

ESSD

European Society for Social Drug Research

32nd Annual Conference

30 September – 1 October 2021

Online Conference

CALL FOR PAPERS (**Registration Period extended till August 20th**)

The ESSD was founded in 1990 to promote social science approaches to drugs research, with special reference to the situation in Europe (www.essd-research.eu/). The society holds an annual conference providing scope for collaboration and co-operation among researchers working in the drugs field.

Due to the COVID pandemic this year's annual conference will take place **online** between **30 September and 1 October 2021**. ESSD members and other researchers who wish to attend the 32nd Annual Conference are invited to submit abstracts of their conference papers no later than **20th August 2021**.

For this online conference, there is **no conference fee**.

Abstracts (see themes and details below) should be submitted as a Word file to ESSD2021@goeg.at.

If you wish to attend the conference without giving a presentation, please inform us in advance.

Only registered participants can enter the conference.

Presentations should preferably include a **European dimension** (such as reporting on research or issues from more than one European country, comparisons between data from European studies), and/or theoretical analysis that draws inferences from the local to the global. Presentations restricted to the description of interventions or (local) policies will not be accepted. **Qualitative** studies are particularly welcome. Each presentation lasts for 15 minutes, followed by ample time for jointly discussing the presentations of each session. The conference language is English.

The accepted abstracts will conform to one or more of the following **themes**:

1. DRUG MARKETS

Organisation, maintenance and structure of drug markets: production and routes of supply • Different types of drug dealing activities by drug type and user population • Impacts of supply control and law enforcement measures • Financing drug-using lifestyles • Drug markets and power structures

2. NEW TRENDS IN DRUG USE

Preferably qualitative research on new trends in use and users on drug use (incl. transnational dimension, not only prevalence rates) • Social norms and context surrounding legal drugs and how these might be relevant to illicit drugs • The illicit use of legal drugs • non-medical use of prescribed drugs • Poly-drug use • NPS use • Performance enhancing drugs • Patterns of use and using careers among diverse population groups

3. DRUG RELATED IMPLICATIONS OF COVID-19

Drug market dynamics in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic • Implications for different groups of users • Drug research methodologies in the COVID-19 era • Changes in patterns of drug use due to the COVID-19 pandemic • Drug services challenges due to COVID-19

4. DRUG POLICY: THEORIES, CONCEPTS AND RESEARCH

Innovative theories or concepts for drug policy • Evaluation of drug policy approaches • Comparative drug policy analysis • Legislative/policy changes affecting availability and/or use • Critical reflections on drug demand and supply interventions and stigmatisation of users • Innovative or controversial interventions in drug policy

5. DRUGS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Drug distribution and cultures on Cryptomarkets and Social Media • Online prevention and counselling • Interrelation between online and offline drug spaces • Governance by and of online drug markets • Coordination practices in digital drug markets • Development and comparison of drug prices online/offline

6. METHODS AND ETHICS

Innovative and mixed methods • Reflexivity in drug research • Sampling, representativeness and bias • Non-representational methods in drug research • Online vs. offline methods • Researching vulnerable populations • Ethical challenges in drug research

ABSTRACT LAYOUT

1. Please use the attached Word “**Abstract Template**” to make creating the “book of abstracts” easier for the organisers.
2. You should not use more than one page for your abstract.
3. If the headings “Background”, “Methods”, “Results”, “Conclusions” do not fit your purpose, you may alter them somehow (ideally without changing the format)
4. The text “Title of the paper” is to be substituted with the actual title
5. All non-bold text should be substituted with your content
6. The presenting author is named first – others may be mentioned if applicable.
7. The contact details: will be included in the “book of abstracts”. The telephone numbers will be omitted, these should be provided to the organisers for fast communication if problem emerge when presenting the paper.

ABSTRACT REVIEW

Abstracts will be reviewed using the following criteria:

- Overall quality
- Relevance to the conference themes
- European dimension
- Theoretical reflections
- Added value with respect to earlier contributions at ESSD conferences

In general, not more than two presentations from members of the same institute or affiliation will be accepted.

BOOK of ABSTRACTS

A book of Abstracts will be provided to the participants including all accepted abstracts.

PHOTO

We encourage you to include a photo along with your abstract to be included in the “book of abstracts”.

The information if papers are accepted will be circulated no later than 6th September 2021.

INFORMATION ON ONLINE CONFERENCE SPACE

The annual ESSD conferences always take place in close collaboration with local/virtual organisers. This year’s virtual organiser are Dr. Alfred Uhl (Psychotherapy Science, Sigmund Freud Private University, and Austrian Public Health Institute, alfred.uhl@sfu.ac.at) and Dr. Meropi Tzanetakis (Department of Political Science, University of Vienna, meropi.tzanetakis@univie.ac.at). For correspondence concerning the conference, please use ESSD2021@goeg.at.

The ESSD conference 2021 will take place online from Thursday, 30 September 2021, to Friday, 1 October 2021 – presently scheduled from 10:00 through 17:00 CEST (Vienna time) on both days.

A conference website will be set up with basic information about the conference. Presentations and discussion will be held live online. Technical assistance will be offered to every participant. According to the guiding principles of the ESSD, we encourage presenters to join as many sessions as possible.

Going virtual will definitely mean learning new things for all of us and a bit of extra work for the session moderators. However, we very much hope you all will stay with us on board this experiment of recreating the community online. We believe the new format, however forced upon us, will allow those with restricted access to funding to attend as well as be a more eco- and climate-friendly way of scholarly exchange.