

## Global & Regional

### [How the desire for masculinity might drive some disadvantaged young men to substance abuse](#)

#### The Conversation (28/06)

While poverty or childhood trauma certainly don't *cause* substance abuse, they do play a part. But awareness of other social and environmental factors, such as society's perpetuation of masculinity, are critical to understanding the interconnections between trauma, disadvantage and substance abuse in young men.

### [Origins of the global anti-drug movement](#)

#### The Daily Star (28/06)

How many of us actually know that the origins of the United Nations' ban on harmful drugs go back to the imperial drug trade in Bengal from 1757 to 1925? A revisit to colonial history in South Asia would give us the right answer.

### [Ice addiction: Can you become dependent after just one use?](#)

#### ABC News (29/06)

Ice has been called the most dangerous drug of our times and there's no doubt the impact of ice addiction can be devastating. But is one use enough to get you hooked?

### [Psychedelics seek legitimacy in the world of modern medicine](#)

#### Volteface (29/06)

There is no evidence to suggest that psychedelic drugs are habit forming; little evidence to indicate that they are harmful in controlled settings; and a large body of evidence to suggest they could have therapeutic uses.

### [Terrorism and the drug trade](#)

#### The News (29/06)

Terrorism, drugs-for-arms and money laundering, intrinsically linked, pose a considerable threat to global peace and security besides destabilising the political and financial stability of many nation-states.

### [The Difference Between Being Happy and Being High](#)

#### Vice (01/07)

If we want a better 21st century drug policy, we need to grapple with what drug experience means and not simply assume that a drug is a drug—and that being high is always worthless and inevitably leads to unhappiness in the end.

## [The Hidden Economy of Drug Trafficking](#)

### **The Real Truth (01/07)**

While most understand the extent of the drug problem at the street level, this is merely the end result of a vast array of financial transactions that support everyone from average farmers to entire nations.

## [UN says Southeast Asia among world's largest meth markets](#)

### **The Jakarta Post (03/07)**

East and Southeast Asia and North America together have annually accounted for the largest methamphetamine seizures globally since 2009, a recent UN report reveals.

## [Dealing with drug addiction: Educating professionals](#)

### **Sunday Times 2 (03/07)**

As all countries commemorate the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26 June, the Colombo Plan International Centre for Credentialing and Education of Addiction Professionals (ICCE) Director Tay Bian How recommends that drug demand reduction interventions, particularly relating to prevention and treatment be supported by evidence-based practices.

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## **Australia**

## [Queensland drug law: young mother's 'distressing' case prompts call for overhaul](#)

### **The Guardian (29/06)**

Queensland's most senior judge has called on the state government to consider the "unintended consequences" of its predecessor's punitive drug law changes after the "distressing case" of a young mother whose jail time for dealing ice was more than doubled.

## [Rooms with a view to giving ice addicts a future](#)

### **The Guardian (30/06)**

Two leading drug reformers want drug consumption rooms to include inhalation rooms for those who smoke illicit substances such as ice, crack and heroin.

## [Drug experts plan Australia's first ice smoking room despite Government opposition](#)

### **ABC News (30/06)**

Drug law reformers Matt Noffs and Dr Alex Wodak are pushing ahead with Australia's first supervised ice smoking room, despite opposition from the NSW

## [Former NSW Premier Bob Carr backs calls for ice smoking room trial](#)

**Sydney Morning Herald (03/07)**

NSW premier Bob Carr, who approved Sydney's medically supervised heroin injecting centre, has backed the service being broadened to include smoking rooms for ice users.

## [The Safe Room](#)

**Brisbane Times (02/07)**

In some European cities, drug dealers and addicts are watched over by the police at legal consumption rooms. Could Australia's ice epidemic be contained if we did the same?

## [Sydney needs drug consumption rooms to help beat ice scourge](#)

**Sydney Morning Herald (04/07)**

Australia's once bold drug policy is now stuck. Our law enforcement leaders tell us that Australia cannot arrest and imprison our way out of our drug problems. Yet as Australia struggles with increasing problems from ice use, we haven't been prepared to try innovative approaches that appear to have worked overseas.

