

# 10 YEAR REVIEW OF GLOBAL DRUG CONTROL

Perspective from the International Network of  
People who use Drugs



# HUMAN RIGHTS ENGENDERED IN THE NAME OF DRUG CONTROL

- **Mass Incarceration:** 1 in 5 people incarcerated worldwide for drug offences, most of them being people who use drugs
- **Violence and ill-treatment by law enforcement agencies:** From 2011 – mid 2014, there were 3,260 complaints of torture, enforced disappearances and other human rights violations in Mexico due to drug war
- **Death penalty and extrajudicial killings:** 32 states apply the death penalty for drug offences. 27,000 people killed in the Philippines
- **Lack of access to harm reduction and health care services:** 1% of people who inject drugs worldwide live in countries with adequate coverage of NSP and OST.
- **Overdose Deaths:** 71,000 died of drug overdoses in 2017 in the US alone

Figure 7. Map of countries officially (including by law) engaged in compulsory detention of people who use drugs



**Torture and Inhumane Treatment:** Between 235,000 – 500,000 people detained in compulsory drug detention centres, not including private compulsory rehabilitation

# IS THAT ALL THERE IS?

- **Harm Reduction:** Since 2009 more countries including Kenya, Taiwan and Senegal have initiated and scaled up harm reduction interventions
- **Decriminalisation Models:** 26 countries report having decriminalised drug use or possession of drugs for personal use
- **Stigma and Discrimination:** In 2018, Canada led on the adoption of the first CND resolution on combating stigma and discrimination in health care settings

# IMPACT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- **Australia:**
  - Drug users shaped first national response to HIV and drug use
  - Between 2000-2009 NSPs averted 32,050 new cases of HIV and 96,666 Hepatitis C infections and 140,000 DALY were gained
- **Indonesia:**
  - 2014 partnered with Ministry of Health to develop national harm reduction guidelines
- **Canada**
  - Since 2016, drug user advocacy led to the opening of 25 new drug consumption sites