



10TH GLOBAL FORUM ON NICOTINE 2023  
**TOBACCO HARM REDUCTION  
– THE NEXT DECADE**



**GFN**

**WARSAW 2023**

**MEDIA PACK**

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## Welcome to the Global Forum on Nicotine 2023 #GFN23

Thank you for joining us for the Global Forum on Nicotine 2023 (#GFN23), themed *Tobacco harm reduction - the next decade*. We are proud to be celebrating the tenth edition of GFN.

This Media Pack has been prepared to help you navigate the conference, provide some background to the Global Forum on Nicotine, and offer supporting information about the media arrangements for the event. We hope that you find it useful.

You will find speaker biographies and the full Programme in this Media Pack. Contact details are provided for those speakers who are open to direct approaches for media interviews during the event. Please be aware that speakers will also want to watch sessions and may have other engagements while in Warsaw, so their responses are unlikely to be immediate.

If no contact details are provided for a speaker who you would like to interview, contact the GFN Communications Team and we will ask if they wish to participate.

Almost all sessions at the event will be recorded and available to watch again around a week after the end of the conference, possibly sooner. You will be notified by email when sessions can be accessed.

We hope you enjoy #GFN23 - we look forward to working with you!

*Ruth and Oliver, The GFN Communications Team*

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### The GFN Communications Team



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For conference updates, follow @GFNicotine on Twitter and Facebook. Use the hashtag #GFN23.

## THE GLOBAL FORUM ON NICOTINE WELCOMES MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES



Professor Gerry Stimson, co-founder of GFN, takes part in a media interview



Professor Riccardo Polosa of University of Catania, Italy, speaks to media representatives at GFN in 2022



Fiona Patten, Leader of Australia's Reason Party, is interviewed at GFN in 2022

### What is the Global Forum on Nicotine?

The Global Forum on Nicotine (GFN) is the only international conference to focus on the role of safer nicotine products that help people switch away from smoking. Safer nicotine products include **nicotine vapes (e-cigarettes)**, **nicotine pouches**, **oral tobaccos such as Swedish snus**, and **heated tobacco products**. This is a rapidly evolving area, with many new non-combustible products emerging over the past fifteen to twenty years.

The rapid development and use of safer nicotine products has raised a number of challenging scientific questions about their safety, who uses them and why, their impact on smoking rates and the role these products are playing in smoking cessation. These products also raise challenges for governments who seek to understand what kind of policy and regulation is appropriate. The GFN examines the rapidly developing science in relation to nicotine and its use, including policy and regulatory responses. The conference has taken place every year since 2014. The Global Forum on Nicotine is delivered by KAC Communications.



Above: nicotine pouch (Mmmaaarrrttt - CC BY-SA 4.0 Wikimedia Commons).

Right: nicotine vape (Sven Kucinic, Unsplash. Below: heated tobacco device (Wikimedia Commons).



### #GFN23's theme is *Tobacco harm reduction - the next decade*. What does this mean?

Harm reduction is an evidence-based public health approach grounded in human rights. It consists of pragmatic policies, regulations and actions that reduce health risks to individuals and communities by, for example, providing access to safer forms of products or substances, or encouraging less risky behaviours. Harm reduction does not focus exclusively on the eradication of products or behaviours, recognising that prohibition often leads to unintended consequences.

The safer nicotine products that are available today – including **nicotine vapes** (e-cigarettes), **nicotine pouches**, **Swedish-style oral snus** and **heated tobacco products** – have been shown in multiple independent, international research studies to be demonstrably and significantly safer than smoking tobacco.



Credit: Robert Ruggiero, Unsplash.

People smoke in order to use nicotine, and smoking is the world's leading cause of non-communicable disease.

Nicotine does not cause cancer. But when tobacco burns, it releases thousands of toxic chemicals inhaled in smoke. Remove the combustion and the harm is significantly reduced.

### **The current approach to tobacco control has made an impact, especially in high income countries.**

But it is not happening fast enough. 80 per cent of smokers live in low and middle income countries (LMIC) - with population growth causing the absolute number of smokers to rise. LMIC are less able to offer smoking cessation support to their populations, and have healthcare systems less able to manage early diagnosis and treatment of smoking-related diseases.

Tobacco harm reduction, using safer nicotine products, offers new choices to millions of people worldwide who want to switch away from smoking, but have been unable to with the options previously available. The full potential of tobacco harm reduction can only be realised if it is integrated into the global public health approach to tobacco alongside existing tobacco control measures.

At #GFN23, speakers and delegates will be considering the progress that has been made over the last ten years, and the challenges that are set to continue into the next decade.

### Who attends the Global Forum on Nicotine?

This is the only global event that welcomes **all stakeholders involved with new and safer nicotine products**, including:

- **consumers and consumer advocates** who have switched to these products from smoking, and believe that others should have the right to access them as well;
- **public health experts** who need to advise populations about smoking, smoking cessation and safer nicotine products;
- **policy analysts, parliamentarians and government officials** who need to consider what kind of regulation is appropriate;
- **academics and researchers** who are faced with new research questions about the safety and use of these products;
- **product manufacturers and distributors** who are involved in developing and marketing new products;
- **media representatives** who play a vital role in communicating accurate and balanced information on this subject to the general public.

The GFN operates an **open-door policy**, making it unlike most events that operate in the intersections between public health and tobacco and nicotine policy. Unique among conferences on nicotine and smoking, the organisers ensure that consumer and consumer advocacy organisations participate, as well as manufacturers. Both of these groups are excluded from the majority of international meetings and events, despite both groups playing a critical role in informing and shaping the debates around safer nicotine products and tobacco harm reduction.

By bringing together people who might otherwise not have the opportunity to speak with each other, the Global Forum on Nicotine offers a platform for debate and information-sharing, while remaining focused on **the ultimate goal of tobacco harm reduction: accelerating the end of smoking-related death and disease.**



Participants are encouraged to ask questions and share their views at GFN

### Media participation at #GFN23

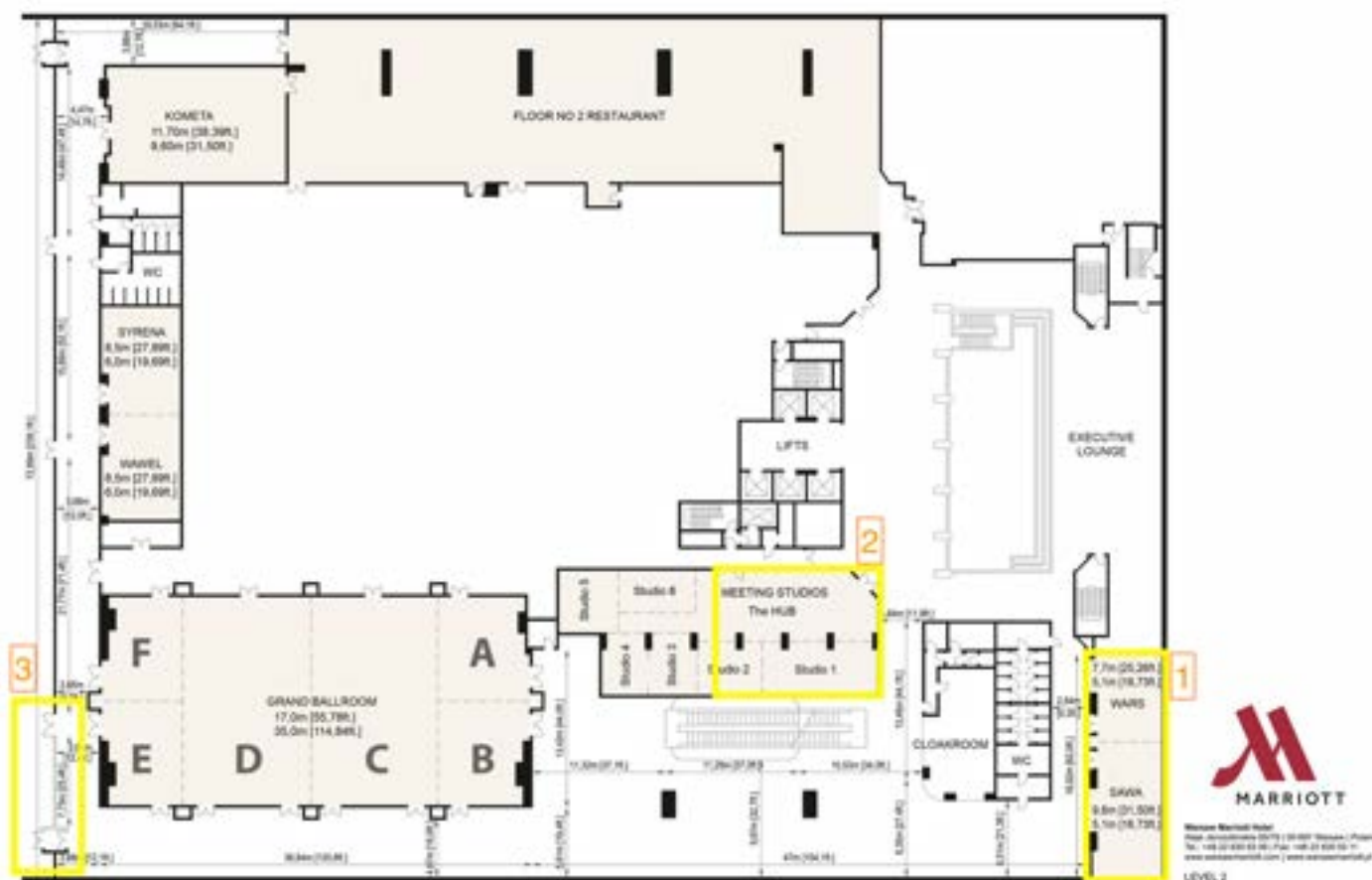
The organisers encourage participation from media representatives both onsite and online. We believe your role in communicating information and commentary on tobacco harm reduction and safer nicotine products is essential. Thanks to high quality, accurate and balanced reporting, public understanding of this subject, the source of significant debate and misinformation, will improve. As with all good public health interventions, smoking cessation efforts and tobacco harm reduction are rooted in the provision of high quality information that enables people to make decisions for themselves.

### Onsite working arrangements and interview spaces

**Wars** and **Sawa [1]** are reserved for media use and host media events including the Media Briefing and Speaker Q+A Sessions. You can also use these spaces for quiet working and on a first-come, first-served basis to conduct interviews.

If you need to record audio in a quiet environment, a room is available in **The Hub [2]**. Please contact the GFN Communications Team to book a timed slot.

The **outside terrace [3]**, accessed from the second floor of the hotel, provides an interesting visual backdrop for filmed interviews.



## **#GFN23 Media Briefing and Speaker Q+A Sessions**

**Thursday 22 June - #GFN23 Opening Media Briefing**

**Time:** 12:45 - 13:45

*Please note this session takes place during the lunch break, which runs from 12:30 until 14:00. Please feel free to bring your lunch with you to the briefing if you would like.*

**Location:** Wars and Sawa rooms

**Topic:** Launch of #GFN23: Tobacco harm reduction - the next decade

**Speakers:**

- Gerry Stimson, Professor Emeritus, Imperial College London, and GFN Co-Founder
- Paddy Costall, GFN Co-Founder
- Additional speakers to be confirmed

**Format:** Brief remarks from the panel followed by a Q+A session.

More informal **Speaker Q+A Sessions** will also be scheduled, enabling you to meet with individual speakers. You will receive information about these sessions by email when you are onsite.



