

Monitoring and evaluating Uruguay's new law regulating cannabis – Side event, March 18, at the 57th session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

In an unprecedented and historical side event at the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) the regulation of the production, sale and consumption of cannabis for recreational use was discussed in the venue that typically exclusively promotes its eradication. The event was yet another sign that winds of change are in the air challenging the current control regime after Ecuador called for [a review of the UN drug control conventions](#) earlier at the High Level Segment.

The event, ***Monitoring and evaluating Uruguay's new law regulating cannabis***, was organised by Uruguay's National Drugs Board ([Junta Nacional de Drogas](#) – JND) and co-sponsored by the Transnational Institute (TNI), the International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC) and the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA). **Speakers included Julio Calzada of Uruguay's National Drugs Secretariat, who presented the country's new** legislation regulating the production, sale and consumption of cannabis for recreational use that had been approved in December 2013.

Alison Holcomb, representing the [Initiative 502 campaign](#) in Washington state, and [Christian Sederberg](#) representing Colorado's Amendment 64 campaign explained the background of the regulation models in both states. Finally, Martin Jelsma of TNI, **presented the institute's latest report** [The Rise and Decline of Cannabis Prohibition: The History of Cannabis in the UN Drug Control System and Options For Reform](#), published jointly with the [Global Drug Policy Observatory](#) (GDPO).