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ON PUBLIC HEALTH
POLICY

**THE
LANCET**

Health of Prisoners: Scientific Approach for Public Safety

**Building partnerships to enhance Health and Criminal Justice outcomes
among pre-incarcerated, incarcerated and soon to be released prisoners
in Ukraine and other EE & CA Countries**

A Roundtable Meeting of Key Stakeholders

PROGRAM

Kyiv, Ukraine
28-29
July 2017

BACKGROUND

In 2016 The Lancet released a Commission titled 'Public Health and International Drug Policy' followed shortly by a special issue on 'HIV and Related Infections in Prisoners'. In combination, these works highlighted the very significant impacts that drug policy and associated incarceration can have on the health and human rights of considerable numbers of people who use drugs around the world. In Ukraine and Eastern Europe and Central Asia more generally, there is a growing body of work that highlights the risks, challenges and opportunities to improving health outcomes for people who use drugs at a variety of time points: pre-incarceration, incarceration and at the point of release from incarceration. Enhancing the health of people who use drugs requires partnerships across a significant number of stakeholders who operate across various areas and levels, representing health service providers, the criminal justice system (CJS) and senior policy makers. The overarching goal is to reduce negative health outcomes whilst at the same time reducing the burden on police and criminal justice systems more generally.

To progress partnership opportunities amongst key stakeholders, the Ukrainian Institute on Public Health Policy, together with Yale University, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, and the Lancet with support from the Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Justice (MoJ), All-Ukrainian Network of PLH, USAID, Pact Inc. and EU-ACT, are inviting representatives from law enforcement, prison, public health and civil society from across Ukraine and other countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia to a high-level dialogue.

A two-day meeting in Kyiv will explore the range of possibilities to improve health services access for people who use drugs at three distinct time periods: pre-incarceration, incarceration and immediately post incarceration. The meeting will focus on aligning current advocacy, policy directions and future research in EE&CA towards enhanced health and criminal justice outcomes for key stakeholders working across the interface of drug use, health service provision and criminal justice systems in the region. The meeting will include a formal press event to cast a Ukrainian and EE&CA lens on challenges and opportunities in responding to the dual issues of drug policy and health in the criminal justice system in the region.

“HEALTH OF PRISONERS: SCIENTIFIC APPROACH FOR PUBLIC SAFETY”
MEETING DETAILS

Venue: Hotel «Opera»

53 Bogdana Khmel'nitskogo Str., Kyiv, Ukraine

Date: Friday - Saturday 28th - 29th July, 2017

Participants: Mainly Ukrainian delegates with representation from across policing, prisons, HIV/health, drug policy and civil society sectors. A number of delegates will be invited from other countries in EE&CA as well as representatives from across UN system and bilateral and multilateral donor agencies. A total of 50-60 participants are expected.

Organizing Secretariat: The meeting will be organized and led by the experts from the Ukrainian Institute on Public Health Policy, MoH and MoJ of Ukraine, and the All-Ukrainian Network of PLWH in partnership with EU-ACT, Yale University, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and the Lancet.

Meeting Format and Agenda: The meeting will be held in a series of sessions. Each session will begin with a brief overview and regional snapshot of current trends of the issue being discussed that will highlight 4-5 main areas of interest. Each area of interest will then be opened for a roundtable discussion, and each session will conclude with some closing remarks from a designated session rapporteur summarizing the implications for advocacy, policy and research. An introductory and concluding session will bookend the meeting.

This international meeting will be held in Russian and English. Simultaneous interpretation services will be provided.

Meeting Outputs: Rapporteurs will document the meeting. In addition, there is an opportunity to produce additional academic papers to supplement the two Lancet Series being re-launched. Participants will have the opportunity to contribute to these papers and more details will follow.

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28 July	FRIDAY
15:00 - 16:30	Registration/ Welcome coffee
16:00 – 16:30	Press launch of the Lancet special series
16:30 - 16:50	Opening remarks from senior officials and organizational committee (UIPHP, Network of PLWH, EU-ACT)
16:50 – 17:30	Setting the scene - drug trends, policies and responses in Eastern Europe and Central Asia: opportunities and challenges. – Prof. Chris Beyrer , Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health – Prof. Michel Kazatchkine , UN Secretary General’s Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
17:30 - 17:50	Building a common space of public health in Ukraine. – Prof. Natalia Nizova , Public Health Center of Ukraine
17:50 – 18:10	Drug use in prison. Policy and incarceration. – Mr Robert Teltzrow , Pompidou Group of Council of Europe
18:10 - 19:00	Discussion
19:00 - 20:00	Reception

29 July	Saturday
9:00 - 9:10	Overview of the previous day. – Dr. Sergii Dvoriak , Ukrainian Institute on Public Health Policy
9:10 - 9:30	Regional focus: HIV and related infections, prisons and treatment, in and out. – Prof. Frederick Altice , Yale University School of Medicine
9:30 - 9:50	HIV prevention and treatment in prisons. Experience of collaboration between State Penitentiary System and All-Ukrainian Network of PLWH. – Dr. Volodymyr Kurpita , All-Ukrainian Network of PLWH
9:40 - 10:05	Treatment of drug dependency and prevention of infection diseases in Moldova penitentiary system. Clinical experiences and research data. – Dr. Svetlana Dolu , Moldova;
10:05 - 10:20	Harm reduction programs in Kyrgyzstan prisons: achievements and barriers. – Ainura Kurmanalieva , AFEW-Kyrgyzstan; Lyuba Azbel , Yale University School of Medicine
10:20 – 11:00	CJS and health in Belorussia, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan. – <i>presenters TBA</i>

11:00 - 11:30	Break
11:30 - 11:45	CJS and health in Belorussia, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan (continued). - <i>presenters TBA</i>
11:45 - 12:05	Probation service - a new paradigm of balance between security and health. – Iryna Yakovets , the Head of the Probation Department of North-Eastern Regional Administration of MoJ, Ukraine
12:05 - 12:25	Public security, public health and human rights: opportunities for partnership. – Dr. Nick Thomson , Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health
12:25 - 12:45	UNODC HIV work in prison in the EECA region with focus on Ukraine. - Zhannat Kosmukhamedova , Eastern Europe and Central Asia UNODC
12:45 - 13:30	Q&A. Discussion. Recommendations for national experts.
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch
14:30 - 15:15	Group work: 1) Pre-incarceration period 2) Incarceration period 3) Soon to be released period
15:15 - 16:00	Group work presentations
16:00 - 17:30	Discussion, wrap up and next steps