A journalist asks a question at a GFN Media Briefing



### **Daily updates emailed to your inbox - and sessions you can watch back**

The GFN Communications Team will be aiming to bring you key quotes from #GFN23 sessions. These will be delivered straight to your inbox each evening, after the day's sessions have ended. Please bear with us - we will deliver this material as soon as possible.

Almost all sessions at the event will be recorded and available to watch again around a week after the end of the conference, possibly sooner. You will be notified by email when sessions can be accessed.

### **Simultaneous translation of selected sessions using LiveVoice**



Selected GFN sessions will be simultaneously translated from English (EN) into Spanish (ES) and Russian (RU). The two Spanish language symposia on Wednesday 21 June will be translated from Spanish into English.

Look for EN+ES+RU on the programme to see which sessions will be translated.

Access the translations onsite using the QR code above. Alternatively you can download the LiveVoice app onto your mobile phone or tablet and enter the event code: 9 9 3 0 9 5

We recommend you use your own earphones. A limited number of headsets will be available.

### **#GFN23 speaker biographies, contacts and conference programme**

Over the following pages, you will find speaker biographies and the conference programme.

Speakers who are happy to receive direct approaches for media interviews during the event have shared contact details alongside their biographies. If their Twitter handle is shown, their DMs should be open.

Please be aware when arranging interviews that speakers will also want to watch sessions and may have other engagements or meetings while in Warsaw.

If no contact details are provided for a speaker who you would like to interview, contact the GFN Communications Team and we will ask if they wish to participate.

The GFN Communications Team will be happy to provide information on speakers' expertise.



**Jasjit  
Ahluwalia**



Jasjit S. Ahluwalia is a physician and public health scientist at Brown University and has been in academic medicine since 1992. His primary research areas are smoking cessation and nicotine addiction in African American smokers, for which he has secured more than \$120 million in funding. Continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health for 28 years, he has published over 375 manuscripts. Ahluwalia has served on the U.S. government's National Advisory Council on Minority Health and Health Disparities, on the SRNT board of directors and recently completed a 3-year term on the federal government's Interagency Committee on Smoking and Health chaired by the U.S. Surgeon General.

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**Samigullina  
Alfiya Eldarovna**



Dr. Samigullina Alfiya Eldarovna is an Honoured Physician of the Kyrgyz Republic. As well as being a Doctor of Medicine, she is also a Professor and Rector of the Bishkek International Medical Institute in Kyrgyzstan.



**Amaliya  
Amaliya**



Amaliya Amaliya, DDS. MSc. PhD. is a lecturer and researcher from the Dental Faculty at the Department of Periodontology, Universitas Padjadjaran, Bandung, Indonesia. From 2017 onwards, she has been involved in an NGO called KABAR (Tar-Free Indonesian Coalition) and become their leading researcher. She is active in educating and promoting tobacco harm reduction, particularly in helping smokers who are unwilling to quit. Recently she is the principal researcher for the SMILE study, an international research collaboration to evaluate the effects of switching from combustible cigarettes to non-combustible products on oral health.



**Clive  
Bates**



Clive Bates has had a diverse career in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. Starting out with IBM, he then switched career to work in the environment movement. From 1997-2003 he was Director of Action on Smoking and Health (UK), campaigning to reduce the harms caused by tobacco. In 2003 he joined Prime Minister Tony Blair's Strategy Unit as a civil servant and worked in senior roles in the public sector and for the United Nations in Sudan. He is now Director of The Counterfactual, a consulting and advocacy practice focussed on a pragmatic approach to sustainability and public health.

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**Carolyn  
Beaumont**



Dr. Carolyn Beaumont, an Australian general practitioner and educator, is a current KAC Tobacco Harm Reduction Scholar. She advocates for adult ex-smokers' rights to access quality vaping products legally, helping Australian ex-smokers stay smoke-free by providing nicotine prescriptions as required by law. Carolyn educates people about nicotine with compassion while emphasising the importance of preventing youth uptake. Her advocacy, support for ex-smokers, and education on tobacco harms saw her nominated for her local council's 2023 'Woman of the Year' award. As a recipient of the THRSP, she is creating an educational presentation on tobacco harm reduction for Australian medical students.

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**Fernando  
Bueno**



Fernando Bueno is Medical Lieutenant-Colonel of the Military Health Corps and General Surgeon of the Surgery Service of the Hospital Central de la Defensa "Gómez Ulla" in Madrid. He specialises in Oncological Surgery and is Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery at the Medical Faculty of the University of Alcalá de Henares. Fernando is a spokesperson for the Platform for Smoking Harm Reduction, working to eradicate smoking in Spain. He presents a medicine channel on Youtube MedicinaClara, with more than 1.5m subscribers, and is medical and content director for the medical portal [www.medicosespecialistasen.com](http://www.medicosespecialistasen.com).

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**David  
Burns**



David Burns is director of Bay Pharma, an Australian manufacturer of prescription NVP products provided through the medical access framework. Bay Pharma initiated one of Australia's first NVP recycling programs in conjunction with one of Australia's pre-eminent drug and other alcohol treatment centres. David graduated from ATU in medical science and has 12 years' experience in the medical device and in-vitro diagnostic industry.

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**Rafael  
Castillo**



Dr. Rafael R. Castillo, a noted cardiologist, earned his Medicine degree from the University of Santo Tomas in 1977, graduating with cum laude and Meritissimus distinctions. From 1993-1994, he was President of the Philippine Heart Association and College of Cardiology. A columnist for the Philippine Daily Inquirer, he is a Professor in Cardiovascular Medicine at the Adventist University of the Philippines, Senior Consultant in Adult Cardiology, Manila Doctors' Hospital, Dean Emeritus, and Head of Cardio-Metabolic Research Unit, FAME Leaders Academy, Fellow of the Philippine College of Physicians, Philippine College of Cardiology, European Society of Cardiology, and Elected Trustee/Council Member of the International Society of Hypertension.



**Silvia  
Cazenave**



Silvia Cazenave is Coordinator of the Technical Group of Toxicology of the Regional Council of Pharmacy of the State of São Paulo, Brazil. Her work focuses mainly on drugs, toxicology, addiction, toxicological analysis, prevention, harm reduction, tobacco, and regulation. She holds a PhD in Toxicology and Master in Toxicological Analysis from the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences of the University of São Paulo. She has held senior academic roles in toxicology, and been Toxicology Superintendent of the National Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA) (2014 - 2016), and Director of the Drug Use Prevention Coordinator in Campinas. She is a drug specialist, with a UN (Narcotics Division) degree.

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**Martin  
Cawley**



Martin Cawley has been involved in health and social care throughout his career. He joined Beatson Cancer Charity as CEO in July 2019 after senior positions in a number of Scotland's charities. He also spent three years as Director of the National Lottery Community Fund in Scotland working with charities and community organisations. Martin has an in-depth experience, knowledge and understanding of the issues facing people from a range of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. He has been a non-executive director of a number of organisations including national umbrella agencies and social enterprises aimed at improving practice and approach and influencing social policy.



**Samrat Chowdhery**



Samrat Chowdhery is a journalist and consumer advocate who has steered global and national movements for adult access to safer nicotine alternatives. Director of Association of Vapers India, among the oldest tobacco harm reduction-focused consumer nonprofits, he is also a past president of INNCO, the umbrella body of over 30 national groups. As a recipient of a KAC Tobacco Harm Reduction Scholarship he investigated the efficacy and affordability of vaping and smokeless alternatives among bidi and khaini users in India. Samrat now offers mentorship on advocacy and research in advancing safer nicotine availability in low- and middle-income countries. He often writes for Filter.

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**Sarah Cooney**



A science engagement specialist focusing on harm reduction and science communication, Sarah Cooney runs her own consultancy. In 12 years at British American Tobacco she established the company's science engagement and communication capability, sharing the science of less-risky nicotine products with regulators and the public. Sarah drove real change in BAT's publishing strategy, with new approaches and a series of award-winning reports making its reduced risk research accessible. Sarah has held editorial and publishing roles at Nature, Elsevier and BioMedCentral. With a BSc in genetics and an MSc in plant genetics from the University of Toronto, her research has been published in Science.

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**Paddy Costall**



Graduating with a degree in Politics and Government in 1978, Paddy has worked in a number of aspects of public health and social care, including alcohol and drug services, the probation service and public health advocacy. In addition to these he has worked in event management, including directing five editions of the International Harm Reduction conference. Since 2012 he has been involved in the development and promotion of tobacco harm reduction. He is a Director at Knowledge•Action•Change and its sister company KAC Communications, which runs the Global Forum on Nicotine, the event he co-founded in 2014.

Media enquiries to the GFN Communications Team - [ruth@gfn.events](mailto:ruth@gfn.events) and [oliver@gfn.events](mailto:oliver@gfn.events)



**Nick Crofts**



Professor Nick Crofts is an epidemiologist and public health practitioner at the Nossal Institute for Global Health at the University of Melbourne, Australia, working on global law enforcement and public health. He has worked in the fields of HIV/AIDS, illicit drugs, harm reduction and law enforcement for over 35 years. For his work on control of HIV among drug users in Asia, Australia and globally, he received the International Rolleston Award (1998) and was made a Member of the Order of Australia (2018). At the Nossal from 2007 - 2012, he held positions in Italy and Netherlands before returning as honorary Professorial Fellow in 2021.



**Martin Cullip**



Martin Cullip is a former company director and International Fellow of the Taxpayers Protection Alliance, who has written and blogged on free market and lifestyle consumer issues for over a decade. As a user of e-cigarettes and other safer nicotine products, he is a particularly passionate consumer advocate for all forms of tobacco harm reduction and has a keen interest in the rapidly-evolving nicotine market and the politics surrounding it. Martin is a former Chair of UK educational charity, The New Nicotine Alliance, and has taken part in parliamentary evidence sessions and consumer, industry, and political events on the subject domestically and internationally.

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**Peter Dator**



Peter Paul Dator is a lawyer who graduated with a BSE Social Studies degree from the University of the Philippines and completed his J.D program at the University of Santo Tomas. He has been serving as the President of Vapers PH for almost a decade, a non-profit consumer advocacy group aimed at promoting the responsible use of alternative nicotine delivery devices such as e-cigarettes. Dator is a strong advocate for harm reduction and vaping and has gained worldwide recognition for his work. His efforts to lobby for the passage of the Vape Bill in the Philippines have further cemented his status as one of the pillars of harm reduction in the country.

*Please note that Peter is presenting virtually at GFN23, but is happy to receive media enquiries by email.*

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**Mark Dickinson**



Mark Dickinson owns Clarityse Ltd, an independent strategic marketing consultancy with extensive experience across the OTC Medicines and Vaping sectors. Mark spent 17 years at GSK in various Global, EMEA and UK senior marketing roles, including 8 years directing their smoking control brands - through the period in which NRT products were made reimbursable in the UK and the prescription segment developed. He has worked extensively at the interface of marketing, regulatory affairs and public policy. He owned a vape shop and more recently has been helping companies with the commercial aspects of bringing a medicinal vape product to market.