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**Cambodia**

## [Drug Addicts Not Criminals](#)

**Khmer Times (28/06)**

Sok Chamroeun, the executive director of public health NGO Khana, said addicts use drugs for a wide range of societal and physiological circumstances and it was wrong to brand them as criminals. The comments were made as a part of the global campaign "Support! Don't Punish".

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**China**

## [UN: China synthetic drugs trade 'out of control'](#)

**Aljazeera (28/06)**

Synthetic drugs from China are produced and distributed throughout the world at a rate too fast for the international community to manage, the UN has said.

## [Authorities in China Bothered by Increase of Arms in Narcotics War](#)

**China Christian Daily (30/06)**

The increasing prevalence of guns confiscated in China's drug cases has the government alarmed after a total of 500 firearms were impounded following multiple drug busts all over the country last year.

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## India

### [Understanding the drug economy of Uda Punjab](#)

#### **Bangalore Mirror (28/06)**

While, drug addiction is a global problem, Punjab has nearly 3.3 times more drug addicts per lakh than the Indian national average.

### [What's ailing rural India: Inside the drug dens of Punjab](#)

#### **Money Control (30/06)**

Punjab has been caught in a downward spiral of drugs. Free availability of recreational drugs, poor enforcement and lack of job opportunities have exacerbated the problem.

### [Is Kerala turning into the drug capital of India?](#)

#### **One India (01/07)**

With several drug related cases being reported from the state every day, the scenario in Kerala has become worrisome.

### [What's ailing rural India: Punjab's killer drug needles](#)

#### **Money Control (01/07)**

The rampant use of drugs has led to a disturbing rise in HIV and Hepatitis C infections in Punjab.

### [Govt, AIIMS to conduct survey to ascertain the number of drug addicts](#)

#### **The Indian Express (03/07)**

After a hiatus of 15 years, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, in collaboration with the National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC) of AIIMS, will conduct a survey to compile national and state level estimates of people involved in drug abuse.

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## Indonesia

### [Narcotics Agency rehabilitates over 42 thousand drug addicts](#)

#### **Antara News (28/06)**

Through the rehabilitation institution of the government and community, the Indonesia National Narcotics Agency (BNN) has rehabilitated 42,429 drug addicts during the period between 2015 and June 2016.

## [Supreme Court sentences 5 to death for drug offenses](#)

**The Jakarta Post (30/06)**

The Supreme Court has added five new death row inmates to the Attorney General's Office's (AGO) executions list, with the recent sentencing of five drug dealers.

## [UN calls on Indonesia to build comprehensive mechanisms for illicit drug control](#)

**The Jakarta Post (03/07)**

Indonesia must implement comprehensive and balanced strategies to address illicit drug use, both on the supply and demand sides, as a new UN report says the country is experiencing a rising prevalence of the abuse of crystal methamphetamine in recent years, a UN official has said.

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**Laos PDR**

## [Laos Opens New Consulate Near Drug Artery](#)

**The Cambodia Daily (01/07)**

Officials inaugurated a new Laotian consulate in Stung Treng province, established in part to deal with the frontier's heavy drug traffic.

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**Myanmar**

## [Registration provision for drug users on chopping block](#)

**Myanmar Times (27/06)**

The government will push to remove provisions of the country's anti-narcotics law that require drug users to register with authorities and stipulates prison time for those who fail to do so, according to Colonel Zaw Win Tun of the Myanmar Police Force.

## [Addressing Myanmar's growing drug production problem](#)

**Myanmar Times (28/06)**

As the government is in the process of reviewing the country's 1993 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, UNODC officials are pushing for drug policy to more effectively target traffickers and organised crime networks.

## [Cutting off 'snake heads' and addressing Myanmar's growing drug production problem](#)

**Myanmar Times (28/06)**

UNODC officials are pushing for any drug policy reform to more effectively target traffickers and organised crime networks, or what some termed the "head of the snake".

## [Myanmar faces entrenched drug problem](#)

**The Nation (03/07)**

The eradication of illegal narcotics has been declared a top priority by Myanmar's new civilian government under Nobel Peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi. State Chancellor [Suu Kyi](#) instructed government ministers to implement a ramped-up, 100-day plan at the start of May.

