisan civil association that works in favor of security, justice and legality in Mexico.

More than two decades of existence has led us to be a leading organization in:

- The analysis of security, legality and justice policies;
- The implementation of projects of social prevention of violence, culture of lawfulness and community empowerment;
- The incidence in public policies on citizen security, victim assistance, culture of legality and drugs.

During this time, our work has guided the generation of better laws and public policies, the training of responsible citizens and respectful of the law, the prevention of crime through community empowerment, the care of victims and the professionalization of the authorities in charge of public security and justice.



## Programmes









# **Drug Policy Programme**

The drug policy program in Mexico United Against Crime (MUCD) is a referent to both the national and international debate in drug policy reform for its successful experience in advocating and making the case for alternative policies, and materializing change through the legal defense of paradigmatic cases leading up to the creation of new legal interpretations and the participation –as experts- in decision-making processes resulting in legislative changes.



## **Mexican War on Drugs**

December 2006: former President Felipe Calderón started an aggressive initiative against cartels. He deployed the armed forces on a large scale throughout the country, increasing the number of troops engaged in combating drug trafficking.

Prohibitionist drug policies and law enforecement, generate negative consequences in:

A.<u>Security</u> B.<u>Justice</u> C.<u>Human Rights</u> D.<u>Public Health</u>





# Numeralia

## 2007: 8,867 homicides (a rate of 8.2 per 100,000 inhabitants) 2011: 27,213 (19.4 per 100,000 inhabitants) 2017: 29,168 (20.5 per 100,000 inhabitants) Deaths attributed to drug-related violence 2006-2018: 200,000 aprox

- + 36,000 dissappeared people
- + 311,000 internally displaced people

### COMPARATIVO ANUAL

Entre enero y noviembre de 2017 se han cometido más de 23 mil homicidios dolosos. Esta cifra ya supera los 22 mil 409 casos de 2011, el año más violento del sexenio anterior.



Fuente: Secretariado Ejecutivo I Información: Mariana Hernández I Gráfico: MILENIO Infografía





- Since 2012 we have been advocating and making the case for alternative policies to regulate cannabis and other drugs.
- Advocate for drug law reform at national and international level, and to encourage governments to implement reform, particularly legal regulation of cannabis, domestically.
- Our main aim is to ensure that government efforts on drugs will be based on scientific evidence and integrate the perspectives of public health, human rights, gender, harm reduction and sustainable development.



# **Partnerships**



## National, Regional & International

TRANSFORM Getting drugs under control

Transform Drug Policy Foundation



Washington Office on Latin America



International Drug Policy Consortium





Global Commission on Drug Policy



**Drug Policy Alliance** 



LSE Ideas

**Transnational Institute** 



Programa de Política de Drogas CIDE Región Centro



**Open Society Foundations** 



Colectivo de Estudios Drogas y Derecho



# **Transform Drug Policy**

T R A N S F O R M

Getting drugs under control

México Unido Contra la Delincuencia (MUCD) and Transform Drug Policy Foundation (TDPF) took the strategic decision in 2012 to launch a Latin America Programme of work in partnership together.

The joint work has been aided by MUCD's contacts, reputation, resources and solid track record of work in Mexico (and beyond) and TDPF's resources, drug policy and campaigning expertise, complementing each other perfectly.





## Achievements

- SMART case –through which we, along with a law firm, achieved the recognition of recreational cannabis use as a part of the right to develop one's personality, by the Mexican Supreme Court-
- □ Grace case we, along with Aguinaco Abogados, achieved the recognition of the medical and therapeutic uses of cannabis as well as the patients' right to choose the treatment with which they want to be treated, regardless of its legal status-..
- Approval of Medical Marijuana Bill in the Mexican Congress, (april 2017).



Research
Conferences
Publications





## Anyone's Child Mexico

← → C ≜ Seguro | https://mexico.anyoneschild.org



☆ ⓒ

7-

# México Unido Contra la Delincuencia

# **iGRACIAS!**