**Carmen Escrig**



Holding a PhD. in Cell Biology and Genetics from the Autonomous University of Madrid, Carmen Escrig is the founder, coordinator, and/or scientific advisor of different organisations related to tobacco harm reduction, including the Spanish Medical Platform for Smoking Harm Reduction, composed of about 30 doctors, professors, and health professionals, as well as the Spanish Association of Personal Vapourisers Users (ANESVAP). She was the organiser of THR Summit Spain, the first scientific congress on tobacco harm reduction in Spain and has attended or spoken at several congresses related to THR. Carmen works actively with consumers and scientific organisations in Latin America.



**Konstantinos Farsalinos**



Konstantinos Farsalinos, MD, MPH, is a physician and senior researcher specialising in Public Health at the Universities of Patras and West Attica in Greece. He has conducted extensive research on smoking, tobacco harm reduction, and vaping since 2011, publishing over 90 studies and articles. Notably, he authored the first systematic review on the safety and risk profile of e-cigarettes in 2014; his research was influential in shaping the EU's regulatory framework on vaping. In 2020, he was recognized as a Highly Cited Researcher for his significant impact in global science. During the pandemic, he published studies exploring the relationship between smoking, nicotine, and COVID-19.

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**Ian Fearon**



Ian Fearon is an independent consultant with expertise in regulatory and scientific aspects of nicotine and tobacco products. His consulting work encompasses clinical and behavioural studies of tobacco and nicotine products for regulatory submissions in the US and Europe, and he has a wealth of experience of both consumer goods and medicinal licensing submissions. His 15 years working in the tobacco harm reduction arena has included roles as Senior Director of Clinical and Regulatory Affairs EMEA with JUUL Labs, Director of Tobacco Research with Celerion, and Principal Scientist and Head of Clinical Research at British American Tobacco.

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**Jonathan  
Fell**



Jonathan Fell has followed developments in the tobacco and nicotine industries for 30 years. He began his career as an equity research analyst covering tobacco and other consumer industries at Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley and Deutsche Bank. From 2013 to 2022 he was founder and portfolio manager at Ash Park, an investment manager focused on investments in the fast-moving consumer goods industry. Jon is now a consultant in the tobacco and nicotine sector (including a project for the Foundation for a Smoke-Free World) and as a director/trustee in the not-for-profit sector, including Article 36, a UK-based organisation promoting public scrutiny over the development and use of weapons.

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**Alfredo  
Garbin**



Alfredo Garbin, Jr. is the newly elected Mayor of Legazpi City in the Philippines. A lawyer and graduate of the University of Santo Tomas-Legazpi, Mayor Garbin also has a management and leadership background, completing programs at the Asian Institute of Management and Harvard Kennedy School. As a Congressman in the Philippine House of Representatives (2010 - 2013 and 2016 - 2022), he held significant roles such as Deputy Minority Leader and Chairperson of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments and authored a bill to regulate vaporized nicotine products, successfully defending it in House plenary debates. The Philippine Vaporized Nicotine and Non-Nicotine Products Act became law in 2022.



**Kevin  
Garcia**



A graduate student at Colorado State University, Kevin Garcia studies public health and social work with a focus on global health and health disparities. He is also a harm reduction content strategist for NEXT Distro, a tobacco harm reduction fellow for Filter, and research assistant for the Parent-Child Relationships and Well-Being Lab. Previously, Kevin delivered street-based syringe access services and bilingual case management for people living with HIV. A chapter leader of Students for Sensible Drug Policy, he also served on the national board. Kevin received his BA in Psychology from Florida International University and BSc in Biology from the Metropolitan State University of Denver.



**Sharon  
Garin**



Undersecretary Sharon S. Garin, a CPA-lawyer by profession, currently oversees the Philippines' Department of Energy's Financial and Legal Services. Her public service career began as a Representative in the 15th to 19th Congress, representing AAMVBIS-OWA Partylist. The first female Deputy Speaker from Iloilo province, Sharon holds degrees in Accounting, Law, and an International MBA. In the House of Representatives, she chaired the House Committee on Economic Affairs and was Vice-Chair for various committees. As co-author of the Vaporized Nicotine and Non-Nicotine Products Act 2022, she reconciled conflicting provisions of the bill as a member of its Bicameral Conference Committee.



**Judy  
Gibson**



Judy Gibson is currently INNCO's Membership Director having led a Steering Group to establish the organisation in 2016 and acted as its first Secretary General following its registration in Geneva in 2016. Her diverse career includes WRAF Aircraft Mechanic, MOD Detective and over 30 years in artiste management and theatrical PR and marketing. Suffering early iterations of e-cigarettes since 2012, she became an ex-smoker in 2014 with the advent of sub-ohm tanks and became a vociferous supporter of safer nicotine products.



**Moira  
Gilchrist**



Dr. Moira Gilchrist leads Philip Morris International (PMI)'s global strategic and scientific communications, playing a key role in PMI's transition away from cigarettes towards smoke-free alternatives. Her team focuses on translating the science behind PMI's smoke-free products into accessible language for policymakers and the public, engaging with public health authorities, media, and decision-makers worldwide and advocating for risk-proportionate regulation and access to better alternatives for adults who would otherwise continue smoking. Prior to her current role, Moira worked in the pharmaceutical sector. She holds a degree in Pharmacy and a PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences.

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**Marewa  
Glover**



Professor Marewa Glover has over 25 years of experience reducing smoking-related harm. She has held various roles including policy analyst, national tobacco control program coordinator, cessation trainer, and researcher. Marewa has chaired numerous committees and organizations, including End Smoking NZ, an independent NGO that advocated for harm reduction even before the introduction of vaping. She has published over 100 works, primarily focused on reducing smoking during pregnancy and among indigenous communities. As a prominent public commentator on vaping in NZ she has been featured in media outlets such as NZ's 60 Minutes, engaging in live debates and conferences about vaping.

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**Will  
Godfrey**



Will Godfrey is the founding editor-in-chief of Filter (<https://filtermag.org>), an online magazine that launched in 2018 to cover drug use, drug policy and human rights through a harm reduction lens. He's also the executive director of The Influence Foundation, the nonprofit behind Filter. He previously founded The Influence, an award-winning drug policy news site, and ran Substance.com and the addiction-focused site The Fix. Before that, he co-founded an award-winning print publication for incarcerated people in London. He has consulted for numerous organisations in the drug policy and harm reduction space. He lives in New York.

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**Charles  
Hamshaw-Thomas**



Charles Hamshaw-Thomas worked with the two founding shareholders of E-Lites, the pioneering brand at the forefront of the UK vaping industry's explosive early growth (2011-2015). He led E-Lites' external engagement in London, Brussels and Washington DC when governments and regulators were first turning their attention to the 'new nicotine' category. He also led E-Lites' business development initiatives, which culminated in the sale of E-Lites to Japan Tobacco International in 2014. Since 2015, he has undertaken some consultancy roles to, and remained a close and enthusiastic observer of, the new industry. Charlie's fervent wish is to see the industry truly realise its disruptive potential.

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**Summer  
Hanna**



Summer Hanna PhD is Head of Scientific Regulatory Engagement at BAT with responsibility for group-wide scientific engagement driving awareness and acceptance of tobacco harm reduction and science-based regulatory approaches for reduced risk products. Summer has held a variety of US and Global roles across Scientific R&D and Regulatory Affairs, developing BAT's cannabinoid discovery science programme, working with Reynolds' FDA Submissions and Engagement team on smokeless tobacco, and in Analytical Research. She received her PhD in Analytical Chemistry from Wake Forest University. Currently, she serves as treasurer to the US Technical Advisory Group for ISO/ TC 126.

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**Jessica  
Harding**



Jessica Harding became involved in tobacco harm reduction when vapes helped her to quit smoking, in 2012. She helped to establish the political party Vapers in Power and later worked as an administrator for the New Nicotine Alliance. Jessica is a Director at Knowledge•Action•Change and its sister company KAC Communications, which runs the Global Forum on Nicotine. She previously worked as an English teacher and lives in the UK.

✉ *Media enquiries to the GFN Communications Team - [ruth@gfn.events](mailto:ruth@gfn.events) and [oliver@gfn.events](mailto:oliver@gfn.events)*



**David  
Janazzo**



David Janazzo leads the Foundation for a Smoke-Free World's efforts to transform the global tobacco industry and nicotine ecosystem to end smoking in this generation. The Foundation's first action in this area has been the creation of the Tobacco Transformation Index®. David oversees the internal operations and the financial functions of the Foundation, including accounting and auditing, as well as financial planning, analysis, and reporting. In addition, he directs independent research and data analysis associated with relevant industry issues. David's extensive work experience includes positions with the Fortune 100 companies Merrill Lynch, Time Warner Cable, Verizon, and AT&T.

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**Juan  
José Cirión**



Juan José Cirión holds a law degree from the Universidad Intercontinental and a Master's in Law from UNAM, where he is currently Professor of Philosophy of Law. He is also a Professor of Legal Argumentation at the Universidad La Salle and the Postgraduate Studies Division of UNAM. Juan advocates for the rights of vapers in Mexico and has won rulings, for himself and for clients, against bans on the use and the importation of vapes. He provides advice on appropriate product regulation in Mexico and Latin America. Juan has emerged as a prominent figure in the media, addressing human rights and advocating for the right to consume reduced-risk alternatives to combustibles.

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**Michael  
Kariuki**



Michael Kariuki is a consultant paediatrician, public health specialist and epidemiologist with an interest in harm reduction for tobacco, alcohol, cannabis, pesticide and opioids. He is a founder member and secretary of the Harm Reduction Society in Kenya and has over 15 years' experience in clinical work, public health and leadership. Over the past two years he has conducted extensive work on tobacco harm reduction, including research on toxicants in smokeless tobacco products in Kenya. He has also appeared in media discussing these issues. Michael wants to see positive impacts and change in society. He is also an advocate for children's safety and health.



**Gintautas-Jouzas  
Kentra**



Gintautas-Jouzas Kentra is a Cardiologist. He is Deputy Chairman of the Council and member of the Expert Council of the Densaulyk ULL in Kazakhstan.





**Kasia  
Kowalczyk**



Kasia Kowalczyk runs the Global Public Health Foundation, which aims to share research and experience in public health across all relevant sectors. She is also a lecturer at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Warsaw. Kasia's areas of experience includes harm reduction, public health and event management.

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**Grzegorz  
Król**



Grzegorz Król PhD is a Director at Knowledge•Action•Change, the sister company to KAC Communications which runs GFN. A social psychologist and IT specialist, he has authored publications on psychology, data analysis and harm reduction. Since 2003, he has managed international projects in public health, drugs and tobacco harm reduction. He lectured at the Faculty of Management and MBA School at the University of Warsaw (2012 - 2018) and has been a member of the European Network for Research Evaluation in the Social Sciences and the Humanities, part of the COST Action: European Cooperation in Science and Technology, since 2016. He co-founded the harm reduction knowledge hub [harmreduction.eu](http://harmreduction.eu)

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**Scott  
Leischow**



Scott J. Leischow PhD leads the Research on Health Equity and Community Health Program at Mayo Clinic Arizona, and co-leads Cancer Prevention and Control within the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center. He was Senior Advisor for Tobacco Policy in the US Department of Health and Human Services and Chief of the Tobacco Control Research Branch at the National Cancer Institute. He completed his PhD at the University of Maryland, a postdoctoral fellowship in Behavioral Pharmacology at Johns Hopkins and has received the NIH Director's Award. He works on pharmacologic and behavioral treatments for tobacco dependence, and systems approaches to public health. He is a past President of SRNT.