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**New Zealand**

## [Massive meth bust inevitable as supply adapts](#)

**NZ Herald (28/06)**

Well-financed Asian criminals increase the chances of corruption, and their interaction with New Zealand crooks will invariably mean the locals get a first-class criminal education. I have a feeling our usual suspects of today will look rather tame by tomorrow's standards.

## [Court rules college wrong to exclude cannabis smokers](#)

**Bay of plenty Times (29/06)**

Tauranga Boys' College acted unlawfully in expelling and excluding international students caught smoking cannabis off school grounds and outside school hours, the High Court has ruled.

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**Pakistan**

## [Int'l Day against drug abuse](#)

**Pakistan Observer (28/06)**

26th June was observed as the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking as “an expression of the determination of the international community [...] to achieve the goal of an international society free of drug abuse”.

## [Countering the world drug problem](#)

**The Express Tribune (28/06)**

Keeping up with the emerging needs, the UNODC Country Office in Pakistan and the Japanese embassy have recently signed a project entitled “Strengthening Border Security against Illicit Drug Trafficking and Related Transnational Organised Crime”, which will contribute to the vision of creating a safer community, free from the threats posed by illicit narcotics trafficking and transnational organised crime.

## [My mother's battle with drug addiction in Pakistan](#)

**Al Jazeera (04/07)**

Even as an estimated 700 Pakistanis die each day from drug-related complications - even more than the number of lives lost to attacks by armed groups, an estimated 39 a day - the government severely neglects the health sector.

## [Uda Pakistan: One of the most drug addicted countries in the world](#)

**Merinews (04/07)**

Pakistan is a major south Asian country which is facing a serious problem of drug abuse. World Health Organization (WHO) in its worldwide study, made in 2014, ranked Pakistan 86th out of 172 countries with death rate of 1.10 out of 100,000 persons due to drug abuse.

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## **Philippines**

### [Lacson hopes Duterte keeps momentum vs drugs](#)

**Interaksyon (28/06)**

Returning Senator Panfilo Lacson expressed hope that President-elect Rodrigo Duterte can maintain the current momentum against criminality and drugs beyond his first 100 days.

### [As Duterte takes over in Philippines, police killings stir fear](#)

**Reuters (29/06)**

Duterte has vowed to wipe out drug crime within six months but, according to Chito Gascon, head of the Commission on Human Rights (CHR), the aggressive rhetoric behind his promises has already instilled a sense of impunity among the police.

### [Thousands of drug suspects surrender in Philippines](#)

**World Bulletin (29/06)**

Over 3,800 turn themselves in to police in southern Mindanao alone ahead of President-elect Rodrigo Duterte's inauguration.

### [Drug pusher deaths jump as 'Duterte Harry' takes office](#)

**Macau Daily Times (30/06)**

The bodies of dozens of suspected drug peddlers have turned up in the Philippines in recent weeks, providing an eerie backdrop to the swearing-in of Rodrigo Duterte, who has warned of a bloody presidency in his bid to eradicate crime.

## ['Bato' to pursue 'double-barrel' strategy vs drugs](#)

**Phil Star (30/06)**

A “double-barrel” strategy of simultaneous attacks against notorious drug lords and street level pushers will be applied by Chief Supt. Ronald De la Rosa, the incoming Philippine National Police (PNP) chief.

## [Reformists growl tough stance for Asean tiger's next reform era](#)

**Philippine Star (01/07)**

The timing of a regular “procession” of drug pushers and users in the streets of a city's public market is riding in the wave of new means for reform in a developing nation.

## [Philippines president Rodrigo Duterte urges people to kill drug addicts](#)

**The Guardian (01/07)**

Authoritarian firebrand Rodrigo Duterte was sworn in as the Philippines' president on Thursday while urging the population to kill drug addicts.

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**Thailand**

## [Is Drug Decriminalisation on the Cards for Thailand?](#)

**Volteface (30/06)**

Thailand's Minister of Justice recently ignited a debate when he proposed re-scheduling methamphetamine as a 'medicine'. But given that one of the Minister's objectives is to avoid punishing users, the proposal to reschedule is essentially a red herring.

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**Vietnam**

## [Vietnam sentences Australian pensioner to death for drugs](#)

**BBC News (30/06)**

A court in Vietnam has sentenced a 73-year-old Australian woman to death for drug smuggling.

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