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**Ignacio  
Leiva**



Ignacio is a journalist and specialist in computer and multimedia platforms. In 2010, he created and promoted an information campaign to prevent vaping being banned in Chile. Since then, he has focused his efforts on strengthening the community of vapers, making them more informed and aware. Founder and current president of ASOVAPE Chile, he is also secretary of ARDT Iberoamerica. He organised the first public pro-vaping demonstration in Latin America and continues to promote campaigns on tobacco harm reduction in Chile and around the world. He is currently the editorial director of the "Vapear No Es Fumar, Iberoamérica" Campaign and General Producer of the Vapefest Online event.



**Nancy  
Loucas**



Nancy Loucas is passionate about amplifying the voices of consumers in tobacco harm reduction and public health policy. She co-founded Aotearoa Vapers Community Advocacy in New Zealand, successfully advocating for legal and regulated access to nicotine vapes and heated tobacco products. Nancy is the founder and Executive Coordinator of CAPHRA, supporting tobacco harm reduction advocacy organisations in Asia Pacific and beyond. Under her leadership, CAPHRA has developed the Voices4Vape seminars, sCOPE livestreams, and Advocate's Voice newscasts, to educate and guide consumer advocates globally. CAPHRA has gathered thousands of consumer testimonials through 'Right2Vape' and 'Right to Switch'.

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**David  
MacKintosh**



David MacKintosh has over 25 years' experience working on alcohol and drug policy, including within the UK Cabinet Office, heading the London Drug and Alcohol Policy Forum and providing specialist advice to the Greater London Authority. He was Head of Community Safety for the City of London for six years and has been a trustee for several substance use charities. He has helped deliver a range of innovative campaigns and national best practice guidance, with one common purpose: to reduce harm to individuals and communities. In 2020 he began working as an independent consultant. He is now helping Knowledge•Action•Change support and develop evidence-based harm reduction programmes.

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**Lorenzo  
Mata**



Dr Lorenzo Mata is President of Quit For Good, a non-profit organization promoting harm reduction to mitigate the damage and loss caused by cigarettes. A recognized harm reduction expert in the Philippines, he has spoken at local and international forums and in the Philippine Senate and House of Representatives, where he contributed to the development of legal frameworks for new nicotine products. Lorenzo has been an Occupational Medical Specialist for over 35 years, in both hospital and industrial settings, with commitment to harm reduction integral to his practice. He now provides personalized home care to an urban population of 90,000, and has seen and treated over 1000 cases of COVID-19.



**Bernd  
Mayer**



Bernd Mayer was appointed at the University of Graz as a full Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology in 1999. His main research area is cardiovascular pharmacology, focusing on vascular endothelial cells and oxidative stress. In 2006 he was presented with an e-cigarette made by RuyanTM in China. Since then, he has advocated e-cigarettes as much less harmful alternatives to conventional cigarettes for smokers. In 2013 he studied documented historical cases of nicotine poisoning. As a result, he raised the then generally accepted lethal oral dose from 60 mg to 500-1,000 mg, indicating that regular use of nicotine products would not lead to considerable poisoning.

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**Garrett  
McGovern**



Dr Garrett McGovern qualified in Medicine in 1995 from Trinity College Dublin and has worked as a GP specialising in addiction medicine since 1998. He cares for opioid dependent patients in several HSE clinics in South Dublin and the inner city. In January 2022 he was appointed Clinical Lead for the HSE Addiction Services in Louth Meath and The Midlands. Garrett holds a Master's degree in Clinical and Public Health Aspects of Addiction from The National Addiction Centre, King's College London (2006) and is a Diplomate of the International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM). He has a keen interest in tobacco harm reduction and is an advocate for all interventions that can help smokers quit.



**Colin  
Mendelsohn**



Colin Mendelsohn has worked as a medical practitioner, academic and researcher in smoking cessation and tobacco harm reduction for 40 years. He is the Founding Chairman of the Australian Tobacco Harm Reduction Association and was a Conjoint Associate Professor in the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at the University of New South Wales. He is a member of the expert advisory group that develops the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners' national smoking cessation guidelines. He is actively involved in teaching, writing, researching and advocating for tobacco harm reduction.

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**Michelle  
Minton**



Michelle Minton is a senior policy analyst at the Reason Foundation specializing in consumer policy, covering regulatory issues around gambling, tobacco harm reduction, cannabis legalization, alcohol, and nutrition. The author of numerous studies, her analyses have been published and cited in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal and USA Today and peer-reviewed journals, and Michelle regularly appears in news media to discuss the unintended effects of laws designed to save adults from their own choices which not only conflicts with the principle of individual liberty, but often the goals of public health. She holds a BA from Johns Hopkins and an MSc from the University of New England.

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**Heneage  
Mitchell**



Heneage Mitchell, commonly known as 'H', has been resident in Asia for over 40 years. He spent most of those decades working in regional media, including as managing editor and co-publisher of Tobacco Asia, a trade publication reporting on the regional tobacco industry. In 2012, he established factasia, an independent, not-for-profit, consumer-oriented regional advocacy for rational debate about – and sensible regulation of – the rights of adult citizens throughout the Asia-Pacific region to choose to use tobacco or other nicotine-related products. Heneage smoked for over 45 years before switching to vaping in 2016, since when he has never touched a cigarette.



**Anne  
Molloy**



Anne Molloy is the wife and life long partner of the late Kevin Molloy, who worked with Knowledge Action Change as Head of the Tobacco Harm Reduction Scholarship Programme, until he sadly passed away in 2021. Anne met Kevin in London when they were both working actors. They eventually moved to Canterbury, where they raised their two children, Lottie and Jake. As well as Anne's career in acting, she has worked as a lecturer in Performing Arts, is an advanced practitioner and mentor in the field of teaching and learning and is currently training to be a Humanist wedding celebrant.



**Marina  
Murphy**



With a background in chemistry, Marina Murphy PhD is a scientific communications and engagement professional with over 25 years' experience, specialising in the tobacco and nicotine sector. She is currently Senior Director of Scientific and Medical Affairs at ANDS. Previously, Marina worked as Head of Public Health Advocacy at JUUL Labs and spent close to a decade at British American Tobacco, where she played a key role in developing a transparent communications strategy for their tobacco harm reduction research program. Marina has also worked in journalism, editing, and public relations, and has been published in the New Scientist, The Irish Times, and Science|Business.



**Paul  
Newhouse**



A leading psychiatrist and physician scientist, Paul Newhouse MD holds the Jim Turner Chair in Cognitive Disorders at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, where he directs the Center for Cognitive Medicine and holds leadership positions in multiple departments. His research, continuously funded by NIH since 1989, primarily focuses on the role of brain cholinergic mechanisms and nicotinic cholinergic receptor systems in cognitive ageing and disorders like Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Newhouse has been instrumental in establishing these receptor systems as a therapeutic target and his pioneering work has contributed to the development of cognitive drug models and clinical trials.



**Tomás  
O'Gorman**



Tomás is a Mexican lawyer and teaches Corporation Law and Successions Law at Universidad Panamericana in Mexico City. An ex-smoker and vaper since 2016, he is co-founder of "Pro-Vapeo Mexico", a Mexican consumer association (registered in 2017), that advocates for tobacco harm reduction and non-combustible alternatives. He is a member of INNCO's Board.

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**Mark  
Oates**



Mark Oates is the Director of We Vape and the Snus Users Association, which are both consumer groups standing up for the right of individuals to use safer nicotine products. He advocates for evidence-based harm reduction in a range of areas from tobacco to drug policy, a subject he has written on for the Institute of Economic Affairs and the Adam Smith Institute, where he is a Fellow. He also provided consumer evidence in the 2018 ECJ case to overturn the ban of snus across the European Union and worked on the successful 2018 campaign to legalise medical cannabis in the UK.

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**Randall Rodríguez  
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Dr. Randall Rodríguez is a doctor and surgeon who studied at the University of Costa Rica. With a Masters in HIV infection from the Rey Juan Carlos University of Spain, he lectures on harm reduction and HIV in Costa Rica, and internationally on tobacco harm reduction. Randall is a member of the Latin American Network for the Reduction of Tobacco-Related Harm (RELDAT) and coordinator of the Steering Committee of the Central American and Caribbean Network for Harm Reduction and Health Risks (REDACCA). He has spoken about tobacco harm reduction at numerous events across Latin America and beyond.

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**Flora  
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Flora Okereke is Head of Global Regulatory Insights and Foresights at BAT, responsible for the analysis and forecasting of international regulatory developments for BAT's 180-plus global markets. Flora also coordinates BAT's policy responses to the WHO's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and other global institutions. Previous roles at BAT include legal, corporate and regulatory affairs director for West Africa; head of regulatory affairs for Africa, the Middle East and Eastern Europe and global head of regulatory strategy and engagement. Flora was called to the Bar of England and Wales and later admitted as a solicitor by the Law Society.

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**Cheryl  
Olson**



Cheryl K. Olson, MPH, Sc.D. is a behavioral scientist internationally recognized for her work on health risk behaviors (including tobacco harm reduction) and the influence of media on youth. She earned a doctorate in health and social behavior from the Harvard School of Public Health. She spent 15 years on the psychiatry faculty of Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School, where she co-directed the Center for Mental Health and Media. She has authored dozens of academic papers, and writes a monthly column on public health for Tobacco Reporter. Dr. Olson consults on nicotine product behavior research through McKinney Regulatory Science Advisors.

*Dr. Olson is presenting virtually at GFN23 but is happy to receive media enquiries. She is on Pacific Time, 9 hours behind Warsaw.*

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**Francisco Ordóñez**



Francisco Ordóñez holds a degree in Social Sciences from the Universidad Pedagógica de Colombia and a Master's degree in Political Studies from the Universidad Nacional de Colombia. He has taught social sciences for over 20 years. Francisco was a founding member of ASOVAPE Colombia, the first Latin American consumer association and supported the creation of other associations in Latin America, such as Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Argentina, Brazil, Panama, and Costa Rica. He is a founding member of ARDT Iberoamerica and president of this organisation. In 2021, he won the Advocate of the Year award from INNCO.



**John Oyston**



Dr. John Oyston graduated from the University of Newcastle with degrees in medicine and medical research before training in anesthesiology. He qualified as a specialist in both the UK and Canada, and also worked in New Zealand, Rwanda, and Ethiopia. Appointed Chief of Anesthesiology four times, he was an Assistant Professor at the University of Toronto, and a peer assessor for the College of Physicians Surgeons of Ontario. In November 2019, John retired from clinical practice to work on smoking cessation advocacy and knowledge translation on safer nicotine products for people who smoke. He has published editorials on tobacco control issues in prestigious Canadian medical journals.

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**Barnaby Page**



Barnaby Page is editorial director of Tamarind Intelligence, the publisher of ECigIntelligence, TobaccoIntelligence and CannIntelligence. As a journalist he has been covering the worldwide reduced-risk nicotine sector since 2014, with a particular focus on public health and regulatory issues; in his current role he manages Tamarind's editorial and reporting teams, producing a wide range of nicotine-related content. He has been participating in the Global Forum on Nicotine since its inception. Before coming into this field, Barnaby spent 30 years as a reporter and editor for newspapers, magazines and online services, specialising in technology and business. He is based near London.

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**Fiona Patten**



Fiona Patten was a member of the Victorian parliament in Australia from 2014 to 2022. She campaigned on harm reduction policies for 30 years and ran the adult industry association (Eros) for 20 years. She initiated and delivered reforms including voluntary assisted dying, abortion law reform, the decriminalisation of sex work and drug law reform. Since leaving parliament she has continued to work on social reform issues including medicinal cannabis, drug harm reduction including for tobacco, criminal justice reform and greater separation of church and state. In 2018 she published her autobiography 'Sex, Drugs and the Electoral Roll'. She is also the owner of a registered wildlife sanctuary.

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**Sud Patwardhan**



Sudhanshu Patwardhan is a British-Indian doctor who has worked in senior roles in research, strategy and policy in the pharmaceutical and tobacco industries across three continents. In his early years in tobacco harm reduction, his team set the foundations for reduced-risk product assessment, now accepted as the definitive approach for duty of care and regulatory compliance. In 2018, he co-founded the Centre for Health Research and Education to address the needs of the most disadvantaged tobacco users. Its team of over 100 medical and public health experts works in cancer prevention in the UK and South Asia, including with digital tech partners innovating in oral cancer screening.

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**Le Dinh Phuong**



Dr. Le Dinh Phuong has spent over 30 years in Intensive Care and Internal Medicine, seeing the full extent of smoking harms, from new smokers to end-stage lung disease patients. He is also an educator and lecturer on tobacco harm reduction for medical universities, Vietnam’s Medical Association and the Young Physicians’ Association. This educational work as well as regular op-eds and media appearances enable him to share tobacco harm reduction approaches with patients, the local medical community and the general public, encouraging people who smoke to switch to safer alternatives. He also focuses on harm reduction innovation as an important part of prevention in cardio-metabolic disorders.



**Brian Quigley**



Brian Quigley has over twenty-five years of marketing, regulatory, operations and business leadership experience for public companies, private equity and venture-backed businesses. Brian is currently CEO at Qnovia, Inc. a U.S. based venture-backed pharmaceutical company, focused on inhaled drug delivery across a host of indication areas. Qnovia is currently engaged with the FDA CEDR, applying for its lead asset (QN-01) to become the first inhalable prescription smoking cessation therapy. Before Qnovia, Brian worked at Altria Group for 16 years, spending his last seven years as President and CEO for Altria’s Smokeless and Innovative Products/Vapor Businesses.

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**Julio Ruades**  
“El Mono Vapeador”



Julio Ruades is the spokesperson for ANESVAP, a Spanish non-profit consumer organisation defending the right of adults to vape to quit smoking. A vaping advocate for over 12 years, he has a popular YouTube channel, “El Mono Vapeador”, with more than half a million subscribers, through which he promotes vaping and the science behind harm reduction methods for Spanish-speaking global audiences. He interviews doctors, covers events such as GFN, and helps vaping user organisations in Spain and Latin America. He has received several awards in Mexico, Colombia, and Spain, including the INNCO Roll of Honour for activist of the year (Warsaw 2019) and the Vlogger award in 2016.



**Christopher Russell**



Christopher Russell PhD is a psychologist and Director of Russell Burnett Research and Consultancy Ltd. RBRC specialises in the design, conduct, and reporting of perception and behavioural studies of the potential population health risks and benefits of tobacco harm reduction products. They design studies to characterise adults’ use and perceptions of new products, longitudinal tobacco product use transitions, and understanding of product labels, labelling, and marketing materials. The results help to inform PMTA, MRTPA, and other applicable regulatory assessments of the potential impact of tobacco harm reduction products on future tobacco use behaviour and population health.



**Asa Saligupta**



Asa Saligupta is the director of ENDS Cigarette Smoke Thailand (ECST), a consumer group he founded when Thailand prohibited the importation, distribution and manufacturing of vape products. Asa smoked for over 37 years and had tried almost all quit methods until he found vaping over a decade ago. ECST aims to legalise safer nicotine products in Thailand as alternatives for those who want to quit smoking. Asa has a Bachelor’s degree from Assumption University, Thailand and a Masters from Avila University, USA Social. He works as an intertrade manager at a probiotic and herbal manufacturing company.

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**Arielle Selya**



Dr. Arielle Selya is a Scientist at Pinney Associates whose primary expertise is tobacco use behavior among youth and adults. Prior to joining Pinney Associates, she spent a decade in academia studying adolescent substance use and addiction. She previously held a faculty position at Sanford Research, where she led initiatives to translate population-health research projects into clinical implementation, and to make electronic medical records available on demand. She also served as an Assistant Professor at the University of North Dakota in the Master of Public Health program. Arielle has over 50 publications to her credit in behavioral science and methodology.



**Harry Shapiro**



Harry Shapiro has worked in the drugs field for over 40 years, first at the Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence and then at DrugScope. He is the Director of DrugWise, an online drug information service, and Managing Editor of DS Daily, a daily online drug, alcohol and tobacco news service. Since 2015, Harry has been working with Knowledge•Action•Change, promoting public health through harm reduction. He is the author and Executive Editor of the Global State of Tobacco Harm Reduction biennial reports, contributes a blog to Nicotine Science and Policy and is one of KAC's media spokespeople.

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**Arkadi Sharkov**



Arkadi Sharkov is a macroeconomist with experience in the public and private sectors. His expertise lies in the field of health economics, sustainable development, and tax policy. He has worked on projects related to drug policy and optimization of public spending in the field of healthcare, as well as on those related to the sustainable development of industry in Bulgaria. He is a member of the Advisory board of the Bulgarian Medical Association and is also a participant and member of the public council of the hospital index.



**Martin Steinbauer**



Martin Steinbauer is the co-founder and Chief Engineer of SMOOD, where he focuses on youth access restriction technologies and sustainability solutions for ENDS. SMOOD has grown into a global business built on sustainability, advanced chemistry, internet-of-things (IoT)-enabled devices, and consumer centricity. Prior to SMOOD, Martin was an investment analyst at BlackRock in New York City. Martin graduated from Harvard University with a degree in Applied Mathematics.

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**Gerry Stimson**



Professor Gerry Stimson is a leading advocate for tobacco harm reduction and an Emeritus Professor at Imperial College London. A public health social scientist, he was one of the founders of drugs harm reduction in the 1990s, developing and evaluating the approach in response to HIV/AIDS. He has advised national governments, WHO, UNAIDS, UNODC, and World Bank on drugs, HIV/AIDS, and alcohol issues. Author of over 220 scientific publications and several books, Gerry is a Director of Knowledge•Action•Change, involved in the FSFW-funded Global State of Tobacco Harm Reduction and Tobacco Harm Reduction Scholarship Programme. He also co-founded GFN, delivered by KAC Communications since 2014.

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**Lindsey Stroud**



Lindsey Stroud is Director of TPA’s Consumer Center, which provides data and analysis to inform and assist policymakers when addressing consumer products. Her main areas of focus are goods including alcohol, tobacco and vapor products, and regulatory policies that affect adult access, including harm reduction, technology, innovation, antitrust and privacy. At The Heartland Institute, she authored policy resources and hosted a podcast on tobacco harm reduction, and has also worked for state lawmakers in two states. Creator and manager of Tobacco Harm Reduction 101 (thr101.org), she holds senior positions at the American Vapor Manufacturers Association and the Independent Women’s Forum.

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**Roberto Sussman**



Dr Roberto A Sussman (PhD University of London) is a full time senior researcher and lecturer at the Institute for Nuclear Sciences of the National University of Mexico. His main research areas are General Relativity and Cosmology, but he has conducted research in other areas of Physics, including peer reviewed publications on e-cigarette aerosols. He is also founder and Director of Pro-Vapeo Mexico, representing Mexican consumers of noncombustible nicotine products, and a member of INNCO. He advocates for appropriate regulation in Mexico, directing efforts to share scientific information on tobacco harm reduction products and counter the misinformation rampant throughout Latin America.

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**Zurab Tchiaberashvili**



Ambassador Zurab Tchiaberashvili holds a professorship at Ilia State University in Georgia. He was the Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs (2012), a deputy Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee of Healthcare and Social Affairs (2016 - 2020), Governor of the Kakheti region (2013), and Mayor of Tbilisi (2004 - 2005). He served as Permanent Representative of Georgia to the Council of Europe (2005 - 2010) and to the UN office and other organisations in Geneva (2011- 2012). He has the rank of Ambassador of Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Georgia (since 2007). He has an international MBA (2009) and a PhD in Philosophy (1999) from Tbilisi State University, Georgia.



**Enrique Terán**



Enrique Teran is a professor at the College of Health Sciences of the Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Ecuador. He has spoken in favour of tobacco harm reduction in national and international forums, and is a co-founder of the Latin American Network on Tobacco Harm Reduction (RELDAT). Enrique has a degree in medicine from the Universidad Central del Ecuador, an international development masters from the Universidad Internacional de La Rioja, Spain, and a pharmacology doctorate from the University of London, UK. Author of over 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals, he has an h-index of 26. He is president of the Academy of Sciences and a member of the Academy of Medicine of Ecuador.

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**Joe Thompson**



Joe Thompson is Group Science and Regulatory Affairs Director at Imperial Brands, responsible for the science that substantiates next generation products as potentially reduced harm compared to continued smoking. He is President of CORESTA (Cooperation Centre for Scientific Research Relative to Tobacco), whose 170 company, institute, and laboratory members provide authoritative, publicly available and credible science related to tobacco products. He serves on the Safety Board of Auxly, which produces branded cannabis products underpinned by science and innovation. With degrees in Toxicology and Physiology, Joe is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine and European Registered Toxicologist.

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**Diego Verrastro**



Dr. Diego Joaquín Verrastro is a medical specialist in general surgery and emergentology from Argentina. He is a spokesperson for the Latin American Network on Tobacco Harm Reduction (RELDAT).

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**Pieter Vorster**



Pieter Vorster is Managing Director of Idwala Research, a provider of research and advisory services aimed at accelerating tobacco transformation and harm reduction. Before starting Idwala, he spent 30 years as an investment analyst with global investment banks and fund managers, including Credit Suisse and UBS, with coverage of the tobacco sector spanning more than 20 years. Pieter specialises in tobacco harm reduction and transformation and served on the Technical Committee of the 2022 Tobacco Transformation Index. He recently published a series of in-depth reports and analysis tools to help investors and companies easily interrogate and digest the underlying data of the Index.

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**Alex Wodak**



Dr Alex Wodak AM is a retired physician who was President of the Australian Drug Law Reform Foundation for many years. He has worked full time on drug law reform and then tobacco harm reduction as a volunteer in his retirement. Together with colleagues, he started the first needle syringe programme (1986) and the first medically supervised injecting centre (1999) in Australia when both were pre-legal. Dr Wodak was President of the International Harm Reduction Association (1996-2004). He has been interested in tobacco harm reduction since 1992 but only active in THR in recent years. Dr Wodak helped to start the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (1987).

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WhatsApp



**Agnieszka Wyszynska-Szulc**



Agnieszka Wyszynska-Szulc is the Global Head of Regulatory Policy at Philip Morris International (PMI), an international tobacco company working to deliver a smoke-free future. Agnieszka joined the Corporate Affairs Team in the Polish affiliate of PMI in 2004, and since then she has held various roles in the organisation, including as Director of Regulatory Strategy in the EU Region External Affairs Team. Agnieszka holds a Masters degree in Management and Administration and a postgraduate degree in Public Affairs, both from Warsaw University, Poland, as well as an Executive MBA from the Warsaw University of Technology Business School, Poland.

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WhatsApp



**Jeffrey Zamora**



Jeffrey Zamora is President of ASOVAPE Costa Rica, President of ARDT Iberoamerica and Social Media Director and Audiovisual Producer for INNCO. He is a current recipient of the Enhanced Scholarship of the KAC Tobacco Harm Reduction Scholarships Programme for his documentary series called #Safer, and Project Leader for the Veritas Study of ECLAT (Spin-off of the University of Catania, Italy). Jeffrey Zamora has worked in social media and marketing with NGOs, governmental entities, and commercial brands.

[jeffzamora22@gmail.com](mailto:jeffzamora22@gmail.com)

[@jeffzam8](https://twitter.com/jeffzam8)



WhatsApp

10:00 - 11:15

BALLROOM ABC

EN + ES



**WORKSHOP:**

**REDUCING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS IN TOBACCO HARM REDUCTION**

**EN+ES** | In a seriously and increasingly polluted world, tobacco harm reduction is now a new source of environmental impact. How does the environmental impact of tobacco harm reduction compare to the environmental impact of combustible cigarettes? What is the likely political impact of controversy about the environmental impact of tobacco harm reduction, especially vaping, already besieged by militant opponents? How can the environmental impact of tobacco harm reduction be reduced? How is the environmental impact of tobacco harm reduction already being reduced? Can the environmental impact of tobacco harm reduction be reduced substantially if much supply is provided by a black market? What are the prospects of designers, manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, consumers, recycling companies & environmental experts working together? Time will be allocated for questions, discussion and feedback from the audience.

HOST

**ALEX WODAK**  
AUSTRALIA



SPEAKER

**COLIN MENDELSON**  
AUSTRALIA



SPEAKER

**PIETER VORSTER**  
UNITED KINGDOM



SPEAKER

**MARTIN STEINBAUER**  
USA



SPEAKER

**DAVID BURNS**  
AUSTRALIA



10:00 - 11:15

BALLROOM DEF

**WORKSHOP:**

**REGULATION CASE STUDY - PHILIPPINES**

This workshop aims to share the experience of the Philippines in passing the Vaporized Nicotine and Non-Nicotine Products Law. The law regulates all non-combusted nicotine products and introduces a harm reduction approach, stating that “reducing the harm caused by smoking” is one of the purposes of the law. As with most countries, this new category of products presented questions and caused some apprehension among the public and policy makers. Congress took its time to study the available science and listen to the perspective of all affected stakeholders including consumers and the public health community. The panellists, who are all anti-smoking advocates, will share their challenges and learnings in working to pass this landmark legislation. The outcome document from this panel is a paper highlighting the elements of an ideal regulation which keeps unintended consequences to a minimum and allows adult smokers access to these products, and how this can be achieved in an age of fake news and misinformation.

HOST

**PETER DATOR**  
PHILIPPINES



SPEAKER

**ALFREDO GARBIN**  
PHILIPPINES



SPEAKER

**SHARON GARIN**  
PHILIPPINES



SPEAKER

**LORENZO MATA**  
PHILIPPINES



SPEAKER

**RAFAEL CASTILLO**  
PHILIPPINES



11:15 - 11:30

COFFEE BREAK



11:30 - 13:00

BALLROOM DEF

**WORKSHOP:**

**REGULATION CASE STUDY - AUSTRALIA**

This panel discussion will explore the different regulatory models for nicotine vaping products (NVPs) from an Australian perspective. We will begin with a description of the flawed prescription-only model currently being used in Australia and why it has failed. We will then compare and contrast the other models currently used in the United Kingdom, United States and New Zealand. We will discuss the unintended consequences of excessively restrictive regulations and the harm that can be caused to NVP uptake and smoking rates. We will conclude with a discussion of the preferred regulatory approach, a risk-proportionate, pragmatic consumer model that allows easy access for adult smokers and restricts access by teens, to achieve the best net outcome for public health. Time will be allocated for questions, discussion and feedback from the audience.

HOST

**COLIN MENDELSON**  
AUSTRALIA



SPEAKER

**ALEX WODAK**  
AUSTRALIA



SPEAKER

**CAROLYN BEAUMONT**  
AUSTRALIA



11:30 - 13:00

BALLROOM ABC

ES + EN



## SPANISH-LANGUAGE SYMPOSIA:

### COP10: DERECHO A LA REDUCCIÓN DE DAÑOS Y GUÍA PRÁCTICA PARA INCENTIVAR LA PARTICIPACIÓN

**ES+EN** | Países de pequeños y medianos ingresos registran una prevalencia mayor de fumado y alrededor del 80% de muertes relacionadas al tabaquismo en el mundo. Sin embargo, medidas altamente efectivas para cesación y de bajo costo para el estado, como los productos de reducción de daños para personas que no quieren o pueden dejar de fumar son obstaculizadas por iniciativas prohibicionistas de lobbys ideológicamente opuestos a permitir alternativas de bajo riesgo. Los panelistas discutirán regulaciones en Iberoamérica, experiencias en el activismo y buscarán junto con la audiencia, idear estrategias que incentiven la participación con vista en la COP10 del CMCT.

Low- and middle-income countries have the highest smoking prevalence and around 80% of smoking-related deaths worldwide. However, highly effective cessation measures at low cost to the state, such as harm reduction products for people unwilling or unable to quit smoking, are hampered by prohibitionist initiatives from lobbies ideologically opposed to allowing low-risk alternatives. The panelists will discuss regulations in Ibero-America, and experiences in activism and will seek, together with the audience, to devise strategies to encourage participation looking at the FCTC COP10.

HOST

JEFFREY ZAMORA  
COSTA RICA



SPEAKER

JUAN JOSÉ CIRIÓN  
MEXICO



SPEAKER

IGNACIO LEIVA  
CHILE



SPEAKER

FRANCISCO ORDÓÑEZ  
COLOMBIA



SPEAKER

JULIO RUADES  
SPAIN



11:30 - 13:00

KOMETA

## WORKSHOP:

### MEDICINAL LICENSING OF VAPING PRODUCTS AND THE POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

Currently, the only medicines available for physicians to prescribe to help smokers quit smoking are nicotine replacement therapies and pharmacological treatments, which generally have modest efficacy. E-cigarettes are able to provide nicotine in a means and quantity similar to smoking and are potentially more efficacious than NRT or other licensed medications. Therefore, making e-cigarettes available on prescription, alongside their availability as consumer goods, is a potential mechanism by which the population-level harm reduction potential of vaping products can be enhanced. Having medicinally-licensed products available may also have knock-on effects for consumer vaping products, particularly in improving both physicians' and public perceptions of the benefits and risks of vaping products. The short presentations and panel discussion workshop will explore medicinal licensing of e-cigarettes, focussing particularly on the following: "Do we actually need medicinally licensed vaping products?" | "Regulatory requirements for medicinal licensing in the UK, the USA, and elsewhere?" | "Barriers to gaining a medicinal license" | "Benefits from public health and physicians' perspectives" | "Manufacturers' perspectives - why bother?" | "How regulators, the academic community, and industry, can work together for the benefit of public health."

HOST

IAN FEARON  
UNITED KINGDOM



SPEAKER

SCOTT LEISCHOW  
USA



SPEAKER

MARTIN CULLIP  
UNITED KINGDOM



SPEAKER

JASJIT AHLUWALIA  
USA



SPEAKER

BRIAN QUIGLEY  
USA



SPEAKER

MARK DICKINSON  
UNITED KINGDOM



13:00 - 14:00

LUNCH



14:00 - 15:15

KOMETA

## WORKSHOP:

### TOBACCO HARM REDUCTION ADVOCACY 101

This Workshop will explore the different political biases in the media and provide hands-on interactive activities on the importance of messaging - how to tailor and deliver it to your intended audience.

This session will be focussed on communication with mainstream media (and government officials): if communication is clear, concise and messaging is focussed, we can accomplish much more. We need to tailor our messaging to the audience and "meet people where they are."

HOST

HENEAGE MITCHELL  
HONG KONG



SPEAKER

NANCY LOUCAS  
NEW ZEALAND



14:00 - 15:15

BALLROOM ABC

ES + EN



**SPANISH-LANGUAGE SYMPOSIA:**

**IBEROAMERICA: ¿UNA OBLIGACIÓN MORAL Y ÉTICA DE LOS PROFESIONALES DE SALUD DE PROMOVER LA REDUCCIÓN DE DANOS?**

**ES+EN** | Cada vez más médicos y científicos en los países iberoamericanos se están posicionando a favor de la Reducción de Daños por Tabaquismo (THR), sin embargo, todos ellos se enfrentan al dilema de hacer o no público su posicionamiento y realizar una defensa activa. Por un lado, su ética profesional les empuja a pronunciarse y defender la evidencia científica y la salud pública. Por otro lado, las consecuencias de defender públicamente la THR puede acarrear ataques de distintos lobbies que pueden desembocar en consecuencias graves tanto a nivel profesional como personal. Durante el panel analizaremos las experiencias de los Doctores y las opciones para gestionar su posicionamiento.

More and more doctors and scientists in Latin American countries are taking a stand in favour of Tobacco Harm Reduction (THR), but they all face the dilemma of whether or not to make their position public and actively advocate for it. On the one hand, their professional ethics push them to speak out and defend scientific evidence and public health. However, on the other hand, the consequences of publicly defending THR can lead to attacks from different lobbies that can lead to severe consequences both professionally and personally. During the panel, we will discuss the experiences of doctors and the options for managing their position.

**HOST**  
CARMEN ESCRIG  
SPAIN



**SPEAKER**  
DIEGO VERRASTRO  
ARGENTINA



**SPEAKER**  
ENRIQUE TERÁN  
ECUADOR



**SPEAKER**  
ROBERTO SUSSMAN  
MEXICO



**SPEAKER**  
RANDALL RODRÍGUEZ OBANDO  
SPAIN



**SPEAKER**  
FERNANDO BUENO  
SPAIN



**SPEAKER**  
SILVIA CAZENAVE  
BRAZIL



14:00 - 15:15

BALLROOM DEF

**WORKSHOP:**

**REGULATION - THE GLOBAL PICTURE**

The global picture of safer nicotine product regulation shows wide variations in both policies and their application. Many jurisdictions impose outright bans, while others adopt more balanced approaches, recognising growing scientific evidence of the efficacy of safer products in tackling a global smoking epidemic that kills 7 million people every year. This workshop will seek to identify key issues for regulators and how these should be addressed. Panellists will use examples to illustrate the global state of regulation. They'll discuss what makes for good and proportionate regulation, and identify which international models might be appropriate for adoption, to ensure critical access to safer alternatives for people who smoke.

**HOST**  
WILL GODFREY  
USA



**SPEAKER**  
AGNIESZKA WYSZYŃSKA-SZULC  
POLAND



**SPEAKER**  
BARNABY PAGE  
UNITED KINGDOM



15:15 - 16:00

COFFEE BREAK



15:30 - 16:00

STUDIO

EN



**COMMENTARY TEAM BROADCAST**

**HOST**  
FIONA PATTEN  
AUSTRALIA



**GFN.TV**

# WORKSHOPS AND PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION

## 21 JUNE 2023

16:00 - 17:30

BALLROOM

EN + ES



### GFN23:

#### THE BIG THR CONVERSATION - HOW CAN THE LAST DECADE INFLUENCE AND INFORM THE NEXT?

**EN+ES** | This interactive session depends on your stories and memories, as we create an oral history of tobacco harm reduction. Please come ready to share your experiences! Following a 'chat-show' format, we'll look back on the rapid development and acceptance of tobacco harm reduction as a key public health strategy over the past decade. Key moments and events that have driven or impeded progress will be illustrated by short video clips from our archives. Our host, Clive Bates, will seek testimony from you, the GFN audience - because so many of you have been directly involved in and integral to tobacco harm reduction's development. Summing up the discussion, Clive will identify key points that might influence or impact the future of the approach, at this tenth anniversary edition of the Global Forum on Nicotine.

HOST

CLIVE BATES  
UNITED KINGDOM



# WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCE OPENING, MRO

## 22 JUNE 2023

09:30 - 11:00

BALLROOM ABC

RU + EN



### WORKSHOP:

#### PUBLIC HEALTH AND HARM REDUCTION IN CENTRAL ASIA AND THE CAUCASUS

**RU+EN** | The intention of this workshop is to promote awareness of the potential of Harm Reduction, Public Health and Social initiatives to help improve health outcomes, boost awareness of existing work and support networking opportunities in the Central Asian and Caucasus region.

HOST

KASIA KOWALCZYK  
POLAND



CO-HOST

ARKADI SHARKOV  
BULGARIA



SPEAKER

SAMIGULLINA ALFIYA ELGAROVNA  
KYRGYZSTAN



SPEAKER

ZURAB TCHIBERASHVILI  
GEORGIA



SPEAKER

GINTAUTAS-JOUZAS KENTRA  
KAZAKHSTAN



09:30 - 11:00

BALLROOM DEF

### WORKSHOP:

#### FACILITATORS AND BARRIERS TO SWITCHING OR QUITTING: CONTEXT MATTERS

This interactive workshop will generate discussion about the different environments and social determinants helping or hindering transition from the highest risk tobacco products to very low-risk alternatives. We will explore how these vary for different regions and 'left behind' groups, such as, low-income groups, people with mental health conditions, LGBT+, Indigenous Peoples, and women.

HOST

MAREWA GLOVER  
NEW ZEALAND



CO-HOST

TOMÁS O'GORMAN  
MEXICO



SPEAKER

JUDY GIBSON  
UNITED KINGDOM



10:00 - 12:30

KOMETA

OPEN CONSUMER MEETING

MEETING

11:15 - 12:30

BALLROOM ABC

### WORKSHOP:

#### TOBACCO INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATION - IS IT REALLY REACHING LMICS?

Nearly 80% of the world's users of risky forms of tobacco live in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). The tobacco industry enjoys a significant advantage in LMICs due to the role they play in many of those economies as well as the lack of adequate regulatory and enforcement capacity in those countries to implement the FCTC. How do these realities impact the availability, accessibility and affordability of reduced risk tobacco and nicotine products in these countries? What role can and should the industry play in making safer forms of nicotine available to LMIC users? This will be a panel-based workshop, drawing from a range of key stakeholders, including the industry, to examine whether the tobacco industry's transformation is reaching LMICs or not.

HOST

SUD PATWARDHAN  
INDIA / UK



CO-HOST

DAVID JANAZZO  
USA



SPEAKER

FLORA OKEREKE  
UNITED KINGDOM



SPEAKER

ATUL AGARWAL  
INDIA



SPEAKER

JOSEPH MAGERO  
KENYA



12:45 - 13:45

WARS + SAWA

GFN23 OPENING MEDIA BRIEFING  
SEE EARLIER IN MEDIA PACK FOR DETAILS



ISONTECH

THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON NICOTINE TECHNOLOGY

22 JUNE 2023

14:00 - 17:15

BALLROOM



The nicotine delivery landscape is rapidly changing. ISONTECH has been designed in response to this, to showcase the latest technological advances in alternative nicotine delivery systems, next generation devices, and the science behind them. Given some concerns expressed about the new products, it is also important that we showcase the measures employed to test and assure quality control in their manufacture and regulation. Developers, manufactures and distributors are invited to demonstrate new products and discuss their design and development. The aim is to present a wide range of alternative delivery systems, including e-cigarettes, heat-not-burn and oral tobaccos, as well as ancillary technologies involved.

HOST

CHARLES HAMSHAW-THOMAS  
UNITED KINGDOM



GLOBAL FORUM ON NICOTINE

22 JUNE 2023

17:30 - 18:00

STUDIO

EN

LIVE

COMMENTARY TEAM BROADCAST

GFN.TV

HOST

HARRY SHAPIRO  
UNITED KINGDOM



18:00 - 18:10

BALLROOM

EN + ES + RU

LIVE



GFN23:  
CONFERENCE WELCOME AND OPENING

HOST

JESSICA HARDING  
UNITED KINGDOM



CO-HOST

GRZEGORZ KRÓL  
POLAND



18:10 - 18:45

BALLROOM

EN + ES + RU

LIVE



GFN23:  
MICHAEL RUSSELL ORATION

PRESENTER

ROBERTO SUSSMAN  
MEXICO



HOST

GRZEGORZ KRÓL  
POLAND



18:45 - 19:00

BALLROOM

EN + ES + RU

LIVE



GFN23:  
KEVIN MOLLOY FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

HOST

ANNE MOLLOY  
UNITED KINGDOM



19:00 - 19:30

BALLROOM

EN + ES + RU

LIVE



GFN23:  
MICHAEL RUSSELL AWARD

19:30 - LATE

CONFERENCE PARTY - ALL WELCOME! CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF GFN WITH US!  
SPHINX RESTAURANT, ADDRESS: AL JEROZOLIMSKIE 65/79, 00-697 WARSAW

Party

9:30 - 10:00

STUDIO

EN



GFN.TV

COMMENTARY TEAM **BROADCAST**

HOST

**WILL GODFREY**  
USA



10:00 - 11:15

BALLROOM

EN + ES + RU



**KEYNOTE 1:**  
**THE POLITICS OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLISHING**

**EN+ES+RU** | Manuscripts in peer-reviewed scientific journals are extremely important in establishing a company's scientific credibility. This in turn enables engagement with regulators which is especially important ahead of regulatory approvals. Putting data out there for scrutiny by other stakeholders also improves credibility. Some tobacco companies have had great success, with hundreds of articles on reduced risk nicotine products published in a range of well-respected journals. But it's getting harder. This talk aims to help industry up its game by setting the scene by examining the journal publishing sector's key trends, looking at the challenges in getting quality work published and how to address these.

KEYNOTE

**SARAH COONEY**  
UNITED KINGDOM



HOST

**HARRY SHAPIRO**  
UNITED KINGDOM



RESPONENT

**NICK CROFTS**  
AUSTRALIA



11:15 - 11:45

COFFEE BREAK



11:45 - 13:00

BALLROOM ABC

EN + ES + RU



**PANEL DISCUSSION 1:**  
**TEN YEARS OF SCIENCE: WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?**

**EN+ES+RU** | Hosted by Marina Murphy, this panel of respected scientists will examine what we have learnt about new nicotine products and their efficacy in assisting smokers to transition away from more harmful consumption. In doing so they will look at the relative risks and how strong the evidence is for this, as well as addressing critiques of the origins of some research and methodologies used. How might a critical appraisal of the science inform policy-making and contribute to better personal and public health?

HOST

**MARINA MURPHY**  
UNITED KINGDOM



PANELLIST

**BERND MAYER**  
AUSTRIA



PANELLIST

**JASJIT AHLUWALIA**  
USA



PANELLIST

**AMALIYA AMALIYA**  
INDONESIA



PANELLIST

**SUMMER HANNA**  
USA



11:45 - 13:00

BALLROOM DEF



**PANEL DISCUSSION 2:**  
**INEQUALITY OF ACCESS - HOW DO WE ACHIEVE A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD?**

Hosted by David MacKintosh, within the context of the increased range of safer alternatives to smoking, this diverse panel will identify what prevents universal access. Whether this is driven by economic, political or cultural barriers, how can we achieve more equity? How can we educate and inform the actors involved - including consumers - about the opportunities new products present. How can science influence policy? What are the priorities for those working to develop tobacco harm reduction and who might be allies in the process?

HOST

**DAVID MACKINTOSH**  
UNITED KINGDOM



PANELLIST

**CHERYL OLSON**  
USA



PANELLIST

**MICHAEL KARIUKI**  
KENYA



PANELLIST

**LE DINH PHUONG**  
VIETNAM



PANELLIST

**KASIA KOWALCZYK**  
POLAND



13:00 - 14:00

LUNCH



13:30 - 14:00

STUDIO

EN



COMMENTARY TEAM BROADCAST

GFN.TV

HOST

SUELY CASTRO  
UNITED KINGDOM



14:00 - 15:15

BALLROOM ABC

EN + ES + RU



**PANEL DISCUSSION 3:**  
**SCIENCE, REGULATION AND MORALITY**

**EN+ES+RU** | Hosted by Lindsey Stroud, this panel will consider the rapid evolution of the science of nicotine and how this relates to a number of regulatory and moral issues. Many in public health and the medical profession remain antipathetic to safe nicotine use, preferring an abstinence-based approach to transition smokers to non-smokers. Some see stricter regulation - including punitive taxation - as a way to achieve this. Often and nicotine use is conflated with smoking, changing the premise of the debate. Strong views, not always supported by the scientific evidence, often deflect from discussions about good policy and practice. How far should science influence regulation and what role - if any - does morality have to play?

HOST

LINDSEY STROUD  
USA



PANELLIST

MAREWA GLOVER  
NEW ZEALAND



PANELLIST

JOHN OYSTON  
CANADA



PANELLIST

ARIELLE SELYA  
USA



PANELLIST

KEVIN GARCIA  
SPAIN



14:00 - 15:15

BALLROOM DEF



**PANEL DISCUSSION 4:**  
**THE CHANGING FACE OF NICOTINE**

Hosted by Michelle Minton, this panel will examine the changing ways in which nicotine is both considered and used. Traditionally associated almost exclusively with smoking and tobacco use, nicotine is increasingly accepted as having much wider uses, including its potential in the treatment of some medical conditions. Its effects on the brain - including during early-years' development - are now the subject of much study and debate. Within this context, the panel will examine who uses nicotine, and why? Also, what are its potential uses and how might these be exploited in relation to improved health and well-being?

HOST

CLIVE BATES  
UNITED KINGDOM



PANELLIST

PAUL NEWHOUSE  
USA



PANELLIST

GARRETT MCGOVERN  
IRELAND



PANELLIST

CAROLYN BEAUMONT  
AUSTRALIA



PANELLIST

MARK OATES  
UNITED KINGDOM



15:15-15:45

COFFEE BREAK





# GLOBAL FORUM ON NICOTINE

23 JUNE 2023

15:45 - 17:15

BALLROOM

EN + ES + RU



## PLENARY DISCUSSION 1: TOBACCO HARM REDUCTION: WHO HAS A STAKE IN THE GAME?

**EN+ES+RU** | This panel will comprise consumers, academics, manufacturers and distributors of safer nicotine products, policy analysts and others who lay claim to a stake in tobacco harm reduction. There will be no formal presentations, but the moderator will introduce some short clips from previous events to bring context to the proceedings, before inviting each of the panellists to make their claim for a stake, followed by discussion and debate involving the audience. Overall, the format will facilitate lively discussion and debate, involving the panel and the audience.

HOST

MARTIN CAWLEY  
UNITED KINGDOM



PANELLIST

MOIRA GILCHRIST  
SWITZERLAND



PANELLIST

DAVID JANAZZO  
USA



PANELLIST

SAMRAT CHOWDERY  
INDIA



PANELLIST

FIONA PATTEN  
AUSTRALIA



PANELLIST

CHRISTOPHER RUSSELL  
UNITED KINGDOM



# GLOBAL FORUM ON NICOTINE

24 JUNE 2023

9:30 - 10:00

STUDIO

EN



GfN.TV

## COMMENTARY TEAM BROADCAST

HOST

ONDREJ KOUMAL  
SWITZERLAND



10:00 - 11:15

BALLROOM

EN + ES + RU



## KEYNOTE 2: THE ROLE OF NICOTINIC SYSTEMS IN BRAIN DISORDERS

**EN+ES+RU** | While generally thought of as a substance of abuse, nicotine when separated from smoking and inhalation appears to have the potential for therapeutic properties for a range of cognitive and age-related disorders without significant abuse liability. Nicotine binds to multiple subtypes of nicotinic cholinergic receptors in the brain that modulate a variety of neuronal functions. Recent advances have expanded our understanding of how stimulation or blockade of nicotinic receptors affects brain activity, cortical networks, and behavior. This presentation will cover new advances in understanding the role of nicotinic receptor systems on brain function and explore the potential for therapeutic use of nicotine as a treatment or adjunct in the therapy of disorders such as late life depression, mild cognitive impairment, and related disorders of cognitive aging.

KEYNOTE

PAUL NEWHOUSE  
USA



HOST

SUD PATWARDHAN  
INDIA / UK



RESPONDENT

KONSTANTINOS FARSALINOS  
GREECE



11:30 - 12:45

BALLROOM

EN + ES + RU



## PLENARY DISCUSSION 2: THE TOBACCO CONTROL PLAYBOOK

**EN+ES+RU** | Hosted by Martin Cullip, this panel will examine some of the most contentious issues that have emerged as a result of the expansion in tobacco harm reduction over the past decade. Whilst accepted as a legitimate and effective public health strategy by many, there are those who regard it more as a threat and the product of attempts by 'big tobacco' to subvert traditional ways to tackle smoking and non-communicable diseases. It can be argued that there is more that actually unites than divides the various factions - not least an interest in improving personal and public health. The panel will discuss legitimate ways to have constructive dialogue and debate with those who hold opposing views, without resorting to often undignified and unjustified actions that, in some cases have led to personal and/or professional hardship and damage.

HOST

MARTIN CULLIP  
UNITED KINGDOM



PANELLIST

GERRY STIMSON  
UNITED KINGDOM



PANELLIST

ASA SALIGUPTA  
THAILAND



PANELLIST

NANCY LOUCAS  
NEW ZEALAND



PANELLIST

KONSTANTINOS FARSALINOS  
GREECE



12:45 - 13:30

LUNCH



13:00 - 13:30

STUDIO

EN



COMMENTARY TEAM **BROADCAST**

GFN.TV

HOST

DAVID MACKINTOSH  
UNITED KINGDOM



13:30 - 14:55

BALLROOM

EN + ES + RU



**PLENARY DISCUSSION 3:**  
**TOBACCO HARM REDUCTION - THE NEXT DECADE**

**EN+ES+RU** | Hosted by Fiona Patten, this final panel is tasked with examining the content of this tenth GFN and teasing out what they believe will be the key issues in tobacco harm reduction for the coming decade. What will regulation look like? What new types of products might we look forward to? How will the political landscape develop, and will tobacco harm reduction continue to play a central role in public health policy? How will tobacco harm reduction per se develop as a discrete discipline within public health and who will be the leaders? Questions and contributions from the audience will be key to the proceedings.

HOST

FIONA PATTEN  
AUSTRALIA



PANELLIST

JONATHAN FELL  
UNITED KINGDOM



PANELLIST

JOE THOMPSON  
UNITED KINGDOM



14:55 - 15:00

BALLROOM

EN + ES + RU



**CLOSING REMARKS**

HOST

PADDY COSTALL  
UNITED KINGDOM



## INFORMATION FOR GFN PARTICIPANTS

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The GFN conference is funded by registrations and has not received sponsorship from manufacturers, distributors or retailers of nicotine products, including pharmaceutical, electronic cigarette and tobacco companies.

This is a multi-stakeholder event – delegates include consumers, scientists, regulators, manufacturers and distributors, public health professionals, policy analysts and parliamentarians. Inevitably there will be a wide range of views expressed. We ask all participants to observe a basic 'house rule' that every speaker – whether from the platform, or the audience – deserves to be listened to with courtesy.

## FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

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The conference encourages commercial and non-commercial media coverage of the event, including film, photographic and audio recording. Please note, however, that filming and audio recording (excluding photography using small equipment such as mobile phones) in the session rooms is by permission of the organisers and should be done in an unobtrusive manner that does not impede the proceedings for participants.

Unless otherwise agreed in writing, copyright in all images and recordings in the session rooms becomes joint copyright of the person, or organisation making the recording and the conference organisers. No film, images, or audio-recordings taken anywhere in the conference venue may be used in any commercial advertisement without the agreement of the organisers and those who appear in such media.

## GFN PATRON - MR HON LIK

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**Mr Hon Lik** is the Chinese pharmacist who invented the modern electronic cigarette. In 2001, while using high-dose nicotine patches to help himself stop smoking, he devised a system on a large console, using food additives as solvents.

The challenge was managing to scale the mechanism down to a miniature size, suitable for a hand-held cigarette-sized device, and getting the right dose of nicotine while also getting the right odours from additives.

In 2000, he developed the idea of using a piezoelectric ultrasound-emitting element to vaporise a pressurised jet of liquid containing nicotine diluted in a propylene glycol solution. Hon also proposed placing the liquid in a disposable plastic cartridge, which serves as a reservoir and mouthpiece. These inventions are the basis of the present-day electronic cigarettes.

In 2003, Hon filed the first patent in China for the device and the first electronic cigarette was manufactured that year in Beijing.



Hon Lik addressed the Global Forum on Nicotine in 2015 (above) and also accepted patronage of the event. He is seen here (below left) with Professor Gerry Stimson (centre) and Paddy Costall (right), co-founders of the Global Forum on Nicotine.



## MEDIA AND TECHNICAL PARTNERS

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As well as welcoming participation from media representatives from around the world, #GFN22 is proud to count a number of fantastic specialist media outlets as our conference partners, and we thank them for their support.

### **FILTER**

*filtermag.org*



[EN] Filter launched in September 2018 and is based in New York City. Its mission is to advocate through journalism for rational and compassionate approaches to drug use, drug policy and human rights. The magazine features regular reporting on global tobacco harm reduction developments from writers around the world. Filter is owned and operated by The Influence Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organisation.

### **2FIRSTS**

*2firsts.com* [EN]

*2firsts.cn* [ZH]



[EN+ZH] 2Firsts is headquartered in Shenzhen, China, where many of the world's next-generation nicotine products are developed and manufactured. 2FIRSTS is relied on by 10,000+ professionals to keep up with the global e-cigarette market and regulatory landscape. The 2FIRSTS team regularly produces articles (in both English and Chinese) featuring industry insights by leading experts as well as deep dives into relevant topics. We also feature an open database of all licensed Chinese e-cigarette manufacturers and e-liquid manufacturers for importers to utilise. Furthermore 2FIRSTS promotes compliance and globalisation of the e-cigarette sector, with support from their localised teams in the NA, EU, and SEA regions.

## MEDIA PARTNERS



### PLANET OF THE VAPES

*planetofthevapes.com*

[EN] Planet of the Vapes carries everything you need to stay informed and up-to-date on the latest trends in vaping. As one of the leading providers of worldwide vaping and tobacco harm reduction news, product reviews and more, our busy forum has over 55,000 members, and our weekly newsletter reaches over 60,000 subscribers. We host advertising space for worldwide vendors and manufacturers.

### RED

*planetofthevapes.com*



[PT] Red - uma revista digital sobre redução de danos, liberdade de estilo de vida e direitos humanos. Nossa meta é reduzir a distância entre a produção científica independente e o público em geral; afastar dogmas, estigmas, preconceitos, crenças inadequadas e a ideia de saúde pública que desconsidera a complexidade da condição humana.

### TOBACCOINTELLIGENCE

*tobaccointelligence.com*



[EN] TobaccoIntelligence provides impartial, independent and premium market and regulatory analysis, legal tracking, and quantitative data for the nicotine and tobacco alternatives sector worldwide. We offer a one-stop source of market and regulatory strategic data for the tobacco and nicotine alternatives business, including heated tobacco and reduced-risk oral products. Providing all the data in one online platform reduces the amount of time and money spent monitoring the sector for multiple international markets. Our global perspective on the international tobacco and nicotine sector offers you key data such as market trends, key players, regulatory obligations and industry dynamics. Produced by a group of highly experienced specialist lawyers, economists and journalists, our head office is in Barcelona, Spain, and we also have teams in the UK and USA along with correspondents and contributors from around the world. In addition, we offer customised research and consultancy support.

**SPECIAL OFFER:** Use the code **GFN20 for a 20% discount** on products at both [tobaccointelligence.com/shop](http://tobaccointelligence.com/shop) and [ecigintelligence.com/shop](http://ecigintelligence.com/shop)!

### VAPING TODAY

*thevapingtoday.com*



[ES] Vaping Today es la primera publicación diaria, independiente, en línea y gratuita, especializada en el universo de los productos alternativos de bajo riesgo para el consumo de nicotina, con un enfoque internacional, pero dedicada al público iberoamericano. Una publicación especializada que surge del convencimiento de que la carga sistemática de desinformación y mala información en los medios tradicionales es el verdadero peligro para la salud pública, y que los consumidores merecían una publicación dedicada a ellos. Así creamos Vaping Today, para reducir los daños de la desinformación y generar impactos positivos en nuestras sociedades.

To access the **English-language version** of Vaping Today, a digital daily newspaper on vaping for the Ibero-American community, visit: <https://thevapingtoday.com/category/english-version/>



Professor David Sweanor addresses the Global Forum on Nicotine from the plenary stage.

## SOCIAL MEDIA



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